


american libraries DIRECT

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | July 2, 2008

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SCHOOLROOMS
A new learning portal for K-12

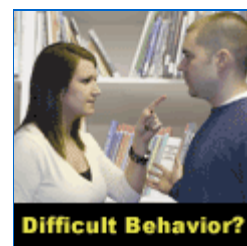
- ✓ Teacher-selected Content
- ✓ 71 Subjects – Aligned to Curriculum
- ✓ 3 Million High-quality Pages Searchable



U.S. & World News

[Mesa board cuts librarians](#)

"It's not over. We're going to continue to do what we can both in Mesa and in Arizona," Fund Our Future Arizona spokesperson Ann Ewbank told *American Libraries* June 27, three days after the Mesa Public School board implemented as part of its FY2008–09 budget the replacement over three years of every school library media specialist in the district with library aides. Other Arizona school systems now eyeing the cost of school library programs are the Humboldt Unified School District in Prescott Valley and the Glendale Elementary School District....



[Bay County director hired after two-year hiatus](#)

After two years without a director, Bay County (Mich.) Library System has appointed Thomas H. Birch Jr. to the position, effective July 21. Birch's appointment comes some six months after voters approved an operating-millage renewal that was 2/10ths of a mill less than two 1-mill levies that were defeated in 2006. "We're feeling very good about moving ahead on a whole variety of things," board Chairman Don Carlyon told *American Libraries*....

[OCLC: National marketing campaign could hike funding](#)

From Awareness to Funding: A Study of Library Support in America, a new report issued by OCLC, examines the potential of a national marketing campaign to increase awareness of the value of public libraries and the need for support for libraries at local, state, and national levels. With funding from a \$1.2-million grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, OCLC partnered with the research and advertising agency Leo Burnett to conduct the research....

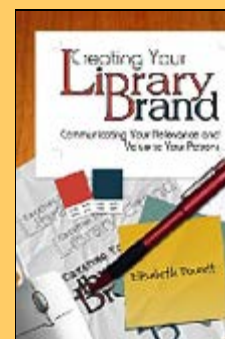


For news of ALA Annual Conference, see *AL Direct's* special post-conference issue, **to be emailed Monday, July 7.**

ALA News

[ALA Annual Conference draws 22,000 to Anaheim](#)

Sunny California skies and the dazzle of



Branding is a part of the marketing process that focuses on developing a laser-clear message and the

Disneyland greeted some 22,000 librarians and library lovers in Anaheim for the ALA 2008 Annual Conference and Exhibition. Commencing June 26 and running through July 2, the conference kicked off with an opening session featuring political pundit Ron Reagan, son of late President Ronald Reagan, who brought the crowd to its feet with stinging observations about "what's going on in Washington." (Detailed conference news will appear in a special post-conference issue of *AL Direct* on July 7.)...



[ALA receives \\$1 million gaming grant from Verizon](#)

ALA will launch an innovative project to measure the impact of gaming on literacy skills and build a model for library gaming that can be deployed nationally. Funding for the project will be provided by a \$1 million grant from the Verizon Foundation. ALA will work directly with 12 leading gaming experts to document the use of gaming as a literacy tool and monitor the results of gaming initiatives. The information will be used to build *The Librarians' Guide to Gaming*, a comprehensive, online, literacy and gaming toolbox which will then be field-tested by additional libraries....



[The ALA Library in Second Life](#)

ALA Library Reference Specialist Valerie Hawkins writes: "A new development in my reference duties has been appearing in and responding to questions while in the Second Life virtual world, specifically on ALA Island, in the Member Lounge, as the avatar, ALALibraryVal Miles. My virtual self has already conducted an in-world book talk (discussing the various books available that teach and instruct about living and thriving in Second Life) and created an in-world scavenger hunt (directing avatars to some of the more interesting locations and destinations in Second Life)."...



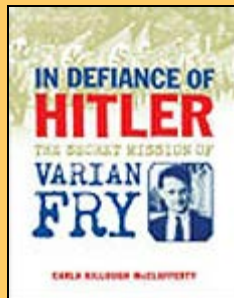
ALA Marginalia, June 28

Booklist ONLINE

[Featured review: Books for youth](#)

McClafferty, Carla Killough. *In Defiance of Hitler: The Secret Mission of Varian Fry*. Sept. 2008. 280p. Farrar, hardcover (978-0-374-38204-9).

Rescue stories bring hope to the Holocaust darkness, and this stirring account of a young New York City journalist who secretly helped more than 2,000 refugees escape Nazi-occupied France blends exciting adventure with the grim history. Before the U.S. entered the war, Fry, 32, spent a year



means to communicate that message to the intended audience. As assistant director of the Lucius Beebe Memorial Library in Wakefield, Massachusetts, Elizabeth Doucett conducted the first of the library branding programs that formed the basis for [Creating Your Library Brand](#). By following her guidance, libraries can begin to develop branding that makes a difference. **NEW!** From ALA Editions.

In this issue

June/July 2008



Your Circle of Wellness

Be Outstanding in Your Fieldwork

Conference Preview: California Dreamin'

Tastes for All Tastes

California Libraries: Places of Diversity

in Marseilles, using his relief organization as a cover for a hidden rescue operation which saved well-known artists, politicians, and scientists, including Marc Chagall and Heinrich Mann. In fact, part of the story is how Fry chose the few to save from all the desperate who lined up at his office....

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

Division News

[AASL honors retiring SLMR editor](#)

AASL honored the retirement of Daniel Callison as editor of its refereed research journal, *School Library Media Research*, during the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, California. Callison served as journal editor from 1997 to 2007. Callison is professor and dean in the School of Continuing Studies at Indiana University in Bloomington, where he has worked since 1979....



[Second AASL longitudinal survey results due in August](#)

AASL is expecting final results in August of the second in a series of longitudinal surveys providing data on the health of the nation's school library media programs. The findings from the studies will be used to advocate for school library media programs at the local, state and national level. This year's survey focused on the use of social networking tools by school library media specialists and their teacher collaborators in elementary and secondary schools....

Awards

[2008 Diversity Research Grants](#)

The ALA Office for Diversity has announced the recipients of the Diversity Research Grants for 2008. The grants consist of a one-time \$2,000 annual award for original research on a topic involving diversity and a \$500 travel grant to attend and present at the ALA Annual Conference. The winners are John Pruitt (University of Wisconsin-Rock County), Jamie Campbell Naidoo (right, University of Alabama SLIS), and Eun-Young Yoo (North Carolina Central University SLIS)....



[Eglin AFB wins library of the year](#)

Air Force officials announced June 12 that Eglin Base Library in Valparaiso, Florida, was the winner of the Air Force Library of the Year award. The library was recognized for its outstanding customer focus and satisfaction by hosting authors and creating 25 educational summer reading programs for all ages which efforts logged approximately 1,000 participants in just three months....



Richard Boss has completed two new [Tech Notes](#) for the Public Library Association, both downloadable in Word format: "Automated Storage-Retrieval and Return-Sorting Systems," and "Open Source Integrated Library Software."

Career Leads from



[Director](#), Schaumburg Township (Ill.) District Library. The Library's central building is the second largest public library building in the state and the Library is the third busiest public library in Illinois. With over 300 employees and an operating budget of \$14 million, the library strives to be a leader in innovative library services. Through a team-oriented management philosophy, the library is respected for its technological and customer-friendly services....

@ [More jobs...](#)

Digital Library of the Week

Air Force Link, June 26

[OCLC Minority Librarian Fellowship](#)

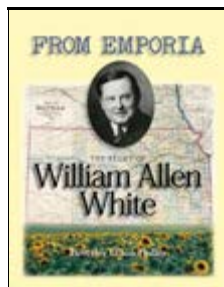
OCLC has announced a new OCLC Minority Librarian Fellowship program designed to provide a unique opportunity for aspiring library professionals from historically underrepresented groups. The 12-month program offers the selected Fellow two 90-day assignments within specific divisions of OCLC, and one six-month assignment with a specific operating unit within the OCLC organization. Applications will be accepted between July 15 and August 29....

OCLC, June 30

[2008 Kansas Notable Books](#)

The Kansas Center for the Book at the State Library in Topeka released the 2008 Kansas Notable Books list June 22. The list includes 15 fiction, nonfiction, and children's books that are considered to be the best books published by Kansas authors or about Kansas in the preceding year. The authors will be honored at an evening reception at the Reading Festival in Lawrence on September 27....

Kansas Center for the Book, June 22



Seen Online

[Georgia State: Online course reserves are fair use](#)

In a closely watched copyright-infringement lawsuit, Georgia State University fired back at its accusers, three academic publishers who say the institution invites students to illegally download and print readings from thousands of works. The university asserts that its online distribution of course material is permitted under copyright law's fair-use exemption. Georgia State made its case in papers filed June 24 in U.S. District Court in Atlanta....

Chronicle of Higher Education, June 27

[Tiffany Dome restored in old Chicago Public Library building](#)

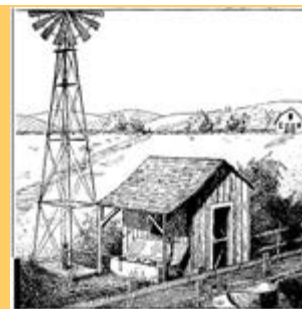
In 1897, the world's largest Tiffany Glass Dome was installed in the Chicago Public Library (now the Chicago Cultural Center) to rave architectural reviews. But the passage of time and some bad renovations damaged much of the dome's beauty—until now. The 111-year-old dome has undergone seven months of restoration, and has returned to its original glory. Watch the newscast....

WLS-TV, Chicago, June 30



[Judge throws out Indiana harmful-to-minors law](#)

A federal court struck down a law July 1 that would have required sellers of sexually explicit materials to register with the state, marking a victory for retailers and First Amendment advocates. U.S. District Judge Sarah Evans Barker ruled that House Enrolled Act 1042, passed by the Indiana General Assembly earlier this year, burdens First Amendment rights and is unconstitutionally vague and overly broad. The law would have taken effect July 1....



Kansas State University has digitized, mostly in full text, hundreds of [Kansas Agricultural Experiment Station](#) publications produced between 1888 and 1945. These documents provide a wealth of information about farm life at the time. All are available for downloading as PDF files.

Do you know of a digital library collection that we can mention in this *AL Direct* feature? [Tell us about it.](#)

Public Perception

How the World Sees Us

"You know, sometimes I'll go to an eighth-grade graduation and there's all that pomp and circumstance and gowns and flowers. And I think to myself, it's just eighth grade . . . An eighth-grade education doesn't cut it today. Let's give them a handshake and tell them to get their butts back in the library!"

—Democratic presidential candidate Barack Obama, in a Father's Day address at Chicago's Apostolic Church

Indianapolis Star, July 1

[Residents protest Hartford branch closings](#)

A neighborhood group demonstrated June 30 outside the Mark Twain branch of the Hartford (Conn.) Public Library and held a read-in July 1 to protest a budget-cutting proposal to shut it down. The closure of the Mark Twain and Blue Hills branches has been recommended by the library board to save a good chunk of the \$870,000 gap looming in the library's \$8.2-million budget for 2008–09. The plan also calls for [laying off](#) 40 full- and part-time employees....

Hartford (Conn.) Courant, July 2

[Hennepin County mulls staff reductions](#)

The Hennepin County (Minn.) Library is looking at cutting about 50 positions from its staff of more than 700 in order to swallow higher-than-expected costs it disclosed recently. According to preliminary data given to the library board, budget staffers have identified 46–51 positions that could be cut in 2009. Because some employees work part-time, those possible cuts could affect more than that number of people....

Minneapolis Star Tribune, June 28

[ICANN expands internet domain rules](#)

The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers voted June 26 to relax rules for naming websites. At its meeting in Paris, ICANN voted to accept a proposal that will allow companies to purchase new top-level domain names ending in whatever they like. In an effort to deter cybersquatters, ICANN will charge a hefty price for the new names. The group also voted to open public comment on a proposal that would allow countries to use non-English script....

C|Net News blog, June 27

[All-purpose D.C. card works for District libraries](#)

The District of Columbia is rolling out an ambitious identification program this summer in what it calls a first-of-its-kind effort by a major U.S. city to unify services on one ID card. With the One Card, library accounts, public school attendance, recreation-center use, and other services will be tracked on a single piece of plastic. Over the next three months, public libraries will begin issuing the card....

Washington Post, June 27



[Athens County branch collection damaged by smoke](#)

The entire collection of books, periodicals, films, recorded music, and audio cassettes belonging to the Wells branch of the Athens County (Ohio) Public Library in Albany has been subjected to some degree of damage as a result of a June 14 fire caused by a firecracker tossed into the book-return slot. Four teens have been [charged](#) with the juvenile equivalent of felony vandalism....

Athens (Ohio) Messenger, June 17, 19

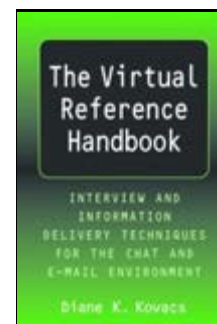


[Sad tales fill soaked libraries](#)

Two tales emerge in the saga of Iowa's libraries and the floods. In one story, the majority of facilities escape the murky water that hit about two weeks ago and become important information hubs, where residents can go online and apply for aid, send emails, or use maps to

of God, Peoria (Ill.) Journal Star, June 27.

Ask the ALA Librarian



Q. I'm starting a new paraprofessional reference position. While I have taken a reference course in my library science program, I'm specifically concerned about doing reference work with chat and instant messaging, which I haven't done before. I'm not a stranger to chat in any way, but I'm new to it in a professional capacity. Do you have any pointers?

A. There are several resources regarding virtual reference work, including handling reference transactions via chat and instant messaging, on our ALA Library [Fact Sheet 21](#), *Automating Libraries and Virtual Reference: A Selected Annotated Bibliography*, including *Virtual Reference Training: The Complete Guide to Providing Anytime, Anywhere Answers* by Buff Hirko and Mary

traverse around closed roads. The other account details the harrowing losses of a handful of libraries smacked by the surging waters, including in Cedar Rapids, Iowa's second-largest city....

Des Moines (Iowa) Register, June 25

[Most-kissed pig visits Lehi](#)

The world's most-kissed pig made an appearance at the Lehi (Utah) Public Library June 28, to the delight of dozens of children and librarians. At 14 years old, Daisy Minor has accomplished a lot for a pig. She's been on national television many times, been featured in dozens of newspapers, and is on her third national tour of libraries, helping kids get excited about reading. She even sports a huge collection of library cards, made out in her name, from libraries across the country....

Provo (Utah) Daily Herald, June 29

[Solar off-site storage at Williams College](#)

Before Williams College opens its new library in 2011, it will open an off-campus, high-security, high-density, solar-powered, heavily computerized library storage facility in Williamstown, Massachusetts. On the roof will be 96 photovoltaic panels, which will generate roughly 30,000 kilowatt hours of electricity annually. The facility will help the college achieve its greenhouse gas reduction target of 10% below 1990 levels by the year 2020....

North Adams (Mass.) Transcript, June 30

[Wiegand seeks public library stories](#)

Florida State University LIS and American Studies Professor Wayne Wiegand is using five libraries, including the Morris Area (Ill.) Public Library (right), as the basis for research on the role the public library plays in a small community. The number of people who use public libraries and the number of books checked out has increased every year but one for the past 15 years, Wiegand said. He has found that small-town libraries have always played an important role in their communities....

Morris (Ill.) Daily Herald, June 13



[Loriene Roy offers reading tips for Gay Pride Month](#)

In recognition of Gay Pride Month, ALA President Loriene Roy offered National Public Radio listeners some tips on books that highlight the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender experience. One is *Mississippi Sissy*, in which Kevin Sessums brings the American South of the 1960s and the experiences of a strange little Mississippi boy to life....

National Public Radio, June 26



[PASCAL funding slashed](#)

Colleges and universities across South Carolina next year will have to foot the bill for library services that previously were paid for by the state. Funding for PASCAL—Partnership Among South Carolina Academic Libraries—was slashed about 90%, from about \$2 million to around \$200,000 for the 2008–2009 school year....

Rock Hill (S.C.) Herald, June 29

[Montana library is sinking](#)

Bucher Ross, plus information from previous [Virtual Reference Desk Conferences via WebJunction](#) and on the forthcoming 2008 event, [A Reference Renaissance: Current and Future Trends](#). Newer resources on the subject include *The Virtual Reference Handbook: Interview and Information Delivery Techniques for the Chat and E-Mail Environment* by Diane K. Kovacs—who will be teaching a series of [Virtual Reference Competencies seminars](#) later this year—and the forthcoming *Virtual Reference Best Practices: Tailoring Services to Your Library* by M. Kathleen Kern. From the [ALA Professional Tips wiki](#).

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

Calendar

Oct. 1–3:
[Missouri Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Millennium Hotel, St. Louis.

Oct. 1–3:
[Wyoming Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Casper.

Oct. 1–4:
[Kentucky Library Association / Kentucky School Media Association / Southeastern Library Association /](#)

Residents in White Sulphur Springs, Montana, are on the move to replace their sinking library. A Fourth of July Fun Run is planned, with event proceeds going toward replacing the Meagher County/City Library, where one-third of the building has been condemned because of a sinking foundation. Unknowingly built over underground springs and unstable soil in the late 1970s, the library building first housed an accounting firm. The theme of the run is "Let's Race to Save This Place."...



Great Falls (Mont.) Tribune, June 26

[UC Riverside Music Library dries out](#)

Students and staff have been working feverishly to restore 800 CDs and 120 musical scores damaged last week when a water pipe burst and flooded the basement of the University of California, Riverside's Arts Building where the Music Library is located. University Librarian Ruth Jackson said the damage would have been much worse if Music Librarian Caitlin St. John hadn't moved most of the materials off the lower shelves last summer....

Riverside (Calif.) Press-Enterprise, June 30

[Antique lightbulbs found in Iowa library](#)

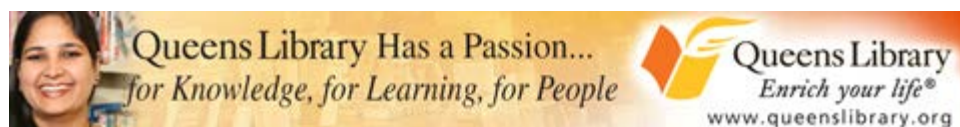
Will Thomson, a facilities consultant working on transforming the old 1898 Burlington (Iowa) Public Library building into a new museum for the Des Moines County Historical Society, discovered some hidden treasures there recently. He found two functional Thompson-Houston lightbulbs made before 1906. Thomson cleaned the old library bulbs and built a fixture and transformer to accommodate them, and there are plans to put them on display at the new museum....

Burlington (Iowa) Hawk Eye, June 30

[British private eyes detect overdue books](#)

A Norfolk County (U.K.) council has admitted using private detectives to try to track down people with unpaid bills for overdue library books. After local authorities were blasted for using antiterrorism powers to spy on people for trivial offences, the council admitted it had spent £9,190 (\$18,350 U.S.) to pay detectives to recover overdue library books, DVDs, and CDs. Officials claimed they had recovered hundreds of thousands of pounds worth of library items....

Norwich (U.K.) Evening News, July 1



Tech Talk

[Recharge your gadgets without electricity](#)

Some new alternative recharging ideas: For USB devices try the hand-cranked [Super Battery](#). Go solar with a 58"-long waterproof [solar roll](#) (right), which recharges anything electronic. Try a [personal wind turbine](#) that can hook up to



[Association of Research Libraries,](#)

National Diversity in Libraries Conference, Marriott Downtown Louisville. "Spectrum of the Future."

Oct. 1–4:

[Idaho Library Association,](#) Annual Conference, Shilo Inn, Idaho Falls. "Ahh—The Magic of Libraries."

Oct. 15–17:

[Georgia Council of Media Organizations,](#) Annual Conference, The Classic Center, Athens.

Oct. 15–17:

[Iowa Library Association,](#) Annual Conference, Grand River Center, Dubuque. "Libraries: Anywhere, Any Way, Anytime."

Oct. 15–17:

[Nebraska Library Association / Nebraska Educational Media Association,](#) Annual Conference, Lincoln. "Nebraska Libraries: Vision for the Information Age."

Oct. 19–21:

[New England Library Association,](#) Annual Conference, Radisson Hotel Manchester, New Hampshire. "Taking Charge of Change."

Oct. 21–24:

[South Carolina Library Association,](#) Annual Conference, Greenville Hyatt. "Going Green in Greenville."

Oct. 22–24:

[Michigan Library Association,](#) Annual

various devices when you are on the go. And put more human power into recharging by using the [Weza Foot Powered Energy Source](#)....

Going Green @ your library, June 27

[Flash files are now searchable](#)

For most people on the Web, if Google or Yahoo cannot find something, it doesn't exist. That has been one of the biggest drawbacks to creating a website or application that displays itself as a Flash (SWF) file. Search engines could see the file, but they could not see what was in it. Until now. Adobe has teamed up with Google and Yahoo to devise a way for the search engines to read Flash files and index all of the information they contain....

Washington Post, July 1

[Alternative browsers: Why use only one?](#)

Samuel Dean writes: "When it comes to browsers, most web workers rely on the usual suspects: Firefox, Safari, Internet Explorer, and Opera. There are many alternative browsers, though, and some of them are useful for targeted types of tasks. Here are six examples that I like. For example, [Flock](#) is an extremely popular browser for people who do social networking."...

Web Worker Daily, June 27



[Thoughts on EBSCOhost 2.0](#)

Michelle Kraft has been testing the EBSCOhost 2.0 interface, scheduled to go live this month, by running searches in the Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature: "I like the overall look and feel of the new EBSCOhost 2.0. I think the display is cleaner and easier to navigate. I especially like hovering to view the abstract and the fact that bookmarking is easier."...

The Krafty Librarian, June 30



Publishing

[Readex to create world newspaper archive](#)

Digital publisher Readex and the Center for Research Libraries in Chicago announced June 26 that they will create the world's largest, fully searchable digital archive of international newspapers. The resource will first offer Latin American newspapers published between 1805 and 1922 in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Cuba, Guatemala, Mexico, Peru, Venezuela, and other countries. Further series will focus on historical newspapers published in Africa and South Asia....

Readex, June 26

[Collecting travel guides](#)

Scott Brown writes: "When Karl Baedeker published his first guidebook in 1832, Europe was finally at peace after the Napoleonic Wars, steam power was revolutionizing travel, and a new and prosperous middle-class had risen in both Europe and America. Travel quickly became their obsession. All early guides are pursued by collectors and, unlike most collecting genres, later editions are as popular as the first editions. Travel guides should not be confused with travel narratives, which were popular with armchair adventurers."...

AbeBooks



Conference, Radisson Plaza Hotel, Kalamazoo. "Shaping Our Tomorrow."

Oct. 22-24:

[Mississippi Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Natchez Convention Center. "At the Center of Everything."

Oct. 23-24:

[Virginia Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Williamsburg. "Libraries: Champions of Democracy."

Oct. 23-25:

[Hawaii Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Grand Wailea Hotel and Spa, Maui.

@ [More...](#)

Contact Us

American Libraries Direct



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

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Actions & Answers

[Changing lives through literature](#)

Kerri Price writes: "Have you ever read a novel that has impacted your life in a profound and meaningful way, or made you feel as though you're not alone? Literature has the power to transform lives. This is the driving philosophy behind [Changing Lives through Literature](#), an award-winning alternative sentencing program that has grown from one chapter in Massachusetts in the fall of 1991, to roughly 20 chapters across the United States and England today."...

I Love Libraries, June 30



[New jobs: Subject experts need not apply](#)

Todd Gilman writes: "Many recent job postings for humanities librarians, reference librarians, or those specializing in research education do not list subject expertise as a requirement. In place of subject expertise, those job postings require relevant library experience (variously defined) and, more often than not, technology skills, neither of which, to my mind, makes up for a lack of advanced education in a particular discipline. In a number of recent hires, Ph.D.'s and M.A.'s have been passed over in favor of candidates straight out of library school whose only previous degree was a bachelor's."...

Chronicle of Higher Education, July 1

[Copyright Office issues Section 109 report](#)

After more than a year of intensive study, the U.S. Copyright Office issued its report July 1 on whether to maintain, modify, or eliminate Sections 111, 119, and 122 of the Copyright Act. It will serve as the basis for discussion for possible changes to the statutory licenses. An electronic version of the report is [available](#) on the Copyright Office website....

Library of Congress, July 1

[Doctor Who: Silence in the Library](#)

Travis Fickett writes: "The premise of this May 31 Season 4 [episode](#) of *Doctor Who* is simple: The Doctor and Donna arrive in the 51st century in a planet-sized library infested with an invisible killer that is attacking a group of explorers led by an archaeologist who knows (and possibly loves) the Doctor from his own future. The library-world is comprised of all the knowledge in the universe—and not just in computers—but in books. Good old-fashioned ink and paper."...

IGN Entertainment, June 23; Wikipedia



[Book drive for Iraq](#)

Christopher Hitchens writes: "In the northern Iraqi city of Sulaymaniyah, the American

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ext. 4216

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University of Iraq has just opened its doors, and it is appealing for people to donate books. The U.S. Congress has pledged more than \$10 million to the project, as has the Kurdish Regional Government. Thomas Cushman, professor of sociology at Wellesley College, tells me that the American University attaches special importance to the establishment of a library in English."...



Slate, June 30

[10 suggestions for summer book groups](#)

When vacations, families, and the great outdoors call, book groups can quickly take a back seat. Here are 10 ideas to help your group avoid doldrums and dog days....

Book Group Buzz, June 25

[Onondaga County library charts its history](#)

Patrons can browse the history of the Onondaga County Public Library in Syracuse, New York, by using a [timeline](#) that evolved from a presentation on the history of the library for staff development day. The timeline begins in the 1840s with a bookcase for the public in Salina Town Hall (right).



Photographs are linked to images on OnPix, an ongoing digitization project of the Local History Department....

Onondaga County (N.Y.) Public Library, July 1

[How Google used librarians](#)

Steven M. Cohen writes: "Exactly one year ago today (June 29), the Google Librarian Central blog was last updated. The last Google Librarian Newsletter was in May 2007. So why all the fanfare in 2006–2007 about loving librarians? The answer: Books. Google realized that in order to index the world's data, they needed access to the billions of books held in libraries throughout the world. So their marketing department (those sly dogs) decided to buddy up with ALA and the entire library community to gain access to these print treasures so that they can scan and index them."...

Library Stuff, June 29

[All a Twitter: Want to try microblogging?](#)






Ellyssa Kroski writes: "While sitting before a presentation at a recent library conference, I was able to broadcast my whereabouts, my mood, and my desire to connect with friends for dinner to over 150 conference attendees simultaneously, using my mobile phone. I managed this feat of hyperconnectivity through a service called Twitter, which enables social butterflies like myself to instantly publish brief messages to a network of contacts."...

School Library Journal, July 1

[13 FriendFeed tools for Twitter refugees](#)



Calley Nye writes: "There has been much talk of Twitter users moving over to FriendFeed  since Twitter  replies

were down for the majority of last week. Twitter [announced](#) that they were back June 28  , but seeing as the outage may have inspired some users to flock to FriendFeed, I decided to take a look at the third-party applications and scripts that enhance the FriendFeed functionality. For those of you moving on to FriendFeed's greener pastures, here are 13 essential tools for an organized, noise-free experience."...

TechCrunch, June 30; Twitter Blog, June 29

[Get out the vote, 1972](#)

The University of South Florida Tampa Library's Special Collections Department put together a video podcast (8:30) featuring documents from the 1970s and set them to music using an old 45-rpm record (complete with PSAs) created by the Mason Proffit country-rock band as an effort to get out the vote in 1972—shortly after 18-year-olds were enfranchised. USF Tampa Special Collections Assistant Librarian Andrew Huse mined the ephemera in the library's collection of the papers of U.S. Rep. Sam Gibbons (D-Fla.) to supplement the music....

YouTube, June 9



[Where the hell is Matt?](#)

Cory Doctorow writes: "Matthew Harding spent 14 months visiting 42 countries in order to produce 'Where the Hell is Matt?', a [video](#) (4:29) featuring Harding (and anyone else he could rope into it) doing an incredibly silly, high-energy dance in some of the most breathtaking scenery around the world. This may be the best four minutes and 29 seconds of your week." It has absolutely nothing to do with libraries, but it's incredibly infectious. (The high-resolution version is preferred, if you have the bandwidth.)...

Boing Boing, July 1; Vimeo, June 20



AL Direct, July 2, 2008

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

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | July 2, 2008

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[<http://www.schoolrooms.net>]

[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

U.S. & World News

Mesa board cuts librarians

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/june2008/mesa-cutslibrariansanyway.cfm>]

“It’s not over. We’re going to continue to do what we can both in Mesa and in Arizona,” Fund Our Future Arizona spokesperson Ann Ewbank told American Libraries June 27, three days after the Mesa Public School board implemented as part of its FY2008–09 budget the replacement over three years of every school library media specialist in the district with library aides. Other Arizona school systems now eyeing the cost of school library programs are the Humboldt Unified School District in Prescott Valley and the Glendale Elementary School District....

Bay County director hired after two-year hiatus

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/june2008/newbaycountydirector.cfm>]

After two years without a director, Bay County (Mich.) Library System has appointed Thomas H. Birch Jr. to the position, effective July 21.

Birch's appointment comes some six months after voters approved an operating-millage renewal that was 2/10ths of a mill less than two 1.2-mill levies that were defeated in 2006. "We're feeling very good about moving ahead on a whole variety of things," board Chairman Don Carlyon told American Libraries....

OCLC: National marketing campaign could hike funding

[http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/june2008/oclc_moneyandmarketingreport.cfm]

From Awareness to Funding: A Study of Library Support in America, a new report issued by OCLC, examines the potential of a national marketing campaign to increase awareness of the value of public libraries and the need for support for libraries at local, state, and national levels. With funding from a \$1.2-million grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, OCLC partnered with the research and advertising agency Leo Burnett to conduct the research....

ALA News

ALA Annual Conference draws 22,000 to Anaheim

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/july2008/annual2008.cfm>]

Sunny California skies and the dazzle of Disneyland greeted some 22,000 librarians and library lovers in Anaheim for the ALA 2008 Annual Conference and Exhibition. Commencing June 26 and running through July 2, the conference kicked off with an opening session featuring political pundit Ron Reagan, son of late President Ronald Reagan, who brought the crowd to its feet with stinging observations about "what's going on in Washington." (Detailed conference news will appear in a special post-conference issue of AL Direct on July 7.)...

ALA receives \$1 million gaming grant from Verizon

[<http://ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/june2008/verizon08.cfm>]

ALA will launch an innovative project to measure the impact of gaming on literacy skills and build a model for library gaming that can be deployed nationally. Funding for the project will be provided by a \$1 million grant from the Verizon Foundation. ALA will work directly with 12 leading gaming experts to document the use of gaming as a literacy tool and monitor the results of gaming initiatives. The information will be used to build The Librarians' Guide to Gaming, a comprehensive, online, literacy and gaming toolbox which will then be field-tested by additional libraries....

The ALA Library in Second Life

[<http://discuss.ala.org/marginalia/2008/06/28/ala-library-in-second-life/>]

ALA Library Reference Specialist Valerie Hawkins writes: "A new development in my reference duties has been appearing in and responding to questions while in the Second Life virtual world, specifically on ALA Island, in the Member Lounge, as the avatar, ALALibraryVal Miles. My virtual self has already conducted an in-world book talk (discussing the various books available that teach and instruct about living and thriving

in Second Life) and created an in-world scavenger hunt (directing avatars to some of the more interesting locations and destinations in Second Life).”...

ALA Marginalia, June 28

Featured review: Books for youth

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=2741943]

McClafferty, Carla Killough. In *Defiance of Hitler: The Secret Mission of Varian Fry*. Sept. 2008. 280p. Farrar, hardcover (978-0-374-38204-9).

Rescue stories bring hope to the Holocaust darkness, and this stirring account of a young New York City journalist who secretly helped more than 2,000 refugees escape Nazi-occupied France blends exciting adventure with the grim history. Before the U.S. entered the war, Fry, 32, spent a year in Marseilles, using his relief organization as a cover for a hidden rescue operation which saved well-known artists, politicians, and scientists, including Marc Chagall and Heinrich Mann. In fact, part of the story is how Fry chose the few to save from all the desperate who lined up at his office....

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

Division News

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editor

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/june2008/AASLcallison.cfm>]

AASL honored the retirement of Daniel Callison as editor of its refereed research journal, *School Library Media Research*, during the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, California. Callison served as journal editor from 1997 to 2007. Callison is professor and dean in the School of Continuing Studies at Indiana University in Bloomington, where he has worked since 1979....

Second AASL longitudinal survey results due in August

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/june2008/AASLsurvey.cfm>]

AASL is expecting final results in August of the second in a series of longitudinal surveys providing data on the health of the nation’s school library media programs. The findings from the studies will be used to advocate for school library media programs at the local, state and national level. This year’s survey focused on the use of social networking tools by school library media specialists and their teacher collaborators in elementary and secondary schools....

Awards

2008 Diversity Research Grants

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/june2008/OFDgrants.cfm>]

The ALA Office for Diversity has announced the recipients of the Diversity Research Grants for 2008. The grants consist of a one-time \$2,000 annual award for original research on a topic involving diversity and a \$500 travel grant to attend and present at the ALA Annual Conference. The winners are John Pruitt (University of Wisconsin-Rock County), Jamie Campbell Naidoo (right, University of Alabama SLIS), and Eun-Young Yoo (North Carolina Central University SLIS)....

Eglin AFB wins library of the year

[<http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123103323>]

Air Force officials announced June 12 that Eglin Base Library in Valparaiso, Florida, was the winner of the Air Force Library of the Year award. The library was recognized for its outstanding customer focus and satisfaction by hosting authors and creating 25 educational summer reading programs for all ages which efforts logged approximately 1,000 participants in just three months....

Air Force Link, June 26

OCLC Minority Librarian Fellowship

[<http://www.oclc.org/us/en/news/releases/200823.htm>]

OCLC has announced a new OCLC Minority Librarian Fellowship program designed to provide a unique opportunity for aspiring library professionals from historically underrepresented groups. The 12-month program offers the selected Fellow two 90-day assignments within specific divisions of OCLC, and one six-month assignment with a specific operating unit within the OCLC organization. Applications will be accepted between July 15 and August 29....

OCLC, June 30

2008 Kansas Notable Books

[http://skyways.lib.ks.us/orgs/kcfb/Projects/Notable_Books/2008_nb_press_release.htm]

The Kansas Center for the Book at the State Library in Topeka released the 2008 Kansas Notable Books list June 22. The list includes 15 fiction, nonfiction, and children's books that are considered to be the best books published by Kansas authors or about Kansas in the preceding year. The authors will be honored at an evening reception at the Reading Festival in Lawrence on September 27....

Kansas Center for the Book, June 22

Seen Online

Georgia State: Online course reserves are fair use

[<http://chronicle.com/free/2008/06/3583n.htm>]

In a closely watched copyright-infringement lawsuit, Georgia State University fired back at its accusers, three academic publishers who say the institution invites students to illegally download and print readings from thousands of works. The university asserts that its online

distribution of course material is permitted under copyright law's fair-use exemption. Georgia State made its case in papers filed June 24 in U.S. District Court in Atlanta....

Chronicle of Higher Education, June 27

Tiffany Dome restored in old Chicago Public Library building

[<http://abclocal.go.com/wls/story?section=news/local&id=6237124>]

In 1897, the world's largest Tiffany Glass Dome was installed in the Chicago Public Library (now the Chicago Cultural Center) to rave architectural reviews. But the passage of time and some bad renovations damaged much of the dome's beauty—until now. The 111-year-old dome has undergone seven months of restoration, and has returned to its original glory. Watch the newscast....

WLS-TV, Chicago, June 30

Judge throws out Indiana harmful-to-minors law

[<http://www.indystar.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080701/NEWS02/80701048>]

A federal court struck down a law July 1 that would have required sellers of sexually explicit materials to register with the state, marking a victory for retailers and First Amendment advocates. U.S. District Judge Sarah Evans Barker ruled that House Enrolled Act 1042, passed by the Indiana General Assembly earlier this year, burdens First Amendment rights and is unconstitutionally vague and overly broad. The law would have taken effect July 1....

Indianapolis Star, July 1

Residents protest Hartford branch closings

[<http://www.courant.com/community/news/hfd/hc-hfdlibrary0702.artjul02,0,399240.story>]

A neighborhood group demonstrated June 30 outside the Mark Twain branch of the Hartford (Conn.) Public Library and held a read-in July 1 to protest a budget-cutting proposal to shut it down. The closure of the Mark Twain and Blue Hills branches has been recommended by the library board to save a good chunk of the \$870,000 gap looming in the library's \$8.2-million budget for 2008–09. The plan also calls for laying off

[<http://www.courant.com/news/opinion/editorials/hc-library.artjul01,0,5496261.story>] 40 full- and part-time employees....

Hartford (Conn.) Courant, July 2

Hennepin County mulls staff reductions

[<http://www.startribune.com/local/west/22171369.html>]

The Hennepin County (Minn.) Library is looking at cutting about 50 positions from its staff of more than 700 in order to swallow higher-than-expected costs that it disclosed recently. According to preliminary data given to the library board, budget staffers have identified 46–51 positions that could be cut in 2009. Because some employees work part-time, those possible cuts could affect more than that number of people....

Minneapolis Star Tribune, June 28

ICANN expands internet domain rules

[http://news.cnet.com/8301-10784_3-9978448-7.html?tag=nefd.top]

The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers voted June 26 to

relax rules for naming websites. At its meeting in Paris, ICANN voted to accept a proposal that will allow companies to purchase new top-level domain names ending in whatever they like. In an effort to deter cybersquatters, ICANN will charge a hefty price for the new names. The group also voted to open public comment on a proposal that would allow countries to use non-English script....

C|Net News blog, June 27

All-purpose D.C. card works for District libraries

[<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/06/26/AR2008062603962.html>]

The District of Columbia is rolling out an ambitious identification program this summer in what it calls a first-of-its-kind effort by a major U.S. city to unify services on one ID card. With the One Card, library accounts, public school attendance, recreation-center use, and other services will be tracked on a single piece of plastic. Over the next three months, public libraries will begin issuing the card....

Washington Post, June 27

Athens County branch collection damaged by smoke

[<http://www.athensmessenger.com/main.asp?SectionID=1&SubSectionID=273&ArticleID=11009&TM=36479.7>]

The entire collection of books, periodicals, films, recorded music, and audio cassettes belonging to the Wells branch of the Athens County (Ohio) Public Library in Albany has been subjected to some degree of damage as a result of a June 14 fire caused by a firecracker tossed into the book-return slot. Four teens have been charged

[<http://www.athensmessenger.com/main.asp?SectionID=1&SubSectionID=273&ArticleID=11050>] with the juvenile equivalent of felony vandalism....

Athens (Ohio) Messenger, June 17, 19

Sad tales fill soaked libraries

[<http://www.desmoinesregister.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080625/NEWS02/806250374/-1/contact>]

Two tales emerge in the saga of Iowa's libraries and the floods. In one story, the majority of facilities escape the murky water that hit about two weeks ago and become important information hubs, where residents can go online and apply for aid, send emails, or use maps to traverse around closed roads. The other account details the harrowing losses of a handful of libraries smacked by the surging waters, including in Cedar Rapids, Iowa's second-largest city....

Des Moines (Iowa) Register, June 25

Most-kissed pig visits Lehi

[<http://www.heraldextra.com/content/view/271823/17/>]

The world's most-kissed pig made an appearance at the Lehi (Utah) Public Library June 28, to the delight of dozens of children and librarians. At 14 years old, Daisy Minor has accomplished a lot for a pig. She's been on national television many times, been featured in dozens of newspapers, and is on her third national tour of libraries, helping kids get excited about reading. She even sports a huge collection of library cards, made out in her name, from libraries across the country....

Provo (Utah) Daily Herald, June 29

Solar off-site storage at Williams College

[http://www.thetranscript.com/ci_9742967]

Before Williams College opens its new library in 2011, it will open an off-campus, high-security, high-density, solar-powered, heavily computerized library storage facility in Williamstown, Massachusetts. On the roof will be 96 photovoltaic panels, which will generate roughly 30,000 kilowatt hours of electricity annually. The facility will help the college achieve its greenhouse gas reduction target of 10% below 1990 levels by the year 2020....

North Adams (Mass.) Transcript, June 30

Wiegand seeks public library stories

[<http://www.morrisdailyherald.com/articles/2008/06/13/news/445cmorlibrary.txt>]

Florida State University LIS and American Studies Professor Wayne Wiegand is using five libraries, including the Morris Area (Ill.) Public Library (right), as the basis for research on the role the public library plays in a small community. The number of people who use public libraries and the number of books checked out has increased every year but one for the past 15 years, Wiegand said. He has found that small-town libraries have always played an important role in their communities....

Morris (Ill.) Daily Herald, June 13

Loriene Roy offers reading tips for Gay Pride Month

[<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=91908397>]

In recognition of Gay Pride Month, ALA President Loriene Roy offered National Public Radio listeners some tips on books that highlight the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender experience. One is Mississippi Sissy, in which Kevin Sessums brings the American South of the 1960s and the experiences of a strange little Mississippi boy to life....

National Public Radio, June 26

PASCAL funding slashed [<http://www.heraldonline.com/109/story/653565.html>]

Colleges and universities across South Carolina next year will have to foot the bill for library services that previously were paid for by the state. Funding for PASCAL—Partnership Among South Carolina Academic Libraries—was slashed about 90%, from about \$2 million to around \$200,000 for the 2008–2009 school year....

Rock Hill (S.C.) Herald, June 29

Montana library is sinking

[<http://www.greatfallstribune.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080626/NEWS01/806260314/1002>]

Residents in White Sulphur Springs, Montana, are on the move to replace their sinking library. A Fourth of July Fun Run is planned, with event proceeds going toward replacing the Meagher County/City Library, where one-third of the building has been condemned because of a sinking foundation. Unknowingly built over underground springs and unstable soil in the late 1970s, the library building first housed an accounting firm. The theme of the run is “Let’s Race to Save This Place.”...

Great Falls (Mont.) Tribune, June 26

UC Riverside Music Library dries out

[http://www.pe.com/localnews/highereducation/stories/PE_News_Local_S_librar

y01.40c8b09.html]

Students and staff have been working feverishly to restore 800 CDs and 120 musical scores damaged last week when a water pipe burst and flooded the basement of the University of California, Riverside's Arts Building where the Music Library is located. University Librarian Ruth Jackson said the damage would have been much worse if Music Librarian Caitlin St. John hadn't moved most of the materials off the lower shelves last summer....

Riverside (Calif.) Press-Enterprise, June 30

Antique lightbulbs found in Iowa library

[<http://www.thehawkeye.com/Story/Light-bulb-063008>]

Will Thomson, a facilities consultant working on transforming the old 1898 Burlington (Iowa) Public Library building into a new museum for the Des Moines County Historical Society, discovered some hidden treasures there recently. He found two functional Thompson-Houston lightbulbs made before 1906. Thomson cleaned the old library bulbs and built a fixture and transformer to accommodate them, and there are plans to put them on display at the new museum....

Burlington (Iowa) Hawk Eye, June 30

British private eyes detect overdue books

[<http://www.eveningnews24.co.uk/content/news/story.aspx?brand=ENOnline&category=News&tBrand=ENOnline&tCategory=news&itemid=NOED30%20Jun%202008%2013%3A51%3A20%3A943>]

A Norfolk County (U.K.) council has admitted using private detectives to try to track down people with unpaid bills for overdue library books. After local authorities were blasted for using antiterrorism powers to spy on people for trivial offenses, the council admitted it had spent £9,190 (\$18,350 U.S.) to pay detectives to recover overdue library books, DVDs, and CDs. Officials claimed they had recovered hundreds of thousands of pounds worth of library items....

Norwich (U.K.) Evening News, July 1

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[<http://www.queenslibrary.org>]

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Tech Talk

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Recharge your gadgets without electricity

[<http://greeningyourlibrary.wordpress.com/2008/06/27/recharging-your-gadgets/>]

Some new alternative recharging ideas: For USB devices try the hand-cranked Super Battery.

[<http://www.inhabitat.com/2008/06/05/datexx-super-battery-usb-crank/>] Go solar with a 58″-long waterproof solar roll

[<http://www.inhabitat.com/2007/11/19/the-go-anywhere-solar-gadget-charger/>] (right), which recharges anything electronic. Try a personal wind turbine [<http://www.inhabitat.com/2007/11/28/hymini-tiny-wind-power-charger>]

/] that can hook up to various devices when you are on the go. And put more human power into recharging by using the Weza Foot Powered Energy Source
[<http://www.inhabitat.com/2008/01/10/weza-foot-powered-portable-energy-source/>]....
Going Green @ your library, June 27

Flash files are now searchable
[<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/07/01/AR2008070100007.html>]
For most people on the Web, if Google or Yahoo cannot find something, it doesn't exist. That has been one of the biggest drawbacks to creating a website or application that displays itself as a Flash (SWF) file. Search engines could see the file, but they could not see what was in it. Until now. Adobe has teamed up with Google and Yahoo to devise a way for the search engines to read Flash files and index all of the information they contain....
Washington Post, July 1

Alternative browsers: Why use only one?
[<http://webworkerdaily.com/2008/06/27/alternative-browsers-why-use-only-one/>]
Samuel Dean writes: "When it comes to browsers, most web workers rely on the usual suspects: Firefox, Safari, Internet Explorer, and Opera. There are many alternative browsers, though, and some of them are useful for targeted types of tasks. Here are six examples that I like. For example, Flock [<http://flock.com/>] is an extremely popular browser for people who do social networking."...
Web Worker Daily, June 27

Thoughts on EBSCOhost 2.0
[<http://kraftylibrarian.com/2008/06/thoughts-on-ebSCO-20.html>]
Michelle Kraft has been testing the EBSCOhost 2.0 interface, scheduled to go live this month, by running searches in the Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature: "I like the overall look and feel of the new EBSCOhost 2.0. I think the display is cleaner and easier to navigate. I especially like hovering to view the abstract and the fact that bookmarking is easier."...
The Krafty Librarian, June 30

Publishing

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Readex to create world newspaper archive
[<http://www.readex.com/readex/press.cfm?press=45>]
Digital publisher Readex and the Center for Research Libraries in Chicago announced June 26 that they will create the world's largest, fully searchable digital archive of international newspapers. The resource will first offer Latin American newspapers published between 1805 and 1922 in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Cuba, Guatemala, Mexico, Peru, Venezuela, and other countries. Further series will focus on historical newspapers published in Africa and South Asia....

Readex, June 26

Collecting travel guides

[<http://www.abebooks.com/docs/RareBooks/Avid-Collector/Apr08/travel-guides.shtml>]

Scott Brown writes: “When Karl Baedeker published his first guidebook in 1832, Europe was finally at peace after the Napoleonic Wars, steam power was revolutionizing travel, and a new and prosperous middle class had risen in both Europe and America. Travel quickly became their obsession. All early guides are pursued by collectors and, unlike most collecting genres, later editions are as popular as the first editions. Travel guides should not be confused with travel narratives, which were popular with armchair adventurers.”...

AbeBooks

[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

Actions & Answers

Changing lives through literature

[<http://www.ilovelibraries.org/news/topstories/changinglives.cfm>]

Kerri Price writes: “Have you ever read a novel that has impacted your life in a profound and meaningful way, or made you feel as though you’re not alone? Literature has the power to transform lives. This is the driving philosophy behind Changing Lives through Literature [<http://cltl.umassd.edu>], an award-winning alternative sentencing program that has grown from one chapter in Massachusetts in the fall of 1991, to roughly 20 chapters across the United States and England today.”...

I Love Libraries, June 30

New jobs: Subject experts need not apply

[<http://chronicle.com/jobs/news/2008/07/2008070101c.htm>]

Todd Gilman writes: “Many recent job postings for humanities librarians, reference librarians, or those specializing in research education do not list subject expertise as a requirement. In place of subject expertise, those job postings require relevant library experience (variously defined) and, more often than not, technology skills, neither of which, to my mind, makes up for a lack of advanced education in a particular discipline. In a number of recent hires, Ph.D.’s and M.A.’s have been passed over in favor of candidates straight out of library school whose only previous degree was a bachelor’s.”...

Chronicle of Higher Education, July 1

Copyright Office issues Section 109 report

[<http://www.loc.gov/today/pr/2008/08-123.html>]

After more than a year of intensive study, the U.S. Copyright Office issued its report July 1 on whether to maintain, modify, or eliminate Sections 111, 119, and 122 of the Copyright Act. It will serve as the

basis for discussion for possible changes to the statutory licenses. An electronic version of the report is available [<http://www.copyright.gov/docs/section109/>] on the Copyright Office website....

Library of Congress, July 1

Doctor Who: Silence in the Library

[<http://tv.ign.com/articles/883/883689p1.html>]

Travis Fickett writes: “The premise of this May 31 Season 4 episode [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Silence_in_the_Library] of Doctor Who is simple: The Doctor and Donna arrive in the 51st century in a planet-sized library infested with an invisible killer that is attacking a group of explorers led by an archaeologist who knows (and possibly loves) the Doctor from his own future. The library-world is comprised of all the knowledge in the universe—and not just in computers—but in books. Good old-fashioned ink and paper.”...

IGN Entertainment, June 23; Wikipedia

Book drive for Iraq [<http://www.slate.com/id/2194308/>]

Christopher Hitchens writes: “In the northern Iraqi city of Sulaymaniyah, the American University of Iraq has just opened its doors, and it is appealing for people to donate books. The U.S. Congress has pledged more than \$10 million to the project, as has the Kurdish Regional Government. Thomas Cushman, professor of sociology at Wellesley College, tells me that the American University attaches special importance to the establishment of a library in English.”...

Slate, June 30

10 suggestions for summer book groups

[<http://bookgroupbuzz.booklistonline.com/2008/06/25/10-ways-to-lighten-it-up-for-summer/>]

When vacations, families, and the great outdoors call, book groups can quickly take a back seat. Here are 10 ideas to help your group avoid doldrums and dog days....

Book Group Buzz, June 25

Onondaga County library charts its history

[http://www.onlib.org/website/press_releases/timeline.html]

Patrons can browse the history of the Onondaga County Public Library in Syracuse, New York, by using a timeline

[<http://www.onlib.org/website/about/timeline/index.htm>] that evolved from a presentation on the history of the library for staff development day.

The timeline begins in the 1840s with a bookcase for the public in Salina Town Hall (right). Photographs are linked to images on OnPix, an ongoing digitization project of the Local History Department....

Onondaga County (N.Y.) Public Library, July 1

How Google used librarians

[<http://www.librariystuff.net/2008/06/29/usinglibrarians/>]

Steven M. Cohen writes: “Exactly one year ago today (June 29), the Google Librarian Central blog was last updated. The last Google Librarian Newsletter was in May 2007. So why all the fanfare in 2006–2007 about loving librarians? The answer: Books. Google realized that in order to index the world’s data, they needed access to the billions of books

held in libraries throughout the world. So their marketing department (those sly dogs) decided to buddy up with ALA and the entire library community to gain access to these print treasures so that they can scan and index them.”...

Library Stuff, June 29

[<http://twitter.com/>]All a Twitter: Want to try microblogging?

[<http://www.schoollibraryjournal.com/article/CA6573999.html>]

Ellyssa Kroski writes: “While sitting before a presentation at a recent library conference, I was able to broadcast my whereabouts, my mood, and my desire to connect with friends for dinner to over 150 conference attendees simultaneously, using my mobile phone. I managed this feat of hyperconnectivity through a service called Twitter, which enables social butterflies like myself to instantly publish brief messages to a network of contacts.”...

School Library Journal, July 1

[<http://www.feedalizr.com/>]13 FriendFeed tools for Twitter refugees

[<http://www.techcrunch.com/2008/06/30/13-friendfeed-tools-for-twitter-refugees/>]

Calley Nye writes: “There has been much talk of Twitter users moving over to FriendFeed since Twitter replies were down for the majority of last week. Twitter announced

[<http://blog.twitter.com/2008/06/replies-are-back-improvements-continue.html>]

l] that they were back June 28, but seeing as the outage may have inspired some users to flock to FriendFeed, I decided to take a look at the third-party applications and scripts that enhance the FriendFeed functionality. For those of you moving on to FriendFeed’s greener pastures, here are 13 essential tools for an organized, noise-free experience.”...

TechCrunch, June 30; Twitter Blog, June 29

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2txjVBfhRhs>]Get out the vote, 1972

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2txjVBfhRhs>]

The University of South Florida Tampa Library’s Special Collections Department put together a video podcast (8:30) featuring documents from the 1970s and set them to music using an old 45-rpm record (complete with PSAs) created by the Mason Proffit country-rock band as an effort to get out the vote in 1972—shortly after 18-year-olds were enfranchised. USF Tampa Special Collections Assistant Librarian Andrew Huse mined the ephemera in the library’s collection of the papers of U.S. Rep. Sam Gibbons (D-Fla.) to supplement the music....

YouTube, June 9

[<http://www.vimeo.com/1211060>]Where the hell is Matt?

[<http://www.boingboing.net/2008/07/01/where-the-hell-is-ma.html>]

Cory Doctorow writes: “Matthew Harding spent 14 months visiting 42 countries in order to produce ‘Where the Hell is Matt?’, a video [<http://www.vimeo.com/1211060>] (4:29) featuring Harding (and anyone else he could rope into it) doing an incredibly silly, high-energy dance in some of the most breathtaking scenery around the world. This may be the best four minutes and 29 seconds of your week.” It has absolutely nothing to do with libraries, but it’s incredibly infectious. (The high-resolution version is preferred, if you have the bandwidth.)...

Boing Boing, July 1; Vimeo, June 20

[<http://www.preparetraining.com/landing/08ptpadsaz804.asp>]

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For news of ALA Annual Conference, see AL Direct's special post-conference issue, to be emailed Monday, July 7.

Branding is a part of the marketing process that focuses on developing a laser-clear message and the means to communicate that message to the intended audience. As assistant director of the Lucius Beebe Memorial Library in Wakefield, Massachusetts, Elizabeth Doucett conducted the first of the library branding programs that formed the basis for Creating Your Library Brand.

[http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?_sn=catalog2&_pn=product_detail&_op=2583] By following her guidance, libraries can begin to develop branding that makes a difference. NEW! From ALA Editions.

In this issue
June/July 2008

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/tableofcontents/2008contents/junjuly2008.cfm>]

Your Circle of Wellness

Be Outstanding in Your Fieldwork

Conference Preview: California Dreamin'

Tastes for All Tastes

California Libraries: Places of Diversity

Richard Boss has completed two new Tech Notes [<http://www.ala.org/ala/pla/plapubs/technotes/technotes.cfm>] for the Public Library Association, both downloadable in Word format: "Automated Storage-Retrieval and Return-Sorting Systems," and "Open Source Integrated Library Software."

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

Director,
[<http://joblist.ala.org/modules/jobseeker/controller.cfm?scr=jobdetail&jobid=11098>] Schaumburg Township (Ill.) District Library. The Library's central building is the second largest public library building in the state and the Library is the third busiest public library in Illinois. With over 300 employees and an operating budget of \$14 million, the library strives to be a leader in innovative library services. Through a team-oriented management philosophy, the library is respected for its technological and customer-friendly services....

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

Digital Library of the Week

Kansas State University has digitized, mostly in full text, hundreds of Kansas Agricultural Experiment Station [<http://www.oznet.ksu.edu/historicpublications/>] publications produced between 1888 and 1945. These documents provide a wealth of information about farm life at the time. All are available for downloading as PDF files.

Do you know of a digital library collection that we can mention in this AL Direct feature? Tell us about it. [<mailto:aldirect@ala.org>]

Public Perception How the World Sees Us

“You know, sometimes I’ll go to an eighth-grade graduation and there’s all that pomp and circumstance and gowns and flowers. And I think to myself, it’s just eighth grade . . . An eighth-grade education doesn’t cut it today. Let’s give them a handshake and tell them to get their butts back in the library!”

?Democratic presidential candidate Barack Obama, in a Father’s Day address at Chicago’s Apostolic Church of God, Peoria (Ill.) Journal Star, June 27.

Ask the ALA Librarian

Q. I'm starting a new paraprofessional reference position. While I have taken a reference course in my library science program, I'm specifically concerned about doing reference work with chat and instant messaging, which I haven't done before. I'm not a stranger to chat in any way, but I'm new to it in a professional capacity. Do you have any pointers?

A. There are several resources regarding virtual reference work, including handling reference transactions via chat and instant messaging, on our ALA Library Fact Sheet 21, [<http://www.ala.org/library/fact21.html>] Automating Libraries and Virtual Reference: A Selected Annotated Bibliography, including Virtual Reference Training: The Complete Guide to Providing Anytime, Anywhere Answers by Buff Hirko and Mary Bucher Ross, plus information from previous Virtual Reference Desk Conferences via WebJunction [<http://www.webjunction.org/do/DisplayContent?id=13340>] and on the forthcoming 2008 event, A Reference Renaissance: Current and Future Trends [<http://www.bcr.org/referencerenaissance/>]. Newer resources on the subject include The Virtual Reference Handbook: Interview and Information Delivery Techniques for the Chat and E-Mail Environment by Diane K. Kovacs—who will be teaching a series of Virtual Reference Competencies seminars [<http://kovacs.com/>] later this year—and the forthcoming Virtual Reference Best Practices: Tailoring Services to Your Library by M. Kathleen Kern. From the ALA Professional Tips wiki [http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Virtual_Reference_Work].

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

Calendar

Oct. 1–3:
Missouri Library Association, [<http://molib.org/Conference.html>] Annual Conference, Millennium Hotel, St. Louis.

Oct. 1–3:
Wyoming Library Association, [<http://www.wyla.org/>] Annual Conference, Casper.

Oct. 1–4:
Kentucky Library Association / Kentucky School Media Association / Southeastern Library Association / Association of Research Libraries, [<http://www.kylibasn.org/conreg990.cfm>] National Diversity in Libraries Conference, Marriott Downtown Louisville. “Spectrum of the Future.”

Oct. 1–4:
Idaho Library Association, [<http://emp.byui.edu/TWITCHELL/2magic2008.html>] Annual Conference, Shilo Inn, Idaho Falls. “Ahh—The Magic of Libraries.”

Oct. 15–17:

Georgia Council of Media Organizations,
[<http://www.georgiacomo.org/Index.htm>] Annual Conference, The Classic Center, Athens.

Oct. 15–17:

Iowa Library Association,
[<http://www.iowalibraryassociation.org/displayconvspecific.cfm?convnbr=4860>]
] Annual Conference, Grand River Center, Dubuque. “Libraries: Anywhere, Any Way, Anytime.”

Oct. 15–17:

Nebraska Library Association / Nebraska Educational Media Association,
[<http://www.nebraskalibraries.org/conference/2008/index.html>] Annual Conference, Lincoln. “Nebraska Libraries: Vision for the Information Age.”

Oct. 19–21:

New England Library Association,
[<http://nelib.org/conference/2008/index.htm>] Annual Conference, Radisson Hotel Manchester, New Hampshire. “Taking Charge of Change.”

Oct. 21–24:

South Carolina Library Association,
[<http://www.scla.org/AnnualConference2008/HomePage>] Annual Conference, Greenville Hyatt. “Going Green in Greenville.”

Oct. 22–24:

Michigan Library Association, [<http://www.mla.lib.mi.us/events/annual>]
Annual Conference, Radisson Plaza Hotel, Kalamazoo. “Shaping Our Tomorrow.”

Oct. 22–24:

Mississippi Library Association,
[<http://www.misslib.org/index.php/2008/04/02/2008-conference-natchez-convention-center-natchez-ms-october-22-24-2008/>] Annual Conference, Natchez Convention Center. “At the Center of Everything.”

Oct. 23–24:

Virginia Library Association,
[<http://www.vla.org/demo/Conference/Index.html>] Annual Conference, Williamsburg. “Libraries: Champions of Democracy.”

Oct. 23–25:

Hawaii Library Association,
[<http://ohana.chaminade.edu/hla/conference.html>] Annual Conference, Grand Wailea Hotel and Spa, Maui.

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

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Special Post-Annual Conference Issue

american libraries DIRECT

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | July 7, 2008

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- ✓ 71 Subjects – Aligned to Curriculum
- ✓ 3 Million High-quality Pages Searchable



Conference Highlights

[ALA Annual Conference draws 22,000 to Anaheim](#)

Sunny California skies and the dazzle of Disneyland greeted 22,047 librarians and library lovers in Anaheim for the ALA 2008 Annual Conference and Exhibition. Commencing June 26 and running through July 2, the conference kicked off with an opening session featuring political pundit Ron Reagan, son of late President Ronald Reagan, who brought the crowd to its feet with stinging observations about “what’s going on in Washington.”...



[Ron Reagan commends librarians, comments on politics](#)

The Opening General Session featured a keynote address by Ron Reagan, son of the former President and a frequent radio and TV commentator. Frederick J. Augustyn Jr. writes: “Reagan commended librarians for standing on the ramparts defending freedom from the whims of passing ideology. He suggested that given the state of the economy, voters might be inclined to pose an updated version of his father’s 1980 query, which would now ask, ‘Are you better off now than you were eight years ago?’”...

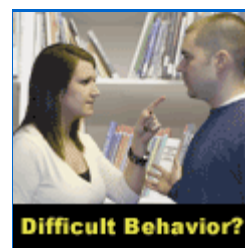
Cognates, Monday, p. 6



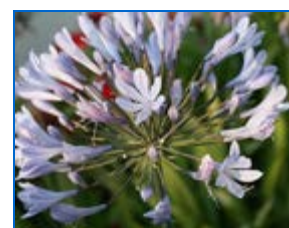
[Opening Session video](#)

Watch the video (6:38) that played at the opening session, highlighting the value of public awareness to the library profession. It features Mario Gonzalez (Executive Board), Loriene Roy (ALA President), Jim Rettig (ALA President-Elect), Leslie Burger (ALA Past President), Jane Chesnutt (editor of *Woman’s Day*), Jeff Idelson (National Baseball Hall of Fame), Judith Gibbons (Public Awareness Committee), and Keith Michael Fiels (ALA Executive Director)....

YouTube, June 28



A grand total of 22,047 librarians and library staff, exhibitors, and library supporters attended [ALA Annual Conference](#) in Anaheim, June 26–July 2. Attendance was down from last year’s record of 28,635 in Washington D.C., but well above the 16,974 who attended the 2006 Annual Conference in New Orleans.



[More than 1,500 messages sent to Congress](#)

On July 1, over 1,500 messages were sent to Congress during Virtual Library Day on the Hill on Tuesday about the importance of funding libraries. Attendees emailed and faxed their Members of Congress using computer terminals located on the exhibit floor. They were joined by library supporters from across the country (including Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, right), all calling attention to the immense value of today's libraries....

District Dispatch, July 7



[Visit Flickr](#) to see the thousands of photos uploaded by ALA Annual Conference attendees (tagged ala2008).

[Native American culture on hand at the President's Program](#)

During her program on Sunday, ALA President Lorie Roy (right) called on Native American actor Wes Studi from *Last of the Mohicans*, *Heat*, and *Sitting Bull* fame, to serve as emcee. According to Studi, many native communities have started to implement programs that teach their languages to younger generations, but all of these depend on a diminishing population and the older generation. Also on hand was Roy Boney Jr. (left), a filmmaker who shows tribal schoolchildren how to use claymation to depict their cultural stories....

Cognotes, Tuesday, p. 4



[Diahann Carroll at the Closing General Session](#)

Legendary entertainer Diahann Carroll was the featured guest at Tuesday's Closing General Session. Interviewed by past ALA President Sarah Long, Carroll chatted about her forthcoming autobiography and joked about her long and illustrious career in show business and how difficult it is to remain on top as one ages. She said she was grateful for her childhood library in New York City where there was a librarian "who cared about my questions."



[Many Voices, Many Nations Anaheim](#)

The Office for Diversity, with the support of President Lorie Roy, brought together indigenous voices and music that celebrated our varied ethnic, cultural, and lifestyle traditions Friday evening. One performer was musician, actor, playwright, and artist Arigon Starr (right), a member of the Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma.



[The word on wellness](#)

The Workplace Wellness Task Force hosted a Wellness Fair on Sunday that featured healthy eating, chair pilates, office yoga, and Dance Dance Revolution. Celebrity Chef Bruno Serato of the Anaheim White House restaurant prepared entries from his cookbook *Temptation at the White House*. For the [hula exercise](#), Joe Sanchez writes: "Annalou explained the history of the particular song he was singing and described each movement



Public Perception

Heard and overheard at Annual

"I couldn't spell 'library.' That tells you everything you need to know about my academic life."

—Actress Jamie Lee Curtis, at the PLA President's Program, June 30.

"Mashups are a full-fledged computing platform and on the verge of replacing the personal computer as the dominant tool."

—OCLC's Andrew Pace, at the OCLC Symposium, "The Mashed Up Library," June 27.

"Librarianship is a dogma-driven profession. We are way behind the information world. If we don't want to kill the dogma, at least we can put it in the kennel long enough to examine it."

—Karen G. Schneider, community librarian for Equinox, at the LITA "Ultimate Debate on the Future of the Library Catalog," June 28.

of the dance, making it easy to follow. The steps were: push the sun, search the ocean, pick the berries, welcome the Earth, and get nasty.”...

Cognotes, Saturday, p. 33; Educators Coop, July 1

[Jim Rettig inaugurated ALA president](#)

Jim Rettig, university librarian at the University of Richmond, Virginia, began his term as 2008–2009 ALA President on July 2. Rettig served on the ALA Executive Board from 2003 to 2006 and was elected to three terms on Council. Rettig is a past president of RUSA and once chaired the *College & Research Libraries News* Editorial Board. You can listen to his inaugural speech [here](#). Read Lorie Roy’s message [here](#)....



Speakers

[Ride and O’Shaughnessy connect kids with science](#)

Astronaut Sally Ride and school psychologist Tam O’Shaughnessy appeared on Sunday to discuss the importance of keeping kids interested in science. They described how science and technology are the engines that drive our society, yet we put little value on science education. Because they feel there should be a focus on climate change and on the earth’s resources, they’ve teamed up to write *Mission Planet Earth*, to be released in March 2009....

Cognotes, Monday, p. 6



[Vernon Jordan on libraries and reading](#)

Vernon E. Jordan Jr., lawyer and advisor to President Bill Clinton, related how libraries, the church, and strong family figures influenced his life. Well served by the colored branch of the Atlanta Public Library as he was growing up, he said he has never entered the city’s downtown library due to his memory of its being off-limits to him....

Cognotes, Monday, p. 6



[Greg Mortenson: Literacy and peace through education](#)

According to Greg Mortenson, “If you educate a boy you educate an individual; if you educate a girl, you educate a community,” and he has applied this philosophy since he cofounded the Central Asia Institute in 1996. In his [presentation](#) on Saturday, Mortenson retold the captivating story of what led him to build schools for girls in remote villages like Korphe, Pakistan, and introduced Julia Bergman, the librarian who helped him build libraries in his schools....

Cognotes, Monday, p. 8; Anaheim en Mass., June 29



Khaled Hosseini on authorship

Khaled Hosseini, author of *The Kite Runner*,

“Prehistoric cave art is like YouTube. It says, ‘I was here. I mattered.’”

—University of Washington’s Joe Janes, at the LITA President’s Program, June 29.

“I made a rash promise to build a school. . . . I came back to the States and had no idea how to fundraise. I went to the local library.”

—Greg Mortenson, cofounder of the Central Asia Institute, at his Auditorium Speaker talk, June 28.

“My first book, both of my books actually, have been largely word-of-mouth successes, and one of the first groups that got that word-of-mouth started were librarians who praised the book early on and got it into the hands of readers.”

—Khaled Hosseini, author of *The Kite Runner*, in the green room before his Auditorium Speaker program, July 1.

Ask the ALA Librarian



Q. I’ve just come back from the ALA conference in

discussed his journey to becoming an acclaimed author at the final Auditorium Speaker session on Tuesday. Interviewed onstage by Roberta Stevens of the Library of Congress, Hosseini said he has librarians to thank for the word-of-mouth popularity of his novel. "It really got started when librarians started picking the book for communitywide reading programs," he said.



[Dean Koontz speaks on his writing career](#)

Mark Shaw writes about thriller writer Dean Koontz's Monday talk: "A humble man, Koontz related stories of his early 'bookless' childhood and how he discovered books at the local library at about age 9. Koontz then talked about his evolution to the bestseller lists with humorous anecdotes; but the main thrust of his message was all about the love of books, and most of all, the writing process."...

Hemingwaywantabes, June 30



Anaheim and am trying to pull together my trip report. Several programs I attended ran out of handouts. Can you tell me where I can find these? The presenters said they would be on the ALA website.

A. How handouts and other output from the Annual Conference are disseminated varies considerably from division to division, or from one program planner or speaker to another. So, this year ALA has instituted the [Conference Materials Archive](#) in order to provide a central place to collect the handouts or other conference content—or at least links to that content. If the speakers from the programs you attended have not added their material, here are some other possibilities: [division blogs and podcasts](#), [sponsoring unit web pages](#), the speaker's personal or institutional webpage, or a planned publication. To complicate matters even more, with the exception of the very few contemporaneous blog posts, there is a time lag between the program presentation and the posting or publication of the content. There is also always the possibility that a presentation is not recorded or written and may only

ALA Publishing

Speaking Technically about reference databases

American Libraries hosted a panel discussion on the future of reference databases in which representatives from Gale, Alexander Street Press, ebrary, EBSCO, Greenwood Publishing, Standard and Poor's, and ProQuest discussed search capabilities, social tagging, and user-supplied content. The panel was moderated by *AL Direct* Editor George Eberhart. A feature based on the program will appear in the August issue of the magazine.



[What we did at our summer conference](#)

Keir Graff writes: "Sunday, the morning of the *Booklist* Adult Books Readers' Advisory Forum: Post-9/11 Fiction (that's the short title; I'd give you the longer version but we'd have to change this blog's hosting plan to include more bandwidth), I thought I'd look over my remarks one more time while I ate breakfast. So, I went downstairs, got a table for one, and, as I tucked into my Denver omelet, I turned my mind once more to the dark day of September 11, 2001. Then I heard a voice. It was singing, 'If you're happy and you know it, clap your hands.'"...

Likely Stories, July 7

[RDA Update Forum](#)

Karen Coyle writes: "I did make it to the RDA Update Forum on Saturday. The first announcement is that RDA has been delayed once again, this time by two months. The public review version will not be available until October. The good news is that ALA hired the smartest woman in the world, Nannette Naught, to create the online system and she has actually taken RDA and turned it into a huge complex of entities and relationships with their related instructions, scope notes, and examples. The bad news is that this online subscription service

will be the only way to access RDA.”...
Coyle's InFormation, June 29

Disney from Your Desktop

Librarians go Disney

Many conference-goers have posted their photos on Flickr, tagged as ala2008, for the enjoyment of those who could not make it to Anaheim. Disneyland fans will appreciate this selection of fireworks and festivities at the theme park. Many librarians took the Space Mountain ride as Disneyland Park and Disney's California Adventure opened their doors to ALA-goers for the annual Scholarship Bash fundraiser Saturday night....

Flickr, ala2008 + Disney



Division Sessions

Jamie Lee Curtis heads up PLA program

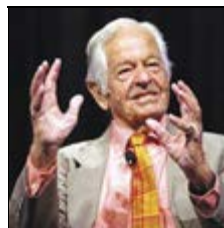
Actress and children's author Jamie Lee Curtis spoke passionately at the PLA President's Program on Monday about her writing, the importance of education and good parenting, and the difficulties she had as a less-than-stellar student. Decrying the easy access to pornography that the internet allows children, she also talked about the need for a conversation about family values. Prior to her speech, Curtis read her new book, *Big Words for Little People*, to a group of children assembled from the ALA conference child-care center.



Brazelton: Be part of the family

At the ALSC President's Program Monday, noted international child development expert T. Berry Brazelton urged librarians to be "part of the family system." He said that libraries are early learning centers for young children and are filling the gap for families who do not have many opportunities for quality time together....

Cognotes, Tuesday, p. 6



The ultimate debate on the future of the catalog

Brad Martin writes: "There was no shortage of sage advice and memorable one-liners at LITA's 'Ultimate Debate on the Future of the Library Catalog' on Saturday." OCLC's Roy Tennant moderated a program with panelists Stephen Abram (SirsiDynix), Karen Coyle (consultant), Joseph Janes (University of Washington), and Karen Schneider (Equinox). "Based on their comments, there is much to be done, and fast." Listen to the [podcast](#) or read a [summary](#)....

Cognotes, Monday, p. 27; LITA Blog, July 5; PLA Blog, July 6

The digital storytelling experience

In a forum sponsored by PLA on Saturday, panelists presented tips derived from two projects—"California of the Past" (California State

be captured when the presenter uses the content in a substantially revised form in a publication a year or more later. From the [ALA Professional Tips wiki](#).

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

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Library) and "How I See It: My Place" (California Council for the Humanities)—on recording audio- and video-enhanced stories from the lives of ordinary people....

PLA Blog, June 28

[YALSA Author Coffee Klatch](#)

Linda W. Braun writes: "This is the second year for the annual coffee klatch and for anyone who hasn't been before this is how it works. Librarians sit at round tables of 10. One seat at every table is left open. At approximately 9:00 a.m., the authors sit down at the tables. At each table the author talks about his or her books and answers questions the librarians might have. After five minutes a whistle blows, the authors stand up (not in unison), and move on to the next table on their rotation." Two videos offer a glimpse of the caffeinated excitement....



YALSA Blog, June 30

[People spaces in libraries](#)

John Grimm writes: "One program that sounded interesting was LAMA's 'People Spaces in Libraries: The Community Off-Line Experience' on Saturday. I was intrigued by the thought and decision-making processes of library designers and architects. We saw photographs of libraries with exciting spaces with high ceilings, comfortable furniture, dramatic lighting, and colors. Presenter Jeffrey Hoover, an architect from Boston, referred to a 'library vortex that sucks people in' and of libraries' unique 'stranglehold on information' that is both the best and the fastest."...

Highland (Calif.) Community News, July 4

[Good reasons for bad decisions](#)

Steven Bell writes: "According to Dan Ariely, the speaker at ACRL's President's Program on Monday, most of us are going to make plenty of bad decisions. Why? Because not only are we irrational, but we are so irrational that our bad decisions can practically be predicted. He provided many good examples and colorful stories to prove his points, and most of them are based on experiments that support his premise that people are easily influenced and fail to know their own preferences."...

ACRLog, July 7

[Isn't it great to be in the library \(wherever that is\)?](#)

The LITA President's Program on Sunday featured *American Libraries* columnist and University of Washington Information School Associate Dean Joseph Janes. Lauren Pressley reports: "Janes showed a 1906 picture of an old reference desk and said we should all look at it and see ourselves behind that desk. It should bother us. The medical tools from then are not recognizable today. We really love our history and tradition, but there are things we have to get over."...

Lauren's Library Blog, June 30

[Managing Oscar's special collections](#)

Linda Friel writes: "The ALCTS President's Program on Monday featured Linda Harris Mehr, director of the Margaret Herrick Library at the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. The library deals with a time frame from pre-cinema to the present and has nearly complete Oscar collections. Mehr pointed out that her library's concerns are often the same as other libraries: Materials have to be

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acquired, sometimes without the benefit of adequate funding; and staffers must be hired who are talented, skilled, and dedicated.”...
Anaheim en Mass., July 1

[Creating the future of cataloging](#)

Shelly Ray writes: “Diana Hillman of the Cornell Digital Research Library Group made it easy to decide on the best approach to create the future of cataloging at Sunday’s ALCTS program. She showed a slide with two options to choose from. Behind door number one was the Dodo bird or extinction model, while behind door number two was the retooling model—and chocolate!”...
Cognotes, Tuesday, p. 4

[Why public libraries close](#)

George Needham writes: “Christie Koontz, Dean Jue, and Wade Bishop from Florida State University reported on their OCLC-sponsored study, *Public Library Facility Closure: An Investigation of Impacts on Library Customer Markets*, at a Saturday PLA program. This study begins to provide a framework for making decisions about moving or closing branch library services. Christie Koontz has been a leader (maybe *the* leader) in encouraging libraries to use GIS data in the decision-making process.”...
It’s All Good, June 29

[SF/Fantasy authors address copyright](#)



LITA featured a panel consisting of science fiction and fantasy authors (left to right) Cory Doctorow (*Little Brother*), Eric Flint (*1632*), Vernor Vinge (*Rainbow’s End*), and Brandon Sanderson (*Mistborn*). They agreed that too great an emphasis on copyright protection might lead to a suppression of information and lessened creativity....
Cognotes, Monday, p. 28

[Stretching existing staff](#)

Brett Bonfield writes: “The big takeaway from PLA’s Saturday session, ‘Stretching Existing Staff: New Service Delivery Models,’ is that it’s extraordinarily important to work smarter, not harder. Smart is hard. It’s often counterintuitive, and sometimes we have to confront our own limitations and mistakes. But it’s worth it, because two good things happen when you do things that make sense: Your colleagues become a lot more productive and your neighbors—the people who make use of the resources you steward—begin to like you even more than they do already.”...
PLA Blog, July 5

[Human-centered design for library facilities](#)

Karen Brown writes: “On Monday, certified professional ergonomist Judy Village spoke to a rapt audience, seated in uncomfortable chairs, about incorporating ergonomic principles into library facility designs. The LAMA program defined ergonomics as the application of knowledge about human capabilities and limitations to the design of facilities, equipment, tools, and jobs.”...
Cognotes, Tuesday, p. 28

[Social Security and health care forum](#)

RUSA cosponsored a forum Monday morning that featured two authors who addressed two vital issues: Social Security retirement income and affordable health care. Thomas Mackell (Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond) spoke to the former, while Steven Wallace (UCLA

Center for Health Policy Research) confronted the latter....
Cognotes, Tuesday, p. 30

Other Events

[California knows how to party](#)

New York Public Library Children's Librarian Betsy Bird recaps her conference wanderings, encounters with YA and children's authors (like Maria van Lieshout, right), her time at the Blogger Meet-Up (room and refreshments provided by Feiwel and Friends), and the Hyperion cocktail hour that followed in this video (3:57). Tupac's "California Love" serves as the soundtrack. You may also want to view Bird's other conference videos, [Conventional Wisdom](#), [Name Dropping](#), and [Packing: The Untold Story](#)....



YouTube, July 1

[Privacy: Is It Time for a Revolution?](#)

The Office for Intellectual Freedom's Sunday panel on privacy featured *Wired* Senior Writer Dan Roth, author Cory Doctorow, and Privacy Rights Clearinghouse Director Beth Givens. Jenny Levine blogged the session: "Beth Givens described a game that could be used in libraries. It's a town square where you're challenged about privacy data and questions you can answer. You might come up with creative ways to educate and inform people, and use the library as a launching pad." Take the [Privacy Revolution survey](#), which asks questions about library information privacy policies and practices....



The Shifted Librarian, June 30

[Your brain on DOPA](#)

Linda W. Braun writes: "The Office for Intellectual Freedom sponsored a session Monday on the Deleting Online Predators Act. The program was designed to give attendees an opportunity to find out what is happening with federal and state legislation related to social networking. As I sat on the panel listening to my fellow presenters John Morris and Michele Ybarra, what really struck me was what a wide array of legislation is pending. Legislators have not been able to define what social networking is because it's not just one thing or one form of technology."...

YALSA Blog, July 1

[Lisa Loeb in the Exhibit Hall](#)

Singer/songwriter Lisa Loeb performed selections from her new children's CD *Camp Lisa* Sunday in the Baker & Taylor booth. Her new disc is a thematic collection of songs about going away to summer camp, and features lots of enthusiastic children as well as friends including Maia Sharp, Jill Sobule, and Steve Martin, who contributes banjo playing to the shaggy dog story "The Disappointing Pancake."



[America's libraries in the 21st century](#)

ALA members and the Office for Information Technology Policy came

together Saturday to continue the discussion about what America's libraries will look like in the next 30 years or so. The breakout session kicked off OITP's new Program on America's Libraries in the 21st Century, and welcomed a diverse set of speakers to share their visions and promote further discussion. Watch the [video](#) (17:24) of the session here....

District Dispatch, July 2, 5

[Take Me Out to the Ball Game](#)

"Ninety percent of all songs are about love, and *Take Me Out to the Ball Game* is no different," Andy Strasberg told those attending Saturday's Campaign for America's Libraries session on the 100th anniversary of the song written by Jack Norworth and Albert Von Tilzer. Strasberg, the author of a book about the song titled *Baseball's Greatest Hit*, said the song appealed to even those who are not baseball fans....

Cognotes, Sunday, p. 4

[Open gaming night](#)

Joe Sanchez writes: "Friday's Gaming Night was quite a bit of fun with a few unexpected surprises. ALA President Loriene Roy, an avid gamer, gave out the first Presidential Citations to libraries that use games as tools for learning. Three citations were awarded, one for Innovation in Education, Innovation in Library Programs, and Innovation in Technology. What I liked about Gaming Night was the mix of table games and video console games."...

Educators Coop, June 28



[LSTA Forum calls for change](#)

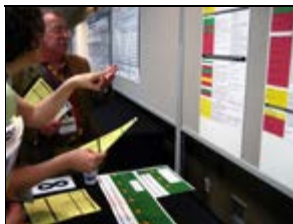
Brad Martin writes: "LSTA reauthorization was the hot topic at the Washington Office Update session on Saturday, as librarians from around the country attended the Committee on Legislation's LSTA forum. Comment after comment called for more flexibility in grant requirements, which would allow more broad-based initiatives—not just those that are technology related. Some said their hands were tied by current LSTA priorities."...

Cognotes, Sunday, p. 6

[Copyright sessions in Disneyland](#)

Members of the Office for Information Technology Policy's Copyright Advisory Committee held two simultaneous sessions in the Disneyland Hotel on Monday. In the Fantasy Room, committee members led "Copyright Top Ten," a panel discussion that tackled common library copyright questions and urged librarians to continue to educate themselves and advocate for library user rights. In the adjacent Adventure Room, members held the "Copyright 101 Poster Session," elucidating issues such as Section 108, fair use, and international copyright....

District Dispatch, July 2



[The world according to Sheketoff](#)

Lynn Blumenstein writes: "ALA Washington Office Executive Director Emily Sheketoff gave a standing-room audience the lowdown on 'Lobbying for Operational Expenses' on Sunday at the ALA-Allied

Professional Association program. Urging the audience of mostly public librarians to broadly define their community—including businesses, children, stay-at-home moms, and immigrants—she acknowledged that such constituencies all pose different challenges. However, she said, ‘No matter what your community needs, the library is the answer.’”...

Library Journal, June 30

[Spectrum Scholars Leadership Institute](#)

The 2007 cohort of Spectrum Scholars met Wednesday through Friday for the 9th Spectrum Leadership Institute. Alma Ramos-McDermott writes: “Spectrum is now in its 11th year, but when it was first introduced to ALA by Elizabeth Martínez it was met by heavy resistance.



Elizabeth spoke eloquently and passionately about those early times, and showed the current scholars how hard it was to fight a bureaucracy.”...

Anaheim en Mass., June 26

[Got Tweens? preconference](#)

Anne Heidemann writes: “Jon Scieszka (author and LC’s National Ambassador for Young People’s Literature) was terrific at YALSA’s Friday [preconference](#), with lots of brilliant ideas as well as hilarity. Librarians have the power to mediate the relationship between tweens and books, especially for tween boys. Tween boys are developmentally separating from their mothers, and most teachers (primary reading advocates in their lives) are mom-like figures, so that’s why reading drops off dramatically at that age. By making materials that tween boys want available and accessible, we can help.”...



PLA Blog, June 28; YALSA Blog, July 1

[Libraries build Orange County communities](#)

On Friday, an army of about 75 volunteers (all ALA conference participants) fanned out across Orange County. As part of the “Libraries Build Communities” project, they put themselves at the disposal of library staff members like Maria Lumby at Topaz Elementary School in Fullerton. From digitally archiving school newspapers to clearing backlogs of uncataloged books, these volunteers did what so many of our school libraries have not been able to do because of a lack of staffing and funding....



Orange County (Calif.) Register, July 1

[Mobile libraries](#)

Bo Kinney writes: “The highlight was a well-attended Sunday session put on by the Office for Literacy and Outreach Services featuring Masha Hamilton, author of *The Camel Bookmobile*, a novel about a traveling library service that takes books to rural areas of Kenya by camel four days a week. Hamilton spoke about her visit to Kenya to see this service in action, and talked about the incredible excitement expressed by library patrons for whom this may be their only way of reading books.”...

SPL in Anaheim, June 30

[Forum on Library Education](#)

Joe Sanchez writes: "The 5th ALA Forum on Library Education on Friday was a huge success. We were successful in creating an interactive event for a large group of people. Rae-Anne Montague and Clara Chu provided a great foundation on service learning for the attendees.



The Researchpalooza presenters offered a wide variety of service learning projects ranging from services to the elderly through service learning in prisons. What I love about the event is the mix of students, professionals, and faculty all participating on a level playing field."...

Educators Coop, June 28

[On the exhibit floor](#)

Valerie writes: "The exhibits here in Anaheim provide as much of a learning experience as attending sessions. Do you want to find a new way to decorate your library? Are you looking for a new automated library system? How about collection development? Everything is here, from all of the major publishers, to many of the smaller publishing houses, as well as featured authors reading from or signing their books. Sit in on demonstrations of online databases and ebooks, or play games for prizes."...



Anaheim en Mass., June 28

[Protecting the Earth](#)

Thomas M. Kostigen, author of *You Are Here* (forthcoming in September), spoke Sunday at a Friends of Libraries USA author event on global warming and keeping our environment safe. He writes: "What was heartening about speaking to such a large audience was how much attention the environment received.



Hundreds came by after my speech to talk to me about the planet. I signed many books for people's children. I talked to school librarians about programs the kids are asking for about the environment and how we can better protect it."...

Better Planet, June 30

[The black male librarian](#)

Panelists at Saturday's Black Caucus of the ALA program issued a clarion call for substantially more black males in the profession. Black men make up a dismal 0.5%, or 572 of the 110,000 of the nation's librarians. And only one in 10 black librarians are men, according to figures in an ALA diversity report issued last year, which was discussed by the panel....

Diverse: Issues in Higher Education, July 2

[Coming out at work: 20 years later](#)

Karen Brown writes: "The GLBT Round Table sponsored a program at ALA Annual Conference 20 years ago about coming out at work. On Sunday, a panel revisited the same issue. While the panel was literally voiceless for the first 30 minutes as the microphone was on hiatus, GLBT people today similarly feel voiceless at times in the workplace."...

Cognates, Tuesday, p. 26

[Cutting the California wedding](#)

[cheesecake](#)

The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered Round Table's Social on Sunday at Tortilla Joe's featured a California wedding cheesecake honoring the state's new law allowing gay couples to marry. David Gray writes: "Even with a donation at the door, it did cost the GLBTRT a bit more money than they usually spend on such events, but for my book it was well worth it. Even though it was supposed to go from 6 to 9 p.m., people were still hanging around, watching the nightly Disneyland fireworks and having a great time."...

Dave's Blog, June 29



Daniel Ellsberg at the Alexander Street breakfast

Daniel Ellsberg (right), the RAND analyst who released the Pentagon Papers to the news media in 1971, was the featured guest at the Alexander Street Press breakfast on Sunday. He talked about his days in hiding from the FBI as they conducted a massive search for him. Also on hand were actors from the L.A. Theatre Works who performed a scene from their forthcoming play, [Top Secret: The Battle for the Pentagon Papers](#).



"Joan Rivers" dazzles at the Greenwood reception

Joan Rivers impersonator DeeDee Hanson (center) wowed the crowd at the Greenwood Publishing reception Saturday night, making wild remarks and trying to fool people into thinking she was the real thing. Instead of the standard chat-and-munch meet, this one was held to launch Greenwood's new Pop Culture Universe reference database, and the venue was the Lucky Strike Lanes, where librarians demonstrated they could bowl with the best.



Awards

[Newbery/Caldecott banquet](#)

Anne Heidemann writes: "Sunday's Newbery/Caldecott [banquet](#) was one of the best I've ever attended. Caldecott winner Brian Selznick (right), author of *The Invention of Hugo Cabret*, began his speech with a stunning visual delight, taking us on a journey to Paris where a young man lay asleep until the phone startled him awake. Selznick's illustrations (created especially for this occasion) were displayed on the big screen with dramatic musical soundtrack. The illustrations told the story of Selznick being informed that he would receive this award, with Hugo representing Selznick, traveling from Paris back to the very Hilton where we sat watching."...

PLA Blog, June 30; Practically Paradise, June 30



[Printz Award speech videos](#)

Linda W. Braun writes: "If you have never

had the opportunity to attend a Printz Award event, it goes like this: The evening begins with introductions of the Printz Award Committee and general comments about the award and the selections. Each of the winners presents a speech. Honor winners are presented with a certificate, and the winner (Geraldine McCaughrean, above) is presented with a Michael L. Printz statue. Following the speeches a reception is held at which authors and attendees mingle.”...

YALSA Blog, July 3



[Odyssey Award celebration](#)

Mary Burkey writes: “Kudos to the ALSC staff for coordinating a wonderful celebration of the very first Odyssey Award for Excellence in Audiobook Production ceremony on Friday, in collaboration with award cosponsors YALSA and *Booklist*. The evening began with a fantastic presentation by author (and Full Cast Audio founder) Bruce Coville whose Homeric words proved to be the perfect symbolic Champagne-bottle-smash to set the Odyssey off on its voyage.”...

ALSC Blog, July 4



[Pura Belpré awards celebración](#)

Judy Lechner writes: “I’ve just returned from the Pura Belpré Celebración where we honored the winning authors and illustrators of the Belpré awards. It was a joyful event, which started with Suni Paz’s singing and maracas. What made the event truly special was that each of the authors and illustrators said something heartfelt and memorable.”...

ALSC Blog, June 29

[Well-Stacked Sci-Brarians push their carts to the gold](#)

The Santa Monica (Calif.) Public Library team (right) took first place in Sunday’s Book Cart Drill Team World Championship, sponsored by DEMCO. Alma Ramos-McDermott describes the scene: “They came out as mad scientists, complete with wild wigs, lab coats, and a complete chemistry set on each bookcart. They danced their way through a musical number where they poured a concoction into their beakers (which began to bubble merrily) and drank it. They writhed and shrank beneath their carts, stripped their outfits, and became zombies—complete with ripped clothing and ashen/bloody faces. Suddenly Michael Jackson’s ‘Thriller’ began to play.” Two Riverside County, California, teams [performed well](#) but failed to win. You can watch the 2nd-place Austin Bibliofiles on YouTube [here](#) and [here](#)....

Anaheim en Mass., June 30; *Riverside (Calif.) Press-Enterprise*, June 29; YouTube, July 1



[LSW team wins California Dreaming contest](#)

ALA-goers helped save the California Myth Authority by finding clues placed around the convention center and answering questions to claim territory within California in the conference-wide



"California Dreaming" game. The Library Society of the World team won by reenacting the most vignettes from famous books and movies set in California and collaborating to submit answers....

Cognotes, Tuesday, p. 6

[AASL Crystal Apple Award to Spokane Moms](#)

Denette Hill, Lisa Layera-Brunkan, and Susan McBurney (the "Spokane Moms") were presented AASL's Crystal Apple Award on Saturday for their lobbying efforts on behalf of school libraries in Washington State. AASL President Sara Kelly Johns said, "They listened, learned, and developed coalitions with teachers, students, business partners, and legal aides to prepare an approach to legislators."...

Cognotes, Monday, p. 4

International innovation

ALA President Loriene Roy handed out some Presidential Citations for International Innovation at the International Librarians Reception, sponsored by the International Relations Round Table, on Monday at the Muzeo in downtown Anaheim. One of the citations went to Ethiopia Reads (right), an effort to provide books and libraries for Ethiopian children. Some 650 library professionals from more than 80 countries attended.



[Stonewall Book Award endowment surpasses its goal](#)

The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgendered Round Table announced Monday it had surpassed its goal of \$75,000 to permanently endow the Stonewall Book Awards. The announcement was made by GLBTRT Fundraising Chair David Gray at the 37th Annual Stonewall Book Award Celebration....

Cognotes, Monday, p. 19

[WebJunction member awards](#)

The 2008 WebJunction Member Awards went to five outstanding WebJunction members, based on their commitment to building the community of resources, learning, and discussions on WebJunction. The awards to (left to right) Stephanie Gerding, Michele Leininger, and Stephanie Race were presented at the Member Reception on Friday....

BlogJunction, July 3



Tech Events

[Drupal4Lib interest group forms](#)

Leo Klein writes: "We got a great crowd of around 20 people for our Drupal Birds of a Feather meeting. First up on the agenda



was setting up the Drupal IG, making sure we have enough signatures and asking for volunteers to serve as chair and cochair. The name for the group is 'Drupal4Lib' and our purpose is 'to promote the use and understanding of the content management system, Drupal, by libraries and librarians.'"...

LITA Blog, June 30

[Top Technology Trends](#)

Robin Hastings writes: "From the larger than life images of [Karen Coombs](#) and [Sarah Houghton-Jan](#) on one screen that flanked the live panel to the scrolling meebo chat room on the other screen, there was a lot to pay attention to at the LITA Top Tech Trends session on Sunday." The in-room panelists were Karen Coyle, Eric Lease Morgan, John Blyberg, Meredith Farkas, Roy Tennant, Clifford Lynch, Karen Schneider, and Marshall Breeding. Listen to the soundboard [MP3 audio](#) recording of the full session (85:19)....

LITA Blog, July 4

[Keep your computers running](#)

Robin Hastings writes: "In one of the last session slots on Monday was a gem of a program geared toward smallish public libraries who have either no IT department or a very small one. The session went from specific things that librarians can do to keep their technology running to a broader look at what resources are out there for troubleshooting specific issues, finding best practices, and using free tools to plan and maintain your technology at a higher (library-wide, as opposed to a single machine) level."...



LITA Blog, July 4

[How to serve differently visioned patrons](#)

ReadHowYouWant is a new concept in technology that turns XML markup of text submitted by publishers into such formats as large type, character patterns (for those with dyslexia), Braille, Daisy, or audio. RHYW rep Peyton Stafford said the company is partnering with Rosen Publishing, Gareth Stevens, Career Press, and others....



Cognates, Monday, p. 3

Seen Online

[Parade of bookmobiles](#)

On Sunday, the conference held its second annual parade of bookmobiles. California libraries, including the Anaheim Public Library and Fullerton Public Library, showed off their nine bookmobiles to conference attendees who might want to buy their own. However, the Fullerton bookmobile



broke down. It was towed to a nearby intersection, where it went on display....

Orange County (Calif.) Register, June 29

[LexisNexis to serve public libraries](#)



Paula J. Hane writes: "LexisNexis rather quietly announced its new Library Express service. This is the company's first product for public libraries. It was launched June 30 at the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, California, and is similar in features and functions to the company's academic library product, though it offers slightly less content."...

Information Today News Breaks, June 30

[Scattered post-conference thoughts](#)

Rory Litwin writes: "What Library 2.0 is really about, it occurred to me as I was listening to Steven Bell advocate e-participation in ALA at a Membership Meeting, is the transfer of control of the profession to the younger generation. The technology is being used as a symbol of the new generation's push to take over. There is a palpable sense of urgency in the message that the profession needs to move forward with these technologies, and it is understood that this means a new generation wants to take charge."...

Library Juice, July 4

[Annual gets more social](#)

Peter Murray writes: "The Annual Conference is getting more social each year, and as a long-time member of ALA and often a critic of the, well, untogetherness of ALA's electronic capabilities, it is nice to see the trend continuing this year. The Annual 2008 wiki is now getting prominent placement in the navigation area. It is nice to see ALA providing this space where grassroots organization and promotional efforts can be shepherded in on co-located space."...

Disruptive Library Technology Jester, June 20

[ALA still is fun](#)

Diane Chen writes: "I'm still having fun at ALA. I wish you'd take out an envelope and put \$1 in it. There, that wasn't so bad. Just put another one in every day and you'll have enough for your flight to Denver next January for ALA Midwinter. Put in a couple more \$'s and you'll have your hotel room saved, plus registration costs. Conference doesn't have to cost as much as we spend. I left Tennessee with \$21 and am still doing well."...

Practically Paradise, July 1

AL Direct, July 7, 2008

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Special Post-Annual Conference Issue

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | July 7, 2008

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[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

Conference Highlights

ALA Annual Conference draws 22,000 to Anaheim

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/july2008/annual2008.cfm>]

Sunny California skies and the dazzle of Disneyland greeted 22,047 librarians and library lovers in Anaheim for the ALA 2008 Annual Conference and Exhibition. Commencing June 26 and running through July 2, the conference kicked off with an opening session featuring political pundit Ron Reagan, son of late President Ronald Reagan, who brought the crowd to its feet with stinging observations about “what’s going on in Washington.”

Ron Reagan commends librarians, comments on politics

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/annual/2008a/cognotes.cfm>]

The Opening General Session featured a keynote address by Ron Reagan, son of the former President and a frequent radio and TV commentator.

Frederick J. Augustyn Jr. writes: “Reagan commended librarians for standing on the ramparts defending freedom from the whims of passing

ideology. He suggested that given the state of the economy, voters might be inclined to pose an updated version of his father's 1980 query, which would now ask, 'Are you better off now than you were eight years ago?'"...
Cognotes, Monday, p. 6

Opening Session video

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8d6IeGki86c&feature=related>]

Watch the video (6:38) that played at the opening session, highlighting the value of public awareness to the library profession. It features Mario Gonzalez (Executive Board), Lorie Roy (ALA President), Jim Rettig (ALA President-Elect), Leslie Burger (ALA Past President), Jane Chesnutt (editor of Woman's Day), Jeff Idelson (National Baseball Hall of Fame), Judith Gibbons (Public Awareness Committee), and Keith Michael Fiels (ALA Executive Director)....

YouTube, June 28

More than 1,500 messages sent to Congress

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=547>]

On July 1, over 1,500 messages were sent to Congress during Virtual Library Day on the Hill on Tuesday about the importance of funding libraries. Attendees emailed and faxed their Members of Congress using computer terminals located on the exhibit floor. They were joined by library supporters from across the country (including Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, right), all calling attention to the immense value of today's libraries....

District Dispatch, July 7

Native American culture on hand at the President's Program

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/annual/2008a/cognotes.cfm>]

During her program on Sunday, ALA President Lorie Roy (right) called on Native American actor Wes Studi from Last of the Mohicans, Heat, and Sitting Bull fame, to serve as emcee. According to Studi, many native communities have started to implement programs that teach their languages to younger generations, but all of these depend on a diminishing population and the older generation. Also on hand was Roy Boney Jr. (left), a filmmaker who shows tribal schoolchildren how to use claymation to depict their cultural stories....

Cognotes, Tuesday, p. 4

Diahann Carroll at the Closing General Session

Legendary entertainer Diahann Carroll was the featured guest at Tuesday's Closing General Session. Interviewed by past ALA President Sarah Long, Carroll chatted about her forthcoming autobiography and joked about her long and illustrious career in show business and how difficult it is to remain on top as one ages. She said she was grateful for her childhood library in New York City where there was a librarian "who cared about my questions."

Many Voices, Many Nations Anaheim

The Office for Diversity, with the support of President Lorie Roy, brought together indigenous voices and music that celebrated our varied ethnic, cultural, and lifestyle traditions Friday evening. One performer was musician, actor, playwright, and artist Arigon Starr (right), a member of the Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma.

The word on wellness

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/annual/2008a/cognotes.cfm>]

The Workplace Wellness Task Force hosted a Wellness Fair on Sunday that featured healthy eating, chair pilates, office yoga, and Dance Dance Revolution. Celebrity Chef Bruno Serato of the Anaheim White House restaurant prepared entries from his cookbook Temptation at the White House. For the hula exercise, [<http://educatorscoop.org/blog/?p=60>] Joe Sanchez writes: “Annalou explained the history of the particular song he was singing and described each movement of the dance, making it easy to follow. The steps were: push the sun, search the ocean, pick the berries, welcome the Earth, and get nasty.”...

Cognotes, Saturday, p. 33; Educators Coop, July 1

Jim Rettig inaugurated ALA president

[http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/July2008/Jim_Rettig_inaugurated_2008_ALA_president.cfm]

Jim Rettig, university librarian at the University of Richmond, Virginia, began his term as 2008–2009 ALA President on July 2. Rettig served on the ALA Executive Board from 2003 to 2006 and was elected to three terms on Council. Rettig is a past president of RUSA and once chaired the College & Research Libraries News Editorial Board. You can listen to his inaugural speech here

[<http://jimrettig.org/content/listenwatch/listenwatch.htm>]. Read Loriene

Roy’s message here

[<http://lorieneroy.blogspot.com/2008/07/talk-given-at-jim-rettigs-inaugural.html>]....

Speakers

Ride and O’Shaughnessy connect kids with science

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/annual/2008a/cognotes.cfm>]

Astronaut Sally Ride and school psychologist Tam O’Shaughnessy appeared on Sunday to discuss the importance of keeping kids interested in science. They described how science and technology are the engines that drive our society, yet we put little value on science education. Because they feel there should be a focus on climate change and on the earth’s resources, they’ve teamed up to write Mission Planet Earth, to be released in March 2009....

Cognotes, Monday, p. 6

Vernon Jordan on libraries and reading

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/annual/2008a/cognotes.cfm>]

Vernon E. Jordan Jr., lawyer and advisor to President Bill Clinton, related how libraries, the church, and strong family figures influenced his life. Well served by the colored branch of the Atlanta Public Library as he was growing up, he said he has never entered the city’s downtown library due to his memory of its being off-limits to him....

Cognotes, Monday, p. 6

Greg Mortenson: Literacy and peace through education

[<http://anaheimenmass.blogspot.com/2008/06/greg-mortenson-three-cups-of-tea>]

.html]

According to Greg Mortenson, “If you educate a boy you educate an individual; if you educate a girl, you educate a community,” and he has applied this philosophy since he cofounded the Central Asia Institute in 1996. In his presentation [http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/annual/2008a/cognotes.cfm] on Saturday, Mortenson retold the captivating story of what led him to build schools for girls in remote villages like Korphe, Pakistan, and introduced Julia Bergman, the librarian who helped him build libraries in his schools....

Cognotes, Monday, p. 8; Anaheim en Mass., June 29

Khaled Hosseini on authorship

Khaled Hosseini, author of *The Kite Runner*, discussed his journey to becoming an acclaimed author at the final Auditorium Speaker session on Tuesday. Interviewed onstage by Roberta Stevens of the Library of Congress, Hosseini said he has librarians to thank for the word-of-mouth popularity of his novel. “It really got started when librarians started picking the book for communitywide reading programs,” he said.

Dean Koontz speaks on his writing career

[http://hemingwaywantabes.wordpress.com/2008/06/30/hemingway-and-dean-koontz/]

Mark Shaw writes about thriller writer Dean Koontz’s Monday talk: “A humble man, Koontz related stories of his early ‘bookless’ childhood and how he discovered books at the local library at about age 9. Koontz then talked about his evolution to the bestseller lists with humorous anecdotes; but the main thrust of his message was all about the love of books, and most of all, the writing process.”...

Hemingwaywantabes, June 30

ALA Publishing

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Speaking Technically about reference databases

American Libraries hosted a panel discussion on the future of reference databases in which representatives from Gale, Alexander Street Press, EBSCO, Greenwood Publishing, Standard and Poor’s, and ProQuest discussed search capabilities, social tagging, and user-supplied content.

The panel was moderated by AL Direct Editor George Eberhart. A feature based on the program will appear in the August issue of the magazine.

What we did at our summer conference

[http://blog.booklistonline.com/2008/07/07/what-we-did-at-our-summer-conference/]

Keir Graff writes: “Sunday, the morning of the Booklist Adult Books Readers’ Advisory Forum: Post-9/11 Fiction (that’s the short title; I’d give you the longer version but we’d have to change this blog’s hosting plan to include more bandwidth), I thought I’d look over my remarks one more time while I ate breakfast. So, I went downstairs, got a table for one, and, as I tucked

into my Denver omelet, I turned my mind once more to the dark day of September 11, 2001. Then I heard a voice. It was singing, 'If you're happy and you know it, clap your hands.'"...

Likely Stories, July 7

RDA Update Forum

[<http://kcoyle.blogspot.com/2008/06/rda-update-at-ala.html>]

Karen Coyle writes: "I did make it to the RDA Update Forum on Saturday. The first announcement is that RDA has been delayed once again, this time by two months. The public review version will not be available until October. The good news is that ALA hired the smartest woman in the world, Nannette Naught, to create the online system and she has actually taken RDA and turned it into a huge complex of entities and relationships with their related instructions, scope notes, and examples. The bad news is that this online subscription service will be the only way to access RDA."...

Coyle's InFormation, June 29

Disney from Your Desktop

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[<http://www.flickr.com/photos/denverjeffrey/2630165995/>] Librarians go Disney [<http://www.flickr.com/search/?q=ala2008+Disney&m=text>]
Many conference-goers have posted their photos on Flickr, tagged as ala2008, for the enjoyment of those who could not make it to Anaheim. Disneyland fans will appreciate this selection of fireworks and festivities at the theme park. Many librarians took the Space Mountain ride as Disneyland Park and Disney's California Adventure opened their doors to ALA-goers for the annual Scholarship Bash fundraiser Saturday night...

Flickr, ala2008 + Disney

Division Sessions

Jamie Lee Curtis heads up PLA program

Actress and children's author Jamie Lee Curtis spoke passionately at the PLA President's Program on Monday about her writing, the importance of education and good parenting, and the difficulties she had as a less-than-stellar student. Decrying the easy access to pornography that the internet allows children, she also talked about the need for a conversation about family values. Prior to her speech, Curtis read her new book, Big Words for Little People, to a group of children assembled from the ALA conference child-care center.

Brazelton: Be part of the family

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/annual/2008a/cognotes.cfm>]

At the ALSC President's Program Monday, noted international child development expert T. Berry Brazelton urged librarians to be "part of the family system." He said that libraries are early learning centers for young children and are filling the gap for families who do not have many

opportunities for quality time together....

Cognotes, Tuesday, p. 6

The ultimate debate on the future of the catalog

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/annual/2008a/cognotes.cfm>]

Brad Martin writes: “There was no shortage of sage advice and memorable one-liners at LITA’s ‘Ultimate Debate on the Future of the Library

Catalog’ on Saturday.” OCLC’s Roy Tennant moderated a program with panelists Stephen Abram (SirsiDynix), Karen Coyle (consultant), Joseph Janes (University of Washington), and Karen Schneider (Equinox). “Based on their comments, there is much to be done, and fast.” Listen to the podcast [<http://litablog.org/2008/07/05/ultimate-debate-2008/>] or read a summary

[<http://plablog.org/2008/07/everyone-else-likes-having-found-360-minutes-in-to-the-future-of-the-catalog.html>]....

Cognotes, Monday, p. 27; LITA Blog, July 5; PLA Blog, July 6

The digital storytelling experience

[<http://plablog.org/2008/06/digital-storytelling-where-outreach-local-history-technology-collide.html>]

In a forum sponsored by PLA on Saturday, panelists presented tips derived from two projects—“California of the Past” (California State Library) and “How I See It: My Place” (California Council for the Humanities)—on recording audio- and video-enhanced stories from the lives of ordinary people....

PLA Blog, June 28

YALSA Author Coffee Klatch

[<http://yalsa.ala.org/blog/2008/06/30/2008-yalsa-author-coffee-klatch/>]

Linda W. Braun writes: “This is the second year for the annual coffee klatch and for anyone who hasn’t been before this is how it works.

Librarians sit at round tables of 10. One seat at every table is left open. At approximately 9:00 a.m., the authors sit down at the tables. At each table the author talks about his or her books and answers questions the librarians might have. After five minutes a whistle blows, the authors stand up (not in unison), and move on to the next table on their rotation.” Two videos offer a glimpse of the caffeinated excitement....

YALSA Blog, June 30

People spaces in libraries

[<http://www.highlandnews.net/articles/2008/07/03/entertainment/05library.txt>]

John Grimm writes: “One program that sounded interesting was LAMA’s ‘People Spaces in Libraries: The Community Off-Line Experience’ on Saturday. I was intrigued by the thought and decision-making processes of library designers and architects. We saw photographs of libraries with exciting spaces with high ceilings, comfortable furniture, dramatic lighting, and colors. Presenter Jeffrey Hoover, an architect from Boston, referred to a ‘library vortex that sucks people in’ and of libraries’ unique ‘stranglehold on information’ that is both the best and the fastest.”...

Highland (Calif.) Community News, July 4

Good reasons for bad decisions

[<http://acrlog.org/2008/07/07/good-reasons-for-those-bad-decisions/>]
Steven Bell writes: “According to Dan Ariely, the speaker at ACRL’s President’s Program on Monday, most of us are going to make plenty of bad decisions. Why? Because not only are we irrational, but we are so irrational that our bad decisions can practically be predicted. He provided many good examples and colorful stories to prove his points, and most of them are based on experiments that support his premise that people are easily influenced and fail to know their own preferences.”...
ACRLog, July 7

Isn’t it great to be in the library (wherever that is)?
[<http://laurenpressley.com/library/?p=549>]
The LITA President’s Program on Sunday featured American Libraries columnist and University of Washington Information School Associate Dean Joseph Janes. Lauren Pressley reports: “Janes showed a 1906 picture of an old reference desk and said we should all look at it and see ourselves behind that desk. It should bother us. The medical tools from then are not recognizable today. We really love our history and tradition, but there are things we have to get over.”...
Lauren’s Library Blog, June 30

Managing Oscar’s special collections
[<http://anaheimenmass.blogspot.com/2008/07/from-here-to-eternity.html>]
Linda Friel writes: “The ALCTS President’s Program on Monday featured Linda Harris Mehr, director of the Margaret Herrick Library at the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. The library deals with a time frame from pre-cinema to the present and has nearly complete Oscar collections. Mehr pointed out that her library’s concerns are often the same as other libraries: Materials have to be acquired, sometimes without the benefit of adequate funding; and staffers must be hired who are talented, skilled, and dedicated.”...
Anaheim en Mass., July 1

Creating the future of cataloging
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/annual/2008a/cognotes.cfm>]
Shelly Ray writes: “Diana Hillman of the Cornell Digital Research Library Group made it easy to decide on the best approach to create the future of cataloging at Sunday’s ALCTS program. She showed a slide with two options to choose from. Behind door number one was the Dodo bird or extinction model, while behind door number two was the retooling model—and chocolate!”...
Cognotes, Tuesday, p. 4

Why public libraries close
[<http://scanblog.blogspot.com/2008/06/branch-library-closings.html>]
George Needham writes: “Christie Koontz, Dean Jue, and Wade Bishop from Florida State University reported on their OCLC-sponsored study, Public Library Facility Closure: An Investigation of Impacts on Library Customer Markets, at a Saturday PLA program. This study begins to provide a framework for making decisions about moving or closing branch library services. Christie Koontz has been a leader (maybe the leader) in encouraging libraries to use GIS data in the decision-making process.”...
It’s All Good, June 29

SF/Fantasy authors address copyright

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/annual/2008a/cognotes.cfm>]

LITA featured a panel consisting of science fiction and fantasy authors (left to right) Cory Doctorow (Little Brother), Eric Flint (1632), Vernor Vinge (Rainbow's End), and Brandon Sanderson (Mistborn). They agreed that too great an emphasis on copyright protection might lead to a suppression of information and lessened creativity....

Cognotes, Monday, p. 28

Stretching existing staff

[<http://plablog.org/2008/07/saturday-morning-stretch.html>]

Brett Bonfield writes: "The big takeaway from PLA's Saturday session, 'Stretching Existing Staff: New Service Delivery Models,' is that it's extraordinarily important to work smarter, not harder. Smart is hard. It's often counterintuitive, and sometimes we have to confront our own limitations and mistakes. But it's worth it, because two good things happen when you do things that make sense: Your colleagues become a lot more productive and your neighbors—the people who make use of the resources you steward—begin to like you even more than they do already."...

PLA Blog, July 5

Human-centered design for library facilities

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/annual/2008a/cognotes.cfm>]

Karen Brown writes: "On Monday, certified professional ergonomist Judy Village spoke to a rapt audience, seated in uncomfortable chairs, about incorporating ergonomic principles into library facility designs. The LAMA program defined ergonomics as the application of knowledge about human capabilities and limitations to the design of facilities, equipment, tools, and jobs."...

Cognotes, Tuesday, p. 28

Social Security and health care forum

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/annual/2008a/cognotes.cfm>]

RUSA cosponsored a forum Monday morning that featured two authors who addressed two vital issues: Social Security retirement income and affordable health care. Thomas Mackell (Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond) spoke to the former, while Steven Wallace (UCLA Center for Health Policy Research) confronted the latter....

Cognotes, Tuesday, p. 30

Other Events

California knows how to party

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JS2M77iqR-c&e>]

New York Public Library Children's Librarian Betsy Bird recaps her conference wanderings, encounters with YA and children's authors (like Maria van Lieshout, right), her time at the Blogger Meet-Up (room and refreshments provided by Feiwei and Friends), and the Hyperion cocktail hour that followed in this video (3:57). Tupac's "California Love" serves as the soundtrack. You may also want to view Bird's other conference

videos, Conventional Wisdom, [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y49Tgkc6A0M>]
Name Dropping [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yv52UiPeJNg>], and Packing:
The Untold Story [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z3mt5bAre8A>]....
YouTube, July 1

Privacy: Is It Time for a Revolution?

[<http://theshiftedlibrarian.com/archives/2008/06/30/ala2008-privacy-revolution-panel.html>]

The Office for Intellectual Freedom's Sunday panel on privacy featured Wired Senior Writer Dan Roth, author Cory Doctorow, and Privacy Rights Clearinghouse Director Beth Givens. Jenny Levine blogged the session: "Beth Givens described a game that could be used in libraries. It's a town square where you're challenged about privacy data and questions you can answer. You might come up with creative ways to educate and inform people, and use the library as a launching pad." Take the Privacy Revolution survey, [<http://www.ala.org/ala/oif/ifissues/privacyrevolution.cfm>] which asks questions about library information privacy policies and practices....
The Shifted Librarian, June 30

Your brain on DOPA

[<http://yalsa.ala.org/blog/2008/07/01/your-brain-on-dopa/>]

Linda W. Braun writes: "The Office for Intellectual Freedom sponsored a session Monday on the Deleting Online Predators Act. The program was designed to give attendees an opportunity to find out what is happening with federal and state legislation related to social networking. As I sat on the panel listening to my fellow presenters John Morris and Michele Ybarra, what really struck me was what a wide array of legislation is pending. Legislators have not been able to define what social networking is because it's not just one thing or one form of technology."...
YALSA Blog, July 1

Lisa Loeb in the Exhibit Hall

[<http://www.flickr.com/photos/shifted/2622184807/>]

Singer/songwriter Lisa Loeb performed selections from her new children's CD Camp Lisa Sunday in the Baker & Taylor booth. Her new disc is a thematic collection of songs about going away to summer camp, and features lots of enthusiastic children as well as friends including Maia Sharp, Jill Sobule, and Steve Martin, who contributes banjo playing to the shaggy dog story "The Disappointing Pancake."

America's libraries in the 21st century

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=534>]

ALA members and the Office for Information Technology Policy came together Saturday to continue the discussion about what America's libraries will look like in the next 30 years or so. The breakout session kicked off OITP's new Program on America's Libraries in the 21st Century, and welcomed a diverse set of speakers to share their visions and promote further discussion. Watch the video [<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=546>] (17:24) of the session here....

District Dispatch, July 2, 5

Take Me Out to the Ball Game

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/annual/2008a/cognotes.cfm>]
“Ninety percent of all songs are about love, and Take Me Out to the Ball Game is no different,” Andy Strasberg told those attending Saturday’s Campaign for America’s Libraries session on the 100th anniversary of the song written by Jack Norworth and Albert Von Tilzer. Strasberg, the author of a book about the song titled Baseball’s Greatest Hit, said the song appealed to even those who are not baseball fans....
Cognotes, Sunday, p. 4

Open gaming night [<http://educatorscoop.org/blog/?p=58>]
Joe Sanchez writes: “Friday’s Gaming Night was quite a bit of fun with a few unexpected surprises. ALA President Loriene Roy, an avid gamer, gave out the first Presidential Citations to libraries that use games as tools for learning. Three citations were awarded, one for Innovation in Education, Innovation in Library Programs, and Innovation in Technology. What I liked about Gaming Night was the mix of table games and video console games. Many people were playing turn-based board games.”...
Educators Coop, June 28

LSTA Forum calls for change
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/annual/2008a/cognotes.cfm>]
Brad Martin writes: “LSTA reauthorization was the hot topic at the Washington Office Update session on Saturday, as librarians from around the country attended the Committee on Legislation’s LSTA forum. Comment after comment called for more flexibility in grant requirements, which would allow more broad-based initiatives—not just those that are technology related. Some said their hands were tied by current LSTA priorities.”...
Cognotes, Sunday, p. 6

Copyright sessions in Disneyland
[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=541>]
Members of the Office for Information Technology Policy’s Copyright Advisory Committee held two simultaneous sessions in the Disneyland Hotel on Monday. In the Fantasy Room, committee members led “Copyright Top Ten,” a panel discussion that tackled common library copyright questions and urged librarians to continue to educate themselves and advocate for library user rights. In the adjacent Adventure Room, members held the “Copyright 101 Poster Session,” elucidating issues such as Section 108, fair use, and international copyright....
District Dispatch, July 2

The world according to Sheketoff
[<http://www.libraryjournal.com/article/CA6574133.html?industryid=47105>]
Lynn Blumenstein writes: “ALA Washington Office Executive Director Emily Sheketoff gave a standing-room audience the lowdown on ‘Lobbying for Operational Expenses’ on Sunday at the ALA-Allied Professional Association program. Urging the audience of mostly public librarians to broadly define their community—including businesses, children, stay-at-home moms, and immigrants—she acknowledged that such constituencies all pose different challenges. However, she said, ‘No matter what your community needs, the library is the answer.’”...
Library Journal, June 30

Spectrum Scholars Leadership Institute

[<http://anaheimenmass.blogspot.com/2008/06/thursday-june-26-spectrum-institute.html>]

The 2007 cohort of Spectrum Scholars met Wednesday through Friday for the 9th Spectrum Leadership Institute. Alma Ramos-McDermott writes: "Spectrum is now in its 11th year, but when it was first introduced to ALA by Elizabeth Martinez it was met by heavy resistance. Elizabeth spoke eloquently and passionately about those early times, and showed the current scholars how hard it was to fight a bureaucracy."...

Anaheim en Mass., June 26

Got Tweens? preconference [<http://plablog.org/2008/06/got-tweens.html>]

Anne Heidemann writes: "Jon Scieszka (author and LC's National Ambassador for Young People's Literature) was terrific at YALSA's Friday preconference,

[<http://yalsa.ala.org/blog/2008/07/01/some-snapshots-from-the-yalsa-preconference/>] with lots of brilliant ideas as well as hilarity. Librarians have the power to mediate the relationship between tweens and books, especially for tween boys. Tween boys are developmentally separating from their mothers, and most teachers (primary reading advocates in their lives) are mom-like figures, so that's why reading drops off dramatically at that age. By making materials that tween boys want available and accessible, we can help."...

PLA Blog, June 28; YALSA Blog, July 1

Libraries build Orange County communities

[<http://www.ocregister.com/articles/library-school-millam-2081066-says-books>]

On Friday, an army of about 75 volunteers (all ALA conference participants) fanned out across Orange County. As part of the "Libraries Build Communities" project, they put themselves at the disposal of library staff members like Maria Lumby at Topaz Elementary School in Fullerton. From digitally archiving school newspapers to clearing backlogs of uncataloged books, these volunteers did what so many of our school libraries have not been able to do because of a lack of staffing and funding....

Orange County (Calif.) Register, July 1

Mobile libraries [<http://spl-ala.blogspot.com/2008/06/bookmobiles.html>]

Bo Kinney writes: "The highlight was a well-attended Sunday session put on by the Office for Literacy and Outreach Services featuring Masha Hamilton, author of *The Camel Bookmobile*, a novel about a traveling library service that takes books to rural areas of Kenya by camel four days a week. Hamilton spoke about her visit to Kenya to see this service in action, and talked about the incredible excitement expressed by library patrons for whom this may be their only way of reading books."...

SPL in Anaheim, June 30

Forum on Library Education [<http://educatorscoop.org/blog/?p=56>]

Joe Sanchez writes: "The 5th ALA Forum on Library Education on Friday was a huge success. We were successful in creating an interactive event for a large group of people. Rae-Anne Montague and Clara Chu provided a great foundation on service learning for the attendees. The Researchpalooza presenters offered a wide variety of service learning projects ranging

from services to the elderly through service learning in prisons. What I love about the event is the mix of students, professionals, and faculty all participating on a level playing field.”...

Educators Coop, June 28

On the exhibit floor

[<http://anaheimmass.blogspot.com/2008/06/how-lost-can-you-get-in-vendor-hall.html>]

Valerie writes: “The exhibits here in Anaheim provide as much of a learning experience as attending sessions. Do you want to find a new way to decorate your library? Are you looking for a new automated library system? How about collection development? Everything is here, from all of the major publishers, to many of the smaller publishing houses, as well as featured authors reading from or signing their books. Sit in on demonstrations of online databases and ebooks, or play games for prizes.”...

Anaheim en Mass., June 28

Protecting the Earth

[<http://blogs.discovermagazine.com/betterplanet/2008/06/30/30000-librarians-descend-on-anaheim-ca/>]

Thomas M. Kostigen, author of *You Are Here* (forthcoming in September), spoke Sunday at a Friends of Libraries USA author event on global warming and keeping our environment safe. He writes: “What was heartening about speaking to such a large audience was how much attention the environment received. Hundreds came by after my speech to talk to me about the planet. I signed many books for people’s children. I talked to school librarians about programs the kids are asking for about the environment and how we can better protect it.”...

Better Planet, June 30

The black male librarian

[http://diverseeducation.com/artman/publish/article_11366.shtml]

Panelists at Saturday’s Black Caucus of the ALA program issued a clarion call for substantially more black males in the profession. Black men make up a dismal 0.5%, or 572 of the 110,000 of the nation’s librarians. And only one in 10 black librarians are men, according to figures in an ALA diversity report issued last year, which was discussed by the panel....

Diverse: Issues in Higher Education, July 2

Coming out at work: 20 years later

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/annual/2008a/cognotes.cfm>]

Karen Brown writes: “The GLBT Round Table sponsored a program at ALA Annual Conference 20 years ago about coming out at work. On Sunday, a panel revisited the same issue. While the panel was literally voiceless for the first 30 minutes as the microphone was on hiatus, GLBT people today similarly feel voiceless at times in the workplace.”...

Cognotes, Tuesday, p. 26

Cutting the California wedding cheesecake

[<http://dave92264.blogspot.com/2008/07/meeting-old-and-new-friends.html>]

The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered Round Table’s Social on Sunday at Tortilla Joe’s featured a California wedding cheesecake honoring the state’s new law allowing gay couples to marry. David Gray writes: “Even

with a donation at the door, it did cost the GLBTRT a bit more money than they usually spend on such events, but for my book it was well worth it. Even though it was supposed to go from 6 to 9 p.m., people were still hanging around, watching the nightly Disneyland fireworks and having a great time.”...

Dave’s Blog, June 29

Daniel Ellsberg at the Alexander Street breakfast

Daniel Ellsberg (right), the RAND analyst who released the Pentagon Papers to the news media in 1971, was the featured guest at the Alexander Street Press breakfast on Sunday. He talked about his days in hiding from the FBI as they conducted a massive search for him. Also on hand were actors from the L.A. Theatre Works who performed a scene from their forthcoming play, Top Secret: The Battle for the Pentagon Papers.

[<http://www.topsecretplay.org/>]

“Joan Rivers” dazzles at the Greenwood reception

Joan Rivers impersonator DeeDee Hanson (center) wowed the crowd at the Greenwood Publishing reception Saturday night, making wild remarks and trying to fool people into thinking she was the real thing. Instead of the standard chat-and-munch meet, this one was held to launch Greenwood’s new Pop Culture Universe reference database, and the venue was the Lucky Strike Lanes, where librarians demonstrated they could bowl with the best.

Awards

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Newbery/Caldecott banquet

[<http://plablog.org/2008/06/2008-alsc-newberycaldecott-banquet.html>]

Anne Heidemann writes: “Sunday’s Newbery/Caldecott banquet

[<http://www.schoollibraryjournal.com/blog/830000283/post/1690029169.html>]

was one of the best I’ve ever attended. Caldecott winner Brian Selznick (right), author of *The Invention of Hugo Cabret*, began his speech with a stunning visual delight, taking us on a journey to Paris where a young man lay asleep until the phone startled him awake. Selznick’s illustrations (created especially for this occasion) were displayed on the big screen with dramatic musical soundtrack. The illustrations told the story of Selznick being informed that he would receive this award, with Hugo representing Selznick, traveling from Paris back to the very Hilton where we sat watching.”...

PLA Blog, June 30; Practically Paradise, June 30

[<http://yalsa.ala.org/blog/2008/07/03/2008-michael-l-printz-award-speeches/>]
]Printz Award speech videos

[<http://yalsa.ala.org/blog/2008/07/03/2008-michael-l-printz-award-speeches/>]
]

Linda W. Braun writes: “If you have never had the opportunity to attend a Printz Award event, it goes like this: The evening begins with introductions of the Printz Award Committee and general comments about the award and the selections. Each of the winners presents a speech.

Honor winners are presented with a certificate, and the winner (Geraldine McCaughrean, above) is presented with a Michael L. Printz statue.

Following the speeches a reception is held at which authors and attendees mingle.”...

YALSA Blog, July 3

Odyssey Award celebration [<http://www.alsc.ala.org/blog/?p=497>]

Mary Burkey writes: “Kudos to the ALSC staff for coordinating a wonderful celebration of the very first Odyssey Award for Excellence in Audiobook Production ceremony on Friday, in collaboration with award cosponsors YALSA and Booklist. The evening began with a fantastic presentation by author (and Full Cast Audio founder) Bruce Coville whose Homeric words proved to be the perfect symbolic Champagne-bottle-smash to set the Odyssey off on its voyage.”...

ALSC Blog, July 4

Pura Belpré; awards celebración

[<http://www.alsc.ala.org/blog/?p=494>]

Judy Lechner writes: “I’ve just returned from the Pura Belpré Celebración where we honored the winning authors and illustrators of the Belpré awards. It was a joyful event, which started with Suni Paz’s singing and maracas. What made the event truly special was that each of the authors and illustrators said something heartfelt and memorable.”...

ALSC Blog, June 29

Well-Stacked Sci-Brarians push their carts to the gold

[<http://anaheimmass.blogspot.com/2008/06/sunday-june-29.html>]

The Santa Monica (Calif.) Public Library team (right) took first place in Sunday’s Book Cart Drill Team World Championship, sponsored by DEMCO.

Alma Ramos-McDermott describes the scene: “They came out as mad scientists, complete with wild wigs, lab coats, and a complete chemistry set on each bookcart. They danced their way through a musical number where they poured a concoction into their beakers (which began to bubble merrily) and drank it. They writhed and shrank beneath their carts, stripped their outfits, and became zombies—complete with ripped clothing and ashen/bloody faces. Suddenly Michael Jackson’s ‘Thriller’ began to play.” Two Riverside County, California, teams performed well [http://www.pe.com/localnews/inland/stories/PE_News_Local_S_drill30.4359221.html] but failed to win. You can watch the 2nd-place Austin Bibliofiles on YouTube here [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fh27C1dkNgg>] and here [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CdnMJ-mk35c>]....

Anaheim en Mass., June 30; Riverside (Calif.) Press-Enterprise, June 29;

YouTube, July 1

LSW team wins California Dreaming contest

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/annual/2008a/cognotes.cfm>]

ALA-goers helped save the California Myth Authority by finding clues placed around the convention center and answering questions to claim territory within California in the conference-wide “California Dreaming” game. The Library Society of the World team won by reenacting the most vignettes from famous books and movies set in California and collaborating to submit answers....

Cognotes, Tuesday, p. 6

AASL Crystal Apple Award to Spokane Moms

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/annual/2008a/cognotes.cfm>]

Denette Hill, Lisa Layera-Brunkan, and Susan McBurney (the “Spokane Moms”) were presented AASL’s Crystal Apple Award on Saturday for their lobbying efforts on behalf of school libraries in Washington State. AASL President Sara Kelly Johns said, “They listened, learned, and developed coalitions with teachers, students, business partners, and legal aides to prepare an approach to legislators.”...
Cognotes, Monday, p. 4

International innovation

ALA President Loriene Roy handed out some Presidential Citations for International Innovation at the International Librarians Reception, sponsored by the International Relations Round Table, on Monday at the Muzeo in downtown Anaheim. One of the citations went to Ethiopia Reads (right), an effort to provide books and libraries for Ethiopian children. Some 650 library professionals from more than 80 countries attended.

Stonewall Book Award endowment surpasses its goal

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/annual/2008a/cognotes.cfm>]

The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgendered Round Table announced Monday it had surpassed its goal of \$75,000 to permanently endow the Stonewall Book Awards. The announcement was made by GLBTRT Fundraising Chair David Gray at the 37th Annual Stonewall Book Award Celebration....

Cognotes, Monday, p. 19

WebJunction member awards

[<http://blog.webjunctionworks.org/index.php/category/ala-2008/>]

The 2008 WebJunction Member Awards went to five outstanding WebJunction members, based on their commitment to building the community of resources, learning, and discussions on WebJunction. The awards to (left to right) Stephanie Gerding, Michele Leininger, and Stephanie Race were presented at the Member Reception on Friday....

BlogJunction, July 3

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[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]
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Tech Events

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Drupal4Lib interest group forms

[<http://litablog.org/2008/06/30/drupal4lib-bof-at-ala-anaheim/>]

Leo Klein writes: “We got a great crowd of around 20 people for our Drupal Birds of a Feather meeting. First up on the agenda was setting up the Drupal IG, making sure we have enough signatures and asking for volunteers to serve as chair and cochair. The name for the group is ‘Drupal4Lib’ and our purpose is ‘to promote the use and understanding of the content management system, Drupal, by libraries and librarians.’”...

LITA Blog, June 30

Top Technology Trends

[<http://litablog.org/2008/07/04/lita-top-technology-trends/>]

Robin Hastings writes: "From the larger than life images of Karen Coombs [http://www.librarywebchic.net/wordpress/2008/06/30/top-tech-trends-ala-2008/] and Sarah Houghton-Jan [http://librarianinblack.typepad.com/librarianinblack/2008/06/sarajs-top-tech.html] on one screen that flanked the live panel to the scrolling meebo chat room on the other screen, there was a lot to pay attention to at the LITA Top Tech Trends session on Sunday." The in-room panelists were Karen Coyle, Eric Lease Morgan, John Blyberg, Meredith Farkas, Roy Tennant, Clifford Lynch, Karen Schneider, and Marshall Breeding. Listen to the soundboard MP3 audio [http://litablog.org/2008/07/04/top-tech-trends-2008/] recording of the full session (85:19)....
LITA Blog, July 4

Keep your computers running
[http://litablog.org/2008/07/04/keeping-your-computers-running-session/] Robin Hastings writes: "In one of the last session slots on Monday was a gem of a program geared toward smallish public libraries who have either no IT department or a very small one. The session went from specific things that librarians can do to keep their technology running to a broader look at what resources are out there for troubleshooting specific issues, finding best practices, and using free tools to plan and maintain your technology at a higher (library-wide, as opposed to a single machine) level."...
LITA Blog, July 4

How to serve differently visioned patrons
[http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/annual/2008a/cognotes.cfm] ReadHowYouWant is a new concept in technology that turns XML markup of text submitted by publishers into such formats as large type, character patterns (for those with dyslexia), Braille, Daisy, or audio. RHYW rep Peyton Stafford said the company is partnering with Rosen Publishing, Gareth Stevens, Career Press, and others....
Cognotes, Monday, p. 3

Seen Online

Parade of bookmobiles
[http://www.ocregister.com/articles/library-libraries-visits-2080298-anaheim-public]
On Sunday, the conference held its second annual parade of bookmobiles. California libraries, including the Anaheim Public Library and Fullerton Public Library, showed off their nine bookmobiles to conference attendees who might want to buy their own. However, the Fullerton bookmobile broke down. It was towed to a nearby intersection, where it went on display....
Orange County (Calif.) Register, June 29

LexisNexis to serve public libraries
[http://newsbreaks.infotoday.com/nbReader.asp?ArticleId=49727]
Paula J. Hane writes: "LexisNexis rather quietly announced its new Library Express service. This is the company's first product for public libraries. It was launched June 30 at the ALA Annual Conference in

Anaheim, California, and is similar in features and functions to the company's academic library product, though it offers slightly less content."...

Information Today News Breaks, June 30

Scattered post-conference thoughts

[<http://libraryjuicepress.com/blog/?p=443>]

Rory Litwin writes: "What Library 2.0 is really about, it occurred to me as I was listening to Steven Bell advocate e-participation in ALA at a Membership Meeting, is the transfer of control of the profession to the younger generation. The technology is being used as a symbol of the new generation's push to take over. There is a palpable sense of urgency in the message that the profession needs to move forward with these technologies, and it is understood that this means a new generation wants to take charge."...

Library Juice, July 4

Annual gets more social [<http://dltj.org/article/ala-annual-goes-social/>]

Peter Murray writes: "The Annual Conference is getting more social each year, and as a long-time member of ALA and often a critic of the, well, untogetherness of ALA's electronic capabilities, it is nice to see the trend continuing this year. The Annual 2008 wiki is now getting prominent placement in the navigation area. It is nice to see ALA providing this space where grassroots organization and promotional efforts can be shepherded in on co-located space."...

Disruptive Library Technology Jester, June 20

ALA still is fun

[<http://www.schoollibraryjournal.com/blog/830000283/post/1730029173.html>]

Diane Chen writes: "I'm still having fun at ALA. I wish you'd take out an envelope and put \$1 in it. There, that wasn't so bad. Just put another one in every day and you'll have enough for your flight to Denver next January for ALA Midwinter. Put in a couple more \$'s and you'll have your hotel room saved, plus registration costs. Conference doesn't have to cost as much as we spend. I left Tennessee with \$21 and am still doing well."...

Practically Paradise, July 1

[<http://www.preparetraining.com/landing/08ptpadsaz804.asp>]

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/annual/2008a/home.cfm>]

A grand total of 22,047 librarians and library staff, exhibitors, and library supporters attended ALA Annual Conference

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/July2008/anaheim2008wrap.cfm>]

in Anaheim, June 26–July 2. Attendance was down from last year's record of 28,635 in Washington D.C., but well above the 16,974 who attended the 2006 Annual Conference in New Orleans.

[<http://www.flickr.com/photos/curtisrogers/2617774695/>]

[<http://www.flickr.com/photos/webgoddess/2614171605/>]

Visit Flickr [<http://www.flickr.com/search/?q=ala2008>] to see the thousands of photos uploaded by ALA Annual Conference attendees (tagged ala2008).

Public Perception

Heard and overheard at Annual

“I couldn’t spell ‘library.’ That tells you everything you need to know about my academic life.”

?Actress Jamie Lee Curtis, at the PLA President’s Program, June 30.

“Mashups are a full-fledged computing platform and on the verge of replacing the personal computer as the dominant tool.”

?OCLC’s Andrew Pace, at the OCLC Symposium, “The Mashed Up Library,” June 27.

“Librarianship is a dogma-driven profession. We are way behind the information world. If we don’t want to kill the dogma, at least we can put it in the kennel long enough to examine it.”

?Karen G. Schneider, community librarian for Equinox, at the LITA “Ultimate Debate on the Future of the Library Catalog,” June 28.

“Prehistoric cave art is like YouTube. It says, ‘I was here. I mattered.’”

?University of Washington’s Joe Janes, at the LITA President’s Program, June 29.

“I made a rash promise to build a school. . . . I came back to the States and had no idea how to fundraise. I went to the local library.”

?Greg Mortenson, cofounder of the Central Asia Institute, at his Auditorium Speaker talk, June 28.

“My first book, both of my books actually, have been largely word-of-mouth successes, and one of the first groups that got that word-of-mouth started were librarians who praised the book early on and got it into the hands of readers.”

?Khaled Hosseini, author of *The Kite Runner*, in the green room before his Auditorium Speaker program, July 1.

Ask the ALA Librarian

Q. I've just come back from the ALA conference in Anaheim and am trying to pull together my trip report. Several programs I attended ran out of handouts. Can you tell me where I can find these? The presenters said they would be on the ALA website.

A. How handouts and other output from the Annual Conference are disseminated varies considerably from division to division, or from one program planner or speaker to another. So, this year ALA has instituted the Conference Materials Archive [http://presentations.ala.org/index.php?title=Main_Page] in order provide a central place to collect the handouts or other conference content—or at least links to that content. If the speakers from the programs you attended have not added their material, here are some other possibilities: division blogs and podcasts [http://wikis.ala.org/readwriteconnect/index.php/Main_Page], sponsoring unit web pages [<http://www.ala.org/ala/ourassociation/Default262.htm>], the speaker's personal or institutional webpage, or a planned publication. To complicate matters even more, with the exception of the very few contemporaneous blog posts, there is a time lag between the program presentation and the posting or publication of the content. There is also always the possibility that a presentation is not recorded or written and may only be captured when the presenter uses the content in a substantially revised form in a publication a year or more later. From the ALA Professional Tips wiki [http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/ALA_Annual_Conference_handouts%2C_etc.].

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

Contact Us
American Libraries Direct

AL Direct is a free electronic newsletter emailed every Wednesday to personal members of the American Library Association [<http://www.ala.org>].

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AL Direct FAQ:
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[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/aldirecta/aldirect.cfm>]

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

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american libraries DIRECT

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | July 9, 2008

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SCHOOLROOMS
A new learning portal for K-12

- ✓ Teacher-selected Content
- ✓ 71 Subjects – Aligned to Curriculum
- ✓ 3 Million High-quality Pages Searchable



U.S. & World News

[California wildfires threaten several libraries](#)

Several libraries in central California were forced to evacuate staff and materials because of the facilities' proximity to some of the wildfires that hundreds of state and federal firefighters, as well as brigades of volunteers, are trying to bring under control. The private Henry Miller Memorial Library has moved its materials to safety twice, and staff at the Big Sur branch of the Monterey County Free Libraries were packing up the entire collection July 2 as the Basin Complex Fire advanced....



[NYC library budget maintains six-day service](#)

New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg and city council leaders reached an agreement June 26 on a \$59.1-billion budget that will keep the city's public libraries open six days a week. Although it appeared during the budget negotiations that library hours might be cut back to five days weekly, the final deal, approved by the full council June 29, leaves the hours intact....

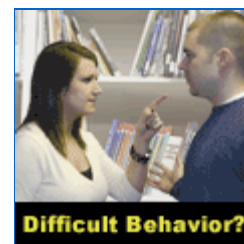
[Hoosiers who sell mature materials are not adult booksellers](#)

A federal court declared unconstitutional July 1 an Indiana law that required sellers of any materials that could be deemed harmful to minors to register with the secretary of state and pay \$250 to be licensed as an adult bookstore. Eleven plaintiffs, ranging from the ALA's Freedom to Read Foundation and the Indiana Museum of Art to the Entertainment Merchants Association, challenged the statute, which had been slated to go into effect on the same day. U.S. District Judge Sarah Evans Barker ruled it unconstitutional....

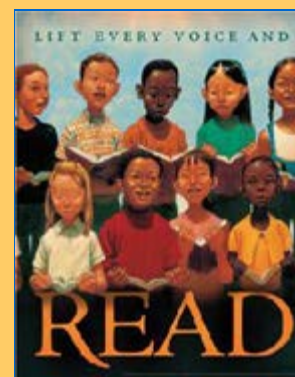
ALA News

[ALA disappointed with Senate passage of FISA](#)

ALA expressed its disappointment July 9 with the result of the U.S. Senate's vote on FISA reform—the FISA Amendments Act of 2008 (H.R. 6304). "H.R. 6304 rewrites FISA in a way that expands the



Difficult Behavior?



This new [Lift Every Voice and READ poster](#) is based on the song "Lift Every Voice and Sing," a poem written by James Weldon Johnson (1871–1938) and then set to music by his brother John Rosamond Johnson (1873–1954) in 1900. The art was specially created by Kadir Nelson to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the Coretta Scott King Book Awards in 2009.
NEW! From ALA

executive branch's spying powers without doing enough to protect the privacy of innocent people whose communications are being monitored," said Emily Sheketoff, Executive Director of the ALA Washington Office....

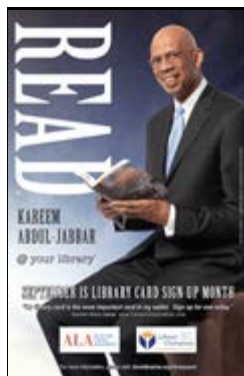
District Dispatch, July 9

[Carnegie Corporation grants ALA \\$280,000 for public outreach](#)

Carnegie Corporation of New York has awarded ALA \$280,000 to support outreach directly to the public and to engage more people of every age in the world of knowledge and adventure available at their libraries. Several ALA units, including the Public Programs Office, *American Libraries* magazine, and the Office for Library Advocacy will collaborate in the project, which will develop news stories, videos, tips, and events highlighting library resources and libraries around the country through the "I Love Libraries" website, social networking sites, and other online and viral marketing....

[Kareem Abdul-Jabbar to chair Library Card Sign-up Month](#)

Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, the NBA's all-time leading scorer and a prolific author, has been named honorary chair of Library Card Sign-up Month. Held in September, Library Card Sign-up Month is a time to remind parents and children that a library card is the most important school supply of all. Abdul-Jabbar began his association with ALA earlier this year when he was selected by ALA President Loriene Roy to be the keynote speaker for the President's Program at the 2008 ALA Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia....



[Digital TV toolkit](#)

ALA has worked closely with the National Association of Broadcasters in an effort to educate the public about the Digital Television Transition. NAB has been one of the strongest leaders in this effort, having cofounded the DTV Transition Coalition, of which ALA is a member. In the interest of giving librarians every possible tool to educate their patrons about the February 17, 2009, transition, NAB has created a [DTV Toolkit](#)....



District Dispatch, July 9

[COA accreditation actions](#)

The Committee on Accreditation has granted accreditation status to the Master of Information Sciences offered by the University of Puerto Rico. Continued accreditation status was granted to programs offered by Dominican University and Emporia State University....

Booklist ONLINE

[Featured review: Media](#)

Curtis, Christopher Paul. *Elijah of Buxton*.
Read by Mirron Willis. Mar. 2008. 9hr.

Graphics.

In this issue

June/July 2008



Your Circle of Wellness

Be Outstanding in Your Fieldwork

Conference Preview: California Dreamin'

Tastes for All Tastes

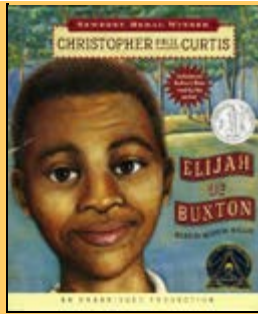
California Libraries: Places of Diversity



Librarians at Binghamton University collaborated with classroom faculty to assess [how students really conduct research](#), and incorporated the results into their instruction program. Read about the survey results in the [July/August issue](#) of

Listening Library, CD, Grades 3–9 (978-0-7393-6415-4).

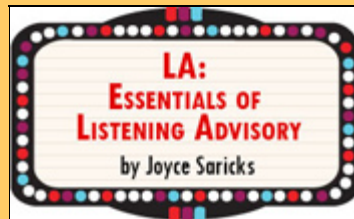
Curtis's 2008 Newbery Honor and 2008 Coretta Scott King Award winner translates to a masterful audiobook perfectly illustrating a fine balance between high literary quality and expert performance.



Buxton, a historic Canadian settlement of former slaves, is the setting of the tale, told from the viewpoint of Elijah Freeman, the first child born in Buxton. Willis immediately captivates listeners, turning Curtis's meticulously crafted and authentic dialect and syntax into the effortless speech patterns of an 11-year-old black boy in the mid-19th century. Listeners hear every shade of emotion in Willis's recounting of daily events....

[Audiobooks: The new advisory challenge](#)

Joyce Saricks writes: "Most readers' advisors know that audiobooks are hot, replacing nonfiction as the new advisory challenge. It should be comforting to know that basic readers-advisory techniques translate to listeners and audio as well. Anyone familiar with these skills can readily make the transition to media. That's the good news. The bad news is that adding audio brings a new universe of materials to learn. What's more, listeners-advisory conversations must take place on two levels: addressing the appeal of the book and discussing the audio production, particularly the artistic skill of the narrator. A good narrator can transform a mediocre book, but an inadequate reader can turn listeners off and ruin the experience."...



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

Division News

[PLA Leadership Fellows Program](#)

PLA's newest scholarship program, PLA Leadership Fellows, offers PLA members who are public library managers a chance to attend executive leadership training at some of the best universities in the United States. Each executive leadership program varies in length, as well as in scope and focus. Program dates and application processes are unique to each school and program. As a first step, send an application to the PLA Office for review....

Round Table News

[GODORT handout exchange](#)

The Government Documents Round Table has been collecting guides and pathfinders to government information for years. Recently, this GODORT [Government Information Clearinghouse and Handout](#)

*College & Research
Libraries News.*

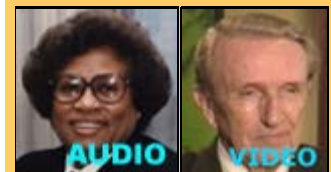
**Career Leads
from**

**ALA
JobLIST**

[Central Library Branch Manager](#), Cecil County Public Library, Elkton, Maryland. This professional, managerial, and supervisory position is responsible for the public services operations of the Elkton Central Library. Responsibilities include coordinating the operations of the Adult, Children's, and Circulation departments and Outreach Services, training and developing staff, marketing collections and services, ensuring the delivery of quality library materials and services to the public, and managing routine branch related facility issues....

@ [More jobs...](#)

Digital Library of the Week



The [AV/AR audio/video collection](#) is a rich source of oral history and other recorded material hosted by the **Butler**

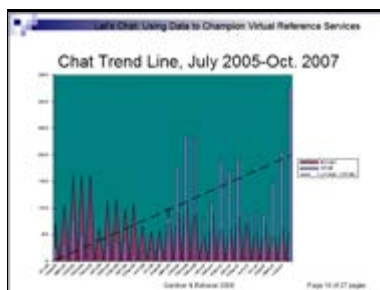
[Exchange](#) has been wikified. The coordinator for the project is Jennie Burroughs, government documents librarian at Montana State University Library. The Clearinghouse is searchable (via a [Google custom search](#)), and contributions are welcome if you have handouts, guides, or tutorials of your own to share....

ResourceShelf, July 7

Awards

[RUSA virtual poster session winners](#)

RUSA's Management of Electronic Resources and Services Committee has announced the winners of its second annual virtual poster session. Poster proposals were selected in blind peer review. Authors of the three winning posters, posted on the [committee website](#), explain how they have used evaluation data to improve their virtual reference services....



[Lois Lenski Covey grants](#)

Lois Lenski, the 1946 Newbery medalist for *Strawberry Girl*, had a life-long concern that good books be available to all children. The Lois Lenski Covey Foundation annually awards grants to both rural and urban public and school libraries for purchasing books for at-risk children, and gives priority to applications from libraries with limited book budgets. The application deadline is September 15....

Lois Lenski Covey Foundation

Seen Online

[YouTube ordered to hand over viewing data](#)

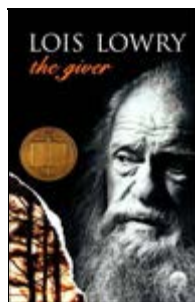
In a ruling that could have serious privacy implications, a federal judge has ruled that popular internet video site YouTube must hand over details about what people are watching online. The decision, filed July 2 by U.S. District Judge Louis L. Stanton in New York, is part of a \$1-billion copyright-infringement lawsuit that Viacom filed last year against Google, which owns YouTube. In response, Google has added a [privacy link](#) to its home page. See a [comment](#) on the ruling by Electronic Frontier Foundation Attorney Kurt Opsahl. But Jaikumar Vijayan [asks](#), what is Google doing collecting and retaining all that data in the first place?...

San Francisco Chronicle, July 4; *Los Angeles Times*, July 4; *Deeplinks*, July 2; *Computerworld*, July 7

[Nashua schools restrict reading of Lois Lowry book](#)

Elementary school teachers in Nashua, New Hampshire, must now notify parents if they are going to use Lois Lowry's Newbery Medal-winning science-fiction book *The Giver* in their classrooms. The school board made the decision July 7, by a 7-1 vote, after a two-hour hearing. Parent Jodi Gould had wanted the book removed from elementary school libraries, but the board felt that was too restrictive....

Nashua (N.H.) Telegraph, July 8



Center for Arkansas Studies, a department of the Central Arkansas Library System. Oral history interviews, lectures about Arkansas, and various kinds of film footage have been indexed with subject descriptions that provide a variety of sources relating to a specific topic. This collection began in the summer of 2007 when the Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation funded a two-year project to explore the role of race relations in Arkansas history. Researchers can search through audio and/or video clips by subject or interviewee, most of which are shorter than two minutes.

Do you know of a digital library collection that we can mention in this *AL Direct* feature? [Tell us about it.](#)

Public Perception How the World Sees Us

"I'm assuming 32,000 books having been checked out at the time of flooding indicates that at least a few people appreciated the resources the library had to offer."

—A July 5 response from "Sparqy" to comments from others in the vein of "Who needs a library anyway?" following a story on the Cedar Rapids Public Library flood damage, KCRG-TV, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, July 4.

[Obama invitation ambushes PLCMC](#)

An invitation to bring Michelle Obama to Charlotte sparked a hubbub in early July for the Public Library of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County, North Carolina. Organizers of the Charlotte Literary Festival (which the library cosponsors) asked her to be a speaker at its September 6 event, and offered to make a donation to Sen. Barack Obama's campaign. But public agencies are barred from lobbying, and library officials, who were unaware of the invite, asked festival organizers to remove them from any material associated with the campaign....

Charlotte (N.C.) Observer, July 5

[Hartford workers vote to give up pay increases](#)

Full- and part-time unionized employees of the Hartford (Conn.) Public Library voted 42–4 July 7 to roll back pay increases and hours that they had agreed to work during fiscal 2008–09 in an attempt to eliminate further layoffs. The action comes less than a week after Chief Librarian Louise Blalock announced an \$870,000 shortfall in the library's \$8.2 million budget....

Hartford (Conn.) Courant, July 8

[Minneapolis planetarium conundrum](#)

About a year ago, all seemed to be well for plans to make a [new planetarium](#) part of the recently completed Minneapolis Public Library downtown. Architect Cesar Pelli had created a site for the planetarium on the library roof. Then Hennepin County merged with the city library system and guess what? Now there is a fuss over where to put a new planetarium, or even if there should be one....

Minneapolis Star Tribune, July 7



[University of Iowa library reopens](#)

The University of Iowa Main Library opened for business July 9, despite the stacks of books and boxes that still clutter the upper floors. The first floor looked relatively normal the day before; the only thing missing was people. Library staff members had been scrambling to get the building up and running after the recent floods. The job required a lot of reorganizing and attention, even though little water actually seeped in....

The Daily Iowan, July 9

[Corporate labeling on the rise on campus](#)

Rooms emblazoned with a brand name are becoming more noticeable on public university campuses, which increasingly rely on private gifts to fund public education. Professors and administrators defend the use of corporate sponsorships, saying it allows them to build sophisticated facilities or pay for endowed professorships that they couldn't otherwise afford. But such names can create a perception that university researchers don't have autonomy from the donor. Just look at the University of Pennsylvania's renamed [Claudia Cohen Hall](#)....

Madison Wisconsin State Journal, July 1; New York Times, July 6

[Book complaint stirs changes in Appleton schools](#)

The Appleton (Wis.) Area School District will modify its procedures for handling challenges from the public regarding reading materials to ensure that conflicts are resolved at the grassroots level. The move came after seeing media coverage this spring that followed a dispute between a parent who objected to a limited-access book in the Maplewood Middle School library and the Menasha Board of

Ask the ALA Librarian



Q. The child of one of our readers was just ill and is now deaf. I need resources both for the parents and for the child as she grows. What resources are available?

A. There are [extensive resources](#) available, from ALA and from several external organizations. One of our divisions, ASCLA, includes [Libraries Serving Special Populations Section](#). Within that group, there is the [Library Service to People Who Are Deaf or Hard of Hearing Forum](#) with a wonderful web page with bibliographies and collection development resources. You will also want to tap into the resources of the [Friends of Libraries for Deaf Action](#), the [National Association of the Deaf](#), and [Gallaudet University](#), particularly its [Research Institute](#). Incidentally, the National Association of the Deaf is having its conference this week, and in September (the last full week) will

Education....

Appleton (Wis.) Post-Crescent, June 16

[50 things you can blame on rising oil prices](#)

For a sense of how deeply the oil-price story is woven into the fabric of life in 2008, Buzzwatch compiled a list of 50 things being attributed, at least in part, to high fuel costs. Quite a few are relevant, among them: schools cutting back on field trips, community colleges cutting Friday classes, the return of the bookmobile, and longer waits for the campus bus....

Wall Street Journal, July 3



[Tatár still spreads the word](#)

After 36 years working for the 36-branch San Diego (Calif.) Public Library, the last 11 as its 11th director, Anna Tatár is still relentlessly dedicated to libraries. In an extended exit interview one week into her retirement, Tatár repeatedly steered the conversation back to her career—and never-ending campaign to make sure the public, politicians, and potential donors are told that libraries still matter in the Internet Age....

San Diego (Calif.) Union-Tribune, July 6

[Kafka's papers to be available in Tel Aviv, maybe](#)

Scholars of the 20th-century writer Franz Kafka were in a state of suspense July 8 at the news that the remains of his estate, which have been hoarded in a Tel Aviv flat for decades, may soon be revealed. Previously unseen documents have been gathering dust in the home of Esther Hoffe, the former secretary of Kafka's friend Max Brod since his death in 1968. Now, following her death at the age of 101, Kafka lovers hope the items will throw new light on the mysterious writer....

The Guardian (U.K.), July 9



[Fire destroys books in University of Geneva Arts Library](#) (in French)

Some 20,000 books damaged in a June 29 fire that spread through a wing of the Faculty of Arts at the University of Geneva, Switzerland, have been freeze-dried in an effort to save them. About 30,000 other books, which were not as thoroughly soaked, were dried out by [ventilators](#) (right). Investigators are still looking into the cause of the fire, which took place during a widely watched European Football Championship....

La Tribune de Genève, July 1-4; Romandie News, July 3



Tech Talk

[Waiting for the internet meltdown](#)

The world is running out of Internet Protocol addresses, the numbers that denote individual devices connected to the internet. The available addresses have already been allocated, and the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development predicts we will have run out completely by early 2011. Every day, thousands of new devices

sponsor Deaf Awareness Week. The American Speech Language Hearing Association sponsors [Better Hearing and Speech Month](#) in May. From the [ALA Professional Tips wiki](#).

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

Calendar

July 23-24:

[Wisconsin Library Services](#), WiLSWorld Conference, Madison Pyle Center. Contact: [Tom Zillner](#).

July 24-25:

[Conservation Center for Art and Historic Artifacts](#), "A Race against Time: Preserving Our Audiovisual Media," Simmons College, Boston.

July 30-

Aug. 1: [Ex Libris Users of North America](#), 2008 Conference, Long Beach, California.

Aug. 3-7:

[International Association of School Librarianship](#), Annual Conference, "World Class Learning and Literacy through School Libraries," University of California at Berkeley. Contact: [Blanche Woolls](#).

Aug. 4-5:

[BCR](#), "A Reference Renaissance: Current and Future Trends,"

ranging from massive web servers down to individual mobile phones go online and gobble up more combinations and permutations....

The Times (U.K.), July 6

[Google launches Lively virtual world](#)

Google launched a new service July 8 called [Lively](#), a browser-based virtual world add-on that lets users create and customize avatars and worlds, interact with other users, and generally have a richer social interaction than is offered by GTalk. Worlds can be embedded into web pages, although only Windows users on IE or Firefox can view them, after an add-on download and installation. This isn't yet a full Second Life competitor. There's no single world, for example, where users can move around. But it's easy to see Google evolving this into a single online world....

TechCrunch, July 8



[Vivaty brings the 3D Web to your browser](#)

Erik Schonfeld writes: "Move over, Second Life. The 3D Web is starting to make inroads into the plain old browser. [Vivaty Scenes](#) launched July 8 in public beta on AIM and in Facebook. These are realistic rooms that act as virtual personal environments—a 3D version of your personal page. You can set the theme, decorate with furniture and other virtual goods, and chat with the avatars of friends who enter your room (they need to install the app as well). The best part is that you can bring in photos from Flickr and Facebook, or videos from YouTube and display them on screens in your room. You can play MP3 songs as well."...

TechCrunch, July 8



[New technologies are not serving people with disabilities](#)

Web technologies and mobile devices have created many new ways for sight and hearing-impaired consumers to find information and connect with friends. But as entertainment and communications tools increasingly take digital form, some people with disabilities feel left behind. Online videos are not required to have captions, for example, and ticker-style emergency messages are not narrated....

Washington Post, June 23

[Get productive \(and stay sane\) with social media](#)

Steve Rubel writes: "Social media is the equivalent of digital food. It's nourishing, tasty, and for many of us, necessary. However, consume too much and you can get sidetracked. The good news is you can participate in social media in a way that adds value to your life. You just need to know how to manage it so so that it does not devour your attention—the most valuable commodity of the digital age. Here are three simple steps I take."...

Lifehacker, July 8

[Good and evil in the garden of digitization](#)

Wallace Koehler writes: "The Google book digitization project has

Four Points by Sheraton, Denver Southeast. Contact: [Justine Shaffner](#).

Aug. 10–14: [International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions](#), World Library and Information Congress, Québec City.

Aug. 12: [Long Island Library Resources Council](#), 6th Symposium on Digitization, Sachem Public Library. Contact: [Virginia Antonucci-Gibbons](#).

Aug. 14–15: [OCLC Western Digital Forum](#), Hotel Murano, Tacoma, Washington. "Making Digitization Count: Assessment and Evaluation Practices."

Aug. 27–31: [Society of American Archivists](#), Annual Conference, Hilton San Francisco. "Archival R/Evolution and Identities."

Sept. 12–13: [Center for the History of Print Culture in Modern America](#), University of Wisconsin-Madison. "The Culture of Print in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Medicine." Contact: [Christine Pawley](#).

Sept. 14–18: [Ninth International Conference on Music Information Retrieval](#), Drexel University, Philadelphia.

Sept. 17–18: [EDUCAUSE Learning](#)

caused something of a furor, perhaps even a firestorm, in the realm of intellectual property management. This issue is not solely for lawyers and academics; it can touch all of us in the information professions. On the one hand, Google may well provide researchers, users, and readers with an ever-widening and invaluable resource. On the other hand, it also may mean that a single economic for-profit entity could gain effective centralized control over much of the world's information."...

The Searcher 16, no. 6 (June): 24+

Publishing

[Remember the reader](#)

Jessa Crispin writes: "Amid all the intellectual banter about the decline of the publishing industry, everyone seems to have forgotten about the reader. The NEA releases [regular reports](#) saying how endangered we are, complete with pie charts and surveys to back up its claims. But me, I was born a reader. The problem isn't that there are no substantial books being written. It's that they cannot be found in the usual places, or in the usual ways."...

Washington Post, July 2

[Online academic textbook piracy on the rise](#)

College students are increasingly downloading illegal copies of textbooks online, employing the same file-trading technologies used to download music and movies. Feeling threatened, book publishers are stepping up efforts to stop the online piracy. One website called Textbook Torrents (now taken down) promises more than 5,000 textbooks for download in PDF format, complete with the original textbook layout and full-color illustrations....

Chronicle of Higher Education, July 1



Actions & Answers

[Johnson County offers crossword puzzle help](#)

The Johnson County (Kans.) Library reference department has an expert staffer who provides hints for stymied crossword puzzlers. Karen Sadler (right) completes both the *New York Times* and *The Kansas City Star* crosswords daily and posts the answers for staff to help perplexed patrons trying to solve the day's word puzzle.

Johnson County (Kans.) Library



[Code of practices in fair use for online video](#)

The American University School of Communication's Center for Social Media has developed a *Code of Best Practices in Fair Use for Online Video*. The document is a guide to current acceptable practices, drawing on the actual activities of creators and backed by the judgment

Initiative. Fall Focus Session, Minneapolis. "Revisiting Learning Space Design."

@ [More...](#)

Contact Us

American Libraries Direct



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

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ext. 4216



ISSN 1559-369X.

of a national panel of experts. The full report is also available as a downloadable [PDF file](#)....

Center for Social Media, June

[Free wireless spectrum for censors](#)

David Kravets writes: "The FCC is seeking comments on a proposal ([PDF file](#)) to open up a swath of spectrum to provide free wireless internet—one of the FCC's goals of achieving the universal availability of broadband access. But as with all free things, there's a hitch. The winner of the spectrum, 25% of which must be available for free internet access, is required to filter out pornography and 'any images or text that otherwise would be harmful to teens and adolescents.'"

More insight [here](#) from Wendy Seltzer....

Threat Level, June 25; CircleID, June 25

[Evaluating online learning](#) (subscription

required)

The U.S. Department of Education released its first guide to the evaluation of online-learning programs in K–12 education. The report ([PDF file](#)) is designed to help school leaders gauge the effectiveness of online education, as its use grows rapidly across the United States. Evaluation methods have lagged far behind the swift growth, varied application, and complex nature of online learning....

Education Week, July 2



[A call for open-source classification](#)

LibraryThing's Tim Spalding writes: "I hereby invite you to help build the [Open Shelves Classification](#) (OSC), a free, 'humble,' modern, open-source, crowd-sourced replacement for the Dewey Decimal System. I think it's finally going to become a reality. LibraryThing members are into it, and after my ALA panel talk, a number of catalogers expressed interest too. I am looking for up to five librarians willing to take leadership on the project. LibraryThing is willing to write the (fairly minimal) code necessary."...

Thingology, July 8

[Wall Street Journal ad campaign for librarians](#)

Stephen Abram writes: "One of the great events at the SLA annual conference in Seattle was to see the full-page advertisements ([PDF file](#)) in the *Wall Street Journal* promoting the value of information professionals. This unprecedented campaign which will continue through 2010 is the result of the fine relationship between SLA and Dow Jones (owners of the *Wall Street Journal*)."...

Stephen's Lighthouse, July 7

The right people,
information and
decisions.

[Google and the librarians](#)

Bill Drew writes: "I am asking and challenging the Google Book Search [library partners](#) to ask their contacts at Google about the status of its [Librarian Central](#) blog, which has not been updated in more than a

year. It appears to be next to impossible to get Google to respond on this topic by going through normal channels. Google and its partner libraries have a clear obligation to the rest of us.”...

Baby Boomer Librarian, July 8

[What is LinkedIn? The video](#)

Lee LeFever writes: “I’ve been a member of [LinkedIn](#) for years and like many members, I wondered how to get more from my connections. The company came to us to help address this question in video form (2:29). Ultimately, it’s about uncovering LinkedIn’s ability to not just connect, but get things done.”...



CommonCraft, July 2

[Lawyer admonished for serving subpoena on librarian blogger](#)

A magistrate judge in the U.S. District Court for the District of New Hampshire severely admonished ([PDF file](#)) a Virginia lawyer June 23 for serving a “breathtakingly broad” subpoena on Kathleen Seidel, a librarian who maintains a [blog](#) and who had posted info on the potential link between mercury and autism. Seidel had merely published information on fees the lawyer had received in various mercury-related cases he had pursued....

TechDirt, July 3

[The Booklovers Library](#)

Larry Nix writes: “The Booklovers Library in Philadelphia was an early-20th-century version of Netflix for books. This cover (right) was mailed from the Librarian’s Office of the Booklovers Library on May 3, 1901. In an article on the topic of home delivery of books published in *Library Journal* of 1905, Gertrude E. Forrest noted that it circulated several million books annually, giving credence to founder Seymour Eaton’s boast that it was the largest circulating library in the world.”...



Library History Buff

[Literary tattoos](#)

Jen runs a website called Contrariwise that focuses on tattoos based on books, poems, lyrics, movies, poems, plays, and quotations. If you have an appropriate tattoo, such as this typewriter tribute to Hemingway (“*There is nothing to writing. All you do is sit down at a typewriter and bleed.*”), you can submit a photo. Otherwise, it’s fun to look through. Be sure to check out the [pain-o-meter](#) if you are considering your first tat....



Contrariwise

[Syracuse receives huge collection of 78-rpm recordings](#)

Syracuse University Library’s Belfer Audio Laboratory and Archive has received a major gift from the family of the late Morton J. Savada—the complete inventory of his Manhattan record store, Records Revisited, including more than 200,000 78-rpm records, along with a related print collection of catalogs, discographies, and other materials. With the addition of the Savada Collection, Belfer’s holdings now total

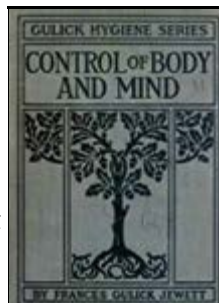
more than 400,000 78-rpm recordings—second in size only to the collections of the Library of Congress....

Syracuse University, July 2

[Radio Ephemera challenge](#)

The Third Coast Festival's 2008 Radio Ephemera challenge invites producers, artists, writers, and radio fans of all stripes (newbies to veterans) to submit finished audio works inspired by two of five selected books from San Francisco's Prelinger Library. The selection must include the voice of a stranger and last two-and-a-half to three minutes. Four producers will be chosen to attend the [Third Coast Festival Conference](#) October 9–11 in Evanston, Illinois. The deadline is August 3....

Third Coast International Audio Festival



[Saving water-damaged art and artifacts](#)

Heritage Preservation offers a free, online, 10-minute video that demonstrates how to rescue soaked photographs, books, documents, and other valued items.

Excerpted from HP's *Field Guide to Emergency Response*, the video provides professional advice and hands-on

demonstrations to benefit families as well as museum and library staff....

Heritage Preservation



AL Direct, July 9, 2008

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

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | July 9, 2008

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[\[http://www.schoolrooms.net\]](http://www.schoolrooms.net)

[\[http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com\]](http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com)

U.S. & World News

California wildfires threaten several libraries

[\[http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/july2008/califwildfires.cfm\]](http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/july2008/califwildfires.cfm)

Several libraries in central California were forced to evacuate staff and materials because of the facilities' proximity to some of the wildfires that hundreds of state and federal firefighters, as well as brigades of volunteers, are trying to bring under control. The private Henry Miller Memorial Library has moved its materials to safety twice, and staff at the Big Sur branch of the Monterey County Free Libraries were packing up the entire collection July 2 as the Basin Complex Fire advanced....

NYC library budget maintains six-day service

[\[http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/july2008/newyorkbudget.cfm\]](http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/july2008/newyorkbudget.cfm)

New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg and city council leaders reached an agreement June 26 on a \$59.1-billion budget that will keep the

city's public libraries open six days a week. Although it appeared during the budget negotiations that library hours might be cut back to five days weekly, the final deal, approved by the full council June 29, leaves the hours intact....

Hoosiers who sell mature materials are not adult booksellers

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/july2008/indianaadultbooks.cfm>]

A federal court declared unconstitutional July 1 an Indiana law that required sellers of any materials that could be deemed harmful to minors to register with the secretary of state and pay \$250 to be licensed as an adult bookstore. Eleven plaintiffs, ranging from the ALA's Freedom to Read Foundation and the Indiana Museum of Art to the Entertainment Merchants Association, challenged the statute, which had been slated to go into effect on the same day. U.S. District Judge Sarah Evans Barker ruled it unconstitutional....

ALA News

ALA disappointed with Senate passage of FISA

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=553>]

ALA expressed its disappointment July 9 with the result of the U.S. Senate's vote on FISA reform—the FISA Amendments Act of 2008 (H.R. 6304). “H.R. 6304 rewrites FISA in a way that expands the executive branch's spying powers without doing enough to protect the privacy of innocent people whose communications are being monitored,” said Emily Sheketoff, Executive Director of the ALA Washington Office....

District Dispatch, July 9

Carnegie Corporation grants ALA \$280,000 for public outreach

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/July2008/carnegie.cfm>]

Carnegie Corporation of New York has awarded ALA \$280,000 to support outreach directly to the public and to engage more people of every age in the world of knowledge and adventure available at their libraries.

Several ALA units, including the Public Programs Office, American Libraries magazine, and the Office for Library Advocacy will collaborate in the project, which will develop news stories, videos, tips, and events highlighting library resources and libraries around the country through the “I Love Libraries” website, social networking sites, and other online and viral marketing....

Kareem Abdul-Jabbar to chair Library Card Sign-up Month

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/July2008/LCSMkareem.cfm>]

Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, the NBA's all-time leading scorer and a prolific author, has been named honorary chair of Library Card Sign-up Month. Held in September, Library Card Sign-up Month is a time to remind parents and children that a library card is the most important school supply of all. Abdul-Jabbar began his association with ALA earlier this year when he was selected by ALA President Loriene Roy to be the keynote speaker for the President's Program at the 2008 ALA Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia....

Digital TV toolkit [<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=551>]

ALA has worked closely with the National Association of Broadcasters in an effort to educate the public about the Digital Television Transition. NAB has been one of the strongest leaders in this effort, having cofounded the DTV Transition Coalition, of which ALA is a member. In the interest of giving librarians every possible tool to educate their patrons about the February 17, 2009, transition, NAB has created a DTV Toolkit

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/washoff/woissues/techinttele/dtv/DTVToolkit/DTVToolkit.cfm>]....

District Dispatch, July 9

COA accreditation actions

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/July2008/OAactions.cfm>]

The Committee on Accreditation has granted accreditation status to the Master of Information Sciences offered by the University of Puerto Rico. Continued accreditation status was granted to programs offered by Dominican University and Emporia State University....

Featured review: Media

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=2710114]

Curtis, Christopher Paul. *Elijah of Buxton*. Read by Mirron Willis. Mar. 2008. 9hr. Listening Library, CD, Grades 3–9 (978-0-7393-6415-4). Curtis's 2008 Newbery Honor and 2008 Coretta Scott King Award winner translates to a masterful audiobook perfectly illustrating a fine balance between high literary quality and expert performance. Buxton, a historic Canadian settlement of former slaves, is the setting of the tale, told from the viewpoint of Elijah Freeman, the first child born in Buxton. Willis immediately captivates listeners, turning Curtis's meticulously crafted and authentic dialect and syntax into the effortless speech patterns of an 11-year-old black boy in the mid-19th century. Listeners hear every shade of emotion in Willis's recounting of daily events....

Audiobooks: The new advisory challenge

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=2844571]

Joyce Saricks writes: "Most readers' advisors know that audiobooks are hot, replacing nonfiction as the new advisory challenge. It should be comforting to know that basic readers-advisory techniques translate to listeners and audio as well. Anyone familiar with these skills can readily make the transition to media. That's the good news. The bad news is that adding audio brings a new universe of materials to learn. What's more, listeners-advisory conversations must take place on two levels: addressing the appeal of the book and discussing the audio production, particularly the artistic skill of the narrator. A good narrator can transform a mediocre book, but an inadequate reader can turn listeners off and ruin the experience."...

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

Division News

PLA Leadership Fellows Program

[<http://www.pla.org/ala/pla/leadership/index.cfm>]

PLA's newest scholarship program, PLA Leadership Fellows, offers PLA members who are public library managers a chance to attend executive leadership training at some of the best universities in the United States. Each executive leadership program varies in length, as well as in scope and focus. Program dates and application processes are unique to each school and program. As a first step, send an application to the PLA Office for review....

Round Table News

GODORT handout exchange

[<http://www.resourceshelf.com/2008/07/07/resource-of-the-week-government-information-clearinghouse-handout-exchange/>]

The Government Documents Round Table has been collecting guides and pathfinders to government information for years. Recently, this GODORT Government Information Clearinghouse and Handout Exchange [<http://wikis.ala.org/godort/index.php/Exchange>] has been wikified. The coordinator for the project is Jennie Burroughs, government documents librarian at Montana State University Library. The Clearinghouse is searchable (via a Google custom search [<http://www.google.com/coop/cse?cx=004167096080728781323%3Aglzqvfgqky>]), and contributions are welcome if you have handouts, guides, or tutorials of your own to share....

ResourceShelf, July 7

Awards

RUSA virtual poster session winners

[http://www.ala.org/ala/rusa/rusaourassoc/rusasections/mars/marssection/marscomm/mers/mers_virtposter/mers_virtpost2008/virpostwin08.cfm]

RUSA's Management of Electronic Resources and Services Committee has announced the winners of its second annual virtual poster session. Poster proposals were selected in blind peer review. Authors of the three winning posters, posted on the committee website [http://www.ala.org/ala/rusa/rusaourassoc/rusasections/mars/marssection/marscomm/mers/mers_virtposter/mers_virtpost2008/virpostwin08.cfm], explain how they have used evaluation data to improve their virtual reference services....

Lois Lenski Covey grants [<http://www.loislenskicovey.org/>]

Lois Lenski, the 1946 Newbery medalist for *Strawberry Girl*, had a life-long concern that good books be available to all children. The Lois

Lenski Covey Foundation annually awards grants to both rural and urban public and school libraries for purchasing books for at-risk children, and gives priority to applications from libraries with limited book budgets. The application deadline is September 15....

Lois Lenski Covey Foundation

Seen Online

=====

YouTube ordered to hand over viewing data

[<http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2008/07/04/MNUL11JTB3.DTL>]

In a ruling that could have serious privacy implications, a federal judge has ruled that popular internet video site YouTube must hand over details about what people are watching online. The decision, filed July 2 by U.S. District Judge Louis L. Stanton in New York, is part of a \$1-billion copyright-infringement lawsuit that Viacom filed last year against Google, which owns YouTube. In response, Google has added a privacy link [<http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/technology/2008/07/google-privacy.html>] to its home page. See a comment

[<http://www.eff.org/deeplinks/2008/07/court-ruling-will-expose-viewing-habits-youtube-us>] on the ruling by Electronic Frontier Foundation Attorney Kurt Opsahl. But Jaikumar Vijayan asks,

[<http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&articleId=9107438>] what is Google doing collecting and retaining all that data in the first place?...

San Francisco Chronicle, July 4; Los Angeles Times, July 4; Deeplinks, July 2; Computerworld, July 7

Nashua schools restrict reading of Lois Lowry book

[<http://www.nashuatelegraph.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080708/NEWS01/362716346/-1/news>]

Elementary school teachers in Nashua, New Hampshire, must now notify parents if they are going to use Lois Lowry's Newbery Medal-winning science-fiction book *The Giver* in their classrooms. The school board made the decision July 7, by a 7-1 vote, after a two-hour hearing. Parent Jodi Gould had wanted the book removed from elementary school libraries, but the board felt that was too restrictive....

Nashua (N.H.) Telegraph, July 8

Obama invitation ambushes PLCMC

[<http://www.charlotte.com/politics/story/700257.html>]

An invitation to bring Michelle Obama to Charlotte sparked a hubbub in early July for the Public Library of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County, North Carolina. Organizers of the Charlotte Literary Festival (which the library cosponsors) asked her to be a speaker at its September 6 event, and offered to make a donation to Sen. Barack Obama's campaign. But public agencies are barred from lobbying, and library officials, who were unaware of the invite, asked festival organizers to remove them from any material associated with the campaign....

Charlotte (N.C.) Observer, July 5

Hartford workers vote to give up pay increases

[<http://www.courant.com/community/news/hfd/hc-hfdlibrary0708.artjul08,0,4724628.story>]

Full- and part-time unionized employees of the Hartford (Conn.) Public Library voted 42–4 July 7 to roll back pay increases and hours that they had agreed to work during fiscal 2008–09 in an attempt to eliminate further layoffs. The action comes less than a week after Chief Librarian Louise Blalock announced an \$870,000 shortfall in the library’s \$8.2 million budget....

Hartford (Conn.) Courant, July 8

Minneapolis planetarium conundrum

[<http://www.startribune.com/local/23967534.html>]

About a year ago, all seemed to be well for plans to make a new planetarium [<http://www.mplanetarium.org/index.htm>] part of the recently completed Minneapolis Public Library downtown. Architect Cesar Pelli had created a site for the planetarium on the library roof. Then Hennepin County merged with the city library system and guess what? Now there is a fuss over where to put a new planetarium, or even if there should be one....

Minneapolis Star Tribune, July 7

University of Iowa library reopens

[<http://media.www.dailyiowan.com/media/storage/paper599/news/2008/07/09/Metro/Ui.Main.Library.Opens.To.Public.As.Flooding.Cleanup.Continues-3389283.shtml>]

The University of Iowa Main Library opened for business July 9, despite the stacks of books and boxes that still clutter the upper floors. The first floor looked relatively normal the day before; the only thing missing was people. Library staff members had been scrambling to get the building up and running after the recent floods. The job required a lot of reorganizing and attention, even though little water actually seeped in....

The Daily Iowan, July 9

Corporate labeling on the rise on campus

[<http://www.madison.com/wsj/topstories/294127>]

Rooms emblazoned with a brand name are becoming more noticeable on public university campuses, which increasingly rely on private gifts to fund public education. Professors and administrators defend the use of corporate sponsorships, saying it allows them to build sophisticated facilities or pay for endowed professorships that they couldn’t otherwise afford. But such names can create a perception that university researchers don’t have autonomy from the donor. Just look at the University of Pennsylvania’s renamed Claudia Cohen Hall

[<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/07/06/fashion/06penn.html>]....

Madison Wisconsin State Journal, July 1; New York Times, July 6

Book complaint stirs changes in Appleton schools

[<http://www.postcrescent.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080616/APC0101/806160469/1979/APClife>]

The Appleton (Wis.) Area School District will modify its procedures for handling challenges from the public regarding reading materials to ensure that conflicts are resolved at the grassroots level. The move came after seeing media coverage this spring that followed a dispute between a

parent who objected to a limited-access book in the Maplewood Middle School library and the Menasha Board of Education....
Appleton (Wis.) Post-Crescent, June 16

50 things you can blame on rising oil prices

[http://blogs.wsj.com/buzzwatch/2008/07/03/idea-watch-50-things-being-blamed-on-rising-oil-prices/?mod=fpa_blogs]

For a sense of how deeply the oil-price story is woven into the fabric of life in 2008, Buzzwatch compiled a list of 50 things being attributed, at least in part, to high fuel costs. Quite a few are relevant, among them: schools cutting back on field trips, community colleges cutting Friday classes, the return of the bookmobile, and longer waits for the campus bus....

Wall Street Journal, July 3

Tatár still spreads the word

[<http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/features/20080706-9999-1c06tatar.html>]

After 36 years working for the 36-branch San Diego (Calif.) Public Library, the last 11 as its 11th director, Anna Tatár is still relentlessly dedicated to libraries. In an extended exit interview one week into her retirement, Tatár repeatedly steered the conversation back to her career—and never-ending campaign to make sure the public, politicians, and potential donors are told that libraries still matter in the Internet Age....

San Diego (Calif.) Union-Tribune, July 6

Kafka's papers to be available in Tel Aviv, maybe

[<http://books.guardian.co.uk/news/articles/0,,2289734,00.html>]

Scholars of the 20th-century writer Franz Kafka were in a state of suspense July 8 at the news that the remains of his estate, which have been hoarded in a Tel Aviv flat for decades, may soon be revealed. Previously unseen documents have been gathering dust in the home of Esther Hoffe, the former secretary of Kafka's friend Max Brod since his death in 1968. Now, following her death at the age of 101, Kafka lovers hope the items will throw new light on the mysterious writer....

The Guardian (U.K.), July 9

Fire destroys books in University of Geneva Arts Library

[http://www.romandie.com/infos/ats/display2.asp?page=20080703122422640172194810700_brf026.xml] (in French)

Some 20,000 books damaged in a June 29 fire that spread through a wing of the Faculty of Arts at the University of Geneva, Switzerland, have been freeze-dried in an effort to save them. About 30,000 other books, which were not as thoroughly soaked, were dried out by ventilators

[<http://lelwakil.blog.tdg.ch/archive/2008/07/04/sauvetage-des-livres-de-la-faculte-des-lettres.html>] (right). Investigators are still looking into the cause of the fire, which took place during a widely watched European Football Championship....

La Tribune de Genève, July 1–4; Romandie News, July 3

Tech Talk

=====

Waiting for the internet meltdown

[http://technology.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/tech_and_web/the_web/article4271879.ece]

The world is running out of Internet Protocol addresses, the numbers that denote individual devices connected to the internet. The available addresses have already been allocated, and the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development predicts we will have run out completely by early 2011. Every day, thousands of new devices ranging from massive web servers down to individual mobile phones go online and gobble up more combinations and permutations....

The Times (U.K.), July 6

Google launches Lively virtual world

[<http://www.techcrunch.com/2008/07/08/google-launches-virtual-world-called-lively/>]

Google launched a new service July 8 called Lively, [<http://www.lively.com/html/landing.html>] a browser-based virtual world add-on that lets users create and customize avatars and worlds, interact with other users, and generally have a richer social interaction than is offered by GTalk. Worlds can be embedded into web pages, although only Windows users on IE or Firefox can view them, after an add-on download and installation. This isn't yet a full Second Life competitor. There's no single world, for example, where users can move around. But it's easy to see Google evolving this into a single online world....

TechCrunch, July 8

Vivaty brings the 3D Web to your browser

[<http://www.techcrunch.com/2008/07/08/vivaty-brings-the-3d-web-to-your-browser-starting-with-aim-and-facebook/>]

Erik Schonfeld writes: "Move over, Second Life. The 3D Web is starting to make inroads into the plain old browser. Vivaty Scenes

[<http://www.vivaty.com/>] launched July 8 in public beta on AIM and in Facebook. These are realistic rooms that act as virtual personal environments—a 3D version of your personal page. You can set the theme, decorate with furniture and other virtual goods, and chat with the avatars of friends who enter your room (they need to install the app as well). The best part is that you can bring in photos from Flickr and Facebook, or videos from YouTube and display them on screens in your room. You can play MP3 songs as well.”...

TechCrunch, July 8

New technologies are not serving people with disabilities

[<http://www.statesman.com/business/content/business/stories/technology/06/23/0623techaccess.html>]

Web technologies and mobile devices have created many new ways for sight and hearing-impaired consumers to find information and connect with friends. But as entertainment and communications tools increasingly take digital form, some people with disabilities feel left behind. Online videos are not required to have captions, for example, and ticker-style emergency messages are not narrated....

Washington Post, June 23

Get productive (and stay sane) with social media

[<http://lifehacker.com/398049/get-productive-with-social-media-and-stay-sane>]

Steve Rubel writes: "Social media is the equivalent of digital food. It's nourishing, tasty, and for many of us, necessary. However, consume too much and you can get sidetracked. The good news is you can participate in social media in a way that adds value to your life. You just need to know how to manage it so so that it does not devour your attention—the most valuable commodity of the digital age. Here are three simple steps I take."...

Lifehacker, July 8

Good and evil in the garden of digitization

[http://www.redorbit.com/news/technology/1462875/good_and_evil_in_the_garden_of_digitization/]

Wallace Koehler writes: "The Google book digitization project has caused something of a furor, perhaps even a firestorm, in the realm of intellectual property management. This issue is not solely for lawyers and academics; it can touch all of us in the information professions. On the one hand, Google may well provide researchers, users, and readers with an ever-widening and invaluable resource. On the other hand, it also may mean that a single economic for-profit entity could gain effective centralized control over much of the world's information."...

The Searcher 16, no. 6 (June): 24+

Publishing

Remember the reader

[<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/07/01/AR2008070101629.html>]

Jessa Crispin writes: "Amid all the intellectual banter about the decline of the publishing industry, everyone seems to have forgotten about the reader. The NEA releases regular reports [<http://www.nea.gov/pub/pubLit.php>] saying how endangered we are, complete with pie charts and surveys to back up its claims. But me, I was born a reader. The problem isn't that there are no substantial books being written. It's that they cannot be found in the usual places, or in the usual ways."...

Washington Post, July 2

Online academic textbook piracy on the rise

[<http://chronicle.com/free/2008/07/3623n.htm>]

College students are increasingly downloading illegal copies of textbooks online, employing the same file-trading technologies used to download music and movies. Feeling threatened, book publishers are stepping up efforts to stop the online piracy. One website called Textbook Torrents (now taken down) promises more than 5,000 textbooks for download in PDF format, complete with the original textbook layout and full-color illustrations....

Chronicle of Higher Education, July 1

[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

Actions & Answers

Johnson County offers crossword puzzle help

[<http://www.jocolibrary.org/default.aspx?id=1906>]

The Johnson County (Kans.) Library reference department has an expert staffer who provides hints for stymied crossword puzzlers. Karen Sadler (right) completes both the New York Times and The Kansas City Star crosswords daily and posts the answers for staff to help perplexed patrons trying to solve the day's word puzzle.

Johnson County (Kans.) Library

Code of practices in fair use for online video

[http://www.centerforsocialmedia.org/resources/publications/fair_use_in_online_video/]

The American University School of Communication's Center for Social Media has developed a Code of Best Practices in Fair Use for Online Video. The document is a guide to current acceptable practices, drawing on the actual activities of creators and backed by the judgment of a national panel of experts. The full report is also available as a downloadable PDF file

[http://www.centerforsocialmedia.org/files/pdf/online_best_practices_in_fair_use.pdf]....

Center for Social Media, June

Free wireless spectrum for censors

[<http://blog.wired.com/27bstroke6/2008/06/fcc-free-wirele.html>]

David Kravets writes: "The FCC is seeking comments on a proposal (PDF file [<http://blog.wired.com/27bstroke6/files/FCCfreewireless.pdf>]) to open up a swath of spectrum to provide free wireless internet—one of the FCC's goals of achieving the universal availability of broadband access. But as with all free things, there's a hitch. The winner of the spectrum, 25% of which must be available for free internet access, is required to filter out pornography and 'any images or text that otherwise would be harmful to teens and adolescents.'" More insight here

[http://www.circleid.com/posts/86257_fcc_internet_filtering/] from Wendy Seltzer....

Threat Level, June 25; CircleID, June 25

Evaluating online learning

[http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2008/07/16/43edonline_web.h27.html]

(subscription required)

The U.S. Department of Education released its first guide to the evaluation of online-learning programs in K–12 education. The report (PDF file [<http://www.ed.gov/admins/lead/academic/evalonline/evalonline.pdf>]) is designed to help school leaders gauge the effectiveness of online education, as its use grows rapidly across the United States. Evaluation methods have lagged far behind the swift growth, varied application, and

complex nature of online learning....
Education Week, July 2

A call for open-source classification

[<http://www.librarything.com/thingology/2008/07/build-open-shelves-classification.php>]

LibraryThing's Tim Spalding writes: "I hereby invite you to help build the Open Shelves Classification

[<http://www.librarything.com/groups/buildtheopenshelvesc#forums>] (OSC), a free, 'humble,' modern, open-source, crowd-sourced replacement for the Dewey Decimal System. I think it's finally going to become a reality.

LibraryThing members are into it, and after my ALA panel talk, a number of catalogers expressed interest too. I am looking for up to five librarians willing to take leadership on the project. LibraryThing is willing to write the (fairly minimal) code necessary."...

Thingology, July 8

ad campaign for librarians

[http://stephenslighthouse.sirsidynix.com/archives/2008/07/wall_street_journal.html]

Stephen Abram writes: "One of the great events at the SLA annual conference in Seattle was to see the full-page advertisements (PDF file [<http://www.sla.org/PDFs/WSJ-SLAad.pdf>]) in the Wall Street Journal promoting the value of information professionals. This unprecedented campaign which will continue through 2010 is the result of the fine relationship between SLA and Dow Jones (owners of the Wall Street Journal)."...

Stephen's Lighthouse, July 7

Google and the librarians

[<http://babyboomerlibrarian.blogspot.com/2008/07/google-and-librarians-part-2.html>]

Bill Drew writes: "I am asking and challenging the Google Book Search library partners [<http://books.google.com/googlebooks/partners.html>] to ask their contacts at Google about the status of its Librarian Central [<http://librariancentral.blogspot.com/>] blog, which has not been updated in more than a year. It appears to be next to impossible to get Google to respond on this topic by going through normal channels. Google and its partner libraries have a clear obligation to the rest of us."...

Baby Boomer Librarian, July 8

What is LinkedIn? The video [<http://www.commoncraft.com/linkedin-video>]

Lee LeFever writes: "I've been a member of LinkedIn

[<http://www.linkedin.com>] for years and like many members, I wondered how to get more from my connections. The company came to us to help address this question in video form (2:29). Ultimately, it's about uncovering LinkedIn's ability to not just connect, but get things done."...

CommonCraft, July 2

Lawyer admonished for serving subpoena on librarian blogger

[<http://www.techdirt.com/articles/20080703/0336421589.shtml>]

A magistrate judge in the U.S. District Court for the District of New Hampshire severely admonished (PDF file

[<http://www.citmedialaw.org/sites/citmedialaw.org/files/2008-06-23-Order%20>

Imposing%20Sanctions%20on%20Shoemaker.pdf]) a Virginia lawyer June 23 for serving a “breath-takingly broad” subpoena on Kathleen Seidel, a librarian who maintains a blog [<http://www.neurodiversity.com/weblog/>] and who had posted info on the potential link between mercury and autism. Seidel had merely published information on fees the lawyer had received in various mercury-related cases he had pursued....
TechDirt, July 3

The Booklovers Library

[<http://www.libraryhistorybuff.org/booklovers-library.htm>]

Larry Nix writes: “The Booklovers Library in Philadelphia was an early-20th-century version of Netflix for books. This cover (right) was mailed from the Librarian’s Office of the Booklovers Library on May 3, 1901. In an article on the topic of home delivery of books published in Library Journal of 1905, Gertrude E. Forrest noted that it circulated several million books annually, giving credence to founder Seymour Eaton’s boast that it was the largest circulating library in the world.”...

Library History Buff

Literary tattoos [<http://www.contrariwise.org/>]

Jen runs a website called Contrariwise that focuses on tattoos based on books, poems, lyrics, movies, poems, plays, and quotations. If you have an appropriate tattoo, such as this typewriter tribute to Hemingway (“There is nothing to writing. All you do is sit down at a typewriter and bleed.”), you can submit a photo. Otherwise, it’s fun to look through. Be sure to check out the pain-o-meter [<http://nymag.com/guides/everything/tattoos/37979/>] if you are considering your first tat....

Contrariwise

Syracuse receives huge collection of 78-rpm recordings

[http://sunews.syr.edu/story_details.cfm?id=5144]

Syracuse University Library’s Belfer Audio Laboratory and Archive has received a major gift from the family of the late Morton J. Savada—the complete inventory of his Manhattan record store, Records Revisited, including more than 200,000 78-rpm records, along with a related print collection of catalogs, discographies, and other materials. With the addition of the Savada Collection, Belfer’s holdings now total more than 400,000 78-rpm recordings—second in size only to the collections of the Library of Congress....

Syracuse University, July 2

Radio Ephemera challenge

[http://thirdcoastfestival.org/shortdocs_2008_archive_about_RE.asp]

The Third Coast Festival’s 2008 Radio Ephemera challenge invites producers, artists, writers, and radio fans of all stripes (newbies to veterans) to submit finished audio works inspired by two of five selected books from San Francisco’s Prelinger Library. The selection must include the voice of a stranger and last two-and-a-half to three minutes. Four producers will be chosen to attend the Third Coast Festival Conference [http://thirdcoastfestival.org/annual_conference.asp] October 9–11 in Evanston, Illinois. The deadline is August 3....

Third Coast International Audio Festival

Saving water-damaged art and artifacts

[<http://www.heritagepreservation.org/PROGRAMS/WaterSegmentFG.HTM>]

Heritage Preservation offers a free, online, 10-minute video that demonstrates how to rescue soaked photographs, books, documents, and other valued items. Excerpted from HP's Field Guide to Emergency Response, the video provides professional advice and hands-on demonstrations to benefit families as well as museum and library staff....

Heritage Preservation

[<http://www.preparetraining.com/landing/08ptpadsaz805.asp>]

=====
[http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?_sn=catalog&_pn=product_detail&_op=2556]

This new Lift Every Voice and READ poster

[http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?_sn=catalog&_pn=product_detail&_op=2556] is based on the song "Lift Every Voice and Sing," a poem written by James Weldon Johnson (1871–1938) and then set to music by his brother John Rosamond Johnson (1873–1954) in 1900. The art was specially created by Kadir Nelson to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the Coretta Scott King Book Awards in 2009. NEW! From ALA Graphics.

In this issue

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[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/tableofcontents/2008contents/junjuly2008.cfm>]

Your Circle of Wellness

Be Outstanding in Your Fieldwork

Conference Preview: California Dreamin'

Tastes for All Tastes

California Libraries: Places of Diversity

[<http://www.flickr.com/photos/acrl/2649287161/>]

Librarians at Binghamton University collaborated with classroom faculty to assess how students really conduct research,

[http://www.ala.org/ala/acrl/acrlpubs/crlnews/backissues2008/july_aug08/res]

earchbinghamton.cfm] and incorporated the results into their instruction program. Read about the survey results in the July/August issue [http://www.ala.org/ala/acrl/acrlpubs/crlnews/backissues2008/july_aug08/july.cfm] of College & Research Libraries News.

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

Central Library Branch Manager,
[<http://joblist.ala.org/modules/jobseeker/controller.cfm?scr=jobdetail&jobid=11163>] Cecil County Public Library, Elkton, Maryland. This professional, managerial, and supervisory position is responsible for the public services operations of the Elkton Central Library. Responsibilities include coordinating the operations of the Adult, Children’s, and Circulation departments and Outreach Services, training and developing staff, marketing collections and services, ensuring the delivery of quality library materials and services to the public, and managing routine branch related facility issues....

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

Digital Library of the Week

The AV/AR audio/video collection [http://www.butlercenter.org/cdm-p1532coll1/index_p1532coll1.php?CISOROOT=/p1532coll1] is a rich source of oral history and other recorded material hosted by the Butler Center for Arkansas Studies, a department of the Central Arkansas Library System. Oral history interviews, lectures about Arkansas, and various kinds of film footage have been indexed with subject descriptions that provide a variety of sources relating to a specific topic. This collection began in the summer of 2007 when the Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation funded a two-year project to explore the role of race relations in Arkansas history. Researchers can search through audio and/or video clips by subject or interviewee, most of which are shorter than two minutes.

Do you know of a digital library collection that we can mention in this AL Direct feature? Tell us about it. [<mailto:aldirect@ala.org>]

Public Perception
How the World
Sees Us

“I’m assuming 32,000 books having been checked out at the time of flooding indicates that at least a few people appreciated the resources

the library had to offer.”

?A July 5 response from “Sparqy” to comments from others in the vein of “Who needs a library anyway?” following a story on the Cedar Rapids Public Library flood damage, KCRG-TV, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, July 4.

Ask the ALA Librarian

Q. The child of one of our readers was just ill and is now deaf. I need resources both for the parents and for the child as she grows. What resources are available?

A. There are extensive resources

[http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/People_with_Disabilities#Deaf] available, from ALA and from several external organizations. One of our divisions, ASCLA, includes Libraries Serving Special Populations Section

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/ascla/asclaourassoc/asclasections/lssps/lssps.cfm>].

Within that group, there is the Library Service to People Who Are Deaf or Hard of Hearing Forum

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/ascla/asclaourassoc/asclasections/lssps/lspdhhf/lspdhhf.cfm>] with a wonderful web page with bibliographies and collection development resources. You will also want to tap into the resources of

the Friends of Libraries for Deaf Action [<http://www.folda.net>], the National Association of the Deaf [<http://www.nad.org/>], and Gallaudet University [<http://www.gallaudet.edu/>], particularly its Research Institute [<http://research.gallaudet.edu/>].

Incidentally, the National Association of the Deaf is having its conference this week, and in September (the last full week) will sponsor Deaf Awareness Week. The American Speech Language Hearing Association sponsors Better Hearing and Speech Month [<http://www.asha.org/bhsm/>] in May. From the ALA Professional Tips wiki

[http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Serving_the_Deaf].

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

Calendar

July 23–24:

Wisconsin Library Services, [<http://www.wils.wisc.edu/events/wworld08/>] WiLSWorld Conference, Madison Pyle Center. Contact: Tom Zillner [<mailto:tzillner@wils.wisc.edu>].

July 24–25:

Conservation Center for Art and Historic Artifacts,

[<http://www.ccaha.org/uploads/media/d45877b85ed384cb8954655895e3caba.pdf>]
“A Race against Time: Preserving Our Audiovisual Media,” Simmons College,
Boston.

July 30–

Aug. 1:

Ex Libris Users of North America,

[<http://el-una.org/web/eluna-2008-conference>] 2008 Conference, Long
Beach, California.

Aug. 3–7:

International Association of School Librarianship,

[<http://www.iasl-online.org/events/conf/2008/index.htm>] Annual
Conference, “World Class Learning and Literacy through School Libraries,”
University of California at Berkeley. Contact: Blanche Woolls
[mailto:bwoolls@slis.sjsu.edu].

Aug. 4–5:

BCR, [<http://www.bcr.org/referencerenaissance/>] “A Reference Renaissance:
Current and Future Trends,” Four Points by Sheraton, Denver Southeast.
Contact: Justine Shaffner [mailto:jshaffne@bcr.org].

Aug. 10–14:

International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions,
[<http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla74/index.htm>] World Library and Information
Congress, Québec City.

Aug. 12:

Long Island Library Resources Council,

[<http://www.lilrc.org/calendars/eventdetail.php?eventID=518>] 6th
Symposium on Digitization, Sachem Public Library. Contact: Virginia
Antonucci-Gibbons [mailto:vantonuc@lilrc.org].

Aug. 14–15:

OCLC Western Digital Forum,

[<http://www.oclc.org/western/digitalforum/default.htm>] Hotel Murano,
Tacoma, Washington. “Making Digitization Count: Assessment and Evaluation
Practices.”

Aug. 27–31:

Society of American Archivists,

[<http://www.archivists.org/conference/sanfrancisco2008/program-call.asp>]
Annual Conference, Hilton San Francisco. “Archival R/Evolution and
Identities.”

Sept. 12–13:

Center for the History of Print Culture in Modern America,

[<http://slisweb.lis.wisc.edu/~printcul/STEMConferencePage.html>] University
of Wisconsin-Madison. “The Culture of Print in Science, Technology,
Engineering, and Medicine.” Contact: Christine Pawley
[mailto:cpawley@wisc.edu].

Sept. 14–18:

Ninth International Conference on Music Information Retrieval,

[<http://ismir2008.ismir.net/>] Drexel University, Philadelphia.

Sept. 17–18:

EDUCAUSE Learning Initiative,

[http://net.educause.edu/content.asp?SECTION_ID=360&bhcp=1] Fall Focus Session, Minneapolis. “Revisiting Learning Space Design.”

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

Contact Us

American Libraries Direct

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american libraries DIRECT

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | July 16, 2008

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SCHOOLROOMS
A new learning portal for K-12

- ✓ Teacher-selected Content
- ✓ 71 Subjects – Aligned to Curriculum
- ✓ 3 Million High-quality Pages Searchable



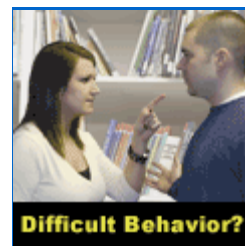
U.S. & World News

[Colorado book thief sentenced](#)

Thomas Pilaar, 34, who pleaded guilty in May to stealing thousands of items from Denver Public Library and the systems in nearby Aurora, Arapahoe County, and Douglas County, was sentenced July 8 to 10 years in prison and \$53,549 in restitution. Pilaar took about 1,400 books and DVDs by checking them out on his own and other people's library cards....

[Highsmith purchased by W. W. Grainger](#)

Library supply company Highsmith, headquartered in Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin, has been purchased by Lab Safety Supply, a direct-marketing subsidiary of Chicago-based facilities maintenance supplier W. W. Grainger. Terms of the acquisition, announced in the business press July 10, were not disclosed. The company is an ALA Library Champion and funds two ALA awards—PLA's Highsmith Library Innovation Award, and AASL's Highsmith Research Grant....



Difficult Behavior?

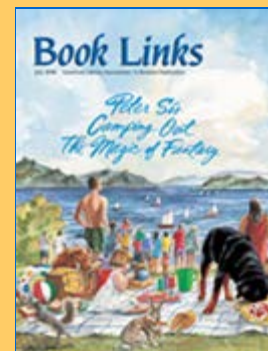
ALA News

[How has your library stepped up to the plate?](#)

The Campaign for America's Libraries is collecting stories from libraries across the country about how they have promoted the third season of "Step Up to the Plate @ your library." Best-practice examples will be posted to the "Step Up to the Plate" [website](#). From now until August 12, libraries are encouraged to submit stories, photos, and videos of their activities. Upload videos to the "Step Up to the Plate" group on YouTube, submit photos to the "Step Up to the Plate" group on Flickr, or submit a story by [email](#)....

[Host "Visions of the Universe"](#)

Public libraries are invited to [apply](#) to host "Visions of the Universe: Four Centuries of Discovery," a traveling exhibition developed by the ALA Public Programs Office, in cooperation with the Space Telescope



Looking for ways to get kids excited about history? The July issue of [Book Links](#) offers features on historical fiction for newly independent readers, interviews with award-winning historical writers Milton Meltzer and Susan Campbell Bartoletti, and a conversation with [Peter Sis](#) about his Cold War memoir *The Wall*. **NEW! From Book Links.**

Science Institute and the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory, to mark the International Year of Astronomy in 2009. The exhibit will travel to 40 selected public libraries from January 2009 through December 2010....

[Digital copyright slider](#)

The Office for Information Technology Policy is now offering a [digital copyright slider](#) to go alongside its physical one. Thanks to Michael Brewer, OITP Copyright Advisory Committee member and designer of both tools. Simply align the arrows by date of publication to determine a work's copyright status and term....

District Dispatch, July 16



[Retiring, or know someone who is?](#)

Sign up for "Capturing Our Stories," an initiative of ALA immediate Past President Lorie Roy intended to gather the life histories of experienced librarians as they exit their careers. The recordings and transcripts of these oral history interviews will become part of the ALA permanent archive. The project is hosted by the School of Information at the University of Texas, which is developing an interactive website to archive the interviews. Fill out the volunteer [interviewer](#) or [interviewee](#) forms....

University of Texas School of Information

[Libraries and e-government services](#)

ALA Council passed a resolution at Annual Conference urging Congress to reemphasize its commitment to support the role of libraries in delivering e-government services. The Public Library Funding and Technology Access study ([PDF file](#)) found that, every day, 74% of public library staff assisted federal, state, and local governments in achieving their missions....

[Support the National Agricultural Library](#)

ALA Council passed a resolution at Annual Conference urging Congress to fund the National Agricultural Library for fiscal year 2009 at the \$22-million level recommended by the House Agricultural Subcommittee. The NAL is the world's largest agricultural library, providing collections, journals, databases, and other data and information services that help citizens establish successful agricultural practices....



[Resolution on sound recordings](#)

ALA Council passed a resolution at Annual Conference on sound recordings made prior to February 1972, emphasizing the need for their preservation and accessibility. The Council urges Congress to charge the U.S. Copyright Office to study the desirability of bringing sound recordings made before February 15, 1972, under federal jurisdiction....

[ALA-APA passes living wage resolution](#)

The ALA-Allied Professional Association Council passed a living wage resolution for library employees at ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim. On June 30, the ALA-APA Standing Committee on the Salaries and Status of Library Workers brought forward a resolution supporting an increase in minimum salary for librarians to \$41,680 per year and library workers at \$13 an hour....

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Future ALA Midwinter Meeting and Annual Conference [dates and locations](#)

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Denver

2009, July 10–15
Chicago

2010, Jan. 15–20
Boston

2010, June 24–30
Washington, D.C.

2011, Jan. 7–12
San Diego

2011, June 23–29
New Orleans

2012, Jan. 20–25
Dallas

2012, June 21–27
Anaheim

2013, Jan. 25–30
Seattle

2013, June 27–July 3
Chicago

2014, Jan. 24–29
Philadelphia

2014, June 26–July 2

[Caldwell-Stone discusses banned books](#)

Deborah Caldwell-Stone, deputy director of the ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom, talks about the annual list of the top 10 banned books, as well as other issues related to intellectual freedom in the first of a two-part audio interview....

Visibility @ your library, July 11



AL Focus

[Anaheim conference wrap-up](#)

More than 22,000 attendees soaked up the rays in Anaheim, California, June 26–July 2 at the 2008 ALA Annual Conference. This compendium (4:12) of conference highlights includes such luminaries as Jamie Lee Curtis, Dean Koontz, Lisa Loeb, Wes Studi, Vernon Jordan, Ron Reagan, Khaled Hosseini, and Diahann Carroll, and events like the Parade of Bookmobiles, the Book Cart Drill Team Championship, and a musical number by members of RUSA. No, seriously....



[Speaking Technically, 2008](#)

Seven leading publishers share their insights on the future of reference databases at *American Libraries'* second annual "Speaking Technically" panel (8:31) at ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim. Moderated by *AL Direct* Editor George Eberhart, the panelists talk about their new products and ideas for enhanced services. The panel was comprised of representatives from Gale/Cengage Learning, Alexander Street Press, Ebrary, EBSCO Publishing, Greenwood Publishing Group, Capital IQ, and ProQuest....



- Las Vegas
- 2015**, Jan. 23–28
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- Los Angeles
- 2018**, June 21–27
- New Orleans
- 2019**, Jan. 25–30
- Seattle
- 2019**, June 20–26
- New York City

Career Leads from



[Library Director](#). Air Force Institute of Technology, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio. The Director has responsibility for all library operations including facilities, finance, human and information resources, technology, and is responsible for the effective management of AFIT's strategic partnership in library services with the Air Force Research Laboratory Technical Library....

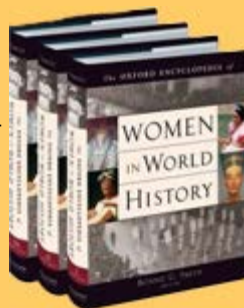
@ [More jobs...](#)

Booklist ONLINE

[Featured review: Reference](#)

Smith, Bonnie G. (editor). *The Oxford Encyclopedia of Women in World History*. Feb. 2008. 2,752 p. Oxford, hardcover (978-0-19-514890-9).

Aiming to survey "women's history in all parts of the world and at all times in the past," *The Oxford Encyclopedia of Women in World History* contains nearly 1,250 entries and subentries covering not only individual women but a very wide range of other topics, from *Brazil* to *Buddhism*, *Feminism* to *Footbinding*, and *Welfare state* to *Witchcraft*. Biographical coverage is "representative rather than exhaustive." The biographical entries are among the shortest—



Digital Library of the Week

generally less than a page in length—and, with a few exceptions, cover women who are deceased. Under *Polygamy* in the index, readers will find references to the practice in ancient China and Egypt, in Iraq, in Russia, and among the Aztecs, to name just a few. This global perspective, bolstered by the fact that the 900 or so contributors represent “some fifty countries around the world,” is one of the set’s most important contributions....

What gals read

Kaite Mediatore Stover writes: “I am easily infatuated. Nowhere does this happen more often than at my library’s service desk, where I develop a crush on almost every reader who asks for help finding the next good book. My reader-patrons make me think about books and reading in so many different ways, and they are a constant source of material for this column. I would be lost and jobless without them. This is my paean to the female readers who make me a readers’ advisor.”...



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



Duke University Libraries recently launched the [Sidney D. Gamble Photographs](#) collection of about 5,000 images taken primarily in China between 1917 and 1932 by the grandson of Procter and Gamble cofounder James Gamble. From 1908 to 1932, Sidney Gamble (1890–1968) visited China four times, traveling throughout the country to collect data for socioeconomic surveys and to photograph urban and rural life, public events, architecture, religious statuary, and the countryside. A sociologist, renowned China scholar, and avid amateur photographer, Gamble used some of the pictures to illustrate his books. The Sidney D. Gamble Photographs digital collection marks the first comprehensive public presentation of this large body of work that includes photographs of Korea, Japan, Hawaii, San Francisco, and Russia. His 1908 photographs will be digitized and uploaded as part of future additions to the site.

Do you know of a digital library collection that we can mention in this *AL Direct* feature? [Tell us about it.](#)

Division News

[YALSA adopts strategic plan, research journal](#)

The YALSA Board of Directors adopted a new strategic plan ([PDF file](#)) and voted to create a new online research journal at ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim. After months of discussions and input from YALSA members, leaders, and other stakeholders, the board created the nine-page document to create goals for the association and establish a vision for its future. The YALSA Research Committee will create a mission statement and refereeing process for the journal and submit them to the board at the 2009 Midwinter Meeting....

[Interview with YALSA President Sarah Debraski](#)

Newly inaugurated YALSA President Sarah Cornish Debraski answers burning questions about pop culture, YA librarianship and literature, leadership, and parenthood. Her best advice: “You don’t have to act like a teen to get along with teens. You can be approachable, friendly, warm, but don’t try to be something you’re not.”...

Pop Goes the Library, July 14



[YALSA establishes leadership endowment](#)

A new YALSA Leadership Endowment will support the development of future leaders both within the association and throughout the profession to ensure the future growth of the division and the field of young adult librarianship. To learn more, visit the YALSA [website](#)....

[AASL learning standards to get boost with L4L](#)

Public

The AASL Board of Directors approved the development of Learning 4 Life (L4L), a 3–5 year plan to nationally implement the “Standards for the 21st-Century Learner” and other guidelines being developed for school library media programs. Launch is scheduled for this fall....

[Five things you should read about copyright](#)

The ACRL Instruction Section’s Research and Scholarship Committee has launched a “5 Things” series of publications that focus on topics of importance to instruction librarians. The first is “5 Things You Should Read about Copyright and Sharing Instructional Materials” ([PDF file](#)), which offers material that helps articulate why sharing is important and gives concrete examples of successful sharing projects....



Round Table News

[ERT Silent Auction](#)

The Exhibits Round Table generated more than \$13,000 for ALA scholarships from its Silent Auction at ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim. See the prizes and check out the final bids on the World Wrestling Entertainment gift pack donated by Simon and Schuster and the flat-screen TV donated by ETS....

Awards

[YALS wins APEX Award](#)

YALSA’s quarterly journal *Young Adult Library Services* has received a 2008 [APEX Award](#) for Publication Excellence. The journal was recognized in the category of Journals and Magazines over 32 pages. The journal won for issues from its fifth and sixth volume, which were edited by Valerie Ott. The APEX Awards are based on excellence in graphic design, editorial content, and the success of the entry in achieving overall communications effectiveness and excellence....



[Swap and Shop Best of Show winners](#)

The LAMA Swap and Shop Committee announced the winners of the 2008 Best of Show awards June 29 at Annual Conference in Anaheim. The awards recognize the best library public relations and marketing materials from the previous year, across 12 material types and four budget categories. New this year were two video categories—one for videos 30 seconds and under, and one for videos 31 seconds to 5 minutes....

[RUSA Reference Research Grant](#)

RUSA has awarded a research grant of \$2,000 to a team of Kent State University Libraries and Media Services staff for its proposal titled “Building a Model of Excellent Reference Service Based on WOREP Data.” The WOREP (Wisconsin-Ohio Reference Evaluation Program) is a system that evaluates in-person reference services....

[LAMA/IIDA Interior Design Awards](#)

Winners of the LAMA/International Interior Design Association Awards were honored at a reception at ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim

Perception

How the World Sees Us

“There is one simple lesson to be learned from studying library history. Those administering, and those using, libraries have almost invariably faced a growth of knowledge, reflected in increasing numbers of books, that threatens to engulf each succeeding generation.”

—David McKitterick, “History of the Library,” in Peter Fox, ed., *Cambridge University Library: The Great Collections* (New York: Cambridge University, 1998).

Ask the ALA Librarian



Q. I’d like to plan some library instruction units for the younger classes in my school and use storytelling techniques more. How can I get started?

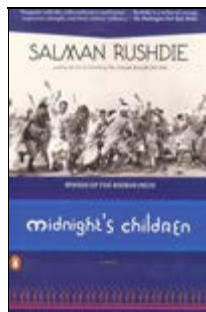
A. What a timely question! Most of the current issue of [Knowledge Quest](#), the member journal for AASL, is on the power of storytelling, particularly as it helps children shape their experience in relation

and will be featured in an upcoming issue of *Contract* magazine. The biennial awards honor excellence in library interior design, incorporating aesthetics, design creativity, function, and satisfaction of the client's objectives....

[Salman Rushdie wins Best of the Booker prize](#)

Salman Rushdie's 1981 novel *Midnight's Children* won the Best of the Booker award July 10, topping a public poll to select the most outstanding novel published in the past 40 years and burnishing the reputation of a book that garnered the Booker of Bookers prize 15 years ago. Rushdie defeated competition from six other finalists to honor the finest novel to have won the U.K.'s annual Man Booker Prize for Fiction since its inception....

Bloomberg, July 10



[Broward County wins five NACIO awards](#) (PDF file)

Broward County (Fla.) Library was selected as the recipient of five awards from the National Association of Counties. The annual awards competition drew entries from 22 states. Awards are given for both print and online media as well as for design and special projects. The library won two awards of excellence and three merit awards....

Broward County (Fla.) Library, July 16

Seen Online

[Google and Viacom agree to preserve user privacy](#)

The Google-Viacom showdown over the handover of YouTube user data appears to be over. The two sides agreed to changes in a previous ruling that would have required Google to hand over user ID's, IP addresses, and a list of all viewed YouTube videos to Viacom in connection with their ongoing copyright infringement litigation. The new order, filed July 14, states that Google will substitute user ID's and IP addresses for anonymous but unique identifiers....

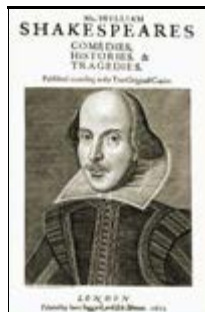
TechCrunch, July 14



[Book collector claims innocence in Durham Shakespeare theft](#)

A British man arrested over the theft of a First Folio edition of Shakespeare insisted July 13 he was the owner of a different book. Raymond Scott, 51, walked into Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington, D.C., two weeks ago with what experts say is a book stolen from Durham University Library in England in December 1998. But Scott claims the book seized by police in Sunderland was a different copy of the folio that he came across in Cuba through a friend of his 21-year-old fiancée....

Newcastle (U.K.) Journal, July 14



[Texas Archives wins suit over two historic documents](#)

Two documents related to the Texas Revolution and the Battle of the Alamo are on their way back to the Texas State Archives collection

to the world around them. There are tips on how to do storytelling and numerous bibliographies of [resources](#).

Interestingly, storytelling is a component of [knowledge management](#), as it is a means by which implicit knowledge is transferred for employee to employee in an organization. Also, indigenous cultures have relied on storytelling to transmit community knowledge, and we are now using the same for developing oral history, such as ALA Past President Lorlene Roy's initiative, ["Capturing our Stories: Developing a National Oral History Program of Retired/Retiring Librarians."](#) For good measure, the same issue (vol. 36, no. 5, May/June 2008) of *Knowledge Quest*, noted above, includes resources for world folktales. From the [ALA Professional Tips wiki](#).

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

Calendar

Aug. 14:
[ImaginOn, 2008 Technology Summit](#), Public Library of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County, North Carolina. "Digital

in Austin after a judge ruled that they belong to the people of Texas and not to the estate of a prominent Beaumont-area family. After a four-hour trial, Judge Ronald L. Walker in Jefferson County said July 11 that even though he ruled in favor of returning the documents to the state, he thinks former archivists should have been more rigorous decades ago in protecting historical materials....

Austin (Tex.) American-Statesman, July 12

[Three who voted out Margolis have links to city](#)

Three trustees of the Boston Public Library who voted to oust the library's longtime president Bernard A. Margolis last November have substantial business ties with the city, raising questions about their independence from Mayor Thomas M. Menino's administration. Each of the three trustees—Zamawa Arenas, Donna M. DePrisco, and Karyn M. Wilson—also failed to disclose those ties as required by the state conflict-of-interest law, according to a review of filings at the city clerk's office....

Boston Globe, July 13

[Bush Library suspends foreign donations](#)

Faced with a report that a rogue lobbyist urged an exiled Central Asian leader to support the George W. Bush Presidential Library to curry favor in Washington, library officials promised that no foreign money will be accepted until President Bush leaves office. The Houston-based lobbyist Stephen Payne resigned July 15 from a Homeland Security advisory committee studying border policy after he offered access to senior administration officials to two men posing as agents of Kyrgyzstan's former president if they donated to the Bush Library....

Dallas Morning News, July 17

[Bloomington pulls *Shortbus* from circulation](#)

A DVD called pornographic by a library customer has been pulled from the Bloomington (Ill.) Public Library shelves. Library Director Georgia Bouda said July 14 that a review by a library committee resulted in a unanimous agreement to remove the DVD of the independent film *Shortbus*, although removing material from the library is rare. Patron Bill Swearingen had complained about the movie....

Bloomington (Ill.) Pantagraph, July 15



[Socially awkward? Hit the books](#)

A group of Toronto researchers have compiled a body of evidence showing that bookworms have exceptionally strong people skills. Their years of research—summed up in an article by Keith Oatley in the June 28 issue of *New Scientist*—has shown that readers of narrative fiction scored higher on tests of empathy and social acumen than those who read nonfiction texts. And follow-up research showed that reading fiction may help fine-tune these skills: People assigned to read a *New Yorker* short story did better on social reasoning tests than those who read an essay from the same magazine....

Toronto Globe and Mail, July 10

[Stolen Torahs stun congregations](#)

During services in May, Rabbi Yosef Landa opened the holy ark in his St. Louis-area synagogue and reached for the sacred Torah. Stunned, he stopped. Members of the congregation gasped. One of two Torah

Youth Wired for Action." Featuring Anastasi Goodwin.

Sept. 4–6:

[La Red de Instituciones Mexicanas para la Cooperación Bibliotecaria](#),

Congreso Amigos 2008, Universidad de las Américas Puebla, San Andrés Cholula, Mexico. Contact: [Amigos](#).

Sept. 9–12:

[American Association for State and Local History](#), Annual

Meeting, Riverside Convention Center, Rochester, New York. "Discovering the Power of Transformation."

Sept. 18–21:

[Reforma](#), 3rd National Conference, Camino Real Hotel, El Paso, Texas. "Bridging the Gaps: Juntos @ the Border." Contact: [Carol Brey-Casiano](#).

Sept. 29–30:

[Fifth International Conference on the Preservation of Digital Objects, iPres 2008](#),

British Library Conference Centre, London. "Joined Up and Working: Tools and Methods for Digital Preservation."

Oct. 10–12:

[American Printing History Association](#),

33rd Conference, Grolier Club and Columbia University, New York City. "Saving the History of Printing." Contact: [APHA](#).

Oct. 24–29:

[American Society for](#)

scrolls stored in the repository was missing. The handwritten scroll is valued at about \$30,000—about the same as the three other Torah scrolls stolen in the past year in the United States....

Kansas City (Mo.) Star, July 11

[Missouri governor signs cyberbullying bill in library](#)

Missouri Gov. Matt Blunt signed into law a measure June 30 that targets stalking and harassment on the internet, just two miles from where a teenage girl killed herself in 2006 after receiving cruel messages online. The signing was held in the Middendorf-Kredell branch of the St. Charles City-County Library District in O'Fallon. The bill revises the state's harassment law by including telephone and electronic communications....

St. Louis Post-Dispatch, July 1

[Unique overdue collection firm employs seminarians](#)

Some 900 libraries in the U.S., Canada, the U.K., and Australia have retained a collection agency that works exclusively with libraries to recover property and get deadbeat borrowers to pay fines and fees. [Unique Management Services](#), in Jeffersonville, Indiana, doesn't use tough-talking, pay-us-or-we'll-ruin-your-credit collection agents. It employs seminarians. Who better than a future pastor to politely argue the moral probity of giving back what doesn't belong to you? The firm has even trademarked what it calls the "gentle nudge" process of persuading borrowers to repent and return....

Philadelphia Inquirer, July 13



[Inner city kids use library as escape from violence](#)

The Center Street branch of the Milwaukee Public Library is just blocks from where a shooting that killed four people shocked the city. Less than a week later, it's a place for young people to come and rent videos, read books, and sign on to the internet as if nothing in their lives has changed. "I haven't heard a lot about [the shooting] from the kids who come in, but I know they realize what happened," said Branch Manager Kirsten Thompson....

Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel, July 9

[Texas City library gets newspaper archive](#)

The Moore Memorial Public Library in Texas City, Texas, now has 95 years of newspaper microfilm that offers its patrons an unprecedented look at the city's history, including the infamous Texas City Disaster of April 1947. The microfilm, donated by the *Galveston County Daily News*, includes editions of the *Texas City Times* and *Texas City Sun* from 1909 to 2004....

Galveston County (Tex.) Daily News, July 9

Tech Talk

[A look at the iPhone 3G](#)

Ellyssa Kroski writes: "This month I had a [Library Technology Report](#) published on the mobile Web; however, it was written before Apple's release of the new iPhone 3G. This article attempts to provide a bit of an update to that, delineating some of the improvements to the device with its second issue as well as pointing out a few of the shortcomings that have been expressed by

[Information Science and Technology](#)

Annual Meeting, Hyatt Regency, Columbus, Ohio. "People Transforming Information: Information Transforming People."

Nov. 4–8:

[Association for Educational Communications and Technology](#)

International Convention, Buena Vista Palace Hotel, Orlando, Florida. "On the Horizon: Rays of Change."

Nov. 6–8:

[Association of American Colleges and Universities](#)

Providence, Rhode Island. "Engaging Science, Advancing Learning: General Education, Majors, and the New Global Century."

@ [More...](#)

Contact Us

American Libraries Direct



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

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Daniel Kraus,
Associate Editor:
dkraus@ala.org

Greg Landgraf,



early reviewers."...
iLibrarian, July 13

[What does it take to get a PC with XP?](#)

Christopher Null writes: "I won't waste time rehashing the argument over whether Windows Vista is any good. The fact remains that lots of people prefer Windows XP, and they'll go to great lengths to get it. The problem: Windows XP officially went off the market on June 30, and computer vendors aren't supposed to sell new machines configured with any version of Windows except Vista. Fortunately for XP enthusiasts and Vista vetoers, the PC marketplace still has a loophole or two in it."...

PC World, July 16

[Booksprouts: Taking book clubs online](#)

Kate writes: "If you do manage to eke out the time to participate in a book group, the last thing you want to spend it on is taking care of all the details about what to read and when to meet. Enter [Booksprouts](#), an online community designed specifically to help book clubs organize and communicate the details. Clubs can be open to the public or invitation-only, and you can either select the book for the group to read yourself or let group members nominate a title and then put them up to a vote."...

Infodoodads, July 11



[Shortcuts to juice up your BlackBerry](#)

Katherine Boehret writes: "If you're a BlackBerry user, you're probably getting tired of hearing about all the things Apple's iPhone can do. Rumor even has it that a more iPhone-like BlackBerry is in the works. But don't despond: Your current trusty emailing device has a few tricks up its sleeve that you may not know about."...

The Mossberg Solution, July 15

Publishing

[Anne Carroll Moore and the battle that reshaped children's literature](#)

Jill Lepore writes: "Anne Carroll Moore was born in Limerick, Maine, in 1871. When she was 24, she moved to New York, where she more or less invented the children's library. In 1906, the New York Public Library hired Moore to oversee children's programs at all the branch libraries and plan a Central Children's Room. Much of what Moore did in that room after it opened in 1911 had never been done before, or half as well." But she had a big problem with a mouse called Stuart Little....

New Yorker, July 21



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[New Kindle due in October](#)

An insider let slip that two new Amazon Kindle models will hit stores this holiday season, with the first coming as early as October. The first is an updated version with the same screen size, a smaller form factor, and an improved interface. The second new model, which is shaped like an 8 1/2 x 11-inch piece of paper, is considerably bigger than the current model and should be available next year. Both models should come in multiple colors aimed at younger readers....

CrunchGear, July 15

[You are not reading enough](#)

Columnist Mark Morford writes: "The question has been posed by agents and writers and a confused, hyperconsolidating publishing industry: What happened to all the readers? Overall, the message is bleak: Fewer writers of real talent are being discovered, fewer publishers are willing to take any sort of risk, and serious, literary-minded reading, that glorious pastime, that immersive and transportive and beautiful intellectual fertilizer, appears to be giving way to the more addictive but far less nourishing hellbeast of new media and the Net."...

San Francisco Chronicle, July 9



Actions & Answers

[More Gates grants for 11 states](#)

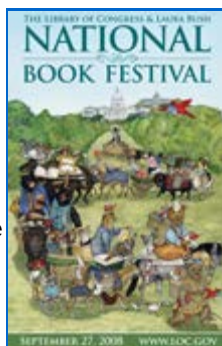
The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation announced \$8.1 million in grants July 15 to help public libraries in 11 states improve and sustain free, quality access to computers. These Opportunity Online grants specifically will help upgrade computer hardware in public libraries serving communities with high concentrations of poverty that are at risk of having outdated technology. This is the second of three rounds of Opportunity Online grants....

Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, July 15

[LC organizes 8th annual National Book Festival](#)

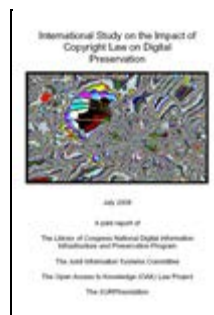
The [2008 National Book Festival](#), organized and sponsored by the Library of Congress and hosted by First Lady Laura Bush, will be held September 27 on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. Among some 70 authors and illustrators participating this year are Tiki Barber, Marc Brown, Salman Rushdie, Daniel Schorr, Alexander McCall Smith, Paul Theroux, and Dionne Warwick....

Library of Congress, July 14



[LC releases report on copyright and digital preservation](#)

The Library of Congress has released an *International Study on the Impact of Copyright Law on Digital Preservation* ([PDF file](#)), a joint effort of the LC National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program, the Joint Information Systems



Committee, the Open Access to Knowledge Law Project, and the SURFfoundation. One of its recommendations: "Allow preservation institutions to proactively preserve at-risk copyrighted materials before they deteriorate, are damaged, or are lost, and before any software or hardware required to access and use the material becomes obsolete."...

Library of Congress, July 14

[What do you do all day?](#)

Share the joys and challenges of working in a library by recording the details of your days for one week on your blog and adding a link to the Library Day in the Life wiki. It's a good way for your colleagues to see and compare how you spend your days, and students interested in the library profession can find out what we really do. See Bobbi Newman's [blog](#) for an example....

Library Day in the Life wiki; Librarian by Day, July 7

[New Jersey librarians trained at Trump's Casino](#)

The Trump Taj Mahal Casino and Resort in Atlantic City was the site of a unique training opportunity for librarians from across New Jersey. On June 19, Trump Entertainment Resorts and the New Jersey State Library partnered to offer customer service training to 120 library staff members. The idea for this unusual union was suggested by New Jersey State Librarian Norma Blake. The customer service training model used by Trump Entertainment Resorts is known as "Acknowledge, Connect, and Thank."...

New Jersey State Library, July 11



[American Heritage Preservation Program](#)

The Institute of Museum and Library Services and the Bank of America Charitable Foundation have announced the 2009 [guidelines](#) for the American Heritage Preservation Program. This new public-private partnership will fund the preservation of endangered and fragile art works, rare books, scientific specimens, and historical documents (photographs, maps, deeds) held in small and medium-sized museums, libraries, and archives. The deadline for applying for these grants of up to \$3,000 is September 15....

Institute of Museum and Library Services, July 10

[Help for Cedar Rapids Public Library](#)

The Cedar Rapids (Iowa) Public Library suffered extensive damage from flooding June 12–14. The entire adult collection was lost, and it may be one year or more before the building can be occupied again. Tax-deductible monetary donations (checks or money orders) may be sent to the CRPL Foundation, 500 First Street SE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52401....

Cedar Rapids (Iowa) Public Library



[Gamers, step up and be counted](#)

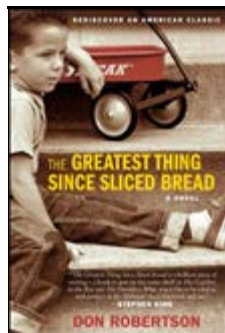
The Gaming Census is an annual survey done by Scott Nicholson, associate professor at Syracuse University's School of Information Studies, and is designed to collect information about gaming programs run in libraries. This can be any type of game (board, card, video, chess, puzzle) at any type of library during calendar year 2007. The focus is on gaming programs where libraries schedule an event of some type that features games. You can [take the survey](#) through July 31....

News about Games and Gaming, July 12

[Recommended airplane reading](#)

Nancy Pearl on NPR: "One of my worst nightmares is being stuck on a plane without a good book to read. Happily, after much trial and error—and packing far too many books—I've finally realized what makes a perfect carry-on book: It has to be complex enough to smother your annoyance when the guy in the row ahead reclines his seat into your lap, but not so intellectually challenging that it demands a dictionary." Here are some of her picks....

NPR *Morning Edition*, July 10



[What librarians can learn from Starbucks](#)

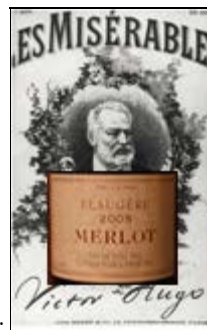
Steven Bell writes: "The announcement that Starbucks would close 600 stores and lay off approximately 1,200 employees has a fair number of analysts asking what happened. According to John Quelch, Starbucks was failing to sustain what made them so popular in the first place—the experience. But librarians can use that knowledge to help establish a more sustainable library user experience."...

Designing Better Libraries, July 11

[Bibliobeverages](#)

Keir Graff writes: "The ever-watchful George Eberhart sent this list to me as a suggestion for book groups to recommend beverages to match the books they are reading: Merlot with *Les Misérables*, Chianti with Petrarch, Mead with *Beowulf*, Cold Duck with Bukowski, and Constantia with Alan Paton. If we may move beyond fermenting to the craft of distilling, we could add even more pairings, like martinis with *The Thin Man*. Now that's a book group I'd love to join!"...

Likely Stories, July 15



[Academic libraries in China](#)

ALA President Jim Rettig writes: "The Chinese American Librarians Association invited me to participate in the 2008 Sino-U.S. Forum for Library Practice in Kunming, China. Speakers from China, all of them directors of university libraries, stressed the survival of the academic library as a recurrent theme. They cited the need for libraries to digitize the unique items in their special collections as a way to demonstrate the distinct contribution each can make. But they didn't address issues about the library's survival once these collections are digitized and as widely available as the contents of the Million Books project."...

Twilight Librarian, July 14

[What's the big deal? You just import it, right?](#)

Laurel Tarulli writes: "It never ceases to amaze me that some new

librarians (and not so new) continue to believe that catalogers just import and dump records into the catalog, without any editing. After all, who gives a fig about uniformity, misspellings, local subject headings, and access issues? Oh wait, they do—but only when faced with it at the front line. Where are library schools in this? Where does this ‘it’s just copy cataloging’ mentality come from?”...

The Cataloguing Librarian, July 14

[Bibliotheca Publicus: An endangered species](#)

Mixed media artist Mindy Nierenberg is one of five artists featured in “5 x 5,” the Tufts University Art Gallery Summer 2008 Exhibition in Medford, Massachusetts. Her site-specific art installation, “Bibliotheca Publicus: An Endangered Species,” calls attention to the current and very serious issue of public library budget cuts and highlights the importance of the public library to a democratic society and the public it serves. The installation includes library memorabilia and almost 200 discarded books, purchased through local Friends organizations....



I Love Libraries

[Librarians: One of cinema's invisible professions](#)

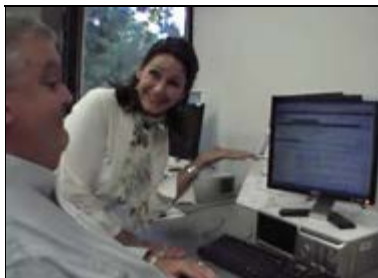
Moira Finnie examines the various films in which librarians have appeared as characters: “Despite the often trite and dismissive way that movies sometimes sought to treat libraries and librarians, a few films address real-life issues facing libraries in a non-stereotyped way. One of the best and least seen is *Storm Center* (1956), directed by Daniel Taradash for Columbia. Starring Bette Davis, it addressed the place of the public library in the life of the community, even when that community is uncomfortable with the ideas fostered by an institution.”...



Movie Morlocks, July 9

[Libraries are going to make it after all](#)

Valerie Ware plays a Mary Tyler Moore-like librarian who can save libraries from a predicted doom date of 2019 in this video (1:34) from Half Hollow Hills Community Library in Dix Hills, New York. Cowritten by Karen Cognato and Ellen Druda....



YouTube, July 12

AL Direct, July 16, 2008

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

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | July 16, 2008

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[<http://www.schoolrooms.net>]

[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

U.S. & World News

Colorado book thief sentenced

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/july2008/denverthiefsentenced.cfm>]

Thomas Pilaar, 34, who pleaded guilty in May to stealing thousands of items from Denver Public Library and the systems in nearby Aurora, Arapahoe County, and Douglas County, was sentenced July 8 to 10 years in prison and \$53,549 in restitution. Pilaar took about 1,400 books and DVDs by checking them out on his own and other people's library cards....

Highsmith purchased by W. W. Grainger

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/july2008/highsmithbought.cfm>]

Library supply company Highsmith, headquartered in Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin, has been purchased by Lab Safety Supply, a direct-marketing subsidiary of Chicago-based facilities maintenance supplier W. W. Grainger. Terms of the acquisition, announced in the business press July

10, were not disclosed. The company is an ALA Library Champion and funds two ALA awards—PLA’s Highsmith Library Innovation Award, and AASL’s Highsmith Research Grant....

ALA News

How has your library stepped up to the plate?

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/July2008/Stepupstory.cfm>]

The Campaign for America’s Libraries is collecting stories from libraries across the country about how they have promoted the third season of “Step Up to the Plate @ your library.” Best-practice examples will be posted to the “Step Up to the Plate” website.

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pio/campaign/sponsorship/stepup/stepup.cfm>] From now until August 12, libraries are encouraged to submit stories, photos, and videos of their activities. Upload videos to the “Step Up to the Plate” group on YouTube, submit photos to the “Step Up to the Plate” group on Flickr, or submit a story by email [<mailto:baseball@ala.org>]....

Host “Visions of the Universe”;

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/July2008/PPOuniverse.cfm>]

Public libraries are invited to apply

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/ppo/programs/currentprograms/visionsofuniverse/visionsuniverse.cfm>] to host “Visions of the Universe: Four Centuries of Discovery,” a traveling exhibition developed by the ALA Public Programs Office, in cooperation with the Space Telescope Science Institute and the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory, to mark the International Year of Astronomy in 2009. The exhibit will travel to 40 selected public libraries from January 2009 through December 2010....

Digital copyright slider [<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=557>]

The Office for Information Technology Policy is now offering a digital copyright slider [<http://librarycopyright.net/digitalslider/>] to go alongside its physical one. Thanks to Michael Brewer, OITP Copyright Advisory Committee member and designer of both tools. Simply align the arrows by date of publication to determine a work’s copyright status and term....

District Dispatch, July 16

Retiring, or know someone who is?

[<http://www.ischool.utexas.edu/~stories/faq/index.html>]

Sign up for “Capturing Our Stories,” an initiative of ALA immediate Past President Lorienne Roy intended to gather the life histories of experienced librarians as they exit their careers. The recordings and transcripts of these oral history interviews will become part of the ALA permanent archive. The project is hosted by the School of Information at the University of Texas, which is developing an interactive website to archive the interviews. Fill out the volunteer interviewer

[http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=rz4PXdoHaJNPRPUI2QTimA_3d_3d] or interviewee

[http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=8INzgCDoGPr4oGO0OQz24A_3d_3d]

forms....
University of Texas School of Information

Libraries and e-government services
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/July2008/CouncilResolutionEgov.cfm>]

ALA Council passed a resolution at Annual Conference urging Congress to reemphasize its commitment to support the role of libraries in delivering e-government services. The Public Library Funding and Technology Access study (PDF file [<http://www.ala.org/ala/ors/plftas/finalreport.pdf>]) found that, every day, 74% of public library staff assisted federal, state, and local governments in achieving their missions....

Support the National Agricultural Library
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/July2008/CouncilResolutionNAL.cfm>]

ALA Council passed a resolution at Annual Conference urging Congress to fund the National Agricultural Library for fiscal year 2009 at the \$22-million level recommended by the House Agricultural Subcommittee. The NAL is the world's largest agricultural library, providing collections, journals, databases, and other data and information services that help citizens establish successful agricultural practices....

Resolution on sound recordings
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/July2008/CouncilResolutionRecordings.cfm>]

ALA Council passed a resolution at Annual Conference on sound recordings made prior to February 1972, emphasizing the need for their preservation and accessibility. The Council urges Congress to charge the U.S. Copyright Office to study the desirability of bringing sound recordings made before February 15, 1972, under federal jurisdiction....

ALA-APA passes living wage resolution
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/July2008/APAresolutions.cfm>]
The ALA–Allied Professional Association Council passed a living wage resolution for library employees at ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim. On June 30, the ALA-APA Standing Committee on the Salaries and Status of Library Workers brought forward a resolution supporting an increase in minimum salary for librarians to \$41,680 per year and library workers at \$13 an hour....

Caldwell-Stone discusses banned books
[<http://www.pio.ala.org/visibility/?p=129>]
Deborah Caldwell-Stone, deputy director of the ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom, talks about the annual list of the top 10 banned books, as well as other issues related to intellectual freedom in the first of a two-part audio interview....
Visibility @ your library, July 11

AL Focus

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Anaheim conference wrap-up

[<http://alfocus.ala.org/videos/annual-2008-wrap>]

More than 22,000 attendees soaked up the rays in Anaheim, California, June 26–July 2 at the 2008 ALA Annual Conference. This compendium (4:12) of conference highlights includes such luminaries as Jamie Lee Curtis, Dean Koontz, Lisa Loeb, Wes Studi, Vernon Jordan, Ron Reagan, Khaled Hosseini, and Diahann Carroll, and events like the Parade of Bookmobiles, the Book Cart Drill Team Championship, and a musical number by members of RUSA. No, seriously....

Speaking Technically, 2008

[<http://alfocus.ala.org/videos/speaking-technically-2008>]

Seven leading publishers share their insights on the future of reference databases at American Libraries' second annual "Speaking Technically" panel (8:31) at ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim. Moderated by AL Direct Editor George Eberhart, the panelists talk about their new products and ideas for enhanced services. The panel was comprised of representatives from Gale/Cengage Learning, Alexander Street Press, Ebrary, EBSCO Publishing, Greenwood Publishing Group, Capital IQ, and ProQuest....

Featured review: Reference

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=2595961]

Smith, Bonnie G. (editor). *The Oxford Encyclopedia of Women in World History*. Feb. 2008. 2,752 p. Oxford, hardcover (978-0-19-514890-9). Aiming to survey "women's history in all parts of the world and at all times in the past," *The Oxford Encyclopedia of Women in World History* contains nearly 1,250 entries and subentries covering not only individual women but a very wide range of other topics, from Brazil to Buddhism, Feminism to Footbinding, and Welfare state to Witchcraft. Biographical coverage is "representative rather than exhaustive." The biographical entries are among the shortest—generally less than a page in length—and, with a few exceptions, cover women who are deceased. Under Polygamy in the index, readers will find references to the practice in ancient China and Egypt, in Iraq, in Russia, and among the Aztecs, to name just a few. This global perspective, bolstered by the fact that the 900 or so contributors represent "some fifty countries around the world," is one of the set's most important contributions....

What gals read

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=2868114]

Kaite Mediatore Stover writes: "I am easily infatuated. Nowhere does this happen more often than at my library's service desk, where I develop a crush on almost every reader who asks for help finding the next good book. My reader-patrons make me think about books and reading in so many different ways, and they are a constant source of material for this column. I would be lost and jobless without them. This is my paean to the female readers who make me a readers' advisor."...

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

Division News

YALSA adopts strategic plan, research journal

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/July2008/YALSAboard.cfm>]

The YALSA Board of Directors adopted a new strategic plan (PDF file [http://www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/aboutyalsab/StrategicPlan08_final.pdf]) and voted to create a new online research journal at ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim. After months of discussions and input from YALSA members, leaders, and other stakeholders, the board created the nine-page document to create goals for the association and establish a vision for its future. The YALSA Research Committee will create a mission statement and refereeing process for the journal and submit them to the board at the 2009 Midwinter Meeting....

Interview with YALSA President Sarah Debraski

[<http://www.popgoesthelibrary.com/2008/07/interview-with-yalsa-president-sarah.html>]

Newly inaugurated YALSA President Sarah Cornish Debraski answers burning questions about pop culture, YA librarianship and literature, leadership, and parenthood. Her best advice: “You don’t have to act like a teen to get along with teens. You can be approachable, friendly, warm, but don’t try to be something you’re not.”...

Pop Goes the Library, July 14

YALSA establishes leadership endowment

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/July2008/YALSAendowment.cfm>]

A new YALSA Leadership Endowment will support the development of future leaders both within the association and throughout the profession to ensure the future growth of the division and the field of young adult librarianship. To learn more, visit the YALSA website

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/givetoyalsa/give.cfm>]....

AASL learning standards to get boost with L4L

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/July2008/AASLl4l.cfm>]

The AASL Board of Directors approved the development of Learning 4 Life (L4L), a 3–5 year plan to nationally implement the “Standards for the 21st-Century Learner” and other guidelines being developed for school library media programs. Launch is scheduled for this fall....

Five things you should read about copyright

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/acrlbucket/is/iscommittees/webpages/research/fivethings/index.cfm>]

The ACRL Instruction Section’s Research and Scholarship Committee has launched a “5 Things” series of publications that focus on topics of importance to instruction librarians. The first is “5 Things You Should Read about Copyright and Sharing Instructional Materials” (PDF file [<http://www.ala.org/ala/acrlbucket/is/iscommittees/webpages/research/fivethings/5things2008spring.pdf>]), which offers material that helps articulate why sharing is important and gives concrete examples of successful sharing projects....

Round Table News

ERT Silent Auction [<http://ala.org/ala/ert/SilentAuction2008Items.cfm>]
The Exhibits Round Table generated more than \$13,000 for ALA scholarships from its Silent Auction at ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim. See the prizes and check out the final bids on the World Wrestling Entertainment gift pack donated by Simon and Schuster and the flat-screen TV donated by ETS....

Awards

wins APEX Award
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/July2008/YALSAapex.cfm>]
YALSA's quarterly journal Young Adult Library Services has received a 2008 APEX Award [<http://www.apexawards.com/>] for Publication Excellence. The journal was recognized in the category of Journals and Magazines over 32 pages. The journal won for issues from its fifth and sixth volume, which were edited by Valerie Ott. The APEX Awards are based on excellence in graphic design, editorial content, and the success of the entry in achieving overall communications effectiveness and excellence....

Swap and Shop Best of Show winners
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/July2008/LAMAbos.cfm>]
The LAMA Swap and Shop Committee announced the winners of the 2008 Best of Show awards June 29 at Annual Conference in Anaheim. The awards recognize the best library public relations and marketing materials from the previous year, across 12 material types and four budget categories. New this year were two video categories—one for videos 30 seconds and under, and one for videos 31 seconds to 5 minutes....

RUSA Reference Research Grant
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/July2008/RUSAGrant.cfm>]
RUSA has awarded a research grant of \$2,000 to a team of Kent State University Libraries and Media Services staff for its proposal titled "Building a Model of Excellent Reference Service Based on WOREP Data." The WOREP (Wisconsin-Ohio Reference Evaluation Program) is a system that evaluates in-person reference services....

LAMA/IIDA Interior Design Awards
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/July2008/LAMAiida.cfm>]
Winners of the LAMA/International Interior Design Association Awards were honored at a reception at ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim and will be featured in an upcoming issue of Contract magazine. The biennial awards honor excellence in library interior design, incorporating aesthetics, design creativity, function, and satisfaction of the client's objectives....

Salman Rushdie wins Best of the Booker prize

[<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601088&sid=aZOMIZNSKP94>]
Salman Rushdie's 1981 novel *Midnight's Children* won the Best of the Booker award July 10, topping a public poll to select the most outstanding novel published in the past 40 years and burnishing the reputation of a book that garnered the Booker of Bookers prize 15 years ago. Rushdie defeated competition from six other finalists to honor the finest novel to have won the U.K.'s annual Man Booker Prize for Fiction since its inception....
Bloomberg, July 10

Broward County wins five NACIO awards
[<http://www.broward.org/library/pdfs/nacio2008.pdf>] (PDF file)
Broward County (Fla.) Library was selected as the recipient of five awards from the National Association of Counties. The annual awards competition drew entries from 22 states. Awards are given for both print and online media as well as for design and special projects. The library won two awards of excellence and three merit awards....
Broward County (Fla.) Library, July 16

Seen Online

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Google and Viacom agree to preserve user privacy
[<http://www.techcrunch.com/2008/07/14/googleviacom-agree-to-preserve-user-anonymity-in-data-shakedown/>]
The Google-Viacom showdown over the handover of YouTube user data appears to be over. The two sides agreed to changes in a previous ruling that would have required Google to hand over user ID's, IP addresses, and a list of all viewed YouTube videos to Viacom in connection with their ongoing copyright infringement litigation. The new order, filed July 14, states that Google will substitute user ID's and IP addresses for anonymous but unique identifiers....
TechCrunch, July 14

Book collector claims innocence in Durham Shakespeare theft
[<http://www.journallive.co.uk/north-east-news/todays-news/2008/07/14/i-want-my-book-back-arrested-man-says-61634-21334433/>]
A British man arrested over the theft of a First Folio edition of Shakespeare insisted July 13 he was the owner of a different book. Raymond Scott, 51, walked into Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington, D.C., two weeks ago with what experts say is a book stolen from Durham University Library in England in December 1998. But Scott claims the book seized by police in Sunderland was a different copy of the folio that he came across in Cuba through a friend of his 21-year-old fiancée....
Newcastle (U.K.) Journal, July 14

Texas Archives wins suit over two historic documents
[<http://www.statesman.com/news/content/news/stories/local/07/12/0712txarchives.html>]
Two documents related to the Texas Revolution and the Battle of the Alamo are on their way back to the Texas State Archives collection in Austin after a judge ruled that they belong to the people of Texas and not to the estate of a prominent Beaumont-area family. After a four-hour trial,

Judge Ronald L. Walker in Jefferson County said July 11 that even though he ruled in favor of returning the documents to the state, he thinks former archivists should have been more rigorous decades ago in protecting historical materials....

Austin (Tex.) American-Statesman, July 12

Three who voted out Margolis have links to city

[http://www.boston.com/news/local/articles/2008/07/13/3_who_voted_out_bpl_head_have_business_links_to_city/]

Three trustees of the Boston Public Library who voted to oust the library's longtime president Bernard A. Margolis last November have substantial business ties with the city, raising questions about their independence from Mayor Thomas M. Menino's administration. Each of the three trustees—Zamawa Arenas, Donna M. DePrisco, and Karyn M. Wilson—also failed to disclose those ties as required by the state conflict-of-interest law, according to a review of filings at the city clerk's office....

Boston Globe, July 13

Bush Library suspends foreign donations

[http://www.dallasnews.com/sharedcontent/dws/news/localnews/stories/DN-bush_library_16nat.ART.State.Edition1.4d52a15.html]

Faced with a report that a rogue lobbyist urged an exiled Central Asian leader to support the George W. Bush Presidential Library to curry favor in Washington, library officials promised that no foreign money will be accepted until President Bush leaves office. The Houston-based lobbyist Stephen Payne resigned July 15 from a Homeland Security advisory committee studying border policy after he offered access to senior administration officials to two men posing as agents of Kyrgyzstan's former president if they donated to the Bush Library....

Dallas Morning News, July 17

from circulation

[<http://www.pantagraph.com/articles/2008/07/15/news/doc487bd33cd408e553526374.txt>]

A DVD called pornographic by a library customer has been pulled from the Bloomington (Ill.) Public Library shelves. Library Director Georgia Bouda said July 14 that a review by a library committee resulted in a unanimous agreement to remove the DVD of the independent film Shortbus, although removing material from the library is rare. Patron Bill Swearingen had complained about the movie....

Bloomington (Ill.) Pantagraph, July 15

Socially awkward? Hit the books

[<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/servlet/story/RTGAM.20080710.wlreading10/BNStory/lifeMain/home>]

A group of Toronto researchers have compiled a body of evidence showing that bookworms have exceptionally strong people skills. Their years of research—summed up in an article by Keith Oatley in the June 28 issue of New Scientist—has shown that readers of narrative fiction scored higher on tests of empathy and social acumen than those who read nonfiction texts. And follow-up research showed that reading fiction may help fine-tune these skills: People assigned to read a New Yorker short story did better on social reasoning tests than those who read an essay from

the same magazine....

Toronto Globe and Mail, July 10

Stolen Torahs stun congregations

[<http://www.kansascity.com/105/story/701961.html>]

During services in May, Rabbi Yosef Landa opened the holy ark in his St. Louis-area synagogue and reached for the sacred Torah. Stunned, he stopped. Members of the congregation gasped. One of two Torah scrolls stored in the repository was missing. The handwritten scroll is valued at about \$30,000—about the same as the three other Torah scrolls stolen in the past year in the United States....

Kansas City (Mo.) Star, July 11

Missouri governor signs cyberbullying bill in library

[<http://www.stltoday.com/stltoday/news/stories.nsf/stcharles/story/91992C9119D9C45E862574790012A16C?OpenDocument>]

Missouri Gov. Matt Blunt signed into law a measure June 30 that targets stalking and harassment on the internet, just two miles from where a teenage girl killed herself in 2006 after receiving cruel messages online. The signing was held in the Middendorf-Kredell branch of the St. Charles City-County Library District in O'Fallon. The bill revises the state's harassment law by including telephone and electronic communications....

St. Louis Post-Dispatch, July 1

Unique overdue collection firm employs seminarians

[http://www.philly.com/inquirer/home_region/20080713_Overdue_help_for_the_oter_lending_crisis.html]

Some 900 libraries in the U.S., Canada, the U.K., and Australia have retained a collection agency that works exclusively with libraries to recover property and get deadbeat borrowers to pay fines and fees. Unique Management Services, [<http://www.unique-mgmt.com/>] in Jeffersonville, Indiana, doesn't use tough-talking, pay-us-or-we'll-ruin-your-credit collection agents. It employs seminarians. Who better than a future pastor to politely argue the moral probity of giving back what doesn't belong to you? The firm has even trademarked what it calls the "gentle nudge" process of persuading borrowers to repent and return....

Philadelphia Inquirer, July 13

Inner city kids use library as escape from violence

[<http://www.jsonline.com/story/index.aspx?id=771014>]

The Center Street branch of the Milwaukee Public Library is just blocks from where a shooting that killed four people shocked the city. Less than a week later, it's a place for young people to come and rent videos, read books, and sign on to the internet as if nothing in their lives has changed. "I haven't heard a lot about [the shooting] from the kids who come in, but I know they realize what happened," said Branch Manager Kirsten Thompson....

Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel, July 9

Texas City library gets newspaper archive

[<http://galvestondailynews.com/story.lasso?ewcd=7f0dc110159d83ca>]

The Moore Memorial Public Library in Texas City, Texas, now has 95 years of newspaper microfilm that offers its patrons an unprecedented look at

the city's history, including the infamous Texas City Disaster of April 1947. The microfilm, donated by the Galveston County Daily News, includes editions of the Texas City Times and Texas City Sun from 1909 to 2004.... Galveston County (Tex.) Daily News, July 9

Tech Talk

A look at the iPhone 3G

[<http://oedb.org/blogs/ilibrarian/2008/a-look-at-the-iphone-3g/>]

Ellyssa Kroski writes: "This month I had a Library Technology Report [<http://www.techsource.ala.org/ltr/on-the-move-with-the-mobile-web-libraries-and-mobile-technologies.html>] published on the mobile Web; however, it was written before Apple's release of the new iPhone 3G. This article attempts to provide a bit of an update to that, delineating some of the improvements to the device with its second issue as well as pointing out a few of the shortcomings that have been expressed by early reviewers."...

iLibrarian, July 13

What does it take to get a PC with XP?

[http://www.pcworld.com/article/148450/what_does_it_take_to_get_a_pc_with_xp.html]

Christopher Null writes: "I won't waste time rehashing the argument over whether Windows Vista is any good. The fact remains that lots of people prefer Windows XP, and they'll go to great lengths to get it. The problem: Windows XP officially went off the market on June 30, and computer vendors aren't supposed to sell new machines configured with any version of Windows except Vista. Fortunately for XP enthusiasts and Vista vetoers, the PC marketplace still has a loophole or two in it."...

PC World, July 16

Booksprouts: Taking book clubs online [<http://infodoodads.com/?p=419>]

Kate writes: "If you do manage to eke out the time to participate in a book group, the last thing you want to spend it on is taking care of all the details about what to read and when to meet. Enter Booksprouts [<http://www.booksprouts.com>], an online community designed specifically to help book clubs organize and communicate the details. Clubs can be open to the public or invitation-only, and you can either select the book for the group to read yourself or let group members nominate a title and then put them up to a vote."...

Infodoodads, July 11

Shortcuts to juice up your BlackBerry

[<http://solution.allthingsd.com/20080715/a-few-shortcuts-to-juice-up-a-blackberry/>]

Katherine Boehret writes: "If you're a BlackBerry user, you're probably getting tired of hearing about all the things Apple's iPhone can do. Rumor even has it that a more iPhone-like BlackBerry is in the works. But don't despond: Your current trusty emailing device has a few tricks up its sleeve that you may not know about."...

The Mossberg Solution, July 15

Publishing

Anne Carroll Moore and the battle that reshaped children's literature

[http://www.newyorker.com/reporting/2008/07/21/080721fa_fact_lepore/?currentPage=all]

Jill Lepore writes: "Anne Carroll Moore was born in Limerick, Maine, in 1871. When she was 24, she moved to New York, where she more or less invented the children's library. In 1906, the New York Public Library hired Moore to oversee children's programs at all the branch libraries and plan a Central Children's Room. Much of what Moore did in that room after it opened in 1911 had never been done before, or half as well." But she had a big problem with a mouse called Stuart Little....

New Yorker, July 21

New Kindle due in October

[<http://www.crunchgear.com/2008/07/15/kindle-20-coming-around-october-2008/>]

An insider let slip that two new Amazon Kindle models will hit stores this holiday season, with the first coming as early as October. The first is an updated version with the same screen size, a smaller form factor, and an improved interface. The second new model, which is shaped like an 8 1/2 x 11-inch piece of paper, is considerably bigger than the current model and should be available next year. Both models should come in multiple colors aimed at younger readers....

CrunchGear, July 15

You are not reading enough

[<http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/g/a/2008/07/09/notes070908.DTL>]

Columnist Mark Morford writes: "The question has been posed by agents and writers and a confused, hyperconsolidating publishing industry: What happened to all the readers? Overall, the message is bleak: Fewer writers of real talent are being discovered, fewer publishers are willing to take any sort of risk, and serious, literary-minded reading, that glorious pastime, that immersive and transportive and beautiful intellectual fertilizer, appears to be giving way to the more addictive but far less nourishing hellbeast of new media and the Net."...

San Francisco Chronicle, July 9

[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

Actions & Answers

More Gates grants for 11 states

[<http://www.gatesfoundation.org/UnitedStates/USLibraryProgram/Announcements/Announce-080715.htm>]

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation announced \$8.1 million in grants July 15 to help public libraries in 11 states improve and sustain free, quality access to computers. These Opportunity Online grants specifically will help upgrade computer hardware in public libraries serving communities with high concentrations of poverty that are at risk of having outdated technology. This is the second of three rounds of Opportunity Online grants....

Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, July 15

[<http://www.loc.gov/bookfest/2008/poster.html>] LC organizes 8th annual National Book Festival [<http://www.loc.gov/today/pr/2008/08-125.html>]

The 2008 National Book Festival, [<http://www.loc.gov/bookfest/>] organized and sponsored by the Library of Congress and hosted by First Lady Laura Bush, will be held September 27 on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. Among some 70 authors and illustrators participating this year are Tiki Barber, Marc Brown, Salman Rushdie, Daniel Schorr, Alexander McCall Smith, Paul Theroux, and Dionne Warwick....

Library of Congress, July 14

LC releases report on copyright and digital preservation

[http://www.digitalpreservation.gov/news/2008/20080714news_article_wipo.html]

The Library of Congress has released an International Study on the Impact of Copyright Law on Digital Preservation (PDF file [http://www.digitalpreservation.gov/partners/resources/pubs/wipo_digital_preservation_final_report2008.pdf]), a joint effort of the LC National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program, the Joint Information Systems Committee, the Open Access to Knowledge Law Project, and the SURFfoundation. One of its recommendations: "Allow preservation institutions to proactively preserve at-risk copyrighted materials before they deteriorate, are damaged, or are lost, and before any software or hardware required to access and use the material becomes obsolete."...

Library of Congress, July 14

What do you do all day? [<http://librarydayinthelife.pbwiki.com/>]

Share the joys and challenges of working in a library by recording the details of your days for one week on your blog and adding a link to the Library Day in the Life wiki. It's a good way for your colleagues to see and compare how you spend your days, and students interested in the library profession can find out what we really do. See Bobbi Newman's blog [<http://librarianbyday.wordpress.com/2008/07/14/monday-a-day-in-the-life-of-a-librarian/>] for an example....

Library Day in the Life wiki; Librarian by Day, July 7

New Jersey librarians trained at Trump's Casino

[http://www.njstatelib.org/LDB/LibNetNews/news_item.php?item_id=1063]

The Trump Taj Mahal Casino and Resort in Atlantic City was the site of a unique training opportunity for librarians from across New Jersey. On June 19, Trump Entertainment Resorts and the New Jersey State Library partnered to offer customer service training to 120 library staff

members. The idea for this unusual union was suggested by New Jersey State Librarian Norma Blake. The customer service training model used by Trump Entertainment Resorts is known as “Acknowledge, Connect, and Thank.”...

New Jersey State Library, July 11

American Heritage Preservation Program

[<http://www.imls.gov/news/2008/071008.shtm>]

The Institute of Museum and Library Services and the Bank of America Charitable Foundation have announced the 2009 guidelines

[<http://www.imls.gov/collections/grants/boa.htm>] for the American Heritage Preservation Program. This new public-private partnership will fund the preservation of endangered and fragile art works, rare books, scientific specimens, and historical documents (photographs, maps, deeds) held in small and medium-sized museums, libraries, and archives. The deadline for applying for these grants of up to \$3,000 is September 15....

Institute of Museum and Library Services, July 10

[<http://crlibrary.info/photos/20080621-FloodDamage/index.html>] Help for Cedar Rapids Public Library [<http://crlibrary.info/>]

The Cedar Rapids (Iowa) Public Library suffered extensive damage from flooding June 12–14. The entire adult collection was lost, and it may be one year or more before the building can be occupied again.

Tax-deductible monetary donations (checks or money orders) may be sent to the CRPL Foundation, 500 First Street SE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52401....

Cedar Rapids (Iowa) Public Library

Gamers, step up and be counted

[<http://gaming.ala.org/news/2008/07/12/2007-gaming-census/>]

The Gaming Census is an annual survey done by Scott Nicholson, associate professor at Syracuse University’s School of Information Studies, and is designed to collect information about gaming programs run in libraries. This can be any type of game (board, card, video, chess, puzzle) at any type of library during calendar year 2007. The focus is on gaming programs where libraries schedule an event of some type that features games. You can take the survey

[http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=64bf17n2mW5s4QdKL6ctxg_3d_3d] through July 31....

News about Games and Gaming, July 12

Recommended airplane reading

[<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=91364064>]

Nancy Pearl on NPR: “One of my worst nightmares is being stuck on a plane without a good book to read. Happily, after much trial and error—and packing far too many books—I’ve finally realized what makes a perfect carry-on book: It has to be complex enough to smother your annoyance when the guy in the row ahead reclines his seat into your lap, but not so intellectually challenging that it demands a dictionary.” Here are some of her picks....

NPR Morning Edition, July 10

What librarians can learn from Starbucks

[<http://dbl.lishost.org/blog/2008/07/11/what-librarians-can-learn-from-starbucks-fall/>]

Steven Bell writes: “The announcement that Starbucks would close 600 stores and lay off approximately 1,200 employees has a fair number of analysts asking what happened. According to John Quelch, Starbucks was failing to sustain what made them so popular in the first place—the experience. But librarians can use that knowledge to help establish a more sustainable library user experience.”...

Designing Better Libraries, July 11

Bibliobeverages

[<http://blog.booklistonline.com/2008/07/15/booze-and-books/>]

Keir Graff writes: “The ever-watchful George Eberhart sent this list to me as a suggestion for book groups to recommend beverages to match the books they are reading: Merlot with *Les Misérables*, Chianti with Petrarch, Mead with *Beowulf*, Cold Duck with Bukowski, and Constantia with Alan Paton. If we may move beyond fermenting to the craft of distilling, we could add even more pairings, like martinis with *The Thin Man*. Now that’s a book group I’d love to join!”...

Likely Stories, July 15

Academic libraries in China

[<http://jimrettig.org/blog/2008/07/14/academic-libraries-and-survival/>]

ALA President Jim Rettig writes: “The Chinese American Librarians Association invited me to participate in the 2008 Sino-U.S. Forum for Library Practice in Kunming, China. Speakers from China, all of them directors of university libraries, stressed the survival of the academic library as a recurrent theme. They cited the need for libraries to digitize the unique items in their special collections as a way to demonstrate the distinct contribution each can make. But they didn’t address issues about the library’s survival once these collections are digitized and as widely available as the contents of the Million Books project.”...

Twilight Librarian, July 14

What’s the big deal? You just import it, right?

[<http://laureltarulli.wordpress.com/2008/07/14/what%e2%80%99s-the-big-deal-you-just-import-it-right/>]

Laurel Tarulli writes: “It never ceases to amaze me that some new librarians (and not so new) continue to believe that catalogers just import and dump records into the catalog, without any editing. After all, who gives a fig about uniformity, misspellings, local subject headings, and access issues? Oh wait, they do—but only when faced with it at the front line. Where are library schools in this? Where does this ‘it’s just copy cataloging’ mentality come from?”...

The Cataloguing Librarian, July 14

Bibliotheca Publicus: An endangered species

[<http://www.ilovelibraries.org/news/topstories/bibliothecapublicus.cfm>]

Mixed media artist Mindy Nierenberg is one of five artists featured in “5 x 5,” the Tufts University Art Gallery Summer 2008 Exhibition in Medford, Massachusetts. Her site-specific art installation, “Bibliotheca Publicus: An Endangered Species,” calls attention to the current and very serious issue of public library budget cuts and highlights the importance of the public library to a democratic society and the public it serves. The installation includes library

memorabilia and almost 200 discarded books, purchased through local Friends organizations....

I Love Libraries

Librarians: One of cinema's invisible professions

[<http://moviemorlocks.com/2008/07/09/the-invisible-professions/>]

Moira Finnie examines the various films in which librarians have appeared as characters: "Despite the often trite and dismissive way that movies sometimes sought to treat libraries and librarians, a few films address real-life issues facing libraries in a non-stereotyped way. One of the best and least seen is Storm Center (1956), directed by Daniel Taradash for Columbia. Starring Bette Davis, it addressed the place of the public library in the life of the community, even when that community is uncomfortable with the ideas fostered by an institution."...

Movie Morlocks, July 9

Libraries are going to make it after all

[<http://youtube.com/watch?v=-fqpY97S0xU>]

Valerie Ware plays a Mary Tyler Moore-like librarian who can save libraries from a predicted doom date of 2019 in this video (1:34) from Half Hollow Hills Community Library in Dix Hills, New York. Cowritten by Karen Cognato and Ellen Druda....

YouTube, July 12

[<http://www.preparetraining.com/landing/08ptpadsaz806.asp>]

=====

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/productsandpublications/periodicals/booklinks/currentissue/currentissue.cfm>]

Looking for ways to get kids excited about history? The July issue of Book Links

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/productsandpublications/periodicals/booklinks/booklinks.cfm>]

offers features on historical fiction for newly independent readers, interviews with award-winning historical writers Milton Meltzer and Susan Campbell Bartoletti, and a conversation with Peter Sí

[http://www.ala.org/ala/booklinksbucket/talking_with_peter_sis.cfm] about his Cold War memoir The Wall. NEW! From Book Links.

In this issue

June/July 2008

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/tableofcontents/2008contents/junjuly2008.cfm>]

Your Circle of Wellness

Be Outstanding in Your Fieldwork

Conference Preview: California Dreamin'

Tastes for All Tastes

California Libraries: Places of Diversity

Future ALA Midwinter Meeting and Annual Conference dates and locations

[<http://ala.org/ala/confservices/upcoming/upcomingconferences.cfm>]

2009, Jan. 23–28

Denver

2009, July 10–15

Chicago

2010, Jan. 15–20

Boston

2010, June 24–30

Washington, D.C.

2011, Jan. 7–12

San Diego

2011, June 23–29

New Orleans

2012, Jan. 20–25

Dallas

2012, June 21–27

Anaheim

2013, Jan. 25–30

Seattle

2013, June 27–July 3

Chicago

2014, Jan. 24–29

Philadelphia

2014, June 26–July 2

Las Vegas

2015, Jan. 23–28

Chicago

2015, June 25–July 1

San Francisco

2016, Jan. 22–27

Boston

2016, June 23–29

Orlando

2017, Jan. 20–25

Atlanta

2017, June 22–28

Chicago

2018, Jan. 19–24

Los Angeles

2018, June 21–27

New Orleans

2019, Jan. 25–30

Seattle

2019, June 20–26

New York City

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

Library Director,
[<http://joblist.ala.org/modules/jobseeker/controller.cfm?scr=jobdetail&jobid=11199>] Air Force Institute of Technology, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio. The Director has responsibility for all library operations including facilities, finance, human and information resources, technology, and is responsible for the effective management of AFIT's strategic partnership in library services with the Air Force Research Laboratory Technical Library....

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

Digital Library of the Week

[<http://library.duke.edu/digitalcollections/gamble.284-1626/pg.1/>]

Duke University Libraries recently launched the Sidney D. Gamble Photographs [<http://library.duke.edu/digitalcollections/gamble/>] collection of about 5,000 images taken primarily in China between 1917 and 1932 by the grandson of Procter and Gamble cofounder James Gamble. From 1908 to 1932, Sidney Gamble (1890–1968) visited China four times, traveling throughout the country to collect data for socioeconomic surveys and to photograph urban and rural life, public events, architecture, religious statuary, and the countryside. A sociologist, renowned China scholar, and avid amateur photographer, Gamble used some of the pictures to illustrate his books. The Sidney D. Gamble Photographs digital collection marks the first comprehensive public presentation of this large body of work that includes photographs of Korea, Japan, Hawaii, San Francisco, and Russia. His 1908 photographs will be digitized and uploaded as part of future additions to the site.

Do you know of a digital library collection that we can mention in this AL Direct feature? Tell us about it. [<mailto:aldirect@ala.org>]

Public Perception
How the World
Sees Us

“There is one simple lesson to be learned from studying library history. Those administering, and those using, libraries have almost invariably faced a growth of knowledge, reflected in increasing numbers of books, that threatens to engulf each succeeding generation.”

?David McKitterick, "History of the Library," in Peter Fox, ed., Cambridge University Library: The Great Collections (New York: Cambridge University, 1998).

Ask the ALA Librarian

Q. I'd like to plan some library instruction units for the younger classes in my school and use storytelling techniques more. How can I get started?

A. What a timely question! Most of the current issue of Knowledge Quest, [<http://www.ala.org/ala/aasl/aaslpubsandjournals/kqweb/aboutkq/aboutkq.cfm>] the member journal for AASL, is on the power of storytelling, particularly as it helps children shape their experience in relation to the world around them. There are tips on how to do storytelling and numerous bibliographies of resources.

[<http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Storytelling>]

Interestingly, storytelling is a component of knowledge management [http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Knowledge_Management], as it is a means by which implicit knowledge is transferred for employee to employee in an organization. Also, indigenous cultures have relied on storytelling to transmit community knowledge, and we are now using the same for developing oral history, such as ALA Past President Lorlene Roy's initiative, "Capturing our Stories: Developing a National Oral History Program of Retired/Retiring Librarians";

[<http://www.ischool.utexas.edu/~stories/faq/index.html>] For good measure, the same issue (vol. 36, no. 5, May/June 2008) of Knowledge Quest, noted above, includes resources for world folktales. From the ALA Professional Tips wiki

[http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Resources_for_Storytelling].

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

Calendar

Aug. 14:

ImaginOn, 2008 Technology Summit,

[<https://www.ctcharlotte.org/store/index.php?catid=618>] Public Library of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County, North Carolina. "Digital Youth Wired for Action." Featuring Anastasi Goodwin.

Sept. 4–6:

La Red de Instituciones Mexicanas para la Cooperación

Bibliotecaria, [<http://ciria.udlap.mx/amigos/congreso/>] Congreso Amigos 2008, Universidad de las Américas Puebla, San Andrés Cholula, Mexico. Contact: Amigos [<mailto:amigos.info@udlap.mx>].

Sept. 9–12:

American Association for State and Local History, [<http://www.aaslh.org/anmeeting.htm>] Annual Meeting, Riverside Convention Center, Rochester, New York. “Discovering the Power of Transformation.”

Sept. 18–21:

Reforma, [http://www.geocities.com/rnc_3/index.htm] 3rd National Conference, Camino Real Hotel, El Paso, Texas. “Bridging the Gaps: Juntos @ the Border.” Contact: Carol Brey-Casiano. [<mailto:breycx@elpasotexas.gov>]

Sept. 29–30:

Fifth International Conference on the Preservation of Digital Objects, iPres 2008, [<http://www.bl.uk/ipres2008/programme.html>] British Library Conference Centre, London. “Joined Up and Working: Tools and Methods for Digital Preservation.”

Oct. 10–12:

American Printing History Association, [<http://printinghistory.org/htm/conference/index.htm>] 33rd Conference, Grolier Club and Columbia University, New York City. “Saving the History of Printing.” Contact: APHA [<mailto:apha2008conference@gmail.com>].

Oct. 24–29:

American Society for Information Science and Technology, [<http://www.asis.org/Conferences/AM08/>] Annual Meeting, Hyatt Regency, Columbus, Ohio. “People Transforming Information: Information Transforming People.”

Nov. 4–8:

Association for Educational Communications and Technology, [<http://www.aect.org/events/Orlando/default.asp>] International Convention, Buena Vista Palace Hotel, Orlando, Florida. “On the Horizon: Rays of Change.”

Nov. 6–8:

Association of American Colleges and Universities, [http://www.aacu.org/meetings/engaging_science/index.cfm] Providence, Rhode Island. “Engaging Science, Advancing Learning: General Education, Majors, and the New Global Century.”

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

Contact Us

American Libraries Direct

AL Direct is a free electronic newsletter emailed every Wednesday to personal members of the American Library Association [<http://www.ala.org>].

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american libraries DIRECT

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | July 23, 2008

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SCHOOLROOMS
A new learning portal for K-12

- ✓ Teacher-selected Content
- ✓ 71 Subjects – Aligned to Curriculum
- ✓ 3 Million High-quality Pages Searchable

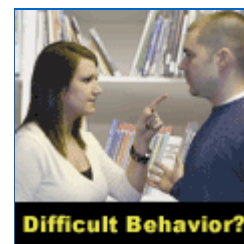


american
libraries
BUYERS GUIDE

U.S. & World News

[Gannett releases searchable public library trends database](#)

Gannett News Service released a searchable [database](#) July 17 that compares trends affecting public library systems between 2002 and 2006. The analysis used data from the National Center for Education Statistics as well as statistics collected from state library data coordinators, compared figures for the some 9,200 library systems, and found that library visits increased by roughly 10% during that five-year period and circulation of materials rose by 9%. The database also offers lists of public libraries with the highest [circulation](#) per capita, the most internet-capable [computers](#) per capita, and the highest [operating expenses](#) per capita (all 2006 data)....



[Child Online Protection Act gets third strike](#)

After a decade of federal litigation and two decisions that were returned to lower courts from the Supreme Court for further review, the Third Circuit Court of Appeals July 22 unanimously declared unconstitutional for the third time the Child Online Protection Act of 1998 on First and Fifth Amendment grounds. "The government has no more right to censor the internet than it does books and magazines," Chris Hansen, ACLU senior staff attorney, remarked after the ruling was handed down....

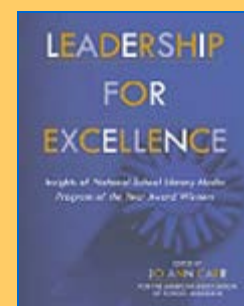
[ACLU challenges expanded FISA powers](#)

President George Bush signed into law July 10 the FISA Amendments Act of 2008, a bill expanding legal authority for wiretaps by spy agencies that has been hotly debated since the February expiration of the Protect America Act. Within hours of the bill's signing, the American Civil Liberties Union filed suit in the U.S. Southern District Court of New York challenging its constitutionality on First and Fourth Amendment grounds....

[Batavia relocates Planned Parenthood link](#)

Batavia (Ill.) Public Library has moved a link to Planned Parenthood's

teenwire.com®



How do the most successful school library media specialists play a leading role in student achievement in their schools? In [Leadership for Excellence](#), Jo Ann Carr and AASL share behind-the-scenes details and best practices, including how and why top programs succeed, get funding, and become integral contributors in their school communities. **NEW!**
From ALA Editions.

Teenwire sex education website from the "Young Adult" page on BPL's website to the general health section of its "Web Reference" page. The board voted 4-2 to move the link July 15 in response to resident Kerry Knott's request to have it removed from the site entirely....



Four Great Conferences At One Site! Something For Everyone!
KLA/KSMA/SELA/ARL
National Diversity in Libraries Conference: "Spectrum of the Future"
October 1-4, 2008, Louisville Marriott Downtown, Louisville, Kentucky

ALA News

Summer programs @ your library

Libraries across the country are using the "@ your library" brand to promote summer programming. In order to help patrons escape the summer heat and the increasing cost of movie tickets, Perry (Okla.) Carnegie Library will host "Cool off with summer movies @ your library." The Bossier (La.) Central Library (right) partnered with its local game shop to sponsor "Gaming @ your library."...



ALA sends letters to Democrats and Republicans

ALA sent letters to the Democratic National Committee ([PDF file](#)) and the Republican National Committee ([PDF file](#)) July 18 suggesting important library issues that should be taken into consideration in forming their respective platforms. Access to information is a central theme, emphasizing its importance to the public good. Providing affordable broadband to libraries is also a highlight of the message sent to the committees....

District Dispatch, July 18

ALA seeks Endowment Fund trustee candidates

Nominations are being accepted for the position of Endowment Trustee for the ALA Endowment Fund. The candidate will be selected by the ALA Executive Board at the ALA Midwinter Meeting, January 23-28, in Denver. The new trustee will serve a three-year term that will officially begin at the conclusion of the 2009 ALA Annual Conference in Chicago....

AL Focus

Cory Doctorow on privacy

Protecting reader privacy and confidentiality has long been an integral part of the mission of ALA. Author Cory Doctorow discusses (13:24) the importance of privacy and what's at stake if its persistent erosion continues unchecked. Part of a panel presented by the Office for Intellectual Freedom at the 2008 Annual Conference in Anaheim, California....



Jamie Lee Curtis and

In this issue

August 2008



Wikipedia and Literacy Skills

Reframing Gaming

Gratitude As a Catalyst

Speaking Technically

Details from Disneyland



ALA's new privacy rights initiative is intended to inspire library patrons to stand with librarians as they fight to usher in privacy standards in the digital age. The initiative responds to the ALA Council resolution calling for a national conversation on privacy, passed at the 2006 Annual Conference in New Orleans. [Take the Privacy Revolution Survey!](#) It should take only 5-10 minutes to complete. If you have any questions, please send an email to [Deborah Caldwell-Stone](mailto:Deborah.Caldwell-Stone@ala.org).

children's literature

Actor and author Jamie Lee Curtis entertains an audience of children and parents June 30 at the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim (4:36). After warming up the crowd with her infant impersonation, Curtis reads from her new book *Big Words for Little People* and explains how she found the idea for her first book. Then she speculates on why celebrities find themselves compelled to write children's books....



Booklist Forum on the post-9/11 novel

Booklist Online Senior Editor Keir Graff (*My Fellow Americans*) leads a panel of distinguished authors discussing the burgeoning genre of post-9/11 literature at the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim (6:50). Carolyn See (*Golden Days*) speaks about conflating personal and global catastrophe, Janette Turner Hospital (*Due Preparations for the Plague*) talks about her visit to Ground Zero and how it influenced her book, and Ellen Gilchrist (*A Dangerous Age*) expresses her certainty that someone will one day write the definitive 9/11 book....



David Lee King at conference

David Lee King of the Topeka and Shawnee County (Kans.) Public Library offers a first-person travelogue (4:18) of his experience at ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim. In between searching for swag in the exhibit hall and crashing Open Gaming Night and the OCLC Blogger's Salon, he takes a peek at Council, gets lost while traveling to a session, and shows us what geeks do at Disneyland (above)....



Career Leads from

ALA JobLIST

Music Special Collections Librarian

University of Colorado at Boulder. As one of the largest music libraries in the Rocky Mountain region, the Howard B. Waltz Music Library is committed to developing its special collections. This position is primarily responsible for overseeing the special and archival collections of the Music Library, including the holdings of the American Music Research Center. Duties include assisting researchers with the collections; providing access to the materials; coordinating digital projects utilizing the collections; and various collection development and donor relations responsibilities....

@ [More jobs...](#)

Booklist

ONLINE

Featured review: Adult books

Sittenfeld, Curtis. *American Wife*. Sept. 2008. 576p. Random House, hardcover (978-1-4000-6475-5).

In her bold third novel, the author of the best-selling *Prep* (2005) presents a fictional portrait of First Lady Laura Bush, although she changes some important details. In a memoir told entirely in the first person, Alice Blackwell relays her unlikely ascent to the White House from her humble Wisconsin beginnings. She conveys in convincing, thoroughly riveting detail a life far more



Digital Library of the Week



Princeton University's **Seeley G. Mudd Manuscript Library** offers a digital collection of more than 500 historical postcards

complicated than it appears on the surface—the moment she discovered that her beloved grandmother was a lesbian; a tragic, life-changing car accident she had as a teenager; the friendship she willingly sacrificed with her best friend when she started dating the good-humored, athletic Charlie Blackwell; and her uncomfortable initiation into the tight-knit, immensely wealthy Blackwell family, run with unflappable authority by its formidable matriarch. No one is more surprised than Alice when her hard-drinking, sports-team-owning husband morphs into a born-again Christian with political ambitions....

What guys read

David Wright writes: "This is the readers'-advisory issue, and I'm a readers' advisor, so rather than pushing books, I'd like to tell you about some of the guys I've had the pleasure to discuss books with.



Such as the wide-eyed young fellow who strode up to me and announced his intention to read the classics, 'all of them,' and insisted on leaving with *The Pilgrim's Progress*, despite my best efforts to steer him to something less excruciating. I never did see him again. Then there was the tattooed, aloof Chuck Palahniuk fan who eyed me skeptically until I mentioned Luke Rinehart's infamous *The Dice Man*, a secret handshake that established me as his brother in some creepy secret society with unspeakable hazing rituals."...

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

depicting the Princeton campus and the towns surrounding it. Featuring both monochrome and color postcards, the bulk of the [Historical Postcard Collection](#)

ranges in date from 1900 through the 1960s. Both unmarked and canceled postcards exist in the collection, and several postcard makers are represented.

Do you know of a digital library collection that we can mention in this *AL Direct* feature? [Tell us about it.](#)

Public Perception

How the World Sees Us

"I suppose it's possible that Mayor Perez has in mind a kind of Mad Max gladiator spectacle in which ragged, yellow-eyed librarians would battle against docents from the Old State House and tour guides from the Mark Twain House for scraps of public resources. I picture, at the end, Hartford chief librarian Louise Blalock rollerskating around and around the outer edge of the arena with the severed head of Twain House director Jeffrey Nichols tucked under her arm, while we in the stands chant her name in a mindless frenzy."

—Columnist Colin McEnroe, commenting on Mayor Eddie

Division News

New RBM editor named

ACRL has named Beth Whittaker, head of special collections cataloging at Ohio State University, editor of *RBM: A Journal of Rare Books, Manuscripts, and Cultural Heritage*. Whittaker served on the *RBM* editorial board from 2006–2008 and brings in-depth knowledge of the world of rare books and manuscripts to the biannual publication. Her three-year appointment as editor begins immediately....

New PLA Tech Notes

PLA has published new titles in its *Tech Notes* series, which provides technical information on issues affecting public libraries using contemporary technology. The [newest titles](#), written by technology consultant and writer Richard W. Boss, are on wireless LANs, automated storage and retrieval, open source ILS systems, and Unicode....



Awards

Immroth Memorial Awards for Intellectual Freedom

Lisa Scherff (left), assistant professor of English education at the University of Alabama, and Jane Smith, library media specialist for the Tuscaloosa County (Ala.) School System, have received the 2008 John Phillip



Immroth Memorial Award for Intellectual Freedom. Scherff and Smith led an effort that prevented the Tuscaloosa County Board from removing the book *Sandpiper* from Brookwood High School in Tuscaloosa....

[New ALA award for best book in library literature](#)

From 2009 through 2013, the Greenwood Publishing Group Award for the Best Book in Library Literature will consist of \$5,000 and a commemorative plaque. It will be given to an author or coauthors whose work exemplifies excellence in library and information studies. The award was established at the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, California....

[NSLMPY Award applications](#)

The application for the 2009 AASL National School Library Media Program of the Year Award is now available online for member [download](#) and submission. The deadline is January 2. The NSLMPY award honors school library media programs, at both a school and district level, that ensure students and staff are effective users of ideas and information....

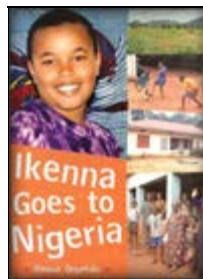
[ALSC scholarship winners](#)

ALSC has announced the 2008 recipients of the Frederic G. Melcher and Bound to Stay Bound Books Scholarships. The scholarships are awarded annually to students who plan to enter ALA-accredited programs, obtain a master's degree in library science, and specialize in library service to children....

[2008 Children's Africana Book Awards](#)

Ifeoma Onyefulu is the winner of the Best Africana Book for Young Children Award for *Ikenna Goes to Nigeria* (Frances Lincoln Children's Books, 2007). The book focuses on Onyefulu's son Ikenna and photographs his visit to his mother's Nigerian homeland. The Children's Africana Book Awards were established in 1991 by the Outreach Council of the African Studies Association to encourage the publication and use of accurate, balanced children's materials on Africa in U.S. schools and libraries....

African Studies Association



[Violette is distinguished Hoosier](#)

Judith L. Violette, director of the Helmke Library at Indiana University–Purdue University Fort Wayne, has received the Distinguished Hoosier Award. The award, issued by Gov. Mitch Daniels, recognizes significant contributions of individuals to Indiana that "endear them in the hearts and minds of all Hoosiers." The award was presented by Indiana State Librarian Roberta Brooker at a July 18 retirement celebration held in Violette's honor....



Perez's suggestion that the city take over the Hartford Public Library, in "Librarians Vs. Docents in Perezdome," *Hartford (Conn.) Courant*, July 20.

Ask the ALA Librarian



Q. With the economic downturn, our little library seems to have more people seeking employment resources and not able to provide a permanent address when they apply for their library card, which is required for computer privileges. Does ALA have any policies to help guide us?

A. Yes, we do. In 1990, the ALA Council adopted Section 61 of the ALA Policy Manual, [Library Services for the Poor](#). This policy starts off by saying, "The American Library Association promotes equal access to information for all persons, and recognizes the urgent need to respond to the increasing number of poor children, adults, and families in America." At the recent ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, the ALA Social Responsibilities

Fort Wayne (Ind.) Daily News, July 21

[Lahr named Federal Librarian of the Year](#)

Thomas F. Lahr, deputy associate chief biologist for information at the U.S. Geological Survey, has been named 2007 Federal Librarian of the Year by the Federal Library and Information Center Committee of the Library of Congress. Lahr has led the development of new ways to integrate and deliver information and has initiated USGS public and private partnerships with a wide variety of organizations....

U.S. Geological Survey, July 22



Seen Online

[Hartford considers library takeover](#)

Mayor Eddie Perez and city council leaders of Hartford, Connecticut, are so ticked off over the decision by the Hartford Public Library's board of directors to close two branches that they are considering taking over the library system. How the city would engineer such a move is unclear, but City Council President Calixto Torres said July 16 that he wants to look into it. To help cover a gap of almost \$870,000 in this year's budget, the library board announced in June that it would shut the Blue Hills (above) and Mark Twain branches and lay off 40 employees. A lawsuit attempting to prevent the shutdown was [withdrawn](#) July 21...

Hartford (Conn.) Courant, July 17, 23



[Vermont library showdown illustrates privacy dilemma](#)

Children's librarian Judith Flint was getting ready June 26 for the monthly book discussion group for 8- and 9-year-olds at the Kimball Public Library in Randolph, Vermont, when police showed up. Five state police detectives wanted to seize the library's public access computers as they frantically searched for the missing 12-year-old Brooke Bennett, acting on a tip that she sometimes used the terminals. But the new state privacy law wouldn't go into effect until five days later....

Associated Press, July 19

[World's oldest Bible goes online](#)

More than 1,600 years after it was written in Greek, one of the oldest copies of the Bible will become globally accessible online for the first time on July 24. High-resolution images from the Codex Sinaiticus, which contains the oldest complete New Testament, as well as notes on the work made over centuries, will appear on the Codex Sinaiticus Project [website](#) as a first step towards publishing the entire manuscript by next July....

Reuters, July 21



[Appeal filed for fired West Virginia archivist](#)

An appeal was filed in the case of Fred Armstrong, who was fired as West Virginia's director of archives and history. The appeal contends that Armstrong was fired because he refused to violate state laws and he deserves a full hearing before the state Public Employees Grievance Board. The appeal comes a month after a judge dismissed

Round Table's [Hunger, Homelessness, and Poverty Task Force](#) partnered with ALA's Office for Literacy and Outreach Services on a program reviewing the objectives of the policy and identifying action steps. Some of the ways libraries of all types can help is by expanding programming in [job skills areas](#), such as [English as a Second Language programs](#) or GED exam preparation; by partnering with other agencies or being [proactive](#) in making information on their resources available in your library; and by making sure that more traditional forms of outreach such as story hours and [bookmobiles](#) are reaching into impacted communities. The ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom has prepared [Economic Barriers to Information Access: An Interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights](#); its discussion might be a springboard for reviewing your library's policies with regard to serving the poor in your community. From the [ALA Professional Tips wiki](#).

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

Calendar

Sept. 9–10:
[Marketing](#), Southern

Armstrong's personnel grievance on the grounds he had failed to show he was fired because he was attempting to uphold state law....

Charleston (W.Va.) Daily Mail, July 17

[12-year-olds seek new library policy](#)

A pair of 12-year-old boys spoke to the Fairhope (Ala.) Public Library board last week, with a 100-signature petition in hand seeking a change of rules to allow youngsters their age to go to the facility unattended by an adult. Board members said they would not change the current policy, which requires all children 12 years of age and younger to be attended by someone at least 17 years old. Library Director Ilse Krick said the library has no security staff to ensure the children are protected....

Mobile (Ala.) Press-Register, July 22

[Facebook gets a facelift](#)

Facebook rolled out a major redesign of its social networking site late July 20 featuring a cleaner interface that links feed technology with user forums. Company officials said the updated site will give users more control and ownership over their profiles. The new version, now in limited use, will be rolled out gradually to Facebook's 80 million users. The [new look](#) is all about the Wall, the blank space on a profile page that users can fill in with stories, photos, links, and the ever-popular Status Updates....

New York Times, July 21; TechNewsWorld, July 22



[Attendance drops at Hawaiian libraries](#)

Hawaiian public libraries are seeing far fewer patrons than they did just a few years ago, bucking a national trend of about 10% increased traffic in mainland libraries. Island libraries saw some 400,000 fewer visits in 2007 compared with 2001. But that doesn't mean Hawaii's libraries aren't trying....

Honolulu Advertiser, July 21

[Canadian libraries thrive in the Internet Age](#)

Business is booming at Canada's major public libraries, which credit everything from the high price of buying books to social networking, vampires, and a new social acceptance for frothy bestsellers. In Edmonton, Alberta, 385 people are on the waiting list for *Fearless Fourteen*, the newest offering from romance-turned-crime writer Janet Evanovich. In Surrey, B.C., Stephenie Meyer's *Breaking Dawn* (right), a vampire novel written for young adults that is still on order, has 220 members on its waiting list....

Vancouver (B.C.) Sun, July 22



[Library care packages offer soldiers a morale boost](#)

The Tower Road branch of the Alachua County (Fla.) Library District has sent more than 1,000 care packages since 2004 to U.S. troops in Iraq through the [Books for Soldiers](#) website. The site allows deployed soldiers with internet access to request books, magazines, CDs, DVDs, board games, and other items from volunteers who ship the items directly. Susan Weimer, library specialist and Books for Soldiers member, said the Tower Road library comes from a tradition of outreach....

Gainesville (Fla.) Sun, July 16

Adirondack Library System, Saratoga Springs, New York. Certified Public Library Administrator course sponsored by the Public Library Association.

Sept. 16-17:

[Strategic HR](#), Mid-Continent Public Library Administrative Center, Independence, Missouri. Certified Public Library Administrator course sponsored by the Public Library Association.

Sept. 16-17:

[Budget and Finance](#), Washington State Library, Olympia. Certified Public Library Administrator course sponsored by the Public Library Association.

Oct. 1-3:

[Wyoming Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Casper.

Oct. 1-4:

[Kentucky Library Association/ Kentucky School Media Association/ Southeastern Library/ Association of Research Libraries](#), National Diversity in Libraries Joint Conference, Louisville. "Spectrum of the Future."

Oct. 1-4:

[Idaho Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Shilo Inn, Idaho Falls. "The Magic of Libraries."

Oct. 8-9:

[Jossey-Bass Online Teaching and Learning Conference](#), sponsored by *Learning*

[Sacramentans owe a huge amount in library fines](#)

A new report indicates the Sacramento (Calif.) Public Library has \$4.6 million in unpaid late fees and unreturned items, nearly twice the amount it reported to the Sacramento County grand jury in March during an investigation into the management of the library. The report follows May's scathing report from the grand jury, which criticized library management for credit card abuses, questionable travel expenses, and excessive use of consultants, in addition to what it reported at the time was \$2.5 million in unpaid fines....

Sacramento (Calif.) Bee, July 18

[Hackers make phone calls on library tab](#)

Hackers got into the computerized phone system at the Duxbury (Mass.) Free Library in March and rang up \$15,000 in unauthorized calls. The FBI, among others, is now investigating. The good news: The town may not actually have to pay it....

Quincy (Mass.) Patriot-Ledger, July 17

[LSU exhibit chronicles photo salvage effort](#)

Photographer Donn Young lost his life's work in Hurricane Katrina in August 2005 when his studio in the Lakeview section of New Orleans was flooded. Then the Louisiana State University Library's Special Collections department got involved in the hands-on recovery of the salvageable portion of Young's holdings. Now an [LSU exhibit](#) showcases both Young's pre-Katrina work as well as the library staff's herculean efforts to save the remnants of his collection....

Baton Rouge (La.) Advocate, July 20



[Driven to distraction](#)

Bryan Appleyard writes: "David Meyer, professor of psychology at the University of Michigan, is convinced that chronic, long-term distraction is as dangerous as cigarette smoking. He says there is evidence that people in chronically distracted jobs are, in early middle age, appearing with the same symptoms of burnout as air traffic controllers. They might have stress-related diseases, even irreversible brain damage. But the damage is not caused by overwork; it's caused by multiple distracted work."....

The Times (U.K.), July 20

[Dripping water pipes plague Canadian archives](#)

Canada's national archives building is so prone to leaks that it sprang another one last month just as workers were cleaning up the mess from a flood days earlier. The showcase building near Parliament Hill in Ottawa was given a second soaking June 1 when a cold-water valve in a women's washroom failed. Leaks have become a way of life at the nondescript structure, which opened in 1967....

Canadian Press, July 19

[Why Shakespeare is the world's worst stolen treasure](#)

Paul Collins writes: "Aside from a face-melting Ark of the Covenant, a Shakespeare First Folio is the lousiest loot in the world to steal. Here's why: The 230 surviving First Folios are now the most minutely studied published works in history. The folio is unusual in that two centuries of records trace the path of *specific copies*. In the case of the one stolen from Durham University, there's plenty for authorities to work with."....

Times.

Oct. 15–17:

[Georgia Council of Media Organizations](#), Annual Conference, The Classic Center, Athens.

Oct. 15–17:

[Iowa Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Grand River Center, Dubuque. "Libraries: Anywhere, Any Way, Anytime."

Oct. 15–17:

[Nebraska Library Association/Nebraska Educational Media Association](#), Annual Conference, Lincoln. "Nebraska Libraries: Vision for the Information Age."

Oct. 19–21:

[New England Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Radisson Hotel Manchester, New Hampshire. "Taking Charge of Change."

Oct. 20–24:

[PLA Boot Camp 4: Intensive Library Management Training](#), Cleveland, Ohio. Application is required by September 22.

Oct. 21–24:

[South Carolina Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Greenville Hyatt. "Going Green."

Oct. 22–24:

[Michigan Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Radisson Plaza Hotel, Kalamazoo. "Shaping Our Tomorrow."

Oct. 22–24:

Slate, July 17

[Korean librarian halts LC decision on Dokdo](#)

The Library of Congress postponed a meeting planned for July 16 to change the subject heading for Korea's Dokdo islets from "Tok Island (Korea)" to "Liancourt Rocks," named after the French whaling ship whose crew were the first Europeans to chart the islets in 1849. Hana Kim (right), Korean studies librarian at the University of Toronto, [urged LC](#) in an email to reconsider the move in the light of an [ongoing dispute](#) over the islands between South Korea and Japan....

Asia Pulse Data Source, July 16; Seoul *Chosun Ilbo*, July 17; Tokyo *Asahi Shimbun*, July 16



[South African National Library to reopen in August](#)

A state-of-the-art R300-million (\$40 million U.S.) new home for the National Library of South Africa will open in August in Pretoria. The building was designed as a joint venture between Architect Jeremie Malan, Impendulo, and Gandhi Maseko Architects. The National Library was established in 1999, following the merger of the former state library in Pretoria and the then South African library in Cape Town....

BuaNews (South Africa), July 21



Tech Talk

[PC Wizard benchmarks your PC](#)

Adam Pash writes: "Free application PC Wizard is a portable tool that analyzes and benchmarks your PC. At its most basic, PC Wizard gives you an in-depth look at your hardware and system specs. But the app has a surprisingly rich feature set beyond that, including a password recovery tool for apps like Outlook in the System Information tool and a slew of cool benchmarking tools."...

Lifehacker, July 16



[New iPhone apps enhance education](#)

Flash-card programs, e-book reading software, and science and math simulations are among more than a dozen educational software programs developed for Apple's iPhone that appear in the new App Store, which debuted July 11. Educators and students can use these applications to locate stars and constellations, visualize a hydrogen atom, learn a new language, and read books on their iPhone, among other uses....

eSchool News, July 22

[17 things to do with your online photos](#)

Ellyssa Kroski suggests, among other things, creating librarian trading cards or badges, Animoto music videos, a coffee table book, an online portfolio, social networking slideshows, or photo widgets....

iLibrarian, July 16

[25 free stock photo sites](#)

Bob Nolin writes: "I was quite surprised



[Mississippi Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Natchez Convention Center. "At the Center of Everything."

Oct. 23–24: [Virginia Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Williamsburg. "Libraries: Champions of Democracy."

Oct. 23–25: [Hawaii Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Grand Wailea Hotel and Spa, Maui.

Nov. 2–4: [Gaming, Learning, and Libraries Symposium](#), ALA TechSource, Oak Brook, Illinois.

@ [More...](#)

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American Libraries Direct



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to find 25 good, solid resources out there. Note the terms of use for each site. Some of these sites offer free images in addition to images for a fee. All of them are worth a look. Keep in mind that Royalty Free does not mean the images are free; it means that you don't need to pay the photographer a royalty each time you use the image."...

Digital Image Magazine, June 22

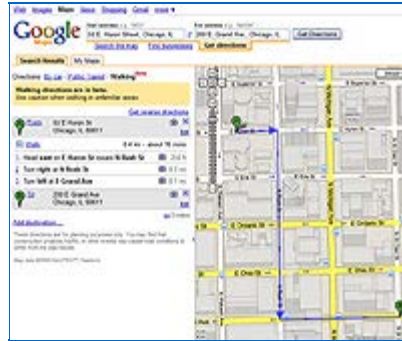
[EBSCOhost 2.0 support](#)

EBSCO Publishing is offering FAQs, screenshots, free webinars, help sheets, and user guides for its new interface, EBSCOhost 2.0. New features include a simpler search screen, previews by mouseover, new result lists, and a new search history capability....

EBSCO Publishing

[Google Maps offers walking directions](#)

Google Maps walking directions had been spotted by some users before, and now they're being rolled out for everyone. Try this [directions search in Chicago](#), for instance, and you'll see the "Walking" link on top activated (though this isn't just restricted to U.S. locations, as a test search in Germany showed). Google has the following disclaimer following their "beta" notice: "Use caution when walking in unfamiliar areas."...



Google Blogoscoped, July 22

[WebAnywhere overcomes visual impairments](#)

Blind persons generally use computers with the help of screen-reader software, but those products can cost more than \$1,000, so they're not exactly common on public computers at libraries. [WebAnywhere](#), developed by a computer science graduate student at the University of Washington, is an internet application that can make web surfing accessible on most any computer....

Associated Press, July 16

Publishing

[Book trailers: Are they worth it?](#)

David Rothman writes: "Do those book trailers on YouTube work? This [polished trailer](#) ballyhooing *Rasputin's Daughter*, from Viking, has drawn just 169 views even after *months* online. Through other works, the author had made the *New York Times* bestseller list. Is it possible that the people who read historical fiction set in Russia are not the best targets for this type of promo?" ...

TeleRead, July 21



[Online journal access reduces citation breadth](#)

(subscription required)

Scholarly access to more and more journal articles online may have the effect of slowing the steady increase in the number of citations of

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discrete articles, according to a study published July 18 in *Science*. University of Chicago sociologist James A. Evans found that as more articles appear online, scholars' citations tend toward more recent and less diverse articles....

Chronicle of Higher Education, July 18



Actions & Answers

[Seven ways your library can help during a bad economy](#)

Meg Marco writes: "Reader MG is a fan of this site and a public librarian and has written a list of seven ways that your library can help you during a bad economy. Libraries are an excellent resource and they're pretty easy to use. Don't worry if you're not a big reader, there's lots more stuff to do at the library besides just checking out books."...

The Consumerist, July 22



[Kay Ryan is new poet laureate](#)

Librarian of Congress James H. Billington announced July 17 the appointment of Kay Ryan as the library's 16th poet laureate consultant in poetry for 2008–2009. Ryan will take up her duties in the fall, opening LC's annual literary series October 16 with a reading of her work. She succeeds Charles Simic. You can hear Ryan talk about her appointment and read some poems on an [LC podcast](#) (21:49)....

Library of Congress, July 17



[Library access to scholarship](#)

Walt Crawford writes: "Library access to scholarship isn't just about open access. It's about budget equity (is money available for reasonably-priced monographs in the humanities?), format equity (which cuts both ways, given the apparent disdain of a few academic librarians for print and the historical record), the long view, and more. Here is a look at a few interesting items, one of them distinctly newsworthy, from the past 10 months."...

Cites & Insights 8, no. 8 (Aug.)

[Trustee tips: Make your board passionate](#)

Ellen Miller writes: "Library trustees are busy folks. Jobs, family, medical appointments, other volunteer gigs. No wonder amnesia is a job hazard: 'What, we voted last month to be open on Friday nights?' Apathy lurks close behind. A lack of crises can spawn a 'same old, same old' attitude. Spike them with some adrenaline using these motivators."...

BlogJunction, July 15

[What are we scared of?](#)

Linda Braun writes: "The other day I had a conversation with library school students on the topic of fear. Several said they needed to be careful about what they put on their teen library shelves because of

the community in which they worked. The concept was, 'I know my community and that won't meet their needs.' YA librarians have to be prepared for community reactions to items in the collection. The best thing to do is continually educate adults about the role of the library in a teen's life and make sure they know why it's important to have a wide variety of teen materials available."...

YALSA Blog, July 19

[Difficulties in determining copyright status](#)

Peter Hirtle discusses the impact that the 1996 copyright restoration of foreign works has had on U.S. copyright status investigations, and supplies some new steps that users must follow in order to investigate the copyright status of any work. He argues that copyright restoration has made it almost impossible to determine with certainty whether a book published in the United States after 1922 and before 1964 is in the public domain. Digital libraries wanting to offer books from this period do so at some risk....

D-Lib Magazine 14, no. 7/8 (July/Aug.)

[Experts attack EU copyright power-grab](#)

Nate Anderson writes: "Now that the [EU plan](#) to retroactively add 45 years of copyright protection to old sound recordings looks set to keep the work of the 1950s and 1960s locked up for another half century, resistance is solidifying. On July 21, a group of independent academics from across Western Europe signed a [letter](#) to the *Times*, arguing that the new plan would only pad the pockets of 'record companies, aging rock stars or, increasingly, artists' estates. It does nothing for innovation and creativity.' And that's one of the more pleasant things being said about the idea."...

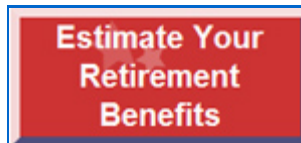
Ars Technica, July 16, 22; *The Times* (U.K.), July 21



[Estimate Social Security retirement benefits](#)

Social Security Administration Commissioner Michael J. Astrue has unveiled a new online calculator that provides immediate and personalized benefit estimates to help people plan for their retirement. The [Retirement Estimator](#) is tied to a person's actual Social Security earnings record and eliminates the need to manually key in years of earnings information. And it is secure—only benefit estimates are provided online....

Social Security Administration, July 21



[Improving Literacy Through School Libraries grants](#)

U.S. Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings announced July 18 awards of \$18.3 million to enhance libraries in 59 low-income school districts across the United States. The grants aim to help students improve reading achievement by increasing their access to up-to-date and technologically advanced school library materials. Funds can be used to acquire books and other library holdings or improve technological resources and capabilities....

U.S. Department of Education, July 18

[Juntos @ the Border](#)

Reforma's third National Conference, "Bridging the Gaps: Juntos @ the Border," will be held in El Paso, Texas, September 18–21. The event will continue to reflect



the spirit of inclusiveness of previous Reforma national conferences while offering a chance to share collective knowledge, expertise, and commitment to excellence in serving the need of Latino and Spanish-speaking populations....

Reforma

[Does metadata matter?](#)

Andy Powell writes: "This is a 30-minute slidecast (using 130 slides) based on a seminar I gave to Eduserv Foundation staff. It tries to cover a broad sweep of history from library cataloging through the Dublin Core, web search engines, IEEE LOM, the Semantic Web, arXiv, institutional repositories and more."...

eFoundations, July 18



[Fun with LC Subject Headings](#)

Jenna Freedman offers a running commentary on selected changes to the Library of Congress Subject Headings. For example, "(C) 150 Anger in the Bible [sp2008003530]. The warrant is *Holy Anger : Jacob, Job, Jesus*, by Lytta Basset, if you're curious, like I was. This little tidbit was interesting to me, too: 'LC pattern: Aggressiveness in the Bible.' Also: (A) 150 Happiness in the Bible [sp2008004528]."...

Lower East Side Librarian, July 21

[The Reed Memorial Library Cake Pan Collection](#)

The Reed Memorial Library in Ravenna, Ohio, has a collection of oddly shaped cake pans that it loans out to its members. Not only that, it also provides [OPAC access](#) to them. Sophie Brookover writes:

"Obviously, I had to know more about this collection, so I emailed the library and was granted this interview with Esther Cross, head of children's services, and the creator/maintainer of the cake pan collections." They were [featured](#) last year in a nearby newspaper....

Pop Goes the Library, July 18; *Akron (Ohio) Beacon-Journal*, Sept. 26, 2007



[Do we all look alike? The patron's view](#)

Muriel K. Wells writes: "It was my belief that it was not hair color, size, age, or any other discernible physical feature that students remembered about reference librarians. What they remembered were the warm genuine smiles and expressions of true interest as their queries were answered. They remembered the probing, helpful questions which aided in narrowing their searches, as well as how much effort was spent toward a successful search. But I decided to observe further to see if my supposition was correct."...

Library Student Journal, May 2008

[The 25 most modern libraries in the world](#)

Christina Laun writes: "The modern library is often home to sleek architecture and the latest technology. These 25 libraries, in no particular order, demonstrate how libraries have become part of the cutting edge of information

management, design, and web technology, and all of them can help you get some ideas on how to bring your own library into the future."...



Best Colleges Online, July 2

[On the Red Carpet at Project ALA](#)

At ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, Jim Averbeck and Maria Van Lieshout (with a little help from *SLJ* librarian blogger Betsy Bird) conducted a string of red carpet fashion interviews on the night of the Newbery-Caldecott awards banquet, then took some of that footage and put together this *Project Runway* parody (9:48)....
YouTube, July 14



AL Direct, July 23, 2008

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

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | July 23, 2008

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[\[http://www.schoolrooms.net\]](http://www.schoolrooms.net)

[\[http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com\]](http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com)

U.S. & World News

Gannett releases searchable public library trends database

[\[http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/july2008/gannettdoesresearch.cfm\]](http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/july2008/gannettdoesresearch.cfm)

Gannett News Service released a searchable database

[\[http://data.gannettnewsservice.com/libraries/library_start.php\]](http://data.gannettnewsservice.com/libraries/library_start.php) July 17 that compares trends affecting public library systems between 2002 and 2006. The analysis used data from the National Center for Education Statistics as well as statistics collected from state library data coordinators, compared figures for the some 9,200 library systems, and found that library visits increased by roughly 10% during that five-year period and circulation of materials rose by 9%. The database also offers lists of public libraries with the highest circulation

[\[http://data.gannettnewsservice.com/libraries/topcirc_report.php\]](http://data.gannettnewsservice.com/libraries/topcirc_report.php) per capita, the most internet-capable computers

[\[http://data.gannettnewsservice.com/libraries/topcomp_report.php\]](http://data.gannettnewsservice.com/libraries/topcomp_report.php) per capita, and the highest operating expenses

[\[http://data.gannettnewsservice.com/libraries/topopex_report.php\]](http://data.gannettnewsservice.com/libraries/topopex_report.php) per

capita (all 2006 data)....

Child Online Protection Act gets third strike

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/july2008/copa-thirdstrike.cfm>]

After a decade of federal litigation and two decisions that were returned to lower courts from the Supreme Court for further review, the Third Circuit Court of Appeals July 22 unanimously declared unconstitutional for the third time the Child Online Protection Act of 1998 on First and Fifth Amendment grounds. "The government has no more right to censor the internet than it does books and magazines," Chris Hansen, ACLU senior staff attorney, remarked after the ruling was handed down....

ACLU challenges expanded FISA powers

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/july2008/fisa-challenge.cfm>]

President George Bush signed into law July 10 the FISA Amendments Act of 2008, a bill expanding legal authority for wiretaps by spy agencies that has been hotly debated since the February expiration of the Protect America Act. Within hours of the bill's signing, the American Civil Liberties Union filed suit in the U.S. Southern District Court of New York challenging its constitutionality on First and Fourth Amendment grounds....

Batavia relocates Planned Parenthood link

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/july2008/bata-viamovesteenwire.cfm>]

Batavia (Ill.) Public Library has moved a link to Planned Parenthood's Teenwire sex education website from the "Young Adult" page on BPL's website to the general health section of its "Web Reference" page. The board voted 4-2 to move the link July 15 in response to resident Kerry Knott's request to have it removed from the site entirely....

=====
[<http://www.kylibasn.org/conferences620.cfm>]
=====

ALA News

=====

Summer programs @ your library

[<http://ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/July2008/CampaignSummer.cfm>]

Libraries across the country are using the "@ your library" brand to promote summer programming. In order to help patrons escape the summer heat and the increasing cost of movie tickets, Perry (Okla.) Carnegie Library will host "Cool off with summer movies @ your library." The Bossier (La.) Central Library (right) partnered with its local game shop to sponsor "Gaming @ your library."...

ALA sends letters to Democrats and Republicans

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=561>]

ALA sent letters to the Democratic National Committee (PDF file

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/wp-content/uploads/2008/07/dnc-platform-letter.pdf>]) and the Republican National Committee (PDF file

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/wp-content/uploads/2008/07/rnc-platform-letter.pdf>]) July 18 suggesting important library issues that should

be taken into consideration in forming their respective platforms. Access

to information is a central theme, emphasizing its importance to the

public good. Providing affordable broadband to libraries is also a

highlight of the message sent to the committees....

District Dispatch, July 18

ALA seeks Endowment Fund trustee candidates

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/ourassociation/governanceofficeb/alafinancialinfo/EndowmentTrusteeAnnouncement08.cfm>]

Nominations are being accepted for the position of Endowment Trustee for

the ALA Endowment Fund. The candidate will be selected by the ALA

Executive Board at the ALA Midwinter Meeting, January 23–28, in

Denver. The new trustee will serve a three-year term that will officially

begin at the conclusion of the 2009 ALA Annual Conference in Chicago....

AL Focus

Cory Doctorow on privacy

[<http://alfocus.ala.org/videos/cory-doctorow-privacy-it-time-revolution>]

Protecting reader privacy and confidentiality has long been an integral

part of the mission of ALA. Author Cory Doctorow discusses (13:24) the

importance of privacy and what's at stake if its persistent erosion

continues unchecked. Part of a panel presented by the Office for

Intellectual Freedom at the 2008 Annual Conference in Anaheim,

California....

Jamie Lee Curtis and children's literature

[<http://alfocus.ala.org/videos/jamie-lee-curtis>]

Actor and author Jamie Lee Curtis entertains an audience of children and

parents June 30 at the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim (4:36). After

warming up the crowd with her infant impersonation, Curtis reads from her

new book Big Words for Little People and explains how she found the idea

for her first book. Then she speculates on why celebrities find

themselves compelled to write children's books....

Forum on the post-9/11 novel

[<http://alfocus.ala.org/videos/booklist-adult-books-readers-forum-post-911-novel>]

Booklist Online Senior Editor Keir Graff (My Fellow Americans) leads a

panel of distinguished authors discussing the burgeoning genre of

post-9/11 literature at the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim (6:50).

Carolyn See (Golden Days) speaks about conflating personal and global

catastrophe, Janette Turner Hospital (Due Preparations for the Plague)

talks about her visit to Ground Zero and how it influenced her book, and

Ellen Gilchrist (A Dangerous Age) expresses her certainty that someone

will one day write the definitive 9/11 book....

David Lee King at conference

[<http://alfocus.ala.org/videos/king-conference>]

David Lee King of the Topeka and Shawnee County (Kans.) Public Library offers a first-person travelogue (4:18) of his experience at ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim. In between searching for swag in the exhibit hall and crashing Open Gaming Night and the OCLC Blogger's Salon, he takes a peek at Council, gets lost while traveling to a session, and shows us what geeks do at Disneyland (above)....

Featured review: Adult books

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=2749477]

Sittenfeld, Curtis. *American Wife*. Sept. 2008. 576p. Random House, hardcover (978-1-4000-6475-5).

In her bold third novel, the author of the best-selling *Prep* (2005) presents a fictional portrait of First Lady Laura Bush, although she changes some important details. In a memoir told entirely in the first person, Alice Blackwell relays her unlikely ascent to the White House from her humble Wisconsin beginnings. She conveys in convincing, thoroughly riveting detail a life far more complicated than it appears on the surface—the moment she discovered that her beloved grandmother was a lesbian; a tragic, life-changing car accident she had as a teenager; the friendship she willingly sacrificed with her best friend when she started dating the good-humored, athletic Charlie Blackwell; and her uncomfortable initiation into the tight-knit, immensely wealthy Blackwell family, run with unflappable authority by its formidable matriarch. No one is more surprised than Alice when her hard-drinking, sports-team-owning husband morphs into a born-again Christian with political ambitions....

What guys read

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=2868187]

David Wright writes: “This is the readers’-advisory issue, and I’m a readers’ advisor, so rather than pushing books, I’d like to tell you about some of the guys I’ve had the pleasure to discuss books with. Such as the wide-eyed young fellow who strode up to me and announced his intention to read the classics, ‘all of them,’ and insisted on leaving with *The Pilgrim’s Progress*, despite my best efforts to steer him to something less excruciating. I never did see him again. Then there was the tattooed, aloof Chuck Palahniuk fan who eyed me skeptically until I mentioned Luke Rinehart’s infamous *The Dice Man*, a secret handshake that established me as his brother in some creepy secret society with unspeakable hazing rituals.”...

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

Division News

editor named

[<http://ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/July2008/ACRLrbmeditor.cfm>]

ACRL has named Beth Whittaker, head of special collections cataloging at Ohio State University, editor of RBM: A Journal of Rare Books, Manuscripts, and Cultural Heritage. Whittaker served on the RBM editorial board from 2006–2008 and brings in-depth knowledge of the world of rare books and manuscripts to the biannual publication. Her three-year appointment as editor begins immediately....

Tech Notes

[<http://ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/July2008/PLAtechnotes.cfm>]

PLA has published new titles in its Tech Notes series, which provides technical information on issues affecting public libraries using contemporary technology. The newest titles,

[<http://www.pla.org/ala/pla/plapubs/technotes/technotes.cfm>] written by technology consultant and writer Richard W. Boss, are on wireless LANs, automated storage and retrieval, open source ILS systems, and Unicode....

Awards

Immroth Memorial Awards for Intellectual Freedom

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/July2008/OIFimmroth.cfm>]

Lisa Scherff (left), assistant professor of English education at the University of Alabama, and Jane Smith, library media specialist for the Tuscaloosa County (Ala.) School System, have received the 2008 John Phillip Immroth Memorial Award for Intellectual Freedom. Scherff and Smith led an effort that prevented the Tuscaloosa County Board from removing the book Sandpiper from Brookwood High School in Tuscaloosa....

New ALA award for best book in library literature

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/July2008/Developmentliblit.cfm>]

From 2009 through 2013, the Greenwood Publishing Group Award for the Best Book in Library Literature will consist of \$5,000 and a commemorative plaque. It will be given to an author or coauthors whose work exemplifies excellence in library and information studies. The award was established at the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, California....

NSLMPY Award applications

[<http://ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/July2008/AASLnslmpy.cfm>]

The application for the 2009 AASL National School Library Media Program of the Year Award is now available online for member download

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aas/aaslawards/natlsImprogram/aaslnational.cfm>] and submission. The deadline is January 2. The NSLMPY award honors school library media programs, at both a school and district level, that ensure students and staff are effective users of ideas and information....

ALSC scholarship winners

[<http://ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/July2008/ALSCwinners.cfm>]
ALSC has announced the 2008 recipients of the Frederic G. Melcher and Bound to Stay Bound Books Scholarships. The scholarships are awarded annually to students who plan to enter ALA-accredited programs, obtain a master's degree in library science, and specialize in library service to children....

2008 Children's Africana Book Awards
[<http://www.africaaccessreview.org/aar/awards.html>]
Ifeoma Onyefulu is the winner of the Best Africana Book for Young Children Award for *Ikenna Goes to Nigeria* (Frances Lincoln Children's Books, 2007). The book focuses on Onyefulu's son Ikenna and photographs his visit to his mother's Nigerian homeland. The Children's Africana Book Awards were established in 1991 by the Outreach Council of the African Studies Association to encourage the publication and use of accurate, balanced children's materials on Africa in U.S. schools and libraries....
African Studies Association

Violette is distinguished Hoosier
[http://www.fwdailynews.com/articles/2008/07/21/times/times_online/doc4884787fe43c9611504941.txt]
Judith L. Violette, director of the Helmke Library at Indiana University–Purdue University Fort Wayne, has received the Distinguished Hoosier Award. The award, issued by Gov. Mitch Daniels, recognizes significant contributions of individuals to Indiana that "endear them in the hearts and minds of all Hoosiers." The award was presented by Indiana State Librarian Roberta Brooker at a July 18 retirement celebration held in Violette's honor....
Fort Wayne (Ind.) Daily News, July 21

Lahr named Federal Librarian of the Year
[<http://www.usgs.gov/newsroom/article.asp?ID=1978>]
Thomas F. Lahr, deputy associate chief biologist for information at the U.S. Geological Survey, has been named 2007 Federal Librarian of the Year by the Federal Library and Information Center Committee of the Library of Congress. Lahr has led the development of new ways to integrate and deliver information and has initiated USGS public and private partnerships with a wide variety of organizations....
U.S. Geological Survey, July 22

Seen Online

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Hartford considers library takeover
[<http://www.courant.com/community/news/hfd/hc-libfight0717.artjul17,0,4614208.story>]
Mayor Eddie Perez and city council leaders of Hartford, Connecticut, are so ticked off over the decision by the Hartford Public Library's board of directors to close two branches that they are considering taking over the library system. How the city would engineer such a move is unclear, but City Council President Calixto Torres said July 16 that he wants to look into it. To help cover a gap of almost \$870,000 in this year's budget,

the library board announced in June that it would shut the Blue Hills (above) and Mark Twain branches and lay off 40 employees. A lawsuit attempting to prevent the shutdown was withdrawn [http://www.courant.com/news/local/hc-hfdlibrary0723.artjul23,0,1724847.sto ry] July 21...
Hartford (Conn.) Courant, July 17, 23

Vermont library showdown illustrates privacy dilemma [http://www.timesargus.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080720/NEWS01/80720 0410]

Children's librarian Judith Flint was getting ready June 26 for the monthly book discussion group for 8- and 9-year-olds at the Kimball Public Library in Randolph, Vermont, when police showed up. Five state police detectives wanted to seize the library's public access computers as they frantically searched for the missing 12-year-old Brooke Bennett, acting on a tip that she sometimes used the terminals. But the new state privacy law wouldn't go into effect until five days later....
Associated Press, July 19

World's oldest Bible goes online [http://www.reuters.com/article/technologyNews/idUSL2176596820080721] More than 1,600 years after it was written in Greek, one of the oldest copies of the Bible will become globally accessible online for the first time on July 24. High-resolution images from the Codex Sinaiticus, which contains the oldest complete New Testament, as well as notes on the work made over centuries, will appear on the Codex Sinaiticus Project website [http://www.codex-sinaiticus.net] as a first step towards publishing the entire manuscript by next July....
Reuters, July 21

Appeal filed for fired West Virginia archivist [http://dailymail.com/News/statenews/200807170093] An appeal was filed in the case of Fred Armstrong, who was fired as West Virginia's director of archives and history. The appeal contends that Armstrong was fired because he refused to violate state laws and he deserves a full hearing before the state Public Employees Grievance Board. The appeal comes a month after a judge dismissed Armstrong's personnel grievance on the grounds he had failed to show he was fired because he was attempting to uphold state law....
Charleston (W.Va.) Daily Mail, July 17

12-year-olds seek new library policy [http://www.al.com/press-register/stories/index.ssf?/base/news/121671812723 0060.xml&coll=3] A pair of 12-year-old boys spoke to the Fairhope (Ala.) Public Library board last week, with a 100-signature petition in hand seeking a change of rules to allow youngsters their age to go to the facility unattended by an adult. Board members said they would not change the current policy, which requires all children 12 years of age and younger to be attended by someone at least 17 years old. Library Director Ilse Krick said the library has no security staff to ensure the children are protected....
Mobile (Ala.) Press-Register, July 22

Facebook gets a facelift

[http://www.nytimes.com/idg/IDG_852573C4006938800025748D0064C292.html]

Facebook rolled out a major redesign of its social networking site late July 20 featuring a cleaner interface that links feed technology with user forums. Company officials said the updated site will give users more control and ownership over their profiles. The new version, now in limited use, will be rolled out gradually to Facebook's 80 million users. The new look [<http://www.technewsworld.com/story/security/63898.html>] is all about the Wall, the blank space on a profile page that users can fill in with stories, photos, links, and the ever-popular Status Updates....
New York Times, July 21; TechNewsWorld, July 22

Attendance drops at Hawaiian libraries

[<http://www.honoluluadvertiser.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080721/NEWS07/807210315/1001/LOCALNEWSFRONT>]

Hawaiian public libraries are seeing far fewer patrons than they did just a few years ago, bucking a national trend of about 10% increased traffic in mainland libraries. Island libraries saw some 400,000 fewer visits in 2007 compared with 2001. But that doesn't mean Hawaii's libraries aren't trying....
Honolulu Advertiser, July 21

Canadian libraries thrive in the Internet Age

[<http://www.canada.com/vancouvernews/story.html?id=1bf521e7-42fc-4994-ba6f-faf8a1c3d265>]

Business is booming at Canada's major public libraries, which credit everything from the high price of buying books to social networking, vampires, and a new social acceptance for frothy bestsellers. In Edmonton, Alberta, 385 people are on the waiting list for Fearless Fourteen, the newest offering from romance-turned-crime writer Janet Evanovich. In Surrey, B.C., Stephenie Meyer's Breaking Dawn (right), a vampire novel written for young adults that is still on order, has 220 members on its waiting list....
Vancouver (B.C.) Sun, July 22

Library care packages offer soldiers a morale boost

[<http://www.gainesville.com/article/20080716/NEWS/999556130>]

The Tower Road branch of the Alachua County (Fla.) Library District has sent more than 1,000 care packages since 2004 to U.S. troops in Iraq through the Books for Soldiers [<http://www.booksforsoldiers.com/>] website. The site allows deployed soldiers with internet access to request books, magazines, CDs, DVDs, board games, and other items from volunteers who ship the items directly. Susan Weimer, library specialist and Books for Soldiers member, said the Tower Road library comes from a tradition of outreach....
Gainesville (Fla.) Sun, July 16

Sacramentans owe a huge amount in library fines

[<http://www.sacbee.com/101/story/1093392.html>]

A new report indicates the Sacramento (Calif.) Public Library has \$4.6 million in unpaid late fees and unreturned items, nearly twice the amount it reported to the Sacramento County grand jury in March during an investigation into the management of the library. The report follows May's scathing report from the grand jury, which criticized library management for credit card abuses, questionable travel expenses, and

excessive use of consultants, in addition to what it reported at the time was \$2.5 million in unpaid fines....

Sacramento (Calif.) Bee, July 18

Hackers make phone calls on library tab

[<http://www.patriotledger.com/homepage/x2109420904/Outrageous-library-fees-Hacker-makes-15-000-in-calls-from-Duxbury-library>]

Hackers got into the computerized phone system at the Duxbury (Mass.) Free Library in March and rang up \$15,000 in unauthorized calls. The FBI, among others, is now investigating. The good news: The town may not actually have to pay it....

Quincy (Mass.) Patriot-Ledger, July 17

[http://www.louisianadigitalibrary.org/cdm4/item_viewer.php?CISOROOT=/LSU_DYP&CISOPTR=236&CISOBX=1&REC=12]LSU exhibit chronicles photo salvage effort [<http://www.theadvocate.com/entertainment/arts/25621069.html>]

Photographer Donn Young lost his life's work in Hurricane Katrina in August 2005 when his studio in the Lakeview section of New Orleans was flooded. Then the Louisiana State University Library's Special Collections department got involved in the hands-on recovery of the salvageable portion of Young's holdings. Now an LSU exhibit [<http://www.lib.lsu.edu/special/exhibits/index.html>] showcases both Young's pre-Katrina work as well as the library staff's herculean efforts to save the remnants of his collection....

Baton Rouge (La.) Advocate, July 20

Driven to distraction

[http://technology.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/tech_and_web/the_web/article4362950.ece]

Bryan Appleyard writes: "David Meyer, professor of psychology at the University of Michigan, is convinced that chronic, long-term distraction is as dangerous as cigarette smoking. He says there is evidence that people in chronically distracted jobs are, in early middle age, appearing with the same symptoms of burnout as air traffic controllers. They might have stress-related diseases, even irreversible brain damage. But the damage is not caused by overwork; it's caused by multiple distracted work."...

The Times (U.K.), July 20

Dripping water pipes plague Canadian archives

[<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/servlet/story/RTGAM.20080719.warchieves0719/BNStory/National/>]

Canada's national archives building is so prone to leaks that it sprang another one last month just as workers were cleaning up the mess from a flood days earlier. The showcase building near Parliament Hill in Ottawa was given a second soaking June 1 when a cold-water valve in a women's washroom failed. Leaks have become a way of life at the nondescript structure, which opened in 1967....

Canadian Press, July 19

Why Shakespeare is the world's worst stolen treasure

[<http://www.slate.com/id/2195521>]

Paul Collins writes: "Aside from a face-melting Ark of the Covenant, a Shakespeare First Folio is the lousiest loot in the world to steal.

Here's why: The 230 surviving First Folios are now the most minutely studied published works in history. The folio is unusual in that two centuries of records trace the path of specific copies. In the case of the one stolen from Durham University, there's plenty for authorities to work with.”...
Slate, July 17

Korean librarian halts LC decision on Dokdo

[<http://individual.com/story.php?story=85621261>]

The Library of Congress postponed a meeting planned for July 16 to change the subject heading for Korea's Dokdo islets from “Tok Island (Korea)” to “Liancourt Rocks,” named after the French whaling ship whose crew were the first Europeans to chart the islets in 1849. Hana Kim (right), Korean studies librarian at the University of Toronto, urged LC

[<http://english.chosun.com/w21data/html/news/200807/200807170008.html>] in an email to reconsider the move in the light of an ongoing dispute

[<http://www.asahi.com/english/Herald-asahi/TKY200807160058.html>] over the islands between South Korea and Japan....

Asia Pulse Data Source, July 16; Seoul Chosun Ilbo, July 17; Tokyo Asahi Shimbun, July 16

[<http://picasaweb.google.com/michael.neubert/SouthAfrica02/photo#5157688418445070994>]South African National Library to reopen in August

[<http://allafrica.com/stories/200807210572.html>]

A state-of-the-art R300-million (\$40 million U.S.) new home for the National Library of South Africa will open in August in Pretoria. The building was designed as a joint venture between Architect Jeremie Malan, Impendulo, and Gandhi Maseko Architects. The National Library was established in 1999, following the merger of the former state library in Pretoria and the then South African library in Cape Town....

BuaNews (South Africa), July 21

Tech Talk

PC Wizard benchmarks your PC

[<http://lifehacker.com/398656/pc-wizard-analyzes-and-benchmarks-your-pc>]

Adam Pash writes: “Free application PC Wizard is a portable tool that analyzes and benchmarks your PC. At its most basic, PC Wizard gives you an in-depth look at your hardware and system specs. But the app has a surprisingly rich feature set beyond that, including a password recovery tool for apps like Outlook in the System Information tool and a slew of cool benchmarking tools.”...

Lifehacker, July 16

New iPhone apps enhance education

[http://www.eschoolnews.com/news/top-news/?i=54641;_hbguid=39675d7b-fd85-488a-a23e-0bda3e2985d1]

Flash-card programs, e-book reading software, and science and math simulations are among more than a dozen educational software programs developed for Apple's iPhone that appear in the new App Store, which debuted July 11. Educators and students can use these applications to locate stars and constellations, visualize a hydrogen atom, learn a new

language, and read books on their iPhone, among other uses....
eSchool News, July 22

17 things to do with your online photos

[<http://oedb.org/blogs/ilibrarian/2008/17-things-to-do-with-your-online-photos/>]

Ellyssa Kroski suggests, among other things, creating librarian trading cards or badges, Animoto music videos, a coffee table book, an online portfolio, social networking slideshows, or photo widgets....

iLibrarian, July 16

[<http://www.everystockphoto.com/>]25 free stock photo sites

[<http://www.digitalimagemagazine.com/blog/featured/25-free-stock-photo-sites/>]

Bob Nolin writes: "I was quite surprised to find 25 good, solid resources out there. Note the terms of use for each site. Some of these sites offer free images in addition to images for a fee. All of them are worth a look. Keep in mind that Royalty Free does not mean the images are free; it means that you don't need to pay the photographer a royalty each time you use the image."...

Digital Image Magazine, June 22

EBSCOhost 2.0 support

[http://support.ebsco.com/ebscohost2/getting_ready.php]

EBSCO Publishing is offering FAQs, screenshots, free webinars, help sheets, and user guides for its new interface, EBSCOhost 2.0. New features include a simpler search screen, previews by mouseover, new result lists, and a new search history capability....

EBSCO Publishing

[<http://maps.google.com/maps?f=d&hl=en&geocode=&saddr=50+E.+Huron+Street,+Chicago,+IL&daddr=200+E.+Grand+Ave.,+Chicago,+IL&ll=41.892702,-87.623123&spn=0.00583,0.009356&dirflg=w&doflg=ptm&ie=UTF8&ll=41.893109,-87.622608&spn=0.00583,0.009356&z=17>]Google Maps offers walking directions

[<http://blogscoped.com/archive/2008-07-22-n84.html>]

Google Maps walking directions had been spotted by some users before, and now they're being rolled out for everyone. Try this directions search in Chicago,

[<http://maps.google.com/maps?f=d&hl=en&geocode=&saddr=50+E.+Huron+Street,+Chicago,+IL&daddr=200+E.+Grand+Ave.,+Chicago,+IL&ll=41.892702,-87.623123&spn=0.00583,0.009356&dirflg=w&doflg=ptm&ie=UTF8&ll=41.893109,-87.622608&spn=0.00583,0.009356&z=17>] for instance, and you'll see the

"Walking" link on top activated (though this isn't just restricted to U.S. locations, as a test search in Germany showed). Google has the following disclaimer following their "beta" notice: "Use caution when walking in unfamiliar areas."...

Google Blogscoped, July 22

WebAnywhere overcomes visual impairments

[http://seattlepi.nwsourc.com/business/1700ap_tec_techbit_blind_web.html]

Blind persons generally use computers with the help of screen-reader software, but those products can cost more than \$1,000, so they're not exactly common on public computers at libraries. WebAnywhere,

[<http://webanywhere.cs.washington.edu/>] developed by a computer science

graduate student at the University of Washington, is an internet application that can make web surfing accessible on most any computer...
Associated Press, July 16

Publishing

[<http://youtube.com/watch?v=3n3CvBvSxz8>] Book trailers: Are they worth it?
[<http://www.teleread.org/blog/2008/07/21/book-trailers-are-they-any-good/>]
David Rothman writes: “Do those book trailers on YouTube work? This polished trailer [<http://youtube.com/watch?v=3n3CvBvSxz8>] ballyhooing Rasputin’s Daughter, from Viking, has drawn just 169 views even after months online. Through other works, the author had made the New York Times bestseller list. Is it possible that the people who read historical fiction set in Russia are not the best targets for this type of promo?”...
TeleRead, July 21

Online journal access reduces citation breadth
[<http://chronicle.com/daily/2008/07/3870n.htm>] (subscription required)
Scholarly access to more and more journal articles online may have the effect of slowing the steady increase in the number of citations of discrete articles, according to a study published July 18 in Science. University of Chicago sociologist James A. Evans found that as more articles appear online, scholars’ citations tend toward more recent and less diverse articles....
Chronicle of Higher Education, July 18

[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

Actions & Answers

Seven ways your library can help during a bad economy
[<http://consumerist.com/5027723/7-ways-your-public-library-can-help-you-during-a-bad-economy>]
Meg Marco writes: “Reader MG is a fan of this site and a public librarian and has written a list of seven ways that your library can help you during a bad economy. Libraries are an excellent resource and they’re pretty easy to use. Don’t worry if you’re not a big reader, there’s lots more stuff to do at the library besides just checking out books.”...
The Consumerist, July 22

Kay Ryan is new poet laureate
[<http://www.loc.gov/today/pr/2008/08-127.html>]
Librarian of Congress James H. Billington announced July 17 the

appointment of Kay Ryan as the library's 16th poet laureate consultant in poetry for 2008–2009. Ryan will take up her duties in the fall, opening LC's annual literary series October 16 with a reading of her work. She succeeds Charles Simic. You can hear Ryan talk about her appointment and read some poems on an LC podcast [http://www.loc.gov/podcasts/bookfest08/podcast_ryan.html] (21:49)...
Library of Congress, July 17

Library access to scholarship [<http://citesandinsights.info/v8i8c.htm>]
Walt Crawford writes: "Library access to scholarship isn't just about open access. It's about budget equity (is money available for reasonably-priced monographs in the humanities?), format equity (which cuts both ways, given the apparent disdain of a few academic librarians for print and the historical record), the long view, and more. Here is a look at a few interesting items, one of them distinctly newsworthy, from the past 10 months."...
Cites & Insights 8, no. 8 (Aug.)

Trustee tips: Make your board passionate [<http://blog.webjunctionworks.org/index.php/2008/07/15/trustee-tips-move-your-board-from-passive-to-passionate/>]
Ellen Miller writes: "Library trustees are busy folks. Jobs, family, medical appointments, other volunteer gigs. No wonder amnesia is a job hazard: 'What, we voted last month to be open on Friday nights?' Apathy lurks close behind. A lack of crises can spawn a 'same old, same old' attitude. Spike them with some adrenaline using these motivators."...
BlogJunction, July 15

What are we scared of? [<http://yalsa.ala.org/blog/2008/07/19/what-are-we-scared-of/>]
Linda Braun writes: "The other day I had a conversation with library school students on the topic of fear. Several said they needed to be careful about what they put on their teen library shelves because of the community in which they worked. The concept was, 'I know my community and that won't meet their needs.' YA librarians have to be prepared for community reactions to items in the collection. The best thing to do is continually educate adults about the role of the library in a teen's life and make sure they know why it's important to have a wide variety of teen materials available."...
YALSA Blog, July 19

Difficulties in determining copyright status [<http://www.dlib.org/dlib/july08/hirtle/07hirtle.html>]
Peter Hirtle discusses the impact that the 1996 copyright restoration of foreign works has had on U.S. copyright status investigations, and supplies some new steps that users must follow in order to investigate the copyright status of any work. He argues that copyright restoration has made it almost impossible to determine with certainty whether a book published in the United States after 1922 and before 1964 is in the public domain. Digital libraries wanting to offer books from this period do so at some risk....
D-Lib Magazine 14, no. 7/8 (July/Aug.)

Experts attack EU copyright power-grab

[<http://arstechnica.com/news.ars/post/20080722-experts-attack-big-contents-eu-copyright-power-grab.html>]

Nate Anderson writes: “Now that the EU plan

[<http://arstechnica.com/news.ars/post/20080716-eu-caves-to-aging-rockers-wants-45-year-copyright-extension.html>] to retroactively add 45 years of copyright protection to old sound recordings looks set to keep the work of the 1950s and 1960s locked up for another half century, resistance is solidifying. On July 21, a group of independent academics from across Western Europe signed a letter

[<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/comment/letters/article4374115.ece>] to the Times, arguing that the new plan would only pad the pockets of ‘record companies, aging rock stars or, increasingly, artists’ estates. It does nothing for innovation and creativity.’ And that’s one of the more pleasant things being said about the idea.”...

Ars Technica, July 16, 22; The Times (U.K.), July 21

[<http://www.socialsecurity.gov/estimator>] Estimate Social Security retirement benefits

[<http://www.socialsecurity.gov/pressoffice/pr/ret-est-pr-draft.htm>]

Social Security Administration Commissioner Michael J. Astrue has unveiled a new online calculator that provides immediate and personalized benefit estimates to help people plan for their retirement. The Retirement Estimator [<http://www.socialsecurity.gov/estimator>] is tied to a person’s actual Social Security earnings record and eliminates the need to manually key in years of earnings information. And it is secure—only benefit estimates are provided online....

Social Security Administration, July 21

Improving Literacy Through School Libraries grants

[<http://www.ed.gov/news/pressreleases/2008/07/07182008a.html>]

U.S. Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings announced July 18 awards of \$18.3 million to enhance libraries in 59 low-income school districts across the United States. The grants aim to help students improve reading achievement by increasing their access to up-to-date and technologically advanced school library materials. Funds can be used to acquire books and other library holdings or improve technological resources and capabilities....

U.S. Department of Education, July 18

Juntos @ the Border [http://www.geocities.com/rnc_3/index.htm]

Reforma’s third National Conference, “Bridging the Gaps: Juntos @ the Border,” will be held in El Paso, Texas, September 18–21. The event will continue to reflect the spirit of inclusiveness of previous Reforma national conferences while offering a chance to share collective knowledge, expertise, and commitment to excellence in serving the need of Latino and Spanish-speaking populations....

Reforma

Does metadata matter?

[<http://efoundations.typepad.com/efoundations/2008/07/does-metadata-m.html>]

Andy Powell writes: “This is a 30-minute slidecast (using 130 slides) based on a seminar I gave to Eduserv Foundation staff. It tries to cover a broad sweep of history from library cataloging through the Dublin Core, web search engines, IEEE LOM, the Semantic Web, arXiv, institutional

repositories and more.”...
eFoundations, July 18

Fun with LC Subject Headings [<http://jenna.openflows.com/lcsh/2008/26-28>]
Jenna Freedman offers a running commentary on selected changes to the Library of Congress Subject Headings. For example, “(C) 150 Anger in the Bible [sp2008003530]. The warrant is Holy Anger : Jacob, Job, Jesus, by Lytta Basset, if you’re curious, like I was. This little tidbit was interesting to me, too: ‘LC pattern: Aggressiveness in the Bible.’ Also: (A) 150 Happiness in the Bible [sp2008004528].”...
Lower East Side Librarian, July 21

The Reed Memorial Library Cake Pan Collection
[<http://www.popgoesthelibrary.com/2008/07/fun-friday-reed-memorial-library-cake.html>]
The Reed Memorial Library in Ravenna, Ohio, has a collection of oddly shaped cake pans that it loans out to its members. Not only that, it also provides OPAC access
[<http://webpac.portagecounty.lib.oh.us/search/tcake/tcake/1%2C10%2C12%2CE/frameset&FF=tcake+pans&1%2C1%2C/indexsort=->] to them. Sophie Brookover writes: “Obviously, I had to know more about this collection, so I emailed the library and was granted this interview with Esther Cross, head of children’s services, and the creator/maintainer of the cake pan collections.” They were featured
[http://www.ohio.com/news/top_stories/10029166.html?page=all&c=y] last year in a nearby newspaper....
Pop Goes the Library, July 18; Akron (Ohio) Beacon-Journal, Sept. 26, 2007

Do we all look alike? The patron’s view
[<http://www.librarystudentjournal.org/index.php/ljsj/article/view/96/174>]
Muriel K. Wells writes: “It was my belief that it was not hair color, size, age, or any other discernible physical feature that students remembered about reference librarians. What they remembered were the warm genuine smiles and expressions of true interest as their queries were answered. They remembered the probing, helpful questions which aided in narrowing their searches, as well as how much effort was spent toward a successful search. But I decided to observe further to see if my supposition was correct.”...
Library Student Journal, May 2008

[<http://www.flickr.com/photos/35034364750@N01/2341587329>]The 25 most modern libraries in the world
[<http://www.bestcollegesonline.com/blog/2008/07/02/the-25-most-modern-libraries-in-the-world/>]
Christina Laun writes: “The modern library is often home to sleek architecture and the latest technology. These 25 libraries, in no particular order, demonstrate how libraries have become part of the cutting edge of information management, design, and web technology, and all of them can help you get some ideas on how to bring your own library into the future.”...
Best Colleges Online, July 2

On the Red Carpet at Project ALA [<http://youtube.com/watch?v=64e5FfSS1GQ>]
At ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, Jim Averbek and Maria Van Lieshout

(with a little help from SLJ librarian blogger Betsy Bird) conducted a string of red carpet fashion interviews on the night of the Newbery-Caldecott awards banquet, then took some of that footage and put together this Project Runway parody (9:48)....
YouTube, July 14

[<http://www.preparetraining.com/landing/08ptpadsaz807.asp>]

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[http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?_sn=catalog2&_pn=product_detail&_op=2581]

How do the most successful school library media specialists play a leading role in student achievement in their schools? In Leadership for Excellence,

[http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?_sn=catalog2&_pn=product_detail&_op=2581] Jo Ann Carr and AASL share behind-the-scenes details and best practices, including how and why top programs succeed, get funding, and become integral contributors in their school communities. NEW! From ALA Editions.

In this issue
August 2008

Wikipedia and Literacy Skills

Reframing Gaming

Gratitude As a Catalyst

Speaking Technically

Details from Disneyland

[http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=eKyPabWzoTRSWTxy09tL2g_3d_3d]

ALA's new privacy rights initiative is intended to inspire library patrons to stand with librarians as they fight to usher in privacy standards in the digital age. The initiative responds to the ALA Council resolution calling for a national conversation on privacy, passed at the 2006 Annual Conference in New Orleans. Take the Privacy Revolution Survey! [http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=eKyPabWzoTRSWTxy09tL2g_3d_3d] It should take only 5–10 minutes to complete. If you have any questions, please send an email to Deborah Caldwell-Stone. [<mailto:dstone@ala.org>]

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

Music Special Collections Librarian,
[<http://joblist.ala.org/modules/jobseeker/controller.cfm?scr=jobdetail&jobid=11247>] University of Colorado at Boulder. As one of the largest music libraries in the Rocky Mountain region, the Howard B. Waltz Music Library is committed to developing its special collections. This position is primarily responsible for overseeing the special and archival collections of the Music Library, including the holdings of the American Music Research Center. Duties include assisting researchers with the collections; providing access to the materials; coordinating digital projects utilizing the collections; and various collection development and donor relations responsibilities....

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

Digital Library of the Week

[http://diglib.princeton.edu/view?_xq=pageturner&_start=1&_doc=%2Fmets%2Fac045-series1.mets.xml&_index=215&_inset=1]

Princeton University's Seeley G. Mudd Manuscript Library offers a digital collection of more than 500 historical postcards depicting the Princeton campus and the towns surrounding it. Featuring both monochrome and color postcards, the bulk of the Historical Postcard Collection [http://diglib.princeton.edu/xquery?_xq=getCollection&_xsl=collection&_pid=ac045-postcards] ranges in date from 1900 through the 1960s. Both unmarked and canceled postcards exist in the collection, and several postcard makers are represented.

Do you know of a digital library collection that we can mention in this AL Direct feature? Tell us about it. [<mailto:aldirect@ala.org>]

Public Perception How the World Sees Us

"I suppose it's possible that Mayor Perez has in mind a kind of Mad Max gladiator spectacle in which ragged, yellow-eyed librarians would battle against docents from the Old State House and tour guides from the Mark Twain House for scraps of public resources. I picture, at the end, Hartford chief librarian Louise Blalock rollerskating around and around the outer edge of the arena with the severed head of Twain House director

Jeffrey Nichols tucked under her arm, while we in the stands chant her name in a mindless frenzy.”

?Columnist Colin McEnroe, commenting on Mayor Eddie Perez’s suggestion that the city take over the Hartford Public Library, in “Librarians Vs. Docents in Perezdome,” Hartford (Conn.) Courant, July 20.

Ask the ALA Librarian

Q. With the economic downturn, our little library seems to have more people seeking employment resources and not able to provide a permanent address when they apply for their library card, which is required for computer privileges. Does ALA have any policies to help guide us?

A. Yes, we do. In 1990, the ALA Council adopted Section 61 of the ALA Policy Manual, Library Services for the Poor [<http://www.ala.org/ala/ourassociation/aboutala/governanceresources/policym anual/servicespoor.cfm>]. This policy starts off by saying, “The American Library Association promotes equal access to information for all persons, and recognizes the urgent need to respond to the increasing number of poor children, adults, and families in America.” At the recent ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, the ALA Social Responsibilities Round Table’s Hunger, Homelessness, and Poverty Task Force [<http://hhptf.org/about>] partnered with ALA’s Office for Literacy and Outreach Services on a program reviewing the objectives of the policy and identifying action steps. Some of the ways libraries of all types can help is by expanding programming in job skills areas [http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Employment_Search_Support], such as English as a Second Language programs [http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/ESL_Programs] or GED exam preparation; by partnering with other agencies or being proactive [<http://hhptf.org/article/400/skokie-public-library-helps-low-income-people>] in making information on their resources available in your library; and by making sure that more traditional forms of outreach such as story hours and bookmobiles [http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Mobile_Libraries] are reaching into impacted communities. The ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom has prepared Economic Barriers to Information Access: An Interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights [<http://www.ala.org/ala/oif/statementspols/statementsif/interpretations/economicbarriers.cfm>]; its discussion might be a springboard for reviewing your library’s policies with regard to serving the poor in your community. From the ALA Professional Tips wiki [http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Serving_the_Poor].

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

Calendar

Sept. 9–10:

Marketing,

[<http://www.pla.org/ala/pla/plaevents/cplacourses/CPLAcourses.cfm>]

Southern Adirondack Library System, Saratoga Springs, New York. Certified Public Library Administrator course sponsored by the Public Library Association.

Sept. 16–17:

Strategic HR,

[<http://www.pla.org/ala/pla/plaevents/cplacourses/CPLAcourses.cfm>]

Mid-Continent Public Library Administrative Center, Independence, Missouri. Certified Public Library Administrator course sponsored by the Public Library Association.

Sept. 16–17:

Budget and Finance,

[<http://www.pla.org/ala/pla/plaevents/cplacourses/CPLAcourses.cfm>]

Washington State Library, Olympia. Certified Public Library Administrator course sponsored by the Public Library Association.

Oct. 1–3:

Wyoming Library Association, [<http://www.wyla.org/>] Annual Conference, Casper.

Oct. 1–4:

Kentucky Library Association/ Kentucky School Media Association/
Southeastern Library/ Association of Research Libraries

[<http://www.kylibasn.org/ndlc201.cfm>],

[<http://www.kylibasn.org/ndlc201.cfm>] National Diversity in Libraries
Joint Conference, Louisville. “Spectrum of the Future.”

Oct. 1–4:

Idaho Library Association,

[<http://emp.byui.edu/TWITCHELLL/2magic2008.html>] Annual Conference, Shilo
Inn, Idaho Falls. “The Magic of Libraries.”

Oct. 8–9:

Jossey-Bass Online Teaching and Learning Conference,

[<http://www.onlineteachingandlearning.com/>] sponsored by Learning Times.

Oct. 15–17:

Georgia Council of Media Organizations,

[<http://www.georgiacomo.org/Index.htm>] Annual Conference, The Classic
Center, Athens.

Oct. 15–17:

Iowa Library Association,

[<http://www.iowalibraryassociation.org/displayconvspecific.cfm?convnbr=4860>

] Annual Conference, Grand River Center, Dubuque. “Libraries:

Anywhere, Any Way, Anytime.”

Oct. 15–17:

Nebraska Library Association/ Nebraska Educational Media Association,
[<http://www.nebraskalibraries.org/conference/2008/index.html>] Annual
Conference, Lincoln. “Nebraska Libraries: Vision for the
Information Age.”

Oct. 19–21:

New England Library Association,
[<http://nelib.org/conference/2008/index.htm>] Annual Conference, Radisson
Hotel Manchester, New Hampshire. “Taking Charge of Change.”

Oct. 20–24:

PLA Boot Camp 4: Intensive Library Management Training,
[<http://www.pla.org/ala/pla/plaevents/travelingwksp/resultsbootcamp/resultsbootcamp.cfm>] Cleveland, Ohio. Application is required by September 22.

Oct. 21–24:

South Carolina Library Association,
[<http://www.scla.org/AnnualConference2008/HomePage>] Annual Conference,
Greenville Hyatt. “Going Green.”

Oct. 22–24:

Michigan Library Association, [<http://www.mla.lib.mi.us/events/annual>]
Annual Conference, Radisson Plaza Hotel, Kalamazoo. “Shaping Our
Tomorrow.”

Oct. 22–24:

Mississippi Library Association,
[<http://www.misslib.org/index.php/2008/04/02/2008-conference-natchez-convention-center-natchez-ms-october-22-24-2008/>] Annual Conference, Natchez
Convention Center. “At the Center of Everything.”

Oct. 23–24:

Virginia Library Association,
[<http://www.vla.org/demo/Conference/Index.html>] Annual Conference,
Williamsburg. “Libraries: Champions of Democracy.”

Oct. 23–25:

Hawaii Library Association,
[<http://ohana.chaminade.edu/hla/conference.html>] Annual Conference, Grand
Wailea Hotel and Spa, Maui.

Nov. 2–4:

Gaming, Learning, and Libraries Symposium,
[http://gaming.techsource.ala.org/index.php/Main_Page] ALA TechSource,
Oak Brook, Illinois.

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

Contact Us

American Libraries Direct

AL Direct is a free electronic newsletter emailed every Wednesday to personal members of the American Library Association [<http://www.ala.org>].

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[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/aldirecta/aldirect.cfm>]

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american libraries DIRECT

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | July 30, 2008

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SCHOOLROOMS
A new learning portal for K-12

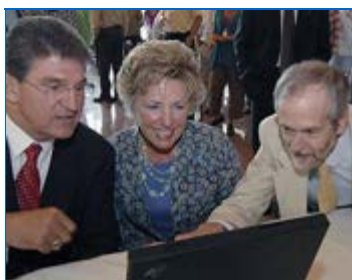
- ✓ Teacher-selected Content
- ✓ 71 Subjects – Aligned to Curriculum
- ✓ 3 Million High-quality Pages Searchable

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BUYERS GUIDE

U.S. & World News

[Fired West Virginia archivist appeals dismissal](#)

Fred Armstrong (far right), West Virginia state archivist for 22 years until he was abruptly fired last November, is appealing the dismissal of his case in Kanawha Circuit Court, arguing that he deserves a full hearing with the state Public Employees Grievance Board. State officials have not specified a reason for the termination, although Armstrong believes the action was taken because of his opposition to a plan to put a café in the archive's space after merging it with the state library....



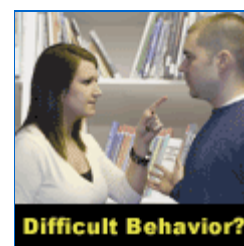
[D.C. Public Library weighs impact of budget cuts](#)

The District of Columbia Public Library is weighing the potential impact of its 2009 budget, which calls for the elimination of 74 unfilled staff positions from FY2008, a 14% reduction in its workforce. Adopted in June by the city council, the new budget may require all the city's libraries to reduce hours, but neither layoffs nor suspension of a years-long capital-improvement project are anticipated....



[Historic Maine library destroyed by lightning](#)

The Swan's Island (Maine) Library burned to the ground July 24 after it was hit by lightning during an early morning thunderstorm. Librarian Candis Joyce said that in addition to more than 10,000 volumes, the library held irreplaceable local-history materials, including genealogical records, historic photographs, archives from local quarries, weather data, and ferry logs. The collection had been housed for the past 10 years in the Atlantic Schoolhouse, a century-old, two-story structure that served as a village school from 1903 to 1954....



Difficult Behavior?



It will be here before you know it: **Banned Books Week**, September 27–October 4. Be prepared to celebrate the freedom to read with these BBW **promotional items** for 2008. **NEW!** From ALA Graphics.

In this issue

August 2008



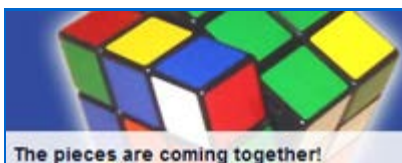
Four Great Conferences At One Site! Something For Everyone!
KLA/KSMA/SELA/ARL
National Diversity in Libraries Conference: "Spectrum of the Future"
October 1-4, 2008, Louisville Marriott Downtown, Louisville, Kentucky

ALA News

[Website transition update](#)

In fall 2008, ALA will unveil a redesigned website, with a new look and easier navigation. The redesign is the culmination of two years of gathering information from focus groups, interviews, usability tests, surveys, and other feedback loops. As we migrate our vast array of web pages this summer, please contact the [ALA Library](#) (800-545-2433, x2153) if you need assistance locating specific content or updates during our migration. We invite you to [preview](#) the site's new look....

ALA Marginalia, July 30



[Carol A. Nemeyer Memorial Fund created](#)

The Freedom to Read Foundation has created the Carol A. Nemeyer Memorial Fund in honor of the former ALA President who died in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, June 30. A member of the board of trustees of the Freedom to Read Foundation, Nemeyer was, during a long and distinguished career, a passionate advocate for libraries and their essential role in creating an informed citizenry....



[Volunteer for an ALA committee](#)

ALA President-elect Camila Alire is seeking applicants and nominees for appointments to 2009–2010 ALA and Council committees. The deadline for submitting applications and nominations is December 5. Applicants are required to complete an online committee volunteer form that will be available September 12....

[There's still time to thank Julie Andrews](#)

Hundreds of librarians and library supporters stopped by the Campaign for America's Libraries exhibit space at ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, California, to write personal messages of appreciation for the entertainment icon's efforts on behalf of libraries and librarians as the Honorary Chair of National Library Week 2008. An [electronic card](#) is now available to allow more library supporters to thank her for her efforts. Click on the poster above....



[ALA joins FCC comments about content filtering](#)

ALA, in conjunction with the Center for Democracy and Technology, Media Access Project, and 18 other public-interest and industry



Wikipedia and Literacy Skills

Reframing Gaming

Gratitude As a Catalyst

Speaking Technically

Details from Disneyland



The final volume in Stephenie Meyer's best-selling *Twilight* series, ***Breaking Dawn***, will be released on **August 2**. Many libraries across the country are hosting special events and parties for this "appetizing" occasion. What will your library do in honor of this once-in-a-lifetime (unless you're a Cullen and your lifetime lasts a bit longer than normal) event? YALSA is compiling library [Breaking Dawn celebrations and events](#) on its wiki.

organizations, have filed joint comments ([PDF file](#)) urging the FCC to abandon its proposed content-filtering mandate for the AWS-3 network. In its attempt to create a family-friendly online environment, the proposal conflicts with traditional First Amendment protections, requiring an AWS-3 service provider to block access to any text or video content that might harm a 5-year-old child in any way....

District Dispatch, July 28

AL Focus

[Many Voices, Many Nations](#)

Author and filmmaker Sherman Alexie headlined the Many Voices, Many Nations program June 27 at the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, California, following nine other speakers of Native American origin. This recap (6:24) of the event showcases the literature, poetry, song, and humor delivered by Alexie, master of ceremonies José A. Aponte of the San Diego County Library, musician Arigon Starr (above), and other speakers....



[Honoring Lois Ann Gregory-Wood](#)

On July 2, ALA Council adopted a resolution to recognize the 40 years of service of Lois Ann Gregory-Wood. Beginning at ALA's distribution office on October 11, 1968, Gregory-Wood went on to serve in a variety of positions leading up to her current role as Council Secretariat. The Council congratulated her on her outstanding work ethic, customer service, and promotion of ALA's missions. A photo montage of the celebration is available in this short (1:18) video....



[The American Dream Starts @ your library](#)

Dale Lipschultz (right), literary officer with the ALA Office for Literacy and Outreach Services, discusses (6:55) the American Dream Starts @ your library [grant initiative](#) sponsored by ALA and the Dollar General Foundation. The initiative's purpose is to collect literacy resources that libraries have already developed for adult English-language learners, and to provide funding for libraries who need money to undertake such services....



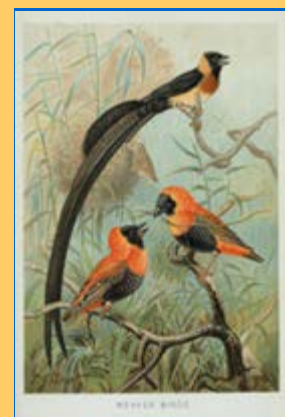
Career Leads from

[Head of Readers Services](#), Glenview (Ill.) Public Library.

Provides leadership to top-notch team of Readers Advisory Librarians and staff, and should be flexible in adapting to change. Responsible for all aspects of the administration and management of the Readers Services Department, including personnel, budget, and long-range planning, and is an active member of the library's Management Team. Exciting opportunity to participate in new building project....

@ [More jobs...](#)

Digital Library of the Week



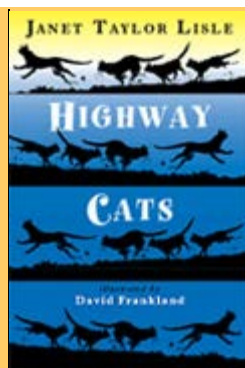
The [New York Public Library Digital Gallery](#) provides access to more than 600,000 images digitized from primary sources and printed rarities in the collections

Booklist ONLINE

[Featured review: Books for youth](#)

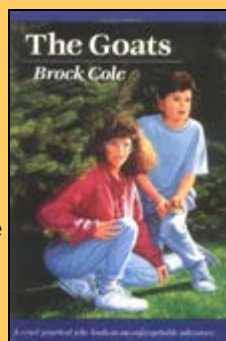
Lisle, Janet Taylor. *Highway Cats*. Sept. 2008. 128p. Grades 4–7. Philomel, hardcover (978-0-399-25070-5).

Three kittens abandoned on the median strip of an interstate highway miraculously survive. They meet a loose group of feral cats and help them to band together to save their small patch of homeland woods from being destroyed. Lisle firmly grounds this satisfying fantasy in the present day: The cats encounter the constant traffic of I-95, ever-filling dumpsters behind a shopping center, and a mayor who sees development as a path to reelection. In the tradition of classics such as Sheila Burnford's *The Incredible Journey* (1961) and Robert C. O'Brien's *Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH* (1971), Lisle shows that she can create and develop animal characters that are just as convincing as the humans in her past works....



[Core collection: Summer camp stories](#)

Gillian Engberg writes: "Regardless of what's on the schedule between breakfast and taps, it's the friction and friendships that make sleep-away camp most memorable. Titles such as Brock Cole's *The Goats* (1987) expose the scarring social torture possible among young people housed together for a summer, but more books celebrate the true camaraderie that helps kids change and grow. The following titles, ranging from chapter books to young adult novels, feature young people heading off to camp for a wide range of reasons: to hone their talents, to escape their families, and, most of all, to feel the freedom and discovery that one only finds away from home."...



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

of the New York Public Library, including illuminated manuscripts, historical maps, vintage posters, rare prints and photographs, illustrated books, printed ephemera, and more. Encompassing the subject strengths of the vast collections of the Research Libraries, these materials represent the applied sciences, fine and decorative arts, history, performing arts, and social sciences. Some examples of this far-ranging content include artwork such as Goya's [Disasters of War](#); panoramic cityscapes of [New York City's Fifth Avenue](#); classic illustrated zoologies and botanies such as [Pomona Britannica](#); George Catlin's [North American Indian Portfolio](#); Felice Beato's [views of Japan](#); reformer Thomas A. Larcom's portrait collection from [Dublin's Mountjoy prison](#); the Theatre Guild's first performance of [Porgy](#) in 1927; and [rare illustrated books](#) such as William Blake's hand-printed masterpiece of 1793, *America, A Prophecy*. For each item in the gallery, a high-resolution, 300- to 1200-dpi digital image file has been created using a flatbed scanner or a digital camera. Simultaneously, three low-resolution, 72-dpi derivative files are created for delivery on the Web, at 150 pixels (thumbnail or index image), 300 pixels (detail view) and 760

Division News

[ALCTS President's Program to feature James Cuno](#)

James Cuno, president and director of the Art Institute of Chicago, will be the featured speaker for the 2009 ALCTS President's Program at the ALA Annual Meeting in Chicago. Cuno is the author of *Who Owns Antiquity? Museums and the Battle over Our Ancient Heritage*. The program will take place July 13....



[YALSA offers read-alikes for Breaking Dawn](#)

Bella Swan's saga draws to a close with the August 2 release of *Breaking Dawn*, the final book of Stephenie Meyer's *Twilight* saga. But YALSA can help parents,

librarians, and educators keep the attention of teens hooked on Bella and her romances with vampire Edward and werewolf Jacob with read-alikes and resources for planning teen-focused programs. The 2009 Popular Paperbacks for Young Adults list, [Dead, Dying and the Undead](#), is a good starting point to find similar titles....



[ALSC to offer four online CE courses](#)

ALSC is offering four online continuing education courses October 6 through November 14, including: "Reading Instruction and Children's Books" (Katherine Todd); "The Tech Savvy Booktalker" (Nancy J. Keane); "The Technology-Enhanced Library Professional" (Sara Fisher); and "Sharing Poetry with Children" (Sylvia M. Vardell). Registration opens for the first session on August 11....

Awards

[Spectrum Scholarship winners announced](#)

The ALA Office for Diversity has chosen its 2008 Spectrum Scholars. The Spectrum Scholarship Program aims at recruiting applicants and awarding scholarships to American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian, Black/African American, Hispanic/Latino, and Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander students for graduate programs in library and information studies. Ten of the 2008 Spectrum Scholarships have been funded by proceeds from the ALA/ProQuest Scholarship Bash....

[ALA scholarship winners](#)

ALA has named the winners of eight scholarships to help finance education through ALA-accredited degree programs: Maile Claire McGrew-Frede ([Marshall Cavendish Scholarship](#)), Rebecca Marie Iserman ([Tom and Roberta Drewes Scholarship](#)), Linda Ann Christian ([David H. Clift Scholarship](#)), Ivy Kathleen Marvel ([Mary V. Gaver Scholarship](#)), Oscar Rene Lanza-Galindo ([Miriam L. Hornback Scholarship](#)), Kathryn Ruth Pettegrew ([Christopher J. Hoy/ERT Scholarship](#)), Denelle Elaine Eads ([Tony B. Leisner Scholarship](#)), and Alina J. Johnson ([Cicely Phippen Marks Scholarship](#))....

[2009 Arbuthnot Lecture to be held in Clinton, Tennessee](#)

ALSC has chosen the Riggio-Lynch Interfaith Chapel, designed by noted architect Maya Lin, in Clinton, Tennessee, as the site of the 2009 May Hill Arbuthnot Honor Lecture. Author Walter Dean Myers will deliver the lecture April 19, hosted by the Langston Hughes Library of the Children's Defense Fund Haley Farm with the support of the University of Tennessee and the Knox County Public Library....



[Green Earth Book Awards](#)

Winston of Churchill: One Bear's Battle Against Global Warming, written by Jean Davies Okimoto and illustrated by Jeremiah Trammell (Sasquatch, 2007), is the winner

pixels (enlargement), respectively, on the long side.

Do you know of a digital library collection that we can mention in this AL Direct feature? [Tell us about it.](#)

Public Perception

How the World Sees Us

"When we learned libraries were installing video games to draw teens and young adults through their doors, our first thought was that it's like luring people to church with free beer. Who says that's a good idea? Sure, they'll come, but then how do you get rid of them?"

—"Quiet in the Library? Shhh!", Editorial, *Chicago Tribune*, July 23.

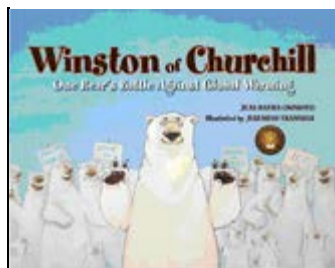
Ask the ALA Librarian



Q. One hurricane has already hit land

in the children's fiction category of the 2008 Green Earth Book Awards, sponsored by the Newton Marasco Foundation to honor books that best raise awareness of the beauty of the natural world and our responsibility to protect it....

Newton Marasco Foundation



[2008 Christian \(Audio\)Book of the Year](#)

The Evangelical Christian Publishers Association announced the six category winners of the 2008 Christian Book Awards during the International Christian Retail Show July 13 in Orlando, Florida. The Christian Book of the Year is *The Word of Promise New Testament Audio Bible* (Thomas Nelson), featuring readers Michael York, Stacy Keach, Lou Gossett Jr., and Marisa Tomei in a scripted dramatization of the New King James Version....

Evangelical Christian Publishers Association, July 13



Seen Online

[Chino Hills quake: Library damage slight](#)

The most intense earthquake to ripple across Orange County in more than a decade damaged buildings, sparked a fire, and shut down the rides at Disneyland in a few moments of hard shaking July 29. In Placentia's public library, ceiling tiles pulled loose and whole sections of ceiling were sagging; city officials said the library was not safe and would likely be closed for one or two weeks. The quake also cracked plaster and loosened ceiling tiles at the Nixon Presidential Library and Museum in Yorba Linda. The [Los Angeles Public Library](#) (above) had some books topple from the shelves....

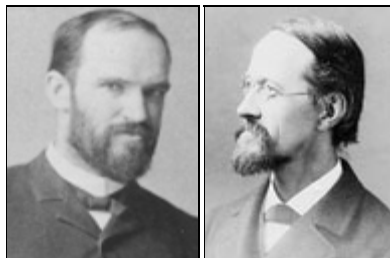
Orange County (Calif.) Register, July 29; *Los Angeles Times*, July 30



[Dewey and Cutter remembered](#)

Melvil Dewey (left), director of the Amherst College library in the 1870s, and Charles Ammi Cutter, director of the Forbes Library in Northampton, Massachusetts, in the 1890s, were friends, ALA cofounders, and recognized visionaries in the library sciences. But they were also rivals for the same narrowly defined place in history. In the end, character may have been destiny. "You would have liked Cutter if you met him; you wouldn't have liked Dewey," says Wayne A. Wiegand, professor of library and information sciences at Florida State University....

Springfield (Mass.) Republican, July 28



this season, there's flooding in Iowa and upstate New York, and southern California just had a tremor. But our library doesn't have a disaster plan! Where can I get help in writing one?

A. The ALA Washington Office has listed several web-based resources for [disaster readiness](#). Be sure to cooperate with your local government and state library, as your plan needs to work in concert with those developed for larger areas. Some state libraries or regional consortia will have resources of their own. The [Indiana State Library](#), for example, has a disaster plan template available. SOLINET's [Preservation Field Service Program](#) has extensive resources available for its members, as do other regional networks. There are also workshops, such as an online one from [SOLINET](#) or a tailored on-site workshop from the [Northeast Document Conservation Center](#). Again, check with your local consortium, state association, or state library to see what might be available in your area—or to see what would be entailed in bringing one of the workshops from [ALCTS](#), NEDCC, or

Bob, the Ellington library cat

As residents filtered into the Hall Memorial Library in Ellington, Connecticut, during a hot and sticky July day, Bob, the library's cat-in-residence, beat the heat by napping on a chair in the reading room. Bob has been napping in chairs, and on countertops, tables, and the floor since he started hanging around the library in the winter of 2004, according to library director Susan Phillips.



Residents fawn over the docile feline whenever they come in the door....

Manchester (Conn.) Journal Inquirer, July 18

Online, R U really reading?

As teenagers' scores on standardized reading tests have declined or stagnated, some argue that the hours spent prowling the internet are the enemy of reading—diminishing literacy, wrecking attention spans, and destroying a precious common culture that exists only through the reading of books. But others say the internet has created a new kind of reading, one that schools and society should not discount....

New York Times, July 27

Sacramento library ponders reply to grand jury report

The Sacramento (Calif.) Public Library's governing board weighed a proposal July 24 to reject the bulk of the recommendations made in a blistering assessment by the county grand jury, including a suggestion that library Director Anne Marie Gold be fired. The board did not vote on the draft response, putting it off until an August 6 meeting. But members of the panel gave little indication they opposed much in the proposal, instead discussing only technical changes....

Sacramento (Calif.) Bee, July 25

Diane Chen wants to make libraries better

About four years ago, Diane Chen's son ruptured his kidney while kneeboarding. Chen, who has been a librarian at Hickman Elementary in Donelson, Tennessee, the past 11 years, was scheduled to go to the ALA Annual Conference in Orlando as state representative. "When we knew my son was going to be OK, he told me, 'Go make libraries better,'" Chen said....



Nashville Tennessean, July 28

Private fundraising opens Wellesley branches

Two years after the Wellesley, Massachusetts, voters rejected public funding that would have allowed two branch libraries to remain open, both locations are now set to reopen their doors.

Marla Robinson, chairwoman of the Wellesley Free Library Board of Trustees, said a private fundraising effort launched in October 2006 has raised more than \$240,000 to reopen the Hills (above) and Fells branches in September....

Boston Globe, July 29



Library raised \$10,000, one penny at a time

SOLINET to your area. From the [ALA Professional Tips wiki](#).

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

Calendar

Sept. 1–30: [Library Card Sign-Up Month](#).

Sept. 18–20: [ALSC Institute](#), Hilton Salt Lake City Center. "Trailblaze Your Path to Library Success."

Sept. 24–27: [History of Printing and Publishing in the Languages and Countries of the Middle East](#), Third International Symposium, Universität Leipzig, Germany.

Sept. 26–28: [TPRC](#), 36th Research Conference on Communication, Information, and Internet Policy, National Center for Technology and Law, George Mason University School of Law, Arlington, Virginia.

Sept. 27–28: [InfoCamp Seattle](#), Youngstown Cultural Arts Center, Seattle. A hybrid unconference that blends the egalitarian, community-driven basis of barcamps with some conventional conference structures, where the presentations are given

The children's room at Peter White Public Library in Marquette, Michigan, has successfully completed its collection of a million pennies. The million mark was reached recently, ending a campaign that started in 2001 in conjunction with an exhibit about math that asked the question, "How much is a million?" after the book of the same title by David M. Schwartz. The money will be used to create an endowment fund for children's materials and programming....

Marquette (Mich.) Mining Journal, July 29



[Libraries shine in tough economic times](#)

With the economy slowing, many Americans are doing research in the public library. Boyd County (Ky.) Library Director Debbie Cosper says (audio, 4:07) public-use computers are always full and people are checking out books rather than buying them....

All Things Considered, NPR, July 29



[Critics blast new Providence Public Library plan](#)

The board of trustees of the Providence Public Library came under fire July 24 by more than two-dozen critics for its failure to reopen the Washington Park branch. They also derided a proposed pact between the library and the city that would commit the city to giving \$3.5 million annually for the next four years even if the board decides next year to cut services in the neighborhood branches....

Providence Journal, July 25

[Saltsburg library to close](#)

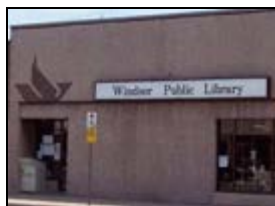
Citing a shortage in funding and a decline in patronage, Saltsburg (Pa.) Free Library officials said the 99-year-old resource center will close August 1. A mass resignation of current library board members also is expected next month. Board Treasurer Kelly Corridoni believes the library has fallen victim to a combination of rising costs and a general trend of dwindling funds that can be tapped for such facilities in small communities....

Blairsville (Pa.) Dispatch, July 25

[Legal fees add to strapped Windsor Public Library problems](#)

The cash-strapped Windsor, Ontario, library board, which is considering [closing branches](#) to make up for funding cutbacks, has spent an estimated \$10,000 so far on legal advice surrounding its current CEO, who remains on paid sick leave while clerking at a local law firm. Windsor Mayor Eddie Francis said it was "insulting" that library CEO Brian Bell is working at a law firm while drawing a reported salary of around \$133,000 since going on paid sick leave in the spring. Bell, who said the city paid about \$20,000 in tuition for his law school education, cited stress and medical concerns for his sick leave....

Windsor (Ont.) Star, July 28



[Colorado woman founds Nicaragua's first lending library](#)

Jane Mirandette is giving power to the people of Nicaragua—one book at a time. In the past seven years, the Loveland, Colorado, resident has established the first

by attendees.

Sept. 27–

Oct. 4:

[Banned Books Week.](#)

"Free People Read Freely."

Sept. 30–

Oct. 3:

[4th Ibero-American Congress of Academic Archives.](#)

Bogota, Colombia. "Protection of the Documented Cultural Heritage of Universities through Their Archives."

Oct. 6–10:

[Library and Information Association of South Africa.](#) 10th Annual Conference, Cape Town.

"Looking Ahead: The Changing Role of LIS."

Oct. 9–11:

[International Reading Association.](#) 19th West Regional Conference, Seattle.

Oct. 12–18:

[Teen Read Week.](#) "Books With Bite @ your library."

Oct. 15–19:

[Frankfurt Book Fair.](#) Frankfurt, Germany.

Oct. 16–19:

[LITA Forum.](#) Hilton Netherland Plaza Hotel, Cincinnati, Ohio. "Technology and Community: Building the Techno Community Library."

Oct. 17–19:

[AASL Fall Forum.](#) Oak



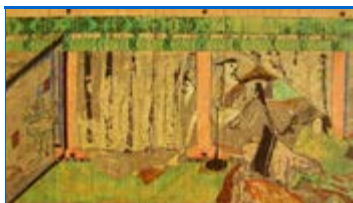
lending library in the country, created a traveling reading program for schools, and helped found 25 more libraries around Central America. With 12,500 books in English and Spanish, the [San Juan del Sur Public Library](#) lends them to almost 5,000 library cardholders....

Loveland (Colo.) Reporter-Herald, July 27

[Discovery of Genji text causes a stir](#)

The literary world is abuzz with the discovery of a complete medieval manuscript of *Genji Monogatari* (The Tale of Genji), which scholars say will likely shed light on the original text of this 11th-century masterpiece. The classic work of prose is considered by many people to be the world's first full-length novel. The 13th-century manuscript, called the "Osawa Book," was owned by the Osawa family in Nara Prefecture, Japan, until World War II, but its whereabouts had remained unknown since then....

Tokyo Asahi Shimbun, July 23



Tech Talk

[How to lose your Cuil 20 seconds after launch](#)

Erick Schonfeld writes: "The hype cycle now lasts less than a day. Take yesterday's over-hyped launch of stealth search startup [Cuil](#), which was quickly followed by a backlash when everyone realized that it was selling a bill of goods by portraying itself as a Google-killing search app. This was entirely the company's own fault. It prebriefed every blogger and tech journalist on the planet, but didn't allow anyone to actually test the search engine before the launch."...

TechCrunch, July 29



[Videoconferencing: Easier than ever](#)

Errol A. Pierre-Louis writes: "When you can't meet face-to-face, meeting webcam-to-webcam is the way to go. Whether you want to chat with a friend or have an informal business meeting, videoconferencing is more personal than voice-only conference calling, and it's a lot cheaper (and greener) than today's plane trips. But you'll need the right software and webcam to get the most out of your video meeting. The newest generation of videoconferencing applications features improved interfaces, smoother video streaming, and clearer audio."...

PC Magazine, July 30



[End of the line for cassette tapes](#)

Walter Minkel writes: "If you've been a

Brook Hills Marriott Resort, Oak Brook, Illinois. "Assessment, Part II: Constructing and Interpreting Viable Tools for Effective Student Learning in the Library Media Center."

Oct. 20–22:
[Internet Librarian 2008](#), Monterey, California, Conference Center. "Beyond 2.0: User-Focused Tools and Practices."

Nov. 7–9:
[Young Adult Literature Symposium](#).

Millennium Maxwell House Hotel, Nashville, Tennessee. Sponsored by YALSA.

@ [More...](#)

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Leonard Kniffel,

librarian for more than a couple of years, you probably have memories connected to cassette tapes—circulating those book 'n' tape combinations; practicing your storytime songs or puppet shows or storytelling; or learning songs in your car on the way to work. But those days are mostly over, and the cassette tape will soon join its brother, the 8-track, and its cousins, the 5 1/4 and 3 1/2-inch floppy disks and the VCR cassette, in the Misty Never-Never Land of Obsolete Technologies.”...



The Monkey Speaks, July 28

[Taking digital preservation seriously](#)

Andy Guess writes: “Librarians from research universities are collaborating to tackle a host of digital preservation problems that so far have no satisfactory solution. They include hardware complexities, such as constructing storage devices that continuously monitor and repair data while remaining easily scalable; redundancy measures, such as distributing and duplicating data across storage devices or across the country; universal standards, such as formats that can remain readable in the distant future; and interfaces, such as open software protocols that manage digital holdings and make them accessible to the public.”...

Inside Higher Ed, July 23

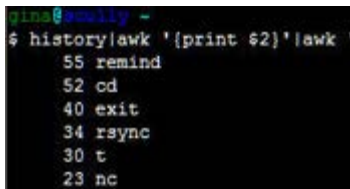
[Web Harvester captures digital images](#)

OCLC is now offering Web Harvester, a product that allows libraries and other cultural heritage institutions to capture and add web content to their digital collections managed by OCLC’s CONTENTdm Digital Collection Management Software. OCLC’s Web Harvester addresses the need to store and provide access to otherwise highly transient information resources that solely exist on websites....

OCLC, July 29

[Top 10 command line tools](#)

Kevin Purdy writes: “When you need something done quickly, efficiently, and without any software overhead, the command line (or terminal) is where it’s at. It was the first way humans told computers what to do, but as graphics became increasingly important, the command line became an insiders’ secret weapon. But with the right commands and a little bit of know-how, anyone can get things done from a text-only interface. Let’s take a look at 10 commands and tricks that make the terminal more accessible, and more powerful, on any system.”...

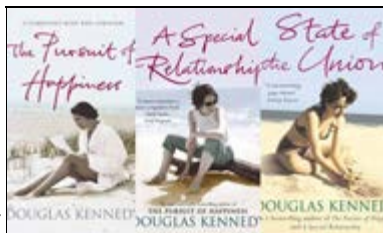


Lifehacker, July 30

Publishing

[The great chick-lit cover-up](#)

Diane Shipley writes: “When we look at a book, its cover tells us what to expect. A pink paperback featuring a smiling young woman is most likely a female-centric summer read, whereas a gun on a black background is probably a murder



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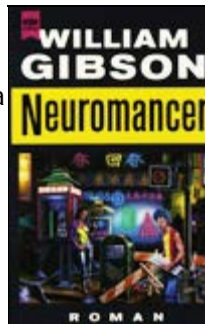
story. A few simple, aesthetic rules narrow our options, make life easier, and ensure none of us has to wander Waterstone's for hours, wailing in confusion. And yet the rules seem to be changing."...

The Telegraph (U.K.), July 29

[Great opening sentences from science fiction](#)

Charlie Jane Anders writes: "You can tell a lot about a science fiction book from its first sentence. Those first few words (or few dozen, in some cases) have to pull you into the story and bring you into a whole alternate world. A *good* first sentence hooks you, pulling you into the story with a quick jolt of action and mystery. But a *great* first sentence does way more than that—it establishes a tone and it sticks in your mind like a little otherworldly *koan*, confounding your expectations."...

io9: Strung Out on Science Fiction, July 24



[Librarians harvest manga at Comic-Con](#)

In the quest to attract young readers, librarians are increasingly stocking up on the latest comic books and graphic novels. This week, they mingled with comic enthusiasts at [Comic-Con](#), a massively popular arts convention in San Diego, poring over manga, or Japanese comics, and attending panels specifically aimed at librarians who want to reach younger audiences....

All Things Considered, NPR, July 28

[The Map of Early Modern London](#)

This site maps the streets, sites, and significant boundaries of late 16th-century and early 17th-century London. You can find many of the theatres and landmarks of Shakespeare's time, and learn about the history and culture of the city in which he lived and worked.

Navigation is by index or by tagged map section; an experimental map adds Google-style layers to the map platform. Janelle Jenstad, assistant professor of English at the University of Victoria, British Columbia, is editor and coordinator of the project....

Map of Early Modern London



[Sony adopts epub standard for its Reader](#)

The International Digital Publishing Forum's epub e-book standard received a big vote of support July 24 when Sony announced that effective immediately its Sony Reader will now support the standard.

Beginning in August, all new devices shipped will use epub, and right now owners of existing devices can visit the [Sony support site](#) to update their device's software for epub support....

Publishers Weekly, July 24



Actions & Answers

Factors that improve the online experience

The Institute for Dynamic Educational Advancement has released a report that sheds light on how people find information online and how the experience of website visitors can be improved. Some of its key findings: Easy access to complete information is key to visitor enjoyment; visitors want information fast; and designers are overly optimistic about visitors' ability to maintain orientation. More than 50% report that there is a gap between what they are looking for and what typical websites provide, and 60% think that a personal navigational guide would help....
Institute for Dynamic Educational Advancement



Swinging votes: Can libraries do it?

Jenny Levine writes: "If you're in a public library, I can't encourage you enough to get a copy of this new OCLC report, *From Awareness to Funding*, and read it for yourself. You can download [one big PDF](#), download individual chapters, or [order a print copy](#) (highly recommended for administrators and trustees). The survey identifies four types of voters—chronic nonvoters, voters with barriers to support (financial, detached, "the web wins"), probable supporters, and super supporters. The report examines each one in depth, based on surveys and focus group discussions about funding support for libraries."...

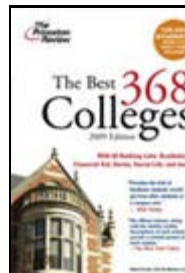
The Shifted Librarian, July 29



Princeton Review ranks college libraries

According to a survey by the *Princeton Review* that asked 120,000 students at 368 colleges to rate their schools on dozens of topics and report on their campus experiences, Harvard, Princeton, and Duke University have the top three libraries in the United States. Ranking lists report the top 20 colleges in this and more than 50 other categories in the 2009 edition of the *Princeton Review's* annual college guide *The Best 368 Colleges*....

Princeton Review, July 28



A tribute to the bookmobile

There are few visions of library service that are more inspiring than that of a bookmobile and its staff providing books to young children. Not only did the Washington County (Md.) Free Library have the first horse-and-wagon bookmobile (1905), it was also one of the first libraries in the United States to use a motorized vehicle as a bookmobile (by 1913). Bookmobiles have also appeared on seven [postage stamps](#) in six countries....



Library History Buff

[Electronic library kiosk bound for Iraq](#)

Camp Victory in Iraq is nearly 2,000 miles from the nearest Army library in Europe. But troops deployed at the sprawling base near Baghdad International Airport soon will have access to a broad spectrum of library resources through an e-Branch kiosk. A team of movers packed and loaded the kiosk July 14 at the European Regional Library Support Center in Heidelberg, Germany, for shipment to Camp Victory, where it will be installed at the Victory Education Center....



American Forces Press Service, July 22

[The 5th Annual September Project](#)

The September Project is a grassroots effort to encourage events about freedom and democracy in all libraries in all countries during the month of September. September Project events are free and organized locally. In 2004, Sarah Washburn and David Silver began the project to break the silence following September 11 and to invite all people into libraries to consider topics of patriotism, democracy, and citizenship. Since then, more than 1,200 public, academic, school, government, and special libraries in 35 countries have hosted and organized September Project events....



The September Project

[Internet Archive opens up NASA space library](#)

NASA is making its huge collection of historic photographs, films, and video available to the public for the first time. A partnership with the nonprofit Internet Archive is offering 21 major NASA imagery collections merged into a single searchable online resource at [NASAIimages.](#) The launch is the first step in a five-year partnership that will add millions of images and thousands of hours of video and audio content....



Incisive Media, July 25

[Minneapolis Public Library guards go the extra mile](#)

Paul Schmelzer writes: "My 12-year-old Thai nephew Seven, who's been living with us since late March, was at the Minneapolis Public Library when his bike was stolen. The library security guards let him use the phone to call me, got a description of the bike, and said they'd check out their security camera tape to see if they could spot the theft. Then on Saturday, we got a call from the library: 'We've got Seven's bike.' Only it wasn't the one that had been taken: It was a new Schwinn BMX bike, just his height—and paid for out-of-pocket by several of the guards."...



Eyeteeth, July 28

[10 social networking tips for libraries](#)

Sarah Houghton-Jan writes: "Part of Library 2.0 is social software,

and as more and more libraries put themselves out there on social networks it becomes increasingly important that we do so in a way that works well for ourselves and for our users. How can we best take advantage of these community-building tools? 1. Do your research.”...

Librarian in Black, July 28

[Balancing real and virtual worlds](#)

Librarians who spend part of their work time in such virtual worlds as Second Life, ActiveWorld, or Kaneva, or who are planning future activities for Second Life or other virtual worlds are invited to participate in a research study. The goal is to investigate how library staff balance real-life library duties with their virtual-world library duties. The results will be published in an international journal and shared with members of LITA....

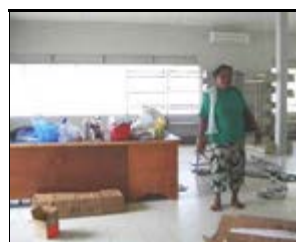
East Carolina University



[Help rebuild the Yap State Public Library](#)

On April 9, 2004, Typhoon Sudal hit Yap, an island group in the Federated States of Micronesia in the western Pacific. The Yap State Public Library, serving a population of 8,000, was devastated. Today, Yap has a beautifully rebuilt facility (right), but little additional funding exists to restore the collection of books, library materials, computers, shelving, equipment, and furniture to serve its community. If you are willing to help, contact [Peter Lor](#) or [Arlene Cohen](#)....

International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions, June 27



AL Direct, July 30, 2008

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The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | July 30, 2008

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Fired West Virginia archivist appeals dismissal

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/july2008/wvarchivistappeals.cfm>]

Fred Armstrong (far right), West Virginia state archivist for 22 years until he was abruptly fired last November, is appealing the dismissal of his case in Kanawha Circuit Court, arguing that he deserves a full hearing with the state Public Employees Grievance Board. State officials have not specified a reason for the termination, although Armstrong believes the action was taken because of his opposition to a plan to put a café in the archive's space after merging it with the state library....

D.C. Public Library weighs impact of budget cuts

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/july2008/dcplbudgetthreats.cfm>]

The District of Columbia Public Library is weighing the potential impact

of its 2009 budget, which calls for the elimination of 74 unfilled staff positions from FY2008, a 14% reduction in its workforce. Adopted in June by the city council, the new budget may require all the city's libraries to reduce hours, but neither layoffs nor suspension of a years-long capital-improvement project are anticipated....

Historic Maine library destroyed by lightning

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/july2008/mainelibrarylightning.cfm>]

The Swan's Island (Maine) Library burned to the ground July 24 after it was hit by lightning during an early morning thunderstorm. Librarian Candis Joyce said that in addition to more than 10,000 volumes, the library held irreplaceable local-history materials, including genealogical records, historic photographs, archives from local quarries, weather data, and ferry logs. The collection had been housed for the past 10 years in the Atlantic Schoolhouse, a century-old, two-story structure that served as a village school from 1903 to 1954....

[<http://www.kylibasn.org/conferences620.cfm>]

ALA News

[<http://staging.ala.org/home.cfm>]Website transition update

[<http://discuss.ala.org/marginalia/2008/07/30/website-transition-update/>]

In fall 2008, ALA will unveil a redesigned website, with a new look and easier navigation. The redesign is the culmination of two years of gathering information from focus groups, interviews, usability tests, surveys, and other feedback loops. As we migrate our vast array of web pages this summer, please contact the ALA Library

[<mailto:library@ala.org>] (800-545-2433, x2153) if you need assistance locating specific content or updates during our migration. We invite you to preview [<http://staging.ala.org/home.cfm>] the site's new look....

ALA Marginalia, July 30

Carol A. Nemeyer Memorial Fund created

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/July2008/ftf.cfm>]

The Freedom to Read Foundation has created the Carol A. Nemeyer Memorial Fund in honor of the former ALA President who died in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, June 30. A member of the board of trustees of the Freedom to Read Foundation, Nemeyer was, during a long and distinguished career, a passionate advocate for libraries and their essential role in creating an informed citizenry....

Volunteer for an ALA committee

[<http://ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/July2008/GovernanceNominations.cfm>]

ALA President-elect Camila Alire is seeking applicants and nominees for appointments to 2009–2010 ALA and Council committees. The deadline for submitting applications and nominations is December 5. Applicants are

required to complete an online committee volunteer form that will be available September 12....

[<http://julieandrews.wufoo.com/forms/thank-you-julie-andrews/>] There's still time to thank Julie Andrews

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/July2008/JAstilltime.cfm>] Hundreds of librarians and library supporters stopped by the Campaign for America's Libraries exhibit space at ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, California, to write personal messages of appreciation for the entertainment icon's efforts on behalf of libraries and librarians as the Honorary Chair of National Library Week 2008. An electronic card [<http://julieandrews.wufoo.com/forms/thank-you-julie-andrews/>] is now available to allow more library supporters to thank her for her efforts. Click on the poster above....

ALA joins FCC comments about content filtering

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=574>] ALA, in conjunction with the Center for Democracy and Technology, Media Access Project, and 18 other public-interest and industry organizations, have filed joint comments (PDF file [<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/wp-content/uploads/2008/07/jointcommentsfcc.pdf>]) urging the FCC to abandon its proposed content-filtering mandate for the AWS-3 network. In its attempt to create a family-friendly online environment, the proposal conflicts with traditional First Amendment protections, requiring an AWS-3 service provider to block access to any text or video content that might harm a 5-year-old child in any way....

District Dispatch, July 28

AL Focus

=====

Many Voices, Many Nations

[<http://alfocus.ala.org/videos/many-voices-many-nations>] Author and filmmaker Sherman Alexie headlined the Many Voices, Many Nations program June 27 at the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, California, following nine other speakers of Native American origin. This recap (6:24) of the event showcases the literature, poetry, song, and humor delivered by Alexie, master of ceremonies José A. Aponte of the San Diego County Library, musician Arigon Starr (above), and other speakers....

Honoring Lois Ann Gregory-Wood

[<http://alfocus.ala.org/videos/honoring-lois-ann-gregory-wood>] On July 2, ALA Council adopted a resolution to recognize the 40 years of service of Lois Ann Gregory-Wood. Beginning at ALA's distribution office on October 11, 1968, Gregory-Wood went on to serve in a variety of positions leading up to her current role as Council Secretariat. The Council congratulated her on her outstanding work ethic, customer service, and promotion of ALA's missions. A photo montage of the celebration is available in this short (1:18) video....

The American Dream Starts @ your library

[<http://alfocus.ala.org/videos/dale-lipschultz-american-dream-starts-your-library>]

Dale Lipschultz (right), literary officer with the ALA Office for Literacy and Outreach Services, discusses (6:55) the American Dream Starts @ your library grant initiative

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/July2008/OLOSgrant.cfm>]
sponsored by ALA and the Dollar General Foundation. The initiative's purpose is to collect literacy resources that libraries have already developed for adult English-language learners, and to provide funding for libraries who need money to undertake such services....

Featured review: Books for youth

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=2794846]

Lisle, Janet Taylor. Highway Cats. Sept. 2008. 128p. Grades 4–7.

Philomel, hardcover (978-0-399-25070-5).

Three kittens abandoned on the median strip of an interstate highway miraculously survive. They meet a loose group of feral cats and help them to band together to save their small patch of homeland woods from being destroyed. Lisle firmly grounds this satisfying fantasy in the present day: The cats encounter the constant traffic of I-95, ever-filling dumpsters behind a shopping center, and a mayor who sees development as a path to reelection. In the tradition of classics such as Sheila Burnford's *The Incredible Journey* (1961) and Robert C. O'Brien's *Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH* (1971), Lisle shows that she can create and develop animal characters that are just as convincing as the humans in her past works....

Core collection: Summer camp stories

[http://booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=2858654]

Gillian Engberg writes: "Regardless of what's on the schedule between breakfast and taps, it's the friction and friendships that make sleep-away camp most memorable. Titles such as Brock Cole's *The Goats* (1987) expose the scarring social torture possible among young people housed together for a summer, but more books celebrate the true camaraderie that helps kids change and grow. The following titles, ranging from chapter books to young adult novels, feature young people heading off to camp for a wide range of reasons: to hone their talents, to escape their families, and, most of all, to feel the freedom and discovery that one only finds away from home."...

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

Division News

ALCTS President's Program to feature James Cuno

[<http://ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/July2008/ALCTS09presprogram.cfm>]

James Cuno, president and director of the Art Institute of Chicago, will be the featured speaker for the 2009 ALCTS President's Program at the ALA Annual Meeting in Chicago. Cuno is the author of *Who Owns Antiquity? Museums and the Battle over Our Ancient Heritage*. The program will take place July 13....

Breaking Dawn

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/July2008/YALSAdawn.cfm>]
Bella Swan's saga draws to a close with the August 2 release of *Breaking Dawn*, the final book of Stephenie Meyer's *Twilight* saga. But YALSA can help parents, librarians, and educators keep the attention of teens hooked on Bella and her romances with vampire Edward and werewolf Jacob with read-alikes and resources for planning teen-focused programs. The 2009 Popular Paperbacks for Young Adults list, *Dead, Dying and the Undead*, [<http://www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/booklistsawards/popularpaperback/nominations.cfm>] is a good starting point to find similar titles....

ALSC to offer four online CE courses

[<http://ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/July2008/ALSCconted.cfm>]
ALSC is offering four online continuing education courses October 6 through November 14, including: "Reading Instruction and Children's Books" (Katherine Todd); "The Tech Savvy Booktalker" (Nancy J. Keane); "The Technology-Enhanced Library Professional" (Sara Fisher); and "Sharing Poetry with Children" (Sylvia M. Vardell). Registration opens for the first session on August 11....

Awards

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Spectrum Scholarship winners announced

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/July2008/OFDspectrumscholars.cfm>]
The ALA Office for Diversity has chosen its 2008 Spectrum Scholars. The Spectrum Scholarship Program aims at recruiting applicants and awarding scholarships to American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian, Black/African American, Hispanic/Latino, and Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander students for graduate programs in library and information studies. Ten of the 2008 Spectrum Scholarships have been funded by proceeds from the ALA/ProQuest Scholarship Bash....

ALA scholarship winners

ALA has named the winners of eight scholarships to help finance education through ALA-accredited degree programs: Maile Claire McGrew-Frede (Marshall Cavendish Scholarship [<http://ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/July2008/HRDRcavendish.cfm>]), Rebecca Marie Iserman (Tom and Roberta Drewes Scholarship [<http://ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/July2008/HRDRdrewes.cfm>]), Linda Ann Christian (David H. Clift Scholarship [<http://ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/July2008/HRDRclift.cfm>]), Ivy Kathleen Marvel (Mary V. Gaver Scholarship [<http://ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/July2008/HRDRgaver.cfm>]), Oscar

Rene Lanza-Galindo (Miriam L. Hornback Scholarship [<http://ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/July2008/HRDRhornback.cfm>]), Kathryn Ruth Pettegrew (Christopher J. Hoy/ERT Scholarship [<http://ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/July2008/HRDRhoy.cfm>]), Denelle Elaine Eads (Tony B. Leisner Scholarship [<http://ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/July2008/HRDRleisner.cfm>]), and Alina J. Johnson (Cicely Phippen Marks Scholarship [<http://ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/July2008/HRDRmarks.cfm>])....

2009 Arbuthnot Lecture to be held in Clinton, Tennessee [<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/July2008/ALSCarbuthnot.cfm>] ALSC has chosen the Riggio-Lynch Interfaith Chapel, designed by noted architect Maya Lin, in Clinton, Tennessee, as the site of the 2009 May Hill Arbuthnot Honor Lecture. Author Walter Dean Myers will deliver the lecture April 19, hosted by the Langston Hughes Library of the Children's Defense Fund Haley Farm with the support of the University of Tennessee and the Knox County Public Library....

Green Earth Book Awards [http://www.newtonmarascofoundation.org/programs/a_ge_pw.cfm] Winston of Churchill: One Bear's Battle Against Global Warming, written by Jean Davies Okimoto and illustrated by Jeremiah Trammell (Sasquatch, 2007), is the winner in the children's fiction category of the 2008 Green Earth Book Awards, sponsored by the Newton Marasco Foundation to honor books that best raise awareness of the beauty of the natural world and our responsibility to protect it...
Newton Marasco Foundation

2008 Christian (Audio)Book of the Year [http://www.ecpa.org/pr/pr_template5.html] The Evangelical Christian Publishers Association announced the six category winners of the 2008 Christian Book Awards during the International Christian Retail Show July 13 in Orlando, Florida. The Christian Book of the Year is The Word of Promise New Testament Audio Bible (Thomas Nelson), featuring readers Michael York, Stacy Keach, Lou Gossett Jr., and Marisa Tomei in a scripted dramatization of the New King James Version....
Evangelical Christian Publishers Association, July 13

Seen Online

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Chino Hills quake: Library damage slight [<http://www.ocregister.com/articles/font-shaking-2108278?slideshow=1>] The most intense earthquake to ripple across Orange County in more than a decade damaged buildings, sparked a fire, and shut down the rides at Disneyland in a few moments of hard shaking July 29. In Placentia's public library, ceiling tiles pulled loose and whole sections of ceiling were sagging; city officials said the library was not safe and would likely be closed for one or two weeks. The quake also cracked plaster and loosened ceiling tiles at the Nixon Presidential Library and Museum in Yorba Linda. The Los Angeles Public Library [<http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-la-quake30-2008jul30,0,6284507.sto>]

ry?page=1] (above) had some books topple from the shelves....
Orange County (Calif.) Register, July 29; Los Angeles Times, July 30

Dewey and Cutter remembered

[<http://www.masslive.com/living/republican/index.ssf?/base/living-2/121722932795480.xml&coll=1&thispage=1>]

Melvil Dewey (left), director of the Amherst College library in the 1870s, and Charles Ammi Cutter, director of the Forbes Library in Northampton, Massachusetts, in the 1890s, were friends, ALA cofounders, and recognized visionaries in the library sciences. But they were also rivals for the same narrowly defined place in history. In the end, character may have been destiny. "You would have liked Cutter if you met him; you wouldn't have liked Dewey," says Wayne A. Wiegand, professor of library and information sciences at Florida State University....
Springfield (Mass.) Republican, July 28

Bob, the Ellington library cat

[<http://www.journalinquirer.com/articles/2008/07/18/news/doc4880acf4da30d144854074.txt>]

As residents filtered into the Hall Memorial Library in Ellington, Connecticut, during a hot and sticky July day, Bob, the library's cat-in-residence, beat the heat by napping on a chair in the reading room. Bob has been napping in chairs, on countertops, tables, and the floor since he started hanging around the library in the winter of 2004, according to library director Susan Phillips. Residents fawn over the docile feline whenever they come in the door....
Manchester (Conn.) Journal Inquirer, July 18

Online, R U really reading?

[<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/07/27/books/27reading.html>]

As teenagers' scores on standardized reading tests have declined or stagnated, some argue that the hours spent prowling the internet are the enemy of reading—diminishing literacy, wrecking attention spans, and destroying a precious common culture that exists only through the reading of books. But others say the internet has created a new kind of reading, one that schools and society should not discount....
New York Times, July 27

Sacramento library ponders reply to grand jury report

[<http://www.sacbee.com/localgov/story/1108672.html>]

The Sacramento (Calif.) Public Library's governing board weighed a proposal July 24 to reject the bulk of the recommendations made in a blistering assessment by the county grand jury, including a suggestion that library Director Anne Marie Gold be fired. The board did not vote on the draft response, putting it off until an August 6 meeting. But members of the panel gave little indication they opposed much in the proposal, instead discussing only technical changes....
Sacramento (Calif.) Bee, July 25

Diane Chen wants to make libraries better

[<http://www.tennessean.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2008807280355>]

About four years ago, Diane Chen's son ruptured his kidney while kneeboarding. Chen, who has been a librarian at Hickman Elementary in Donelson, Tennessee, the past 11 years, was scheduled to go to the ALA

Annual Conference in Orlando as state representative. "When we knew my son was going to be OK, he told me, 'Go make libraries better,'" Chen said....

Nashville Tennessean, July 28

Private fundraising opens Wellesley branches

[http://www.boston.com/bostonglobe/regional_editions/globe_west/west/2008/07/wellesley_branc.html]

Two years after the Wellesley, Massachusetts, voters rejected public funding that would have allowed two branch libraries to remain open, both locations are now set to reopen their doors. Marla Robinson, chairwoman of the Wellesley Free Library Board of Trustees, said a private fundraising effort launched in October 2006 has raised more than \$240,000 to reopen the Hills (above) and Fells branches in September....

Boston Globe, July 29

Library raised \$10,000, one penny at a time

[<http://www.miningjournal.net/page/content.detail/id/513417.html>]

The children's room at Peter White Public Library in Marquette, Michigan, has successfully completed its collection of a million pennies. The million mark was reached recently, ending a campaign that started in 2001 in conjunction with an exhibit about math that asked the question, "How much is a million?" after the book of the same title by David M. Schwartz. The money will be used to create an endowment fund for children's materials and programming....

Marquette (Mich.) Mining Journal, July 29

Libraries shine in tough economic times

[<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=93041368>]

With the economy slowing, many Americans are doing research in the public library. Boyd County (Ky.) Library Director Debbie Cosper says (audio, 4:07) public-use computers are always full and people are checking out books rather than buying them....

All Things Considered, NPR, July 29

Critics blast new Providence Public Library plan

[http://www.projo.com/ri/providence/content/mc_libraray_07-25-08_COB0337_v14.4120b1c.html]

The board of trustees of the Providence Public Library came under fire July 24 by more than two-dozen critics for its failure to reopen the Washington Park branch. They also derided a proposed pact between the library and the city that would commit the city to giving \$3.5 million annually for the next four years even if the board decides next year to cut services in the neighborhood branches....

Providence Journal, July 25

Saltsburg library to close

[http://www.pittsburghlive.com/x/pittsburghtrib/search/s_579265.html]

Citing a shortage in funding and a decline in patronage, Saltsburg (Pa.) Free Library officials said the 99-year-old resource center will close August 1. A mass resignation of current library board members also is expected next month. Board Treasurer Kelly Corridoni believes the library has fallen victim to a combination of rising costs and a general trend of dwindling funds that can be tapped for such facilities in small

communities....

Blairsville (Pa.) Dispatch, July 25

Legal fees add to strapped Windsor Public Library problems

[<http://www.canada.com/windsorstar/story.html?id=00a40827-7698-492d-9416-babdd59581b0>]

The cash-strapped Windsor, Ontario, library board, which is considering closing branches

[<http://www.canada.com/windsorstar/news/story.html?id=4991f690-30d5-4843-bf3e-51e70ae76994>]

to make up for funding cutbacks, has spent an estimated \$10,000 so far on legal advice surrounding its current CEO, who remains on paid sick leave while clerking at a local law firm. Windsor Mayor Eddie Francis said it was “insulting” that library CEO Brian Bell is working at a law firm while drawing a reported salary of around \$133,000 since going on paid sick leave in the spring. Bell, who said the city paid about \$20,000 in tuition for his law school education, cited stress and medical concerns for his sick leave....

Windsor (Ont.) Star, July 28

Colorado woman founds Nicaragua’s first lending library

[http://reporterherald.com/news_story.asp?ID=18191]

Jane Mirandette is giving power to the people of Nicaragua—one book at a time. In the past seven years, the Loveland, Colorado, resident has established the first lending library in the country, created a traveling reading program for schools, and helped found 25 more libraries around Central America. With 12,500 books in English and Spanish, the San Juan del Sur Public Library [<http://www.sjdsbiblioteca.org/>] lends them to almost 5,000 library cardholders....

Loveland (Colo.) Reporter-Herald, July 27

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Image:Genji_emaki_YOKOBUE.jpg]Discovery of Genji text causes a stir

[<http://www.asahi.com/english/Herald-asahi/TKY200807220341.html>]

The literary world is abuzz with the discovery of a complete medieval manuscript of Genji Monogatari (The Tale of Genji), which scholars say will likely shed light on the original text of this 11th-century masterpiece. The classic work of prose is considered by many people to be the world’s first full-length novel. The 13th-century manuscript, called the “Osawa Book,” was owned by the Osawa family in Nara Prefecture, Japan, until World War II, but its whereabouts had remained unknown since then....

Tokyo Asahi Shimbun, July 23

Tech Talk

How to lose your Cuil 20 seconds after launch

[<http://www.techcrunch.com/2008/07/29/how-to-lose-your-cuil-20-seconds-after-launch/>]

Erick Schonfeld writes: “The hype cycle now lasts less than a day. Take yesterday’s over-hyped launch of stealth search startup Cuil, [<http://www.cuil.com>] which was quickly followed by a backlash when everyone realized that it was selling a bill of goods by portraying

itself as a Google-killing search app. This was entirely the company's own fault. It prebriefed every blogger and tech journalist on the planet, but didn't allow anyone to actually test the search engine before the launch.”...

TechCrunch, July 29

[<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2234840,00.asp>] Videoconferencing: Easier than ever [<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2326704,00.asp>] Errol A. Pierre-Louis writes: “When you can't meet face-to-face, meeting webcam-to-webcam is the way to go. Whether you want to chat with a friend or have an informal business meeting, videoconferencing is more personal than voice-only conference calling, and it's a lot cheaper (and greener) than today's plane trips. But you'll need the right software and webcam to get the most out of your video meeting. The newest generation of videoconferencing applications features improved interfaces, smoother video streaming, and clearer audio.”...

PC Magazine, July 30

End of the line for cassette tapes

[<http://themonkeyspeaks.wordpress.com/2008/07/28/end-of-the-line-for-the-cassette-tape/>]

Walter Minkel writes: “If you've been a librarian for more than a couple of years, you probably have memories connected to cassette tapes—circulating those book & tape combinations; practicing your storytime songs or puppet shows or storytelling; or learning songs in your car on the way to work. But those days are mostly over, and the cassette tape will soon join its brother, the 8-track, and its cousins, the 5 1/4 and 3 1/2-inch floppy disks and the VCR cassette, in the Misty Never-Never Land of Obsolete Technologies.”...

The Monkey Speaks, July 28

Taking digital preservation seriously

[<http://www.insidehighered.com/news/2008/07/23/preservation>]

Andy Guess writes: “Librarians from research universities are collaborating to tackle a host of digital preservation problems that so far have no satisfactory solution. They include hardware complexities, such as constructing storage devices that continuously monitor and repair data while remaining easily scalable; redundancy measures, such as distributing and duplicating data across storage devices or across the country; universal standards, such as formats that can remain readable in the distant future; and interfaces, such as open software protocols that manage digital holdings and make them accessible to the public.”...

Inside Higher Ed, July 23

Web Harvester captures digital images

[<http://www.oclc.org/us/en/news/releases/200829.htm>]

OCLC is now offering Web Harvester, a product that allows libraries and other cultural heritage institutions to capture and add web content to their digital collections managed by OCLC's CONTENTdm Digital Collection Management Software. OCLC's Web Harvester addresses the need to store and provide access to otherwise highly transient information resources that solely exist on websites....

OCLC, July 29

Top 10 command line tools

[<http://lifehacker.com/399468/top-10-command-line-tools>]

Kevin Purdy writes: “When you need something done quickly, efficiently, and without any software overhead, the command line (or terminal) is where it’s at. It was the first way humans told computers what to do, but as graphics became increasingly important, the command line became an insiders’ secret weapon. But with the right commands and a little bit of know-how, anyone can get things done from a text-only interface. Let’s take a look at 10 commands and tricks that make the terminal more accessible, and more powerful, on any system.”...

Lifehacker, July 30

Publishing

The great chick-lit cover-up

[http://blogs.guardian.co.uk/books/2008/07/the_great_chick_lit_coverup.html]

Diane Shipley writes: “When we look at a book, its cover tells us what to expect. A pink paperback featuring a smiling young woman is most likely a female-centric summer read, whereas a gun on a black background is probably a murder story. A few simple, aesthetic rules narrow our options, make life easier, and ensure none of us has to wander Waterstone’s for hours, wailing in confusion. And yet the rules seem to be changing.”...

The Telegraph (U.K.), July 29

Great opening sentences from science fiction

[<http://io9.com/5027128/great-opening-sentences-from-science-fiction>]

Charlie Jane Anders writes: “You can tell a lot about a science fiction book from its first sentence. Those first few words (or few dozen, in some cases) have to pull you into the story and bring you into a whole alternate world. A good first sentence hooks you, pulling you into the story with a quick jolt of action and mystery. But a great first sentence does way more than that—it establishes a tone and it sticks in your mind like a little otherworldly koan, confounding your expectations.”...

io9: Strung Out on Science Fiction, July 24

Librarians harvest manga at Comic-Con

[<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=92998234>]

In the quest to attract young readers, librarians are increasingly stocking up on the latest comic books and graphic novels. This week, they mingled with comic enthusiasts at Comic-Con [<http://www.comic-con.org/>], a massively popular arts convention in San Diego, poring over manga, or Japanese comics, and attending panels specifically aimed at librarians who want to reach younger audiences....

All Things Considered, NPR, July 28

[http://mapoflondon.uvic.ca/section.php?id=C3#map_section]The Map of Early Modern London [<http://mapoflondon.uvic.ca/>]

This site maps the streets, sites, and significant boundaries of late

16th-century and early 17th-century London. You can find many of the theatres and landmarks of Shakespeare's time, and learn about the history and culture of the city in which he lived and worked. Navigation is by index or by tagged map section; an experimental map adds Google-style layers to the map platform. Janelle Jenstad, assistant professor of English at the University of Victoria, British Columbia, is editor and coordinator of the project....

Map of Early Modern London

Sony adopts epub standard for its Reader

[<http://www.publishersweekly.com/article/CA6581363.html?nid=2286&source=title&rid=383006433>]

The International Digital Publishing Forum's epub e-book standard received a big vote of support July 24 when Sony announced that effective immediately its Sony Reader will now support the standard. Beginning in August, all new devices shipped will use epub, and right now owners of existing devices can visit the Sony support site

[<http://esupport.sony.com/>] to update their device's software for epub support....

Publishers Weekly, July 24

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[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

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[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

Factors that improve the online experience

[<http://www.idea.org/find-information.html>]

The Institute for Dynamic Educational Advancement has released a report that sheds light on how people find information online and how the experience of website visitors can be improved. Some of its key findings:

Easy access to complete information is key to visitor enjoyment; visitors want information fast; and designers are overly optimistic about visitors' ability to maintain orientation. More than 50% report that there is a gap between what they are looking for and what typical websites provide, and 60% think that a personal navigational guide would help....

Institute for Dynamic Educational Advancement

Swinging votes: Can libraries do it?

[<http://theshiftedlibrarian.com/archives/2008/07/29/swinging-236-votes-can-libraries-do-it.html>]

Jenny Levine writes: "If you're in a public library, I can encourage you enough to get a copy of this new OCLC report, From Awareness to Funding, and read it for yourself. You can download one big PDF, [<http://www.oclc.org/us/en/reports/funding/fullreport.pdf>] download individual chapters, or order a print copy

[<http://www.oclc.org/us/en/servicecenter/>] (highly recommended for

administrators and trustees). The survey identifies four types of voters—chronic nonvoters, voters with barriers to support (financial, detached, “the web wins”), probable supporters, and super supporters. The report examines each one in depth, based on surveys and focus group discussions about funding support for libraries.”...
The Shifted Librarian, July 29

Princeton Review

[<http://seventeen.princetonreview.com/best-press-release.aspx>] ranks college libraries

[<http://seventeen.princetonreview.com/best-press-release.aspx>]
According to a survey by the Princeton Review that asked 120,000 students at 368 colleges to rate their schools on dozens of topics and report on their campus experiences, Harvard, Princeton, and Duke University have the top three libraries in the United States. Ranking lists report the top 20 colleges in this and more than 50 other categories in the 2009 edition of the Princeton Review’s annual college guide The Best 368 Colleges....

Princeton Review, July 28

A tribute to the bookmobile [<http://libraryhistorybuff.org/bookmobile.htm>]
There are few visions of library service that are more inspiring than that of a bookmobile and its staff providing books to young children. Not only did the Washington County (Md.) Free Library have the first horse-and-wagon bookmobile (1905), it was also one of the first libraries in the United States to use a motorized vehicle as a bookmobile (by 1913). Bookmobiles have also appeared on seven postage stamps [<http://libraryhistorybuff.org/bibliophilately-bookmobiles.htm>] in six countries....

Library History Buff

[http://www.defenselink.mil/dodcmsshare/newsstoryPhoto/2008-07/scr_080722-A-9999D-001.jpg]Electronic library kiosk bound for Iraq

[<http://www.defenselink.mil/news/newsarticle.aspx?id=50557>]
Camp Victory in Iraq is nearly 2,000 miles from the nearest Army library in Europe. But troops deployed at the sprawling base near Baghdad International Airport soon will have access to a broad spectrum of library resources through an e-Branch kiosk. A team of movers packed and loaded the kiosk July 14 at the European Regional Library Support Center in Heidelberg, Germany, for shipment to Camp Victory, where it will be installed at the Victory Education Center....

American Forces Press Service, July 22

[<http://www.flickr.com/photos/sglibrary/2335358204/in/set-72157601748327120/>]
/]The 5th Annual September Project

[<http://theseptemberproject.wordpress.com/>]

The September Project is a grassroots effort to encourage events about freedom and democracy in all libraries in all countries during the month of September. September Project events are free and organized locally. In 2004, Sarah Washburn and David Silver began the project to break the silence following September 11 and to invite all people into libraries to consider topics of patriotism, democracy, and citizenship. Since then, more than 1,200 public, academic, school, government, and special libraries in 35 countries have hosted and organized September Project

events....

The September Project

[<http://www.nasaimages.org/luna/servlet/detail/nasaNAS~20~20~120644~227346>:

Sagan-and-Viking]Internet Archive opens up NASA space library

[<http://www.vnunet.com/vnunet/news/2222549/nasa-opens-space-library>]

NASA is making its huge collection of historic photographs, films, and video available to the public for the first time. A partnership with the nonprofit Internet Archive is offering 21 major NASA imagery collections merged into a single searchable online resource at NASAImages.

[<http://www.nasaimages.org/>] The launch is the first step in a five-year partnership that will add millions of images and thousands of hours of video and audio content....

Incisive Media, July 25

[<http://www.flickr.com/photos/eyeteethblog/2705560614/>]Minneapolis Public Library guards go the extra mile

[<http://eyeteeth.blogspot.com/2008/07/lucky-seven-thanks-minneapolis-library.html>]

Paul Schmelzer writes: “My 12-year-old Thai nephew Seven, who’s been living with us since late March, was at the Minneapolis Public Library when his bike was stolen. The library security guards let him use the phone to call me, got a description of the bike, and said they’d check out their security camera tape to see if they could spot the theft. Then on Saturday, we got a call from the library: ‘We’ve got Seven’s bike.’ Only it wasn’t the one that had been taken: It was a new Schwinn BMX bike, just his height—and paid for out-of-pocket by several of the guards.”...

Eyeteeth, July 28

10 social networking tips for libraries

[<http://librarianinblack.typepad.com/librarianinblack/2008/07/ten-social-networking-tips.html>]

Sarah Houghton-Jan writes: “Part of Library 2.0 is social software, and as more and more libraries put themselves out there on social networks it becomes increasingly important that we do so in a way that works well for ourselves and for our users. How can we best take advantage of these community-building tools? 1. Do your research.”...

Librarian in Black, July 28

Balancing real and virtual worlds

[http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=htHSX0lzOcNsq9I1Kc_2fL6g_3d_3d]

Librarians who spend part of their work time in such virtual worlds as Second Life, ActiveWorld, or Kaneva, or who are planning future activities for Second Life or other virtual worlds are invited to participate in a research study. The goal is to investigate how library staff balance real-life library duties with their virtual-world library duties. The results will be published in an international journal and shared with members of LITA....

East Carolina University

Help rebuild the Yap State Public Library

[<http://www.ifla.org/III/announce/yap-state-public-library/index.htm>]

On April 9, 2004, Typhoon Sudal hit Yap, an island group in the Federated

States of Micronesia in the western Pacific. The Yap State Public Library, serving a population of 8,000, was devastated. Today, Yap has a beautifully rebuilt facility (right), but little additional funding exists to restore the collection of books, library materials, computers, shelving, equipment, and furniture to serve its community. If you are willing to help, contact Peter Lor [mailto:ifla@ifla.org] or Arlene Cohen [mailto:arlenegcohen@gmail.com]....

International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions, June 27

[<http://www.preparetraining.com/landing/08ptpadsaz807.asp>]

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[http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?_sn=catalog&_pn=product_detail&_op=2561]

It will be here before you know it: Banned Books Week, [<http://www.ala.org/ala/oif/bannedbooksweek/bannedbooksweek.cfm>] September 27–October 4. Be prepared to celebrate the freedom to read with these BBW promotional items [http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?_sn=catalog&_pn=sub_category&_op=123] for 2008. NEW! From ALA Graphics.

In this issue
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[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/tableofcontents/2008contents/aug2008.cfm>]

Wikipedia and Literacy Skills

Reframing Gaming

Gratitude As a Catalyst

Speaking Technically

Details from Disneyland

The final volume in Stephenie Meyer's best-selling Twilight series, *Breaking Dawn*, will be released on August 2. Many libraries across the country are hosting special events and parties for this "appetizing" occasion. What will your library do in honor of this once-in-a-lifetime (unless you're a Cullen and your lifetime lasts a bit longer than normal) event? YALSA is compiling library *Breaking Dawn*

[http://wikis.ala.org/yalsa/index.php/Calendar_of_Teen_Programming_Ideas#Breaking_Dawn_Celebrations_.26_Events] celebrations and events
[http://wikis.ala.org/yalsa/index.php/Calendar_of_Teen_Programming_Ideas#Breaking_Dawn_Celebrations_.26_Events] on its wiki.

Career Leads from

[<http://joblist.ala.org/>]

Head of Readers Services,

[<http://joblist.ala.org/modules/jobseeker/controller.cfm?scr=jobdetail&jobid=11278>] Glenview (Ill.) Public Library. Provides leadership to top-notch team of Readers Advisory Librarians and staff, and should be flexible in adapting to change. Responsible for all aspects of the administration and management of the Readers Services Department, including personnel, budget, and long-range planning, and is an active member of the library's Management Team. Exciting opportunity to participate in new building project....

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

Digital Library of the Week

[<http://digitalgallery.nypl.org/nypldigital/id?NNH-41>]

The New York Public Library Digital Gallery

[<http://digitalgallery.nypl.org/nypldigital/index.cfm>] provides access to more than 600,000 images digitized from primary sources and printed rarities in the collections of the New York Public Library, including illuminated manuscripts, historical maps, vintage posters, rare prints and photographs, illustrated books, printed ephemera, and more.

Encompassing the subject strengths of the vast collections of the Research Libraries, these materials represent the applied sciences, fine and decorative arts, history, performing arts, and social sciences. Some examples of this far-ranging content include artwork such as Goya's Disasters of War

[http://digitalgallery.nypl.org/nypldigital/dgkeysearchresult.cfm?parent_id=352258&word=]; panoramic cityscapes of New York City's Fifth Avenue [http://digitalgallery.nypl.org/nypldigital/dgkeysearchresult.cfm?parent_id=357310&word=]; classic illustrated zoologies and botanies such as Pomona Britannica

[http://digitalgallery.nypl.org/nypldigital/dgkeysearchresult.cfm?parent_id=351934&word=]; George Catlin's North American Indian Portfolio

[http://digitalgallery.nypl.org/nypldigital/dgkeysearchresult.cfm?parent_id=236409&word=]; Felice Beato's views of Japan

[http://digitalgallery.nypl.org/nypldigital/dgkeysearchresult.cfm?parent_id=137202&word=]; reformer Thomas A. Larcom's portrait collection from Dublin's Mountjoy prison

[http://digitalgallery.nypl.org/nypldigital/dgkeysearchresult.cfm?parent_id

=353858&word=]; the Theatre Guild's first performance of Porgy
[http://digitalgallery.nypl.org/nypldigital/dgkeysearchresult.cfm?parent_id=303311&word=] in 1927; and rare illustrated books
[http://digitalgallery.nypl.org/nypldigital/dgkeysearchresult.cfm?parent_id=295060&word=] such as William Blake's hand-printed masterpiece of 1793, America, A Prophecy. For each item in the gallery, a high-resolution, 300- to 1200-dpi digital image file has been created using a flatbed scanner or a digital camera. Simultaneously, three low-resolution, 72-dpi derivative files are created for delivery on the Web, at 150 pixels (thumbnail or index image), 300 pixels (detail view) and 760 pixels (enlargement), respectively, on the long side.

Do you know of a digital library collection that we can mention in this AL Direct feature? Tell us about it. [<mailto:aldirect@ala.org>]

Public Perception How the World Sees Us

“When we learned libraries were installing video games to draw teens and young adults through their doors, our first thought was that it's like luring people to church with free beer. Who says that's a good idea? Sure, they'll come, but then how do you get rid of them?”

?“Quiet in the Library? Shhh!”, Editorial, Chicago Tribune, July 23.

Ask the ALA Librarian

Q. One hurricane has already hit land this season, there's flooding in Iowa and upstate New York, and southern California just had a tremor. But our library doesn't have a disaster plan! Where can I get help in writing one?

A. The ALA Washington Office has listed several web-based resources for disaster readiness

[http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Disaster_Readiness]. Be sure to cooperate with your local government and state library, as your plan needs to work in concert with those developed for larger areas. Some state libraries or regional consortia will have resources of their own. The Indiana State Library [<http://www.in.gov/library/>], for example, has a disaster plan template available. SOLINET's Preservation Field Service Program [http://www.solinet.net/preservation/preservation_templ.cfm?doc_id=71] has extensive resources available for its members, as do other regional networks. There are also workshops, such as an online one from SOLINET [http://www.solinet.net/workshops/ws_details.cfm?doc_id=3004&WKSHPID=12DDP]

or a tailored on-site workshop from the Northeast Document Conservation Center [<http://www.nedcc.org/education/offerings.php>]. Again, check with your local consortium, state association, or state library to see what might be available in your area—or to see what would be entailed in bringing one of the workshops from ALCTS, [<http://www.ala.org/ALCTSTemplate.cfm?Section=alcts>] NEDCC, or SOLINET to your area. From the ALA Professional Tips wiki [http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Preparing_a_Disaster_Plan]

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

Calendar

Sept. 1–30:
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pio/otherinit/card/librarycard.cfm>].
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pio/otherinit/card/librarycard.cfm>]

Sept. 18–20:
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/alsc/alscevents/NationalInstitute2008.htm>]ALSC Institute, [<http://www.ala.org/ala/alsc/alscevents/institute/index.cfm>] Hilton Salt Lake City Center. “Trailblaze Your Path to Library Success.”

Sept. 24–27:
History of Printing and Publishing in the Languages and Countries of the Middle East, [http://www.hpplcme.ovh.org/syn/mn_main.php] Third International Symposium, Universität Leipzig, Germany.

Sept. 26–28:
TPRC, [<http://www.tprcweb.com/>] 36th Research Conference on Communication, Information, and Internet Policy, National Center for Technology and Law, George Mason University School of Law, Arlington, Virginia.

Sept. 27–28:
InfoCamp Seattle, [<http://www.infocamp.info/>] Youngstown Cultural Arts Center, Seattle. A hybrid unconference that blends the egalitarian, community-driven basis of barcamps with some conventional conference structures, where the presentations are given by attendees.

Sept. 27–
Oct. 4:
Banned Books Week.
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/oif/bannedbooksweek/bannedbooksweek.htm>]“Free People Read Freely.”

Sept. 30–
Oct. 3:
4th Ibero-American Congress of Academic Archives,
[<http://www.javeriana.edu.co/ciau2008/>] Bogota, Colombia. “Protection of

the Documented Cultural Heritage of Universities through Their Archives.”

Oct. 6–10:

Library and Information Association of South Africa,
[<http://www.liasa.org.za/conferences/conferences.php>] 10th Annual
Conference, Cape Town. “Looking Ahead: The Changing Role of LIS.”

Oct. 9–11:

International Reading Association,
[http://www.reading.org/association/meetings/regional_1.html] 19th West
Regional Conference, Seattle.

Oct. 12–18:

[<http://www.ala.org/teenread>] Teen Read Week.
[<http://www.ala.org/teenread>] “Books With Bite @ your
library.”

Oct. 15–19:

Frankfurt Book Fair, [<http://www.frankfurt-book-fair.com/en/fbf/>]
Frankfurt, Germany.

Oct. 16–19:

[<http://www.lita.org/ala/lita/litaevents/litaforum2008/litaforum2008.cfm>] LI
TA Forum,
[<http://www.lita.org/ala/lita/litaevents/litaforum2008/litaforum2008.cfm>]
Hilton Netherland Plaza Hotel, Cincinnati, Ohio. “Technology and
Community: Building the Techno Community Library.”

Oct. 17–19:

[[HTTP://www.ala.org/aasl/fallforum](http://www.ala.org/aasl/fallforum)] AASL Fall Forum,
[[HTTP://www.ala.org/aasl/fallforum](http://www.ala.org/aasl/fallforum)] Oak Brook Hills Marriott Resort, Oak
Brook, Illinois. “Assessment, Part II: Constructing and
Interpreting Viable Tools for Effective Student Learning in the Library
Media Center.”

Oct. 20–22:

Internet Librarian 2008, [<http://www.infoday.com/IL2008/>] Monterey,
California, Conference Center. “Beyond 2.0: User-Focused Tools and
Practices.”

Nov. 7–9:

Young Adult Literature Symposium,
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/yalitsymposium/symposium.htm>] Millennium
Maxwell House Hotel, Nashville, Tennessee. Sponsored by YALSA.

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

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American Libraries Direct

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