

american libraries DIRECT

March 7, 2007

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U.S. & World News

[House to consider social networking bill](#)

Rep. Mark Kirk (R-III.) reintroduced February 16 the Deleting Online Predators Act (DOPA), which was passed once before by the House 410-15 in July 2006 before dying in the Senate. The bill (H.R. 1120, [PDF file](#)) withholds federal e-rate funding from libraries and schools that do not restrict the use of social networking websites by minors. DOPA follows the January 6 Senate introduction by Sen. Ted Stevens (R-Alaska) of the similar Protecting Children in the 21st Century Act (S. 49, [PDF file](#))....

[Passaic assesses plan to close aging branch](#)

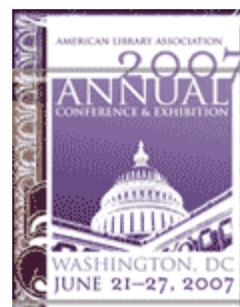
At what board President Craig Miller characterized as a "raucous" three-and-a-half hour meeting February 27, the Passaic (N.J.) Public Library board of trustees received community input on a plan to close its 104-year-old Reid Memorial branch, which specializes in services to the city's Hispanic residents. Library Director Alan Bobowski told residents that the building has a leaky roof that would cost \$150,000 to repair, a crumbling foundation, and an upstairs meeting room that's not compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act....

[Rochester blocks funding threat with filter-policy review](#)

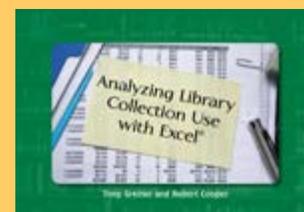
The board of the Monroe County (N.Y.) Library System agreed February 28 to conduct a 60-day review of its central library's longstanding policy of honoring requests by adults to unblock explicit websites and, in the meantime, to refuse all such requests. The action came in response to a threat from County Executive Maggie Brooks to withhold \$6.6 million in funding if the library continued to disable filters temporarily at an adult's request....

[Rare manuscript volume stolen from UCLA Special Collections](#)

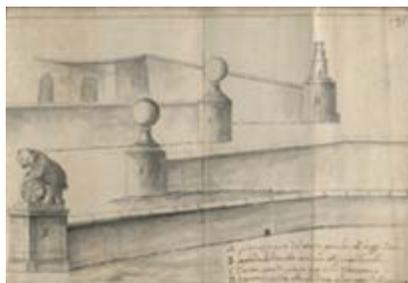
Campus police are investigating the theft of a bound set of 18th-century manuscripts from an exhibit case in the University of California at Los



The ALA/ProQuest CSA [Scholarship Bash](#) will be held at ALA Annual Conference, Saturday, June 23, at 8:00 p.m., and provides scholarships for graduate LIS students. This year's event will feature local political satirists Capitol Steps. Tickets are \$35.00 and can be purchased using the [online registration form](#).



In [Analyzing Library Collection Use with Excel](#), collection development experts Tony Greiner and Bob



Angeles library's special collections department. The volume, part of an archive of materials on the prominent Orsini family of Rome acquired by UCLA in 1964, was stolen sometime between the late afternoon of Friday, February 9, and early the following Monday....

[Chicago Public Library granted \\$1 million for computer training](#)

The Bank of America Charitable Foundation has donated \$1 million to the Chicago Public Library so that it can provide free computer training to the public. The funds will create the Computer Smarts Program to offer instruction in areas from computer basics and an overview of the library's resources to advanced search strategies....



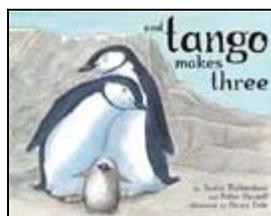
[Springfield, Mass., library stays put with lawsuit settlement](#)

Ending a court battle that lasted nearly two years, the mayor of Springfield, Massachusetts, and the president of the city's Museums Association signed an agreement February 27 that eliminates the threat that the Central Library will be evicted from the site it has occupied since 1912....

ALA News

[Most challenged books of 2006](#)

Justin Richardson and Peter Parnell's award-winning *And Tango Makes Three*, about two male penguins parenting an egg from a mixed-sex penguin couple, tops the list of most challenged books in 2006 by parents and administrators, due to the issues of homosexuality. The list also features two books by author Toni Morrison. *The Bluest Eye* and *Beloved* are on the list due to sexual content and offensive language. The ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom received a total of 546 challenges last year....



[ALA election polls open March 15](#)

The polls will open on March 15 for the 2007 ALA election. All paid ALA members as of January 31, 2007, are eligible to vote. Members must submit their ballots by April 24 at 11:59 p.m. CST. All Web voters will receive ballots between March 15 and March 17, in a 48-hour email blast....

[Diversity Office calls for research grant proposals](#)

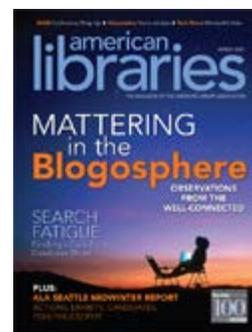
The Office for Diversity seeks proposals for its

Cooper show how to use Excel to translate circulation and collection data into meaningful reports for making collection management decisions. **NEW!** From ALA Editions.



Enter a [Teen Tech Week contest](#)! All the deadlines have been extended through **March 19**. Celebrate TTW this week, March 4-10.

In this issue March 2007



**Mattering in the Blogosphere:
Observations from the Well-Connected**

Search Fatigue



Diversity Research Grant program. Applicants must be current ALA members, and 2007 proposals must address one of three identified topics: Spectrum as a model for diversity initiatives, diversity within diversity, or multicultural librarianship and pedagogy....

[REAL ID Act of 2005](#)

ALA has signed on to letters to the U.S. House of Representatives (Congressman Tom Allen, February 26) and Senate (Senators Akaka and Sununu, February 28) expressing support for efforts to repeal the REAL ID Act of 2005. See the [ALA website](#) for copies of these letters and further reading on the act....

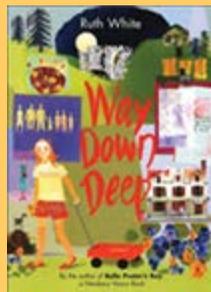
District Dispatch blog, Mar. 5

Booklist ONLINE

[Featured review: Books for youth](#)

White, Ruth. *Way Down Deep*. Apr. 2007. 208p. Farrar, hardcover (978-0-374-38251-4).

On the first day of summer in 1944, a red-haired toddler appears on the courtroom steps in Way Down Deep, West Virginia. Nobody knows who she is or how she got there. But Miss Arbus, the owner of the boardinghouse, swoops down and brings her home, and the rest of the town takes her to its collective bosom. Then, when Ruby turns 12, a desperate man tries to rob the bank....



[Calling all readers!](#)

The Booklist Book Club's partnership with Downers Grove (Ill.) Public Library continues to spark lively exchanges, but we need your help to broaden the discussion. We've posted a number of new forums in conjunction with Downers Grove's active book discussions for March; the registration to participate is quick and easy. Or, if you just want to see what others are saying, feel free to browse....



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

Midwinter Meeting Report

From the CentennialAL Blog

[The way we were 1](#)

Something a bit lighter this week. A sampling of some of the amusing and interesting photos that have run in *American Libraries*. [Visit the blog](#) for more!



(Above) The cover of the January 1923 issue of the *ALA Bulletin*, featuring what may be the magazine's first photograph—a landscape of Hot Springs, Arkansas, site of that year's Annual Conference.

D.C. Update

[Music in the District](#)

The music of Washington is known for two primary scenes, hardcore and associated derivatives, and a hip hop/dance music hybrid called

[go go](#). The city's first major musical figure was band leader John Phillip Sousa (1854–1932). Later figures include jazz legends like Duke Ellington and soul singers like Roberta Flack. The city is home to the [Washington National Opera](#) and the [National Symphony Orchestra](#)....

Wikipedia

[Kramerbooks & Afterwords Café](#)

[Kramerbooks](#), at 1517 Connecticut Ave. NW, was the first café to set up shop in Dupont Circle. It is always crowded, particularly on weekends when singles who would rather skip the bar scene flock to this surprising hot spot. Live music is featured nightly, Wednesday through Saturday. The cafe is a full-service restaurant that serves breakfast, lunch, and dinner daily....

Yahoo! Travel



Barbara Toohey, reference librarian and "hug therapist" at Los Angeles Valley College, from the June 1980 *American Libraries*, p. 382.



Division News

[PLA Spring Symposium: Customer service in public libraries](#)

Andrea Mercado offers an overview of Karen Hyman's Spring Symposium presentation on "The Customer-Centered Library: How to Stop Tweaking and Start Doing It with 12 New Steps." She writes: "We live in a world where libraries compete with the likes of Google, Amazon, Barnes & Noble, at home wi-fi, movies on demand, Netflix, 'Send to phone' options, and more; it's about service."...

PLA Blog, Mar. 2



[ACRL now has podcasts](#)

The [ACRL Podcasts](#) provide fresh dimensions on the issues and events in academic librarianship. Podcasts are planned for these areas: ACRL presidential elections, ACRL authors and editors, the ALA Emerging Leaders program, ACRL events, ACRL advocacy, and ACRL how-to....

Round Table News

[Celebrate the Library Bill of Rights](#)

Spend an afternoon in Washington June 21 with library intellectual-freedom activists as the Intellectual Freedom Round Table celebrates

Career Leads from



[Curator, Charles L. Blockson Collection](#),

Temple University, Philadelphia. The Blockson Collection promotes and supports the study of the histories and cultures of Africans and African-Americans, emphasizing the experience of African-descended people in Philadelphia and the Delaware Valley region....

@ [More jobs...](#)

one of our profession's most important documents: ALA's [Library Bill of Rights](#). A panel of speakers who have faced challenges will talk about what the document means to them. Then there will be an opportunity to participate in facilitated table discussions of the many Library Bill of Rights [interpretations](#) adopted by ALA Council over the years....

Don Wood: Library 2.0 blog, Mar. 2

Awards



[ALA names four honorary members](#)

(Left to right) David Cohen, Alice L. Hagemeyer, Anita R. Schiller, and Alphonse F. Trezza were elected to honorary ALA membership in action taken by the ALA Council at the 2007 Midwinter Meeting, held January 19–24 in Seattle. Honorary membership, ALA's highest honor, is conferred in recognition of outstanding contributions of lasting importance to libraries and librarianship....

[Anne K. Beaubien wins Virginia Boucher ILL Award](#)

Anne K. Beaubien, director and cooperative access services and grants officer for the University of Michigan library, is the 2007 Virginia Boucher-OCLC Distinguished Interlibrary Loan Librarian Award recipient. The award, presented by the RUSA Sharing and Transforming Access to Resources Section, recognizes and honors a librarian for outstanding professional achievement, leadership and contributions to ILL and document delivery....



[Margaret Mann Citation honors Robert Wolven](#)

Robert Wolven, director of library systems and bibliographic control at Columbia University in New York, is the recipient of the 2007 Margaret Mann Citation presented by the ALCTS Cataloging and Classification Section. The Mann Citation, recognizing outstanding professional achievement in cataloging or classification, includes a \$2,000 scholarship donated in the recipient's honor by OCLC to the library school of the winner's choice....



[Nancy J. Gibbs receives Leadership in Library Acquisitions Award](#)

The ALCTS Acquisitions Section has selected Nancy J. Gibbs, head of acquisitions at Duke University, to receive its 2007 Leadership in Library Acquisitions Award. The award, sponsored annually by Harrassowitz, is given to a librarian to recognize contributions and



[Assessing Audiobook Services for Your Library.](#)

The latest issue of *Library Technology Reports* helps librarians make informed decisions about audiobook content and services. The author of the report, Tom Peters (a librarian and an avid user of audiobooks) explains, "The purpose of this report is not to convince librarians to implement a digital audiobook service, but to help librarians make an informed decision."

Public Perception

How the World Sees Us

"In our civic life, public libraries play a critical role by facilitating citizens' access to material that challenges the mind, engages the imagination, and encourages a well-informed citizenry able to exercise its enormous responsibilities in our republican form of government. The board's decision preserves this important function of our public libraries by rejecting

outstanding leadership in the field of acquisitions and includes a \$1,500 gift....

Robert Bothmann wins Esther J. Piercy Award

Robert L. Bothmann, electronic access/catalog librarian at the Minnesota State University at Mankato library, is the winner of the 2007 ALCTS Esther J. Piercy Award. As webmaster, treasurer, and membership coordinator for OLAC (On-Line Audiovisual Catalogers), Bothmann has worked to impart a clearer understanding of media cataloging and its management to an international library audience....

First Step Award to Paula Webb

Paula Webb, serials/interlibrary loan librarian at Delta State University in Cleveland, Mississippi, is the recipient of the 2007 First Step Award, a Wiley Professional Development Grant presented by the ALCTS Serials Section....

Banks/Harris Preservation Award

Walter Henry, lead analyst in the Preservation Department at Stanford University Libraries and Academic Information Resources, is the winner of the 2007 ALCTS Paul Banks and Carolyn Harris Preservation Award. Henry is known internationally as the moderator of the Conservation DistList and the creator and administrator of Conservation OnLine (CoOL), indispensable tools for communication and dissemination of knowledge within the field....

Julia Blixrud receives Serials Librarianship Award

Julia Blixrud, assistant executive director for external relations of the Association of Research Libraries, is the winner of the 2007 ALCTS CSA/Ulrich's Serials Librarianship Award. Blixrud's contributions have influenced virtually every aspect of serials work from cataloging to publishing to access....



Blackwell's Scholarship Award honors the late Ross Atkinson

The Blackwell's Scholarship Award for 2007 is awarded to the late Ross Atkinson for his article, "Six Key Challenges for the Future of Collection Development," published in *Library Resources & Technical Services* 50, no. 4 (Oct. 2007): 244-251....

Best of LRTS Award

Jim Stemper, electronic resources librarian at the University of Minnesota libraries, and Susan Barribeau, electronic resources librarian for collection development at the University of Wisconsin at Madison libraries, have won the 2007 Best of LRTS Award for their article, "Perpetual Access to Electronic Journals: A Survey of One Academic Research Library's Licenses," published in *Library Resources & Technical Services* 50, no. 2 (Apr. 2006): 91-109....

Miriam Dudley Instruction Librarian Award

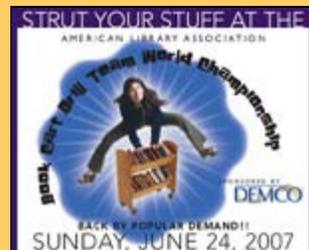
Debra L. Gilchrist, dean of library and media services at Pierce College in Fort Steilacoom and Puyallup, Washington, is the winner of the ACRL Instruction Section's Miriam Dudley Instruction Librarian Award. The honor recognizes a librarian who has made a significant contribution to the advancement of instruction in a college or research library environment....

unnecessary and unwise censorship."

—University of Arizona Law Professor Robert J. Glennon, on the decision of the Pima County (Ariz.) Board of Supervisors to allow adults to choose unfiltered internet access at county public libraries, Tucson *Arizona Daily Star*, Feb. 21.

Small businesses start @your library

From now until May 10. *Woman's Day* magazine is collecting stories on how its readers have used the library to start their small businesses. The magazine announced the initiative in its March 6 issue, where it asked its women readers aged 18 and over to [submit](#) their stories in 700 words or less. Four of the submissions will be featured the March 2008 issue.



Demco's **Book Cart Drill Team World Championship** is back by popular demand at ALA Annual Conference in Washington, Sunday, June 24. To enter your team, submit the form ([PDF file](#)) by June 1.

Poll

[Marta Lange/CQ Press Award winner](#)

Binh P. Le, associate librarian at Penn State Abington, has been named the 2007 recipient of the ACRL Law and Political Science Section's Marta Lange/CQ Press Award. The award, established in 1996 by LPSS, honors an academic or law librarian who has made distinguished contributions to bibliography and information service in law or political science....

[Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship awarded](#)

Jihyun Kim, graduate student instructor at the University of Michigan School of Information, has been awarded the 2007 ACRL Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship for her proposal, "Faculty Self-Archiving Behavior: Methods and Factors Affecting the Decision to Self-Archive."...

[ACRL Best Practices in Marketing awards](#)

Eastern Illinois University and Winston-Salem State University have won the ACRL Best Practices in Marketing @ your library Award. The awards will be presented at the ACRL 13th National Conference in Baltimore during the keynote luncheon on Friday, March 30. The award recognizes academic or research libraries that demonstrate an outstanding best practices marketing program. Each winning institution will receive \$2,000....

[Community and Junior College Libraries Program Award](#)

The Hagan Foundation Center for the Humanities at Spokane (Wash.) Community College has received the ACRL Community and Junior College Libraries Section's EBSCO Community College Learning Resources Program Achievement Award....

[Sage Support Staff travel grants awarded](#)

Six library support staff have been awarded a 2007 ALCTS/SAGE Library Support Staff Travel Grant. These grants provide airfare, three nights' lodging, and conference registration to attend the 2007 ALA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C....

[ACRL staffer selected for John Jacob Astor Award](#)

Kathryn Deiss, ACRL content strategist, has been awarded the 2007 John Jacob Astor Award for Library and Information Science by the Checkpoint Charlie Foundation, Berlin, Germany. She has been selected for her extensive workshops on the topics of library management and leadership, change, creativity, and innovation in the United States, Canada, Austria, Spain, Australia, and New Zealand....



[James Patterson PageTurner Awards](#)

Author James Patterson announced March 2 the 39 winners of the 2006 James Patterson PageTurner Awards, who will receive cash prizes totaling \$500,000. The top winner of \$100,000 is the Seattle Public Library's [Washington Center for the Book](#), which originated the "One City, One Book" concept in 1996....

PageTurner Awards, Mar. 2

[Canada Reads panel makes its choice](#)

What do YOU do?

Does your library have a presence in Second Life?

Click here to [ANSWER!](#)

Results of the February 28 poll:

What is your patron cell phone policy?

34%
Phones off

44%
Selective enforcement

7%
Complete toleration

17%
Other

(143 responses)

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

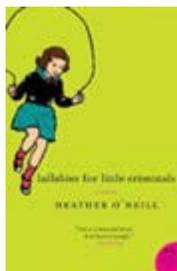
Ask the ALA Librarian



Q. I need to take librarian continuing education courses that will grant me Continuing Education Units (CEUs). Where can I find these?

Lullabies for Little Criminals, the story of a pre-teen girl surviving on the streets of Montreal, has won the all-star edition of CBC Radio One's Canada Reads contest. The debut novel by Heather O'Neill tells the story of 12-year-old Baby and her drug-addicted father, Jules, as they live a life of poverty and she tries to escape her desperate situation....

CBC Arts, Mar. 2



[Library wins award for corporate look](#)

Washington-Centerville (Ohio) Public Library was recently honored with a gold Hermes Award for excellence in advertising by the Greater Dayton Advertising Association. The award, which recognized the library's corporate look as one of the exceptional local examples of mixed media campaigns, is given annually....

Greater Dayton Advertising Association



Seen Online

[Justice Department takes aim at image sharing](#)

The Bush administration has accelerated its internet surveillance push by proposing that websites must keep records of who uploads photographs or videos in case police determine the content is illegal and choose to investigate. Universities and libraries would reportedly be excluded. "There's a PR concern with including the libraries, so we're not going to include them," a participant in a private meeting in Washington February 28 quoted the Justice Department as saying. "We know we're going to get a pushback, so we're not going to do that."...

C|net news, Mar. 2

[Critics target Pizza Hut reading program](#)

You've read the book, now eat the pizza. Since 1985, that's been the gist of Pizza Hut's Book It, an incentive program used by 50,000 schools nationwide to reward young readers with free pizzas. The program is now under attack by child-development experts who say it promotes bad eating habits and turns teachers into corporate promoters....

Associated Press, Mar. 2



[Fair use for digital content](#)

A bill (H.R. 1201) that would make it easier for scholars to use copyrighted works without running afoul of copyright law was introduced in Congress last week by Rep. Rick Boucher (D-Va.) and Rep. John Doolittle (R-Calif.). The legislation contains several improvements to the Digital Media Consumer's Rights Act, similar legislation which the lawmakers introduced in the 108th and 109th Congresses....

Congressman Rick Boucher, Feb. 27

[Random House, HarperCollins publish online](#)

A. Although many library organizations offer some form of continuing education programs, not all programs have had their offerings evaluated according to the CEU standards set forth by the [International Association for Continuing Education & Training](#) (IACET). Your best bet is to check with your state library—especially if earning CEUs is directly related to your state's public librarian certification. The state library can provide details on courses that will fulfill those requirements or may provide the courses themselves. The IACET website has an online database of over 500 IACET authorized providers. Find out more on the [ALA Professional Tips wiki](#).

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

Calendar

Mar. 29–

Apr. 1:
[ACRL National Conference](#),
Baltimore, Maryland.
"Sailing into the Future—Charting Our Destiny." Contact:
[Margot Sutton Conahan](#), 800-545-2433, ext. 2522.

Apr. 1–30:
[School Library Media Month](#). "Come

[excerpts](#)

Random House has made online excerpts available from books by Toni Morrison, Calvin Trillin, and thousands of others as publishers continue their push to sell more books through the internet. The Random House search and browser program, Insight, was officially launched February 27. Earlier in the week, HarperCollins announced its own Browse Inside "widget" program, with excerpts available from books by Michael Crichton, Sidney Poitier, and many others....

Associated Press, Feb. 27

[Patents on the Web](#)

The Patent and Trademark Office is starting a pilot project that will not only post patent applications on the Web and invite comments but also use a community rating system designed to push the most respected comments to the top of the file, for serious consideration by the agency's examiners. It's quite a switch. For generations, the agency responsible for awarding patents has kept its distance from the very technological advances it has made possible....

Washington Post, Mar. 5



[Largest library closure in the U.S. looms](#)

Jackson County in southern Oregon is getting ready to shut down its entire library system April 7. Not long after all 15 branches were rebuilt or remodeled, every one will be shuttered in what's being called the largest library shutdown in the United States. The crisis in Oregon can be traced not only to changing funding priorities on Capitol Hill, but also to crooked railroad deals in the Wild West, a spotted owl, and a shrinking timber harvest. But support seems to be growing for a [one-year renewal](#) of the federal timber subsidy....

San Francisco Chronicle, Mar. 4; Medford (Oreg.) Mail Tribune, Mar. 6

[House panel modifies West Virginia library funding bill](#)

A West Virginia House of Delegates committee amended a Senate bill March 5 to ensure that nine counties will continue to receive funding for libraries through local school boards. The bill (SB 541) would have allowed county school boards to continue to receive the funding, but pushed them to have their own voter-approved excess levies. It moved the state money for education in counties down to 94%, from the current 98%, leaving enough money to pay the libraries' levy....

Charleston (W.Va.) Gazette, Mar. 6

[Harry Potter on the horizon](#)

This year, July 21 will mean only one thing to many people: the release date of the long-awaited seventh installment of the Harry Potter series. Even though the book will not be out for more than four months, northern Virginia's libraries are getting prepared. As soon as publisher Scholastic announced the release date for *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows*, hold lists for the book grew rapidly at libraries in Fairfax, Arlington, and Loudoun County....

Arlington (Va.) Sun Gazette, Mar. 5

[Library research on rap music](#)

A class in rap research is helping Ohio State University freshmen learn, in a palatable way, how to do college-level research. A hip-hop scholar herself, instructor and OSU Fine Arts Librarian Leta Hendricks worried that nobody would sign up, but the two-hour, once-a-week

Together @ your library."

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: [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."

June 21–27: [ALA Annual Conference](#)

Washington, D.C.
Contact: [ALA](#), 800-545-2433, press 5.

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.

seminar filled quickly with 17 rap fans....

Columbus (Ohio) Dispatch, Mar. 3

[LibraryThing as social networking](#)

Social networks that tap the interests and buying power of traditionally reserved groups like the bookish are a small but growing force on the Web. Kathryn Havemann, an indexing analyst for LexisNexis in Dayton, is among the 150,000 or so members of [LibraryThing](#), a site that lets people create detailed online book catalogs, learn about the collections of other members, discover shared favorites, and swap recommendations....

New York Times, Mar. 4

Tech Talk

[Are you ready for Daylight Savings Time?](#)

The latest *crise du jour* stems from the 2005 Energy Policy Act, which moves daylight saving time forward by about three weeks to March 11. The result? This time change is likely to throw off computer users' operating systems and Outlook calendars. Find out how to fix it here....

PC Magazine, Mar. 5



[Global computer shutdown day, March 24](#)

People would find life extremely difficult without computers, perhaps impossible. If they disappeared for just one day, would we be able to cope? Be part of an experiment to find out how many people can go without a computer for one whole day and what will happen if we all participate. Can you survive for 24 hours without a computer?...

Shutdown Day

[Bibliographic control has a future](#)

Andrew Pace writes: "It does. Though, after spending 30 minutes last night describing the problem to my wife, I sure wish we had called it 'the future of finding stuff online.' I'm headed out this morning for a meeting convened by the Library of Congress's working group on the [Future of Bibliographic Control](#). So, I've been thinking a lot about data, relevance, and subject access to metadata records. It seems that everyone is after a less expensive way to do what libraries have always done. Not a bad goal." Find out more [here](#)....

Hectic Pace blog, Mar. 7; ALA TechSource blog, Mar. 7

[Life on the Island](#)

Joe Janes writes: "Info Island. Doesn't that conjure up fascinating images? Palm trees swaying in a tropical breeze, sun dappling a cool and green lagoon, languorous string music wafting in the background, librarians in sarongs peeling fruit and answering reference questions. OK, that took a sort of odd turn there. There is a real Info Island—real in a certain sense. It's real to a lot of people and from at least one perspective, not real at all. It's in Second Life."...

Internet Librarian, *American Libraries* 38, no. 3 (Mar. 2007): 34

[Money, money, money at Midwinter](#)

Andrew Pace writes: "Deep Throat was right. Or at least Hal Holbrook

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.

@ [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](#).

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To advertise in *American*



(who portrayed him in *All the President's Men*) was when he told Robert Redford (as Bob Woodward) to 'Follow the money.' Well, money was talking, as they say, at ALA Midwinter in Seattle, where over 12,000 librarians, library workers, and exhibitors gathered in January. Those are pretty good numbers for a Midwinter turnout, and 'pretty good numbers' seems to be what just about everyone out there is looking for these days."...

Technically Speaking, *American Libraries* 38, no. 3 (Mar. 2007): 30–32

[Bavarian library joins Google Book Search](#)

Google plans to digitize more than a million public-domain books in the [Bayerische Staatsbibliothek](#) (the Bavarian State Library), according to Jens Redmer, head of Google Book Search in Europe, the Middle East, and Africa....

Inside Google Book Search blog, Mar. 6

[Medical library tech trends](#)

Find out what several librarians in the field of health care librarianship think are the most important technological trends....

Medical Library Tech Trends 2007 blog

[Library 2.0 Ning network](#)

Bill Drew, systems librarian at the State University of New York at Morrisville, has set up a social networking site on Ning for librarians and others interested in Library 2.0. Like other Ning networks, this one offers L2 feeds, podcasts, videos, photos, member bios, and a forum....

Library 2.0

Actions & Answers

[LC adds to National Recordings Registry](#)

Librarian of Congress James H. Billington named sound recordings made by 25 musicians to the National Recording Registry March 6 to be preserved for all time. Among the selections are Franklin D. Roosevelt's address to Congress after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941; Sam Cooke's "A Change Is Gonna Come" (1965); Paul Simon's 1986 album *Graceland*; "(I Can't Get No) Satisfaction" by the Rolling Stones; and other notable performances by Jelly Roll Morton, the Carter Family, Bob Marley, Arthur Rubinstein, Cole Porter, Eubie Blake, and Sarah Vaughan....

Library of Congress, Mar. 6



[Bodleian ephemera to go digital](#)

The Joint Information Systems Committee announced March 5 that it will be funding a unique partnership between ProQuest CSA and Oxford University Library Services to digitize more than 65,000 items from the Bodleian Library's [John Johnson Collection of Printed Ephemera](#). Containing 1.5 million items ranging from 1508 to 1939,

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.
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www.ala.org/online/
800-545-2433,
ext. 4216

ISSN 1559-369X.

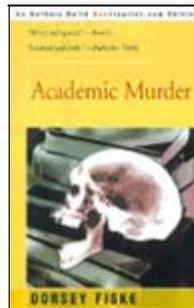
it spans the entire range of printing and social history. It was assembled by John de Monins Johnson (1882–1956), printer to the university, who was visionary in his preservation of Britain's vulnerable paper heritage....

ProQuest CSA, Mar. 5

[Murder in the library, part 1](#)

George Eberhart writes: "Murder in the library, as a literary plot, holds a certain peculiar fascination for many readers (especially librarians). Some of the plots revolve around specific rare books, but most are set in mythical academic and research libraries in the United States and United Kingdom. Here are a few titles (arranged alphabetically by author) to get you started."...

Britannica Blog, Mar. 5



[Room for readers](#)

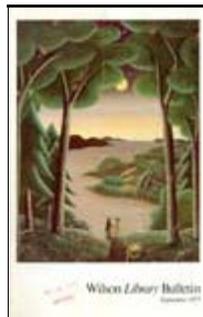
Many schools are losing their librarians just when they need them the most. Because of cutbacks and funding decisions, some districts, such as Federal Way in Kings County, Washington, have lost more than half of their credentialed librarians. While reading is fundamental and literacy a growing focus, school libraries must still compete for precious school resources—space, money, staff, even respect. In response, librarians are finding new and creative ways to reach readers—both in and outside of school....

NEA Today, Mar.

[Wilson Library Bulletin now in full text](#)

Wilson Library Bulletin, the trade magazine for librarians published from 1914 to 1995, now enjoys a second life as part of two leading H. W. Wilson library and information science databases. Full-text plus full-color PDF page images from the publication will run on Wilson's *Library Literature & Information Science Full Text* and *Library Literature & Information Science Retrospective* databases, at no extra charge to subscribers....

H. W. Wilson, Mar. 2



[U.S.–China education exchange](#)

Alice Calabrese-Berry writes about her experiences as part of a delegation of 20 librarians to the People's Republic of China in November 2006 sponsored by the People to People Ambassador's program and the China Education Association for International Exchange. Led by former ALA President John W. Barry, the delegates were paired with American K–12 computer education teachers....

Metropolitan Library System E-announce 1, no. 3 (Feb. 21)

[The next generation of superheroes](#)

The first English edition of *The 99*, a comic-book series whose superheroes are based on Islamic culture, was released in November 2006. Created by Kuwaiti psychologist Naif Al-Mutawa, the series features superheroes who are all imbued with the 99 qualities that the *Qur'an* attributes to God. The plot surrounds the search for 99 mystical Noor stones, in which the librarians of Baghdad's House of Wisdom had hidden the library's knowledge from the Mongols in 1258....

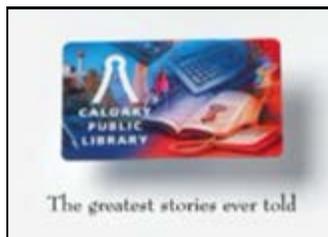
Saudi Aramco World 58, no. 1 (Jan./Feb.)



[Calgary Public Library television announcement](#)

This 30-second PSA, "The greatest stories ever told," from the Calgary (Alta.) Public Library demonstrates both simplicity of presentation and cleverness of message....

YouTube



[New Australian TV show about librarians](#)

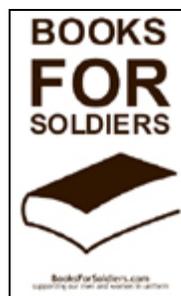
The humble suburban library takes on a new meaning in the Australian Broadcasting Corporation's new six-part comedy-drama series *The Librarians*, which starts production March 5 in Melbourne. Head Librarian Frances O'Brien (played by Robyn Butler) unravels when she is forced to employ her ex-best friend—now a drug dealer—as the children's librarian. Apparently O'Brien is Catholic and repressed and has [difficulty dealing](#) with Muslim, Asian, and gay patrons....

Australian Broadcasting Corp., Mar. 1; *Melbourne Age*, Dec. 28

[Books for soldiers](#)

This website sets you up as an official volunteer to send books, DVDs, games, and other supplies to any deployed American soldier, airman, sailor, marine, or coast guardsman who has an APO or FPO address. The site complies with Department of Defense guidelines that require enlisted personnel to request a package. Once you are approved as a Books for Soldiers volunteer, you can choose a branch of the service and select from a long list of requests....

Books for Soldiers



[Army's Fort Huachuca library closes](#)

The library at the Army's Fort Huachuca installation in Arizona closed its doors March 1, but the Sierra Vista Public Library will offer its services to the military community there. After extensive analysis, post officials determined having the city provide library services to Army personnel was both cost-effective and beneficial. The municipal partnership was approved under congressional authority for Municipal Services Partnerships, received in the FY05 National Defense Authorization Act....

U.S. Army Installation Management Command, Feb. 8

[Learning Is Power](#)

Adult learners at Springfield (Mass.) City Library's [Read/Write/Now](#) Adult Learning Center created a "Learning Is Power" video (17:50) to share their experiences about going back to school to work on basic reading, writing, and math skills. The video has helped the library explain to the public what basic adult education is and how important it is to have a second chance....

YouTube



[First digital directory of women artist's papers online](#)

The first digital directory of archives holding the papers of women artists active in the United States since World War II is now online at Rutgers University. The [Women Artists Archives National Directory](#)

unites online information on more than 80 repositories into a single union catalog. Librarian and art historian Ferris Olin and Professor Emerita Judith K. Brodsky have led the effort to build the directory....
WAAND, Feb. 15

[Millikin University Peep research, 2003](#)

As Peep season rolls around once again, it's time to revisit (in case you missed it back then) the excellent 2003 study by Susan Avery and Jennifer Masciadrelli at Millikin University on the ability of Peeps to



conduct library research. As they wrote, "we invited a small group of Peeps to visit Staley Library at Millikin University during the week of March 17–21, 2003, so that we could more closely observe their research practices. This was determined to be an ideal week for the Peeps to visit the library, as Millikin University students were on spring break."...

Peep Research

Having trouble viewing this HTML e-mail? Click here [[util.viewHtmlLink %>](#)].

March 7, 2007

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[http://www.sirsidynixinstitute.com/seminar_page.php?sid=81]

[<http://www.sirsidynix.com>]

U.S. & World News

House to consider social networking bill

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2007/march2007/myspacebill.cfm>]
Rep. Mark Kirk (R-Ill.) reintroduced February 16 the Deleting Online Predators Act (DOPA), which was passed once before by the House 410–15 in July 2006 before dying in the Senate. The bill (H.R. 1120, PDF file [http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=110_cong_bills&docid=f:h1120ih.txt.pdf]) withholds federal e-rate funding from libraries and schools that do not restrict the use of social networking websites by minors. DOPA follows the January 6 Senate introduction by Sen. Ted Stevens (R-Alaska) of the similar Protecting Children in the 21st Century Act (S. 49, PDF file [http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=110_cong_bills&docid=f:s49is.txt.pdf])...

Passaic assesses plan to close aging branch

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2007/march2007/passaicplan.cfm>]
At what board President Craig Miller characterized as a “raucous” three-and-a-half hour meeting February 27, the Passaic (N.J.) Public Library board of trustees received community input on a plan to close its 104-year-old Reid Memorial branch, which specializes in services to

the city's Hispanic residents. Library Director Alan Bobowski told residents that the building has a leaky roof that would cost \$150,000 to repair, a crumbling foundation, and an upstairs meeting room that's not compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act....

Rochester blocks funding threat with filter-policy review

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2007/march2007/rochblock.cfm>]

The board of the Monroe County (N.Y.) Library System agreed February 28 to conduct a 60-day review of its central library's longstanding policy of honoring requests by adults to unblock explicit websites and, in the meantime, to refuse all such requests. The action came in response to a threat from County Executive Maggie Brooks to withhold \$6.6 million in funding if the library continued to disable filters temporarily at an adult's request....

Rare manuscript volume stolen from UCLA Special Collections

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2007/march2007/uclatheft.cfm>]

Campus police are investigating the theft of a bound set of 18th-century manuscripts from an exhibit case in the University of California at Los Angeles library's special collections department. The volume, part of an archive of materials on the prominent Orsini family of Rome acquired by UCLA in 1964, was stolen sometime between the late afternoon of Friday, February 9, and early the following Monday....

Chicago Public Library granted \$1 million for computer training

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2007/march2007/cplgift.cfm>]

The Bank of America Charitable Foundation has donated \$1 million to the Chicago Public Library so that it can provide free computer training to the public. The funds will create the Computer Smarts Program to offer instruction in areas from computer basics and an overview of the library's resources to advanced search strategies....

Springfield, Mass., library stays put with lawsuit settlement

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2007/march2007/springfield.cfm>]

Ending a court battle that lasted nearly two years, the mayor of Springfield, Massachusetts, and the president of the city's Museums Association signed an agreement February 27 that eliminates the threat that the Central Library will be evicted from the site it has occupied since 1912....

ALA News

Most challenged books of 2006 [<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/mc06.htm>]

Justin Richardson and Peter Parnell's award-winning *And Tango Makes Three*, about two male penguins parenting an egg from a mixed-sex penguin couple, tops the list of most challenged books in 2006 by parents and administrators, due to the issues of homosexuality. The list also features two books by author Toni Morrison. *The Bluest Eye* and *Beloved* are on the list due to sexual content and offensive language. The ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom received a total of 546 challenges last year....

ALA election polls open March 15

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/ALAElectionPollsMarch15.htm>]

The polls will open on March 15 for the 2007 ALA election. All paid ALA members as of January 31, 2007, are eligible to vote. Members must submit their ballots by April 24 at 11:59 p.m. CST. All Web voters will receive ballots between March 15 and March 17, in a 48-hour email blast....

Diversity Office calls for research grant proposals

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/DiversityOfficeproposals.htm>]

The Office for Diversity seeks proposals for its Diversity Research Grant program. Applicants must be current ALA members, and 2007 proposals must address one of three identified topics: Spectrum as a model for diversity initiatives, diversity within diversity, or multicultural librarianship and pedagogy....

REAL ID Act of 2005

[http://blogs.ala.org/districtdispatch.php?title=repeal_real_id_act_of_2005&more=1&c=1&tb=1&pb=1]

ALA has signed on to letters to the U.S. House of Representatives (Congressman Tom Allen, February 26) and Senate (Senators Akaka and Sununu, February 28) expressing support for efforts to repeal the REAL ID Act of 2005. See the ALA website

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/washoff/WOissues/civilliberties/privacy/privacy.htm#real>] for copies of these letters and further reading on the act....

District Dispatch blog, Mar. 5

Featured review: Books for youth

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=1895099]

White, Ruth. *Way Down Deep*. Apr. 2007. 208p. Farrar, hardcover (978-0-374-38251-4).

On the first day of summer in 1944, a red-haired toddler appears on the courtroom steps in *Way Down Deep*, West Virginia. Nobody knows who she is or how she got there. But Miss Arbus, the owner of the boardinghouse, swoops down and brings her home, and the rest of the town takes her to its collective bosom. Then, when Ruby turns 12, a desperate man tries to rob the bank....

[<http://bookclub.booklistonline.com/groupee>] Calling all readers!

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=1896593]

The Booklist Book Club's partnership with Downers Grove (Ill.) Public Library continues to spark lively exchanges, but we need your help to broaden the discussion. We've posted a number of new forums in conjunction with Downers Grove's active book discussions for March; the registration to participate is quick and easy. Or, if you just want to see what others are saying, feel free to browse....

@ Visit Booklist Online [<http://www.booklistonline.com/>] for other reviews and much more....

D.C. Update

Music in the District [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Music_of_Washington%2C_D.C.]

The music of Washington is known for two primary scenes, hardcore and associated derivatives, and a hip hop/dance music hybrid called go go [<http://johnhenry22.tripod.com/gogo1/info/history.html>].

The city's first major musical figure was band leader John Phillip Sousa (1854–1932). Later figures include jazz legends like Duke Ellington and soul singers like Roberta Flack. The city is home to the Washington National Opera [<http://www.dc-opera.org/>] and the National Symphony Orchestra [<http://www.kennedy-center.org/nso/>]....

Wikipedia

Kramerbooks & Afterwords Café
[http://travel.yahoo.com/p-travelguide-2817952-kramerbooks_and_afterwords_district_of_columbia-i]
Kramerbooks [<http://www.kramers.com/>], at 1517 Connecticut Ave. NW, was the first café to set up shop in Dupont Circle. It is always crowded, particularly on weekends when singles who would rather skip the bar scene flock to this surprising hot spot. Live music is featured nightly, Wednesday through Saturday. The cafe is a full-service restaurant that serves breakfast, lunch, and dinner daily.....
Yahoo! Travel

Division News

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PLA Spring Symposium: Customer service in public libraries
[<http://plablog.org/2007/03/you-dont-want-to-join-you-want-to-belong.html>]
Andrea Mercado offers an overview of Karen Hyman's Spring Symposium presentation on "The Customer-Centered Library: How to Stop Tweaking and Start Doing It with 12 New Steps." She writes: "We live in a world where libraries compete with the likes of Google, Amazon, Barnes & Noble, at home wi-fi, movies on demand, Netflix, 'Send to phone' options, and more; it’s about service."...
PLA Blog, Mar. 2

ACRL now has podcasts [<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/ACRLPodcasts.htm>]
The ACRL Podcasts [<http://blogs.ala.org/acrlpodcast.php>] provide fresh dimensions on the issues and events in academic librarianship. Podcasts are planned for these areas: ACRL presidential elections, ACRL authors and editors, the ALA Emerging Leaders program, ACRL events, ACRL advocacy, and ACRL how-to....

Round Table News

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Celebrate the Library Bill of Rights
[http://donwood.alablog.org/blog/_archives/2007/3/2/2775403.html]
Spend an afternoon in Washington June 21 with library intellectual-freedom activists as the Intellectual Freedom Round Table celebrates one of our profession's most important documents: ALA's Library Bill of Rights
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/oif/statementspols/statementsif/librarybillrights.htm>]. A panel of speakers who have faced challenges will talk about what the document means to them. Then there will be an opportunity to participate in facilitated table discussions of the many Library Bill of Rights interpretations
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/oif/statementspols/statementsif/interpretations/Default675.htm>] adopted by ALA Council over the years....
Don Wood: Library 2.0 blog, Mar. 2

Awards

ALA names four honorary members [<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/hm07.htm>]
(Left to right) David Cohen, Alice L. Hagemeyer, Anita R. Schiller, and Alphonse F. Trezza were elected to honorary ALA membership in action taken by the ALA Council at the 2007 Midwinter Meeting, held January 19–24 in Seattle. Honorary membership, ALA's highest honor, is conferred in recognition of outstanding contributions of lasting importance to libraries and librarianship....

Anne K. Beaubien wins Virginia Boucher ILL Award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/BoucherOCLCAward.htm>]

Anne K. Beaubien, director and cooperative access services and grants officer for the University of Michigan library, is the 2007 Virginia Boucher-OCLC Distinguished Interlibrary Loan Librarian Award recipient. The award, presented by the RUSA Sharing and Transforming Access to Resources Section, recognizes and honors a librarian for outstanding professional achievement, leadership and contributions to ILL and document delivery....

Margaret Mann Citation honors Robert Wolven

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/MargaretMannCitation.htm>]

Robert Wolven, director of library systems and bibliographic control at Columbia University in New York, is the recipient of the 2007 Margaret Mann Citation presented by the ALCTS Cataloging and Classification Section. The Mann Citation, recognizing outstanding professional achievement in cataloging or classification, includes a \$2,000 scholarship donated in the recipient's honor by OCLC to the library school of the winner's choice....

Nancy J. Gibbs receives Leadership in Library Acquisitions Award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/LeadershipAcquisitions.htm>]

The ALCTS Acquisitions Section has selected Nancy J. Gibbs, head of acquisitions at Duke University, to receive its 2007 Leadership in Library Acquisitions Award. The award, sponsored annually by Harrassowitz, is given to a librarian to recognize contributions and outstanding leadership in the field of acquisitions and includes a \$1,500 gift....

Robert Bothmann wins Esther J. Piercy Award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/EstherPiercyAward.htm>]

Robert L. Bothmann, electronic access/catalog librarian at the Minnesota State University at Mankato library, is the winner of the 2007 ALCTS Esther J. Piercy Award. As webmaster, treasurer, and membership coordinator for OLAC (On-Line Audiovisual Catalogers), Bothmann has worked to impart a clearer understanding of media cataloging and its management to an international library audience....

First Step Award to Paula Webb

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/FirstStepAward.htm>]

Paula Webb, serials/interlibrary loan librarian at Delta State University in Cleveland, Mississippi, is the recipient of the 2007 First Step Award, a Wiley Professional Development Grant presented by the ALCTS Serials Section....

Banks/Harris Preservation Award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/BanksHarrisPreservation.htm>]

Walter Henry, lead analyst in the Preservation Department at Stanford University Libraries and Academic Information Resources, is the winner of the 2007 ALCTS Paul Banks and Carolyn Harris Preservation Award. Henry is known internationally as the moderator of the Conservation DistList and the creator and administrator of Conservation OnLine (CoOL), indispensable tools for communication and dissemination of knowledge within the field....

Julia Blixrud receives Serials Librarianship Award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/CSAULrichSerialsAward.htm>]

Julia Blixrud, assistant executive director for external relations of the Association of Research Libraries, is the winner of the 2007 ALCTS CSA/ Ulrich's Serials Librarianship Award. Blixrud's contributions have influenced virtually every aspect of serials work from cataloging to publishing to access....

Blackwell's Scholarship Award honors the late Ross Atkinson
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/BlackwellsScholarship.htm>]
The Blackwell's Scholarship Award for 2007 is awarded to the late Ross Atkinson for his article, "Six Key Challenges for the Future of Collection Development," published in Library Resources & Technical Services 50, no. 4 (Oct. 2007): 244-251....

Award [<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/BestofLRTSAward.htm>]
Jim Stemper, electronic resources librarian at the University of Minnesota libraries, and Susan Barribeau, electronic resources librarian for collection development at the University of Wisconsin at Madison libraries, have won the 2007 Best of LRTS Award for their article, "Perpetual Access to Electronic Journals: A Survey of One Academic Research Library's Licenses," published in Library Resources & Technical Services 50, no. 2 (Apr. 2006): 91-109....

Miriam Dudley Instruction Librarian Award
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/GilchristISDudleyAward.htm>]
Debra L. Gilchrist, dean of library and media services at Pierce College in Fort Steilacoom and Puyallup, Washington, is the winner of the ACRL Instruction Section's Miriam Dudley Instruction Librarian Award. The honor recognizes a librarian who has made a significant contribution to the advancement of instruction in a college or research library environment....

Marta Lange/CQ Press Award winner
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/LeMartaLangeCQPresswinne.htm>]
Binh P. Le, associate librarian at Penn State Abington, has been named the 2007 recipient of the ACRL Law and Political Science Section's Marta Lange/CQ Press Award. The award, established in 1996 by LPSS, honors an academic or law librarian who has made distinguished contributions to bibliography and information service in law or political science....

Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship awarded
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/KimDissertationwinner.htm>]
Jihyun Kim, graduate student instructor at the University of Michigan School of Information, has been awarded the 2007 ACRL Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship for her proposal, "Faculty Self-Archiving Behavior: Methods and Factors Affecting the Decision to Self-Archive...."

ACRL Best Practices in Marketing awards
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/ACRLBestPracticesawards.htm>]
Eastern Illinois University and Winston-Salem State University have won the ACRL Best Practices in Marketing @ your library Award. The awards will be presented at the ACRL 13th National Conference in Baltimore during the keynote luncheon on Friday, March 30. The award recognizes academic or research libraries that demonstrate an outstanding best practices marketing program. Each winning institution will receive \$2,000....

Community and Junior College Libraries Program Award
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/ACRLCommunityJuniorAward.htm>]
The Hagan Foundation Center for the Humanities at Spokane (Wash.) Community College has received the ACRL Community and Junior College Libraries Section's EBSCO Community College Learning Resources Program Achievement Award....

Sage Support Staff travel grants awarded
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/Sagegrantsawarded.htm>]

Six library support staff have been awarded a 2007 ALCTS/SAGE Library Support Staff Travel Grant. These grants provide airfare, three nights' lodging, and conference registration to attend the 2007 ALA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C....

ACRL staffer selected for John Jacob Astor Award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/DeissAstorAward.htm>]

Kathryn Deiss, ACRL content strategist, has been awarded the 2007 John Jacob Astor Award for Library and Information Science by the Checkpoint Charlie Foundation, Berlin, Germany. She has been selected for her extensive workshops on the topics of library management and leadership, change, creativity, and innovation in the United States, Canada, Austria, Spain, Australia, and New Zealand....

James Patterson PageTurner Awards [<http://www.pattersonpageturner.org/winners2006.html>]

Author James Patterson announced March 2 the 39 winners of the 2006 James Patterson PageTurner Awards, who will receive cash prizes totaling \$500,000. The top winner of \$100,000 is the Seattle Public Library's Washington Center for the Book

[http://www.spl.org/default.asp?pageID=about_leaders_washingtoncenter], which originated the "One City, One Book" concept in 1996....

PageTurner Awards, Mar. 2

Canada Reads panel makes its choice

[<http://www.cbc.ca/arts/books/story/2007/03/02/canada-reads-friday.html>]

Lullabies for Little Criminals, the story of a pre-teen girl surviving on the streets of Montreal, has won the all-star edition of CBC Radio One's Canada Reads contest. The debut novel by Heather O'Neill tells the story of 12-year-old Baby and her drug-addicted father, Jules, as they live a life of poverty and she tries to escape her desperate situation....

CBC Arts, Mar. 2

Library wins award for corporate look

[<http://www.greaterdaytonadassociation.org/hermes2007winners.php>]

Washington-Centerville (Ohio) Public Library was recently honored with a gold Hermes Award for excellence in advertising by the Greater Dayton Advertising Association. The award, which recognized the library's corporate look as one of the exceptional local examples of mixed media campaigns, is given annually....

Greater Dayton Advertising Association

Seen Online

Justice Department takes aim at image sharing

[http://news.com.com/Justice+Department+takes+aim+at+image-sharing/sites/2100-1028_3-6163679.html]

The Bush administration has accelerated its internet surveillance push by proposing that websites must keep records of who uploads photographs or videos in case police determine the content is illegal and choose to investigate. Universities and libraries would reportedly be excluded.

"There's a PR concern with including the libraries, so we're not going to include them," a participant in a private meeting in Washington February 28 quoted the Justice Department as saying. "We know we're going to get a pushback, so we're not going to do that."...

C|net news, Mar. 2

Critics target Pizza Hut reading program [<http://www.forbes.com/feeds/ap/2007/03/02/ap3481336.html>]

You've read the book, now eat the pizza. Since 1985, that's been the gist of Pizza Hut's Book It, an incentive program used by 50,000 schools nationwide to reward young readers with free pizzas. The program is now under attack by child-development experts who say it promotes bad eating habits and turns teachers into corporate promoters....

Associated Press, Mar. 2

Fair use for digital content

[http://www.boucher.house.gov/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=1011&Itemid=75]

A bill (H.R. 1201) that would make it easier for scholars to use copyrighted works without running afoul of copyright law was introduced in Congress last week by Rep. Rick Boucher (D-Va.) and Rep. John Doolittle (R-Calif.). The legislation contains several improvements to the Digital Media Consumer's Rights Act, similar legislation which the lawmakers introduced in the 108th and 109th Congresses....

Congressman Rick Boucher, Feb. 27

Random House, HarperCollins publish online excerpts

[<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/02/27/AR2007022700725.html>]

Random House has made online excerpts available from books by Toni Morrison, Calvin Trillin, and thousands of others as publishers continue their push to sell more books through the internet. The Random House search and browser program, Insight, was officially launched February 27. Earlier in the week, HarperCollins announced its own Browse Inside "widget" program, with excerpts available from books by Michael Crichton, Sidney Poitier, and many others....

Associated Press, Feb. 27

Patents on the Web

[<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/03/04/AR2007030401263.html>]

The Patent and Trademark Office is starting a pilot project that will not only post patent applications on the Web and invite comments but also use a community rating system designed to push the most respected comments to the top of the file, for serious consideration by the agency's examiners. It's quite a switch. For generations, the agency responsible for awarding patents has kept its distance from the very technological advances it has made possible....

Washington Post, Mar. 5

Largest library closure in the U.S. looms

[<http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2007/03/04/MNGC7N6Q3M1.DTL&hw=jackson+county&sn=001&sc=1000>]

Jackson County in southern Oregon is getting ready to shut down its entire library system April 7. Not long after all 15 branches were rebuilt or remodeled, every one will be shuttered in what's being called the largest library shutdown in the United States. The crisis in Oregon can be traced not only to changing funding priorities on Capitol Hill, but also to crooked railroad deals in the Wild West, a spotted owl, and a shrinking timber harvest. But support seems to be growing for a one-year renewal [<http://www.mailtribune.com/archive/2007/0306/local/stories/dc-trip-dm.htm>] of the federal timber subsidy....

San Francisco Chronicle, Mar. 4; Medford (Oreg.) Mail Tribune, Mar. 6

House panel modifies West Virginia library funding bill

[<http://wvgazette.com/section/Today/2007030524>]

A West Virginia House of Delegates committee amended a Senate bill March 5 to ensure that nine counties will continue to receive funding for libraries through local school boards. The bill (SB 541) would have allowed county school boards to continue to receive the funding, but pushed them to have their own voter-approved excess levies. It moved the state money for education in counties down to 94%, from the current 98%, leaving enough money to pay the libraries' levy....

Charleston (W.Va.) Gazette, Mar. 6

Harry Potter on the horizon

[<http://www.sungazette.net/articles/2007/03/06/arlington/news/nws663b.txt>]

This year, July 21 will mean only one thing to many people: the release date of the long-awaited seventh installment of the Harry Potter series. Even though the book will not be out for more than four months, northern Virginia's libraries are getting prepared. As soon as publisher Scholastic announced the release date for Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows, hold lists for the book grew rapidly at libraries in Fairfax, Arlington, and Loudoun County....

Arlington (Va.) Sun Gazette, Mar. 5

Library research on rap music

[<http://www.dispatch.com/news-story.php?story=dispatch/2007/03/03/20070303-D1-04.html>]

A class in rap research is helping Ohio State University freshmen learn, in a palatable way, how to do college-level research. A hip-hop scholar herself, instructor and OSU Fine Arts Librarian Leta Hendricks worried that nobody would sign up, but the two-hour, once-a-week seminar filled quickly with 17 rap fans....

Columbus (Ohio) Dispatch, Mar. 3

LibraryThing as social networking

[<http://www.nytimes.com/2007/03/04/business/yourmoney/04novel.html>]

Social networks that tap the interests and buying power of traditionally reserved groups like the bookish are a small but growing force on the Web. Kathryn Havemann, an indexing analyst for LexisNexis in Dayton, is among the 150,000 or so members of LibraryThing

[<http://www.LibraryThing.com>], a site that lets people create detailed online book catalogs, learn about the collections of other members, discover shared favorites, and swap recommendations....

New York Times, Mar. 4

Tech Talk

=====

Are you ready for Daylight Savings Time? [<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,1895,2100064,00.asp>]

The latest crise du jour stems from the 2005 Energy Policy Act, which moves daylight saving time forward by about three weeks to March 11. The result? This time change is likely to throw off computer users' operating systems and Outlook calendars. Find out how to fix it here....

PC Magazine, Mar. 5

Global computer shutdown day, March 24 [<http://shutdownday.org/>]

People would find life extremely difficult without computers, perhaps impossible. If they disappeared for just one day, would we be able to cope? Be part of an experiment to find out how many people can go without a computer for one whole day and what will happen if we all participate. Can you survive for 24 hours without a computer?...

Shutdown Day

Bibliographic control has a future

[http://blogs.ala.org/pace.php?title=bibliographic_control_has_a_future]

Andrew Pace writes: "It does. Though, after spending 30 minutes last night describing the problem to my wife, I sure wish we had called it 'the future of finding stuff online.' I'm headed out this morning for a meeting convened by the Library of Congress's working group on the Future of Bibliographic Control [<http://www.loc.gov/bibliographic-future/>]. So, I've been thinking a lot about data, relevance, and subject access to metadata records. It seems that everyone is after a less expensive way to do what libraries have always done. Not a bad goal." Find out more here

[<http://www.techsource.ala.org/blog/2007/03/dear-library-of-congress.html>]....

Hectic Pace blog, Mar. 7; ALA TechSource blog, Mar. 7

Life on the Island [<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/inetlibrarian/2007columns/internetmar07.cfm>]
Joe Janes writes: “Info Island. Doesn’t that conjure up fascinating images? Palm trees swaying in a tropical breeze, sun dappling a cool and green lagoon, languorous string music wafting in the background, librarians in sarongs peeling fruit and answering reference questions. OK, that took a sort of odd turn there. There is a real Info Island—real in a certain sense. It’s real to a lot of people and from at least one perspective, not real at all. It’s in Second Life.”...

Internet Librarian, American Libraries 38, no. 3 (Mar. 2007): 34

Money, money, money at Midwinter

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/techspeaking/2007columns/techmar2007.cfm>]

Andrew Pace writes: “Deep Throat was right. Or at least Hal Holbrook (who portrayed him in All the President’s Men) was when he told Robert Redford (as Bob Woodward) to ‘Follow the money.’ Well, money was talking, as they say, at ALA Midwinter in Seattle, where over 12,000 librarians, library workers, and exhibitors gathered in January. Those are pretty good numbers for a Midwinter turnout, and ‘pretty good numbers’ seems to be what just about everyone out there is looking for these days.”...

Technically Speaking, American Libraries 38, no. 3 (Mar. 2007): 30–32

Bavarian library joins Google Book Search

[<http://booksearch.blogspot.com/2007/03/bavarian-state-library-becomes-largest.html>]

Google plans to digitize more than a million public-domain books in the Bayerische Staatsbibliothek [<http://www.bsb-muenchen.de/>] (the Bavarian State Library), according to Jens Redmer, head of Google Book Search in Europe, the Middle East, and Africa....

Inside Google Book Search blog, Mar. 6

Medical library tech trends [<http://medlibtechtrends.wordpress.com/>]

Find out what several librarians in the field of health care librarianship think are the most important technological trends....

Medical Library Tech Trends 2007 blog

Library 2.0 Ning network [<http://library20.ning.com/>]

Bill Drew, systems librarian at the State University of New York at Morrisville, has set up a social networking site on Ning for librarians and others interested in Library 2.0. Like other Ning networks, this one offers L2 feeds, podcasts, videos, photos, member bios, and a forum....

Library 2.0

Actions & Answers

LC adds to National Recordings Registry [<http://www.loc.gov/today/pr/2007/07-039.html>]

Librarian of Congress James H. Billington named sound recordings made by 25 musicians to the National Recording Registry March 6 to be preserved for all time. Among the selections are Franklin D. Roosevelt’s address to Congress after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941; Sam Cooke’s “A Change Is Gonna Come” (1965); Paul Simon’s 1986 album Graceland; “(I Can’t Get No) Satisfaction” by the Rolling Stones; and other notable performances by Jelly Roll Morton, the Carter Family, Bob Marley, Arthur Rubinstein, Cole Porter, Eubie Blake, and Sarah Vaughan....

Library of Congress, Mar. 6

Bodleian ephemera to go digital [<http://www.proquest.com/pressroom/pressrelease/07/20070305.shtml>]
The Joint Information Systems Committee announced March 5 that it will be funding a unique partnership between ProQuest CSA and Oxford University Library Services to digitize more than 65,000 items from the Bodleian Library's John Johnson Collection of Printed Ephemera. [<http://www.bodley.ox.ac.uk/johnson/johnson.htm>] Containing 1.5 million items ranging from 1508 to 1939, it spans the entire range of printing and social history. It was assembled by John de Monins Johnson (1882–1956), printer to the university, who was visionary in his preservation of Britain's vulnerable paper heritage....
ProQuest CSA, Mar. 5

Murder in the library, part 1
[<http://blogs.britannica.com/blog/main/2007/03/murder-in-the-library-part-i-a-%e2%80%93-h/>]
George Eberhart writes: "Murder in the library, as a literary plot, holds a certain peculiar fascination for many readers (especially librarians). Some of the plots revolve around specific rare books, but most are set in mythical academic and research libraries in the United States and United Kingdom. Here are a few titles (arranged alphabetically by author) to get you started."...
Britannica Blog, Mar. 5

Room for readers [<http://www.nea.org/neatoday/0703/feature4.html>]
Many schools are losing their librarians just when they need them the most. Because of cutbacks and funding decisions, some districts, such as Federal Way in Kings County, Washington, have lost more than half of their credentialed librarians. While reading is fundamental and literacy a growing focus, school libraries must still compete for precious school resources—space, money, staff, even respect. In response, librarians are finding new and creative ways to reach readers—both in and outside of school....
NEA Today, Mar.

now in full text [http://www.hwwilson.com/news/news_3_2_07.htm]
Wilson Library Bulletin, the trade magazine for librarians published from 1914 to 1995, now enjoys a second life as part of two leading H. W. Wilson library and information science databases. Full-text plus full-color PDF page images from the publication will run on Wilson's Library Literature & Information Science Full Text and Library Literature & Information Science Retrospective databases, at no extra charge to subscribers....
H. W. Wilson, Mar. 2

U.S. & China education exchange
[http://www.mls.lib.il.us/enounce/2007/01_03/USChinaexchange.asp]
Alice Calabrese-Berry writes about her experiences as part of a delegation of 20 librarians to the People's Republic of China in November 2006 sponsored by the People to People Ambassador's program and the China Education Association for International Exchange. Led by former ALA President John W. Barry, the delegates were paired with American K–12 computer education teachers....
Metropolitan Library System E-nounce 1, no. 3 (Feb. 21)

The next generation of superheroes
[<http://www.saudiaramcoworld.com/issue/200701/the.next.generation.of.superheroes.htm>]
The first English edition of The 99, a comic-book series whose superheroes are based on Islamic culture, was released in November 2006. Created by Kuwaiti psychologist Naif Al-Mutawa, the series features superheroes who are all imbued with the 99 qualities that the Qu'ran attributes to God. The plot surrounds the search for 99 mystical Noor stones, in which the librarians of Baghdad's House of Wisdom had hidden the library's knowledge from the Mongols in 1258....
Saudi Aramco World 58, no. 1 (Jan./Feb.)

Calgary Public Library television announcement [<http://youtube.com/watch?v=rQZk0CKgkIg>]
This 30-second PSA, "The greatest stories ever told," from the Calgary (Alta.) Public Library

demonstrates both simplicity of presentation and cleverness of message....

YouTube

New Australian TV show about librarians [<http://abc.net.au/corp/pubs/media/s1860093.htm>]

The humble suburban library takes on a new meaning in the Australian Broadcasting Corporation's new six-part comedy-drama series *The Librarians*, which starts production March 5 in Melbourne. Head Librarian Frances O'Brien (played by Robyn Butler) unravels when she is forced to employ her ex-best friend—now a drug dealer—as the children's librarian. Apparently O'Brien is Catholic and repressed and has difficulty dealing

[<http://www.theage.com.au/news/tv--radio/fun-between-the-covers/2006/12/25/1166895234791.html>] with Muslim, Asian, and gay patrons....

Australian Broadcasting Corp., Mar. 1; Melbourne Age, Dec. 28

Books for soldiers [<http://booksforsoldiers.com/index.php>]

This website sets you up as an official volunteer to send books, DVDs, games, and other supplies to any deployed American soldier, airman, sailor, marine, or coast guardsman who has an APO or FPO address. The site complies with Department of Defense guidelines that require enlisted personnel to request a package. Once you are approved as a Books for Soldiers volunteer, you can choose a branch of the service and select from a long list of requests....

Books for Soldiers

Army's Fort Huachuca library closes

[http://www.imcom.army.mil/site/news/huachuca_library.asp]

The library at the Army's Fort Huachuca installation in Arizona closed its doors March 1, but the Sierra Vista Public Library will offer its services to the military community there. After extensive analysis, post officials determined having the city provide library services to Army personnel was both cost-effective and beneficial. The municipal partnership was approved under congressional authority for Municipal Services Partnerships, received in the FY05 National Defense Authorization Act....

U.S. Army Installation Management Command, Feb. 8

Learning Is Power [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_PI2pFw5avc]

Adult learners at Springfield (Mass.) City Library's Read/Write/Now

[<http://www.springfieldlibrary.org/rwn/specialprojects.htm>] Adult Learning Center created a "Learning Is Power" video (17:50) to share their experiences about going back to school to work on basic reading, writing, and math skills. The video has helped the library explain to the public what basic adult education is and how important it is to have a second chance....

YouTube

First digital directory of women artist's papers online

[<http://waand.rutgers.edu/news/index.php>]

The first digital directory of archives holding the papers of women artists active in the United States since World War II is now online at Rutgers University. The Women Artists Archives National Directory [<http://waand.rutgers.edu>] unites online information on more than 80 repositories into a single union catalog. Librarian and art historian Ferris Olin and Professor Emerita Judith K. Brodsky have led the effort to build the directory....

WAAND, Feb. 15

Millikin University Peep research, 2003 [<http://www.millikin.edu/staley/peeps/>]

As Peep season rolls around once again, it's time to revisit (in case you missed it back then) the excellent 2003 study by Susan Avery and Jennifer Masciadrelli at Millikin University on the ability of Peeps to conduct library research. As they wrote, "we invited a small group of Peeps to visit Staley Library at Millikin University during the week of March 17–21, 2003, so that we could more closely observe their research practices. This was determined to be an ideal week for the

Peeps to visit the library, as Millikin University students were on spring break.”...
Peep Research

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/midwinter/2007/home.htm>]
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/annual/2007a/geninfo.htm>]

The ALA/ProQuest CSA Scholarship Bash

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/annual/2007a/scholarshipevent.htm>] will be held at ALA Annual Conference, Saturday, June 23, at 8:00 p.m., and provides scholarships for graduate LIS students. This year’s event will feature local political satirists Capitol Steps. Tickets are \$35.00 and can be purchased using the online registration form [<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/annual/2007a/registration.htm>].

[http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?_sn=catalog2&_pn=product_detail&_op=2248]
[http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?_sn=catalog2&_pn=product_detail&_op=2306]
[http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?_sn=catalog2&_pn=product_detail&_op=2251]

In Analyzing Library Collection Use with Excel,

[http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?_sn=catalog2&_pn=product_detail&_op=2251] collection development experts Tony Greiner and Bob Cooper show how to use Excel to translate circulation and collection data into meaningful reports for making collection management decisions. NEW! From ALA Editions.

Enter a Teen Tech Week contest [<http://www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/teentechweek/contests/contests.htm>]
All the deadlines have been extended through March 19. Celebrate TTW this week, March 4–10.

In this issue
March 2007

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/tableofcontents/2007contents/mar2007.cfm>]

Mattering in the Blogosphere: Observations from the Well-Connected

Search Fatigue

Midwinter Meeting Report

From the CentenniAL Blog

The way we were 1 [http://blogs.ala.org/AL100.php?title=amusing_photos_1&more=1&c=1&tb=1&pb=1]

Something a bit lighter this week. A sampling of some of the amusing and interesting photos that have run in American Libraries. Visit the blog [http://blogs.ala.org/AL100.php?title=amusing_photos_1&more=1&c=1&tb=1&pb=1] for more!

(Above) The cover of the January 1923 issue of the ALA Bulletin, featuring what may be the magazine's first photograph—a landscape of Hot Springs, Arkansas, site of that year's Annual Conference.

Barbara Toohey, reference librarian and “hug therapist” at Los Angeles Valley College, from the June 1980 American Libraries, p. 382.

Career Leads from
[<http://joblist.ala.org/>]

Curator, Charles L. Blockson Collection
[<http://joblist.ala.org/modules/jobseeker/controller.cfm?scr=jobdetail&jobid=5508>], Temple University, Philadelphia. The Blockson Collection promotes and supports the study of the histories and cultures of Africans and African-Americans, emphasizing the experience of African-descended people in Philadelphia and the Delaware Valley region....

@ More jobs [<http://joblist.ala.org/>]...

[<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.asp?u=776542920207>]
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/acrl/acrlpubs/crlnews/backissues2007/february07/february07.htm>]
[<http://www.healthsystem.virginia.edu/internet/library/historical/cfom/index.cfm>]
[<http://ala-apa.org/about/nlwd.html>]
[<http://www.techsource.ala.org/pr/assessing-audiobook-services-for-your-library.html>]

Assessing Audiobook Services for Your Library.

[<http://www.techsource.ala.org/pr/assessing-audiobook-services-for-your-library.html>] The latest issue of Library Technology Reports helps librarians make informed decisions about audiobook content and services. The author of the report, Tom Peters (a librarian and an avid user of audiobooks) explains, “The purpose of this report is not to convince librarians to implement a

digital audiobook service, but to help librarians make an informed decision.”

Public Perception How the World Sees Us

“In our civic life, public libraries play a critical role by facilitating citizens’ access to material that challenges the mind, engages the imagination, and encourages a well-informed citizenry able to exercise its enormous responsibilities in our republican form of government. The board’s decision preserves this important function of our public libraries by rejecting unnecessary and unwise censorship.”

?University of Arizona Law Professor Robert J. Glennon, on the decision of the Pima County (Ariz.) Board of Supervisors to allow adults to choose unfiltered internet access at county public libraries, Tucson Arizona Daily Star, Feb. 21.

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/smbus.htm>]

From now until May 10, [<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/smbus.htm>]
Woman’s Day magazine is collecting stories on how its readers have used the library to start their small businesses. The magazine announced the initiative in its March 6 issue, where it asked its women readers aged 18 and over to submit [<mailto:womansday@ala.org>] their stories in 700 words or less. Four of the submissions will be featured the March 2008 issue.

Demco’s Book Cart Drill Team World Championship is back by popular demand at ALA Annual Conference in Washington, Sunday, June 24. To enter your team, submit the form (PDF file [<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/annual/2007a/bookcart07.pdf>]) by June 1.

Poll What do YOU do?

Does your library have a presence in Second Life?

Click here to ANSWER [<http://www.zoomerang.com/survey.zgi?p=WEB2268MHSWUVD>]!

=====

Results of the
February 28 poll:

What is your patron cell phone policy?

34%
Phones off

44%
Selective enforcement

7%
Complete toleration

17%
Other

(143 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. I need to take librarian continuing education courses that will grant me Continuing Education Units (CEUs). Where can I find these?

A. Although many library organizations offer some form of continuing education programs, not all programs have had their offerings evaluated according to the CEU standards set forth by the International Association for Continuing Education & Training [<http://www.iacet.org>] (IACET). Your best bet is to check with your state library—especially if earning CEUs is directly related to your state’s public librarian certification. The state library can provide details on courses that will fulfill those requirements or may provide the courses themselves. The IACET website has an online database of over 500 IACET authorized providers. Find out more on the ALA Professional Tips wiki [http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/CE_courses_with_CEUs].

The ALA Librarian [<mailto:AskTheLibrarian@ala.org>] welcomes your questions.

Calendar

Mar. 29–

Apr. 1:
ACRL National Conference [<http://www.acrl.org/ala/acrl/acrlevents/baltimore/baltimore.htm>],
Baltimore, Maryland. “Sailing into the Future—Charting Our Destiny.” Contact: Margot
Sutton Conahan [<mailto:msutton@ala.org>], 800-545-2433, ext. 2522.

Apr. 1–30:
School Library Media Month.
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aasl/aaslissues/aasladvocacy/schoollibrary.htm>] “Come Together @
your library.”

Apr. 15–21:
National Library Week. [<http://www.ala.org/ala/pio/natlibraryweek/nlw.htm>] “Come Together @
your library.” Contact: Megan Humphrey [<mailto:mhumphrey@ala.org>], Public Information
Office, 800-545-2433, ext. 4020.

Apr. 17:
National Library Workers Day. [<http://www.ala-apa.org/about/nlwd.html>] Contact: Jenifer Grady,
[<mailto:jgrady@ala.org>] ALA–Allied Professional Association, 800-545-2433, ext. 2424.

May 1–2:
National Library Legislative Day
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/washoff/washevents/nlld/nationallibrary.htm>], Washington, D.C. Contact:
Erin Haggerty [<mailto:ehaggerty@alawash.org>].

June 20–22:
Council on Library/Media Technicians, Annual Conference
[<http://colt.ucr.edu/events.html#CALENDAR>], Washington, D.C. “Library Support Staff: An
Essential Piece of the Library Landscape.”

June 21–27:
ALA Annual Conference [<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/annual/2007a/home.htm>],
Washington, D.C. Contact: ALA [<mailto:customerservice@ala.org>], 800-545-2433, press 5.

Aug. 2–6:
Black Caucus of the ALA, National Conference of African American Librarians
[http://www.bcala.org/NCAAL_participation/index.html], Fort Worth, Texas. “Culture Keepers
VI: Preserving the Past, Sustaining the Future.” Contact: Carolyn F. Norman
[<mailto:cnorman@cccoco.edu>], 916-445-0837.

Sept. 29–

Oct. 6:
Banned Books Week [<http://www.ala.org/ala/oif/bannedbooksweek/bannedbooksweek.htm>].

Oct. 4–7:
LITA National Forum
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/lita/litaevents/litanationalforum2007denver/callforproposals.cfm>], Denver.
“Technology with Altitude: 10 Years of the LITA National Forum.” Contact: Mary Taylor
[<mailto:mtaylor@ala.org>].

Oct. 14–20:
Teen Read Week [<http://www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/teenreading/teenreading.htm>], Tenth Anniversary
Celebration.

Oct. 25–28:

AASL National Conference [<http://www.ala.org/ala/aasl/conferencesandevents/national/reno2007.htm>],
Reno, Nevada. “The Future Begins @ your library.” Contact: Kathy Agarwal,
[mailto:kagarwal@ala.org] 312-280-4381.

@ More [<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/datebook/datebook.cfm>]...

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american libraries DIRECT

March 14, 2007

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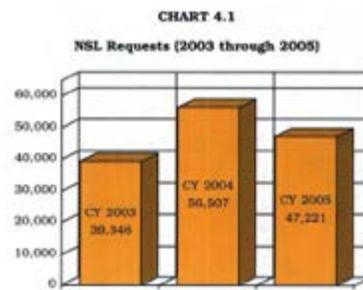
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U.S. & World News

[FBI misuses Patriot Act, FBI audit says](#)

Poorly trained FBI agents underreported the number of times the agency issued National Security Letters to obtain financial and telecommunications records in antiterrorism investigations, neglected to provide proper justification for their use, and failed to put in place record-keeping procedures to ensure civil liberties were protected, according to a Justice Department audit released March 9. ALA President Leslie Burger said in a March 9 [release](#) that the "findings confirm many of ALA's most repeatedly stated concerns about the lack of oversight into the FBI's surveillance activities"....



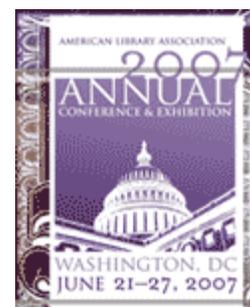
[Sports Illustrated decides libraries don't need swimsuit issue](#)

Librarians on Publib and other discussion lists discovered in the first week of March that none of them had received the February 14 "swimsuit issue" of *Sports Illustrated*. Inquiries to publisher Time Warner eventually resulted in a statement from spokesman Rick McCabe that the company had withheld shipment of that issue to some 21,000 libraries and schools because for years the magazine had received complaints it was too risqué. In a March 9 [statement](#), ALA President Leslie Burger called Time Warner's decision "patronizing and paternalistic in the extreme." But libraries will get a [second chance](#)—they will receive a postcard this week allowing them to reclaim their copies....



[West Virginia fine-tunes library funding scheme](#)

The West Virginia House and Senate were working March 9 to reconcile two versions of a bill that would resolve a public library-funding formula declared unconstitutional in December by the state supreme court....



Browse for speakers and events in the [Preliminary Program](#) online.

Bloggers wanted! If you will be blogging events at ALA Annual Conference, [add your site to the list](#) in the Annual Conference wiki.



The new [National Library Week 2007](#) campaign materials illustrate the wealth of

[Minneapolis Public Library votes to join county system](#)

The beleaguered Minneapolis Public Library voted 7–1 to merge with the Hennepin County Public Library at an emotional March 7 board meeting. If approved by the state legislature, the Minneapolis system—which has struggled since 2003 with reductions in local funding, staff reductions, and branch closings—will become part of a new system to be called the Hennepin County Library....



opportunities that can be found at the library. Let your patrons know that your library is the place to come together for books, CDs, videos, computer access, and community interaction. **From ALA Graphics.**

[Cedar Rapids slashes library budget by 8%](#)

The Cedar Rapids, Iowa, city council passed a budget March 7 that cut \$367,000 from the library's budget—an 8% reduction. Director Lori Barkema said the library would likely address the cut by eliminating Sunday hours, closing the West Side branch, buying fewer materials, or a combination of those measures. "We're just trying to piece together enough areas" to meet the new budget....

ALA News

[Libraries celebrate open government during Sunshine Week](#)

ALA celebrates Sunshine Week, March 12–16, a weeklong recognition of the importance of open government and freedom of information. It culminates in the National Freedom of Information Day Conference March 16 at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C. The event, themed "Access: Oversight & Priorities," is sponsored by the First Amendment Center in cooperation with ALA....



[Your Day on the Hill.](#)

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. Submit an idea for your group's display **by April 12.**

[Advocacy Institute in Kentucky](#)

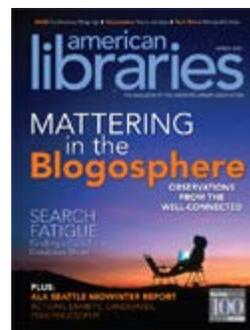
ALA will present an Advocacy Institute at the joint annual conference of the Kentucky Public Libraries Association and Kentucky Library Trustees Round Table on April 25 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Hilton Cincinnati Airport hotel in Florence, Kentucky....

[Second call for comments on accreditation standards](#)

The Committee on Accreditation has issued a second call for comments on its proposed update to the *Standards for Accreditation of Master's Programs in Library and Information Studies 1992*. A comments questionnaire and supporting documents are on the [COA website](#)....

In this issue

March 2007



Mattering in the Blogosphere: Observations from the Well-Connected

Search Fatigue

Booklist

ONLINE

[Featured review: Media](#)

Draper, Sharon. *Copper Sun*. Read by Myra Lucretia Taylor. Dec. 2006. 9 hrs. Recorded Books, CD (978-1-4281-2254-3).

Taylor turns in a powerful performance in her reading of this 2007 Coretta Scott King Award

winner. At times her pacing is a bit awkward, and she uses some inconsistent pronunciations, but these are minor flaws as she convincingly voices all of the characters, including 15-year-old Amari, whose world is turned upside down when she is forced onto a Middle Passage boat bound for the Carolinas. Her journey through American slavery is vividly told....



Game for reading

Next time you notice teens playing video games, talking to friends about one, reading gaming magazines, participating on discussion boards, reading fan fiction, or drawing characters, find out more about what games they like. Then suggest titles from this list to partner with their interests. You may find that young adult readers and gamers have a lot to teach you about learning and literacy through play....



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

Midwinter Meeting Report

From the CentennialAL Blog



"Lucky" is probably not a word most people would use to describe being [trapped in Moscow](#) during a violent coup d'état, but the small band of librarians who stayed behind during the IFLA conference in August 1991, while the airports closed and tanks rolled into the city, will never forget what they saw. Sixteen years after the fact, most believe that it was indeed a privilege to have been witnesses to those historic events....



D.C. Update

How to find meeting rooms

If you want to find out where a room is located at the Washington Convention Center, you can go to its [website](#) and click on the button for "Meeting Planners" that lists floor charts. Most, if not all, of the ALA conference hotels should also have information on their websites for meeting planners that lists floor charts for the rooms and ballrooms. The floor charts are an easy way to help you get to the meeting, program, event, or preconference, and assist in estimating travel time....

Talking Reference & (RUSA) blog, Mar. 12

African American Civil War Museum

In January 1999, the African American Civil War Museum opened to the public. Displaying photographs, documents, period weapons, and uniforms, the museum helps visitors understand the African American soldier's heroic and largely unknown struggle for freedom. The museum is located at 1200 U Street, two blocks west of the Memorial at 1000 U Street....

African American Civil War Museum



National Museum of Natural History

Career Leads

This green-domed Smithsonian museum on the National Mall opened in 1910 to house the nation's zoological and ethnological collections, among them 30 million insects carefully pinned into tiny boxes, 4½ million plants pressed onto sheets of paper in the Museum's herbarium, 7 million fish in liquid-filled jars, and 2 million cultural artifacts, including 400,000 photographs housed in the National Anthropological Archives....

Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History



Division News

[West Coast warmly receives PLA Symposium](#)

More than 700 public librarians gathered in San José, California, March 1–3, for the PLA 2007 Spring Symposium. The biennial event included six day-and-a-half long workshops featuring PLA's trademark high-quality continuing education programming, sold-out tours of the city's public libraries, and an Author Luncheon featuring best-selling author Po Bronson (above). Hear Bronson's [presentation](#) (56:14) on the PLA Blog....



[Support Teen Literature Day](#)

YALSA will celebrate the first Teen Literature Day April 19. Librarians across the country are encouraged to participate by hosting events in their libraries. The purpose of the new celebration is to raise awareness among the general public that young adult literature is a vibrant, growing genre with much to offer today's teens. YALSA has compiled a list of activities, display ideas, and contests....

[Five RUSA preconferences at Annual](#)

Register now for one of the five RUSA preconferences on Friday, June 22, in Washington, D.C. Topics include genealogy, interlibrary loan, older adults, reinvented reference, and resource sharing....

[ALSC seeks host site for 2008 Arbuthnot Lecture](#)

Applications are now available to institutions interested in hosting the 2008 May Hill Arbuthnot Lecture to be delivered by David Macaulay, Caldecott Medalist and renowned author/illustrator. 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....

[Webber named LAMA financial chair](#)

Desiree Webber, director of the Mustang (Okla.) Public Library, has been named chair of LAMA's Financial Advancement Committee....

Round Table News

[LSSIRT accomplishments](#) (PDF file)

Find out the recent activities, goals, and personalities behind the Library Support Staff Interests Round Table in its February

from
ALA **JobLIST**

[Graduate Assistantships](#), James E. Brooks Library, Central Washington University, Ellensburg. A program for individuals who already have an MLS or equivalent and who desire a second subject master degree. This unique two-year program allows an individual to study in any of eighteen graduate programs while gaining valuable professional experience in an academic library....

@ [More jobs...](#)



Science librarians

Maud Mundava and Jayati Chaudhuri describe the role of librarians at the University of Tennessee in assisting students to practice fair use, in "[Understanding Plagiarism](#)," in the March issue of *College & Research Libraries News*.

newsletter...
LSSIRT Newsletter, Feb.

Awards

[Barbara Bibel wins RUSA's Mudge Award](#)

Barbara Bibel, reference librarian at the Oakland (Calif.) Public Library, has received the 2007 Isadore Gilbert Mudge-R. R. Bowker Award presented by RUSA. The award of \$5,000 and a citation, donated by R. R. Bowker, recognizes distinguished contributions to reference librarianship....



[RUSA STARS-Atlas Mentoring Award](#)

Danielle Cournoyer, library specialist at Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff, has received the 2007 STARS-Atlas Mentoring Award administered by RUSA's Sharing and Transforming Access to Resources Section. The \$1,000 award is for travel and related expenses to attend the ALA Annual Conference....

[RUSA Award for Service to Minority Business Communities](#)

Liz Kudwa, business reference librarian at the Capital Area District Library in Lansing, Michigan, is the 2007 recipient of RUSA's Dun & Bradstreet Award for Outstanding Service to Minority Business Communities. Kudwa received the award for her biweekly "Ask the Business Reference Library" column in the *New Citizens Press* newspaper....



[RUSA Public Librarian Support Award](#)

Rachelle Miller, business specialist at the Dayton (Ohio) Metro Library, received RUSA's Dun & Bradstreet Public Librarian Support Award. The \$1,000 travel award is sponsored by Dun & Bradstreet to support attendance at ALA Annual Conference of a business librarian who works in a public library....

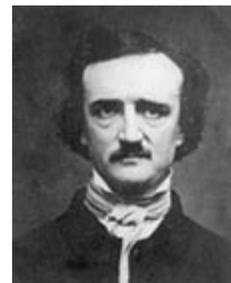
[Braille Institute Library gets ASCLA/KLAS/NOD Award](#)

The Braille Institute Library in Los Angeles has received the 2007 ASCLA/KLAS/NOD Award. It was selected for its [Telephone Reader Program](#) that began in 2000 and blossomed into an important service for people in the area with visual disabilities....



[ASCLA Leadership Achievement Award](#)

Lee A. Logan, director of consulting and continuing education for the Alliance Library System in East Peoria, Illinois, and Kitty Pope, ALS executive director, are the 2007 corecipients of the ASCLA Leadership Achievement Award. The award recognizes sustained activity in consulting, multitype library cooperation, and state library development....



Nevermore! will you have to worry about what to do in Baltimore during the ACRL National Conference, with this [handy guide to bookstores](#) and literary sites to explore.

Public Perception

How the World Sees Us

"Libraries have an ambivalent attitude to marginalia. On the one hand, they quite properly object to people defacing their property. . . . On the other hand, libraries cannot suppress a flush of pride on acquiring an ancient text 'annotated' by someone famous. Like graffiti, marginalia acquire respectability through age (and, sometimes, wit)."

—British author and columnist Ben Schott, in his essay "Confessions of a Book Abuser," *New York Times*, Mar. 4.



[Murdock wins ASCLA Campbell Award](#)

Sue O. Murdock, head librarian of the Carnegie Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped in Pittsburgh, has received the 2007 Francis Joseph Campbell Award. The award is presented to a library or individual who has made an outstanding contribution to the advancement of library service for the blind and physically handicapped....

[ASCLA Exceptional Service Award](#)

Diana Reese, coordinator of institutional library services for the Colorado State Library, has received ASCLA's Exceptional Service Award for her work with state correctional institutions....

[ASCLA Professional Achievement Award](#)

Thomas J. Sanville, executive director of OhioLINK in Columbus, has received the 2007 ASCLA Professional Achievement Award. The award is presented to an ASCLA member for professional achievement in consulting, networking, statewide service, and programs....



[RUSA ABC-CLIO Online History Award](#)

Faith Jones, head of the literature and language collection at New York Public's Mid-Manhattan Library, has won the RUSA ABC-CLIO Online History Award. Jones received the award for her work in the creation and completion of the [Yizkor Books Project](#)....



[RUSA ABC-CLIO online history honorable mentions](#)

RUSA's History Section has awarded honorable mentions to three online history resources: the [Bethlehem Digital History Project](#), [Densho: The Japanese American Legacy Project](#), and the [Giza Archives Project](#)....

[Bookapalooza to give away books](#)

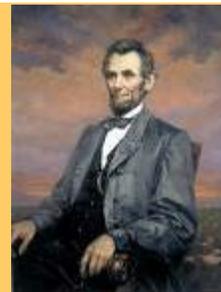
Applications now are being accepted for ALSC's new Bookapalooza program, which will offer select libraries a collection of materials to help transform their collections. The application deadline is April 15....

Seen Online

[NARA records removed from public view](#)

More than 1 million pages of historical government documents—a stack taller than the U.S. Capitol—have been removed from public view since the September 2001 terror attacks, according to records obtained by the Associated Press. Some of the papers are more than a century old. In some cases, entire file boxes were removed without significant review because the the National Archives and Records Administration did not have time for a more thorough audit....

Associated Press, Mar. 13



The [Missoula \(Mont.\) Public Library](#) is hosting "Forever Free: Abraham Lincoln's Journey to Emancipation," a traveling exhibition sponsored by the ALA Public Programs Office from March 8 to April 24. A [traveling panel exhibit](#) that reexamines Lincoln's efforts toward the abolition of slavery during the Civil War, "Forever Free" consists of reproductions of rare historical documents and draws on the latest scholarship in the field.

Poll

What do YOU think?

How does your budget forecast for FY 2008 compare to the current fiscal year?

[Click here to ANSWER!](#)

Results of the March 7 poll:

Does your library have a presence in Second Life?

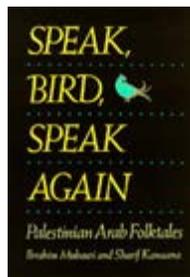
0%
Yes

82%
No

[Book ban turns intra-Palestinian fight into a cultural one](#)

For more than 30 years, anthropologist Sharif Kanaana has been collecting and studying Palestinian folk tales so that people at home and abroad would understand the story of his people. This week, the Hamas-run Palestinian Authority added a new chapter: a directive to pull Kanaana's book *Speak Bird, Speak Again* from school libraries and destroy it. The decision underscores the struggle for ideological and political hegemony, one that is making itself felt more strongly than ever before....

Christian Science Monitor, Mar. 9



[History, digitized and abridged](#)

As more museums and archives become digital domains, and as electronic resources become the main tool for gathering information, items left behind in nondigital form, scholars and archivists say, are in danger of disappearing from the collective cultural memory, potentially leaving our historical fabric riddled with holes. For every letter from Abraham Lincoln to William Seward that can be found online, millions of documents bearing fine-grained witness to the Civil War will never be digitized....

New York Times, Mar. 10

[Massachusetts threatens to cut talking book funds](#)

Visually challenged library users in Massachusetts are vowing to fight tens of thousands of dollars in proposed cuts to talking book programs. Gov. Deval Patrick's \$26.7 billion budget proposes cutting \$100,000 from the Braille and talking book library program at the Perkins School for the Blind and \$18,000 from the \$390,000 talking book program at the Worcester library....

Associated Press, Mar. 12

[Merced school librarians could get rehired](#)

At least four library media specialists may get their jobs back with the Merced City (Calif.) School District. But instead of overseeing library tasks for students at one school, they'll be working with 2,600 students at several campuses. The proposed plan changes the jobs from being site-based to district-based, giving the job of 16 to four library media teachers....

Merced (Calif.) Sun-Star, Mar. 8

[Former school librarian wins compensation claim](#)

Embattled former Liberty (N.Y.) High School librarian Angela Page won a major decision March 9 against the district that is trying to fire her. Page said she developed multiple chemical hypersensitivities from exposure to mold at the library due to a leaking roof. The workman's compensation board concurred in its initial decision handed down last year....

Middletown (N.Y.) Times Herald-Record, Mar. 12

[Salinas libraries expand hours](#)

The Salinas (Calif.) Public Library increased its hours by more than 30% March 13. Thanks to funding provided by the passage of Measure V, the library has been able to recruit and train a sufficient number of staff to increase the current 69 hours of service per week—three libraries combined—to 101 hours....

Salinas Californian, Mar. 9

[Teens buying books at the fastest rate in decades](#)

9%
Thinking about it

13%
Don't know

(70 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. In our public library, circulation is soaring, and frankly, we need more staff. Is there an ALA standard for how many employees are needed?

A. Neither ALA nor the Public Library Association sets prescriptive standards for public libraries, including a number of staff needed per capita. Instead, we advocate an outcomes-based assessment process set forth in a series of books on planning and assessment—the [PLA "Results" books](#). The reason for this is that each library serves a different community with different needs. For example, a library serving a community with many young

Teen book sales are booming—up by a quarter between 1999 and 2005, by one industry analysis—and the quality is soaring as well. Credit a bulging teen population, a surge of global talent, and perhaps a bit of Harry Potter afterglow as the preteen Muggles of yesteryear carry an ingrained reading habit into later adolescence. Older teens in particular are enjoying a surge of sophisticated fare as young adult literature becomes a global phenomenon....

Seattle Post-Intelligencer, Mar. 7

[Teen disruptions in Tallahassee](#)

Helen Moeller, director of the LeRoy Collins Leon County Public Library in Tallahassee, Florida, said students from various local schools have been loud and rowdy, disrupting staff and other patrons as soon as school lets out. Leon County Sheriff's Deputy Bill Capece, the resource officer assigned to the main library, stands at the top of the steps leading to the entrance, dressed in his deputy's uniform, his hand resting on top of the gun in his holster....

Tallahassee (Fla.) Democrat, Mar. 11

[Is that just a game? No, it's a cultural artifact](#)

When Henry Lowood, curator of the History of Science and Technology Collections at Stanford University, started preserving video games and video-game artifacts in 1998, he thought it was closer to professional oblivion than a bold new move into the future. On March 8 at the annual Game Developers Conference in San Francisco, Lowood announced a game canon, an idea closely modeled on the work of the National Film Preservation Board, which every year compiles a list of films to be added to LC's National Film Registry....

New York Times, Mar. 12



[Come for the Xbox, stay for the books](#)

Lauren Mechling writes: "As a young adult author, should I be happy or worried that libraries across America are using video games, music, and movies to capture the attention of teens? As I type this, R&B singer Jaheim's new album *Ghetto Classics* is blaring from a speaker overhead. A dozen or so teenage boys are clustered around a honeycomb of computers, chewing the fat while a couple of them watch an Akon music video and the rest surf MySpace."...

Boston Globe, Mar. 11

[Alaskan gamer gets laptop back](#)

Brian Tanner, the web surfer whose computer police seized after chasing him twice from the Palmer (Alaska) Public Library parking lot, has his laptop back. Tanner said Palmer police called March 3 saying he could pick the machine up after police checked it for child pornography....

Anchorage (Alaska) Daily News, Mar. 10

[Speck-tacular fun in Oswego](#)

There were squeals of excitement at the Chinese New Year's party at the Oswego (N.Y.) Public Library February 16 from children as well as the guest of honor—a miniature pot-bellied pig named Speck. Monique Frey, an English teacher at Pulaski High School, brought her pet for



families wants and needs a library with different facilities and services than a library serving a similar size population with a high percentage of empty-nesters and retirees. Find out more on the [ALA Professional Tips wiki](#).

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

Calendar

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 State University, Corvallis. "Finding Community: Civics, Cyberspace, and Change." Contact: [Lynne Mildenstein](#), 541-617-7061.

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:

the celebration, as 2007 is the Year of the Pig. Judi Furnari, children's program coordinator at the library, arranged the event....
Oswego (N.Y.) Daily News, Feb. 19

[Abandoned books still in old East St. Louis library](#)

For the 7,000 books sitting in a storage unit on State Street in East St. Louis, Illinois, it's abandonment all over again. The books were among at least 10,000 items including magazines and record albums left in a shuttered city library for more than three years. Many of the items became makeshift beds or fire starters for homeless people, who broke into the library for shelter....

St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Mar. 11

[Rockford College to auction rare books](#)

Six months after auctioning off about 2,000 pieces of art, Rockford (Ill.) College now has plans to put the school's rare book collection on the block. Liquidation of the rare books is the latest attempt at reducing the sizable debt that's plagued the private liberal arts college for decades. The first of two book auctions will be March 16, when 14 rare books will be sold; other titles in the collection will be auctioned in mid to late April....

Rock River Times, Mar. 7

[The Wikipedia scandal](#)

Wikipedia's latest scandal is the revelation that a high-ranking administrator, and employee (until March) of the associated commercial venture Wikia, had falsified his academic credentials. It turns out the contributor nicknamed Essjay was not a tenured professor at a private university but a 24-year-old named Ryan Jordan who holds no advanced degrees....

The Guardian (U.K.), Mar. 8

Tech Talk

[All SirsiDynix roads lead to Rome](#)

Andrew Pace writes: "SirsiDynix announced March 13 ([PDF file](#)) that it would begin developing a 'holistic platform' for its automation system, code-named Rome. That means that Horizon 7.3 and Unicorn 3.1 (right) will be the last versions of those products from SirsiDynix. Horizon 8/Corinthian and Unicorn 3.2 *will not* be released. That said, Rome will be built (not in a day, I venture) upon the architecture of the Unicorn system. The problem, to me, is that all the descriptions of Rome sound a lot like the descriptions of Horizon 8.0."...

Hectic Pace blog, Mar. 13



[Viacom sues Google over YouTube clips](#)

Viacom slapped YouTube and parent company Google with a lawsuit March 13, accusing the wildly popular video-sharing site of "massive intentional copyright infringement" and seeking more than \$1 billion in damages. The complaint, filed in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York, contends that nearly 160,000 unauthorized clips of Viacom's entertainment programming have been available on YouTube and that these clips have been viewed more than 1.5 billion times. But whether the DMCA's wording will let Viacom win is a [surprisingly open question](#)....

[WLA](#).

Apr. 23–25:

[New Jersey Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Ocean Place Conference Center, Long Branch. "Protecting Privacy and Freedom in Your Library." Contact: [NJLA](#), 609-394-8032.

Apr. 25–28:

[Montana Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Helena. "The Tipping Point: Moving Montana Libraries from Good to Great." Contact: [MLA](#).

May 2–4:

[Maryland Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Clarion Resort, Ocean City. "Maryland Libraries: The Wave of the Future." Contact: [MLA](#), 410-947-5090.

May 2–4:

[Massachusetts Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Sturbridge. "Branching Out @ MLA." Contact: [MLA](#), 508-428-5865.

May 2–4:

[Asociacion Mexicana de Bibliotecarios](#), Jornadas Mexicanas de Biblioteconomía, León. "Las Bibliotecas de Cara a la Sociedad del Conocimiento."

May 3–5:

[LOEX 2007](#), Bahia Resort Hotel, San Diego, California. "Uncharted Waters: Tapping the Depths of Our Community to Enhance Learning." Contact: [Tracey Mayfield](#).

C|net.news, Mar. 13

[Flickr debuts Collections](#)

Flickr has launched a way to categorize and organize your photo sets or "collections." A collection is a container into which you can place either sets or other collections, allowing you to create a hierarchy as deep as five. Collections get a spiffy new "mosaic" icon (like the Flora example here) to represent them....



Flickr blog, Mar. 13

[Not so fast, Comcast tells bandwidth hogs](#)

Amanda Lee of Cambridge, Massachusetts, received a call from Comcast in December ordering her to curtail her Web use or lose her high-speed internet connection for a year. Lee, who said she had been using the same broadband connection for years without a problem, was taken aback. But when she asked what the download limit was, she was told there was no limit, that she was just downloading too much....

Boston Globe, Mar. 12

[Congress to issue digital TV coupons?](#)

Brushing aside congressional suggestions that the nation is ill-prepared for the conversion to digital TV in 2009, the Department of Commerce March 12 unveiled its plan to help subsidize the switchover from analog. In the National Telecommunications and Information Administration plan, each household can claim two \$40 coupons that they then can use toward the purchase of a set-top box that can translate digital signals so television shows can be viewed on analog TVs....

Reuters, Mar. 13

[LC Bibliographic Control meeting](#)

Karen Coyle writes: "No one defined the term bibliographic control during the meeting of the [Library of Congress Working Group on the Future of Bibliographic Control](#), and in fact it was rarely voiced as a term. By the end of the day, none of us in the audience could have made a clear statement about the day's topic. The speaker who seemed most on track (and who was the most interesting, IMO) was Timothy Burke, professor of history. Burke talked about how he searches for information, but most importantly he talked about why he searches for information."...

Coyle's InFormation blog, Mar. 9

[Computer-savvy search database launched](#)

Metaweb, a new company founded by technologist Danny Hillis, is creating a vast public database intended to be read by computers rather than people, paving the way for a more automated internet. On [Freebase](#), information will be structured to make it possible for software programs to discern relationships and meaning. For example, the database could field a query about a child-friendly dentist within 10 miles of one's home and yield a single result....

New York Times, Mar. 8

[Toward an interplanetary internet](#)

Teams from NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory and the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency are

May 8:

[Delaware Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Sheraton Hotel, Dover. "Current and Future Technologies." Contact: [DLA](#).

May 15–16:

[Vermont Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Sheraton Burlington Hotel and Conference Center. "Hands of Vermont." Contact: [Maureen McLoughlin](#), 802-878-5645.

May 16–18:

[Utah Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Provo. "Living Libraries: Remembering Our Past, Planning Our Future."

May 17–18:

[New Hampshire Library Association/ New Hampshire Educational Media Association](#), Annual Conference, Mount Washington Hotel, Bretton Woods. "Connecting NH Libraries." Contact: [Heather Shumway](#).

May 17–21:

[Phoenix Rising](#), New Orleans, Louisiana. A conference devoted to all things *Harry Potter*. Contact: [Phoenix Rising](#).

May 18–21:

[Academic Library Advancement and Development Network](#), Annual Conference, Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel, Banff, Alberta.

Rachel Singer Gordon is writing a book on alternative careers for librarians and she wants to hear from anyone who has pursued a nontraditional path—those who have embarked on a new career after working for some time in libraries, those who earned an MLS but never worked in a traditional library setting, those who pursue alternative opportunities as a supplement, those who work in a traditional setting but do nontraditional work, and those who work in nontraditional settings...

Liminal Librarian blog, Mar. 9

[Rachel Carson Online Book Club](#)

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, along with Friends of the National Conservation Training Center, launched the [Rachel Carson Online Book Club](#) in March and continuing through November 2007. The book club will “focus on the life and work of Rachel Carson, including her role as a female leader in science and government. Through the study of her writing, the Book Club will provide an opportunity for dialogue and discussion of current environmental issues in light of Carson’s legacy.”...

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Feb. 26



[NCAC report discusses censorship of science](#)

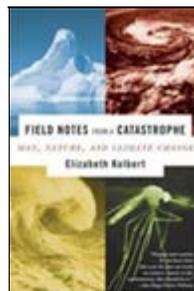
The National Coalition Against Censorship has issued a report that details the censorship of government scientists, suppression and distortion of research, intimidation in federal science agencies, and the serious First Amendment implications of such practices. *Political Science* ([PDF file](#)) comes in the wake of an action by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, which on February 26 issued an [internal memo](#) to its biologists and other employees instructing them not to publicly discuss climate change, Arctic polar bears, or the status of sea ice unless they are specifically authorized to do so....

National Coalition Against Censorship, Mar. 12; *Federal Times*, Mar. 13

[Santa Barbara reads for Earth Day](#)

Faculty and students at the University of California at Santa Barbara are reading the same book this spring to spread the awareness of global warming. Elizabeth Kolbert’s *Field Notes from a Catastrophe* (Bloomsbury, 2006) will be the focus of events and discussions leading up to Earth Day, April 22. The Santa Barbara Public Library is also joining in a series of [community conversations](#) throughout April....

University of California at Santa Barbara



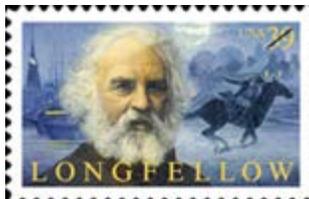
[CUPA-HR survey finds senior academic salaries up](#)

The College and University Professional Association for Human Resources 2006–2007 administrative [salary survey](#) shows median base salaries have risen by 4% for senior-level administrative jobs. The median salary for a director of library services was \$79,560 over all institutions reporting....

CUPA-HR, Feb. 27

[Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Librarian](#)

The U.S. Postal Service will issue a stamp on March 15 to commemorate the bicentennial of American poet Longfellow’s birth. Longfellow served as librarian of Bowdoin College Library in Brunswick, Maine, from 1829 to 1835 during the



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

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ext. 4216

ISSN 1559-369X.

same period in which he taught modern languages for the college. It was typical for colleges to tap a faculty member to serve as librarian on a part-time basis....

Library History Buff, Mar. 6

[IFLA/OCLC Early Career Development Fellowship Program](#)

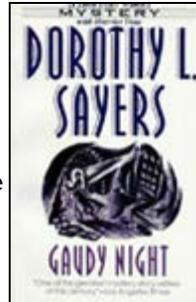
Applications are being accepted until March 16 for a fellowship program that provides early career development and continuing education for LIS professionals from countries with developing economies. Up to five individuals will be selected to participate in this five-week program that will take place in Dublin, Ohio, and Leiden in the Netherlands....

OCLC

[Murder in the library, part 2](#)

More skulduggery in the stacks of academic and research libraries, as George Eberhart concludes a brief review of detective bibliofiction. In *Gaudy Night*, unusual happenings at Shrewsbury College, Oxford University, include missing manuscript proofs from the library tended by Miss Burrows, who complains, "The trouble is, that everybody sneers at restrictions and demands freedom, till something annoying happens; then they demand angrily what has become of the discipline."...

Britannica Blog, Mar. 12



[IMLS Conservation Bookshelf initiative](#)

The Institute of Museum and Library Services invites proposals for a cooperative agreement to purchase and distribute a set of conservation-related books, bibliographies, DVDs, and online resources as part of its [Connecting to Collections](#) initiative. The cooperator will also mount a promotional campaign about the initiative, with special attention to raising awareness and soliciting requests for the bookshelf from small to medium-sized museums, libraries, and archives....

Institute of Museum and Library Services, Mar. 13

[Bizarre titles of 2006](#)

They are not the kind of titles that are likely to top the bestseller charts. But half a dozen bizarre tomes, including a guide to stray shopping carts and a history of a Coventry ice-cream business, may win their 15 minutes of fame as contenders for the Oddest Book Title of the Year. The competition, which has been run by [The Bookseller](#) magazine since 1978, invites publishers, booksellers, and librarians to submit their choices of the strange and odd....

The Independent (U.K.), Mar. 9



Having trouble viewing this HTML e-mail? Click here [[util.viewHtmlLink %>](#)].

March 14, 2007

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[<http://www.sirsidynix.com/Solutions/Products/portalsearch.php>]

[<http://www.sirsidynix.com>]

U.S. & World News

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FBI misuses Patriot Act, FBI audit says

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2007/march2007/fbiaudit.cfm>]
Poorly trained FBI agents underreported the number of times the agency issued National Security Letters to obtain financial and telecommunications records in antiterrorism investigations, neglected to provide proper justification for their use, and failed to put in place record-keeping procedures to ensure civil liberties were protected, according to a Justice Department audit released March 9. ALA President Leslie Burger said in a March 9 release [<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/burgerfbi.htm>] that the “findings confirm many of ALA’s most repeatedly stated concerns about the lack of oversight into the FBI’s surveillance activities”....

decides libraries don't need swimsuit issue

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2007/march2007/sportsill.cfm>]
Librarians on Publib and other discussion lists discovered in the first week of March that none of them had received the February 14 “swimsuit issue” of Sports Illustrated. Inquiries to publisher Time Warner eventually resulted in a statement from spokesman Rick McCabe that the company had withheld shipment of that issue to some 21,000 libraries and schools because for years

the magazine had received complaints it was too risqué. In a March 9 statement [<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/sistatement.htm>], ALA President Leslie Burger called Time Warner's decision "patronizing and paternalistic in the extreme." But libraries will get a second chance [<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/si07.htm>]
—they will receive a postcard this week allowing them to reclaim their copies....

West Virginia fine-tunes library funding scheme

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2007/march2007/morekanawha.cfm>]
The West Virginia House and Senate were working March 9 to reconcile two versions of a bill that would resolve a public library's funding formula declared unconstitutional in December by the state supreme court....

Minneapolis Public Library votes to join county system

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2007/march2007/newhennepin.cfm>]
The beleaguered Minneapolis Public Library voted 7-1 to merge with the Hennepin County Public Library at an emotional March 7 board meeting. If approved by the state legislature, the Minneapolis system—which has struggled since 2003 with reductions in local funding, staff reductions, and branch closings—will become part of a new system to be called the Hennepin County Library....

Cedar Rapids slashes library budget by 8%

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2007/march2007/cedarrapids.cfm>]
The Cedar Rapids, Iowa, city council passed a budget March 7 that cut \$367,000 from the library's budget—an 8% reduction. Director Lori Barkema said the library would likely address the cut by eliminating Sunday hours, closing the West Side branch, buying fewer materials, or a combination of those measures. "We're just trying to piece together enough areas to meet the new budget...."

ALA News

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Libraries celebrate open government during Sunshine Week

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/sunshineweek2007.htm>]
ALA celebrates Sunshine Week, March 12–16, a weeklong recognition of the importance of open government and freedom of information. It culminates in the National Freedom of Information Day Conference March 16 at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C. The event, themed "Access: Oversight & Priorities," is sponsored by the First Amendment Center in cooperation with ALA....

Advocacy Institute in Kentucky

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/KPLAKLRTAdvocacyInstitut.htm>]
ALA will present an Advocacy Institute at the joint annual conference of the Kentucky Public Libraries Association and Kentucky Library Trustees Round Table on April 25 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Hilton Cincinnati Airport hotel in Florence, Kentucky....

Second call for comments on accreditation standards

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/COA1992Standards.htm>]
The Committee on Accreditation has issued a second call for comments on its proposed update to the Standards for Accreditation of Master's Programs in Library and Information Studies 1992. A

comments questionnaire and supporting documents are on the COA website
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/accreditation/StandardsReviewComment.htm>]....

Featured review: Media [http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=1896978]
Draper, Sharon. Copper Sun. Read by Myra Lucretia Taylor. Dec. 2006. 9 hrs. Recorded Books, CD
(978-1-4281-2254-3).

Taylor turns in a powerful performance in her reading of this 2007 Coretta Scott King Award winner. At times her pacing is a bit awkward, and she uses some inconsistent pronunciations, but these are minor flaws as she convincingly voices all of the characters, including 15-year-old Amari, whose world is turned upside down when she is forced onto a Middle Passage boat bound for the Carolinas. Her journey through American slavery is vividly told....

Game for reading [http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=1894032]
Next time you notice teens playing video games, talking to friends about one, reading gaming magazines, participating on discussion boards, reading fan fiction, or drawing characters, find out more about what games they like. Then suggest titles from this list to partner with their interests. You may find that young adult readers and gamers have a lot to teach you about learning and literacy through play....

@ Visit Booklist Online [<http://www.booklistonline.com/>] for other reviews and much more....

D.C. Update

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How to find meeting rooms [http://www.rusablog.org/blog/_archives/2007/3/12/2799200.html]
If you want to find out where a room is located at the Washington Convention Center, you can go to its website [<http://www.dcconvention.com/>] and click on the button for “Meeting Planners” that lists floor charts. Most, if not all, of the ALA conference hotels should also have information on their websites for meeting planners that lists floor charts for the rooms and ballrooms. The floor charts are an easy way to help you get to the meeting, program, event, or preconference, and assist in estimating travel time....

Talking Reference & (RUSA) blog, Mar. 12

African American Civil War Museum

[<http://www.afroamcivilwar.org/visitorscorner/visitingmemorial.htm>]

In January 1999, the African American Civil War Museum opened to the public. Displaying photographs, documents, period weapons, and uniforms, the museum helps visitors understand the African American soldier’s heroic and largely unknown struggle for freedom. The museum is located at 1200 U Street, two blocks west of the Memorial at 1000 U Street....

African American Civil War Museum

National Museum of Natural History [<http://www.mnh.si.edu/>]

This green-domed Smithsonian museum on the National Mall opened in 1910 to house the nation’s zoological and ethnological collections, among them 30 million insects carefully pinned into tiny boxes, 4½ million plants pressed onto sheets of paper in the Museum’s herbarium, 7 million fish in liquid-filled jars, and 2 million cultural artifacts, including 400,000 photographs housed in the National Anthropological Archives....

Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History

Division News

West Coast warmly receives PLA Symposium

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/PLASpringSymposium.htm>]

More than 700 public librarians gathered in San José, California, March 1–3, for the PLA 2007 Spring Symposium. The biennial event included six day-and-a-half long workshops featuring PLA’s trademark high-quality continuing education programming, sold-out tours of the city’s public libraries, and an Author Luncheon featuring best-selling author Po Bronson (above). Hear Bronson’s presentation [<http://plablog.org/2007/03/author-luncheon-with-po-bronson.html>] (56:14) on the PLA Blog....

Support Teen Literature Day

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/TeenLiteratureDay.htm>]

YALSA will celebrate the first Teen Literature Day April 19. Librarians across the country are encouraged to participate by hosting events in their libraries. The purpose of the new celebration is to raise awareness among the general public that young adult literature is a vibrant, growing genre with much to offer today’s teens. YALSA has compiled a list of activities, display ideas, and contests....

Five RUSA preconferences at Annual

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/RUSAPreconferences.htm>]

Register now for one of the five RUSA preconferences on Friday, June 22, in Washington, D.C. Topics include genealogy, interlibrary loan, older adults, reinvented reference, and resource sharing....

ALSC seeks host site for 2008 Arbuthnot Lecture

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/ArbuthnotLecture.htm>]

Applications are now available to institutions interested in hosting the 2008 May Hill Arbuthnot Lecture to be delivered by David Macaulay, Caldecott Medalist and renowned author/illustrator. 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....

Webber named LAMA financial chair

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/LAMANationalcommittee.htm>]

Desiree Webber, director of the Mustang (Okla.) Public Library, has been named chair of LAMA’s Financial Advancement Committee....

Round Table News

LSSIRT accomplishments [http://lib.colostate.edu/lts/jk/LSSIRT_February_2007.pdf] (PDF file)

Find out the recent activities, goals, and personalities behind the Library Support Staff

Interests Round Table in its February newsletter....

LSSIRT Newsletter, Feb.

Awards

Barbara Bibel wins RUSA's Mudge Award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/MudgeBowkerAward.htm>]

Barbara Bibel, reference librarian at the Oakland (Calif.) Public Library, has received the 2007 Isadore Gilbert Mudge-R. R. Bowker Award presented by RUSA. The award of \$5,000 and a citation, donated by R. R. Bowker, recognizes distinguished contributions to reference librarianship....

RUSA STARS-Atlas Mentoring Award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/RUSASTARSAward.htm>]

Danielle Cournoyer, library specialist at Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff, has received the 2007 STARS-Atlas Mentoring Award administered by RUSA's Sharing and Transforming Access to Resources Section. The \$1,000 award is for travel and related expenses to attend the ALA Annual Conference....

RUSA Award for Service to Minority Business Communities

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/DunBradstreetaward.htm>]

Liz Kudwa, business reference librarian at the Capital Area District Library in Lansing, Michigan, is the 2007 recipient of RUSA's Dun & Bradstreet Award for Outstanding Service to Minority Business Communities. Kudwa received the award for her biweekly "Ask the Business Reference Library" column in the New Citizens Press newspaper....

RUSA Public Librarian Support Award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/MillerPublicLibrarianAwa.htm>]

Rachelle Miller, business specialist at the Dayton (Ohio) Metro Library, received RUSA's Dun & Bradstreet Public Librarian Support Award. The \$1,000 travel award is sponsored by Dun & Bradstreet to support attendance at ALA Annual Conference of a business librarian who works in a public library....

Braille Institute Library gets ASCLA/KLAS/NOD Award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/ASCLAKLASNODAward.htm>]

The Braille Institute Library in Los Angeles has received the 2007 ASCLA/KLAS/NOD Award. It was selected for its Telephone Reader Program [<http://www.braillelibrary.org/ProgramsandServices.htm>] that began in 2000 and blossomed into an important service for people in the area with visual disabilities....

ASCLA Leadership Achievement Award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/ASCLALeadershipAward.htm>]

Lee A. Logan, director of consulting and continuing education for the Alliance Library System in East Peoria, Illinois, and Kitty Pope, ALS executive director, are the 2007 corecipients of the ASCLA Leadership Achievement Award. The award recognizes sustained activity in consulting, multitype library cooperation, and state library development....

Murdock wins ASCLA Campbell Award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/Campbellaward.htm>]

Sue O. Murdock, head librarian of the Carnegie Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped in Pittsburgh, has received the 2007 Francis Joseph Campbell Award. The award is presented to a library or individual who has made an outstanding contribution to the advancement of library service for the blind and physically handicapped....

ASCLA Exceptional Service Award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/ASCLAServiceAward.htm>]

Diana Reese, coordinator of institutional library services for the Colorado State Library, has received ASCLA's Exceptional Service Award for her work with state correctional institutions....

ASCLA Professional Achievement Award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/ASCLAAchievementAward.htm>]

Thomas J. Sanville, executive director of OhioLINK in Columbus, has received the 2007 ASCLA Professional Achievement Award. The award is presented to an ASCLA member for professional achievement in consulting, networking, statewide service, and programs....

RUSA ABC-CLIO Online History Award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/ABCCLIOAward.htm>]

Faith Jones, head of the literature and language collection at New York Public's Mid-Manhattan Library, has won the RUSA ABC-CLIO Online History Award. Jones received the award for her work in the creation and completion of the Yizkor Books Project

[http://www.nypl.org/research/chss/jws/yizkorbooks_intro.cfm]....

RUSA ABC-CLIO online history honorable mentions

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/RUSAABCCLIOAward.htm>]

RUSA's History Section has awarded honorable mentions to three online history resources: the Bethlehem Digital History Project [<http://bdhp.moravian.edu/home/home.html>], Densho: The Japanese American Legacy Project [<http://www.densho.org/>], and the Giza Archives Project [<http://www.gizapyramids.org/code/emuseum2.asp?page=indexsurvey>]....

Bookapalooza to give away books

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/ALSCBookapaloozaProgram.htm>]

Applications now are being accepted for ALSC's new Bookapalooza program, which will offer select libraries a collection of materials to help transform their collections. The application deadline is April 15....

Seen Online

NARA records removed from public view

[<http://www.statesmanjournal.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070314/STATE/703140329/1042>]

More than 1 million pages of historical government documents—a stack taller than the U.S. Capitol—have been removed from public view since the September 2001 terror attacks, according to records obtained by the Associated Press. Some of the papers are more than a century old. In some cases, entire file boxes were removed without significant review because the the National Archives and Records Administration did not have time for a more thorough audit....

Associated Press, Mar. 13

Book ban turns intra-Palestinian fight into a cultural one

[<http://www.csmonitor.com/2007/0309/p06s01-wome.htm>]

For more than 30 years, anthropologist Sharif Kanaana has been collecting and studying Palestinian folk tales so that people at home and abroad would understand the story of his people. This week, the Hamas-run Palestinian Authority added a new chapter: a directive to pull Kanaana's book *Speak Bird, Speak Again* from school libraries and destroy it. The decision underscores the struggle for

ideological and political hegemony, one that is making itself felt more strongly than ever before....

Christian Science Monitor, Mar. 9

History, digitized and abridged

[<http://www.nytimes.com/2007/03/10/business/yourmoney/11archive.html>]

As more museums and archives become digital domains, and as electronic resources become the main tool for gathering information, items left behind in nondigital form, scholars and archivists say, are in danger of disappearing from the collective cultural memory, potentially leaving our historical fabric riddled with holes. For every letter from Abraham Lincoln to William Seward that can be found online, millions of documents bearing fine-grained witness to the Civil War will never be digitized....

New York Times, Mar. 10

Massachusetts threatens to cut talking book funds

[http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2007/03/12/visually_impaired_decry_cuts_in_talking_book_budgets/]

Visually challenged library users in Massachusetts are vowing to fight tens of thousands of dollars in proposed cuts to talking book programs. Gov. Deval Patrick's \$26.7 billion budget proposes cutting \$100,000 from the Braille and talking book library program at the Perkins School for the Blind and \$18,000 from the \$390,000 talking book program at the Worcester library....

Associated Press, Mar. 12

Merced school librarians could get rehired

[<http://www.mercedsunstar.com/local/story/13359889p-13982407c.html>]

At least four library media specialists may get their jobs back with the Merced City (Calif.) School District. But instead of overseeing library tasks for students at one school, they'll be working with 2,600 students at several campuses. The proposed plan changes the jobs from being site-based to district-based, giving the job of 16 to four library media teachers....

Merced (Calif.) Sun-Star, Mar. 8

Former school librarian wins compensation claim

[<http://www.recordonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070312/NEWS/703120344/-1/NEWS06>]

Embattled former Liberty (N.Y.) High School librarian Angela Page won a major decision March 9 against the district that is trying to fire her. Page said she developed multiple chemical hypersensitivities from exposure to mold at the library due to a leaking roof. The workman's compensation board concurred in its initial decision handed down last year....

Middletown (N.Y.) Times Herald-Record, Mar. 12

Salinas libraries expand hours

[<http://www.californianonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2007703090317>]

The Salinas (Calif.) Public Library increased its hours by more than 30% March 13. Thanks to funding provided by the passage of Measure V, the library has been able to recruit and train a sufficient number of staff to increase the current 69 hours of service per week—three libraries combined—to 101 hours....

Salinas Californian, Mar. 9

Teens buying books at the fastest rate in decades

[http://seattlepi.nwsourc.com/books/306531_teenlit08.html]

[http://seattlepi.nwsourc.com/books/306531_teenlit08.html] Teen book sales are booming—up by a quarter between 1999 and 2005, by one industry analysis—and the quality is soaring as well. Credit a bulging teen population, a surge of global talent, and perhaps a bit of Harry Potter afterglow as the preteen Muggles of yesteryear carry an ingrained reading habit into later adolescence.

Older teens in particular are enjoying a surge of sophisticated fare as young adult literature

becomes a global phenomenon....
Seattle Post-Intelligencer, Mar. 7

Teen disruptions in Tallahassee

[<http://www.tallahassee.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070311/NEWS01/703110329/1010>]
Helen Moeller, director of the LeRoy Collins Leon County Public Library in Tallahassee, Florida, said students from various local schools have been loud and rowdy, disrupting staff and other patrons as soon as school lets out. Leon County Sheriff's Deputy Bill Capece, the resource officer assigned to the main library, stands at the top of the steps leading to the entrance, dressed in his deputy's uniform, his hand resting on top of the gun in his holster....
Tallahassee (Fla.) Democrat, Mar. 11

Is that just a game? No, it's a cultural artifact

[<http://www.nytimes.com/2007/03/12/arts/design/12vide.html>]
When Henry Lowood, curator of the History of Science and Technology Collections at Stanford University, started preserving video games and video-game artifacts in 1998, he thought it was closer to professional oblivion than a bold new move into the future. On March 8 at the annual Game Developers Conference in San Francisco, Lowood announced a game canon, an idea closely modeled on the work of the National Film Preservation Board, which every year compiles a list of films to be added to LC's National Film Registry....
New York Times, Mar. 12

Come for the Xbox, stay for the books

[http://www.boston.com/news/globe/ideas/articles/2007/03/11/come_for_the_xbox_brstay_for_the_books/]
Lauren Mechling writes: "As a young adult author, should I be happy or worried that libraries across America are using video games, music, and movies to capture the attention of teens? As I type this, R&B singer Jaheim's new album Ghetto Classics is blaring from a speaker overhead. A dozen or so teenage boys are clustered around a honeycomb of computers, chewing the fat while a couple of them watch an Akon music video and the rest surf MySpace."...
Boston Globe, Mar. 11

Alaskan gamer gets laptop back [<http://www.adn.com/news/alaska/matsu/story/8698824p-8598665c.html>]

Brian Tanner, the web surfer whose computer police seized after chasing him twice from the Palmer (Alaska) Public Library parking lot, has his laptop back. Tanner said Palmer police called March 3 saying he could pick the machine up after police checked it for child pornography....
Anchorage (Alaska) Daily News, Mar. 10

Speck-tacular fun in Oswego

[http://oswegodailynews.com/index.php/oswego/news/speck_helps_children_celebrate_chinese_new_year_at_library]
There were squeals of excitement at the Chinese New Year's party at the Oswego (N.Y.) Public Library February 16 from children as well as the guest of honor—a miniature pot-bellied pig named Speck. Monique Frey, an English teacher at Pulaski High School, brought her pet for the celebration, as 2007 is the Year of the Pig. Judi Furnari, children's program coordinator at the library, arranged the event....
Oswego (N.Y.) Daily News, Feb. 19

Abandoned books still in old East St. Louis library

[<http://www.stltoday.com/stltoday/news/stories.nsf/illinoisnews/story/08E28DCC209933FC8625729A001FB3B9?OpenDocument>]
For the 7,000 books sitting in a storage unit on State Street in East St. Louis, Illinois, it's abandonment all over again. The books were among at least 10,000 items including magazines and record albums left in a shuttered city library for more than three years. Many of the items became makeshift beds or fire starters for homeless people, who broke into the library for shelter....

St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Mar. 11

Rockford College to auction rare books

[<http://www.rockrivertimes.com/index.pl?cmd=viewstory&cat=2&id=15863>]

Six months after auctioning off about 2,000 pieces of art, Rockford (Ill.) College now has plans to put the school's rare book collection on the block. Liquidation of the rare books is the latest attempt at reducing the sizable debt that's plagued the private liberal arts college for decades. The first of two book auctions will be March 16, when 14 rare books will be sold; other titles in the collection will be auctioned in mid to late April....

Rock River Times, Mar. 7

The Wikipedia scandal [<http://technology.guardian.co.uk/weekly/story/0,,2028328,00.html>]

Wikipedia's latest scandal is the revelation that a high-ranking administrator, and employee (until March) of the associated commercial venture Wikia, had falsified his academic credentials. It turns out the contributor nicknamed Essjay was not a tenured professor at a private university but a 24-year-old named Ryan Jordan who holds no advanced degrees....

The Guardian (U.K.), Mar. 8

Tech Talk

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All SirsiDynix roads lead to Rome

[http://blogs.ala.org/pace.php?title=all_sirsidynix_roads_lead_to_rome]

Andrew Pace writes: "SirsiDynix announced March 13 (PDF file

[http://www.sirsidynix.com/Newsevents/Releases/2007/20070313_technology_platform.pdf]) that it would begin developing a 'holistic platform' for its automation system, code-named Rome. That means that Horizon 7.3 and Unicorn 3.1 (right) will be the last versions of those products from SirsiDynix. Horizon 8/Corinthian and Unicorn 3.2 will not be released. That said, Rome will be built (not in a day, I venture) upon the architecture of the Unicorn system. The problem, to me, is that all the descriptions of Rome sound a lot like the descriptions of Horizon 8.0."...

Hectic Pace blog, Mar. 13

Viacom sues Google over YouTube clips

[http://news.com.com/Viacom+sues+Google+over+YouTube+clips/2100-1030_3-6166668.html]

Viacom slapped YouTube and parent company Google with a lawsuit March 13, accusing the wildly popular video-sharing site of "massive intentional copyright infringement" and seeking more than \$1 billion in damages. The complaint, filed in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York, contends that nearly 160,000 unauthorized clips of Viacom's entertainment programming have been available on YouTube and that these clips have been viewed more than 1.5 billion times. But whether the DMCA's wording will let Viacom win is a surprisingly open question

[http://news.com.com/YouTubes+fate+rests+on+decade-old+copyright+law/2100-1028_3-6166862.html]....

C|net.news, Mar. 13

Flickr debuts Collections [http://blog.flickr.com/flickrblog/2007/03/today_we_launch.html]

Flickr has launched a way to categorize and organize your photo sets or "collections." A collection is a container into which you can place either sets or other collections, allowing you to create a hierarchy as deep as five. Collections get a spiffy new "mosaic" icon (like the Flora example here) to represent them....

Flickr blog, Mar. 13

Not so fast, Comcast tells bandwidth hogs

[http://www.boston.com/business/personaltech/articles/2007/03/12/not_so_fast_broadband_providers_tel_big_users/]

Amanda Lee of Cambridge, Massachusetts, received a call from Comcast in December ordering her to curtail her Web use or lose her high-speed internet connection for a year. Lee, who said she had been using the same broadband connection for years without a problem, was taken aback. But when she asked what the download limit was, she was told there was no limit, that she was just downloading too much....

Boston Globe, Mar. 12

Congress to issue digital TV coupons?

[<http://www.reuters.com/article/technologyNews/idUSN1340105520070313?pageNumber=1>]

Brushing aside congressional suggestions that the nation is ill-prepared for the conversion to digital TV in 2009, the Department of Commerce March 12 unveiled its plan to help subsidize the switchover from analog. In the National Telecommunications and Information Administration plan, each household can claim two \$40 coupons that they then can use toward the purchase of a set-top box that can translate digital signals so television shows can be viewed on analog TVs....

Reuters, Mar. 13

LC Bibliographic Control meeting

[<http://kcoyle.blogspot.com/2007/03/users-and-uses-karens-summary.html>]

Karen Coyle writes: "No one defined the term bibliographic control during the meeting of the Library of Congress Working Group on the Future of Bibliographic Control

[<http://www.loc.gov/bibliographic-future>], and in fact it was rarely voiced as a term. By the end of the day, none of us in the audience could have made a clear statement about the day's topic.

The speaker who seemed most on track (and who was the most interesting, IMO) was Timothy Burke, professor of history. Burke talked about how he searches for information, but most importantly he talked about why he searches for information."...

Coyle's InFormation blog, Mar. 9

Computer-savvy search database launched [<http://www.nytimes.com/2007/03/09/technology/09data.html>]

Metaweb, a new company founded by technologist Danny Hillis, is creating a vast public database intended to be read by computers rather than people, paving the way for a more automated internet. On Freebase [<http://www.freebase.com/signin.html>], information will be structured to make it possible for software programs to discern relationships and meaning. For example, the database could field a query about a child-friendly dentist within 10 miles of one's home and yield a single result....

New York Times, Mar. 8

Toward an interplanetary internet

[http://web.ansi.org/news_publications/news_story.aspx?menuid=7&articleid=1436]

Teams from NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory and the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency are hammering out a networking standard that will form the backbone of a future interplanetary system of internets. Dubbed InterPlaNet [<http://www.ipnsig.org/>], the standard would enable spacecraft communication and the sharing of information across the solar system. Today, NASA spacecraft carry telecommunications equipment that enable them to correspond with Earth, but these devices lack the ability to link with those on other spacecraft....

American National Standards Institute, Feb. 27

Mashups for health librarians [<http://pubs.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/jchla/jchla28/c07-007.pdf>] (PDF file)

Allan Cho discusses medical mashups, or hybrid applications that take two information sources and merge them to create a third, more useful tool. He writes, "Although they are part of Web 2.0 and share Web 2.0's openness, participation, and collaborative aspects, mashups build on a technological base dating back to the earliest days of the Web."...

Actions & Answers

space? [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vCVuzNo1EDo>]

A video summary (2:53) of the OCLC Symposium at the ALA Midwinter Meeting, January 19, in Seattle. More than 400 people attended this discussion of social networking practices and trends.

Participants included moderator Michael Stephens (right) and panelists Howard Rheingold, danah boyd, and Marc Smith...

YouTube, Mar. 9

Government agencies violate online information law

[<http://www.gwu.edu/~nsarchiv/NSAEBB/NSAEBB216/index.htm>]

Ten years after Congress enacted the Electronic Freedom of Information Act Amendments, only one in five federal agencies actually complies with the law, according to a new survey released March 12 by the National Security Archive. Many agency web links are missing or just wrong—one FOIA fax number checked in the survey actually rang in the maternity ward of a military base hospital. The government-wide audit, File Not Found, was conducted with support from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation...

National Security Archive, Mar. 12

How the library changes lives

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pio/campaign/sponsorship/womansdaymagazine/librarychangedmylife.pdf>] (PDF file)

Last spring, as part of its ongoing partnership with ALA, Woman's Day asked its readers to send in stories about how the library affected their lives. The 2,000 heartfelt, funny, and touching essays submitted prove that the library isn't just the place you go to check out books.

Ellen Breslau presents four stories of hope and inspiration...

Woman's Day, Mar. 6

Alternative careers survey [<http://www.lisjobs.com/liminal/2007/03/alternative-careers-survey.html>]

Rachel Singer Gordon is writing a book on alternative careers for librarians and she wants to hear from anyone who has pursued a nontraditional path—those who have embarked on a new career after working for some time in libraries, those who earned an MLS but never worked in a traditional library setting, those who pursue alternative opportunities as a supplement, those who work in a traditional setting but do nontraditional work, and those who work in nontraditional settings...

Liminal Librarian blog, Mar. 9

Rachel Carson Online Book Club

[<http://www.fws.gov/news/NewsReleases/showNews.cfm?newsId=FEC9D147-B232-72AE-331A42E4AEFFE0D2>]

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, along with Friends of the National Conservation Training Center, launched the Rachel Carson Online Book Club [<http://rbookclub.blogspot.com/>] in March and continuing through November 2007. The book club will “focus on the life and work of Rachel Carson, including her role as a female leader in science and government. Through the study of her writing, the Book Club will provide an opportunity for dialogue and discussion of current environmental issues in light of Carson's legacy.”...

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Feb. 26

NCAC report discusses censorship of science

[http://ncac.org/science/20070312~USA~New_Report_Discusses_Censorship_Of_Science.cfm]
The National Coalition Against Censorship has issued a report that details the censorship of government scientists, suppression and distortion of research, intimidation in federal science agencies, and the serious First Amendment implications of such practices. Political Science (PDF file [http://ncac.org/science/political_science.pdf]) comes in the wake of an action by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, which on February 26 issued an internal memo [<http://federaltimes.com/index.php?S=2616009>] to its biologists and other employees instructing them not to publicly discuss climate change, Arctic polar bears, or the status of sea ice unless they are specifically authorized to do so....

National Coalition Against Censorship, Mar. 12; Federal Times, Mar. 13

Santa Barbara reads for Earth Day [<http://ucsbreads.library.ucsb.edu/events.html>]
Faculty and students at the University of California at Santa Barbara are reading the same book this spring to spread the awareness of global warming. Elizabeth Kolbert's *Field Notes from a Catastrophe* (Bloomsbury, 2006) will be the focus of events and discussions leading up to Earth Day, April 22. The Santa Barbara Public Library is also joining in a series of community conversations [<http://www.sbplibrary.org/eventsprograms/sb-reads-field-notes.html>] throughout April....

University of California at Santa Barbara

CUPA-HR survey finds senior academic salaries up

[http://www.cupahr.org/newsroom/news_template.asp?id=2364]

The College and University Professional Association for Human Resources 2006–2007 administrative salary survey [<http://www.cupahr.org/surveys/salarysurveydata07.html>] shows median base salaries have risen by 4% for senior-level administrative jobs. The median salary for a director of library services was \$79,560 over all institutions reporting....

CUPA-HR, Feb. 27

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, librarian

[<http://www.libraryhistorybuff.org/bibliophilately-people-longfellow.htm>]

The U.S. Postal Service will issue a stamp on March 15 to commemorate the bicentennial of American poet Longfellow's birth. Longfellow served as librarian of Bowdoin College Library in Brunswick, Maine, from 1829 to 1835 during the same period in which he taught modern languages for the college. It was typical for colleges to tap a faculty member to serve as librarian on a part-time basis....

Library History Buff, Mar. 6

IFLA/OCLC Early Career Development Fellowship Program

[<http://www.oclc.org/education/earlycareer/default.htm>]

Applications are being accepted until March 16 for a fellowship program that provides early career development and continuing education for LIS professionals from countries with developing economies. Up to five individuals will be selected to participate in this five-week program that will take place in Dublin, Ohio, and Leiden in the Netherlands....

OCLC

Murder in the library, part 2

[<http://blogs.britannica.com/blog/main/2007/03/murder-in-the-library-part-2-j-z/>]

More skullduggery in the stacks of academic and research libraries, as George Eberhart concludes a brief review of detective bibliofiction. In *Gaudy Night*, unusual happenings at Shrewsbury College, Oxford University, include missing manuscript proofs from the library tended by Miss Burrows, who complains, "The trouble is, that everybody sneers at restrictions and demands freedom, till something annoying happens; then they demand angrily what has become of the discipline.”...

Britannica Blog, Mar. 12

IMLS Conservation Bookshelf initiative [<http://www.imls.gov/news/2007/031307.shtm>]
The Institute of Museum and Library Services invites proposals for a cooperative agreement to purchase and distribute a set of conservation-related books, bibliographies, DVDs, and online resources as part of its Connecting to Collections [<http://www.imls.gov/about/collections.shtm>] initiative. The cooperator will also mount a promotional campaign about the initiative, with special attention to raising awareness and soliciting requests for the bookshelf from small to medium-sized museums, libraries, and archives....
Institute of Museum and Library Services, Mar. 13

[<http://enjoyment.independent.co.uk/books/news/article2341346.ece>]They are not the kind of titles that are likely to top the bestseller charts. But half a dozen bizarre tomes, including a guide to stray shopping carts and a history of a Coventry ice-cream business, may win their 15 minutes of fame as contenders for the Oddest Book Title of the Year. The competition, which has been run by The Bookseller [<http://www.thebookseller.com/control/?p=2>] magazine since 1978, invites publishers, booksellers, and librarians to submit their choices of the strange and odd....
The Independent (U.K.), Mar. 9

Poll
What do YOU think?

How does your budget forecast for FY 2008 compare to the current fiscal year?

Click here to ANSWER [<http://www.zoomerang.com/survey.zgi?p=WEB2269JBWGFVX!>]

=====
=====
Results of the
March 7 poll:

Does your library have a presence in Second Life?

0%
Yes

82%
No

9%
Thinking about it

13%
Don't know

(70 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. In our public library, circulation is soaring, and frankly, we need more staff. Is there an ALA standard for how many employees are needed?

A. Neither ALA nor the Public Library Association sets prescriptive standards for public libraries, including a number of staff needed per capita. Instead, we advocate an outcomes-based assessment process set forth in a series of books on planning and assessment—the PLA “Results” books.
[http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Planning_and_Assessment#PLA_.22Results.22_Series]
The reason for this is that each library serves a different community with different needs. For example, a library serving a community with many young families wants and needs a library with different facilities and services than a library serving a similar size population with a high percentage of empty-nesters and retirees. Find out more on the ALA Professional Tips wiki [http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Public_Library_Staffing_Measures].

The ALA Librarian [<mailto:AskTheLibrarian@ala.org>] welcomes your questions.

Calendar

Apr. 17–20:

Alabama Library Association [<http://allanet.org/www/convention/index.htm>], Annual Convention, Mobile Convention Center. “Growing Our Passion: Alabama Libraries Sow Seeds for the Future.” Contact: Bonnie Lee [<mailto:blee@cityoforangebeach.com>].

Apr. 18–20:

Oregon Library Association [<http://www.olaweb.org/conference/index.html>], Annual Conference, Oregon State University, Corvallis. “Finding Community: Civics, Cyberspace, and Change.” Contact: Lynne Mildenstein [<mailto:lynnem@dpls.us>], 541-617-7061.

Apr. 18–20:

Tennessee Library Association [<http://www.tnla.org/cde.cfm?event=142860>], Annual Conference, Chatanooga Convention Center and Marriott Hotel. Contact: TLA [<mailto:arhuggins1@comcast.net>].

Apr. 18–21:

Washington Library Association [<http://www.wla.org/conferences/wla2007/>], Annual Conference, Three Rivers Convention Center, Tri-Cities. “Washington Connects.” Contact: WLA [<mailto:washla@wla.org>].

Apr. 23–25:

New Jersey Library Association [<http://www.njla.org/conference/2007/>], Annual Conference, Ocean Place Conference Center, Long Branch. “Protecting Privacy and Freedom in Your Library.” Contact: NJLA [<mailto:srice@njla.org>], 609-394-8032.

Apr. 25–28:

Montana Library Association [<http://www.mtlib.org/conf/index.html>], Annual Conference, Helena. “The Tipping Point: Moving Montana Libraries from Good to Great.” Contact: MLA [mailto:mla_dkramer@mtlib.org].

May 2–4:

Maryland Library Association [<http://www.mdlib.org/conference/index.htm>], Annual Conference, Clarion Resort, Ocean City. “Maryland Libraries: The Wave of the Future.” Contact: MLA, [<mailto:mla@mdlib.org>] 410-947-5090.

May 2–4:

Massachusetts Library Association [<http://www.masslib.org/conference/2007Conference/index.htm>], Annual Conference, Sturbridge. “Branching Out @ MLA.” Contact: MLA [<mailto:malibraries@comcast.net>], 508-428-5865.

May 2–4:

Asociation Mexicana de Bibliotecarios [<http://38jornadas.ambac.org.mx/>], Jornadas Mexicanas de Biblioteconomía, León. “Las Bibliotecas de Cara a la Sociedad del Conocimiento.”

May 3–5:

LOEX 2007 [<http://public.csusm.edu/acarr/loex/index.html>], Bahia Resort Hotel, San Diego, California. “Uncharted Waters: Tapping the Depths of Our Community to Enhance Learning.” Contact: Tracey Mayfield [<mailto:tmayfiel@csulb.edu>].

May 8:

Delaware Library Association [<http://www2.lib.udel.edu/dla-crl/conf/index.htm>], Annual Conference, Sheraton Hotel, Dover. “Current and Future Technologies.” Contact: DLA [<mailto:pa@udel.edu>].

May 15–16:

Vermont Library Association [<http://www.vermontlibraryconference.org/>], Annual Conference, Sheraton Burlington Hotel and Conference Center. “Hands of Vermont.” Contact: Maureen McLoughlin [<mailto:mmcloughlin102@comcast.net>], 802-878-5645.

May 16–18:

Utah Library Association [<http://www.ula.org/conference/index.htm>], Annual Conference, Provo. “Living Libraries: Remembering Our Past, Planning Our Future.”

May 17–18:

New Hampshire Library Association/ New Hampshire Educational Media Association [<http://nhlibconf.org/>], Annual Conference, Mount Washington Hotel, Bretton Woods. “Connecting NH Libraries.” Contact: Heather Shumway [<mailto:hshumway@hooksett.lib.nh.us>].

May 17–21:

Phoenix Rising [<http://www.thephoenixrises.org/>], New Orleans, Louisiana. A conference devoted to all things Harry Potter. Contact: Phoenix Rising [<mailto:help@thephoenixrises.org>].

May 18–21:

Academic Library Advancement and Development Network [http://www.library.arizona.edu/aladn/documents/ALADN2007_Banff.pdf], Annual Conference, Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel, Banff, Alberta. “Innovate or Perish: Information Services at a Crossroads.” Contact: Josh Bilyk [<mailto:josh.bilyk@ualberta.ca>], 780-492-8001.

May 18–23:

Medical Library Association [<http://www.mlanet.org/am/am2007/register/index.html>], Annual Meeting, Philadelphia. “Information Revolution: Change is in the Air.” Contact: MLA [<mailto:info@mlahq.org>].

May 23–27:

Fundación Ciencias de la Documentación,
[<http://www.documentalistas.org/eventos/excol07/index1.php>] Bogotá, Colombia. Contact: FCD
[<http://www.documentalistas.org/secretaria/contactar.php>].

May 24–

June 3:

Hay Festival of Literature and the Arts [<http://www.hayfestival.com/wales/>], Hay-on-Wye, Wales.

Contact: Hay Festival [<http://www.hayfestival.com/wales/contact.aspx>].

May 30–

June 3:

North American Serials Interest Group Conference [<http://www.nasig.org/conference/2007/>],

Louisville, Kentucky. “Place Your Bet in Kentucky: The Serials Gamble.” Contact: NASIG

[<mailto:conf-plan@nasig.org>].

May 31–

June 3:

BookExpo America [<http://www.bookexpoamerica.com/App/homepage.cfm?moduleid=42&appname=288>], New York City. Contact: BEA

[<http://www.bookexpoamerica.com/App/homepage.cfm?appname=288&moduleID=4055&LinkID=26642>].

@ More [<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/datebook/datebook.cfm>]...

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American Libraries Direct

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american libraries DIRECT

March 21, 2007

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U.S. & World News

[House passes bills on presidential records and libraries](#)

By lopsided bipartisan majorities, the House passed bills March 14 to reverse an executive order issued by President Bush allowing presidents to withhold their records from the public and to require donors to presidential libraries to identify themselves....

[Library funding fix falters in West Virginia](#)

West Virginia lawmakers sent Gov. Joe Manchin a long-awaited compromise bill March 10 addressing public library funding for nine counties. Senate Bill 541 increases local school boards' discretionary fund from 2% to 6% of their state revenue allocation so that they can continue to support public libraries without touching money earmarked for education. However, the compromise bill also contains a provision that the library community thought had been dropped....

[Marshall completes policy review, keeps graphic novels](#)

The board of the Marshall (Mo.) Public Library approved a new policy on materials selection at its March 14 meeting and agreed to put two coming-of-age graphic novels back on the shelves. Trustees had set up a committee last October to create a selection policy in the wake of a challenge by Marshall resident Louise Mills over the appropriateness of *Fun Home* by Alison Bechdel and *Blankets* by Craig Thompson, which were pulled from circulation until guidelines were established....



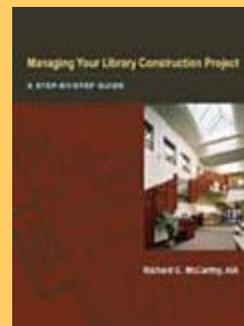
ALA News

[Bill Bradley to keynote Annual Conference](#)

Former U.S. Senator Bill Bradley will keynote the Opening General Session at the ALA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C., June 23, 5:30–7:00 p.m. Bradley has been a three-time basketball All-American at Princeton, an Olympic gold medalist, a



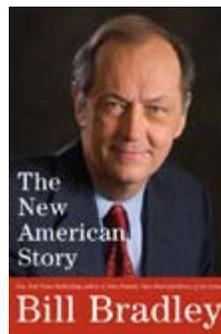
First-timer at an ALA Conference? Check out this [handy guide](#) to ALA structure and suggestions on what to do at conferences.



Expert author

Richard C. McCarthy is an architect with in-depth expertise building libraries as well as an 18-year veteran library trustee. He communicates the challenges and opportunities from both sides of the table. [Managing Your](#)

Rhodes scholar, and a professional player for 10 years with the New York Knicks. Elected to the Senate from New Jersey in 1978, 1984, and 1990, he has authored extensive legislation, including the Tax Reform Act of 1986. His most recent book, *The New American Story*, will be officially released by Random House March 23....



[Meet the American Libraries staff](#)

Just in time for the magazine's 100th anniversary, meet the forever-young editors of *American Libraries* in a gritty, action-packed thrill-ride, "Magnum, A.L." This 1:26 video kicks off what we hope will be an increased video/podcast/Web 2.0 presence for *AL*, produced and directed by *AL* Associate Editor Daniel Kraus....



YouTube, Mar. 19

[EPA library workers recognized on Freedom of Information Day](#)

On March 16, during the celebration of Freedom of Information Day, ALA President Leslie Burger acknowledged the courage of a special group—the library staff of the Environmental Protection Agency. "In the face of closures within the EPA library network and significant reorganization," Burger said in her remarks, "current and former members of the EPA library staff have had the courage to come forward with information that has brought to light actions that have endangered the scientific communities' and the public's access to essential environmental information."...

[Ridley Kessler honored](#)

ALA President Leslie Burger took a moment during the Freedom of Information Day celebration March 16 to honor Ridley Kessler, retired documents librarian at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, who passed away January 11, after devoting much of his life to the cause of access to government information....



[Digitization principles draft](#)

In January 2007, the Digitization Policy Task Force of ALA's Office for Information Technology Policy introduced a draft [Principles for Digitized Content](#). Its goal is to succinctly voice the primary policy areas that can guide libraries as they make decisions regarding digitization. The task force will accept comments on the draft until May 1....

ALA Digitization Principles blog, Mar. 2

[Library Construction Project](#) is filled with practical advice to understand key relationships and manage a complex process. **NEW!** From ALA Editions.

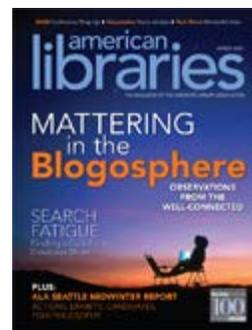


[The World Library and Information Congress](#)

, 73rd IFLA General Conference and Council, Durban, South Africa, August 19–23, "Libraries for the Future: Progress, Development, and Partnerships." The March preconference issue of *IFLA Express* ([PDF file](#)) contains the latest news about activities.

[In this issue](#)

March 2007



Mattering in the

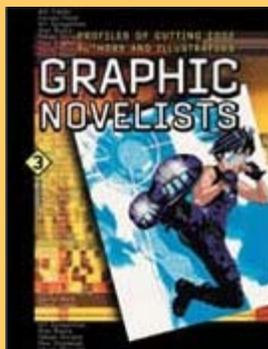
Booklist

ONLINE

Featured review: Reference

Pendergast, Tom, and Sara Pendergast. *U-X-L Graphic Novelists*. Dec. 2006. U-X-L/Thomson Gale, hardcover (978-1-4144-0440-0).

It is difficult to find a truly satisfying definition of graphic novels. Calling them long, elaborate comic books does not begin to sum up their intricate plots and compelling artwork. They are not confined to formulaic structures, nor do they address common themes. They do share one common feature: Their popularity with both young adult and adult audiences has been steadily climbing in recent years, making it difficult for libraries to keep up with the demand. This current work, a biographical encyclopedia of individuals who create graphic novels, will lend legitimacy to this fast-growing and ever-expanding genre....



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

Blogosphere:
Observations from
the Well-Connected

Search Fatigue

Midwinter Meeting
Report



[ALA elections](#) are in progress. The polls close **April 24**. Biographical information on the candidates is on the official ballot ([PDF file](#)).

D.C. Update

[ALA visits the Holocaust Memorial Museum](#)

A free preconference event has been planned for ALA Annual Conference on Friday, June 22, 9 a.m. to noon, by the Jewish Information Committee of ALA's Ethnic and Multicultural Exchange Round Table. The program at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum will feature resource experts and Holocaust survivors who will discuss new research collections and opportunities. To sign up, contact [Ellen Zyroff](#)....



Division News

[Mike Schmoker to headline AASL President's Program](#)

The AASL President's Program at Annual Conference in Washington, D.C., will feature author Mike Schmoker speaking on "The Opportunity: From 'Brutal Facts' to the Best Schools We've Ever Had." Schmoker is the author of *The Results Fieldbook: Practical Strategies for Dramatically Improved Schools*, in which he argues that meaningful teamwork, measurable goals, and the regular collection and analysis of student performance data constitute the foundation for significant results....



Career Leads
from

ALA JobLIST

[Executive Director](#), ALA Library Administration and Management Association, Chicago. The executive director facilitates and directs the support of the work of volunteers in seven sections, 20 committees and task forces, a wide range of discussion and interest groups, and the Council of LAMA Affiliates, by providing counsel, advice, direction, and staff support for their ideas and plans....

@ [More jobs...](#)

[Campus advocacy program at ACRL National Conference](#)

The ACRL University Library Section and the ALA Advocacy Institute will present a workshop titled "Campus Advocacy: Involving All Staff in Influencing Campus Dynamics" during ACRL's 13th National Conference in Baltimore, March 30, 2:30–6 p.m. Attendees will learn how advocacy for all library staff is a critical component of success....

[Changing roles of academic and research libraries](#)

ACRL has published an [essay](#) on technology and change in academic libraries that resulted from a November 2–3, 2006, summit held in Chicago. The summit identified essential actions that libraries must take to achieve necessary transformations and remain a vital force on campus in the years ahead. [Comments](#) are encouraged on the ACRLog....

Awards

[Paul McMasters receives James Madison Award](#)

ALA has presented Paul K. McMasters, First Amendment ombudsman for the Freedom Forum, with the 2007 James Madison Award, which honors those who have championed, protected, and promoted public access to government information and the public's "right to know." McMasters was given the award for his tireless work toward openness in government....



[Pat Schuman receives Eileen Cooke Award](#)

Patricia Glass Schuman, 1991–1992 ALA president and president of Neal-Schuman Publishers, is the recipient of the 2007 Eileen Cooke State and Local Madison Award, presented by ALA to honor those who, at the state and local levels, have championed, protected, and promoted public access to government information and the public's "right to know." Over the course of her distinguished career, Schuman has mentored and trained tens of thousands of librarians and trustees, creating an army of advocates across the nation....



[John Sessions Memorial Award](#)

The [James B. Carey Library](#) of the School of Management and Labor Relations at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, New Jersey, is the 2007 recipient of the John Sessions Memorial Award presented by RUSA. The award, supported by a donation from the AFL-CIO, is given to recognize a library that has made a significant effort to work with the labor community and brought recognition to the contributions of the labor movement to the development of the United States....

[Caplan chosen Library Hi Tech Award winner](#)

Priscilla Caplan, assistant director for digital library services at the Florida Center for Library Automation, is the winner of the 2007 LITA Library Hi Tech award for Outstanding Communication in Library and Information Technology, sponsored by Emerald. The




Libraries Work Because We Do!
NATIONAL LIBRARY WORKERS DAY
TUESDAY, APRIL 17, 2007

[National Library Workers Day](#), April 17, is a day for library staff, users, administrators, and Friends groups to recognize the valuable contributions made by all library workers.

[School Libraries and Science Achievement](#)

Wayne State University LIS Assistant Professor Marcia Mardis analyzes usage, staffing, collections, technology, and budgets of Michigan school library media programs to see whether there is a correlation with MEAP science test scores. See what she found out in this [School Library Media Research](#) report.

Public Perception

How the World Sees Us

"He was sick of the excuses and the lies. He was tired of the evasions and the untruths, of

award recognizes outstanding achievement in communicating to educate practitioners within the library field....

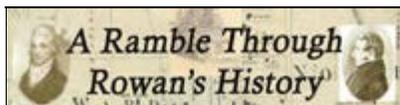
[LAMA seeks top PR materials for "Best of Show" awards](#)

The LAMA Public Relations and Marketing Section has opened its Swap and Shop "Best of Show" awards competition. This annual awards program recognizes outstanding public relations materials produced by libraries in 2006. Winners will be on display during the Swap and Shop program June 24 during ALA Annual Conference in Washington. [Entries](#) must be postmarked by April 1....

[Rowan Public Library's winning video series](#)

The Rowan Public Library in Salisbury, North Carolina, is the winner of a statewide award for its video series "A Ramble Through Rowan's History." The library program is one of nine county programs statewide to receive the 2006 Outstanding County Program Award from the N.C. Association of County Commissioners....

Salisbury (N.C.) Post, Mar. 21



[New award for military writing](#) (PDF file)

The Tawani Foundation has announced a new annual award, the Pritzker Military Library Literature Award for Lifetime Achievement in Military Writing. The award recognizes the lifetime contributions of a living author of works of American military history and affairs. The deadline for nominations is May 1....

Tawani Foundation, Mar. 19

Seen Online

[Cartoonist Carol Lay makes amends](#)

To answer the many complaints and comments she received from librarians after she devoted one of her "WayLay" series of comic strips in *Salon* to the recent "scrotum" controversy, comic artist Carol Lay inked "A-mends" as a sort of apology. (If you are not a subscriber, you can look at a sponsor's ad to read the strip.)....

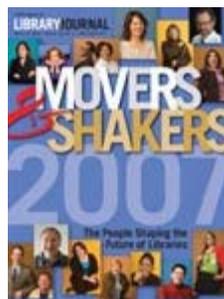
Salon, Mar. 20



[Movers and Shakers, 2007](#)

Many of the 50 librarians and other individuals profiled in *Library Journal's* 2007 Movers and Shakers represent a new breed. They are young enough to have grown up with computers and the internet. They're not just embracing new technology, they own it. They create it. And they use it to develop and deliver myriad services to library users and nonusers, to meet their customers online, and to bring up to snuff even those who aren't yet comfortable with our high-speed world....

Library Journal, Mar. 15



[The cookbook librarian](#)

people refusing to stand up and speak the truth and take responsibility for their own actions. It seemed to him like yet another symptom of the decline of Western civilization; of chaos; and climate change; and environmental disaster; and war; disease; famine; oppression; the eternal slow slide down and down and down. It was entropy, nemesis, apotheosis, imminent apocalypse, and sheer bad manners all rolled into one.

"People were not returning their library books on time."

—The opening paragraphs of *Mr. Dixon Disappears* by Ian Sansom (Harper, 2007), book two in the Mobile Library Mystery series.



Ebrary is winding up its [Global eBook Survey](#). If you haven't yet filled it out, keep in mind that the company is offering to all participating libraries a free annual subscription to its Library Center, which features more than 75 eBooks spanning topics such as digital library development, collection development, the history of libraries and

RUSA President Diana Shonrock is known as the “cookbook librarian” at Iowa State University’s Parks Library. She looks for nutrition-based and Iowa cookbooks, both for her personal collection as well as for the library’s [Iowa Cookbook Collection](#). Shonrock likes challenging recipes, such as a sour cream cherry coffee cake from the mystery series of Diane Mott Davidson. Family favorites include beef spare ribs with cheddar polenta, a goulash recipe from Shonrock’s childhood, and a butter cookie her mother made from the 1951 Betty Crocker cookbook....



Ames (Iowa) Tribune, Mar. 7

[Lawsuit challenges FBI’s national security letters](#)

The FBI’s expanded use of national security letters is being challenged by a small internet service provider in New York who is under a gag order barring him from talking about the case. The lawsuit is believed to be one of only two constitutional challenges to the USA Patriot Act provisions that have dramatically broadened the FBI’s authority to gather confidential information about thousands of Americans in the effort to hunt terrorists....

Long Island (N.Y.) Newsday, Mar. 21

[Of the places you’ll go, is the library still one of them?](#)

Jeff Zaslow writes: “For parents and grandparents, it’s hard to accept that young people today often feel little connection to the local library. We recall the libraries of our childhoods as magical places; getting our first library card was a rite of passage. It saddens us that younger generations seem more eager to buy books than borrow them, or that they consider libraries just another tool for acquiring information.”...

Wall Street Journal, Mar. 15

[A failed levy won’t stop Jackson County library supporters](#)

Library advocates are looking beyond the May 15 election in case voters reject a levy that would reopen all 15 branches of the Jackson County (Oreg.) Library Services. In the May election, voters will decide on a three-year levy that would generate \$8.3 million annually for the libraries, which are closing April 6. If the measure fails, other options include holding another levy or asking voters to create a special district in November 2008—a move that would make libraries financially independent from the county....

Medford (Oreg.) Mail Tribune, Mar. 14



[Haverhill library uses geothermal energy](#)

You can go to the Haverhill (Mass.) Public Library and read up on geothermal technology, or just talk to the building custodian. Michael Hutchinson helps maintain the library’s geothermal heating and cooling system, one of Haverhill’s hidden gems that few people know about. Warm water deep in the Earth has helped to heat and cool the library for the past 12 years....

North Andover (Mass.) Eagle-Tribune, Mar. 21

[Virginia pulls funds from Craig County library](#)

The Library of Virginia Board voted March 19 to deny the fledgling Craig County Public Library in New Castle state aid for the current

librarianship, and illustrated guides from the U.S. Library of Congress.

Ask the ALA Librarian



Q. The teachers at my school want me to fill the library with “leveled books” (reading materials sorted or arranged by reading level) for the students to read. I’m not sure this is a good idea. What can you tell me about them?

A. Both ALA’s [American Association of School Librarians](#) and the [National Council of Teachers of English](#) have registered concerns in using such programs, pointing out the limitations and presumptions inherent in them, in determining what children of a certain age “should” read. Find out more on the [ALA Professional Tips wiki](#).

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

fiscal year. The revocation of state aid is the first in Virginia since 1980, according to Director of Library Development and Networking Elizabeth Lewis. The board's vote was prompted by the county's failure to meet state funding and staff requirements, despite reorganization efforts by its Friends group....

Roanoke (Va.) Times, Mar. 20

[Mom used kids in Cincinnati library theft](#)

A movie buff who works as a clerk in a video game store helped unravel the case of hundreds of missing DVDs from the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County. The clerk's tip led to the arrest of a Camp Washington woman who told police that she used her four children to help her get the DVDs....

Cincinnati Enquirer, Mar. 16

[Former library employee suspected of embezzlement](#)

The Andover (Ohio) Public Library board of trustees has asked the Ashtabula County Prosecutor's Office to proceed with filing criminal charges against former library employee Sonia Orahod for alleged embezzlement of funds from the library. Library officials are seeking full restitution of the missing funds, totaling \$89,738, as well as \$20,000 in special audit costs billed to the library. Criminal charges are expected to be filed by the prosecutor's office....

Ashtabula (Ohio) Star-Beacon, Mar. 16

[Acting civil in Tallahassee](#)

The story in *AL Direct* last week about disruptive teens at the LeRoy Collins Leon County (Fla.) Public Library was removed from the *Tallahassee Democrat's* website because it contained numerous errors. Library Director Helen Moeller told *American Libraries* that "we are pleased that our local paper ran an editorial which put the facts and issues into a broader community perspective." She added that the library has been much quieter in the past week or so....

Tallahassee (Fla.) Democrat, Mar. 13

[Nova Scotia library damaged in fire](#)

Chief Librarian Frances Newman is waiting for word on the condition of thousands of smoke-damaged books removed for cleaning from the Springhill branch of the Cumberland Regional Library in Nova Scotia. The library, located in an old miners' hall, closed indefinitely March 14 after it was damaged in a fire that police say a 12-year-old girl set....

Halifax (N.S.) Chronicle, Mar. 20



[Dark day for B.C. Legislature Library](#)

The British Columbia Legislature Library in Victoria is closing down indefinitely for a seismic upgrade, and there is widespread concern it won't reopen. The 29 staff in the 90-year-old facility attached to the back of the legislature building were told in mid-March to start packing for a move when the current session concludes this spring. The bulk of the library's vast collection of historical documents will be shipped to a warehouse....

Victoria (B.C.) Times Colonist, Mar. 16

[Welsh library centennial](#)

The National Library of Wales in Aberystwyth is celebrating its centennial by staging its largest-ever exhibition of its collections. This is

Calendar

Apply for:

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. Contact: [PPO](#).

By Mar. 27:

[Advancing Knowledge: The Institute of 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.

By Apr. 2:

[U.S. Department of Education](#)

will award approximately 100 Improving Literacy through School Libraries grants ranging from \$30,000 to \$300,000 to school districts in which at least 20% of students are from families below the poverty line.

By Apr. 3:

[National Endowment for the Humanities Digital Humanities Start-Up Grants](#)

award up to \$30,000 for planning or initial stages of digital initiatives in all areas of the humanities. The April 3 deadline is for



one of a [number of events](#) to mark the 100th anniversary of its establishment on March 19, 1907. The exhibition, called "In this Place," will feature the library's most important works and run until November....

BBC News, Mar. 19

[Grover Cleveland's grandson stumps for presidential library](#)

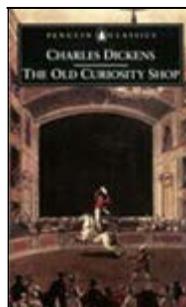
Organizers of a plan to turn a former North Buffalo, New York, library building into a [library and museum](#) honoring Grover Cleveland, America's 22nd and 24th president, have enlisted the help of Cleveland's grandson. Members of Free New York, a local nonprofit research group, took George Cleveland on a tour of Buffalo March 14, where his grandfather was elected mayor in 1881....

Buffalo (N.Y.) News, Auburn (N.Y.) Citizen, Mar. 15

[British schools refuse boring classics](#)

Dozens of schools have rejected gifts of free classic books because today's pupils find them too "difficult" to read. Around 50 schools have refused to stock literary works by the likes of Jane Austen, William Shakespeare, and Charles Dickens after admitting that youngsters also find them boring. The worrying figures were released by the Millennium Library Trust, which donates sets of up to 300 books to schools around the UK....

Evening Standard, Mar. 20



[Iraq's cultural curators defy sectarian unrest](#)

Cultural life in Iraq is reeling after years of attacks linked to the violence that has gripped the country since the U.S. invasion in 2003. But against all odds, an institution that collects books and documents is being rebuilt. The Iraq National Library and Archive is literally rising from the ashes and being turned into something that goes far beyond what it was before....

NPR Morning Edition, Mar. 16

[Hamas reverses school book ban](#)

The Hamas-run Palestinian education ministry has lifted a ban on a children's anthology of folktales following widespread public outcry. Officials had demanded that *Speak Bird, Speak Again* by Ibrahim Muhawi and Sharif Kanaana, which features mild sexual references, be removed from school libraries. Education Minister Nasser Shaer said the "tempest in a teacup" was over and the decision had been rescinded....

BBC News, Mar. 13

Tech Talk

[Virtua post Roma](#)

VTLS will be offering a free license to its integrated library system, Virtua, in return for a 3-year service contract. Basically, it's an [alternative](#) to waiting to migrate to another system, but is pointedly in response to SisriDynix's recent announcement about its new platform, code-named "Rome." Of course, there are the requisite

projects beginning September 2007. Contact: [NEH](#), 202-606-8401.

By Apr. 12:

[The National Endowment for the Arts](#)

offers approximately 120 Big Read grants of \$5,000 to \$40,000 to promote and operate month-long, community-based reading programs. There was a March 1 deadline to submit "Intent to Apply" forms, but they are not required to submit grant applications.

By May 1:

[The Institute of Museum and Library Services](#)

seeks applications for Native American Library Services Enhancement Grants.

By May 15:

[The United States Board on Books for Young People](#)

seeks applications to submit as its entry for the 2008 International Board on Books for Young People Asahi Reading Promotion Award. The \$10,000 award is given to two nonprofit groups or institutions that are making lasting contributions to book promotion programs for children. Contact: [Rusty True Browder](#), 617-803-8250.

By Sept. 15:

[The Ezra Jack Keats Foundation](#)

awards

rules and exceptions, but you can't say it's small print. It's all right there in the [program details](#)....

Hectic Pace blog, Mar. 16

[Around the world in 2 billion pages](#)

The Internet Archive is embarking on a project to create a unique global snapshot of the Web and to help improve and demonstrate the scalability of its open source [Heritrix web crawler](#). Using a grant from the Mellon Foundation, IA will commence a global crawl to capture 2 billion web pages and make them available to the public. Libraries and archives are among those eligible to submit URLs by May 1....

Internet Archive, Mar. 15



[Google adds search privacy protections](#)

Google's servers log information every time someone conducts a web search, keeping data such as the keywords used, the Internet Protocol address, and information from web cookies. Currently, Google maintains the search data logs indefinitely. Under the new policy announced March 14, the company will anonymize the final eight bits of the IP address and the cookie data after somewhere between 18 months and 24 months....

C|Net news, Mar. 14

[Troubleshooting 101](#)

What sets the true tweekers apart from those who have to call in the electrician or the Geek Squad often comes down to your approach to troubleshooting those problems. It's simply a matter of logic and deduction—particularly if you might have caused the problem yourself. Loyd Case has put together some tips to help you uncover the source of those problems, fix them, and move on....

ExtremeTech, Mar. 19

[A Yahoo! guide to podcasting](#)

A podcast can truly be anything. This is your chance to share your voice, your thoughts, and your imagination with the world. Many people create talk-show podcasts, but you don't have to limit yourself to just that format. With just a few pieces of gear, this tutorial, and a little inspiration, you can be podcasting in no time at all....

Yahoo! Podcasts

Actions & Answers

[Cultural institutions to observe](#)

[MayDay](#)

Archives, libraries, museums, and historic preservation organizations are setting aside May 1 to participate in a national effort to protect collections from disasters. The Heritage Emergency National Task Force urges cultural institutions across the country to observe MayDay by taking at least one step to prepare to respond to a disaster. Any organization can participate in MayDay. Last year, the Louisiana State University Libraries Special Collections staff were trained to put out small fires with an extinguisher....

Heritage Preservation, Mar. 15



[A hostile environment for documents](#)

Glenn McGee writes: "Like most U.S. agencies

\$500 minigrants to school and public libraries for programs that encourage literacy and creativity in children.

Ongoing:

[Libri Foundation](#)

[Books For Children](#)

[Grants](#) will match \$50 to \$350 raised by local sponsors on a 2-to-1 ratio to help small, rural public libraries buy children's books. The foundation makes grants three times a year, with deadlines of Apr. 15, July 15, and Dec. 15. Contact:

[Barbara J. McKillip](#),
541-747-9655.

Ongoing:

[The ALA Honor Roll Website](#)

will acknowledge libraries that are champions of staff support and development, that provide support to their employees to attend work-related workshops, conferences, and/or classes. Sponsored by the Programs and Special Projects Working Group of the Better Salaries and Pay Equity Task Force. Submit an electronic application. Contact:

[Teri Switzer](#).

Ongoing:

[The Staples](#)

[Foundation for Learning](#)

makes quarterly grants to programs from 501(c)(3) organizations that support or provide job skills and/or education for all people, with a special emphasis on disadvantaged youth. Upcoming deadlines

charged with the oversight of the public's health, the Environmental Protection Agency relies on accumulated wisdom as it navigates new and varied problems. You'd think that the agency responsible for, say, all clinical information on the effects of pesticides would do anything to keep those systems of information fully operational and to modernize. But in fact, the greatest environmental disaster of this decade may be the amnesia that the White House and EPA seem hell-bent on causing."...

The Scientist 21, no. 3 (Mar.): 26



[E-rate program judged successful](#)

A new report, *E-Rate: 10 Years of Connecting Kids and Community* ([PDF file](#)), released March 1 by two education coalitions—the Education and Libraries Networks Coalition and the National Coalition for Technology in Education and Training—states that the e-rate has transformed America's schools and libraries into modern institutions, but its mission is not yet complete. The report indicates that e-rate-supported connectivity allows 100% of public libraries to provide free internet access to their communities....

Government Technology, Mar. 1

[World internet censorship map](#)

In an effort to counter the once borderless internet, states are seeking to create informational boundaries in cyberspace. This is accomplished through a combination of technical and regulatory means—including laws, licensing regimes, industry self-regulation, national filtering, and content removal—thereby creating a matrix of controls. The OpenNet Initiative has created this interactive global map to highlight those countries with restrictions....

OpenNet Initiative



[ILL: What goes around](#)

Visiting scholar Susanna Ashton writes of her experiences with interlibrary loan at the Boole Library at Ireland's University College Cork: "I have since learned that interlibrary lending isn't free at all but a gift paid for by every American taxpayer. The average American probably doesn't know it, but interlibrary lending in the United States costs somewhat more than what the University College Cork was charging to cover its expenses. The system works precisely because it helps everyone."...

Chronicle of Higher Education, Mar. 14

[Baxter, the Maine library mas-cat](#)

Baxter is on the prowl. A large Maine Coon cat, Baxter is the new [mascot for Maine libraries](#), and is sporting a new name following a six-week statewide contest. More than 1,200 name suggestions flooded into the Maine State Library after the contest began in January. The winner, Ben Allen of Pittsfield, was selected March 15 by a random drawing in Augusta....

Maine State Library, Mar. 15



[Worldcat's Top 1000 on del.ici.ous](#)

are Apr. 6, Aug. 3,
and Dec. 7.

@ [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](#).

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

OCLC has added its 2005 [Top 1000 Works on Worldcat](#) list to [del.ici.ous](#), enabling the user to sort by ISBN, OCLC number, language, genre, and time period; for example, works of [poetry](#), books in [Latin](#), and books from the [17th century](#). I understand they are working on an update to this fun facts compilation....

Lorcan Dempsey's Weblog, Mar. 15

[Keeping the small library afloat](#)

Laura Pelehach writes: "One challenge I often hear from librarians, particularly those new to management, is discovering things 'they' didn't teach us in library school. This week, I've been working on a manuscript for ALA Editions, *The Small Library Survival Guide*, by Herb Landau, director of a tiny library in the heavily Amish community of Lancaster, Pa. About 50% of his time, Landau says, is devoted to fund-raising."...

ALA Editions blog, Mar. 20

[No more talking cassettes](#)

The Library of Congress's National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped produced its last analog cassette book machine on February 17, signaling the advent of Digital Talking Books. During a ceremony held on March 1 in Blue Earth, Minnesota, Telex Communications presented NLS with the milestone player—the 1,248,113th manufactured by the company since 1983....



National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Mar. 19

[Mellon Foundation grants CLIR \\$2.19 million in operating funds](#)

The Council on Library and Information Resources has received a three-year, \$2.19-million grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to support general operations. The award will allow CLIR to launch a range of new initiatives in six program areas: cyberinfrastructure, preservation, the next scholar, the emerging library, leadership, and new models....

Council on Library and Information Resources, Mar. 19

[Reading is your pot o' gold](#)

The Topeka and Shawnee County (Kans.) Public Library celebrated reading on St. Patrick's Day by decorating one of its bookmobiles and marching alongside it in the city's parade. The Adventuremobile is stocked with popular children's books for visiting local elementary schools during the school year and community sites during the summer months....



Paper Cuts blog, Mar. 19

[Boeing gives National Archives \\$5 million](#)

The Boeing Company has awarded a \$5 million gift to share the National Archives' rich resources with Americans across the country. The gift will enable the National Archives to complete its center for educational outreach, which will be known as the Boeing Learning Center. In addition, the gift will fund the launch of an expanded traveling exhibition program, beginning with the critically acclaimed ["Eyewitness: American Originals from the National Archives."](#)...

National Archives, Mar. 7



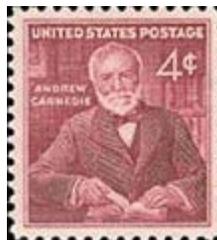
Caroline Feller Bauer sets up children's library and recreation center in Bangladesh

Educator, storyteller, and ALA author Caroline Feller Bauer has established a children's play park in the village of Bhatiari, near Chittagong in Bangladesh, complete with a library, school, and art gallery. Bauer, currently a Chittagong resident, told *American Libraries* that after the grand opening March 2 she has scheduled a full set of activities that includes chess lessons, music lessons, and storytimes—all open without charge to the children in the community.

[Library people on postage stamps](#)

Larry Nix writes: "People who have worked in a library or made a contribution to libraries have appeared on relatively few postage stamps. Usually when they have, it is because they made a contribution to society in some other capacity than library work or support. It is regrettable that more library people have not been honored on postage stamps. Unfortunately, it is an indication of the value that society places on those who work in or for libraries."...

Library History Buff, Mar. 9



Having trouble viewing this HTML e-mail? Click here [[util.viewHtmlLink %>](#)].

March 21, 2007

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[http://www.sirsidynixinstitute.com/seminar_page.php?sid=76]

[<http://www.sirsidynix.com>]

U.S. & World News

=====

House passes bills on presidential records and libraries

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2007/march2007/presbills.cfm>]

By lopsided bipartisan majorities, the House passed bills March 14 to reverse an executive order issued by President Bush allowing presidents to withhold their records from the public and to require donors to presidential libraries to identify themselves....

Library funding fix falters in West Virginia

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2007/march2007/fundingfix.cfm>]

West Virginia lawmakers sent Gov. Joe Manchin a long-awaited compromise bill March 10 addressing public library funding for nine counties. Senate Bill 541 increases local school boards' discretionary fund from 2% to 6% of their state revenue allocation so that they can continue to support public libraries without touching money earmarked for education. However, the compromise bill also contains a provision that the library community thought had been dropped....

Marshall completes policy review, keeps graphic novels

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2007/march2007/marshall.cfm>]

The board of the Marshall (Mo.) Public Library approved a new policy on materials selection at its March 14 meeting and agreed to put two coming-of-age graphic novels back on the shelves. Trustees had set up a committee last October to create a selection policy in the wake of a challenge by

Marshall resident Louise Mills over the appropriateness of Fun Home by Alison Bechdel and Blankets by Craig Thompson, which were pulled from circulation until guidelines were established....

ALA News

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Bill Bradley to keynote Annual Conference

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/annual/2007a/specialevents.htm#OGS>]

Former U.S. Senator Bill Bradley will keynote the Opening General Session at the ALA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C., June 23, 5:30–7:00 p.m. Bradley has been a three-time basketball All-American at Princeton, an Olympic gold medalist, a Rhodes scholar, and a professional player for 10 years with the New York Knicks. Elected to the Senate from New Jersey in 1978, 1984, and 1990, he has authored extensive legislation, including the Tax Reform Act of 1986. His most recent book, *The New American Story*, will be officially released by Random House March 23....

staff [http://youtube.com/watch?v=o0f_iAYWKII]

Just in time for the magazine's 100th anniversary, meet the forever-young editors of *American Libraries* in a gritty, action-packed thrill-ride, "Magnum, A.L." This 1:26 video kicks off what we hope will be an increased video/podcast/Web 2.0 presence for AL, produced and directed by AL Associate Editor Daniel Kraus....

YouTube, Mar. 19

EPA library workers recognized on Freedom of Information Day

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/madisonepa07.htm>]

On March 16, during the celebration of Freedom of Information Day, ALA President Leslie Burger acknowledged the courage of a special group—the library staff of the Environmental Protection Agency. "In the face of closures within the EPA library network and significant reorganization," Burger said in her remarks, "current and former members of the EPA library staff have had the courage to come forward with information that has brought to light actions that have endangered the scientific communities' and the public's access to essential environmental information...."

Ridley Kessler honored [<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/madisonkessler07.htm>]

ALA President Leslie Burger took a moment during the Freedom of Information Day celebration March 16 to honor Ridley Kessler, retired documents librarian at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, who passed away January 11, after devoting much of his life to the cause of access to government information....

Digitization principles draft [<http://blogs.ala.org/digitizationprinciples.php>]

In January 2007, the Digitization Policy Task Force of ALA's Office for Information Technology Policy introduced a draft Principles for Digitized Content.

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/washoff/contacttwo/oitp/digtask.htm#prin>] Its goal is to succinctly voice the primary policy areas that can guide libraries as they make decisions regarding digitization.

The task force will accept comments on the draft until May 1....

ALA Digitization Principles blog, Mar. 2

Booklist Online

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Featured review: Reference

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=1908354]

Pendergast, Tom, and Sara Pendergast. U-X-L Graphic Novelists. Dec. 2006. U-X-L/Thomson Gale, hardcover (978-1-4144-0440-0).

It is difficult to find a truly satisfying definition of graphic novels. Calling them long, elaborate comic books does not begin to sum up their intricate plots and compelling artwork. They are not confined to formulaic structures, nor do they address common themes. They do share one common feature: Their popularity with both young adult and adult audiences has been steadily climbing in recent years, making it difficult for libraries to keep up with the demand. This current work, a biographical encyclopedia of individuals who create graphic novels, will lend legitimacy to this fast-growing and ever-expanding genre....

@ Visit Booklist Online [<http://www.booklistonline.com/>] for other reviews and much more....

D.C. Update

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ALA visits the Holocaust Memorial Museum [<http://www.ushmm.org/>]

A free preconference event has been planned for ALA Annual Conference on Friday, June 22, 9 a.m. to noon, by the Jewish Information Committee of ALA's Ethnic and Multicultural Exchange Round Table. The program at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum will feature resource experts and Holocaust survivors who will discuss new research collections and opportunities. To sign up, contact Ellen Zyroff [<mailto:alajic@yahoo.com>]....

Division News

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Mike Schmoker to headline AASL President's Program

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/AASLPresidentProgram.htm>]

The AASL President's Program at Annual Conference in Washington, D.C., will feature author Mike Schmoker speaking on "The Opportunity: From 'Brutal Facts' to the Best Schools We've Ever Had." Schmoker is the author of *The Results Fieldbook: Practical Strategies for Dramatically Improved Schools*, in which he argues that meaningful teamwork, measurable goals, and the regular collection and analysis of student performance data constitute the foundation for significant results....

Campus advocacy program at ACRL National Conference

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/ACRLALAAdvocacyProgram.htm>]

The ACRL University Library Section and the ALA Advocacy Institute will present a workshop titled "Campus Advocacy: Involving All Staff in Influencing Campus Dynamics" during ACRL's 13th National Conference in Baltimore, March 30, 2:30–6 p.m. Attendees will learn how advocacy for all library staff is a critical component of success....

Changing roles of academic and research libraries

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/ACRLEssaytechnology.htm>]

ACRL has published an essay [<http://www.ala.org/ala/acrl/acrlissues/future/changingroles.htm>] on technology and change in academic libraries that resulted from a November 2–3, 2006, summit held in Chicago. The summit identified essential actions that libraries must take to achieve necessary transformations and remain a vital force on campus in the years ahead. Comments [<http://acrlblog.org/2007/03/15/acrl-summit-report-on-changing-role-of-academic-libraries-now-available/>] are encouraged on the ACRLLog....

Awards

=====

Paul McMasters receives James Madison Award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/madison07.htm>]

ALA has presented Paul K. McMasters, First Amendment ombudsman for the Freedom Forum, with the 2007 James Madison Award, which honors those who have championed, protected, and promoted public access to government information and the public's "right to know." McMasters was given the award for his tireless work toward openness in government....

Pat Schuman receives Eileen Cooke Award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/cooke07.htm>]

Patricia Glass Schuman, 1991–1992 ALA president and president of Neal-Schuman Publishers, is the recipient of the 2007 Eileen Cooke State and Local Madison Award, presented by ALA to honor those who, at the state and local levels, have championed, protected, and promoted public access to government information and the public's "right to know." Over the course of her distinguished career, Schuman has mentored and trained tens of thousands of librarians and trustees, creating an army of advocates across the nation....

John Sessions Memorial Award [<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/SessionsAward.htm>]

The James B. Carey Library [http://www.smlr.rutgers.edu/library/james_carey/] of the School of Management and Labor Relations at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, New Jersey, is the 2007 recipient of the John Sessions Memorial Award presented by RUSA. The award, supported by a donation from the AFL-CIO, is given to recognize a library that has made a significant effort to work with the labor community and brought recognition to the contributions of the labor movement to the development of the United States....

Caplan chosen Library Hi Tech Award winner

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/CaplanHiTechAwardwinner.htm>]

Priscilla Caplan, assistant director for digital library services at the Florida Center for Library Automation, is the winner of the 2007 LITA Library Hi Tech award for Outstanding Communication in Library and Information Technology, sponsored by Emerald. The award recognizes outstanding achievement in communicating to educate practitioners within the library field....

LAMA seeks top PR materials for "Best of Show" awards

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/BestofShowAwards.htm>]

The LAMA Public Relations and Marketing Section has opened its Swap and Shop "Best of Show" awards competition. This annual awards program recognizes outstanding public relations materials produced by libraries in 2006. Winners will be on display during the Swap and Shop program June 24 during ALA Annual Conference in Washington. Entries

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/lama/lamacommittees/publicrelationsb/swapandshop/swapshop07entryformdoc.htm>]

must be postmarked by April 1....

Rowan Public Library's winning video series

[<http://www.salisburypost.com/area/320080672329990.php>]

The Rowan Public Library in Salisbury, North Carolina, is the winner of a statewide award for its video series "A Ramble Through Rowan's History." The library program is one of nine county programs statewide to receive the 2006 Outstanding County Program Award from the N.C. Association of County Commissioners....

Salisbury (N.C.) Post, Mar. 21

New award for military writing

[<http://www.tawanifoundation.org/PDF/PML%20LTAA%20PRESS%20RELEASE-EMBARGOED.pdf>] (PDF file)

The Tawani Foundation has announced a new annual award, the Pritzker Military Library Literature Award for Lifetime Achievement in Military Writing. The award recognizes the lifetime contributions of a living author of works of American military history and affairs. The deadline for nominations is May 1....

Tawani Foundation, Mar. 19

Seen Online

Cartoonist Carol Lay makes amends [<http://www.salon.com/comics/lay/2007/03/20/lay/index1.html>]

To answer the many complaints and comments she received from librarians after she devoted one of her "WayLay" series of comic strips in Salon to the recent "scrotum" controversy, comic artist Carol Lay inked "A-mends" as a sort of apology. (If you are not a subscriber, you can look at a sponsor's ad to read the strip.)....

Salon, Mar. 20

Movers and Shakers, 2007 [<http://libraryjournal.com/index.asp?layout=LJMS&pubdate=3/15/2007>]

Many of the 50 librarians and other individuals profiled in Library Journal's 2007 Movers and Shakers represent a new breed. They are young enough to have grown up with computers and the internet. They're not just embracing new technology, they own it. They create it. And they use it to develop and deliver myriad services to library users and nonusers, to meet their customers online, and to bring up to snuff even those who aren't yet comfortable with our high-speed world....

Library Journal, Mar. 15

The cookbook librarian

[http://www.midiowanews.com/site/tab1.cfm?newsid=18051670&BRD=2700&PAG=461&dept_id=554346&rfi=6]

RUSA President Diana Shonrock is known as the "cookbook librarian" at Iowa State University's Parks Library. She looks for nutrition-based and Iowa cookbooks, both for her personal collection as well as for the library's Iowa Cookbook Collection

[<http://www.lib.iastate.edu/spcl/exhibits/iowacookbook/history.html>]. Shonrock likes challenging recipes, such as a sour cream cherry coffee cake from the mystery series of Diane Mott Davidson. Family favorites include beef spare ribs with cheddar polenta, a goulash recipe from Shonrock's childhood, and a butter cookie her mother made from the 1951 Betty Crocker cookbook....

Ames (Iowa) Tribune, Mar. 7

Lawsuit challenges FBI's national security letters

[<http://www.newsday.com/news/nationworld/nation/ny-uslett215138596mar21,0,4059927.story>]

The FBI's expanded use of national security letters is being challenged by a small internet service provider in New York who is under a gag order barring him from talking about the case. The lawsuit is believed to be one of only two constitutional challenges to the USA Patriot Act provisions that have dramatically broadened the FBI's authority to gather confidential information about thousands of Americans in the effort to hunt terrorists....
Long Island (N.Y.) Newsday, Mar. 21

Of the places you'll go, is the library still one of them?
[http://online.wsj.com/public/article/SB117391084682537392-qNtwMyrV5hF6_OvdZJdpIjRiplo_20080313.html]

Jeff Zaslow writes: "For parents and grandparents, it's hard to accept that young people today often feel little connection to the local library. We recall the libraries of our childhoods as magical places; getting our first library card was a rite of passage. It saddens us that younger generations seem more eager to buy books than borrow them, or that they consider libraries just another tool for acquiring information."...
Wall Street Journal, Mar. 15

A failed levy won't stop Jackson County library supporters
[<http://www.mailtribune.com/archive/2007/0314/local/stories/library-plans-dm.htm>]
Library advocates are looking beyond the May 15 election in case voters reject a levy that would reopen all 15 branches of the Jackson County (Oreg.) Library Services. In the May election, voters will decide on a three-year levy that would generate \$8.3 million annually for the libraries, which are closing April 6. If the measure fails, other options include holding another levy or asking voters to create a special district in November 2008—a move that would make libraries financially independent from the county....
Medford (Oreg.) Mail Tribune, Mar. 14

Haverhill library uses geothermal energy [http://www.eagletribune.com/hhnews/local_story_080093923]
You can go to the Haverhill (Mass.) Public Library and read up on geothermal technology, or just talk to the building custodian. Michael Hutchinson helps maintain the library's geothermal heating and cooling system, one of Haverhill's hidden gems that few people know about. Warm water deep in the Earth has helped to heat and cool the library for the past 12 years....
North Andover (Mass.) Eagle-Tribune, Mar. 21

Virginia pulls funds from Craig County library [<http://www.roanoke.com/news/roanoke/wb/109479>]
The Library of Virginia Board voted March 19 to deny the fledgling Craig County Public Library in New Castle state aid for the current fiscal year. The revocation of state aid is the first in Virginia since 1980, according to Director of Library Development and Networking Elizabeth Lewis. The board's vote was prompted by the county's failure to meet state funding and staff requirements, despite reorganization efforts by its Friends group....
Roanoke (Va.) Times, Mar. 20

Mom used kids in Cincinnati library theft
[<http://news.enquirer.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070316/NEWS01/703160376/1077/COL02>]
A movie buff who works as a clerk in a video game store helped unravel the case of hundreds of missing DVDs from the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County. The clerk's tip led to the arrest of a Camp Washington woman who told police that she used her four children to help her get the DVDs....
Cincinnati Enquirer, Mar. 16

Former library employee suspected of embezzlement
[http://www.starbeacon.com/local/local_story_075172318]
The Andover (Ohio) Public Library board of trustees has asked the Ashtabula County Prosecutor's Office to proceed with filing criminal charges against former library employee Sonia Orahood for

alleged embezzlement of funds from the library. Library officials are seeking full restitution of the missing funds, totaling \$89,738, as well as \$20,000 in special audit costs billed to the library. Criminal charges are expected to be filed by the prosecutor's office....

Ashtabula (Ohio) Star-Beacon, Mar. 16

Acting civil in Tallahassee

[<http://www.tallahassee.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070313/OPINION01/703130304/1021>]

The story in AL Direct last week about disruptive teens at the LeRoy Collins Leon County (Fla.) Public Library was removed from the Tallahassee Democrat's website because it contained numerous errors. Library Director Helen Moeller told American Libraries that "we are pleased that our local paper ran an editorial which put the facts and issues into a broader community perspective." She added that the library has been much quieter in the past week or so....

Tallahassee (Fla.) Democrat, Mar. 13

Nova Scotia library damaged in fire [<http://thechronicleherald.ca/Search/565644.html>]

Chief Librarian Frances Newman is waiting for word on the condition of thousands of smoke-damaged books removed for cleaning from the Springhill branch of the Cumberland Regional Library in Nova Scotia. The library, located in an old miners' hall, closed indefinitely March 14 after it was damaged in a fire that police say a 12-year-old girl set....

Halifax (N.S.) Chronicle, Mar. 20

Dark day for B.C. Legislature Library

[<http://www.canada.com/victoriatimescolonist/news/story.html?id=375548cd-cb33-49d2-8acf-9749308d9bbb&k=64944>]

The British Columbia Legislature Library in Victoria is closing down indefinitely for a seismic upgrade, and there is widespread concern it won't reopen. The 29 staff in the 90-year-old facility attached to the back of the legislature building were told in mid-March to start packing for a move when the current session concludes this spring. The bulk of the library's vast collection of historical documents will be shipped to a warehouse....

Victoria (B.C.) Times Colonist, Mar. 16

Welsh library centennial [http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/wales/mid_/6464765.stm]

The National Library of Wales in Aberystwyth is celebrating its centennial by staging its largest-ever exhibition of its collections. This is one of a number of events

[<http://www.llgc.org.uk/index.php?id=161>] to mark the 100th anniversary of its establishment on March 19, 1907. The exhibition, called "In this Place," will feature the library's most important works and run until November....

BBC News, Mar. 19

Grover Cleveland's grandson stumps for presidential library

[<http://www.buffalonews.com/102/story/33142.html>]

Organizers of a plan to turn a former North Buffalo, New York, library building into a library and museum [<http://www.auburnpub.com/articles/2007/03/15/news/state/state05.txt>] honoring Grover Cleveland, America's 22nd and 24th president, have enlisted the help of Cleveland's grandson. Members of Free New York, a local nonprofit research group, took George Cleveland on a tour of Buffalo March 14, where his grandfather was elected mayor in 1881....

Buffalo (N.Y.) News, Auburn (N.Y.) Citizen, Mar. 15

British schools refuse boring classics

[<http://www.thisislondon.co.uk/news/article-23389728-details/Schools+refuse+gifts+of+%27boring%27+classics/article.do>]

Dozens of schools have rejected gifts of free classic books because today's pupils find them too "difficult" to read. Around 50 schools have refused to stock literary works by the likes of Jane Austen, William Shakespeare, and Charles Dickens after admitting that youngsters also find them

boring. The worrying figures were released by the Millennium Library Trust, which donates sets of up to 300 books to schools around the UK....

Evening Standard, Mar. 20

Iraq's cultural curators defy sectarian unrest

[<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=8951668&ft=1&f=3>]

Cultural life in Iraq is reeling after years of attacks linked to the violence that has gripped the country since the U.S. invasion in 2003. But against all odds, an institution that collects books and documents is being rebuilt. The Iraq National Library and Archive is literally rising from the ashes and being turned into something that goes far beyond what it was before....

NPR Morning Edition, Mar. 16

Hamas reverses school book ban [http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/middle_east/6445465.stm]

The Hamas-run Palestinian education ministry has lifted a ban on a children's anthology of folktales following widespread public outcry. Officials had demanded that *Speak Bird, Speak Again* by Ibrahim Muhawi and Sharif Kanaana, which features mild sexual references, be removed from school libraries. Education Minister Nasser Shaer said the "tempest in a teacup" was over and the decision had been rescinded....

BBC News, Mar. 13

Tech Talk

Virtua post Roma [http://blogs.ala.org/pace.php?title=no_roaming]

VTLS will be offering a free license to its integrated library system, Virtua, in return for a 3-year service contract. Basically, it's an alternative

[<http://www.vtls.com/Corporate/Releases/2007/9.shtml>] to waiting to migrate to another system, but is pointedly in response to SisriDynix's recent announcement about its new platform, code-named "Rome." Of course, there are the requisite rules and exceptions, but you can't say it's small print. It's all right there in the program details [<http://www.vtls.com/noroam>]....

Hectic Pace blog, Mar. 16

Around the world in 2 billion pages [<http://wa.archive.org/aroundtheworld/index.html>]

The Internet Archive is embarking on a project to create a unique global snapshot of the Web and to help improve and demonstrate the scalability of its open source Heritrix web crawler [<http://crawler.archive.org>]. Using a grant from the Mellon Foundation, IA will commence a global crawl to capture 2 billion web pages and make them available to the public. Libraries and archives are among those eligible to submit URLs by May 1....

Internet Archive, Mar. 15

Google adds search privacy protections

[http://news.com.com/Google+adding+search+privacy+protections/2100-1038_3-6167333.html]

Google's servers log information every time someone conducts a web search, keeping data such as the keywords used, the Internet Protocol address, and information from web cookies. Currently, Google maintains the search data logs indefinitely. Under the new policy announced March 14, the company will anonymize the final eight bits of the IP address and the cookie data after somewhere between 18 months and 24 months....

CNet news, Mar. 14

Troubleshooting 101 [<http://www.extremetech.com/article2/0,1558,2104965,00.asp>]

What sets the true tweekers apart from those who have to call in the electrician or the Geek Squad often comes down to your approach to troubleshooting those problems. It's simply a matter of logic and deduction—particularly if you might have caused the problem yourself. Loyd Case has put together some tips to help you uncover the source of those problems, fix them, and move on....
ExtremeTech, Mar. 19

A Yahoo! guide to podcasting [<http://podcasts.yahoo.com/publish/1>]
A podcast can truly be anything. This is your chance to share your voice, your thoughts, and your imagination with the world. Many people create talk-show podcasts, but you don't have to limit yourself to just that format. With just a few pieces of gear, this tutorial, and a little inspiration, you can be podcasting in no time at all....
Yahoo! Podcasts

Actions & Answers

Cultural institutions to observe MayDay
[<http://www.heritagepreservation.org/PROGRAMS/TFlessons/MayDayInfo.html>]
Archives, libraries, museums, and historic preservation organizations are setting aside May 1 to participate in a national effort to protect collections from disasters. The Heritage Emergency National Task Force urges cultural institutions across the country to observe MayDay by taking at least one step to prepare to respond to a disaster. Any organization can participate in MayDay. Last year, the Louisiana State University Libraries Special Collections staff were trained to put out small fires with an extinguisher....
Heritage Preservation, Mar. 15

A hostile environment for documents [<http://www.the-scientist.com/article/home/52884/>]
Glenn McGee writes: "Like most U.S. agencies charged with the oversight of the public's health, the Environmental Protection Agency relies on accumulated wisdom as it navigates new and varied problems. You'd think that the agency responsible for, say, all clinical information on the effects of pesticides would do anything to keep those systems of information fully operational and to modernize. But in fact, the greatest environmental disaster of this decade may be the amnesia that the White House and EPA seem hell-bent on causing."...
The Scientist 21, no. 3 (Mar.): 26

E-rate program judged successful [<http://www.govtech.net/magazine/story.php?id=104141>]
A new report, E-Rate: 10 Years of Connecting Kids and Community (PDF file [http://www.edlinc.org/pdf/NCTETReport_212.pdf]), released March 1 by two education coalitions—the Education and Libraries Networks Coalition and the National Coalition for Technology in Education and Training—states that the e-rate has transformed America's schools and libraries into modern institutions, but its mission is not yet complete. The report indicates that e-rate-supported connectivity allows 100% of public libraries to provide free internet access to their communities....
Government Technology, Mar. 1

World internet censorship map [<http://www.opennet.net/map/index2.html>]
In an effort to counter the once borderless internet, states are seeking to create informational boundaries in cyberspace. This is accomplished through a combination of technical and regulatory means—including laws, licensing regimes, industry self-regulation, national filtering, and content removal—thereby creating a matrix of controls. The OpenNet Initiative has created this interactive

global map to highlight those countries with restrictions....
OpenNet Initiative

ILL: What goes around [<http://chronicle.com/jobs/news/2007/03/2007031401c/careers.html>]
Visiting scholar Susanna Ashton writes of her experiences with interlibrary loan at the Boole Library at Ireland's University College Cork: "I have since learned that interlibrary lending isn't free at all but a gift paid for by every American taxpayer. The average American probably doesn't know it, but interlibrary lending in the United States costs somewhat more than what the University College Cork was charging to cover its expenses. The system works precisely because it helps everyone."...
Chronicle of Higher Education, Mar. 14

Baxter, the Maine library mas-cat [<http://business.maintoday.com/newsdirect/release.html?id=4099#>]
Baxter is on the prowl. A large Maine Coon cat, Baxter is the new mascot for Maine libraries [<http://www.maine.gov/msl/libs/pr/mascot/>], and is sporting a new name following a six-week statewide contest. More than 1,200 name suggestions flooded into the Maine State Library after the contest began in January. The winner, Ben Allen of Pittsfield, was selected March 15 by a random drawing in Augusta....
Maine State Library, Mar. 15

Worldcat's Top 1000 on del.icio.us [<http://orweblog.oclc.org/archives/001297.html>]
OCLC has added its 2005 Top 1000 Works on Worldcat [<http://www.oclc.org/research/top1000/default.htm>] list to del.icio.us [<http://del.icio.us/oclc2005top1000>], enabling the user to sort by ISBN, OCLC number, language, genre, and time period; for example, works of poetry [<http://del.icio.us/oclc2005top1000/poetry>], books in Latin [<http://del.icio.us/oclc2005top1000/Latin>], and books from the 17th century [<http://del.icio.us/oclc2005top1000/17th-century>]. I understand they are working on an update to this fun facts compilation....
Lorcan Dempsey's Weblog, Mar. 15

Keeping the small library afloat
[<http://blog.alaeditions.org/2007/03/20/keeping-the-small-library-afloat-takes-planning/>]
Laura Pelehach writes: "One challenge I often hear from librarians, particularly those new to management, is discovering things 'they' didn't teach us in library school. This week, I've been working on a manuscript for ALA Editions, The Small Library Survival Guide, by Herb Landau, director of a tiny library in the heavily Amish community of Lancaster, Pa. About 50% of his time, Landau says, is devoted to fund-raising."...
ALA Editions blog, Mar. 20

No more talking cassettes
[<http://sev.prnewswire.com/computer-electronics/20070319/CLM06319032007-1.html>]
The Library of Congress's National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped produced its last analog cassette book machine on February 17, signaling the advent of Digital Talking Books. During a ceremony held on March 1 in Blue Earth, Minnesota, Telex Communications presented NLS with the milestone player—the 1,248,113th manufactured by the company since 1983....
National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Mar. 19

Mellon Foundation grants CLIR \$2.19 million in operating funds
[<http://app.e2ma.net/app/view:CampaignPublic/id:9304.535552318/rid:39515c8545f3579c805d2051102a26a4>]
The Council on Library and Information Resources has received a three-year, \$2.19-million grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to support general operations. The award will allow CLIR to launch a range of new initiatives in six program areas: cyberinfrastructure, preservation, the next scholar, the emerging library, leadership, and new models....
Council on Library and Information Resources, Mar. 19

Reading is your pot o' gold

[http://papercuts.tscpl.org/2007/03/reading_is_your_pot_o_gold.html]

The Topeka and Shawnee County (Kans.) Public Library celebrated reading on St. Patrick's Day by decorating one of its bookmobiles and marching alongside it in the city's parade. The Adventuremobile is stocked with popular children's books for visiting local elementary schools during the school year and community sites during the summer months....

Paper Cuts blog, Mar. 19

Boeing gives National Archives \$5 million

[<http://www.archives.gov/press/press-releases/2007/nr07-68.html>]

The Boeing Company has awarded a \$5 million gift to share the National Archives' rich resources with Americans across the country. The gift will enable the National Archives to complete its center for educational outreach, which will be known as the Boeing Learning Center. In addition, the gift will fund the launch of an expanded traveling exhibition program, beginning with the critically acclaimed "Eyewitness: American Originals from the National Archives [<http://www.archives.gov/exhibits/eyewitness/>]."...

National Archives, Mar. 7

Caroline Feller Bauer sets up children's library and recreation center in Bangladesh

Educator, storyteller, and ALA author Caroline Feller Bauer has established a children's play park in the village of Bhatiari, near Chittagong in Bangladesh, complete with a library, school, and art gallery. Bauer, currently a Chittagong resident, told American Libraries that after the grand opening March 2 she has scheduled a full set of activities that includes chess lessons, music lessons, and storytimes—all open without charge to the children in the community.

Library people on postage stamps [<http://www.libraryhistorybuff.org/bibliophilately-people.htm>]

Larry Nix writes: "People who have worked in a library or made a contribution to libraries have appeared on relatively few postage stamps. Usually when they have, it is because they made a contribution to society in some other capacity than library work or support. It is regrettable that more library people have not been honored on postage stamps. Unfortunately, it is an indication of the value that society places on those who work in or for libraries."...

Library History Buff, Mar. 9

Ask the ALA Librarian

=====

Q. The teachers at my school want me to fill the library with "leveled books" (reading materials sorted or arranged by reading level) for the students to read. I'm not sure this is a good idea. What can you tell me about them?

A. Both ALA's American Association of School Librarians [<http://www.ala.org/aasl>] and the National Council of Teachers of English [<http://www.ncte.org>] have registered concerns in using such programs, pointing out the limitations and presumptions inherent in them, in determining what children of a certain age "should" read. Find out more on the ALA Professional Tips wiki [http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Leveled_Books].

The ALA Librarian [<mailto:AskTheLibrarian@ala.org>] welcomes your questions.

Calendar

Apply for:

By Mar. 19:

ALA's Public Programs Office [<http://publicprograms.ala.org/picturingamerica/>] 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. Contact: PPO. [<mailto:publicprograms@ala.org>]

By Mar. 27:

Advancing Knowledge: The Institute of Museum and Library Services/National Endowment for the Humanities Digital Partnership [http://www.neh.gov/grants/guidelines/Digital_Partnership.html] grant program seeks applications for innovative, collaborative, humanities projects that use the latest digital technologies.

By Apr. 2:

U.S. Department of Education [<http://www.ed.gov/programs/lsl/index.html>] will award approximately 100 Improving Literacy through School Libraries grants ranging from \$30,000 to \$300,000 to school districts in which at least 20% of students are from families below the poverty line.

By Apr. 3:

National Endowment for the Humanities Digital Humanities Start-Up Grants [<http://www.neh.gov/grants/guidelines/digitalhumanitiesstartup.html>] award up to \$30,000 for planning or initial stages of digital initiatives in all areas of the humanities. The April 3 deadline is for projects beginning September 2007. Contact: NEH [<mailto:dhi@neh.gov>], 202-606-8401.

By Apr. 12:

The National Endowment for the Arts [<http://www.neabigread.org/index.php>] offers approximately 120 Big Read grants of \$5,000 to \$40,000 to promote and operate month-long, community-based reading programs. There was a March 1 deadline to submit "Intent to Apply" forms, but they are not required to submit grant applications.

By May 1:

The Institute of Museum and Library Services [<http://www.imls.gov/applicants/grants/nativeEnhance.shtm>] seeks applications for Native American Library Services Enhancement Grants.

By May 15:

The United States Board on Books for Young People [<http://www.pixelwater.com/ETB/Asahi/>] seeks applications to submit as its entry for the 2008 International Board on Books for Young People Asahi Reading Promotion Award. The \$10,000 award is given to two nonprofit groups or institutions that are making lasting contributions to book promotion programs for children. Contact: Rusty True Browder [<mailto:rbrowder@pixelwater.com>], 617-803-8250.

By Sept. 15:

The Ezra Jack Keats Foundation [<http://www.ezra-jack-keats.org/programs/minigrant.html>] awards \$500 minigrants to school and public libraries for programs that encourage literacy and creativity in children.

Ongoing:

Libri Foundation Books For Children Grants [<http://www.librifoundation.org/apps.html>] will match \$50 to \$350 raised by local sponsors on a 2-to-1 ratio to help small, rural public libraries buy children's books. The foundation makes grants three times a year, with deadlines of Apr. 15, July 15, and Dec. 15. Contact: Barbara J. McKillip [<mailto:libri@librifoundation.org>], 541-747-9655.

Ongoing:

The ALA Honor Roll Website [<http://www.mjfreedman.org/honorrollsite/index.html>] will acknowledge libraries that are champions of staff support and development, that provide support to their employees to attend work-related workshops, conferences, and/or classes. Sponsored by the Programs and Special Projects Working Group of the Better Salaries and Pay Equity Task Force. Submit an electronic application. Contact: Teri Switzer [<mailto:teri.switzer@cudenver.edu>].

Ongoing:

The Staples Foundation for Learning [<http://www.staplesfoundation.org/foundhome2.html>] makes quarterly grants to programs from 501(c)(3) organizations that support or provide job skills and/or education for all people, with a special emphasis on disadvantaged youth. Upcoming deadlines are Apr. 6, Aug. 3, and Dec. 7.

@ More [<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/datebook/datebook.cfm>]

Contact Us

American Libraries Direct

AL Direct is a free electronic newsletter e-mailed every Wednesday to personal members of the American Library Association [<http://www.ala.org>].

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U.S. & World News

[Federal judge blocks COPA](#)

A federal judge struck down March 22 the contentious Child Online Protection Act (COPA), which made it a crime for commercial websites to allow access to "harmful" material without first verifying user ages. In his ruling, Senior U.S. District Judge Lowell Reed Jr. stated that computer software filters serve to protect children from such controversial material—without violating free speech....

[Billington calls on Congress to reinstate digitization funds](#)

Testifying before the House Subcommittee on Legislative Branch, Librarian of Congress James H. Billington made a case March 20 for reinstating in FY2008 the \$47 million cut from LC's National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program. The remaining FY2007 funding for the program was eliminated in February as part of House Joint Resolution 20....



[Virginia governor signs filtering law](#)

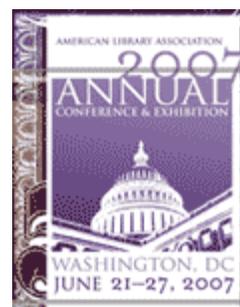
Virginia Gov. Timothy M. Kaine signed legislation March 22 requiring the state's public libraries to install internet filters to block offensive material but allowing adults who are conducting research to have the filters disabled. The legislation, which passed the House 85-12 and the Senate 31-9, was supported by the conservative Family Foundation of Virginia, which has been calling for such a measure since 2004....

[Sacramento internet-use policy strives for balance](#)

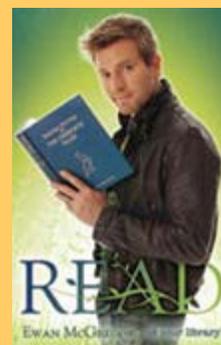
The authority board of the Sacramento Public Library adopted an internet-use policy March 22 intended to balance the protection of children with the right of adult patrons to view potentially offensive materials. But the new policy appeared to please none of the 12-member board, comprised of members of the board of supervisors and city council, and other city officials....

Contents

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[Seen Online](#)
[Tech Talk](#)
[Actions & Answers](#)
[Poll](#)
[Calendar](#)



Find events and resources for [job-seekers](#) and tips for a [successful conference](#).



Scottish actor **Ewan McGregor** not only reads children's author Beatrix Potter, he starred as Potter's publisher and fiancé Norman Warne in the 2006 film *Miss Potter*. **NEW** [Read poster](#) from ALA Graphics.

[Canadian legislative library closure creates seismic rift](#)

The fate of the 90-year-old space housing British Columbia's Legislative Library in Victoria has shaken its 29-member staff, who were told March 16 to box up the collection in preparation for a seismic upgrade that would close the library indefinitely and necessitate the transfer of 14 people to other government departments. House Speaker Bill Barisoff admitted that a legislative management committee would determine how the library space would be used after work was complete; among the options is to create offices for lawmakers and their staffs....



[CRS director tightens access to agency reports](#)

The director of the Congressional Research Service issued a memo March 20 requiring prior approval from high-level staff before the agency's reports can be given to members of the public. Daniel P. Mulhollan stated, "To avoid inconsistencies and to increase accountability, CRS policy requires prior approval at the division level before products can be disseminated to non-congressionals."...



ALA News

[Oprah chooses *The Road*](#)

Community college, middle and high school, and public library organizational members of ALA as of April 4, 2007, will receive from two to eight complimentary copies of Cormac McCarthy's *The Road* from Knopf as the Oprah Book Club's newest selection, announced March 28. This is the second title for 2007, following *The Measure of a Man* by Sidney Poitier in January. Visit the [ALA website](#) to enroll your library....



[The making of "Magnum, A.L."](#)

Following the amazing success of the *American Libraries* video "[Magnum, A.L.](#)" this behind-the-scenes studio footage reveals some (but not all) of its trade production secrets, captured surreptitiously by ALA Membership Marketing Manager John Chrastka. For other outtakes, see numbers [two](#), [three](#), and [four](#), as well as several [stills](#)....



[Burger releases statement on Jackson County closures](#)

A cut in federal funding resulted in 15 public library branches serving Jackson County, Oregon, with a \$7-million deficit—nearly 80% of the system's budget. ALA President Leslie Burger has released a statement on the April closure of Jackson County's libraries....

[2007 Diversity and Outreach Fair](#)

ALA invites its members to participate in the 10th Annual Diversity and Outreach Fair on Saturday, June 23, 3 to 5 p.m., in the



The **United States Holocaust Memorial Museum** and the Jewish Information Committee of ALA's Ethnic and Multicultural Exchange Round Table have planned a [special free event](#) on the Holocaust at ALA Annual Conference on Friday, June 22, from 9 a.m. to noon.

In this issue

April 2007



Chicago Public Library's Architectural Renaissance

2007 Library Design Showcase

Building Libraries versus Schools

Human Error: When Good Intentions Meet Bad Planning

From the

Washington Convention Center during ALA Annual Conference. This year the fair will focus on bookmobile and other innovative services to underserved communities....

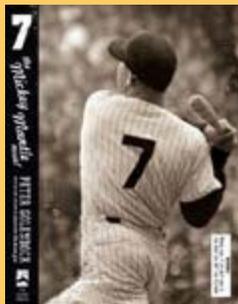
Booklist

ONLINE

Featured review: Historical fiction

Golenbock, Peter. *7: The Mickey Mantle Novel*. Apr. 2007. 304p. Lyons, hardcover (978-1-59921-270-8).

Whereas Jim Bouton's nonfiction *Ball Four* (1970) turned iconic New York Yankee centerfielder Mickey Mantle into a human being, Golenbock's novelized version of Mantle's life turns the human being into a pathetic case history—suspended adolescence overlaid with multiple neuroses. Cleverly, Golenbock uses the Bouton book to set up his otherworldly premise: Mantle, dead of liver cancer, finds himself in heaven and desperate to apologize for his wrongdoing. He turns to Leonard Shechter, coauthor of *Ball Four*, to write the true story of his life. The novel takes the form of a confessional, with Shechter questioning Mantle, and the Mick responding with the candor he avoided when he was a boozing, "puss-chasing" superhero....



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

D.C. Update

Metro buses and trains

The [Washington Metro](#), or simply Metro, is the rapid transit system of Washington, D.C., and neighboring suburban communities in Maryland and Virginia, both inside and outside the Capital Beltway. In Maryland, service is provided in Prince George's County and Montgomery County; in Virginia, service extends to Fairfax County, Arlington County, and the city of Alexandria....

Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority; Wikipedia



Washington taxi tips

How much does it cost to take a taxi from the National Gallery of Art to the Jefferson Memorial, or from downtown to one of the airports? It may depend on which taxi you hail and where you board. Fares are calculated with curiously designed zone maps—not with meters. But informed consumers can make the zone system work for them. Here are some tips....

Washington Post Visitors Guide



CentenniAL Blog



Early diversity efforts.

At the 1922 Annual Conference in Detroit, about 100 librarians attended the first annual meeting of the Work with Negroes Round Table, chaired by Ernestine Rose of the New York Public Library. The reports on the Round Table's meetings published in the *ALA Bulletin* are a bizarre mix of overt racism, progressive ideas, and overt racism masquerading as progressive ideas. They make for lively, if often unsettling, reading. At the 1922 conference (p. 361–366), for example, Marion P. Watson of the New York Public Library's 135th Street branch presented the results of a survey on work with black patrons that she had sent to 122 libraries around the country....



Career Leads from

ALA JobLIST

Division News

[PLDS statistical database debuts this year](#)

PLA is offering access to its new PLDS Online Database, which features the same information as the *PLDS Statistical Report*, but in a user-friendly, dynamic web-based format. By [ordering](#) a one-year subscription to the database, users will be able to search the Public Library Data Service datasets and create customized reports....

[WrestleMania Reading Challenge in Detroit](#)

World Wrestling Entertainment's Bobby Lashley and Rey Mysterio and WWE Hall of Fame inductee Jimmy Hart will host the WrestleMania Reading Challenge Finals at the Detroit Public Library Saturday March 31, from 10 a.m. to noon. They will be joined by authors Chris Crutcher and Paul Volponi at the main library, 5201 Woodward Avenue, in the Friends Auditorium. The event was designed as a means of extending YALSA's Teen Read Week....



[YALSA interviews Ypulse blogger Anastasia Goodstein](#)

In this podcast (15:20) Kelly Czarnecki interviews [Ypulse](#) blogger Anastasia Goodstein. Anastasia's new book *Totally Wired: What Teens and Tweens are Really Doing Online* was published by St. Martin's Griffin in March. The interview covers what librarians can learn from the book, teen social-networking safety, and what's next after MySpace....

YALSA blog, Mar. 26

[Edelman to keynote ALSC President's Program](#)

Marian Wright Edelman, president of the Children's Defense Fund, will be the featured speaker at the ALSC Charlemae Rollins President's Program, Monday, June 25, in Washington, D.C. Edelman, who will address the state of America's children in her keynote speech, has been an advocate for disadvantaged Americans for her entire professional life....



[ALCTS Interactive Futures Conference features Richard Lanham](#)

ALCTS will celebrate its 50th anniversary with a special conference, "Interactive Futures: A National Conference on the Transformation of Library Collections and Technical Services," June 20–21, in Washington, D.C., at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center on Pennsylvania Avenue. Richard A. Lanham, UCLA professor emeritus and author of *The Economics of Attention*, will give the opening session address....



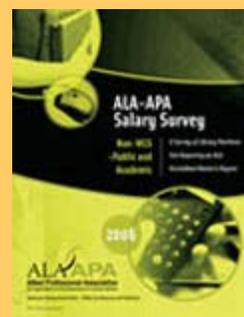
[New AASL e-Academy courses](#)

The AASL e-Academy will offer three new continuing education programs starting on April 23. The courses—on programming, reluctant readers, and children's literature—will be offered via a partnership with the University of North Texas project LE@D....

[Electronic Resources Management Librarian](#)

Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore. An opportunity for an energetic, service-oriented librarian with strong communications skills to provide e-resources and access data management expertise for the Acquisitions/Rapid Cataloging Unit of the Sheridan Libraries....

@ [More jobs...](#)



Useful for non-MLS- accredited professionals seeking employment in academic and public libraries, this [ALA-APA Salary Survey](#) covers 62 positions in all departments: associate librarians, library technical assistants, copy catalogers, interlibrary loan assistants, information technology managers, human resource managers, administrative assistants, and accountants.

[AASL disaster preparedness workshop in D.C.](#)

AASL will offer a workshop addressing disaster preparedness for school library media specialists during ALA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C., June 22. Terrence Young, a Beyond Words grant recipient, will lead a panel of school library media specialists in a discussion....

[ASCLA preconference on staff development](#)

ASCLA is offering a [preconference](#) on staff development and performance management on Friday, June 22, during the ALA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. Attendees will learn about organizational strategy, performance management, and how to create and sustain a plan for staff functionality development....

[New PLA booklet expands literacy efforts for young children](#)

Nursery Rhymes, Songs, and Fingerplays, a collection of more than 80 of the best rhyming verses for children (including classics as well as lesser-known rhymes), is available for purchase at the [ALA Online Store](#). The booklet is published by PLA in partnership with the West Bloomfield Township (Mich.) Public Library, which originally produced it as part of its Grow Up Reading initiative....



Check Out the Future.
National Library Legislative Day
2007

[National Library Legislative Day](#)

May 1–2, is an event in which people who care about libraries can participate in advocacy and issue-training sessions, interact with Capitol Hill insiders, and visit congressional member offices to ask Congress to pass legislation that supports libraries.

Public Perception

How the World Sees Us

“Back in the 20th century, a library card was your ticket to read everything that was ever published. Now you can do that on the internet, of course.”

—CBS-TV *Early Show* coanchor Harry Smith, in a segment on “The Return of Libraries,” Mar. 23.

Round Table News

[Always learning](#)

Loretta Dunne offers some continuing-education advice to librarians who want to keep up with trends and technologies, including classes, certificates, and post-master’s graduate courses....

NMRT Footnotes 36, no. 3 (Feb.)

Awards

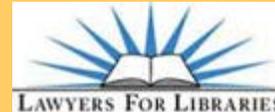
[Sarah Thomas receives Melvil Dewey Medal](#)

Sarah Thomas, university librarian at Cornell University, is the 2007 recipient of the ALA Melvil Dewey Medal, which recognizes distinguished service to the profession of librarianship. Melvil Dewey Jury Chair Winston Tabb cited Thomas in particular for her leadership in cataloging and bibliographic standards and practices, both nationally and internationally....



[Peter Jaszi honored with Patterson Copyright Award](#)

Peter Jaszi, director of the Glushko-Samuelson Intellectual Property Law Clinic at American University’s Washington College of Law, is the 2007 recipient of the ALA Office for Information Technology Policy’s L. Ray Patterson Copyright Award: In Support of Users’ Rights. An early leader and advocate for copyright law in the public interest, Jaszi has been at the forefront of intellectual property and copyright law....



ALA will be presenting the Mid-Atlantic Regional [Lawyers for Libraries](#) Training Institute in Philadelphia, May 17. Lawyers for Libraries is designed to build a nationwide network of attorneys committed to the defense of the First Amendment **freedom to read** and

[Jenna Freedman named Futas winner](#)

ALA has awarded the Elizabeth Futas Catalyst for Change Award to Jenna Freedman, coordinator of reference services at Barnard College library in New York City. The \$1,000 Futas award honors a librarian who takes risks, helps new librarians, works for change, and inspires colleagues. Freedman's zine collection at Barnard, her establishment of Radical Reference, and her work with the ALA Presidential Task Force on Better Salaries were cited by the award jury....



[Brett Butler Entrepreneurship Award winners](#)

Annette Bailey, digital assets librarian at Virginia Tech University, and Godmar Back, assistant professor in the Virginia Tech Computer Science Department, are the 2007 recipients of the LITA/Brett Butler Entrepreneurship Award. In summer 2005, they jointly developed an open source Firefox browser extension, LibX, which delivers library resources to users by seamlessly integrating access to them into the Firefox browser....

[Liberty High School library wins award](#)

The Greater Kansas City Association of School Librarians recently awarded the Liberty (Mo.) High School Library Media Center as its Library Media Program of the Year. The group said the staff—which includes librarians Connie King and Alison Schultz, and paraprofessionals Nancy Laven, Sue Kellermeyer, Annie Schroeder—has created a “dynamic book collection and online resources, and works hard to strike a balance between the two.”...



Liberty (Mo.) Tribune, Mar. 21

[Call for Braverman Award submissions](#)

The Progressive Librarians Guild seeks LIS student papers on an aspect of the social responsibilities of librarians, libraries, or librarianship for the Miriam Braverman Memorial Award. The winning entrant will also receive a \$300 stipend toward attendance at the 2007 ALA Annual Conference in Washington. The deadline for entries is April 30....

Progressive Librarians Guild

[Native Hawaiian grants available](#)

The Institute of Museum and Library Services invites proposals for the Native Hawaiian Library Services Grant. The grant program, with a total budget of \$519,700, will be awarded to nonprofit organizations that primarily serve and represent Native Hawaiians....

Institute of Museum and Library Services, Mar. 26

[Save Our History grants](#)

The History Channel is awarding \$250,000 in grants of up to \$10,000 to fund partnerships between history organizations and schools or youth groups on projects that teach students about local history and actively engage them in its preservation. Libraries are definitely eligible. Applications are due June 1....

History Channel



HISTORY.COM

Seen Online

the application of constitutional law to library policies, principles, and problems.

Poll

What do YOU do?

How much of your professional reading is done online?

Click here to [ANSWER!](#)

Results of the March 14 poll:

How does your budget forecast for FY2008 compare to the current fiscal year?

20% Better

28% Worse

39% Same

12% Not sure

(64 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



[New and improved libraries, on CBS](#)

(requires Windows Media Player 11 or Real Media Player)

The CBS *Early Show* explores the ways libraries are reinventing themselves in the 21st century, with a visit (4:21) to ALA President Leslie Burger and the Princeton (N.J.) Public Library....

The Early Show, Mar. 23

[Provo librarian's book imitates life](#)

When a librarian at the Provo City Library at Academy Square pitched her idea for a children's book to a national publisher, the proposed title got her in the door. The story behind *The Boy Who Was Raised by Librarians* might be even better than the title because there is a real boy who blossomed under the wings of Provo's librarians, later married an English teacher in the library, and is about to graduate from college....

Salt Lake City *Deseret Morning News*, Mar. 27

[Don't read this while working](#)

Several research reports, both recently published and not yet published, provide evidence of the limits of multitasking. The findings, according to neuroscientists, psychologists, and management professors, suggest that many people would be wise to curb their multitasking behavior when working in an office, studying, or driving a car. In short, the answer appears to lie in managing the technology, instead of merely yielding to its incessant tug....

New York Times, Mar. 25

[How the Seattle library stacks up](#)

Columnist Lawrence Cheek writes: "Three years after the Seattle Central Library opened to starbursts of praise, including mine, I am trying to understand why, when I need to spend a working day at a library, I retreat to the Bellevue Regional instead of Seattle's downtown flagship. And why, after guiding at least a dozen out-of-town guests through it, I'm becoming less enthusiastic about Seattle's crystal palace on each successive visit."...

Seattle Post-Intelligencer, Mar. 27



[Saad Eskander on rebuilding Iraq](#)

PBS *Now on the News* correspondent Maria Hinojosa speaks (17:38) with Saad Eskander, director of the Iraqi National Library and Archives, about the painstaking [struggles](#) he faced rebuilding a looted and burned library after the U.S. invasion in 2003. Eskander, who returned to Iraq after the war started, talks about how a modern, fully-staffed library was able to emerge under his leadership, and the dangerous challenges that remain....

PBS *Now on the News*, Mar. 23; British Library

[A new pedia in town](#)

Larry Sanger, a cofounder of Wikipedia, this week launched an alternative resource, [Citizendium](#). His goal is to capture Wikipedia's bustle, but this time avoid the vandalism and inconsistency that are its pitfalls. Like Wikipedia, Citizendium will be nonprofit, devoid of ads, and free to read and edit. Unlike Wikipedia, Citizendium's volunteer contributors will be expected to provide their real names. Experts in given fields will be asked to check articles for accuracy....

Associated Press, Mar. 25



Q. We're thinking of having poster sessions at our state conference. Do you have any tips for us?

A. Poster sessions are a popular means for sharing current research or the mechanisms of recent projects. And yes, there are resources available from ALA and its units for you to use as models for your own program. The [ALA Poster Sessions site](#) has a brief list of pointers, "Tips for Presenters," along with lists of the topics presented at the last two conferences and pictures. Find out more on the [ALA Professional Tips wiki](#).

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

Calendar

Exhibits:

[Boston Athenaeum:](#)

Through July 13:
"Acquired Tastes: 200 Years of Collecting for the Boston Athenaeum."

[Boston Public](#)

[Library:](#) Through Apr. 1: "John Adams Unbound." Through May 1: "Crooks, Rogues, and Maids Less Than Virtuous."

[Bryn Mawr \(Pa.\)](#)

[College:](#) Through June 3: "Bound and Determined:"

[Smithsonian chief quits amid inquiry](#)

Smithsonian Secretary Lawrence M. Small, the banker who took over the world's largest museum complex seven years ago, resigned under pressure March 26 following revelations regarding his housing allowance and office and travel expenditures. Among other controversies, Small had upset historians and filmmakers seeking access to institution archives when he signed a semi-exclusive deal with Showtime in 2006 to mine the Smithsonian's resources for a documentary film channel....

Washington Post, Mar. 27

[Biblioteca Vasconcelos closes indefinitely](#)

(in Spanish)

The \$30-million Biblioteca Vasconcelos public library in Mexico City, which opened last June, closed indefinitely to the public March 18 because of structural problems. Officials at the National Council for Culture and the Arts suspended services so that the faults can be addressed. Director Ignacio Padilla said the library was opened prematurely by the Fox administration....

El Universal (Mexico City), Mar. 15



Tech Talk

[How hackers crack passwords](#)

John Pozadzides writes: "If you invited me to try and crack your password—you know the one that you use over and over for like every web page you visit—how many guesses would it take before I got it? Here is my top 10 list. I can obtain most of this information much easier than you think; then I might just be able to get into your email, computer, or online banking. After all, if I get into one, I'll probably get into all of them."...

One Man's Blog, Mar. 26

[Raise your web profile](#)

Search engine optimization (SEO) is all about using keywords effectively in the structure and content of your website. In this chart, find out how to use title tags, heading tags, hyperlinks, metatags, and alt tags to create keyword-rich content....

PC Magazine, Mar. 21

[Books getting more digital](#)

The International Digital Publishing Forum has announced a conference in New York City for May 9. [Digital Book 2007](#) will feature digital publishing and mobile device innovations. Librarians might remember the IDPF as the OeBF, or Open eBook Forum. It dropped the old moniker when it became clear that the group was essentially a trade organization, and not primarily an effort to create an open e-book standard....

Hectic Pace blog, Mar. 28



[Wireless LAN security myths that won't die](#)

George Ou writes: "It's been two years since I wrote '[The six dumbest ways to secure a wireless LAN](#),' and it's probably been one of my more successful blog entries ever. I'm going to update the information with more defined categories and better explain why

Identifying American Bookbindings."

[Chicago Public Library](#)

Through Apr. 15: "One Book, Many Interpretations." *At Woodson Regional Library*: Through Dec. 31: "Black Jewel of the Midwest: Celebrating 75 Years."

[Huntington Library, San Marino, California](#)

Through May: "Constable: The Great Landscapes." Through June 3: "First Freedoms: The *Los Angeles Times* and the Right to a Free Press, 1881–2006." Apr. 28–July 29: "Linnaeus in the Garden."

[Lloyd Library and Museum, Cincinnati, Ohio](#)

Through May 31: "In Rousseau's Own Hand—His Book, His Notes, and Botany." Through June 30: "Botanical Art from Harper Studios."

[National Library of Medicine, Bethesda, Maryland](#)

Through Feb. 26, 2008: "Visible Proofs: Forensic Views of the Body."

[Newark \(N.J.\) Public Library](#)

Through May 11: "The Irish in Newark and New Jersey: Four Centuries of American Life."

[New York Public Library Humanities and Social Sciences Library, New York City](#)

Through May 6: "A Rakish History of Men's Wear." Through June 16: "Russia Imagined, 1825–1925: The Art and Impact of

they're so bad from an ROI (return on investment) and security perspective."...

Real World IT blog, Mar. 26

[PALINET podcast with John Brice](#)

John Brice is director of the Meadville (Pa.) Public Library and system administrator for the Crawford County Federated Library System. Nine years ago, he initiated a small open source project in his library system to fill a need for an internet router. Now the library system's web server, mail server, public workstations, and internet filtering application all use open source software. This spring, his system will go live with the Koha open source integrated library system....

PALINET, Mar. 23

[Camera focal length and aperture explained](#)

The focal length of a lens determines its angle of view, and also how much the subject will be magnified for a given photographic position. The aperture range of a lens refers to the amount of light that the diaphragm can let inside the camera to reach the sensor....

Photo Tips blog, Mar. 22



[Open content now easier to search](#)

Danish open source company Index Data has launched a new service to help libraries provide open content resources to their users. The initial phase of this service offers e-books, open access digital repositories, encyclopedia articles, and human-reviewed internet resources. This service is being offered without charge. As an example of the benefits of metasearching open resources, Index Data has made available a prerelease demo version of its [MasterKey](#) search tool that has these open content resources as targets....

Index Data, Mar. 26

[101 shareware and freeware programs for techies](#)

How can a person limit juicy downloads to 101 freeware and shareware choices? Tough calls, but the tools below are ones that every techie needs, or at least should ponder. Topics include audio, browsers, internet surfing, iPod tools, MySQL database tools, security, utilities, and tweaks....

The Free Geek, Mar. 21

[FKI Logistex to provide circ services to Malmö](#)

Danish library automation company FKI Logistex has won a contract to deliver a fully automated item-handling and sorting system to the Malmö City Library in Sweden. The new FKI Logistex system employs self-service check-in kiosks to automate the returns process and the cross-belt Compact Sorter automatically sorts checked-in books, magazines, CDs, DVDs, and videotapes for easy reshelving....

FKI Logistex, Mar. 28



Actions & Answers

[Librarians are hiding something](#)

Fedor Solntsev." Through July 7: "Dawn of the American Revolution, 1768–1776" and "Selections from the C.W. McAlpin Collection." Through Aug. 31, 2009: "The Gutenberg Bible."

[Princeton \(N.J.\) University](#): Apr. 1–Sep. 4: "Boris Godunov."

[Queens Library, Jamaica, New York](#): Through Apr. 15: "The Beaded Prayers Project." Through Apr. 27: "Latin Roots: Jackson Heights/Corona."

[San Diego State University](#): Through Sep. 7: "Beyond the Batter's Box: The Hall of Fame Life of Tony Gwynn."

[San Francisco Public Library](#): Through June: "Forever Victorious: Artifacts from the Wing Lee Laundry Archaeological Dig." Apr. 1–June 30: "Alphabet Soup: A Selection of Alphabet Books." Apr. 28–June 24: "Documenting China: Contemporary Photography and Social Change."

[University of California at Irvine](#): Through May 30: "Picture This: Five Centuries of Book Illustration."

[University of Southern California, Los Angeles](#): Through May 15: "100 Artists' Books" and "The Face of Poetry."

On the *Colbert Report* of March 26, during an [interview](#) with Electronic Frontier Foundation cofounder John Perry Barlow, Stephen Colbert invents the phrase “Librarians are hiding something” as an example of something he can stake out as his exclusive intellectual property (at about 2:50). Immediately after coining the term, Colbert makes two factually mistaken claims—that he has trademarked the phrase, and that he can prohibit others from using it without his permission....



Technorati, Mar. 26; YouTube, Mar. 26

[America’s perfect storm](#)

A report ([PDF file](#)) from the ETS Policy Information Center, *America’s Perfect Storm: Three Forces Changing Our Nation’s Future*, looks at the convergence of three powerful socioeconomic forces that are changing our future—substantial disparities in reading and math skills, widening wage gaps, and sweeping demographic shifts. National test results show no evidence of improvement over the last 20 years. Scores are flat and achievement gaps persist. Hope for a better life—with decent jobs and livable wages—will vanish unless we act now....



Educational Testing Service, Jan.

[Debating the future of the reference desk](#)

If you want to get into a contentious discussion with a reference librarian, suggest that you think it’s time to get rid of the reference desk. At a recent debate at Columbia University, Steven Bell and Sarah Watstein took opposing views on eliminating academic library reference desks by 2012....

ACRLLog, Mar. 26

[ARL report shows changes in global collection patterns](#)

A report analyzing Association of Research Libraries member library cataloging data in the OCLC WorldCat database presents evidence of changing patterns of collecting books with foreign imprints. The analysis found that, on average, fewer than five ARL libraries own copies of any foreign-imprint book represented in WorldCat; and three ARL libraries hold any given East Asian book and six hold any given book published in Latin America....

Association of Research Libraries, Mar. 19

[Improving and extending services](#)

Walt Crawford writes: “Healthy libraries change, continuously and with continual feedback from your patrons and the rest of your community. The next few chapters consider aspects of balanced change in libraries: Improving and extending existing services, implementing and promoting new services, telling your story and hearing other stories while avoiding hype, thinking about competition and cooperation (trying to minimize the first and maximize the second), and coping with success—or failure.”...

Cites & Insights 7, no. 4 (Apr.)

[Now hiring in Nebraska](#)

[University of Texas at Austin](#), **Harry Ransom Center:**

Through July 29: “The American Twenties.”

[University of Wisconsin at Madison:](#)

Through June 29: “Making Maps, Mapping History.”

[Yale University](#), **New Haven, Connecticut:**

In the Sterling Memorial Library:

Through Mar. 31: “World’s Fairs and the Landscapes of the Modern Metropolis.”

Through Apr. 19: “Middle Eastern and Islamic Cuisine.”

Through Apr. 30: “Early Women Healers and Health Advocates: Works by Women from the Historical Medical Library.”

Through May 31: “Madness in Mesopotamia” and “Bound by Tradition: The Influence of Historical Bindings on Artists’ Books.”

June 4–Sept. 27: “Poison America: Sharon Gilbert Bookworks.”

@ [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:

The [Nebraska Library Commission](#) put together this PSA about library jobs to counter the prevailing impression that librarians “shelve books all day.” The young audience finally admits that library work is “cool.”...

Nebraska Library Commission



[Law librarians should drive their stock up](#)

Salaries are all over the place. A [2006 survey](#) of 73 law firms by *The American Lawyer* found that while 8% of respondents said they paid their top librarian more than \$200,000 a year, about a quarter of the firms paid them between \$75,000 and \$100,000. Meanwhile, associate librarians will likely earn far less than first-year associate attorneys and less than the information technology staff or paralegals....

The Recorder, Mar. 21

[Bank of America donates \\$200,000 for Philadelphia library café](#)

The Bank of America Charitable Foundation announced March 13 that it will donate \$200,000 to Project H.O.M.E., a nonprofit organization committed to ending homelessness in Philadelphia, to support the construction of a wireless internet café at the Free Library of Philadelphia. The café will provide formerly homeless individuals and at-risk teenagers the opportunity to gain useful job skills and ease their transition into the workforce....

Bank of America, Mar. 13

[International digital preservation systems survey](#)

The Getty Research Institute is surveying the status of digital preservation systems. The deadline for completing the survey is March 30. Results will be shared at the Digital Library Federation Spring Forum, April 23–25, 2007, and with all respondents who provide contact information....

Getty Research Institute

[Medieval helpdesk](#)

This video (2:38) makes fun of newbie computer users by illustrating how silly some of their questions are by showing an analogous medieval situation. The original is taken from the show *Øystein og jeg* on Norwegian Broadcasting Corporation in 2001. With Øystein Backe (helper) and Rune Gokstad (desperate monk)....

YouTube, Feb. 26



[Get ready for National Poetry Month](#)

Some fun and creative ways to promote poetry to kids—or to the “children-at-heart”—this April can be found in Sylvia Vardell’s *Poetry Aloud Here!* (ALA Editions, 2006). One is to “Contact radio stations about hosting a live, on-air poetry reading at either the school, the library, or the radio station.”...

ALA Editions blog, Mar. 26

[31 essential knowledge management sites](#)

Lucas McDonnell writes: “I was asked a few days ago if I could put

dkraus@ala.org

Greg Landgraf,
Editorial Assistant:
glandgraf@ala.org

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

Leonard Kniffel,
Editor-in-Chief,
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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/alonline/
800-545-2433,
ext. 4216

ISSN 1559-369X.

together a listing of some interesting knowledge management blogs and sites for someone who was interested in learning a bit more about what KM is and how it can be applied. So I've put together 31 great resources that can help you learn about and apply knowledge management."...

unCommon Knowledge blog, Mar. 19

[National Library Week: The postage](#)

In 1957 the National Book Committee, a joint committee of

ALA and the American Book Publishers Council, recommended the establishment of a National Library Week. The first NLW was observed May 16–22, 1958, with the theme "Wake Up and Read." Metered mail provides a great vehicle for promoting the theme....

Library History Buff, Mar. 26



Having trouble viewing this HTML e-mail? Click here [[util.viewHtmlLink %>](#)].

March 28, 2007

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- [Calendar \[#datebook\]](#)

[<http://www.sirsidynix.com/one>]

[<http://www.sirsidynix.com>]

U.S. & World News

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Federal judge blocks COPA

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2007/march2007/COPAblocked.cfm>]

A federal judge struck down March 22 the contentious Child Online Protection Act (COPA), which made it a crime for commercial websites to allow access to "harmful" material without first verifying user ages. In his ruling, Senior U.S. District Judge Lowell Reed Jr. stated that computer software filters serve to protect children from such controversial material—without violating free speech....

Billington calls on Congress to reinstate digitization funds

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2007/march2007/digitizationfunds.cfm>]

Testifying before the House Subcommittee on Legislative Branch, Librarian of Congress James H. Billington made a case March 20 for reinstating in FY2008 the \$47 million cut from LC's National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program. The remaining FY2007 funding for the program was eliminated in February as part of House Joint Resolution 20....

Virginia governor signs filtering law

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2007/march2007/virginiafiltering.cfm>]

Virginia Gov. Timothy M. Kaine signed legislation March 22 requiring the state's public libraries to install internet filters to block offensive material but allowing adults who are conducting research to have the filters disabled. The legislation, which passed the House 85-12 and the Senate 31-9, was supported by the conservative Family Foundation of Virginia, which has been calling for such a measure since 2004....

Sacramento internet-use policy strives for balance

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2007/march2007/sacramentopolicy.cfm>]

The authority board of the Sacramento Public Library adopted an internet-use policy March 22 intended to balance the protection of children with the right of adult patrons to view potentially offensive materials. But the new policy appeared to please none of the 12-member board, comprised of members of the board of supervisors and city council, and other city officials....

Canadian legislative library closure creates seismic rift

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2007/march2007/bcleglibrary.cfm>]

The fate of the 90-year-old space housing British Columbia's Legislative Library in Victoria has shaken its 29-member staff, who were told March 16 to box up the collection in preparation for a seismic upgrade that would close the library indefinitely and necessitate the transfer of 14 people to other government departments. House Speaker Bill Barisoff admitted that a legislative management committee would determine how the library space would be used after work was complete; among the options is to create offices for lawmakers and their staffs....

CRS director tightens access to agency reports

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2007/march2007/crsaccess.cfm>]

The director of the Congressional Research Service issued a memo March 20 requiring prior approval from high-level staff before the agency's reports can be given to members of the public.

Daniel P. Mulhollan stated, "To avoid inconsistencies and to increase accountability, CRS policy requires prior approval at the division level before products can be disseminated to non-congressionals...."

ALA News

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The Road [<http://www.ala.org/ala/ourassociation/membership/oprahbooks/OprahBookInfo.htm>]

Community college, middle and high school, and public library organizational members of ALA as of April 4, 2007, will receive from two to eight complimentary copies of Cormac McCarthy's The Road from Knopf as the Oprah Book Club's newest selection, announced March 28. This is the second title for 2007, following The Measure of a Man by Sidney Poitier in January. Visit the ALA website

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/ourassociation/membership/oprahbooks/OprahBookInfo.htm>] to enroll your library....

The making of 'Magnum, A.L.'; [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W0ON47WXcmQ>]

Following the amazing success of the American Libraries video 'Magnum, A.L.';

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o0f_iAYWKII] this behind-the-scenes studio footage reveals some (but not all) of its trade production secrets, captured surreptitiously by ALA Membership Marketing Manager John Chrastka. For other outtakes, see numbers two

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mt_jMqG2KbE], three [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zs-oyynLzUA>], and

four [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VvKhXUBOjck>], as well as several stills

[<http://flickr.com/photos/alastaff/sets/72157600010603970/>]....

Burger releases statement on Jackson County closures

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/jplstatement.htm>]

A cut in federal funding resulted in 15 public library branches serving Jackson County, Oregon, with a \$7-million deficit—nearly 80% of the system’s budget. ALA President Leslie Burger has released a statement on the April closure of Jackson County’s libraries....

2007 Diversity and Outreach Fair

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/BookmobilesInnovative.htm>]

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

Booklist Featured

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Featured review: Historical fiction

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=1927106]

Golenbock, Peter. 7: The Mickey Mantle Novel. Apr. 2007. 304p. Lyons, hardcover (978-1-59921-270-8). Whereas Jim Bouton’s nonfiction Ball Four (1970) turned iconic New York Yankee centerfielder Mickey Mantle into a human being, Golenbock’s novelized version of Mantle’s life turns the human being into a pathetic case history—suspended adolescence overlaid with multiple neuroses. Cleverly, Golenbock uses the Bouton book to set up his otherworldly premise: Mantle, dead of liver cancer, finds himself in heaven and desperate to apologize for his wrongdoing. He turns to Leonard Shechter, coauthor of Ball Four, to write the true story of his life. The novel takes the form of a confessional, with Shechter questioning Mantle, and the Mick responding with the candor he avoided when he was a boozing, “puss-chasing” superhero....

@ Visit Booklist Online [<http://www.booklistonline.com/>] for other reviews and much more....

D.C. Update

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Metro buses and trains [<http://www.wmata.com/maps/maps.cfm?fromMenu=MapsAndStations.0>]

The Washington Metro [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Washington_Metro], or simply Metro, is the rapid transit system of Washington, D.C., and neighboring suburban communities in Maryland and Virginia, both inside and outside the Capital Beltway. In Maryland, service is provided in Prince George’s County and Montgomery County; in Virginia, service extends to Fairfax County, Arlington County, and the city of Alexandria....

Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority; Wikipedia

Washington taxi tips

[<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-srv/travel/visitorsguide/features/taxis.html>]

How much does it cost to take a taxi from the National Gallery of Art to the Jefferson Memorial, or from downtown to one of the airports? It may depend on which taxi you hail and where you board.

Fares are calculated with curiously designed zone maps—not with meters. But informed consumers can make the zone system work for them. Here are some tips....

Washington Post Visitors Guide

Division News

PLDS statistical database debuts this year

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/PLDSStatisticalReport.htm>]

PLA is offering access to its new PLDS Online Database, which features the same information as the PLDS Statistical Report, but in a user-friendly, dynamic web-based format. By ordering [<http://www.ala.org/ala/pla/plapubs/pldsstatreport/pldsstatistical.htm>] a one-year subscription to the database, users will be able to search the Public Library Data Service datasets and create customized reports....

WrestleMania Reading Challenge in Detroit

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/WrestleManiaChallenge.htm>]

World Wrestling Entertainment's Bobby Lashley and Rey Mysterio and WWE Hall of Fame inductee Jimmy Hart will host the WrestleMania Reading Challenge Finals at the Detroit Public Library Saturday March 31, from 10 a.m. to noon. They will be joined by authors Chris Crutcher and Paul Volponi at the main library, 5201 Woodward Avenue, in the Friends Auditorium. The event was designed as a means of extending YALSA's Teen Read Week....

YALSA interviews Ypulse blogger Anastasia Goodstein

[http://blogs.ala.org/yalsa.php?title=yalsa_podcast_16_anastasias_goodstein&more=1&c=1&tb=1&pb=1]

In this podcast (15:20) Kelly Czarnecki interviews Ypulse [<http://www.ypulse.com/>] blogger Anastasia Goodstein. Anastasia's new book *Totally Wired: What Teens and Tweens are Really Doing* Online was published by St. Martin's Griffin in March. The interview covers what librarians can learn from the book, teen social-networking safety, and what's next after MySpace....

YALSA blog, Mar. 26

Edelman to keynote ALSC President's Program

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/EdelmanPresProgram.htm>]

Marian Wright Edelman, president of the Children's Defense Fund, will be the featured speaker at the ALSC Charlemae Rollins President's Program, Monday, June 25, in Washington, D.C. Edelman, who will address the state of America's children in her keynote speech, has been an advocate for disadvantaged Americans for her entire professional life....

ALCTS Interactive Futures Conference features Richard Lanham

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/InteractiveFuturesConfer.htm>]

ALCTS will celebrate its 50th anniversary with a special conference, "Interactive Futures: A National Conference on the Transformation of Library Collections and Technical Services," June 20-21, in Washington, D.C., at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center on Pennsylvania Avenue. Richard A. Lanham, UCLA professor emeritus and author of *The Economics of Attention*, will give the opening session address....

New AASL e-Academy courses [<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/NewAASL.htm>]

The AASL e-Academy will offer three new continuing education programs starting on April 23. The courses—on programming, reluctant readers, and children's literature—will be offered via a partnership with the University of North Texas project LE@D....

AASL disaster preparedness workshop in D.C.

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/AASLdisasterworkshop.htm>]

AASL will offer a workshop addressing disaster preparedness for school library media specialists during ALA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C., June 22. Terrence Young, a Beyond Words grant recipient, will lead a panel of school library media specialists in a discussion....

ASCLA preconference on staff development

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/ASCLAPreconferencestaff.htm>]

ASCLA is offering a preconference

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/ascla/asclaevents/asclaannual/preconferencesab/precon.htm>] on staff development and performance management on Friday, June 22, during the ALA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. Attendees will learn about organizational strategy, performance management, and how to create and sustain a plan for staff functionality development....

New PLA booklet expands literacy efforts for young children

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/NewPLAbooklet.htm>]

Nursery Rhymes, Songs, and Fingerplays, a collection of more than 80 of the best rhyming verses for children (including classics as well as lesser-known rhymes), is available for purchase at the ALA Online Store. [http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?_sn=catalog&_pn=product_detail&_op=2328] The booklet

is published by PLA in partnership with the West Bloomfield Township (Mich.) Public Library, which originally produced it as part of its Grow Up Reading initiative....

Round Table News

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Always learning [<http://www.ala.org/ala/nmrt/footnotes/february2007a/AlwaysLearning.htm>]

Loretta Dunne offers some continuing-education advice to librarians who want to keep up with trends and technologies, including classes, certificates, and post-master's graduate courses....

NMRT Footnotes 36, no. 3 (Feb.)

Awards

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Sarah Thomas receives Melvil Dewey Medal

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/MelvilDeweyMedal.htm>]

Sarah Thomas, university librarian at Cornell University, is the 2007 recipient of the ALA Melvil Dewey Medal, which recognizes distinguished service to the profession of librarianship. Melvil

Dewey Jury Chair Winston Tabb cited Thomas in particular for her leadership in cataloging and bibliographic standards and practices, both nationally and internationally....

Peter Jaszi honored with Patterson Copyright Award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/patterson07.htm>]

Peter Jaszi, director of the Glushko-Samuels Intellectual Property Law Clinic at American University's

Washington College of Law, is the 2007 recipient of the ALA Office for

Information Technology Policy's L. Ray Patterson Copyright Award: In Support of Users' Rights. An early leader and advocate for copyright law in the public interest, Jaszi has been at

the forefront of intellectual property and copyright law....

Jenna Freedman named Futas winner

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/FreedmanFutaswinner.htm>]

ALA has awarded the Elizabeth Futas Catalyst for Change Award to Jenna Freedman, coordinator of reference services at Barnard College library in New York City. The \$1,000 Futas award honors a librarian who takes risks, helps new librarians, works for change, and inspires colleagues. Freedman's zine collection at Barnard, her establishment of Radical Reference, and her work with the ALA Presidential Task Force on Better Salaries were cited by the award jury....

Brett Butler Entrepreneurship Award winners

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/march2007/LITAButlerAward.htm>]

Annette Bailey, digital assets librarian at Virginia Tech University, and Godmar Back, assistant professor in the Virginia Tech Computer Science Department, are the 2007 recipients of the LITA/Brett Butler Entrepreneurship Award. In summer 2005, they jointly developed an open source Firefox browser extension, LibX, which delivers library resources to users by seamlessly integrating access to them into the Firefox browser....

Liberty High School library wins award

[http://www.kccommunitynews.com/articles/2007/03/22/liberty_tribune/schools/lt_edu03-22-07a.txt]

The Greater Kansas City Association of School Librarians recently awarded the Liberty (Mo.) High School Library Media Center as its Library Media Program of the Year. The group said the staff—which includes librarians Connie King and Alison Schultz, and paraprofessionals Nancy Laven, Sue Kellermeyer, Annie Schroeder—has created a “dynamic book collection and online resources, and works hard to strike a balance between the two.”...
Liberty (Mo.) Tribune, Mar. 21

Call for Braverman Award submissions [<http://libr.org/plg/Braverman.php>]

The Progressive Librarians Guild seeks LIS student papers on an aspect of the social responsibilities of librarians, libraries, or librarianship for the Miriam Braverman Memorial Award. The winning entrant will also receive a \$300 stipend toward attendance at the 2007 ALA Annual Conference in Washington. The deadline for entries is April 30....
Progressive Librarians Guild

Native Hawaiian grants available [<http://www.imls.gov/news/2007/032607.shtm>]

The Institute of Museum and Library Services invites proposals for the Native Hawaiian Library Services Grant. The grant program, with a total budget of \$519,700, will be awarded to nonprofit organizations that primarily serve and represent Native Hawaiians....
Institute of Museum and Library Services, Mar. 26

Save Our History grants

[[http://www.history.com/minisite.do?](http://www.history.com/minisite.do?content_type=Minisite_Generic&content_type_id=52925&display_order=3&sub_display_order=6&mini_id=51103)

[content_type=Minisite_Generic&content_type_id=52925&display_order=3&sub_display_order=6&mini_id=51103](http://www.history.com/minisite.do?content_type=Minisite_Generic&content_type_id=52925&display_order=3&sub_display_order=6&mini_id=51103)]
The History Channel is awarding \$250,000 in grants of up to \$10,000 to fund partnerships between history organizations and schools or youth groups on projects that teach students about local history and actively engage them in its preservation. Libraries are definitely eligible. Applications are due June 1....
History Channel

Seen Online

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New and improved libraries, on CBS

[http://www.cbsnews.com/sections/i_video/main500251.shtml?id=2600210n]

(requires Windows Media Player 11 or Real Media Player)

The CBS Early Show explores the ways libraries are reinventing themselves in the 21st century, with a visit (4:21) to ALA President Leslie Burger and the Princeton (N.J.) Public Library....

The Early Show, Mar. 23

Provo librarian's book imitates life

[<http://deseretnews.com/dn/view/0,1249,660206509,00.html>]

When a librarian at the Provo City Library at Academy Square pitched her idea for a children's book to a national publisher, the proposed title got her in the door. The story behind The Boy Who

Was Raised by Librarians might be even better than the title because there is a real boy who blossomed under the wings of Provo's librarians, later married an English teacher in the library, and is about to graduate from college....

Salt Lake City Deseret Morning News, Mar. 27

Don't read this while working [<http://www.nytimes.com/2007/03/25/business/25multi.html>]

Several research reports, both recently published and not yet published, provide evidence of the limits of multitasking.

The findings, according to neuroscientists, psychologists, and management

professors, suggest that many people would be wise to curb their multitasking behavior when working in an office, studying, or driving a car. In short, the answer appears to lie in managing

the technology, instead of merely yielding to its incessant tug....

New York Times, Mar. 25

How the Seattle library stacks up

[http://seattlepi.nwsource.com/visualart/309029_architecture27.html]

Columnist Lawrence Cheek writes: "Three years after the Seattle Central Library opened to starbursts of praise, including mine, I am trying to understand why, when I need to spend a

working day at a library, I retreat to the Bellevue Regional instead of Seattle's downtown flagship. And why, after guiding at least a dozen out-of-town guests through it, I'm becoming less

enthusiastic about Seattle's crystal palace on each successive visit."...

Seattle Post-Intelligencer, Mar. 27

Saad Eskander on rebuilding Iraq [<http://www.pbs.org/now/news/312.html>]

PBS Now on the News correspondent Maria Hinojosa speaks (17:38) with Saad Eskander, director of the Iraqi National Library and Archives, about the painstaking struggles

[<http://www.bl.uk/iraqdiary.html>] he faced rebuilding a looted and burned library after the U.S. invasion in 2003.

Eskander, who returned to Iraq after the war started, talks about how a modern,

fully-staffed library was able to emerge under his leadership, and the dangerous challenges that remain....

PBS Now on the News, Mar. 23; British Library

A new pedia in town [http://www.usatoday.com/tech/webguide/2007-03-25-wikipedia-alternative_N.htm]

Larry Sanger, a cofounder of Wikipedia, this week launched an alternative resource, Citizendium

[<http://www.citizendium.org>]. His goal is to capture Wikipedia's bustle, but this time avoid the

vandalism and inconsistency that are its pitfalls. Like Wikipedia, Citizendium will be nonprofit, devoid of ads, and free to read and edit. Unlike Wikipedia, Citizendium's volunteer contributors

will be expected to provide their real names. Experts in given fields will be asked to check articles for accuracy.....

Associated Press, Mar. 25

Smithsonian chief quits amid inquiry

[<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/03/26/AR2007032600643.html>]

Smithsonian Secretary Lawrence M. Small, the banker who took over the world's largest museum complex seven years ago, resigned under pressure March 26 following revelations regarding his

housing allowance and office and travel expenditures. Among other controversies, Small had upset historians and filmmakers seeking access to institution archives when he signed a semi-exclusive deal with Showtime in 2006 to mine the Smithsonian's resources for a documentary film channel....
Washington Post, Mar. 27

Biblioteca Vasconcelos closes indefinitely [<http://www.eluniversal.com.mx/cultura/51871.html>]
(in Spanish)

The \$30-million Biblioteca Vasconcelos public library in Mexico City, which opened last June, closed indefinitely to the public March 18 because of structural problems. Officials at the National Council for Culture and the Arts suspended services so that the faults can be addressed. Director Ignacio Padilla said the library was opened prematurely by the Fox administration....
El Universal (Mexico City), Mar. 15

Tech Talk

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How hackers crack passwords [<http://onemansblog.com/2007/03/26/how-id-hack-your-weak-passwords/>]
John Pozadzides writes: "If you invited me to try and crack your password—you know the one that you use over and over for like every web page you visit—how many guesses would it take before I got it? Here is my top 10 list. I can obtain most of this information much easier than you think; then I might just be able to get into your email, computer, or online banking. After all, if I get into one, I'll probably get into all of them."...
One Man's Blog, Mar. 26

Raise your web profile [<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,1895,2103025,00.asp>]
Search engine optimization (SEO) is all about using keywords effectively in the structure and content of your website. In this chart, find out how to use title tags, heading tags, hyperlinks, metatags, and alt tags to create keyword-rich content....
PC Magazine, Mar. 21

[<http://blogs.ala.org/pace.php>]Books getting more digital
[http://blogs.ala.org/pace.php?title=books_more_digital&more=1&c=1&tb=1&pb=1]
The International Digital Publishing Forum has announced a conference in New York City for May 9. Digital Book 2007 [<http://www.idpf.org/digitalbook07/>] will feature digital publishing and mobile device innovations. Librarians might remember the IDPF as the OeBF, or Open eBook Forum. It dropped the old moniker when it became clear that the group was essentially a trade organization, and not primarily an effort to create an open e-book standard....
Hectic Pace blog, Mar. 28

Wireless LAN security myths that won't die [<http://blogs.zdnet.com/Ou/?p=454&tag=nl.e622>]
George Ou writes: "It's been two years since I wrote 'The six dumbest ways to secure a wireless LAN [<http://blogs.zdnet.com/Ou/index.php?p=43>],' and it's probably been one of my more successful blog entries ever. I'm going to update the information with more defined categories and better explain why they're so bad from an ROI (return on investment) and security perspective."...
Real World IT blog, Mar. 26

PALINET podcast with John Brice [<http://www.palinet.org/rss/tech-conversations/tc8.mp3>]
John Brice is director of the Meadville (Pa.) Public Library and system administrator for the Crawford County Federated Library System. Nine years ago, he initiated a small open source project in his library system to fill a need for an internet router. Now the library system's web server, mail server, public

workstations, and internet filtering application all use open source software.
This spring, his system will go live with the Koha open source integrated library system....
PALINET, Mar. 23

Camera focal length and aperture explained
[<http://www.photoaxe.com/understanding-the-lens-focal-length-and-aperture/>]
The focal length of a lens determines its angle of view, and also how much the subject will be magnified for a given photographic position. The aperture range of a lens refers to the amount of light that the diaphragm can let inside the camera to reach the sensor....
Photo Tips blog, Mar. 22

Open content now easier to search [<http://www.librarytechnology.org/ltg-displaytext.pl?RC=12469>]
Danish open source company Index Data has launched a new service to help libraries provide open content resources to their users. The initial phase of this service offers e-books, open access digital repositories, encyclopedia articles, and human-reviewed internet resources. This service is being offered without charge. As an example of the benefits of metasearching open resources, Index Data has made available a prerelease demo version of its MasterKey [<http://mkey.indexdata.com/demo>] search tool that has these open content resources as targets....
Index Data, Mar. 26

101 shareware and freeware programs for techies
[http://www.rewardprograms.org/thefreegeek/features/101_shareware_and_freeware_programs_every_nerd_needs.html]
How can a person limit juicy downloads to 101 freeware and shareware choices? Tough calls, but the tools below are ones that every techie needs, or at least should ponder. Topics include audio, browsers, internet surfing, iPod tools, MySQL database tools, security, utilities, and tweaks....
The Free Geek, Mar. 21

FKI Logistex to provide circ services to Malmö;
[<http://www.fkilogistex.com/media-center/press-releases/default.aspx?PID=46-1>]
Danish library automation company FKI Logistex has won a contract to deliver a fully automated item-handling and sorting system to the Malmö City Library in Sweden. The new FKI Logistex system employs self-service check-in kiosks to automate the returns process and the cross-belt Compact Sorter automatically sorts checked-in books, magazines, CDs, DVDs, and videotapes for easy reshelving....
FKI Logistex, Mar. 28

Actions & Answers

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Librarians are hiding something
[<http://technorati.com/wtf/librarians-are-hiding-something/2007/03/26/stephen-colbert-pretends-to-trademark-an-off-beat--1>]
On the Colbert Report of March 26, during an interview [<http://youtube.com/watch?v=op0y-qhwO7g>] with Electronic Frontier Foundation cofounder John Perry Barlow, Stephen Colbert invents the phrase “Librarians are hiding something” as an example of something he can stake out as his exclusive intellectual property (at about 2:50). Immediately after coining the term, Colbert makes two factually mistaken claims—that he has trademarked the phrase, and that he can prohibit others from using it without his permission....
Technorati, Mar. 26; YouTube, Mar. 26

America's perfect storm

[<http://www.ets.org/portal/site/ets/menuitem.1488512ecfd5b8849a77b13bc3921509/?vgnextoid=e9f3d944c8b70110VgnVCM10000022f95190RCRD&vgnnextchannel=f993d944c8b70110VgnVCM10000022f95190RCRD>]

A report (PDF file [http://www.ets.org/Media/Education_Topics/pdf/AmericasPerfectStorm.pdf]) from the ETS Policy Information Center, America's Perfect Storm: Three Forces Changing Our Nation's

Future, looks at the convergence of three powerful socioeconomic forces that are changing our future—substantial disparities in reading and math skills, widening wage gaps, and sweeping demographic shifts. National test results show no evidence of improvement over the last 20 years. Scores are flat and achievement gaps persist. Hope for a better life—with decent jobs and livable wages—will vanish unless we act now....

Educational Testing Service, Jan.

Debating the future of the reference desk

[<http://acrlblog.org/2007/03/26/debating-the-future-of-the-reference-desk/>]

If you want to get into a contentious discussion with a reference librarian, suggest that you think it's time to get rid of the reference desk. At a recent debate at Columbia University,

Steven Bell and Sarah Watstein took opposing views on eliminating academic library reference desks by 2012....

ACRLblog, Mar. 26

ARL report shows changes in global collection patterns

[http://www.arl.org/news/pr/grn_global_book_pr.shtml]

A report analyzing Association of Research Libraries member library cataloging data in the OCLC WorldCat database presents evidence of changing patterns of collecting books with foreign

imprints. The analysis found that, on average, fewer than five ARL libraries own copies of any foreign-imprint book represented in WorldCat; and three ARL libraries hold any given East Asian book and six hold any given book published in Latin America....

Association of Research Libraries, Mar. 19

Improving and extending services [<http://citesandinsights.info/v7i4c.htm>]

Walt Crawford writes: "Healthy libraries change, continuously and with continual feedback from your patrons and the rest of your community. The next few chapters consider aspects of balanced change in libraries: Improving and extending existing services, implementing and promoting new services, telling your story and hearing other stories while avoiding hype, thinking about competition and cooperation (trying to minimize the first and maximize the second), and coping with success—or failure."...

Cites & Insights 7, no. 4 (Apr.)

Now hiring in Nebraska [<http://youtube.com/watch?v=8ZvHUE6qfP8>]

The Nebraska Library Commission [<http://nowhiringatyourlibrary.org/>] put together this PSA about library jobs to counter the prevailing impression that librarians "shelve books all day." The young audience finally admits that library work is "cool."...

Nebraska Library Commission

Law librarians should drive their stock up

[<http://www.law.com/jsp/law/LawArticleFriendly.jsp?id=1174381422569>]

Salaries are all over the place. A 2006 survey

[<http://www.law.com/jsp/article.jsp?id=1152534921263>] of 73 law firms by The American Lawyer found that while 8% of respondents said they paid their top librarian more than \$200,000 a year, about a quarter of the firms paid them between \$75,000 and \$100,000. Meanwhile, associate librarians will likely earn far less than first-year associate attorneys and less than the information technology staff or paralegals....

The Recorder, Mar. 21

Bank of America donates \$200,000 for Philadelphia library café;
[http://newsroom.bankofamerica.com/index.php?s=press_releases&item=7705]

The Bank of America Charitable Foundation announced March 13 that it will donate \$200,000 to Project H.O.M.E., a nonprofit organization committed to ending homelessness in Philadelphia, to support the construction of a wireless internet café at the Free Library of Philadelphia. The café will provide formerly homeless individuals and at-risk teenagers the opportunity to gain useful job skills and ease their transition into the workforce....

Bank of America, Mar. 13

International digital preservation systems survey
[<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.asp?u=621703504304>]

The Getty Research Institute is surveying the status of digital preservation systems. The deadline for completing the survey is March 30. Results will be shared at the Digital Library Federation Spring Forum, April 23–25, 2007, and with all respondents who provide contact information....

Getty Research Institute

Medieval helpdesk [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pQHx-SjgQvQ>]

This video (2:38) makes fun of newbie computer users by illustrating how silly some of their questions are by showing an analogous medieval situation. The original is taken from the show Øystein og jeg on Norwegian Broadcasting Corporation in 2001. With Øystein Backe (helper) and Rune Gokstad (desperate monk)....

YouTube, Feb. 26

Get ready for National Poetry Month

[<http://blog.alaeditions.org/2007/03/26/april-showers-may-flowers-poetry/>]

Some fun and creative ways to promote poetry to kids—or to the “children-at-heart”—this April can be found in Sylvia Vardell’s Poetry Aloud Here! (ALA Editions, 2006). One is to “Contact radio stations about hosting a live, on-air poetry reading at either the school, the library, or the radio station.”...

ALA Editions blog, Mar. 26

31 essential knowledge management sites

[<http://www.lucasmcdonnell.com/26-essential-knowledge-management-sites-and-blogs/>]

Lucas McDonnell writes: “I was asked a few days ago if I could put together a listing of some interesting knowledge management blogs and sites for someone who was interested in learning a bit more about what KM is and how it can be applied. So I’ve put together 31 great resources that can help you learn about and apply knowledge management.”...

unCommon Knowledge blog, Mar. 19

National Library Week: The postage [<http://www.libraryhistorybuff.org/libraryweek.htm>]

In 1957 the National Book Committee, a joint committee of ALA and the American Book Publishers Council, recommended the establishment of a National Library Week. The first NLW was observed May 16–22, 1958, with the theme “Wake Up and Read.” Metered mail provides a great vehicle for promoting the theme....

Library History Buff, Mar. 26

Poll

What do YOU do?

How much of your professional reading is done online?

Click here to ANSWER [<http://www.zoomerang.com/survey.zgi?p=WEB226B682G5HL>]

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Results of the
March 14 poll:

How does your budget forecast for FY2008 compare to the current fiscal year?

20%
Better

28%
Worse

39%
Same

12%
Not sure

(64 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

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Q. We're thinking of having poster sessions at our state conference. Do you have any tips for us?

A. Poster sessions are a popular means for sharing current research or the mechanisms of recent projects. And yes, there are resources available from ALA and its units for you to use as models for your own program. The ALA Poster Sessions site [<http://www.lib.jmu.edu/org/ala/default.aspx>] has a brief list of pointers, "Tips for Presenters," along with lists of the topics presented at the last two conferences and pictures. Find out more on the ALA Professional Tips wiki [http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php?title=Poster_Sessions].

The ALA Librarian [<mailto:AskTheLibrarian@ala.org>] welcomes your questions.

Calendar

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Exhibits:

Boston Athenaeum [<http://www.bostonathenaeum.org/baevents.html>]: Through July 13: "Acquired Tastes: 200 Years of Collecting for the Boston Athenaeum."

Boston Public Library [<http://www.bpl.org/>] Through Apr. 1: "John Adams Unbound." Through May 1: "Crooks, Rogues, and Maids Less Than Virtuous."

Bryn Mawr (Pa.) College [<http://www.brynmawr.edu/library/exhibitions.shtml>]: Through June 3: "Bound and Determined: Identifying American Bookbindings."

Chicago Public Library [<http://www.chicagopubliclibrary.org/003cpl/003events.html>]: Through Apr. 15: "One Book, Many Interpretations." At Woodson Regional Library: Through Dec. 31: "Black Jewel of the Midwest: Celebrating 75 Years."

Huntington Library [<http://www.huntington.org/>], San Marino, California: Through May: "Constable: The Great Landscapes." Through June 3: "First Freedoms: The Los Angeles Times and the Right to a Free Press, 1881–2006." Apr. 28–July 29: "Linnaeus in the Garden."

Lloyd Library and Museum [<http://www.lloydlibrary.org/exhibits.html>], Cincinnati, Ohio: Through May 31: "In Rousseau's Own Hand—His Book, His Notes, and Botany." Through June 30: "Botanical Art from Harper Studios."

National Library of Medicine [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/exhibition/visibleproofs/introduction.html>], Bethesda, Maryland: Through Feb. 26, 2008: "Visible Proofs: Forensic Views of the Body."

Newark (N.J.) Public Library [<http://www.npl.org/Pages/ProgramsExhibits/Exhibits/irish07.html>]: Through May 11: "The Irish in Newark and New Jersey: Four Centuries of American Life."

New York Public Library Humanities and Social Sciences Library [<http://www.nypl.org/events/exhibitions.cfm>], New York City: Through May 6: "A Rakish History of Men's Wear." Through June 16: "Russia Imagined, 1825–1925: The Art and Impact of Fedor Solntsev." Through July 7: "Dawn of the American Revolution, 1768–1776" and "Selections from the C.W. McAlpin Collection." Through Aug. 31, 2009: "The Gutenberg Bible."

Princeton (N.J.) University [<http://libweb.princeton.edu/libraries/music/boris/index.htm>]: Apr. 1–Sep. 4: "Boris Godunov."

Queens Library [<http://www.queenslibrary.org/gallery/>], Jamaica, New York: Through Apr. 15: "The Beaded Prayers Project." Through Apr. 27: "Latin Roots: Jackson Heights/Corona."

San Diego State University [<http://infodome.sdsu.edu/projects/gwynn/>]: Through Sep. 7: "Beyond the Batter's Box: The Hall of Fame Life of Tony Gwynn."

San Francisco Public Library [<http://www.sfpl.org/news/exhibitions.htm>]: Through June: "Forever Victorious: Artifacts from the Wing Lee Laundry Archaeological Dig." Apr. 1–June 30: "Alphabet Soup: A Selection of Alphabet Books." Apr. 28–June 24: "Documenting China: Contemporary Photography and Social Change."

University of California at Irvine [http://www.lib.uci.edu/libraries/new/exhibit_fall06.html]: Through May 30: "Picture This: Five Centuries of Book Illustration."

University of Southern California [http://www.usc.edu/libraries/about/programs_exhibitions/exhibitions/], Los Angeles: Through May

15: “100 Artists’ Books” and “The Face of Poetry.”

University of Texas at Austin [<http://www.hrc.utexas.edu/exhibitions/current/>], Harry Ransom Center: Through July 29: “The American Twenties.”

University of Wisconsin at Madison [<http://www.greatlakesmaps.org/>]: Through June 29: “Making Maps, Mapping History.”

Yale University [<http://resources.library.yale.edu/online/news.asp#Exhibits>], New Haven, Connecticut: In the Sterling Memorial Library: Through Mar. 31: “World’s Fairs and the Landscapes of the Modern Metropolis.” Through Apr. 19: “Middle Eastern and Islamic Cuisine.” Through Apr. 30: “Early Women Healers and Health Advocates: Works by Women from the Historical Medical Library.” Through May 31: “Madness in Mesopotamia” and “Bound by Tradition: The Influence of Historical Bindings on Artists’ Books.” June 4–Sept. 27: “Poison America: Sharon Gilbert Bookworks.”

@ More [<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/datebook/datebook.cfm>]...

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American Libraries Direct

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