

COLORADO LIBRARIES E-FLASH: 6/10

From LIBRARY PEOPLE—FRIENDS OF COLORADO LIBRARIES

An occasional news and opinion bulletin for supporters, volunteers and Friends of libraries (public, school, academic and special) on library issues, reading-related activities, and information.

Feel free to forward this to your contacts. To be added to the list, contact Library People, email librarypeoplecolorado@yahoo.com

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LIBRARY PEOPLE SEEKS BEST FRIENDS FOR PRIZE

Does your library have a best friend? Library People—Friends of Colorado Libraries is initiating an award to an individual or volunteer group who demonstrates exemplary success in support of the local library (public, school, academic or special).

Nominate an individual volunteer OR your local Friends of Library group OR another support group. The winner will receive recognition, a certificate, and \$50.

Winners will be selected on the basis of benefit to the library and community; increased community awareness; volunteer effort; advocacy and leadership; narrative summary describing the

activities and accomplishments; evaluation of achievements.
(numbers, feedback, achievement of goals, etc)

To obtain a nomination form and information, contact B McCune,
303.394.3710, librarypeoplecolorado@yahoo.com. NOMINATIONS MUST BE
RECEIVED BY SEPTEMBER 1.

FALL BALLOT ISSUES ANALYZED BY BUSINESS GROUP

The potential impact of three fiscal issues on the November ballot continues to draw attention. Coloradans for Responsible Reform a pro-Colorado, pro-business group formed in 1994, says, "They (the measures) promise tax relief, but the fine print delivers a reckless package of deceptive job killing proposals. To read more, visit <http://www.donthurtcolorado.com>.

PUEBLO FRIENDS CELEBRATE 50 YEARS

The Friends of the Pueblo City-County Library District achieved a landmark this year when the group celebrated its fiftieth anniversary. President Annette Warfield said the group has about 800 members.

In April a special event celebrated the achievement with dinner and a program by guest author Sandi Ault on the history of the Friends. Fourteen past presidents attended,

Said Warfield, "A great many people have contributed to Friends over the years. Friends of the Library truly is an organization of caring people who are dedicated to being involved in our library community."

The Friends formed to help the library system make educational, informational, cultural and recreational services available to the public. In fulfillment of their purpose, the Friends do amazing things to help the library in many ways. Among the activities are booksales; funding for projects like downloadable audio books, equipment, furniture and an author program; support for the summer reading program; an annual scholarship to a district employee; participation in a number of writing and bookmark contests; and staffing of the FOL used book store.

Since the founding of the Friends of the Library in 1960, more than \$600,000 has been donated to benefit the library district.

MAJOR DEPENDENCE ON LIBRARY INTERNET ACCESS

Nearly one-third of Americans age 14 or older - roughly 77 million people - used a public library computer or wireless network to access the Internet in the past year, according to a national report released recently. In 2009, as the nation struggled through a recession, people relied on library technology to find work, apply for college, secure government benefits, learn about critical medical treatments, and connect with their communities. The use of library technology had significant impact in four critical areas: employment, education, health, and making community connections. The report, prepared by the Information School, University of Washington, may be viewed at <http://cis.washington.edu/usimpact/>

LIBRARY PEOPLE AWARDS RURAL ENRICHMENT GRANTS

Library People—Friends of Colorado Libraries announces the recipients of its 2010 Rural Library Enrichment Project grants. Each library receives a \$500 award to apply toward a program, service or materials. This year's winners include:

- Hinsdale County Library District, John Wagner Public Library (Lake City) to help defray mailing costs for interlibrary loan service.
- Rocky Ford Public Library to launch an adult literacy class (encompassing technology, health, legal and other topics) as well as a "Business of the Month" feature.
- Penrose Community Library to partner with the local school and offer a set of classroom books; to enhance a new, after-school, reading improvement program, and to add an adult component to the summer reading program.

The Rural Library Enrichment Project has been in effect since 2005 to help small and rural libraries develop their resources and services, one of Library People's main efforts. Libraries are selected based on need, stability, size, demonstration of commitment to the statewide library community, and strong local

leadership and management. This year's grants were funded by the Kenneth King Foundation.

LIBRARIES IN THE NEWS

- In Walsenburg, new blood has brought to life the Huerfano County High School building more than a century after it was built, reported the *Pueblo Chieftain* in March. The red-brick building, a staple in this community of a little more than 4,000 people, climbs three stories. The building, which sat vacant for several years, has been turned into a contemporary, eco-friendly library. The Spanish Peaks Library, opened last June, won a Colorado Historical Society Stephen H. Hart Award for the project. See http://www.chieftain.com/news/local/article_53d1bc3c-d2bf-509a-aa6e-ed58822774d.html?mode
- Marian the Cybrarian: For all the concern expressed about the imminent demise of the college library, librarians are needed more than ever. A May article in *The Chronicle of Higher Education* says, "More than any other class of professionals in higher education, librarians possess a comprehensive understanding of the scholarly ecosystem. They know what's going on across the disciplines, among professors and administrators as well as students. No less important, they are often the most informed people when it comes to technological change—its limits as well as its advantages." See <http://chronicle.com/article/Marian-the-Cybrarian/65570/>
- Libraries and Librarians Are Endangered Species: What You Can Do to Help, *The Huffington Post*, by Carol Fitzgerald, tells how one small town saved its library and summarizes the danger to all. See http://www.huffingtonpost.com/carol-fitzgerald/libraries-and-librarians_b_624834.html
- Read a great article written by Fred Beisser, president of the Elbert County Libraries Foundation, "The recession drives many Americans to libraries for employment assistance," in *Denver Post's* "Your Hub" (citizen reporters). See <http://denver.yourhub.com/Denver/Stories/News/General-News/Story~789159.aspx>

APPLICANTS SOUGHT FOR NATIONAL LIBRARIES- FAMILIES AWARD

Applications for the 2011 Better World Books/NCFL Libraries and Families Award are now available! The three \$10,000 grants awarded each year will connect more families to their local libraries and expand their literacy efforts in new and innovative ways. The deadline to apply is November 12, 2010. One winner will be chosen from each of the three following categories: local Friends of the Library programs, public/academic libraries and urban libraries. See www.famlit.org/BWB-library-award

JUST FOR FUN: LIBRARIES AND FACEBOOK

A FaceBook site is linking library lovers. "I'll Bet I Can Find 1,000,000 People Who Think Libraries Are Important," <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=110609512299912&ref=nf> has a variety of discussions, information and photos. Use the icon that says "Join." If you don't see it, you are already a member.

CAL NEWSLETTER NOW ONLINE

The Colorado Association of Libraries' newsletter has gone virtual and can be accessed online. Find the latest statewide news—including information on workshops and conferences—at [http://cal-webs.org/Newsletters/2010/CAL May.June FINAL.pdf](http://cal-webs.org/Newsletters/2010/CAL_May.June_FINAL.pdf) On page three is the announcement about Library People's Rural Enrichment grants.

CHILDREN'S SUMMER SETBACK PREVENTED AT LIBRARIES

Contrary to popular opinion - including many educators' - most students, even those "at-risk," make decent progress during the school year; it's summer when they fall behind. For children who enroll in summer reading programs at libraries across the state, this setback is minimized. This year's program, "Make a Splash @your library," is attracting thousands of youngsters. For information about summer setback as well as the reading

program, visit

<http://www.coloradostatelibrary.org/SummerReading>.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR LIBRARY PEOPLE

- Representative from small/rural library to sit on Library People Board. Meets quarterly.
- Volunteers to assist with website and E-Flash news bulletin
- Fund-raising
- Events (meetings, authors, etc)

For information, call 303.394.3710 or send an email to librarypeoplecolorado@yahoo.com.

USEFUL INTERNET SITES AND BLOGS

- <http://www.coloradobook.org>: Book Organizations of Colorado, calendar of events; connection to blog and to post book events (<http://booc.wordpress.com/>); and address to post events via email BOOC@yahogroups.com.
- <http://ww.coloradolibraries.org/about/>: Colorado library blog, created by the Colorado State Library and Colorado Library Consortium, with news, innovations, events, photos, and ideas. Sign up to get email notices about news and comment yourself.
- <http://www.ilovelibraries.org/>, The "I Love Libraries" site with lots of ideas and fact about issues facing libraries.

(For information about this E-Flash or Library People, contact librarypeoplecolorado@yahoo.com)