



# THE CONNector

The Connecticut State Library Newsletter

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The CONNector has a new 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](mailto:bdelaney@cslib.org).

## State Librarian's Column

The year 2006 will continue to bring challenges for libraries in Connecticut and throughout the country. Competition for funding will remain keen. Librarians will start retiring in greater numbers. Recruitment will be harder as fewer librarians are graduated. [more...](#)

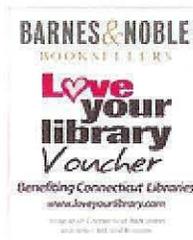
## Study of iCONN Usage



One hundred percent (100%) of people who use iCONN are satisfied with the information found

there, but most Connecticut residents don't know about the service. This was just one of the many findings from a November 2005 public opinion poll conducted by the University of Connecticut's Center for Survey and Research Analysis (CSRA). [more...](#)

## Love Your Library & Barnes & Noble



Over \$30,000 worth of purchases were made with Love Your Library vouchers in the first-ever Connecticut statewide library fundraiser with Barnes & Noble on Friday, December 2nd and Saturday, December 3rd.

Librarians, book sellers, authors, publishers, and patrons pulled together, bringing not only funds, but much-needed publicity to Connecticut's libraries, library organizations, and the iCONN program. [more...](#)

### "The Road To Freedom"



"Greetings! My name is Jordan Freeman. I was born in 1732 to Oxford and Temperance, who were the servants of Richard Lord of Old Lyme. As time passed and I became a man, in 1755 I married Lilly, the servant of Mary Prentice of New London. Later, I became the servant of John Ledyard and the body servant of Colonel William Ledyard. [more...](#)

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## Digital Preservation Consortium

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## Construction Grants



West Hartford Public Library



Kent Memorial Library in Suffield

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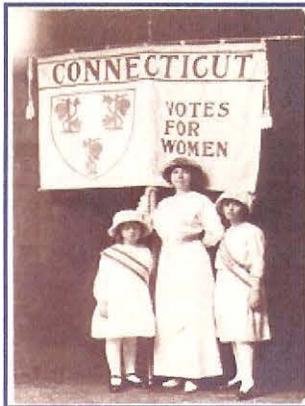
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The Hartford Foundation for Public Giving has awarded the State Library a \$50,000 grant to support the Historical Hartford Courant digitization project. State Librarian Kendall F. Wiggin said that the grant from the Hartford Foundation represents a major milestone in the Library's fundraising efforts for this important project. [more...](#)

## Women's History Month



Edith Stoehr and unknown female angler, no date, Record Group 079, Department of Environmental Protection, Fish and Game. [more...](#)



Josephine Bennett and daughters Frances and Katherine of Hartford, ca. [more...](#)



Corporal Mary Alice Kadelak O'Brien, Assigned as a driver to the Base Motor Pool, Picture Group 048, Bradley Field World War II Activities, 1942-1945. [more...](#)

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## Connecticut State Library

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### Study of iCONN Usage



One hundred percent (100%) of people who use iCONN are satisfied with the information found there, but most Connecticut residents don't know about the service. This was just one of the many findings from a November 2005 public opinion poll conducted by the University of Connecticut's Center for Survey and Research Analysis (CSRA).

"This study shows that iCONN is headed down the right road. The challenge now is to significantly increase awareness of iCONN throughout the state and to continue to strengthen its offerings so that Connecticut reaps the maximum benefit from its investment in the service," said William Sullivan, iCONN Administrator.

The Connecticut State Library commissioned the survey to establish a baseline for Connecticut residents' awareness of the Connecticut Digital Library. In addition to measuring iCONN awareness, staff from iCONN and CSRA composed questions that covered a range of related topics, such as the public's perception of librarians and online information.

Usage statistics show that over 30 million searches have been conducted on iCONN databases since the service went live in 2001, and there is ample evidence that the service has become a core resource for the state's public, school, and academic librarians. Before the survey, however, there was no way to measure how much of Connecticut's general population knew about or used the service. This also made it impossible to gauge the effectiveness of publicity efforts.

#### Study Results; Awareness and Usage of iCONN and reQuest

Awareness of iCONN: 14% of general public, 17% of library users, 10% of non-library users  
Usage of iCONN: 5% among the general public, 7% among library users  
Familiarity and usage rates of reQuest: 6% and 7%, respectively, among the general public

Overall ratings of iCONN and reQuest systems showed a high rate of satisfaction among users - 93% satisfaction for reQuest and 86% for iCONN. Ninety-six percent (96%) of iCONN users would recommend the service to others who need information. Another interesting finding was that most non-iCONN users who did not already have a library card were more motivated to get a library card after they had listened to a description of iCONN.

#### Are Librarians More Reliable than the Internet?

Connecticut residents trust librarians more than the Internet with 71% strongly agreeing that they provide accurate and reliable information and only 33% strongly agreeing that the Internet provides accurate and reliable information. iCONN is the type of service that Connecticut residents get behind with 94% strongly agreeing that they are "concerned about equal access to information" among all communities. The report noted that "even if [they] never use it themselves, many state residents will support iCONN for social or public policy reasons".

#### Top iCONN Resources

The most used iCONN resources are online newspapers and magazines. Survey-takers cited the top four uses of iCONN as:

- Schoolwork/coursework for self
- Personal research projects
- Work/business
- Schoolwork with child

The current usage patterns of iCONN and the interest levels among non-users suggest the need for further promotion of iCONN's niche databases to increase usage and to attract new users. Survey-takers also indicated the greatest interest in specific magazine titles such as Consumer Reports and categories such as health, travel, hobbies, and news magazines.

#### Room For Growth

High interest levels in the service's offerings among survey-takers who were previously unaware of iCONN demonstrated the service's potential for growth. When iCONN was described to survey-takers, 57% were at least "somewhat likely" to use iCONN in the future. The non-iCONN users said that they were most likely to use the following resources:

Newspapers (The Hartford Courant, The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal)  
Health and wellness resource center  
History resource center  
Business and company resource center

#### Free, Fast, and 24x7

The survey also measured the public's reaction to messages about online information resources. The most important motivating factor the study found for non-users to begin using iCONN (at 71%) was its 24x7 availability. Non-users found that "access is free" to be very attractive (at 66%). Among survey-takers who go online for research purposes, the speed of online research is the number one motivating factor (61%) followed by the convenience of using online information (43%).

#### Next Steps

iCONN will use the survey's results to inform its public awareness campaign strategy. For example, iCONN staff members have already begun revising publicity materials to reflect the messages of greatest interest to the general public. More analysis of the survey's results, in conjunction with the recently released results of OCLC's international survey on public perceptions of libraries, will help iCONN staff to more effectively publicize the service to the state's residents.

Complete results of the survey can be viewed online at [Marketing Survey](#)

## Connecticut State Library

### Love Your Library & Barnes & Noble



Over \$30,000 worth of purchases were made with Love Your Library vouchers in the first-ever Connecticut statewide library fundraiser with Barnes & Noble on Friday, December 2nd and Saturday, December 3rd. Librarians, book sellers, authors, publishers, and patrons pulled together, bringing not only funds, but much-needed publicity to Connecticut's libraries, library organizations, and the iCONN program.

Total purchases equalled \$30,032.75 - a figure that is particularly impressive for a first-year event in a state with only twelve Barnes & Noble stores. Love Your Library will receive a twenty-five percent donation of those sales. This means that over \$7,500 will go to the Connecticut Library Consortium (CLC). The net proceeds will be contributed by CLC to iCONN.

Love Your Library was the result of a groundbreaking partnership between the CLC, the Connecticut State Library, and the Connecticut Library Association. The events and partnerships surrounding Love Your Library created positive publicity for Connecticut's libraries. The librarians' list of recommended titles for holiday giving headlined section D of The Hartford Courant on the week of the event. The article promoted the Love Your Library fundraiser. It also mentioned and

described the Connecticut Digital Library (iCONN) project. iCONN built on this publicity by distributing its bookmarks at all Barnes & Noble locations in Connecticut.

There were also a number of public events held in conjunction with Love Your Library days. The Enfield Public Library teamed up with the libraries in Suffield and Somers and ran popular children's title-themed activities such as games related to Harry Potter and Lemony Snicket. Children's librarian Sherelle Harris, Head of Branch Children's Services, was the featured reader at storyhour in the Norwalk Barnes & Noble. The Manchester Public Library also provided librarians to read to the children at the Manchester Barnes & Noble. At several Barnes & Noble locations, wish list tables were set up so that local libraries could get copies of titles donated to them by the public. Manchester and South Windsor's public libraries even teamed up to create a joint wish list table at their local store.

In North Haven, Barnes & Noble hosted the celebrated Dr. Bernie Siegel, an author known for his compassionate approach to medicine and healing. His talk and book signing was accompanied by special iCONN brochures on the Health & Wellness Resource Center (which feature such appropriate resources as online encyclopedias of cancer and alternative medicine). In Danbury, the authors of the *Murder, She Wrote* series spoke and signed copies of their latest book. The author of children's book *Double Pink* held story hour at the Manchester Barnes & Noble on Saturday.

The events were preceded by Thursday's blitz of eight Barnes & Noble stores by author Anne Margaret Lewis, who signed copies of her new holiday book - *Has Anyone Seen Christmas?* Twenty-five percent of the sales of that book went to Love Your Library, even those copies sold on Thursday. The publisher of *Has Anyone Seen Christmas?* also donated radio advertisements and one free copy of the title for each public library in the state to go along with the event (the books will be distributed via C-CAR once received).

Post-event wrap-ups show great satisfaction with the events among the state's libraries. Love Your Library not only raised money and awareness for iCONN, but it also gave public libraries an opportunity to do outreach of their own. The development of an attractive logo by CLC's graphic designers, which was built on the "Love Your Library" theme, along with the customized vouchers and posters put together by the same team gave the event a distinctive identity that was embraced by libraries of all types throughout the state. iCONN staff came up with the [www.loveyourlibrary.com](http://www.loveyourlibrary.com) website design (based on iCONN's existing website design) and mounted it on their server, while CLC purchased and pointed the domain name to that site. CLC, CLA, the State Library, and WebJunction - CT all featured Love Your Library on their websites, as did many Connecticut libraries and library networks. Through the joint efforts of these many entities, the event was a great success.

## Connecticut State Library

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### "The Road To Freedom"

"Greetings! My name is Jordan Freeman. I was born in 1732 to Oxford and Temperance, who were the servants of Richard Lord of Old Lyme. As time passed and I became a man, in 1755 I married Lilly, the servant of Mary Prentice of New London. Later, I became the servant of John Ledyard and the body servant of Colonel William Ledyard. Many have wondered if Blacks participated in the Revolution. I was summoned here to tell you about our story in Connecticut."

February is Black History Month, but while Kevin Johnson, a member History and Genealogy Unit, will be busy taking the story of that struggle for freedom on the road through performances at libraries, schools, historical societies, church groups, and other non-profit organizations across the state, he is eager to point out that, "Black history is something that should be remembered every day, not just one month a year." "Black history," says Johnson, "is part of American history. It tells the story of people of African heritage in America and the gains they made on the road to freedom."

Johnson's presentation as Jordan Freeman pays tribute to the more than 5,000 African Americans who served in the Revolutionary War, including nearly 300 from Connecticut. But in addition to portraying Jordan Freeman, Johnson has been presenting as William Webb, a soldier in the Civil War, since 1998 and has given more than 275 presentations.

Sharing stories of the life and times of Freeman and Webb is important to Johnson. "African Americans were part of this country's story from the beginning," he notes, "and it's important to rediscover Jordan Freeman, William Webb, and others who were active participants in making our state and country what it is today. Jordan lived near the beginning of our country's struggle for freedom from England, and to have a black die in a great cause really says what freedom is all about."

The significance of Jordan Freeman to Johnson is that he was "not an enlisted soldier but was willing to sacrifice, to give his life for a cause." Those blacks held as property in Jordan Freeman's time were seeking personal freedom. Some enlisted in the Revolutionary War because they were offered their freedom in return for satisfactory completion of a set period of service others because they felt it was their duty. In Johnson's mind, William Webb lived the other half of the story. By the time of the Civil War, slavery was over in Connecticut and "black men were given the opportunity to fight for their country and to fight for the freedom of all."

Johnson notes that reconstructing the lives of slaves in colonial times and Civil War soldiers is not easy, as slavery tore families apart while leaving only scattered records containing genealogical information. "Slaves weren't given the opportunity to read or write," he says. But he stresses that, "The history is there; it just needs to be found."

Johnson adds that knowing that one's ancestors had to endure the abuses of slavery can be disturbing. "But," he contents, "it's important to discover the clues, to put the information out there, to let the truth speak for itself. It's important to recognize the importance of history and to share it in all its aspects." And ultimately, through the struggles of people like Jordan Freeman, William Webb, and many others, slaves in Connecticut and throughout the country did gain their freedom.

"Freedom," reflects Johnson. "Freedom. As William Webb would say, 'Sounds good, sounds nice. Got to be free.' All of us living today are living out that struggle for freedom. What Jordan Freeman was hoping for, William Webb was living out. The freedom William Webb was hoping for is what we should be living out today." But Johnson adds that, "Sometimes it seems that today, as a country, we've lost a sense of what freedom means. It's important to reconnect to the meaning of freedom, to rediscover those freedoms laid out in the Declaration of Independence, the Bill of Rights, and the amendments to the Constitution that followed the Civil War by discovering what freedom meant to people in the past."

Johnson feels strongly that the State Library plays an important role in helping people regain that connection to the past "through the wealth of materials on our rich history and people that can be found here."

To help others rediscover forgotten aspects of Black History in the state, CSL staff members have developed a number of online exhibits, research guides, and living history presentations tied to the theme of "Slavery and the Road to Freedom." They currently include:

A Research Guide to the "Amistad Affair"

A biographical sketch of Roger Sherman Baldwin, who defended the Mendi in the Amistad trial and who later became a governor of Connecticut

An online exhibit of the Connecticut Freedom Trail Quilts from the Museum of Connecticut History

An introduction to tradition among Connecticut's early African American community of electing "Black Governors"

A Research Guide to Materials Relating to Slavery in Connecticut at the Connecticut State Library

An online exhibit of a Log Book of Slave Traders Between New London and Africa, 1757-8 in the State Archives

Research Guide to African-American Genealogical Resources at the Connecticut State Library

In addition, an online exhibit tied to the life and times of William Webb is currently being developed by staff of the History and Genealogy Unit. A Connecticut history research resources page at: <http://www.cslib.org/history.htm> contains finding aids pertaining to various time periods in Connecticut's history, links to information about Connecticut's history, boundaries, nicknames, and governors, and links to Connecticut historical societies and museums.

Richard C. Roberts, History and Genealogy Unit

Picture of Kevin Johnson portraying Jordon Freeman

## Connecticut State Library

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### Humanities Grant

The Connecticut Humanities Council (CHC) has awarded the Connecticut Heritage Foundation (CHF) a \$9,800 grant to develop a strategic plan for the Museum of Connecticut History. Over the past several years, the Museum has been going through the American Association of Museums Institutional Assessment program. The final report included a recommendation that the Museum develop a new strategic plan. The Foundation has contracted with Laura Roberts of Roberts Consulting in Cambridge, Massachusetts to lead the planning process. Ms. Roberts has extensive experience working with cultural institutions in Connecticut. A kickoff meeting was held on December 6 and the planning team was selected. The planning team will work over the next six months reviewing the mission of the Museum, previous studies, and its organization and services. The Museum Advisory Board, CHF and the State Library Board are represented on the planning team. The team will also be eliciting comments on the Museum's future from various constituent groups. It is expected that the final report will be presented to the State Library Board this summer.

The Connecticut Heritage Foundation is an autonomous not-for-profit corporation that supports the programs and purposes of the Connecticut State Library and Museum of Connecticut History. The Connecticut Humanities Council is a statewide non-profit institution located in Middletown, Connecticut that focuses its work on two time-honored traditions in the humanities - reflective reading of literature and exploration of history. CHC programs are often conducted in partnership with state and regional cultural organizations. Included is funding for exhibits, walking tours, cultural festivals and community humanities projects that explore Connecticut's diverse local heritage as well as American and world history. Each year, the CHC produces and funds nearly \$2 million in cultural programming that enriches the lives of state residents and visitors statewide.

Kendall F. Wiggin, State Librarian

## Connecticut State Library

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### **Governor Rowland's Portrait**

On November 23, with no formal ceremony, a portrait of former Governor John G. Rowland was hung in Memorial Hall as part of the Museum of Connecticut History's gubernatorial portrait collection. The portrait by R. H. Sibold had originally hung in Eolia, the mansion at Harkness Memorial State Park but had been taken down and stored when Governor Rowland resigned. Once the State Library learned of the portrait, efforts were made to acquire it for the collection. The decision by State Librarian Kendall Wiggin to hang the portrait evoked a range of responses, not all favorable to the decision. The State Library is not responsible for commissioning or funding portraits of former governors. In the past they have been funded by the Legislature with the completed portraits ceremoniously presented to

the State Library.

Since a portrait of Governor Rowland existed and was in the State's custody, and the portrait was of similar size and style to the other portraits, Wiggin deemed it appropriate that it should be hung in Memorial Hall. For Wiggin the portraits are part of the historical record and Museum visitors should be able to see what a governor looked like -no matter what their record while in (or out) of office. The only reason 13 governor's are not represented in Memorial Hall is because no authenticated likenesses have ever been found.

The State of Connecticut officially embarked upon the acquisition of works of art in 1800 when the Legislature commissioned a portrait of George Washington from the Philadelphia artist John Trumbull. Today that portrait hangs in the Old State House where it is on loan from the State Library. In 1830, a likeness of former governor and U.S. Supreme Court Justice Oliver Wolcott, Jr. was presented to the State and hung in the State House in New Haven.

By the mid-nineteenth century the State had acquired portraits of numerous former governors and lieutenant governors, including some of the colonial period. It has become a custom of the Legislature to appropriate funds to have portraits made of governors after their departure from office. Around 1901, the practice of using metal name-plates which bear the name of the Governor and the dates of his administration was begun.

The collection of Governors' portraits resided in the State House until 1878, when the current State Capitol building was constructed. In 1910, the State Library was completed and the museum's Memorial Hall became the repository of the collection.

Among the artists whose works are represented in the portrait collection are Ralph Earle, George Wright, Charles N. Flagg, Deane Keller, and Herbert Abrams.

Today seventy-two portraits are on public display.

Picture of Portrait of former Governor John G. Rowland

## Connecticut State Library

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### Digital Preservation Consortium

The Connecticut State Library (CSL) is a charter member of the new digital venture by a leading preservation consortium. The highly respected Law Library Microform Consortium (LLMC) was founded in 1976 and has shaped standards and conduct that influence the entire microfilm industry. One of those standards is the use of silver halide microfilm as the preferred medium for preservation. LLMC has not changed that conviction nor have they reduced their commitment to silver halide. But in 2003, with a nod to digital preservation, they launched LLMC-Digital.

The LLMC microfilm back file is being converted into digital format and new titles will be digitized and filmed. This impressive collection of 273 legal and governmental titles presently totals almost 6 million pages, covering U.S. legislative, judicial, and executive documents; state court reports, military law, common law abroad, and even historical editions of the U.S. Government Manual. Additional titles and volumes are added monthly. Several volumes of Connecticut Supreme Court Reports were added recently, with the expectation that volumes 1-104 (1789 - 1926) will soon be available for searching.

Recently CSL was able to contribute a title to the archive, the 5-volume 1907 set *Leyes Comerciales y Maritimas de la América Latina*. The Library will be acknowledged as donor opposite the title page of each volume in LLMC-Digital.

The CSL law collection was also tapped for loans to complete scanning of two legal treatises with missing volumes, filling in a fifteen-year gap. The two volumes were sent to Hawaii, scanned, and returned to Connecticut within a month. LLMC is located on the beautiful campus of Windward Community College in Kaneohe. As a charter member and subscriber to LLMC Digital, CSL eases its space crunch and contributes to the preservation of important legal documents. Work performed in the balmy breezes of Hawaii is saving us space in Connecticut and filling in gaps online.

LLMC-Digital is in the process of scanning and mounting high-quality searchable page images for all of the official state court reports and the entire National Reporter System (state and federal appellate court cases) prior to copyright. This will be a major advantage for space-starved libraries such as CSL. This volume of material accounts for roughly 15,500 on-shelf volumes. Equally encouraging, LLMC-Digital is committed to working with the Legal Information Preservation Alliance to make sure that a minimum number of archival preservation copies will be retained, so that no library inadvertently discards the last copy of a given title.

Researchers at the State Library are encouraged to explore this valuable and fast-growing resource. It can be accessed through the CSL Subscription Resources web page at <http://www.cslib.org/subscrindex.htm> More information is available at [http://www.llmc.com/digital\\_toc.htm](http://www.llmc.com/digital_toc.htm)

Denise Jernigan, Unit Head  
Law/Legislative Reference

## Connecticut State Library

### Construction Grants



West Hartford Public Library



Kent Memorial Library  
in Suffield

On November 28, 2005, the State Library approved nine construction grants for a total of \$3,000,175 from state bonding funds. The following are descriptions of these grants:

- Hagan Memorial Library in East Haven will redesign a 30-year-old circulation service desk and surrounding storage area in order to increase staff productivity, improve workflow, and enhance service to the disabled. Total project cost: \$69,407. Grant: \$23,135.
- Byram-Shubert Library, a branch library of the Greenwich Library, will construct a 4,875 square foot addition. The total square footage will be 10,275 square feet. The addition will expand the currently limited access to library programs, services, and technological resources. Total project cost: \$4,049,522. Grant: \$323,207 (added to previously awarded grants the total will be \$500,000).
- Parkville Branch Library, a branch library of the Hartford Public Library, will construct a 1,500 square foot addition with a glass curtain wall. This will accommodate a much-needed extension to the children's area and will free up floor area in the current space for additional materials and seating, as well as a space for TAP and Homework Center activity. Total project cost: \$ 1,600,000. Grant: \$500,000.
- E. C. Scranton Memorial Library in Madison will construct a 26,600 square foot addition with a total square footage of 39,600. This addition will allow the whole library to expand computers, stacks, reading areas, and meeting rooms. Total project cost: \$10,203,000. Grant: \$500,000.
- The Licia & Mason Beekley Community Library in New Hartford will construct a 9,735 addition. The total square footage will be 18,935. Most of the addition is for meeting room space. Total project cost: \$2,175,500. Grant : \$500,000.
- Association of the Free Library and Reading Room of Rowayton, Inc. is a handicapped access, code compliance, remodeling, and energy conservation project. Total project cost: \$431,500. Grant: \$143,700.
- Stonington Free Library needs to replace an existing bank of windows to conserve energy. Total project cost \$30,000. Grant: \$10,000.
- Kent Memorial Library in Suffield is replacing the existing building with a totally new building (33,000 square feet). The new building will be ADA-compliant and will be able to provide the needed library services, especially in the children's area. Total project cost: \$ 11,052,352. Grant: \$500,000.
- West Hartford Public Library will construct a 16, 888 square foot addition with a total square footage of 56,130. The Library will have more space for services - doubling the children's area, and adding a computer lab, local history room, a new teen room, as well as public/meeting spaces. Total project cost: \$5,800,000. Grant: \$500,000.

All these grants have been approved by the State Bond Commission.

Mary Louise Jensen, Building Consultant

## Connecticut State Library

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### **Historical Hartford Courant Project**

The Hartford Foundation for Public Giving has awarded the State Library a \$50,000 grant to support the Historical Hartford Courant digitization project. State Librarian Kendall F. Wiggin said that the grant from the Hartford Foundation represents a major milestone in the Library's fundraising efforts for this important project.

The [Historical Hartford Courant](#) database will include full-page coverage from issue 1, volume 1 of the newspaper starting in 1764 with coverage to December 31, 1922. This searchable digital archive of more than 280,000 pages of important historical content will offer article-level search results, article zoning and edited metadata, including headlines, bylines, and first paragraphs. All academic libraries, public libraries and branches, historical society libraries, and all schools will have statewide access, as well as any Connecticut government department. There will be remote access for anyone with a public library card.

Wiggin noted that although the Courant's coverage was not limited to the greater Hartford area, there is a great deal of news, legal notices, obituaries and other historical information that should be of particular value to the schools and libraries in the 29 towns served by the Hartford Foundation.

(Grant ID #20051033)

## Connecticut State Library

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### Women's History Month



Edith Stoehr and unknown female angler, no date, Record Group 079, Department of Environmental Protection, Fish and Game. In 1932, the Connecticut Fish and Game Commission leased part of the Branford River in North Branford and set it aside exclusively for women so that they could fly-cast for trout. The Commission hired a female game warden proficient in fly-casting and fish and game laws to teach women how to fly-cast and to get them acclimated to the outdoors. In the Spring of 1933, the Commission held a contest on the woman's reserve section of the Branford River. As a well-rounded outdoors person, Edith Stoehr entered and easily won a competition. Later the Commission decided to set aside one of its hunting preserves in Farmington for women only, and Stoehr was assigned to teach them how to hunt and handle game dogs.

She carried a revolver and did jobs like the male wardens, even patrolling areas and arresting persons violating the law. She was interviewed by newspapers, magazines and on the radio. In 1946 she died, and the New York Times carried her obituary. At her funeral, her fellow male game wardens served as pallbearers.



Corporal Mary Alice Kadelak O'Brien, Assigned as a driver to the Base Motor Pool, Picture Group 048, Bradley Field World War II Activities, 1942-1945.

During Second World War, the Army recruited women for the Women's Army Corps to do jobs that men usually did, thus freeing them up for service on the front lines. A unit of the WAC's served at Bradley Field, which then was owned by the Army. Women served in such traditional jobs as stenographers, administrative clerks, and stockroom supply clerks and in such nontraditional jobs as MP's, aircraft dispatchers, photographers, drivers, airplane mechanics, and pilots.



Josephine Bennett and daughters Frances and Katherine of Hartford, ca. 1916, Record Group 101, Connecticut Woman's Suffrage Association, Connecticut State Library/State Archives.

Josephine Bennett was born into privilege in Hartford, but she was a leader in anti-establishment movements. She was the daughter of Katherine Day, who was a suffrage leader locally and nationally. She knew and worked with Mrs. Thomas N. Hepburn of Hartford on the suffrage and birth control campaigns. In 1919, Bennett was one of the suffragettes arrested for burning a copy of one of President Wilson's speeches in front of the White House. She refused to pay a fine, served time in a D.C. jail, and while there, joined a hunger strike. In 1920, she unsuccessfully ran for the U. S. Senate from Connecticut on a third party ticket.