

# FRESH FROM THE JAR LRC NEWSLETTER



## Discover & Learn

Country: Venezuela

**Background:** Although Columbus was the first European to set foot on the soil, the region was inhabited by an estimated 500,000 indigenous peoples belonging to three principal groups—the Caribs, Arawak, and Chibcha. The country was given its name *Veneziela* (meaning 'Little Venice') by explorers Amerigo Vespucci and Alonso de Ojeda. The name *Veneziela* evolved into *Venezuela*. For most of the first half of the 20th century, *Venezuela* was ruled by generally benevolent military strongmen. Democratically elected governments have held sway since 1959.

**Location:** Northern South American, bordering the Caribbean Sea and the North Atlantic Ocean, between Columbia and Guyana

**Capital:** Caracas

**Ethnic groups:** Spanish, Italian, Portuguese, Arabic, German, African, and indigenous people

**Languages:** Spanish (official), numerous indigenous dialects

**Amazing animals:** Longest Snakes, jaguars, and armadillos

**Places to see:** Amazon jungle, Caracas, Guácharo Cave, or Salto Ángel (Angel Falls)

**Food:** Pabellón Criollo (shredded meat with onions and green pepper, beans, rice, and fried plantains), Arepas (small flat pancakes of fried or baked corn or corn flour dough), *Huallacas* (corn pancakes filled with chicken, beef, pork, onion, garlic, olives, raisins, tomatoes, green pepper, capers, and sugar and spiced with cumin, parsley, and black peppers wrapped in plantain leaves), and a variety of fruit like papaya, mango, and *mamones*

**Additional Information at:**

CIA World Factbook—  
<http://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/geos/ve.html>

Country Studies—  
<http://lcweb2.loc.gov/frd/cs/vetoc.html>

LatinWorld—  
<http://www.latinworld.com/sur/venezuela/index.html>

## One Year Later at the New LRC

Article by: Vanessa L. Nwanze,  
Reference Librarian

The Learning Resources Center (LRC) has occu-

piated its new facilities for a year. The first year has been an exciting and eventful. Many of you stopped by to take

a tour of the new building, to use the computers, to study, to hold classes and training sessions, to check-out or check-in materials, and a variety of other uses.

PCC dedicated the new building in honor of Gordon P. Allen. For over 30 years Mr. Allen, a "founding father" of Piedmont Community College, has played a major

role in the continuing development of PCC.

Throughout the year, our building has provided more quiet space for studying, more computers, more resources for research, and more services.

The Business Center and conference rooms have been used often by the College. *The*

*JAR* promised to be a popular gathering place for the College community, and it has not failed its expectation during the first year. The College has thoroughly enjoyed access to regular and flavored coffee and tea and use of the snack machine. The students and staff loved meeting their friends and co-workers to converse with each

other, to read, or study leisurely.

The LRC enjoyed providing refreshments and knowledge about the library during National Library Week in April at *The JAR*.

We look forward to having more fun with *The JAR* in the upcoming year. Look for coffee hours on the first

Wednesday of every month, authors and poets sharing their work, providing performances by various musicians, group discussions, and other interesting activities.

The LRC staff hopes you will join us another exciting upcoming year.



## Distance Education

Article by: Angela Vaughn,  
Distance Education Staff Assistant

PCC is offering twenty-six different online classes for the summer semester. Interest in these classes has been overwhelming. Classes filled up very quickly, leaving few seats available for students who waited to register. If you are a distance learning student, we would like to welcome you. We hope your experience with distance learning meets your expectations.

New to Distance Learning and traditional classes being taught at PCC is an online plagiarism prevention system called Turnitin. Instructors may request that students submit papers to Turnitin. Submitted papers are then compared with resources on the internet, with other student papers that have been submitted, and with various online databases, for similarity in text. For information on how to use Turnitin and how it can be a useful tool for students as well as instructors,

please visit: [http://www2.piedmont.cc.nc.us/DL/turnitin\\_students.htm](http://www2.piedmont.cc.nc.us/DL/turnitin_students.htm)

Summer hours for the Distance Education Center are 8:00 am until 6:30 pm, Monday through Thursday, 7:30 am until 12:30 pm on Friday. For technical support please contact Libbie McPhaul-Moore at 336-599-1181, ext 445, or Angela H. Vaughn ext. 246. Please visit the Distance Education website: <http://www2.piedmontcc.edu/lrc>

**\*New Materials**

- *African American Men in College*
- *Gene Therapy : Treating Disease by Repairing Genes*
- *How to Write for Animation*
- *McGraw-Hill Concise Encyclopedia of Bioscience*
- *McGraw-Hill's Quick and Easy*
- *Medical Spanish : A Hands-on Guide to Spanish Basics*
- *Molecular Biotechnology : Principles and Applications of Recombinant DNA*
- *Slave Nation : How Slavery United the Colonies & Sparked the American Revolution*
- *Students Helping Students : A Guide for Peer Educators on College Campuses*

\*Need help finding new materials? Please ask for help at the Circulation/Reference Desk on the lower level.

**Discover & Learn**

Country: France

**Background:** The name France originates from the Franks, a Germanic tribe that occupied the region after the fall of the Western Roman Empire. France suffered extensive losses in its empire, wealth, manpower, and rank as a dominant nation-state during the World Wars I and II. In recent years, its reconciliation and cooperation with Germany have proved central to the economic integration of Europe with the introduction of the euro.

**Location:** Western Europe bordering, the Mediterranean Sea, between Italy and Spain

**Capital:** Paris

**Ethnic groups:** Celtic and Latin with Teutonic, Slavic, North African, Indo-Chinese, and Basque minorities

**Language:** French 100%

**Places to see:** Cannes, Cathédrale de Notre Dame de Parris, Eiffel Tower, or Musée Claude Monte

**Food:** Café au lait, croissant, fromage de tête pâté (pig's head set in jelly), bouillabaisse (fish soup), blanquette de veau (veal stew with white sauce), plateau de fromage (cheese platter), and tarte aux pommes (apple tart)

**Additional Information:**

CIA World Factbook—  
<http://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/geos/fr.html>  
Fodor's Travel—  
<http://www.fodors.com/France.com>  
<http://www.france.com/>

**LRC Staff Announcements**

Announcements by:  
Gretchen Bell,  
Dean of Learning Resources  
Center and Distance Education

\*Peggy W. Bane, Secretary for the Dean of the Learning Resources Center/Distance Education was recently installed as the President for the Person/Caswell Counties Educational Office Professionals Association, Inc. She has served as Vice President of the P/CEOP and was the recipient of the Person County Educational Office Professional of the Year Award for 2005. Peggy has worked for Piedmont Community College for approximately three years and is currently working on obtaining her Bachelor's

Degree in General Education with a concentration in Business from Fort Hays State University, Hays, Kansas.

\*Several members of the LRC/DL staff attended the Distance Learning Alliance Conference in Asheville, NC May 15 -17. The theme was "K-20 Working Together to Build Lifelong E-Learning". The conference focused on seamless distance learning from kindergarten through college and the best practices in delivery of instruction.

\*Libbie McPhaul-Moore, Coordinator, Distance Education/Instructor, and Piedmont Community College has been se-

lected to serve as Secretary for the North Carolina Distance Learning Alliance for the 2006-07 year. She has served on one of the first online course development teams for the NC Virtual Learning Community. For the last seven years, she has continued to develop and teach distance learning courses. She is an instructor of psychology and is also a Distance Credentialed Counselor. She served on the NCDLA Board as a community college representative 2005-06. The North Carolina Distance Learning Association provides leadership for, is an advocate for, and promotes the development and use of distance learning in North Carolina.

**Pond Life  
Beth McGregor—  
Student**

Once upon a time there was a frog who wanted a peaceful pond. For 20 years he lived with too many loud noises in addition to arguments. Everyone just couldn't seem to coexist. One day, Mr. Frog gathered the pond life for a meeting and asked, "Could there be some compromises made that would please all?" The crowd yelled in unison, "Yes!" After calming the critters down, a list was made with thoughts that could improve their homeland. There were certain times for loud noises and other times for quiet. As for the disagreements, all the inhabitants were to try and settle them in a proper manner. Finally, the pond animals attempted to live blissfully ever after, so the frog decided not to move from his home.

**Summer  
Daniel Majors—Student**

Summer has always been a season to strive,  
No wishing no waiting it's your time to thrive.  
Ice-cream and cake can be so great,  
Hurry up and eat before it becomes a puddle in your plate.  
We have many dreams of relaxation,  
To relieve stress, about the nation.

From all the summer work there is not time to play,  
We have bills put aside to pay.  
Even though we have kids that we love so dearly  
It means so much when they are near me.  
Taking the kids out to play can end up a tiring day,  
I cannot wait until that sunny day they will listen to what I had to say.

In the summer you have that famous holiday; the Fourth of July  
You know I get to fill my belly and my eye.  
It is nice to go to a cookout to get a stomach full from the pig picking,  
Save a little room though time will be ticking.  
Look up in the air. Wow a sparkle! A glorious sight  
Filling the summer night, with the radiant light.

**Blueberries  
Molly Brewer—  
Student**

In a world of green  
Swirls the dancing dew  
Rolling down shards of grass  
It beads at the hue  
Of a spindly and curious vine.

The serpent vine is not at home  
On this crest of hillside  
Where grass and wildflowers  
Reign over the sprigly clover tide.

And as I glance over  
The thistled alien winks  
Through an eye of pure storm  
At a hurricane's brink.

A blueberry here has laid to rest.  
Though its taste is sweet  
And its color best  
The tongue tastes nothing sweeter  
Until a secret is confessed.

A friend is lost  
A sunset grayed  
The dying leaves  
Sleep in the shade.

But in a world of storm  
Swirls dancing dew  
And blueberries grow  
To comfort you.