

american libraries DIRECT

January 3, 2007

Contents

- [U.S. & World News](#)
- [ALA News](#)
- [Booklist Online](#)
- [Seattle Update](#)
- [Division News](#)
- [Round Table News](#)
- [Awards](#)
- [Seen Online](#)
- [Tech Talk](#)
- [Actions & Answers](#)
- [Poll](#)
- [Calendar](#)



• SirsiDynix •
institute
 Click Here for More Information

Learning 2.0: Make "play" your
 New Year's resolution

Upcoming FREE Webinar

SirsiDynix
 Sponsor, American Libraries Direct.

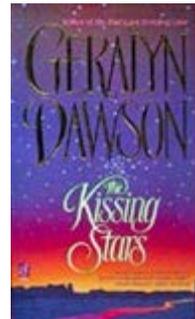
U.S. & World News

[Indianapolis director Mielke to step down](#)

After less than three years in the position, Indianapolis–Marion County Public Library CEO Linda Mielke will step down January 15. Board President Louis Mahern said the move was mutually agreed upon by Mielke and the trustees. She will receive nearly \$70,000 in severance pay as called for in her contract....

[Kissing Stars spark media-center challenge](#)

The principal of the Toisnot Middle School in Wilson, North Carolina, has removed from circulation *The Kissing Stars* by GERALYN DAWSON, pending its review by the school's Media Advisory Committee in January. In the meantime, principal Craig Harris told the December 21 *Wilson Daily Times*, he and the media center coordinator are documenting independently of each other any passages in the historical romance novel that either considers inappropriate for middle-schoolers....



[FBI director's comments reveal hostility towards privacy](#)

In a November 30 written response ([PDF file](#)) to the U.S. Senate, Federal Bureau of Investigation Director Robert S. Mueller III again demonstrated that the Department of Justice fails to comprehend the role of libraries and the importance of privacy in the United States. The FBI submitted Mueller's answers in response to written questions that followed the May 2, 2006, hearing before the Senate Committee on the Judiciary regarding FBI oversight....

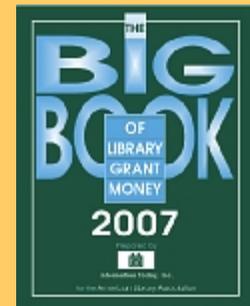
ALA News

[ALA membership survey results](#)

More than 2,000 members told ALA they are using the Association's [website](#) more than in 2004, and member satisfaction with the website has increased 28%. The 2006 ALA Member Communications



[Airport transportation information](#)



Nearly 2,400 private and corporate foundations and givers are profiled in [The Big Book of Library Grant Money 2007, NEW](#) from ALA Editions.



A donation to the ALA

is a gift to help strengthen public, school, academic, and special libraries across the country. [Specific initiatives](#) seeking funding include the

Study, conducted in October and November, was commissioned to assist ALA in identifying areas in communications with members where improvements can be made and to note any key changes since the first-ever member study in 2004....

[New research and statistics project manager](#)

Larra Clark, formerly ALA's manager of media relations, will join the Office of Research and Statistics staff as project manager for the [Public Library Funding and Technology Access study](#). In collaboration with the ORS director, Clark will coordinate the complex activities of this project and work closely with researchers at Florida State University and elsewhere who are doing fieldwork....

[Task Force on Digitization Policy](#)

ALA's Office for Information Technology Policy has created a Task Force on Digitization Policy. Its charge is to review ALA policies in relation to digitized content and promote the draft Principles for Digitized Content that were developed in April 2006....

[Deadline nears for Advocacy Institute](#)

The deadline for online registration for the [Advocacy Institute](#) at the 2007 Midwinter Meeting in Seattle is this Friday, January 5. Online registration for both ALA members and nonmembers is \$25, a 50% savings from the on-site registration fee....

Campaign for America's Libraries, the Cultural Communities Fund, and the ALA Hurricane Katrina Relief Fund.

Can't tell the difference between ALA's CLENERT and its UNO? What's a PARS and a BRASS and a COSWL? Consult this handy guide to [ALA-related acronyms](#) before you tackle the Midwinter schedule.

In this issue

January 2007



Balancing the Online Life

20 Tips to Inspire Innovation

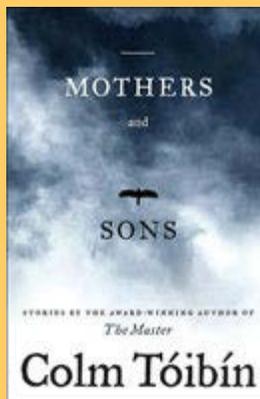
American Libraries in the 1930s

Booklist ONLINE

[Featured review: Adult books](#)

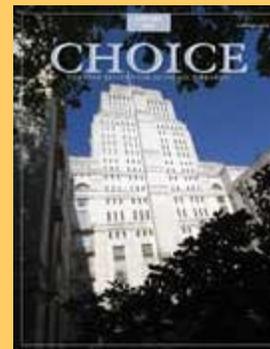
Tóibín, Colm. *Mothers and Sons*. Jan. 2007. 288p. Scribner, hardcover (978-1-4165-3465-5).

In *The Master* (2004), Tóibín's much-applauded fictional version of the life of American literary icon Henry James, the Irish fiction writer openly displayed an ability to "get under the skin" of a recognizable historical figure. His collection of stories further reveals his dexterity in achieving an understanding of a variety of individuals, none of whom seem to be based on himself. The collection's title indicates the general theme upon which each story elaborates—each story taking the theme in its own direction....



[Booklist Online and Downers Grove offer online book talk](#)

An exciting new collaboration between the [Downers Grove \(Ill.\) Public Library](#) and Booklist Online got underway in December, aiming to offer the liveliest and most varied library-based online book discussions in the country. Library staff, general readers, *Booklist* editors, and authors can air their thoughts, opinions, and book tips from wherever they can log on....



Choice Editor Irving E. Rockwood offers suggestions on how to

@ Visit [Booklist Online](#) for other reviews and much more....

find and use [Choice reviews](#) online.

Seattle Update

[A dining guide to Seattle](#)

(PDF file)

Robert M. Mason and Marilyn Gell Mason (right) serve up their recommendations on eateries in the Emerald City: "While the city is large enough to have a wide variety of restaurants, the characteristics that make Seattle eating distinctive are its dedication to the use of fresh ingredients (especially fresh fish) and liberal use of Asian flavors."...

American Libraries 38 (Jan. 2007): 62-65



[Midwinter exhibitor events](#)

Exhibitor special event information for the Midwinter Meeting is now [available online](#). More than 450 exhibitors will pack the convention center's exhibit floor and offer free demonstrations and samples of the latest products and services for libraries and their users....

[Seattle Underground](#)

The Seattle Underground is a network of underground passageways and basements that was originally the downtown area's ground level. After the streets were elevated, these spaces eventually fell into disuse, but have become a tourist attraction in recent decades. [Bill Speidel's Underground Tours](#) offers walking tours beginning in Pioneer Square....

Wikipedia; Bill Speidel's Underground Tours

Career Leads from



[Government Documents/Development Librarian](#), University of North Carolina at Pembroke. Duties include managing the receipt, processing, and utilization of federal and state government information; and developing grant proposals....

@ [More jobs...](#)

Division News

[New online edition of LA&M](#)

LAMA launched a new electronic quarterly journal, [Library Administration and Management Online](#) (LA&M Online) on December 18. Available as a benefit of membership in LAMA, *LA&M Online* includes features not found in the traditional paper journal, including reader-feedback blogs, color images, additional charts and graphs, and podcasts. The conversion to a full-featured web publication will be phased in and completed by 2009....



[ALCTS forums at Midwinter](#)

ALCTS will present a series of forums at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Seattle on the future of cataloging, disaster recovery, and collecting e-resources use data....

[Register for ALCTS 50th anniversary celebration](#)

ALCTS will host a national conference in celebration of its 50th-anniversary themed



Public Perception

How the World Sees Us

"Sometimes I imagine the library having a little bar set up. I picture the librarian sliding her chair over to the bar.

"What's it today, Mr. Devlin?' she would ask. 'The usual?'

"Just a glass of Guinness, love, and a bag of chips.' I'd push my library card across the bar with my index finger. 'Put it on my card, and leave a little something for yourself.'"

—Sean Devlin, in "A Dad's Mind Wanders around the

"Interactive Futures: A National Conference on the Transformation of Library Collections and Technical Services." Registration is now open for the day-and-a-half conference to be held June 20–21 at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center in Washington, D.C....

[New round of great websites added to ALSC list](#)

ALSC added 44 new sites in 2006 to its [Great Web Sites for Kids](#) page. GWS features links to valuable websites of interest to children, organized by subject headings such as animals, literature and languages, sciences, the arts, and history and biography....



[YALSA debuts MySpace web page](#)

YALSA has launched a [MySpace page](#) to provide a way for the division to reach out to the general public including parents, educators, teens, librarians, and library supporters. YALSA's MySpace page offers visitors convenient access to recommended reading, listening and viewing for teens, including titles that have won one of YALSA's prestigious awards in young adult literature....

[Every Child Ready to Read @ your library wiki](#)

PLA and ALSC have introduced an [Every Child Ready to Read @ your library wiki](#) that allows new and current users of the program to share innovative ideas and best practices. PLA and ALSC jointly developed the Every Child Ready to Read @ your library program to provide public libraries with vital tools to help prepare parents for their critical role as their child's first teacher....



[LAMA Leadership Development Seminar](#)

John McNeil, vice president of implementation and design for the Pacific Institute, will be keynote speaker at the LAMA 2007 Leadership Development Seminar at the Midwinter Meeting. This seminar will be presented January 19 from 2:00 to 4:30 p.m. at the Westin Seattle, Cascade Ballroom 1....



Round Table News

[Video Round Table special event](#)

Seattle Public Library, VRT, and Friends of Libraries for Deaf Action will cosponsor a screening of short clips from [Through Deaf Eyes](#), a two-hour PBS documentary that explores 200 years of deaf life in America, at 6:30 p.m. on January 20 at the Seattle Public Library auditorium. This groundbreaking work is a production of WETA Washington, D.C., and Florentine Films/Hott Productions, in association with Gallaudet University. A national PBS broadcast is planned in spring 2007. A discussion with Karen Kenton, WETA Executive Producer for the *Through Deaf Eyes* film project, will follow the screening....



Awards

Local Library," *Boston Globe*, Dec. 28.



Thirty-two librarians from around the world came together in Champaign, Illinois, November 7–10, 2006, to participate in the "Thinking Outside the Borders" international leadership institute, which focused on meaningful cross-cultural communication about libraries and leadership. Robin Kear describes the experience in the [December issue of *International Leads*](#).

Poll

What do YOU do?

What type of device do you use to read *American Libraries Direct*?

Click here to [ANSWER!](#)

Results of the December 20 poll:

Does your library currently have an in-house coffee shop or restaurant?

30%

Yes (coffee shop)

4%

Yes (restaurant)

12%

No, but contemplating

[ALA awards deadline extended](#)

The deadline has been extended to February 2 for a number of ALA awards and grants, including the Beta Phi Mu Award, the Melvil Dewey Medal, the Equality Award, the Elizabeth Futas Catalyst for Change Award, the Thomson Gale Financial Development Award, the Sullivan Award Public Library Administrators Supporting Services to Children, and the H. W. Wilson Library Staff Development Grant....

[Film preservation grants](#)

The National Film Preservation Foundation invites applications for its Basic Preservation Grants. These cash grants are awarded to nonprofit and public institutions for laboratory work to preserve culturally and historically significant film materials. Awards range from \$1,000 to \$15,000. The registration deadline is February 9 and the application deadline is March 16....

National Film Preservation Foundation

Seen Online

[Feds push for internet records](#)

For more than a year, the U.S. Justice Department has been in discussions with internet companies and privacy rights advocates, trying to come up with a plan that would make it easier for investigators to check records of web traffic. The idea is to help law enforcement track down child pornographers. But some see it as another step toward total surveillance of citizens, joining warrantless wiretapping, secret scrutiny of library records, and unfettered access to e-mail as another power that could be abused....

Minneapolis Star-Tribune, Jan. 1

[Weeding in the Washington area](#)

Like Borders and Barnes and Noble, Fairfax County (Va.) Public Library is responding aggressively to market preferences, calculating the system's return on its investment by each foot of space on the library shelves—and weeding out some little-used titles. But the [library has not](#) been throwing out all its classics, as the newspaper article implied....

Washington Post, Jan. 2; Fairfax County (Va.) Public Library

[Rowdy middle schoolers in Maplewood](#)

Every afternoon at Maplewood (N.J.) Middle School's final bell, dozens of students pour across the street to the public library. Some study quietly. Others fight, urinate on the bathroom floor, scrawl graffiti on the walls, talk back to librarians, or refuse to leave when asked. As a result, starting on January 16, the Maplewood Memorial Library will be [closing](#) its two buildings on weekdays from 2:45 to 5 p.m., until further notice....

New York Times, Jan. 2

[Black archives recaptures history](#)

Dorothy Jenkins Fields (right) made one phone call 32 years ago that changed the course of her life. Fields was a librarian in then all-white Myrtle Grove (Fla.) Elementary School and, in preparation for the nation's Bicentennial celebration, she wanted to teach the children about black history. When she phoned a public librarian to request information, Fields learned all that was available



54%
No

(224 responses)

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

Ask the ALA Librarian



Q. Some of the kids in the afterschool program that meets in our library are asking about "street lit." What is this and what are some resources for building a small collection?

A. Street Lit, sometimes called Urban Fiction or Hip Hop Fiction or even Ghetto Fiction, is one of the fastest-growing new literary genres, along with chick lit and graphic novels. See the [ALA Professional Tips wiki](#) for information on this genre and some tips on incorporating it into your library.

The [ALA Librarian](#) welcomes your questions.

was a folder containing obituaries. That phone conversation later led Fields to found the [Black Archives, History, and Research Foundation of South Florida](#) in Miami....

Miami Herald, Dec. 31

[DOPA dies on the vine](#)

The end of 2006 marks the end of the current congressional session in the House and Senate, closing the door on the Deleting Online Predators Act. Andy Carvin takes a look at why this legislation, which passed overwhelmingly in the House this summer, died such a slow death....

PBS Learning Now, Dec. 29

[More details about Berger and the Archives](#)

Former national security adviser Samuel R. "Sandy" Berger has admitted taking five slightly different copies of a highly classified document from the National Archives in 2003. A newly released report by NARA's Office of the Inspector General contains fresh details of the incident, which involved a classified Clinton administration study called the Millennium Alert After Action Review....

Washington Post, Dec. 22

[300-year-old book could lead to new drug](#)

A few years ago, Eric Buenz came across *Ambonese Herbal*, a 17th-century book on herbal medicine. Buenz, then a graduate student at the Mayo Clinic, and a colleague decided to test a tree extract that the book claimed could cure diarrhea. In this case, ancient Indonesian folk knowledge probably would have disappeared if not for the dogged persistence of Georg Everhard Rumphius (right), a mercenary with the Dutch East India Company, whose story is recounted in "Searching Historical Herbal Texts for Potential New Drugs" ([PDF file](#)), in the Dec. 23 *British Medical Journal*....

Tucson Arizona Daily Star, Dec. 31



[College libraries: The annex](#)

Even as the internet revolution raises the promise of widespread digital publishing, librarians are grappling with deciding which books to keep and figuring out how to efficiently store them—even if no one touches them in a generation. That dilemma is heightened because room and funding for traditional open stacks are scarce, and library space increasingly is being converted to computer labs and study rooms....

Los Angeles Times, Dec. 25

Tech Talk

[SirsiDynix finds a new investor](#)

In a somewhat surprising announcement, SirsiDynix announced in late December that it had a "new investment partner," [Vista Equity](#). Details were scant but a formal (and only slightly more detailed) press release ([PDF file](#)) was issued December 27. Vista is a private equity firm with over \$1 billion in capital, primarily in the software and technology sectors. SirsiDynix, of course, is one of the biggest



Calendar

Jan. 20:
[University of Oxford, English Faculty](#):

"Print Culture and the Novel, 1850–1900," Oxford, England. Contact: [University of Oxford](#).

Jan. 23–26:
[International Conference on Open Repositories](#), San Antonio, Texas. "Achieving Interoperability in an Open World." Contact: [Open Repositories](#).

Jan. 25:
[Search Engine Watch Live](#), Adam's Mark Hotel, Dallas, Texas. Contact: [Incisive Media](#).

Jan. 27–29:
[New Zealand Mobile Library Conference](#), Taupo, New Zealand. Contact: [Cathie Richards](#).

Jan. 31–Feb. 1:
[British Cartographic Society Map Curators' Group](#), Cambridge, England. "Map Cataloguing for the Terrified: How to Catalogue Cartographic Materials for Libraries and Archives." Contact: [Anne Taylor](#).

Jan. 31–Feb. 3:
[Ontario Library Association](#), Super Conference, Toronto. Contact: [OLA](#).

players in the market, with nearly 4,000 clients....
Hectic Pace blog, Dec. 28

[50 things to do with Google Maps mashups](#)

Mike Pegg shows how individuals and organizations are using Google Maps to chart such things as [zip codes](#), [red-light cameras](#), [disease outbreaks](#), [ski resorts](#), [UFO sightings](#), [webcams](#), [libraries](#), and [cheap gas](#)....

Google Maps Mania blog, Dec. 28

[Battelle's predictions for 2007](#)

John Battelle, author of *The Search* (Portfolio, 2005), has made 14 predictions about developments in search-engine technology next year....

John Battelle's Searchblog, Jan. 1

[What every librarian should know about search engines](#)

Scott Hawksworth writes: "Online research and the power of the Web have made accessing information only fingertips away from all of us, but the taxonomies and standards used for search will impact how people learn online and off for years to come. Here are some of the things librarians understand about search—and things that anyone doing [online research](#) can benefit from."...

DegreeTutor, Dec. 8

[Tagging systems in del.icio.us](#)

Margaret E. I. Kipp and D. Grant Campbell of the University of Western Ontario examine the tagging patterns exhibited by users of del.icio.us to assess how collaborative tagging supports and enhances traditional ways of classifying and indexing documents....

Proceedings of the ASIST Annual General Meeting (2006)

[70 acronyms parents \(and maybe librarians\) should recognize](#)

From POS to WYRN, these chat and IM acronyms could turn up in your e-mail messages or your 24/7 reference logs....

NetLingo

[Untangle the Web with RSS](#)

Robert MacMillan summarizes RSS feeds for the uninitiated and explains why websites need to have them....

Reuters, Dec. 29

Actions & Answers

[Kimbooktu](#)

Kim Heijdenrijk in The Hague, Netherlands, has started up an English-language blog devoted entirely to book-related gadgets—books about books, bookholders, bookmarks, keychains, mugs (right), clothes for reading, tote bags, a British TV series called *Black Books*, and much more....

Kimbooktu



[Remote libraries in Peru and Kenya](#)

Feb. 5–6:

[Texas Computer Education Association](#)

First Annual Educational Technology Research Symposium, Austin. Contact: [Ron Cravey](#).

Feb. 14–17:

[Southwest Texas Popular Culture and American Culture Associations](#), 28th Annual Meeting, Albuquerque, New Mexico. Contact: [Sally Sanchez](#).

Feb. 15–16:

[ALCTS/PCC Workshop](#), OCLC CAPCON Services Center, Washington, D.C. "Basic Subject Cataloging Using LCSH." Contact: [Shelly Edwards](#).

Feb. 16:

[Online Northwest](#), CH2M Hill Alumni Center, Corvallis, Oregon. Contact: [Jamie LeGore](#).

Feb. 20–24:

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

Feb. 21–

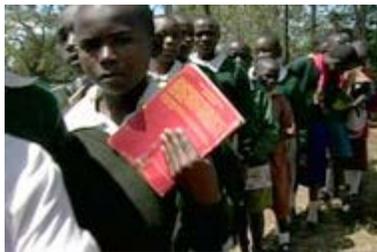
March 5:

[Alexandrina International Book Fair](#), Bibliotheca Alexandrina, Alexandria, Egypt. Contact: [Mona Helmy](#).

Feb. 22–25:

[Alaska Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Juneau.

Paul Francescutti, a producer for CTV Southwestern Ontario in Kitchener, has produced a documentary about remote libraries in Peru and Kenya. *Remote Access: Distant Libraries of the World* aired only in Ontario early in 2006. A DVD is available and previews can be found on the Remote Access website....



Remote Access

[LC adds 25 movies to National Film Registry](#)

Librarian of Congress James H. Billington December 27 added 25 motion pictures to the National Film Registry to be preserved for all time, bringing the total number of films on the registry to 450. The 2006 selections span the years 1913 to 1996 and encompass films ranging from Hollywood classics to lesser-known but still vital works. Billington chose this year's selections after evaluating nearly 1,000 nominated titles, among them *Blazing Saddles* (1974), *Groundhog Day* (1993), and *Tess of the Storm Country* (1914)....

Library of Congress, Dec. 27

[Nancy Pearl's Book Lust wiki](#)

Best-selling author and award-winning reviewer Nancy Pearl now has a wiki-format website for readers interested in books: Book Lust: A Community for People Who Love Books. Currently she is collecting suggestions for best books of 2006 and most popular authors, and offering suggestions for book clubs....

Book Lust wiki



[Fantasy sports library programming](#)

Why not create some sort of library program around a fantasy league for the teens in the library? You can find these leagues through a variety of sources such as Yahoo, ESPN, CBS, as well as a host of other places. The librarian would have to establish the league and act as commissioner, which means he or she would control the league settings and rules....

Alternative Teen Services blog, Dec. 28

[New Pentagon library center opens](#) (PDF file)

The Pentagon has completed a new Library and Conference Center (PLC2) that is operational and open to visitors. The 120,000-square-foot facility is home to the Army library, 16 conference rooms, and several offices under the Pentagon Force Protection Agency....



The Renovator, Dec.

[Suggested guidelines for library blogs](#)

Karen Schneider offers some tips on what to put in library blog policies concerning purpose, managers, hosting, assignments, acceptable use, and best practices, among other things....

Free Range Librarian blog, Dec. 30

[Monty Python's gorilla](#)

"Libraries: The Umbrella of the Community." Contact: [Amelia Jenkins](#).

@ [More...](#)

Contact Us American Libraries Direct

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

George M. Eberhart,
Editor:
geberhart@ala.org

Daniel Kraus,
Associate Editor:
dkraus@ala.org

Greg Landgraf,
Editorial Assistant:
glandgraf@ala.org

Karen Sheets,
Graphics and Design:
ksheets@ala.org

Leonard Kniffel,
Editor-in-Chief,
American Libraries:
lniffel@ala.org

To advertise in American Libraries Direct, contact:
Brian Searles,
bsearles@ala.org

Send feedback:
aldirect@ala.org

AL Direct FAQ:
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.

American Libraries
50 E. Huron St.
Chicago, IL 60611

[librarian skit](#)

From Series 1, Episode 10 (December 21, 1969), of *Monty Python's Flying Circus*, in which a gorilla applies for a librarian position. It contains the classic line: "You see, I don't believe that libraries should be drab places where people sit in silence, and that's been the main reason for our policy of employing wild animals as librarians."...



YouTube

[More top 10, 50, and 100 lists than anyone else](#)

Microsoft's Rex Sorgatz has compiled all the 2006 lists at his Fimoculous site, helpfully arranged by category (including a section on books). He has lists for previous years as well....

Fimoculous

["Happy New Year" around the world](#)

Infoplease offers a list of ways to say "Happy New Year" in 34 languages. When in ancient Rome, say *Felix sit annus novus!*...

Infoplease

www.ala.org/online/

800-545-2433,
ext. 4216

ISSN 1559-369X.

AMERICAN LIBRARIES DIRECT

January 3, 2007

Click here to view the online version of our email:

<%= util.viewHtmlLink %>

Poll

What do YOU do?

What type of device do you use to read American Libraries Direct?

Click here to ANSWER!

<http://www.zoomerang.com/survey.zgi?p=WEB225ZK8TLPSP>

Results of the
December 20 poll:

Does your library currently have an in-house coffee shop or restaurant?

Yes

(coffee shop).....30%

Yes

(restaurant).....4%

No,

but contemplating

.....12%

No.....54%

(224 responses)

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

U.S. & WORLD NEWS

Indianapolis director Mielke to step down

<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2006abc/december2006/mielke.cfm>

After less than three years in the position, Indianapolis–Marion County Public Library CEO Linda Mielke will step down January 15. Board President Louis Mahern said the move was mutually agreed upon by Mielke and the trustees. She will receive nearly \$70,000 in severance pay as called for in her contract....

Kissing Stars spark media-center challenge

<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2006abc/december2006/kissingstars.cfm>

The principal of the Toisnot Middle School in Wilson, North Carolina, has removed from circulation *The Kissing Stars* by GERALYN DAWSON, pending its review by the school's Media Advisory Committee in January. In the meantime, principal Craig Harris told the December 21 Wilson Daily Times, he and the media center coordinator are documenting independently of each other any passages in the historical romance novel that either considers inappropriate for middle-schoolers....

FBI director's comments reveal hostility towards privacy

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2006/december2006/muellercomments.htm>

In a November 30 written response (PDF file) to the U.S. Senate, Federal Bureau of Investigation Director Robert S. Mueller III again demonstrated that the Department of Justice fails to comprehend the role of libraries and the

importance of privacy in the United States. The FBI submitted Mueller's answers in response to written questions that followed the May 2, 2006, hearing before the Senate Committee on the Judiciary regarding FBI oversight....

ALA NEWS

ALA membership survey results

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/january2007/alams07.htm>

More than 2,000 members told ALA they are using the Association's website more than in 2004, and member satisfaction with the website has increased 28%. The 2006 ALA Member Communications Study, conducted in October and November, was commissioned to assist ALA in identifying areas in communications with members where improvements can be made and to note any key changes since the first-ever member study in 2004....

New research and statistics project manager

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2006/december2006/Projectmanagerforstudy.htm>

Larra Clark, formerly ALA's manager of media relations, will join the Office of Research and Statistics staff as project manager for the Public Library Funding and Technology Access study. In collaboration with the ORS director, Clark will coordinate the complex activities of this project and work closely with researchers at Florida State University and elsewhere who are doing fieldwork....

Task Force on Digitization Policy

<http://www.ala.org/ala/washoff/contactwo/oitp/digtask.htm>

ALA's Office for Information Technology Policy has created a Task Force on Digitization Policy. Its charge is to review ALA policies in relation to digitized content and promote the draft Principles for Digitized Content that were developed in April 2006....

Deadline nears for Advocacy Institute

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/january2007/Onlineregadvocacyinstitu.htm>

The deadline for online registration for the Advocacy Institute at the 2007 Midwinter Meeting in Seattle is this Friday, January 5. Online registration for both ALA members and nonmembers is \$25, a 50% savings from the on-site registration fee....

Booklist Online

Featured review: Adult books

http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=1840290

Tóibín, Colm. *Mothers and Sons*. Jan. 2007. 288p. Scribner, hardcover (978-1-4165-3465-5).

In *The Master* (2004), Tóibín's much-applauded fictional version of the life of American literary icon Henry James, the Irish fiction writer openly displayed an ability to "get under the skin" of a recognizable historical figure. His collection of stories further reveals his dexterity in achieving an understanding of a variety of individuals, none of whom seem to be based on himself. The collection's title indicates the general theme upon which each story elaborates—each story taking the theme in its own direction....

Booklist Online and Downers Grove offer online book talk

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2006/december2006/BooklistOnlinebooktalk.htm>

An exciting new collaboration between the Downers Grove (Ill.) Public Library and Booklist Online got underway in December, aiming to offer the liveliest and most varied library-based online book discussions in the country. Library staff, general readers, Booklist editors, and authors can air their thoughts, opinions, and book tips from wherever they can log on....

Visit Booklist Online for other reviews and much more....

<http://www.booklistonline.com/>

SEATTLE UPDATE

A dining guide to Seattle (PDF file)

http://www.ala.org/ala/online/selectedarticles/0107_Restaurant_Guide.pdf

Robert M. Mason and Marilyn Gell Mason (right) serve up their recommendations on eateries in the Emerald City:

“While the city is large enough to have a wide variety of restaurants, the characteristics that make Seattle eating distinctive are its dedication to the use of fresh ingredients (especially fresh fish) and liberal use of Asian flavors.”...

American Libraries 38 (Jan. 2007): 62–65

Midwinter exhibitor events

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/january2007/exhibitevents07.htm>

Exhibitor special event information for the Midwinter Meeting is now available online. More than 450 exhibitors will pack the convention center’s exhibit floor and offer free demonstrations and samples of the latest products and services for libraries and their users....

Seattle Underground

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Seattle_Underground

The Seattle Underground is a network of underground passageways and basements that was originally the downtown area’s ground level. After the streets were elevated, these spaces eventually fell into disuse, but have become a tourist attraction in recent decades. Bill Speidel’s Underground Tours offers walking tours beginning in Pioneer Square....

Wikipedia; Bill Speidel’s Underground Tours

DIVISION NEWS

New online edition of LA&M

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2006/december2006/LAMAonlinejournal.htm>

LAMA launched a new electronic quarterly journal, Library Administration and Management Online (LA&M Online) on December 18. Available as a benefit of membership in LAMA, LA&M Online includes features not found in the traditional paper journal, including reader-feedback blogs, color images, additional charts and graphs, and podcasts.

The conversion to a full-featured web publication will be phased in and completed by 2009....

ALCTS forums at Midwinter

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/january2007/ALCTSforumsMidwinter.htm>

ALCTS will present a series of forums at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Seattle on the future of cataloging, disaster recovery, and collecting e-resources use data....

Register for ALCTS 50th anniversary celebration

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/january2007/RegistrationALCTS50th.htm>

ALCTS will host a national conference in celebration of its 50th-anniversary themed “Interactive Futures: A National Conference on the Transformation of Library Collections and Technical Services.” Registration is now open for the day-and-a-half conference to be held June 20–21 at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center in Washington, D.C....

YALSA debuts MySpace web page

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2006/december2006/YALSAMySpacePage.htm>

YALSA has launched a MySpace page to provide a way for the division to reach out to the general public including parents, educators, teens, librarians, and library supporters. YALSA’s MySpace page offers visitors convenient access to recommended reading, listening and viewing for teens, including titles that have won one of YALSA’s prestigious awards in young adult literature....

New round of great websites added to ALSC list

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/january2007/gws07.htm>

ALSC added 44 new sites in 2006 to its Great Web Sites for Kids page. GWS features links to valuable websites of interest to children, organized by subject headings such as animals, literature and languages, sciences, the arts, and history and biography....

Every Child Ready to Read @ your library wiki

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2006/december2006/EveryChildReadwiki.htm>

PLA and ALSC have introduced an Every Child Ready to Read @ your library wiki that allows new and current users of the program to share innovative ideas and best practices. PLA and ALSC jointly developed the Every Child Ready to Read @ your library program to provide public libraries with vital tools to help prepare parents for their critical role as their child's first teacher....

LAMA Leadership Development Seminar

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2006/december2006/McNeilatLAMASeminar.htm>

John McNeil, vice president of implementation and design for the Pacific Institute, will be keynote speaker at the LAMA 2007 Leadership Development Seminar at the Midwinter Meeting. This seminar will be presented January 19 from 2:00 to 4:30 p.m. at the Westin Seattle, Cascade Ballroom 1....

ROUND TABLE NEWS

Video Round Table special event

<http://www.ala.org/ala/vrt/newsandevents/midwinter07.htm>

Seattle Public Library, VRT, and Friends of Libraries for Deaf Action will cosponsor a screening of short clips from Through Deaf Eyes, a two-hour PBS documentary that explores 200 years of deaf life in America, at 6:30 p.m. on January 20 at the Seattle Public Library auditorium. This groundbreaking work is a production of WETA Washington, D.C., and Florentine Films/Hott Productions, in association with Gallaudet University. A national PBS broadcast is planned in spring 2007. A discussion with Karen Kenton, WETA Executive Producer for the Through Deaf Eyes film project, will follow the screening....

AWARDS

ALA awards deadline extended

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/january2007/ALAawardsdeadline.htm>

The deadline has been extended to February 2 for a number of ALA awards and grants, including the Beta Phi Mu Award, the Melvil Dewey Medal, the Equality Award, the Elizabeth Futas Catalyst for Change Award, the Thomson Gale Financial Development Award, the Sullivan Award Public Library Administrators Supporting Services to Children, and the H. W. Wilson Library Staff Development Grant....

Film preservation grants

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

The National Film Preservation Foundation invites applications for its Basic Preservation Grants. These cash grants are awarded to nonprofit and public institutions for laboratory work to preserve culturally and historically significant film materials. Awards range from \$1,000 to \$15,000. The registration deadline is February 9 and the application deadline is March 16....

National Film Preservation Foundation

SEEN ONLINE

Feds push for internet records

<http://www.startribune.com/789/story/909568.html>

For more than a year, the U.S. Justice Department has been in discussions with internet companies and privacy rights

advocates, trying to come up with a plan that would make it easier for investigators to check records of web traffic. The idea is to help law enforcement track down child pornographers. But some see it as another step toward total surveillance of citizens, joining warrantless wiretapping, secret scrutiny of library records, and unfettered access to e-mail as another power that could be abused....

Minneapolis Star-Tribune, Jan. 1

Weeding in the Washington area

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/01/01/AR2007010100729.html>

Like Borders and Barnes and Noble, Fairfax County (Va.) Public Library is responding aggressively to market preferences, calculating the system's return on its investment by each foot of space on the library shelves—and weeding out some little-used titles. But the library has not been throwing out all its classics, as the newspaper article implied....

Washington Post, Jan. 2; Fairfax County (Va.) Public Library

Rowdy middle schoolers in Maplewood

http://www.nytimes.com/2007/01/02/nyregion/02library.html?_r=1&oref=slogin

Every afternoon at Maplewood (N.J.) Middle School's final bell, dozens of students pour across the street to the public library. Some study quietly. Others fight, urinate on the bathroom floor, scrawl graffiti on the walls, talk back to librarians, or refuse to leave when asked. As a result, starting on January 16, the Maplewood Memorial Library will be closing its two buildings on weekdays from 2:45 to 5 p.m., until further notice....

New York Times, Jan. 2

Black archives recaptures history

http://www.miami.com/mld/miamiherald/news/local/states/florida/counties/miami-dade/cities_neighborhoods/northcentral/16342400.htm

Dorothy Jenkins Fields (right) made one phone call 32 years ago that changed the course of her life. Fields was a librarian in then all-white Myrtle Grove (Fla.) Elementary School and, in preparation for the nation's Bicentennial celebration, she wanted to teach the children about black history. When she phoned a public librarian to request information, Fields learned all that was available was a folder containing obituaries. That phone conversation later led Fields to found the Black Archives, History, and Research Foundation of South Florida in Miami....

Miami Herald, Dec. 31

DOPA dies on the vine

http://www.pbs.org/teachersource/learning.now/2006/12/dopa_dies_on_the_vine.html

The end of 2006 marks the end of the current congressional session in the House and Senate, closing the door on the Deleting Online Predators Act. Andy Carvin takes a look at why this legislation, which passed overwhelmingly in the House this summer, died such a slow death....

PBS Learning Now, Dec. 29

More details about Berger and the Archives

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/12/21/AR2006122101509.html>

Former national security adviser Samuel R. "Sandy" Berger has admitted taking five slightly different copies of a highly classified document from the National Archives in 2003. A newly released report by NARA's Office of the Inspector General contains fresh details of the incident, which involved a classified Clinton administration study called the Millennium Alert After Action Review....

Washington Post, Dec. 22

300-year-old book could lead to new drug

<http://www.azstarnet.com/allheadlines/162703>

A few years ago, Eric Buenz came across Ambonese Herbal, a 17th-century book on herbal medicine. Buenz, then a graduate student at the Mayo Clinic, and a colleague decided to test a tree extract that the book claimed could cure diarrhea. In this case, ancient Indonesian folk knowledge probably would have disappeared if not for the dogged persistence of Georg Everhard Rumphius (right), a mercenary with the Dutch East India Company, whose story is recounted in "Searching Historical Herbal Texts for Potential New Drugs" (PDF file), in the Dec. 23 British Medical

Journal....

Tucson Arizona Daily Star, Dec. 31

College libraries: The annex

<http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-library25dec25,0,6869771.story?coll=la-home-local>

Even as the internet revolution raises the promise of widespread digital publishing, librarians are grappling with deciding which books to keep and figuring out how to efficiently store them—even if no one touches them in a generation. That dilemma is heightened because room and funding for traditional open stacks are scarce, and library space increasingly is being converted to computer labs and study rooms....

Los Angeles Times, Dec. 25

TECH TALK

SirsiDynix finds a new investor

http://blogs.ala.org/pace.php?title=sirsiDynix_finds_a_new_investor_1&more=1&c=1&tb=1&pb=1

In a somewhat surprising announcement, SirsiDynix announced in late December that it had a “new investment partner,” Vista Equity. Details were scant but a formal (and only slightly more detailed) press release (PDF file) was issued December 27. Vista is a private equity firm with over \$1 billion in capital, primarily in the software and technology sectors. SirsiDynix, of course, is one of the biggest players in the market, with nearly 4,000 clients....

Hectic Pace blog, Dec. 28

50 things to do with Google Maps mashups

<http://googlemapsmania.blogspot.com/2006/12/50-things-to-do-with-google-maps.html>

Mike Pegg shows how individuals and organizations are using Google Maps to chart such things as zip codes, red-light cameras, disease outbreaks, ski resorts, UFO sightings, webcams, libraries, and cheap gas....

Google Maps Mania blog, Dec. 28

Battelle's predictions for 2007

<http://battellemedia.com/archives/003233.php>

John Battelle, author of *The Search* (Portfolio, 2005), has made 14 predictions about developments in search-engine technology next year....

John Battelle's Searchblog, Jan. 1

What every librarian should know about search engines

<http://www.degreetutor.com/library/research-tools/librarian-searchguide>

Scott Hawksworth writes: “Online research and the power of the Web have made accessing information only fingertips away from all of us, but the taxonomies and standards used for search will impact how people learn online and off for years to come. Here are some of the things librarians understand about search—and things that anyone doing online research can benefit from.”...

DegreeTutor, Dec. 8

Tagging systems in del.icio.us

<http://eprints.rclis.org/archive/00008315/>

Margaret E. I. Kipp and D. Grant Campbell of the University of Western Ontario examine the tagging patterns exhibited by users of del.icio.us to assess how collaborative tagging supports and enhances traditional ways of classifying and indexing documents....

Proceedings of the ASIST Annual General Meeting (2006)

70 acronyms parents (and maybe librarians) should recognize

<http://www.netlingo.com/top20teens.cfm>

From POS to WYRN, these chat and IM acronyms could turn up in your e-mail messages or your 24/7 reference logs....

NetLingo

Untangle the Web with RSS

http://news.yahoo.com/s/nm/20061229/wr_nm/column_pluggedin_dc

Robert MacMillan summarizes RSS feeds for the uninitiated and explains why websites need to have them....
Reuters, Dec. 29

ACTIONS AND ANSWERS

Patrons and the library

<http://citesandinsights.info/v7i1d.htm>

Walt Crawford writes: "Here's a novel idea: Organizations should pay attention to the people who use their services and pay their bills. Here's another one: Organizations should find ways to involve all the people within their community who could or should use their services." He goes on to explore how successful public libraries might not necessarily adhere to the Pareto Principle ("Give 'em what they want") but to the counter-Pareto assertion ("Give 'em what they need")....

Cites & Insights 7, no. 1 (Jan.)

Kimbooktu

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

Kim Heijdenrijk in The Hague, Netherlands, has started up an English-language blog devoted entirely to book-related gadgets—books about books, bookholders, bookmarks, keychains, mugs (right), clothes for reading, tote bags, a British TV series called Black Books, and much more....

Kimbooktu

Children in Kisumu, Kenya, read books provided by a mobile library driven by donkeys Remote libraries in Peru and Kenya

<http://www.remoteaccess.ca/about.html>

Paul Francescutti, a producer for CTV Southwestern Ontario in Kitchener, has produced a documentary about remote libraries in Peru and Kenya. Remote Access: Distant Libraries of the World aired only in Ontario early in 2006. A DVD is available and previews can be found on the Remote Access website....

Remote Access

LC adds 25 movies to National Film Registry

<http://www.loc.gov/today/pr/2006/06-234.html>

Librarian of Congress James H. Billington December 27 added 25 motion pictures to the National Film Registry to be preserved for all time, bringing the total number of films on the registry to 450. The 2006 selections span the years 1913 to 1996 and encompass films ranging from Hollywood classics to lesser-known but still vital works. Billington chose this year's selections after evaluating nearly 1,000 nominated titles, among them Blazing Saddles (1974), Groundhog Day (1993), and Tess of the Storm Country (1914)....

Library of Congress, Dec. 27

Nancy Pearl's Book Lust wiki

<http://booklust.wetpaint.com/>

Best-selling author and award-winning reviewer Nancy Pearl now has a wiki-format website for readers interested in books: Book Lust: A Community for People Who Love Books. Currently she is collecting suggestions for best books of 2006 and most popular authors, and offering suggestions for book clubs....

Book Lust wiki

New Pentagon library center opens (PDF file)

http://renovation.pentagon.mil/renovator/2006_Dec_web.pdf

The Pentagon has completed a new Library and Conference Center (PLC2) that is operational and open to visitors. The 120,000-square-foot facility is home to the Army library, 16 conference rooms, and several offices under the Pentagon

Force Protection Agency....
The Renovator, Dec.

Fantasy sports library programming

<http://www.yalibrarian.com/wordpress/2006/12/fantasy-sports-programming/>

Why not create some sort of library program around a fantasy league for the teens in the library? You can find these leagues through a variety of sources such as Yahoo, ESPN, CBS, as well as a host of other places. The librarian would have to establish the league and act as commissioner, which means he or she would control the league settings and rules....

Alternative Teen Services blog, Dec. 28

Suggested guidelines for library blogs

http://freerangelibrarian.com/2006/12/draft_blog_guidelines.php

Karen Schneider offers some tips on what to put in library blog policies concerning purpose, managers, hosting, assignments, acceptable use, and best practices, among other things....

Free Range Librarian blog, Dec. 30

Monty Python's gorilla librarian skit

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ukJmF6f0JdQ>

From Series 1, Episode 10 (December 21, 1969), of Monty Python's Flying Circus, in which a gorilla applies for a librarian position. It contains the classic line: "You see, I don't believe that libraries should be drab places where people sit in silence, and that's been the main reason for our policy of employing wild animals as librarians."...

YouTube

More top 10, 50, and 100 lists than anyone else

<http://www.fimoculous.com/year-review-2006.cfm>

Microsoft's Rex Sorgatz has compiled all the 2006 lists at his Fimoculous site, helpfully arranged by category (including a section on books). He has lists for previous years as well....

Fimoculous

"Happy New Year" around the world

<http://www.infoplease.com/ipa/A0923039.html>

Infoplease offers a list of ways to say "Happy New Year" in 34 languages. When in ancient Rome, say Felix sit annus novus!...

Infoplease

CONTACT US

American Libraries Direct

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

George M. Eberhart,

Editor:

geberhart@ala.org

Daniel Kraus,

Associate Editor:
dkraus@ala.org

Greg Landgraf,
Editorial Assistant:
glandgraf@ala.org

Karen Sheets,
Graphics and Design:
ksheets@ala.org

Leonard Kniffel,
Editor-in-Chief,
American Libraries: lkniffel@ala.org

To advertise in American Libraries Direct, contact:
Brian Searles, bsearles@ala.org

Send feedback: aldirect@ala.org

To unsubscribe from
American Libraries Direct:
[click here](#)

AL Direct FAQ:
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.

American Libraries
50 E. Huron St.
Chicago, IL 60611
www.ala.org/online/
800-545-2433,
ext. 4216

ISSN 1559-369X.

To unsubscribe from this newsletter:
<file:///N:/AL%20Direct/2007/January/%3C%20edition.unsubscribeLink%20%3E>

american libraries DIRECT

January 10, 2007

Contents

[U.S. & World News](#)
[ALA News](#)
[Booklist Online](#)
[Seattle Update](#)
[Division News](#)
[Round Table News](#)
[Awards](#)
[Seen Online](#)
[Tech Talk](#)
[Actions & Answers](#)
[Poll](#)
[Calendar](#)



AL Direct celebrates one year

Marking 52 weeks of publication, American Libraries Direct is celebrating with a new look, designed to match [American Libraries](#) magazine. Some 49,000 ALA members receive this weekly electronic newsletter that calls attention to new items on the ALA website, as well as practical, informative, and entertaining library-related news and tidbits we find on the Web. Pass it on: Forward AL Direct to colleagues and let them know how easy it is to stay professionally informed. ALA members need only [update](#) their email information; nonmembers can [join](#) the AL Direct community online through the ALA website.



U.S. & World News

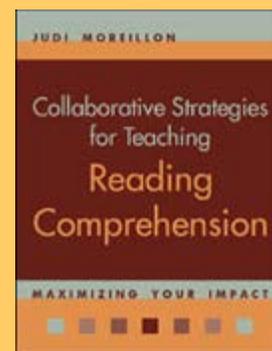
[Congressman takes oath on Jefferson's Koran](#)

Rep. Keith Ellison (D-Minn.) became the first Muslim member of Congress January 4 and memorialized the event by taking a ceremonial oath on a Koran once owned by President Thomas Jefferson. Ellison had asked the Library of Congress in December to use the two-volume set that is part of its Jefferson Collection. The library often provides historic bibles, such as the one Lincoln used at his inauguration, for use on ceremonial occasions....



[Oprah opens South African school with state-of-the-art library](#)

Celebrities lined up January 2 in the small town of Henley-on-Klip, in the Gauteng province of South Africa, to back Oprah Winfrey as she opened her new \$40-million Leadership Academy for Girls. Designed to raise girls from poverty to positions of leadership, the academy is equipped with a state-of-the-art library. Built on a 52-acre campus, the 28-building complex also includes computer and science labs, a theater, and a wellness center....



NEW! from ALA Editions. Judi Moreillon shows that [collaboration between classroom teachers and teacher-librarians](#) improves overall effectiveness in increasing students' reading comprehension.



[Maplewood mayor offers more library security](#)

Shortly after trustees of the Maplewood (N.J.) Memorial Library decided to close the building for more than two hours on weekdays because loud teens from a nearby middle school were disrupting service, Mayor Fred Profeta offered to supply security guards to keep order. The library board voted December 20 to shut down the main and Hilton branch libraries from 2:45 to 5:00 p.m., effective January 16, because the students "are not using library resources but are congregating in the building to socialize with friends," the trustees wrote in a message on the library's [website](#). "Having as many as fifty young people with nothing to do creates an untenable situation."...



[FBI drops effort to search Jack Anderson archive](#)

The FBI has dropped its effort to recover government papers that had been leaked to Jack Anderson, allowing the late investigative journalist's family to resume its donation of his archives to the George Washington University library. The bureau had charged that the collection contained classified documents and sought to search the materials; the family said that to comply with the demand would betray Anderson's principles and intimidate other journalists....

[ACLU objects to students needing note to visit library](#)

The ACLU of Louisiana has threatened litigation against the Riverdale Middle School in suburban New Orleans unless the school rescinds a five-year policy barring students from visiting the nearby Rosedale branch of the Jefferson Parish Library System after school without a parental permission note for each day the student visits the library. The policy also forbids students from waiting in the library parking lot for a ride; violations can result in a school suspension....

ALA News

[EPA libraries update](#)

Since the publication of President Leslie Burger's *New York Times* op-ed article December 8, staff from the ALA Washington Office have met with representatives from the Environmental Protection Agency on several occasions. The most recent meeting took place January 4, at which the EPA met with staff from ALA, the American Association of Law Libraries, and the Special Libraries Association. The EPA announced that representatives would attend the Washington Office Update Session at the Midwinter Meeting in Seattle....

ALA Washington Office, District Dispatch, Jan. 9

[Pilot project on American art resources](#)

The Public Programs Office, in collaboration with the National Endowment for the Humanities, is offering [Picturing America](#), a new grant opportunity for schools and school libraries. The project was created to promote the teaching, study, and understanding of American history and culture in K-12 schools



[ALA's Chapter Relations Office](#) is partnering with [Idearc](#), whose Media employees are volunteering their time to rebuild, renovate, and/or improve frequently used reading areas in libraries. Idearc Media is dedicated to creating communities of readers where our employees and customers live and work.

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



[click here for details](#)

 ALA-Working for
Our Member Libraries

In this issue

January 2007



Balancing the Online Life

20 Tips to Inspire Innovation

American Libraries in the 1930s

through examples of the nation's most significant works of art and architecture....

[Washington Office in Second Life](#)

ALA has opened a virtual Washington Office in the Second Life virtual environment. Located in Cybrary City next to several other libraries, the new office offers information on upcoming activities, an interactive computer, and a slideshow of pictures of the office and staff. Mark Bard of the Office of Information Technology Policy uses an avatar named Galen Noltenius....

ALA Washington Office, District Dispatch, Jan. 10

[Intellectual freedom blog](#)

The Office for Intellectual Freedom launched a blog January 3 that features alerts, articles, commentary, links, and news in line with its mission to implement ALA policies concerning the concept of intellectual freedom as embodied in the Library Bill of Rights....

OIF blog

[Tracie D. Hall to Speak at King Midwinter service](#)

Tracie D. Hall, the recently appointed assistant dean of the Dominican University Graduate School of Library and Information Science, will be the keynote speaker at the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. sunrise celebration during the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Seattle. The celebration will be held on Monday, January 22, 6:30-7:30 a.m. in Rooms 602-604 of the Washington State Convention and Trade Center....

[Hawaii Student Chapter calendar a hit at HLA conference](#) (PDF file)

If you attended this year's Hawaii Library Association Conference at the Waikiki Marriott Resort November 10-11, you might have noticed some hubbub towards the back of the main exhibit hall. That excitement came from the premiere of the 2007 Behind the Stacks Calendar, brainchild of ALA-SC Fundraiser Margot Hanson (second from left). It features University of Hawaii at Manoa LIS students as the monthly pinups putting their own spin on library science in Hawaii. During the two-day conference all 90 copies of the calendar sold out....



The Basement Blotter 4, no. 3 (Dec.): 5

[Bookmobiles and innovative outreach services](#)

ALA invites its members to participate in the 10th Annual Diversity and Outreach Fair on Saturday, June 23, 3-5 p.m., in the Washington Convention Center during ALA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. This year the fair will focus on bookmobile and other innovative services to underserved communities....



NEW! [Spring catalog](#)
from ALA Graphics

Career Leads
from



[Arabic Specialists](#),
Central Intelligence Agency Library, D.C. area. The CIA Library is seeking trained, innovative, customer-service oriented librarians, particularly those with Arabic language skills, to work in acquisitions, cataloging, collection management, electronic resources, and interlibrary loan disciplines....

@ [More jobs...](#)

Public Perception
How the World Sees Us

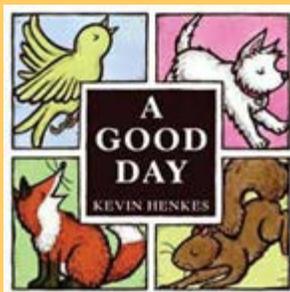
"My disguises, I

Booklist

ONLINE

Featured review: Books for youth

Henkes, Kevin. *A Good Day*. Mar. 2007. 32p. Greenwillow, hardcover (978-0-06-114018-1). Grades PreS–K. Playfully contradicting the title, Henke's latest picture book begins with the words, "It was a bad day." Each of the next four spreads explains *why*: "Little yellow bird lost his favorite tail feather. / Little white dog got her leash all tangled up in the fence. / Little orange fox couldn't find his mother. / And little brown squirrel dropped her nut." Then the tone shifts....



Booklist announces 2006 Top of the List

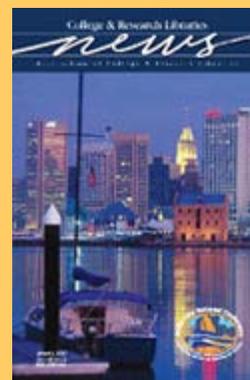
Booklist has announced its 17th annual [Top of the List winners](#). The eight winning titles were chosen from the annual Editors' Choice selections as the best books and media of 2006. The Top of the List picks are featured in the special combined January 1–15 issue of *Booklist*, which includes the complete annotated Editors' Choice lists for adult books, adult books for young adults, books for youth, reference sources, and media....



@ Visit [Booklist Online](#) for other reviews and much more....

should point out, were always rather disappointing, although effective: a wig, a pair of librarian's glasses, and sensible shoes made me look like a consummate nerd caught in a 1950s time warp."

—Ex-spy Lindsay Moran reflecting upon her past during a visit to the International Spy Museum in Washington, D.C., *New York Times*, Dec. 8.



In the January 2007 *College & Research Libraries News*, Irvin R. Katz says the Educational Testing Service has found that college students fall short in [demonstrating ICT literacy](#). The National ICT Literacy Policy Council is slated to set some national standards.

Seattle Update

How to get around

Keep a copy of the Thomson Gale shuttle bus map ([PDF file](#)) on hand, plan your routes with the [interactive conference map](#), or consult these [Midwinter wiki tips](#)....

Seattle public art

Seattle's outdoor art adorns neighborhoods, parks, commercial centers, and public buildings—bravely surviving the region's capricious climate. The Seattle Outdoor Art website has cataloged more than 390 viewable pieces, displaying a photograph for each, accompanied by the title, artist, date, medium, and location. The Fountain of Wisdom (right) by George Tsutakawa is located at the Seattle Central Library; it was built in 1960 and reset on the library's reopening day, May 23, 2004....

Seattle Outdoor Art



Poll

What do YOU think?

Would you prefer to receive *American Libraries Direct* twice a week instead of once a week?

[Click here to](#)

[Seattle's top attractions](#)

Many attractions are touristy and worth a visit or two—Seattle, like any other city, has a few of those. Rarer are the sites that draw people year after year, even locals, by offering rich experiences that consistently yield insights into a city's character and history and, in the process, play a part in its future....

Seattle Post-Intelligencer

[Quiet libraries are busy community hubs](#)

Kerri Stark, a doctoral student at Seattle Pacific University, tutors an 8th-grade client in a small study room at the Bellevue Regional Library. One floor up, students Peter Liu and Livvy Hermanto read textbooks for their Bellevue Community College classes while casually talking. It's business as usual at the library—but it's a new type of business....

Seattle Times, Jan. 4

Division News

[Index to the best free reference websites](#)

RUSA's Machine-Assisted Reference Section has created a [Best Free Reference Web Sites Combined Index, 1999–2006](#), to recognize outstanding online reference sites. The list includes links to online information sources as varied as the Big Cartoon Database, the Encyclopedia of Chicago, and Recalls.gov from the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission....



Round Table News

[GLBTRT mentoring program](#) (PDF file)

The ALA Membership Committee recently announced it was developing a formal mentorship program for the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered Round Table. John Bradford interviews Mentorship Coordinator Amanda McKay about how the program will work....

GLBTRT Newsletter 18, no. 4 (Winter), p. 5

Awards

[First Lady presents top IMLS awards](#)

Laura Bush presented the 2006 National Awards for Museum and Library Service to three libraries and three museums at a ceremony at the White House January 8. The award includes prizes of \$10,000 to each recipient and an awards ceremony in the East Room of the White House to help raise public awareness. The library winners were [Frankfort \(Ind.\) Community Public Library](#), [Public Library of Charlotte \(N.C.\) and Mecklenburg County](#), and [San Antonio \(Tex.\) Public Library](#)....

Institute of Museum and Library Services, Jan. 8



[Youth media awards set for Midwinter](#)

The Newbery and Caldecott medals for the best writing and illustration of children's books published in 2006

ANSWER!

Results of the January 3 poll:

What type of device do you use to read *American Libraries Direct*?

68%
Small monitor

32%
Large monitor

1%
Handheld PDA

1%
Other

(273 responses)

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

Ask the ALA Librarian



Q. How do I get the boy students to come to the library? I wasn't able to get the boy students to check out anything until I started bringing in my husband's car magazines? What else can I do?

A. The subject of boys and reading has been a major one over the past few years. See the [ALA Professional Tips](#)



will be announced at a press conference on January 22 at 7:45 a.m. Pacific Time. Other award winners to be announced include the Printz Award for literary excellence in books for young adults and the "Dr. Seuss" award for the author and illustrator of an outstanding book for beginning readers. ALA will provide a [free live webcast](#) of this national announcement. Unikron, a streaming content provider, will host the webcast at [this address](#)....

[Coretta Scott King awards to be announced](#)

ALA will announce the winners of the 2007 Coretta Scott King Book Awards during its Youth Media Awards announcement on January 22 at 7:45 a.m. Pacific Time during the Midwinter Meeting in Seattle. The awards serve as a national resource for educators, librarians, and parents who want to provide youth with the best in African American children's literature....

[ALA awards deadline extended](#)

The deadline has been extended to February 2 for a number of ALA awards and grants, including the Beta Phi Mu Award, the Melvil Dewey Medal, the Equality Award, the Ken Haycock Award for Promoting Librarianship, the Thomson Gale Financial Development Award, the Sullivan Award Public Library Administrators Supporting Services to Children, and the H. W. Wilson Library Staff Development Grant....

[Reutty wins Downs Intellectual Freedom Award](#)

Library director Michele Reutty never realized that following the rules could get her in so much trouble. But when as director of the Hasbrouck Heights (N.J.) Public Library, she found herself following library protocol in response to a request for information from the police, she landed in the midst of a controversy. Her commitment to upholding privacy laws has earned her the 2006 Robert B. Downs Intellectual Freedom Award, given by the faculty of the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign....

University of Illinois GSLIS, Dec. 14

[2007 Native American library basic grant applications](#)

The Institute of Museum and Library Services is accepting applications for the 2007 Native American Library Services Basic Grants. The previously published deadline of March 1 has been moved to March 15....

Institute of Museum and Library Services, Jan. 10

Seen Online

[Martin Luther King Jr.: Words that changed a nation](#)

CNN showcases some historic documents from the King papers housed at the Robert W. Woodruff Library at the Atlanta University Center. The collection helps explore King's philosophy and goals, as well as his fears as

[wiki](#) for relevant websites and further reading....

The [ALA Librarian](#) welcomes your questions.

Calendar

Feb. 16: [Theatre Library Association Symposium](#)

[Kimmel Center for University Life](#), New York University.

"Performance Reclamation: Research, Discovery, and Interpretation."

Contact: [Pamela Bloom](#).

Mar. 6–8:
[Louisiana Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Holiday Inn Select, Baton Rouge. "Louisiana Libraries: Bridging Communities."
Contact: [Mary Cosper LeBoeuf](#).

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

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

Apr. 10–13:
[Florida Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Buena Vista Palace Hotel, Lake Buena Vista. "Libraries Tell Stories." Contact:



he and those around him created a revolution....

CNN, Jan. 9

[Distance learning in Second Life](#)

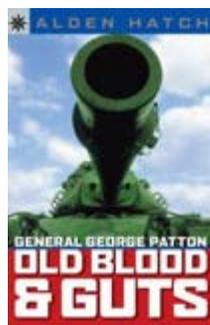
Scores of colleges and universities have set up campuses on Second Life islands, where classes meet and students interact in real time. They can hold chat discussions and create multimedia presentations from virtual building blocks called prims. The laws of physics don't necessarily apply....

New York Times, Education Life supplement, Jan. 7

[Boys and books: Sterling Point targets an elusive audience](#)

In August, Sterling Publishing, in collaboration with books packager Flying Point Press, introduced its Sterling Point imprint with eight books, all nonfiction, aimed at a share of the market they say "has been notoriously difficult to reach"—boys between 11 and 15. The first eight Sterling Point titles include *Old Blood & Guts*, a biography of Gen. George S. Patton by Alden Hatch; *The Pirate Patriot*, Armstrong Perry's account of the exploits of John Paul Jones; *Lawrence of Arabia* by Alistair MacLean; and *The Deadly Hunt*, the World War II story of the sinking of the *Bismarck*, by William Shirer....

Associated Press, Jan. 8



[The changing role of library science](#)

Librarians still work the reference desks and run story time, but today they may also research a director's filmography on the Web for a loyal fan, convert microfilmed images of newspapers to digital format, or teach a seminar on the history of fashion. Internet access, search engines, and other new technologies have revolutionized the field....

Wall Street Journal, Jan. 3

[Denver raises \\$15,000 for New Orleans Public Library](#)

As part of the ALA Adopt-a-Library program, the Denver Public Library has raised a total of \$15,000 for the [New Orleans Public Library](#). DPL staffers Judith Heck and Laurie Kubitz-Maness (right) served on the Katrina Relief Committee that settled on a plan to donate 25% of the proceeds from Denver's annual booksale to their Louisiana colleagues. NOPL has decided to use the money for the Children's Resource Center branch....

Denver Public Library



[New Orleans Public Library's year of recovery](#)

Saturday hours at the main library resumed January 6, the FEMA

[FLA](#).

Apr. 11–13:
[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](#).

Apr. 11–14:
[Texas Library Association](#), Annual Conference, San Antonio. "Strong Libraries, Strong Communities." Contact: [TLA](#).

Apr. 16–18:
[Connecticut Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Connecticut Convention Center, Hartford. "Your Library: The Third Place." Contact: [Karen Ronald](#).

Apr. 17–20:
[Alabama Library Association](#), Annual Convention, Mobile Convention Center. "Growing Our Passion: Alabama Libraries Sow Seeds for the Future." Contact: [Bonnie Lee](#).

Apr. 18–20:
[Oregon Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Oregon

Disaster Recovery Center and the mayor's Welcome Home Center have moved out of the building, and the library now offers public access to its first-floor collections and use of the auditorium for programs....

New Orleans Times-Picayune, Jan. 4

[Security guard fires at library patron](#)

A library security guard shot at an unidentified woman January 6 as she fled the Anderson County (S.C.) Library. It was not known if the woman was hurt, but a police report said she left the library parking lot in spite of the gunfire. The library is now looking at whether the private firm, Cherokee Security Systems, will continue to be used to provide security at the library and whether guards will carry any kind of lethal weapon....

Anderson (S.C.) Independent-Mail, Jan. 9

[Concerned mom learns library's value of privacy](#)

As a St. Paul, Minnesota, woman was cleaning her 14-year-old son's room, she found several Manga comic books from a series called *DearS*. Though Manga is a popular comic book genre, the subject matter is often aimed at young adults. She called the St. Paul Public Libraries Bookmobile, where she figured her son had found the books, and was told she couldn't get that information....

St. Paul (Minn.) Pioneer Press, Jan. 10



[Librarians aid police fraud investigation](#)

Steven M. Weber made headlines in the fall when he was charged in federal court with scamming internet customers as a teenager while living under his parents' roof. When he signed in at the Brookfield (Wis.) Public Library to use the internet shortly after he was charged, a librarian at the reference desk recalled a newspaper article she'd read, as he sat down at a computer....

Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel, Jan. 7

Tech Talk

[The basics of search engine optimization](#)

Philipp Lenzen details the three basic principles of getting your site noticed by Google: Create good content, make it accessible, and tell others about your content. In the process, he also gets to the basics of optimal website design....

Google Blogscoped blog, Jan. 7



[Meet you at the bleeding edge](#)

Andrew Pace writes: "Ironically, despite our tradition as early adopters, librarians have been slow to adapt either the technologies they created or those that came from outside our historically insulated world of library automation," but that change is in the air. "Library technologists are anxious to adapt, reacting nimbly to change rather than trying to always be on the bleeding edge of technological innovation."...

Technically Speaking column, *American Libraries* 38, no. 1 (Jan.): 32



State University, Corvallis. "Finding Community: Civics, Cyberspace, and Change." Contact: [Lynne Mildenstein](#).

Apr. 18–20:
[Tennessee Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Chatanooga Convention Center and Marriott Hotel. Contact: [TLA](#).

Apr. 18–21:
[Washington Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Three Rivers Convention Center, Tri-Cities. "Washington Connects." Contact: [Mike Cook](#).

Apr. 18–21:
[New Jersey Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Ocean Place Conference Center, Long Branch. "Protecting Privacy and Freedom in Your Library." Contact: [Susan Rice](#).

Apr. 25–28:
[Montana Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Red Lion Colonial Inn, Helena. Contact: [MLA](#).

@ [More...](#)

Contact Us

American Libraries Direct

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

George M. Eberhart,
Editor:

[Why Johnny can't search](#)

Joseph Janes discusses the recent findings from the Educational Testing Service that show that many college students lack the "ability to use digital technology, communication tools, and networks appropriately to solve information problems in order to function in an information society."...

Internet Librarian column, *American Libraries* 38, no. 1 (Jan.): 38



geberhart@ala.org

Daniel Kraus,
Associate Editor:
dkraus@ala.org

Greg Landgraf,
Editorial Assistant:
glandgraf@ala.org

Karen Sheets,
Graphics and Design:
ksheets@ala.org

Leonard Kniffel,
Editor-in-Chief,
American Libraries:
lniffel@ala.org

To advertise in American Libraries Direct, contact:

Brian Searles,
bsearles@ala.org

Send feedback:
aldirect@ala.org

AL Direct FAQ:
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.

American Libraries
50 E. Huron St.
Chicago, IL 60611
www.ala.org/online/
800-545-2433,
ext. 4216

ISSN 1559-369X.

[Yahoo upgrades mobile search tool](#)

Yahoo is aggressively moving into the mobile search market with updated software and expanded deals to preload its software onto millions of handsets. The company announced the latest version of its Yahoo Go 2.0 mobile phones Monday at the Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas. It also said that the new software would be preloaded onto more than 70 mobile handset models from top manufacturers including Motorola, Nokia, Samsung Electronics and Research In Motion....

C|net news.com, Jan. 8

[Sensational new fact power with Univac in 1952](#)

Now, for the first time, a commercial or industrial firm can have—first thing any morning—complete facts and figures, analyzed and summarized, on its previous day's performance... in production, in sales, in procurement, or any other major or minor activity. The almost unbelievable feats of Remington Rand Univac in computing, sorting, classifying, and reporting business data enable management executives to formulate "fact-powered" decisions in the merest fraction of the time previously required....

Remington Rand ad, *Scientific American*, Sept. 1952, p. 39



Actions & Answers

[EPA libraries: Background and issues](#) (PDF file)

David M. Bearden and Robert Esworthy of the Congressional Research Service offer some background on the Environmental Protection Agency library closures and its conversion of documents to a digital format, noting: "Converting the agency's physical collections to electronic format . . . could present technical challenges in terms of the quality of digitized items to ensure that the information is transferred entirely and in a usable format."...

Congressional Research Service, Jan. 3

[A public library for Rwanda](#)

The Rotary Club of Kigali-Virunga, the American Friends of the Kigali Public Library, and Marshall Scholars for the Kigali Public Library are committed to build, staff, equip, and sustain Rwanda's first public library in the nation's capital, Kigali. By December 2006, the campaign received donations and pledges of \$1.4 million from individuals, businesses and corporations, foundations, governments, and



intergovernmental organizations. Another \$200,000 is needed for the library to open and operate, and an additional \$500,000 beyond that is necessary to ensure its long-term sustainability....

Kigali Public Library

[Five Weeks to a Social Library: Participants](#)

The first free, grassroots, completely online course devoted to teaching librarians about social software and how to use it in their libraries, Five Weeks to a Social Library, has announced its list of participants. The course will take place between February 12 and March 17. The 40 participants have already started [blogging](#)....

Information Wants to Be Free blog, Jan. 5

[Social networking sites and teens: An overview](#)

More than half (55%) of all online American youths ages 12–17 use online social networking sites, according to a new national survey ([PDF file](#)) of teenagers conducted by the Pew Internet and American Life Project. For girls, social networking sites are primarily places to reinforce preexisting friendships; for boys, the networks also provide opportunities for flirting and making new friends....

Pew Internet and American Life Project, Jan. 7

[Google Maps distance calculator](#)

Want to know the distance between any two points on the globe, say for example, Chicago to Ankara? (As the crow flies, it's 5,763 miles.) Use this handy Google Maps–based calculator by clicking on two points anywhere; it will figure out the distance for you in both miles and kilometers....



Daft Logic

[New LC website for cataloging and acquisitions](#)

The Library of Congress Acquisitions and Bibliographic Access Directorate embarked on a [website redesign](#) to more effectively present acquisitions and cataloging content. LC staff consulted with users throughout the redesign process and look forward to additional feedback as users become familiar with the new site. The library will continue to involve users as it moves to succeeding phases of this redesign, which will also include the Program for Cooperative Cataloging....

Library of Congress, Jan. 4

[PsychEXTRA and gray literature](#) (PDF file)

The very nature of gray literature makes it problematic for both users and library professionals. A short shelf life often makes it difficult to identify, find, catalog, store, and retrieve. The American Psychological Association's PsychEXTRA abstracting service addresses these problems with gray literature by acquiring authoritative content, archiving these materials, and providing online access through a search interface....

PsychINFO 26, no. 1 (Winter 2007)

[Librarians as first responders](#)

They don't pilot boats down hurricane-flooded streets or pull people from second-story windows. Nor do they wear uniforms, carry firearms, or direct emergency vehicles. But library employees have been first responders nevertheless, Ellen Perlman writes, and recognition of this additional community role that libraries play—beyond books and reading rooms—seems to be missing....

Governing magazine, Dec.

[Technology mediator: A new role for the reference librarian?](#)

The Arizona Health Sciences Library in Tucson has collaborated with clinical faculty to develop a federated search engine that is useful for meeting real-time clinical information needs. David K. Howse, Paul J. Bracke, and Samuel M. Keim propose a technology mediation role for the reference librarian that was inspired by the project, and describe the collaborative model used for developing technology-mediated services for targeted users....

Biomedical Digital Libraries 3, no. 10 (Oct. 2006)

[Curses! ILL'd again!](#)

A villain steals an important document from the library, but librarian Bill Harper saves the day by getting another copy through the Odyssey electronic-delivery software. *The Odyssey of Odyssey* is a video written, produced, and directed by Allen Reichert at Otterbein College....

Google Video



AMERICAN LIBRARIES DIRECT

January 10, 2007

Click here to view the online version of our email:

<%= util.viewHtmlLink %>

Poll

Would you prefer to receive American Libraries Direct twice a week instead of once a week?

Click here to ANSWER!

<http://www.zoomerang.com/survey.zgi?p=WEB2262AME2YUS>

Results of the
January 3 poll:

What type of device do you use to read American Libraries Direct?

Small monitor.....68%

Large monitor.....32%

Handheld PDA.....1%

Other.....1%

(273 responses)

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

AL Direct celebrates one year

Marking 52 weeks of publication, American Libraries Direct is celebrating with a new look, designed to match American Libraries magazine. Some 49,000 ALA members receive this weekly electronic newsletter that calls attention to new items on the ALA website, as well as practical, informative, and entertaining library-related news and tidbits we find on the Web. Pass it on: Forward AL Direct to colleagues and let them know how easy it is to stay professionally informed. ALA members need only update their email information; nonmembers can join the AL Direct community online through the ALA website.

U.S. & WORLD NEWS

Congressman takes oath on Jefferson's Koran

<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2007/january2007/koran.cfm>

Rep. Keith Ellison (D-Minn.) became the first Muslim member of Congress January 4 and memorialized the event by taking a ceremonial oath on a Koran once owned by President Thomas Jefferson. Ellison had asked the Library of Congress in December to use the two-volume set that is part of its Jefferson Collection. The library often provides historic bibles, such as the one Lincoln used at his inauguration, for use on ceremonial occasions....

Oprah opens South African school with state-of-the-art library

<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2007/january2007/oprah.cfm>

Celebrities lined up January 2 in the small town of Henley-on-Klip, in the Gauteng province of South Africa, to back Oprah Winfrey as she opened her new \$40-million Leadership Academy for Girls. Designed to raise girls from poverty to positions of leadership, the academy is equipped with a state-of-the-art library. Built on a 52-acre campus, the 28-building complex also includes computer and science labs, a theater, and a wellness center....

Maplewood mayor offers more library security

<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2007/january2007/maplewood.cfm>

Shortly after trustees of the Maplewood (N.J.) Memorial Library decided to close the building for more than two hours on weekdays because loud teens from a nearby middle school were disrupting service, Mayor Fred Profeta offered to supply security guards to keep order. The library board voted December 20 to shut down the main and Hilton branch libraries from 2:45 to 5:00 p.m., effective January 16, because the students "are not using library resources but are congregating in the building to socialize with friends," the trustees wrote in a message on the library's website. "Having as many as fifty young people with nothing to do creates an untenable situation."...

FBI drops effort to search Jack Anderson archive

<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2007/january2007/anderson.cfm>

The FBI has dropped its effort to recover government papers that had been leaked to Jack Anderson, allowing the late investigative journalist's family to resume its donation of his archives to the George Washington University library. The bureau had charged that the collection contained classified documents and sought to search the materials; the family said that to comply with the demand would betray Anderson's principles and intimidate other journalists....

ACLU objects to students needing note to visit library

<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2007/january2007/aclula.cfm>

The ACLU of Louisiana has threatened litigation against the Riverdale Middle School in suburban New Orleans unless the school rescinds a five-year policy barring students from visiting the nearby Rosedale branch of the Jefferson Parish Library System after school without a parental permission note for each day the student visits the library. The policy also forbids students from waiting in the library parking lot for a ride; violations can result in a school suspension....

ALA News

ALA NEWS

EPA libraries update

http://blogs.ala.org/districtdispatch.php?title=epa_libraries_update

Since the publication of President Leslie Burger's New York Times op-ed article December 8, staff from the ALA Washington Office have met with representatives from the Environmental Protection Agency on several occasions. The most recent meeting took place January 4, at which the EPA met with staff from ALA, the American Association of Law Libraries, and the Special Libraries Association. The EPA announced that representatives would attend the Washington Office Update Session at the Midwinter Meeting in Seattle....

ALA Washington Office, District Dispatch, Jan. 9

Pilot project on American art resources

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/january2007/NEHPPOpilotprojectAmart.htm>

The Public Programs Office, in collaboration with the National Endowment for the Humanities, is offering Picturing America, a new grant opportunity for schools and school libraries. The project was created to promote the teaching, study, and understanding of American history and culture in K-12 schools through examples of the nation's most significant works of art and architecture....

Washington Office in Second Life

http://blogs.ala.org/districtdispatch.php?title=title_25

ALA has opened a virtual Washington Office in the Second Life virtual environment. Located in Cybrary City next to several other libraries, the new office offers information on upcoming activities, an interactive computer, and a slideshow of pictures of the office and staff. Mark Bard of the Office of Information Technology Policy uses an avatar named Galen Noltenius....

ALA Washington Office, District Dispatch, Jan. 10

Intellectual freedom blog

<http://blogs.ala.org/oif.php>

The Office for Intellectual Freedom launched a blog January 3 that features alerts, articles, commentary, links, and news in line with its mission to implement ALA policies concerning the concept of intellectual freedom as embodied in the Library Bill of Rights....

OIF blog

Tracie D. Hall to Speak at King Midwinter service

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/january2007/HallspeakatMidwinter.htm>

Tracie D. Hall, the recently appointed assistant dean of the Dominican University Graduate School of Library and Information Science, will be the keynote speaker at the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. sunrise celebration during the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Seattle. The celebration will be held on Monday, January 22, 6:30–7:30 a.m. in Rooms 602-604 of the Washington State Convention and Trade Center....

Hawaii Student Chapter calendar a hit at HLA conference (PDF file)

http://www.hawaii.edu/ala/pdf_files/blotter/blotter2006dec.pdf

If you attended this year's Hawaii Library Association Conference at the Waikiki Marriott Resort November 10–11, you might have noticed some hubbub towards the back of the main exhibit hall. That excitement came from the premiere of the 2007 Behind the Stacks Calendar, brainchild of ALA-SC Fundraiser Margot Hanson (second from left). It features University of Hawaii at Manoa LIS students as the monthly pinups putting their own spin on library science in Hawaii. During the two-day conference all 90 copies of the calendar sold out....

The Basement Blotter 4, no. 3 (Dec.): 5

Bookmobiles and innovative outreach services

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/january2007/Bookmobilesinnovativeout.htm>

ALA invites its members to participate in the 10th Annual Diversity and Outreach Fair on Saturday, June 23, 3–5 p.m., in the Washington Convention Center during ALA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. This year the fair will focus on bookmobile and other innovative services to underserved communities....

Booklist Online

Featured review: Books for youth

http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=1835023

Henkes, Kevin. *A Good Day*. Mar. 2007. 32p. Greenwillow, hardcover (978-0-06-114018-1). Grades PreS–K.

Playfully contradicting the title, Henke's latest picture book begins with the words, "It was a bad day." Each of the next four spreads explains why: "Little yellow bird lost his favorite tail feather. / Little white dog got her leash all tangled up in the fence. / Little orange fox couldn't find his mother. / And little brown squirrel dropped her nut." Then the tone shifts....

Booklist announces 2006 Top of the List

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/january2007/Booklist2006TopofList.htm>

Booklist has announced its 17th annual Top of the List winners. The eight winning titles were chosen from the annual Editors' Choice selections as the best books and media of 2006. The Top of the List picks are featured in the special combined January 1–15 issue of Booklist, which includes the complete annotated Editors' Choice lists for adult books, adult books for young adults, books for youth, reference sources, and media....

@ Visit Booklist Online for other reviews and much more....

SEATTLE UPDATE

How to get around

Keep a copy of the Thomson Gale shuttle bus map (PDF file) on hand, plan your routes with the interactive conference map, or consult these Midwinter wiki tips....

Seattle public art

<http://www.seattleoutdoorart.com/index.php>

Seattle's outdoor art adorns neighborhoods, parks, commercial centers, and public buildings—bravely surviving the region's capricious climate. The Seattle Outdoor Art website has cataloged more than 390 viewable pieces, displaying a photograph for each, accompanied by the title, artist, date, medium, and location. The Fountain of Wisdom (right) by George Tsutakawa is located at the Seattle Central Library; it was built in 1960 and reset on the library's reopening day, May 23, 2004....

Seattle Outdoor Art

Seattle's top attractions

<http://seattlepi.nwsourc.com/visitorsguide/section.asp?sectionID=3>

Many attractions are touristy and worth a visit or two—Seattle, like any other city, has a few of those. Rarer are the sites that draw people year after year, even locals, by offering rich experiences that consistently yield insights into a city's character and history and, in the process, play a part in its future....

Seattle Post-Intelligencer

Quiet libraries are busy community hubs

http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/localnews/2003508567_library04m.html

Kerri Stark, a doctoral student at Seattle Pacific University, tutors an 8th-grade client in a small study room at the Bellevue Regional Library. One floor up, students Peter Liu and Livvy Hermanto read textbooks for their Bellevue Community College classes while casually talking. It's business as usual at the library—but it's a new type of business....

Seattle Times, Jan. 4

DIVISION NEWS

Index to the best free reference websites

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/january2007/RUSAWebsitesindex.htm>

RUSA's Machine-Assisted Reference Section has created a Best Free Reference Web Sites Combined Index, 1999–2006, to recognize outstanding online reference sites. The list includes links to online information sources as varied as the Big Cartoon Database, the Encyclopedia of Chicago, and Recalls.gov from the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission....

ROUND TABLE NEWS

GLBTRT mentoring program (PDF file)

<http://isd.usc.edu/~trimmer/glbtrt/Winter06.pdf>

The ALA Membership Committee recently announced it was developing a formal mentorship program for the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered Round Table. John Bradford interviews Mentorship Coordinator Amanda McKay about how the program will work....

GLBTRT Newsletter 18, no. 4 (Winter), p. 5

AWARDS

First Lady presents top IMLS awards

<http://www.imls.gov/news/2007/010807.shtm>

Laura Bush presented the 2006 National Awards for Museum and Library Service to three libraries and three museums

at a ceremony at the White House January 8. The award includes prizes of \$10,000 to each recipient and an awards ceremony in the East Room of the White House to help raise public awareness. The library winners were Frankfort (Ind.) Community Public Library, Public Library of Charlotte (N.C.) and Mecklenburg County, and San Antonio (Tex.) Public Library....

Institute of Museum and Library Services, Jan. 8

Youth media awards set for Midwinter

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/january2007/mwawards07.htm>

The Newbery and Caldecott medals for the best writing and illustration of children's books published in 2006 will be announced at a press conference on January 22 at 7:45 a.m. Pacific Time. Other award winners to be announced include the Printz Award for literary excellence in books for young adults and the "Dr. Seuss" award for the author and illustrator of an outstanding book for beginning readers. ALA will provide a free live webcast of this national announcement. Unikron, a streaming content provider, will host the webcast at this address....

Coretta Scott King awards to be announced

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/january2007/cskbcala07.htm>

ALA will announce the winners of the 2007 Coretta Scott King Book Awards during its Youth Media Awards announcement on January 22 at 7:45 a.m. Pacific Time during the Midwinter Meeting in Seattle. The awards serve as a national resource for educators, librarians, and parents who want to provide youth with the best in African American children's literature....

ALA awards deadline extended

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/january2007/ALAAwardsDeadlineExtende.htm>

The deadline has been extended to February 2 for a number of ALA awards and grants, including the Beta Phi Mu Award, the Melvil Dewey Medal, the Equality Award, the Ken Haycock Award for Promoting Librarianship, the Thomson Gale Financial Development Award, the Sullivan Award Public Library Administrators Supporting Services to Children, and the H. W. Wilson Library Staff Development Grant....

Reutty wins Downs Intellectual Freedom Award

[http://www.lis.uiuc.edu/oc/news/displaynews.html?](http://www.lis.uiuc.edu/oc/news/displaynews.html?source=vgAG0xUZhZLuMF3L0D0.YVLaogp4xaGy.Q87FXvWtMM=&year=hTs0L3zJE5-LUovrFiob9w==)

[source=vgAG0xUZhZLuMF3L0D0.YVLaogp4xaGy.Q87FXvWtMM=&year=hTs0L3zJE5-LUovrFiob9w==](http://www.lis.uiuc.edu/oc/news/displaynews.html?source=vgAG0xUZhZLuMF3L0D0.YVLaogp4xaGy.Q87FXvWtMM=&year=hTs0L3zJE5-LUovrFiob9w==)

Library director Michele Reutty never realized that following the rules could get her in so much trouble. But when as director of the Hasbrouck Heights (N.J.) Public Library, she found herself following library protocol in response to a request for information from the police, she landed in the midst of a controversy. Her commitment to upholding privacy laws has earned her the 2006 Robert B. Downs Intellectual Freedom Award, given by the faculty of the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign....

University of Illinois GSLIS, Dec. 14

2007 Native American library basic grant applications

<http://www.ims.gov/news/2007/011007.shtm>

The Institute of Museum and Library Services is accepting applications for the 2007 Native American Library Services Basic Grants. The previously published deadline of March 1 has been moved to March 15....

Institute of Museum and Library Services, Jan. 10

SEEN ONLINE

Martin Luther King Jr.: Words that changed a nation

<http://us.cnn.com/SPECIALS/2007/king.papers/>

CNN showcases some historic documents from the King papers housed at the Robert W. Woodruff Library at the Atlanta University Center. The collection helps explore King's philosophy and goals, as well as his fears as he and those around him created a revolution....

CNN, Jan. 9

Distance learning in Second Life

<http://www.nytimes.com/2007/01/07/education/edlife/07innovation.html?ref=edlife>

Scores of colleges and universities have set up campuses on Second Life islands, where classes meet and students interact in real time. They can hold chat discussions and create multimedia presentations from virtual building blocks called prims. The laws of physics don't necessarily apply....

New York Times, Education Life supplement, Jan. 7

Boys and books: Sterling Point targets an elusive audience

<http://www.citizen-times.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=200770106006>

In August, Sterling Publishing, in collaboration with books packager Flying Point Press, introduced its Sterling Point imprint with eight books, all nonfiction, aimed at a share of the market they say "has been notoriously difficult to reach"—boys between 11 and 15. The first eight Sterling Point titles include *Old Blood & Guts*, a biography of Gen. George S. Patton by Alden Hatch; *The Pirate Patriot*, Armstrong Perry's account of the exploits of John Paul Jones; *Lawrence of Arabia* by Alistair MacLean; and *The Deadly Hunt*, the World War II story of the sinking of the *Bismarck*, by William Shirer....

Associated Press, Jan. 8

The changing role of library science

<http://www.careerjournal.com/salaryhiring/industries/librarians/20070103-carmichael.html>

Librarians still work the reference desks and run story time, but today they may also research a director's filmography on the Web for a loyal fan, convert microfilmed images of newspapers to digital format, or teach a seminar on the history of fashion. Internet access, search engines, and other new technologies have revolutionized the field....

Wall Street Journal, Jan. 3

Denver raises \$15,000 for New Orleans Public Library

<http://denverlibrary.org/about/support/sale.html>

As part of the ALA Adopt-a-Library program, the Denver Public Library has raised a total of \$15,000 for the New Orleans Public Library. DPL staffers Judith Heck and Laurie Kubitz-Maness (right) served on the Katrina Relief Committee that settled on a plan to donate 25% of the proceeds from Denver's annual booksale to their Louisiana colleagues. NOPL has decided to use the money for the Children's Resource Center branch....

Denver Public Library

New Orleans Public Library's year of recovery

<http://www.nola.com/search/index.ssf?/base/library-118/1167894741187170.xml?ZZLIBB&coll=1>

Saturday hours at the main library resumed January 6, the FEMA Disaster Recovery Center and the mayor's Welcome Home Center have moved out of the building, and the library now offers public access to its first-floor collections and use of the auditorium for programs....

New Orleans Times-Picayune, Jan. 4

Security guard fires at library patron

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/2007/jan/09/guard-speaks-out-about-library-shooting/>

A library security guard shot at an unidentified woman January 6 as she fled the Anderson County (S.C.) Library. It was not known if the woman was hurt, but a police report said she left the library parking lot in spite of the gunfire. The library is now looking at whether the private firm, Cherokee Security Systems, will continue to be used to provide security at the library and whether guards will carry any kind of lethal weapon....

Anderson (S.C.) Independent-Mail, Jan. 9

Concerned mom learns library's value of privacy

<http://www.twincities.com/mld/twincities/16419153.htm>

As a St. Paul, Minnesota, woman was cleaning her 14-year-old son's room, she found several Manga comic books from a series called DearS. Though Manga is a popular comic book genre, the subject matter is often aimed at young adults. She called the St. Paul Public Libraries Bookmobile, where she figured her son had found the books, and was told she couldn't get that information....

St. Paul (Minn.) Pioneer Press, Jan. 10

Librarians aid police fraud investigation

<http://www.jsonline.com/story/index.aspx?id=550107>

Steven M. Weber made headlines in the fall when he was charged in federal court with scamming internet customers as a teenager while living under his parents' roof. When he signed in at the Brookfield (Wis.) Public Library to use the internet shortly after he was charged, a librarian at the reference desk recalled a newspaper article she'd read, as he sat down at a computer....

Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel, Jan. 7

TECH TALK

The basics of search engine optimization

<http://blog.outer-court.com/archive/2007-01-07-n13.html>

Philipp Lenzen details the three basic principles of getting your site noticed by Google: Create good content, make it accessible, and tell others about your content. In the process, he also gets to the basics of optimal website design....

Google Blogscoped blog, Jan. 7

Meet you at the bleeding edge

<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/techspeaking/2007columns/techJan2007.cfm>

Andrew Pace writes: "Ironically, despite our tradition as early adopters, librarians have been slow to adapt either the technologies they created or those that came from outside our historically insulated world of library automation," but that change is in the air. "Library technologists are anxious to adapt, reacting nimbly to change rather than trying to always be on the bleeding edge of technological innovation."...

Technically Speaking column, American Libraries 38, no. 1 (Jan.): 32

Why Johnny can't search

<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/inetlibrarian/internetlibrarian.cfm>

Joseph Janes discusses the recent findings from the Educational Testing Service that show that many college students lack the "ability to use digital technology, communication tools, and networks appropriately to solve information problems in order to function in an information society."...

Internet Librarian column, American Libraries 38, no. 1 (Jan.): 38

Yahoo upgrades mobile search tool

http://news.com.com/Yahoo+updates+mobile+search+tool/2100-1039_3-6148124.html

Yahoo is aggressively moving into the mobile search market with updated software and expanded deals to preload its software onto millions of handsets. The company announced the latest version of its Yahoo Go 2.0 mobile phones Monday at the Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas. It also said that the new software would be preloaded onto more than 70 mobile handset models from top manufacturers including Motorola, Nokia, Samsung Electronics and Research In Motion....

C|net news.com, Jan. 8

Sensational new fact power with Univac in 1952

<http://blog.modernmechanix.com/2007/01/08/sensational-new-fact-power-unleashed-by-remington-rand-univac/>

Now, for the first time, a commercial or industrial firm can have—first thing any morning—complete facts and figures, analyzed and summarized, on its previous day's performance... in production, in sales, in procurement, or any other major or minor activity. The almost unbelievable feats of Remington Rand Univac in computing, sorting, classifying, and reporting business data enable management executives to formulate "fact-powered" decisions in the merest fraction of the time previously required....

Remington Rand ad, Scientific American, Sept. 1952, p. 39

ACTIONS AND ANSWERS

EPA libraries: Background and issues (PDF file)

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/secrecy/RS22533.pdf>

David M. Bearden and Robert Esworthy of the Congressional Research Service offer some background on the Environmental Protection Agency library closures and its conversion of documents to a digital format, noting: “Converting the agency’s physical collections to electronic format . . . could present technical challenges in terms of the quality of digitized items to ensure that the information is transferred entirely and in a usable format.”... Congressional Research Service, Jan. 3

A public library for Rwanda

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

The Rotary Club of Kigali-Virunga, the American Friends of the Kigali Public Library, and Marshall Scholars for the Kigali Public Library are committed to build, staff, equip, and sustain Rwanda’s first public library in the nation’s capital, Kigali. By December 2006, the campaign received donations and pledges of \$1.4 million from individuals, businesses and corporations, foundations, governments, and intergovernmental organizations. Another \$200,000 is needed for the library to open and operate, and an additional \$500,000 beyond that is necessary to ensure its long-term sustainability....

Kigali Public Library

Five Weeks to a Social Library: Participants

<http://www.sociallibraries.com/course/>

The first free, grassroots, completely online course devoted to teaching librarians about social software and how to use it in their libraries, Five Weeks to a Social Library, has announced its list of participants. The course will take place between February 12 and March 17. The 40 participants have already started blogging....

Information Wants to Be Free blog, Jan. 5

Social networking sites and teens: An overview

http://www.pewinternet.org/PPF/r/198/report_display.asp

More than half (55%) of all online American youths ages 12–17 use online social networking sites, according to a new national survey (PDF file) of teenagers conducted by the Pew Internet and American Life Project. For girls, social networking sites are primarily places to reinforce preexisting friendships; for boys, the networks also provide opportunities for flirting and making new friends....

Pew Internet and American Life Project, Jan. 7

Google Maps distance calculator

<http://www.daftlogic.com/Projects/Google-Maps-Distance-Calculator/>

Want to know the distance between any two points on the globe, say for example, Chicago to Ankara? (As the crow flies, it’s 5,763 miles.) Use this handy Google Maps–based calculator by clicking on two points anywhere; it will figure out the distance for you in both miles and kilometers....

Daft Logic

New LC website for cataloging and acquisitions

http://www.loc.gov/aba/news/aba_redesign.html

The Library of Congress Acquisitions and Bibliographic Access Directorate embarked on a website redesign to more effectively present acquisitions and cataloging content. LC staff consulted with users throughout the redesign process and look forward to additional feedback as users become familiar with the new site. The library will continue to involve users as it moves to succeeding phases of this redesign, which will also include the Program for Cooperative Cataloging....

Library of Congress, Jan. 4

PsychEXTRA and gray literature (PDF file)

<http://www.apa.org/psycinfo/training/pin/07win.pdf>

The very nature of gray literature makes it problematic for both users and library professionals. A short shelf life often makes it difficult to identify, find, catalog, store, and retrieve. The American Psychological Association’s PsychEXTRA abstracting service addresses these problems with gray literature by acquiring authoritative content,

archiving these materials, and providing online access through a search interface....
PsychINFO 26, no. 1 (Winter 2007)

Librarians as first responders

<http://www.governing.com/articles/12talk.htm>

They don't pilot boats down hurricane-flooded streets or pull people from second-story windows. Nor do they wear uniforms, carry firearms, or direct emergency vehicles. But library employees have been first responders nevertheless, Ellen Perlman writes, and recognition of this additional community role that libraries play—beyond books and reading rooms—seems to be missing....

Governing magazine, Dec.

Technology mediator: A new role for the reference librarian?

<http://www.bio-diglib.com/content/3/1/10>

The Arizona Health Sciences Library in Tucson has collaborated with clinical faculty to develop a federated search engine that is useful for meeting real-time clinical information needs. David K. Howse, Paul J. Bracke, and Samuel M. Keim propose a technology mediation role for the reference librarian that was inspired by the project, and describe the collaborative model used for developing technology-mediated services for targeted users....

Biomedical Digital Libraries 3, no. 10 (Oct. 2006)

Still from The Odyssey of OdysseyCurses! ILL'd again!

<http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=-5016711200231630710&>

A villain steals an important document from the library, but librarian Bill Harper saves the day by getting another copy through the Odyssey electronic-delivery software. The Odyssey of Odyssey is a video written, produced, and directed by Allen Reichert at Otterbein College....

Google Video

CONTACT US

American Libraries Direct

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

George M. Eberhart,

Editor:

geberhart@ala.org

Daniel Kraus,

Associate Editor:

dkraus@ala.org

Greg Landgraf,

Editorial Assistant:

glandgraf@ala.org

Karen Sheets,

Graphics and Design:

ksheets@ala.org

Leonard Kniffel,
Editor-in-Chief,
American Libraries: lkniffel@ala.org

To advertise in American Libraries Direct, contact:
Brian Searles, bsearles@ala.org

Send feedback: aldirect@ala.org

To unsubscribe from
American Libraries Direct:
click here

AL Direct FAQ:
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.

American Libraries
50 E. Huron St.
Chicago, IL 60611
www.ala.org/online/
800-545-2433,
ext. 4216

ISSN 1559-369X.

To unsubscribe from this newsletter:

<file:///N:/AL%20Direct/2007/January/%3C%20edition.unsubscribeLink%20%3E>

american libraries DIRECT

January 17, 2007

Contents

[U.S. & World News](#)
[ALA News](#)
[Booklist Online](#)
[Seattle Update](#)
[Division News](#)
[Awards](#)
[Seen Online](#)
[Tech Talk](#)
[Actions & Answers](#)
[Poll](#)
[Calendar](#)

Protect **your** library's network
with **LiveNetwork™**



and increase performance
up to **500%**
Click Here for More Information

SirsiDynix
Sponsor, American Libraries Direct.

U.S. & World News

[Maplewood stays open, will offer more programming](#)

Trustees of the Maplewood (N.J.) Memorial Library met with Mayor Fred Profeta in an emergency meeting January 14 to reexamine their December decision to close the library weekday afternoons because of disruptive middle-school students—a policy that would have gone into effect two days later. Library Director Jane Kennedy told *American Libraries* that the “the board voted to rescind its decision about changing library hours” and the township offered some “funding for the library to develop new after-school programs.”...

[Net neutrality bill reintroduced in Senate](#)

Two senators reintroduced a bill ([PDF file](#)) January 9 that would prohibit broadband companies from offering preferential treatment to internet content providers who pay for premium service. Sen. Byron Dorgan (D-N. Dak., right) and Sen. Olympia Snowe (R-Maine) were joined by six other senators, including Hillary Clinton (D-N.Y.) and Barack Obama (D-Ill.), in sponsoring the Internet Freedom Preservation Act (S. 215), which is identical to a bill rejected 11–11 last year by the Senate Commerce Committee. Dorgan [discusses](#) the bill in a video....



[First Lady presents IMLS awards](#)

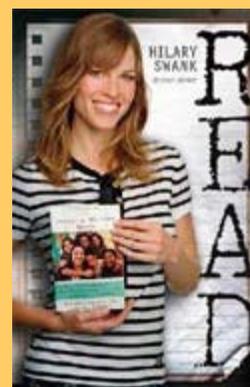
First Lady Laura Bush presented the 2006 National Awards for Museum and Library Service to three libraries and three museums in a ceremony at the White House January 8. Given by the Institute of Museum and Library Services, the \$10,000 [awards](#) recognize institutions that have demonstrated a long-term commitment to public service through innovative programs and community partnerships....

[Library guard shoots at fleeing patron](#)

An on-duty security guard at the Anderson County (S.C.) Library January 6 shot at a woman who set off the library's alarm as she



[Things to do and know before you go](#)



Two-time Oscar winner Hilary Swank proudly joins ALA's [Celebrity READ Poster](#) series. In her latest film, *Freedom Writers*, Hilary plays a teacher who inspires at-risk students to learn tolerance, apply themselves, and pursue their education.

fled the facility late in the afternoon. James Turner fired the single gunshot as the woman, who had ignored his repeated commands to stop, drove her sedan directly at him, forcing him to jump aside....

ALA News

[National Library Agenda draft available for comment](#)

ALA President Leslie Burger has released the discussion draft of "Toward a National Agenda for Libraries"—the result of 12 months of conversation and two days of intensive planning in Washington, D.C., December 10–11—in preparation for the ALA Midwinter Meeting, January 19–24. The working document is available online at the [national agenda wiki](#)....

[ALA retreat yields phased plan for website improvements](#)

Members and staff who met in a Web planning retreat in mid-December have developed a staged plan for creating the next generation ALA website. Retreat participants reviewed the results of the ALA [usability assessment](#), based on feedback from about 1,200 people who responded to an online survey and participated in the usability study....

[Lawyers for Libraries institute in Philadelphia](#)

ALA will present a Mid-Atlantic Regional "Lawyers for Libraries" Training Institute, May 17, at the Loews Philadelphia Hotel, 1200 Market Street, Philadelphia. The institute is primarily intended to equip attorneys with tools they need to effectively defend the First Amendment in libraries....



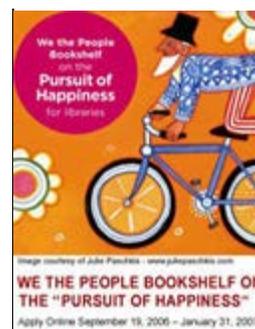
[Register onsite for Midwinter Advocacy Institute](#)

The [Advocacy Institute](#) takes place on January 19 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Fairmont Olympic Hotel in Seattle. Registration will take place from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. The registration fee is \$50 for both ALA members and nonmembers....

Booklist ONLINE

[Featured review: Media](#)

Wordplay. Dec. 2006. 85 min. IFC, DVD. Solving crossword puzzles is addictive for some, as evidenced in this thoroughly entertaining documentary that focuses on crossword puzzles and the people who create, edit, and solve them. The film begins by introducing puzzle-master



Apply for a [We the People Bookshelf grant](#) by January 31.

In this issue January 2007



Balancing the Online Life

20 Tips to Inspire Innovation

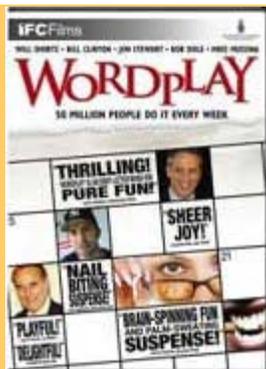
American Libraries in the 1930s



Career Leads from

[JobLIST](#)

[Curator of the Pforzheimer Collection](#), New York



Will Shortz, the editor of the *New York Times* crossword puzzle. We also meet crossword puzzle constructors, including self-proclaimed "puzzle head" Merl Reagle, and we follow top contenders as they prepare for the annual crossword puzzle tournament in Connecticut....

@ Visit [Booklist Online](#) for other reviews and much more....

Seattle Update

[Things to do and know before you go](#)

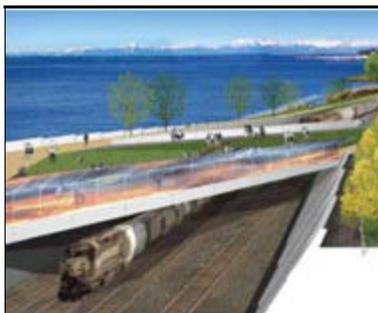
Temperatures in Seattle during the Midwinter Meeting are forecast to range from lows of 35 to highs of 45. ALA has again contracted with a service that will enable us to text-message conference participants in case of a weather or other general emergency. If you are traveling and encounter any flight delays that may affect your hotel check-in time, please make sure you call your hotel directly and inform them of your delays....

[Free wireless access](#)

Wireless access will be provided in most areas of the Washington State Convention and Trade Center other than the exhibit floor during the Midwinter Meeting, January 19–24. To use the in-house wifi, attendees must have a wifi-enabled device....

[Stunning sculpture park could redefine the waterfront](#)

On January 20, the Seattle Art Museum will open the [Olympic Sculpture Park](#), a sweeping nine-acre green space at the north end of the downtown waterfront. The park has already captured the attention of city planners in New York and Paris for the [innovative way](#) it reunites the city and shore. One of the park's prime features is its magnificent views. It presents a 360-degree panorama of Puget Sound, the Olympic Mountains, Mount Rainier, and the surrounding city....



Seattle Times, Jan. 14; *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*, Sept. 15, 2004; Seattle Art Museum

[Special "on-the-plane" reading](#) (PDF file)

Walt Crawford has issued a special "Cites on a Plane" 38-page issue of *Cites & Insights* for people to read on the flight to Seattle. It consists of selected reprints of articles over the past 18 months, including a fun section on "Library 2.0 for Short Attention Spans." The PDF will be deleted January 24....

Public Library.
Manages all aspects of the Carl H. Pforzheimer Collection of Shelley and His Circle, including collection management, budget preparation and implementation, staff supervision, scheduling of activities, and scholarly consultation....

@ [More jobs...](#)



[The Spectrum Scholarship Program](#)

turns 10 years old this year. Established in 1997, Spectrum is ALA's national diversity and recruitment effort designed to address the specific issue of under-representation of critically needed ethnic librarians within the profession while serving as a model for ways to bring attention to larger diversity issues in the future.

Public Perception
How the World Sees Us

Cites & Insights, the Phantom Edition, Jan. 10–23

Division News

[School Libraries Count! survey](#)

AASL is launching a longitudinal survey of school library media programs at the Midwinter Meeting in Seattle. The [School Libraries Count! survey](#) will open on January 18 and gather data on changes in the field to gain understanding of the state of school library media programs nationally. The survey's 20 questions cover the library media center's hours, staff, staff activities, collection, technology, usage, and expenditures....

[AASL's new learning standards draft](#)

AASL is releasing a second draft of its new learning standards and soliciting member feedback. The draft document ([PDF file](#)) is available for download on the [AASL website](#) from January 16 to February 1....

[Target to sponsor Día](#)

ALSC has named Target as the official 2007 national sponsor of El día de los niños/El día de los libros (Children's Day/Book Day), known as Día. This annual celebration held April 30 spreads "bookjoy" by linking children of all languages and cultures with books....



[Building teen communities online](#)

YALSA will lead a full-day session on "Building Teen Communities Online" in Seattle on January 19. A national panel will explore how and why teens interact online and ways libraries can take advantage of free online tools to enhance teen services. Technologies like social networking sites, chat, IM, blogs, wikis, and podcasts will be featured. A night of gaming will cap the day's program....

Awards

[Stonewall Book Awards to be announced](#)

The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Round Table will announce the winners of its 2007 Stonewall Awards for the best gay and lesbian literature during the Midwinter Meeting in Seattle, January 19–24. The announcement will take place January 21 at the GLBTRT Social held at the Seattle Public Library, 6–8 p.m....

[Children of Men wins Scriptor award](#)

The author and screenwriting team behind *Children of Men* have won the 19th annual University of Southern California Libraries Scriptor Award. The Scriptor, awarded annually, honors writers for achievement in adaptation among English-language films released during the previous year and based on a book, novella, or short story. It is the only award that recognizes both the authors and screenwriters of a produced book-to-film adaptation....

Hollywood Reporter, Jan. 13



"As a native of Texas, I cringe at the thought of any of the soil from my home state being displaced for Bush's books and papers. I would like to offer an alternative site. Let's break the ground for the ultimate embedment: the Bush Presidential Library in Baghdad, Iraq."

—Susan Lucrezi, Letter to the Editor, *Allentown (Pa.) Morning Call*, Jan. 12.

American Association of Law Libraries, Jan 10
 American Association of School Librarians (ALA), Jan 7, Mar 51, May 7, Aug 60, Sep 6, Dec 51
 AASLblog, Aug 5–6
 Awards, Sep 50–51
 "Beyond Words" project, Jn/J 10, (photo) Aug 46, Nov 7
 Committee structure, Dec 11
 Fall Forum (2006), May 8
 Innovative Reading Grant, Dec 10
 Instructional classification, Jn/J 11, Dec 12–13
 National conference (2007), Aug 6, Oct 5
 School library media specialist programs recognized, Mar 7–8
 Strategic plan, Jan 7
 Town hall meeting, Aug 48–49, (photo) 58
 American Booksellers Foundation for Free Expression, Dec 9
 American Center for Cures Act, Jn/J 11
 American Civil Liberties Union, Mar 12, Apr 12, May 16, Aug 8, 14, 18, 22, Sep 9, 15, 18, Oct 10, Nov 10, 17, Dec 16
 American Federation of Federal Employees, Oct 8
 American Indian Library Association Awards, Oct 4
 "Historic Gathering Draws Hundreds to Dallas," (photos) Nov 20–21

[The American Libraries Annual Index for 2006](#) is now complete and available on the AL website as a downloadable PDF.

Poll

What do YOU think?

Results of the January 10 poll:

Would you prefer to receive *American Libraries Direct* twice a week instead of once a week?

10%
Yes

Seen Online

[Higher Education Act may finally see action](#)

Teacher-quality programs could get extra attention—and resources—when Congress finally tackles the reauthorization of the Higher Education Act, a piece of unfinished business that the incoming chairs of the House and Senate education committees say will be a priority this year. The reauthorization of the HEA, which was last renewed in 1998, has been languishing on Capitol Hill. Many of the law's provisions were set to expire in 2003, but Congress has passed numerous extensions....

Education Week, Jan. 10

[AL and PL on the technology beat](#)

Julie Winkelstein writes: "Every month I receive *American Libraries*, the magazine of the American Library Association, and *Public Libraries*, from the Public Library Association. Each issue is packed with a range of topics, using columns, feature articles, and shorter pieces to educate and entertain librarians of all kinds. Technology is one of the biggest issues."...

Contra Costa (Calif.) Times, Jan. 12



[Library access can't be restricted](#)

Riverdale Middle School has no authority to ban students from using neighboring Rosedale Library after the dismissal bell rings, Jefferson Parish Superintendent of Schools Diane Roussel said January 16. Roussel said the ACLU is right in its assertion that the Old Jefferson school's policy violates the rights of children to move freely and of parents to make decisions regarding their children....

New Orleans Times-Picayune, Jan. 17

[Canadian libraries thrive in a digital age](#)

It's a weekday afternoon and the main floor of the Toronto Reference Library is hopping. Indeed, many Canadian libraries are reporting increased patrons and higher lending figures. While there are no national statistics, the Canadian Urban Libraries Council, which represents public libraries in cities with more than 100,000 people, says circulation increased more than 25% between 1996 and 2005....

Toronto Globe and Mail, Jan. 10

[Where there's a plant, she has an answer](#)

The Horticultural Society of New York's library, one of hundreds of special libraries in the city, contains nearly 12,000 titles focused on horticulture, or the cultivation of gardens. "We want people to use us," Librarian Katherine Powis said. "We believe gardens change lives. Elementally, gardens connect us to nature, and that's a connection that is increasingly lost."...

New York Times, Jan. 16



[The duties of a Caldecott Medal committee member](#)

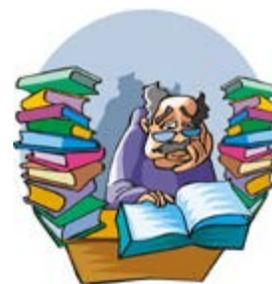
Megan Smith will have to read 500 children's books this year. But she doesn't mind a bit. Smith is one of 15 librarians nationwide chosen to serve on the 2008 Caldecott Award Selection Committee, which awards an annual medal to the artist of the year's most

90%
No

(392 responses)

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

Ask the ALA Librarian



Q. We are thinking of revising our collection development policy to require locating a review before making a purchase decision. What percentage of books actually get reviewed?

A. According to figures compiled by the R. R. Bowker Company, American book production reached a record-setting level of 190,078 new titles and editions published in 2004. Adult fiction titles and new editions increased nearly 60%. By contrast, *Book Review Index* for 2004 lists references to 135,500 reviews for just 81,000 titles, or about 42% of the total output. For more information and for sources of reviews, see the [ALA](#)

distinguished American picture book for children....

Fayetteville (N.C.) Observer, Jan. 13

[German book thief was literature professor](#)

The mystery thief who pillaged antique books from Bonn University Library and replaced them with worthless copies turned out to be a professor of literature, a German court heard January 17. The 51-year-old academic received a suspended sentence of 18 months' jail time, which automatically means he loses his current chair at the University of Rostock and all his civil service privileges....

German Press Agency, Jan. 17

[French National Library recovers Hebrew manuscript](#)

After negotiations between French officials, Christie's auction house, and a Brooklyn antiquities dealer, the French National Library has recovered a 13th-century Torah stolen from its special collections in the late 1990s. Library officials said bookseller Yosef Goldman had already purchased and resold the manuscript in good faith when the theft was discovered. Michel Garel, a former curator at the library, was convicted of the theft in March 2006....

Israel National News, Jan. 14

Tech Talk

[University of Michigan Library and Press collaboration](#)

Digitalculturebooks is a newly launched joint publishing project between the University of Michigan Press and the Scholarly Publishing Office of the University of Michigan Library. In the coming year it will be publishing titles on the social, cultural, and political impact of new media. As part of its launch, digitalculturebooks is offering a free online version of [The Best of Technology Writing 2006](#), edited by Brendan I. Koerner, and opening [nominations](#) for [The Best of Technology Writing 2007](#)....

Digitalculturebooks



[Audiocassette digitizer](#)

The Plus Deck Cassette Converter can be installed on any 5¼-inch bay on your Windows-based computer, allowing you to play or record songs into an MP3 format. An auto-reverse feature allows playback or recording of both sides of the tape without ejecting it. The gadget sells for \$130, from the Cardiff, Wales-based Firebox company (plus \$9.99 [shipping](#))....

Firebox.com



[Ebrary partners with YBP for e-book distribution](#) (PDF file)

Under the terms of a partnering agreement announced January 17, ebrary will integrate its platform and selection of e-books with YBP's GOBI online databases, giving libraries the ability to select and manage their print and e-book orders in one place....

ebrary, Jan. 17



[Professional Tips wiki](#)....

The [ALA Librarian](#) welcomes your questions.

Calendar

Jan. 31–

Feb. 3:

[Ontario Library Association Super Conference](#), Metro Toronto Convention Centre. Contact: [OLA](#).

Feb. 3:

[Book Fest](#), a conference on books for children and teens, New York Public Library Humanities and Social Sciences Library. Register by January 19. Contact: [Margaret Tice](#), 212-340-0903.

Feb. 22–24:

[Electronic Resources and Libraries 2007 Conference](#), Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta. Contact: [Bonnie Tijerina](#).

Feb. 28–

Mar. 2:

[Code4Lib Conference](#), Georgia Center for Continuing Education, Athens.

Feb. 28–

Mar. 4:

[Music Library Association / Society for American Music](#), Joint Conference, Pittsburgh. Contact: [Mark McKnight](#).

Mar. 2–3:

[Senate bill would restrict internet and satellite radio recording](#)

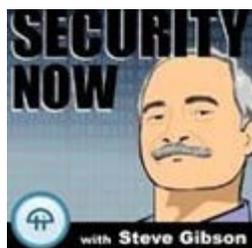
Satellite and internet radio services would be required to restrict listeners' ability to record and play back individual songs, under new legislation introduced January 11 in the U.S. Senate. The rules are embedded in a copyright bill called the Platform Equality and Remedies for Rights Holders in Music (PERFORM) Act, reintroduced by Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.) and three other senators. They have pitched the proposal, which first emerged in an earlier version last spring, as a means to level the playing field among "radio-like services" available via cable, satellite, and the internet....

C|Net news.com, Jan. 12

[Windows Vista performance and fair use issues](#)

The upcoming release of Microsoft's new Windows platform, Vista, includes an extensive reworking of core elements in order to provide protection for so-called "premium content," especially high-definition video, security analyst Peter Gutmann wrote in a December 2006 [white paper](#). In this Security Now audiocast (49:58), Steve Gibson interviews Gutmann on the operational costs of delivering this DRM protection and what it means for the reliability, stability, and openness of future Windows systems....

Security Now, no. 74 (Jan. 12)



Actions & Answers

[Household use of public libraries in 2002](#) (PDF file)

This National Center for Education Statistics report provides a variety of measures of households' use of public libraries and notes some interesting comparisons. Almost one-third of households (31%) used a public library, 19% used a school library, 10% used an academic library, and 4% used a work library in the month preceding the survey. A larger proportion of two-parent (69%) and single-mother households (60%) used a public library in the past year than households consisting of single females (34%), single males (28%), or other households without children (42%)....

Households' Use of Public and Other Types of Libraries: 2002 (NCES 2007-327), Jan.



[Building a library website on the pillars of Web 2.0](#)

Karen A. Coombs writes: "Web 2.0 is often defined by the technologies that are part of it: social software, weblogs, linklogs, folksonomies, wikis, podcasts, RSS feeds, and web services. Because of this, some see Web 2.0 as merely hype. However, if you examine the technologies to see what they have in common, a pattern emerges." This led her to design six pillars of Web 2.0 to use as a foundation for rebuilding the University of Houston library website....

Computers in Libraries 27, no. 1 (Jan.)

[Informal survey of 2.0 tools in special libraries](#)

Amanda Etches-Johnson at McMaster University Library conducted a survey (68 respondents) on the use of blogs, wikis, RSS feeds, and IM in special libraries. She includes a sampling of comments about

[McConnell Youth Literature Conference](#),

Embassy Suites Hotel, Lexington, Kentucky. "In Celebration of Anne McConnell." Contact: Mary Landrum, 859-257-5797.

Mar. 4-6: [National Conference on Family Literacy](#),

Orlando, Florida. "Achieving the American Dream through Literacy." Contact: [NCFL](#).

Mar. 5-7: [De Lange Conference VI on Emerging Libraries](#),

Rice University, Houston. Contact: [Ellen Butler](#).

Mar. 7-10: [Association of Architecture School Librarians](#),

Annual Meeting, Carnegie Mellon University, Philadelphia. Contact: [Martin Aurand](#).

Mar. 15: [Ohio Library Council](#),

Columbus. "Castles Against Ignorance: How to Make Libraries Great Educational Environments" workshop, featuring Ed Rossman. Contact: [OLC](#).

Mar. 22-26: [American Society for Information Science and Technology](#),

Information Architecture Summit, Las Vegas. Contact: [ASIS&T](#).

how the tools are used, staff buy-in, and IT and other implementation issues....

Blogwithoutalibrary, Jan. 12

[Save the Internet, 2007](#)

A vivid explanation of network neutrality and how a handful of telecom companies want to "lock down parts of the Web and make sites pay them more money in order to use it," while everyone else gets the slow lane. This [Save the Internet](#) coalition video (3:59) features Bill Moyers, Jon Stewart, and other familiar faces....

Save the Internet coalition



[LC releases beta version of new THOMAS site](#)

The THOMAS legislative information system from the Library of Congress has posted a [beta version](#) with several new features. New capabilities being tested include searching all THOMAS databases for all congresses with one search; sorting search results by document type (bills, committee reports, etc), relevance, or date; and navigating or refining searches with new options on the search results and document display screens. Be sure to read the helpful [About](#) and [FAQ](#) pages....

SLA Government Information Division, Jan. 7

[Talking about the Maintain IT project](#)

Michelle Boule interviews project leader Barbara Gersh about [Maintain IT](#), a project funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation that is gathering information and success stories about public access computers in public libraries. Eventually, the project team plans to compile the stories and make them available to libraries as a troubleshooting resource....

ALA TechSource blog, Jan. 10

[Civil Rights digital document collection](#) (PDF file)

The U.S. Government Printing Office has teamed up with the United States Commission on Civil Rights and the Thurgood Marshall Law Library at the University of Maryland School of Law to provide the American public a [website](#) of authentic Civil Rights historical publications. The Thurgood Marshall Law Library, a GPO federal depository library, has been scanning hundreds of historical Civil Rights publications to make this digital collection possible. The documents are provided by USCCR....

US Government Printing Office, Jan .12



[State Library offers TV listings to sight-impaired Californians](#)

Visually impaired Californians can now independently access their local television listings through one telephone call thanks to an expanded service supported by the California State Library's [Braille and Talking Book Library](#). The television listings are a new feature of NFB-Newsline. By simply entering their zip code, source of television reception, and time zone, visually impaired customers have quick and easy access to their local television listings....

California State Library, Jan. 9

Mar. 26–28:

[Technology in Education International Conference and Tech Exposition](#), Ontario (Calif.) Convention Center. "Inspiring the Vision." Contact: 916-418-5100.

Mar. 26–28:

[RFID World](#), Gaylord Texan Resort, Dallas.

Mar. 26–30:

[Society for Information Technology and Teacher Education](#), International Conference, Crowne Plaza Riverwalk, San Antonio. Contact: [AACE](#).

@ [More...](#)

Contact Us

American Libraries Direct

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

George M. Eberhart,
Editor:
geberhart@ala.org

Daniel Kraus,
Associate Editor:
dkraus@ala.org

Greg Landgraf,
Editorial Assistant:
glandgraf@ala.org

Karen Sheets,
Graphics and Design:
ksheets@ala.org

Leonard Kniffel,
Editor-in-Chief,
American Libraries:
lniffel@ala.org

To advertise in American

[Ethics books most likely to be missing from philosophy shelves](#)

Eric Schwitzgebel, associate professor of philosophy at the University of California at Riverside, writes: "Ethics books are more likely to be stolen than non-ethics books in philosophy (looking at a large sample of recent ethics and non-ethics books from leading academic libraries). Missing books as a percentage of those off shelf were 8.7% for ethics, 6.9% for non-ethics, for an odds ratio of 1.25 to 1."...

The Splintered Mind blog, Jan. 8

[Acronym Finder adds postal codes](#)

The online [Acronym Finder](#) has added official U.S. Postal Service ZIP codes (over 70,000) and official Canadian postal codes (over 800,000) to its database. A search for a U.S. ZIP code (like [66066](#)) returns information on the city, state, county, telephone area code, and time zone. For Canadian postal codes (like [V6H 3H1](#)), it returns the city, province, area code, and time zone. In addition, it shows you a Google Maps snapshot of the postal area....

Acronym Blog, Nov. 14

[OLAC cataloger's judgment](#)

Jay Weitz's column answers such nagging questions as What is the difference between using the subject headings "Foreign films" and "Foreign language films"? and How should a DVD with different contents on each side be cataloged? It also offers information on uniform title qualifiers for videos and relator codes in name/title added entries....

OLAC (OnLine Audiovisual Catalogers) Newsletter 26, no. 4 (Dec.)

[Nation's gays demand right to library cards](#) (satire)

In another salvo in an ongoing civil-rights battle, the Gay And Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GALAAD) announced the formation of a broad new campaign supporting full library-card privileges for homosexuals. Leaders of the library-cards-for-gays movement, who say some 10 million homosexual citizens are forced to check out books from a loose network of underground libraries each year, liken their plight to American women's long and historic struggle for borrowing privileges. Women were first issued library cards in 1936....

The Onion, Jan. 15



[The blonde in the library joke](#)

So, it seems this blonde came into the library and . . . Well, just remember, it's *only* a (24-second) video....

FLURL, Jan. 8



Libraries Direct, contact:

Brian Searles,
bsearles@ala.org

Send feedback:

aldirect@ala.org

AL Direct FAQ:

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.

American Libraries

50 E. Huron St.
Chicago, IL 60611
www.ala.org/alonline/
800-545-2433,
ext. 4216

ISSN 1559-369X.

AMERICAN LIBRARIES DIRECT

January 17, 2007

Click here to view the online version of our email:

<%= util.viewHtmlLink %>

Poll

Results of the January 10 poll:

Would you prefer to receive American Libraries Direct twice a week instead of once a week?

10%.....Yes

90%.....No

(392 responses)

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

AL Direct celebrates one year

Marking 52 weeks of publication, American Libraries Direct is celebrating with a new look, designed to match American Libraries magazine. Some 49,000 ALA members receive this weekly electronic newsletter that calls attention to new items on the ALA website, as well as practical, informative, and entertaining library-related news and tidbits we find on the Web. Pass it on: Forward AL Direct to colleagues and let them know how easy it is to stay professionally informed. ALA members need only update their email information; nonmembers can join the AL Direct community online through the ALA website.

U.S. & WORLD NEWS

Maplewood stays open, will offer more programming

<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2007/january2007/newmaplewood.cfm>

Trustees of the Maplewood (N.J.) Memorial Library met with Mayor Fred Profeta in an emergency meeting January 14 to reexamine their December decision to close the library weekday afternoons because of disruptive middle-school students—a policy that would have gone into effect two days later. Library Director Jane Kennedy told American Libraries that the “the board voted to rescind its decision about changing library hours” and the township offered some “funding for the library to develop new after-school programs.”...

Net neutrality bill reintroduced in Senate

<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2007/january2007/netneut.cfm>

Two senators reintroduced a bill (PDF file) January 9 that would prohibit broadband companies from offering preferential treatment to internet content providers who pay for premium service. Sen. Byron Dorgan (D-N. Dak., right) and Sen. Olympia Snowe (R-Maine) were joined by six other senators, including Hillary Clinton (D-N.Y.) and Barack Obama (D-Ill.), in sponsoring the Internet Freedom Preservation Act (S. 215), which is identical to a bill rejected 11–11 last year by the Senate Commerce Committee. Dorgan discusses the bill in a video....

First Lady presents IMLS awards

<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2007/january2007/imlsawards.cfm>

First Lady Laura Bush presented the 2006 National Awards for Museum and Library Service to three libraries and three museums in a ceremony at the White House January 8. Given by the Institute of Museum and Library Services,

the \$10,000 awards recognize institutions that have demonstrated a long-term commitment to public service through innovative programs and community partnerships....

Library guard shoots at fleeing patron

<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2007/january2007/anderson1.cfm>

An on-duty security guard at the Anderson County (S.C.) Library January 6 shot at a woman who set off the library's alarm as she fled the facility late in the afternoon. James Turner fired the single gunshot as the woman, who had ignored his repeated commands to stop, drove her sedan directly at him, forcing him to jump aside....

ALA NEWS

National Library Agenda draft available for comment

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/january2007/NationalLibraryAgenda.htm>

ALA President Leslie Burger has released the discussion draft of "Toward a National Agenda for Libraries"—the result of 12 months of conversation and two days of intensive planning in Washington, D.C., December 10–11—in preparation for the ALA Midwinter Meeting, January 19–24. The working document is available online at the national agenda wiki....

ALA retreat yields phased plan for website improvements

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/january2007/Websiteimprovementsplann.htm>

Members and staff who met in a Web planning retreat in mid-December have developed a staged plan for creating the next generation ALA website. Retreat participants reviewed the results of the ALA usability assessment, based on feedback from about 1,200 people who responded to an online survey and participated in the usability study....

Lawyers for Libraries institute in Philadelphia

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/january2007/LawyersforLibrariesPhill.htm>

ALA will present a Mid-Atlantic Regional "Lawyers for Libraries" Training Institute, May 17, at the Loews Philadelphia Hotel, 1200 Market Street, Philadelphia. The institute is primarily intended to equip attorneys with tools they need to effectively defend the First Amendment in libraries....

Register onsite for Midwinter Advocacy Institute

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/january2007/AdvocacyInstitute.htm>

The Advocacy Institute takes place on January 19 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Fairmont Olympic Hotel in Seattle. Registration will take place from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. The registration fee is \$50 for both ALA members and nonmembers....

Booklist Online

Featured review: Media

http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=1837382

Wordplay. Dec. 2006. 85 min. IFC, DVD.

Solving crossword puzzles is addictive for some, as evidenced in this thoroughly entertaining documentary that focuses on crossword puzzles and the people who create, edit, and solve them. The film begins by introducing puzzle-master Will Shortz, the editor of the New York Times crossword puzzle. We also meet crossword puzzle constructors, including self-proclaimed "puzzle head" Merl Reagle, and we follow top contenders as they prepare for the annual crossword puzzle tournament in Connecticut....

@ Visit Booklist Online for other reviews and much more....

SEATTLE UPDATE

Things to do and know before you go

<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/midwinter/2007/todo.htm>

Temperatures in Seattle during the Midwinter Meeting are forecast to range from lows of 35 to highs of 45. ALA has again contracted with a service that will enable us to text-message conference participants in case of a weather or other general emergency. If you are traveling and encounter any flight delays that may affect your hotel check-in time, please make sure you call your hotel directly and inform them of your delays....

Free wireless access

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/january2007/FreewirelessatMidwinter.htm>

Wireless access will be provided in most areas of the Washington State Convention and Trade Center other than the exhibit floor during the Midwinter Meeting, January 19–24. To use the in-house wifi, attendees must have a wifi-enabled device....

Stunning sculpture park could redefine the waterfront

<http://archives.seattletimes.nwsourc.com/cgi-bin/taxis.cgi/web/vortex/display?slug=sculpturepark140&date=20070114>

On January 20, the Seattle Art Museum will open the Olympic Sculpture Park, a sweeping nine-acre green space at the north end of the downtown waterfront. The park has already captured the attention of city planners in New York and Paris for the innovative way it reunites the city and shore. One of the park's prime features is its magnificent views. It presents a 360-degree panorama of Puget Sound, the Olympic Mountains, Mount Rainier, and the surrounding city.... Seattle Times, Jan. 14; Seattle Post-Intelligencer, Sept. 15, 2004; Seattle Art Museum

Special “on-the-plane” reading (PDF file)

<http://citesandinsights.info/coap.pdf>

Walt Crawford has issued a special “Cites on a Plane” 38-page issue of Cites & Insights for people to read on the flight to Seattle. It consists of selected reprints of articles over the past 18 months, including a fun section on “Library 2.0 for Short Attention Spans.” The PDF will be deleted January 24....

Cites & Insights, the Phantom Edition, Jan. 10–23

DIVISION NEWS

School Libraries Count! survey

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/january2007/AASLsurveyschoollibrarie.htm>

AASL is launching a longitudinal survey of school library media programs at the Midwinter Meeting in Seattle. The School Libraries Count! survey will open on January 18 and gather data on changes in the field to gain understanding of the state of school library media programs nationally. The survey's 20 questions cover the library media center's hours, staff, staff activities, collection, technology, usage, and expenditures....

AASL's new learning standards draft

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/january2007/AASLfeedbackStandards.htm>

AASL is releasing a second draft of its new learning standards and soliciting member feedback. The draft document (PDF file) is available for download on the AASL website from January 16 to February 1....

Target to sponsor Día

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/january2007/diainternal07.htm>

ALSC has named Target as the official 2007 national sponsor of El día de los niños/El día de los libros (Children's Day/Book Day), known as Día. This annual celebration held April 30 spreads “bookjoy” by linking children of all languages and cultures with books....

Building teen communities online

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/january2007/teen07.htm>

YALSA will lead a full-day session on “Building Teen Communities Online” in Seattle on January 19. A national panel will explore how and why teens interact online and ways libraries can take advantage of free online tools to enhance teen services. Technologies like social networking sites, chat, IM, blogs, wikis, and podcasts will be featured. A night of gaming will cap the day's program....

AWARDS

Stonewall Book Awards to be announced

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/january2007/stone07.htm>

The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Round Table will announce the winners of its 2007 Stonewall Awards for the best gay and lesbian literature during the Midwinter Meeting in Seattle, January 19–24. The announcement will take place January 21 at the GLBTRT Social held at the Seattle Public Library, 6–8 p.m....

Children of Men wins Scriptor award

http://www.hollywoodreporter.com/hr/content_display/film/news/e3i92e281f2c3f748bec34291d548a7c2c5

The author and screenwriting team behind *Children of Men* have won the 19th annual University of Southern California Libraries Scriptor Award. The Scriptor, awarded annually, honors writers for achievement in adaptation among English-language films released during the previous year and based on a book, novella, or short story. It is the only award that recognizes both the authors and screenwriters of a produced book-to-film adaptation....

Hollywood Reporter, Jan. 13

SEEN ONLINE

Higher Education Act may finally see action

<http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2007/01/10/18cong-hea.h26.html>

Teacher-quality programs could get extra attention—and resources—when Congress finally tackles the reauthorization of the Higher Education Act, a piece of unfinished business that the incoming chairs of the House and Senate education committees say will be a priority this year. The reauthorization of the HEA, which was last renewed in 1998, has been languishing on Capitol Hill. Many of the law's provisions were set to expire in 2003, but Congress has passed numerous extensions....

Education Week, Jan. 10

AL and PL on the technology beat

<http://www.contracostatimes.com/mld/cctimes/news/local/states/california/16444322.htm>

Julie Winkelstein writes: "Every month I receive *American Libraries*, the magazine of the American Library Association, and *Public Libraries*, from the Public Library Association. Each issue is packed with a range of topics, using columns, feature articles, and shorter pieces to educate and entertain librarians of all kinds. Technology is one of the biggest issues."...

Contra Costa (Calif.) Times, Jan. 12

Library access can't be restricted

<http://www.nola.com/news/t-p/metro/index.ssf?/base/news-19/116901616157310.xml&coll=1>

Riverdale Middle School has no authority to ban students from using neighboring Rosedale Library after the dismissal bell rings, Jefferson Parish Superintendent of Schools Diane Roussel said January 16. Roussel said the ACLU is right in its assertion that the Old Jefferson school's policy violates the rights of children to move freely and of parents to make decisions regarding their children....

New Orleans Times-Picayune, Jan. 17

Canadian libraries thrive in a digital age

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/servlet/story/RTGAM.20070110.gtlibraries10/BNStory/PersonalTech/>

It's a weekday afternoon and the main floor of the Toronto Reference Library is hopping. Indeed, many Canadian libraries are reporting increased patrons and higher lending figures. While there are no national statistics, the Canadian Urban Libraries Council, which represents public libraries in cities with more than 100,000 people, says circulation increased more than 25% between 1996 and 2005....

Toronto Globe and Mail, Jan. 10

Where there's a plant, she has an answer

http://www.nytimes.com/2007/01/16/nyregion/16librarian.html?_r=1&oref=slogin

The Horticultural Society of New York's library, one of hundreds of special libraries in the city, contains nearly 12,000 titles focused on horticulture, or the cultivation of gardens. "We want people to use us," Librarian Katherine Powis said. "We believe gardens change lives. Elementally, gardens connect us to nature, and that's a connection that is increasingly lost."...

New York Times, Jan. 16

The duties of a Caldecott Medal committee member

<http://www.fayobserver.com/article?id=251732>

Megan Smith will have to read 500 children's books this year. But she doesn't mind a bit. Smith is one of 15 librarians nationwide chosen to serve on the 2008 Caldecott Award Selection Committee, which awards an annual medal to the artist of the year's most distinguished American picture book for children....

Fayetteville (N.C.) Observer, Jan. 13

German book thief was literature professor

http://rawstory.com/news/2006/Library_book_thief_was_the_literatu_01172007.html

The mystery thief who pillaged antique books from Bonn University Library and replaced them with worthless copies turned out to be a professor of literature, a German court heard January 17. The 51-year-old academic received a suspended sentence of 18 months' jail time, which automatically means he loses his current chair at the University of Rostock and all his civil service privileges....

German Press Agency, Jan. 17

French National Library recovers Hebrew manuscript

<http://www.israelnationalnews.com/news.php3?id=119354>

After negotiations between French officials, Christie's auction house, and a Brooklyn antiquities dealer, the French National Library has recovered a 13th-century Torah stolen from its special collections in the late 1990s. Library officials said bookseller Yosef Goldman had already purchased and resold the manuscript in good faith when the theft was discovered. Michel Garel, a former curator at the library, was convicted of the theft in March 2006....

Israel National News, Jan. 14

TECH TALK

University of Michigan Library and Press collaboration

<http://www.hti.umich.edu/d/dculture/index.html>

Digitalculturebooks is a newly launched joint publishing project between the University of Michigan Press and the Scholarly Publishing Office of the University of Michigan Library. In the coming year it will be publishing titles on the social, cultural, and political impact of new media. As part of its launch, digitalculturebooks is offering a free online version of The Best of Technology Writing 2006, edited by Brendan I. Koerner, and opening nominations for The Best of Technology Writing 2007....

Digitalculturebooks

Audiocassette digitizer

<http://www.firebox.com/product/1700>

The Plus Deck Cassette Converter can be installed on any 5¼-inch bay on your Windows-based computer, allowing you to play or record songs into an MP3 format. An auto-reverse feature allows playback or recording of both sides of the tape without ejecting it. The gadget sells for \$130, from the Cardiff, Wales-based Firebox company (plus \$9.99 shipping)....

Firebox.com

Ebrary partners with YBP for e-book distribution (PDF file)

http://www.ebrary.com/corp/newspdf/ebrary_YBP.pdf

Under the terms of a partnering agreement announced January 17, ebrary will integrate its platform and selection of e-

books with YBP's GOBI online databases, giving libraries the ability to select and manage their print and e-book orders in one place....

ebrary, Jan. 17

Senate bill would restrict internet and satellite radio recording

http://news.com.com/Senators+aim+to+restrict+Net%2C+satellite+radio+recording/2100-1028_3-6149915.html

Satellite and internet radio services would be required to restrict listeners' ability to record and play back individual songs, under new legislation introduced January 11 in the U.S. Senate. The rules are embedded in a copyright bill called the Platform Equality and Remedies for Rights Holders in Music (PERFORM) Act, reintroduced by Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.) and three other senators. They have pitched the proposal, which first emerged in an earlier version last spring, as a means to level the playing field among "radio-like services" available via cable, satellite, and the internet....

C|Net news.com, Jan. 12

Windows Vista performance and fair use issues

<http://www.twit.tv/sn74>

The upcoming release of Microsoft's new Windows platform, Vista, includes an extensive reworking of core elements in order to provide protection for so-called "premium content," especially high-definition video, security analyst Peter Gutmann wrote in a December 2006 white paper. In this Security Now audiocast (49:58), Steve Gibson interviews Gutmann on the operational costs of delivering this DRM protection and what it means for the reliability, stability, and openness of future Windows systems....

Security Now, no. 74 (Jan. 12)

ACTIONS AND ANSWERS

Household use of public libraries in 2002 (PDF file)

<http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2007/2007327.pdf>

This National Center for Education Statistics report provides a variety of measures of households' use of public libraries and notes some interesting comparisons. Almost one-third of households (31%) used a public library, 19% used a school library, 10% used an academic library, and 4% used a work library in the month preceding the survey. A larger proportion of two-parent (69%) and single-mother households (60%) used a public library in the past year than households consisting of single females (34%), single males (28%), or other households without children (42%)....

Households' Use of Public and Other Types of Libraries: 2002 (NCES 2007-327), Jan.

Building a library website on the pillars of Web 2.0

<http://www.infotoday.com/cilmag/jan07/Coombs.shtml>

Karen A. Coombs writes: "Web 2.0 is often defined by the technologies that are part of it: social software, weblogs, linklogs, folksonomies, wikis, podcasts, RSS feeds, and web services. Because of this, some see Web 2.0 as merely hype. However, if you examine the technologies to see what they have in common, a pattern emerges." This led her to design six pillars of Web 2.0 to use as a foundation for rebuilding the University of Houston library website....

Computers in Libraries 27, no. 1 (Jan.)

Informal survey of 2.0 tools in special libraries

<http://www.blogwithoutalibrary.net/?p=251>

Amanda Etches-Johnson at McMaster University Library conducted a survey (68 respondents) on the use of blogs, wikis, RSS feeds, and IM in special libraries. She includes a sampling of comments about how the tools are used, staff buy-in, and IT and other implementation issues....

Blogwithoutalibrary, Jan. 12

Save the Internet, 2007

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cWt0XUocViE>

A vivid explanation of network neutrality and how a handful of telecom companies want to "lock down parts of the Web and make sites pay them more money in order to use it," while everyone else gets the slow lane. This Save the

Internet coalition video (3:59) features Bill Moyers, Jon Stewart, and other familiar faces....
Save the Internet coalition

LC releases beta version of new THOMAS site

http://sla-divisions.typepad.com/government_information/2007/01/new_thomas_beta.html

The THOMAS legislative information system from the Library of Congress has posted a beta version with several new features. New capabilities being tested include searching all THOMAS databases for all congresses with one search; sorting search results by document type (bills, committee reports, etc), relevance, or date; and navigating or refining searches with new options on the search results and document display screens. Be sure to read the helpful About and FAQ pages....

SLA Government Information Division, Jan. 7

Talking about the Maintain IT project

<http://www.techsource.ala.org/blog/2007/01/talking-about-the-maintain-it-project.html>

Michelle Boule interviews project leader Barbara Gersh about Maintain IT, a project funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation that is gathering information and success stories about public access computers in public libraries. Eventually, the project team plans to compile the stories and make them available to libraries as a troubleshooting resource....

ALA TechSource blog, Jan. 10

Civil Rights digital document collection (PDF file)

<http://www.gpo.gov/news/2007/07news02.pdf>

The U.S. Government Printing Office has teamed up with the United States Commission on Civil Rights and the Thurgood Marshall Law Library at the University of Maryland School of Law to provide the American public a website of authentic Civil Rights historical publications. The Thurgood Marshall Law Library, a GPO federal depository library, has been scanning hundreds of historical Civil Rights publications to make this digital collection possible. The documents are provided by USCCR....

US Government Printing Office, Jan. 12

State Library offers TV listings to sight-impaired Californians

http://www.library.ca.gov/PressReleases/pr_070109.cfm

Visually impaired Californians can now independently access their local television listings through one telephone call thanks to an expanded service supported by the California State Library's Braille and Talking Book Library. The television listings are a new feature of NFB-Newsline. By simply entering their zip code, source of television reception, and time zone, visually impaired customers have quick and easy access to their local television listings....

California State Library, Jan. 9

Ethics books most likely to be missing from philosophy shelves

<http://schwitzsplinters.blogspot.com/2007/01/still-more-data-on-theft-of-ethics.html>

Eric Schwitzgebel, associate professor of philosophy at the University of California at Riverside, writes: "Ethics books are more likely to be stolen than non-ethics books in philosophy (looking at a large sample of recent ethics and non-ethics books from leading academic libraries). Missing books as a percentage of those off shelf were 8.7% for ethics, 6.9% for non-ethics, for an odds ratio of 1.25 to 1."...

The Splintered Mind blog, Jan. 8

Acronym Finder adds postal codes

<http://4acronyms.com/cs/blogs/acroblog/archive/2006/11/14/62.aspx>

The online Acronym Finder service has added official U.S. Postal Service ZIP codes (over 70,000) and official Canadian postal codes (over 800,000) to its database. A search for a U.S. ZIP code (like 66066) returns information on the city, state, county, telephone area code, and time zone. For Canadian postal codes (like V6H 3H1), it returns the city, province, area code, and time zone. In addition, it shows you a Google Maps snapshot of the postal area....

Acronym Blog, Nov. 14

OLAC cataloger's judgment

<http://ublib.buffalo.edu/libraries/units/cts/olac/newsletters/dec06/qanda.html>

Jay Weitz's column answers such nagging questions as What is the difference between using the subject headings "Foreign films" and "Foreign language films"? and How should a DVD with different contents on each side be cataloged? It also offers information on uniform title qualifiers for videos and relator codes in name/title added entries....

OLAC (OnLine Audiovisual Catalogers) Newsletter 26, no. 4 (Dec.)

Nation's gays demand right to library cards (satire)

http://www.theonion.com/content/news/nations_gays_demand_right_to

In another salvo in an ongoing civil-rights battle, the Gay And Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GALAAD) announced the formation of a broad new campaign supporting full library-card privileges for homosexuals. Leaders of the library-cards-for-gays movement, who say some 10 million homosexual citizens are forced to check out books from a loose network of underground libraries each year, liken their plight to American women's long and historic struggle for borrowing privileges. Women were first issued library cards in 1936....

The Onion, Jan. 15

The blonde in the library joke

http://www.flurl.com/item/Library__u_217907_original

So, it seems this blonde came into the library and . . . Well, just remember, it's only a (24-second) video....

FLURL, Jan. 8

CONTACT US

American Libraries Direct

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

George M. Eberhart,

Editor:

geberhart@ala.org

Daniel Kraus,

Associate Editor:

dkraus@ala.org

Greg Landgraf,

Editorial Assistant:

glandgraf@ala.org

Karen Sheets,

Graphics and Design:

ksheets@ala.org

Leonard Kniffel,
Editor-in-Chief,
American Libraries: lkniffel@ala.org

To advertise in American Libraries Direct, contact:
Brian Searles, bsearles@ala.org

Send feedback: aldirect@ala.org

To unsubscribe from
American Libraries Direct:
click here

AL Direct FAQ:
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.

American Libraries
50 E. Huron St.
Chicago, IL 60611
www.ala.org/online/
800-545-2433,
ext. 4216

ISSN 1559-369X.

To unsubscribe from this newsletter:

<file:///N:/AL%20Direct/2007/January/%3C%20edition.unsubscribeLink%20%3E>

american libraries DIRECT

January 24, 2007

Contents

[U.S. & World News](#)
[ALA News](#)
[Booklist Online](#)
[Seattle Update](#)
[Division News](#)
[Round Table News](#)
[Awards](#)
[Seen Online](#)
[Tech Talk](#)
[Actions & Answers](#)
[Poll](#)
[Calendar](#)



U.S. & World News

[Gates Foundation renews library initiative](#)

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation has renewed its financial commitment to help public libraries in low-income areas provide internet service and training to their users. The new five-year initiative, announced January 18, will involve grants for computer hardware upgrades, continued high-speed internet connections, technical and advocacy training for library staff, and research demonstrating the positive benefits of technology to library users....

[Tasered library patron sues UCLA](#)

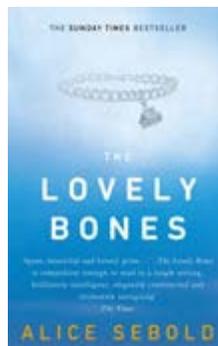
A student of the University of California at Los Angeles involved in a library disturbance last year filed suit January 17 against the university and campus police. Mostafa Tabatabaiejad, 23, alleges that his civil rights were violated on November 14, 2006, when a campus security officer repeatedly used a Taser on him during a library visit because the student refused to show his identification. The suit names as defendants the university, campus police, and six individual officers....

[Harry Potter's Georgia adventure to continue](#)

A mother of four in suburban Atlanta is appealing the state board of education's December 14 decision to allow books in J. K. Rowling's Harry Potter series to stay in Gwinnett County schools' libraries and classrooms. Laura Mallory, who claims the books indoctrinate children in witchcraft, filed an appeal in county superior court January 9....

[Lovely Bones to stay on shelf](#)

The Coleytown Middle School library in Westport, Connecticut, will retain Alice Sebold's coming-of-age novel *The Lovely Bones*, following a recommendation by the school system's challenged materials committee. Westport Public Schools Superintendent Elliott Landon supported the committee's decision in a January 5 letter that acknowledged the book—narrated from heaven by a 14-year-old girl who was raped and murdered—is for "mature readers" but still appropriate for middle school students, "many of whom possess the maturity level to read



[Midwinter Flickr photos](#)



[Out Front with Stephen Abram](#). Tap into the insights of one of the world's leading library visionaries. Stephen Abram has the knack for seeing and expressing the

this book.”...

[Policy axed on library visit](#)

Jefferson Parish (La.) Schools Superintendent Diane Roussel rescinded January 16 a five-year-old policy requiring students at the Riverdale Middle School to obtain written parental permission for each day they intend to visit the adjacent Rosedale branch of the Jefferson Parish Library System. The policy was enacted because of multiple complaints about unruly student behavior as youngsters gathered on library property. The school prohibits children from lingering on campus property after classes end....

[Burst pipes close Provo library](#)

Sub-zero temperatures burst water pipes at the Provo (Utah) City Library at Academy Square during the three-day Martin Luther King Jr. Day weekend, forcing the library to stay closed January 16 and causing about \$1,500 worth of damage to new books....

ALA News



[Midwinter Meeting tops 12,100](#)

More than 12,100 librarians and other library staff, publishers, and guests filled the Washington State Convention and Trade Center in Seattle for the ALA Midwinter Meeting, January 19–24. The conference kicked off with several day-long programs devoted to how libraries are engaging technology to meet the changing needs of teens, scholars, and families....

[Seattle fish throwers inspire ALA Midwinter-goers](#)

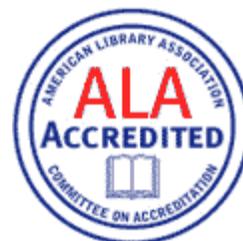
The rules of the [FISH! Philosophy](#) are: 1) Be there, 2) Play, 3) Make someone's day, and 4) Choose your attitude. As delivered by motivational speaker and "FISH! Philosopher" Deena Ebbert, these simple suggestions resonated with Midwinter attendees, as Ebbert tossed them toy fish and played with a concept developed by the city's famous Pike Place Market fishmongers....



[ALA candidates espouse their views at Forum](#)

Kathlene Hanson reports: "Candidates for ALA President and Treasurer gave brief statements and addressed questions from audience members January 20. Candidates for ALA President are [Nancy A. Davenport](#) and [James R. Rettig](#). Candidates for Treasurer are [Rodney Hersberger](#) and [Jo Ann Pinder](#).”...

obvious long before most people become aware of the issue. Although he's one of the most prolific writers and speakers in the industry, this is the first time his writings are being collected in one volume. **NEW!** from **ALA Editions**.



[Locate information about library and information studies master's programs](#) that are accredited by the American Library Association.

In this issue

January 2007



Balancing the Online Life

20 Tips to Inspire Innovation

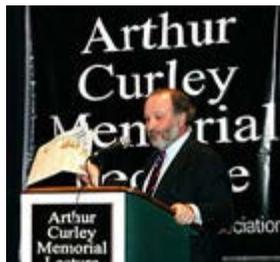
American Libraries in the 1930s

ALA MemberBlog, Jan. 22

[Klein on politics, pollsters, and civic responsibility](#)

Joe Klein, senior writer for *Time* magazine and author of several bestselling books, discussed "Islam, Iraq, and the War on Terror" at the Eighth Annual Arthur Curley Memorial Lecture on January 20. He opened his presentation by thanking the librarians in attendance: "You are the custodians for the place where people like me go after we die, if we're lucky," he said. "The library was the place where the world opened to me."...

ALA MemberBlog, Jan. 22



[Resolution in Support of Immigrant Rights](#)

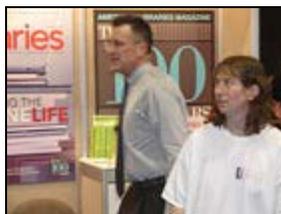
Loida Garcia-Febo reports: "On January 20, Reforma: The Association to Promote Library Services to Latinos and the Spanish Speaking approved a Resolution in Support of immigrant Rights. It is expected to be taken before Council. I had the opportunity to present the resolution before the Intellectual Freedom Committee and the Intellectual Freedom Round Table. These bodies gave their support to it."...

Information New Wave blog, Jan. 23

[The hottest place to be at Midwinter](#)

The hottest place to be at the Midwinter Meeting is queued up for some Dance Dance Revolution at the *American Libraries*/ALA TechSource Booth. Here Michael Golrick and Jenny Levine cut the proverbial rug...

Tame the Web blog, Jan. 21



[Finding balance, finding attention](#)

Art Plotnik, editor of *American Libraries* from 1974 to 1989, reminisces about his tenure on AL's new CentenniAL blog, which commemorates the magazine's 100th anniversary. Writes Plotnik: "Some gambits worked, like an occasional dish of library farce—an April Fool's issue, a comic-strip history of the Dewey Decimal Point. Some backfired; for example, a bit on library jargon illustrated by a newspaper cartoonist whose exaggerated drawings of women—we were too numb to realize—would get us in trouble with ALA's burgeoning women's movement and many a reader."...

CentenniAL blog, Jan. 16



[Marketing @ your campus library.](#)
ACRL offers resources to help you develop a marketing campaign for your own library and provides examples of the division's own efforts to promote academic and research libraries.

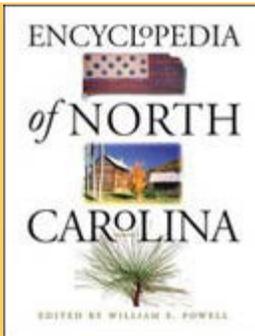
Career Leads from
ALA JobLIST
[Deputy Director](#), Columbus (Ohio) Metropolitan Library. As a member of a dynamic executive leadership team at one of the top-ranked and top circulating libraries in the nation, you will play a key role in the administration of the library, assisting in the development of its strategic vision and the successful attainment of the system's objectives....
[@ More jobs...](#)

Public Perception
How the World Sees Us
"Librarians perform a political role: When officials start

Featured review: Reference

Powell, William S. *Encyclopedia of North Carolina*. Dec. 2006. 1,247p. University of North Carolina, hardcover (978-0-8078-3071-0).

Powell, professor emeritus of history at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, spent 15 years compiling this first single-volume encyclopedia of the Tarheel State. The encyclopedia is intended to serve "those who love and live in North Carolina," and it is clearly a product of great affection as well as scholarship. It completes a trilogy of reference works on North Carolina, following Powell's *North Carolina Gazetteer* (1968) and *Dictionary of North Carolina Biography* (1979–1996)....



@ Visit [Booklist Online](#) for other reviews and much more....

banning books and looking over people's shoulders to see what they're reading, librarians raise hell. They always do this. It is their job to defend the freedom to read, and it is a job that will never be put out of business by a machine."

—Editorial, "Today's Libraries: Cauldrons of Ideas," *Seattle Times*, Jan. 19.

Seattle Update

EPA gets an earful on library closures

A national controversy over cutbacks and outright closings of Environmental Protection Agency libraries came to Seattle over the weekend as librarians from around the country told EPA officials the agency is undercutting its own workers, its scientists, and the public. EPA scientists, university researchers, and others have scrambled to locate documents once easily found by librarians in the agency's regional headquarters, said [participants](#) in the ALA Midwinter Meeting....

Seattle Post-Intelligencer, Jan. 22

Angela Davis at ALA

Lauren writes: "This morning I attended the Alexander Street Press breakfast with Angela Davis. It was a great morning. Alexander Street Press has several databases dealing with women's issues, so it's always nice to know what they're up to. Davis spoke of her work with the Black Panther Party and the Montgomery Bus Boycott and how women did a lot of the work, but men got all (or at least most) of the credit."...

COSWL Cause, Jan. 21



Midwinter, Day One: Uphill

Andrew Pace writes: "The bulk of the day was spent at RMG's annual [ILS vendor panel](#). I know, you're thinking, 'How many of them are left?' Truth be told, the panel in its 18th year is made up primarily of nontraditional system vendors, though they are still well represented."...

Hectic Pace blog, Jan. 20

Google at Midwinter

The search engine company's Library Partnerships Manager Ben Bunnell gave a talk on some advanced search tips that work from the Google search box, Google Book Search, Google Scholar, and



PLA publications are now available via the [ALA store](#). With these publications, PLA offers public librarians the best resources for career advancement, problem solving, continuing education, and library information in books written by public librarians and public library staff members.

Poll

What do YOU think?

What information in library-related blogs interests you?

Click here to [ANSWER!](#)

This is an unscientific poll

Google Earth (especially some recently added layers like the ones that were added as part of last fall's National Geography Awareness Week)....

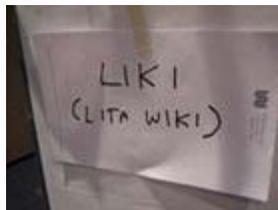
Librarian Central (Google) blog, Jan. 21

Division News

[LITA Town Meeting](#)

Michelle Boule writes: "The LITA Town Meeting January 22 was action-packed even at 8 a.m. I know there were a couple of other people taking actual notes. These are just my thoughts. Mark Beatty had the packed room writing down on pieces of paper things that we liked about LITA or things that LITA could do."...

LITA Blog, Jan. 23



[Outstanding Books for the General Reader](#)

The RUSA Notable Books Council has compiled its 2007 list of outstanding books for the general reader. These titles have been selected for their significant contribution to the expansion of knowledge and for the pleasure they can provide to adult readers....

[Not your dad's interface](#)

Andrea Mercado writes: "Yesterday, Saturday, January 20, I attended the 'Not Your Dad's Interface: Next Generation OPACs and Search Engines' Hot Topics session sponsored by the Machine Assisted Reference Section of RUSA. And the joint was standing room only, a fact that didn't surprise me, but did surprise the moderator."...

PLA Blog, Jan. 21

[Building teen communities online](#)

The YALSA Institute on Building Teen Communities Online, held January 19, saw an overflow crowd of enthusiastic attendees. The first speaker was Audra Caplan, director of the Harford County (Md.) Public Library. Audra began by describing the many barriers librarians cite when trying to implement technology services for young adults, from concerns about resources to basic discomfort in working with teenagers....

AASL Blog, Jan. 23

[Gaming Discussion Group](#)

Kelly Czarnecki reports: "The Gaming Discussion group meeting also took place in Second Life, where participants joined us via text chat in the Open Air Auditorium on InfoIsland. More than 40 attendees shared their library gaming stories, tips, questions, tie-ins for Teen Tech Week (hosting tournaments), and justification for gaming as a viable and core service in libraries to administration (publications such as [Gaming and Libraries: Intersection of Services](#) by Jenny Levine is helpful for this)."...

YALSA Blog, Jan. 22

Round Table News

[GODORT update](#)

James R. Jacobs reports on the Government Documents Round Table meeting at Midwinter: "On the agenda are Cheryl Nyberg, University

that reflects the opinions of only those *AL Direct* readers who have chosen to participate.

Ask the ALA Librarian



Q. Where can I get the Coretta Scott King Book Award seal stickers for books in our collection that were winners? We'd like to highlight these materials for [Black History Month](#).

A. Seals for the Coretta Scott King Book Award—and several of the other ALA literary awards—may be purchased through the [ALA Online Store](#). See the [ALA Professional Tips wiki](#) for more information....

The [ALA Librarian](#) welcomes your questions.

Calendar

Apply for:

By Jan. 31: The Fourth [We the People Bookshelf](#) will select 2,000 school and public libraries to receive 15 classic hardcover books related to the theme

of Washington law library, talking about the [Washington State Digital Archives](#), Matt Brosius from OECD, and Judy Russell, soon-to-be-retiring GPO superintendent of documents.”...

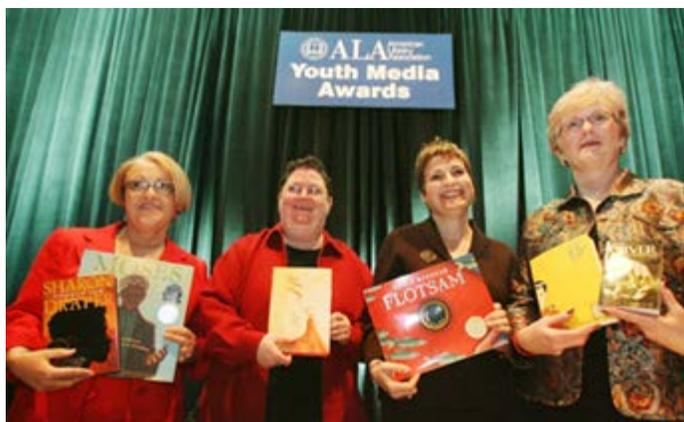
Free Government Information blog, Jan. 20

[Video Round Table picks Notable Videos for Adults](#)

The Video Round Table Notable Videos Committee has compiled its 2007 list of Notable Videos for Adults, a list of 15 outstanding programs released on video within the past two years that are suitable for all libraries serving adults. The list’s purpose is to call attention to recent video releases that make a significant contribution to the world of video recordings....

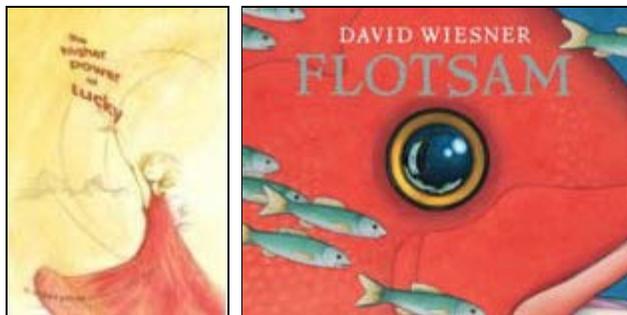


Awards



[Youth Media award winners](#)

The writer of a novel about a 10-year-old girl named Lucky who lives in the California desert with her French guardian and the illustrator of a story about the images in a magical camera that washes up on a beach were named respective winners of the ALA John Newbery and Randolph Caldecott medals honoring children’s literature. The announcement came January 22 at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Seattle, Washington....



[Newbery and Caldecott winners](#)

Susan Patron, Los Angeles Public Library children’s librarian and author of *The Higher Power of Lucky*, and David Wiesner, illustrator of *Flotsam*, are the 2007 winners of the John Newbery and Randolph Caldecott medals, respectively. Considered the “Academy Awards” of children’s book publishing, the Newbery and Caldecott medals honor

“Pursuit of Happiness.”

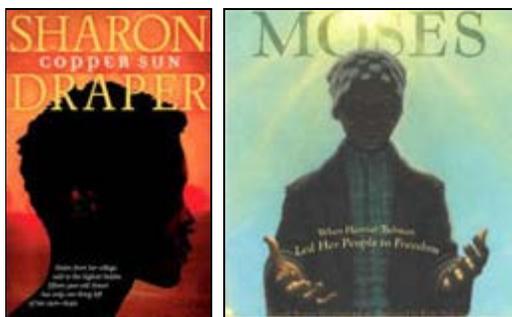
By Jan. 31: The [Coming Up Taller Awards](#) recognize outstanding after-school and out-of-school arts and humanities programs for underserved children and youth with \$10,000 awards.

By Feb. 9: ALA’s Public Programs Office seeks applications from public, academic, and special libraries to host the [traveling exhibitions](#) “Lewis and Clark and the Indian Country” and “Benjamin Franklin: In Search of a Better World.”

By Feb. 15: The [National Awards for Museum and Library Service](#) recognize museums and libraries that demonstrate a core commitment to public service through innovative programs and active partnerships. Contact: [Michele Farrell](#), 202-653-4656.

By Mar. 1: ALA [Spectrum Scholarships](#) will present at least 60 \$5,000 scholarships to American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian, Black/African American, Hispanic/Latino, or Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander students planning to attend an ALA-accredited graduate program in library and information studies or

outstanding writing and illustration of works published in the United States during the previous year....



[Draper, Nelson win Coretta Scott King Awards](#)

Sharon Draper, author of *Copper Sun*, and Kadir Nelson, illustrator of *Moses: When Harriet Tubman Led Her People to Freedom*, are the winners of the 2007 Coretta Scott King Awards honoring African-American authors and illustrators of outstanding books for children and young adults....

[Laura McGee Kvasnosky wins Geisel Award](#)

Author-illustrator Laura McGee Kvasnosky is the 2007 winner of the Theodor Seuss Geisel Beginning Reader Award for her book *Zelda and Ivy: The Runaways*, published by Candlewick Press. The popular fox sisters return in this book with three adventures precipitated by their need to avoid the dreaded cucumber sandwiches dad is preparing....



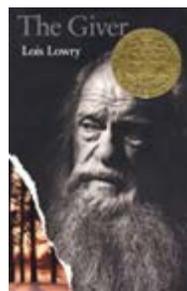
[Gene Luen Yang wins Printz Award](#)

Gene Luen Yang has won the 2007 Michael L. Printz Award for his masterful graphic novel *American Born Chinese*, published by First Second. Expertly told in words and pictures, Yang's story in three parts follows a Chinese-American teenager's struggle to define himself against racial stereotypes....



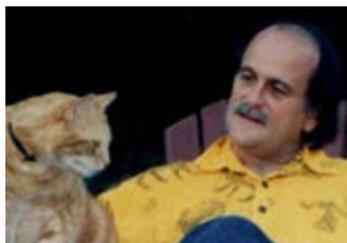
[Lois Lowry honored with Edwards Award](#)

Lois Lowry, author of *The Giver*, is the recipient of the 2007 Margaret A. Edwards Award honoring her outstanding lifetime contribution to writing for teens. One of the most frequently challenged books in 1990–2000, *The Giver* explores a future where differences have been erased and strict rules govern society. Lowry lives in Boston and continues to provide support to those fighting censorship attempts against this complex novel....



[James Marshall wins Wilder Award](#)

Author-illustrator James Marshall has been awarded the 2007 Laura Ingalls Wilder Award. Marshall was the author and illustrator of the *George and Martha* books, the *Fox* easy reader series, *The Cut-Ups*, and *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*—a Caldecott honor winner in 1989. He also illustrated the *Miss*



an ALA-recognized NCATE School Library Media program.

By Mar. 1: ALA offers more than \$300,000 in [scholarships](#), ranging from \$2,500 to \$6,500 per student per year, to students studying library science or school library media at the master's degree level.

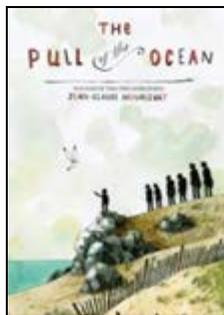
By Mar. 1: The Institute of Museum and Library Services [National Leadership Grant](#) program will make grants between \$50,000 and \$1 million to libraries in three categories: Building Digital Resources, Library and Museum Community Collaboration, and Research and Demonstration. Collaborative Planning Grants of \$30,000 are also available to enable project teams from more than one institution to plan a collaborative project in any of the categories.

By Mar. 1: The University of Connecticut Libraries Dodd Research Center offers two grants related to children's literature: Billie M. Levy Travel and Research Grants ranging from \$500 to \$1,200 to use materials in the [Northeast Children's Literature Collection](#), and James Marshall Fellowship Awards ranging from \$1,000 to \$1,500 for a promising

Nelson books and *The Stupids* series, written by Harry Allard. Marshall died in 1992....

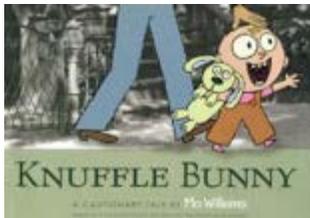
[Batchelder Award honors Delacorte Press](#)

Delacorte Press is the winner of the Mildred L. Batchelder Award for the most outstanding children's book originally published in a foreign language (and subsequently translated into English for publication in the U.S.) for *The Pull of the Ocean*. Originally published in France in 1999 as *L'enfant océan*, the book was written by Jean-Claude Mourlevat and translated by Y. Maudet....



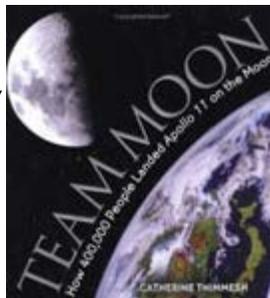
[Carnegie Medal goes to Knuffle Bunny](#)

Author/illustrator Mo Willems and Weston Woods Studios, producers of *Knuffle Bunny*, are the 2007 recipients of the Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Children's Video. The DVD is based on Willems's book *Knuffle Bunny: A Cautionary Tale* and is performed by Willems, his wife Cheryl, and their daughter Trixie. It is directed and animated by MaGiK Studio, with music by Scotty Huff and Robert Reynolds....



[Thimmesh wins Sibert Informational Book Award](#)

Catherine Thimmesh, author of *Team Moon: How 400,000 People Landed Apollo 11 on the Moon*, is the winner of the 2007 Robert F. Sibert Informational Book Award for the most distinguished informational book for children published in 2006. With heart-stopping prose and stunning NASA photographs, Thimmesh celebrates the men and women who solved a series of unfolding crises that threatened the mission of Apollo 11....



[2007 Alex Awards](#)

YALSA has selected 10 adult books that will appeal to teen readers to receive the 2007 Alex Awards. The awards, sponsored by the Margaret Alexander Edwards Trust, were announced January 22 at the Midwinter Meeting in Seattle, and will appear with full annotations in the February 15 issue of *Booklist*....

[Schneider Family Book Award winners](#)

Winners of the Schneider Family Book Award, which honors an author or illustrator for the artistic expression of the disability experience for child and adolescent audiences, were announced at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Seattle: *The Deaf Musicians* by Pete Seeger and poet Paul DuBois Jacobs is the winner in the young children's category; *Rules* by Cynthia Lord is the winner in the middle-school category; and *Small Steps* by Louis Sachar is the winner in the teen category....

[John Cotton Dana Award winners](#)

Seven libraries are winners of the John Cotton Dana Library Public

author/illustrator to support production of a new work of children's literature through the use of materials in the Northeast Children's Literature Collection. Contact: [Terri J. Goldich](#), 860-486-3646.

By Mar. 1: The [ASCLA Century Scholarship](#) will present up to \$2,500 to fund services or accommodation for a library school student or students with disabilities admitted to an ALA-accredited library school. Contact: [Simon J. M. Healey](#).

By Mar. 1: The [Summer Institute for Academic Library Leadership](#) at Vanderbilt University seeks applicants for the 2007 institute to be held July 8–12 in Nashville.

By Mar. 15: The Institute of Museum and Library Services seeks applications for [Native American Library Services Basic Grants](#).

By Mar. 19: ALA's Public Programs Office seeks applications from school libraries to receive [Picturing America](#), a collection of laminated posters depicting works of American art, a resource booklet, and the Picturing America website.

By Mar. 27: [Advancing Knowledge: The Institute of](#)

Relations Award, which recognizes and honors outstanding achievement in library public relations. This award, jointly sponsored by the H.W. Wilson Company, the H.W. Wilson Foundation, and LAMA, has been awarded continuously since 1946. One of this year's winners was the James B. Duke Library at Furman University in Greenville, S.C., where staff members (above) injected a humorous medical theme to ease stress during the construction phase....



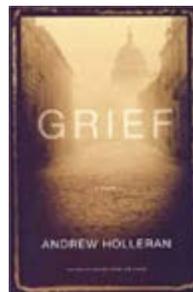
[David Macaulay to deliver 2008 Arbuthnot Lecture](#)

David Macaulay, Caldecott Award medalist and renowned author/illustrator, will deliver the 2008 May Hill Arbuthnot Honor Lecture. Each year, an individual of distinction in the field of children's literature is chosen to write and deliver a lecture that will make a significant contribution to the world of children's literature. The award is administered by ALSC....



[Holleran, Bechdel win Stonewall Book awards](#)

ALA's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered Round Table has announced the winners of the 2007 Stonewall Book Awards. Andrew Holleran, author of *Grief* (Hyperion), is the winner of the Barbara Gittings Book Award in Literature, and Alison Bechdel, author of *Fun Home: A Family Tragicomic* (Houghton Mifflin), is the winner of the Israel Fishman Book Award for Nonfiction....



[White House honors Alameda County literacy program](#)

The literacy program at the Alameda County juvenile hall in San Leandro, California, hit the jackpot January 22. The eight-year effort to help incarcerated youths read and write won a \$10,000 federal grant and plaudits at the White House from First Lady Laura Bush. Bush praised the Alameda County Library system for helping more than 4,000 troubled teens "heal the wounds of the past" by strengthening their reading skills....

Alameda (Calif.) Times-Star, Jan. 22

[Wish for Lit on Amazon.com](#)

Amazon Services announced January 19 a program aimed at giving more than \$20,000 in Amazon.com products to three deserving libraries in the United States. The Wish for Lit program is designed to give libraries an opportunity to create wish lists on Amazon.com to receive the books and supplies that they need the most. Libraries interested in participating must submit an [online entry form](#) and create their Library Wish List. Applications will be accepted until February 16....

Seattle dBusiness News, Jan. 19

[Museum and Library Services/National Endowment for the Humanities Digital Partnership](#) grant program seeks applications for innovative, collaborative humanities projects that use the latest digital technologies.

@ [More...](#)

Contact Us

American Libraries Direct

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

George M. Eberhart,
Editor:
geberhart@ala.org

Daniel Kraus,
Associate Editor:
dkraus@ala.org

Greg Landgraf,
Editorial Assistant:
glandgraf@ala.org

Karen Sheets,
Graphics and Design:
ksheets@ala.org

Leonard Kniffel,
Editor-in-Chief,
American Libraries:
lkniffel@ala.org

To advertise in *American Libraries Direct*, contact:
Brian Searles,
bsearles@ala.org

Send feedback:
aldirect@ala.org

AL Direct FAQ:
www.ala.org/aldirect/

Seen Online

[Appeals court upholds copyright law on orphan works](#)

An appeals court has rejected a bid by internet activists to roll back federal laws that extended copyright protection over orphan works—books and other media that are no longer in print. The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit affirmed a lower-court decision to dismiss *Kahle v. Gonzales*, which argued that legal changes made in the 1990s had vastly extended copyright protections at the expense of free speech rights. Brewster Kahle [explains](#) his position...

Reuters, Jan. 22; Internet Archive, Jan. 22

[Tech giants push for web free speech](#)

Technology companies Microsoft, Google, Yahoo, and Vodafone are in talks with human rights and press freedom groups to draw up an internet code of conduct to protect the free speech and privacy of web users. The parties said in a January 19 statement they aim to produce a code by the end of this year that would counter such trends as the increased jailing of internet journalists, monitoring of legitimate online activity, and censorship....

Reuters, Jan. 19

[Librarian's lessons in the power of persistence](#)

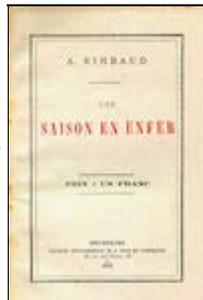
The 75-year-old, silver-haired Kennetta Russ has been the go-to person in the Loudoun County (Va.) High School library for 17 years. Her leadership abilities were recently affirmed when Russ learned she had achieved National Board Certification, the highest certificate available to educators. She is one of only 12 teachers and librarians in Loudoun County and 55,000 in the nation to have qualified for such a distinction....

Washington Post, Jan. 21

[The 10 most expensive books of 2006](#)

Auction houses and collectors did a brisk business in rare books in 2006, setting records in several categories. A 15th-century edition of maps by the second-century Greek mathematician Ptolemy brought in \$4 million, the highest price ever paid for an atlas. An 1873 signed edition of *Une saison en enfer* (*A Season in Hell*) by poet Arthur Rimbaud brought in a record price for a work of French literature, \$644,000....

Forbes, Jan. 16



[Fight back against infomania](#)

Here's a quick test: Can you make it through this story—or this sentence—without being interrupted by email, or feeling the urge to check your in box? If not, there's a group of technology specialists very interested in your problem. And yes, they say, it's definitely a problem....

Seattle Post-Intelligencer, Jan. 23

[Preserving printed and digital heritage](#)

Internet law professor Michael Geist discusses how governments can start building libraries that preserve both printed and digital publications....

BBC News, Jan. 22

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.

American Libraries

50 E. Huron St.
Chicago, IL 60611
www.ala.org/alonline/
800-545-2433,
ext. 4216

ISSN 1559-369X.

[Program gets Indian youth reading for fun](#)

Loriene Roy, project director for "If I Can Read, I Can Do Anything," started this reading club to encourage Native American kids to read for fun. At the same time, her organization promotes library use at Indian schools and helps improve school library collections with books that can empower indigenous youth....

Missoula (Mont.) *Missoulian*, Jan. 19

[Topeka gets a Second Life](#)

The Topeka and Shawnee County (Kans.) Public Library no longer has just one branch. The organization has opened up a new location at the coordinates 24, 157, 24 in Cybrary City, a growing community for libraries in Second Life, an online virtual world....

Topeka Capital-Journal, Jan. 16

[Books are a hard sell](#)

Thomas Washington writes: "I'm a librarian in an independent Washington-area school. We're doing all the right things. Our class sizes are small. Most graduating seniors gain admission to their college of choice. The facilities are first-rate. Yet from my vantage point at the reference desk, something is amiss. The books in the library stacks are gathering dust."...

Washington Post, Jan. 21

Tech Talk

[Tech Profile: Sabrina Pacifici](#) (PDF file)

Sabrina Pacifici has a passion for publishing content-rich material on the Web. She's the creator of, and prolific contributor to, LLRX.com, one of the most highly touted legal research sites. Combine that with the fact that she is the creator of the beSpacific blog, which provides daily law and technology news, and her achievements are even more impressive. Here is her story....

Law Practice Technology, Dec.



[Some bling for your blog](#)

Pastor Bob Hyatt acknowledges that his widget fixation may be getting a little out of control. On his weblog, Hyatt, the leader of the Evergreen Community in Portland, Oregon, has woven in widgets, or miniapplications, that show a selection of book covers from his personal library, present the most recent posts from some of his favorite blogs, and serve up random quotes from the television show *Arrested Development*....

New York Times, Jan. 18

[Becoming a wiki warrior](#)

Connie Crosby writes: "Like you, I'd been reading about wikis, referring to Wikipedia, and even daring to edit the odd wiki page when something caught my eye and really needed changing. Then one day back in November I woke up and felt compelled to set up all my collaborative projects as wikis. A wiki warrior was born!"...

The Tao of Law Librarianship, LLRX, Jan. 15

[Library Predict-o-Matic 3000](#)

Dave Pattern writes: "Were you caught on the hop by the merger of Sirsi and Dynix? Did the Ex Libris acquisition of Endeavor take you by surprise? Were you amazed by the breaking news that

LibraryThing is going to buy out Talis? If the answer to any of the above is yes, then you need the Library Predict-o-Matic 3000.”...

Self Plagiarism Is Style blog, Jan. 20

[Searching scholarly tables, figures, and graphs](#)

CSA Illustrata is a new resource from [CSA](#) that provides deep indexing to the tabular and other graphic information published within scholarly articles. Running on the CSA Illumina platform, CSA Illustrata allows researchers to explicitly search for information presented in tables, charts, graphs, maps, photographs, and other figures. Users can view the full object (including all caption and label text), save marked results, and import the illustrations into presentations, lectures, or research....

Information Today, Jan. 22

[Google plots e-books coup](#)

The internet search giant is working on a system that would allow readers to download entire books to their computers in a format that they could read on screen or on mobile devices such as a Blackberry. With 380 million people using Google each month, the move would give a significant boost to the development of e-books and have a big impact on the publishing industry and book retailers....

London *Times*, Jan. 21

Actions & Answers

[Ann Arbor District Library goes social](#)

John Blyberg writes: “It only took a year, but I finally got permission to go ahead with implementing what I’ve dubbed ‘The SOPAC’ here at Ann Arbor (Mich.) District Library. That would be cute-speak for *Social OPAC*. It’s basically a set of social networking tools integrated into the [AADL catalog](#). It gives users the ability to rate, review, comment on, and tag items.”...

Blyberg.net, Jan. 21



[Designer bookends](#)

The perfect site to visit when you need something more than the standard gunmetal-gray bookends—for that special exhibit, photo-shoot, gift, employee award, or desk-enhancement project. This company has everything from elephants and monkey palms to armillary spheres and fire engines....

JustBookends.com



[ARL launches website redesign](#)

On January 18, the Association of Research Libraries launched a newly designed website. The updated, streamlined design was developed to improve navigation within the site. New features include a consistent navigation bar across the top of each page and RSS news feeds that enable the user to subscribe to some or all of the site’s new postings....

Association of Research Libraries, Jan. 22

[Chicago Public Library’s new seal](#)

The 79-branch Chicago Public Library system, with

the help of San Francisco–based Landor Associates, now boasts a revitalized visual identity and house style. The visual identity revitalization is the latest effort rooted in *Chicago Public Library 2010: A Vision For Our Future*, a strategic plan that identifies the library's goals and opportunities for the next several years....

Landor Associates, Jan. 11



[RDA: Cataloging rules for the 20th century](#)

Many individuals and organizations in the library world do not support the work taking place to develop a next generation of library cataloging rules. Karen Coyle and Diane Hillmann describe the tensions existing between those advocating an incremental change to the cataloging process and others who desire a bolder library entry into the digital era....

D-Lib Magazine 13, no. 1/2 (Jan./Feb.)

[LC on global warming](#)

The Library of Congress *Science Tracer Bullet* on global warming and climate change is intended for those who are looking for a review of the literature and vetted online resources on these topics. Materials cited are available in the collections of the Library of Congress or on the internet....

Science Tracer Bullets Online

[The Adventures of Super Librarian](#)

Faster than free internet! More powerful than a stack of reference books! Protector of knowledge and free entertainment! Another amusing promotional video from the McCracken County (Ky.) Public Library....

YouTube



AMERICAN LIBRARIES DIRECT

January 24, 2007

Click here to view the online version of our email:

<%= util.viewHtmlLink %>

Poll

What do YOU think?

What information in library-related blogs interests you?

Click here to ANSWER!

<http://www.zoomerang.com/survey.zgi?p=WEB2263RS9XS4Q>

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

U.S. & WORLD NEWS

Gates Foundation renews library initiative

<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2007/january2007/gatesinitiative.cfm>

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation has renewed its financial commitment to help public libraries in low-income areas provide internet service and training to their users. The new five-year initiative, announced January 18, will involve grants for computer hardware upgrades, continued high-speed internet connections, technical and advocacy training for library staff, and research demonstrating the positive benefits of technology to library users....

Tasered library patron sues UCLA

<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2007/january2007/taserstudent.cfm>

A student of the University of California at Los Angeles involved in a library disturbance last year filed suit January 17 against the university and campus police. Mostafa Tabatabaiejad, 23, alleges that his civil rights were violated on November 14, 2006, when a campus security officer repeatedly used a Taser on him during a library visit because the student refused to show his identification. The suit names as defendants the university, campus police, and six individual officers....

Harry Potter's Georgia adventure to continue

<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2007/january2007/malloryappeal.cfm>

A mother of four in suburban Atlanta is appealing the state board of education's December 14 decision to allow books in J. K. Rowling's Harry Potter series to stay in Gwinnett County schools' libraries and classrooms. Laura Mallory, who claims the books indoctrinate children in witchcraft, filed an appeal in county superior court January 9....

Lovely Bones to stay on shelf

<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2007/january2007/lovelybones.cfm>

The Coleytown Middle School library in Westport, Connecticut, will retain Alice Sebold's coming-of-age novel *The Lovely Bones*, following a recommendation by the school system's challenged materials committee. Westport Public Schools Superintendent Elliott Landon supported the committee's decision in a January 5 letter that acknowledged the book—narrated from heaven by a 14-year-old girl who was raped and murdered—is for “mature readers” but still appropriate for middle school students, “many of whom possess the maturity level to read this book.”...

Policy axed on library visit

<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2007/january2007/rosedale.cfm>

Jefferson Parish (La.) Schools Superintendent Diane Roussel rescinded January 16 a five-year-old policy requiring students at the Riverdale Middle School to obtain written parental permission for each day they intend to visit the

adjacent Rosedale branch of the Jefferson Parish Library System. The policy was enacted because of multiple complaints about unruly student behavior as youngsters gathered on library property. The school prohibits children from lingering on campus property after classes end....

Burst pipes close Provo library

<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2007/january2007/provoleak.cfm>

Sub-zero temperatures burst water pipes at the Provo (Utah) City Library at Academy Square during the three-day Martin Luther King Jr. Day weekend, forcing the library to stay closed January 16 and causing about \$1,500 worth of damage to new books....

ALA NEWS

Midwinter Meeting tops 12,100

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/january2007/mwo7wrap.htm>

More than 12,100 librarians and other library staff, publishers, and guests filled the Washington State Convention and Trade Center in Seattle for the ALA Midwinter Meeting, January 19–24. The conference kicked off with several day-long programs devoted to how libraries are engaging technology to meet the changing needs of teens, scholars, and families....

Seattle fish throwers inspire ALA Midwinter-goers

<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2007/january2007/seattle07.cfm>

The rules of the FISH! Philosophy are: 1) Be there, 2) Play, 3) Make someone's day, and 4) Choose your attitude. As delivered by motivational speaker and "FISH! Philosopher" Deena Ebbert, these simple suggestions resonated with Midwinter attendees, as Ebbert tossed them toy fish and played with a concept developed by the city's famous Pike Place Market fishmongers....

ALA candidates espouse their views at Forum

http://blogs.ala.org/memberblog.php?title=candidates_espouse_their_views_at_forum&more=1&c=1&tb=1&pb=1

Kathlene Hanson reports: "Candidates for ALA President and Treasurer gave brief statements and addressed questions from audience members January 20. Candidates for ALA President are Nancy A. Davenport and James R. Rettig. Candidates for Treasurer are Rodney Hersberger and Jo Ann Pinder."...

ALA MemberBlog, Jan. 22

Klein on politics, pollsters, and civic responsibility

http://blogs.ala.org/memberblog.php?title=klein_on_politics_pollsters_and_civic_re&more=1&c=1&tb=1&pb=1

Joe Klein, senior writer for Time magazine and author of several bestselling books, discussed "Islam, Iraq, and the War on Terror" at the Eighth Annual Arthur Curley Memorial Lecture on January 20. He opened his presentation by thanking the librarians in attendance: "You are the custodians for the place where people like me go after we die, if we're lucky," he said. "The library was the place where the world opened to me."...

ALA MemberBlog, Jan. 22

Resolution in Support of Immigrant Rights

http://blogs.ala.org/memberblog.php?title=klein_on_politics_pollsters_and_civic_re&more=1&c=1&tb=1&pb=1

Loida Garcia-Febo reports: "On January 20, Reforma: The Association to Promote Library Services to Latinos and the Spanish Speaking approved a Resolution in Support of immigrant Rights. It is expected to be taken before Council. I had the opportunity to present the resolution before the Intellectual Freedom Committee and the Intellectual Freedom Round Table. These bodies gave their support to it."...

Information New Wave blog, Jan. 23

The hottest place to be at Midwinter

http://tametheweb.com/2007/01/the_hottest_place_to_be_at_mid.html

The hottest place to be at the Midwinter Meeting is queued up for some Dance Dance Revolution at the American Libraries/ALA TechSource Booth. Here Michael Golrick and Jenny Levine cut the proverbial rug....

Tame the Web blog, Jan. 21

Finding balance, finding attention

http://blogs.ala.org/AL100.php?title=title_26&more=1&c=1&tb=1&pb=1

Art Plotnik, editor of American Libraries from 1974 to 1989, reminisces about his tenure on AL's new CentenniAL blog, which commemorates the magazine's 100th anniversary. Writes Plotnik: "Some gambits worked, like an occasional dish of library farce—an April Fool's issue, a comic-strip history of the Dewey Decimal Point. Some backfired; for example, a bit on library jargon illustrated by a newspaper cartoonist whose exaggerated drawings of women—we were too numb to realize—would get us in trouble with ALA's burgeoning women's movement and many a reader."...

CentenniAL blog, Jan. 16

Booklist Online

Featured review: Reference

Powell, William S. Encyclopedia of North Carolina. Dec. 2006. 1,247p. University of North Carolina, hardcover (978-0-8078-3071-0).

Powell, professor emeritus of history at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, spent 15 years compiling this first single-volume encyclopedia of the Tarheel State. The encyclopedia is intended to serve "those who love and live in North Carolina," and it is clearly a product of great affection as well as scholarship. It completes a trilogy of reference works on North Carolina, following Powell's North Carolina Gazetteer (1968) and Dictionary of North Carolina Biography (1979–1996)....

@ Visit Booklist Online for other reviews and much more....

SEATTLE UPDATE

EPA gets an earful on library closures

http://seattlepi.nwsourc.com/local/300615_epalibraries22.html

A national controversy over cutbacks and outright closings of Environmental Protection Agency libraries came to Seattle over the weekend as librarians from around the country told EPA officials the agency is undercutting its own workers, its scientists, and the public. EPA scientists, university researchers, and others have scrambled to locate documents once easily found by librarians in the agency's regional headquarters, said participants in the ALA Midwinter Meeting....

Seattle Post-Intelligencer, Jan. 22

Angela Davis at ALA

http://blogs.ala.org/coswlcause.php?title=angela_davis_at_ala&more=1&c=1&tb=1&pb=1

Lauren writes: "This morning I attended the Alexander Street Press breakfast with Angela Davis. It was a great morning. Alexander Street Press has several databases dealing with women's issues, so it's always nice to know what they're up to. Davis spoke of her work with the Black Panther Party and the Montgomery Bus Boycott and how women did a lot of the work, but men got all (or at least most) of the credit."...

COSWL Cause, Jan. 21

Midwinter, Day One: Uphill

http://blogs.ala.org/pace.php?title=day_one_uphill

Andrew Pace writes: "The bulk of the day was spent at RMG's annual ILS vendor panel. I know, you're thinking, 'How many of them are left?' Truth be told, the panel in its 18th year is made up primarily of nontraditional system vendors, though they are still well represented."...

Hectic Pace blog, Jan. 20

Google at Midwinter

<http://librariancentral.blogspot.com/2007/01/greetings-from-ala.html>

The search engine company's Library Partnerships Manager Ben Bunnell gave a talk on some advanced search tips that work from the Google search box, Google Book Search, Google Scholar, and Google Earth (especially some recently added layers like the ones that were added as part of last fall's National Geography Awareness Week)...

Librarian Central (Google) blog, Jan. 21

DIVISION NEWS

LITA Town Meeting

<http://litablog.org/2007/01/23/town-meeting-always-interesting/>

Michelle Boule writes: "The LITA Town Meeting January 22 was action-packed even at 8 a.m. I know there were a couple of other people taking actual notes. These are just my thoughts. Mark Beatty had the packed room writing down on pieces of paper things that we liked about LITA or things that LITA could do."...

LITA Blog, Jan. 23

Outstanding Books for the General Reader

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/january2007/NotableBooksCouncillist.htm>

The RUSA Notable Books Council has compiled its 2007 list of outstanding books for the general reader. These titles have been selected for their significant contribution to the expansion of knowledge and for the pleasure they can provide to adult readers....

Not your dad's interface

<http://plablog.org/2007/01/not-your-dads-interface.html>

Andrea Mercado writes: "Yesterday, Saturday, January 20, I attended the 'Not Your Dad's Interface: Next Generation OPACs and Search Engines' Hot Topics session sponsored by the Machine Assisted Reference Section of RUSA. And the joint was standing room only, a fact that didn't surprise me, but did surprise the moderator."...

PLA Blog, Jan. 21

Building teen communities online

http://blogs.ala.org/aasl.php?title=building_teen_communities_online&more=1&c=1&tb=1&pb=1

The YALSA Institute on Building Teen Communities Online, held January 19, saw an overflow crowd of enthusiastic attendees. The first speaker was Audra Caplan, director of the Harford County (Md.) Public Library. Audra began by describing the many barriers librarians cite when trying to implement technology services for young adults, from concerns about resources to basic discomfort in working with teenagers....

AASL Blog, Jan. 23

Gaming Discussion Group

http://blogs.ala.org/yalsa.php?title=gaming_discussion_group_1&more=1&c=1&tb=1&pb=1

Kelly Czarnecki reports: "The Gaming Discussion group meeting also took place in Second Life, where participants joined us via text chat in the Open Air Auditorium on InfoIsland. More than 40 attendees shared their library gaming stories, tips, questions, tie-ins for Teen Tech Week (hosting tournaments), and justification for gaming as a viable and core service in libraries to administration (publications such as Gaming and Libraries: Intersection of Services by Jenny Levine is helpful for this)."...

YALSA Blog, Jan. 22

ROUND TABLE NEWS

GODORT update

<http://freegovinfo.info/node/874>

James R. Jacobs reports on the Government Documents Round Table meeting at Midwinter: "On the agenda are Cheryl Nyberg, University of Washington law library, talking about the Washington State Digital Archives, Matt Brosius from OECD, and Judy Russell, soon-to-be-retiring GPO superintendent of documents."...

Free Government Information blog, Jan. 20

Video Round Table picks Notable Videos for Adults

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/january2007/NotableVideosforAdults.htm>

The Video Round Table Notable Videos Committee has compiled its 2007 list of Notable Videos for Adults, a list of 15 outstanding programs released on video within the past two years that are suitable for all libraries serving adults. The list's purpose is to call attention to recent video releases that make a significant contribution to the world of video recordings....

AWARDS

Youth Media award winners

<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2007/january2007/youthmediaawards.cfm>

The writer of a novel about a 10-year-old girl named Lucky who lives in the California desert with her French guardian and the illustrator of a story about the images in a magical camera that washes up on a beach were named respective winners of the ALA John Newbery and Randolph Caldecott medals honoring children's literature. The announcement came January 22 at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Seattle, Washington....

Newbery and Caldecott winners

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/january2007/newbery07.htm>

Susan Patron, Los Angeles Public Library children's librarian and author of *The Higher Power of Lucky*, and David Wiesner, illustrator of *Flotsam*, are the 2007 winners of the John Newbery and Randolph Caldecott medals, respectively. Considered the "Academy Awards" of children's book publishing, the Newbery and Caldecott medals honor outstanding writing and illustration of works published in the United States during the previous year....

Draper, Nelson win Coretta Scott King Awards

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/january2007/csk07.htm>

Sharon Draper, author of *Copper Sun*, and Kadir Nelson, illustrator of *Moses: When Harriet Tubman Led Her People to Freedom*, are the winners of the 2007 Coretta Scott King Awards honoring African-American authors and illustrators of outstanding books for children and young adults....

Laura McGee Kvasnosky wins Geisel Award

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/january2007/geisel07.htm>

Author-illustrator Laura McGee Kvasnosky is the 2007 winner of the Theodor Seuss Geisel Beginning Reader Award for her book *Zelda and Ivy: The Runaways*, published by Candlewick Press. The popular fox sisters return in this book with three adventures precipitated by their need to avoid the dreaded cucumber sandwiches dad is preparing....

Gene Luen Yang wins Printz Award

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/january2007/printz07.htm>

Gene Luen Yang has won the 2007 Michael L. Printz Award for his masterful graphic novel *American Born Chinese*, published by First Second. Expertly told in words and pictures, Yang's story in three parts follows a Chinese-American teenager's struggle to define himself against racial stereotypes....

Lois Lowry honored with Edwards Award

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/january2007/edwards07.htm>

Lois Lowry, author of *The Giver*, is the recipient of the 2007 Margaret A. Edwards Award honoring her outstanding lifetime contribution to writing for teens. One of the most frequently challenged books in 1990–2000, *The Giver* explores a future where differences have been erased and strict rules govern society. Lowry lives in Boston and continues to provide support to those fighting censorship attempts against this complex novel....

James Marshall wins Wilder Award

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/january2007/Wilder07.htm>

Author-illustrator James Marshall has been awarded the 2007 Laura Ingalls Wilder Award. Marshall was the author

and illustrator of the George and Martha books, the Fox easy reader series, The Cut-Ups, and Goldilocks and the Three Bears—a Caldecott honor winner in 1989. He also illustrated the Miss Nelson books and The Stupids series, written by Harry Allard. Marshall died in 1992....

Batchelder Award honors Delacorte Press

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/january2007/batchelder07.htm>

Delacorte Press is the winner of the Mildred L. Batchelder Award for the most outstanding children's book originally published in a foreign language (and subsequently translated into English for publication in the U.S.) for *The Pull of the Ocean*. Originally published in France in 1999 as *L'enfant océan*, the book was written by Jean-Claude Mourlevat and translated by Y. Maudet....

Carnegie Medal goes to Knuffle Bunny

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/january2007/carnegie07.htm>

Author/illustrator Mo Willems and Weston Woods Studios, producers of *Knuffle Bunny*, are the 2007 recipients of the Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Children's Video. The DVD is based on Willems's book *Knuffle Bunny: A Cautionary Tale* and is performed by Willems, his wife Cheryl, and their daughter Trixie. It is directed and animated by MaGiK Studio, with music by Scotty Huff and Robert Reynolds....

Thimmesh wins Sibert Informational Book Award

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/january2007/sibert07.htm>

Catherine Thimmesh, author of *Team Moon: How 400,000 People Landed Apollo 11 on the Moon*, is the winner of the 2007 Robert F. Sibert Informational Book Award for the most distinguished informational book for children published in 2006. With heart-stopping prose and stunning NASA photographs, Thimmesh celebrates the men and women who solved a series of unfolding crises that threatened the mission of Apollo 11....

2007 Alex Awards

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/january2007/alex07.htm>

YALSA has selected 10 adult books that will appeal to teen readers to receive the 2007 Alex Awards. The awards, sponsored by the Margaret Alexander Edwards Trust, were announced January 22 at the Midwinter Meeting in Seattle, and will appear with full annotations in the February 15 issue of *Booklist*....

Schneider Family Book Award winners

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/january2007/schneider07.htm>

Winners of the Schneider Family Book Award, which honors an author or illustrator for the artistic expression of the disability experience for child and adolescent audiences, were announced at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Seattle: *The Deaf Musicians* by Pete Seeger and poet Paul DuBois Jacobs is the winner in the young children's category; *Rules* by Cynthia Lord is the winner in the middle-school category; and *Small Steps* by Louis Sachar is the winner in the teen category....

John Cotton Dana Award winners

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/january2007/JohnCottonDanaAward.htm>

Seven libraries are winners of the John Cotton Dana Library Public Relations Award, which recognizes and honors outstanding achievement in library public relations. This award, jointly sponsored by the H.W. Wilson Company, the H.W. Wilson Foundation, and LAMA, has been awarded continuously since 1946. One of this year's winners was the James B. Duke Library at Furman University in Greenville, S.C., where staff members (above) injected a humorous medical theme to ease stress during the construction phase....

David Macaulay to deliver 2008 Arbuthnot Lecture

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/january2007/arbuthnot07.htm>

David Macaulay, Caldecott Award medalist and renowned author/illustrator, will deliver the 2008 May Hill Arbuthnot Honor Lecture. Each year, an individual of distinction in the field of children's literature is chosen to write and deliver a lecture that will make a significant contribution to the world of children's literature. The award is administered by ALSC....

Holleran, Bechdel win Stonewall Book awards

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/january2007/StonewallBookawards.htm>

ALA's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered Round Table has announced the winners of the 2007 Stonewall Book Awards. Andrew Holleran, author of *Grief* (Hyperion), is the winner of the Barbara Gittings Book Award in Literature, and Alison Bechdel, author of *Fun Home: A Family Tragicomic* (Houghton Mifflin), is the winner of the Israel Fishman Book Award for Nonfiction....

White House honors Alameda County literacy program

http://www.insidebayarea.com/timesstar/ci_5062156

The literacy program at the Alameda County juvenile hall in San Leandro, California, hit the jackpot January 22. The eight-year effort to help incarcerated youths read and write won a \$10,000 federal grant and plaudits at the White House from First Lady Laura Bush. Bush praised the Alameda County Library system for helping more than 4,000 troubled teens "heal the wounds of the past" by strengthening their reading skills....

Alameda (Calif.) Times-Star, Jan. 22

Wish for Lit on Amazon.com

http://seattle.dbusinessnews.com/shownews.php?newsid=104126&type_news=latest

Amazon Services announced January 19 a program aimed at giving more than \$20,000 in Amazon.com products to three deserving libraries in the United States. The Wish for Lit program is designed to give libraries an opportunity to create wish lists on Amazon.com to receive the books and supplies that they need the most. Libraries interested in participating must submit an online entry form and create their Library Wish List. Applications will be accepted until February 16....

Seattle dBusiness News, Jan. 19

SEEN ONLINE

Appeals court upholds copyright law on orphan works

http://news.yahoo.com/s/nm/20070122/wr_nm/copyright_appeal_dc_2

An appeals court has rejected a bid by internet activists to roll back federal laws that extended copyright protection over orphan works—books and other media that are no longer in print. The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit affirmed a lower-court decision to dismiss *Kahle v. Gonzales*, which argued that legal changes made in the 1990s had vastly extended copyright protections at the expense of free speech rights. Brewster Kahle explains his position...

Reuters, Jan. 22; Internet Archive, Jan. 22

Tech giants push for web free speech

http://money.cnn.com/2007/01/19/technology/internet_code.reut/index.htm

Technology companies Microsoft, Google, Yahoo, and Vodafone are in talks with human rights and press freedom groups to draw up an internet code of conduct to protect the free speech and privacy of web users. The parties said in a January 19 statement they aim to produce a code by the end of this year that would counter such trends as the increased jailing of internet journalists, monitoring of legitimate online activity, and censorship....

Reuters, Jan. 19

Librarian's lessons in the power of persistence

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/01/20/AR2007012000026.html>

The 75-year-old, silver-haired Kennetta Russ has been the go-to person in the Loudoun County (Va.) High School library for 17 years. Her leadership abilities were recently affirmed when Russ learned she had achieved National Board Certification, the highest certificate available to educators. She is one of only 12 teachers and librarians in Loudoun County and 55,000 in the nation to have qualified for such a distinction....

Washington Post, Jan. 21

The 10 most expensive books of 2006

<http://www.forbes.com/technology/2007/01/16/most-expensive-books-tech-media->

cx_ee_books06_0116expensivebooks.html

Auction houses and collectors did a brisk business in rare books in 2006, setting records in several categories. A 15th-century edition of maps by the second-century Greek mathematician Ptolemy brought in \$4 million, the highest price ever paid for an atlas. An 1873 signed edition of *Une saison en enfer* (A Season in Hell) by poet Arthur Rimbaud brought in a record price for a work of French literature, \$644,000....
Forbes, Jan. 16

Fight back against infomania

http://seattlepi.nwsourc.com/business/300740_msftinfomania23x.html

Here's a quick test: Can you make it through this story—or this sentence—without being interrupted by email, or feeling the urge to check your in box? If not, there's a group of technology specialists very interested in your problem. And yes, they say, it's definitely a problem....
Seattle Post-Intelligencer, Jan. 23

Preserving printed and digital heritage

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/technology/6287181.stm>

Internet law professor Michael Geist discusses how governments can start building libraries that preserve both printed and digital publications....
BBC News, Jan. 22

Program gets Indian youth reading for fun

<http://www.missoulain.com/articles/2007/01/19/jodirave/rave31.txt>

Loriene Roy, project director for "If I Can Read, I Can Do Anything," started this reading club to encourage Native American kids to read for fun. At the same time, her organization promotes library use at Indian schools and helps improve school library collections with books that can empower indigenous youth....
Missoula (Mont.) Missoulian, Jan. 19

Topeka gets a Second Life

http://www.cjonline.com/stories/011607/tee_138716316.shtml

The Topeka and Shawnee County (Kans.) Public Library no longer has just one branch. The organization has opened up a new location at the coordinates 24, 157, 24 in Cybrary City, a growing community for libraries in Second Life, an online virtual world....
Topeka Capital-Journal, Jan. 16

Books are a hard sell

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/01/19/AR2007011901361.html?sub=AR>

Thomas Washington writes: "I'm a librarian in an independent Washington-area school. We're doing all the right things. Our class sizes are small. Most graduating seniors gain admission to their college of choice. The facilities are first-rate. Yet from my vantage point at the reference desk, something is amiss. The books in the library stacks are gathering dust."...
Washington Post, Jan. 21

TECH TALK

Tech Profile: Sabrina Pacifici (PDF file)

http://www.llrx.com/documents/law_practice_technology.pdf

Sabrina Pacifici has a passion for publishing content-rich material on the Web. She's the creator of, and prolific contributor to, LLRX.com, one of the most highly touted legal research sites. Combine that with the fact that she is the creator of the beSpacific blog, which provides daily law and technology news, and her achievements are even more impressive. Here is her story....
Law Practice Technology, Dec.

Some bling for your blog

<http://www.nytimes.com/2007/01/18/technology/18basics.html>

Pastor Bob Hyatt acknowledges that his widget fixation may be getting a little out of control. On his weblog, Hyatt, the leader of the Evergreen Community in Portland, Oregon, has woven in widgets, or miniapplications, that show a selection of book covers from his personal library, present the most recent posts from some of his favorite blogs, and serve up random quotes from the television show Arrested Development....
New York Times, Jan. 18

Becoming a wiki warrior

<http://www.llrx.com/columns/tao10.htm>

Connie Crosby writes: "Like you, I'd been reading about wikis, referring to Wikipedia, and even daring to edit the odd wiki page when something caught my eye and really needed changing. Then one day back in November I woke up and felt compelled to set up all my collaborative projects as wikis. A wiki warrior was born!"...
The Tao of Law Librarianship, LLRX, Jan. 15

Library Predict-o-Matic 3000

<http://www.daveyp.com/blog/index.php/archives/160/>

Dave Pattern writes: "Were you caught on the hop by the merger of Sirsi and Dynix? Did the Ex Libris acquisition of Endeavor take you by surprise? Were you amazed by the breaking news that LibraryThing is going to buy out Talis? If the answer to any of the above is yes, then you need the Library Predict-o-Matic 3000."...
Self Plagiarism Is Style blog, Jan. 20

Searching scholarly tables, figures, and graphs

<http://newsbreaks.infotoday.com/nbReader.asp?ArticleId=19054>

CSA Illustrata is a new resource from CSA that provides deep indexing to the tabular and other graphic information published within scholarly articles. Running on the CSA Illumina platform, CSA Illustrata allows researchers to explicitly search for information presented in tables, charts, graphs, maps, photographs, and other figures. Users can view the full object (including all caption and label text), save marked results, and import the illustrations into presentations, lectures, or research....
Information Today, Jan. 22

Google plots e-books coup

<http://business.timesonline.co.uk/article/0,,8209-2557728,00.html>

The internet search giant is working on a system that would allow readers to download entire books to their computers in a format that they could read on screen or on mobile devices such as a Blackberry. With 380 million people using Google each month, the move would give a significant boost to the development of e-books and have a big impact on the publishing industry and book retailers....
London Times, Jan. 21

ACTIONS AND ANSWERS

Ann Arbor District Library goes social

<http://www.blyberg.net/2007/01/21/aadlorg-goes-social/>

John Blyberg writes: "It only took a year, but I finally got permission to go ahead with implementing what I've dubbed 'The SOPAC' here at Ann Arbor (Mich.) District Library. That would be cute-speak for Social OPAC. It's basically a set of social networking tools integrated into the AADL catalog. It gives users the ability to rate, review, comment on, and tag items."...
Blyberg.net, Jan. 21

Designer bookends

<http://www.justbookends.com/>

The perfect site to visit when you need something more than the standard gunmetal-gray bookends—for that special exhibit, photo-shoot, gift, employee award, or desk-enhancement project. This company has everything from elephants and monkey palms to armillary spheres and fire engines....

JustBookends.com

ARL launches website redesign

<http://www.arl.org/news/pr/arlwebredesign2007.shtml>

On January 18, the Association of Research Libraries launched a newly designed website. The updated, streamlined design was developed to improve navigation within the site. New features include a consistent navigation bar across the top of each page and RSS news feeds that enable the user to subscribe to some or all of the site's new postings....

Association of Research Libraries, Jan. 22

Chicago Public Library's new seal

<http://www.landor.com/?do=cNews.news&storyid=487&g=1200&year=2007>

The 79-branch Chicago Public Library system, with the help of San Francisco-based Landor Associates, now boasts a revitalized visual identity and house style. The visual identity revitalization is the latest effort rooted in Chicago Public Library 2010: A Vision For Our Future, a strategic plan that identifies the library's goals and opportunities for the next several years....

Landor Associates, Jan. 11

RDA: Cataloging rules for the 20th century

<http://www.dlib.org/dlib/january07/coyle/01coyle.html>

Many individuals and organizations in the library world do not support the work taking place to develop a next generation of library cataloging rules. Karen Coyle and Diane Hillmann describe the tensions existing between those advocating an incremental change to the cataloging process and others who desire a bolder library entry into the digital era....

D-Lib Magazine 13, no. 1/2 (Jan./Feb.)

LC on global warming

<http://www.loc.gov/rr/scitech/tracer-bullets/globalwarmingtb.html>

The Library of Congress Science Tracer Bullet on global warming and climate change is intended for those who are looking for a review of the literature and vetted online resources on these topics. Materials cited are available in the collections of the Library of Congress or on the internet....

Science Tracer Bullets Online

The Adventures of Super Librarian

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bu-TijjVs_g

Faster than free internet! More powerful than a stack of reference books! Protector of knowledge and free entertainment! Another amusing promotional video from the McCracken County (Ky.) Public Library....

YouTube

CONTACT US

American Libraries Direct

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

George M. Eberhart,
Editor:
geberhart@ala.org

Daniel Kraus,
Associate Editor:
dkraus@ala.org

Greg Landgraf,
Editorial Assistant:
glandgraf@ala.org

Karen Sheets,
Graphics and Design:
ksheets@ala.org

Leonard Kniffel,
Editor-in-Chief,
American Libraries: lkniffel@ala.org

To advertise in American Libraries Direct, contact:
Brian Searles, bsearles@ala.org

Send feedback: aldirect@ala.org

To unsubscribe from
American Libraries Direct:
click here

AL Direct FAQ:
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.

American Libraries
50 E. Huron St.
Chicago, IL 60611
www.ala.org/online/
800-545-2433,
ext. 4216

ISSN 1559-369X.

To unsubscribe from this newsletter:
file:///N:/AL%20Direct/2007/January/%3C%=%20edition.unsubscribeLink%20%%3E

american libraries DIRECT

January 31, 2007

Contents

[U.S. & World News](#)
[ALA News](#)
[Booklist Online](#)
[Division News](#)
[Round Table News](#)
[Awards](#)
[Seen Online](#)
[Tech Talk](#)
[Actions & Answers](#)
[Poll](#)
[Calendar](#)



• SirsiDynix •
institute
 Click Here for More Information

**Library 2.0 Success Story:
 Live from Australia**

Upcoming **FREE** Webinar

SirsiDynix
 Sponsor, American Libraries Direct.

U.S. & World News

[Officials vow strapped library system will rise again](#)

Dire financial straits have forced Jackson County, Oregon, commissioners to schedule April 6 as the last date of operation for the entire 15-branch library system. "It almost has to be a crisis before there is a solution," remarked library advisory committee member Jim Fety at a January 25 county commission meeting, noting that a five-year operations levy on the November 7 ballot fell 9% short of the votes needed to keep the library's \$8-million annual budget afloat. The library has posted a [Library Use Value Calculator](#) to help residents assess how valuable its services are....



[Texas joins Google Books Library Project](#)

The University of Texas at Austin is the 11th library to partner with Google in its project to digitize books and provide access to their contents through its search engine. In a January 19 announcement, university officials said the contract with Google was for six years and would involve at least one million volumes chosen by library staff....

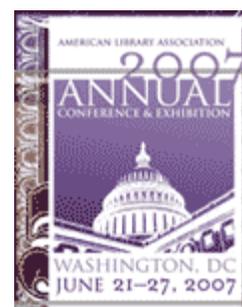
ALA News

[Burger to speak at Senate hearing on EPA closings](#)

On February 6, ALA President Leslie Burger will testify at an oversight hearing of the U.S. Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works on the impact of the Environmental Protection Agency library closings. The public meeting will take place in Room 206 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, 1st Street and Constitution Avenue, in Washington, D.C....

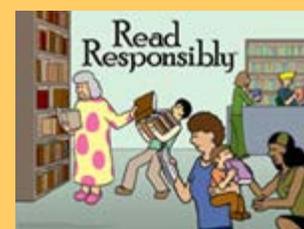
[ALA member libraries to get Oprah's pick](#)

This February, thanks to a continuing arrangement with Oprah's Book Club, ALA organizational and



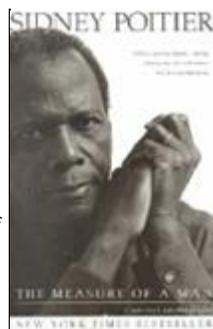
[Hotel reservation requests](#) will be accepted until **April 27**, subject to availability.

[Unshelved @ the Library poster](#)



Unshelved is the world's only daily comic strip that is set in a public library. This popular web comic was created in 2002 by writer Gene Ambaum (alias) and co-writer and artist Bill Barnes. The popular strip has been collected in four published paperbacks.
From ALA Graphics.

library members will receive free copies of the newest book club selection, *The Measure of a Man: A Spiritual Autobiography* by Sidney Poitier, courtesy of the publisher, HarperCollins. Since its beginning in 1996, publishers of Oprah's Book Club selections have donated over 500,000 free books to ALA organizational members for use in their communities....



[Participatory networks and libraries](#)

The ALA Office for Information Technology Policy commissioned the Information Institute of Syracuse to write a technology brief about the growing use of social networks and new web technologies for the library community. The final version ([PDF file](#)), prepared by R. David Lankes, Joanne Silverstein, and Scott Nicholson, was released at the Midwinter Meeting....



[Podcast on copyright](#)

In this special Midwinter Washington Office podcast, Office for Information Technology Policy Copyright Specialist Carrie Russell and Lori Williamson, access services librarian at Victoria College/University of Houston-Victoria, discuss the [Copyright Advisory Network](#)....

District Dispatch blog, Jan. 30

[New logo for Accreditation Office](#)

The Office for Accreditation has a new logo to serve as a visual symbol of ALA's commitment to protecting the public interest in peer-reviewed, quality-assured, master of library and information studies education programs. Upon request, the office will provide a copy of the logo in various colors and file formats to ALA-accredited programs free of charge for use on their websites and publications....



OPRAH'S BOOK CLUB IS BACK... TO FEATURING CONTEMPORARY AUTHORS! ALA Organizational Members receive free books.

click here for details

ALA-Working for Our Member Libraries

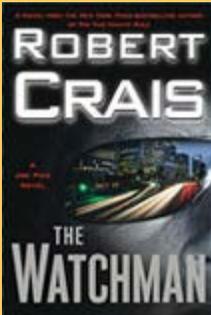
Youth Media awards webcast. View the webcast of the announcements of this year's top books and video for children and young adults. Awards include the Caldecott, Newbery, Sibert, Geisel, King, Printz, and more. The announcements were part of the Midwinter Meeting, held in Seattle, January 19-24.

Booklist ONLINE

Featured review: Adult books

Crais, Robert. *The Watchman*. Mar. 288p. Simon & Schuster, hardcover (ISBN 978-0-7432-8163-8).

Larkin Barkley, a troubled L.A. woman from a wealthy family, finds herself under the protection of federal agents after emerging uninjured from a serious car accident. Something she saw warrants her death. The bad guys came close to success, probably with an assist from someone charged with her safety. Joe Pike, a former marine, LAPD officer, and mercenary, is hired to protect her on the word of his former police partner....

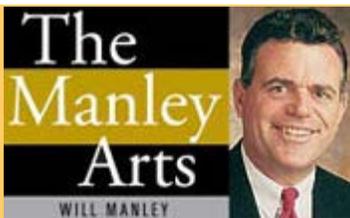


In this issue
February 2007



[Singin' the blues](#)

Like most people, I have my ups and downs. I'm not suicidal, clinically depressed, or bipolar, but I am subject to mood swings. I don't consider my life attached to a bungee cord or a pogo stick. I'm more of a yo-yo kind of guy. I've tried a number of different mental techniques, mostly prayer, visualization, and meditation, but nothing has worked to lighten my darkness. It has to run its course, which is usually not more than a 48-hour period or one week tops. I absolutely refuse to consider any form of medication except maybe the occasional cigarette....



@ Visit [Booklist Online](#) for other reviews and much more....

Race and Place: A Personal Account of Unequal Access

Historically Black Colleges and Universities

Spectrum Turns 10



[Read the CentennialAL blog!](#)

Division News

[ACRL to tackle higher education issues in Baltimore](#)

More than 3,000 librarians and staff, leaders in higher education, and guests will discuss the top trends and issues facing students, faculty, and campus libraries nationwide at the Association of College and Research Libraries biennial national conference at the Baltimore Convention Center, March 29–April 1. Keynote speakers include Nina Totenberg, John Waters, and Michael Eric Dyson....



[Hear the ACRL candidates](#)

The two candidates for ACRL vice-president/president-elect, Erika Linke and Scott Walter, answer questions about issues affecting academic libraries in this 4:17 podcast...
ACRL Podcasts, Jan. 25

[Authors at the AASL National Conference](#)

AASL will host two author events during its 13th National Conference in Reno, Nevada, October 25–28. Wendelin Van Draanen, known for her Sammy Keyes mystery series, will be the guest of honor at the author banquet. The division will also host a brunch with David Lubar, award-winning author of *Hidden Talents*....



[A wiki for public libraries?](#)

PLA is contemplating putting together a wiki. In an age where wikis are sprouting up like weeds, the division is looking to create something unique, useful, and inviting to public librarians, while striving to avoid too much redundancy and overlap with—but also driving traffic and activity to—other library-related wikis. Your feedback is requested....
PLA Blog, Jan. 29

Career Leads from



[Library Director](#), Truckee Meadows Community College, Reno, Nevada. Responsibilities include managing the development of library services, staff and staff training, and collections, with particular emphasis on the development of resources and programs in support of information literacy across a dynamic curriculum....

@ [More jobs...](#)

Public Perception
How the World Sees Us

“Everyone in this band probably reads more than you do; hanging out with

Round Table News

[Air Force library update](#) (PDF file)

Margie Buchanan, librarian of the Air Force, writes: "The Elmendorf Base Library in Alaska was recently approved for closure as part of the Joint Basing initiative (Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson). The Fort Richardson Library is a new facility collocated with education and will provide responsive service to Air Force personnel and their families. One small special library, the Air Force Logistics Management Agency Library at Gunter Annex, Maxwell AFB, Alabama, was also identified for closure by December."...

Federal Librarian 24, no. 2 (Winter): 8, 10

Awards

[John Cotton Dana Award winners](#)

Seven libraries are winners of the John Cotton Dana Library Public Relations Award, which recognizes and honors outstanding achievement in library public relations. This award, jointly sponsored by the H. W. Wilson Company, the H. W. Wilson Foundation, and LAMA, has been awarded continuously since 1946. Illinois State University's Milner Library won for its campaign publicizing its library ghost, Ange Milner (above, 1856–1928), the university's first librarian. (Last week's *AL Direct* mistakenly referred to the James B. Duke Library at Furman University as one of the 2007 winners; it won in 2006)....



[ACRL Excellence in Academic Libraries award winners](#)

Sponsored by ACRL and Blackwell's Book Services, the Excellence in Academic Libraries award recognizes the staff of a college, university, and community college library for programs that deliver exemplary services and resources to further the educational mission of the institution. This year's recipients are the Hostos Community College/CUNY Library, Bronx, N.Y. (right); Elizabeth Huth Coates Library at Trinity University, San Antonio, Texas; and the Georgia Institute of Technology Library and Information Center, Atlanta....



[Nominations wanted for Madison Awards](#)

The James Madison Award and the Eileen Cooke State and Local Madison Award will be presented at Freedom of Information Day on March 16. The ALA Washington Office is now accepting nominations. The awards recognize those individuals or groups that have championed, protected, and promoted public access to government information and the public's right to know....

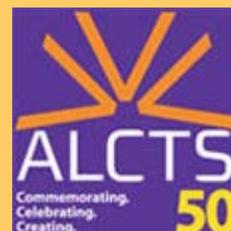
District Dispatch blog, Jan. 30

[BCALA announces 2007 literary awards](#)

The Black Caucus of the American Library Association's literary awards recognize excellence in adult fiction and

Radiohead is kind of like getting high with a bunch of librarians."

—Chuck Klosterman *IV: A Decade of Curious People and Dangerous Ideas*, by Chuck Klosterman (Scribner, 2006), p. 138.



Take a moment to look back on your professional experience and size up your expectations for the future. The [ALCTS Anniversary Survey](#) is an informal (and fun, we hope) exercise, both for ALCTS members as well as the wider collections and technical services community.

Poll

What do YOU think?

Does the war in Iraq have an impact on your library and your work as a library professional?

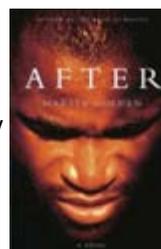
Click here to [ANSWER!](#)

Results of the January 24 poll:

What information in library-related blogs interests you?

67%
news

nonfiction by African-American authors. *After: A Novel* by Marita Golden (Doubleday) is the winner in the fiction category, and *The Audacity of Hope: Thoughts on Reclaiming the American Dream* by Barack Obama (Crown) is the winner in the nonfiction category....



[Best books for young adults](#)

YALSA has announced its 2007 recommended list of Best Books for Young Adults. The books, recommended for ages 12–18, meet the criteria of both good quality literature and appealing reading for teens....

[Audiobooks for young adults](#)

YALSA has announced its 2007 Selected List of Audiobooks for Young Adults. The titles have been selected for their appeal to a teen audience, the quality of their recording, and their enhancement of an audience's appreciation of any written work on which they may be based....

[Great graphic novels for teens](#)

YALSA has announced its 2007 recommended list of Great Graphic Novels for Teens. The books, recommended for ages 12–18, meet the criteria of both good quality literature and reading appeal for teens....

[Popular paperbacks for young adults](#)

YALSA's Popular Paperbacks for Young Adults Committee announced its [2007 selections](#) at the ALA Midwinter Meeting, held January 19–24 in Seattle. This year, the committee produced four lists of selected titles in the following topics: Get Creative; Religion: Relationship with the Divine; What's So Funny?; and I'm Not Making This Up: Addictive Nonfiction....

[Quick Picks for reluctant young adult readers](#)

YALSA has announced its 2007 annual recommended list of Quick Picks for Reluctant Young Adult Readers. The list is geared to the teenager who, for whatever reason, does not like to read. Teen input was a vital aspect in the final decision of the selection committee....

[Selected videos and DVDs for young adults](#)

YALSA has announced its 2007 Selected List of Videos and DVDs for Young Adults. The list recognizes productions for technical merit, content, and use with and interest to young adults ages 12–18....

[Notable children's videos](#)

ALSC has selected its 2007 list of Notable Children's Videos. The list includes videos for children 14 years of age and younger that demonstrate respect for children's intelligence and imagination and reflect and encourage their interests in exemplary ways....

[Notable children's recordings](#)

ALSC has selected its 2007 list of Notable Children's Recordings. The list includes recordings for children 14 years of age and younger that demonstrate respect for young people's intelligence and imagination; exhibit venturesome creativity; and reflect and encourage their interests in exemplary ways....

35%
essays on issues

33%
anecdotes

23%
conferences

7%
other

29%
don't read

(107 responses)

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

Ask the ALA Librarian



Q. Our library is bursting its walls, so we're starting to plan for a new one. Where do we begin?

A. Most often it is the library administrator who, using statistics and benchmarks, discussions of use patterns, and projections for the future, makes the case for expansion. But, as most librarians don't build a library more than once or twice in our careers, we turn to the experts and the

[Collection Development Grant winners](#)

Carrie Wuensch-Harden, youth services librarian of Lake Wales (Fla.) Public Library, and Karen Odom, head librarian at Centerville (Ga.) Public Library, are the winners of the Book Wholesalers Inc./YALSA Collection Development Grant....

[Baker & Taylor Scholarship Grants](#)

Christine Beaver, teen services librarian at Hancock County (Ind.) Public Library, and Dana Hutchins, school librarian for Jackson Middle School in San Antonio, Texas, have won YALSA Baker & Taylor Scholarship Grants for 2007. Each will receive \$1,000 to attend the ALA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C., June 21–27....

[Sagebrush Grant winner](#)

Joanna Peled has won the 2007 YALSA/Sagebrush Award for a young adult reading or literature program. Peled, a librarian with Tucson-Pima (Ariz.) Public Library, has won for "That's My Take," an innovative program where teens produce movie trailers of their favorite books....

[Frances Henne Research Grant](#)

YALSA has named Holly Anderton and Karen Brooks-Reese, both of the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, as 2007 recipients of the Frances Henne Research Grant. Anderton and Brooks-Reese's proposed study is titled "Virtual Reader's Advisory Services for Teens at Public Libraries."...

[Pimp My Book Cart contest winners](#)

The winners of the Pimp My Book Cart contest, sponsored by Bill Barnes and Gene Ambaum, creators of the *Unshelved* comic strip, are Katie George and the teens of the Miller branch of the Howard County Library in Ellicott City, Maryland. The simple design of "Pink Cadillac" (right) consisted of just cow horns, headlights, sleek vinyl book seats, and (vaguely disturbing) tailfins....



Overdue Media blog, Jan. 22

[WebFeat winners](#)

Seven libraries have been recognized for innovation in their information systems with the 2007 WebFeat Presidents Award for Information: Bowdoin College, Brooklyn Public Library, Cuyahoga County Public Library, Dartmouth College, INSPIRE, Northumbria University, and Queens Library....

WebFeat, Jan. 26

[Native American library services enhancement grants](#)

The Institute of Museum and Library Services is accepting applications for Native American Library Services Enhancement Grants. These grants support projects to enhance existing library services or implement new library services. The deadline is May 1....

Institute of Museum and Library Services, Jan. 31

Seen Online

published literature, some of which is listed on the [ALA Professional Tips wiki](#)....

The [ALA Librarian](#) welcomes your questions.

Calendar

Mar. 4–10:

[Teen Tech Week](#).

"Get Connected @ your library." Contact: [YALSA](#), 800-545-2433, ext. 4390.

Mar. 29–

Apr. 1:

[ACRL National Conference](#),

Baltimore. "Sailing into the Future: Charting Our Destiny." Contact: [Margot Sutton Conahan](#), 800-545-2433, ext. 2522.

Apr. 1–30:

[School Library Media Month](#).

"Come Together @ your library." Contact: [AASL](#).

Apr. 15–21:

[National Library Week](#).

"Come Together @ your library." Contact: [Megan Humphrey](#), Public Information Office, 800-545-2433, ext. 4020.

Apr. 17:

[National Library Workers Day](#).

Contact: [Jenifer Grady](#), ALA-Allied Professional Association, 800-545-2433, ext. 2424.

May 1–2:

[Open access to science under attack](#)

The battle over public access to scientific literature stretches back to the late 1990s when Nobel Prize winner Harold Varmus began plans for PubMed Central—a repository for all research resulting from National Institutes of Health funding—and, a few years later, launched the Public Library of Science. These easily accessible journals and repositories have struck fear into the hearts of traditional publishers, who have enlisted the pit bull of public relations, Eric Dezenhall, to fight back....

Scientific American, Jan. 26

[Minneapolis and Hennepin explore a merger](#)

A committee exploring the future of the Minneapolis and Hennepin County library systems is expected to recommend an all-out merger at its final meeting next week. Combining the two systems into one county-run organization could improve services. But the move could also raise taxes slightly for county residents living outside the city....

Minneapolis Star-Tribune, Jan. 29

[Rare books in Philadelphia on display](#)

Some of the books at the Free Library of Philadelphia's Rare Book Collection are as old as civilization itself. And for the next three months many of them will be put on special display in the department—everything from clay cuneiform tablets and an Egyptian Book of the Dead to a stuffed raven that was Charles Dickens's pet bird....

WPVI-TV, Philadelphia, Jan. 29



[West Virginia ruling could cost library funding](#)

The Martinsburg–Berkeley County (W.Va.) Public Library could be stripped of more than \$500,000 in funding as the result of a West Virginia Supreme Court ruling that has found fault with the state's school aid formula. Under the ruling, which was filed December 4, county schools will no longer be required by law to earmark funds for public libraries....

Martinsburg (W.Va.) Journal, Jan. 25

[Council moves to evict library association](#)

A long-running battle between the governing body of Brielle, New Jersey, and the nonprofit association that runs the public library escalated recently when the council issued an eviction notice to the association—ordering the group and its employees to vacate the South Street building by February 28. Brielle Police Detective James Stewart served the notice to Library Director Richard Bidnick at the library on January 23....

Manasquan (N.J.) Coast Star, Jan. 25

[British Library could start charging fees](#)

The future of the British Library as a world-class free resource is under threat from plans to cut up to 7% of its £100 million budget in this year's Treasury spending round. To survive, the library proposes to slash opening hours by more than a third and to charge researchers for admission to the reading rooms for the first time. All public exhibitions would be canceled, the permanent collection would be reduced by 15%, and the national newspaper archive would close. The library says [negotiations](#) are continuing. See also the [commentary](#) by Tim Coates on the Good Library blog...

[National Library Legislative Day](#), Washington, D.C.
Contact: [Erin Haggerty](#).

June 20–22:
[Council on Library/Media Technicians Annual Conference](#), Washington, D.C.
“Library Support Staff: An Essential Piece of the Library Landscape.”

Aug. 2–6:
[Black Caucus of the ALA, National Conference of African American Librarians](#), Fort Worth, Texas.
“Culture Keepers VI: Preserving the Past, Sustaining the Future.” Contact: [Carolyn F. Norman](#), 916-445-0837.

Sept. 29–Oct. 6:
[Banned Books Week](#).

Oct. 4–7:
[LITA National Forum](#), Denver.
“Technology with Altitude: 10 Years of the LITA National Forum.” Contact: [Mary Taylor](#).

Oct. 14–20:
[Teen Read Week](#).
“Tenth Anniversary Celebration.”

Oct. 25–28:
[AASL National Conference](#), Reno, Nevada. “The Future Begins @ your library.” Contact: [Kathy Agarwal](#), 312-280-4381.

The Independent, Jan. 28

[Calcutta Book Fair moved and delayed](#)

Prevented from holding the 32d annual Calcutta Book Fair at its traditional venue in the central Maidan park following a January 29 court ruling, fair organizers announced two days later that the event will move to the city's Salt Lake Stadium February 9–21. The court's decision followed months of campaigning by environmentalists who complained that the fair causes irreparable damage to the park's plant life and increases pollution in the crowded east Indian city....

Indo-Asian News Service, Jan. 30–31

[Happy birthday, Harry Ransom Center](#)

Founded in 1957 by its namesake, then–Vice President and Provost Harry Hunt Ransom, the University of Texas at Austin's Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center rests its solid reputation as one of the country's most notable archival, conservation, and research institutions on its notable collections. Since 1980, it has also been a front-runner in preservation....

UTA Daily Texan, Jan. 30

[Mogadishu library offers an eclectic collection](#)

It is difficult to find books in the Somali capital these days, but one place with a dozen shelves of them is the Mogadishu Public Library, which amounts to a single room behind a solid steel gate in a neighborhood of goats, mosques, and electronics shops....

Washington Post, Jan. 28

Tech Talk

[Windows Vista: Is it ready for you?](#)

PC Magazine notes that Microsoft's new operating system, Windows Vista (released January 30), offers many improvements over Windows XP, but most of them are conveniences rather than essentials. Its [Insider's Guide](#) cautiously recommends, "If you've already got a PC running Windows XP smoothly, it's hard to see a reason to upgrade right away." Lance Ulanoff describes its nine most [annoying features](#). Joel Durham lists [15 tips and tricks](#) for using Vista. C|Net has the latest [news and reviews](#) of various versions. If you insist on upgrading from XP to Vista, this is [what you should do](#). Here are some other views from [USA Today](#) and the [Dallas Morning News](#)....



[Protect yourself against phishing](#)

Phishing, carding, brand spoofing, web spoofing—call it what you will, there's no escaping the fact that the threat of this swindle is getting more dangerous by the day. You don't necessarily have to be tech-savvy to protect yourself from phishing attacks; it's enough if you keep your wits about you, are aware that not all sites on the internet are the genuine article, and follow one or a combination of the following 44 tips....

Network Security Journal, Jan. 9

[The ever-changing widget landscape](#)

The world of widgets has changed a lot since Konfabulator came along back in 2003, when it was the only option of its kind for developers.

@ [More...](#)

Contact Us

American Libraries Direct

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

George M. Eberhart,
Editor:
geberhart@ala.org

Daniel Kraus,
Associate Editor:
dkraus@ala.org

Greg Landgraf,
Editorial Assistant:
glandgraf@ala.org

Karen Sheets,
Graphics and Design:
ksheets@ala.org

Leonard Kniffel,
Editor-in-Chief,
American Libraries:
lkniffel@ala.org

To advertise in American Libraries Direct, contact:

Brian Searles,
bsearles@ala.org

Send feedback:
aldirect@ala.org

AL Direct FAQ:
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.

American Libraries
50 E. Huron St.
Chicago, IL 60611
www.ala.org/online/
800-545-2433,
ext. 4216

ISSN 1559-369X.



Since then, similar offerings have emerged from several places, including Apple, and Microsoft as part of Vista. It has grown to such a point that *Newsweek* is proclaiming 2007 as the [Year of the Widget](#). So which widget platform should you use?...

Yahoo! Widgets blog, Jan. 29

[Podcasting: What librarians can do with it](#)

Meredith Farkas writes: "Libraries have been looking for new ways of communicating with their patrons online beyond their traditional website. Like blogs, podcasts offer libraries another way to disseminate information, but podcasts offer a portability that blogs do not have. Since podcasts can be uploaded to an MP3 player, they can be listened to on the way to work, on the way to class, at the gym, or while waiting for an appointment."...

TechEssence.Info blog, Jan. 28

[Get to know your gadget guy or gal](#)

M. Kathleen Kern writes: "I am probably a lot like many readers of *RUSQ*: We use technology daily in reference, collection development, and almost everything else that we do. At the same time, most of us are not the systems librarian. This column is about where you can go to stay current and a little bit about why you should care about emerging technologies."...

RUSQ 46, no. 2 (Jan. 2007)

[A better stapler?](#)

Donald A. Norman, author of *The Design of Everyday Things*, says the PaperPro desktop stapler is "a great example of how even the most mundane, commonplace commodity can be improved." Instead of pressing down to mechanically force a staple out, this line of staplers uses the energy in [coiled springs](#) to lift up the strike plate and fire off a staple....



Don Norman, In Praise of Good Design

Actions & Answers

[Grant will help LC digitize brittle books](#)

Librarian of Congress James H. Billington announced January 31 that the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation has awarded the Library of Congress a \$2 million grant for a program to digitize thousands of public-domain works, with a major focus on at-risk "brittle books" and U.S. history volumes. The project, "Digitizing American Imprints at the Library of Congress," will include not only the scanning of volumes, but also the development of suitable page-turner display technology, capability to scan and display foldouts, and a pilot program to capture high-level metadata, such as table of contents, chapters/sections and index....

Library of Congress, Jan. 31

[Google's quest for the universal library](#)

Jeffrey Toobin sums up the Google Books Library Project, the roadblocks that copyright owners have thrown in its path, and other

endeavors by Amazon.com, the Open Content Alliance, and Carnegie Mellon University....

New Yorker, Feb. 5 issue

[The top 100 alternative search engines](#)



Search Engine Optimizer Charles S. Knight finds that there are many other choices besides Google, Yahoo!, MSN, and Ask.com. He writes: "But it's not just the sheer number of them that makes them worthy of attention; each one of these search engines has that standard 'About Us' link at the bottom of the homepage. I call it the 'why we're better than Google' page. And after reading dozens and dozens of these pages, I have come to the conclusion that, taken as a whole, they are right!"...

Read/Write Web blog, Jan. 29

[Unattended children: Best policies](#)

Mary Minow has some helpful advice on unattended children at libraries—best practices and community-based solutions. San Marino, Calif., and Virginia Beach, Va., took community-wide approaches, ultimately resulting in city ordinances to address the issue....

LibraryLaw blog, Jan. 24

[Fayetteville's Teen Alternative Fashion Show](#)

The Fayetteville (Ark.) Public Library put on an "ultimate fashion event by teens for teens" October 19. Hosted by Youth Services Librarian Jenine Lillian, the show was inspired by the book *Generation T: 108 Ways to Transform a T-shirt* by Megan Nicolay. This video (31:17) showcases the highlights of the performance. A [narrated slideshow](#) (1:54) is also available on the library's website ...



Alternative Teen Services blog, Jan. 24

[Government secrecy vs. freedom of the press](#)

The First Amendment Center has issued a report ([PDF file](#)) that examines the rising conflicts between the federal government and the press over matters of secrecy, leaks, and threats to prosecute journalists for espionage or treason in reporting classified information. The report was prepared by University of Chicago Law Professor Geoffrey R. Stone (author of *Perilous Times*, 2004) as a working paper for a group of scholars, lawyers, and journalists in a workshop held at the center last July 20....

First Amendment Center, Jan. 25

[Tour the Pentagon Library](#)

The Pentagon Library is now settled into its new home as part of the Pentagon Library and Conference Center (PLC2). Planning, organizing, and renovation of this building took almost four years. The library was designed with the concept of providing easy accessibility and availability to library resources for customers and utilizes every inch of space for efficient use....

Pentagon Library Newsletter 3, no. 1 (Jan.)

[The Academic Library 2.0 model](#)

Michael Stephens interviews Michael Habib (now with Bibliocommons in Toronto) whose LIS master's paper focused on developing a Library 2.0 methodology for academic libraries. In it, he identified four genres of new services that meet new needs brought on by Web

2.0...

ALA TechSource blog, Jan. 30

[The rise and rise of citation analysis](#)

With the vast majority of scientific papers now available online, Lokman I. Meho describes how the Web is allowing physicists and information providers to measure more accurately the impact of these papers and their authors. Meho discusses the strengths and weaknesses of Web of Science and other citation data sources (Scopus and Google Scholar), the impact of the Web on citation analysis, and the emergence of new citation-based research assessment measures....

Accepted for publication in *Physics World*

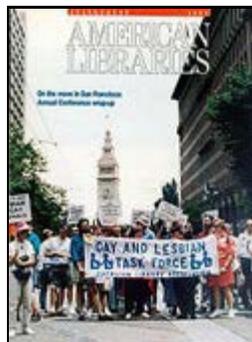
[One small step for Citizendium](#)

Citizendium is almost ready to give Wikipedia a run for its money. For the first time, the site—a “progressive fork” of Wikipedia that puts scholars in charge of content—is inviting Web surfers to register and start making editorial contributions. [Citizendium](#) was created last year by Larry Sanger, a founder of Wikipedia....

Chronicle of Higher Education, Jan. 24

[Remembering AL's gay parade cover](#)

Editor in Chief Leonard Kniffel reminisces about the decisions that went into *American Libraries* choosing a cover photo of the ALA Gay and Lesbian Task Force in the Freedom Day parade for the July/August 1992 issue (right) and the subsequent controversy. Editorial Assistant Greg Landgraf [wonders](#) what the fuss was all about: “I can't imagine that the reaction to a similar cover today would be so vitriolic. On the other hand, I'm young, I live in a major city, and contact with people who are gay is a more-or-less daily occurrence, so I may have a biased view.”...



CentenniAL blog, Jan. 26, 29

[Library workflow redesign: Six case studies](#)

The proliferation of electronic information and tools has changed the way that readers and researchers do their work. It has also changed the way library staff members provide materials and services. CLIR offered workflow redesign support to teams from six institutions that are part of consortia. This volume documents their work....

Council on Library and Information Resources, Jan.

[Law libraries after Katrina](#) (large PDF file)

Brian Huddleston writes: “The law librarians at the courts, firms, and law schools in New Orleans, like everyone else, have been dealing with the consequences of Hurricane Katrina, both personally and professionally, ever since the storm.” Here he describes how law libraries managed the evacuation, aftermath, return, and recovery from the devastation....



AAAL *Spectrum* 11, no. 4 (Feb.): 12–15, 26

[Weeding tips for school librarians](#)

SUNLINK, a shared database of materials in Florida K–12 media centers, offers some tips on weeding school collections in specific Dewey Decimal subject areas. This archive of Weed of the Month suggestions covers all of its targeted topics from 1997 to 2005....

SUNLINK

[The Illustrated Librarian temporary tattoos](#)

The ad copy from Seattle's Archie McPhee novelty store reads: "Librarian stereotypes are as old and outdated as microfiche. Nowadays you're just as likely to see your local librarian driving a Harley as a Honda Accord. This 3-1/2" x 4-1/2" hardcover book contains 12 nontoxic temporary tattoos ranging in size from 1-1/2" to 3-1/4"." Choose from such selections as Librarians Rule, Read or Die, and Literate for Life....
Archie McPhee



AMERICAN LIBRARIES DIRECT

Feb 07, 2007

Click here to view the online version of our email:

<%= util.viewHtmlLink %>

Poll

What do YOU think?

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

U.S. & WORLD NEWS

Windows Vista debuts; library techies wary

<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2007/february%202007/vistalibs.cfm>

“One look at Windows Vista shows the difference,” claims a Microsoft fact sheet, “with a breakthrough design, easy-to-use search and organization tools, and a safer online experience.” A January 30 media event in London featured Microsoft Chairman Bill Gates and British Library Chief Executive Lynne Brindley showcasing Leonardo da Vinci’s notebooks on the library’s digital book application Turning the Pages 2.0 (above), developed to run on Vista. But beyond the hype, what does the release of the long-awaited Vista operating system mean for libraries and librarians?...

Minneapolis library may join county system

<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2007/february%202007/mplshennepin.cfm>

The cash-strapped Minneapolis Public Library could merge with Hennepin County Public Library into a single, \$75.6-million system, if the recommendations of two committees on the libraries’ futures are followed. The Committee on the Future of Libraries in Hennepin County, created by the HCPL board and consisting of county and city officials, rejected such options as having the systems share control of the city’s main library....

Budget cuts threaten British Library services

<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2007/february%202007/britcuts.cfm>

Facing a potential 7% cut in its \$100-million annual budget, British Library officials said in late January they could be forced to charge fees to use the reading rooms for the first time in the library’s history. In a briefing paper to Chancellor of the Exchequer Gordon Brown, the administration is also proposing to slash opening hours by as much as a third, halt all public exhibitions and educational programs, reduce spending on all books and journals, and impose limits on its national newspaper collection....

Jackson County's Central Library Jackson County residents rally against library closings

<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2007/february%202007/jacksonrally.cfm>

Some 300 supporters of the Jackson County (Oreg.) Library demonstrated in downtown Medford January 31 as county commissioners held a public hearing at the courthouse on the fate of the headquarters library and its 14 branches. The entire library system is scheduled to close its doors April 6 because of a fiscal crisis triggered by federal legislators’ failure in November to renew a subsidy to communities whose revenue relies on the logging industry....

Brielle Public Library Borough council moves to evict library management

<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2007/february%202007/brielle.cfm>

The nonprofit association that runs the Brielle (N.J.) Public Library received an eviction notice from the borough’s council January 23, giving the group and its employees until February 28 to turn over the municipally owned library building. Brielle Borough Administrator Thomas Nolan said the action was in response to the library association’s

refusal to return what officials maintain are borough tax dollars in the form of nearly \$90,000 in surplus funds held in an association savings account....

Massachusetts network revokes residents' borrowing rights

<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2007/february%202007/massnetwork.cfm>

Four members of the Old Colony Library Network, a consortium of 28 Boston-area libraries, have cut off borrowing privileges for residents of Randolph because the town's Turner Free Library failed to meet state standards. The Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners revoked the library's certification January 4 and pulled \$30,000 in associated state aid....

West Virginia judges void library funding scheme

<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2007/february%202007/westvavoid.cfm>

The Martinsburg-Berkeley County (W.Va.) Public Library is bracing for the loss of one-third of its \$1.56-million funding in FY2008 if state lawmakers fail to legislate a fix for the voiding of an almost-50-year-old statute by the West Virginia Supreme Court. "There's not one aspect of library service that we are providing now that won't be negatively impacted," Library Director Pamela Coyle said....

ALA NEWS

Burger testifies at Senate hearing

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/february2007/epatestimonyfeb072.htm>

ALA President Leslie Burger spoke of the importance of Environmental Protection Agency libraries and librarians February 6 at an oversight hearing of the U.S. Senate Environment and Public Works Committee. She also addressed the EPA's lack of openness with regard to digitizing its materials. Her full testimony is available on the ALA website. In her opening statement, Senator Barbara Boxer (D-Calif.) said the EPA library closings hurt "Americans' right to know about important information regarding the health and environmental hazards of pollution in their communities."...

Library funding increase in President's 2008 budget

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/february2007/2008budget.htm>

ALA applauds the funding increases for libraries proposed in President Bush's FY2008 budget and thanks the administration for its consistent support of increased library funding. The President's budget requests \$226.2 million for the Library Services and Technology Act, an increase of \$15.6 million over FY2006....

Deadline extended for public library survey

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/february2007/DeadlineAccesssurveyMarc.htm>

ALA has extended the response deadline for the new Public Library Funding and Technology Access study to March 1. The multiyear survey seeks information from public libraries regarding their internet connectivity, public computing, technology training, and other public library roles as public access technology centers in their communities....

Booklist Online

Featured review: Books for youth

http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=1847297

Lyons, Mary. *Letters from a Slave Boy: The Story of Joseph Jacobs*. Jan. 208p. Simon & Schuster/Atheneum, hardcover (978-0-689-87867-1).

This companion book to Lyons's *Letters from a Slave Girl: The Story of Harriet Jacobs* (1992) tells what happened to Harriet's son, Joseph. After a very effective introduction brings readers up to speed, the story begins in 1839. Nine-year-old Joseph, living in North Carolina, begins a series of letters, addressed initially to his mother but later to others as well; his writings serve as a reflective first-person narrative. Over the next 14 years, he escapes to Boston, works on a whaling ship, and travels to New York and, later, California....

@ Visit Booklist Online for other reviews and much more....

D.C. UPDATE

Represent your group in Congress at Annual Conference

[http://blogs.ala.org/districtdispatch.php?](http://blogs.ala.org/districtdispatch.php?title=represent_your_library_group_in_the_hall_2007&more=1&c=1&tb=1&pb=1)

[title=represent_your_library_group_in_the_hall_2007&more=1&c=1&tb=1&pb=1](http://blogs.ala.org/districtdispatch.php?title=represent_your_library_group_in_the_hall_2007&more=1&c=1&tb=1&pb=1)

On Tuesday, June 26, the ALA Washington Office has secured the Gold Room of the Rayburn House Office Building for the sole purpose of letting Members of Congress know all about 21st-century libraries. As part of its Day on the Hill event, the Washington Office wants displays from every discipline to show legislators just what libraries mean to America, from public libraries and school libraries to research libraries and special libraries. The deadline for submitting display ideas is April 12....

District Dispatch blog, Feb. 1

Need a roommate?

<http://confroomies.pbwiki.com/ALAWashingtonDC>

Use the ALA Annual Conference roommate wiki to search for potential room-sharing arrangements....

DIVISION NEWS

Baykan to keynote PLA Spring Symposium

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/january2007/LibrarianofYear.htm>

Mary Baykan, director of the Washington County (Md.) Free Library and Library Journal's Librarian of the Year for 2007, will present the keynote address at the Opening General Session of the PLA Spring Symposium. The session, scheduled for March 1 at the Fairmont San Jose (Calif.), is open to all attendees....

Public Libraries seeks a columnist

<http://plablog.org/2007/02/public-libraries-journal-seeks-columnist.html>

PLA's Public Libraries is looking for a columnist for its "Bringing in the Money" column. Current columnist Stephanie Gerding is resigning with the March/April issue. The column presents information on fundraising strategies and alternative funding sources for public libraries....

PLA Blog, Feb. 1

New Orleans benefits from Great Book Giveaway

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/january2007/GreatBookGiveaway.htm>

The New Orleans Public Library is the winner of YALSA's 11th annual Great Book Giveaway and will receive literally a ton of young adult and adult books, CDs, and audiocassettes. The estimated value of the collection is approximately \$30,000....

ACRL to offer two preconferences

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/february2007/ACRLpreconferences.htm>

Registration is now open for two ACRL preconferences, on electronic resources librarianship and learning objectives, to be held June 22 in conjunction with the ALA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C....

Present a professional development program

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/february2007/ACRLdevelopmentprograms.htm>

ACRL invites proposal submissions for half-day or full-day professional development programs to be held prior to the 2008 ALA Midwinter Meeting or the 2008 Annual Conference in Philadelphia. Submissions will be accepted through April 2....

ROUND TABLE NEWS

State blue books project

http://wikis.ala.org/godort/index.php/State_Blue_Books

The Government Documents Round Table's State and Local Documents Task Force has placed links to available state blue books and other state government information on the new GODORT wiki. Contributions are welcome....

AWARDS

Jim Neal wins 2007 Hugh C. Atkinson award

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/february2007/HughAtkinsonaward.htm>

James G. Neal, vice president for information services and university librarian at Columbia University, has been named the 2007 winner of the Hugh C. Atkinson Memorial Award, which recognizes an academic librarian who has made significant contributions in the area of library automation or management, and notable improvements in library services or research....

Betsy Wilson. Photo by John Pai
Betsy Wilson is Academic/Research Librarian of the Year

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/february2007/WilsonACRLLibrarian.htm>

Lizabeth (Betsy) A. Wilson, dean of university libraries at the University of Washington, is the 2007 ACRL Academic/Research Librarian of the Year. The award, sponsored by YBP Library Services, recognizes an outstanding member of the library profession who has made a significant national or international contribution to academic/research librarianship and library development....

Dartmouth Medal
Dartmouth Medal winner

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/february2007/DartmouthMedal.htm>

The second edition of Encyclopaedia Judaica, with Fred Skolnik as the editor-in-chief and published by Thomson Gale, is the recipient of the 2007 Dartmouth Medal. The medal, donated by Dartmouth College and presented by RUSA, is given for creating current reference works of outstanding quality and significance....

The Lost cover
Sophie Brody Medal winner

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/february2007/MendelsohnBrodyMedal.htm>

Daniel Mendelsohn, author of *The Lost: A Search for Six of Six Million* (HarperCollins, 2006), is the recipient of this year's Sophie Brody Medal. The award, sponsored by RUSA and funded by Arthur Brody and the Brodart Foundation, is given to encourage, recognize, and commend outstanding achievement in Jewish literature. The committee is also awarding three honorable mentions to authors Dara Horn, Sandy Tolan, and Markus Zusak....

PLA award winners represent excellence in public libraries

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/january2007/PLA2007awardwinners.htm>

PLA has announced the winners of eight awards, honoring the best in public library service and innovation. PLA's newest honor, the Gordon M. Conable Award, was established to recognize commitment to intellectual freedom in a public library setting. Its first recipient is Ken Verdoia, former trustee of the Salt Lake County (Utah) Library Services board of directors....

Public Libraries feature article winners

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/february2007/WinnersPLAfeaturecontest.htm>

First prize of \$500 goes to Meagan Albright for "The Public Library's Responsibility to LGBT Communities: Recognizing, Representing, and Serving," and second prize of \$300 goes to Mary Cospier LeBoeuf for "Ill Winds: Hurricanes and Public Libraries Along the Gulf Coast."...

Outstanding Reference Sources medal
Outstanding reference sources

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/february2007/RUSA2007referencesources.htm>

RUSA has announced its 2007 list of Outstanding Reference Sources for small and medium-sized libraries. The titles were selected by the division's Reference Sources Committee to represent high-quality reference works that are

suitable for small to medium-sized libraries. The annotated list will appear in the May 2007 issue of American Libraries....

Katina Strauch/Louis Shores-Greenwood Publishing Group Award

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/february2007/StrauchShoresAward.htm>

Katina Strauch, founder of Against the Grain and the Charleston Advisor, is the 2007 winner of the Louis Shores-Greenwood Publishing Group Award, given to recognize excellence in the reviewing of books and other library materials....

Notable children's books

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/february2007/ALSCNotableChildrensBoo.htm>

ALSC has selected its 2007 list of Notable Children's Books. The list of titles includes fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and picture books of special interest, quality, creativity, and value to children of all ages (through age 14)....

2007 Amelia Bloomer list of feminist books for young readers

<http://libr.org/ftf/bloomer.html>

The Feminist Task Force of the Social Responsibilities Round Table has selected the 2007 list of Amelia Bloomer titles for young people. The list includes biographies of women who shattered the limitations placed on women regarding science, politics, sports, activism, civil and woman's rights; fantasies featuring girls taking charge of their situations despite obstacles; and contemporary and historical fiction focusing on the fight for equality and rights that many take for granted....

King Review Book Donation Grant

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/february2007/CorettaScottKinggrant.htm>

Art Aids Art of Altadena, California, and Out and Up of Macon, Georgia, are the recipients of the 2007 Coretta Scott King Review Book Donation Grant. The Donation Grant was established to find a home for the books that ALA receives each year to be considered for the Coretta Scott King Author and Illustrator Awards, and to provide exposure to winning authors, illustrators, and books....

2007 Gryphon Award for Children's Literature

<http://www.news.uiuc.edu/news/07/0205gryphon.html>

The True Story of Stellina, written and illustrated by Matteo Pericoli, has won the 2007 Gryphon Award for Children's Literature. The award, which includes a \$1,000 prize, is given annually by the Center for Children's Books at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, a unit of the Graduate School of Library and Information Science....
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Feb. 5

SEEN ONLINE

GOP revives data-retention bill

http://news.com.com/2100-1028_3-6156948.html

All internet service providers would need to track their customers' online activities to aid police in future investigations under legislation (PDF file) introduced in the House February 6 as part of a Republican "law and order agenda." Employees of any internet provider who fail to store that information face fines and prison terms of up to one year. Another requirement requires owners of sexually explicit websites to post warning labels on their pages or face imprisonment....

C|Net news, Feb. 6

Truman Library could be a model for Bush

http://www.kansascity.com/mld/kansascity/news/columnists/barbara_shelly/16547190.htm

The debate over President Truman's decision to use the atomic bomb rages on at the Harry S. Truman Presidential Museum and Library in Independence, Missouri. Meanwhile, Southern Methodist University in Dallas is roiling as President Bush gets close to announcing that he'll locate his presidential library there. Columnist Barbara Shelly writes that "Bush's controversial record argues in favor of a library in a university setting. Scholars and others should be able

to examine his decisions and their effect on America and the world.” Meanwhile, Slate’s David Greenberg asks: “Should SMU accept Bush’s presidential library?”...
Kansas City (Mo.) Star, Jan. 26; Slate, Jan. 31

Broadening the Bush Library debate

<http://www.insidehighered.com/news/2007/02/06/library>

Weeks after 9/11, President Bush signed an executive order giving presidents and former presidents much more control over their records—and extended that right to a family member when a former president dies. The Bush order goes beyond the control asserted by any president since Nixon. Now scholars are hoping to use the Southern Methodist University debate to start a new campaign against the executive order—and they are asking SMU to turn down the library as long as the executive order stays in place....

Inside Higher Education, Feb. 6; Dallas Morning News, Feb. 5

Wikipedia logoCourts turn to Wikipedia, but selectively

[http://www.nytimes.com/2007/01/29/technology/29wikipedia.html?](http://www.nytimes.com/2007/01/29/technology/29wikipedia.html?ex=1327726800&en=695df31f21874777&ei=5088&partner=rssnyt&emc=rss)

[ex=1327726800&en=695df31f21874777&ei=5088&partner=rssnyt&emc=rss](http://www.nytimes.com/2007/01/29/technology/29wikipedia.html?ex=1327726800&en=695df31f21874777&ei=5088&partner=rssnyt&emc=rss)

A simple search of published court decisions shows that Wikipedia is frequently cited by judges around the country, involving both serious issues and the bizarre—such as a 2005 tax case before the Tennessee Court of Appeals concerning the definition of “beverage” that involved hundreds of thousands of dollars, and, just this week, a case in Federal District Court in Florida that involved the term “booty music” as played during a wet T-shirt contest....

New York Times, Jan. 29

Large donation for a Clever Library

http://www.zwire.com/site/news.cfm?newsid=17783220&BRD=1815&PAG=461&dept_id=516639&rft=6

Thomas Jefferson said, “I cannot live without books.” And residents of Clever, Missouri, may not have to live without books in a nearby library for much longer. That’s because two Springfield citizens, Virgil and Mildred Sims, left a portion of their estate—totaling \$180,000—to the city for the sole purpose of creating a library....

Christian County (Mo.) Headliner, Jan. 31

Anne Hathaway as Jane Austen in Columbia's forthcoming Becoming Jane

Jane Austen to be the next teenage sensation

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/main.jhtml?xml=/news/2007/02/04/nausten04.xml>

Step aside Britney Spears. Movie moguls, television producers, and publishers believe this year’s teen hit will be the 19th-century “lit girl” Jane Austen. The life and works of the author, who died a spinster at the age of 41 in 1817, form the basis of no fewer than six forthcoming films and television series, along with plans for new editions of her works, tailored to the teenage market....

The Telegraph, Feb. 4

Teen group provides voice for library

<http://www.htrnews.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070204/MAN0101/702040385/1984>

Teens are excited to have a voice in what they would like to read, watch, and play at the Lester Public Library in Two Rivers, Wisconsin. They do this through their Teen Advisory Board, which consists of area teens in 6th- to 12th-grade who meet once a month. The 41-member group has requested Nintendo GameCubes video games, arranged monthly late-night library sessions, and orchestrated “Survivor Night.”...

Manitowoc (Wis.) Herald Times Reporter, Feb. 4

Library refused to ID injured woman

<http://www.columbusdispatch.com/news-story.php?story=dispatch/2007/02/03/20070203-D1-01.html>

A woman who carried no identification except her public library card was plucked from icy river waters February 1, and now police in Lancaster, Ohio, are considering referring a complaint of obstruction of official business over Fairfield County District Library Circulation Manager Laura Gibson’s refusal to release information without a subpoena. Orman Hall, president of the library’s board of trustees, suggested that she mistakenly erred on the side of conservatism in preserving the confidentiality of a library patron....

Columbus (Ohio) Dispatch, Feb. 3

Fraser-Hickson Library logoThe bizarre history behind Montreal's last-ranked libraries

<http://www.canada.com/montrealgazette/news/story.html?id=6ee8ec8e-975d-4819-9b49-bfac4821c918&k=3052&p=1>
In late January, Montreal's private Fraser-Hickson Institute Free Library went up for sale. The library plans to move to rented quarters or find a buyer who will allow it to remain in part of the building. Its closing will deprive the Notre-Dame-de-Grace district's 65,000 residents of their only sizeable library. The plight of the Fraser-Hickson is unique to Montreal—and never would have come about if Montrealers had heeded a 19th-century stage ventriloquist's call to action....

Montreal (Quebec) Gazette, Feb. 4

Library stabbing shocks officials

<http://www.oregonlive.com/news/argus/index.ssf?/base/news/1170444352141800.xml&coll=6>

Police said Edmundo Pacheco, 45, was using a Hillsboro (Oreg.) Public Library computer just before 7 p.m. when a man approached him and then stabbed him in the upper back. Witnesses said the attack was totally unprovoked. The attacker said "that's what you get for staring at me," then fled, according to witnesses....

Hillsboro (Oreg.) Argus, Feb. 2

Baghdad day to day: A librarian's journal

<http://www.nytimes.com/2007/02/07/books/07libe.html>

Saad Eskander, the director of Iraq's National Library and Archive in Baghdad, finally had some time to catch up on his diary after a couple of very busy weeks. As he wrote in his latest entry, he was having trouble repairing the internet system; the Restoration Laboratory "was hit by 5 bullets"; and "another librarian, who works at the Periodical Department, received a death threat."...

New York Times, Feb. 7

State library's rare books room improved

<http://www.whtm.com/news/stories/0107/392995.html>

At a cost of more than \$7 million, the Pennsylvania State Library in Harrisburg has secured a place for priceless books and papers. Its renovated Rare Books Room not only controls temperature and moisture, it also controls the spectrum of light and the cleanliness of the rooms. Even the woodwork (black cherry) was selected because it doesn't produce any residual gases that might harm the books. Watch the video....

WHTM-TV, Harrisburg, Pa., Jan. 30

The little library bookstore that could

http://www.times-standard.com/lifestyle/ci_5156665

Serendipity, the used bookstore on the second floor of the Humboldt County (Calif.) Library's main branch, has just three aisles of books in a room it would take about 30 seconds to walk through, yet you could spend an hour or more browsing the shelves and probably find something you just have to have. But the most amazing thing is the milestone it reached on January 6: Seven years and two months after it opened, Serendipity's total sales reached \$200,000. That's an average of more than \$28,700 per year....

Eureka (Calif.) Times-Standard, Feb. 4

UFO abduction imageLibraries full of mysteries and surprises

<http://newsminer.com/2007/02/05/4979/>

Good public libraries collect books on many subjects, but things found inside library books are even stranger. All librarians have weird stories about objects readers choose for bookmarks. A librarian website that polled its members about odd bookmarkers produced everything from hair extenders, Abductees Anonymous cards (for those captured by UFOs), slices of raw bacon, toenail clippings, packets of heroin, an expired license for growing research hemp, 46 four-leaf clovers, slices of cheese, and all sorts of interesting photos....

Fairbanks (Alaska) Daily News-Miner, Feb. 5

TECH TALK

Ten Windows Vista myths

http://articles.techrepublic.com.com/5100-10877_11-6156413.html?part=rss&tag=feed&subj=tr

The official consumer launch of Windows Vista has brought with it a great deal of confusion, misinformation, and some fairly naive assertions. Windows expert Deb Shinder debunks some of the misconceptions she's been hearing, from exaggerated cost and hardware requirements to feature limitations and compatibility issues....

TechRepublic, Feb. 5

Top Tech Trends: The good parts

<http://litablog.org/2007/01/31/top-tech-trends-good-parts-version/>

Chris Strauber offers a summary of the LITA Top Tech Trends discussion at ALA Midwinter, in the fabulous Spanish Ballroom of the Fairmont Olympic in Seattle....

LITA Blog, Jan. 31

Many Eyes logoMany Eyes visualization project

http://services.alphaworks.ibm.com/manyeyes/page/About_Many_Eyes.html

Visualization is traditionally viewed as an efficient way of transferring a large amount of information from a database into an individual's head. IBM's Visual Communications Lab believes that visualizations become even more powerful when multiple people access them for collaborative sensemaking. The VCL Many Eyes site is set up to allow the entire internet to upload data, visualize it, and talk about discoveries with others. Read the FAQ, visit a gallery, or create a visualization....

IBM Visual Communications Lab

Princeton joins Google Book Search

<http://www.dailyprincetonian.com/archives/2007/02/06/news/17198.shtml>

Princeton University Library and Google have agreed on a six-year contract to make the full text of about one million books from the library available online through Google Book Search. The partnership, under development for about 18 months, is led by University Librarian Karin Trainer, Deputy University Librarian Marvin Bielawski, and University Provost Christopher Eisgruber. Google has agreed to scan only books from the Princeton collection that are no longer under copyright....

Daily Princetonian, Feb. 6

Evolution of a search engine

<http://blog.outer-court.com/archive/2007-02-02-n25.html>

Philipp Lenssen looks at the future of Google searches: "Right now, to answer your queries, Google quotes from the Web and orders the quotes in a list. In the future, Google may combine these quotes into a free-style text for a more direct answer. When the Google AI advances beyond that, it may analyze the texts available to it to come up with conclusions of its own. Let's sketch this potential evolution using an everyday search query."...

Google Blogoscoped, Feb. 2

Screen shot from Web 2.0 videoWhat everyone is so hyper(text) about

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6gmP4nk0EOE&eurl=>

Michael Wesch, assistant professor of cultural anthropology at Kansas State University, has strung together animations, text, and screenshots in a video (4:31) that tells the story of "Web 2.0: The Machine Is Us/ing Us"—and why it matters and how it's changing the world....

You Tube

Web presentation tools

http://www.kolabora.com/news/2007/01/25/web_presentation_tools_and_technologies.htm

Robin Good offers a mini-guide to web presentation tools and technologies that provide the means to deliver any PowerPoint-based or similar type of visual presentation to an online audience, no matter where participants are connecting from....

Kolabora, Jan. 25

Picnik logoOnline photo editing

<http://www.techcrunch.com/2007/02/04/online-photo-editing-overview/>

Since all computers come with basic software that rotates, resizes, and crops photos, there must be a compelling reason to use an online service. Most of these online services also offer editing tools that go beyond the basics and start to creep into Photoshop territory. Michael Arrington reviews a few of the better ones....

TechCrunch blog, Feb. 4

ACTIONS AND ANSWERS

Missing: Super Bowl I

<http://www.mtr.org/lostprograms/index.htm>

Watching game highlights from the Indianapolis Colts' 29–17 victory over the Chicago Bears in Super Bowl XLI is easy—but try getting your hands on footage from Super Bowl I, held January 15, 1967. Although a few seconds of video and some audio interviews exist, the televised record is long vanished and now sits on the Museum of Television and Radio's short list of top lost television programs. Facts and folklore abound, but one thing is for sure: Find this tape and you'll be doing your own touchdown dance....

Museum of Television and Radio

33 reasons why libraries and librarians are still important

<http://www.degreetutor.com/library/adult-continued-education/librarians-needed>

Libraries face an existential crisis at a time they are perhaps needed the most. Despite their perceived obsolescence in the digital age, both libraries and librarians are irreplaceable for many reasons. 33, in fact. Will Sherman of Degree Tutor has compiled them here....

Degree Tutor, Jan. 30

Philip Nel, associate professor of English, centers on the projector the words from a Dr. Seuss book during class.

Photo by Lyndsey Born. A who's who of Whoville

<http://media.www.kstatecollegian.com/media/storage/paper1022/news/2007/01/31/News/Whos-Who.Of.Whoville-2687979.shtml>

Philip Nel is the instructor of a new class in the Kansas State University English department devoted completely to the life and works of Theodor Seuss Geisel, better known as Dr. Seuss. This is the first time in K-State's history that the university has offered a class specifically on Dr. Seuss. One could question how an entire semester could be devoted to the famous children's author, but Nel said it is harder to figure out what not to include....

Kansas State Collegian, Jan. 31

Programs for librarians at New York Comic Con

<http://www.icv2.com/articles/home/10027.html>

Librarians will find several programs dedicated to their needs during the trade-day session at the New York Comic Con on February 23. All the panel discussions aimed at librarians feature numerous librarians willing to share their wealth of experience as panelists. Programming for librarians starts at 10 a.m. with a panel discussion of "Superheroes and Manga: Making Room for Both at Your Library."...

ICv2, Feb. 6

Splice: Collaborative music for the remix set

http://blogs.ala.org/yalsa.php?title=splice_collaborative_music_for_the_remix&more=1&c=1&tb=1&pb=1

Looking for a quick and easy Teen Tech Week program that can reach your local audioheads, from the pop superstar to the most jaded scenester? Perhaps you're wondering how to get your teens thinking about copyright in light of the recent mixtape drama? Check out Splice Music, where your teens can mix, mashup, and make all-new jams without worry of running afoul of the RIAA....

YALSA blog, Feb. 6

The African-American journey

http://www.worldbook.com/wb/Students?content_spotlight/ajourney

In honor of Black History Month, editors at World Book have introduced a Black History content spotlight available

free online. It provides students, educators, and families with an overview of African Americans' struggle for freedom and equality....

World Book

Edinburgh Kidnapped brochureKidnapped in Edinburgh

<http://www.cityofliterature.com/projects.aspx?sec=6&pid=30&item=325>

Edinburgh's very first citywide reading campaign is taking place this month at venues all across the city. Some 25,000 free copies of Robert Louis Stevenson's *Kidnapped* are getting distributed, with a month-long series of events to tie into the campaign. Every school in the city has received 36 free copies of the specially commissioned graphic novel version as part of the One Book–One Edinburgh school program....

City of Literature campaign

Outstanding UK collections

[http://www.mla.gov.uk/webdav/harmonise?](http://www.mla.gov.uk/webdav/harmonise?Page/@id=82&Document/@id=27119&Session/@id=D_ibCQL9uRSXHkRTBq3jPz&Section[@stateId_eq_left_hand_root]/@id=4289)

[Page/@id=82&Document/@id=27119&Session/@id=D_ibCQL9uRSXHkRTBq3jPz&Section\[@stateId_eq_left_hand_root\]/@id=4289](http://www.mla.gov.uk/webdav/harmonise?Page/@id=82&Document/@id=27119&Session/@id=D_ibCQL9uRSXHkRTBq3jPz&Section[@stateId_eq_left_hand_root]/@id=4289)

Three of the United Kingdom's outstanding collections were formally recognised February 2 by the Museums, Libraries, and Archives Council. They are the Modern Records Centre at the University of Warwick Library, the Archive of British Publishing and Printing at Reading University, and London Metropolitan University's Women's Library....

MLA Council News, Feb. 2

2007 National Poetry Month posterApril is National Poetry Month

<http://www.poets.org/page.php/prmID/98>

Each April, the Academy of American Poets creates and distributes—for free—almost 200,000 copies of the current National Poetry Month posters to U.S. schools, libraries, bookstores, and community centers to help promote the month-long celebration and to increase poetry awareness. This year's poster, which will be inserted in the March issue of *American Libraries*, features an image of Walt Whitman composed of repeating white type that reads "National Poetry Month April 2007" and was created by illustrator and graphic designer Christoph Niemann....

Academy of American Poets

Law Library of Congress logoLaw Library of Congress celebrates 175 years

<http://www.loc.gov/today/pr/2007/07-019.html>

In celebration of its 175 years of service to Congress and the nation, the Law Library of Congress is launching a yearlong series of events designed to celebrate its achievements and showcase its unparalleled resources. The Law Library has created both a film and speaker series to celebrate this anniversary year....

Library of Congress, Feb. 2

Embarrassing books authors wish we'd forget

http://www.radaronline.com/features/2007/01/embarrassing_books_1.php

When, in 1981, Lynne Cheney published her frontier novel, *Sisters*, which featured some now-notorious Sapphic erotica on the prairie, she couldn't have known that her creative choices would cause some serious discomfort 20 years later when her husband became vice president. Also on the list: dating advice from Dan Brown, poems from Suzanne Somers, and diet tips from Susan Orlean....

Radar, Jan. 24

First Day Cover, America's libraries stamp, 1982American library stamps, 1982

<http://www.libraryhistorybuff.org/artifact-of-the-month-07.htm>

2007 is the 25th anniversary of the issuing of two library stamps by the United States Postal Service. This July 13, 1982, First Day Cover (right) produced by ALA for the America's Libraries stamp also shows the Library of Congress stamp issued April 21, 1982, and is signed by ALA President Betty Stone and Librarian of Congress Daniel Boorstin. The cover is Cachet Number 1 for ALA.

Larry Nix, Library History Buff

CONTACT US

American Libraries Direct

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

George M. Eberhart,
Editor:
geberhart@ala.org

Daniel Kraus,
Associate Editor:
dkraus@ala.org

Greg Landgraf,
Editorial Assistant:
glandgraf@ala.org

Karen Sheets,
Graphics and Design:
ksheets@ala.org

Leonard Kniffel,
Editor-in-Chief,
American Libraries: lkniffel@ala.org

To advertise in American Libraries Direct, contact:
Brian Searles, bsearles@ala.org

Send feedback: aldirect@ala.org

To unsubscribe from
American Libraries Direct:
[click here](#)

AL Direct FAQ:
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.

American Libraries
50 E. Huron St.

Chicago, IL 60611
www.ala.org/online/
800-545-2433,
ext. 4216

ISSN 1559-369X.

To unsubscribe from this newsletter:

<file:///N:/AL%20Direct/2007/January/%3C%20edition.unsubscribeLink%20%3E>
