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## LIBRARY RENAMED



North Valley branch named in honor of famed author Rudolfo Anaya



METRO & NM >> A9

## BUILDING JOBS BOOMING

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BUSINESS >> A12

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Must be 21 years old or older. Must be a Sky City Players Club card present valid ID and Players Club Card. Qualifiers may qualify multiple

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## Library renamed for Anaya

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and of a community."

The idea for the library name change originated with former Bernalillo County manager Juan Vigil. In September, he wrote to Bernalillo County Commissioner Debbie O'Malley, in whose district the library is located, and suggested the name change.

O'Malley told those gathered outside the library, at 7704 Second St. NW, that she immediately offered her support, and the renaming item quickly moved through the formal process and was unanimously approved by

the full commission.

Dean Smith, director of the Albuquerque Bernalillo County Public Library System, said naming the library for Anaya is part of a tradition "where we honor authors who have made major contributions to the literary canon of New Mexico—hence, we have the Ernie Pyle Library, the Erna Fergusson Library and the Tony Hillerman Library." Smith said he was "humbled that this library will share his name."

Anaya, 80, earned a bachelor's degree in literature from the University of New Mexico and a master's degree in guidance and counseling. He worked as a guidance counselor in the Albuquerque Public Schools for seven years and later became an English professor at UNM.

He is the author of numerous novels, children's books and essays. His 1972 "Bless Me, Ultima" is among the most critically acclaimed novels in contemporary Chicano literature. The book has been made into a movie, a play and an opera.