

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

CITY OF ALAMOGORDO

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Memorial Collection June Harwell

Alamogordo, NM Thursday, February 27, 2020 The library staff is establishing a special collection of books to honor the late Librarian Emerita, June Reed Harwell. The June Harwell Memorial Civil Rights Collection will be established using funds donated to the library in Harwell's memory.

As librarian at the Alamogordo Public Library for 22 years, Harwell had a lasting impact on the library and community. She served the City of Alamogordo and its citizens with passion and distinction. Harwell's influence is still felt and appreciated today by staff and patrons alike.

Throughout her life as a scholar, author, and librarian, Harwell was particularly compelled by the subject of Civil Rights. Her ultimate writing achievement was the book *It Was the Right Thing to Do* about desegregation of Alamogordo schools. The volume was published in 2019 by the Tularosa Basin Historical Society. Appropriately, the library staff intends to perpetuate Harwell's work by offering an array of study materials for the next generation's Civil Rights scholars.

The library has already accepted some generous donations in Harwell's memory. As more memorial donations are received, library staff will purchase more civil rights titles, including an updated encyclopedia set for the reference collection. The June Harwell Memorial Civil Rights Collection books will feature a unique memorial plate and be shelved in a place of distinction near the oversized and reference collections.

For more information, or to pledge a donation, please contact the reference desk: 575-439-4148.

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Contact for this Release

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