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Garfield County Libraries

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Volume 5, Issue 1

Winter 2013

Celebrating 75 Years

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Throughout 2013, the Garfield County Libraries will be celebrating 75 years of books, questions, and imagination. This is an incredible milestone, and we hope you join us in enjoying all the ways the libraries have become an integral part of this valley.

The Garfield County Public Library was established in 1938 as a Works Progress

Administration project in New Castle. When WPA was discontinued, the Garfield County Commissioners agreed to take over sponsorship and finance it from the county's general fund.

The library was originally located in the New Castle school building. New Castle was the most centrally located town in the county, and the quarters in the school

were rent-free. The library served the entire county, as well as all of the school districts.

The collection originally consisted of around 14,000 books and had a yearly circulation of 75,000. The bookstock was augmented by generous loans from the Colorado State Library.

In 1964, the Carbondale City Library became the first branch of the county library system. In 1968, the New Castle Branch's current building was erected as the main library of the system. The Glenwood Springs City Library became a branch of the county library system in 1969, followed by Rifle in 1976 and Silt in 1980. In 1982, the library

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The Garfield County Public Library was originally located in the New Castle school building, serving the entire county.

Now the Library District is building or remodeling all six branch libraries (like Silt, which opened October 2012).



The Big Read Returns to Garfield County

The Garfield County Libraries invite you to connect with your community through great literature. The libraries received a grant to host The Big Read featuring *The Grapes of Wrath* by John Steinbeck. The Big Read will take place in February, with events scheduled all month long throughout Garfield County.

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS



PROGRAM MANAGED BY Arts MIDWEST

To kick-start The Big Read, the Garfield County Libraries and History Colorado Center sent 14 local high school students to a Youth Summit in Denver on October 17. Through a live webinar, students discussed the history of the Dust Bowl and its aftermath with renowned documentary producer, Ken Burns, whose new documentary, *The Dust Bowl*, premiered on PBS in

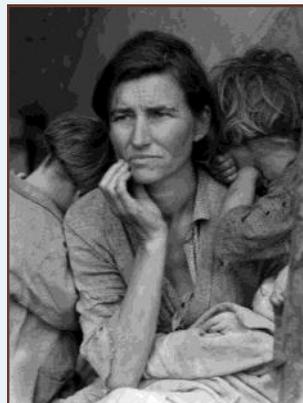


Photo credit Dorthea Lange
Library of Congress, Prints & Photographs Division, FSA/OWI Collection, [LC-USF34-9093-C]

November. The libraries selected participants through a contest in which students submitted entries in the form of essays, poetry, posters, exhibits or art pieces that reflect on themes found in *The Grapes of Wrath*. Contest submissions will be on display at the Parachute Branch Library during February – make sure to check out the local talent!

In preparation for February's festivities, the libraries have stocked up on copies of *The Grapes of Wrath*. Stop by your local library to check out your copy of this great American novel, which probes the nature

continued on page 3...



www.gcpld.org

Update from the Director

Glenwood & Carbondale Libraries Are Progressing

If you've been in downtown Glenwood Springs recently, you've probably seen the new library's construction site. Steel is going up and the new building is really starting to take shape. Located at the corner of 8th Street and Cooper Avenue, the new 14,000 square foot library is sitting atop a 63 space parking garage for Colorado Mountain College's 8th and Grand Central Services building.

Like the Library District's other facilities, this one will be extremely energy efficient with low e glass, extra insulation in the walls, floor and roof, south facing exposures, and low water landscaping and fixtures. The library will have twelve computers and ten laptops for the public to access the internet. There will also be a cozy reading area with a fireplace and an interactive early childhood literacy installation for children ages zero to five. The Library District and CMC will both own space on a second floor for future growth.



The total square footage of the new building is just under 24,000 square

feet. The project is on track to open in September of 2013 and we will celebrate the opening with a visit from the author Mary Doria Russell, author of a biography of Doc Holliday entitled *Doc: a Novel*.

Stay tuned for more details on the event!

In other construction news, the new Carbondale facility is really coming together and is shelled in. The new library is being built with a number of sustainable features, and the Library District hopes to put enough solar power on the building to reduce electrical costs to a minimum. The Library District has committed to spending at least \$30,000 towards solar energy for the building and hopes to find donors to help support additional panels.

Carbondale's new building will also feature a number of study rooms, a large meeting room, a south patio, and expanded children's and teen

spaces. A special space in the children's area, called the Story Quarry, will highlight some exciting local geological finds.



Photo taken during the 12 hour long post tension concrete slab pour in Glenwood Springs. You can view a time lapse video of the pour on our website.

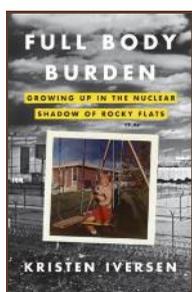
The building will feature a number of local artisan created elements including bike racks and an after-hours security gate by metal artist John Hoffman, mosaic art for the seven entryway columns by artist Shannon Muse, service desk adornment by metal artist Mark Cesark, and a light fixture over the desk created by artist Travis Fulton. These artists were selected through a competitive jury process with the help of the Carbondale Public Arts Council, the Carbondale Clay Center and the Carbondale Center for the Arts.

The new Carbondale facility should open mid-summer 2013.

As we complete each of these new libraries, we are keeping a close watch on operational and maintenance costs, and are planning our budgets accordingly to manage these facilities.

Each building is designed to allow staff to efficiently manage the space while maximizing public space and access to materials and resources. I hope you'll share your thoughts with me on our capital program by emailing me at ashelley@gcpld.org.

Book Recommendations from Staff Members



Full Body Burden:

Growing Up in the Nuclear Shadow of Rocky Flats

by Kristen Iversen

Rocky Flats was built in 1951 as a production facility for plutonium buttons that were used in nuclear weapons. The Atomic Energy Commission believed Rocky Flats was far enough away from the population of Denver. However, the Denver area grew ever closer to the plant.

Rocky Flats brought much needed jobs to the area, so the safety factor took a back seat. It sits in an area that has almost constant high winds. These winds carried air borne particles to the entire Denver area. Barrels of nuclear waste were found leaking into an open field. And, the public wasn't told of fires at the facility in 1957 and 1969, both of which came perilously close to a "deadly blue flash" that signals a nuclear chain reaction.

Eventually high concentrations or clusters of cancer started appearing in neighborhoods near the plant. There were 40 cases of testicular cancer noted in one area near Rocky Flats, and the leukemia deaths in children were twice the national average. Rocky Flats was closed in 1989 after a raid by the FBI. The people who worked at and lived near Rocky Flats were never compensated for their suffering.

After reading this book, I am surprised that Denver is habitable by humans. The author presents a very readable book. She also writes a humorous and sad story about her struggles growing up in a dysfunctional family. Reading this book made me wonder just how equipped human were at handling any nuclear devices and the nuclear waste they produced.

-Ann Nicholson, Silt

Fury of Fire

by Coreene Callahan

This first book in the Dragon Fury trilogy introduces two races of half-dragon, half-human dragon shifters.

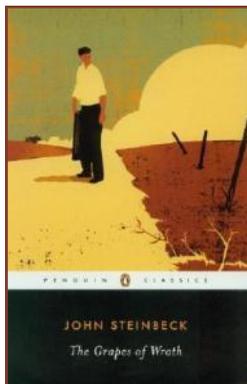
The Nightfury clan is honor bound to protect human kind at all costs against the evil Razorback clan. Bastian, leader of the Nightfury clan, must set an example and take a mate to further the clan. A human female destined to die in childbirth. Can he protect his mate against the Razorsbacks, only to lose her eventually in giving birth?

This story has a little of everything! It is primarily a steamy romance, but is also loaded with action and very descriptive fighting scenes. Will honor overcome evil? Can true love survive so many obstacles? Welcome to the world of Dragons!

-Melissa Colasinski, Silt



... Big Read (cont.)



of equality, injustice, and the powerful and powerless in America. Copies of the book are also available in Spanish or as books on CD and eBooks. And, you can always reserve a copy from your home or office by visiting www.gcpld.org.

The libraries have also been working with Walter Gallacher, producer of the Immigrant Stories Project, to interview Garfield County residents about their experiences living through the Great Depression. You will be able to listen to his interviews on The Big Read page of

the library's website. There, you can also submit your own story.

Throughout February, you can attend a number of events surrounding *The Grapes of Wrath* and the Dust Bowl. There is something for everyone, as each branch is hosting an array of events including book discussions, scholar and author lectures, film screenings, swing dance lessons, and even home brewing classes for adults! There are also events just for teens including repurposing clothes, and experiencing the 1930's through food and dancing. Even children can participate with special storytimes, music programs, and more. For information about events at your local library, stop in or visit the website. You'll also find a full listing of events throughout Garfield County on the website.

The Big Read is a program of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with Arts Midwest.



Scan this QR code to go directly to The Big Read page and get full, up-to-date information.

Meet Your Librarian

Rhonda Coleman
Library Assistant
Parachute Branch Library

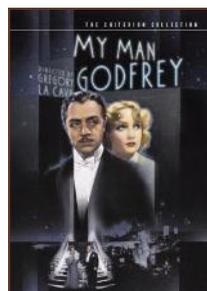


Rhonda was taught early the value of books and reading. She was blessed to have a mother who loved her, and who read to her daily before she started school. Her mom encouraged learning and filled their home, and Rhonda's life, with books. During her school years, devoted teachers found time weekly to take Rhonda's class to the school library and there were also field trips to the local public library. No wonder she is a lifelong reader and learner!

A Colorado native born in Glenwood Springs, Rhonda grew up moving all over Western Colorado. She then spent time with her husband and two children in California, Minnesota, and Wisconsin before returning to the state four years ago.

Rhonda has a teaching background and reads a variety of books, with her favorite genre being Christian non-fiction. She has an adventurous spirit. At 18, Rhonda drove her brother's stock car in a race... and won! When she turned 40, she celebrated by skydiving. She enjoys organic gardening, knitting, crafting, and putting up with 3 horses, 4 dogs, 1 cat, and 2 rabbits. When not at the library, you can find her at her teens' sporting, 4-H, music, and other assorted events. She is also very active in her church. When she gets the chance she loves traveling; especially leaving the dead of Colorado winter behind in exchange for a sun-filled beach where she can enjoy the company of her husband and a good book.

Movie & Music Recommendations from Staff Members



My Man Godfrey (1936)

I suggest that you do yourself a favor and check out *My Man Godfrey*. This delightful comedy was nominated for several Academy Awards; Best Director, Best Actor and Actress, Best Supporting Actor and Actress, and Best Screenplay.

This depression era movie begins with an ultra rich family on a treasure hunt. One of the items they are searching for is "A Forgotten Man." The lovely

Carole Lombard (one of the rich sisters) figures that since people want to forget that they are there, they should look at a tramp camp in the city dump. The tramp, or "forgotten man," that she finds is Godfrey, wonderfully portrayed by William Powell. To help with some sisterly rivalry, he agrees to go with her. Godfrey is more than he appears, having some secrets that he chooses not to share.

To pay back the favor, Lombard offers him a job as the family butler, a position that the zany family can't seem to retain. The family also has secrets of their own, and what ensues is one of the better screwball comedies of its time.

Although this is a comedy, it does a fine job showing the chasm between the rich and poor during the depression. If you've had a problem watching B&W films, please try again and discover the many film gems that existed before color became the norm.

-Bev Chaney, Silt

Native Soil

by Dana and Susan Robinson

If you like old-time mountain music, then you'll love *Native Soil*.

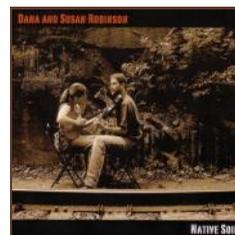
Dana and Susan Robinson hail from Asheville, North Carolina but just finished a three week tour of Colorado, where they

were able to stop by some of the libraries in our district and perform a concert. They were wonderful! Both are talented in multiple instruments, and do a great job of telling a story in a catchy tune. One of the things that Dana said at the concert is that he believes it is important to tell stories about America, the land and its people, and that music is great at both preserving and conveying our culture.

Many of their songs have a traditional feeling to them; in fact, one of their songs was picked up by the famous documentarian

Ken Burns. He has featured their music in his PBS documentary *Our National Parks, America's Best Idea*, as well as his new release *The Dust Bowl*. In addition to *Native Soil*, we have another release of Dana and Susan titled *Big Mystery*, which recently charted at #3 last fall on the national Folk-DJ list.

-Dan Mickelson, Silt



5th Element Program Reaching Hundreds of Re-2 Students

The Garfield County Libraries' 5th Element program has had a total of almost 500 children attending the first five Friday programs! Starting in October, the New Castle, Silt, and Rifle Branch Libraries have offered free 5th day programs on social studies, science, math, and art for children in kindergarten through fourth grade. The libraries offer two sessions every Friday afternoon - one for kindergartners through second graders, and one for third and fourth graders - that are taught by active and substitute Re-2 teachers.



Students in New Castle give a thumbs up during a science themed program in November.



To date, 272 children have attended one or more sessions, and over 60 percent of participants have attended two or more programs. These children have been doing a myriad of engaging, interactive activities every week - everything from building and launching rockets, crafting paper-mache globes, building corn husk dolls, to making slime!

The Garfield County Libraries have hired a consulting firm to conduct a program evaluation of The 5th Element that involves working with Re-2 teachers to assess the impact of this enrichment program on participants' in-school behavior and performance. The team is already working to collect and analyze data and will release its first report in March. So far, the libraries have received positive feedback from parents, teachers, and participants, and hopes the program continues to thrive.

The 5th Element offers two-hour programs for each age group on math, science, art, and music. After taking a break during the holidays, it will begin again on January 11, and run through May. Each program is limited to 25 students, on a first-come, first served basis. Parents are encouraged to pre-register for this program by calling the library branch or going online to www.gcpld.org. This program was funded in part with a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services which administers the Library Services and Technology Act.

Get Green: Sign Up for Email Notices



The libraries are trying to be as environmentally friendly and economically responsible as possible, and are looking for your help. If you have an email address, please check to see if the libraries have it on file. We can use email to send you notices when the books you requested are ready to pick up, and also when things are due.

It's a win-win. The libraries will save paper, stamps, and time, and you'll get information about your books and movies right to your inbox.

Sign up for the Newsletter

Did you know you can get this quarterly newsletter, Page by Page, emailed or mailed to you when it's still hot off the presses? Sign up by giving your name and address (email or postal mail) to any library staff member. You can also get it emailed to you by scanning this QR code or visiting www.gcpld.org/content/page-page.



Vibrant Volunteer

Perry Sweeney
Main Library of Service:
New Castle
Time Volunteering: 3 Years



When Perry Sweeney retired he wanted to give something back to the community he lives in. He has been volunteering at least eight hours a week at the New Castle Branch Library for the past three years. His voice is the one you hear on the phone telling you that your holds are ready to pick up at the library. Perry is always on hand to set up chairs for programs, he has popped popcorn for movie events, and basically he is happy to help out with any job that needs to be done at the library. His sunny disposition always keeps us smiling.

"Not only is Perry a dedicated volunteer, but he also looks for opportunities to promote the library. Recently he scheduled a time at Alpine Bank and helped set up a display to feature the services offered at the New Castle Branch Library".
-Christy Nilsson, New Castle

Library District Board of Directors

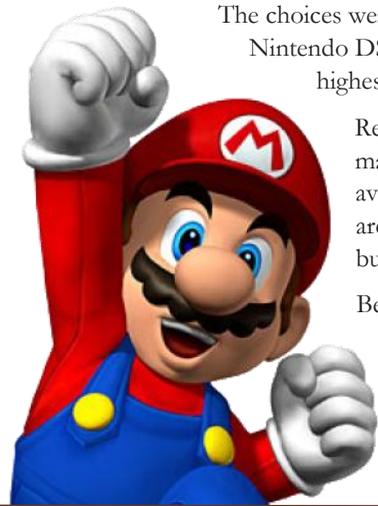
Bill Lamont At Large	Dan Becker Silt
Lanny Kroh Carbondale	Nella Barker Rifle
Marilee Rippy Glenwood Springs	Bernita Grove Parachute
Michael Weerts New Castle	Student Advisor Vacant

DS Games at the Libraries

In 2009, the Garfield County Libraries began to check out Nintendo Wii games to library card holders. Offering video games in libraries is a practice supported by the American Library Association (ALA), and gaming aligns with Garfield County Libraries' own service priorities. Among other things, gaming is interactive and challenging. Participants use their imaginations and creativity to explore games. Games also take fantasy to a higher level where gamers can become rock stars and treasure hunters. Often gamers go beyond just the game itself to research topics they have discovered in the game. By supporting gaming, we can attract people to this media, and also support their journeys and curiosities along the way.

The Wii games have been wildly popular at our libraries, so we wanted to expand our offerings to another gaming system. There was a survey on our website asking users to vote for the next type of games.

The choices were Xbox 360, Playstation 3, and Nintendo DS games. DS games received the highest percentage of the vote.



Recently the libraries have begun to make Nintendo DS and 3DS games available for check out. The games are free to check out, and are due in one week. Each Garfield County Library has games to choose from, but you can also put games on hold from another library in the county.

Because this is a new addition to our selection, the libraries would like to expand our collection as quickly, and as financially responsible as possible. We welcome donations of new and used DS and 3DS games. If you have a game you would like to donate please make sure it is in good condition (it plays well), and bring it to your local Garfield County Library. We also need cases, so please bring a case if you have one.

For more information about gaming in the libraries, visit your local library and ask for the "Why Gaming" brochure, or view it on our website.

...75th Anniversary (cont.)



Parachute Branch - Opened 9/10

Rifle Branch- Opened 11/10



New Castle Branch - Opened 4/12



Silt Branch - Opened 10/12

in Parachute became the final branch of the library system.

There have been many changes over the last 75 years. Today, GCPLD has over 165,000 items in the six libraries. There are books, magazines, music CDs, newspapers, video games, as well as downloadable e-books and audio books on CD, MP3, and Playaway available to the public. The libraries also share resources with libraries from all over Colorado (and even Wyoming, Kansas, and the rest of the USA) so you can easily access books and movies from places like Denver and Telluride. Each Garfield County Library has public-use computers with internet access. Plus, the Library District has a website which contains numerous databases available to library patrons.

Visit the libraries throughout the year and discover new ways to enjoy this important piece of our communities. You'll find new lists of the best 75 books each month, including the "75 books to read before age 5," and the best "75 books with Colorado ties" in January.

See you at the libraries!

Carbondale Branch
Opening Summer
2013



Glenwood Springs
Branch
Opening Fall 2013



Food or Fines



The libraries are excited to bring back the Food for Fines program during the month of February. Bring in non-perishable food items to any of the six branch libraries and receive credit on your library card account. For each item

you donate you will receive a \$1 credit toward overdue fines that are currently on your account (not lost materials or fees).

**[Get rid of your fines
& help others too!]**

All items donated will be given to the local LIFT-UP. Last February there were 4,407 items collected by the libraries!

Check your cupboards or head to the grocery store because this program is the perfect opportunity for you to take care of those pesky fines, while also helping out people in your local community.



Upcoming Closures

All Garfield County Libraries will be closed the following dates:

January 1

All Day • New Year's Day

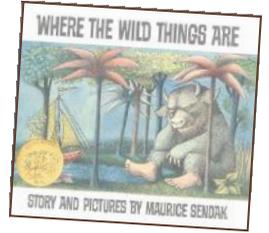
March 31

All Day • Easter Sunday

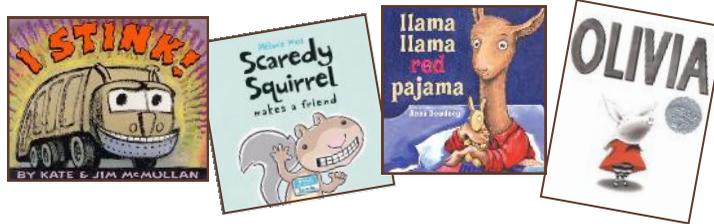


75 Books to Read Before Age 5

Ever wonder what books to read with children? There are thousands to choose from. Some with catchy titles, others with amazing illustrations. As part of our 75th Anniversary celebrations, the Garfield County Libraries have created a list of the 75 books we believe are the greats. The books that spark imaginations. The ones that teach important lessons. The ones that children really connect with. Some of the books are classics, others new. But all are ones we believe are the essentials to read by the age of 5.



Starting in January, you can visit your local library and pick up a checklist of titles to help guide you and your child on an amazing literary journey.



Read With Me Week

Read Together and Win Great Prizes. Families can celebrate Read With Me Week by tracking read-aloud sessions from Wednesday, February 27th through Tuesday, March 5th. Sponsored by numerous community organizations, Read With Me Week promotes early childhood literacy throughout Garfield County. Families who keep track of their daily read-aloud sessions will be entered in a drawing for prizes such as new books and gift certificates to local retailers and restaurants. For read-aloud tracking forms visit your local library. For more information call Raising A Reader at 970-230-9117.

Database Spotlight

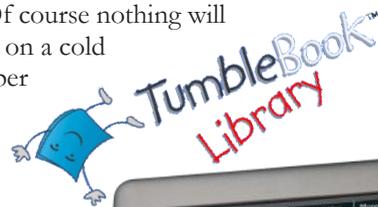
Check Out eBooks

With tablet computer and ereading device usage at an all time high, chances are pretty good that you or someone you know has started reading via pixels rather than pages. Of course nothing will ever compare to curling up by the fire on a cold winter day with a good printed-on-paper book, but there is also something to be said for the convenience of carrying dozens of books in your cell phone.

At the library, we love reading, no matter the medium, and these days our collection of eBook and audiobook downloads is growing fast. With our current eBook database offerings, there's something for everyone.

OverDrive is the name of the service that currently provides most of the library's eBooks. Just like physical books from the library, there are limits on how long you can keep a book you download. The OverDrive software allows us to check books out to you, return them when your loan period is up, and add you to a waiting list for the most popular titles. Because there are so many different types of devices, downloading these

6 eBooks can be a little confusing the first few times you do it. The library has a new section of our website



that will walk you through each step, with video tutorials specific to different ereading devices. You can find all of the help you need by clicking the "Need OverDrive Help" button on the library's homepage.

In addition to the help on our website, many branches are now offering one-on-one help to get you started reading OverDrive books on your device. Contact your local branch to see when and where you can sign up for assistance.

TumbleBooks is another eBook database the library offers, with titles created specifically for kids. Tumblebooks are animated, talking picture books with unlimited usage - no more waiting on the hold list! Books are also available in other languages, making learning a language more fun. Once young readers outgrow regular TumbleBooks, we offer TumbleBookCloud Junior designed for students in grades 3 to 8 and TumbleBookCloud with YA/Teen novels, classics, poetry, short stories, and graphic novels. For more information on Tumblebooks databases, look for the Tumblebooks link on the "Featured News" section of the library's homepage.

If you don't own an ereading device, you can still access all of our eBooks using a desktop or laptop computer. All of our branches offer computers with internet access and free wifi so you can bring your own or use one of ours. There's really no excuse not to give ereading a try. For assistance using any of our databases of eBooks, or for any other eBook or research questions, contact your local branch library.

Teen & Tween Spot

The Big Read and You

While there are tens of thousands of books on our shelves, this winter the libraries will be all about just one: *The Grapes of Wrath*. Set during a time of extreme financial hardship, this book shows the struggles people face during hard times, and the bad and good within humanity.

The Garfield County Libraries will be hosting an array of events in February surrounding this book. Many are just for teens. In Parachute you can experience the 1930's with food and swing dance lessons. In both Rifle and New Castle you can repurpose clothing by taking old shirts and making something new and fashionable. And, Roaring Fork High School photography students will show their work - inspired by the book and Depression Era photojournalism - at the Third Street Center in Carbondale all month long.

The Big Read is coming to Garfield County in February. Join in.



Libraries are chock-full of tech toys like CDs, DVDs and video games, and they're a great place to get connected to online research resources, gaming, music, the web and more. Help us celebrate technology, and all the great things it does for us by visiting your local Garfield County Library or by checking out our website www.gcpld.org during Teen Tech Week, March 10-16.



Literacy Outreach

Give Back During the New Year

As we sip champagne and set our New Year's resolutions, keep in mind that twenty-five percent of Americans lack the basic literacy skills to function properly within society. Located in the Glenwood Springs Branch Library, Literacy Outreach serves functionally illiterate adults throughout Garfield County. A functionally illiterate adult is unable to fill out an employment application, follow written instructions, read a note from a child's teacher or read a newspaper.

Literacy Outreach recruits and professionally trains volunteers. Those volunteers teach basic literacy skills to adult students who are at the lowest levels of literacy or English-speaking proficiencies – the “hardest to reach, hardest to teach” population. In addition to providing language instruction, tutors act as cultural ambassadors, helping students assimilate into the community by providing assistance with such tasks as vehicle registration, paying utility bills, or getting a library card.

The economic benefits of an education are immeasurable. Children from illiterate households enter school with serious deficits. According to the U.S. Department of Education, 36% of Hispanic Americans dropped out of high school in 2000. Frequently, children from non-literate families drop out



Judy Bartels and Gisela Merlos work together during a tutoring session.

or end up in trouble with the law. According to the U.S. Department of Education, adults at the lowest level of literacy proficiency work an average of 19 weeks per year, compared to 44 weeks per year for those at the highest level.

American businesses lose over \$60 billion in productivity each year due to employees' lack of basic reading skills. The gift of literacy benefits the entire family by making families self-sufficient and economically viable members of their community.

Literacy Outreach serves students such as Celia, a stay-at-home mom. Her commitment to learning English has been astounding. With a child in need of constant medical care, her goal was simple. She needed to communicate with her son's doctors and her other children's teachers.

Her English skills have improved immensely. She and her husband have earned their citizenship. Every week, Celia finds it easier to interact with English speakers around her, allowing her to function as a better and more informed parent and citizen.

As you celebrate the new year and contemplate the future, please consider giving the gift of literacy. Donate to your local library branch or to Literacy Outreach. Consider volunteering. Adult learners are waiting for your gift of time. Your gift will make a difference.

-Martha Fredendall, Executive Director





**Garfield County Public
Library District**
P.O. Box 832
Rifle, CO 81650

NONPROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
RIFLE, CO 81650
PERMIT NO.75

Library Branches & Hours

Gordon Cooper (Carbondale) 970-963-2889

Mon. & Wed. 10-8 Tues. & Thurs. 10-6
Fri. & Sat. 10-5 Sunday Closed

Glenwood Springs 970-945-5958

Mon. & Wed. 10-6 Tues. & Thurs. 10-8
Fri. & Sat. 10-5 Sunday 1-5

New Castle 970-984-2346

Mon. & Wed. 10-8 Tues. & Thurs. 10-6
Fri. & Sat. 10-5 Sunday Closed

Silt 970-876-5500

Mon. & Wed. 10-6 Tues. & Thurs. 10-8
Fri. & Sat. 10-5 Sunday Closed

Rifle 970-625-3471

Mon. & Wed. 10-8 Tues. & Thurs. 10-6
Fri. & Sat. 10-5 Sunday 1-5

Parachute 970-285-9870

Mon. & Wed. 10-6 Tues. & Thurs. 10-8
Fri. & Sat. 10-5 Sunday Closed

The libraries are closed on most
Federal holidays



Get Together Here!

Meeting Rooms Now Available for a Wider Range of Events

Do you have an upcoming event, but no space? Starting January 1, the Library District is opening up meeting rooms throughout Garfield County to a wider range of events. You can now reserve meeting rooms for both non-commercial and commercial purposes. You can also host events at the libraries which are not open to the public, or that require an entrance fee. At this time, the meeting rooms are not available for private social events (birthday parties, showers, etc.).

The libraries will continue to exempt governmental entities, public, private, and non-profit groups from room fees as long as the events are free and open to the public. Hourly fees will apply to private events and those that charge an entrance fee. Kitchens are available at some sites, and use does require a fee.

Some examples of meeting room uses include:

- not-for-profit agency meetings
- public information sessions
- governmental meetings
- classes / private lessons
- craft fairs / art shows
- demonstrations
- debates / political rallies
- award ceremonies
- employee trainings
- interviews
- sales pitches
- club meetings
- fundraising events

For more information, or to request a meeting room, visit your local Garfield County Library.



Concerts and art classes are among the events now allowed under the Library District's new policy.