

# FRIDAY BULLETIN

NEWS FROM THE ALASKA DIVISION OF LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES & MUSEUMS

9/28/2012

*This newsletter is available weekly and previous issues are available at [http://museums.alaska.gov/LAM/about\\_lam/FridayBulletin.html](http://museums.alaska.gov/LAM/about_lam/FridayBulletin.html).*

*Submissions for the Friday Bulletin should be sent to [linda.thibodeau@alaska.gov](mailto:linda.thibodeau@alaska.gov) and may be edited for content and length if used.*

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## **NEWS FROM THE DIVISION**

### **ONE MINUTE SURVEY ON MOBILE DEVICE USAGE**

The past few years have seen an explosion in the usage of smartphones, tablets and other mobile devices. We've created a three question/one minute survey at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/TX8DM8H> to gauge your usage of mobile devices. Depending on how many of our readers use mobile devices, we may increase coverage of mobile applications deemed to be of special interest to people working in archives, libraries and museums.

The survey runs through Thursday, October 4, 2012.

## **NEWS FROM L.A.M.S IN ALASKA**

### **JUDGES OF ALASKA PROJECT JUKEBOX**

The Alaska and Polar Regions Collections and Archives at Elmer E. Rasmuson Library, University of Alaska is pleased to announce completion of our latest multi-media oral history website: Judges of Alaska Project Jukebox (<http://www.jukebox.uaf.edu/judges>).

This website tells the story of the formation of the Alaska Court System through first-hand accounts of what it means to be a judge or magistrate in Alaska. The judicial history of Alaska goes back to the

territorial days when court may have been held in a roadhouse, aboard a revenue cutter or maybe even out on the trail. US Commissioners deciding these cases often did not have legal backgrounds. Starting with statehood in 1959, Alaska's court system became more formalized and its judiciary more professional. The experiences of our state's early judges shed light on the social, political and cultural fabric of life in Alaska in a new way. It provides a slice of Alaskan history that few people have access to or understanding of. Knowing how Alaska's justice system has developed can enlighten future decisions as our state faces continued social, political, cultural and economic change.

The Project Jukebox website features oral histories, historic film clips and still photographs to highlight various aspects of the history of Alaska's court system. Topics include: establishment and early days of the various aspects of the court system, the judiciary article, judicial selection and retention, the day-to-day life of being a judge, joys and challenges of being a judge, relationships with the community and rural justice.

## **QUALITY LIBRARY CONTRIBUTES TO BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL**

Pt. Higgins School, a member of the First City Libraries Consortium in Ketchikan, was awarded a Blue Ribbon by the US Department of Education. School librarian Karen McKean Updike wrote an article for the Ketchikan Daily News pointing out the correlation between student achievement and school librarians. The article was published in the "First City Scene" in the September 22/23 issue of the Ketchikan Daily News. Here's an excerpt that other school librarians may find of use:

Years of research has shown a strong correlation between success in academic testing and library programs. The document Impact of School Libraries and Library Media Specialists on Student Academic Achievement combines much of the data collected on this subject. Research comes from about 20 states (including Alaska). It found that kids K-12 do better on state tests when the following is true. The school has a full time certified trained teacher-librarian. The library has excellent funding support. The library collection is strong and available in a variety of formats. Students visit their school library more often and borrow more books. They have access to technology and library resources both in the library and in the classroom. The Colorado State Library and their Department of Education has an interesting set of videos by research guru Keith Curry Lance showing the correlation clearly and available at <http://www.lrs.org/impact.php>

The full article is currently available from the Point Higgins Elementary School homepage at <http://phe.kgbsd.org/site/default.aspx?PageID=1>. More information about the National Blue Ribbon Schools Program may be found at <http://www2.ed.gov/programs/nclbbrs/awards.html>.

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