INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

New iCONN Newspapers
What Do I Read Next
New Handout/Bookmark
Redesign of WilsonWeb
Institutional Database
Health & Wellness Update
iCONN Usage Report
RESC Training Schedule

NEW iCONN NEWSPAPERS!

The Los Angeles Times and the Atlanta Journal-Constitution have been added to the iCONN Custom Newspaper Collection. The updated collection now includes full text of six titles:
- Atlanta Journal-Constitution
- Christian Science Monitor
- Los Angeles Times
- New York Times
- Sunday Times (London)
- Times (London)

The Gale Group recently lost the full-text rights to the Washington Post and it is no longer included in the iCONN Newspaper Collection or in General Reference Center Gold. An index to the Washington Post will continue to be available in both databases. The new papers were added to compensate for this loss.

The Hartford Courant, available as a separate iCONN database, provides local news coverage to complement the national and international coverage available in the iCONN Custom Newspaper Collection.

WHAT DO I READ NEXT?

Need a quick way to find a past winner of the Nutmeg Award? The Nutmeg Awards list has been added to “What Do I Read Next”, the iCONN readers advisory database. Past winners of the award can be found by clicking on “Award Winners and Top Picks.” Then select “Nutmeg Children’s Book Award” from the list—right after the Nobel Prize for Literature. The database is updated twice a year and the 2002 winner, “Among the Hidden” by Margaret Peterson Haddix, will be added in the fall update.

WHICH DATABASE HAS WHICH TYPE OF RESOURCE?

Julie Hulton, the Library Media Specialist at Mark T. Sheehan High School in Wallingford designed a wonderful iCONN handout that helps answer this question. The handout was prepared to support a workshop for Wallingford parents run by Julie, in collaboration with Anne Mueller, a Middle School Library Media Specialist and Bobbie Borne, a Young Adult librarian, Wallingford Public Library. We converted the handout into a bookmark (see left) which will be posted in the promotional materials section of the www.iconn.org page. Thanks Julie!

COMPLETE REDESIGN OF WILSONWEB TECHNOLOGY

WilsonWeb-Next Generation will be launched in Spring 2002. This total redesign of the current technology will offer new features including an advanced thesaurus, the power to search the complete text of articles, relevancy ranking of citations, and a new Verify search engine with natural language searching.
Upcoming events where iCONN will be exhibited

April 16-17—Connecticut Library Association Annual Conference—Radisson in Cromwell

May 10-11—PTA—Ramada in Meriden

May 13—Gifted Education in the 21st Century—Ramada in Meriden

Upcoming reQuest information sessions

May 22—CRLC in Windsor

Presentations at School Library Media Specialist Roundtables

April 23—Region 3 Roundtable at the Willimantic Library Service Center

May 13—LEARN in Old Lyme

May 14—Beecher Road School in Woodbridge

To find out more about joining reQuest for the fiscal year starting July 1, 2002, please go to www.cslib.org/cln/join.htm

The iCONN Times is a quarterly publication of the Connecticut Digital Library and can be found at www.iconn.org/staff/support.html.

Connecticut Digital Library
786 South Main Street
Middletown, CT 06457
(860) 344-2475
Toll free (888) 256-1222

LIBRARY INFORMATION ACCESSED THROUGH reQuest

You can get library information such as address, interlibrary loan telephone number, hours, etc. by searching the reQuest Institutional Database.

The searchable database contains information primarily on libraries who have contributed their holdings to the reQuest catalog. To search the information, go to your reQuest catalog and click the “Begin” button. Change “Use Database” from reQuest Main Catalog to Institutional Database. The screen will refresh and you will see the four options for searching the institutional Database: library code (your library’s reQuest code), library name, library town, and lending policy.

One feature, particularly handy for interlibrary loan, is the “For Lending Policy” search. If you click the For Lending Policy menu, you will see a list of materials that a library might lend, such as books, entertainment videos, audio cassettes, etc. If you select one of these materials and click the Start Search button, you will get a list of libraries who participate in reQuest Interlibrary Loan and who will lend the type of item.

For example, if you click “Entertainment Videos” and click Start Search, the screen will refresh and you will see a list of libraries that lend entertainment videos through interlibrary loan. If you click one of the library names on the list, you will get more information about the library.

Send questions and comments about the Institutional Database to Steve Cauffman, ILL Coordinator, by e-mail to scauffman@cslib.org or by telephone to (860) 344-2020.

HEALTH & WELLNESS DATABASE UPDATED

Health & Wellness Resource Center, Version 1.2 is now available. This release includes functional enhancements and new content from premier publishers including Physicians Desk Reference (PDR) and Harvard Special Health Reports.

The PDR Family Guide to Prescription Drugs and the PDR Family Guide to Over-the-Counter Drugs are just two of the new resources included in the upgrade. There are also 25 new reference sets from Harvard Special Health Reports and over 50 new periodicals from Thomson Healthcare.

In addition, the Health News button will now included health and lifestyle sections from more than 30 newspapers from around the globe.

HOW MUCH DO OUR PATRONS USE iCONN?

Individual library and school statistics are available from all three of the iCONN vendors: The Gale Group, Newsbank (The Hartford Courant) and H.R. Wilson (Wilson Biographies Plus Illustrated).

To obtain reports for your library, check the instructions at http://www.iconn.org/staff/support.html.

Note: reports are available for registered institutions. If several schools are included in a district level registration, the available report will be for the district wide use and will not be broken down by school. If you have any questions about how your library or school is registered, contact Jane Emerson at jemerson@cslib.org or (860) 344-2521.

RESC TRAINING SCHEDULE FOR LIBRARY MEDIA SPECIALISTS

The complete training schedule with registration information is posted at iCONN at www.iconn.org/staff/training.html (“Statewide Training Program—Public Schools”). The training is being conducted by the staff of the Regional Educational Service Centers using the iCONN Training Manual. Each class is open on a statewide basis. There is a nominal registration fee and CEUs are granted. The remaining two workshops through May are May 23 at ACES (Hamden) and May 29 at CES (Trumbull).