

Summer 2001

## Museletter: Summer 2001

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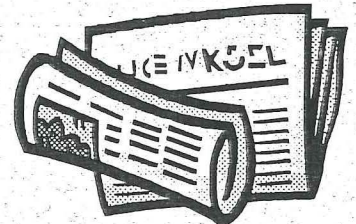
# Museletter

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## “FREE”DOM OF THE PRESS: WEB NEWS SOURCE TO CHARGE FOR SERVICE

It was only a matter of time. Just as we have become used to and enjoyed open access to news information on the World Wide Web, Media General Inc. recently announced that they will begin charging fees for content by the end of this year. (Gregory J. Gilligan, *Bizz Buzz*, Richmond Times-Dispatch, May 28, 2001, at D3)



The article provided few details about the change. Media General maintains 50 websites for its 25 daily newspapers, other publications, and 26 television stations. The archives portion of the site ([timesdispatch.com](http://timesdispatch.com)) already charges for copies of articles. Searching the database, which begins in 1985, currently is free.

News sources have always been an important research tool. They are some of the most helpful sources for local information, and frequently are good starting points for clarification of details. News databases were among the first developed, and some of the first full-text databases.

There are limitations in searching news sources, and strategies vary depending on the format. One “stumper” that frequently raises eyebrows is the issue of content coverage in databases (like Lexis or Westlaw, or websites for that matter). This issue may vary from newspaper to newspaper, but generally wire service articles, such as AP, New York Times, or Reuters, will not appear in the database of a paper like the *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, unless it specifically relates to Virginia. That can be confusing for a patron who has a specific recollection of a front-page article, and when an online search is attempted, the patron gets no results because of the original authorship of the article. The other major element missing from an online database is photos. What would a print newspaper be like without photos? This issue surely makes microfiche seem terrific. Also, if you are researching legal notices, classifieds or advertisements, you won't find those included online, and usually are limited at websites.

Newspaper websites are intriguing, but have different limitations. Articles frequently are edited versions of the originals. Photos are added in some cases, but not all. The Richmond paper just added a new feature in 2001, which doesn't appear in the online version — paid death notices. This may not sound like a big deal, but can be a helpful element in some research. Traditionally, only full obituaries are included in online services.

As the web environment evolves, we'll gain access to many new sources, but unfortunately, site managers will soon see the value in charging for access.

Welcome  
Summer  
Entry  
Students!



*Richmond  
ranked 12th  
in an annual  
survey of the  
nation's best  
places to live  
and work —  
up 5 spots  
from 2000.*



## Website of the Month: BestJobsUSA.com

BestJobsUSA.com reported recently its employment review survey of the "Best Places to Live and Work 2001." The guide provides professionals with information on the cities with the best employment opportunities. The staff researched 300 metropolises nationwide, comparing population, unemployment rates, projected job growth, cost of living, and industry-specific data as some of the deciding factors when narrowing down the list.

Richmond ranked 12th on the list this year (up five spots from 2000), among cities like Austin, TX (1) and Des Moines, IA (20). No other Virginia cities appeared on the list. The closest rival location is Raleigh/Durham/Chapel Hill, ranked at an impressive second place.

The survey cited Richmond's close ties to the past and a keen eye on the future as criteria for making it a great place to live and work. "The city's commitment to healthcare, education, and business has helped to create an environment that teems with progress." Richmond has a strong manufacturing base in chemicals, machinery, food products, and tobacco, but it embraced new ventures such as semiconductors, biotechnology, electronics, energy, high-tech fibers, and pharmaceuticals to help diversify its employment offerings.

The *Museletter's* Editor was pleased to see the Fan District mentioned as one of the nation's notable historic districts. The survey noted the abundance of Richmond's arts offerings, including the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Virginia Historical Society, Maggie L. Walker Historical Site, White House and Museum of the Confederacy, Children's Museum of Richmond, Maymont, Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden, Richmond Symphony, Richmond Ballet, Virginia Opera, the Edgar Allan Poe Museum, and many more.

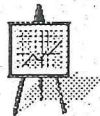
Some of the deciding indicators for the survey are as follows:



HOUSING COSTS: \$160,400 (average price of a four-bedroom home)



UNEMPLOYMENT RATE: 2 percent (down from the 2000 rate)



PROJECTED JOB GROWTH TO 2011: 17.9 percent



EDUCATION: Richmond has 5 four-year universities and seven two-year and special institutions. The City's Community High School is considered one of the nation's best.



HEALTHCARE: Greater Richmond has 18 hospitals. The City's hospitals are at the forefront of major breakthroughs in both geriatric and pediatric medicine.

## UNIVERSITY UNVEILS NEW LIBRARY SYSTEM

The University unveiled a new library system in late June to replace the current online catalog. The process involved 18 months of evaluation of several systems, site visits to several universities, selection, and mapping the current database for implementation in the new system.

Several new enhancements will allow researchers to "multi-task" among databases. For example, using the "Citation Server" application (released later this year), a patron will be able to search the online catalog, a journal index, and a full-text database simultaneously.

James Wirrell and Lois Brown will be promoting e-reserves also, after a new high-powered scanner is installed to implement the "image server" application within the new system.

"Encompass" will provide archive capabilities, allowing worldwide access to special collections. "Bells and whistles" like this will be implemented much later.

Please come to the reference desk for a demonstration.



*James Wirrell and Lois Brown assist Professor Hamilton Bryson check out the first book in the new library system.*

## Summer in Richmond: Go Fish!



Richmond's most recent contribution to the arts is the Go Fish! Project, a community-wide art project designed to create excitement about public art in the city. Two hundred fish sculpture bases were paid for by an individual, non-profit group or corporate sponsor, designed and named by local artists, and placed throughout the city.

Why fish you might ask? The intent is for the sculptures to be rockfish, a fish native to the James River and a type recently returning to the estuary after years of decline. The sculptures are made of epoxy, are about five feet long, and weigh 50 to 75 lbs. Before they are designed and mounted on concrete bases. A few (don't miss the one at the Berkeley Hotel) are wall mounted.

Project Chair, Susan Jamieson of 1708 Gallery, was inspired by the "Cows on Parade" exhibition in Chicago, and wanted to promote the same excitement using a symbol local to Richmond. Themes for the designs range from Egyptian Pharaohs and Faberge Eggs to Marilyn Monroe and Elvis.

The fish will be displayed primarily in the Downtown area, but you'll find others in Jackson Ward, around the Jefferson Hotel, in the Court End/MCV area, and along Broad, Grace and Franklin Streets. Outside of downtown, sculptures appear in the Fan District, Carytown, Westover Hills, and Regency Square. A complete list and map is available at the website [gofishrichmond.com](http://gofishrichmond.com). You can even vote for your favorite on the web. Each Friday's "Flair" section in the *Richmond Times-Dispatch* will feature information about the fish.

The library connection is that the Law School Library's Administrative Assistant, Deb Barlett, is married to one of the artists, Richard Barlett, who designed "My Turn." It is sponsored by the Richmond Renaissance Broad/Grace Consumer district, and is located on East Grace Street between Foushee and Second Streets.

## Summer Library Hours

### Summer Session and Exam Week (Sunday, May 20 to Friday, July 13)

Sunday: 10:00am to 10:00pm  
Monday-Thurs.: 7:30am to 10:00pm  
Friday: 7:30am to 8:00pm  
Saturday: 9:00am to 5:00pm

#### Exceptions:

Monday, May 28 (Memorial Day) CLOSED  
Wed., July 4 (Independence Day) CLOSED

### Extended Bar Exam Study Period (Saturday, July 14 to Sunday, July 22)

Sunday: 12:00 Noon—6:00pm  
Monday-Thursday: 7:30am—10:00pm  
Friday: 7:30am-8:00pm  
Saturday: 9:00am-5:00pm

### Summer Intercession (Monday, July 23 to Sunday, August 12)

Monday-Friday 7:30am to 6:00pm  
Saturday & Sunday CLOSED

### Fall Orientation Week (Monday, August 13 to Saturday, Aug. 18)

Monday, August 13: 7:30am to 6:00pm  
Tuesday, August 14 to  
Friday, August 17: 7:30am to 7:00pm  
Saturday, August 18: 1:00pm to 5:00pm

**Regular Fall Hours begin Sunday, August 19—  
watch for the Fall 2001 schedule in the August  
*Museletter*.**

### Meet the Library's Public Service Staff

**Timothy Coggins** is the Library Director and Associate Professor. **Joyce Janto** is the Associate Director. **Deborah Barlett** is the Administrative Secretary for the Law Library. **Paul Birch** is the Computer Services Librarian, **Kim Wiseman** the Computer Services Assistant, and **Alison Merner** is the Network Administrator. **James Wirrell**, Circulation/Reference Librarian, and **Lois Brown**, Circulation Assistant, are the first faces you'll see as you enter the library. **John Barden** and **Gail Zwirner** are Reference/Research Services Librarians and the primary staffers of the Reference Desk. **Sally Wambold**, the library's Technical Services Librarian, also staffs the Reference Desk on occasion. They all will be available to help summer entry students become acclimated to the law school.

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The **Museletter** is the official newsletter of the  
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