

# News Release: American Library Association

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From: Peggy Barber, Director  
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98th Annual Conference  
American Library Association  
Dallas, Texas

For release: Sunday, June 24

Harriet E. Bard, head librarian of the Morrisson-Reeves Library in Richmond, Indiana, received the first Allie Beth Martin Award, jointly given by the Public Library Association and Baker & Taylor, for "an extraordinary range and depth of knowledge about books and other library material." This award was donated by the Baker & Taylor Company and administered by the Public Library Association and consists of \$2,000 and a citation.

More than 400 librarians attended the champagne brunch for Mrs. Bard on Sunday, June 24, during the Annual Conference of the American Library Association. The guest speaker was James Michener, author of Chesapeake, Centennial, and more than 20 other novels.

The Allie Beth Martin Award was established to honor Mrs. Martin, late director of the Tulsa (Oklahoma) City-County Library and president of the American Library Association.

During her 30 years at the Morrisson-Reeves Library, Mrs. Bard built the book collection in direct response to community interests and needs.

add one - Allie Beth Martin Award

She inaugurated bookmobile service throughout the county; added special delivery to the elderly, homebound and handicapped; opened branch libraries in two centers for disadvantaged youth, and established a summer library program in the park for Richmond youngsters.

Mrs. Bard is active in the American Library Association and the Indiana Library Association. She has been a member of ALA Council and various committees of the Association. She was president of the Illinois Library Association and chaired the Legislative Committee and various other committees in ILA.

Harriet Bard was also named Indiana Librarian of the Year and received the Distinguished Service Award from the Richmond Kiwanis.

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