



# The CONNector

CONNECTICUT STATE LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

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## *The State Librarian's Column*

Kendall F. Wiggin  
Connecticut State Librarian



Where does the time go! Five years ago I accepted the honor and challenge of becoming Connecticut's 10<sup>th</sup> State Librarian. Over that time I have had the pleasure of meeting and working with many librarians, town clerks, archivists, museum professionals, educators, legislators, state and municipal officials, children's advocates and many many others from across the state. It has been professionally and personally rewarding to see the progress we have all made in better serving the information needs of the citizens of our state. It has been frustrating to deal with the consequences of events not in our control. Over the past five years our nation and state have been forever changed by events few of us could imagine. In five years our national and state economies have risen and fallen along with our budgets. As I look back on

### *The Good ...*

- iCONN, Connecticut Digital Library
- Historic Documents Preservation Fund
- Improvements to reQuest
- Improvements to Connecticutar Program
- Van Block Facility for archival, library and museum storage
- Connecticut Library Consortium
- GreatkidCT.org Website
- Saturday hours at the State Library & Museum of Connecticut History

*continued*

And

### *The Bad ...*

- Reductions in Basic State Grant
- Reductions and level funding of many library programs
- The Patriot Act
- CIPA
- CRLC, ECL, SCLC, and WCLC gone
- Staff reductions at the State Library
- Sunday Museum Hours added then dropped
- Thursday evening State Library hours added then dropped

I am proud of what we have accomplished. It is unreasonable to think the years ahead will pass any slower, but it is reasonable to think that working together we can accomplish even more.



### *Remembering World War One*

#### *The Connecticut State Library's War Records Department*

*Mark H. Jones, State Archivist*

How do people remember profound events of an international significance which involves them? In Memorial Hall at the Connecticut State Library, the State Archives has installed a one case exhibit with samples of donations from veterans and loved ones pertaining to Connecticut's role in the Great War. Individual stories and Victory Bond Campaigns are documented. Items in the case include paper records, photographs, and artifacts. The exhibit will be on display through Veteran's Day.

#### **The CONNector Editorial Board**

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## ***Governor John G. Rowland Announces Funding And Partnership To Secure Old State House Future***

***Connecticut Historical Society to assume management of Old State House; will collaborate with State Library on new exhibitions***



Governor John G. Rowland announced September 26<sup>th</sup> that The Connecticut Historical Society (CHS), the Old State House Association (OSHA), and the State Library/Museum of Connecticut History will join forces to strengthen tourism in Greater Hartford and Connecticut. CHS, a private non-profit museum, will assume management and financial responsibility of the Old State House and will collaborate with the State Library/Museum of Connecticut History to develop new exhibitions for the historic downtown landmark.

“Today we are securing the future of this important landmark for future generations while expanding its capabilities to share our great history,” said Governor Rowland. “This new alliance involving the Connecticut Historical Society, the Old State House Association, and the State Library/Museum of Connecticut History is a collaboration that I believe will set the stage for other such partnerships that can only increase heritage tourism and strengthen our state’s economy...”

Governor Rowland provided pivotal leadership and financial assistance in brokering the collaboration. He has allocated a total of \$3 million in state Urban Act Funds to support physical alterations at the Old State House,

exhibition development, and to maintain operations during the transition. The Hartford Foundation for Public Giving is also providing support in the form of a \$350,000 grant to help with transitional expenses and new programs. The City of Hartford, which also played an important role in brokering the partnership, provides OSH with a yearly operating subsidy. CHS plans to raise \$1 million in the immediate future to complete the funding package needed to develop new exhibitions and programs at the OSH.

As part of the collaboration, the Connecticut State Library/Museum of Connecticut History will provide expertise and important historical artifacts for display. “The State Museum and the CHS are already the source of virtually all of the historical materials on display at the OSH, including the Museum of Connecticut History’s priceless portrait of George Washington by Gilbert Stuart. A strengthened relationship among the state’s major historical institutions will benefit citizens and those institutions alike,” said Kendall Wiggin, State Librarian.

The centerpiece of the CHS plans for the Old State House will be a 6,800 square-foot interactive exhibition to debut in 2005 in conjunction with the completion of the initial phase of work at Adriaen’s Landing.

The state-of-the-art exhibition will celebrate the history of the Old State House and Hartford and will include artifacts from both the CHS and the State Library/Museum of Connecticut History collections. “Enhanced educational programs for school children and adults will be a cornerstone of a revitalized Old State House,” said David M. Kahn, Executive Director of CHS. “In fact, we anticipate that together the combined CHS/OSH will eventually serve 30,000 to 35,000 school children each year, making it one of the larger, if not the largest, provider of cultural enrichment programs for students in Greater Hartford.

The CHS/OSH partnership will complement CHS plans to create a new Connecticut History Center. “Work on the two undertakings will continue on parallel tracks,” says

*continued*

Mr. Kahn. "The History Center project continues to move ahead. We recently completed a major study to gauge consumer response to our plans for exhibitions at the new facility," said Mr. Kahn. The 120,000 square foot Connecticut History Center will include at least 35,000 square feet of exhibition space. That is five times the amount of display space that is currently available at OSH. The Connecticut History Center will focus on the history of the entire state. Exhibits at the Old State House will explore the story of the site as well as its importance in the development of state government and Connecticut's capital city, Hartford.

"Given our new involvement with the Old State House and the Museum of Connecticut History in Downtown Hartford, the CHS has decided to reconsider the site of the proposed Connecticut History Center," Kahn said. "A location that is in closer proximity to the historic Old State House would now make more sense than Rocky Ridge Park for both us as an institution and our visitors." The CHS board had previously identified Rocky Ridge Park, adjoining Trinity College, as the preferred site for the History Center.

Work on new exhibitions and other improvements at the OSH will get underway shortly.

### *Federal Support for the Institute of Museum and Library Services*

At a ceremony on September 25<sup>th</sup> in the White House, President George W. Bush signed into law H.R. 13 the Museum and Library Services Act of 2003. The legislation reauthorized federal support provided by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). That agency is the primary source of federal support for libraries and museums. LSTA, the Library Services and Technology Act, is a part of the Museum and Library Services Act. It is a state-based program with its focus on two key priorities for libraries—information access through technology and information empowerment through special services. In Connecticut, LSTA is administered by the State Library.

Dr. Robert Martin, Director of the Institute said, "With this legislation Congress demonstrated a clear recognition that our libraries and museums are essential instruments of public education in the United States. The President's action in quickly signing this bill into law reaffirms the Bush Administration's consistent support for the nation's museums and libraries. The Administration has requested significant increases in funding for the IMLS's programs, a cumulative increase of 24% over the past two years. With the reauthorization of the Museum and Library Services Act and increased funding, IMLS will be able to make progress in its mission to create and sustain a nation of learners."

This legislation advances the role of libraries and museums to connect people to knowledge and ideas in a new era. Today innovative technologies, increasing diversity, and shifts in industry and labor markets combine to make adapting to change a way of life. Navigating change and achieving prosperity and individual productivity require the ability to learn continually, to adapt readily, and to evaluate information critically. This legislation will help museums and libraries work together and with their communities to meet these challenges.

The legislation received bi-partisan support from Congress and enthusiastic backing from the library and museum communities. It continues authority provided by the original Museum and Library Services Act which was passed in 1996 and placed combined authority for library and museum programs in one federal agency for the first time. The reauthorization makes organizational, programmatic, and structural changes that help complete the transition.

The legislation sets the authorization level for library programs at \$232 million. If funding is achieved at that level the new formula distribution will take place, and the base amount given to each state will double. Since the formula was first set in 1971, this change would help small states while holding harmless large states. This would give Connecticut \$2,480,389 in FY2004 or more than a 30% increase over current funding. The legislation reauthorizes the Museum and Library Services Act until 2009.



## Budget Update



On August 20<sup>th</sup> the budget standoff ended with the signing by the Governor of HB 6806 (Public Act 03-6) AN ACT CONCERNING GENERAL BUDGET AND REVENUE IMPLEMENTATION PROVISIONS. The budget contains General Funds for the State Library in the amount of \$10,135,146 for FY 04 and \$10,169,844 for FY 05. The most significant funding increase for the State Library was for iCONN which was awarded \$1,897,200 for FY 04 and \$1,894,332 for FY 05. This level of funding insures the continued availability of the iCONN databases and represents a significant commitment by the administration and the legislature to this important program.

The most crippling element of the budget was the severe cut in funding for the Cooperating Library Service Units from \$600,000 to \$150,000. This has resulted in a significant staff reduction for the new Connecticut Library Consortium (CLC) at a time when it is just getting started. All other funding for libraries was level funded.

The State Library faces a 10.65% reduction in its general operating account. This will have impact on everything that supports ongoing library operations from heat and lights to paperclips. Also of concern in the budget is the reliance on capital equipment dollars to fund 2/3 of the State Library's book budget.

The Budget Act also includes the establishment of the Connecticut Commission on Arts, Tourism, Culture, History and Film, which effectively removes CSL's administrative responsibilities and support for the Commission on the Arts which CSL has provided since July 1995. We wish the new Agency well and look forward to working with them in the future.

### STATE LIBRARY

### FY04

### FY05

Personal Services	5,103,435	5,142,147
Other Expenses	748,446	747,310
Equipment	1,000	1,000
State-Wide Digital Library	1,897,200	1,894,322
Interlibrary Loan Delivery Service	251,722	251,722
Legal/Legislative Library Materials	250,000	250,000
State-Wide Data Base Program	710,206	710,206
<b>PAYMENTS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS</b>		
Grants to Public Libraries	347,109	347,109
Connecticard Payments	676,028	676,028
<b>OTHER PAYMENTS</b>		
Support Cooperating Library Service Units	150,000	150,000
<b>AGENCY TOTAL</b>	<b>10,135,146</b>	<b>10,169,844</b>



## *WebJunction Launched*

Continuing the work of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's U.S. Library Program, OCLC, the Colorado State Library, The Benton Foundation, Isoph, and TechSoup have created *WebJunction*. This technology portal is a web-based, public access computing center that provides information about using technology effectively in a public setting. It is intended for use by public librarians and other organizations that help the public use computers to get information and resources.

*WebJunction* currently has five main areas:

- Policies and Practices helps libraries keep track of the various political and environmental issues that are critical to sustaining public access to information technology. It includes sections on technology planning, acceptable use policies, issues around accessibility, and strategies for fundraising and marketing.
- Technology Resources helps library staff stay ahead of technology issues, problems, and innovations. The portal helps librarians maintain existing infrastructure while keeping pace with new trends. It includes tools and tips for handling hardware and software within the library, an overview of basic and advanced networking options, security measures, and guides to basic troubleshooting.
- Buying Guide helps librarians plan and review options before making decisions to upgrade or change the existing installation. It includes reviews and peer opinions of hardware and software, purchasing advice, and information about buying discounted and used hardware and software.
- Learning Center is an online learning environment that has online courses, downloadable lessons, training tips and other tools to enhance public access computing knowledge and skills. It can help staff acquire and update their own skills and help them learn how to teach the public.
- Community Forum allows freewheeling interaction with peers around the country. Librarians can post and discuss items of mutual interest, attend online events facilitated by experts, and access career information, event calendars, and success stories.

Connecting to *WebJunction* is easy. You must have Internet Explorer 5.0 or higher OR Netscape Navigator 6.0 or higher. When you log on you can register to become a member, opt-in to help evaluate and develop the portal, or just search for information.

To design the most useful library portal possible, *WebJunction* conducted a needs assessment and gathered more than 1,800 responses from library and technical staff, as well as state library and regional library cooperative staff, about what they would like to see the site contain. With the needs assessment in mind *WebJunction* was designed to help users collaboratively plan for the merging technology needs of their organization. *WebJunction* improvements and enhancements will be driven by portal users who provide feedback about their use of *WebJunction* and their needs. Content will be enhanced by contributions from portal users.

Sign on to *WebJunction* at [www.webjunction.org](http://www.webjunction.org), register to be a frequent user, take what information you need, and share your thoughts at the community forum.

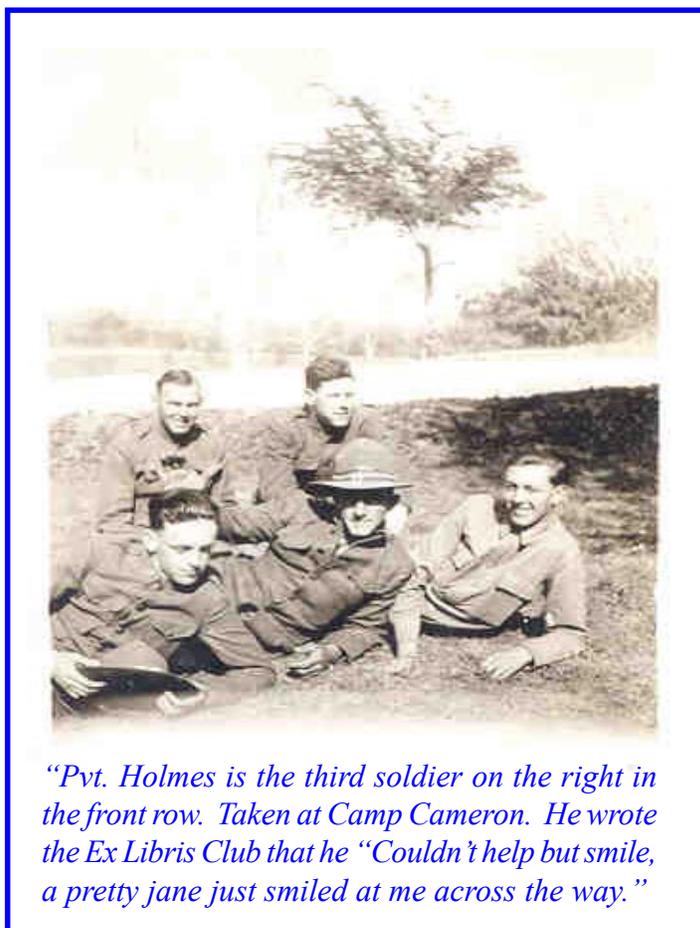
## *A State Library Employee at the Front*

*Mark H. Jones, State Archivist*

In July 1917, prior to any draft, Mark Nicholas Holmes of South Manchester enlisted in the Army to serve in World War I. His parents were born in Denmark. At 19 years of age he had never voted. His previous job had been in the Connecticut State Library's Photostat Department, a large and busy operation since the State Library provided copies of introduced bills to every state legislator. This information came from Holmes' Military Service record that he completed and sent back to the State Library's War Records Department in July 1919.

A treasure trove of his correspondence while in the Army survives to this day in records of the State Library's Ex Libris Club. Formed in 1912, the club was a social organization with members from the State Library and Supreme Court. It held holiday parties, outings and picnics, and during the war, performed service projects such as rolling up bandages. Members also sponsored an orphan and wrote to Homes and the other State Library employee, James Leahy, who had also worked in the Photostat Department.

Private Holmes was stationed at two camps stateside, one at Chakamauga Park in Georgia from July 10, 1917, to February 5, 1918, and the other at Waco, Texas from February 8, 1918, to July 10, 1918. While in the camps he kept up a frequent correspondence with the Ex Libris Club. His letters were passed around to staff, and after having read the letter, each employee recorded his/her initials on the envelope with a check. Some things never change.



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Holmes disembarked from Hoboken, New Jersey aboard the *Leviathan* on August 3 and arrived in France on the eleventh. He trained at a little village 150 miles from Paris from August 14 to September 20, 1918. He went into action on the St. Mihiel Front on October 10, 1918. He served primarily at the front until November 11, the day on which the Armistice was signed.

On December 19, 1918, he wrote to the club. Apologizing for the delay in writing, he went on to chronicle his experiences. In October, he wrote, he was at the front for eleven days. [I have left the spelling and grammar as they appear in the original letter.]

“The night we came up to the front line old Fritz wouldn’t give us a chance to get into our trench. He just gave us a little machine gun reception. I just naturally had to lay low as the bullets were knocking little twigs off [f] the bushes that [I] was laying under. After that we didn’t get bothered much for a few days as it rained pretty hard. One moonlight night Fritz give us a hell of a barrage, an all night one. The shells came over just like hail. Before the barrage my knees were shaking a little cause I was cold but after the barrage got started they were humming home sweet home. I had one narrow escape that night. A shell hit right close to the trench and blew the bayonet clean off my rifle. I was knocked flat also. Didn’t get hurt bad. Just got a little in the jaw. A piece of shrapnel stuck in my skin. I’ve had other narrow escapes but none not so close.”

Holmes’ unit got a day’s leave behind the lines. His comrades and he bathed. Then he went to a “more active” front line about six miles from Metz.

“We were on the front line there until the Armistice was signed. We went over the top the day before the Armistice was signed. I shall never forget the day the armistice was signed. I wouldn’t or just couldn’t believe it when they told us early in the morning that we would have to cease fire at eleven o’clock. It seemed to be eleven every way. The eleventh hour eleventh day and eleventh month. We was relieved that day and was marched back to the old front.”

Holmes remained in France until July, 1919, catching the *Verdi* at “Marseille.” He arrived back at New York City on the nineteenth. He returned to the states as a Corporal, having been promoted on November 1. He was discharged from Camp Mills, Long Island on July 16.

He was very frank when he filled out his military questionnaire. He summed up his “attitude” toward military service: “Willing to go if needed when war is in this country, but do not care to handle any foreign family quarrels.” For the effects of his “overseas experience,” he answered: “Made me think of my home, three square meals, and a good bunk.” For his “impressions” of combat, he explained that it seemed “almost impossible to get out of it alive, and I wonder many times why I am not pushing up daisies in France now.” He hoped in the future that he would have “brains enough never to enlist again.”

He added the following to his questionnaire:

“I will hereby observe Nov. 11, 1918, and July 16, 1919, as holidays. Nov. 11 should be observed as a holiday by all People, and for July 16, I will observe it with a sense of FREEDOM, it being the day of my discharge.

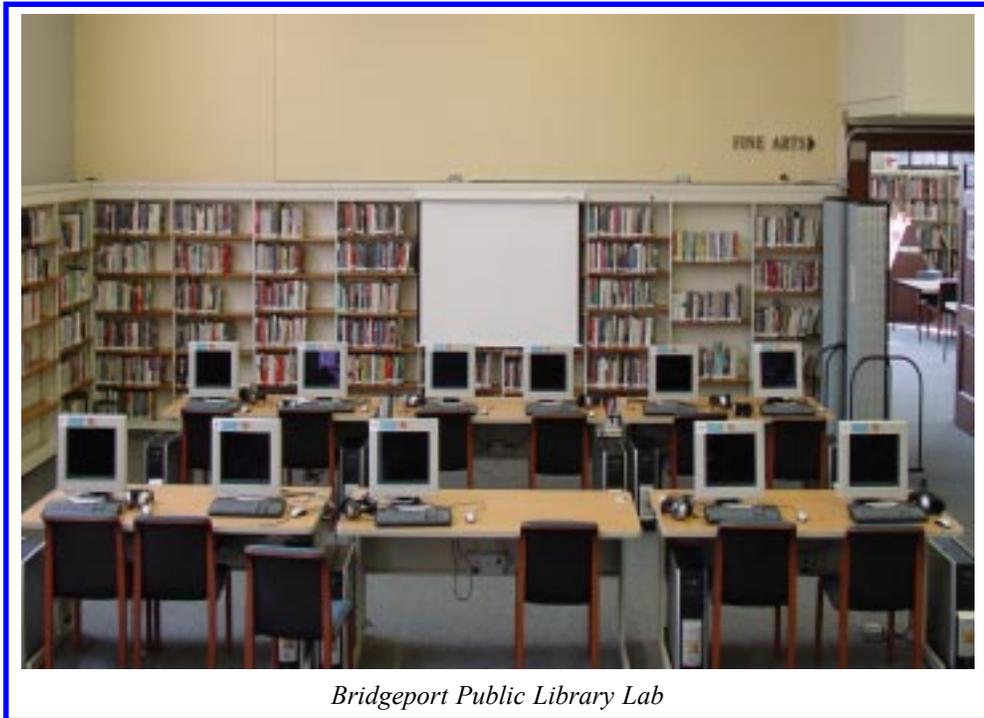
I will say that I am not sorry for my experience. So heres thanking Uncle Sammy and the State of Conn. for all they have done for me. Amen.”

After the war Holmes married and worked at the Cheney Brothers silk mill rising to the position of foreman. In the 1920’s his wife and he moved to North Carolina where he died and is buried.

## ***Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Awards Computer Labs to Five Connecticut Public Libraries***

*Sharon Brettschneider, Director of Library Development*

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation has provided 207 powerful public access computers, fully loaded with Microsoft Office software, reference material, and high speed Internet connectivity to 34 public libraries in Connecticut. The Connecticut State Library participated in a State Partnership Program with the Foundation to provide these computers, along with training and technical support to public libraries serving populations with poverty rates over 10%. The goal of the grant is to help bridge the digital divide that exist in many communities by providing public access to the latest technology through the library.



In addition, five public libraries received funding for technology training labs consisting of eleven computers, all fully loaded with Microsoft software, along with an LCD projector and laser printer. The Advisory Council on Library Planning and Development designated the five libraries to receive the labs among the eligible libraries: Bridgeport Public Library, the Mark Twain Branch of the Hartford Public Library, New Haven Public Library, and the Silas Bronson Library in Waterbury. Each lab offers access to the full Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Access, Excel, FrontPage, Outlook, PhotoDraw, PowerPoint, and Publisher) as well as the Encarta Encyclopedia and high speed Internet connectivity. The training facilities will allow these five libraries to continue in the long tradition of the library as the people's university by providing training to the public in the information and technology tools so important today.

On September 3rd, the Silas Bronson Library held a gala event to officially open their training lab, which is part of a large technology Center. State Librarian Kendall Wiggin spoke at the event along with other dignitaries that included Representative Nancy Johnson, former Representative James Maloney, and Mayor Michael Jarjura. On September 20<sup>th</sup>, the New Britain Public Library held a festive ribbon-cutting event to open their new lab. Speakers included Congresswoman Nancy Johnson from New Britain, Kendall Wiggin, State Senator Donald Defronzo, and Mayor Lucian J. Pawlak. Bridgeport's technology lab opened officially on September 1<sup>st</sup>.

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New Haven's technology lab opened in June with classes being offered throughout the summer. Joe McNair, administrator for the lab, reports, "People attending the classes have been very appreciative. The lab computers are utilized as public access stations when classes aren't in session, and patrons have been very excited about having access to this level of technology." The lab at the Mark Twain Branch in Hartford has also been open since June. This small neighborhood branch of 2,000 sq feet now has 17 public access computers.

A full range of training opportunities is being provided by all five libraries. In October, classes were offered in Windows Basic, Using a Mouse, Getting Started with Computers, Excel, Word, PowerPoint, the Internet, E-mail, and Searching the Web. Silas Bronson is offering classes in Spanish as well as English. As part of agreement for the Gates Foundation grant these technology labs will be available to other public libraries wishing to train their own staff. The State Library will be taking advantage of this opportunity and will be offering technology training sessions in different locations around the state.



*Gates Lab Opening at New Britain Public Library  
From left to right: Senator Donald DeFranzo; U.S. Representative Nancy Johnson and Granddaughters; Mayor Lucian Pawlak; Paul Caver, President of Library Board; Kendall F. Wiggin, State Librarian; and Lindsley Wellman, President, New Britain Institute*

## *Avon Employees Find Working United Is the Best Way to Help*

*Heather Waldron, Senior Marketing Specialist  
GE Global Asset Protection Services*



*Volunteers helping with cassettes*

What do an old industrial building with lots of windows and walls to paint and a library housing thousands of books on tape have in common? Both sites desperately needed volunteer help to catch up on work they had to let go in order to stay on top of vital services they provide. One site that Avon, Connecticut employees selected for their 2003 United Way Day of Caring project was the Connecticut Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. The Library sends out thousands of books and magazines on tape each day. Staff needed help on a backlog of broken cassette shipping cases, returned cassettes, shelving, and work in the Sensory Garden.

### **Gaining Insight**

Marcia Baran has worked as a volunteer at the Connecticut State Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped for about 10 years. She is in charge of processing returned cassettes and instructed half of the 12 volunteers how to rewind, check labels, mend twisted tape, and place cassettes properly in the shipping boxes so users don't run into any problems. It's a job Marcia performs flawlessly while her fingers fly over the Braille and work the rewinding machines.

"Just being in touch with Marcia made me see that people who are blind are just as whole as we are and so much smarter to me because they are using senses more than we do, such as memory," said Eva Gyurik, project manager, GE Global Asset Protection Service (GAPS) Information Technology (IT) team.

MJ Frascino, captain for library group and Vice President, Marketing and Communication for GE Industrial Risk Insurers (IRI) and GE Global Asset Protection Services (GAPS), agreed "We all learned a great deal, especially from Marcia who taught and coached us to look at these processes from the viewpoint of someone without vision."

The library was facing a backlog of nearly eight months in some areas when the Avon employees showed up. "When we left," said MJ, "they were caught up by over a month in those areas. People processing returned cassettes filled over four large bins each holding about 600 audio books now ready to be loaned out again. All 12 of us were thrilled when the director told us we were the best team she had ever had in to help and asked us to come back anytime."

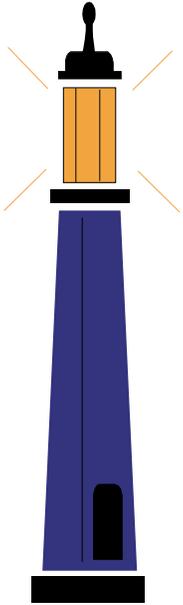
Heather Tsitaridis, an Underwriting Analyst for IRI, was amazed by the number of books and cassettes the library housed. "I felt our help was very much needed, there was such a backlog. I took broken boxes that contained the cassettes, created new labels, and put them into new boxes so they were available again. We put about 120 books back into circulation. A 76-year-old employee had recently retired and they had no one to do this work - we saved them a good month's time."

The state and federally funded library program loans out 20,000+ cassettes a month to the 10,000 patrons served annually. This is at no charge for people who are unable to read regular print due to a visual or other physical disability. Cassettes and playback equipment are sent postage free. Each day 1,200 to 1,500 cassettes are returned, needing to be inspected, repaired, or shelved.

Many of the volunteers expressed interest in making both organizations ongoing volunteer projects - especially Eva Gyurik who was rewarded for her hard work by finding a Hershey's chocolate bar in one of the returned cassette boxes!

All in all, Keshav Varma, Information Technology (IT) Technical Leader for GE GAPS, summed it up best: "It was a day very well spent, working UNITED, as a team to help out in our own unique WAY."

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### *Some Thoughts*

The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen, nor touched...but are felt in the heart.”

Helen Keller

“The trouble with communication is the illusion that is has been accomplished”

George Bernard Shaw

“And now here is my secret, a very simple secret: It is only with the heart that one can see rightly; what is essential is invisible to the eye.”

Antoine de Saint-Exupery

*The Little Prince*

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### *@the Library*

*Joanne Turschman, Library Specialist*

Where will you find Connecticut residents getting answers to more than 3.5 million reference questions and borrowing enough materials to make a stack higher than six Empire State Buildings? At a public library, of course. More than half of Connecticut’s citizens are registered public library borrowers. During the past 10 years Connecticut’s public libraries have seen an overall 18% growth in circulation and 23% increase in requests for information. Annual circulations per capita climbed from 6.6 to 8.5, and reference transactions from .93 per capita to 1.1, for the same period.

Connecticut ranks third among all the states in the number of library visits per capita. It takes a lot of professionally trained librarians to answer 10,000 questions every day; and Connecticut has 692 of them, nationally the highest per capita.

Connecticut public libraries were open a total of 455,988 hours last year, and 57 libraries offer Sunday hours.

These and many more interesting and useful Connecticut public library statistics can be found on our website at [www.cslib.org/statprofile.htm](http://www.cslib.org/statprofile.htm)

***Willoughby Wallace Memorial Library***

*Mary Louise Jensen, Building Consultant*



*Thimble Islands in the distance*



*Library Entrance*

On June 2, 2002, the renovated and expanded Willoughby Wallace Memorial Library, located in a picturesque seaside community, celebrated the completion of its library renovation project. The architects were Glenn Arbonies and Sandra Vlock, a husband and wife team who live next door to the library.

The Willoughby Wallace Memorial Library is a one story, 6,055 square foot building made of stone. At the entrance there is a vestibule decorated with a hand painted mural by Robert Reynolds, a local artist commissioned by the Friends of the Willoughby Wallace Memorial Library. The mural is shown off to its best by unusual track lighting. Two doors lead from the vestibule - one to the library and the other to the gallery/meeting room. This library emphasizes its role in the community more than most, and approximately half of the library is dedicated to meeting room space. The large space shown on the next page can be closed off if necessary. Upon entering, one has the feeling that this truly is a friendly, neighborhood library. The staff takes time to chat with the patrons, and the building has a warm, cozy feeling. Abundant natural lighting, the blue-gray color of the walls, warm tone furniture, wooden ceiling, and colorful covers of books on display on slatwall at the end of the book stacks contribute to the intimate and inviting atmosphere of the building.

The rest of the renovation included adult, children's, and new staff areas, and two new, handicapped accessible restrooms. This project received a \$172,306 State Public Library Construction Grant.

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## ***Library Renovation and Construction***



*Children's Area*

The new 1,002 square foot addition created a small meeting room that houses local history materials and another room that contains current periodicals and seating. The old stone exterior wall serves as an internal wall for both new rooms. The local quilting group uses the small meeting room regularly, performing musicians book the renovated large meeting room, and local artists display their paintings on the walls.

Come see this library at the Libratects meeting on Thursday, November 6, 2003, at 10:00 a.m. This meeting is open to librarians, trustees, and town officials. No advanced registration is required. People involved in the design and construction of the library will be available to answer questions. If you have questions about the Libratects meeting, contact Mary Louise Jensen, Building Consultant at [mjensen@cslib.org](mailto:mjensen@cslib.org).



*New Addition*



*Large Meeting Room*

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## ***Chair and Vice-Chair of State Library Board Elected***

At the July 28<sup>th</sup> meeting of the State Library Board, Ann Clark was re-elected to a one-year term as Board Chair. Dr. Mollie Keller was elected vice-chair. Ms. Clark is the Permanent Assistant Clerk of the Connecticut House of Representatives. She is the appointee of the Speaker of the House. Dr. Keller is the Records Manager/Archivist for the City of Bridgeport. She is a Gubernatorial appointee to the Board.

*continued*



Connecticut State Library  
231 Capitol Avenue  
Hartford, Connecticut 06106-1537



## *Board Briefs*

### *Connecticut State Library*

#### **STATE LIBRARY BOARD**

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Robert D. Harris, Jr.  
Judge Francis X. Hennessy  
Joy Hostage  
Larry Kibner  
Judge Joseph P. Flynn  
E. Frederick Petersen  
Betty Sternberg  
Edwin E. Williams

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Richard Kingston, Director, Administrative Services  
Lynne Newell, Director, Information Services  
Sharon Brettschneider, Director, Library Development  
Eunice G. DiBella, Public Records Administrator  
Dean Nelson, Administrator, Museum of CT History

#### **LIBRARY SERVICES**

Archives (860) 757-6595  
Connecticut Digital Library (860) 344-2475  
Government Information Services (860) 757-6500  
History and Genealogy (860) 757-6580  
Law and Legislation (860) 757-6590  
Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped  
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Middletown Library Service Center (860) 344-2972  
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**The Connecticut State Library is an Equal Opportunity Employer.**

At the State Library Board's regular meeting in July, they dealt with a variety of items relating to public library construction.

Grant Extensions were approved for the Bentley Memorial Library, Bridgeport Public Library for the extension to the Black Rock Library, the Norwalk Public Library for the South Norwalk Branch Library Project.

The State Library Board approved the revised *State Public Library Construction Grant Timetable and Guidelines for 2003-2004*. The Board also approved Salem Free Public Library's revision to its \$500,000 state public library construction grant with the understanding that no further approval of square footage reductions below 7,051 square feet will be considered by the Board.

In other action the Board concurred with the recommendation of the State Archivist and the Public Records Administrator and approved the transfer to the St. John's Church in Washington, Connecticut, parish records in the custody of the Connecticut State Library. State Archivist Mark Jones reported that the State Library Board has the authority to approve transfers of non-governmental archival records from the State Library. In March of 2002, the chief officers of the governing board for John's Episcopal Church asked that the State Library return four volumes of its parish records. Mr. Jones discovered that the Episcopal Diocese of Connecticut had deposited an earlier record book with the State Library and recommended that it also be transferred to St. John's Episcopal Church. The Diocese approved the transfer. Mr. Jones stated that he and Eunice DiBella, Public Records Administrator had visited the Church and were satisfied that the Church could take proper care of the records. He also reported that the State Library had made copies of the volumes for use by on-site researchers.

For complete CSL Board Minutes go to:  
[www.cslib.org/libbrd/index.htm](http://www.cslib.org/libbrd/index.htm)