



THE CONNector

The Connecticut State Library Newsletter

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The CONNector has an electronic format designed to make it easier to look at our articles. Please open this issue in a browser. We hope you enjoy it and will share any suggestions you have for future issues with me at bdelaney@cslib.org. Visit our web site at <http://www.cslib.org>.

The State Librarian's Column

As a librarian, I see great value in what libraries do. But lately I have found myself thinking about what is referred to as "the value proposition". Do our constituents receive tangible results from using our services? Can we articulate the value of libraries in the Google world?

At a time of scarce state and federal dollars for services such as libraries, it is important that we all begin to think in terms of the value proposition. [more...](#)

Calling All Genealogists



New England CONNECTIONs, the ninth New England Regional Genealogical Conference, is coming to the new [Connecticut Convention Center](#) and the [Marriott Hartford Downtown](#) on April 26-29, 2007. [more...](#)

Web 2.0 Workshop for State Library Staff

Understanding the new information environment in which our patrons operate is key to the State Library's evolution in coming years. Often referred to as Web 2.0, a distinctive feature of this environment is "social networking software" such as blogs and wikis and Instant Messaging. Sites that incorporate this software including YouTube, Flickr and Facebook, are enormously popular with our patrons, and may provide new avenues for us to consider in presenting and publicizing our services. [more...](#)

New Tutorial on Connecticut's Legislative Process

There is a comprehensive diagram of "How a Bill Becomes a Law" on the Connecticut General Assembly website at <http://www.cga.ct.gov/html/bill.pdf> that provides a general overview and basic understanding of Connecticut's legislative process. [more...](#)

State Library Celebrates 300th Performance of "William Webb"

On January 11, the State Library celebrated Kevin Johnson's 300th rendition of *William Webb, an African-American Civil War Soldier from Connecticut* in the Museum of Connecticut History's Memorial Hall.



Kevin Johnson with members of The Sounds of Afrika, a drumming group

Following light refreshments, a welcome by State Librarian Kendall Wiggin, and remarks by Diane Smith, co-host of the Morning Show on WTIC-AM and host of "Positively Connecticut" on Connecticut Public Television, Johnson performed his emotional first-person presentation of the struggle of African-Americans in the Colored Infantry during the Civil War. [more...](#)

iCONN Market Survey: Measuring Current Awareness, Usage and Interest



In 2005 the State Library commissioned the UCONN Center for Survey Research and Analysis to survey residents concerning their awareness and use of iCONN, including reQuest. The results were published [here](#)

In 2007 the State Library commissioned the UCONN Center for Survey Research and Analysis to update seven key questions in that study in order to gauge the effectiveness of our marketing efforts since 2005, and especially over the last six months. The key findings from the survey update are listed below. The complete update survey and key findings in comparison with the 2005 study are also published [here](#). Overall, the results are encouraging:

Awareness and Usage * Overall Increase

- Twice as many people indicated they have used reQuest. [more...](#)

300th Presentation of William Webb

On the evening of January 11th, against a backdrop of a recreated Civil War campsite in Memorial Hall, Kevin Johnson, of the State Library's History and Genealogy staff, portrayed Private William Webb, of Connecticut's Twenty-Ninth (Colored) Regiment, for the 300th time. Webb, a native of Hartford, was recruited in 1863 and fought in several battles in Virginia during the Civil War. Following welcoming remarks by State Librarian Kendall Wiggin, Kevin was introduced by his good friend and staunch supporter, Diane Smith of radio station WTIC. Smith recalled her first encounter with William Webb

shortly after Kevin began doing his presentations and how she instantly became a fan and promoter of both Kevin and Pvt. [more...](#)

WebJunction Connecticut



Where minds meet.

[WebJunction Connecticut](#) is the place to find the latest news on services, training opportunities, and grants from the Division of Library Development. [more...](#)

Governor Lowell P. Weicker, Jr. Records



Governor Lowell P. Weicker, Jr. with Arnold Schwarzenegger, then chair of the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports, in the Governor's office

Staff of the State Archives have completed processing the records of Governor Lowell P Weicker, Jr (1991-1995). [more...](#)

Dedication of the Essex Library



On November 5, 2006, the expanded Essex Library Association building was dedicated. Essex Library Association started in 1889. [more...](#)

State Public Library Construction Grant Awards for FY07



At the State Library Board Meeting held on November 27, 2006, the following construction grants were approved.

Town: East Windsor
Library: Library Association of Warehouse Point
Type of Project: Code Compliance
Grant Award: \$14,500

Project Description

Two aspects of the library will be brought into code compliance. [more...](#)

The Connecticut CONNector Editorial Board

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