Centennial

S T A T E   L I B R A R I E S

Scholarship for Library Student Offered

A $3,000 scholarship is available for a student who is entering or is currently enrolled in an ALA-accredited MLS program. Applications for the coming academic year must be postmarked no later than May 15.

The Colorado Library Services to Minorities Scholarship is offered by the Colorado Council for Library Development to provide financial assistance to encourage and enable an individual in Colorado to pursue a career in library and information science. Applicants must be residents of Colorado and citizens or permanent residents of the United States. It is open to anyone regardless of race, age, gender, or creed.

The successful applicant must have an undergraduate degree, and must commit to working two years in a Colorado public library after graduating with a master's in library science or the scholarship money must be returned. Library experience or current work in a library is desirable, but is not required. A commitment to service to a minority community is also desired.

The scholarship recipient will be notified before the scholarship is awarded, and must begin using the scholarship the academic year following notification of the award. The student may choose to enter any ALA-accredited program. A student who has been awarded a scholarship, but does not use it during the year for which it was awarded, must return the award and re-apply.

A full-time recipient will receive the entire scholarship in three payments over the course of one year. A part-time student will receive scholarship funds in increments not to exceed a period of two years.

To apply, submit an official scholarship application form, a copy of undergraduate college transcripts showing the last degree, a current resume, and three recommendations from professors, librarians, or other professionals (excluding family) who are well-acquainted with the applicant's educational background, intellectual abilities, and personal character.
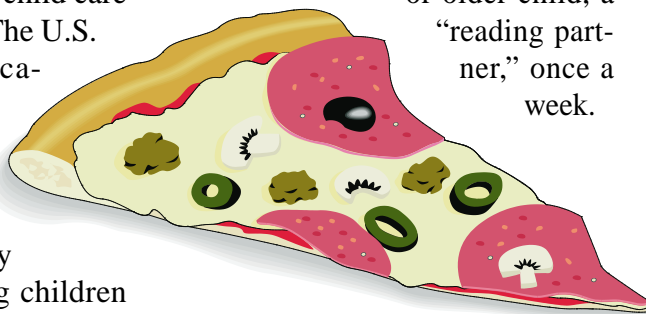
For information and to request an application, contact Dr. Camila Alire, Auraria Library-UCD, Lawrence at 11th St., Denver, CO 80204; email <calire@castle.cudenver.edu>; phone 303/556-3521.

Read * Write * Now!

Read*Write*Now! will again be available to public libraries, schools, and child care centers this summer. The U.S. Department of Education sponsors the program, which includes a packet of simple reading materials with activity suggestions for young children and their reading partners.

The program guide suggests that children pledge to read 30 minutes every day for eight weeks, and to meet with an adult or older child, a "reading partner," once a week.

At the end of the eight week period, the child may redeem a free pizza coupon at Pizza Hut if the pledge has been kept.

The cooperative program is designed to enhance the reading activities already in place, with the goal of reducing the reading loss that frequently occurs in children over the summer months.

For information or for Read*Write*Now! packets, call the U.S. Department of Education, Region VIII, 303/844-3544, or access the Read*Write*Now! information at <http://www.ed.gov/Family/rwn-fly.html>.

It's happening …

by Nancy M. Bolt

After 40 years of yeoman service, the Library Service and Construction Act (LSCA) drew its last breath — or at least it will this year — and is giving way to the Library Service and *Technology* Act (LSTA).

There are several major changes in the new law that will alter the way we have done things in the past in Colorado. Here are some of them:

• LSCA was really a public library program. Two of its three main titles were targeted to public libraries. Only Title III on Interlibrary Cooperation allowed other types of libraries to participate, and then only if there was cooperation among different types of libraries. Under LSTA, all libraries are created equal and the artificial distinction between types of libraries no longer exists. All types of libraries are eligible to receive LSTA funds, based only on criteria established by the State Library and/or its advisory committee(s).

• Under LSCA, there were three programs that had to be maintained from year to year: support of the Colorado Talking Book program, the Institutional Library program, and the Major Urban Resource Library program. There is no such requirement under LSTA.

• Under LSCA, the money came to us in discrete titles and the money had to be spent only on the purpose of that title. Under LSTA, the money comes in one lump sum and can be spent on two broad purposes, as determined by the State Library and/or its advisory committee(s): technology and removing barriers to library access including, but not limited to, children in poverty.

The new legislation requires input from constituents in preparing the LSTA long range plan. To accomplish this, the State Library and the Colorado Council for Library Development (CCLD) sponsored a summit meeting to determine major goals for the use of the new money. Also invited to participate were system directors, system board members, Colorado Library Association (CLA) Youth Division, Colorado Educational Media Association (CEMA), and the Resource Sharing Board. The group determined five goals for the use of LSTA funds, and made some major policy recommendations, as well.

Here are the five goals:

Enhance connectivity among libraries

This includes projects such as: ensuring all Colorado libraries have at least one public access connection to the WWW for library users, expanding of electronic delivery systems, and assisting in getting the FCC discounts.

Enhance ACLIN and electronic content on ACLIN

Projects include: more statewide databases available to all, adding bibliographic databases to ACLIN, Z39.50 for libraries that need it, broadcast searching, and the ILL subsystem.

Enhance library service to Colorado under served populations

Examples include: service to the Spanish speaking, day care providers, literacy-challenged adults, institutional libraries, those who are geographically isolated, and children in poverty.

Help local libraries meet local needs

There was considerable support for an old-fashioned grant round that allows libraries to apply for funds to meet uniquely local needs.

Advocate for libraries and train libraries to meet new service needs

Public relations, advocacy, and training are a foundation for all of the other goals. We must advocate to decision makers about the value of libraries, and we must train librarians to provide new services, particularly in the area of technology.

The group also made the following policy recommendations:

Provide some money each year in each of the five goal areas

It's happening …

Provide no automatic set-asides. This means that there will be no automatic allocation to the institutional libraries or the Major Urban Resource Centers, though all of these libraries would be eligible to apply for any available grant opportunities.

Do more advance planning. In the past, money has been primarily expended through an open grant round and through statewide projects called leadership initiatives. In this new scenario, more advance planning would be done and priorities could be addressed in several ways. For example, a project on connectivity might include: research on who needs what type of connections; assistance in technology planning; grants to actually buy equipment and get connections; training to teach librarians how to deliver the new service; and a statewide PR campaign to tell the public what neat things libraries are doing. This might be a multi-year project.

Another example might be service to day care centers that includes a handbook on serving day care centers; competitive grants to local public libraries who form partnerships with day care centers; forums for librarians to share good ideas; and — again — PR about what is going on.

Reexamine the requirement that all libraries receiving funds participate in the Colorado Library Card Program. While this is certainly still the goal, there is some concern that some private libraries might be willing to share their materials in other ways, but cannot open their doors to full public use.

Develop a definition of private libraries and criteria for them to participate. The new legislation specifically makes private libraries eligible, based on criteria developed at the state level.

Finally, **look at the CCLD subcommittee structure in light of the new priorities and goals**.

The grant round we are doing now is the last under LSCA. On October 1, the new law takes over, and we are hurrying to put the pieces in place.

Early Reading for Blind and Visually Impaired Children

by Lois Gross, Colorado Talking Book Library, <ctbl@csn.net>

When a young child is diagnosed with a visual problem, one of a parents' first emotions is worry about how the child will learn to read. This can be a serious concern, especially for parents who love books.

The Colorado Talking Book Library (CTBL) is the best source of reading material for blind and visually impaired children in the state. CTBL is a service funded by the State of Colorado and the Library of Congress, and is provided free of charge to its users. CTBL provides books on tape and the specially engineered machine needed to play the tapes. The library can also arrange braille service, if that is the format in which the child will read. There is also a limited collection of large print books for children that can be borrowed if the child has some vision.

Talking books are books on tape with the stories read word-for-word as they appear in the printed text. These are not commercially produced tapes, so there are no bells, whistles, or sound effects to distract from the story line. Instead, readers have access to an extensive collection of quality materials recorded by professional narrators that will add to language skills and verbal development.

Children's talking books focus on stories instead of one- or two-word picture books. That means parents of preschoolers can make selections from Seuss-like rhyming books, folktales, or popular contemporary or classic stories. This is a great way to expose new readers to vocabulary and imaginative storytelling early in their lives. Most experts agree that children who are read to in their early years become better readers throughout their lives.

Talking books are played on special four-track, slow speed tape players, and cannot be played on home sound systems. The machines are provided free of charge to all eligible library patrons, and are repaired or replaced should problems occur. The players are easy to operate — most children learn to use the equipment far more easily than adults do.

Braille service from CTBL is provided through a contract with the State of Utah, again at no cost to the patron. Because the library's budget is limited, the use of braille service is monitored carefully. Once a child enters school and becomes and eager braille reader, they can begin individual service. Until then, the library is pleased to borrow books on the child's behalf so they can begin to develop braille skills.

Large print books make up the smallest of the library's special collections, and the preschool books are much like the picture books found in public libraries in both type size and format.

It is never too early to start a child with library service. Children as young as six months old can be stimulated by the sounds of a story being read to them. The way to start is to call the library and ask for an application. The number is 727-9277 in the Denver area, or 800/685-2135 in the rest of the state, or email <ctbl@csn.net>.

Children who are blind, visually impaired, physically or learning disabled qualify for talking book service. Once the application is completed and signed by a medical or educational authority, it is returned to the library and service begins almost immediately.

Sharing books with a child is one of the great joys of parenthood. Every child can benefit from the fun of hearing a new story, learning new words, and having his or her imagination stimulated by the characters that live inside the pages of books.

The world of imagination knows no physical bounds, and the Colorado Talking Book Library can start a child on the right road to the limitless experience of loving books and lifelong reading.

Information on the Talking Book Library is available at <http://www.cde.state.co.us/ctbl.htm>.

Governme

by Nancy M. Bolt, <nbolt@csn.net>

I'm sure you know the basic facts by now. The 1996 legislature gave $20 million for technology in schools, libraries, and higher education.

We got $100 million worth of requests. Reading teams recommended $68 million for funding. We only had $20 million to award.

Well, the votes are finally in. The Technology Learning Committee agreed on $20 million worth of highly recommended projects. The Governor signed off on them. The legislature's Capital Development Committee signed off on them. It's official.

Here is a list of projects with abstracts that were funded that involve libraries, even if the library is not the lead agency. This was a remarkable process, and the outcome will truly provide useful technology in the state. Unfortunately, this is only a small beginning to meet the totality of the critical need.

Mesa County Valley School; LAN implementation; Requested $1,817,435; Recommended $908,718. This project will provide connectivity to elementary classrooms in Mesa County Valley School District 51, Plateau Valley School District 50, and De Beque School District 49J, through a partnership with MARMOT (library consortium) and SuperNet (Internet service provider) to share resources among consortium members and negotiate lower prices for their telecommunications needs. This will allow each site to automate its school library media center, enable elementary school students to meet their information literacy content goal, and provide access to the Internet.

Security Public Library; Security/Widefield Internet Resource Library (SWIRL); Requested $56,282; Recommended $56,282. This project links the Security Public Library, the Widefield School District #3, and the Widefield Community Education and Recreation Center to provide Internet access and training for students and community residents engaged in learning projects.

Weld County School District Re-4; The Windsor Connection; Requested $76,139; Recommended $70,139.

This partnership between Windsor School District Re-4, Windsor Severance Library District, and the town of Windsor will provide: remote access to school library media center and public library collections; Internet access to students and community members; and train students, educators, and community members to use the hardware, software, and telecommunications network to communicate within the community and beyond, and to access, evaluate, and create information.

Jefferson County Public Schools R-1; Phoenix Project; Requested $1,608,000; Recommended $1,251,000. Jefferson County School District has 19 high schools with independent library systems. This project will begin the first phase of an effort to convert the Jefferson County school library cataloging systems so that the catalogs may be accessed from any high school, as well as the Jefferson County Public Library. This will allow for interlibrary loan resulting in increased access to educational resources for students and citizens of Jefferson County.

Brush Public School RE2J; Requested $708,954; Recommended $133,667. This proposal seeks to provide information access, both locally and globally, for classrooms through the library media centers. This information, some of which is available on the Internet, can help address the information skills needs of students. Technology Learning Grant funds will help finance the installation of phone lines, wiring, modems, and construction of classroom workstations for learning resource access. Funds will also be used for staff training and the analysis of student progress by logging their resource utilization through the data transmission system.

Lower Arkansas Valley Regional Library; Requested $6,606; Recommended $6,606. This project brings a computer to a bookmobile that serves four counties in Southeast Colorado. The computer will be used to train students and adults engaged in learning projects, and to link to statewide resources through the Access Colorado Library and Information Network (ACLIN).

Buffalo School District; Requested $34,731; Recommended $34,731. The proposal will convert the collection of the Merino Library/Media Center to a computerized database and add our library collection database to the NEAR (New Expanded ACLIN Resources) and increase educational opportunities and access to ACLIN and the Internet. This proposal's intentions are to ensure

ent Gossip

the rural learner has the same opportunity to receive information resources and participate in interactive learning environments as to urban/Front Range students.

Pikes Peak Library District; Community access to the Web at Pikes Peak Library District locations; Requested $248,940; Recommended $207,000. By setting up Web access on-site at all 11 public library locations, the staff of PPLD recognizes that it is critical to provide service to the "information have-nots" throughout the district, which covers rural and metropolitan areas of El Paso County. PCs at library locations will expand access to ACLIN's Web-based resources. A Z39.50 server will provide more seamless access from ACLIN to resources hosted on the PPLD mainframe, including the district's own library catalog and catalogs from several small school libraries. Grant funds are requested to purchase and install a more adequate platform for the Z39.50 server and the lynx browser.

Haxtun School District; Computer Cluster; Requested $10,504; Recommended $10,504. Creates a computer cluster in the elementary-junior high library to enhance learning and research opportunities. The cluster will consist of five computers with the following purposes: provide ACLIN service to students and staff, Internet access, CD-ROM references, and provide two computers for the student look-up stations for the library collection. A shared printer and plain paper fax machine will complete the cluster and allow for faster information access.

Fort Collins Public Library; Electronic Literacy Connection; Requested $189,406; Recommended $175,000. Funds were requested for this project for computers and Internet connections at three Fort Collins community centers, including a large center at FRCC. The project leadership is committed to electronic and lifelong learning. Computers will be used for community training in information technology and for information gathering and retrieval. A great deal of community training using community volunteers is promised.
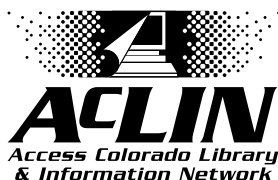
Fort Lewis College; Southwest Colorado Interactive Learning Network (SCIL-NET); Requested $1,212,549; Recommended $1,000,000. Project links 12 school districts, 2 higher education institutions, and 13 public libraries, providing Internet access at all sites, extensive training for K-12 students and adults engaged in learning projects, and allows local sites to purchase computers and software needed to further learning. The project will test three methods of distance learning for effectiveness and will use wireline and wireless communications.

CCCOES; Connect Colorado in Arkansas Valley; Requested $6,647,429; Recommended $3,323,715. This partnership will enhance the educational opportunities of students, teachers, and residents in a seven-county region of the Arkansas Valley by: establishing network connections for videoconferencing and full Internet access; creating laboratories to support teacher training and student instruction; developing centers for technical support and training; identifying and responding to local training needs; and professional education for small regional hospitals. This proposal will demonstrate the first phase of Connect Colorado's multi-year plan, and will serve as a model for further development of a statewide multi-use infrastructure. The project brings the extensive networking expertise of the state's higher education institutions and several business partners that are committed to the continuation of the project beyond the grant period.

Colorado State University; Virtual Library Connections; Requested $291,475; Recommended $281,475. Supports distance learners by linking four academic resource libraries, one in each corner of the state, with spokes to include a mix of public school and academic libraries located in the remote areas of Colorado, at 25 libraries in all. The project will build a complete electronic loop including electronic transmission of requests for materials and the electronic delivery of documents back to the users.

University of Northern Colorado; Colorado Union Catalog; Requested $665,000; Recommended $640,000. Merges the automated card catalogs of libraries using CARL software and INNOPAC software so that a user searching the resources of these libraries will be able to obtain information through one search, instead of searching individual catalogs. This will cover the 14 largest academic and public libraries in the state. The project also allows for library users to request items from other participating libraries for delivery to a nearby library.

ACLIN UPDATE

Access Colorado Library & Information Network

http://www.aclin.org

by Ronnie Storey-Ewoldt, ACLIN Trainer, <rstorey@csn.net>

ACLIN Model Libraries from all over Colorado have completed a four month pilot project. Model Libraries are libraries that volunteered to test a collection of methods and materials for supporting and promoting ACLIN in their communities.

The support and promotion materials, developed by Regional Systems staff, SuperTrainers, and ACLIN staff, were tested to determine which were most useful and appropriate. Materials included basic ACLIN information, troubleshooting tips, public relations materials, ideas for community outreach, and presentation scripts and hints.

Model Libraries took on what they felt were an appropriate number and level of responsibilities. Then they added their own ideas and followed through with them.

At all levels:

▸ All staff know the basic definition of ACLIN, can provide the public with brochures, and can refer patrons to a designated ACLIN resource person;

▸ The resource person can explain the range of information available through ACLIN, publicizes ACLIN in-house, and provides in-house orientation to other staff.

At the middle level, libraries added activities such as demonstrating ACLIN in the library, maintaining media contacts, and doing community outreach.

At yet a higher level, libraries added training sessions for the public, and the resource person was knowledgeable about ACLIN information resources as well as library resources.

An exciting example of cooperative ACLIN promotion took place in Pueblo. The University of Southern Colorado, Pueblo Library District, Pueblo Community College, and the Arkansas Valley Regional Library Service System held a series of four ACLIN programs. While each library took on the major responsibility for one of the sessions, this was truly a team effort. The first program, held during a mini-blizzard on a freezing January night, drew nearly 100 people!

A newspaper story about a terrific high school student, Dylan Schwindt, included a reference to ACLIN. Schwindt not only teaches other students to use ACLIN, but credits the Cortez Library and ACLIN's online resources for obtaining materials for a research project. That project netted him a finalist position in the prestigious Westinghouse Science Talent Search. (Congratulations Dylan!)
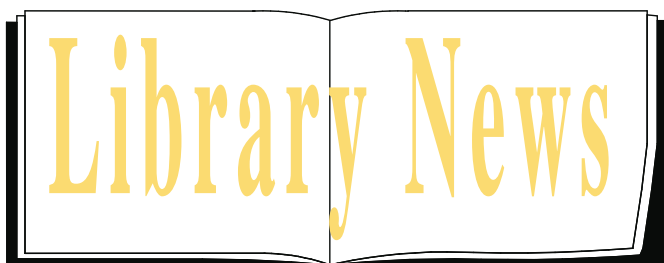
The ACLIN project team hopes all public libraries will offer informal ACLIN support, schedule in-library demonstrations and/or training sessions, do outreach to community agencies and organizations, and publicize ACLIN in their communities.

The Model Library notebook is being updated and revised based on what has been learned from the Model Libraries, and will be distributed by the Regional Library Service Systems to all public libraries and others who would like to receive it.

Our great thanks go out to the following libraries for their enthusiastic testing of the materials:

Cortez Public Library
Dolores Public Library District
Douglas Public Library District
Mancos Public Library
Mesa Public Library District
Northeast Junior College
Pueblo Community College
Pueblo Library District
Sisson Public Library (Pagosa Springs)
Security Public Library
Sterling High School
Sterling Public Library
University of Southern Colorado

For information on ACLIN activities, view the web site at . <http://www.cde.state.co.us/aclin.htm>. To use ACLIN, <http://www.aclin.org>.

Library News

Libraries Named John Cotton Dana Award Winner

Ten libraries have been named winners of the 1997 John Cotton Dana Library Public Relations Awards sponsored by The H. W. Wilson Company and the Library Administration and Management Association (LAMA), a division of the American Library Association (ALA). The awards honor outstanding achievement in library public relations.

Colorado's **Pueblo Library District**, **School District No. 60**, and the **University of Southern Colorado** were recognized for "Up With Reading," a series of collaborative programs to promote the importance of reading and to encourage adults and young adults to become reading role models. Following the program, a 38% improvement in reading test scores was recorded.

Holly Clark Carroll, Chair of the Dana Award Committee of the LAMA Public Relations Section, said, "This year's entries reflect the challenges that libraries encounter today and the increasing importance for well-planned and well-implemented public relations."

The awards will be presented at a reception to be held during the ALA Annual Conference, June 26-July 3, in San Francisco. A complete list of ALA awards can be found at < http://www.ala.org/work/awards/awards.html>

The **Westminster Public Library** got down and dirty at ground breaking ceremonies for a new library being built by the city in cooperation with Front Range Community College.

With construction beginning in the depths of winter, the library broke new ground as Westminster Mayor Nancy Hail, City Manager Bill Christopher, and College President Tom Gonzales dug their garden trowels into a large flower pot of edible "dirt" — chocolate pudding and Oreo cookie crumbs — complete with gummy worms.

The dignitaries served up the dirt in individual flower pots to a large crowd. More than 250 people enjoyed the creative, festive ground breaking, which included speeches and a $6,000 donation by the Friends of the Westminster Public Library.

The new **College Hill Library** is a 76,000-square foot facility being built on the college campus to serve residents of Westminster and students of the community college. This partnership allows the city and college to pool resources, skills, and tax dollars to provide a comprehensive library. The College Hill Library is scheduled to open in early 1998.

(As of March 31, 1997)

CLC Update

New CLC members

Community of Learners School/ Exel, Charter School, Durango, Myoung Fry, 970/259-0328

Holly Public Library, N.S. Ice, 719/537-6520

Latvian Culture Center of Colorado, Lakewood, Mara E. Pavars, 303/393-2602

Mesa Verde Research Library, Mesa Verde, Ramona Hutchinson, 970/529-4472

Plainview School Library, Sheridan Lake, Lesa Nolan, 719/729-3331

Southeastern Colorado BOCES, Inc., Lamar, Kathy Williams, 719/336-9046

Wiley School Library, Janette Erdman, 719/829-4806

Notes to note

Writes of Passage, a literary journal for teens, provides stories and poems written by teens from across the country. The majority of the content is by teens about issues relevant in their lives. The digest size journal is published twice a year, is perfect bound, and boasts a glossy, colorful cover. Annual subscriptions are $12; discount rates for library or classroom orders are available. For information or special requests, phone 212/473-7564. Visit the web site at <http://www.writes.org>.

American Library Association (ALA) Video/Library Video Network released *Library Advocacy Now!*, a primer for library staff detailing how to promote their libraries in the community. The video is based on ALA's Library Advocacy Now! Program, which has trained over 15,000 skilled library advocates. The 23-minute tape includes the basics of getting an advocacy campaign started, marketing and publicity techniques, and media approaches. It is available for $99, and is accompanied by the *Library Advocate's Handbook*. Prepaid orders are shipped free. Order by phoning 800/441-TAPE (order #10347L), faxing 410/887-2091, mailing to 320 York Rd., Towson, MD 21204, or through their web site at <http://www.bcpl.lib.md.us/~inlib/alavideo.html>.

Preservation and Archives Workshop to be Held

The Colorado Preservation Alliance, the National Archives and Records Administration, the Colorado Library Association Preservation Round table, and the Mountain Plains Library Association Preservation, Archives, and Special Collections Section will hold a joint annual meeting/workshop on May 29-30 at the Federal Center in Lakewood.

The workshop will be devoted to contingency planning and disaster recovery of library and archive collections.

Day 1

* Aden Hogan, Jr., former assistant city manager in Oklahoma City at the time of the bombing and current town administrator of Parker, will discuss the integrated emergency response of OKC and the lessons learned from this tragedy.

* Contingency Planning: Preparing for the Unexpected. Ellie Myler, Associate Consultant, Graham Information Management, CDRP, CRM; and Mark Ferguson, National Archives & Records Administration, CRM

* Interactive Exercise for Disaster Recovery Planning. Facilitator Lance Peterson, State Exercise Training Officer for Utah, will lead small groups through disaster recovery scenarios with applications for their respective institutional plans.

* Living to Tell About It. Panel discussion, first hand experience in recovering from recent disasters from Rob Jackson of Denver Public Library, Diane Lunde of Colorado State University, Steve Fisher of Denver University, and Mona Hutchinson of Mesa Verde National Park and Silverton.

Day 2

* Recovery of Electronic Media and Databases, Judy Cahoon, CDRP, Arcus Data Security, Inc.

* Psychology of Disaster, FEMA regional exercise manager Tony Mendes

* Hands-on Recovery of damaged library materials

Registration fees start at $65 for the whole package. One day registration is available. The fee is $100 for registrations received after May 5. For registration information, contact: Eileen Bolger, NARA, Rocky Mountain Region, PO Box 25307, Denver, CO 80225; 303/236-0817; fax 303/236-9354; email <eileen.bolger@denver.nara.gov>.