



# NEWS & PROGRAMS

*from the Poudre River Public Library District issue 1 volume 2*

## DID YOU KNOW?



### History Connection

The Fort Collins History Connection is an online collaboration between the Fort Collins Museum & Discovery Science Center and the Poudre River Public Library District, incorporating historical resources from the Library, the Museum artifact collection and the Fort Collins Local History Archive.

*Use this website to:*

#### Research Collections -

Dig deep into history with photographs, Museum artifacts, maps, books, and more.

#### View Online Exhibits -

Explore historical places, people, and events with an assortment of online exhibits and information.

**Link to Quick Facts** - Jump right in to the past with a Fort Collins timeline and summaries of city and county history.

This interactive site is great for history buffs, research, and homework. Check it out at by linking off the Library webpage or go to: <http://history.poudrelibraries.org>

## CONNECTIONS

by Holly Carroll, Executive Director

### Poudre River Public Library District Tops 3 Million Circulation for 2009

Last year was a record breaking year for Poudre River Public Library District. Over one million people came through our doors to borrow items, seek information and attend programs. Furthermore, over three million items were checked out and renewed, a thirty percent increase over 2008 figures. This growth is due in part to the opening of the Council Tree Library and the national trend of increased use of public services during an economic slowdown. These phenomenal figures illustrate that you, our public, value the library as an integral part of the community and believe in the basic library tenet of equity of access to information.

Thank you for helping the staff and board achieve these impressive milestones. More statistics and information about 2009 will be available in the Library District's annual report next month.

In 2010, the Library District will be enhancing virtual circulation services by expanding the e-media collection to improve the selection of downloadable audio, e-books, movies and music. Please watch for the launch of this collection in mid-March.



### You Spoke, We Listened....

Check out the new exterior signage at the Council Tree Library. New prominent signage has been installed on the south, northeast and northwest sides of the building. The previous chrome colored "Library" letters on the south side of the building were difficult to read from Harmony Road.

More news on back page...

# KIDS

## Baby Sign Language Program

Join us for Wee Sign - an ASL baby sign language program. Teacher Jennifer Alexander will teach this free program for children under two years with a caring adult partner in this four-week session **beginning on February 4, 10:30 a.m. at Council Tree Library**. Registration is required with a maximum of 15 child/adult pairs. Call 221-6680 for more information and to register.



## New Timnath Storytime!

As a way to reach out to all communities in our borders, the Library District will be having free 30-minute weekly Family Storytimes at the old Town Hall on Main Street in Timnath. These all ages storytimes will begin February 5 at **9:30 a.m. and at 10:15 a.m. every Friday**. So stop by and enjoy stories, songs, fingerplays, and a short craft to take home. This pilot project is generously funded by the Poudre River Friends of the Library.



## America Saves Week

On **Saturday, February 20** we will be hosting a workshop at Harmony Library at 10:30 a.m. for parents and kids to kick off "America Saves Week." Movies, advertisers, friends... they can all affect your kids' attitudes about life - and money. Find out how to talk to them about influences, choices and responsible money habits. This free educational workshop, designed for you and your child age 6-10, will help you:

- \* Reflect on the values you want your kids to learn.
- \* Teach your kids about money and values.
- \* Learn practical tools to make teaching about money fun.

Registration recommended but not required. Call at 204-8404 to register. For more information on this national campaign go to [www.AmericaSavesWeek.org](http://www.AmericaSavesWeek.org)



## Teens Write: Polish Your Pages with the Pros

Registration is now open for **Teens Write: Polish Your Pages with the Pros**, parts 1 and 2, which will be held on February 6 from 1:30-3:30 p.m. at Harmony Library, and March 6 from 1:30-3:30 p.m. at Council Tree Library. Teens in grades 6-12 who like to write will get valuable advice on critiquing, editing, and polishing their stories by two popular Young Adult authors, Victoria Hanley and Todd Mitchell. Each teen

should bring one or two pages of his or her original written pieces (short stories, book chapters, or brief writing samples) to the workshop.

Teens can attend either or both sessions, but for best results the authors encourage them to sign up for both. There is no limit on registration.

# TEENS

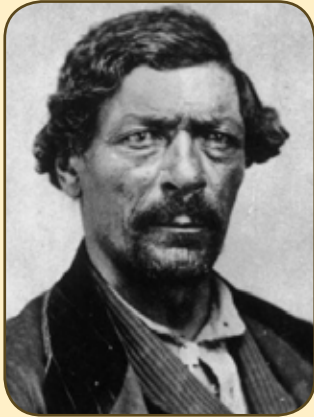
## Especially for Middle and High School Teachers

Are you looking for a way to motivate your students to read more? Our Teen Librarians are able to come to your school for a "Book Talk," a great way to get your students involved with literature. Please call 221-6380 to get on their schedule.

# ADULTS

## Celebrate Black History Month

This year's theme is "The History of Black Economic Empowerment." Traditionally the month which includes Abraham Lincoln's birthday (February 12) and Fredrick Douglass's presumed birthday (February 14) has been known as a time to recognize achievements and contributions by African Americans. This observance was launched by Dr. Carter G. Woodson in 1926.



### "Gathering of Stories - Storytime Especially for Adults"

Lois Burrell will tell timeless and riveting stories from the African-American culture. Refreshments will be served. **February 5, 6:30 p.m., Main Library**

### "Eclectic Nights - Jim Beckwourth"

Jim Beckwourth was an African American who played a major role in the early exploration and settlement of the American West. Although there were people of different races and nationalities on the frontier, Beckwourth was the only African American who recorded his life story, and his adventures took him from the Everglades of Florida to the Pacific Ocean and from southern Canada to northern Mexico. To discover the truth of what life was like for the fur trappers of the 1820s, the Crow Indians of the 1830s, the pioneers of the Southwest in the 1840s, or the gold miners of California in the 1850s, you can find no better source for this time period than the life of Jim Beckwourth. Dr. Robert Meroney, Professor Emeritus of Engineering CSU will present the life of Jim Beckwourth, mountain man, Crow Indian Chief, and explorer. **February 8, 7:00 p.m., Main Library**



### "Poudre River Irregulars"

This month's music program will explore the history of jazz and will feature the New Orleans and Dixieland jazz band - Poudre River Irregulars. **February 19, 7:00 p.m., Council Tree Library**

## Spring 2010 Computer Classes

The Poudre River Public Library District offers several free computer classes for beginners, to promote and encourage information literacy. The classes cover computer basics, electronic communication, Internet searching, and Microsoft Office applications. All classes are two hours in length and attendees are required to either have completed the "Computer Comfort" class or have a basic understanding of using the computer and the mouse.

New to computers? The following classes will provide you with the basic skills to feel at ease with using a computer, surf the Internet, and receive and send email.

Computer Comfort  
Internet Searching

Windows Basics & File Management  
Gmail- email

### Microsoft Office Applications:

Word, PowerPoint, Publisher, and Excel classes use version 2003. Microsoft Office classes are offered in two parts, Basic and Advanced: two hours per session. You can sign up for basic or advanced, or for both.

### Registration is required, call 221-6380 or 204-8206 to register.

Dates and times of classes can be found in the yellow brochure at the libraries or online through the library website. All classes are held at Harmony Library in the computer lab.



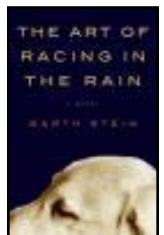
## Library Book Club:

Public is invited to attend!  
Adults may join at anytime.  
Call Sarah at 221-6380 for more information.

February:

*The Art of Racing in the Rain*  
by Garth Stein

Main Library,  
February 22, 7:00 pm  
Council Tree Library,  
March 8, 7:00 p.m.





## InvestorEdge – New Database for Local Investors

### *Poudre River Public Library District Introduces a Free New Investment Product to help with Smart Investment Choices*

Mergent InvestorEdge provides Poudre River Public Library District patrons with a powerful business research tool, and access to important company documents and financial information they need for investment research. This database provides over 4000 Ford Equity Research Reports, updated weekly, with expert analysis and buy, sell and hold recommendations.

Look up all corporate documents including annual reports, industry reports as well as Corporate Bond Reports. View industry reports with sector level analysis covering current environment, industry profiles, performance, market trends outlook and more.

If you are a professional investor, belong to a local investment club or if you just want to find information on a certain company, check out this free database for Poudre River Public Library District cardholders.

Go to [www.PoudreLibraries.org](http://www.PoudreLibraries.org), link to “databases,” and scroll down to Mergent InvestorEdge. “The great thing about InvestorEdge is that it’s easy to use, it’s comprehensive, and you can access it from home or from your investor club meeting place,” says Anne Macdonald, Library District Business Librarian. If you are searching from home or office, a box will pop up asking for your Poudre River Public Library District borrower’s number.

Mergent InvestorEdge is the newest of many business, art, music, humanities, homework, science, technology, health and newspaper electronic research resources purchased by the Library District for our residents. Try them out for general research, K-12 homework, college assignments, and general interests.



## New Kids Webpage

Take a look at the new Kids’ Place page on the [PoudreLibraries.org](http://PoudreLibraries.org) website. The link to the Kids’ Place is located in the right sidebar of the home page. New features on the page include hot books for grade school kids, and the “If You Like” section which recommends “readalikes” for some of the kids’ favorite titles. The Kids’ Place also displays updated links to homework help and online games and fun.

## Library Lovers’ Month - I Love My Library Contest

Library Lovers’ Month is a month-long celebration of school, public, and private libraries. This is a time for everyone, especially library support groups, to recognize the value of libraries and to work to assure that the Nation’s libraries will continue to thrive.

### I LOVE MY LIBRARY – ESSAY CONTEST!

Let us know why you love your library in 500 words or less. Winners in 5 age categories (young child, youth, teen, adult, senior) will win a prize! Children age 6 and under may draw a picture. So start sending those essays to: I Love My Library – Main Library, 201 Peterson, Fort Collins, CO 80524. Make sure you add your name, address, phone number and age. Deadline is February 28.



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