

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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WNMU STUDENTS ADMINISTER IDENT-A-KID PROGRAM

SILVER CITY, NM – On July 6, 2010, the Western New Mexico University students from the Criminal Justice Club fingerprinted and photographed over 30 area youth at the Silver City Public Library as part of the club's Ident-A-Kid program.

WNMU students have provided the service to southwestern New Mexico for 15 years.

“It is important for WNMU to give back to the community,” said club president Brian Thometz. “The Ident-A-Kid packets contain information to help locate and identify children that are abducted or otherwise disappear.”

Criminal justice and chemical dependency majors participate in the program each summer. Participants are fingerprinted and identification information is collected from each family.

Support was provided by the Silver City Optimist Club and AmBank, which provided the Ident-A-Kid packets.

This year's Ident-A-Kid participants were children from the public library's summer reading program. The program helps children maintain or improve their reading during the summer months. Participants keep logs of their reading to be eligible for prizes awarded at the end of the program. They also participate in other activities such as storytelling and crafts.

For more information on the Ident-A-Kid program, contact faculty advisor Curtis Hayes at 575.538.6325 or hayesc@wnmu.edu. Information on the summer reading program can be obtained from Pam Schwarz at 575.538.3672 or silvercitypl2004@yahoo.com.



WNMU student Daniel Graves fingerprints Alyssa Lewis and Jacob Hernandez.

Located in Silver City, New Mexico, Western New Mexico University has served the people of the state of New Mexico and its surrounding areas as a comprehensive, regional, rural, public coeducational university since 1893 and caters to a student body diverse in age, culture, language and ethnic background.

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