During September and October, UNC Libraries joined the Weld Library District in sponsoring "Weld County Reads," a grant-funded program designed to promote reading for pleasure. The program was built around the book *Bless Me, Ultima* by Rudolfo Anaya, and Michener Library served as a distribution point for giving away a number of copies to members of the campus community. Events sponsored by the Libraries included bilingual readings from the book at the Celebration of Intellectual Freedom during Banned Books Week, the screening of a documentary film about Anaya accompanied by lectures from UNC Professor of History Michael Welsh and UNC Professor of Hispanic Studies Alfonso Rodriguez, and a book discussion group for UNC faculty, staff, and students.

-Lisa Blankenship

**Libraries Participate in Embracing Community Forum**

By their very nature, libraries reach out to their constituent communities, offering materials in print and online, providing places to study and computer access. The University Libraries are no exception, providing contemporary library users the services, collections, and resources that all academic libraries provide. But the Libraries also reach beyond the traditional boundaries, working on service projects to provide comfort, culture and sustenance to those in need. Frequent readers of Library Letters will recall quilts crafted for local women’s shelters, landscaping projects, and more.

In late November, the Libraries participated in a forum coordinated by Michael Kimball, current occupant of the Robert O. Schulze Chair in Interdisciplinary Studies. Titled 2007 Embracing Community, Together: Greeley/Weld County and the University of Northern Colorado, the forum brought together campus and community organizations to showcase and encourage collaborative projects. The Libraries’ created a poster that featured recent projects, including a letter-writing campaign for troops serving in Iraq, ice cream socials with Greeley children involved in the Community Outreach Program (COPs), and a quilt project donated to a local women’s shelter. Many of these projects have been coordinated by the Michener and Music Morale Society (the M&Ms), a volunteer group of library employees who also orchestrate social events within the Libraries. The poster was well-received and those library staff attending the forum enjoyed interacting with the diverse audience of participants. For more information on the Embracing Community, Together forum, visit www.unco.edu/mind/schulze/index.html.

**Music Notes**

**Skinner Music Library Building is Ten Years Old**


The dedication of the Howard M. Skinner Music Library was held at a ceremony unveiling the new sign in front of the library on May 6, 2005. Addressing those present were UNC President Kay Norton, Dean of Libraries Gary Pitkin, and Dr. Howard Skinner.

For more information, visit the Music Library’s website.
Summer Closure Followed up with Survey

The unexpected closure of Michener Library because of remodeling fumes (see Library Letters, 2:1) was an inconvenience to many faculty and students, but many of the 65 respondents to an online survey of their experiences were sympathetic and appreciative of the Libraries’ concern for staff and patron health. See the Assessment Committee’s report under “About Us” on the Libraries’ website for more.

Contact the Friends of the University of Northern Colorado Libraries
Phone: 970-491-2601
Visit their website: library.unco.edu/friends/index.htm
Want to give to the Libraries? Visit: library.unco.edu/about/giving.htm

We welcome your comments, complaints and compliments.
Contact the Libraries’ Administration via email, telephone, or postal mail, with your ideas for Library Letters. See below for contact details.

Thank you!

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email: Gary.Pitkin@unco.edu