



February 12, 2007

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## Economic Impact of Library Services

Libraries regularly are called upon to correlate their presence with value to the community. The Library Research Service has a site that links to pertinent information that can be adapted and used for your library. Some examples are "Laser Foundation: Libraries Impact Project and the Taxpayer Return on Investment in Florida Public Libraries" and a 2006 study from Pittsburg. The Pittsburg study shows that Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh provides quantifiable economic benefits to the region and is the Pittsburg area's most visited regional asset. "The Economic Impact Study confirms that the 110-year-old Carnegie Library system has successfully evolved with the times and remains an important force for our region," said Dr. Barbara Mistick, Director of Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh. "In an environment of increasing electronic resources, decreasing public budgets and evolving social responsibilities, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh provides valuable economic and educational support to the community." The library generates a return of more than \$91 million to the economy of Allegheny County, which equals \$6 for every dollar of local public funding. These are other examples can be found at <http://www.irs.org/topics.asp#econ2>

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## More Proof Libraries Help

Public libraries build a community's capacity for economic activity and resiliency, says a new study from the Urban Institute. "Making Cities Stronger: Public Library Contributions to Local Economic Development" adds to the body of research that points to a shift in the role of public libraries—from a passive, recreational reading and research institution to an active economic development agent, addressing such pressing urban issues as literacy, workforce training, small business vitality and community quality of life. The study was commissioned by the Urban Libraries Council (ULC) and funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation. For the full article, visit: <http://www.urbanlibraries.org/jan1006makingcitiesstronger.html>

## AskColorado Virtual Library Service Continues Despite Colorado's Harsh Weather

Your local library may close during blizzards like the recent ones, but Colorado residents are still able to connect to and get information from a Colorado librarian from the comfort of their homes. AskColorado, a 24/7 online information service, receives lots of questions during storms about office and business closures, emergency contact points, public transportation services, and more. The librarians work hard to find the best available information to help people, including telephone hotlines if appropriate.

AskColorado, a statewide virtual reference service in which Colorado residents chat with librarians online using their computers, is available 24 hours a day 7 days a week. In spite of the weather, librarians throughout the state staff the service from home even though their local libraries may be closed.

Thousands of residents throughout Colorado have used the service since it began in September 2003. Over 45,000 questions are received per year and residents from every county in Colorado have logged in. Over 25% of questions from Colorado residents come from rural areas.

Libraries throughout Colorado of every type -- public, academic, school and specialized libraries, contribute money to pay for the software and 24/7 service. Local libraries also provide the staff time to work online with Colorado students and residents.

The AskColorado service also relies on state and federal tax funding including funding through the federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA). The site is coordinated by the Colorado State Library, in the Colorado Department of Education, which contracts with Tutor.com to host the service, provide staffing during off-hours, and offer Spanish language assistance.

For more about AskColorado see [www.askcolorado.org](http://www.askcolorado.org) or contact the coordinator Kris Johnson, [Johnson\\_k@cde.state.co.us](mailto:Johnson_k@cde.state.co.us), 303-866-6922.

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## Library Jobline Recently Launched

Library Jobline, a searchable database of job openings in libraries and related information organizations, was recently launched. It can be found at [www.LibraryJobline.org](http://www.LibraryJobline.org) or by following the links on the CSL website.

The new and improved Library Jobline was developed by the staff at the Library Research Service (LRS) with the help of the Jobline Advisory Committee and sponsored by the Colorado State Library (CSL). The change to a database system from a static web page came about for two reasons. First, a database of job ads allows users to customize the job posting and job seeking experience. Second, a database allows for the collection of data for future use in the analysis of trends in library and information jobs as evidenced in online job ads.

Accounts can be set up as either an employer or a job seeker. Just provide information about the job you are trying to fill or the job you are trying to find and Library Jobline does the rest.

More Information: <http://www.lrs.org/blog/ViewItem.asp?Entry=139>

Questions & Help: There is an online FAQ included on Library Jobline. Additional help is available by contacting a member of the LRS staff at [LRS@LRS.org](mailto:LRS@LRS.org) or 303-866-6900. We'll be happy to answer your questions and get you started.

## CTBL Volunteer News

The Friends of the Colorado Talking Book Library held their annual Volunteer Appreciation Brunch at the Lakewood Country Club on December 2. This year's event was a very special opportunity to honor one of our long-time volunteers.

Louise Lederhos was honored by the Colorado Talking Book Library, the Radio Reading Service of the Rockies and the reading of a proclamation from Governor Owens. The proclamation highlighted many of the important accomplishments Louise has reached during the thirty years she has served as a narrator for talking books.

Other awards were presented to volunteers who provided five, ten, 15, 20 and 25 years of service to CTBL patrons.



*30 year volunteer, Louise Lederhos, was honored at The Friends of the Colorado Talking Book Library annual Volunteer Appreciation Brunch.*

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## Recently Published Fast Facts from the Library Research Service

The Library Research Service continues its review of remuneration for library employees with two new “Fast Facts.”

No. 246 [Non-MLS Reference Salaries in Academic Libraries Lag Behind Peers: Non-MLS Salaries Closing Fast on MLS Salaries](#) by Jennifer French. Library staff who help patrons have a great impact on public perception of the library. Despite the training and knowledge needed to properly assist in a reference area, many non-MLS reference positions in academic libraries earn less than their peers in others areas (e.g. Cataloging, Adult Services, etc.),

No. 247 [Colorado Public Librarians Eligible for Public Assistance](#) by Daphne Eastburn  
Many librarians in Colorado earn salaries that meet the income eligibility criteria for public assistance programs! These include school lunches, Medicaid and health insurance for children.

View these and other Fast Facts at <http://www.lrs.org/fastfacts.asp>

## Preparing For Kindergarten DVD

Early literacy continues to be an interest of libraries, the media and the public. A resource covering not only literacy but also other essentials that set the stage for learning are contained in a short video (less than one hour), “Preparing for Kindergarten: A Parent’s Guide.” The Colorado State Library recently provided copies in either tape or DVD format to a number of libraries in the state. Through interlibrary loan and cooperation within districts, this video will be available to your patrons and support the efforts of libraries to educate parents about early childhood literacy, essential health and social development, and related topics. These can be used individually or all together as one presentation.

If you did not receive a copy and wish to purchase this item, the DVD (available in both English and Spanish) may be ordered online at: <http://www.kindergartenvideo.com>  
Pricing varies with the number of items ordered and includes a license for public viewing.

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## Colorado Libraries and Librarians in the News

- Cover girl (or institution) for the December 2006 "Library Journal" issue is the new Granby Library. Makes you want to run right over and jump inside. Congratulations, Granby.

<http://www.libraryjournal.com/community/891/Current+Issue/43259.html?pubdate=12%2F15%2F2006>



- The New York Times announced the winners of the 2006 best academic and public librarians contest. Congratulations to Janine Rose from Silt who was listed as a winner. To view the complete list, please visit

<http://www.nytc.com/community/2006LibrarianAwardsWinners.pdf>

## Teen Tech Week Information

The Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA), the fastest growing division of the American Library Association (ALA), is pleased to announce Teen Tech Week, a new YALSA celebration aimed at getting teens to use their libraries for the different technologies that are offered there, such as DVDs, databases, audiobooks, electronic games and more. Teen Tech Week will be celebrated for the first time March 4-10, 2007.

More information and resources:

<http://www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/teentechweek/tw.htm>

## Colorado Teen Summer Reading Web Site



An initial website is now available for the 2007 C'YAAL Colorado Teen Summer Reading Program. More information will be added to the site in the coming months.

<http://www.aclin.org/~cyaal/srp2007/>

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## Register for the 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Interlibrary Loan Conference

Registration is now open for the 38 Annual Interlibrary Loan Conference, **Reaching for the Peak of Resource Sharing**, being held April 26-27, 2007 at the Antlers Hotel in Colorado Springs, Colorado. There is an exciting line up of speakers and events scheduled, including Reggie Rivers as the Thursday keynote speaker. The registration fee is \$85 for the two-day conference. The pre-conference on Wednesday, April 25, will have sessions for the Colorado Courier Users Group and the SWIFT Users Group. The pre-conference is free. For conference details, registration forms, information on “free registration and expenses” opportunities, and hotel information visit the conference web site: [www.aclin.org/coloillconf](http://www.aclin.org/coloillconf).

## Free National Archives Workshop

The Rocky Mountain Regional Archives is hosting a free workshop on February 28, targeted to elementary and secondary school librarians to expose them to the educational resources available from the National Archives and Records Administration. Workshop content includes learning how to navigate the National Archives website and how to use the Archival Research Catalog to find thousands of digitized primary source documents and photographs.

Space is limited. Please reserve your seat by email to [lori.cox-paul@nara.gov](mailto:lori.cox-paul@nara.gov) or phone (303) 407-5747.

## CU Libraries Launch “Publish Not Perish” Online Tutorial

Publish Not Perish, <http://www.publishnotperish.org>, is a free online tutorial designed to introduce graduate students, junior faculty, and other potential authors to the mysterious world of scholarly publishing, from getting ideas and choosing a journal to submitting and revising a manuscript.

For more information and assistance, please contact any of the CU libraries:  
University Libraries at CU-Boulder <<http://ucblibraries.colorado.edu/>>  
Auraria Library at UCDHSC-Denver Downtown  
<<http://carbon.cudenver.edu/public/library/>>  
Kraemer Family Library at CU-Colorado Springs <<http://web.uccs.edu/library/>>  
Denison Memorial Library at UCDHSC-Health Sciences Center  
<<http://denison.uchsc.edu/index.html>>

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## **New Website for Colorado Legislative History Research**

The Westminster Law Library, University of Denver Sturm College of Law, announces the release of a new digital collection, [Access for All: Providing a Window to the Legislative Process for Colorado's Citizens](#). This site provides searchable access to all *Colorado Legislative Council Research Publications*, links to relevant legislation for newer publications, and information on performing legislative history research as the state and federal level. Visit the website at: <http://www.law.du.edu/library/CLC/>

## **New Pew Study on Teens and Social Software**

A recent Pew Internet study shows that more than half of all online American youths ages 12-17 use online social networking sites such as MySpace and Facebook. The study also finds that over 90% of the youths say they use the sites to stay in touch with friends they see frequently. Can libraries utilize this information to market services to teens? To view the full report please visit:

[http://www.pewinternet.org/pdfs/PIP\\_SNS\\_Data\\_Memo\\_Jan\\_2007.pdf](http://www.pewinternet.org/pdfs/PIP_SNS_Data_Memo_Jan_2007.pdf)

## **Web Sites for Fun and Learning**

Test yourself, your staff or your patrons. Who knows the top books for last year? The best and worst art? Visit Microsoft's Fimoculous site, from Rex Sorgatz, who has compiled all the 2006 lists, helpfully arranged by category (including a section on books). He has lists for previous years as well. See <http://www.fimoculous.com/year-review-2006.cfm> (Item from American Libraries Direct)

## **Free Online Poetry**

If you're a library staff member hoping to help children write and appreciate poetry, sample this web site from England. Author Josie Whitehead, from Yorkshire, has made over 170 online poems available for public use. The poems have both rhyme and rhythm with lots of story poems for children, and poems on all subjects.

[http://www.whiteheadm.co.uk/html/josies\\_poetry.htm](http://www.whiteheadm.co.uk/html/josies_poetry.htm)