

# AMERICAN LIBRARIES



November 1, 2006

AL Direct is a free electronic newsletter e-mailed every Wednesday to personal members of the [American Library Association](#).

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## U.S. & WORLD NEWS

### [Three Minneapolis branches to close](#)

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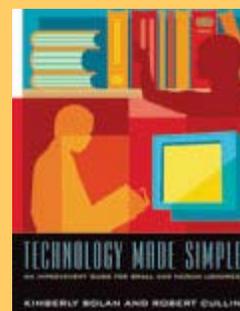
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A preliminary list of Midwinter Meeting [discussion group topics](#) is now available.



[Technology Made Simple](#), an improvement guide for small and medium-sized libraries by Kimberly Bolan and Robert Cullen, offers clear answers to overcoming technical challenges. Published by ALA Editions (Sept. 2006).

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### [Get ready for ALA's fourth online election](#)

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### [Historic gathering draws hundreds to Dallas](#) (PDF file)

More than 1,100 librarians and exhibitors, including many library directors and their staff members as well as ALA leaders, gathered October 12–15 in Dallas for the first Joint Conference of Librarians of Color....

*American Libraries*, Nov., pp. 23–24



[www.ala.org/teentechweek](http://www.ala.org/teentechweek)  
**Registration** is now available for **Teen Tech Week**, March 4–10, a YALSA celebration aimed at getting teens to use libraries for the different technologies offered there.

## Thus Said

**“It’s a priority issue. If we can spend \$600 million on a stadium, we can build a library.”**

—District of Columbia 2006 mayoral candidate Michael Brown, commenting on the four public library branch closings since December 2004, *Washington Post*, Sept. 14.



Find out how your organization can become a **Library Champion**—the highest level of Corporate Membership. The program gives business members the best means to demonstrate their leadership in the field. Library Champions are among ALA's greatest corporate supporters, with over 90% of their dues going to support library advocacy.

### [ALA testifies in support of new D.C. public library](#)

The ALA voiced its support October 27 for a new building to house a central public library that would offer modern library services to all Washington, D.C., residents. Washington Office staff member and D.C. resident Carrie Russell delivered testimony in support of a revitalized and improved central public library at the District of Columbia City Council meeting....

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### [Krug elected Phi Beta Kappa vice president](#)

Office for Intellectual Freedom Director Judith F. Krug was elected vice president of the Phi Beta Kappa Society at its 41st triennial council meeting in Atlanta in October. The academic honor society advocates excellence in the liberal arts and sciences and stands for freedom of inquiry and expression. She will serve a three-year term....

Phi Beta Kappa, Oct. 30



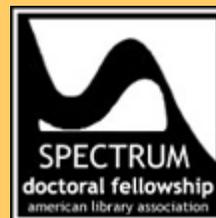
## Classifieds

### [METADATA LIBRARIAN](#)

Wright State University Libraries, Digital Services Department, Dayton, Ohio. Responsible for metadata and associated authority control, quality control, maintaining metadata standards, and other duties associated with the creation and maintenance of data related to digital materials....



See [JobLIST](#) for more career opportunities.



Applications are due January 12 for the new [Spectrum Doctoral Fellowship program](#), designed to increase racial and ethnic diversity among our profession's next generation of LIS leaders, and provides \$20,000 to 10 new full-time LIS doctoral students for four years of study.

## Poll

### What do YOU think?

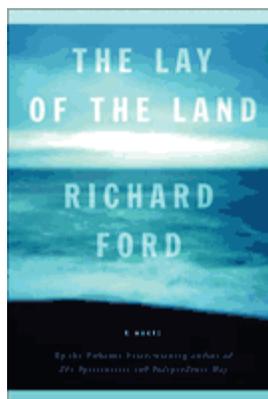
**Is adult or youth literacy an integral part of your library's**

## Booklist ONLINE

### [Featured review: Adult books](#)

Ford, Richard. *The Lay of the Land*. Nov. 2006. 496p. Knopf. hardcover. (0-679-45468-3).

Ford's third novel featuring realtor Frank Bascombe, previously seen in *The Sportswriter* (1986) and the Pulitzer-winning *Independence Day* (1995), finds the beleaguered everyman in the "Permanent Period" of his life, where he's trying mightily to deal with present circumstances while dodging past regrets. But it's Thanksgiving week, "the time of year when things go wrong if they're going to."...



## SEATTLE UPDATE

### January drama and comedy

Ibsen, da Vinci, Sondheim, and Bullshot Crummond are part of the theatrical entertainment in Seattle during the ALA Midwinter Meeting, January 19–24....

Seattle Performs

### A Texan's view of the Seattle music scene

Seattle rocks with confidence, from the Pioneer Square taverns to the historic big-show venues to the buskers' street corners near Pike Place Market. In Seattle, as in Austin, it's hard to swing a busted guitar without hitting a musician....

*Seattle Post-Intelligencer*, Oct. 26

## DIVISION NEWS

### Friends of AASL supports school library media profession

AASL has launched a new funding initiative, Friends of AASL, available for both individuals and institutions. The donor program will help fund such areas as guidelines and standards for school library media programs, advocacy efforts, professional development and conference programming, and community building and networking initiatives....

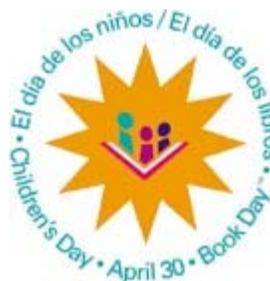


### AASL launches Teaching for Learning community

AASL has launched its first Professional Learning Community, a controlled web environment in which groups of members can collaborate and network. The Teaching for Learning Community, focused on student assessment, was unveiled during the division's Fall Forum on October 15....

### ALSC receives Kellogg grant for its literacy campaign

ALSC has received an unprecedented fourth grant from the W. K. Kellogg Foundation for \$100,000 to support its national awareness efforts and community participation in El día de los niños/El día de los libros (children's day/book day). The grant is the largest ever received from the Kellogg Foundation, and will assist the division's work with libraries and support efforts to reach literacy-based organizations outside the library community....



### RUSA presents program on genealogy of the Pacific Northwest

On Friday, January 19, RUSA's History Section workshop, "Behind the Genealogy Reference Desk: Want Land, Will Travel," will instruct Midwinter attendees in the field of ancestry research and delve into the history of the Pacific Northwest and the laws that influenced population growth in the region. The institute is being held at the Seattle Public Library's Central Library and will include a catered lunch and a tour of the library's collections....



**mission ?**

**Click here to [ANSWER!](#)**

**Results of the October 25 poll:**

What kind of English as a Second Language classes does your library host?

**Volunteer-led** (15%)  
**Professional-led** (15%)  
**None, but would like to** (22%)  
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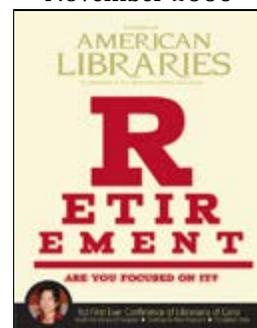
(74 responses)

This is an unscientific poll that reflects the opinions of only those *AL Direct* readers who have chosen to participate.

For cumulated results and selected responses to *AL Direct* polls, visit the AL Online [website](#).

## In This Issue

November 2006



Stories inside include:

**Retired and Inspired**

**Cooking Up Culture**

**Behind the Scenes at LC's Dewey Division**

## ROUND TABLE NEWS

### [National Directory of Paraprofessional Associations](#)

(PDF file)

Meralyn Meadows of the Stanly County (N.C.) Public Library prepared this directory of support staff organizations for the Library Support Staff Interests Round Table....

## AWARDS

### [2007 Bound to Stay Bound Books and Melcher scholarships](#)

ALSC is accepting applications for the 2007 Frederic G. Melcher and Bound to Stay Bound Books scholarships until March 1. Four Bound to Stay Bound Books scholarships at \$6,500 each will be awarded, and two Melcher scholarships at \$6,000 each will be awarded....

### [Nominations for Patterson Copyright Award](#)

ALA seeks nominations for the L. Ray Patterson Copyright Award given to those who have made significant and consistent contributions to the pursuit of balanced copyright principles while working in the area of information policy, law, libraries, or library education. Letters of nomination will be accepted through December 15....

### [NEA announces Big Read grants](#)

The National Endowment for the Arts announced October 31 that 72 organizations will receive grants to support Big Read programs between January and June 2007. The Big Read is a new national program by the NEA that encourages literary reading by asking communities to come together to read and discuss one book. The organizations selected to participate in the Big Read will receive grants ranging from \$5,000 to \$40,000 to promote and carry out month-long, community-based programs....

National Endowment for the Arts, Oct. 31



### [Mary Dempsey named a Public Official of the Year](#)

*Governing* magazine selected Chicago Public Library Commissioner Mary Dempsey to receive one of its nine Public Official of the Year Awards for 2006. Dempsey was cited for her six-month stint as the city's chief procurement officer as well as for her regular job of managing "one of the country's most innovative and successful library systems."...

*Governing*, Nov.

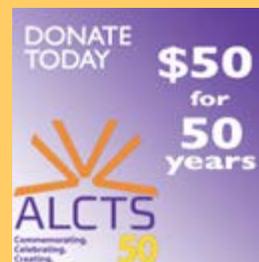


### [Outstanding Teacher-Librarians of the Year](#)

The Washington Library Media Association named Christopher Tracy of Kenmore (Wash.) Junior High School and Debra Kilcup of Woodland Elementary School in Lacey outstanding teacher-librarians for 2006. Those chosen demonstrate the most desirable traits of teacher-librarians by using collaborative curriculum planning and teaching and by creating innovative programs in their libraries....

*Woodinville (Wash.) Weekly*, Oct. 9

### [Pimp My Bookcart contest](#)



ALCTS will be celebrating its **50th Anniversary** in 2007. Please help to celebrate this significant milestone by making a [\\$50 gift](#) to ALCTS in recognition of 50 years of the division's presence and service to the library community. Gifts will support anniversary events and help the division build for the future.



Contact both your senators about the [Boxer-Lautenberg "Dear](#)

[Colleague"](#) letter that asks the Senate Appropriations Committee to direct EPA to maintain access and research expertise at all of EPA's regional and headquarter libraries until the agency solicits adequate public and Congressional input.

## Datebook

### **Nov. 3–5:**

The [National Urban Alliance for Effective Education](#) is hosting "Teaching for Intelligence:

Send in photos (front, back, and sides) of your customized, augmented, or otherwise "pimped out" book cart to win gift certificates from the Overdue Media Store. The contest was inspired by Bill Barnes and Gene Ambaum's *Unshelved* comic strip [sequence](#) that began September 29. The deadline is January 15....

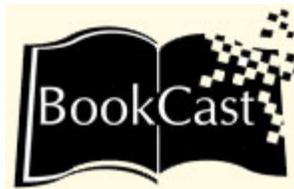
Overdue Media, Oct. 24

## SEEN ONLINE

### [Fairfax County podcasts showcase local authors](#)

Thriller author John Gilstrap outlined the story of his life and work on a recent Friday afternoon as he was interviewed by Sam Clay, Fairfax County's head librarian. Gilstrap's interview, which was digitally recorded, will be posted online at the Fairfax County (Va.) Public Library system's website as part of a new series of [podcast](#) interviews with local authors....

*Fairfax (Va.) Connection*, Oct. 26



### [ACLU drops Patriot Act challenge](#)

The American Civil Liberties Union dropped a lawsuit October 27 challenging the constitutionality of the USA Patriot Act. The ACLU said it was withdrawing the lawsuit filed more than three years ago because of "improvements to the law."...

*Associated Press*, Oct. 27

### [Principal EPA chemical library closed](#)

Without any word to the public, the Environmental Protection Agency has closed its specialized library for research on the effects and properties of chemicals, according to documents released October 30 by Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility. The Office of Prevention, Pollution, and Toxic Substances Library, in the EPA's Washington headquarters, had provided research services to EPA scientists who review industry requests for the introduction of new chemicals into the market....

*Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility*, Oct. 30

### [Brownout at the EPA](#) (subscription may be required)

When Verena Owen wanted to block the construction of a sludge incinerator in her hometown north of Chicago, she went to the library. At the Environmental Protection Agency's regional library in Chicago, Owen pored through archived microfiche records and paper reports on sludge and incineration and public comments on similar projects. But now the library where Owen did her research is closed, as are similar facilities around the country....

*Salon*, Oct. 30

### [A site worth 70 million words](#)

A major portion of the photographic collections of the Los Angeles Public Library are now accessible [online](#) and sometimes downloadable for free. The website's popularity has transformed Curator of Photographs Carolyn Kozo Cole and her staff into tastemakers, responsible for anticipating what kinds of images the public wants and for offering their own selections for what makes Los Angeles L.A. They carefully choose images to add to the database, which today includes about 70,000 photographs and is growing by 250-300



"Believe to Achieve" conference in Minneapolis at the Marriott City Centre. The event underscores NUA's advocacy for a new civil rights movement to secure the rights of all children to be offered a quality education. Contact: Tiffany Reynolds, 202-416-6113.

### **Nov. 21:**

#### [75th anniversary of the Billy Rose Theatre Division](#)

New York Public Library for the Performing Arts, 111 Amsterdam Ave., New York City.

"Stars and Treasures: 75 Years of Collecting Theatre." Hundreds of treasures from the New York Public Library's theatre artifacts collection, including costume designs from the original run of *My Fair Lady*, costume jewelry of Sarah Bernhardt, and the letters of Tennessee Williams. Contact: 212-870-1630.

### **Dec. 6-7:**

#### [Document and Content Management for the Government Enterprise](#)

sponsored by *Homeland Defense Journal*, Adam's Mark Hotel, Denver. Contact: [Katie Smith](#), 703-807-2758.

More [Datebook](#) items...

images a week....  
*Los Angeles Times*, Oct. 22

### [Volunteer finds mystery box at Worthington Library](#)

The Worthington (Ohio) Library is trying to unravel a mystery involving a box found in a pile of donated books. Volunteer Irene Candy was sorting donated books when she discovered a box containing 19th-century papers and an artifact that might be even older....

WCMH-TV, Columbus, Ohio, Oct. 24

### [First Lady gets the word out](#)

About 50 children got the chance to listen to the First Lady reading a story October 27 at the West Palm Beach (Fla.) Library. The former librarian entered to a round of applause from the children, their parents and dignitaries....

*Palm Beach (Fla.) Daily News*, Oct. 28

## TECH TALK

### [Technically Speaking: Giving homegrown software its due](#)

Andrew Pace writes: "Something rather exciting happened this fall in the world of the integrated library system. On September 5, 252 public libraries in Georgia's Public Information Network for Electronic Services (PINES) went live with Evergreen, a homegrown and open-source ILS. Impressive."...

*American Libraries*, Nov., pp. 50-51

### [The internet at risk](#)

The future of the Internet is up for grabs. Last year, the FCC effectively eliminated net neutrality rules, which ensured that every content creator on the internet—from big-time media concerns to backroom bloggers—had equal opportunity to make their voice heard. Now, large and powerful corporations are lobbying Washington to turn the Web into what critics call a "toll road." Watch this excellent PBS program, hosted by Bill Moyers, online...

Moyers on America, Oct. 18



### [Computing, 2016: What won't be possible?](#)

Steve Lohr considers the future of computing and reviews the discussions at the Computer Science and Telecommunications Board symposium held in Washington in October....

*New York Times*, Oct. 31

### [New York Tribune added to ProQuest newspaper archive](#)

ProQuest Information and Learning has partnered with the New York Public Library to add the *New York Tribune* from 1900 to 1910 to ProQuest Historical Newspapers, enabling cross searches with other distinguished newspapers. Regarded as one of the most avant-garde newspapers of its time, the *New York Tribune* achieved major influence at the turn of the 20th century, and adds unique perspectives to research on a wide range of historical, political, and social issues....

ProQuest Information and Learning, Oct. 23

## Contact Us

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**AL Direct FAQ:**  
[www.ala.org/aldirect/](http://www.ala.org/aldirect/)

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Chicago, IL 60611  
[www.ala.org/alonline/](http://www.ala.org/alonline/)  
800-545-2433,  
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ISSN 1559-369X.

## ACTIONS & ANSWERS

### [The status of school library programs in Illinois](#) (PDF file)

Lou Ann Jacobs reports on a recent survey of Illinois school library staff and funding. Among the results: Only 76% of school media centers in the state have a certified librarian....

*Illinois Libraries* 86, no. 3 (Fall), pp. 5-8

### [Free access to federal research](#)

In remarks at a [forum](#) on "Improving Access to Publicly Funded Research," leaders of major higher education and library organizations voiced their support for the goals of recent measures to expand public access to research funded by the U.S. government. The forum was cosponsored by the Association of Research Libraries, the Association of American Universities, and other groups....

Association of Research Libraries, Oct. 25

### [British Library allows free access to English Short Title Catalogue](#)

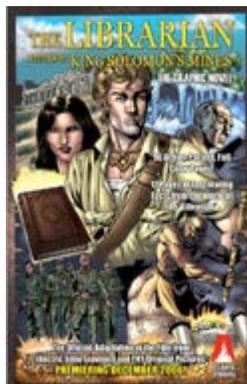
The English Short Title Catalogue, the product of a partnership between the University of California at Riverside, the British Library, and the American Antiquarian Society, was made available for [searching online](#) beginning October 30. The ESTC provides bibliographic records for all surviving letter press material in the British Isles and North America before 1801, held by the British Library and more than 2,000 other institutions....

University of California at Riverside, Oct. 30

### ["The Librarian" now a comic book series](#)

Atlantis Studios has released the first in a series of comics featuring adventurer-librarian Flynn Carson. Originally appearing in the popular made-for-cable film *The Librarian: Quest for the Spear*, Carson is back and this time his mission is to prevent the powerful Key of Solomon from falling into the hands of a ruthless warlord. He needs to locate the legendary mines of King Solomon before disaster strikes. An eight-page preview is available....

Atlantis Studios



### [Interval library](#)

University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee music student Kim Huston produced this video (2:33) featuring classical music and compact shelving. "It was sort of a 'What happens after hours' type of thing ... kinda."...

YouTube



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November 1, 2006

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Click here to view the online version of our email:

<%= util.viewHtmlLink %>

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Woman convicted of possessing stolen Glenn Gould items

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<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2006/october2006/alaprez06.htm>

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Get ready for ALA’s fourth online election

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2006/october2006/2007onlineALAElection.htm>

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[http://www.ala.org/al\\_onlineTemplate.cfm?](http://www.ala.org/al_onlineTemplate.cfm?Section=selectedarticles&Template=/ContentManagement/ContentDisplay.cfm&ContentID=141484)

[Section=selectedarticles&Template=/ContentManagement/ContentDisplay.cfm&ContentID=141484](http://www.ala.org/al_onlineTemplate.cfm?Section=selectedarticles&Template=/ContentManagement/ContentDisplay.cfm&ContentID=141484)Historic gathering draws hundreds to Dallas (PDF file)

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American Libraries, Nov., pp. 23–24

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<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2006/october2006/DCPLtestimony.htm>

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Krug elected Phi Beta Kappa vice president

<http://staging.pbk.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=News3&Template=/CM/ContentDisplay.cfm&ContentID=1926>

Office for Intellectual Freedom Director Judith F. Krug was elected vice president of the Phi Beta Kappa Society at its 41st triennial council meeting in Atlanta in October. The academic honor society advocates excellence in the liberal arts and sciences and stands for freedom of inquiry and expression. She will serve a three-year term....

Phi Beta Kappa, Oct. 30

## Booklist Online

\*\*\*\*\*

Featured review: Adult books

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show\\_product&pid=1796727](http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=1796727)

Ford, Richard. *The Lay of the Land*. Nov. 2006. 496p. Knopf. hardcover. (0-679-45468-3).

Ford's third novel featuring realtor Frank Bascombe, previously seen in *The Sportswriter* (1986) and the Pulitzer-winning *Independence Day* (1995), finds the beleaguered everyman in the "Permanent Period" of his life, where he's trying mightily to deal with present circumstances while dodging past regrets. But it's Thanksgiving week, "the time of year when things go wrong if they're going to."...

## SEATTLE UPDATE

\*\*\*\*\*

January drama and comedy

[http://seattleperforms.com/index.php?option=com\\_nathevents&action=view\\_month&year=2007&month=01](http://seattleperforms.com/index.php?option=com_nathevents&action=view_month&year=2007&month=01)

Ibsen, da Vinci, Sondheim, and Bullshot Crummond are part of the theatrical entertainment in Seattle during the ALA Midwinter Meeting, January 19-24....

Seattle Performs

A Texan's view of the Seattle music scene

[http://seattlepi.nwsourc.com/getaways/289790\\_texasseattle26.html](http://seattlepi.nwsourc.com/getaways/289790_texasseattle26.html)

Seattle rocks with confidence, from the Pioneer Square taverns to the historic big-show venues to the buskers' street corners near Pike Place Market. In Seattle, as in Austin, it's hard to swing a busted guitar without hitting a musician....

Seattle Post-Intelligencer, Oct. 26

## DIVISION NEWS

\*\*\*\*\*

Friends of AASL supports school library media profession

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2006/october2006/FriendsofAASL.htm>

AASL has launched a new funding initiative, Friends of AASL, available for both individuals and institutions. The donor program will help fund such areas as guidelines and standards for school library media programs, advocacy efforts, professional development and conference programming, and community building and networking initiatives....

AASL launches Teaching for Learning community

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2006/october2006/AASLLearningCommunity.htm>

AASL has launched its first Professional Learning Community, a controlled web environment in which groups of members can collaborate and network. The Teaching for Learning Community, focused on student assessment, was unveiled during the division's Fall Forum on October 15....

ALSC receives Kellogg grant for its literacy campaign

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2006/october2006/diagrant06.htm>

ALSC has received an unprecedented fourth grant from the W. K. Kellogg Foundation for \$100,000 to support its national awareness efforts and community participation in El día de los niños/El día de los libros (children's day/book day). The grant is the largest ever received from the Kellogg Foundation, and will assist the division's work with libraries and support efforts to reach literacy-based organizations outside the library community....

RUSA presents program on genealogy of the Pacific Northwest

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2006/october2006/GenealogyInstitute.htm>

On Friday, January 19, RUSA's History Section workshop, "Behind the Genealogy Reference Desk: Want Land, Will Travel," will instruct Midwinter attendees in the field of ancestry research and delve into the history of the Pacific Northwest and the laws that influenced population growth in the region. The institute is being held at the Seattle Public Library's Central Library and will include a catered lunch and a tour of the library's collections....

## ROUND TABLE NEWS

\*\*\*\*\*

National Directory of Paraprofessional Associations (PDF file)

[http://www.ala.org/ala/issirt/issirtresources/National\\_Directory\\_Aug21\\_2006.pdf](http://www.ala.org/ala/issirt/issirtresources/National_Directory_Aug21_2006.pdf)

Meralyn Meadows of the Stanly County (N.C.) Public Library prepared this directory of support staff organizations for the Library Support Staff Interests Round Table....

## Awards

\*\*\*\*\*

2007 Bound to Stay Bound Books and Melcher scholarships

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2006/october2006/BoundBooksMelcherScholar.htm>

ALSC is accepting applications for the 2007 Frederic G. Melcher and Bound to Stay Bound Books scholarships until March 1. Four Bound to Stay Bound Books scholarships at \$6,500 each will be awarded, and two Melcher scholarships at \$6,000 each will be awarded....

Nominations for Patterson Copyright Award

[http://blogs.ala.org/districtdispatch.php?title=ala\\_seeks\\_nominations\\_for\\_l\\_ray\\_patterson](http://blogs.ala.org/districtdispatch.php?title=ala_seeks_nominations_for_l_ray_patterson)

ALA seeks nominations for the L. Ray Patterson Copyright Award given to those who have made significant and consistent contributions to the pursuit of balanced copyright principles while working in the area of information policy, law, libraries, or library education. Letters of nomination will be accepted through December 15....

NEA announces Big Read grants

<http://www.arts.gov/news/news06/BRPhaseI.html>

The National Endowment for the Arts announced October 31 that 72 organizations will receive grants to support Big Read programs between January and June 2007. The Big Read is a new national program by the NEA that encourages literary reading by asking communities to come together to read and discuss one book. The organizations selected to participate in the Big Read will receive grants ranging from \$5,000 to \$40,000 to promote and carry out month-long, community-based programs....

National Endowment for the Arts, Oct. 31

Mary Dempsey named a Public Official of the Year

<http://www.governing.com/poy/2006/intro.htm>

Governing magazine selected Chicago Public Library Commissioner Mary Dempsey to receive one of its nine Public Official of the Year Awards for 2006. Dempsey was cited for her six-month stint as the city's chief procurement officer as well as for her regular job of managing "one of the country's most innovative and successful library systems."...

Governing, Nov.

Outstanding Teacher-Librarians of the Year

<http://www.nwnews.com/editions/2006/061009/local6.htm>

The Washington Library Media Association named Christopher Tracy of Kenmore (Wash.) Junior High School and Debra Kilcup of Woodland Elementary School in Lacey outstanding teacher-librarians for 2006. Those chosen demonstrate the most desirable traits of teacher-librarians by using collaborative curriculum planning and teaching and by creating innovative programs in their libraries....

Woodinville (Wash.) Weekly, Oct. 9

Pimp My Bookcart contest

<http://www.overduemedia.com/blog.aspx?post=699>

Send in photos (front, back, and sides) of your customized, augmented, or otherwise "pimped out" book cart to win gift certificates from the Overdue Media Store. The contest was inspired by Bill Barnes and Gene Ambaum's Unshelved comic strip sequence that began September 29. The deadline is January 15....

Overdue Media, Oct. 24

## SEEN ONLINE

\*\*\*\*\*

Fairfax County podcasts showcase local authors

<http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/article.asp?article=72965&paper=63&cat=115>

Thriller author John Gilstrap outlined the story of his life and work on a recent Friday afternoon as he was interviewed by Sam Clay, Fairfax County's head librarian. Gilstrap's interview, which was digitally recorded, will be posted online at the Fairfax County (Va.) Public Library system's website as part of a new series of podcast interviews with local authors....

Fairfax (Va.) Connection, Oct. 26

ACLU drops Patriot Act challenge

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/10/27/AR2006102701676.html>

The American Civil Liberties Union dropped a lawsuit October 27 challenging the constitutionality of the USA Patriot Act. The ACLU said it was withdrawing the lawsuit filed more than three years ago because of "improvements to the law."...

Associated Press, Oct. 27

Principal EPA chemical library closed

[http://www.peer.org/news/news\\_id.php?row\\_id=778](http://www.peer.org/news/news_id.php?row_id=778)

Without any word to the public, the Environmental Protection Agency has closed its specialized library for research on

the effects and properties of chemicals, according to documents released October 30 by Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility. The Office of Prevention, Pollution, and Toxic Substances Library, in the EPA's Washington headquarters, had provided research services to EPA scientists who review industry requests for the introduction of new chemicals into the market....

Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility, Oct. 30

Brownout at the EPA (subscription may be required)

[http://www.salon.com/news/feature/2006/10/30/epa\\_libraries/](http://www.salon.com/news/feature/2006/10/30/epa_libraries/)

When Verena Owen wanted to block the construction of a sludge incinerator in her hometown north of Chicago, she went to the library. At the Environmental Protection Agency's regional library in Chicago, Owen pored through archived microfiche records and paper reports on sludge and incineration and public comments on similar projects. But now the library where Owen did her research is closed, as are similar facilities around the country....

Salon, Oct. 30

A site worth 70 million words

<http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-laphotos22oct22,1,5676446.story>

A major portion of the photographic collections of the Los Angeles Public Library are now accessible online and sometimes downloadable for free. The website's popularity has transformed Curator of Photographs Carolyn Kozo Cole and her staff into tastemakers, responsible for anticipating what kinds of images the public wants and for offering their own selections for what makes Los Angeles L.A. They carefully choose images to add to the database, which today includes about 70,000 photographs and is growing by 250–300 images a week....

Los Angeles Times, Oct. 22

Volunteer finds mystery box at Worthington Library

<http://www.nbc4i.com/news/10148594/detail.html>

The Worthington (Ohio) Library is trying to unravel a mystery involving a box found in a pile of donated books. Volunteer Irene Candy was sorting donated books when she discovered a box containing 19th-century papers and an artifact that might be even older....

WCMH-TV, Columbus, Ohio, Oct. 24

First Lady gets the word out

<http://www.palmbeachdailynews.com/news/content/news/bush1028.html>

About 50 children got the chance to listen to the First Lady reading a story October 27 at the West Palm Beach (Fla.) Library. The former librarian entered to a round of applause from the children, their parents and dignitaries....

Palm Beach (Fla.) Daily News, Oct. 28

## TECH TALK

\*\*\*\*\*

Technically Speaking: Giving homegrown software its due

<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/techspeaking/2006columnsa/technov2006.htm>

Andrew Pace writes: "Something rather exciting happened this fall in the world of the integrated library system. On September 5, 252 public libraries in Georgia's Public Information Network for Electronic Services (PINES) went live with Evergreen, a homegrown and open-source ILS. Impressive."...

American Libraries, Nov., pp. 50–51

The internet at risk

<http://www.pbs.org/moyers/moyersonamerica/net/index.html>

The future of the Internet is up for grabs. Last year, the FCC effectively eliminated net neutrality rules, which ensured that every content creator on the internet—from big-time media concerns to backroom bloggers—had equal opportunity to make their voice heard. Now, large and powerful corporations are lobbying Washington to turn the Web into what critics call a "toll road." Watch this excellent PBS program, hosted by Bill Moyers, online...

Moyers on America, Oct. 18

Computing, 2016: What won't be possible?

<http://www.nytimes.com/2006/10/31/science/31essa.html?em&ex=1162530000&en=26cc31673bab9f9b&ei=5070>

Steve Lohr considers the future of computing and reviews the discussions at the Computer Science and Telecommunications Board symposium held in Washington in October....

New York Times, Oct. 31

New York Tribune added to ProQuest newspaper archive

<http://www.il.proquest.com/pressroom/pressrelease/06/20061023.shtml>

ProQuest Information and Learning has partnered with the New York Public Library to add the New York Tribune from 1900 to 1910 to ProQuest Historical Newspapers, enabling cross searches with other distinguished newspapers. Regarded as one of the most avant-garde newspapers of its time, the New York Tribune achieved major influence at the turn of the 20th century, and adds unique perspectives to research on a wide range of historical, political, and social issues....

ProQuest Information and Learning, Oct. 23

## ACTIONS AND ANSWERS

\*\*\*\*\*

The status of school library programs in Illinois (PDF file)

[http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/publications/pdf\\_publications/lda1044.pdf](http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/publications/pdf_publications/lda1044.pdf)

Lou Ann Jacobs reports on a recent survey of Illinois school library staff and funding. Among the results: Only 76% of school media centers in the state have a certified librarian....

Illinois Libraries 86, no. 3 (Fall), pp. 5–8

Free access to federal research

<http://www.arl.org/arl/pr/forum06.html>

In remarks at a forum on “Improving Access to Publicly Funded Research,” leaders of major higher education and library organizations voiced their support for the goals of recent measures to expand public access to research funded by the U.S. government. The forum was cosponsored by the Association of Research Libraries, the Association of American Universities, and other groups....

Association of Research Libraries, Oct. 25

British Library allows free access to English Short Title Catalogue

<http://www.newsroom.ucr.edu/cgi-bin/display.cgi?id=1445>

The English Short Title Catalogue, the product of a partnership between the University of California at Riverside, the British Library, and the American Antiquarian Society, was made available for searching online beginning October 30. The ESTC provides bibliographic records for all surviving letter press material in the British Isles and North America before 1801, held by the British Library and more than 2,000 other institutions....

University of California at Riverside, Oct. 30

“The Librarian” now a comic book series

<http://www.atlantisstudios.net/librarian/preview.html>

Atlantis Studios has released the first in a series of comics featuring adventurer-librarian Flynn Carson. Originally appearing in the popular made-for-cable film *The Librarian: Quest for the Spear*, Carson is back and this time his mission is to prevent the powerful Key of Solomon from falling into the hands of a ruthless warlord. He needs to locate the legendary mines of King Solomon before disaster strikes. An eight-page preview is available....

Atlantis Studios

Interval library

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ns314ZNaJb4>

University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee music student Kim Huston produced this video (2:33) featuring classical music and compact shelving. "It was sort of a 'What happens after hours' type of thing ... kinda."...  
YouTube

## CONTACT US

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ISSN 1559-369X.

# AMERICAN LIBRARIES



**November 8, 2006**

AL Direct is a free electronic newsletter e-mailed every Wednesday to personal members of the [American Library Association](#).

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## U.S. & WORLD NEWS

### [Hennen's American Public Library](#)

#### [Ratings 2006](#) (PDF file)

Naperville (Ill.) and North Canton (Ohio) Public Libraries repeated this year as the top-ranked libraries in their population categories, while Santa Clara County (Calif.) Library makes its return to the top after slipping to second last year. In their categories, Cuyahoga County (Ohio) Public Library leaped to number one from number four last year, while Monroe County (Ind.) Public Library rose to the number two spot from fifth. See the [top 10 libraries](#) in each population category from 1999 to 2006 on Thomas J. Hennen's HAPLR website....

*American Libraries* 37 (Nov. 2006): 40-42



Each morning of the Midwinter Meeting, on Saturday, Sunday, and Monday, January 20-22, get up early and attend a lively, educational, and innovative session in the **Seattle Sunrise Speaker Series**, which will run 8:00-9:00 a.m., sponsored by H. W. Wilson.

### [Arrest made in Salt Lake City bombing](#)

The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms has arrested a suburban Chicago man in the September 15 bombing of the Salt Lake City Main Library. Although no one was injured in the third-floor explosion, which blew out a plate-glass window and destroyed a nearby chair, the afternoon incident triggered the evacuation of some 400 patrons and staff....

### [Green Bozeman library reserves parking for hybrids](#)

Scheduled to open November 12, the new Bozeman (Mont.) Public Library has reserved its prime parking spots for hybrid vehicles and car pools. The policy is part of the library's effort to obtain silver certification from the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) rating system—a requirement if the library wishes to secure a promised contribution of at least \$500,000 from an anonymous donor....



**NEW!** The **Snowman READ poster**—celebrate the season with Raymond Briggs's wintry hero.

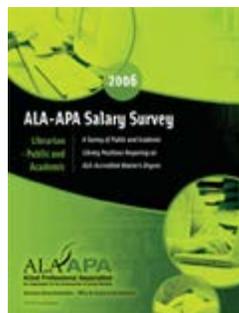
### [Toronto library worker extradited for 1969 Chicago shooting](#)

Canadian Minister of Justice Victor Toews has ordered the extradition to the United States of a former research assistant at the Toronto Public Library's central reference library who was arrested in 2004 as a suspect in the shooting of a Chicago police officer in 1969....

## ALA NEWS

### [2006 survey shows average librarian salary up by 4.6%](#)

With data from more than 1,000 public and academic libraries, the 2006 edition of the [ALA-APA Salary Survey: Librarian—Public and Academic](#) shows that the mean salary increased 4.6% from 2005, up \$2,480 to \$56,259. The survey examines aggregated data from more than 10,000 individual salaries at the state and regional levels. Salaries ranged from \$22,000 to \$253,500, with \$50,976 the median....



### [Bourdon named associate executive director](#)

Cathleen Bourdon, executive director of RUSA and ASCLA, has been appointed ALA Associate Executive Director for Communications and Member Relations. She will assume her duties on December 1. In her new post, Bourdon will manage the Communications and Member Relations Department, which includes the Chapter Relations Office, ALA Library, International Relations Office, Member and Customer Service Center, Membership Promotion, Office of Research and Statistics, Public Information Office, and the Public Programs Office....



### [Advocacy Institute at 2006 CLA Annual Conference](#)

ALA is presenting an Advocacy Institute November 10 at the 2006 California Library Association annual conference in Sacramento at the Sheraton Grand Hotel. Attendees will take home strategies to successfully advocate for their libraries, including message development, lobbying basics, and how to create coalitions with library staff members, trustees, and Friends....



### [Deadline for Midwinter Advocacy Institute](#)

The deadline for advance registration for the Advocacy Institute at the 2007 ALA Midwinter Meeting is December 8. By using the advance registration form, advocates can reserve their seat and lunch for \$25—a 50% savings over on-site registration....

### [Washington Office debuts on Flickr](#)

The ALA Washington Office made its debut November 1 on Flickr, the popular photo-sharing website. Photos currently posted show

2007 Election Update your membership profile; Pay dues

Your ALA membership must be fully current as of January 31, 2007. Members who join or renew after this will not be [eligible to vote](#) in the 2007 elections.

## Thus Said

**“The greatest of all our American institutions is our system of public libraries. No country has anything like it. If you’ve tried to do research or work with libraries overseas and abroad you are immediately reminded how fortunate we are. We just take it for granted.”**

—Author and historian David McCullough, in a lecture for the Library Foundation of Hennepin County, Minnesota’s Pen Pal series, October 12–13.



Find out what keeps scholarly publishers awake at night. Read Irving Rockwood’s [editorial](#) in the November *Choice*.

## Classifieds

interior and exterior views of the ALA offices on the ground, first, and second floors of the Pacific House, located at 1615 New Hampshire Ave. N.W., Washington, D.C....

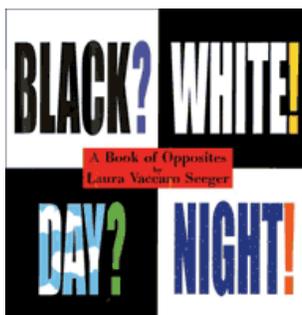


## Booklist — ONLINE —

### Featured review: Books for youth

Seeger, Laura Vaccaro. *Black? White! Day? Night!* Nov. 2006. 24p. Roaring Brook/Neal Porter, hardcover. 1-59643-185-7.

Bold colors, carefully placed cutouts, and full-page lift-the-flaps make this much more than just another concept book about opposites. Children will be captivated from the very first page: a large black flap with a cutout revealing a black bat set against a pure white background. The single word *black?* printed in white, stands out clearly on the page. When kids lift the flap, they'll see the word *white!* (in white type) and discover that what appeared to be a bat is really the mouth of a ghost....



## SEATTLE UPDATE

### Pike Place Market

Seattle's [Pike Place Market](#), with its familiar neon-lit clock and brass pig, is a renowned landmark, attracting millions of tourists and locals every year. It's a fun place to shop, find food, watch people, and enjoy the city's street performers. Next August it celebrates its 100th birthday....

Pike Place Market; HistoryLink.org



## DIVISION NEWS

### Teens vote for favorite YA book

Teen readers across the country voted *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince* (Scholastic, 2005) by J. K. Rowling as their favorite book to take the number-one spot on the annual Teens' Top Ten, sponsored by YALSA. Stephanie Meyer's *Twilight* (Little, Brown, 2005) came in second place. The vote took place

### INFORMATION SERVICES MEDICAL LIBRARIAN,

Virtua Health, Voorhees, New Jersey. A full-time opportunity for a Medical Librarian who will plan and implement knowledge-based information services for medical and Virtua Health staffs through the library's own collection and through a cooperating network system. This individual will also investigate new technologies for information storage and retrieval....

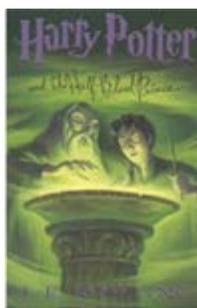


See [JobLIST](#) for more career opportunities.



If there were a prize for "farthest geographical request" for the Public Programs Office free [StoryLines](#) CDs, it would go to the U.S. Embassy in Turkmenistan. It recently requested two sets of all available StoryLines CDs, one set for its own use and another for the National Library of

during Teen Read Week, October 15–21, and gave teens an opportunity to voice their choice of the best new young adult books....



### [Omar Wasow to speak at AASL 13th National Conference](#)

AASL welcomes technology analyst Omar Wasow as a featured speaker at its 13th National Conference, "The Future Begins @ your library," October 25–28, 2007, in Reno, Nevada. Wasow, the cofounder of BlackPlanet.com, will deliver remarks at the Closing General Session....



## AWARDS

### [2007 scholarship application available online](#)

ALA has more than \$300,000 in scholarships available for students who are studying library science or school library media at the master's degree level. Scholarships range from \$2,500 to \$6,500 per student per year. The [application](#) deadline is March 1, 2007....

### [Lincoln Trail wins humanitarian award](#) (PDF file)

The cities of Champaign and Urbana, Illinois, honored the Lincoln Trail Libraries System at the October 18 Champaign-Urbana International Humanitarian Awards for its humanitarian efforts with the PolyTalk Project. The PolyTalk Library Interpreters Project assists persons with limited proficiency in English by connecting them with a real-time translator....

Lincoln Trail Libraries System, Oct. 19

## SEEN ONLINE

### [Senators call for delay in closing EPA libraries](#)

A group of senators has joined the fray over whether the Environmental Protection Agency should slow or stop a campaign to digitize materials in its technical libraries and close the facilities to agency researchers and the public. On November 3, 17 Democratic senators and one Independent wrote to appropriators ([PDF file](#)) asking that EPA be directed, through the budget process, to maintain physical access to its libraries while the public is given an opportunity to comment on planned closures....

*Government Executive*, Nov. 7

### [NCLIS urges net neutrality](#) (PDF file)

The U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science announced November 7 its position on internet neutrality, currently under debate in Congress. NCLIS Chairman Beth Fitzsimmons said that the commission respectfully encourages "Congress to reiterate strongly the position it took when legislation permitting commercial traffic on the internet was developed. Equal treatment of content is important to all information seekers."...

Turkmenistan in Ashgabat (founded in 1895, by the way).

## Poll

### What do YOU think?

**Do you make use of library-rankings data in presenting budget proposals to your library's funding authorities?**

**Click here to [ANSWER!](#)**

#### Results of the November 1 poll:

Is adult or youth literacy an integral part of your library's mission?

**YES**.....68%  
**NO**.....32%

(88 responses)

This is an unscientific poll that reflects the opinions of only those *AL Direct* readers who have chosen to participate.

For cumulated results and selected responses to *AL Direct* polls, visit the AL Online [website](#).

NCLIS, Nov. 7

### [Lack of funding threatens Buffalo-area libraries](#)

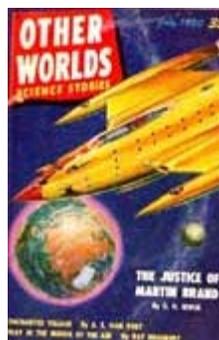
A year after 15 library branches were shut down as a result of a budget crisis in Erie County, New York, three more are in danger of losing their charters because hours and services do not meet state requirements. That was the bleak picture painted November 6 by the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library as it urged citizens to back the restoration of \$2.3 million in county funding. Under the county's proposed 2007 budget, the library appropriation would remain unchanged at \$21.6 million....

*Buffalo (N.Y.) News*, Nov. 7

### [Mars to get its first library](#)

The writings of A. E. van Vogt wouldn't be mistaken for Giller Prize material, but the late Canadian pioneer of science fiction has earned that genre's ultimate tribute. His 1950 short story "Enchanted Village" about an astronaut's nightmarish mission to Mars (which appeared in *Other Worlds*, July 1950) will be blasted into space by NASA next August in the Phoenix Mars lander, along with works by such sci-fi luminaries as Isaac Asimov and Arthur C. Clarke, to form "the Red Planet's first library."...

*Ottawa (Ont.) Citizen*, Nov. 2



### [Thoughts in a Jerusalem library](#)

Columnist Amotz Asa-El writes: "The other day I entered the Yad Ben-Zvi Library where I often write and saw a familiar face, former president Yitzhak Navon, writing diligently and sitting modestly among the rest of the library's usual crowd, a random collection of researchers, teachers, students, journalists, and tour guides. Few sights could be more Jerusalemite than this, I thought."...

*Jerusalem Post*, Oct. 24

### [B.C. college lends out experts](#)

Douglas College in British Columbia is coming to life—literally, with the introduction of its [Living Library](#). A service available both at its New Westminster and Coquitlam campuses, the Living Library allows anyone interested in learning more about a specific subject to borrow a person—including a sea kayaker or an entomologist—instead of a book to get the information they're looking for....

*Burnaby (B.C.) News Leader*, Nov. 3

## TECH TALK

### [Google Book Search: A review](#)

University of Hawaii LIS Professor Péter Jacsó reviews the functionality and value of Google Book Search (GBS), launched in 2004 under the name Google Print, compared with Amazon's Search Inside the Book feature. He writes: "Time and again I found top notch, ready reference sources in GBS

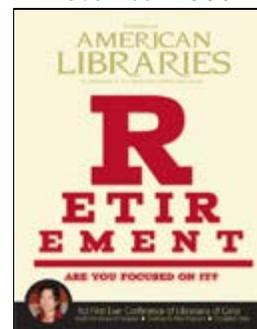


**Q. Does ALA have information on how libraries might cope with a flu pandemic? Also, how did libraries respond to the 1918 flu epidemic?**

**A.** As yet, ALA has not prepared detailed guidelines for a pandemic response, other than as part of general disaster readiness guidelines. For more information, see the new [Ask the Librarian wiki](#).

## In This Issue

November 2006



Stories inside include:

**Retired and Inspired**

**Cooking Up Culture**

**Behind the Scenes at LC's Dewey Division**

with limited preview option which are not searchable through Amazon's SIB subset. . . [but] beyond simple keyword searching, Google's software seems to be cognitively challenged, to put it nicely, and hinders access to the content, which would deserve at least a functional and half as smart software as Amazon has."...

Péter's Digital Reference Shelf, Nov.

### [My avatar wears tight jeans](#)

Michael Stephens shares five things he learned at the Internet Librarian Conference in Monterey, California, October 23–25. One was to put experience first: "David King pointed out some good and bad Web experiences, and he urged the crowd to think about how users experience library websites [[PDF file](#) of presentation]. He also called for a quick turnaround timeline for web redesigns. We can't take 1–2 years to implement these changes."...

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Walking Paper blog, Nov. 2

### [The 10 hottest IT trends](#)

The Innovation Lab in Aarhus, Denmark, offers its take on the most-discussed issues in research, product development, and service designs in the field of information technology —among them customer-made innovations, geo-awareness, virtual worlds, web video, digital product placement, and humanitarian technology....

Innovation Lab



### [Many young adults burning out on social websites](#)

If you believe the buzz, the latest incarnation of the Web is all about sharing, connecting, and community. But even as the phenomenon continues to swell, the effort to maintain an active social life on the Web is taking its toll. Some have grown tired of what once was novel. Some feel bombarded by unsolicited messages, friend requests, and advertisements. And some are cutting back....

*San Francisco Chronicle*, Nov. 2

## ACTIONS & ANSWERS

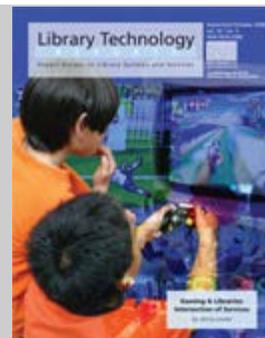
### [PW's 100 best books of the year](#)

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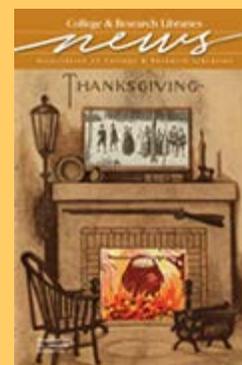
*Publishers Weekly*, Nov. 6



### [Gates Foundation gives OCLC \\$1.2 million](#)



Avid gamer Jenny Levine has authored the latest issue of *Library Technology Reports*, with the theme "[Gaming and Libraries: Intersection of Services.](#)"



Elaine Z. Jennerich describes the positive effects of the [University of Washington Libraries' staff development and training program](#) in the November issue of *College & Research Libraries News*.

## Datebook

### **Dec. 1:**

[ACRL/NY Annual Symposium](#), Baruch College, New York. "Commercialization and the Academic Library." Contact: [Janet H. Clarke](#).

### **Dec. 4–5:**

[8th International](#)

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation awarded the OCLC Online Computer Library Center a \$1.2-million grant November 6 to develop a national marketing campaign to promote the value of libraries. OCLC will use the money to conduct research, develop strategies, create materials, and test elements of the campaign that could form a model for regional- and local-level programs....

OCLC, Nov. 6

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Library Company of Philadelphia, Nov. 8



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Joan Frye Williams's keynote address at the *School Library Journal* Summit November 4 offered suggestions on how to "Make Sense of the Future." One tip was on cutting out jargon: "Civilians (those outside of the library world) have no idea what we're saying. Instead of 'Reference Desk,' put up a sign that reads, 'Homework Insurance: I Can Make Sure You Ace Your Class!'"...

AASL Blog, Nov. 5

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This compilation ([PDF file](#)) puts together in one place each of the posts on the YALSA blog in October about how social networking can be a positive force in teen lives. The "extra" post which really makes it 31 is a wrap-up of the 30 days of posts....

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Library Zen



### [Submit a proposal for Uncharted Waters](#)

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LOEX 2007

### [California's Local History Digital Resources Project](#)

The California State Library's Local History Digital Resources Project assists staff in California libraries from Modoc to Calexico to digitize their manuscripts, photographs, and works of art—like Marin County Free Library's real-photo postcard of a 1905 Kentfield



### [Conference on Grey Literature.](#)

New Orleans.

"Harnessing the Power of Grey."

Contact: [GL8](#)

[Program](#)

[and Conference](#)

[Bureau](#), Amsterdam,

The Netherlands,

+31 (0)20-331-

2420.

### **Dec. 4-7:**

[Search Engine](#)

[Strategies](#)

[Conference.](#)

Chicago. Contact:

[Search Engine](#)

[Strategies](#), 203-295-

0050.

### **Dec. 5-7:**

[SLA Military](#)

[Librarians](#)

[Division.](#) 50th

annual Military

Librarians Workshop,

San Antonio, Texas.

"Golden Reflections

and Directions."

Contact: [Candy](#)

[Parker](#), 703-767-

7039.

### **Jan. 15-18:**

[Association for](#)

[Library and](#)

[Information](#)

[Science Education.](#)

annual conference,

Seattle. "Habits of

Mind and Practice:

Preparing Reflective

Professionals."

Contact: [Kathleen](#)

[Combs](#), 312-795-

0996.

### **Jan. 31-Feb. 3:**

[Ontario Library](#)

[Association](#), Super

Conference, Toronto.

Contact: [OLA](#), 866-

873-9867.

More [Datebook](#)

items...

real estate office (above). The California State Library pays for staff members to attend training on digitizing artifacts, provides access to a cataloging tool, offers scanning services for 200 images, and allows \$5,000 for costs related to each library's project....

California State Library, Nov. 6

## Strange maps

Map librarians may wish to take note of a blog dedicated to weird and unusual maps. Recent posts show Flash Gordon's Planet Mongo (right), Greater Finland, Europe's various North-South divides, the shrinking of New South Wales, the United States of Greater Austria, Europe fits in Brazil, Manhattan neighborhoods, Germany wins World War I, and redrawing the map of the Middle East....

Strange Maps



## Freedom of expression: The Danish cartoons case

(PDF file)

Loughborough University Library Studies Professor Paul Sturges takes the distress and anger caused by the publication in a Danish newspaper of cartoons containing satirical depictions of the Prophet Muhammad as the starting point for an exploration of the dimensions of the right to freedom of expression contained in the UN Declaration of Human Rights....

*IFLA Journal* 32, no. 3 (2006), pp. 3–10



## Comparison guide to MLIS distance-ed programs

Compiled by Mary Thompson at the Ocean County (N.J.) Library, this chart lists in-state and out-of-state costs, residency requirements, credits, contact information, and application deadlines for 21 programs....

Central Jersey Regional Library Cooperative

## The World's Fastest Librarian

*The World's Fastest Librarian* is a [short film](#) (12:52) following Mary (played by Bridget Zinn), a fictional public librarian at the Madison Public Library (played by the University of Wisconsin SLIS Lab Library) as she prepares for the World's Fastest Librarian Competition. The tongue-in-cheek film was a collaborative project involving over a dozen library school students....

World's Fastest Librarian



## Chronicles of Libraria

David and Daniel Ariew created this video (5:22) as a community service project for the University of South Florida Libraries, which are featured prominently. A parody of the *Saturday Night Live* "Lazy Sunday" rap video, "Chronicles of Libraria" has an antiplagiarism theme (with smoothies). As Daniel says, "Where would we be without the library and the powers of rap?"...

YouTube



## Contact Us

### American Libraries Direct

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Leonard Kniffel,  
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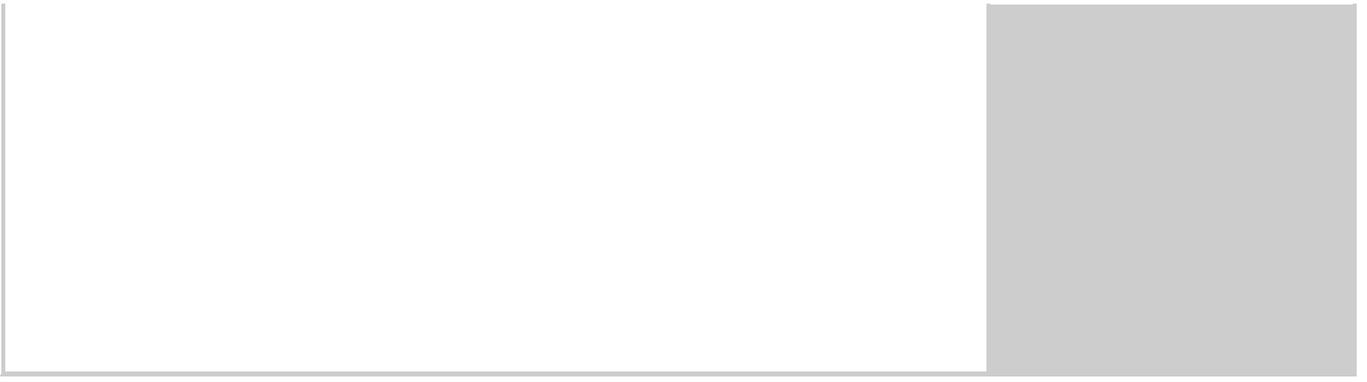
[www.ala.org/aldirect/](http://www.ala.org/aldirect/)

All links outside the ALA website are provided for informational purposes only. Questions about the content of any external site should be addressed to the administrator of that site.

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[www.ala.org/online/](http://www.ala.org/online/)  
800-545-2433,  
ext. 4216

ISSN 1559-369X.



## AMERICAN LIBRARIES DIRECT

November 8, 2006

AL Direct is a weekly electronic newsletter sent by the American Library Association every Wednesday to personal members by e-mail as a perquisite of membership.

Click here to view the online version of our email:

<%= util.viewHtmlLink %>

### POLL: What do YOU think?

\*\*\*\*\*

Do you make use of library-rankings data in presenting budget proposals to your library's funding authorities?

Click here  
to ANSWER!

<http://www.zoomerang.com/survey.zgi?p=WEB225UJVVJSZZ>

Results of the  
November 1 poll:

Is adult or youth literacy an integral part of your library's mission?

YES.....68%  
NO.....32%

(88 responses)

This is an unscientific poll that reflects the opinions of only those AL Direct readers who have chosen to participate.

For cumulated results and selected responses to AL Direct polls, visit the AL Online website.

### U.S. & WORLD NEWS

\*\*\*\*\*

Hennen's American Public Library Ratings 2006 (PDF file)

[http://www.haplr-index.com/ALProofHAPLR\\_2006.pdf](http://www.haplr-index.com/ALProofHAPLR_2006.pdf)

Naperville (Ill.) and North Canton (Ohio) Public Libraries repeated this year as the top-ranked libraries in their population categories, while Santa Clara County (Calif.) Library makes its return to the top after slipping to second last year. In their categories, Cuyahoga County (Ohio) Public Library leaped to number one from number four last year, while Monroe County (Ind.) Public Library rose to the number two spot from fifth. See the top 10 libraries in each population category from 1999 to 2006 on Thomas J. Hennen's HAPLR website....

American Libraries 37 (Nov. 2006): 40-42

Arrest made in Salt Lake City bombing

<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2006abc/november2006a/saltlake.htm>

The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms has arrested a suburban Chicago man in the September 15 bombing of the Salt Lake City Main Library. Although no one was injured in the third-floor explosion, which blew out a plate-

glass window and destroyed a nearby chair, the afternoon incident triggered the evacuation of some 400 patrons and staff....

Green Bozeman library reserves parking for hybrids

<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2006abc/november2006a/bozeman.htm>

Scheduled to open November 12, the new Bozeman (Mont.) Public Library has reserved its prime parking spots for hybrid vehicles and car pools. The policy is part of the library's effort to obtain silver certification from the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) rating system—a requirement if the library wishes to secure a promised contribution of at least \$500,000 from an anonymous donor....

Toronto library worker extradited for 1969 Chicago shooting

<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2006abc/november2006a/pannell.htm>

Canadian Minister of Justice Victor Toews has ordered the extradition to the United States of a former research assistant at the Toronto Public Library's central reference library who was arrested in 2004 as a suspect in the shooting of a Chicago police officer in 1969....

## ALA NEWS

\*\*\*\*\*

2006 survey shows average librarian salary up by 4.6%

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2006/november2006/LibrarySalarySurvey.htm>

With data from more than 1,000 public and academic libraries, the 2006 edition of the ALA-APA Salary Survey: Librarian—Public and Academic shows that the mean salary increased 4.6% from 2005, up \$2,480 to \$56,259. The survey examines aggregated data from more than 10,000 individual salaries at the state and regional levels. Salaries ranged from \$22,000 to \$253,500, with \$50,976 the median....

Cathleen Bourdon named associate executive director

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2006/november2006/BoudonALAAED.htm>

Cathleen Bourdon, executive director of RUSA and ASCLA, has been appointed ALA Associate Executive Director for Communications and Member Relations. She will assume her duties on December 1. In her new post, Bourdon will manage the Communications and Member Relations Department, which includes the Chapter Relations Office, ALA Library, International Relations Office, Member and Customer Service Center, Membership Promotion, Office of Research and Statistics, Public Information Office, and the Public Programs Office....

Advocacy Now logo Advocacy Institute at 2006 CLA Annual Conference

ALA is presenting an Advocacy Institute November 10 at the 2006 California Library Association annual conference in Sacramento at the Sheraton Grand Hotel. Attendees will take home strategies to successfully advocate for their libraries, including message development, lobbying basics, and how to create coalitions with library staff members, trustees, and Friends....

Deadline for Midwinter Advocacy Institute

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2006/november2006/DeadlineAdvocacyInstitut.htm>

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2006/november2006/AdvocacyInstituteCLA.htm>

The deadline for advance registration for the Advocacy Institute at the 2007 ALA Midwinter Meeting is December 8. By using the advance registration form, advocates can reserve their seat and lunch for \$25—a 50% savings over on-site registration....

Washington Office debuts on Flickr

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/alawash>

The ALA Washington Office made its debut November 1 on Flickr, the popular photo-sharing website. Photos currently posted show interior and exterior views of the ALA offices on the ground, first, and second floors of the Pacific House, located at 1615 New Hampshire Ave. N.W., Washington, D.C....

## Booklist Online

\*\*\*\*\*

Featured review: Books for youth

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show\\_product&pid=1798954](http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=1798954)

Seeger, Laura Vaccaro. *Black? White! Day? Night!* Nov. 2006. 24p. Roaring Brook/Neal Porter, hardcover. 1-59643-185-7.

Bold colors, carefully placed cutouts, and full-page lift-the-flaps make this much more than just another concept book about opposites. Children will be captivated from the very first page: a large black flap with a cutout revealing a black bat set against a pure white background. The single word *black?* printed in white, stands out clearly on the page. When kids lift the flap, they'll see the word *white!* (in white type) and discover that what appeared to be a bat is really the mouth of a ghost....

## SEATTLE UPDATE

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Pike Place Market

[http://www.historylink.org/essays/output.cfm?file\\_id=1602](http://www.historylink.org/essays/output.cfm?file_id=1602)

Seattle's Pike Place Market, with its familiar neon-lit clock and brass pig, is a renowned landmark, attracting millions of tourists and locals every year. It's a fun place to shop, find food, watch people, and enjoy the city's street performers. Next August it celebrates its 100th birthday....

Pike Place Market; HistoryLink.org

## DIVISION NEWS

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Teens vote for favorite YA book

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2006/november2006/TTTlist.htm>

Teen readers across the country voted *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince* (Scholastic, 2005) by J. K. Rowling as their favorite book to take the number-one spot on the annual Teens' Top Ten, sponsored by YALSA. Stephanie Meyer's *Twilight* (Little, Brown, 2005) came in second place. The vote took place during Teen Read Week, October 15–21, and gave teens an opportunity to voice their choice of the best new young adult books....

Omar Wasow to speak at AASL 13th National Conference

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2006/november2006/WasowatAASLConference.htm>

AASL welcomes technology analyst Omar Wasow as a featured speaker at its 13th National Conference, "The Future Begins @ your library," October 25–28, 2007, in Reno, Nevada. Wasow, the cofounder of BlackPlanet.com, will deliver remarks at the Closing General Session....

## Awards

\*\*\*\*\*

2007 scholarship application available online

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2006/november2006/ALAscholarshiponline.htm>

ALA has more than \$300,000 in scholarships available for students who are studying library science or school library media at the master's degree level. Scholarships range from \$2,500 to \$6,500 per student per year. The application deadline is March 1, 2007....

Lincoln Trail wins humanitarian award (PDF file)

<http://www.ltls.org/NewsRel/polytalkaward10192006.pdf>

The cities of Champaign and Urbana, Illinois, honored the Lincoln Trail Libraries System at the October 18 Champaign-Urbana International Humanitarian Awards for its humanitarian efforts with the PolyTalk Project. The PolyTalk Library Interpreters Project assists persons with limited proficiency in English by connecting them with a real-time translator....

Lincoln Trail Libraries System, Oct. 19

#### SEEN ONLINE

\*\*\*\*\*

Senators call for delay in closing EPA libraries

[http://www.govexec.com/story\\_page.cfm?articleid=35419](http://www.govexec.com/story_page.cfm?articleid=35419)

A group of senators has joined the fray over whether the Environmental Protection Agency should slow or stop a campaign to digitize materials in its technical libraries and close the facilities to agency researchers and the public. On November 3, 17 Democratic senators and one Independent wrote to appropriators (PDF file) asking that EPA be directed, through the budget process, to maintain physical access to its libraries while the public is given an opportunity to comment on planned closures....

Government Executive, Nov. 7

NCLIS urges net neutrality (PDF file)

<http://www.nclis.gov/news/pressrelease/pr2006/NCLISNetNeutrality-2006-14.pdf>

The U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science announced November 7 its position on internet neutrality, currently under debate in Congress. NCLIS Chairman Beth Fitzsimmons said that the commission respectfully encourages "Congress to reiterate strongly the position it took when legislation permitting commercial traffic on the internet was developed. Equal treatment of content is important to all information seekers."...

NCLIS, Nov. 7

Lack of funding threatens Buffalo-area libraries

<http://www.buffalonews.com/editorial/20061107/1072031.asp>

A year after 15 library branches were shut down as a result of a budget crisis in Erie County, New York, three more are in danger of losing their charters because hours and services do not meet state requirements. That was the bleak picture painted November 6 by the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library as it urged citizens to back the restoration of \$2.3 million in county funding. Under the county's proposed 2007 budget, the library appropriation would remain unchanged at \$21.6 million....

Buffalo (N.Y.) News, Nov. 7

Mars to get its first library

<http://www.canada.com/ottawacitizen/news/story.html?id=0bda43c1-60b6-4e5b-ac9f-f141278b9acf>

The writings of A. E. van Vogt wouldn't be mistaken for Giller Prize material, but the late Canadian pioneer of science fiction has earned that genre's ultimate tribute. His 1950 short story "Enchanted Village" about an astronaut's nightmarish mission to Mars (which appeared in Other Worlds, July 1950) will be blasted into space by NASA next August in the Phoenix Mars lander, along with works by such sci-fi luminaries as Isaac Asimov and Arthur C. Clarke, to form "the Red Planet's first library."...

Ottawa (Ont.) Citizen, Nov. 2

Thoughts in a Jerusalem library

<http://www.jpost.com/servlet/Satellite?cid=1162378311606&pagename=JPost%2FJPArticle%2FShowFull>

Columnist Amotz Asa-El writes: "The other day I entered the Yad Ben-Zvi Library where I often write and saw a familiar face, former president Yitzhak Navon, writing diligently and sitting modestly among the rest of the library's usual crowd, a random collection of researchers, teachers, students, journalists, and tour guides. Few sights could be more Jerusalemite than this, I thought."...

Jerusalem Post, Oct. 24

B.C. college lends out experts

<http://www.burnabynewsleader.com/portals-code/list.cgi?paper=41&cat=23&id=765221&more=>  
Douglas College in British Columbia is coming to life—literally, with the introduction of its Living Library. A service available both at its New Westminster and Coquitlam campuses, the Living Library allows anyone interested in learning more about a specific subject to borrow a person—including a sea kayaker or an entomologist—instead of a book to get the information they’re looking for....  
Burnaby (B.C.) News Leader, Nov. 3

## TECH TALK

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### Google Book Search: A review

<http://www.gale.com/reference/peter/googlebooks.htm>

University of Hawaii LIS Professor Péter Jacsó reviews the functionality and value of Google Book Search (GBS), launched in 2004 under the name Google Print, compared with Amazon’s Search Inside the Book feature. He writes: “Time and again I found top notch, ready reference sources in GBS with limited preview option which are not searchable through Amazon’s SIB subset. . . [but] beyond simple keyword searching, Google’s software seems to be cognitively challenged, to put it nicely, and hinders access to the content, which would deserve at least a functional and half as smart software as Amazon has.”...

Péter’s Digital Reference Shelf, Nov.

### My avatar wears tight jeans

<http://www.techsource.ala.org/blog/2006/10/my-avatar-wears-tight-jeans-and-4-other-things-i-learned-from-internet-librarian-2006.html>

Michael Stephens shares five things he learned at the Internet Librarian Conference in Monterey, California, October 23–25. One was to put experience first: “David King pointed out some good and bad Web experiences, and he urged the crowd to think about how users experience library websites [PDF file of presentation]. He also called for a quick turnaround timeline for web redesigns. We can’t take 1–2 years to implement these changes.”...

ALA TechSource blog, Oct. 31

### IM reference talking points

<http://walkingpaper.org/358>

Chicago-area librarian Aaron Schmidt offers some reasons why instant messaging might be a good tool for reference services: “Don’t worry, people aren’t going to get mad if you’re helping people online when they walk up as long as you explain what you’re doing. Use those moments to promote your service!” The University of Guelph Library has already started using it....

Walking Paper blog, Nov. 2

### The 10 hottest IT trends

<http://www.innovationlab.dk/sw22085.asp>

The Innovation Lab in Aarhus, Denmark, offers its take on the most-discussed issues in research, product development, and service designs in the field of information technology—among them customer-made innovations, geo-awareness, virtual worlds, web video, digital product placement, and humanitarian technology....

Innovation Lab

### Many young adults burning out on social websites

<http://sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?file=/c/a/2006/11/02/MNGG3M4KB31.DTL>

If you believe the buzz, the latest incarnation of the Web is all about sharing, connecting, and community. But even as the phenomenon continues to swell, the effort to maintain an active social life on the Web is taking its toll. Some have grown tired of what once was novel. Some feel bombarded by unsolicited messages, friend requests, and advertisements. And some are cutting back....

San Francisco Chronicle, Nov. 2

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PW's 100 best books of the year

<http://www.publishersweekly.com/article/CA6388182.html?display=current>

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Publishers Weekly, Nov. 6

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<http://www.oclc.org/news/releases/200643.htm>

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Library Company of Philadelphia, Nov. 8

School Library Journal Summit in Chicago

[http://blogs.ala.org/aasl.php?title=from\\_the\\_mountain\\_to\\_the\\_valley&more=1&c=1&tb=1&pb=1](http://blogs.ala.org/aasl.php?title=from_the_mountain_to_the_valley&more=1&c=1&tb=1&pb=1)

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AASL Blog, Nov. 5

30 positive uses of social networking + 1

[http://blogs.ala.org/yalsa.php?title=30\\_positive\\_uses\\_of\\_social\\_networking\\_co&more=1&c=1&tb=1&pb=1](http://blogs.ala.org/yalsa.php?title=30_positive_uses_of_social_networking_co&more=1&c=1&tb=1&pb=1)

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Library Zen

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Preference will be given to new, innovative, creative, nontraditional, and other ventures that people called crazy until they worked....

LOEX 2007

California's Local History Digital Resources Project

[http://www.library.ca.gov/PressReleases/pr\\_061106.cfm](http://www.library.ca.gov/PressReleases/pr_061106.cfm)

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California State Library, Nov. 6

Strange maps

<http://strangemaps.wordpress.com/>

Map librarians may wish to take note of a blog dedicated to weird and unusual maps. Recent posts show Flash Gordon's Planet Mongo (right), Greater Finland, Europe's various North-South divides, the shrinking of New South Wales, the United States of Greater Austria, Europe fits in Brazil, Manhattan neighborhoods, Germany wins World War I, and redrawing the map of the Middle East....

Strange Maps

Freedom of expression: The Danish cartoons case (PDF file)

<http://www.ifla.org/V/iflaj/IFLA-Journal-3-2006.pdf>

Loughborough University Library Studies Professor Paul Sturges takes the distress and anger caused by the publication in a Danish newspaper of cartoons containing satirical depictions of the Prophet Muhammad as the starting point for an exploration of the dimensions of the right to freedom of expression contained in the UN Declaration of Human Rights....

IFLA Journal 32, no. 3 (2006), pp. 3–10

Comparison guide to MLIS distance-ed programs

<http://www.becomealibrarian.org/DistanceEdComparison.htm>

Compiled by Mary Thompson at the Ocean County (N.J.) Library, this chart lists in-state and out-of-state costs, residency requirements, credits, contact information, and application deadlines for 21 programs....

Central Jersey Regional Library Cooperative

The World's Fastest Librarian

<https://mywebspac.wisc.edu/badowell/web/WorldsFastestLibrarian/>

The World's Fastest Librarian is a short film (12:52) following Mary (played by Bridget Zinn), a fictional public librarian at the Madison Public Library (played by the University of Wisconsin SLIS Lab Library) as she prepares for the World's Fastest Librarian Competition. The tongue-in-cheek film was a collaborative project involving over a dozen library school students....

World's Fastest Librarian

Chronicles of Libraria

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3BtJLIrnQIY>

David and Daniel Ariew created this video (5:22) as a community service project for the University of Southern Florida Libraries, which are featured prominently. A parody of the Saturday Night Live "Lazy Sunday" rap video, "Chronicles of Libraria" has an antiplagiarism theme (with smoothies). As Daniel says, "Where would we be without the library and the powers of rap?"...

YouTube

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\*\*\*\*\*

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800-545-2433, ext. 4216

ISSN 1559-369X.

# AMERICAN LIBRARIES



**November 15, 2006**

AL Direct is a free electronic newsletter e-mailed every Wednesday to personal members of the [American Library Association](#).

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## U.S. & WORLD NEWS

### [Voters approve Austin library measure, reject Oakland bond](#)

On election day November 7, voters in Austin, Texas, approved a new 250,000-square-foot Central Library, while Oakland, California, residents rejected a measure to turn a vacant convention center into a new main library. The \$90-million Austin library package, which won a 60% majority, was one of seven propositions before the city's voters, all of which passed. The new facility will include more books, programming and exhibit space, and increased parking and accessibility....



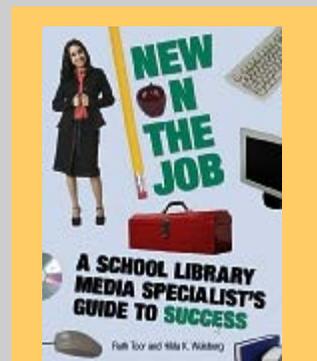
Some Midwinter [institutes and special events](#) require additional registration. To register for one of these events, choose the event from the list on the online registration form, or enter the Event Code on your printed registration form.

### [Nonresident lawsuit reaches Michigan Supreme Court](#)

One Michigan man's legal pursuit of a nonresident library card is on its way to the state supreme court. George Goldstone sued the Bloomfield Township Public Library in 2005 after it refused to issue him a library card. Goldstone is a resident of neighboring Bloomfield Hills, a wealthy Detroit suburb that in 2003 ended a 39-year contract with the township library after rejecting its proposed \$187,550 fee increase....

### [Senators request delay in EPA library closings](#)

A group of 17 Democratic senators and one Independent senator wrote to the Senate Appropriations Committee November 3, asking that the Environmental Protection Agency be directed to halt the continuing closures of their libraries "while the Agency solicits and considers public input on its plan to drastically cut its library budget and services." The [letter](#), penned by Sens. Barbara Boxer (D-Calif.) and Frank R. Lautenberg (D-N.J.), reflects the growing wave of concern from lawmakers and



Ruth Toor and Hilda K. Weisburg explain the mysteries of job search strategies, creating acceptable-use policies, and developing a work philosophy to newly minted school library media

public employees over recent EPA actions that include the closing of three regional libraries and the reduction of hours or staff at five other libraries....

### [Sacajawea library arson price tag skyrockets](#)

The estimated damage from a September 8 arson fire that destroyed the media center at the Sacajawea Middle School in Spokane, Washington, rose to \$1.3 million in early November. An earlier estimate had set the damage at only \$300,000, the amount used in setting restitution payments by the three youths accused of setting the blaze....

specialists in [New on the Job: A School Library Media Specialist's Guide to Success](#), new from ALA Editions.

## ALA NEWS

### [Feature your new library in American Libraries](#)

Every year, *American Libraries*' April issue features photographs of new, expanded, and renovated library buildings. A showcase of exteriors and interiors of all kinds, this special issue spotlights some of the best in new library designs and successfully completed restorations. Submission forms for 2007 ([PDF file](#)) are online. The deadline is February 1, 2007....



In order recognize the changing role of school library media programs now and in the future, AASL is developing [new learning standards](#) for school library media programs. The division is [accepting comments](#) on its [first draft](#) through December 8.

### [Burger announces Emerging Leaders participants](#)

ALA President Leslie Burger has announced the librarians who will take part in the Emerging Leaders 2007 (EL '07) program. The effort was initiated by Burger and is intended to welcome and train new librarians to get a jump-start in leadership. The [full list](#) is available online....



### [Klein to deliver Arthur Curley lecture](#)

Joe Klein, senior writer for *Time* magazine and author of several best-selling books, will discuss "Islam, Iraq, and the War on Terror" at the eighth annual Arthur Curley Memorial Lecture on Saturday, January 20, during the Midwinter Meeting in Seattle. As "Anonymous," Klein wrote the bestseller *Primary Colors*, which was inspired by the 1992 presidential race. His latest book, *The Natural: The Misunderstood Presidency of Bill Clinton*, also was a *New York Times* bestseller....



## Thus Said

**"Earlier today, at the main branch of the New York Public Library, President Bush and the First Lady gave a speech on literacy. Apparently, she was for it and he was against it."**

—Conan O'Brien, on *Late Night with Conan O'Brien*, quoted in *Entertainment Weekly*, Oct. 6 .

### [ALA extends search for Endowment trustee candidates](#)

In an effort to increase the pool of potential candidates for the upcoming opening among the Endowment trustees, the ALA Executive Board has reopened and extended the search for candidates. The deadline for receiving applications ([PDF file](#)) is now March 1, 2007. Nominations are now being accepted. The candidate will be selected by the ALA Executive Board at its spring meeting, to be held April 13–15 in Chicago....



The winner of the [National Library Legislative Day 2007 Student Contest](#) is **Danny Chapman** of Lake Forest, Illinois. For his winning entry—entitled "Check Out the Future"—Danny has won a free trip to the 33rd Annual National

### [ALA one year later: What it did right, where it needs improvement](#)

Meredith Farkas writes: "It's been almost a year since I wrote some posts about gripes I had with ALA and suggestions of how the ALA

could do better. At the time, I was seriously considering letting my ALA membership lapse in the fall of 2006. Yet last week, I put \$200 on my credit card to renew my membership in ALA, LITA, and NMRT, and to become a new member of ACRL (which I was a member of as a student a while back). What happened? Well . . . a lot."...  
Information Wants to be Free blog, Nov. 11

### [Making ALA/ACRL better](#)

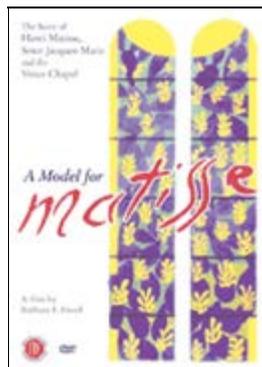
Steven Bell writes: "A few posts appeared in the last day or so ruminating on ALA 2.0 (as if we needed 2.0 anything else). Rather than giving you a long discourse on what needs to happen for ALA or ACRL to improve, I'm going to simplify it for ACRLog readers. There are three easy steps."...  
ACRLog, Nov. 12

## Booklist — ONLINE —

### [Featured review: Media](#)

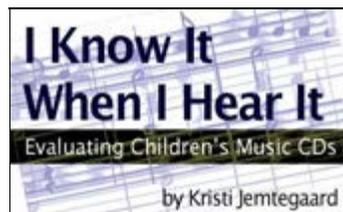
*A Model for Matisse: The Story of the Vence Chapel.* Nov. 2006. 67 min. First Run Features, DVD.

In 1941, 21-year-old nursing student Monique Bourgeois answered an advertisement placed by artist Henri Matisse requesting the services of a "young and pretty" night nurse to help during his recuperation from surgery. Monique accepted the job, and the two became friends and confidants until the artist's death in 1954. In this documentary, 82-year-old Monique Bourgeois (now a Dominican nun known as Sister Jacques-Marie) recalls Matisse and their collaborative efforts to build and design a chapel in Vence, situated 20 miles from Nice....



### [Evaluating children's music CDs](#)

Ever aware of my 12th-grade English teacher, who impressed upon me the need to organize and outline, I set out to define what I focus on when I evaluate a new album. When this proved taxing, I did what any self-respecting librarian would do. I turned to the Web, which, surprisingly, yielded almost nothing. Everything I found was pretty dry and not really relevant to the question. In desperation, I decided to make my former teacher happy and create a topic sentence. Here it is....



## SEATTLE UPDATE

### [FOLUSA's gala author tea](#)

Four authors will speak about their writings at this

Library Legislative Day, which will be held in Washington, D.C., on May 1 and 2, 2007.

## Classifieds

### [MASTER PLAN CONSULTANT.](#)

Renton (Wash.) Public Library is seeking a professional library consultant to facilitate the development of a Master Plan. The Plan is to be based on a highly participative process, should identify future needs for library services and facilities, and make specific recommendations for implementation strategies....



See [JobLIST](#) for more career opportunities.



Are you a tech-savvy librarian using new technologies in innovative ways to help your library be more effective, efficient, and productive? Submit a proposal for a "[Cyber Zed Shed](#)" presentation at the ACRL National Conference in Baltimore. ACRL is looking for proposals that document **technological innovations** in every area of the library.

traditional FOLUSA event sponsored by ReferenceUSA, to be held January 22, from 2 to 4 p.m. Featured authors are Cherry Adair (right, *Edge of Darkness*), William Dietrich (*Napoleon's Pyramids*), Zlata Filipovic (*Stolen Voices*), and Sara Gruen (*Water for Elephants*). The event will feature finger sandwiches, coffee and tea, and a variety of sweets....

Friends of Libraries USA



### [RMG Consultants' 17th Annual Presidents' Seminar](#)

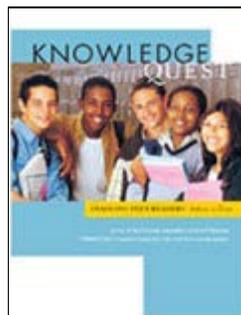
"Wow Technologies in Libraries: Source, Demand, Strategy" is the topic of the RMG Presidents' Seminar at the ALA Midwinter Meeting on Friday, January 19, 2:00–5:00 p.m. Find out from panelists which "wow factor" add-ons to ILSs are mission critical to libraries, where the future of the OPAC lies, and what an ILS 2.0 should look like....

RMG Consultants, Inc.

## DIVISION NEWS

### [AASL's journal gets a dynamic new look](#)

*Knowledge Quest*, the print journal of the American Association of School Librarians, has undergone a dramatic makeover with its September/October 2006 issue. Formerly printed primarily in black and white with limited graphic images, *Knowledge Quest* received a vibrant shot of color and moved to 4-color press production for its 35th volume. Its companion website [KQWeb](#) also underwent a redesign and reorganization under the leadership of AASL's new web editor, Gayle Bogel....



### [Proposals wanted for LITA's 10th National Forum](#)

LITA is seeking proposals for high-quality concurrent sessions and poster sessions for the 10th annual LITA National Forum, "Technology with Altitude: 10 Years of the LITA National Forum," to be held at the Denver Marriott City Center, October 4–7, 2007. The deadline is December 15....



### [Bill Harley helps launch ALSC Kids! campaign](#)

When Grammy-nominated children's singer/storyteller Bill Harley took to the stage November 12 at Boston Public Library to perform, it was no ordinary concert. His message was: "There's so much to see, so much to do @ your library." Harley helped kick off the ALSC [Kids! @ your library](#) campaign, a new national effort to raise awareness of all the free resources available for children and families....



## ROUND TABLE NEWS

## Poll

### What do YOU think?

**Has your library had requests from law enforcement to install "sniffer" software on your internet server to collect data through words or phrases that indicate illegal activities?**

**Click here to [ANSWER!](#)**

#### Results of the November 8 poll:

Do you make use of library-rankings data in presenting budget proposals to your library's funding authorities?

**YES.....48%**  
**NO.....52%**

(42 responses)

This is an unscientific poll that reflects the opinions of only those *AL Direct* readers who have chosen to participate.

For cumulated results and selected responses to *AL Direct* polls, visit the AL Online [website](#).

#### Ask the ALA Librarian



**Q. When did libraries begin**

## [Recovery of Louisiana documents collections](#) (PDF file)

University of New Orleans Head of Government Documents Lora Amsberryaugier gave this presentation at ALA Annual Conference last summer at a Government Documents Round Table program. It features many photos of depository libraries damaged by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita and summarizes the building damage and human toll on the collections....



## AWARDS

### [Kevin Starr receives National Humanities Medal](#)

At a White House ceremony on November 9, President George W. Bush presented the National Humanities Medal to nine distinguished Americans and one institution for their contributions to the humanities. Included in the awardees was Kevin Starr, state librarian of California from 1994 to 2004 and an American historian best known for his multivolume series on the social and cultural history of California, collectively called *America and the California Dream*....

National Endowment for the Humanities, Nov. 8



### [Three libraries receive IMLS National Awards](#)

The Frankfort (Ind.) Community Public Library, the Public Library of Charlotte (N.C.) and Mecklenburg County, and the San Antonio (Tex.) Public Library are three of the winners of the 2006 National Awards for Museum and Library Service. Each organization will receive \$10,000 and will be honored at a special ceremony in Washington, D.C. The National Award for Museum and Library Service honors institutions for extraordinary civic, educational, economic, environmental, and social contributions....

Institute of Museum and Library Services, Nov. 15

### [Sara Jaffarian establishes new award](#)

The Sara Jaffarian School Library Program Award will be given annually to a school library (K-8, public or private) that has conducted an exemplary program or program series in the humanities. Jaffarian, a retired school librarian and ALA member for 63 years, made a donation to ALA's Cultural Communities Fund in order to establish the \$4,000 award. The award [guidelines and application](#) are available online. Submissions are due by February 28, 2007....

### [Rebecca Miller wins Shera Dissertation Award](#)

The ALA Library Research Round Table has named Rebecca Miller winner of the 2006 Jesse H. Shera Award for the Support of Dissertation Research for her paper, "The Diffusion of Professional Knowledge in Intercultural Exchanges: The American-Bulgarian Library Exchange Case Study." Miller is a doctoral candidate in the School of Library and Information Management, Emporia (Kans.) State University....

### [Apply for PLA awards and honors](#)

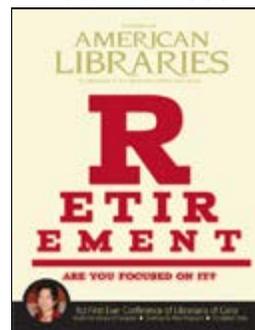
The Public Library Association's awards are

## offering preschool storytimes?

A. It appears that reading aloud to children came along with the development of the children's library itself, around the turn of the previous century. See the [ALA Professional Tips wiki](#).

## In This Issue

November 2006

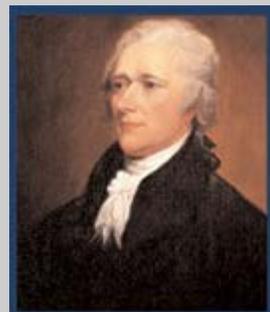


Stories inside include:

**Retired and Inspired**

**Cooking Up Culture**

**Behind the Scenes at LC's Dewey Division**



The State Library of Ohio recently hosted PPO's [Alexander Hamilton traveling exhibition](#). It exceeded

designed to highlight the best in public library service. Nominate your library or a colleague for an award through PLA's new [online awards application](#). The deadline for applications is December 1. All applications must be submitted online prior to the deadline in order to be considered....



### [Urban Libraries Council awards nominations sought](#)

ULC's three awards honor members' achievements in addressing community needs, leadership, and urban development. The awards are presented annually at the group's Leadership Breakfast, held in conjunction with the ALA Annual Conference. Nominees must be ULC members. The deadline is December 3....

Urban Libraries Council

## SEEN ONLINE

### [Virginia joins the Google Books team](#)

The University of Virginia in Charlottesville will join eight other research libraries in the Google Books Library Project, officials announced November 14. Google will digitize selected parts of the library's collections in American history, literature, and humanities. University Librarian Karin Wittenborg said that with Google, "18th and 19th century works that are rarely found can be discovered by new audiences."...

*Richmond (Va.) Times-Dispatch, Nov. 15*

### [Canadian universities switch RefWorks servers to ensure privacy from the U.S.](#)

Concerned about the U.S. government's prying eyes, a number of Canadian universities are changing the way their professors and students conduct online research. Many university libraries subscribe to RefWorks, a popular U.S.-based internet tool that allows academics and students to create personal accounts and store research information. But the USA Patriot Act has prompted Canadian postsecondary institutions to abandon the American server for one housed at the University of Toronto....

*Toronto Globe and Mail, Nov. 12*

### [Nancy Pelosi was San Francisco Library Commissioner in 1975](#)

It is now almost forgotten that U.S. Rep. Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) was once a library commissioner. In those days Kevin Starr was the city librarian of San Francisco, Ed Callanan was the president of the Library Commission, and Joseph Alioto, the mayor at the time, appointed Pelosi to the remainder of an unfinished term....

*California Chronicle, Nov. 13*

### [Library cuts jeopardize state certification](#)

Supporters of the Turner Free Library in Randolph, Massachusetts, have collected more than 1,500 signatures on a petition supporting increased library funding. The library has lost its state certification because it is only open 40 hours per week, not the required 63. "People had no idea this was happening," Friends President Geraldine Quigley said. "If we lose the library, we lose a lot in this town."...

*Quincy (Mass.) Patriot-Ledger, Nov. 13*

expectations to such an extent that State Librarian of Ohio Jo Budler was moved to write a **testimonial letter** ([PDF file](#)) describing its success.

## Interface

In the Fall issue of the ASCLA *InterFace* newsletter, read about [Through Deaf Eyes](#), a two-hour, high-definition TV documentary for PBS exploring the past 200 years of deaf life in America. A national PBS broadcast is planned in spring 2007.

## Datebook

### **Nov. 29–Dec. 1:**

[South Carolina Library Association](#) Annual Conference, Crowne Plaza Hotel, Hilton Head. Contact: [Gabrielle Barnes](#), 803-252-1087.

### **Feb. 22–25:**

[Alaska Library Association](#) Annual Conference, Centennial Hall, Juneau. "Libraries: The Umbrella of the Community." Contact: [Amelia Jenkins](#).

### **Mar. 6–8:**

[Louisiana Library Association](#) Annual Conference, Holiday Inn Select, Baton Rouge. "Louisiana Libraries: Bridging Communities."

## [More graphic novels in libraries = more challenges](#)

When Amy Crump took over as director of the Marshall Public Library in central Missouri two years ago, she decided to build up the library's offerings for young adults by buying the literary world's hot new thing—graphic novels. But libraries are increasingly facing complaints from some parents who are concerned that books with adult content could be read by children attracted to the comic book-like drawings....

Associated Press, Nov. 14

## TECH TALK

### [Minicards for your library](#)

Stephen Abrams brainstormed about library-related uses for a new kind of photocard offered by a printing company called [MOO](#) that ties itself to Flickr: "You can use any of your Flickr images on your Minicards. You order them in batches as small as 100 and you get to choose which Flickr images you want and can have as many as there are cards in one batch." Two excellent suggestions: "Have photos of your library club kids put on Flickr and make personalized business cards for them to promote the library" and "Make up a set for your trustees with their photos so they can promote the library."...

Stephen's Lighthouse blog, Nov. 15



### [Information ecosystem](#)

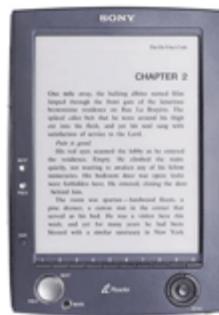
Andrew Pace writes: "I got to thinking about the introduction of new technologies (e.g. Web 2.0), new content providers (e.g., Open Access), new content 'snarfers' (e.g., Microsoft Live and Google), and new business models for library automation. I was never very good at biology, but I gained a general understanding about how the introduction of new species into an ecosystem has an impact on the existing system."...

Hectic Pace blog, Nov. 12

### [New Sony PRS-500 e-book reader](#)

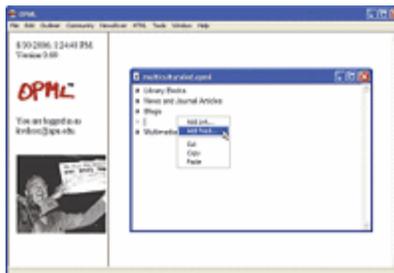
This year Sony tested the patience of e-book fans by twice delaying the release of its new [PRS-500 reading device](#), originally promised for the spring. The company finally started taking orders over the Web in September, and the gadget can now be purchased at electronics stores and select Borders bookstores. The device holds hundreds of digital books and displays them on a unique "electronic paper" screen invented by MIT Media Lab researchers....

Technology Review, Nov. 8



### [Gear up your research guides with OPML codes](#)

What if you could create a dynamic research guide that displays the latest headlines from selected blogs, feeds of new book and article titles from the library's catalog and databases, and audio and video files—along with your traditional web links and bibliographies? Even better, what if this guide could be syndicated so that people



Contact: [LLA](#).

### **Mar. 14–16:** [New Mexico Library Association](#) [/Mountain Plains Library Association](#)

Joint Conference, Albuquerque Convention Center. "Libraries: Launching the Future." Contact: [Louise Hoffmann](#).

### **Apr. 5–7:** [Kansas Library Association](#) [/Kansas Association of School Librarians](#) [/Kansas Association for Educational Communications and Technology](#)

Tri-Conference, Capitol Plaza and Kansas ExpoCentre, Topeka. Contact: [Helen Rigdon](#), 620-251-1370.

### **Apr. 18–20:** [Oregon Library Association](#) Annual Conference, Oregon State University, Corvallis. "Finding Community: Civics, Cyberspace, and Change." Contact: [Lynne Mildenstein](#), 541-617-7061.

### **Apr. 18–20:** [Tennessee Library Association](#) Annual Conference, Chattanooga Convention Center and Marriott Hotel. "Info-Locomotion: Ticket to Ride." Contact: [Annelle Huggins](#).

More [Datebook](#) items...

were able to subscribe to it and automatically receive updated versions in their RSS aggregators? Kimberley Wilcox describes the emerging Outline Processor Markup Language (OPML), which promises these features and more, making it an excellent format for creating and sharing research and information guides....

*Computers in Libraries* 26, no. 10 (Nov./Dec. 2006)

### [Elsevier to expand books on ScienceDirect](#)

Science publisher Elsevier plans to add some 4,000 scientific and technical reference works, handbooks, and technical books to its ScienceDirect database in 2007. Some of the new titles will include *Principles of Tissue Engineering*, *Handbook of Forensic Psychology*, and *Marine Mammals*....

Elsevier, Nov. 9

## ACTIONS & ANSWERS

### [Disconnects between library culture and millennial generation values](#)

Robert H. McDonald and Chuck Thomas say that "Despite a few encouraging exceptions, such as RLG's RedLightGreen Catalog interface and OCLC's Open WorldCat, most libraries have been reluctant to embrace or provide new capabilities for users. Features such as personalization and recombination of information resources are pervasive in the external software and systems world, but libraries generally have not demonstrated the desire or intent to adopt these capabilities for users."...

*Educause Quarterly* 29, no. 4 (2006)



### [The changing medical library](#) (PDF file)

Recent changes in technology have allowed academic medical center libraries to bring the world of biomedical information to the physician's computer desktop. Because digital libraries have grown so rapidly and in so many ways, some clinicians may be uncertain about the services and resources that are available to them. This article by four Mount Sinai Medical Center (New York City) librarians explains how clinical faculty can best utilize their libraries to support their research and patient care....

*Mount Sinai Journal of Medicine* 73 (Oct. 2006): 857-863

### [Many college students fall short on ICT literacy skills](#)

Despite the assumption that today's college students are tech savvy and ICT literate, preliminary research ([PDF file](#)) released by the Educational Testing Service November 14 shows that many students lack the critical-thinking skills to perform the kinds of information management and research tasks necessary for academic success. ETS reached these conclusions after evaluating the responses of 6,300 students who took the company's ICT (information and communication technology) Literacy Assessment this year....

Educational Testing Service, Nov. 14



### [Camp Darfur spotlights Sudan's humanitarian crisis](#)

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800-545-2433,  
ext. 4216

ISSN 1559-369X.

An interactive awareness, education, and action event that will bring attention to the ongoing genocide in Darfur, Sudan, Camp Darfur is traveling to U.S. communities, giving people the opportunity to experience life in a refugee camp and discover their own power to make a difference. It's also one way the library profession might join in highlighting and explaining the Darfur genocide to its users, as the ALA Council has [urged](#)....  
Camp Darfur



### [November is American Indian/ Alaska Native Heritage Month](#)

The first American Indian Day was celebrated in May 1916 in New York. In 1990, President George H. W. Bush signed a joint congressional resolution designating November 1990 as "[National American Indian Heritage Month](#)." Similar proclamations have been issued every year since 1994. Find out more facts from the Census Bureau....  
U.S. Census Bureau, Sept. 20



### [Australian libraries have a Second Life presence](#)

Kathryn Greenhill, an academic librarian in Perth, has created a building for Australian libraries to share in Second Life's Cybrary City. Cybrary City is an island sponsored by Talis and administered by the Alliance Library System in East Peoria, Illinois. It provides free buildings for libraries for a year, in return for a couple of hours staffing per week. She has offered some suggestions on what to use the facility for, among them hosting Australian Library Week events and as a venue for virtual library meetings, Flickr exhibits, and a library search portal....  
Librariesinteract.info blog, Nov. 14



### [TLA's theatre resources](#)

The Theatre Library Association offers a weblibliography of recommended sites of interest to theatre scholars and librarians. Included are theatre resource guides, electronic texts, electronic journals, professional organizations, and awards....  
Theatre Library Association

### [Web resources for church librarians](#)

Find help with selecting and purchasing materials, organizing and managing a church library, promotion and fundraising, book care and archiving, sources for supplies and furnishings, computers and library automation, and sources for librarian support and education....  
National Church Library Association



### [The Florence flood of November 4, 1966](#)

This month marks the 40th

anniversary of the devastating 1966 flooding of the Arno River in Florence, Italy. In the days following the flood, Peter Waters (who became LC's chief of conservation from 1971 to 1995) was heavily involved in recovery operations at the Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale di Firenze. *The*



*Restoration of Books, Florence, 1968*, was shot by English filmmaker Roger Hill and includes rare footage of Waters covering a book in leather and British conservator Christopher Clarkson making a limp vellum binding. This 39-minute film is available for viewing free of charge through the University of Utah....

University of Utah, Marriott Library

## AMERICAN LIBRARIES DIRECT

November 15, 2006

AL Direct is a weekly electronic newsletter sent by the American Library Association every Wednesday to personal members by e-mail as a perquisite of membership.

Click here to view the online version of our email:

<%= util.viewHtmlLink %>

### POLL: What do YOU think?

\*\*\*\*\*

Results of the  
November 8 poll:

Do you make use of library-rankings data in presenting budget proposals to your library's funding authorities?

YES.....48%

NO.....52%

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For cumulated results and selected responses to AL Direct polls, visit the AL Online website.

### U.S. & WORLD NEWS

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Voters approve Austin library measure, reject Oakland bond

<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2006abc/november2006a/austinoakland.htm>

On election day November 7, voters in Austin, Texas, approved a new 250,000-square-foot Central Library, while Oakland, California, residents rejected a measure to turn a vacant convention center into a new main library. The \$90-million Austin library package, which won a 60% majority, was one of seven propositions before the city's voters, all of which passed. The new facility will include more books, programming and exhibit space, and increased parking and accessibility....

Nonresident lawsuit reaches Michigan Supreme Court

<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2006abc/november2006a/bloomfield.htm>

One Michigan man's legal pursuit of a nonresident library card is on its way to the state supreme court. George Goldstone sued the Bloomfield Township Public Library in 2005 after it refused to issue him a library card. Goldstone is a resident of neighboring Bloomfield Hills, a wealthy Detroit suburb that in 2003 ended a 39-year contract with the township library after rejecting its proposed \$187,550 fee increase....

Senators request delay in EPA library closings

<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2006abc/november2006a/epasenators.htm>

A group of 17 Democratic senators and one Independent senator wrote to the Senate Appropriations Committee November 3, asking that the Environmental Protection Agency be directed to halt the continuing closures of their

libraries “while the Agency solicits and considers public input on its plan to drastically cut its library budget and services.” The letter, penned by Sens. Barbara Boxer (D-Calif.) and Frank R. Lautenberg (D-N.J.), reflects the growing wave of concern from lawmakers and public employees over recent EPA actions that include the closing of three regional libraries and the reduction of hours or staff at five other libraries....

Sacajawea library arson price tag skyrockets

<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2006abc/november2006a/sacajawea.htm>

The estimated damage from a September 8 arson fire that destroyed the media center at the Sacajawea Middle School in Spokane, Washington, rose to \$1.3 million in early November. An earlier estimate had set the damage at only \$300,000, the amount used in setting restitution payments by the three youths accused of setting the blaze....

## ALA NEWS

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Feature your new library in American Libraries

<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/submittinal/facilitiesfeature.htm>

Every year, American Libraries' April issue features photographs of new, expanded, and renovated library buildings. A showcase of exteriors and interiors of all kinds, this special issue spotlights some of the best in new library designs and successfully completed restorations. Submission forms for 2007 (PDF file) are online. The deadline is February 1, 2007....

Burger announces Emerging Leaders participants

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2006/november2006/EmergingLeaderparticipan.htm>

ALA President Leslie Burger has announced the librarians who will take part in the Emerging Leaders 2007 (EL '07) program. The effort was initiated by Burger and is intended to welcome and train new librarians to get a jump-start in leadership. The full list is available online....

Klein to deliver Arthur Curley lecture

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2006/november2006/CurleylectureKlein.htm>

Joe Klein, senior writer for Time magazine and author of several best-selling books, will discuss “Islam, Iraq, and the War on Terror” at the eighth annual Arthur Curley Memorial Lecture on Saturday, January 20, during the Midwinter Meeting in Seattle. As “Anonymous,” Klein wrote the bestseller Primary Colors, which was inspired by the 1992 presidential race. His latest book, The Natural: The Misunderstood Presidency of Bill Clinton, also was a New York Times bestseller....

ALA extends search for Endowment trustee candidates

<http://www.ala.org/ala/ourassociation/governanceb/treasurerspage/trusteecandidates.htm>

In an effort to increase the pool of potential candidates for the upcoming opening among the Endowment trustees, the ALA Executive Board has reopened and extended the search for candidates. The deadline for receiving applications (PDF file) is now March 1, 2007. Nominations are now being accepted. The candidate will be selected by the ALA Executive Board at its spring meeting, to be held April 13–15 in Chicago....

ALA one year later: What it did right, where it needs improvement

<http://meredith.wolfwater.com/wordpress/index.php/2006/11/11/ala-through-my-eyes-one-year-later/>

Meredith Farkas writes: “It’s been almost a year since I wrote some posts about gripes I had with ALA and suggestions of how the ALA could do better. At the time, I was seriously considering letting my ALA membership lapse in the fall of 2006. Yet last week, I put \$200 on my credit card to renew my membership in ALA, LITA, and NMRT, and to become a new member of ACRL (which I was a member of as a student a while back). What happened? Well . . . a lot.”...

Information Wants to be Free blog, Nov. 11

Making ALA/ACRL better

<http://acrlblog.org/2006/11/12/making-alaacrl-better-its-up-to-you/>

Steven Bell writes: "A few posts appeared in the last day or so ruminating on ALA 2.0 (as if we needed 2.0 anything else). Rather than giving you a long discourse on what needs to happen for ALA or ACRL to improve, I'm going to simplify it for ACRLog readers. There are three easy steps..."

ACRLog, Nov. 12

## Booklist Online

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### Featured review: Media

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show\\_product&pid=1787108](http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=1787108)

*A Model for Matisse: The Story of the Vence Chapel*. Nov. 2006. 67 min. First Run Features, DVD.

In 1941, 21-year-old nursing student Monique Bourgeois answered an advertisement placed by artist Henri Matisse requesting the services of a "young and pretty" night nurse to help during his recuperation from surgery. Monique accepted the job, and the two became friends and confidants until the artist's death in 1954. In this documentary, 82-year-old Monique Bourgeois (now a Dominican nun known as Sister Jacques-Marie) recalls Matisse and their collaborative efforts to build and design a chapel in Vence, situated 20 miles from Nice....

### Evaluating children's music CDs

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show\\_product&pid=1788415](http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=1788415)

Ever aware of my 12th-grade English teacher, who impressed upon me the need to organize and outline, I set out to define what I focus on when I evaluate a new album. When this proved taxing, I did what any self-respecting librarian would do. I turned to the Web, which, surprisingly, yielded almost nothing. Everything I found was pretty dry and not really relevant to the question. In desperation, I decided to make my former teacher happy and create a topic sentence. Here it is....

## SEATTLE UPDATE

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### FOLUSA's gala author tea

<http://www.folusa.org/about/conferences/ala-2007-author-tea.php>

Four authors will speak about their writings at this traditional FOLUSA event sponsored by ReferenceUSA, to be held January 22, from 2 to 4 p.m. Featured authors are Cherry Adair (right, *Edge of Darkness*), William Dietrich (Napoleon's Pyramids), Zlata Filipovic (*Stolen Voices*), and Sara Gruen (*Water for Elephants*). The event will feature finger sandwiches, coffee and tea, and a variety of sweets....

Friends of Libraries USA

### RMG Consultants' 17th Annual Presidents' Seminar

<http://www.rmgconsultants.com/page6/page6.html>

"Wow Technologies in Libraries: Source, Demand, Strategy" is the topic of the RMG Presidents' Seminar at the ALA Midwinter Meeting on Friday, January 19, 2:00–5:00 p.m. Find out from panelists which "wow factor" add-ons to ILSs are mission critical to libraries, where the future of the OPAC lies, and what an ILS 2.0 should look like....

RMG Consultants, Inc.

## DIVISION NEWS

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### AASL's journal gets a dynamic new look

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2006/november2006/AASLjournalnewlook.htm>

Knowledge Quest, the print journal of the American Association of School Librarians, has undergone a dramatic makeover with its September/October 2006 issue. Formerly printed primarily in black and white with limited graphic images, Knowledge Quest received a vibrant shot of color and moved to 4-color press production for its 35th volume. Its companion website KQWeb also underwent a redesign and reorganization under the leadership of AASL's new web editor, Gayle Bogel....

Proposals wanted for LITA's 10th National Forum

<http://www.ala.org/ala/lita/litaevents/litanationalforum2007denver/callforproposals.htm>

LITA is seeking proposals for high-quality concurrent sessions and poster sessions for the 10th annual LITA National Forum, "Technology with Altitude: 10 Years of the LITA National Forum," to be held at the Denver Marriott City Center, October 4-7, 2007. The deadline is December 15....

Bill Harley helps launch ALSC Kids! campaign

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2006/november2006/kidslaunch.htm>

When Grammy-nominated children's singer/storyteller Bill Harley took to the stage November 12 at Boston Public Library to perform, it was no ordinary concert. His message was: "There's so much to see, so much to do @ your library." Harley helped kick off the ALSC Kids! @ your library campaign, a new national effort to raise awareness of all the free resources available for children and families....

## ROUND TABLE NEWS

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Recovery of Louisiana documents collections (PDF file)

<http://www.ala.org/ala/godort/godortcommittees/godortprogram/louisiana.pdf>

University of New Orleans Head of Government Documents Lora Amsberryaugier gave this presentation at ALA Annual Conference last summer at a Government Documents Round Table program. It features many photos of depository libraries damaged by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita and summarizes the building damage and human toll on the collections....

## Awards

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Kevin Starr receives National Humanities Medal

<http://www.neh.gov/news/archive/20061108.html>

At a White House ceremony on November 9, President George W. Bush presented the National Humanities Medal to nine distinguished Americans and one institution for their contributions to the humanities. Included in the awardees was Kevin Starr, state librarian of California from 1994 to 2004 and an American historian best known for his multivolume series on the social and cultural history of California, collectively called America and the California Dream....

National Endowment for the Humanities, Nov. 8

Three libraries receive IMLS National Awards

<http://www.imls.gov/news/2006/111506.shtm>

The Frankfort (Ind.) Community Public Library, the Public Library of Charlotte (N.C.) and Mecklenburg County, and the San Antonio (Tex.) Public Library are three of the winners of the 2006 National Awards for Museum and Library Service. Each organization will receive \$10,000 and will be honored at a special ceremony in Washington, D.C. The National Award for Museum and Library Service honors institutions for extraordinary civic, educational, economic, environmental, and social contributions....

Institute of Museum and Library Services, Nov. 15

Sara Jaffarian establishes new award

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2006/november2006/jslpaehp07.htm>

The Sara Jaffarian School Library Program Award will be given annually to a school library (K–8, public or private) that has conducted an exemplary program or program series in the humanities. Jaffarian, a retired school librarian and ALA member for 63 years, made a donation to ALA’s Cultural Communities Fund in order to establish the \$4,000 award. The award guidelines and application are available online. Submissions are due by February 28, 2007....

Rebecca Miller wins Shera Dissertation Award

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2006/november2006/SheraAwardwinner.htm>

The ALA Library Research Round Table has named Rebecca Miller winner of the 2006 Jesse H. Shera Award for the Support of Dissertation Research for her paper, “The Diffusion of Professional Knowledge in Intercultural Exchanges: The American-Bulgarian Library Exchange Case Study.” Miller is a doctoral candidate in the School of Library and Information Management, Emporia (Kans.) State University....

Apply for PLA awards and honors

<http://www.ala.org/PLATemplate.cfm?Section=plaawards>

The Public Library Association’s awards are designed to highlight the best in public library service. Nominate your library or a colleague for an award through PLA’s new online awards application. The deadline for applications is December 1. All applications must be submitted online prior to the deadline in order to be considered....

Urban Libraries Council awards nominations sought

<http://www.urbanlibraries.org/awards/index.html>

ULC’s three awards honor members’ achievements in addressing community needs, leadership, and urban development. The awards are presented annually at the group’s Leadership Breakfast, held in conjunction with the ALA Annual Conference. Nominees must be ULC members. The deadline is December 3....

Urban Libraries Council

## SEEN ONLINE

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Virginia joins the Google Books team

[http://www.timesdispatch.com/servlet/Satellite?](http://www.timesdispatch.com/servlet/Satellite?pagename=RTD%2FIMGArticle%2FRTD_BasicArticle&c=MGArticle&cid=1149191696165&path=!news&s=1045855934842)

[pagename=RTD%2FIMGArticle%2FRTD\\_BasicArticle&c=MGArticle&cid=1149191696165&path=!news&s=1045855934842](http://www.timesdispatch.com/servlet/Satellite?pagename=RTD%2FIMGArticle%2FRTD_BasicArticle&c=MGArticle&cid=1149191696165&path=!news&s=1045855934842)

The University of Virginia in Charlottesville will join eight other research libraries in the Google Books Library Project, officials announced November 14. Google will digitize selected parts of the library’s collections in American history, literature, and humanities. University Librarian Karin Wittenborg said that with Google, “18th and 19th century works that are rarely found can be discovered by new audiences.”...

Richmond (Va.) Times-Dispatch, Nov. 15

Canadian universities switch RefWorks servers to ensure privacy from the U.S.

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/servlet/story/RTGAM.20061111.wxuniversities11/BNStory/National/home>

Concerned about the U.S. government’s prying eyes, a number of Canadian universities are changing the way their professors and students conduct online research. Many university libraries subscribe to RefWorks, a popular U.S.-based internet tool that allows academics and students to create personal accounts and store research information. But the USA Patriot Act has prompted Canadian postsecondary institutions to abandon the American server for one housed at the University of Toronto....

Toronto Globe and Mail, Nov. 12

Nancy Pelosi was San Francisco Library Commissioner in 1975

<http://www.californiachronicle.com/articles/viewArticle.asp?articleID=16592>

It is now almost forgotten that U.S. Rep. Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) was once a library commissioner. In those days Kevin Starr was the city librarian of San Francisco, Ed Callanan was the president of the Library Commission, and Joseph Alioto, the mayor at the time, appointed Pelosi to the remainder of an unfinished term....

California Chronicle, Nov. 13

Library cuts jeopardize state certification

<http://ledger.southofboston.com/articles/2006/11/13/news/news06.txt>

Supporters of the Turner Free Library in Randolph, Massachusetts, have collected more than 1,500 signatures on a petition supporting increased library funding. The library has lost its state certification because it is only open 40 hours per week, not the required 63. "People had no idea this was happening," Friends President Geraldine Quigley said. "If we lose the library, we lose a lot in this town."...

Quincy (Mass.) Patriot-Ledger, Nov. 13

More graphic novels in libraries = more challenges

[http://www.iht.com/articles/ap/2006/11/14/arts/NA\\_A-E\\_BKS\\_US\\_Banned\\_Graphic\\_Novels.php](http://www.iht.com/articles/ap/2006/11/14/arts/NA_A-E_BKS_US_Banned_Graphic_Novels.php)

When Amy Crump took over as director of the Marshall Public Library in central Missouri two years ago, she decided to build up the library's offerings for young adults by buying the literary world's hot new thing—graphic novels. But libraries are increasingly facing complaints from some parents who are concerned that books with adult content could be read by children attracted to the comic book-like drawings....

Associated Press, Nov. 14

## TECH TALK

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Minicards for your library

[http://stephenslighthouse.sirsidynix.com/archives/2006/11/mini\\_business\\_c.html](http://stephenslighthouse.sirsidynix.com/archives/2006/11/mini_business_c.html)

Stephen Abrams brainstormed about library-related uses for a new kind of photocard offered by a printing company called MOO that ties itself to Flickr: "You can use any of your Flickr images on your Minicards. You order them in batches as small as 100 and you get to choose which Flickr images you want and can have as many as there are cards in one batch." Two excellent suggestions: "Have photos of your library club kids put on Flickr and make personalized business cards for them to promote the library" and "Make up a set for your trustees with their photos so they can promote the library."...

Stephen's Lighthouse blog, Nov. 15

Information ecosystem

[http://blogs.ala.org/pace.php?title=information\\_ecosystem](http://blogs.ala.org/pace.php?title=information_ecosystem)

Andrew Pace writes: "I got to thinking about the introduction of new technologies (e.g. Web 2.0), new content providers (e.g., Open Access), new content 'snarfers' (e.g., Microsoft Live and Google), and new business models for library automation. I was never very good at biology, but I gained a general understanding about how the introduction of new species into an ecosystem has an impact on the existing system."...

Hectic Pace blog, Nov. 12

New Sony PRS-500 e-book reader

[http://www.technologyreview.com/read\\_article.aspx?id=17766&ch=infotech](http://www.technologyreview.com/read_article.aspx?id=17766&ch=infotech)

This year Sony tested the patience of e-book fans by twice delaying the release of its new PRS-500 reading device, originally promised for the spring. The company finally started taking orders over the Web in September, and the gadget can now be purchased at electronics stores and select Borders bookstores. The device holds hundreds of digital books and displays them on a unique "electronic paper" screen invented by MIT Media Lab researchers....

Technology Review, Nov. 8

Gear up your research guides with OPML codes

<http://www.infotoday.com/cilmag/nov06/Wilcox.shtml>

What if you could create a dynamic research guide that displays the latest headlines from selected blogs, feeds of new book and article titles from the library's catalog and databases, and audio and video files—along with your traditional web links and bibliographies? Even better, what if this guide could be syndicated so that people were able to subscribe to it and automatically receive updated versions in their RSS aggregators? Kimberley Wilcox describes the emerging Outline Processor Markup Language (OPML), which promises these features and more, making it an excellent format for creating and sharing research and information guides....

Computers in Libraries 26, no. 10 (Nov./Dec. 2006)

Elsevier to expand books on ScienceDirect

<http://info.sciencedirect.com/content/books/2007/>

Science publisher Elsevier plans to add some 4,000 scientific and technical reference works, handbooks, and technical books to its ScienceDirect database in 2007. Some of the new titles will include Principles of Tissue Engineering, Handbook of Forensic Psychology, and Marine Mammals....

Elsevier, Nov. 9

## ACTIONS AND ANSWERS

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Disconnects between library culture and millennial generation values

<http://www.educause.edu/apps/eq/eqm06/eqm0640.asp>

Robert H. McDonald and Chuck Thomas say that “Despite a few encouraging exceptions, such as RLG’s RedLightGreen Catalog interface and OCLC’s Open WorldCat, most libraries have been reluctant to embrace or provide new capabilities for users. Features such as personalization and recombination of information resources are pervasive in the external software and systems world, but libraries generally have not demonstrated the desire or intent to adopt these capabilities for users.”...

Educause Quarterly 29, no. 4 (2006)

The changing medical library (PDF file)

[http://www.mssm.edu/msjournal/73/73\\_6\\_pages\\_857\\_863.pdf](http://www.mssm.edu/msjournal/73/73_6_pages_857_863.pdf)

Recent changes in technology have allowed academic medical center libraries to bring the world of biomedical information to the physician’s computer desktop. Because digital libraries have grown so rapidly and in so many ways, some clinicians may be uncertain about the services and resources that are available to them. This article by four Mount Sinai Medical Center (New York City) librarians explains how clinical faculty can best utilize their libraries to support their research and patient care....

Mount Sinai Journal of Medicine 73 (Oct. 2006): 857–863

Many college students fall short on ICT literacy skills

<http://www.ets.org/portal/site/ets/menuitem.c988ba0e5dd572bada20bc47c3921509/?vgnnextoid=340051e5122ee010VgnVCM10000022f95190RCRD&vgnnextchannel=d89d1eed91059010VgnVCM1000022f95190RCRD>

Despite the assumption that today’s college students are tech savvy and ICT literate, preliminary research (PDF file) released by the Educational Testing Service November 14 shows that many students lack the critical-thinking skills to perform the kinds of information management and research tasks necessary for academic success. ETS reached these conclusions after evaluating the responses of 6,300 students who took the company’s ICT (information and communication technology) Literacy Assessment this year....

Educational Testing Service, Nov. 14

Camp Darfur spotlights Sudan’s humanitarian crisis

<http://www.campdarfur.org/>

An interactive awareness, education, and action event that will bring attention to the ongoing genocide in Darfur, Sudan, Camp Darfur is traveling to U.S. communities, giving people the opportunity to experience life in a refugee

camp and discover their own power to make a difference. It's also one way the library profession might join in highlighting and explaining the Darfur genocide to its users, as the ALA Council has urged....

Camp Darfur

November is American Indian/ Alaska Native Heritage Month

[http://www.census.gov/Press-Release/www/releases/archives/facts\\_for\\_features\\_special\\_editions/007489.html](http://www.census.gov/Press-Release/www/releases/archives/facts_for_features_special_editions/007489.html)

The first American Indian Day was celebrated in May 1916 in New York. In 1990, President George H. W. Bush signed a joint congressional resolution designating November 1990 as "National American Indian Heritage Month." Similar proclamations have been issued every year since 1994. Find out more facts from the Census Bureau....

U.S. Census Bureau, Sept. 20

Australian libraries have a Second Life presence

<http://librariesinteract.info/2006/11/14/australian-libraries-now-have-a-building-in-second-life/>

Kathryn Greenhill, an academic librarian in Perth, has created a building for Australian libraries to share in Second Life's Cybrary City. Cybrary City is an island sponsored by Talis and administered by the Alliance Library System in East Peoria, Illinois. It provides free buildings for libraries for a year, in return for a couple of hours staffing per week. She has offered some suggestions on what to use the facility for, among them hosting Australian Library Week events and as a venue for virtual library meetings, Flickr exhibits, and a library search portal....

Librariesinteract.info blog, Nov. 14

TLA's theatre resources

<http://tla.library.unt.edu/resources.html>

The Theatre Library Association offers a webliography of recommended sites of interest to theatre scholars and librarians. Included are theatre resource guides, electronic texts, electronic journals, professional organizations, and awards....

Theatre Library Association

Web resources for church librarians

<http://www.churchlibraries.org/links.htm>

Find help with selecting and purchasing materials, organizing and managing a church library, promotion and fundraising, book care and archiving, sources for supplies and furnishings, computers and library automation, and sources for librarian support and education....

National Church Library Association

The Florence flood of November 4, 1966

<http://data.scl.utah.edu/fmi/xsl/stream/details.xsl?-recid=354&a::v=1117i74yOO#>

This month marks the 40th anniversary of the devastating 1966 flooding of the Arno River in Florence, Italy. In the days following the flood, Peter Waters (who became LC's chief of conservation from 1971 to 1995) was heavily involved in recovery operations at the Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale di Firenze. The Restoration of Books, Florence, 1968, was shot by English filmmaker Roger Hill and includes rare footage of Waters covering a book in leather and British conservator Christopher Clarkson making a limp vellum binding. This 39-minute film is available for viewing free of charge through the University of Utah....

University of Utah, Marriott Library

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ISSN 1559-369X.

# AMERICAN LIBRARIES



**November 22, 2006**

AL Direct is a free electronic newsletter e-mailed every Wednesday to personal members of the [American Library Association](#).

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## U.S. & WORLD NEWS

### [Referenda Roundup 2006](#) (PDF file)

Voters throughout the U.S. showed strong support for their libraries this year. *American Libraries'* state-by-state roundup of library referenda and other local ballot measures throughout the year is based on reports from state library agencies and online news sources....

*American Libraries* 37, no. 11 (Dec.): 17-25

### [Student Tasered by police in UCLA library](#)

A University of California at Los Angeles student was repeatedly stunned with an electronic Taser by campus police officers November 14 at the UCLA Powell Library. The incident, which was partly captured on video by another student and [posted](#) on YouTube, has much of the community wondering if



the officers used excessive force. Mostafa Tabatabaiejad, 23, was in a library computer lab around 11:30 p.m. when a community service officer asked for his campus ID as part of the library's policy....

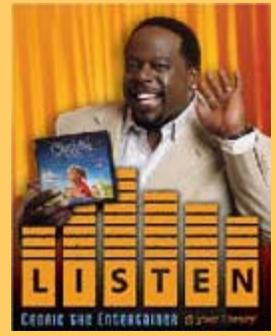
### [ACLU sues Washington library district over filtering](#)

Three individuals and the Second Amendment Foundation, a pro-firearm nonprofit group, have engaged the American Civil Liberties Union to represent them in a lawsuit against the internet filtering policy of the North Central Regional Library, headquartered in Wenatchee, Washington. The challenge centers on NCRL's use of Secure Computing's Bess censorware on all its public computers, which the plaintiffs allege has blocked them from viewing constitutionally protected websites....

### [Boston Public Library still missing some rare maps](#)

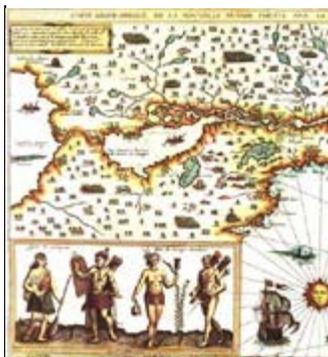


A [basic schedule](#) of meetings at the Midwinter Meeting is available online.



A new Cedric the Entertainer [Listen Up @ your library](#) poster is available from ALA Graphics. Inspire your patrons to take advantage of the audio collection at your library with this dynamic new Listen poster.

Although it has recovered 34 antique maps that were stolen by convicted map thief E. Forbes Smiley III, the Boston Public Library reports that some of its cartographic treasures are still missing. The 36 maps the library is still looking for were all used by Smiley in recent years, BPL Curator of Maps Ronald Grim said in the November 15 *Boston Globe*. The British Library, as well as Harvard and other institutions affected by Smiley's thefts, suspect that he is responsible for more missing maps than he's admitted to....



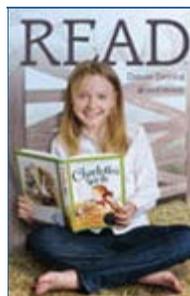
### [Man shot near circulation desk in Chicago](#)

A 20-year-old man was shot in the shoulder November 15 at Chicago Public Library's Marshall Square branch while he stood near the circulation counter. Chicago Police Officer Kelly Liakopoulos said in the November 15 *Chicago Tribune* that the assailant opened the library door and fired one shot at the victim. The wounded individual was taken to a nearby hospital and reported to be in good condition....

## ALA NEWS

### [Oprah to showcase ALA Read/Listen posters](#)

The *Oprah Show* airing Tuesday, November 28, will showcase the latest ALA Read and Listen posters from Dakota Fanning and Cedric the Entertainer. In her latest picture, *Charlotte's Web*, to be released December 15, Fanning plays the coveted role of Fern. Her costars include Oprah, Julia Roberts, Cedric the Entertainer, and Robert Redford....

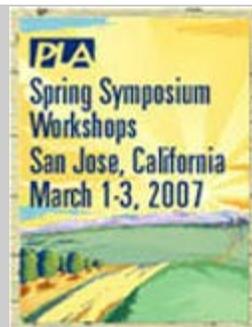
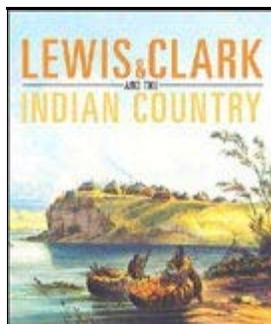


### [Survey of public library funding and technology access](#)

ALA, with support from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, is collaborating with the Information Use Management and Policy Institute in the College of Information at Florida State University to conduct a [national survey of public libraries](#) about their internet connectivity, computing resources, and related funding. The 2006 survey focuses on the impacts, benefits, and challenges of public computing and internet access services in public libraries....

### [Lewis and Clark on the road again](#)

The ALA Public Programs Office, in cooperation with the Newberry Library, is accepting grant applications from public, academic, and special libraries wishing to host the traveling exhibition, ["Lewis and Clark and the Indian Country."](#) Applications must be received by February 9. The program is based on a major exhibition of the same title, which was on display at the Newberry Library from September 28, 2005, through January 14, 2006, and focuses on the encounters of Native Americans with the United States Corps of Discovery between 1804 and 1806....



Final registration deadline for the [PLA Spring Symposium](#) in San Jose is January 26.

## Thus Said

"I was in the Mary Dow Reading Room of the Park Library [at Central Michigan University] yesterday. Two female students came in behind me. The one says to the other, 'And in this room, the library keeps printed out web pages.' It took me a moment to grasp what she had meant by such an odd remark. And then it dawned on me. She was used to getting her periodicals online. She had been doing this probably since she was in middle school."

—Michael Lorenzen, The Information Literacy Land of Confusion blog, Nov. 10.

## Classifieds

### [COUNTY LIBRARIAN,](#)

Humboldt County Public Library, Eureka, California. As a county department head the county librarian oversees the main library, 10 branches, and a bookmobile. Responsibilities include the preparation of the annual budget, supervision of library

### [Host Ben Franklin @ your library](#)

The ALA Public Programs Office, in collaboration with the Benjamin Franklin Tercentenary in Philadelphia, is accepting grant applications from libraries wishing to host the traveling exhibition, ["Benjamin Franklin: In Search of a Better World."](#)

The program is based on a major exhibition of the same title, which was on display at the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia until April 30. Applications are due by February 9....



### [Library Legislative Day Student Contest winner](#)

The ALA Washington Office and YALSA have selected Danny Chapman, of Lake Forest, Illinois, as the winner of the National Library Legislative Day 2007 Student Contest. For his winning entry—entitled "Check Out the Future"—Danny has won a free trip to the 33rd Annual National Library Legislative Day, which will be held in Washington, D.C., May 1 and 2, 2007. He will be visiting his Members of Congress with the delegation from the Illinois Library Association....



### [State library e-rate coordinators convene in Virginia](#)

Thanks to a grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, ALA's Office of Information Technology Policy has begun an effort to increase library participation in the federal e-rate program. Its first activity in this project was a training session for state library e-rate coordinators that took place November 7–9 in Herndon, Virginia. These coordinators provide training, help applicants make their way through the program, and advocate for e-rate at the state and local level....

District Dispatch blog, Nov. 16

staff, and meeting with community groups and volunteer organizations regarding library programs and services....



See [JobLIST](#) for more career opportunities.



In Raymond Briggs's *The Snowman*, a wintry hero comes to life and takes a young boy on an unforgettable adventure. Get the poster and bookmark at the [ALA Store](#).

### Poll

## What do YOU think?

**Does the decision by HarperCollins to cancel publication of O.J. Simpson's book *If I Did It* constitute censorship?**

**Click here to [ANSWER!](#)**

### Results of the November 15 poll:

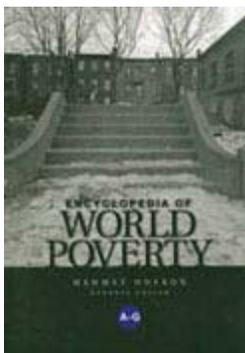
Has your library had requests from law enforcement to install "sniffer" software on your internet server to collect data through words or phrases that indicate illegal activities?

## Booklist ONLINE

### [Featured review: Reference](#)

Odekon, Mehmet (editor). *Encyclopedia of World Poverty*. Nov. 2006. 941p. Sage, hardcover. (1-4129-1807-3).

Using one encyclopedia to approach the topic of poverty on a global scale is an unusual but effective plan. It provides a format for including all the disciplines that have to do with the study of poverty—economics, political science, sociology, and more—but with one focus. Though the topic is huge, by having the information presented in this way, researchers can do comparisons from a cross-cultural aspect that might otherwise be difficult....



## SEATTLE UPDATE

### Seattle residents' suggestions on what to see

The *Seattle Times* asked its readers to recommend what visitors to the city should see and experience. Here are their favorite places, from the Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park to the Archie McPhee novelty store....

*Seattle Times*, May 25

## DIVISION NEWS

### ALCTS celebrates 50th anniversary

ALCTS is planning a stellar lineup of events to showcase its 50th anniversary celebration, "Commemorating our Past, Celebrating our Present, Creating our Future." Highlights include a Midwinter anniversary year kickoff reception, the ALCTS National Conference in Washington, D.C., a gala dinner cruise, and the ALA Annual Conference President's Program featuring Peter Morville, author of *Ambient Findability* and president of Semantic Studios....

Celebrating **50** years of  
the **ALCTS** experience

### LAMA leads the way with a new blog

The [LEADS from LAMA blog](#) replaces the electronic newsletter of the same name from the Library Administration and Management Association. The blog will feature news and information about LAMA, ALA, and other organizations of interest to LAMA members....

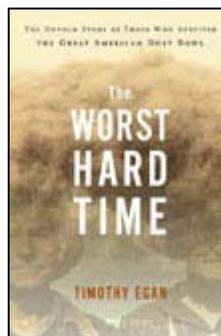


## AWARDS

### National Book Awards winners announced

Richard Powers's *The Echo Maker* and Timothy Egan's *The Worst Hard Time* won National Book Awards for fictional and historical portrayals of life in the American Midwest. *The Echo Maker* (Farrar, Straus and Giroux), a novel set in the small town of Kearney, Nebraska, won the fiction prize at the 57th version of the awards November 15 at the Marriott Marquis Hotel in New York. *The Worst Hard Time* (Houghton Mifflin), a history of the Dust Bowl that turned America's heartland into a barren waste during the Great Depression, won for nonfiction....

Bloomberg News, Nov. 16



### Nominations sought for Kilgour award

Nominations are invited for the 2007 Frederick G. Kilgour Award for Research in Library and Information Technology, sponsored by OCLC and LITA. The deadline is December 31. The Kilgour Award honors research relevant to the development of information technologies, especially work which shows promise of having a positive and

**YES**.....3%  
**NO**.....97%

(125 responses)

This is an unscientific poll that reflects the opinions of only those *AL Direct* readers who have chosen to participate.

For cumulated results and selected responses to *AL Direct* polls, visit the AL Online [website](#).

### Ask the ALA Librarian



**Q. Are we able to use music CDs in our collection to broadcast background sound that would distract patrons from complaining about other noises? Or do we need to pay for satellite radio or commercially available piped-in music to avoid copyright infringement?**

**A.** The short answer is no, you will need to obtain your music from a source that pays the public performance license, or use the very limited amount of public domain recorded music. See the [ALA Professional Tips wiki](#).

substantive impact on any aspect of the publication, storage, retrieval, and dissemination of information....

### [ALA-APA/SirsiDynix award deadline extended](#)

Nominations for the \$5,000 ALA-APA/SirsiDynix Award for Outstanding Achievement in Promoting Salaries and Status for Library Workers will be accepted through December 15. [Nominees](#) may be individuals or organizations that have made a positive change in the salaries or status of librarians or support staff....



### [Humphry award for international librarianship](#)

ALA is accepting nominations for the 2007 John Ames Humphry/OCLC/Forest Press Award for International Librarianship. The award is given to an individual who has made significant contributions to international librarianship. The award consists of a prize of \$1,000 and a certificate. The deadline is January 1....

### [Nominations for international travel fund](#)

ALA is accepting nominations for the 2007 Bogle Pratt International Travel Fund, sponsored by the Bogle Memorial Fund and the Pratt Institute School of Information and Library Science. An award of \$1,000 is given to an ALA member to attend their first international conference. The deadline is January 1....

### [LITA scholarships available](#)

Applications are being accepted for three LITA scholarships: the Christian Larew Memorial Scholarship (sponsored by Informata.com) for \$3,000, the LSSI Minority Scholarship for \$2,500, and the OCLC Minority Scholarship for \$3,000. Applications must be postmarked no later than March 1....

### [SLA Illinois Student Travel Stipend](#)

The Illinois Chapter of the Special Libraries Association is offering a student stipend award to help cover expenses for the 2007 SLA Annual Conference in Denver. The chapter will select one student from an Illinois LIS program to receive a \$1,000 award....



## SEEN ONLINE



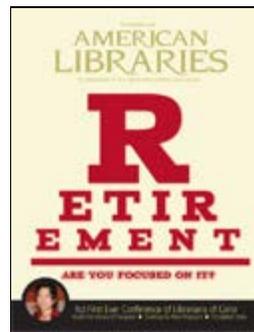
### [Howell Carnegie Library is 100 years old](#)

A century after its opening on November 19, 1906, the Howell

Got a question?  
Send it to [Ask the ALA Librarian](#).

## In This Issue

November 2006



Stories inside include:

**Retired and Inspired**

**Cooking Up Culture**

**Behind the Scenes at LC's Dewey Division**

## Datebook

**Jan. 9–12:**

[International Conference on Technology, Knowledge and Society](#), Cambridge University, Cambridge, UK.  
Contact: [conference secretariat](#), +61-0-29-519-0303.

**Jan. 17–18:**

[Metadata and Digital Library Development](#), an ALCTS and Library of Congress Workshop, University of Washington, Seattle.  
Contact: [Julie Reese](#), 312-280-5034.

(Mich.) Carnegie District Library stands as one of 26 Carnegie libraries in the United States still being used as a library. Howell Library Director Kathleen Zaenger said the community is aware of the gem it has in the center of downtown, judging by its 419,474-item circulation last year....

*Detroit News*, Nov. 16

### [UCLA Taser officer has history of complaints](#)

The UCLA police officer videotaped November 14 using a Taser gun on a student also shot a homeless man at a campus study hall room three years ago and was earlier recommended for dismissal in connection with an alleged assault on fraternity row, authorities said. UCLA police confirmed late Monday that the officer who fired the Taser gun was Terrence Duren, who has served in the university's Police Department for 18 years....

*Los Angeles Times*, Nov. 21

### [New York Public Library officials' pay](#)

Over the past three years, NYPL's financial tribulations were not reflected in at least one significant way—the compensation received by some of the institution's top officers. The library's most recent federal tax filing shows that the total compensation for Paul LeClerc, the library's president and chief executive, had increased to more than \$800,000, a jump of more than \$221,000 from just a year earlier. During 2005, the library also hired three officers who were paid substantially more than the people they replaced....

*New York Times*, Nov. 18

### [Iowa First Lady visits 500 libraries](#)

Christie Vilsack, wife of outgoing Iowa Gov. Tom Vilsack, visited the Davenport Public Library November 14 and reached her goal that same day of visiting 500 Iowa libraries during her tenure as first lady. She's been busily visiting libraries over the last seven years to raise awareness for literacy and the important part that libraries can play in families' lives....

*Davenport (Iowa) Quad City Times*, Nov. 16

### [Professors get F in copyright protection](#)

Book publishers say professors who post long excerpts of protected texts on the internet without permission cost the industry at least \$20 million a year. Cornell University agreed in September to regulate work its faculty puts on the Web, in response to a threatened lawsuit from the Association of American Publishers. College libraries used to hold hard copies of a book in reserve to provide access to students in a particular course; now, electronic reserves let the library scan and post parts of works on an internal website for students using pass codes that expire at the course's end....

*Bloomberg News*, Nov. 20

### [Claim: EPA hastily disposing of library materials](#)

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is frantically dispersing its library collections to preempt congressional intervention, according to internal e-mails released November 20 by Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility. Contrary to promises by EPA Deputy Administrator Marcus Peacock that all of the former library materials will be made available electronically, vast troves of unique technical reports and analyses will remain indefinitely inaccessible....

*Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility*, Nov. 20

### [Librarian files age-discrimination lawsuit](#)

### **Feb. 1–2:**

[International Conference on Cataloging](#), Grand Hotel, Reykjavik, Iceland. "Back to Basics—And Flying into the Future."

Contact: [Kristjana Magnúsdóttir](#), +354-585-3900.

### **Feb. 20–24:**

[Transborder Library Forum](#), hosted by Arizona State University Libraries, Tempe, Arizona. "Bridging the Digital Divide: Crossing All Borders." Contact: [Foro 2007](#).

### **Feb. 22–25:**

[Alaska Library Association](#) Annual Conference, Centennial Hall, Juneau. "Libraries: The Umbrella of the Community." Contact: [Amelia Jenkins](#).

### **Mar. 2–3:**

[McConnell Youth Literature Conference](#), Embassy Suites Hotel, Lexington, Kentucky. "In Celebration of Anne McConnell." Contact: [Lousetta Carlson](#), 859-257-8876.

### **Mar. 6–8:**

[Louisiana Library Association](#) Annual Conference, Holiday Inn Select, Baton Rouge. "Louisiana Libraries: Bridging Communities." Contact: [LLA](#).

### **Mar. 7–10:**

[Association of](#)

A Michigan librarian has filed a lawsuit alleging she was pushed aside to make room for a younger employee and then was denied health insurance benefits provided to other former workers. In her lawsuit filed in Oakland Circuit Court, Patience Beer, 62, said she had planned to retire in October 2005 from her job as adult services librarian at the Independence Township Library in Clarkston but was asked to stay on as acting library director. But in February 2006, she was informed via e-mail that another woman, in her 30s and not employed by the township, had been selected as the new library director....

*Detroit News*, Nov. 17

### [Librarians "should be sexier"](#)

Alex Aiken, head of communications for Westminster City Council in London, England, told a conference of Public Library Authorities recently that libraries should spice up their reputation by using "good-looking" staff for media and marketing work and by stressing their range of "racy" titles. He added: "The concept of the librarian has to change and perhaps a start would be to abolish the title itself, with its connotations of middle-aged conservatism."...

*This Is London*, Nov. 16

## TECH TALK

### [Ex Libris and Endeavor merge](#)

Francisco Partners, the company that bought Ex Libris Corporation this year, announced November 21 ([PDF file](#)) that it will also purchase Endeavor Information Systems from Reed Elsevier. The two companies will be merged and run under the Ex Libris name and senior management, led by Matti Shem Tov. With a combined install base of over 2,200 libraries, the merged company will still be second in size to (the also recently combined) SirsiDynix, but a closer second; Innovative Interfaces now takes a more distant third position in the academic, public, and special library automation sector. Financial details of the merger have not been made public at this time....

Hectic Pace blog, Nov. 21

### [The Digital Ice Age](#)

The threat of lost or corrupted data faces anyone who relies on digital media to store documents—and these days, that's practically everyone. Digital information is so simple to create and store, we naturally think it will be easily and accurately preserved for the future. Nothing could be further from the truth. In fact, our digital information—everything from photos of loved ones to diagrams of Navy ships—is at risk of degrading, becoming unreadable or disappearing altogether....

*Popular Mechanics*, December

### [Cracking the code of IM slang](#)

For parents of teens, three-letter acronyms like PAW, MOS, and CD9 might be more disturbing than the old four-letter words. Librarians may need to decipher them too. Stefanie Olsen describes the tools that can translate the instant messaging chatter, from NoSlang.com and Teenangels.org to Teenchatdecoder.com....

C|net news, Nov. 14

## ACTIONS & ANSWERS

### [Bookstore road trip: New York](#)

### [Architecture School Librarians Annual Meeting](#),

Philadelphia. Contact: [Martin Aurand](#), 412-268-8165.

### **Mar. 14–16:** [New Mexico Library Association](#) [/Mountain Plains Library Association](#)

Joint Conference, Albuquerque Convention Center. "Libraries: Launching the Future." Contact: [Louise Hoffmann](#).

### **Apr. 5–7:** [Kansas Library Association](#) [/Kansas Association of School Librarians](#) [/Kansas Association for Educational Communications and Technology](#)

Tri-Conference, Capitol Plaza and Kansas ExpoCentre, Topeka. Contact: [Helen Rigdon](#), 620-251-1370.

### **Apr. 18–20:** [Oregon Library Association](#) Annual Conference, Oregon State University, Corvallis. "Finding Community: Civics, Cyberspace, and Change." Contact: [Lynne Mildenstein](#), 541-617-7061.

More [Datebook](#) items...

## Contact Us

### American Libraries Direct

George M. Eberhart,  
Editor:  
[geberhart@ala.org](mailto:geberhart@ala.org)

Karen Sheets,

## [and Los Angeles](#)

Bookstore tourism promoter Larry Portzline takes busloads of bibliophiles on tours of independent bookshops in New York's [Greenwich Village](#) (6:36) and in the beach towns of the [Los Angeles area](#) (7:13). These two videos capture the experience and feature interviews with participating bookstore owners, booklovers, and the real-life "Gidget," Kathy Kohner-Zuckerman (above, at the Diesel bookstore in Malibu)....

Bookstore Tourism blog, Nov. 17



## [Ian Fleming collectibles](#)

The big screen blockbuster of *Casino Royale* sees 007 new boy Daniel Craig gambling at the French Riviera's baccarat tables, but you would need to truly break the bank to afford an original first edition of many of Ian Fleming's James Bond books. He wrote 13 Bond novels, starting with *Casino Royale* in 1953 and ending with *Octopussy and the Living Daylights* in 1966, and all first editions are highly desirable and quite elusive, much like 007 himself....

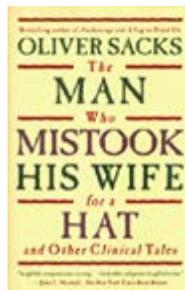
AbeBooks



## [25 greatest science books of all time](#)

The editors of *Discover* magazine have identified the 25 most influential books ever written. At the top of the list, tied for first place, are Darwin's *The Voyage of the Beagle* (1845) and *The Origin of Species* (1859). The oldest is Aristotle's *Physics* (ca. 330 B.C.E.), and the most recent is *The Man Who Mistook His Wife for a Hat and Other Clinical Tales* by Oliver Sacks (1985)....

*Discover* 27, no. 12 (Dec.)



## [LC's Directorate of Legal Research](#)

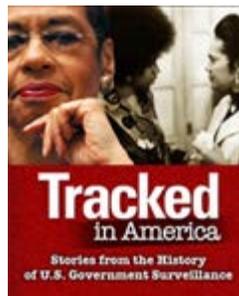
Michael Ravnitzky writes about a little-known office in the Library of Congress: "Despite harsh criticism of the citation of foreign law in American court decisions, the U.S. Supreme Court and the federal appellate courts solicit and are supplied with numerous studies surveying foreign law each year, according to the Library of Congress's annual reports. The source of this scholarship is the talented staff of the [Directorate of Legal Research](#), a little-known but well-regarded and highly influential research department contained within the Library of Congress. DLR is a sister organization to the better-known Congressional Research Service. The Directorate of Legal Research receives scant mention even among the legal research community."...

LLRX, Nov. 12

## [Tracked in America](#)

Tracked in America: Stories from the History of U.S. Government Surveillance, a recently launched online documentary website, examines the history of surveillance in America. Featured on the site are 300 photographs, the personal stories of 25 individuals affected by surveillance, and commentary by six historians who chronicle dissent in America from 1798 to today....

Tracked in America



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ext. 4216

ISSN 1559-369X.

## [National Library of Egypt and LC launch digital project](#)

The Library of Congress and the National Library and Archives of Egypt announced a significant milestone in their cooperation on digital initiatives with the opening on November 15 of a state-of-the-art digitization center at the National Library in Cairo. The equipment for the center has been provided by the Library of Congress to the National Library to enable it to digitize rare and unique materials in its collections and make them accessible on the internet....

Library of Congress, Nov. 16

## [Investigate the possibilities at the library](#)

McCracken County Public Library in Paducah, Kentucky, put together this video (1:44) to promote its library services. Featuring a wisecracking, noirish private investigator ("A library card? Could it really be that simple?"), "Investigate the Possibilities" features Video Producer Tom Prigge and Adult Services Assistant Jennifer McCann....



YouTube

## AMERICAN LIBRARIES DIRECT

November 29, 2006

AL Direct is a weekly electronic newsletter sent by the American Library Association every Wednesday to personal members by e-mail as a perquisite of membership.

Click here to view the online version of our email:

<%= util.viewHtmlLink %>

### POLL: What do YOU think?

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Results of the  
November 22 poll:

Does the decision by HarperCollins to cancel publication of O.J. Simpson's book *If I Did It* constitute censorship?

YES.....20%

NO.....80%

(265 responses)

This is an unscientific poll that reflects the opinions of only those AL Direct readers who have chosen to participate.

This is an unscientific poll that reflects the opinions of only those AL Direct readers who have chosen to participate.

For cumulated results and selected responses to AL Direct polls, visit the AL Online website.

### U.S. & WORLD NEWS

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#### American Libraries tests new content management system

The American Libraries portion of the ALA website will be the first to go up with Collage, a new web content management system, to replace the software ALA has been using since 2003. Please bear with us, as the transition involves some staff training, content rearrangement, and possible instabilities in our portion of the ALA site. Other units of ALA will begin switching to the new system once we have mastered the initial uncertainties.

### ALA NEWS

\*\*\*\*\*

#### Two chapters to sponsor Midwinter Advocacy Institute

The boards of the Idaho Library Association and the Oregon Library Association have agreed to cosponsor the Advocacy Institute, which will be held at the 2007 Midwinter Meeting in Seattle on January 19, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., at the Fairmont Olympic Hotel in Seattle. The Advocacy Institute is open to ALA members and nonmembers, including those who are not registered for the Midwinter Meeting....

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2006/november2006/IdahoOregonAdvocacyInst.htm>

Things Change cover YA author Patrick Jones to appear at lunch panel

Noted young adult author Patrick Jones will be part of a January 19 lunchtime panel discussion at the Midwinter Meeting's Advocacy Institute. The discussion will focus on how to create library advocates beginning at the school and young adult levels. Jones is the author of *Things Change*, a 2004 YALSA Quick Pick for Reluctant Young Adult Readers, and a recipient of several honors including the Scholastic Library Publishing Award....  
<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2006/november2006/PatrickJonesAdvocacyInst.htm>

## Booklist Online

\*\*\*\*\*

Featured review: Adult books

Hiaasen, Carl. *Nature Girl*. Nov. 2006. 306p. Knopf, hardcover. (0-307-26299-5).

The trend, noticeable in Hiaasen's last few novels, to move ever so slightly away from the apocalyptic edge is evident again in his latest screwball thriller. In fact, this one feels like a Shakespearean comedy, a mix of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *As You Like It* in which a group of confused lovers tangle with a gang of "rude mechanicals" deep in the Forest of Arden. Except here Arden is one of the Ten Thousand Islands in the famous Florida wilderness area. And our heroine, playing a variation on Rosalind, is a slightly screwy gal named Honey Santana, who possesses the tragic flaw of demanding "more decency and consideration from her fellow humans than they demand of themselves."...

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show\\_product&pid=1823932](http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=1823932)

Using Booklist Online for reader's advisory

One of the Booklist Online features that has emerged as a favorite among staff and subscribers is the Keyword in Review search on the Advanced Search Page. Cindy Dobrez, middle-school librarian with West Ottawa Public Schools in Holland, Michigan, calls it "amazing"; she has used the search to compile a list of books on ethics for young adults by entering ethics as the Keyword in Review and then limiting her search by grade range....

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show\\_product&pid=1818479](http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=1818479)

She Reads graphic She reads: First novels

Kaite Mediatore Stover writes: "Every autumn a host of first novelists send their beloved progeny to the Big Dance—the annual parade of new titles that storm libraries and bookstores. Among the bevy of beauties, there are always a few standouts, and following are my favorite debutante authors who came out swinging during their recent seasons."...

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show\\_product&pid=1809438](http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=1809438)

## SEATTLE UPDATE

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Seattle walking tours

<http://www.cityofseattle.net/tour/HistoricDistricts/index.htm>

The city offers its suggestions on self-guided tours of historic districts, including Pioneer Square, Pike Place Market, and the International District....

City of Seattle

Zine Archive and Publishing Project

The Richard Hugo House Zine Archive and Publishing Project (ZAPP) exists to validate independent publications, promote the perpetuation of the zine art form, and champion freedom of speech and creative cultural evolution.

Located downstairs in the Hugo House basement at 1634 11th Avenue, ZAPP collects zines, comics, chapbooks, pamphlets, journals, gazettes, city papers, fanzines, art mags, monographs, short anthologies, personal transmissions, and other not-so-easily classified independent publications for preservation and display....

Richard Hugo House

<http://www.hugohouse.org/programs/zine.html>

## DIVISION NEWS

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### Thousands of teens celebrate reading

YALSA has successfully completed its ninth annual Teen Read Week, “Get Active! @ your library.” Thousands of school and public libraries and bookstores celebrated the week October 15–21 by hosting an array of events that focused on the resources libraries have to help teens lead active lives and find books on sports, fitness, volunteerism, activism, college preparation, and career direction. YALSA wants your feedback on Teen Read Week activities at your library....

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2006/november2006/GetActiveyourlibrary.htm>

### ACRL/SPARC program will explore public access

ACRL and the Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition (SPARC) will explore “Public Access: Federal Research Access Policies and How They’ll Change Your Library” at their forum on emerging issues in scholarly communication to be held during the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Seattle. Speakers include David Pershing (University of Utah), Carl T. Bergstrom (University of Washington), and Ellen Finnie Duranceau (MIT)....

<http://www.arl.org/sparc/announce/06-1127.html>

### LAMA provides new home for LIBADMIN listserv

Effective November 13, LAMA is serving as host to the LIBADMIN listserv. This unmoderated list, formerly hosted at the University of Maryland at Baltimore, is open to anyone interested in discussing trends and happenings in the library leadership, administration, and related fields....

[http://blogs.ala.org/lamaleads.php?title=lama\\_provides\\_new\\_home\\_for\\_libadmin\\_list\\_1&more=1&c=1&tb=1&pb=1](http://blogs.ala.org/lamaleads.php?title=lama_provides_new_home_for_libadmin_list_1&more=1&c=1&tb=1&pb=1)

### Thomson Gale sponsors opening session at AASL conference

The Opening General Session of the AASL 13th National Conference and Exhibition in Reno, Nevada, October 25–28, 2007, will be sponsored by Thomson Gale. The conference theme is “The future begins @ your library” and will feature five preconference workshops, more than 100 concurrent sessions, over 200 exhibiting companies, school and educational tours, and special appearances by award-winning children’s and young adult authors....

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2006/november2006/ThomsonGaleAASLConf.htm>

## SEEN ONLINE

\*\*\*\*\*

### Nuclear plant info available in public libraries

How long would it take terrorists to penetrate security barriers outside nuclear facilities? What are the most vulnerable parts of a nuclear plant to attack in order to inflict maximum damage? Finding the answers to those questions, as NBC news investigators found out, is as easy as walking into a public library, finding the right files, printing them out, and walking away with the documents in hand, no questions asked....

NBC News, Nov. 27

<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/15922717/from/ET/>

### Digital Millenium Copyright Act exemptions approved

Film professors now have the right to copy snippets from DVDs for educational compilations, the U.S. Copyright Office said November 22. Other rights declared in the Library of Congress’s triennial review of the 1998 Digital Millennium Copyright Act seek to improve access for the blind and to obsolete works, and let security researchers try to break copy-protection technologies embedded in CDs....

Associated Press, Nov. 22

[http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20061122/ap\\_on\\_hi\\_te/digital\\_copyright](http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20061122/ap_on_hi_te/digital_copyright)

### Yale’s Lewis Carroll letter ends up on Ebay

A letter Lewis Carroll wrote to a friend in 1890 has taken police down a rabbit hole into the world of Ebay. After a

friend spotted the letter on the internet, a librarian at Yale's Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library checked the stacks. Sure enough, Carroll's letter, addressed to "My Dear Winnie," was missing....

Hartford (Conn.) Courant, Nov. 26

<http://www.courant.com/news/local/hc-yaleletter1125.artnov26,0,7543776.story?coll=hc-headlines-local>

Bush presidential library to be funded by megadonations

Eager to begin refurbishing his tattered legacy, the President hopes to raise \$500 million to build the Bush presidential library and a think tank at Southern Methodist University in Dallas. Bush sources with direct knowledge of library plans said that SMU and Bush fundraisers hope to get half of the half billion from what they call "megadonations" of \$10 million to \$20 million....

New York Daily News, Nov. 27

<http://www.nydailynews.com/11-27-2006/news/story/474893p-399492c.html>

House bill would shed light on presidential library donors

Should Democrats pass a new ethics law, President Bush may want to read the fine print before signing it. A little-noticed section in one 80-page version could make it more difficult to raise money for presidential libraries. HR 4682 requires the organization that raises money for a presidential library to disclose donors to Congress four times a year....

The Hill, Nov. 29

[http://www.thehill.com/thehill/export/TheHill/Business/112906\\_snyder.html](http://www.thehill.com/thehill/export/TheHill/Business/112906_snyder.html)

Muskegon library chief fired over fiscal issues

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Muskegon (Mich.) Chronicle, Nov. 28

<http://www.mlive.com/news/muchronicle/index.ssf?/base/news-10/1164728915214250.xml&coll=8>

German library worker allegedly took rare books

A mysterious gap in a dusty bookshelf gave the game away for a corrupt library worker who stole more than €800,000 (\$1.05 million) of antique tomes from Friedrich-Alexander University in Erlangen, Germany. Now the trial of Reinhold K (he cannot be named before the hearing), who allegedly slipped 16th-century botanical works under his long black coat, is set to expose the lucrative world of library theft....

London Times, Nov. 24

<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/article/0,,13509-2468609.html>

Burglaries shut down Antigua's public library

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Antigua Sun, Nov. 23

<http://www.antiguasun.com/paper/?>

[as=view&sun=204449119411282006&an=203440078311232006&ac=Local&aop=362818078711232006](http://www.antiguasun.com/paper/?as=view&sun=204449119411282006&an=203440078311232006&ac=Local&aop=362818078711232006)

UMass now caters to cell phones and chicken wings

To its 3 million volumes of books, the University of Massachusetts at Amherst's W. E. B. Du Bois Library has added more features: a café, a lounge, and cell-phone isolation booths. With students opting to conduct research by mouse click, the library is on an outreach offensive, shelving once-forbidding rules and replacing an old circulation counter with a coffee bar, where hot drinks and soda are for sale and an assortment of pastries are on display behind the counter. Chicken wing deliveries are allowed, along with other previously banned activities, like cell-phone chatter....

Boston Globe, Nov. 25

[http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2006/11/25/coffees\\_on\\_dusty\\_books\\_are\\_out\\_at\\_umass\\_library/](http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2006/11/25/coffees_on_dusty_books_are_out_at_umass_library/)

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Macomb (Mich.) Daily, Nov. 27

[http://macombdaily.com/stories/112706/loc\\_porn001.shtml](http://macombdaily.com/stories/112706/loc_porn001.shtml)

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BBC News, Nov. 27

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/entertainment/6187128.stm>

## TECH TALK

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### Goodbye, Google Answers

Google is shutting down its Google Answers service. The company has announced that new questions won't be accepted after the New Year, though the site will continue to let people view the question archives. Killing off the service, which never seemed to catch on much, certainly will help Google seem like it is focusing efforts toward more needed areas. But it still feels like an odd, almost surrendering move in the face of Yahoo Answers being such a success....

Search Engine Watch, Nov. 29

<http://blog.searchenginewatch.com/blog/061129-050815>

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Associated Press, Nov. 21

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/11/21/AR2006112101087.html>

### Setting up library areas in Second Life's Cybrary City

Puzzled about libraries in the online interactive gamescape Second Life? The mayor of Cybrary City, Paul Miller of Talis, will officially welcome Cybrary City residents and other interested librarians on Wednesday, December 6, at 2:30 p.m. SL time (4:30 Central, 5:30 Eastern). The welcome will be held on the plaza in front of the new conference center. Newcomers to Second Life can check out Business Week's Second Life tip sheet....

InfoIsland blog, Nov. 28; Business Week, Nov. 27

<http://infoisland.org/2006/11/28/welcome-to-cybrary-city-setting-up-library-areas/>

### Houghton Mifflin bought by Irish firm

Houghton Mifflin Co., publisher of the Curious George series of children's books and the American Heritage Dictionary, will be sold for \$1.75 billion to Riverdeep Holdings Plc, an Irish maker of educational software. The Boston-based textbook publisher will be combined with Riverdeep into a new Dublin-based company controlled by former Credit Suisse Group banker Barry O'Callaghan, the companies said in a November 29 statement....

Bloomberg, Nov. 29

<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601087&sid=aUSmGcq2T8.s&refer=home>

### Wiley acquires Blackwell Publishing

In a deal valued at over \$1 billion, John Wiley and Sons has entered into a definitive agreement to acquire the

outstanding shares of Blackwell Publishing (Holdings), Ltd. (Blackwell, Ltd., the library book vendor and retailer, remains a separate entity and is not part of the acquisition.) The two companies' 2005 revenues combined were roughly \$750 million. Rene Olivieri, CEO of Blackwell Publishing, and Wiley's Steve Smith, senior vice president of international development and director of professional/trade publishing in Europe, will co-officiate the marriage of the two scholarly publishers with a combined output of over 1,250 peer-reviewed journals, as well as a broad collection of books....

Hectic Pace blog, Nov. 29

[http://blogs.ala.org/pace.php?title=wiley\\_acquires\\_blackwell](http://blogs.ala.org/pace.php?title=wiley_acquires_blackwell)

LexisNexis developer dies

H. Donald Wilson, 82, under whose leadership the commercial database service LexisNexis introduced electronic research to law firms and news organizations, died of a heart attack November 12 in front of his computer at his home in Mitchellville, Maryland. From 1969 to 1973, Wilson was the first president of Mead Data Central, which developed LexisNexis, a database of information for law firms, businesses, libraries, and the news industry....

Washington Post, Nov. 25

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/11/24/AR2006112401244.html>

## ACTIONS AND ANSWERS

\*\*\*\*\*

Woman recalls segregation and library card denial

On a hot summer day in August 1964, a group of students took a bus downtown to the Hattiesburg (Miss.) Public Library. The library, like most other institutions, was segregated. The group of six were students at Hattiesburg's Freedom School, said resident Jimella Stokes Jackson, 58. When the group arrived, the black students—the group's freedom teacher, a white woman, had accompanied them—approached the desk and asked to apply for library cards. "Of course they said we can't give you cards," Jackson said. "I said, who told you we can't use it?"...

Hattiesburg (Miss.) American, Nov. 26

<http://hattiesburgamerican.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?>

[AID=/20061126/NEWS01/611260329&SearchID=73264248818446](http://hattiesburgamerican.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20061126/NEWS01/611260329&SearchID=73264248818446)

Historic papers found at Marietta College

As Special Collections Associate Linda Showalter prepared approximately 50,000 books and 100 pieces of artwork from the Dawes Memorial Library at Marietta College for shipment to a storage facility in Massachusetts, she made an exceptional rediscovery—two Ohio Company purchase deeds that include the signatures of George Washington and Thomas Jefferson. The college's special collections are being relocated in advance of the May 2007 razing of Dawes and the start of construction on a new library and learning center....

Marietta (Ohio) College, Nov. 14

[http://admission.marietta.edu/cgi-bin/MySQLdb?VIEW=/news/view\\_one.txt&newsid=666](http://admission.marietta.edu/cgi-bin/MySQLdb?VIEW=/news/view_one.txt&newsid=666)

Social-networking sites confound schools

Only 35% of the educators, administrators, and school board members who registered for the National School Boards Association's annual Technology + Learning (T+L) Conference and responded to a survey given before the event was held in Dallas said their districts had policies to address the use of social-networking sites like MySpace and Facebook by their students. Half said their districts had no such policies, and 15% weren't sure....

eSchool News, Nov. 20

<http://www.eschoolnews.com/news/showStoryts.cfm?ArticleID=6721>

AACR revision committee meeting

The Joint Steering Committee for Revision of AACR met in Washington, D.C., October 16–20 and discussed concerns expressed by ALA on the Resource Description and Access development process, issues relating to carrier description, and responses to the drafts of chapters 6 (Related resources) and 7 (Persons, families, and corporate bodies associated with a resource)....

Joint Steering Committee for Revision of Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules

<http://www.collectionscanada.ca/jsc/0610out.html>

#### Share your public access stories

The MaintainIT project, a three-year effort run by TechSoup, a technology resource for nonprofit organizations, wants to hear stories about how libraries maintain public access computers and internet services for their communities. By collecting best practices on the topic, the Share Your Story about PACs campaign will distill the information into a series of free how-to guides tailored to the technical support needs of different types of public libraries. MaintainIT would like to hear from small, rural libraries by December 15....

MaintainIT Project

<http://www.maintainitproject.org/about>

#### Video demonstrates virtual reference

Bill Pardue, virtual services librarian at Arlington Heights (Ill.) Memorial Library, demonstrates his library's virtual reference capabilities in a short instructional video (4:58) that also features Sarah Ann Long as interviewer. Pardue describes e-mail and live chat reference, then shows an example of an instant-message reference transaction....

YouTube

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HGqcqB13v48>

#### CONTACT US

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Karen Sheets, Graphics and Design: [ksheets@ala.org](mailto:ksheets@ala.org)

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# AMERICAN LIBRARIES



**November 29, 2006**

AL Direct is a free electronic newsletter e-mailed every Wednesday to personal members of the [American Library Association](#).

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## U.S. & WORLD NEWS

### **American Libraries tests new content management system**

The *American Libraries* portion of the ALA website will be the first to go up with Collage, a new web content management system, to replace the software ALA has been using since 2003. Please bear with us, as the transition involves some staff training, content rearrangement, and possible instabilities in our portion of the ALA site. Other units of ALA will begin switching to the new system once we have mastered the initial uncertainties.



Seattle offers numerous [bus lines](#) in the downtown area, near the convention center.

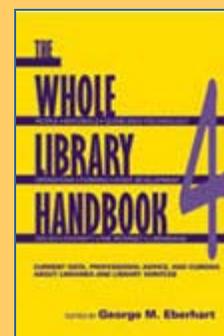
## ALA NEWS

### **Two chapters to sponsor Midwinter Advocacy Institute**

The boards of the Idaho Library Association and the Oregon Library Association have agreed to cosponsor the Advocacy Institute, which will be held at the 2007 Midwinter Meeting in Seattle on January 19, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., at the Fairmont Olympic Hotel in Seattle. The Advocacy Institute is open to ALA members and nonmembers, including those who are not registered for the Midwinter Meeting....

### **YA author Patrick Jones to appear at lunch panel**

Noted young adult author Patrick Jones will be part of a January 19 lunchtime panel discussion at the Midwinter Meeting's Advocacy Institute. The discussion will focus on how to create library advocates beginning at the school and young adult levels. Jones is the author of *Things Change*, a 2004 YALSA Quick Pick for Reluctant Young Adult Readers, and a recipient of several honors including the Scholastic Library Publishing Award....



### **The Whole Library Handbook 4,**

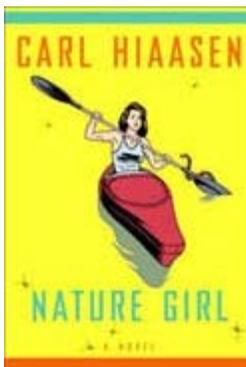
edited by George M. Eberhart (ALA Editions, 2006):  
 "Everything you need to know about book banning, blogging, diversity, library operations, and funding is covered in clear language, often with humor and a light touch."—*College & Research Libraries News*

# Booklist — ONLINE —

## Featured review: Adult books

Hiaasen, Carl. *Nature Girl*. Nov. 2006. 306p. Knopf, hardcover. (0-307-26299-5).

The trend, noticeable in Hiaasen's last few novels, to move ever so slightly away from the apocalyptic edge is evident again in his latest screwball thriller. In fact, this one feels like a Shakespearean comedy, a mix of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *As You Like It* in which a group of confused lovers tangle with a gang of "rude mechanicals" deep in the Forest of Arden. Except here Arden is one of the Ten Thousand Islands in the famous Florida wilderness area. And our heroine, playing a variation on Rosalind, is a slightly screwy gal named Honey Santana, who possesses the tragic flaw of demanding "more decency and consideration from her fellow humans than they demand of themselves."...



## Using Booklist Online for reader's advisory

One of the Booklist Online features that has emerged as a favorite among staff and subscribers is the Keyword in Review search on the Advanced Search Page. Cindy Dobrez, middle-school librarian with West Ottawa Public Schools in Holland, Michigan, calls it "amazing"; she has used the search to compile a list of books on ethics for young adults by entering *ethics* as the Keyword in Review and then limiting her search by grade range....

## She reads: First novels

Kaite Mediatore Stover writes: "Every autumn a host of first novelists send their beloved progeny to the Big Dance—the annual parade of new titles that storm libraries and bookstores. Among the bevy of beauties, there are always a few standouts, and following are my favorite debutante authors who came out swinging during their recent seasons."...



## SEATTLE UPDATE

### Seattle walking tours

The city offers its suggestions on self-guided tours of historic districts, including Pioneer Square, Pike Place Market, and the International District....

City of Seattle



### Zine Archive and Publishing Project

SAVE UP TO 25%  
ON YOUR LIBRARY  
SHIPPING COSTS  
WITH DHL

[click here for details](#)

ALA-Working for  
Our Member Libraries

## Thus Said

"*Hoiberg*: We stand behind our process, based on trained editors and fact-checkers, more than 4,000 experts, and sound writing. Our model works well. Wikipedia is very different, but nothing in their model suggests we should change what we do."  
"Wales: Fitting words for an epitaph...."

—*Britannica* editor-in-chief Dale Hoiberg and Wikipedia founder Jimmy Wales in a debate titled "Will Wikipedia Mean the End of Traditional Encyclopedias?" *Wall Street Journal*, Sept. 12.



The ACRL 13th National Conference, March 29–April 1, 2007, offers more than [250 peer-reviewed programs](#) in six session formats including contributed papers, panel sessions, poster sessions, pre-conferences,

The Richard Hugo House Zine Archive and Publishing Project (ZAPP) exists to validate independent publications, promote the perpetuation of the zine art form, and champion freedom of speech and creative cultural evolution. Located downstairs in the Hugo House basement at 1634 11th Avenue, ZAPP collects zines, comics, chapbooks, pamphlets, journals, gazettes, city papers, fanzines, art mags, monographs, short anthologies, personal transmissions, and other not-so-easily classified independent publications for preservation and display....

Richard Hugo House

## DIVISION NEWS

### [Thousands of teens celebrate reading](#)

YALSA has successfully completed its ninth annual Teen Read Week, "Get Active! @ your library." Thousands of school and public libraries and bookstores celebrated the week October 15–21 by hosting an array of events that focused on the resources libraries have to help teens lead active lives and find books on sports, fitness, volunteerism, activism, college preparation, and career direction. YALSA wants your [feedback](#) on Teen Read Week activities at your library....



### [ACRL/SPARC program will explore public access](#)

ACRL and the Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition (SPARC) will explore "Public Access: Federal Research Access Policies and How They'll Change Your Library" at their forum on emerging issues in scholarly communication to be held during the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Seattle. Speakers include David Pershing (University of Utah), Carl T. Bergstrom (University of Washington), and Ellen Finnie Duranceau (MIT)....

### [LAMA provides new home for LIBADMIN listserv](#)

Effective November 13, LAMA is serving as host to the [LIBADMIN](#) listserv. This unmoderated list, formerly hosted at the University of Maryland at Baltimore, is open to anyone interested in discussing trends and happenings in the library leadership, administration, and related fields....

### [Thomson Gale sponsors opening session at AASL conference](#)

The Opening General Session of the AASL 13th National Conference and Exhibition in Reno, Nevada, October 25–28, 2007, will be sponsored by Thomson Gale. The conference theme is "The future begins @ your library" and will feature five preconference workshops, more than 100 concurrent sessions, over 200 exhibiting companies, school and educational tours, and special appearances by award-winning children's and young adult authors....



## SEEN ONLINE

### [Nuclear plant info available in public libraries](#)

How long would it take terrorists to penetrate security barriers outside nuclear facilities? What are the most vulnerable parts of a nuclear plant to attack in order to inflict maximum damage? Finding the

roundtable discussions, and workshops.

## Classifieds

### [COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT LIBRARIAN](#),

Duke University, Durham, North Carolina. Position contributes to the growth, organization, interpretation, and conservation of rare book and manuscript collections in a broad range of subject areas. Identifies, selects, solicits, and acquires by purchase and gift a broad range of materials. Develops, maintains, and implements collecting policies....



See [JobLIST](#) for more career opportunities.



In 2001, ALA's Office for Diversity commissioned a longitudinal study of the [Spectrum Scholarship program](#). A voluntary survey was distributed in electronic and print formats in May 2004 to the first six Spectrum cohorts, years 1998 to 2003.

The [Bridging Boundaries report](#) represents the first published survey on the progress of ALA's national diversity and recruitment effort designed to address

answers to those questions, as NBC news investigators found out, is as easy as walking into a public library, finding the right files, printing them out, and walking away with the documents in hand, no questions asked....

NBC News, Nov. 27

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A mysterious gap in a dusty bookshelf gave the game away for a corrupt library worker who stole more than €800,000 (\$1.05 million)

the specific issue of underrepresentation of critically needed ethnic librarians within the profession.

## Poll

### Results of the November 22 poll:

Does the decision by HarperCollins to cancel publication of O.J. Simpson's book *If I Did It* constitute censorship?

**YES**.....20%  
**NO**.....80%

(265 responses)

This is an unscientific poll that reflects the opinions of only those *AL Direct* readers who have chosen to participate.

For cumulated results and selected responses to *AL Direct* polls, visit the AL Online [website](#).

### Ask the ALA Librarian



*Q. My school principal wants me to justify my budget request by citing the ALA standard for the number of books per pupil the school library should have. Where is this?*

A. Neither ALA nor AASL sets prescriptive standards for school libraries, including

of antique tomes from Friedrich-Alexander University in Erlangen, Germany. Now the trial of Reinhold K (he cannot be named before the hearing), who allegedly slipped 16th-century botanical works under his long black coat, is set to expose the lucrative world of library theft....

London *Times*, Nov. 24

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*Boston Globe*, Nov. 25

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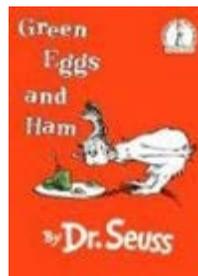
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BBC News, Nov. 27



## TECH TALK

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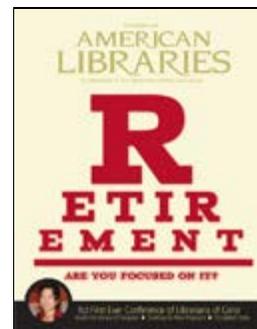
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Search Engine Watch, Nov. 29

number of books per student. Instead, we advocate an outcomes-based assessment process initially set forth in 1998, in *Information Power: Building Partnerships for Learning*. See the [ALA Professional Tips wiki](#).

## In This Issue

November 2006



Stories inside include:

**Retired and Inspired**

**Cooking Up Culture**

**Behind the Scenes at LC's Dewey Division**

## Datebook

### ALA Courses

**Dec. 11–12:**

[Metadata and Digital Library Development](#)

Chicago. Offered by ALCTS and the Library of Congress.

Contact: [Julie Reese](#), 800-545-2433, ext. 5034.

**Jan. 8–**

**Feb. 3:**

[Designing Websites](#)

## [Archiving websites](#)

The internet generally has complete disregard for keeping records or charting its past. Once a website is gone, it seems to disappear into the digital ether. But with its "[Wayback Machine](#)," Archive.org seeks to bring posterity to the Web by archiving websites. A message on its website says that with the large amount of public records and information moving online, internet libraries have become necessary to maintain the public's "right to remember."...

Associated Press, Nov. 21



## [Setting up library areas in Second Life's Cybrary City](#)

Puzzled about libraries in the online interactive gamescape Second Life? The mayor of Cybrary City, Paul Miller of Talis, will officially welcome Cybrary City residents and other interested librarians on Wednesday, December 6, at 2:30 p.m. SL time (4:30 Central, 5:30 Eastern). The welcome will be held on the plaza in front of the new conference center. Newcomers to Second Life can check out *Business Week's* [Second Life tip sheet](#)....

InfoIsland blog, Nov. 28; *Business Week*, Nov. 27



## [Houghton Mifflin bought by Irish firm](#)

Houghton Mifflin Co., publisher of the Curious George series of children's books and the *American Heritage Dictionary*, will be sold for \$1.75 billion to Riverdeep Holdings Plc, an Irish maker of educational software. The Boston-based textbook publisher will be combined with Riverdeep into a new Dublin-based company controlled by former Credit Suisse Group banker Barry O'Callaghan, the companies said in a November 29 statement....

Bloomberg, Nov. 29

## [Wiley acquires Blackwell Publishing](#)

In a deal valued at over \$1 billion, John Wiley and Sons has entered into a definitive agreement to acquire the outstanding shares of Blackwell Publishing (Holdings), Ltd. (Blackwell, Ltd., the library book vendor and retailer, remains a separate entity and is not part of the acquisition.) The two companies' 2005 revenues combined were roughly \$750 million. Rene Olivieri, CEO of Blackwell Publishing, and Wiley's Steve Smith, senior vice president of international development and director of professional/trade publishing in Europe, will co-officiate the marriage of the two scholarly publishers with a combined output of over 1,250 peer-reviewed journals, as well as a broad collection of books....

Hectic Pace blog, Nov. 29



## [LexisNexis developer dies](#)

H. Donald Wilson, 82, under whose leadership the commercial database service LexisNexis introduced electronic research to law firms and news organizations, died of a heart attack November 12 in front of his computer at his home in Mitchellville, Maryland. From 1969 to 1973, Wilson was the first president of Mead Data Central, which developed LexisNexis, a database of information for law firms, businesses, libraries, and the news industry....

*Washington Post*, Nov. 25

[for Academic Libraries, Part 2.](#)

Online course offered by ACRL.

**Jan. 18–19:**

[LAMA Midwinter Institute](#), "The Complex Edifice: Analyzing Your Dream Library."

**Jan. 19:**

[AASL Pre-Midwinter Institute](#), "Reading and the School Library Media Specialist."

**Jan. 19:**

[LITA Midwinter Institute](#), "Podcast U: Libraries, Podcasting, and the New Culture of Personal Broadcasting on Campus."

**Jan. 19:**

[RUSA Midwinter Institutes](#), "Behind the Genealogy Reference Desk: Want Land, Will Travel" and "Business Librarianship 101: Core Competencies for Business Librarianship."

**Mar. 1–3:**

[PLA Spring Symposium](#), Fairmont San Jose, California. "Sailing into the Future: Charting Our Destiny." Contact: [Louisa Worthington](#), 800-545-2433, ext. 5024.

More [Datebook](#) items...

Contact Us

## ACTIONS & ANSWERS

### [Woman recalls segregation and library card denial](#)

On a hot summer day in August 1964, a group of students took a bus downtown to the Hattiesburg (Miss.) Public Library. The library, like most other institutions, was segregated. The group of six were students at Hattiesburg's Freedom School, said resident Jimella Stokes Jackson, 58. When the group arrived, the black students—the group's freedom teacher, a white woman, had accompanied them—approached the desk and asked to apply for library cards. "Of course they said we can't give you cards," Jackson said. "I said, who told you we can't use it?"...

*Hattiesburg (Miss.) American*, Nov. 26

### [Historic papers found at Marietta College](#)

As Special Collections Associate Linda Showalter prepared approximately 50,000 books and 100 pieces of artwork from the Dawes Memorial Library at Marietta College for shipment to a storage facility in Massachusetts, she made an exceptional rediscovery—two Ohio Company purchase deeds that include the signatures of George Washington and Thomas Jefferson. The college's special collections are being relocated in advance of the May 2007 razing of Dawes and the start of construction on a new library and learning center....

Marietta (Ohio) College, Nov. 14



### [Social-networking sites confound schools](#)

Only 35% of the educators, administrators, and school board members who registered for the National School Boards Association's annual Technology + Learning (T+L) Conference and responded to a survey given before the event was held in Dallas said their districts had policies to address the use of social-networking sites like MySpace and Facebook by their students. Half said their districts had no such policies, and 15% weren't sure....

*eSchool News*, Nov. 20

### [AACR revision committee meeting](#)

The Joint Steering Committee for Revision of AACR met in Washington, D.C., October 16–20 and discussed concerns expressed by ALA on the Resource Description and Access development process, issues relating to carrier description, and responses to the drafts of chapters 6 (Related resources) and 7 (Persons, families, and corporate bodies associated with a resource)....

Joint Steering Committee for Revision of Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules

### [Share your public access stories](#)

The MaintainIT project, a three-year effort run by TechSoup, a technology resource for nonprofit organizations, wants to hear stories about how libraries maintain public access computers and internet services for their communities. By collecting best practices on the topic, the Share Your Story about PACs campaign will distill the information into a series of free how-to guides tailored to the technical support needs of different types of public libraries. MaintainIT would like to [hear](#) from small, rural libraries by December 15....

MaintainIT Project

### [Video demonstrates virtual](#)

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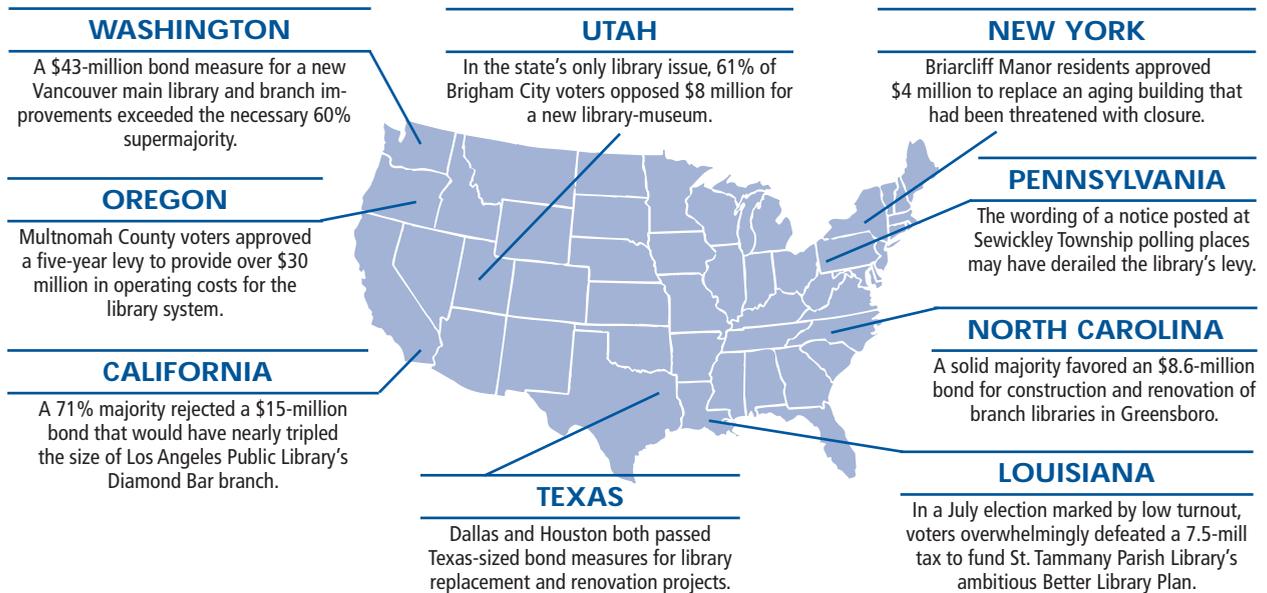
Bill Pardue, virtual services librarian at Arlington Heights (Ill.) Memorial Library, demonstrates his library's virtual reference capabilities in a short instructional video (4:58) that also features Sarah Ann Long as interviewer. Pardue describes e-mail and live chat reference, then shows an example of an instant-message reference transaction....

YouTube



# Referenda Roundup 2006

## Strong Library Support Throughout Nation



On election day November 7, voters in Austin, Texas, approved a new 250,000-square-foot Central Library, while Oakland, California, residents rejected a measure to turn a vacant convention center into a new main library.

The \$90-million Austin library package, which won a 60% majority, was one of seven propositions before the city's voters, all of which passed. The new facility will include more books, programming and exhibit space, and increased parking and accessibility. Supporters said the existing John Henry Faulk Central Library has run out of space to shelve and process new materials, hindering distribution of books to branches.

Proposition 6 supporter Dave Shaw told the November 8 *Austin American-Statesman* that the library proposition "was never just about a new building. It's about enhancing the entire library system and the branches."

Although Measure N—a \$148-million bond to pay to move Oakland's main library to the closed

Henry J. Kaiser Convention Center, construct two new branches, and expand the other 18 branches—received 63.5% of the vote, it required a two-thirds majority.

Oakland Public Library Director Carmen Martinez said in the November 9 *San Jose Mercury News* that she was "numb" after the defeat, but vowed to continue efforts to upgrade branches through fundraising and to build a new branch on 81st Avenue. "We learned wonderful lessons," said Martinez. "We had a bold vision to build a library in a beautiful building but folks wanted that money to go to the neighborhoods. We know our community better."

*American Libraries'* state-by-state roundup of library referenda and other local ballot measures throughout the year is based on reports from state library agencies and online news sources.

**ARKANSAS.** A 0.33-mill library tax to fund a new roof and other improvements for the Greene County Public Library in Paragould passed by 53.8–46.2%.

In a July 11 special election, almost 69% of voters in Van Buren

supported a 16-month extension of a half-cent sales tax to fund construction of a new, 16,000-square-foot library. Funds from the extension supplement \$1.7 million from the original tax increase, which was approved in July 2005.

A 2.3-mill property tax increase to fund the Fayetteville Public Library's budget was defeated by 47–53% April 11. The library currently gets most of its funding from the city budget, and passage of the tax would have freed up city funds for other uses.

**CALIFORNIA.** In addition to the Oakland defeat, \$15-million bond that would have nearly tripled the size of Los Angeles Public Library's Diamond Bar branch was rejected by 71% of the voters. Measure L would have applied a special property tax on residents for more than 30 years. "Diamond Bar is very conservative. We don't want to be taxed to death," said Allen Wilson, head of Diamond Bar Citizens Against Library Tax. "We were out-campaigned 10–1, but we were not outvoted."

Although a slight 51.9–48.1% majority of Vandenberg Village voters favored Measure O, to establish a

\$22-per-year property assessment to raise \$50,000 annually for the town's Lompoc Library District branch, passage required a two-thirds majority.

School-funding tax measures that included provisions for libraries passed in Alameda County for Berkeley Unified, Marin and Sonoma Counties for Shoreline Unified, San Diego County for Palomar Community College, Santa Clara County for Campbell Union High and Foothill-DeAnza Community College, San Jose for Oak Grove School District, Santee for the Santee School District, and San Leandro for the city's high school.

Voters in Mendocino and Lake counties approved Measure W, which will provide Mendocino Community College with \$65.7 million for infrastructure improvements, including a new library.

On June 6, nearly 70% of Alameda County voters approved Measure G, a library tax that will provide \$180,000 annually to keep the main library open on Sundays and avoid further cuts to staffing and services.

On June 6, the state's voters rejected Proposition 81, which would have allowed California to borrow \$600 million in bonds for public library construction and renovation to accommodate increased population. The measure was placed on the ballot after a 2004 compromise by the legislature and Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger to replenish the Library Bond Act of 2000, which provided \$350 million for 45 library projects (*AL*, Aug., p. 13-16). That same day, a Del Norte County ordinance authorizing an eight-year tax to be used exclusively to extend library hours at the Crescent City, Smith River, and Klamath libraries, expand services to Gasquet/Hiouchi, purchase new books and media, promote literacy and school success,

and restore programs for adults and seniors, passed by 65.7-34.3%

**COLORADO.** By about 2-to-1, Fort Collins residents supported creating a library taxing district expected to raise some \$5.8 million to restore recent cuts in basic services and to construct a new southeast branch. A countywide criminal justice tax to expand the jail was roundly defeated, leading the *Fort Collins Color-*



**Austin Public Library Director Brenda Branch at an election night celebration of passage of the \$90-million library package.**

*doan* to editorialize November 8 that voters understood "that the library is a vote for prevention while a criminal justice tax could be perceived as a vote for reaction."

Garfield County voters overwhelmingly approved two library measures: One creating a county library district and imposing a 1-mill property tax to expand facilities and extend operating hours passed 9,132 to 5,579; another maintaining an existing 0.25-cent sales tax that funds the library won by 10,250 to 4,024. A similar ballot measure was defeated in 1999.

In Adams County, a 1-mill tax increase for the Rangeview Library District won by 1.5%, or just more than 250 votes. Two previous funding requests had been rejected in the last nine years. The measure, which will double the library's annual budget, will fund new buildings for two branches and additions to three others.

Durango residents approved a financing mechanism giving the city permission to bond against previously approved tax revenues to build a new public library.

A proposal for a new facility for the Basalt Regional Library District won on its second attempt. Eagle and Pitkin county voters approved a property tax hike for a new library by 1,989 to 1,100, and a related proposal to raise property taxes for operating funds won by 2,111 to 996. In 2003 voters rejected a plan that would have located the new facility elsewhere.

Berthoud voters approved by 1,118-765 a 1.9-mill library levy increase. The favorable vote carries a bonus: Berthoud resident Doc Fickel pledged an additional \$100,000 to the library—\$50,000 a year for the next two years—if the measure passed.

A statewide constitutional amendment that would have required

public school districts to spend 65% of their operating budgets on classroom spending, including librarians, books and classroom computers, lost by almost a 2-to-1 margin.

**IDAHO.** Bond measures to build or expand libraries in three cities failed to get the required two-thirds majority in February 7 elections: In Boise, 57% of voters favored a \$37.8-million bond to build three branches; a \$4.5-million bond measure to build a new Lewiston library drew 56% approval; and in Twin Falls, only 35% approved a \$5.2-million measure to expand the existing library.

Meridian District Library, which has seen a 244% increase in library visits between 1997 and 2005, lost a \$9.5-million bond for a new library. Although 61.7% of voters supported the measure, a two-thirds supermajority was required for passage.

Voters passed two permanent override levies on May 23, doubling

the operation and maintenance budgets of district libraries in Fremont and Benewah counties.

On August 1, a \$2.2-million bond issue to expand and remodel the American Falls District Library won by a 71% margin. In the Franklin County District, 77% of voters favored a \$129,000 two-year temporary operating levy.

**ILLINOIS.** Roughly half the ballot measures in the state passed. Residents voted 482–418 to approve the Atwood-Hammond Library District's first tax hike since 1994, increasing the maximum property tax rate from 25 cents to 40 cents per \$100 valuation. Other tax-rate increases passed in Forest Park and Malta Township.

Bond issues were approved for the Somonauk and Chatham Area public library districts. Residents of Minier and Little Mackinaw Township voted to establish the H. A. Peine District Library and impose a library tax. Voters also agreed to establish two new public library districts—the Reddick district in part of LaSalle County and the Earlville district in part of LaSalle, DeKalb, and Lee counties—and to annex unserved territory of the Collinsville Community School District into the Mississippi Valley Public Library district, nearly doubling the geographical area and adding about 11,000 residents to the district.

Failed tax-rate increases were reported in Divernon Township, Kewanee, Orland Hills, and Midlothian. Sugar Grove failed for a fourth time to pass such a measure, including an unsuccessful attempt March 21. In Bement, the library came up nine votes short, failing to pass a tax hike by 287 to 396.

In the March 21 primary, tax measures passed for the Bensenville Community Public Library District, Cherry Valley Public Library District, Cortland Community Library, Crete Public Library District, Elkhart Public Library District, Hinsdale Public Library, Matson Public Library in Princeton, McCook Public Library, Town and Country Library in Elburn, and Westmont Public

Library. They failed for Kewanee, Sugar Grove, and Winfield public libraries. Bond measures were rejected for Bellwood Public Library and Oswego Library District.

Public libraries were established in Farm Ridge, Freedom and Wallace townships, and a new Maryville Community Library District was created.

Three annexations to the Tri-Quincy Area Public Library District all failed, as did ones to the Robert W. Rowe and Warren-Newport public library districts. However, annexations to the Arcola, North Suburban, St. Elmo, Robinson, and Westville public library districts were approved.

**INDIANA.** In March, Crete residents supported a rise in the library tax, projected to raise \$350,000 annually, by 53–47%. Three previous referenda had failed; passage of this one will allow the library to operate on Fridays.

**KANSAS.** By 609 to 498, voters in Rose Hill passed an initiative to establish a public library—the community library had previously been part of the school district's elementary media center—and authorize a levy up to four mills. Haysville residents approved by 1,180 to 1,139 a \$3.9 million bond issue to construct a new library that will double the present library's size and help anchor the town's historic district. Both communities have seen substantial population growth in the last decade, and residents say they see a need for larger community gathering places.

By 1,532–622, McPherson residents approved a sales tax to fund expansion and renovation of the library August 1.

In a September 12 special election, 80% of Bonner Springs voters approved a 0.25% sales tax to pay for the \$3.5 million bond for constructing a new library.

On February 28, Basehor residents authorized the library to raise property taxes by 0.787 mill to pay for a new building. The expected \$2.99 million will fund site preparation,

construction, furniture, fixtures, and professional fees.

**LOUISIANA.** A 7.5-mill tax to fund the St. Tammany Parish Library's ambitious Better Library Plan met an overwhelming 73% defeat in a July 17 election marked by low turnout: Only 7% of registered voters participated. The plan aimed to rebuild and renovate the system in the wake of Hurricane Katrina by building two new regional libraries and nine new community libraries, and renovating two other facilities. "As an organization stretched to capacity prior to the storm, we are accustomed to economizing and will continue to do so," said Library Director Jan Butler.

**MASSACHUSETTS.** A \$250,000 override of the tax-limiting Proposition 2½ to construct a new roof on the Rockland Memorial Library was defeated by around 1,000 votes.

At an October 23 town meeting, Medway residents rejected an \$8,000 funding request for the library that had been pared down from \$138,000. The library had sought the money to retain an existing waiver from the state to maintain its certification, making it eligible for state aid and reciprocal borrowing. In light of the town's fiscal crisis, the library board subsequently voted not to seek additional funds at the next town meeting December 4, although they said they would not be opposed if the Board of Selectmen made such a request on its own.

At a September 7 town meeting, North Easton residents not only rejected a request from the Ames Free Library for an additional \$1.8 million to renovate its historic building, but they rescinded \$5 million in funds approved in 1996. The move will require the library to return \$1.2 million spent for architectural fees and site preparation and a state grant of \$1.9 million, since the state set an end-of-September deadline to begin the project.

By just six votes, residents of Bourne rejected a \$4.75-million debt exclusion for expansion and renovation of the Jonathan Bourne Public

Library August 9, 1,647 to 1,641.

July 18 Whately voters approved a \$160,000 Proposition 2½ override that included \$30,000 to keep the town library open.

Some 52% of voters rejected a May 16 tax-increase proposal to keep the Wellesley Free Library's historic Fells and Hills branches open. The branches were closed on June 30.

At their annual town meeting May 1, Athol residents defeated 85–54 a request for funds for the library to purchase a building it had hoped to renovate for offices and special programs. The same request also appeared on a May 22 special election ballot for a Proposition 2½ override, where it was again defeated.

**MICHIGAN.** Millage increases passed for the Almont District Library, Benzie Shores District Library, Maud Preston Palenske Memorial Library in St. Joseph, Monroe

County's Summerfield-Petersburg Branch Library, Pigeon District Library, Pontiac Public Library, Ray Township Library, and Saugatuck-Douglas District Library. Tax measures failed for the Bad Axe Area District Library, Dryden Township Library, Lapeer District Library, and Ruth Hughes Library District.

On August 8, voters approved tax renewals for Benzie Shores District Library's Crystal Lake branch, Bridgeport Public Library, Capital Area District Library, Charlotte District Library, Delta Township District Library, Gladwin County Library District, Hesperia Community Library, Holly Township Library, Independence Township Library, Oakland Township Library, Peter White Public Library, Rawson Memorial Library, St. Clair County Library, Saline District Library, Springfield Township Library, Sturgis Public Library, White Lake

Township Library, and Ypsilanti Public Library.

August ballot measures failed for Almont District Library, Bay County Library System, Crockery Township Library, Dryden Township Library, Harbor Beach Area Library, Lapeer District Library, Lyon Township Public Library, Monroe County's Summerfield-Petersburg Branch Library, North Branch Township Public Library, Ruth Hughes Memorial Library District, and Suttons Bay-Bingham District Library.

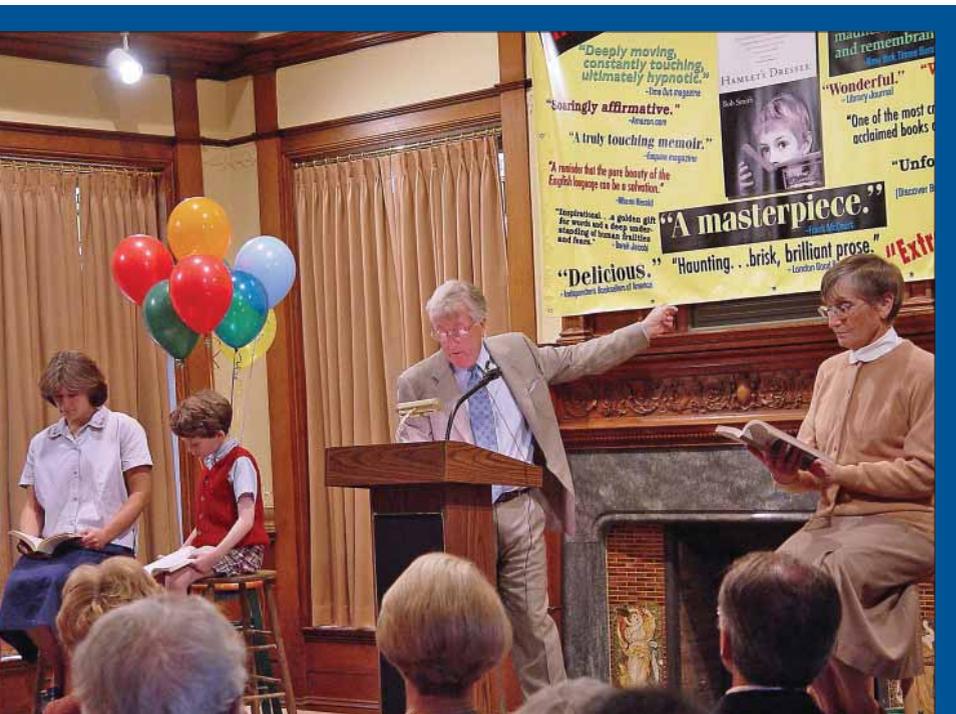
Voters overwhelmingly rejected a second attempt at a millage increase to fund a new facility for the White Cloud Community Library May 2. The same day two requests from the Howell Carnegie Library also lost: a \$13.8-million bond issue for a building expansion and a 0.3051-mill tax increase to raise \$761,482 for operating costs. However, Moore Public Library in Lexington passed a 10-year, 0.6-mill tax increase that had failed twice since 2004.

In March, a 1-mill tax-increase request for the Northeast Ottawa District Library was rejected by a nearly 2-to-1 margin.

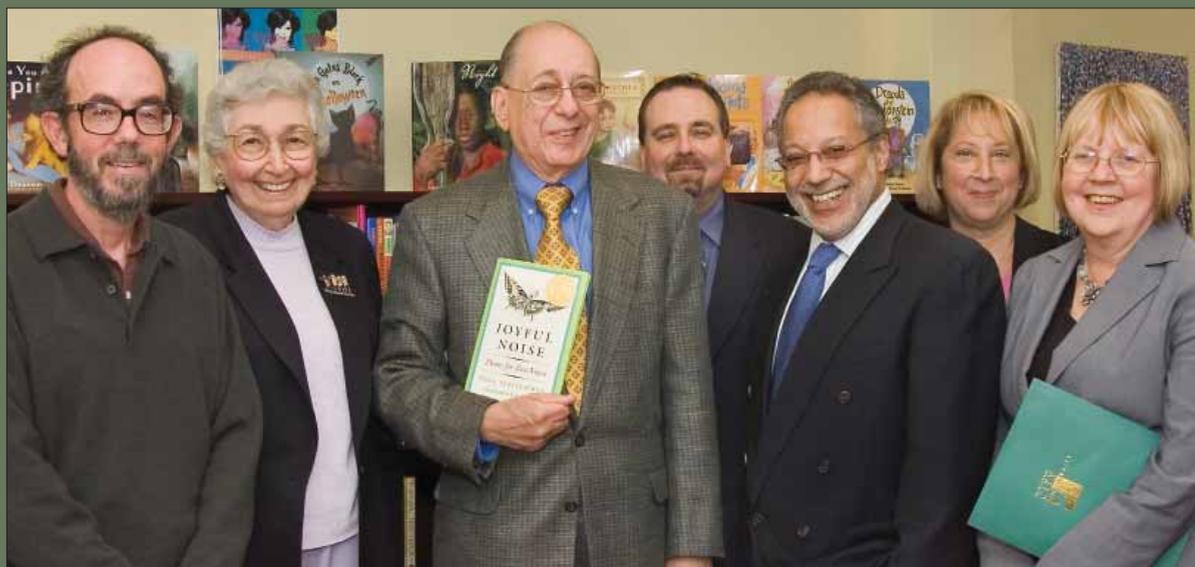
**MISSOURI.** Although exactly 57% of voters in the Marion C. Early School District in southwest Missouri favored a \$2.4-million bond issue that would have funded seven new classrooms, a library, and a cafeteria, the measure, which required 57.14% approval, fell just three votes short.

Property-tax increases for the Joplin and Webb City public libraries won comfortable victories in August 8 elections. The Joplin measure, a 10-cent levy increase that voters approved 2,548 to 1,767, will increase the budget for materials by \$50,000 and allow the addition of Sunday hours and evening hours on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

Residents favored the rise in Webb City's levy from 20 cents to 29 cents by a 504–344 margin. Director Sue Oliveira said the library had doubled in size with a renovation project that was completed last year,



**TO READ, PERCHANCE TO DREAM.** Author Bob Smith, at the podium, joins actors (from left) Catherine Gallagher, Tommy Nelson, and Davina Porter in a reading from Smith's book *Hamlet's Dresser*, chosen for Stratford (Conn.) Public Library's first "One Book, One Stratford" communitywide reading event. Launched September 9, the program zeroed in on Smith's acclaimed memoir about his Stratford upbringing and his career with the American Shakespeare Festival. The event was cosponsored by the book's publisher, Simon and Schuster.



**UNIVERSITY OPENS CENTER FOR YOUTHLIT.** New Jersey City University dedicated the M. Jerry Weiss Center for Children's and Young Adult Literature October 5, in honor of the professor emeritus (third from left), a pioneer in the field of whole language. Celebrating

with him are (from left): author and event speaker Paul Fleischman; Helen Weiss, the honoree's wife; professor Allan De Fina; NJCU President Carlos Hernandez; and faculty members Fran Levin and Joanne Z. Bruno.

but it was still operating on a budget designed for 1982, the last time the levy increased.

Voters in Dixon—the only city in Pulaski County with its own library—rejected a proposal to merge with the county library system. The proposal lost April 4 by only four votes.

**MONTANA.** Voters passed by 64% a funding request for Hearst Free Library of three additional mills to add hours and boost the collection.

On June 6 Missoula County voters granted the library a \$995,000 levy in perpetuity. While the 5-mill permissive levy that serves as the library's base funding grows each year by a percentage of the cost-of-living increase, voters must approve any action to bring the new levy up to the current dollar value.

**NEW HAMPSHIRE.** North Hampton residents voted 544–304 to establish a Library Capital Reserve Fund with \$50,000 raised from taxation and \$50,000 from the library trustees' invested funds.

An \$8.5-million library expansion project was shot down by Merrimack voters April 11. It was among three

major spending proposals that tax-watchdog group Merrimack Cares had urged voters to reject, all of which were defeated.

At a standing-room-only town meeting March 14, Mont Vernon residents overwhelmingly rejected a \$2.3-million proposal to move the historic Daland Memorial Library building to a nearby cornfield, where there would be room for a major expansion. The 317–125 vote was the fourth time since 1999 that a library construction measure failed. That same night, Atkinson residents turned down a library project by 25 votes.

**NEW JERSEY.** A nonbinding referendum asking Randolph residents to support building a new \$12.4-million library lost by a vote of 4,247 to 2,859. Officials said they were unlikely to submit another such vote for at least five years.

**NEW MEXICO.** Statewide voters approved Bond Question C, which will generate up to \$9.09 million in funding for libraries across New Mexico.

**NEW YORK.** In Briarcliff Manor, residents approved a \$4-million plan for a new village library to replace

an old building that had been threatened with closure by county and state library officials. Voters passed increased budgets for libraries in Chemung County, Glens Falls, Newark, Newfield, Peekskill, Philipstown, Stanfordville, and Trumansburg; East Greenbush residents approved their library budget in September.

In Nassau, a library tax that would supply \$79,500 in library funding was approved 546 to 337.

Poughkeepsie residents appeared to have favored a \$14.5-million plan for expansion of the Adriaance Memorial Library, although 500 absentee ballots remained to be counted.

East Fishkill residents voted to establish a public library district.

By 407 to 266, Voorheesville voters approved a proposal to purchase 5.6 acres behind the library to allow either expansion of the old library or construction of a new one. The \$150,000 price tag includes \$100,000 for the land and \$50,000 to develop a plan.

Residents in five library districts in Ulster County—Rosendale, Saugerties, Ulster, West Hurley, and Woodstock—approved budget pro-

posals by wide margins September 5. However, in May Rosendale voters had defeated by 375–266 a plan to purchase buildings and property adjacent to the library for expansion and parking.

In another May election, Hannibal voters agreed to a request by the library for \$35,000 in annual funding to be collected through the school district's annual tax bill.

Tompkins County voters rejected a library tax by 65–35% February 7; as a result, the library eliminated Sunday hours.

**NORTH CAROLINA.** Greensboro voters approved a \$8.6-million bond for construction and renovation of branch libraries, 33,595 to 19,273. However, by a 1,884–1,723 vote, Alleghany County residents narrowly rejected a \$2-million bond to build a new public library.

**NORTH DAKOTA.** Mandan City and Morton County voted to consolidate their libraries.

**OHIO.** Two libraries in Lake County faced different results: Voters in Morley Library's service area approved a 1-mill, five-year replacement levy, while Mentor Public Library was unsuccessful in its request for a 1.1-mill, 10-year levy.

By a lopsided 2,565–865 margin, Orrville residents overwhelmingly passed a 0.75-mill renewal. Massillon residents okayed a 1.9-mill, five-year levy, and a 0.4-mill, five-year levy for the Bettsville Public Library passed 329–170. A new levy to fund Hancock County's three public libraries passed narrowly.

In May 2 elections, funding measures for Avon Lake, Blanchester, Bluffton, Lorain, and Warren–Trumbull County public libraries all passed, while voters in Aurora, Cuyahoga Falls, Defiance, and Pataskala met defeat.

**OREGON.** Multnomah County voters approved a five-year levy to provide over \$30 million in operating costs for the library system. Measure 26–81, which garnered 59% of the vote, will take effect July 1, 2008, replacing a levy that passed five years ago. It will cover some 55% of the library's operating costs.

"This vote is a great affirmation of the value our community places on library services," said Library Advisory Board Chair Alice Meyer. "In tough economic times, libraries matter more than ever." Director of Libraries Molly Raphael added, "Multnomah County voters have

said 'yes' to maintaining library funding and we look forward to providing the level of services that our customers want and expect. Great communities have great libraries, and Multnomah County voters have reaffirmed their commitment to this ideal." Passage of tax requests under the state's Measure 47 requires a 50% voter turnout in most elections, even if the majority of voters approve.

By 55%, Washington County residents approved a four-year, \$29.5-million library levy. Library supporters, who had unsuccessfully proposed levies twice since 2002, said educating voters was the key to the measure's passage. "I think that they realized that it's efficient and it's not a huge amount," said Pat Biggs, board president of People for Libraries, a political action committee formed to pass the levy.

A \$19.97-million general obligation bond in Lebanon passed with almost 58% of the vote. Among the projects funded by the bond is a new library expected to be more than three times the size of the current facility.

Eugene renewed its four-year operating levy by a thin 52–48% margin.

## FACILITIES FEATURE CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS



After a 22-month renovation and expansion, El Paso (Tex.) Public Library's main library reopened in October. The \$9.6-million restoration added 45,000 square feet to the library and included a new auditorium, literacy and technology center, and separate children's and teen sections.

Every year, *American Libraries'* April issue spotlights new, expanded, and remodeled library buildings. This major feature includes some of the best in new library designs, and successful restorations of libraries of all types and sizes. The editors invite librarians, architects, and interior designers to share their treasures with *AL's* readers.

The 2006 facilities feature included 32 projects. Unfortunately, not all submissions can be featured. For consideration, send color prints, 35mm slides, or 300-dpi digital images on a CD, along with a submission form (available at [www.ala.org/ala/online/submittinal/facilitiessubmissionform2007.pdf](http://www.ala.org/ala/online/submittinal/facilitiessubmissionform2007.pdf)) and any additional promotional and descriptive material to Greg Landgraf, *American Libraries*, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611.

The deadline is February 1, 2007. Sources will be credited and materials returned on request.



**RAISING THE ROOF.** Eleven months after Hurricane Wilma ripped the roof off the Palm Beach County (Fla.) Library System's Loula V. York branch in Pahokee, library mascot Dewey joins some young friends at the September 30 reopening celebration and fish fry. The storm hit only two weeks before the library was to close for renovations. Building costs, originally estimated at \$508,000, rose to over \$1 million with another \$80,277 needed to replace the water-damaged collection. But the reopening was a success—over 200 people attended, a record 369 items were circulated, and 29 new library cards were issued.

Merle Bottge, chair of the renewal campaign, said the results showed that this might be the library's final effort to pass a levy. "I don't think the voters said, 'We don't want the library,'" she said. "But maybe the operating levy is not the way to fund the library on an ongoing basis."

Levies for Baker County Library and Sweet Home Library that had failed to draw a 50% voter turnout in May succeeded in November. Funding measures failed with less than 50% of the vote in Oregon City, Siuslaw, and Wilsonville. Only 41% of Jackson County voters favored a five-year library operations local option levy. The library sought the measure after learning that the county might lose a federal timber tax subsidy next year; the levy would have been collected only if the subsidy ended. Commissioner Dave Gilmour said if the levy failed and the federal funds stop, all 15 of the county's libraries could close their doors.

Residents chose to form library districts in Malheur and Wasco counties; both issues had failed to attract the necessary level of voter participation in May. Formation of the Dalles-Wasco County Library District met a majority of both ballots and turnout, but a library district formation attempt drew less than 50% in Josephine County.

In May, Tualatin voters approved the use of general fund money to expand the library building. Because construction costs have risen to nearly \$9 million since residents passed a \$4.2-million bond in 2004 to finance the facility, the city will use urban renewal funds to cover the shortfall.

**PENNSYLVANIA.** The board president of Sewickley Township Public Library voiced fears that the 43–57% defeat of the library's levy may have been a result of the wording of an official explanation of the referendum that was posted at all six of the township's polling places.

Barbara McMillan said the disputed sentence—"In addition, however, the Sewickley Township Supervisors will have the authority to increase the tax rate for the library tax without having to obtain voter approval of another ballot question"—was underlined at several of the polling places visited by library board members, adding that the posted explanation was pointed out by poll workers.

"There is some question about the validity of the results," said McMillan, although she noted in the November 9 *Pittsburgh Tribune-Review* that it would require a unanimous vote for the library board to bring the matter before county officials. A similar measure was defeated by a 9% margin May 16.

By a vote of 574 to 722, Salem Township residents once again turned down a five-year annual tax to help pay for a newly expanded library that opened November 1. The town had rejected a similar referendum in 2004, although it was approved in adjoining Lake Township.

**SOUTH CAROLINA.** Oconee County voters rejected a 1-cent sales tax that would have funded 39 projects, including a new library in Seneca that would have received \$8.5 million. The measure passed in Seneca, 1,530 to 1,422, but was soundly defeated in two other communities.

**TEXAS.** In addition to the success of the \$90-million Austin referendum, libraries throughout the state fared well November 7. By a whopping 82% margin Dallas voters approved Proposition 4, which provides \$46.2 million for major maintenance, construction of one new branch, and renovation of the central library and two branches. The city has authorized over \$100 million for libraries in just three years: A \$55-million bond measure passed in 2003.

Houston residents passed Proposition E, a \$37-million bond package for library replacement and renovation projects.

In Irving, the passage of Proposition 4 will provide \$18.2 million for

### Filter-Savvy Students Barred from Most of Web

As of October 20, students of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District headquartered in Palmer, Alaska, are no longer able to retrieve websites on classroom or media-center computers unless the site ends in a .gov or .edu domain name, or is a database whose content is licensed by the district, or the district has approved an educator's request that the site be unblocked. The action came in response to an October report that the top five websites visited by students during school hours between September 25 and October 6 were "noninstructional and noneducational," District Public Information Officer Traci Crotteau told *American Libraries*.

"What is blocked today is accessed tomorrow through a different door," Chief School Administrator Bob Doyle wrote in an October 10 letter to district department directors, school principals, and librarians. "The Management Information Services (MIS) Department has tried hard to provide adequate access to the internet and to maintain a safe environment for students," he went on to say, but is losing the battle "due to the fact the district has many industrious and computer-savvy students."

Asserting that the district is "liable if students get hurt and for what they're seeing," Crotteau said the crackdown was necessary because "we cannot possibly monitor 16,000 students." She explained that in just 10 school days of online sessions, the third-most-visited URL was geckoproxy.com, which enables students to sidestep the SurfControl filter installed to comply with the Children's Internet Protection Act. Although the filter had been set to block 12 subject categories, other sites frequented by students were dedicated to online shopping, sexually explicit images, and chat-room access, she said.

At an October 18 school-board meeting, MIS director Marie Burton told dissenting teens who attended that she would work with them in

making the policy more workable. "What still worries me is that [the filtering] is happening at all," high-school senior Blake Kinsey said in the October 20 *Anchorage Daily News*. "It's narrowing my mind, my ability to think outside the box. I would think that's what we'd want all our students to do."

### Arkansas Trustees Reconsider *Basic Instinct*

A concerned patron of the Rogers (Ark.) Public Library has asked the board to remove the director's cut of the 1992 box-office hit *Basic Instinct* from the collection.

At an October 17 meeting, Nieves Egelkraut likened the movie about a police detective's sexual involvement with a murder suspect to pornography, the *Benton County Daily Record* reported October 18. She also expressed fear that teenagers would borrow it, although RPL Director Judy Casey explained that library policy enables parents to bar their minor children from checking out movies.

Egelkraut is one of 22 people to borrow the film since it was donated to the library in December. "This is one of the movies I'd be hard-pressed not to add," said reference librarian Robert Finch, who manages the video collection. Finch explained to trustees that *Basic Instinct* was nominated for two Academy Awards, stars award-winning actors, and received a three-star recommendation in *Leonard Maltin's 2007 Movie Guide*. Trustee Sean Keith noted that the cover of the movie box states that the unrated director's cut contains scenes "too hot to be shown" in the theatrical release.

While the board considers the film, it has been withdrawn from circulation and placed on reserve

for staff and trustees. Casey said she would offer several options for labeling the movie at the November 21 board meeting.

### Colorado Mom Objects to Eroticism Article

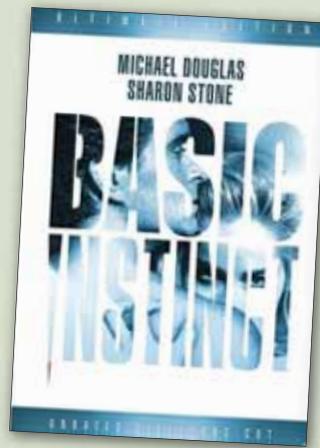
A Colorado mother of three has filed a complaint with the Rangeview Library District objecting to an article in the Spanish-language magazine *Muy Interesante*.

Claudia Speak said her attention was caught by a provocative cover on display in the adult magazine section at the district's Brighton branch, showing a woman biting into a banana. Although Speak is unable to read Spanish, she found pictures inside "of pornographic nature which included two couples engaging in sex, total frontal nudity of males and females, gay men in a sexual pose, a cartoon depicting oral sex, three nude women on stage in sexual pose . . . and more," she wrote in a letter to the *Brighton Standard Blade*.

The article, titled "El extraordinario poder del erotismo" ("The Extraordinary Power of Eroticism"), explores sexuality between men and women, as well as between humans and other species, the *Standard Blade* reported October 17.

Brighton Branch Manager Alex Villagran told the newspaper a three-person library committee would recommend to the library director whether the subscription should be cancelled, but that removing the issue in question is not an option. "That would be censoring," Villagran said.

Speak opposes canceling the subscription, but wants the eroticism article kept out of children's hands, explaining that she doesn't feel that would constitute censorship. "I think discretion is a better word." —B.G.



land and construction of two branch libraries, completion of another branch now under construction, and renovation of existing branches. In addition, a \$25-million measure included \$1.5 million for RFID technology in the library.

Sachse residents voted 2,353–1,284 for Proposition 5, allowing for \$615,000 for library construction, furnishing, and improvements. Elroy voters approved a sales tax to pay for the new East Travis Gateway Library District.

In a May 13 election, voters funded new libraries in Fort Bend County, McKinney, and Schertz. However, residents in Keller defeated a bond proposition for a new \$7.6-million central library.

**UTAH.** In the state's only library issue, 61% of Brigham City voters opposed an \$8-million bond to build a new library-museum.

**VIRGINIA.** A \$42.5-million bond issue for the library to build two new facilities was one of three bond referendums that passed in Prince William County, although the library's 70% approval was the smallest margin of the three measures.

**WASHINGTON.** Lynnwood voters okayed a proposal to join the Sno-Isle Library District. Although homeowners' taxes will rise, annexing into the system will save the city \$1.1 million that it pays Sno-Isle in annual fees.

An \$8.1-million Arlington library bond to build a new facility four times the size of the current one fell

short of the 60% supermajority it needed to pass.

Although results had not been certified, the Castle Rock Library levy appeared to have achieved its needed 60% supermajority: In mid-November, it had a 61.3% approval rate.

Vancouver residents approved a \$43-million bond measure September 19 to fund a new main library as well as a new eastside facility and technology improvements at the Vancouver mall branch. The 63% favorable vote exceeded the necessary supermajority. Two major gifts—a \$5-million pledge from an anonymous donor and a \$2-million tract of land for the main library site—were contingent upon passage.

Previous bond issues in March 2004 and November 2005 narrowly missed obtaining supermajorities amid controversy over the library's internet filtering policies, which only required filters for minors and included a parental opt-out provision. In February the board adopted a more stringent approach that requires filters on all library computers.

Pierce County voters reauthorized and increased the library's levy rate in September by a 54.7% margin; the extra funds will mean increased hours and more materials and public-access computers.

On May 16, Richland residents passed a \$17.25-million bond to increase the size of the library; the 63% approval rate met the required supermajority.

An annexation measure calling for Yakima to join the Yakima Valley Regional Library District passed with 58% approval April 25.

**WEST VIRGINIA.** A tax levy for the Putnam County Library System failed to meet the 60% majority needed for passage. The 8,644–6,049 vote total amounted to just 58.8% in favor. The measure was also on the ballot in May, when it garnered 57%. In 1990 the levy failed by less than 2%. Library Director Jackie Chaney said that instead of trying again to pass the levy, library officials will likely redirect their efforts toward getting the state legislature to lower the percentage needed for such measures to pass.

The 62% approval rate for a four-year renewal of Hancock County's levy to fund the county's three public libraries barely met the supermajority. Glenville residents also passed a levy to fund the library by 1,139–521.

In May, Marion County voters renewed three levies that have been in existence since 1988, including one to fund the library system at an increased level.

**WYOMING.** By 55–45%, voters okayed \$5.9 million for an expansion project for Fremont County Library System's headquarters, and in a 58–42% vote, Park County residents approved a 1-cent capital facilities sales tax to raise \$13.2 million, \$2.2 million of which will go toward relocating the library to the Park County Complex, including remodeling and improvements. —G.F.

## D.C., Chicago Libraries Add Hours

Public libraries in Washington, D.C., and Chicago are extending their hours of operation, thanks to additional FY2007 funding.

The District of Columbia Public Library opened its central Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library and all 17 full-service neighborhood branches on Sundays from 1 to 5 p.m. starting October 15. "Whether it's families or individual residents, we're going to be attracting groups

of people who wouldn't normally have time to come to the library during the week," said DCPL Chief Librarian Ginnie Cooper in a press release. "This is going to enable us to serve many, many more people who have information needs but perhaps did not have time to get their needs met." The city's FY2007 budget included \$790,000 for staffing costs to provide Sunday hours, as well as \$210,000 for materials and supplies.

DCPL also eliminated the age and handwriting requirements for children to obtain a library card. In addition, it recently began offering wireless access at all of its libraries, including four bookmobiles that are temporarily providing services to neighborhoods whose branches have been closed since December 2004 for remodeling.

Citing a significant increase in downtown population, Chicago Pub-