

Report to the State Library Board

November 24, 2025

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State Librarian

This report is prepared bi-monthly in conjunction with the regular meetings of the Connecticut State Library Board. The report, which will be included in the minutes of the November 24, 2025 meeting of the Board, covers the period of September 18, 2025 through November 14, 2025.

Office of the State Librarian

The State Library continues to coordinate with Department of Administrative Services (DAS) Real Estate & Construction Services staff and construction consultants on the pre-design study for a potential new State Archives building and anticipates having a final version of the study and recommendations before the end of the calendar year. The study findings will allow the State Library to provide detailed information and estimated costs to state decision makers as the agency seeks full project funding.

On October 24, Deborah Schander, Allen Ramsey, and Dawn La Valle represented the State Library at a Department of Administrative Services (DAS) Bureau of Information Technology Solutions (BITS) Manager retreat, sharing both positive and negative outcomes of statewide IT consolidation on the agency. It was a fruitful and honest conversation, with both sides expressing strong desire to coordinate on shared matters moving forward. The significant impact of the 18 month+ vacancies in CSL's local IT positions, now under BITS administration, was discussed throughout the conversation.

Unit Activities

Partnerships and Community Engagement

[Under the Charter Oak - A podcast of the CT State Library Division of Library Development](#), a collaboration with Kymberlee Powe, Matt Geeza, and Ashley Sklar, dropped its first and second episodes in September and October. Between the welcome trailer and the two episodes, Library Card Sign Up Month and Libraries Contain Multitudes, the podcast has already been downloaded 200 times.

Kym Powe attended **Read to Grow's Fall Family Day event** on Saturday, October 18th. The event was organized to not only share free books (many donated from the Middletown Library Service Center) with young children and families, but to introduce them to statewide resource organizations such as the State Education Resource Center (SERC).

Reminiscent of *The Great Connecticut Caper*, the Division of Library Development (DLD) Youth Services Team, in partnership with Susan Muro, Director of the CT Center for the Book, CT Humanities, have launched the [CT Summer Story Project](#). Local library staff are invited to submit a fictional short story between 850 to 2,000 words and feature local libraries and landmarks from across the state around the theme [Plant a Seed, Read](#). A short story will be

released digitally each week from mid-June through mid-August. Accompanying each story will be discussion questions and suggested activities providing an easy, out-of-the-box summer program.

Gail Hurley attended the **2025 Connecticut Financial Literacy Summit** on October 7, along with partners in the CT Saves campaign. This conference focused on new Connecticut graduation requirements for students as well as fraud and scams. The partners will begin working on financial literacy planning for 2026.

Dawn La Valle and Ashley Sklar presented a daylong program for the Law Librarians of New England Annual Meeting entitled “**Possible Futures: Strategic Foresight and Planning for Law Librarians**” on November 7. The goal was to inspire a new approach to strategy and planning in this era of Artificial Intelligence (AI), ChatGPT and open-source offerings impacting law librarianship.

During the period of late September to the end of October 2025, staff from the Connecticut Library for Accessible Books (CT LAB) conducted **four outreach sessions** that reached nearly 70 people. Outreach visits during this period included the UCONN Stamford Disability Resource and Job Fair, a visit to the Bureau of Education and Services for the Blind's (BESB) Blind Consumers Advocacy Committee (BCAC), and an exhibit at the EASTCONN Transitions Fair.

During Federal Fiscal Year (FY) 2025, which ran from October 1, 2024, to September 30, 2025, **CT LAB** staff conducted 30 outreach visits that reached nearly 700 people.

The current issue of the **CT LAB newsletter** is the November and December 2025 edition. The newsletter is available in the following formats: email, PDF (link on CT LAB website), HTML (CT LAB website), audio, hard copy large print, and hard copy braille.

DLD continues to recruit sites to participate in the **Palace Project**. There are a total of 185 sites sharing content from the Connecticut State Library through the Palace app.

With the recent news that Baker & Taylor will be closing, the **eGO CT Community Sharing Program** will be ending in its current format. DLD staff are working with Lyris on a proposal to deliver eBook content to K12 schools.

eGO CT continues to support the **All CT Reads** program. Each of this year's titles have been added to the Palace app and an All CT Reads 2025 lane has been made available to all in the Palace Manager interfaces for each site. Through the end of September, there have been 1,022 checkouts of All CT Reads 2025 titles.

Planning is underway for our second annual **Excellence in Public Libraries Awards**. Barbara Ghilardi and Ashley Sklar have finalized the nomination form, updated information on the LibGuide, and outlined a process for evaluation. The Award nomination process was announced earlier this month, and nominations will open in January 2026.

Over the last two months, visitation to the **Museum of CT History** included 510 school children and 74 adults as part of organized school and adult groups. Patrick Smith delivered the “Connecticut Sampler” program to 65 Waterford third graders in September.

The **Hiking Through History** program led by Patrick Smith has finished for the season. Tours of the Old Connecticut Path (Willington) on September 19 and Penwood State Park

(Blomfield/Simsbury) on October 17 hosted a total of about 45 guests. Throughout the season, seven public hikes served approximately 155 guests from across the state. Six additional private hikes served about 100 students and adults. Research for the 2026 season is underway, with plans to incorporate some sites related to America 250.

Museum staff brought the State Library's Outreach Van to the **Present from the Start: People of Color in Connecticut's Revolutionary Era, 1765-1836** conference on September 20. Hosted by *Connecticut Explored* and the Association for the Study of Connecticut History at Eastern Connecticut State University, the conference drew historians and scholars to consider the historical contributions of Connecticut's People of Color. In addition to showcasing objects from the museum's collection, staff members Jennifer Matos and Beth Burgess were able to attend meaningful conference sessions.

The State Library's Outreach Van was brought to **Connecticut's Immigrant Hall of Fame induction ceremony** held at the AquaTurf in Southington on September 25. Museum staff showcased items from the collection that relate to Connecticut's rich history of immigration.

Museum of CT History staff members along with Deborah Schander took a fieldtrip to the **Prudence Crandall Museum** in Canterbury and the **Jonathan Trumbull House** in Lebanon on October 6. The Prudence Crandall Museum is one of the Connecticut State Museums operated by the Department of Economic & Community Development and has storylines that connect with the Museum of CT History. The Jonathan Trumbull House is a privately operated museum, the home of Governor Trumbull during his years as chief executive (1769-1784). Under Trumbull's leadership, Connecticut served as the "Provisions State" during the Revolutionary War. The museum has a portrait of Governor Trumbull in its collection, and the State Archives has a large collection of correspondence and paperwork known as the Trumbull Papers.

Museum of CT History staff members tabled at the **Connecticut Council for the Social Studies conference** held at Central Connecticut State University on October 17. The Museum brought items from the collection relating to Connecticut's role in the Revolutionary War and talked to teachers about the Museum's many resources. Museum staff were also able to attend timely sessions about the state of history education in Connecticut.

The FY2026 Cycle 2 application period for the **Historic Documents Preservation Program** closed on September 30, 2025; the State Library received applications from 42 municipalities. Nicole Besseghir is currently reviewing and processing the applications for approval by LeAnn Power; award letters and grant contracts will be sent to municipalities in December.

Nicole Besseghir has been working with towns on **vault construction and renovation projects**, including projects for the Town of East Hartford, the Town of Farmington, the Town of Windsor Locks, the Town of Plainfield, the Town of East Windsor, the Town of Darien, the Town of Scotland, the Town of Stonington, the City of Norwich, the Town of Portland, the Town of Hamden, the Town of Vernon, and the Ellington/Vernon Probate Court. Vaults provide a high level of fire protection and security for towns' permanent and essential records.

Nicole Marino and Elise Marzik attended the state's **AI Advisory Group Policy Review Subcommittee** meeting on November 4 to discuss concepts and questions related to data and record retention for AI tools and the records management perspective on common AI use cases in public agency work.

In September Reference Services welcomed Isabel, a **graduate intern** who will be working on various History & Genealogy projects including scanning original Fairfield County court files, transcribing manuscript indexes for the Trumbull Papers, and expanding the virtual tour of the State Library building.

Reference Services and Museum staff gave **tours** to members of the Connecticut Supreme Court Historical Society and staff members of the Office of Legislative Management.

At the request of a special high school in Hartford planning to visit the State Library, Susan Bigelow quickly assembled and explained a **selection of historical maps** intended to complement their class on human geography, and a second section of the class visited the State Library during the following week for a similar presentation.

Kevin Johnson provided a **Jordan Freeman presentation** at the Museum of Connecticut History as part of the 250th Celebration series of public events, as well as offering Jordan Freeman portrayals at both the Pomfret and Ashford Historical Societies. Hosted by the Connecticut Professional Genealogical Council, Kevin also gave a **Professor Jim presentation** at Trinity College, which was particularly special, as James Williams, the original “Professor Jim”, served as a sexton at Trinity College; other Professor Jim presentations also took place at the Westbrook and Glastonbury Historical Societies.

In honor of the famous **Battle of Groton Heights** on September 6, 1783, History & Genealogy Unit staff, spearheaded by Jeannie Sherman, created a display using a wide range of mini soldier figurines, cannons, copies of archival materials, and photos of Kevin Johnson as Jordan Freeman, an African-American soldier who was killed during this battle. This display will be the first of many projects that will support the coming 250th Declaration of Independence celebrations and shed light on some of the unique related materials housed in the Connecticut State Library.

A library patron of the recently purchased a pay bond for an African American Revolutionary War soldier named Robin Starr as part of an ongoing quest to shine light on Connecticut’s minority community. History & Genealogy Unit staff determined that the bound volume from which the original 1782 bond came is stored in the State Archives in the Office of State Treasurer records collection. The patron visited the State Library with the pay bond, and for the first time in 234 years it was reunited with the volume from which it came. It was a very memorable day for the History & Genealogy staff and their patrons to [see the moment](#) when the bond fit perfectly into the volume preserved in the State Archives.

Work is progressing on the federally funded **Planning to Preserve Connecticut’s Digital Government History Project**. Allen Ramsey requested from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) a no-cost extension to extend the grant until September 30, 2026. The extension request was approved by NHPRC on September 30. Allen Ramsey and Brittney Rankins met with the Slalom team on October 15 to provide an update on the status of the grant extension and discuss potential enhancements for the automated redaction tool. The project team engaged with Slalom in 2023-2024 to develop and implement an automated redaction tool, with archivists reviewing the results prior to uploading the redacted records into the Connecticut Digital Archive (CTDA). The redaction tool is built on Amazon Web Services (AWS) cloud technology. Possible enhancements discussed include improving confidence scores on words selected for redaction, allowing archivists to add terms to a do not redact list, and machine learning and artificial intelligence.

Programs and Training

In partnership with Youth Services Coordinator of the RI Office of Library & Information Services Danielle Margarida, Kym Powe [presented at the 2025 New England Library Association \(NELA\) Annual Conference](#). The federal Building Community-Based Summers (BCBS) initiative empowered libraries to co-create summer services by centering the voices and needs of their communities. The session offered at NELA explored how the principles of BCBS can be extended beyond summer to enrich library services throughout the year.

For the fifth year in a row, Kym Powe joined the other youth consultants in New England to offer [The New England Teen Summit](#), a free, virtual event open to library staff across New England, focused on empowering teen services in libraries.

Research shows that at least one trusted adult outside the home can have a profound effect on a child's life, influencing that young person toward positive growth, greater engagement in school and community activities, and better overall health. The unfortunate reality is that on average only 40% of young people today can name a trusted adult outside the home. This workshop **Trusted Adults Make All the Difference: Establishing Stronger Connections and Healthier Boundaries with Adults and Young People**, facilitated by Kym Powe and presented by Dr. Brooklyn Raney, presented research-backed strategies for setting up librarians to be the trusted adults young people need, without falling into the traps of becoming pretend parents or makeshift mental health professionals.

The Simsbury Public Library invited Kym Powe to provide an all-staff training on teen services and engagement beyond the teen department. The training included a presentation on **Teen Services that Matter** followed by discussion during **The Brain Architecture Game** on advance childhood experiences and how those may impact teen behavior and interactions.

Chris Gauvreau presented a public program sponsored by **Libraries & Partners Bridging the Digital Divide** and hosted at the Hartford Public Library on two Connecticut State Library initiatives that have helped libraries increase connectivity for the residents of their catchment area. Chris reported on the wrap-up of the Fiber to Library grant program, which was initiated by the State Librarian in 2016 and distributed \$3.6 million in funds to public libraries for, first, high speed broadband connections, and second, on upgrades to internal connections that were needed to maximize the use of these high-speed superhighways to their institutions. Chris also reported on the impact of a two-year IMLS Leadership grant that funded regional sharing of digital navigators among seven public libraries. CT-N streamed this combined report for viewing by legislators and the public.

Chris Gauvreau hosted a DLD Mini webinar on how public libraries can find their Category 2 budget for the funding years 2026-2030. This Mini professional development presentation was the first in a planned series of E-Rate information sessions for public libraries who are not yet using the significant amount of federal funding available to them for upgrading internal connections.

As the State Library's Liaison to the Association of CT Library Boards (ACLB), Dawn La Valle served as a panelist on the Library Board Basics presentation which provides an overview of the roles and responsibilities of library board members in CT.

DLD hosted an October **Horror Readers Advisory** workshop with nationally known expert, Becky Spratford, and hosted the popular **Customer Service Tune-Up** workshop with Jean Baur in November. Gail Hurley co-presented a **DLD Mini workshop** on findIT/requestIT and presented a DLD Mini workshop on professional development opportunities with a focus on Niche Academy, both in November.

In September, Suzanne Kiss and Ashley Sklar co-lead a [DLD Mini](#) on DLD Communications covering the many communications channels that DLD maintains and populates with information relating to DLD and the library profession.

Museum of Connecticut History and State Archives staff participated in a **Connecticut History Day Teacher Workshop** hosted at the Van Block facility on October 3, a day of professional development that included sessions on using artifacts as primary sources, accessing online research guides, and a primary source experience that displayed some of the State Archives holdings. Beth Burgess and Patrick Smith gave a presentation on teaching with artifacts and participated in a Primary Source Experience with workshop participants. Damon Munz presented *Voices from the Docket*, a session that introduced educators to County Court and Superior Court records as primary sources for classroom use. Drawing on the Uncovering New Haven County Court Records project, he highlighted compelling stories such as that of Cuff Liberty, an enslaved man who sued for his freedom in 1798, and women who challenged social norms through breach of promise suits and property disputes. These records illuminate everyday lives, legal conflicts, and social change, offering educators practical strategies and ready-to-use examples for connecting students to authentic voices from the past, voices that speak directly to enduring issues of justice, identity, and community.

Museum of CT History staff delivered a presentation, **Presenting the Expected in an Unexpected Way**, at the Ridgefield Public Library on October 23. This presentation was a reprise of one given at the America 250 | Commission conference held at UConn on March 21, 2025, at the request of an attendee. Beth Burgess, Jennifer Matos, and Christine Pittsley presented American Revolution-related highlights from the State Library's collections that can be interpreted from a fresh, 21st-century perspective.

At the Appellate Court's request, Bryan Kohlen again offered a virtual **legislative history training presentation** to the incoming law clerks, along with the traditional in-person tour of the State Library's collections.

LeAnn Power, Nicole Besseghir, and Nicole Marino attended the **Fall Conference of the Town Clerks' Association** in Westbrook on September 18, staffing an information table to address questions from town clerks and records vendors related to agency policies and the Historic Documents Preservation grant program. LeAnn and Nicole B. also participated in an informational panel with town clerks, "**Land Records – Best Practices – Town Clerks and CT State Library**," to present guidance and answer questions on requirements for managing land records for the approximately 200 town clerks and vendors in attendance. Mel Smith, Susan Bigelow, and Damon Munz also attended the conference as state agency representatives to establish a better understanding of town clerk needs and to communicate the relevant services and collections offered by the State Library.

Elise Marzik and Nicole Besseghir presented **municipal records management training** at the Fall Meeting of Superintendents' Administrative Professionals hosted by the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education (CABE) on August 12 in Wethersfield. The approximately 80

attendees included CABA senior staff and administrative professionals for school superintendents representing over 40 school districts.

Allen Ramsey presented at the Connecticut Association of Land Surveyors annual meeting on November 6 at the New England Air Museum, alongside Kathryn Fiducia, Research Services Librarian at the University of Connecticut (UConn), and Emily Wilson, UConn Geospatial Extension Educator. Their presentation, ***Mapping Resources for the Land Surveyor***, highlighted resources available at the Connecticut State Library, including land records on microfilm, 1934 aerial photographs, and architectural firm records. The session also featured tools from the UConn Libraries Map and Geographic Information Center (MAGIC) and UConn Environmental Conditions Online (ECO), a collaboration between UConn's Center for Land Use Education and Research (CLEAR), UConn Extension, and the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP), which provides access to environmental and natural resource geographic data.

Resource Updates

From July to October 2025, the Digitization and Digital Collection Services Unit digitized almost 20,000 pages of **State Library collection materials**, including five volumes of historical Connecticut General Assembly proceedings transcripts from 1963 and 1965, 69 Connecticut state documents, 24 issues of prison newspapers, and 26 volumes of the *General Index of the Land Records of the Town of Hartford*. Forty-one digitized state documents were added to the Connecticut Digital Archive for digital preservation and public access.

John Bednar continued cataloging the unprocessed items from the State Library's collection of materials related to the political, ecclesiastical, and scholastic history of **Connecticut municipalities**. Among these titles are an 1895 report on the Stamford typhoid fever epidemic and the official souvenir program of the 275th anniversary of the town of Stamford.

The Discovery and Delivery Services Unit regularly reviews unassigned **digital inventory** of copies of state library physical resources and of born-digital titles. Verna Thomas-Green has undertaken to update and correct a set of bibliographic records for which electronic inventory had not migrated accurately to our current software platform. For the current reporting period Verna completed updates for 294 titles, including reports on uninsured Connecticut residents prepared by the Office of Health Care Access, and the Child Advocate's 2001 report on Connecticut's services for children with special health care needs.

The three original catalogers, John Bednar, Laura Diller, and William Anderson, contributed 70 records to the Name Authority Cooperative (**NACO**) database. Among these contributions are records for the Mansfield Training School Band and its Blind Chorus, The State Department of Education's Bureau of Research and Teacher Assessment and its Bureau of Certification and Professional Development, and the South Windsor Republican Town Committee.

Significant **USGPO** titles cataloged include the National Institute of Food and Agriculture's complete guide to home canning and Comptroller of the Currency's Common sense approach to community banking.

Significant materials cataloged for the History and Genealogy **map collections** include a 1796 map of Massachusetts counties and an 1898 road map of Hartford.

The State Library has committed to retaining State of Connecticut **labor union agreements** and arbitration decisions. Staff receives these in draft state and assign them to the Library of Congress classification law books collection. Staff recently completed cataloging a large batch of these draft agreements and decisions, including those between the State and the Education Administrators (P-3A) union, the New England Health Care Employees Union, the Administrative & Residual Employees Union, Connecticut Police & Fire Union.

FindIT CT, the statewide library catalog, was reloaded with outdated library holdings removed. As of October 1, 2025, it contains 19,429,052 bibliographic records and 16,588,929 items from 296 libraries of all types.

Throughout September and October 2025, CT LAB staff distributed approximately 40 of the new **NLS Digital Talking Book Machines**, the DA2, to CT LAB patrons. Initial feedback about the DA2 machines from patrons has been positive.

eGO CT continues to grow. There are now 185 public and academic libraries accessing the **Connecticut State Library eBook collection**. There are currently 13,985 patrons actively using the Palace Project app.

In September and October DLD purchased 250 new items for the **eGO CT** program and the Palace app for a total of over 53,000 items that are provided for free to public libraries, academics, and schools. The eGO CT program has had 10,416 checkouts through the end of September and is on track for over 40,000 checkouts in FY26.

One hundred seventy-four public libraries submitted their **annual reports** by the October 1st deadline. Barbara Ghilardi is currently reviewing the reports and is working on a draft Statistical Profile scheduled to be released in December.

The **borrowIT CT** and Sec. 11-24b State Grants to Principal Public Libraries Incentive Grants **expenditure reports** were received October 31st. Barbara Ghilardi is compiling a comprehensive report how how libraries used the funds to enhance library services to their communities.

In an ongoing effort to **inventory the Museum of CT History's collection**, staff completed inventorying and cataloging political campaign promotional materials (signs, press packets, postcards) for state and federal candidates ca. 1988-2010.

Objects from the Museum of CT History's collection were made **available to researchers**, including: a WPA Federal Art Project artwork of the Merritt Parkway under construction by Howard Heath; and a notebook used by Mr. Ulrich, curator of the Colt Factory Museum prior to 1957.

The Museum of CT History **acquired new collection items**: a Weir Farm National Historic Site commemorative U. S. quarter minted in 2021; a small collection of political campaign buttons collected by an Orange, CT resident ca. 1975-2010.

In October, **conservation treatment and research** was completed on the Col. Elisha Bostwick pocket watch in the collection of the Museum of CT History. Fallon & Wilkinson Conservators carefully removed and retained historic paper from the inside of the case, and a barrier of acid-

free tissue was placed between the paper, the inside of the case, and the timepiece. Tarnish was removed from both the outer case and timepiece, and the piece was coated for future preservation. Through their research, the conservators confirmed that the piece was made in London in 1759 and fits the donor's provenance that Bostwick had it with him when he crossed the Delaware with George Washington in December 1776. This remarkable pocket watch will be included in the *Connecticut's Revolution* exhibit in July 2026.

Museum staff are working on a project to locate and inventory portraits of **Connecticut Chief Justices** located throughout the 231 Capitol Avenue building. Along with Deborah Schander and the Executive Director of the Judicial Branch's External Affairs Division, Museum staff have and will continue to search the building for portraits, updating records with photographs, conditions, and locations. Many paintings were unofficially loaned to the Judicial Branch over the last century, so Museum staff are working to understand and formalize agreements.

Maintenance was conducted in the Museum of CT History during the last month. New security cameras were installed on October 14, which will provide enhanced views of the space. A ceiling leak and its residual damage were repaired in the Museum's storage area on October 16. New duress alarms were installed in all the Museum's exhibit cases on October 29 and 30. This is part of an ongoing project to update the Museum's security system. Some repairs were made to the Freedom Trail Quilt frames, to enhance their mobility over Memorial Hall's bumpy tile floor.

The Museum of CT History received notice that it was awarded the "**Celebrate America!**" grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) in the amount of \$25,000 to support the implementation of the *Connecticut's Revolution* exhibit. The grant contract will be reviewed by the Office of the Attorney General before accepting the award. Thus far, the Museum has not received the contract and given the staff shortages at the NEH, it is unknown how long this process may take.

Work on the ***Connecticut's Revolution* exhibit** has resumed in earnest. The Museum of CT History has contracted with a Project Manager, and weekly meetings are taking place to make final decisions about the content of the exhibit. The Museum continues to seek funding for this \$110,000+ project. In addition to the grant described above, the Museum is seeking alternate sources of income for the exhibit in the form of grants, sponsorships, and individual donations. An Exhibit Prospectus has been prepared for potential sponsors / donors and is being launched on November 12, with the help of the CT Supreme Court Historical Society.

Jeannie Sherman has completed a new "**Vital Records for Connecticut**" research guide that highlights information on individual Connecticut municipal vital records (birth, marriage and death records), along with additional materials regarding other genealogical record sets such as cemetery and church records.

Kris Aberly completed the State Library **2025 Biennial Survey of Depository Libraries**. LeAnn Power and Cherie Miles processed 352 municipal and 195 state agency authorization forms for records disposals.

The **State Records Center** provides off-site inactive records storage for state agencies free of charge. Doug Yaeger and Mike Soltesz accessioned 1,008 cubic feet of agency records and deaccessioned 382 cubic feet; processed 222 reference requests; and processed 124 re-files and inter-files.

Sarah Morin concluded her work on the **Uncovering New Haven Project** with the completion of final reviews for all processed New Haven County and Superior Court records. Her contract ended on October 31. The cumulative total of processed materials reached approximately 340.3 cubic feet (714 boxes and oversize volumes). Staff have identified an estimated 527 cases involving African-descended, African American, Black, and Indigenous individuals and groups. To date, 1,440 cases (5,439 pages) have been scanned for ingest into the Connecticut Digital Archive (CTDA). Brittney Rankins has resumed digitization and is on track to complete the remaining records identified for scanning. Over the past five years, the project has been actively promoted through outreach and public engagement. The Project Archivist authored 65 blog posts and 50 Instagram posts, participated in 5 presentations, and submitted 6 articles to third-party publications. The project has also been featured or cited in at least 9 external sources, including articles, newsletters, subject guides, and podcasts. The Uncovering New Haven [subject guide](#) and [blog](#) will remain accessible on the State Library website, and finding aids for the collection will be published online in the coming months.

Recent Archives Accessions include:

- **Edwin Thomas Hellyar, Jr. oral history interview, 2025**, 1 digital recording (RG 069:112)
Edwin Thomas Hellyar, Jr. (born 1930) recounts his experience at the Hartford Circus Fire when he was 13 years old. He describes attending the circus with a woman who worked at Grasso's Market, whom he met on the way, along with her nephew and niece, choosing a spot near where the animals entered and exited. Edwin saw the fire break out and helped the woman and her niece escape, while her nephew ran home safely. He recalls the chaos, including the band playing and the animals being evacuated, and mentions the tragic loss of life. Edwin explains how the tents, treated with paraffin, burned quickly, leaving a lasting impact on him.
- **Town of Enfield** grantor and grantee records, 1718-1966, 16.5 cubic feet (RG 062:049)

CTDA Digital Records Uploaded:

Items were migrated from the following collections on ContentDM into CTDA:

- Governor M. Jodi Rell Records (RG 005:040)
- Governor John G. Rowland Records (RG 005:039)
- Office of Family Support Records (RG 015:024)

Digital Records Processing Project Updates: The following records have been processed:

- Governor Dannel P. Malloy Born-Digital Records
 - Chief of Staff Records
 - Communications Office Records
 - First Lady of Connecticut Records
 - General Counsel Records
 - Group Files, Common Access Records
 - Group Files, Policy and Legislative Records
 - Group Files, Press Records
 - Governor's Residence Records
 - Operations Office Records
 - Office of Policy and Management/Office of the Governor Shared Files

Staff Updates

Deborah Schander has been elected to a two-year term as a Member-at-Large for the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies (COSLA) Board of Directors.