

## City of Willcox Newsletter September 2009

### **THE LIBRARY NEEDS TO BORROW MILK CRATES??**

Tom Miner, Library Director

No, there is nothing wrong with your eyesight. Very soon now, the Library will be relocating and adding some shelving units as we expand into some newly renovated areas, and we want to be able to continue serving YOU, our VIPs (Very Important Patrons), to the best of our ability. By stacking our books, spine label up, in milk crates, we can help you find items you want, much easier, plus, it will help us keep everything in its proper order as we move things around, and they are just about the ideal weight to carry when full of books. So, if you have a truckload of milk crates to spare, we can sure use them here in a few weeks! And – we promise to return every one of them! Just give us a call at 766-4250. Thanks in advance for supporting *your* local Library!

### **H1N1 Flu Virus**

Chief Jake Weaver,  
Willcox Department of Public Safety

You may have been reading in the news over the last few months about the novel H1N1 or “Swine” Flu and its impact on our communities. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates that this fall as many as 1 in 4 people may become ill with the flu.

Due to this emerging health threat, we are being advised to prepare for many more people getting sick and having to take care of ill children. We are asking that you, as individuals, also prepare for this virus’s impact on your family, and many health departments are recommending that sick children stay at home. This means that each of us with a school-aged child/children need to be prepared if we get that call from the school nurse.

In addition, each one of us has a role to play in cutting down on flu transmission in our workplace and community.

**Hygiene Counts:** Get in the habit of practicing good hygiene – washing our hands, keeping our hands away from our faces, covering our coughs and sneezes. Take these messages home and teach your kids as well.

**Stay home when you are sick:** Remember, many of us have family members who are considered “high risk” for flu complications by the CDC (pregnancy, diabetes, asthma, heart disease). If these people become ill, it is much harder for them to recover and they often need medical intervention which is stressful for everyone.

**Consider vaccine:** Although we are still awaiting the vaccine for the Novel H1N1 flu, we do have a vaccine for regular, seasonal flu. I encourage employees and citizens to get themselves and their families vaccinated. The more people who are immunized, the better chance we have of keeping the virus from jumping from person to person to person, and consult with your family physician should you have any questions and or concerns.

Thank you in advance for your efforts in helping to stop the spread here in our community.

## 7 Ways Your Public Library Can Help You During a Bad Economy

1. **You can get pretty much any book at the library:** A book habit can be expensive. Even second hand books can add up if you read a lot. Even the smallest library can access inter-library loan, Worldcat, OCLC and other library loan services to get you even the most obscure and out of print material.
2. **Yes, we have movies:** Many libraries charge a nominal (1-2 dollar) fee for renting recent or "popular" titles. It's something of a controversy in the profession, one side arguing all library services should be free, the other saying "We're not a video store!". I tend to fall on the side of free for all. In any case, the fee is often far less than what you'd pay for a rental at a chain video store, and the fees to cover costs of processing and growing the video collection. If you're looking for a rare film, perhaps older or on an obscure format (Betamax tapes are out there still) libraries can save you a ton compared to buying it on Ebay.
3. **Kids Activities:** Any library worth its salt offers a summer reading program for kids. Often with prizes, programs and events all summer long. Libraries also offer storytimes, arts and crafts, computer classes, movie nights and reading clubs for kids of all ages.
4. **Save Money and maybe your life!:** Libraries offer seminars in home buying, estate planning and even purchasing electronics and other big-ticket items. Libraries also offer free blood pressure screenings, programs about weight loss and exercise.
5. **Make new friends:** Library book clubs and book discussion groups are great ways to meet people. Some libraries even offer "mingling" events for single patrons.
6. **Find a new job!:** I can't tell you how many times local employers have come in asking to post job listings or drop off materials about open positions. Many libraries offer resume writing workshops, computer training and even job fairs. College and University library job fairs are

often open to the public.

7. **Libraries listen to consumers!** We like to call them patrons, but we really do listen. Do you want a storytime for kids after 5pm? Ask for it! Want more books about home finance or budgeting? Just ask! Libraries often go to great pains to suss out what the community wants, letting us know directly is great. The complaint or suggestion of a patron carries a lot of weight with library directors and boards, so you are being heard. – Meg Marco, *The Consumerist*, Jul 2008