

american libraries DIRECT

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | March 5, 2008

Contents

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



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

[Arbitrator rules against EPA over library closures](#)

The Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility (a national alliance of local, state, and federal resource professionals) announced February 28 that a federal arbitrator has ruled that the Environmental Protection Agency engaged in unfair labor practices and acted in bad faith when it abruptly ordered the closing of seven of the agency's 10 regional libraries over the past two years....



[Atlanta branch saved from developer's shopping mecca](#)

Trustees of the Atlanta-Fulton Public Library voted 8-0 February 27 to keep the system's distinctive Buckhead branch and reject a developer's offer of \$24 million to raze the building to make way for an eight-block commercial redevelopment. The branch, built in 1989 by avant-garde architects Mark Scogin and Merrill Elam, does not fit into the upscale Streets of Buckhead shopping and residential project envisioned by developer Ben Carter, who proposed relocating the library to a mixed-use tower where users would reach it by elevator....



[Windsor Public Library cuts halved](#)

The city council of Windsor, Ontario, agreed February 26 to reduce proposed budget cuts to the Windsor Public Library from \$790,000 (\$812,011 U.S.) to \$400,000 (\$411,145 U.S.). The decision to back off from the original figure came after the library board refused to make the cuts—10% of WPL's budget—on the grounds that up to four branches would have to close, and that it would also necessitate major cuts in hours and staff....

[Idaho man revives *Joy of Sex* challenges](#)

Nampa, Idaho, resident Randy Jackson, who twice before has complained about the city library having *The New Joy of Sex* and *The Joy of Gay Sex* in its collection, has asked the Nampa Public Library Board



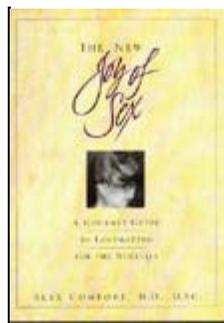
**MAKING A DIFFERENCE
IN LIBRARIES AND MUSEUMS**

Shaping Outcomes is an instructor-mediated online course for library professionals, presenting Outcomes Based Planning and Evaluation, an emerging "best practice" for grant development and project planning. Subsidized by IMLS, courses are available throughout the year.
For more information visit:
www.shapingoutcomes.org



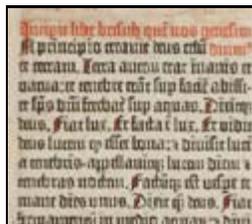
Everyone attending the [ALA/ProQuest Scholarship Bash](#) will have a rousing good time as the Bash heads to the Disneyland Resort for a magical night, June 28. Tickets are \$40 until May 16. Early bird [registration](#) for Annual Conference ends **March 7**.

once again to remove the books from its collection. The five-member board will discuss the request at its March 10 meeting. Trustees voted 4–1 in 2006 to retain the books but move them to upper shelves where they would be difficult for children to see. Since that time, two new members who may vote differently have joined the board....



[UIUC rare book library closes due to mold](#)

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Rare Book and Manuscript Library—which occupies a vault within the main library—closed February 25 to address a mold outbreak. No more than 5% of the 300,000-item collection has visible mold, Associate University Librarian for Collections Tom Teper told *American Libraries*. However, “mold spores permeate the entire vault, having, we believe, been circulated through the HVAC system.”...



[Toronto library worker pleads guilty to 1969 Chicago shooting](#)

A former research assistant at the Toronto Public Library’s central reference library, who had fled to Canada following the shooting of a Chicago police officer in 1969, pled guilty to a charge of aggravated battery February 22. In an unusual plea agreement, Joseph Pannell, 58, will serve only 30 days in jail and two years’ probation and will pay \$250,000 to the Chicago Police Memorial Foundation, which aids children of police officers wounded in the line of duty....



ALA News

[The ALA website: How it got that way and what we’re doing](#)

Karen Muller writes: “I use it daily, searching it, clicking through the links, as I have for over a decade. And each day 45,000 others do, too. We go [there](#) because it is a rich site, with the collective work of ALA represented. We sometimes complain that you need to know where to look to find anything, that it grows with neither structure nor direction. And that is what has been happening since its inception almost 13 years ago—but our [current usability work](#) is an effort to change our ways.”...

ALA Marginalia, Feb. 28



[Julie Andrews for National Library Week](#)

In this issue March 2008



All Seasons & All Reasons for Lifelong

Libraries need to be open and inviting, yet safe for patrons, staff, and collections. How can you ensure your library is both accessible and secure? Look over the shoulder of disaster expert Miriam B. Kahn as she walks through key safety and security issues step by step in [The Library Security and Safety Guide to Prevention, Planning, and Response](#). Case studies, along with 20 checklists and 10 sample policies and forms, are the basis for organizing and evaluating security plans tailored to your institution. **NEW! From ALA Editions.**

Academy Award–winning actress and honorary chair of National Library Week Julie Andrews discusses the value of libraries in a new [video](#) (0:54) available on YouTube. The clip can be posted on libraries' websites or blogs to promote National Library Week (April 13–19). As part of her role as National Library Week chair, Andrews has also lent her image to radio and television [public service announcements](#)....



[New "I Love Libraries" package at Annual Conference](#)

The Office for Library Advocacy will make available a discounted package for library advocates at ALA's 2008 Annual Conference in Anaheim, California. The "I Love Libraries" package will include registration at the ALA Advocacy Institute on June 26, "Exhibits Supreme" limited-access registration at the Conference, and an [ilovelibraries.org](#) Advocacy Membership, which includes a monthly e-newsletter, all for \$100....



[Submit a paper at Anaheim](#)

Time is running out to submit a proposal for the Juried Papers to be presented at the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, California. If you have useful research, subject expertise, or innovative ideas to share with your colleagues, we invite you to submit a proposal. Papers that are accepted will be presented on June 30 and July 1. The deadline for submissions is March 31....

[Washington Office debuts Legislative Scorecard](#)

ALA members often inquire as to how their members of Congress voted on issues of particular importance to libraries. In response, the ALA Washington Office has created a [Legislative Scorecard](#). Covering votes from 2007, the scorecard lists several key pieces of federal library-related legislation that ALA supported, and places a check mark beside the names of the senators and representatives who sponsored those bills....

Bill Number	Topic	Sponsor	Score
H.R. 1234	Library Access	Rep. Smith	✓
S. 5678	Digital Resources	Sen. Jones	✓
H.R. 9012	Public Service	Rep. Brown	✓
S. 3456	Community Outreach	Sen. White	✓

District Dispatch, Feb. 27

[Speak up for libraries](#)

To help library advocates speak up about the library message, the ALA Washington Office is offering a series of new resources in the coming months, including webinars, podcasts, online classes, and materials to make your federal grassroots lobbying experience as easy and painless as possible. Join them for their first [Speaking Up!](#) webinar on Thursday, March 6, at 4 p.m. Eastern time....

District Dispatch, Feb. 29

[Greg Mortenson to speak at Annual Conference](#)

Greg Mortenson, cofounder of the nonprofit Central Asia Institute and coauthor of the bestseller *Three Cups of Tea*, will be an Auditorium Speaker at the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, June 28, 1:30–2:30 p.m., sponsored by Penguin. A mountaineer and humanitarian, Mortenson was [profiled](#) this week by CNN....

CNN, Mar. 3



Learning

Story Quilt: Poems of a Place

ALA Candidates: Statements and Forum

Philadelphia Wrap-up

Girls Raise Cash for Kenya



Host the [Sunshine Week webcast](#) at your library, March 19, 1–2:30 p.m. Eastern time. The [event](#) will be held at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C., and webcast to sites around the country. Audience members at all sites viewing the live event will have an opportunity to call in (using any telephone) and email questions to the live panels.

Career Leads from

ALA JobLIST

[Humanities Librarian for English Language and Literature.](#)

University of Kansas, Lawrence. Works in a team environment to build print and digital collections; and provides specialized reference, instruction, consultation and outreach services to a diverse campus community....

[Library support staff competencies survey](#)

Both library support staff and librarians are invited to offer their opinions about which competencies are important for public and academic support staff. The competencies will become the foundation for the Library Support Staff Certification Program. This [survey](#) is being widely distributed to ALA members and other potential respondents. The deadline for filling it out is March 24....

[Serve on the IFLA Governing Board](#)

The U.S. Associations of IFLA are calling for anyone interested in seeking their endorsement for either President-elect or at-large member of the Governing Board of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions for 2009–2011. If you are interested, contact the executive director of ALA, AALL, ARL, MLA, ALISE, or SLA by June 1....

[Donald E. Riggs dies](#)

Donald E. Riggs, former vice president for information services and university librarian at Nova Southeastern University in Davie, Florida, died on February 19. Riggs had retired from Nova December 31 due to poor health. He had served as 1994–1995 president of LAMA, and was editor of ACRL's *College & Research Libraries* from 1996 to 2002....



[Electronic mailing lists](#)

Are you interested in joining one of ALA's electronic mailing (or discussion) [lists](#) (often referred to by the brand name LISTSERV), but don't know where to start? There are upwards of 150 such lists, some open to any subscriber and general in scope, others limited to a small group for the purposes of accomplishing a specific task....

ALA Marginalia, Mar. 3

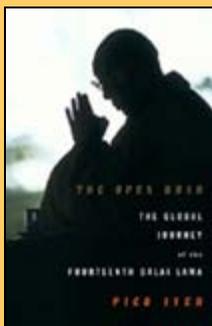
Booklist

ONLINE

[Featured review: Adult books](#)

Iyer, Pico. *The Open Road: The Global Journey of the Fourteenth Dalai Lama*. Apr. 2008. 288p. Knopf, hardcover (978-0-307-26760-3).

A mindful world wanderer and renowned travel writer, Iyer has a 30-year connection to the Dalai Lama stemming from a meeting between Iyer's philosopher father and the Dalai Lama shortly after his dramatic escape from Tibet in the wake of the Chinese invasion. Iyer has often arranged to be in the same place at the same time as the Dalai Lama, and he now reports on the beloved "spiritual celebrity" in action. His coverage includes vivid descriptions of the highly charged atmosphere of Dharamsala, the capital of Tibet-in-exile; surreal aspects of the Dalai Lama's ecstatic reception at his numerous appearances; and the profoundly mysterious elements of the Dalai Lama's "private and almost unimaginable Tibetan world," the realm of oracles and reincarnation....



@ [More jobs...](#)

Digital Library of the Week



["The Oceana Roll."](#)

performed by Billy Murray, [1911], 846: Edison Amberol. Ragtime song. Vocal solo with orchestra accompaniment. Play it ([MP3 file](#)).

[Cylinder Preservation and Digitization Project](#)

Department of Special Collections, University of California, Santa Barbara. Cylinder recordings, the first commercially produced sound recordings, are a snapshot of musical and popular culture in the decades around the turn of the 20th century. They have long held the fascination of collectors and have presented challenges for playback and preservation by archives and collectors alike. With funding from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, the UCSB Libraries have created a digital collection of nearly 8,000 cylinder recordings held by the Department of Special Collections. In an effort to bring these recordings to a wider audience, they can be freely downloaded or streamed online. On this site you will have the opportunity to find out more about the cylinder format, listen to

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

Anaheim Update

[Airline reservation information](#)

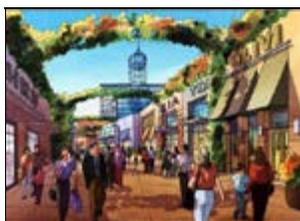
United Airlines is offering special meeting discounts for ALA Annual Conference attendees. Simply call the United Special Meeting Desk at (800) 521-4041 and refer to Meeting ID Number 50OCR to receive a 2%–10% discount off applicable fares, including First Class....

Anaheim attractions

Early conference arrivals can visit downtown Anaheim on Thursday, June 26, 9 a.m.–1:30 p.m., and enjoy a Summer Concert at the weekly [Farmer's Market](#) at the intersection of Center Street Promenade and Lemon.

Restaurants (Cheesecake Factory, Bubba Gump Shrimp, etc.) at the new [Anaheim GardenWalk](#) (right) at Katella Avenue and South Harbor Blvd. near the Convention Center are now open, and retail stores will await shoppers by the time the conference opens in late June....

Downtown Anaheim; Anaheim GardenWalk



Division News

[Paula Poundstone to keynote PLA conference](#)

Standup comedian Paula Poundstone will present the keynote address at the Closing Session of the PLA's 12th National Conference on March 29 in Minneapolis. Due to scheduling conflicts, Kevin Nealon will not appear at the closing session....



[AASL Fall Forum to focus on assessment](#)

The 2008 AASL Fall Forum theme is "Assessment, Part II: Constructing and Interpreting Viable Tools for Effective Student Learning in the Library Media Center," and will be held October 17–19 at the Oak Brook Hills Marriott Resort in Oak Brook, Illinois....



[School libraries study to close March 15](#)

AASL is calling all school libraries to participate in the "School Libraries Count!" longitudinal [survey](#) before it closes on March 15. Findings from the study, begun last year, already are being used in advocacy efforts like the one on behalf of Washington state school library media centers....

[LAMA seeks PR Makeover entries](#)

Tired of the same old graphics and design on your library's publicity materials? Do you have a brochure that could use more pizzazz? Maybe

thousands of musical and spoken selections from the late 19th and early 20th centuries, and discover a little-known era of recorded sound.

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

"WhiteTrash #1: Can you get the wi-fi at your place?"

"WhiteTrash #2: No, I have to come here to use the email. Which sucks 'cuz they block ev'rythin' good.

"#1: I know. I wanna get on the email, but I can't do it here 'cuz I heard they track 'n sh*t so they can read what you write.

"#2: Oh sh*t. You sure?

"#1. Dude, they're a public library, so they're govment. Gov-ment. They've prob'ly read ev'ry email you ever writt'n."

—Overheard at a library, Library Bitch blog, Feb. 23.



It's [Teen Tech Week](#), March 2–8, and it's time to celebrate! Make sure you have your teens enter the [Promotional Song Contest](#) (entries are due by midnight March 8),

your public relations material could use a makeover. Don't miss this opportunity to get expert assistance and raise your library's promotional materials to new heights. Submit your materials to arrive by April 15....

[Recruits wanted for Genealogy Boot Camp](#)

The RUSA History Section is recruiting registrants for a full-day preconference on genealogy and ancestry research, "Genealogy Boot Camp," June 27, 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m., during ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, California. The special guest lecturer is Elizabeth Shown Mills, author of *Professional Genealogy: A Manual for Researchers, Writers, Editors, Lecturers, and Librarians*. The event will be held at the [Muzeo](#) in Anaheim....

[RUSA preconference in Anaheim](#)

RUSA's Machine-Assisted Reference Section and Reference Services Section are cohosting a preconference on social networking tools and how to successfully merge them with library reference services, "Reinvented Reference 4: Emerging Technologies for Reference Services," June 27, 8:30 a.m.–5 p.m., during the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, California....

[AASL preconferences tackle trends](#)

AASL looks to the future of reading, learning, and Web 2.0 in its four preconferences planned for the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim. The half-day and daylong programs take place Friday, June 27....

[Volunteer for a LAMA committee](#)

LAMA President-elect Molly Raphael and the chairs-elect of LAMA sections will soon begin making appointments to committees for terms beginning immediately after the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim. Complete a [volunteer form](#) indicating which appointments would interest you....

Round Table News

[NMRT: "The absolute gem of ALA"](#)

That's according to Nancy George, electronic resources librarian at Salem State College, who was able to find other librarians new to the profession through the activities of the New Members Round Table. Over the past year, the NMRT Member Relations Committee has been collecting stories from NMRT alumni members that describe how their experiences with the round table helped shape their careers. Contact [Jenny Emanuel](#) to share your story....

Awards

[Booklist's Donna Seaman wins Literacy Hero Award](#)

Booklist Associate Editor Donna Seaman was awarded Literacy Chicago's "Literacy Hero Award" at its annual gala on February 9. Seaman was honored for her commitment to books and reading, exemplified not only by her widely published literary criticism, but also by her twice-monthly radio show, [Open Books Radio](#), in which she interviews top authors about their work. She



take the [SmartGirl Survey](#) on their technology use, and vote for next year's [Teen Tech Week theme](#).



The [Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History](#) in New York is offering a new traveling exhibition, **Abraham Lincoln: A Man of His Time, A Man for All Times**. The exhibition, which incorporates letters, photographs, and images from Lincoln's presidency and Civil War soldiers and their families, is available to academic and public libraries and national park historic sites. To download an application ([PDF file](#)), visit the GLIAH website. The deadline is **March 25**.

Ask the ALA Librarian



Q. My library board would like to know if ALA has a policy in relation to taking pictures of children

came to the attention of Literacy Chicago through her recent hour-long broadcast called ["Invisible No More."](#) featuring the stories of Literacy Chicago students, tutors, and staff, and underscoring how reading changes lives....

[Larry Moore wins Haycock Award](#)

Larry Moore, executive director of the Ontario Library Association, a post he held for 24 years until his retirement in February, has been named the recipient of the 2008 Ken Haycock Award for Promoting Librarianship, which honors an individual for contributing significantly to the public recognition and appreciation of librarianship through professional performance, teaching, and/or writing....



[LITA/Library Hi Tech Award winner](#)

Helene Blowers, director of digital strategy for the Columbus (Ohio) Metropolitan Library, has been named the winner of the 2008 LITA/Library Hi Tech award for Outstanding Communication in Library and Information Technology. Emerald and LITA sponsor the award, which recognizes outstanding achievement in communicating to educate practitioners within the library field in library and information technology....



[Sara Jeffarian Award winner](#)

The ALA Public Programs Office has named Woodsdale Elementary School in Wheeling, West Virginia, winner of the 2008 Sara Jaffarian School Library Program Award for Exemplary Humanities Programming. The school will receive a plaque recognizing the achievement, a cash award of \$4,000, and inclusion of the winning program in a national training session for model humanities programs. School Library Media Specialist Sandra Wiseman developed the winning program, "History Hits the Road to Woodsdale."...



[Johnson County wins Marshall Cavendish Award](#)

The Johnson County (Kans.) Library's "Literature in the Justice System: The Surprising Antidote" program is the winner of the 2008 Marshall Cavendish Excellence in Library Programming Award. The program grew out of a community task force recommendation for local juvenile justice reform, with strong partnership and collaboration from the Johnson County Department of Corrections and the State of Kansas District Courts....

[Penguin Young Readers Group Award](#)

ALSC has awarded four children's librarians with the 2008 Penguin Young Readers Group Award. The award consists of a \$600 grant, sponsored by Penguin Young Readers Group, for winners to attend their first ALA Annual Conference....

[Gale Cengage Learning Financial Development Award winner](#)

The Elmont (N.Y.) Public Library is the winner of the Gale Cengage Learning Financial Development Award. The annual award is presented to a library organization for exhibiting meritorious achievement in carrying out a project to secure new funding resources for a public or academic library....



or adults in the library and then using them for promotional purposes, including posting them to the online photo-sharing website Flickr. We love to share our events, but we're concerned about copyright.

A. The short answer is that ALA does not have a policy in this area, though our [Communication Handbook for Libraries](#) does suggest using photographs to increase the visual impact of a news story. [Using photographs](#) requires adherence to procedures to protect the rights of the photographer as well as the privacy of the subject of the photographs, particularly if you are photographing children. Use permissions for photos are usually obtained by a photo release form. If you plan to [use the photos online](#), whether on your own website or on your Flickr (or any other online photo-sharing website) account, include that information in the release form. Check with your library's public relations or communications specialist—or even legal counsel—to see if a parental release form already exists. If there is such a form, make sure that it covers internet usage. With regard to children, some organizations and schools use a

[Leab exhibition awards](#)

There are five winners of the 2008 Katharine Kyes Leab and Daniel J. Leab *American Book Prices Current* Exhibition Awards. These awards, funded by an endowment established by Katharine Kyes Leab and Daniel J. Leab, editors of *American Book Prices Current*, and sponsored by the ACRL Rare Books and Manuscripts Section, recognize outstanding exhibition catalogues issued by American or Canadian institutions in conjunction with library exhibitions as well as electronic exhibition catalogues of outstanding merit issued within a digital or web environment....

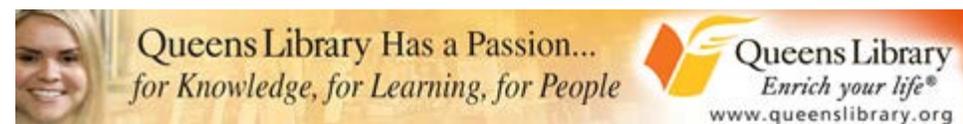
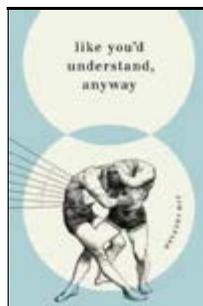
[EBSCO Conference Sponsorship winners](#)

ALA has announced the 10 winners of the EBSCO Conference Sponsorship award. They represent various types of library organizations, including academic, public, school, and state libraries; multiple position classifications; and eight different states from New York to Louisiana. Each will receive \$1,000 to enable them to attend the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim....

[Story Prize winner announced](#)

On February 27, the Story Prize held its fourth annual awards presentation recognizing works of short fiction. The winner of this year's prize is Jim Shepard for *Like You'd Understand, Anyway* (2007, Knopf), a collection of 11 short stories set in different times and places, including the Soviet Union in the aftermath of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster and an 1840 expedition to the center of Australia. The \$20,000 award Shepard received is the largest first-prize amount of any annual U.S. book award for fiction....

The Story Prize, Feb. 27



Seen Online

[TLA letter slams Memphis mayor's library move](#)

The Tennessee Library Association Executive Board has sent a terse [open letter](#) to Mayor Willie Herenton criticizing him for placing political appointees in charge of the Memphis (Tenn.) Public Library and Information Center. It condemned the mayor's dismissal of longtime library director Judith Drescher as "a slap in the face" to professional librarians, questioned why a national search wasn't conducted for a replacement, and asked why the library is operating without a duly appointed library board of trustees....

Memphis (Tenn.) Commercial Appeal, Mar. 1

[Phoenix faces \\$4.5 million in library cuts](#)

Phoenix libraries are facing a \$4.5 million reduction under the city's overall \$67.2 million budget cuts. An additional \$3.3 million decrease is possible, which would close all branches on Mondays and further reduce funding to circulating materials. The majority of the cuts will be felt in the 22% proposed cut for new books and other circulating materials. In addition, upgrades and repairs to existing facilities will be postponed....

standard release signed by the parent or legal guardian at the time of registration in a particular program. From the [ALA Professional Tips wiki](#).

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

Calendar

Mar. 26–29:

[Association for Childhood Education International](#), Annual Conference, Westin Peachtree Plaza Hotel, Atlanta. "Beyond Standards: Reaching Every Child's Potential." Contact: [ACEI](#), (800) 423-3563.

Apr. 9–11:

[New Mexico Library Association](#), Conference, Las Cruces. "Seek-Learn-Inspire."

Apr. 9–11:

[Kansas Library Association](#), Conference, Century City II Convention Center, Wichita.

Apr. 9–11:

[Tennessee Library Association](#), Conference, Meadowview Convention Center, Kingsport.

Apr. 9–12:

[Montana Library Association](#), Conference, Heritage Inn, Great Falls. "Libraries: Montana's Voice for Freedom."

Phoenix *Arizona Republic*, Mar. 3

[New Jersey state database folds](#)

The rolling shutdown of the New Jersey Knowledge Initiative's online resources by vendors was all but complete February 29, one day after the state-funded database failed to meet its deadline to secure a \$1-million bailout from legislators. Students, scholars, small businesses, and entrepreneurs' free access to the costly, proprietary resources will remain shut off until July 1, unless bridge funding is found through other means, Kathleen Peiffer, associate state librarian for library development, said....

Philadelphia Business Journal, Feb. 29



[Sex offenders banned from Albuquerque libraries](#)

Albuquerque (N.Mex.) Mayor Martin Chavez has banned sex offenders from city libraries in an effort to keep predators from using the internet, effective March 3. Under his executive order, librarians will cross-check library cards with sex-offender registries, then pass the information on to police who can take different steps, depending on the type of offender. The ACLU's Whitney Potter says it is a knee-jerk reaction rather than a legitimate strategy....

KOAT-TV, Albuquerque, N.Mex., Mar. 5

[Big lesson from a small library](#)

Marion County (Fla.) commissioners were all set to close the tiny Herman B. Oberman branch in Dunnellon (right) in May in response to declining tax revenues. Even County Librarian Julie Sieg saw it as a painless way to cut costs. But when 200 residents made a passionate plea to save the library from the budget ax at a community meeting March 3, Sieg reversed course, commenting that it reminded her why she became a librarian in the first place: Libraries are important community assets that can affect people's lives for the good....

Ocala (Fla.) Star-Banner, Mar. 5



[Laura Bush announces new grants in New Orleans](#)

Nearly a dozen schools in Louisiana and one in Mississippi will get a share of more than \$500,000 in grants from the Laura Bush Foundation to rebuild their libraries. First Lady Laura Bush made the announcement March 3 as she visited the Henry C. Schaumburg School in New Orleans' Gentilly neighborhood, which was flooded with 8 feet of water by Hurricane Katrina....

Education Week, Mar. 3

[History survey stumps U.S. teens](#)

Fewer than half of American teenagers who were asked basic history and literature questions in a phone survey knew when the Civil War was fought, and one in four said Columbus sailed to the New World some time after 1750, not in 1492. Common Core, the group that commissioned the [survey](#), titled *Still at Risk*, claims its results show that the No Child Left Behind Act has impoverished public-school curricula by holding schools accountable for student scores on annual tests in reading and mathematics, but not in other subjects....

New York Times, Feb. 26



[Blogging for sanity](#)

Apr. 15–18:

[Texas Library Association.](#)

Conference, Dallas. "Books, Bytes, and Beyond."

Apr. 16–18:

[Oregon Library Association / Washington Library Association.](#)

Joint Conference, Vancouver, Washington. "Sharing More than a Border."

Apr. 21–23:

[Oklahoma Library Association.](#)

Conference, Tulsa.

Apr. 22–25:

[Alabama Library Association.](#)

Conference, Birmingham. "Under One Umbrella: Alabama Libraries Come Together."

Apr. 22–25:

[Florida Library Association.](#)

Conference, Tradewinds Beach Resorts and Conference Center, St. Pete Beach. "Celebrating the Leader in You!"

Apr. 28–30:

[Connecticut Library Association.](#)

Conference, Mystic Marriott Hotel and Spa, Groton.

Apr. 29–

May 1:

[New Jersey Library Association.](#)

Conference, Ocean Place Conference Center, Long Branch. "Valuing Libraries, Librarians, and Library Staff."

Apr. 29–

Blogging can help you feel less isolated, more connected to a community, and more satisfied with your friendships, both online and face-to-face, new Australian research has found. The study, from Swinburne University of Technology in Melbourne, found that after two months of regular blogging, people felt they had better social support and friendship networks than those who did not blog....

ABC News (Australia), Mar. 3

[Library audiobooks on the go](#)

Downloading an audiobook from your local library is gaining popularity as a free, convenient way to enjoy the latest bestseller while dodging traffic on the way to work or sweating through a gym workout. Eric Gwinn gets down with downloading and explains the practical points of audiobook loans....

Chicago Tribune, Mar. 4

[Publishers phase out audiobook piracy protection](#)

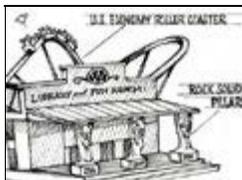
Some of the largest book publishers in the world are stripping away the anticopying software on digital downloads of audiobooks. The trend will allow consumers who download audiobooks to freely transfer these digital files between devices like their computers, iPods, and cellphones—and conceivably share them with others. Dropping copying restrictions could also allow a variety of online retailers to start to sell audiobook downloads....

New York Times, Mar. 3

[Vote for the back-of-the-envelope Bush Library design](#)

The *Chronicle* invited readers to send in designs for the George W. Bush Presidential Library on the backs of envelopes. About 120 people sent in sketches that were good, bad, serious, humorous, abstract, or really angry. Now the finalists have been selected and you can [vote](#) for your favorite (free registration required)....

Chronicle of Higher Education, Mar. 7



[What if they made a policy and no one used it?](#)

Despite some heated public debates, officials of the Cook Memorial Public Library District in Libertyville, Illinois, say no parents have taken advantage of a new policy allowing them to restrict what videos or DVDs their kids can check out. The plan went into effect February 19 after it was approved by the library board. The board's 5-1 vote followed months of discussions prompted by complaints from a few parents....

Arlington Heights (Ill.) Daily Herald, Mar. 1

[Homeless men find shelter in a book club](#)

Every Monday at 4 p.m., Stephen King fans gather at a men's shelter in Cleveland. So do readers of Louis L'Amour, James Baldwin, and Malcolm X. Homeless men at this book club begun last fall are reading two books a month. The books are supplied by the Cleveland Public Library, which has partnered with Care Alliance, a health care provider for the homeless....

Christian Science Monitor, Feb. 28

[Panel finds school was justified in firing librarian](#)

A former Pemberton Township, New Jersey, school librarian, whose workplace computer showed frequent visits to sexually themed websites, has lost a bid to save her job. A three-judge panel March 3 rebuffed an appeal by Darlene Donahue, who was a library media

May 2:

[Mountain Plains Library Association / Utah Library Association](#), Joint Conference, Salt Lake City. "Where Paths Meet: Connecting Libraries and Our Communities."

May 6–9:

[Massachusetts Library Association](#), Conference, SeaCrest Resort and Conference Center, Falmouth. "Growing Communities."

May 9:

[Delaware Library Association](#), Conference, Dover. "Planting the Seeds to Learn and Grow."

May 13–14:

[Vermont Library Association](#), Conference, Sheraton Burlington.

May 14–16:

[Maryland Library Association](#), Conference, Clarion Resort, Ocean City. "Renaissance 2.0: Imagine-Create-Transform."

May 21–22:

[New Hampshire Library Association](#), Conference, Grappone Conference Center, Concord. "Innovate in '08: Library Basics and Beyond."

Aug. 4–5:

[Bibliographical Center for Research and RUSA](#), "A Reference Renaissance: Current and Future Trends," Four Points by Sheraton, Denver. Call

specialist at Newcomb Middle School. Donahue, a 13-year employee, sought to reverse a decision by the state's Board of Education....

Cherry Hill (N.J.) Courier Post, Mar. 4

[Libraries hook teens through video games](#)

One teenager jams on a guitar to a Guns N' Roses song while another practices her bowling form. Both activities occur at an unlikely place: the Waukee (Iowa) Public Library. It's part of a nationwide trend in which libraries have seen success with Dance Dance Revolution and Guitar Hero competitions. "It's really cool that they provide the stuff for us to be able to socialize and hang out and just talk," said 6th-grader Taylor Royer....

Des Moines (Iowa) Register, Feb. 21

[Postcard mystery has librarian connection](#)

James Merrill was more than a little intrigued when he read a story in the *Connecticut Post* about a postcard, postmarked August 14, 1957, from a small Maine town that arrived mysteriously at Stratford (Conn.) Town Hall in January—51 years after it was sent by a woman identified only as "Alice." Then his daughter, Jan Merrill-Oldham, preservation librarian at Harvard University, recognized the handwriting as belonging to her mother Alice, now 93. "I called my father and teased him, and said, 'Dad, don't you even know your own wife's handwriting?'"...

Bridgeport Connecticut Post, Mar. 2

for participation ends April 4. Contact: [Marie L. Radford](#).

@ [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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Tech Talk

[Planning a virtual world conference](#)

Tom Peters writes: "For the past two months I have been involved in a fascinating team effort to plan a one-day conference that will be held in a virtual world environment on March 8. The official name of the conference is [Virtual Worlds: Libraries, Education, and Museums](#). Although the conference will be held in Second Life, the speakers will be discussing other virtual worlds as well."...

ALA TechSource blog. Mar. 3



[35 ways to stream your life](#)

It's a pretty good bet that if your younger patrons are not making a Twitter or Facebook application, they're probably involved in lifestreaming. Lifestreaming is a hot area for development, and there are an overwhelming number of services that can aggregate all the little bits of your online life. Lifestreaming apps generally fall into two categories: those that help you keep track of and display your own lifestream, and those that help you keep track of your friend's lifestreams (or both)....

ReadWriteWeb, Feb. 29



[The best free software](#)

157 software tools. No fees. No expiration dates. No problems. Sometimes even no downloads. No kidding.



If you bought popular apps instead of trying their gratis counterparts, at the manufacturers' list prices you'd be out \$5,183 and change. Why spend money when you can get what you need for nothing? Sometimes, you do get what you don't pay for....

PC Magazine, Feb. 8

[Rochester-area company digitizes books](#)

Lofti Belkhir left a career as a Xerox Corp. researcher to start Kirtas Technologies in 2001, and turning books into gigabytes is proving to be a booming business for the Victor, New York, firm, which makes both the robotic equipment and software for digitizing books and other documents. Today the company's clients range from libraries to major corporations like Microsoft. Every week Kirtas scans 10,000 to 15,000 books for Microsoft's Live Book Search project....

Rochester (N.Y.) Democrat and Chronicle, Mar. 2

[Ten PC troubleshooting tips](#)

Joel Durham Jr. offers some tips on fixing common but vexing computer problems, among them: Your computer won't boot, your PC shuts off at random intervals, your game looks funny, and you've spilled a beverage....

ExtremeTech, Feb. 27

Actions & Answers

[NEA's Read Across America](#)

The National Educational Association kicked off Read Across America Day March 3 by sending out three [Cat-a-Van tours](#) to celebrate the joys of reading. The three tours started their travels in Atlanta, Austin, and Chicago to cover more than 1,200 miles in 11 states. During the cat trek, the tours will visit more than 18 cities to provide more than 12,000 books and thousands in cash grants, thanks to generous donations from NEA's [Books Across America](#), a program that provides book donations and financial backing to public school libraries in need....

National Educational Association



[Students honor Dr. Seuss's birthday](#)

On school campuses around the country March 3, red-and-white-striped hats were the unofficial uniform and green eggs and ham the unofficial meal. Read Across America Day is celebrated near the March 2 birthday of beloved children's book author Theodore Geisel, better known as Dr. Seuss. Lisa Kruger, librarian at Linwood Elementary School in Visalia, California, read various Dr. Seuss titles to students in the first through third grades at recess....

Visalia (Calif.) Times-Delta, Mar. 4

[LibraryThing Local launches](#)

LibraryThing Local is a gateway to thousands of local bookstores, libraries, and book festivals—and to all the author readings, signings, discussions, and other events they host. It is the site's attempt to accomplish what hasn't happened yet—the effective linking of the online and offline book worlds. You can show off your favorite bookstores and libraries, keep track of interesting events, find out who else loves the places you do, and write

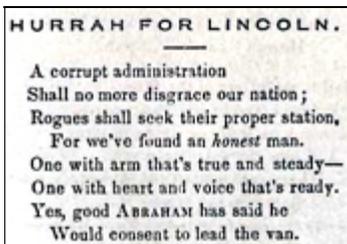


comments about the places you love....
LibraryThing Blog, Mar. 3

[UIUC digitized book of the week](#)

Each week, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign library features an interesting book, journal, photo, or pamphlet that has been scanned for its large-scale digital initiatives. Last week it was a campaign song from the 1860 *Republican Campaign Songster* that advocates Abraham Lincoln for president. Previous weeks have included the 1919 Chicago race riots, German emigrants, good recipes, and the Watseka Wonder....

Digitized Book of the Week, Feb. 29



[30 benefits of e-books](#)

This week is Read an E-book Week, and to encourage the celebration of this little-known happening, Michael Pastore offers 30 reasons why people should read them; for example, "E-books help paperback publishers to sell paperbooks. Cory Doctorow has explained that the giving away of e-books, for free, has helped to sell the paperback editions of his stories and novels." (On the other hand, Doctorow is also [skeptical](#) that hardware readers will catch on.)...

Epublishers Weekly, Jan. 28; *Locus Magazine* 60, no. 3 (Mar.): 31–33

[Carleton University lets students remix lecture videos](#)

Dian Schaffhauser writes: "Carleton University in Ottawa has deployed an online video portal that lets students view, index, annotate, remix, search, and share class lectures. Although the school has been offering streaming video for three years, the new portal, run on the Gotuit platform, implements more interactive features. The program, named [VideoNotes](#) by the university, will initially include the full-length video from each lecture, uploaded shortly after class."...

Campus Technology, Feb. 26



[Patron appearance and behavior policies](#)

Attorneys James W. Fessler and E. Kenneth Friker write: "As the weather outside has turned wet and cold, many public libraries have seen an increase in patrons who are simply seeking shelter from the elements. In light of this increased patronage, a review of patron appearance and behavior policies is in order."...

North Suburban Library System, Wheeling, Ill., Feb. 27

[Wisconsin library pioneer Charles R. McCarthy](#)

Charles R. McCarthy (1873–1921) was the first librarian of the Wisconsin Legislative Reference Bureau ([PDF file](#)), established in 1901 as part of the Wisconsin Free Library Commission. McCarthy was a leader in the Progressive movement and the author of [The Wisconsin Idea](#). The WLRB served as a prototype for such libraries in other states and also was the model for the Congressional Research Service of the Library of Congress....

Library History Buff



[National workplace survey reveals information overload](#)

A national workplace productivity survey commissioned by LexisNexis reports that more than 70% of American white-collar workers feel inundated with information at their workplace, while more than two in five feel that they are headed for an information "breaking point." The survey of 650 white-collar and knowledge workers found that employees across virtually every industry are affected by information overload, but that the problem is particularly acute in the legal profession....

LexisNexis, Feb. 26

[Kirk: "I should have been a librarian"](#)

Captain Kirk wishes he had decided to become a librarian (0:27) in the *Star Trek: The Animated Series* episode "Bem," which aired September 14, 1974, on NBC-TV. Spock, as always, responds by speaking the truth. (Of course, some patrons might actually be reptilian humanoid.)...



YouTube, Dec. 17

[Start a Dungeons and Dragons campaign](#)

Sarah Granville writes: "I began thinking of a Dungeons and Dragons group at the Barberton (Ohio) Public Library in 2005. I had been interested in D&D since high school, but hadn't ever played. I received a D&D starter kit from YALSA and stared at it proudly as it sat on my desk. And gathered dust. Then one evening I discovered a group of teens in our meeting room with D&D books." D&D co-creator Gary Gygax [passed away](#) March 4....



Alternative Teen Services, Feb. 26; Wired, Mar. 5

[Reading Orwell in Havana](#) (PDF file)

John Pateman, of the Lincolnshire (UK) Public Library Service, writes: "The research I carried out in Cuban libraries in October 2005 was designed to test the allegation made by Robert Kent and The Friends of Cuban Libraries that George Orwell and other authors are banned in Cuba. My investigations have revealed that this is not the case and there are no banned authors in Cuba. Finally, I have examined in some detail the so-called 'independent' libraries and I have established that they are totally dependent on the U.S. Interests Section in Havana for their funding, support, and direction."...

Information for Social Change, no. 26 (Winter 2007-08)

[EBSCO offers free environmental database](#) (PDF file)

EBSCO Publishing has decided to use its expertise to make it easier for others to go green. It is making [GreenFILE](#), a bibliographic database of information about environmental concerns, freely available. GreenFILE allows anyone on the Web to access information on such topics as global warming, energy conservation, natural resources, and pollution....

EBSCO Publishing, Feb. 26



[History and the Headlines collection](#)

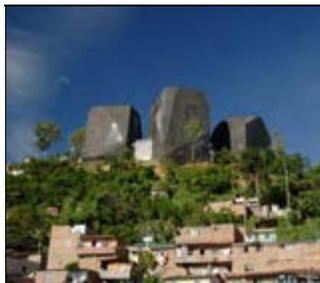
This spring, students can discover how people's lives can change the course of history with three free "History and the Headlines" online collections from ABC-CLIO. Each site is designed to provide

authoritative information to help students understand important events. Topics include the women of Henry VIII's court, the 40th anniversary of the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr., and the 40th anniversary of the Prague Spring reform movement in Czechoslovakia....

ABC-CLIO, Feb. 26

Biblioteca Parque España in Colombia (in Spanish)

Santo Domingo Savio, Colombia, sits atop a mountain at one end of Line K of the Medellín Metrocable where architect Giancarlo Mazzanti has built three artificial rocks symbolizing the city's goal to enhance urban development and cultural activities. The rock buildings are organized into three sections: a library, community center, and cultural center. The library offers books, recreation rooms, reading rooms, and computer rooms with free internet access. Watch a [video](#) (5:36) of the library's festive grand opening in summer 2007. More pictures are [here](#)....



Platформа Arquitectura, Feb. 19; YouTube, Aug. 17; PBH Colombia, Feb. 9

South Africa Library Week

South Africa is celebrating its Library Week, March 17–22, with the theme “From local to global @ your library.” The theme was inspired by the story of Neal Petersen, the South African yachtsman who was the first black man to sail solo around the world. Growing up on the Cape Flats, he discovered sailing and the art of navigation through books in his local public library and from there truly went from local to global....



Library and Information Association of South Africa

National Library of China to add records to WorldCat

The National Library of China, the largest library in Asia, will add its bibliographic records to the OCLC WorldCat database. Following development and format conversion of the records, the library anticipates that some 1.5 million records will be sent to OCLC in 2008. These records, when added to WorldCat, will display Chinese characters....

OCLC, Feb. 28

Joe's "Librarian Song"

Singer/songwriter Joe Uveges of Colorado Springs has fun with “The Librarian Song” (4:45) in which he praises the reference interview and user instruction. Joe performed the song, which he wrote for the Colorado Association of Libraries (“a partying lot”) in 2006, at a November 7 concert in Colorado Springs to promote his *When Freedom Calls* CD. “In a world of wikis and blogs / She keeps a running dialogue.”....



YouTube, Nov. 27



AL Direct, March 5, 2008

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

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | March 5, 2008

Contents

[U.S. & World News \[#usworld\]](#)
[ALA News \[#alanews\]](#)
[Booklist Online \[#booklist\]](#)
[Anaheim Update \[#anaheim\]](#)
[Division News \[#divisionnews\]](#)
[Round Table News \[#roundtable\]](#)
[Awards \[#awards\]](#)
[Seen Online \[#seenonline\]](#)
[Tech Talk \[#techtalk\]](#)
[Actions & Answers \[#actionsanswers\]](#)
[Calendar \[#datebook\]](#)

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

[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

U.S. & World News

Arbitrator rules against EPA over library closures

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/february2008/arbitratorepa.cfm>]

The Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility (a national alliance of local, state, and federal resource professionals) announced February 28 that a federal arbitrator has ruled that the Environmental Protection Agency engaged in unfair labor practices and acted in bad faith when it abruptly ordered the closing of seven of the agency's 10 regional libraries over the past two years....

Atlanta branch saved from developer's shopping mecca

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/february2008/buckhead.cfm>]

Trustees of the Atlanta-Fulton Public Library voted 8-0 February 27 to keep the system's distinctive Buckhead branch and reject a developer's offer of \$24 million to raze the building to make way for an eight-block commercial redevelopment. The branch, built in 1989 by

avant-garde architects Mark Scogin and Merrill Elam, does not fit into the upscale Streets of Buckhead shopping and residential project envisioned by developer Ben Carter, who proposed relocating the library to a mixed-use tower where users would reach it by elevator....

Windsor Public Library cuts halved

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/february2008/windsorhalved.cfm>]

The city council of Windsor, Ontario, agreed February 26 to reduce proposed budget cuts to the Windsor Public Library from \$790,000 (\$812,011 U.S.) to \$400,000 (\$411,145 U.S.). The decision to back off from the original figure came after the library board refused to make the cuts—10% of WPL’s budget—on the grounds that up to four branches would have to close, and that it would also necessitate major cuts in hours and staff....

challenges

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/february2008/idahoman.cfm>]

Nampa, Idaho, resident Randy Jackson, who twice before has complained about the city library having *The New Joy of Sex* and *The Joy of Gay Sex* in its collection, has asked the Nampa Public Library Board once again to remove the books from its collection. The five-member board will discuss the request at its March 10 meeting. Trustees voted 4–1 in 2006 to retain the books but move them to upper shelves where they would be difficult for children to see. Since that time, two new members who may vote differently have joined the board....

UIUC rare book library closes due to mold

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/february2008/uiucrarebook.cfm>]

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Rare Book and Manuscript Library—which occupies a vault within the main library—closed February 25 to address a mold outbreak. No more than 5% of the 300,000-item collection has visible mold, Associate University Librarian for Collections Tom Teper told *American Libraries*. However, “mold spores permeate the entire vault, having, we believe, been circulated through the HVAC system.”...

Toronto library worker pleads guilty to 1969 Chicago shooting

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/february2008/torontoplea.cfm>]

A former research assistant at the Toronto Public Library’s central reference library, who had fled to Canada following the shooting of a Chicago police officer in 1969, pled guilty to a charge of aggravated battery February 22. In an unusual plea agreement, Joseph Pannell, 58, will serve only 30 days in jail and two years’ probation and will pay \$250,000 to the Chicago Police Memorial Foundation, which aids children of police officers wounded in the line of duty....

=====
[<http://www.tech-logic.com/>]
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The ALA website: How it got that way and what we're doing
[<http://discuss.ala.org/marginalia/2008/02/28/alas-website-how-it-got-that-way-and-what-were-doing-about-it/>]

Karen Muller writes: "I use it daily, searching it, clicking through the links, as I have for over a decade. And each day 45,000 others do, too. We go there [<http://www.ala.org>] because it is a rich site, with the collective work of ALA represented. We sometimes complain that you need to know where to look to find anything, that it grows with neither structure nor direction. And that is what has been happening since its inception almost 13 years ago—but our current usability work [<http://discuss.ala.org/marginalia/2007/11/01/usability-and-the-ala-website/>] is an effort to change our ways."...

ALA Marginalia, Feb. 28

Julie Andrews for National Library Week

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/march2008/andrewsvideo.htm>]
Academy Award-winning actress and honorary chair of National Library Week
Julie Andrews discusses the value of libraries in a new video
[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ieUD9vCeXu0>] (0:54) available on YouTube.
The clip can be posted on libraries' websites or blogs to promote National Library Week (April 13–19). As part of her role as National Library Week chair, Andrews has also lent her image to radio and television public service announcements
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pio/natlibraryweek/nlw.htm>]....

New "I Love Libraries" package at Annual Conference
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/february2008/package08.htm>]
The Office for Library Advocacy will make available a discounted package for library advocates at ALA's 2008 Annual Conference in Anaheim, California. The "I Love Libraries" package will include registration at the ALA Advocacy Institute on June 26, "Exhibits Supreme" limited-access registration at the Conference, and an ilovelibraries.org Advocacy Membership, which includes a monthly e-newsletter, all for \$100....

Submit a paper at Anaheim

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/annual/2008a/proposals.htm>]
Time is running out to submit a proposal for the Juried Papers to be presented at the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, California. If you have useful research, subject expertise, or innovative ideas to share with your colleagues, we invite you to submit a proposal. Papers that are accepted will be presented on June 30 and July 1. The deadline for submissions is March 31....

Washington Office debuts Legislative Scorecard

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=378>]
ALA members often inquire as to how their members of Congress voted on issues of particular importance to libraries. In response, the ALA Washington Office has created a Legislative Scorecard
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/washoff/referenceab/legscard/legislativescorecard.c>]

fm]. Covering votes from 2007, the scorecard lists several key pieces of federal library-related legislation that ALA supported, and places a check mark beside the names of the senators and representatives who sponsored those bills....

District Dispatch, Feb. 27

Speak up for libraries [<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=381>]
To help library advocates speak up about the library message, the ALA Washington Office is offering a series of new resources in the coming months, including webinars, podcasts, online classes, and materials to make your federal grassroots lobbying experience as easy and painless as possible. Join them for their first Speaking Up!
[<https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/442300631>] webinar on Thursday, March 6, at 4 p.m. Eastern time....

District Dispatch, Feb. 29

Greg Mortenson to speak at Annual Conference

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/annual/2008a/specialevents.htm#mortenson>]

Greg Mortenson, cofounder of the nonprofit Central Asia Institute and coauthor of the bestseller *Three Cups of Tea*, will be an Auditorium Speaker at the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, June 28, 1:30–2:30 p.m., sponsored by Penguin. A mountaineer and humanitarian, Mortenson was profiled [<http://www.cnn.com/2008/US/03/03/three.cups/index.html>] this week by CNN....

CNN, Mar. 3

Library support staff competencies survey

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/february2008/support08.htm>]

Both library support staff and librarians are invited to offer their opinions about which competencies are important for public and academic support staff. The competencies will become the foundation for the Library Support Staff Certification Program. This survey [http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=MzGbewA5qX6oiCzXtODPcA_3d_3d] is being widely distributed to ALA members and other potential respondents. The deadline for filling it out is March 24....

Serve on the IFLA Governing Board

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/iro/intlassocorgconf/callforiflapresident-electgbnomination.cfm>]

The U.S. Associations of IFLA are calling for anyone interested in seeking their endorsement for either President-elect or at-large member of the Governing Board of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions for 2009–2011. If you are interested, contact the executive director of ALA, AALL, ARL, MLA, ALISE, or SLA by June 1....

Donald E. Riggs dies

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/february2008/riggs08.htm>]

Donald E. Riggs, former vice president for information services and university librarian at Nova Southeastern University in Davie, Florida, died on February 19. Riggs had retired from Nova December 31 due to poor health. He had served as 1994–1995 president of LAMA, and was editor of ACRL's *College & Research Libraries* from 1996 to 2002....

Electronic mailing lists

[<http://discuss.ala.org/marginalia/2008/03/03/electronic-mailing-lists/>]

Are you interested in joining one of ALA's electronic mailing (or discussion) lists [<http://lists.ala.org/wws>] (often referred to by the brand name LISTSERV), but don't know where to start? There are upwards of 150 such lists, some open to any subscriber and general in scope, others limited to a small group for the purposes of accomplishing a specific task....

ALA Marginalia, Mar. 3

Featured review: Adult books

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=2379249]

Iyer, Pico. *The Open Road: The Global Journey of the Fourteenth Dalai Lama*. Apr. 2008. 288p. Knopf, hardcover (978-0-307-26760-3).

A mindful world wanderer and renowned travel writer, Iyer has a 30-year connection to the Dalai Lama stemming from a meeting between Iyer's philosopher father and the Dalai Lama shortly after his dramatic escape from Tibet in the wake of the Chinese invasion. Iyer has often arranged to be in the same place at the same time as the Dalai Lama, and he now reports on the beloved "spiritual celebrity" in action. His coverage includes vivid descriptions of the highly charged atmosphere of Dharamsala, the capital of Tibet-in-exile; surreal aspects of the Dalai Lama's ecstatic reception at his numerous appearances; and the profoundly mysterious elements of the Dalai Lama's "private and almost unimaginable Tibetan world," the realm of oracles and reincarnation....

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

Anaheim Update

Airline reservation information

[http://wikis.ala.org/annual2008/index.php/Traveling_to/from_Anaheim]

United Airlines is offering special meeting discounts for ALA Annual Conference attendees. Simply call the United Special Meeting Desk at (800) 521-4041 and refer to Meeting ID Number 500CR to receive a 2%–10% discount off applicable fares, including First Class....

Anaheim attractions

Early conference arrivals can visit downtown Anaheim on Thursday, June 26, 9 a.m.–1:30 p.m., and enjoy a Summer Concert at the weekly Farmer's Market [<http://www.downtownanaheim.com/farmers.php>] at the intersection of Center Street Promenade and Lemon. Restaurants (Cheesecake Factory, Bubba Gump Shrimp, etc.) at the new Anaheim GardenWalk [<http://www.anaheimgardenwalk.com/index.html>] (right) at

Katella Avenue and South Harbor Blvd. near the Convention Center are now open, and retail stores will await shoppers by the time the conference opens in late June....

Downtown Anaheim; Anaheim GardenWalk

[<http://www.tutor.com/libraries/ttw/>]

Division News

Paula Poundstone to keynote PLA conference

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/february2008/poundstone08.htm>]

Standup comedian Paula Poundstone will present the keynote address at the Closing Session of the PLA's 12th National Conference on March 29 in Minneapolis. Due to scheduling conflicts, Kevin Nealon will not appear at the closing session....

AASL Fall Forum to focus on assessment

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/february2008/fallforum08.htm>]

The 2008 AASL Fall Forum theme is "Assessment, Part II: Constructing and Interpreting Viable Tools for Effective Student Learning in the Library Media Center," and will be held October 17–19 at the Oak Brook Hills Marriott Resort in Oak Brook, Illinois....

School libraries study to close March 15

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/february2008/count08.htm>]

AASL is calling all school libraries to participate in the "School Libraries Count!" longitudinal survey [<http://www.aaslsurvey.org/>] before it closes on March 15. Findings from the study, begun last year, already are being used in advocacy efforts like the one on behalf of Washington state school library media centers....

LAMA seeks PR Makeover entries

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/february2008/makeover08.htm>]

Tired of the same old graphics and design on your library's publicity materials? Do you have a brochure that could use more pizzazz? Maybe your public relations material could use a makeover. Don't miss this opportunity to get expert assistance and raise your library's promotional materials to new heights. Submit your materials to arrive by April 15....

Recruits wanted for Genealogy Boot Camp

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/february2008/boot08.htm>]

The RUSA History Section is recruiting registrants for a full-day preconference on genealogy and ancestry research, "Genealogy Boot Camp," June 27, 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m., during ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, California. The special guest lecturer is Elizabeth Shown Mills, author of *Professional Genealogy: A Manual for Researchers, Writers, Editors, Lecturers, and Librarians*. The event will be held at the Muzeo [<http://www.muzeo.org/>] in Anaheim....

RUSA preconference in Anaheim

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/february2008/social08.htm>]

RUSA's Machine-Assisted Reference Section and Reference Services Section are cohosting a preconference on social networking tools and how to successfully merge them with library reference services, "Reinvented Reference 4: Emerging Technologies for Reference Services," June 27, 8:30 a.m.–5 p.m., during the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, California....

AASL preconferences tackle trends

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/february2008/trends08.htm>]

AASL looks to the future of reading, learning, and Web 2.0 in its four preconferences planned for the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim. The half-day and daylong programs take place Friday, June 27....

Volunteer for a LAMA committee

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/february2008/appoint08.htm>]

LAMA President-elect Molly Raphael and the chairs-elect of LAMA sections will soon begin making appointments to committees for terms beginning immediately after the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim. Complete a volunteer form

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/lama/aboutlama/lamamemresource/lamaforms/lamaactivity.cfm>] indicating which appointments would interest you....

Round Table News

NMRT: "The absolute gem of ALA"

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/nmrt/comm/memberrelations.htm>]

That's according to Nancy George, electronic resources librarian at Salem State College, who was able to find other librarians new to the profession through the activities of the New Members Round Table. Over the past year, the NMRT Member Relations Committee has been collecting stories from NMRT alumni members that describe how their experiences with the round table helped shape their careers. Contact Jenny Emanuel [<mailto:jmanuel@libserv.ucmo.edu>] to share your story....

Awards

Donna Seaman wins Literacy Hero Award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/february2008/seaman08.htm>]

Booklist Associate Editor Donna Seaman was awarded Literacy Chicago's "Literacy Hero Award" at its annual gala on February 9. Seaman was honored for her commitment to books and reading, exemplified not only by her widely published literary criticism, but also by her twice-monthly radio show, Open Books Radio, [<http://www.openbooksradio.org/>] in which she interviews top authors about their work. She came to the attention of Literacy Chicago through

her recent hour-long broadcast called “Invisible No More,” [<http://www.openbooksradio.org/interviews.htm#nonfiction>] featuring the stories of Literacy Chicago students, tutors, and staff, and underscoring how reading changes lives....

Larry Moore wins Haycock Award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/february2008/moore08.htm>]

Larry Moore, executive director of the Ontario Library Association, a post he held for 24 years until his retirement in February, has been named the recipient of the 2008 Ken Haycock Award for Promoting Librarianship, which honors an individual for contributing significantly to the public recognition and appreciation of librarianship through professional performance, teaching, and/or writing....

Award winner

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/february2008/blowers08.htm>]

Helene Blowers, director of digital strategy for the Columbus (Ohio) Metropolitan Library, has been named the winner of the 2008 LITA/Library Hi Tech award for Outstanding Communication in Library and Information Technology. Emerald and LITA sponsor the award, which recognizes outstanding achievement in communicating to educate practitioners within the library field in library and information technology....

Sara Jeffarian Award winner

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/february2008/woodsdales08.htm>]

The ALA Public Programs Office has named Woodsdale Elementary School in Wheeling, West Virginia, winner of the 2008 Sara Jaffarian School Library Program Award for Exemplary Humanities Programming. The school will receive a plaque recognizing the achievement, a cash award of \$4,000, and inclusion of the winning program in a national training session for model humanities programs. School Library Media Specialist Sandra Wiseman developed the winning program, “History Hits the Road to Woodsdale.”...

Johnson County wins Marshall Cavendish Award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/february2008/cavendish08.htm>]

The Johnson County (Kans.) Library's "Literature in the Justice System: The Surprising Antidote" program is the winner of the 2008 Marshall Cavendish Excellence in Library Programming Award. The program grew out of a community task force recommendation for local juvenile justice reform, with strong partnership and collaboration from the Johnson County Department of Corrections and the State of Kansas District Courts....

Penguin Young Readers Group Award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/february2008/penguin08.htm>]

ALSC has awarded four children's librarians with the 2008 Penguin Young Readers Group Award. The award consists of a \$600 grant, sponsored by Penguin Young Readers Group, for winners to attend their first ALA Annual Conference....

Gale Cengage Learning Financial Development Award winner

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/february2008/gc08.htm>]

The Elmont (N.Y.) Public Library is the winner of the Gale Cengage Learning Financial Development Award. The annual award is presented to a

library organization for exhibiting meritorious achievement in carrying out a project to secure new funding resources for a public or academic library....

Leab exhibition awards

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/february2008/leab08.htm>]

There are five winners of the 2008 Katharine Kyes Leab and Daniel J. Leab American Book Prices Current Exhibition Awards. These awards, funded by an endowment established by Katharine Kyes Leab and Daniel J. Leab, editors of American Book Prices Current, and sponsored by the ACRL Rare Books and Manuscripts Section, recognize outstanding exhibition catalogues issued by American or Canadian institutions in conjunction with library exhibitions as well as electronic exhibition catalogues of outstanding merit issued within a digital or web environment....

EBSCO Conference Sponsorship winners

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/february2008/ebSCO08.htm>]

ALA has announced the 10 winners of the EBSCO Conference Sponsorship award. They represent various types of library organizations, including academic, public, school, and state libraries; multiple position classifications; and eight different states from New York to Louisiana. Each will receive \$1,000 to enable them to attend the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim....

Story Prize winner announced [<http://www.thestoryprize.org/>]

On February 27, the Story Prize held its fourth annual awards presentation recognizing works of short fiction. The winner of this year's prize is Jim Shepard for Like You'd Understand, Anyway (2007, Knopf), a collection of 11 short stories set in different times and places, including the Soviet Union in the aftermath of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster and an 1840 expedition to the center of Australia. The \$20,000 award Shepard received is the largest first-prize amount of any annual U.S. book award for fiction....

The Story Prize, Feb. 27

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[<http://www.queenslibrary.org/jobs>]
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Seen Online

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TLA letter slams Memphis mayor's library move

[<http://www.commercialappeal.com/news/2008/mar/01/letter-slams-library-move-s/>]

The Tennessee Library Association Executive Board has sent a terse open letter

[<http://www.commercialappeal.com/news/2008/mar/01/letter-sent-tennessee-library-association-membersh/>] to Mayor Willie Herenton criticizing him for placing political appointees in charge of the Memphis (Tenn.) Public Library and Information Center. It condemned the mayor's dismissal of

longtime library director Judith Drescher as “a slap in the face” to professional librarians, questioned why a national search wasn’t conducted for a replacement, and asked why the library is operating without a duly appointed library board of trustees....

Memphis (Tenn.) Commercial Appeal, Mar. 1

Phoenix faces \$4.5 million in library cuts

[<http://www.azcentral.com/news/articles/0303phx-library0305.html>]

The majority of the cuts will be felt in the 22% proposed cut for new books and other circulating materials. In addition, upgrades and repairs to existing facilities will be postponed....

Phoenix Arizona Republic, Mar. 3

New Jersey state database folds

[http://philadelphia.bizjournals.com/philadelphia/stories/2008/02/25/daily46.html?jst=b_ln_hl]

The rolling shutdown of the New Jersey Knowledge Initiative’s online resources by vendors was all but complete February 29, one day after the state-funded database failed to meet its deadline to secure a \$1-million bailout from legislators. Students, scholars, small businesses, and entrepreneurs’ free access to the costly, proprietary resources will remain shut off until July 1, unless bridge funding is found through other means, Kathleen Peiffer, associate state librarian for library development, said....

Philadelphia Business Journal, Feb. 29

Sex offenders banned from Albuquerque libraries

[<http://www.koat.com/news/15493567/detail.html>]

Albuquerque (N.Mex.) Mayor Martin Chavez has banned sex offenders from city libraries in an effort to keep predators from using the internet, effective March 3. Under his executive order, librarians will cross-check library cards with sex-offender registries, then pass the information on to police who can take different steps, depending on the type of offender. The ACLU’s Whitney Potter says it is a knee-jerk reaction rather than a legitimate strategy....

KOAT-TV, Albuquerque, N.Mex., Mar. 5

Big lesson from a small library

[<http://www.ocala.com/article/20080305/OPINION/803050321/1008/OPINION>]

Marion County (Fla.) commissioners were all set to close the tiny Herman B. Oberman branch in Dunnellon (right) in May in response to declining tax revenues. Even County Librarian Julie Sieg saw it as a painless way to cut costs. But when 200 residents made a passionate plea to save the library from the budget ax at a community meeting March 3, Sieg reversed course, commenting that it reminded her why she became a librarian in the first place: Libraries are important community assets that can affect people’s lives for the good....

Ocala (Fla.) Star-Banner, Mar. 5

Laura Bush announces new grants in New Orleans

[http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2008/03/03/598131laurabush_ap.html?tmp=25076487]

Nearly a dozen schools in Louisiana and one in Mississippi will get a share of more than \$500,000 in grants from the Laura Bush Foundation to

rebuild their libraries. First Lady Laura Bush made the announcement March 3 as she visited the Henry C. Schaumburg School in New Orleans' Gentilly neighborhood, which was flooded with 8 feet of water by Hurricane Katrina....
Education Week, Mar. 3

History survey stumps U.S. teens
[<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/02/27/us/27history.html>]
Fewer than half of American teenagers who were asked basic history and literature questions in a phone survey knew when the Civil War was fought, and one in four said Columbus sailed to the New World some time after 1750, not in 1492. Common Core, the group that commissioned the survey,
[http://www.aei.org/publications/pubID.27576,filter.all/pub_detail.asp]
titled Still at Risk, claims its results show that the No Child Left Behind Act has impoverished public-school curricula by holding schools accountable for student scores on annual tests in reading and mathematics, but not in other subjects....
New York Times, Feb. 26

Blogging for sanity
[<http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2008/03/03/2178512.htm>]
Blogging can help you feel less isolated, more connected to a community, and more satisfied with your friendships, both online and face-to-face, new Australian research has found. The study, from Swinburne University of Technology in Melbourne, found that after two months of regular blogging, people felt they had better social support and friendship networks than those who did not blog....
ABC News (Australia), Mar. 3

Library audiobooks on the go
[<http://www.chicagotribune.com/technology/chi-mxa0304tempodigitalmar04,0,6058397.column>]
Downloading an audiobook from your local library is gaining popularity as a free, convenient way to enjoy the latest bestseller while dodging traffic on the way to work or sweating through a gym workout. Eric Gwinn gets down with downloading and explains the practical points of audiobook loans....
Chicago Tribune, Mar. 4

Publishers phase out audiobook piracy protection
[<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/03/03/business/media/03audiobook.html>]
Some of the largest book publishers in the world are stripping away the anticopying software on digital downloads of audiobooks. The trend will allow consumers who download audiobooks to freely transfer these digital files between devices like their computers, iPods, and cellphones—and conceivably share them with others. Dropping copying restrictions could also allow a variety of online retailers to start to sell audiobook downloads....
New York Times, Mar. 3

Vote for the back-of-the-envelope Bush Library design
[<http://chronicle.com/free/v54/i26/26b01401.htm>]
The Chronicle invited readers to to send in designs for the George W.

Bush Presidential Library on the backs of envelopes. About 120 people sent in sketches that were good, bad, serious, humorous, abstract, or really angry. Now the finalists have been selected and you can vote [<http://chronicle.com/forums/index.php/topic,47494.0.html>] for your favorite (free registration required)....
Chronicle of Higher Education, Mar. 7

What if they made a policy and no one used it?
[<http://www.dailyherald.com/story/?id=145200>]
Despite some heated public debates, officials of the Cook Memorial Public Library District in Libertyville, Illinois, say no parents have taken advantage of a new policy allowing them to restrict what videos or DVDs their kids can check out. The plan went into effect February 19 after it was approved by the library board. The board's 5-1 vote followed months of discussions prompted by complaints from a few parents....
Arlington Heights (Ill.) Daily Herald, Mar. 1

Homeless men find shelter in a book club
[<http://www.csmonitor.com/2008/0228/p20s01-ussc.html>]
Every Monday at 4 p.m., Stephen King fans gather at a men's shelter in Cleveland. So do readers of Louis L'Amour, James Baldwin, and Malcolm X. Homeless men at this book club begun last fall are reading two books a month. The books are supplied by the Cleveland Public Library, which has partnered with Care Alliance, a health care provider for the homeless....
Christian Science Monitor, Feb. 28

Panel finds school was justified in firing librarian
[<http://www.courierpostonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080304/NEWS01/803040379/1006/news01>]
A former Pemberton Township, New Jersey, school librarian, whose workplace computer showed frequent visits to sexually themed websites, has lost a bid to save her job. A three-judge panel March 3 rebuffed an appeal by Darlene Donahue, who was a library media specialist at Newcomb Middle School. Donahue, a 13-year employee, sought to reverse a decision by the state's Board of Education....
Cherry Hill (N.J.) Courier Post, Mar. 4

Libraries hook teens through video games
[<http://www.desmoinesregister.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080221/NEWS/802210405/>]
One teenager jams on a guitar to a Guns N' Roses song while another practices her bowling form. Both activities occur at an unlikely place: the Waukee (Iowa) Public Library. It's part of a nationwide trend in which libraries have seen success with Dance Dance Revolution and Guitar Hero competitions. "It's really cool that they provide the stuff for us to be able to socialize and hang out and just talk," said 6th-grader Taylor Royer....
Des Moines (Iowa) Register, Feb. 21

Postcard mystery has librarian connection
[http://www.connpost.com//ci_8431986?IADID]
James Merrill was more than a little intrigued when he read a story in the Connecticut Post about a postcard, postmarked August 14, 1957, from a small Maine town that arrived mysteriously at Stratford (Conn.) Town Hall

in January—51 years after it was sent by a woman identified only as “Alice.” Then his daughter, Jan Merrill-Oldham, preservation librarian at Harvard University, recognized the handwriting as belonging to her mother Alice, now 93. “I called my father and teased him, and said, ‘Dad, don’t you even know your own wife’s handwriting?’”...
Bridgeport Connecticut Post, Mar. 2

[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

Tech Talk

Planning a virtual world conference

[<http://www.techsource.ala.org/blog/2008/03/planning-a-virtual-world-conference.html>]

Tom Peters writes: “For the past two months I have been involved in a fascinating team effort to plan a one-day conference that will be held in a virtual world environment on March 8. The official name of the conference is Virtual Worlds: Libraries, Education, and Museums [<http://www.alliancelibraries.info/virtualworlds/>]. Although the conference will be held in Second Life, the speakers will be discussing other virtual worlds as well.”...

ALA TechSource blog. Mar. 3

[<http://www.profilactic.com/>]35 ways to stream your life

[http://www.readwriteweb.com/archives/35_lifestreamin_apps.php]

It’s a pretty good bet that if your younger patrons are not making a Twitter or Facebook application, they’re probably involved in lifestreaming. Lifestreaming is a hot area for development, and there are an overwhelming number of services that can aggregate all the little bits of your online life. Lifestreaming apps generally fall into two categories: those that help you keep track of and display your own lifestream, and those that help you keep track of your friend’s lifestreams (or both)....

ReadWriteWeb, Feb. 29

[<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2202028,00.asp>]

The best free software [<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2260070,00.asp>]

157 software tools. No fees. No expiration dates. No problems. Sometimes even no downloads. No kidding. If you bought popular apps instead of trying their gratis counterparts, at the manufacturers’ list prices you’d be out \$5,183 and change. Why spend money when you can get what you need for nothing? Sometimes, you do get what you don’t pay for....

PC Magazine, Feb. 8

Rochester-area company digitizes books

[<http://www.democratandchronicle.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080302/BUINESS/803020310/1001>]

Lofti Belkhir left a career as a Xerox Corp. researcher to start Kirtas

Technologies in 2001, and turning books into gigabytes is proving to be a booming business for the Victor, New York, firm, which makes both the robotic equipment and software for digitizing books and other documents. Today the company's clients range from libraries to major corporations like Microsoft. Every week Kirtas scans 10,000 to 15,000 books for Microsoft's Live Book Search project....

Rochester (N.Y.) Democrat and Chronicle, Mar. 2

Ten PC troubleshooting tips

[<http://www.extremetech.com/article2/0,1697,2270412,00.asp>]

Joel Durham Jr. offers some tips on fixing common but vexing computer problems, among them: Your computer won't boot, your PC shuts off at random intervals, your game looks funny, and you've spilled a beverage....

ExtremeTech, Feb. 27

Actions & Answers

NEA's Read Across America [<http://www.nea.org/readacross/index.html>]

The National Educational Association kicked off Read Across America Day

March 3 by sending out three Cat-a-Van tours

[<http://www.nea.org/readacross/2008catavans.html>] to celebrate the joys

of reading. The three tours started their travels in Atlanta, Austin, and

Chicago to cover more than 1,200 miles in 11 states. During the cat trek,

the tours will visit more than 18 cities to provide more than 12,000

books and thousands in cash grants, thanks to generous donations from

NEA's Books Across America, [<http://www.nea.org/booksacross>] a program

that provides book donations and financial backing to public school

libraries in need....

National Educational Association

Students honor Dr. Seuss's birthday

[<http://www.visaliatimesdelta.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080304/NEWS01/803040330/1002/NEWS01>]

On school campuses around the country March 3, red-and-white-striped hats

were the unofficial uniform and green eggs and ham the unofficial meal.

Read Across America Day is celebrated near the March 2 birthday of

beloved children's book author Theodore Geisel, better known as Dr.

Seuss. Lisa Kruger, librarian at Linwood Elementary School in Visalia,

California, read various Dr. Seuss titles to students in the first

through third grades at recess....

Visalia (Calif.) Times-Delta, Mar. 4

LibraryThing Local launches

[<http://www.librarything.com/blog/2008/03/introducing-librarything-local.php>]

LibraryThing Local is a gateway to thousands of local bookstores,

libraries, and book festivals—and to all the author readings,

signings, discussions, and other events they host. It is the site's

attempt to accomplish what hasn't happened yet—the effective

linking of the online and offline book worlds. You can show off your

favorite bookstores and libraries, keep track of interesting events, find

out who else loves the places you do, and write comments about the places

you love....

LibraryThing Blog, Mar. 3

UIUC digitized book of the week

[<http://www.library.uiuc.edu/blog/digitizedbotw/>]

Each week, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign library features an interesting book, journal, photo, or pamphlet that has been scanned for its large-scale digital initiatives. Last week it was a campaign song from the 1860 Republican Campaign Songster that advocates Abraham Lincoln for president. Previous weeks have included the 1919 Chicago race riots, German emigrants, good recipes, and the Watseka Wonder....

Digitized Book of the Week, Feb. 29

30 benefits of e-books

[<http://epublishersweekly.blogspot.com/2008/02/30-benefits-of-ebooks.html>]

This week is Read an E-book Week, and to encourage the celebration of this little-known happening, Michael Pastore offers 30 reasons why people should read them; for example, "E-books help paperbook publishers to sell paperbooks. Cory Doctorow has explained that the giving away of e-books, for free, has helped to sell the paperback editions of his stories and novels." (On the other hand, Doctorow is also skeptical [<http://www.locusmag.com/Features/2008/03/cory-doctorow-put-not-your-faith-in.html>] that hardware readers will catch on.)...

Epublishers Weekly, Jan. 28; Locus Magazine 60, no. 3 (Mar.): 31–33

Carleton University lets students remix lecture videos

[<http://www.campustechnology.com/articles/58803/>]

Dian Schaffhauser writes: "Carleton University in Ottawa has deployed an online video portal that lets students view, index, annotate, remix, search, and share class lectures. Although the school has been offering streaming video for three years, the new portal, run on the Gotuit platform, implements more interactive features. The program, named VideoNotes [http://www.gotuit.com/customers/carleton_univ.html] by the university, will initially include the full-length video from each lecture, uploaded shortly after class."...

Campus Technology, Feb. 26

Patron appearance and behavior policies

[<http://www.nsls.info/articles/detail.aspx?articleID=186>]

Attorneys James W. Fessler and E. Kenneth Friker write: "As the weather outside has turned wet and cold, many public libraries have seen an increase in patrons who are simply seeking shelter from the elements. In light of this increased patronage, a review of patron appearance and behavior policies is in order."...

North Suburban Library System, Wheeling, Ill., Feb. 27

Wisconsin library pioneer Charles R. McCarthy

[<http://www.libraryhistorybuff.org/mccarthy.htm>]

Charles R. McCarthy (1873–1921) was the first librarian of the Wisconsin Legislative Reference Bureau (PDF file

[http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov/lrb/pubs/special/Century_of_Service.PDF]), established in 1901 as part of the Wisconsin Free Library Commission.

McCarthy was a leader in the Progressive movement and the author of The

Wisconsin Idea

[<http://www.library.wisc.edu/etext/WIReader/Contents/Idea.html>]. The WLRB served as a prototype for such libraries in other states and also was the model for the Congressional Research Service of the Library of Congress....
Library History Buff

National workplace survey reveals information overload

[<http://www.lexisnexis.com/media/press-release.aspx?id=1041.asp>]
A national workplace productivity survey commissioned by LexisNexis reports that more than 70% of American white-collar workers feel inundated with information at their workplace, while more than two in five feel that they are headed for an information “breaking point.” The survey of 650 white-collar and knowledge workers found that employees across virtually every industry are affected by information overload, but that the problem is particularly acute in the legal profession....
LexisNexis, Feb. 26

Kirk: “I should have been a librarian”

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Cv2INuu9eo>]
Captain Kirk wishes he had decided to become a librarian (0:27) in the Star Trek: The Animated Series episode “Bem,” which aired September 14, 1974, on NBC-TV. Spock, as always, responds by speaking the truth. (Of course, some patrons might actually be reptilian humanoids.)...
YouTube, Dec. 17

Start a Dungeons and Dragons campaign

[<http://www.yalibrarian.com/wordpress/2008/02/dungeons-and-dragons-your-library/>]
Sarah Granville writes: “I began thinking of a Dungeons and Dragons group at the Barberton (Ohio) Public Library in 2005. I had been interested in D&D since high school, but hadn’t ever played. I received a D&D starter kit from YALSA and stared at it proudly as it sat on my desk. And gathered dust. Then one evening I discovered a group of teens in our meeting room with D&D books.” D&D co-creator Gary Gygax passed away [<http://blog.wired.com/games/2008/03/dungeons-dragon.html>] March 4....
Alternative Teen Services, Feb. 26; Wired, Mar. 5

Reading Orwell in Havana [[http://libr.org/isc/issues/ISC26/26 Reading Orwell in Havana.pdf](http://libr.org/isc/issues/ISC26/26%20Reading%20Orwell%20in%20Havana.pdf)] (PDF file)

John Pateman, of the Lincolnshire (UK) Public Library Service, writes: “The research I carried out in Cuban libraries in October 2005 was designed to test the allegation made by Robert Kent and The Friends of Cuban Libraries that George Orwell and other authors are banned in Cuba. My investigations have revealed that this is not the case and there are no banned authors in Cuba. Finally, I have examined in some detail the so-called ‘independent’ libraries and I have established that they are totally dependent on the U.S. Interests Section in Havana for their funding, support, and direction.”...
Information for Social Change, no. 26 (Winter 2007–08)

EBSCO offers free environmental database

[<http://www.ebscohost.com/uploads/thisTopic-dbTopic-984.pdf>] (PDF file)

EBSCO Publishing has decided to use its expertise to make it easier for others to go green. It is making GreenFILE, [<http://www.greeninfoonline.com>] a bibliographic database of information about environmental concerns, freely available. GreenFILE allows anyone on the Web to access information on such topics as global warming, energy conservation, natural resources, and pollution....
EBSCO Publishing, Feb. 26

History and the Headlines collection
[<http://www.abc-clio.com/publishing/pressview.aspx?contentid=100324>]
This spring, students can discover how people's lives can change the course of history with three free "History and the Headlines" online collections from ABC-CLIO. Each site is designed to provide authoritative information to help students understand important events. Topics include the women of Henry VIII's court, the 40th anniversary of the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr., and the 40th anniversary of the Prague Spring reform movement in Czechoslovakia....
ABC-CLIO, Feb. 26

Biblioteca Parque España in Colombia
[<http://www.plataformaarquitectura.cl/2008/02/19/biblioteca-parque-espana-giancarlo-mazzanti>] (in Spanish)
Santo Domingo Savio, Colombia, sits atop a mountain at one end of Line K of the Medellín Metrocable where architect Giancarlo Mazzanti has built three artificial rocks symbolizing the city's goal to enhance urban development and cultural activities. The rock buildings are organized into three sections: a library, community center, and cultural center. The library offers books, recreation rooms, reading rooms, and computer rooms with free internet access. Watch a video [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u3kT4TFW-Mo>] (5:36) of the library's festive grand opening in summer 2007. More pictures are here [<http://poorbuthappy.com/colombia/post/pics-of-the-new-library-in-santo-domingo/>]....
Platiforma Arquitectura, Feb. 19; YouTube, Aug. 17; PBH Colombia, Feb. 9

South Africa Library Week
[<http://www.liasa.org.za/activities/natlibweek2008.php>]
South Africa is celebrating its Library Week, March 17–22, with the theme "From local to global @ your library." The theme was inspired by the story of Neal Petersen, the South African yachtsman who was the first black man to sail solo around the world. Growing up on the Cape Flats, he discovered sailing and the art of navigation through books in his local public library and from there truly went from local to global....
Library and Information Association of South Africa

National Library of China to add records to WorldCat
[<http://www.oclc.org/us/en/news/releases/20085.htm>]
The National Library of China, the largest library in Asia, will add its bibliographic records to the OCLC WorldCat database. Following development and format conversion of the records, the library anticipates that some 1.5 million records will be sent to OCLC in 2008. These records, when added to WorldCat, will display Chinese characters....
OCLC, Feb. 28

Joe Uveges, Librarian Song
[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SB4HvVEMFig>]
Singer/songwriter Joe Uveges of Colorado Springs has fun with “The Librarian Song” (4:45) in which he praises the reference interview and user instruction. Joe performed the song, which he wrote for the Colorado Association of Libraries (“a partying lot”) in 2006, at a November 7 concert in Colorado Springs to promote his When Freedom Calls CD. “In a world of wikis and blogs / She keeps a running dialogue.”...
YouTube, Nov. 27 [<http://www.shapingoutcomes.org>]

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[<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/annual/2008a/geninfo.htm>]

Everyone attending the ALA/ProQuest Scholarship Bash [<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/annual/2008a/specialevents.htm#bash>] will have a rousing good time as the Bash heads to the Disneyland Resort for a magical night, June 28. Tickets are \$40 until May 16. Early bird registration [<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/annual/2008a/registration.htm>] for Annual Conference ends March 7.

[http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?_sn=catalog2&_pn=product_detail&_op=2333]

Libraries need to be open and inviting, yet safe for patrons, staff, and collections. How can you ensure your library is both accessible and secure? Look over the shoulder of disaster expert Miriam B. Kahn as she walks through key safety and security issues step by step in The Library Security and Safety Guide to Prevention, Planning, and Response. [http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?_sn=catalog2&_pn=product_detail&_op=2333] Case studies, along with 20 checklists and 10 sample policies and forms, are the basis for organizing and evaluating security plans tailored to your institution. NEW! From ALA Editions.

In this issue
March 2008

All Seasons & All Reasons for Lifelong Learning

Story Quilt: Poems of a Place

ALA Candidates: Statements and Forum

Philadelphia
Wrap-up

Girls Raise Cash for Kenya

Host the Sunshine Week webcast

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=379>] at your library, March 19, 1–2:30 p.m. Eastern time. The event [<http://www.openthegovernment.org/article/subarchive/109>] will be held at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C., and webcast to sites around the country. Audience members at all sites viewing the live event will have an opportunity to call in (using any telephone) and email questions to the live panels.

Career Leads from

[<http://joblist.ala.org/>]

Humanities Librarian for English Language and Literature,

[<http://joblist.ala.org/modules/jobseeker/controller.cfm?scr=jobdetail&jobid=9739>] University of Kansas, Lawrence. Works in a team environment to build print and digital collections; and provides specialized reference, instruction, consultation and outreach services to a diverse campus community....

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

Digital Library of the Week

“The Oceana Roll,”

[<http://cylinders.library.ucsb.edu/search.php?queryType=@attr%201=4&query=Oceana%20Roll&num=1&start=1&sortBy=&sortOrder=id>] performed by Billy Murray, [1911], 846: Edison Amberol. Ragtime song. Vocal solo with orchestra accompaniment.

Play it (MP3 file

[<http://cylinders.library.ucsb.edu/mp3s/2000/2750/cusb-cyl2750d.mp3>]).

Cylinder Preservation and Digitization Project,

[<http://cylinders.library.ucsb.edu/>] Department of Special Collections, University of California, Santa Barbara. Cylinder recordings, the first commercially produced sound recordings, are a snapshot of musical and popular culture in the decades around the turn of the 20th century. They have long held the fascination of collectors and have presented challenges for playback and preservation by archives and collectors alike. With funding from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, the UCSB Libraries have created a digital collection of nearly 8,000 cylinder recordings held by the Department of Special Collections. In an effort to bring these recordings to a wider audience, they can be freely downloaded or streamed online. On this site you will have the opportunity to find out more about the cylinder format, listen to thousands of musical and spoken selections from the late 19th and early 20th centuries, and discover a little-known era of recorded sound.

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

“WhiteTrash #1: Can you get the wi-fi at your place?

“WhiteTrash #2: No, I have to come here to use the email. Which sucks 'cuz they block ev'rythin' good.

“#1: I know. I wanna get on the email, but I can't do it here 'cuz I heard they track 'n sh*t so they can read what you write.

“#2: Oh sh*t. You sure?

“#1. Dude, they're a public library, so they're govment. Gov-ment. They've prob'ly read ev'ry email you ever writt'n.”

?Overheard at a library, Library Bitch blog, Feb. 23.

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/teentechweek/ttw08/ttw.cfm>]

It's Teen Tech Week,

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/teentechweek/ttw08/ttw.cfm>] March 2–8, and it's time to celebrate! Make sure you have your teens enter the

Promotional Song Contest

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/teentechweek/ttw08/contests/contests.cfm>]

(entries are due by midnight March 8), take the SmartGirl Survey

[<http://www.smartgirl.org/ttw>] on their technology use, and vote for next

year's Teen Tech Week theme

[http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=aRxCPNSXnOQfqHb2Zx4veg_3d_3d].

The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History

[http://www.gilderlehrman.org/institute/public_traveling.html] in New

York is offering a new traveling exhibition, Abraham Lincoln: A Man of

His Time, A Man for All Times. The exhibition, which incorporates

letters, photographs, and images from Lincoln's presidency and Civil War

soldiers and their families, is available to academic and public

libraries and national park historic sites. To download an application

(PDF file

[http://www.gilderlehrman.org/institute/Lincoln_Exhibit_Application.pdf]),

visit the GLIAH website. The deadline is March 25.

Ask the ALA Librarian

Q. My library board would like to know if ALA has a policy in relation to taking pictures of children or adults in the library and then using them for promotional purposes, including posting them to the online photo-sharing website Flickr. We love to share our events, but we're concerned about copyright.

A. The short answer is that ALA does not have a policy in this area, though our A Communication Handbook for Libraries [<http://www.ala.org/ala/pio/mediarelationsa/availablepiomat/commhandbook.htm>] does suggest using photographs to increase the visual impact of a news story. Using photographs [http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Use_of_Photos_in_Publicity_Materials] requires adherence to procedures to protect the rights of the photographer as well as the privacy of the subject of the photographs, particularly if you are photographing children. Use permissions for photos are usually obtained by a photo release form. If you plan to use the photos online [http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Using_Current_Technologies_#Online_Photos], whether on your own website or on your Flickr (or any other online photo-sharing website) account, include that information in the release form. Check with your library's public relations or communications specialist—or even legal counsel—to see if a parental release form already exists. If there is such a form, make sure that it covers internet usage. With regard to children, some organizations and schools use a standard release signed by the parent or legal guardian at the time of registration in a particular program. From the ALA Professional Tips wiki. [http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Libraries_and_Photos_of_Patrons]

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

Calendar

Mar. 26–29:

Association for Childhood Education International, [<http://www.acei.org/annualconfex.htm>] Annual Conference, Westin Peachtree Plaza Hotel, Atlanta. “Beyond Standards: Reaching Every Child's Potential.” Contact: ACEI, [<mailto:conference@acei.org>] (800) 423-3563.

Apr. 9–11:

New Mexico Library Association, [http://www.nmla.org/2008_Conference/conference_home.htm] Conference, Las Cruces. “Seek-Learn-Inspire.”

Apr. 9–11:

Kansas Library Association, [<http://www.kansaslibraryassociation.org/displayconvention.cfm>] Conference, Century City II Convention Center, Wichita.

Apr. 9–11:
Tennessee Library Association,
[<http://www.tnla.org/displayconvention.cfm?conventionnbr=3506>]
Conference, Meadowview Convention Center, Kingsport.

Apr. 9–12:
Montana Library Association,
[<http://www.mtlib.org/conf/mla2008/index.htm>]Conference, Heritage Inn,
Great Falls. “Libraries: Montana's Voice for Freedom.”

Apr. 15–18:
Texas Library Association, [<http://www.txla.org/conference/conf.html>]
Conference, Dallas. “Books, Bytes, and Beyond.”

Apr. 16–18:
Oregon Library Association / Washington Library Association,
[<http://wla.org/olawla2008/>] Joint Conference, Vancouver, Washington.
“Sharing More than a Border.”

Apr. 21–23:
Oklahoma Library Association, [<http://www.oklibs.org/OLA2008/>]
Conference, Tulsa.

Apr. 22–25:
Alabama Library Association,
[http://www.allanet.org/convention_registration.cfm] Conference,
Birmingham. “Under One Umbrella: Alabama Libraries Come
Together.”

Apr. 22–25:
Florida Library Association, [http://www.flalib.org/conference_2008.html]
Conference, Tradewinds Beach Resorts and Conference Center, St. Pete
Beach. “Celebrating the Leader in You!”

Apr. 28–30:
Connecticut Library Association,
[<http://www.ctlibraryassociation.org/conf.htm>] Conference, Mystic
Marriott Hotel and Spa, Groton.

Apr. 29–
May 1:
New Jersey Library Association,
[<http://www.njla.org/conference/2008/index.html>]Conference, Ocean Place
Conference Center, Long Branch. “Valuing Libraries, Librarians, and
Library Staff.”

Apr. 29–
May 2:
Mountain Plains Library Association / Utah Library Association,
[<http://www.ula.org/conference/2008conf/>] Joint Conference, Salt Lake
City. “Where Paths Meet: Connecting Libraries and Our
Communities.”

May 6–9:

Massachusetts Library Association,
[<http://www.masslib.org/conference/2008Conference/index.htm>] Conference,
SeaCrest Resort and Conference Center, Falmouth. “Growing
Communities”

May 9:
Delaware Library Association,
[<http://www2.lib.udel.edu/dla/conf/index.htm>] Conference, Dover.
“Planting the Seeds to Learn and Grow.”

May 13–14:
Vermont Library Association,
[<http://www.vermontlibraries.org/vermont-library-conference>] Conference,
Sheraton Burlington.

May 14–16:
Maryland Library Association,
[<http://www.mdlib.org/conference/default.asp>] Conference, Clarion Resort,
Ocean City. “Renaissance 2.0: Imagine-Create-Transform.”

May 21–22:
New Hampshire Library Association,
[<http://www.nhlibrarians.org/springconference.html>] Conference, Grappone
Conference Center, Concord. “Innovate in '08: Library Basics and
Beyond.”

Aug. 4–5:
Bibliographical Center for Research
[<http://www.bcr.org/referencerenaissance/>] and RUSA, “A Reference
Renaissance: Current and Future Trends,” Four Points by Sheraton, Denver.
Call for participation ends April 4. Contact: Marie L. Radford
[<mailto:mrادford@scils.rutgers.edu>].

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

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American Libraries Direct

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american libraries DIRECT

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | March 12, 2008

Contents

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



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

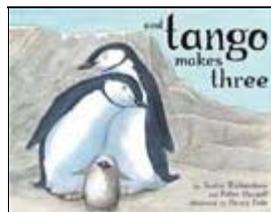
[Eight students killed at Jerusalem religious school library](#)

A lone gunman armed with an AK-47 assault rifle and pistol entered the library of the Mercaz HaRav Yeshiva in Jerusalem March 6 and sprayed bullets around the crowded room, killing eight students and wounding 10. The attacker, identified as an Arab resident of East Jerusalem named Ala' Abu Dhaim (or Dhein), was shot twice 10 minutes later at the library entrance by student Yitzhak Dadon, immobilizing him until an Israeli Defense Forces soldier arrived and killed him. Survivors described the scene in the library as terrifying, with students jumping out of the windows to escape....



[Tango returns to Loudoun County schools](#)

The controversial *And Tango Makes Three* returned to the general circulation shelves in the 16 elementary schools of Loudoun County (Va.) Public Schools March 3. That day, Superintendent Edgar B. Hatrick declared the challenge that led to the book being relocated to areas accessible only by parents and teachers to be invalid because the person who made the challenge was not a parent of a student at Sugarland Elementary School in Sterling, where the challenge was made....



ALA News

[Rettig to testify on EPA libraries](#)

On March 13, ALA President-elect Jim Rettig will testify before the U.S. House of Representatives on the impact of library closings at the Environmental Protection Agency. Speaking to the House Subcommittee

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[ALA Annual Conference](#)

in Anaheim, California, June 26–July 2. For a complete list of **preconferences**, see the [Annual Conference wiki](#).

on Investigations and Oversight, Rettig intends to address several of the developments of the past two years, specifically the loss of access to vitally important scientific and environmental government information, and the necessity of the information specialist—the staff librarian—to ensure the most effective access to this information....

[Cancer survivorship notebooks for public libraries](#)

ALA is collaborating with the Lance Armstrong Foundation to provide public libraries with reference materials to better serve those seeking cancer information. Last week, the LAF began shipping Livestrong Survivorship Notebooks to more than 14,200 libraries. The notebooks are designed to help cancer survivors, their families, and caregivers organize, retain, and access important information related to their cancer experiences. Libraries that have not received a notebook by March 31 can request one from [Kelli Craddock](#)....



[Diahann Carroll to be Closing Session speaker](#)

Diahann Carroll, actress, singer, and author of the forthcoming *The Legs Are the Last to Go: Aging, Acting, Marrying, Mothering, and Other Things I Learned Along the Way* (Amistad), will be the Closing Session speaker at ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, California, 11 a.m.–12 noon, July 1....



[Accessibility is theme of Diversity and Outreach Fair](#)

All types of libraries are invited to participate in the Diversity and Outreach Fair taking place 3–5 p.m., June 28, during ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim. The fair is organized by the Office for Literacy and Outreach Services as a way to celebrate examples of diversity in American libraries and to demonstrate possibilities for other libraries in search of “diversity in action” ideas. To participate, complete the online [entry form](#) by April 11....

[Library Copyright Alliance advocates fair use in Geneva](#)

International copyright advocate Lori Driscoll and OITP Copyright Specialist Carrie Russell are currently in Geneva, Switzerland, for a meeting of the World Intellectual Property Organization. On behalf of the [Library Copyright Alliance](#), they delivered a statement on fair use to the WIPO Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights....
District Dispatch, Mar. 12

[AL's Midwinter report](#) (PDF file)
American Libraries brings you highlights of the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia, featuring Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, the Author Forum, the FBI whistleblower, the Youth Media Awards,



The **March 15** *Booklist* spotlights graphic novels and offers a Spring travel roundup. Pick up your copy at the PLA National Conference. **NEW! From Booklist.**

In this issue

March 2008



All Seasons & All Reasons for Lifelong Learning

Story Quilt: Poems of a Place

ALA Candidates: Statements and Forum

Philadelphia Wrap-up

Girls Raise Cash for Kenya



[Contact](#) your U.S. senator

the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Sunrise Service, the RDA Update Forum, free-speech advocate Anthony Lewis, ALA Council actions, and more....
American Libraries 39, no. 3 (Mar.): 54-63

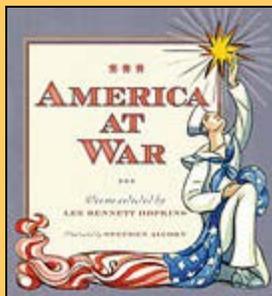
Booklist

ONLINE

Featured review: Books for youth

Hopkins, Lee Bennett (editor). *America at War: Poems Selected by Lee Bennett Hopkins*. 96p. Mar. 2008. Simon & Schuster / Margaret K. McElderry, hardcover (978-1-4169-1832-5).

This handsome anthology, expressing Americans' varied experience during wartime, is a fine selection of poems accessible to children. Each poem appears on one or two pages, accompanied by strong, yet graceful illustrations. Though not all content is tied to a particular conflict and not all the poets are American, the poems work well together to represent the book's sections: the American Revolution, the Civil War, World Wars I and II, and the wars in Korea, Vietnam, the Persian Gulf, and Iraq. Each section begins with a short quote from a philosopher, political leader, or military officer and a few brief comments on the conflict. Once the poems begin, though, readers will be transported from the broad view to the particulars by the thoughts, words, and experiences of people affected by war in different ways....



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

Anaheim Update

Show your badge and save

The Anaheim/Orange County Visitor and Convention Bureau is listing promotional offers and discounts that are available to Annual Conference attendees. Show your conference badge and save at participating retail stores, restaurants, recreational facilities, spas, theaters, and tours. For example, you can get 20% off food at the [House of Blues Anaheim](#) by showing your badge....

Anaheim/Orange County Visitor and Convention Bureau

Pretend you're in New Orleans

Ralph Brennan's Jazz Kitchen was one of Downtown Disney's first tenants in 2001. Brennan entered the family business in the early 1980s and now his company also runs nine New Orleans restaurants, including Commander's Palace and the Red Fish Grill. This French Quarter-like building offers a quick-service dining facility (Jazz Kitchen Express), a New Orleans-style jazz club (Flambeaux's), and an outdoor jazz balcony with seating that overlooks the revelry below....



and representative and ask them to sign the **Dear Colleague letters** being circulated in both the [Senate](#) and the [House](#) in support of funding for the Library Services and Technology Act and the Improving Literacy Through School Libraries Program. Legislators must sign the letters **by March 14**.

Career Leads from

ALA **JobLIST**

Chief Librarian.

Bibliotheca Alexandrina, Alexandria, Egypt. The Bibliotheca Alexandrina is a library, an international center of intellectual excellence, a space for research, dialogue, an academic institution, a cultural Mecca, and a pioneer in technology and communication. The Chief Librarian will oversee the overall administration, operation and services of the Main Library, the Arts and Multimedia Library, the Taha Hussein Library, the Nobel Section, the Young People's Library, and the Children's Library....

@ [More jobs...](#)

Digital Library of the Week

Ralph Brennan's Jazz Kitchen



Division News

[ACRL launches chat series](#)

ACRL has launched [ACRL OnPoint](#), a live chat series. Each informal monthly chat session provides the opportunity to connect with colleagues and experts to discuss an issue of the day in academic and research librarianship. Sessions are unmoderated, 30–45 minutes in length, and take place in a Meebo chat room. All sessions begin at 1 p.m. Central time....

[Free webcast for ACRL members](#)

ACRL will offer its first-ever Springboard Event, a free 90-minute interactive webcast for ACRL members, 11 a.m.–12:30 p.m. Central time, April 2. Henry Jenkins, Peter de Florez Professor of Humanities and codirector of the MIT Comparative Media Studies program, is the featured speaker....



[ALSC preconference on summer reading](#)

ALSC will host "Summer Reading Survivor: Overcoming the Challenges," 7–9:30 p.m., June 26, and 8 a.m.–4:45 p.m., June 27, during the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim. The first evening, folklorist and author Judy Sierra will open the preconference and get attendees "Wild about Reading."...

[Meet Sara Kelly Johns, AASL President](#)

Q: What does the President of AASL do? **A:** One thing that I've enjoyed is making progress on my presidency's theme, *AASL and You: A Partnership for Power*. Each president has to continue ongoing initiatives and organizational work, and something new always emerges. There's ongoing work with ALA and the AASL Advocacy and Legislative Committees and task forces for the SKILLS Act, the Instructional Classification Initiative and the Spokane Moms' Fund Our Future Washington initiative, revitalization of School Library Media Month, and the new Standards....



AASL Blog, Mar. 10

[ACRL and LAMA release space-planning wiki](#)

Two divisions have jointly released the [ACRL/LAMA Guide for Architects](#), a new resource for planning library spaces in higher education. In response to frequent inquiries for information about planning academic library buildings, ACRL and LAMA have partnered to develop a basic framework for architects, planners, and librarians embarking on the design of academic libraries....



The [University of Louisville Digital Collections](#) is a growing resource that includes rare and unique images, documents, and oral histories from the university archives, special collections, and other campus units. Included in the digital library are photos showing Louisville and neighboring areas, Kentucky maps, historic photos by Claude Matlack and Kate Matthews, an African-American oral history collection, the Newton Owen postcard collection, and snapshots of mountain life by Jean Thomas (the "Traipsin' Woman," above).

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

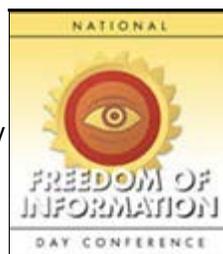
"Bad news, folks. The library is Alachua County's version of Terri Schiavo, and life support is costing us nearly \$20 million each year. It would be an act of mercy to harvest the organs and move

Awards

[Loriene Roy to present James Madison Award](#)

On March 14 during the National Freedom of Information Day Conference, ALA President Loriene Roy will present the James Madison Award, given annually to recognize an individual or group that has championed, protected, and promoted public access to government information and the public's right to know.

The conference, sponsored by the First Amendment Center, will be held in the new conference facility at the Newseum, which will formally open in mid-April and is located at 555 Pennsylvania Ave, N.W., in Washington, D.C....



[Michael Moodie receives Campbell Award](#)

Michael M. Moodie, deputy director of the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped from 2004 to 2006, is the recipient of ASCLA's 2008 Francis Joseph Campbell Award. The award is presented to a library or individual who has made an outstanding contribution to the advancement of library service for the blind and physically handicapped....



[ASCLA Leadership and Professional Achievement Award](#)

[Connie Paul](#) (right), executive director of the Central Jersey Regional Library Cooperative in Freehold, New Jersey, and the [PLINKIT Collaborative](#) are the 2008 corecipients of ASCLA's Leadership and Professional Achievement Award. The award is presented for leadership and achievement in consulting, multitype library cooperation, networking, statewide service and programs, and state library development....



[ASCLA Cathleen Bourdon Service Award](#)

Barbara H. Will, former library programs consultant in Library Development Services at the California State Library from 1987 to 2006, is the 2008 recipient of the ASCLA Cathleen Bourdon Service Award. Will, who died in July 2007, is receiving the award posthumously....

[RUSA Reference Service Press Award](#)

James Elmborg, associate professor and director of the University of Iowa School of Library and Information Science, is the 2008 recipient of the Reference Service Press Award for his article, "Libraries in the Contact Zone: On the Creation of Educational Space," which appeared in *Reference and User Services Quarterly (RUSQ)* vol. 46, no. 1....

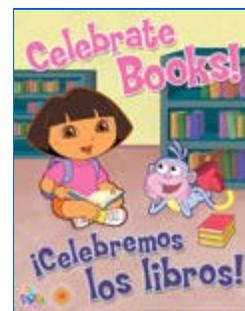


[NEH funds 149 humanities projects](#)

The National Endowment for the Humanities announced March 10 that 149 successful applicants in 35 states and the District of Columbia, many of them libraries, will receive a total of \$11.9 million in awards.

on. . . . With the advent of the Internet and Google, virtually no serious research is carried on in the library stacks."

—George Elmore, in "Pull the Plug on the Library," a guest editorial advocating closing the Alachua County (Fla.) Library District libraries, *Gainesville Sun*, Mar. 3.



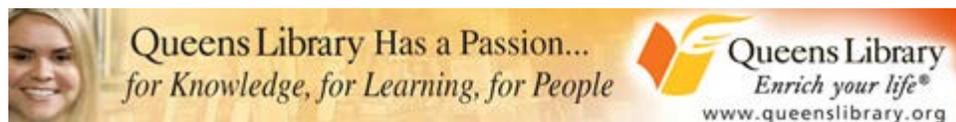
April 30 will be [El día de los niños/ El día de los libros](#). Join Dora the Explorer and members of ALSC and Reforma in celebrating the event. Día celebrates the importance of advocating literacy for every child.



Elizabeth M. Karle offers some [ideas for imaginative outreach](#) to make the overall library experience more appealing to students, in the March 2008 issue of *College & Research Libraries News*.

The funding will support projects that provide high-quality public programming at museums and historic sites, improve humanities education and support educators' professional development, preserve and provide greater access to important cultural resources, and advance research in the humanities....

National Endowment for the Humanities, Mar. 10



Seen Online

[Blackstone Group CEO gives \\$100 million to NYPL](#)

The New York Public Library's venerable lion-guarded building on Fifth Avenue at 42nd Street is to be renamed for the Wall Street financier Stephen A. Schwarzman, who has agreed to jump-start a \$1-billion expansion of the library system with a guaranteed \$100 million of his own. The project, [announced](#) March 11, aims to transform the Central Library into a destination for book borrowing as well as research. The Mid-Manhattan branch, on the east side of Fifth Avenue at 40th Street, will be sold and its circulating collection absorbed into the new space....

New York Times, Mar. 11; New York Public Library, Mar. 11



[Washington school libraries get funded](#)

Washington State Rep. Skip Priest (R-30th) contacted the grassroots group Spokane Moms' Fund Our Future initiative the morning of March 12 to inform them that the legislature had voted to add \$4 million more to school library programs starting in September....

Fund Our Future Blog, Mar. 12

[Arizona school libraries in crisis](#)

Arizona's consistently low school funding is claiming another victim: the school library. Many Arizona school districts are shedding librarians and cutting their hours. Administrators say they are not ignorant of the damage done by cutting library hours or staffing them with clerks or volunteers. But next year, eight schools in the Tempe Elementary District are likely to lose full-time librarians. Librarians who are serving 500 students all week this year will serve 900 students part-time next year....

Phoenix *Arizona Republic*, Mar. 11

[Lincoln librarian portrays Harriet Tubman](#)

Kathryn Harris, library services director for the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library in Springfield, Illinois, likes to perform as antislavery activist Harriet Tubman and other historical characters at community events, schools, and libraries. Although Harris has had no formal theatrical training, her thorough research and attention to detail have allowed her to bring to life such women as Tubman, Mary Todd Lincoln confidante Elizabeth Keckley, and early African Methodist



Ask the ALA Librarian



Q. *One of our regular library visitors recently brought in some leather-bound books he inherited from his grandmother. I don't feel able to evaluate these. Where should I turn?*

A. This is a frequently asked question that prompted the development of a pamphlet [RTSD](#) formerly gave away called "My Old Books." Happily, the essence of that pamphlet is still available with the new title "Your Old Books" as a [PDF](#) download. You are right to seek external sources for [appraisals](#), though there are online sales records which would be a start. If it is likely that these books would be donated to your library, or the Friends group, remember that the donor is responsible for determining the value of the gift. From the [ALA Professional Tips wiki](#).

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

Episcopal preacher Jarena Lee....
Springfield (Ill.) Journal-Register, Mar. 7

[TR Digital Presidential Library planned in North Dakota](#)

Dickinson State University's plans for a virtual library devoted to Theodore Roosevelt are one step closer to reality. DSU and the Library of Congress have agreed on a plan to digitize the papers of the rough-riding president, Sen. Byron Dorgan (D-N.Dak.) said March 11. The university will pay the Library of Congress up to \$500,000 to put the papers in electronic form....

Dickinson (N.Dak.) News, Mar. 12

[New York librarian becomes embedded journalist in Iraq](#)

Twice in the past two years, librarian Shelby Monroe persuaded the 101st Airborne Division to let her be an embedded war correspondent and [blogger](#). In those articles and accompanying photographs, she tries to capture the ordinary lives of American soldiers and Iraqis. To go to Iraq, she quit three part-time jobs—in the Chappaqua (N.Y.) Library, the Field Library in Peekskill (where she worked as adult services reference librarian), and in the Village Bookstore in Pleasantville....

New York Times, Mar. 9; Heads Down, Spirits Up! blog



[Privacy threat from NSA data sweeps](#)

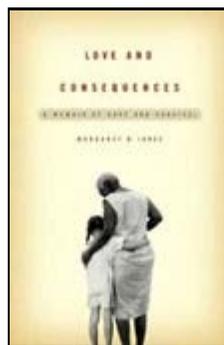
The central role the National Security Agency has come to occupy in domestic intelligence gathering has never been publicly disclosed. But an inquiry reveals that its efforts have evolved to reach more broadly into data about people's communications, travel, and finances in the U.S. than the Pentagon and FBI domestic surveillance programs attempted since the 2001 terrorist attacks. The spy agency now monitors a huge volume of records of domestic emails and internet searches as well as bank transfers, credit-card transactions, and travel and telephone records....

Wall Street Journal, Mar. 10

[The long lineage of literary fakers](#)

When the news emerged this week that [Margaret Seltzer](#) had fabricated her gang memoir, *Love and Consequences*, under the pseudonym Margaret B. Jones, many in the publishing industry and beyond thought: Here we go again. But the history of literary fakers stretches far, far back, at least to the 19th century, when a slave narrative published in 1863 by Archy Moore was revealed as a novel written by a white historian, Richard Hildreth. And *Booklist's* [Keir Graff](#) and [Galleycat](#) track the media mania....

New York Times, Mar. 4, 8; Likely Stories, Mar. 5; Galleycat, Mar. 5-10



[Canceled library meeting prompts federal lawsuit](#)

A meeting titled "Politics and the Pulpit" has spurred a federal lawsuit about freedom of speech and religion filed against the Upper Arlington (Ohio) Public Library. Citizens for Community Values, a Cincinnati-based social-conservative group, claimed in a suit filed March 7 in U.S. District Court in Columbus that the library violated the group's constitutional rights by first approving and then canceling a meeting February 27 at the library....

Calendar

Apr. 10–11:

[Society of American Archivists](#).

"Understanding Photographs: Introduction to Archival Principles and Practices," Bryn Mawr School, Baltimore.

Apr. 10–11:

[17th North Carolina Serials Conference](#).

"What's in a Name? From Serials to Continuing Resources," North Carolina Central University SLIS, William and Ida Friday Continuing Education Center, Chapel Hill.

Apr. 10–14:

[Information Architecture Summit](#).

Hyatt Regency, Miami. "Experiencing Information."

Apr. 11:

[Midwest Interlibrary Loan Conference](#).

Loras College, Dubuque, Iowa.

Apr. 11–13:

[International Association for Development of the Information Society](#).

Mobile Learning 2008 International Conference, Algarve, Portugal.

Apr. 13–16:

[Community College Foundation](#).

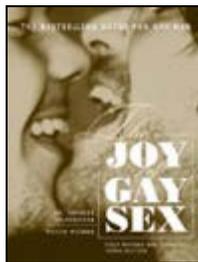
TechEd 2008: 13th Annual Technology in Education International Conference. Ontario Convention Center, California.

Columbus (Ohio) Dispatch, Mar. 8

[Sex books moved to library office](#)

Trustees of the Nampa (Idaho) Public Library voted 3–2 March 10 to take two controversial sex books off the shelves and place them in the director's office until the board can further explore the library's collection policy. It was the third time in the last two years the board has voted on whether to keep *The New Joy of Sex* and *The Joy of Gay Sex* in the stacks. However, both titles have already been [checked out](#) by intrigued cardholders....

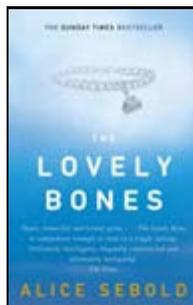
Nampa (Idaho) Press-Tribune, Mar. 11–12



[Parent wants *The Lovely Bones* out of school library](#)

A long-running bestseller, *The Lovely Bones*, tells the story of a 14-year-old girl who was raped and killed by a neighbor. The book remains popular in local libraries and soon will be made into a movie. But in Waltham, Massachusetts, a local parent says the novel by Alice Sebold is too graphic. She wants it removed from the shelves of the library at the John W. McDevitt Middle School....

Boston Globe, Mar. 9



[Gwinnett library to target porn viewers](#)

Gwinnett County (Ga.) Public Library workers will be able to capture browsing histories from library computers and call police on suspected child pornography viewers under an internet safety policy approved March 10. The new policy comes six months after a Lawrenceville woman complained to library employees about seeing a man watching a pornographic video at the Collins Hill branch....

Atlanta Journal-Constitution, Mar. 11

[Information experts appreciated more these days](#)

Some of the same entrepreneurs that funded the user-generated revolution are now paying professionals to edit and produce online content. In short, the expert is back. The revival comes amid mounting demand for a more reliable, bankable Web. "People are beginning to recognize that the world is too dangerous a place for faulty information," says consumer strategist Charlotte Beal. She adds that choice fatigue and fear of bad advice are creating a "perfect storm of demand for expert information."...

Newsweek, Mar. 6

[Nancy Pearl's 10 favorite libraries](#)

NPR book commentator and *Book Lust* author Nancy Pearl shared the list of her 10 favorite libraries with *USA Today*. She says of the Oak Park (Ill.) Public Library: "Not only is there a dedicated art gallery, which has monthly displays of works by local artists, there are splendid examples of public art throughout the building—from quilts to sculptures to stained glass. I also enjoy reading the literary quotations scattered on walls throughout the library."...

USA Today, Mar. 6



[Old Norse Bible donated to BYU](#)

A Provo, Utah, resident has donated a nearly 400-year-old Bible written in Old Norse, now the modern Icelandic language, to Brigham Young

Apr. 15–18:

[Wisconsin Association of Academic Librarians](#), Annual Conference, Manitowoc. "Winds of Change."

Apr. 16:

[Scholarly Communication Symposium](#), Drexel University Libraries, Bossone Research Enterprise Center, Philadelphia. "How Web 2.0 Is Changing Scholarly Communication."

Apr. 21–24:

[American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works](#), Annual Meeting, Denver. "Creative Collaborations."

Apr. 23–25:

[13th Off-Campus Library Services Conference](#), Salt Lake City.

Apr. 26:

[First Annual Celebration of Latino Children's Literature](#), University of South Carolina, School of Library and Information Science, Columbia. "Connecting Cultures and Celebrating Cuentos." Contact: [Jamie Naidoo](#). (803) 777-5277.

Oct. 3–4:

[Georgia Conference on Information Literacy](#), Coastal Georgia Center, Savannah. Submit presentation [proposals](#) by April 15. Contact: [Janice Reynolds](#). (912) 871-1755.

University. Thor Leifson is the honorary consul of Iceland emeritus and said the Bible was given to his father, J. Victor Leifson, by the family of a missionary who converted Leifson's relatives to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints when they lived in Iceland four generations ago....

Provo (Utah) Daily Herald, Mar. 8

[British minister tells London libraries to innovate](#)

London's public libraries must take innovative steps such as rewarding regular borrowers with vouchers for travel or the cinema if they are to stay relevant to an increasingly web-savvy population, U.K. Culture Secretary Margaret Hodge said March 6. To attract the Google Generation, libraries should consider extending weekend and evening opening hours, introducing a web-based lending service with home delivery, and striking deals with Starbucks or Costa coffee chains....

The Times (U.K.), Mar. 6

[Warren Air Force Base closes its library](#)

Air Force budget cuts have forced F. E. Warren Air Force Base near Cheyenne, Wyoming, to close its library facility. Col. Mike Morgan, 90th Space Wing Commander, said the base lost \$814,600 in service programs as part of military-wide budget revisions. He said closing the library facility represented almost half of the directed cuts and if they didn't close the facility, the base would have to cut other programs....

Associated Press, Mar. 10



[A visit to the Russian State Library](#)

On its website, the Russian State Library—formerly the Lenin Library—is described as “Russia's memory.” Much more than the library's name has changed over the past 16 years, said librarian Galina Prosvetova, who has worked at the library for 23 years. She cited the advent of electronic cataloging and facilities upgrades such as the modern climate-control system in the stacks. One of the most striking differences is the level of accessibility to the public....

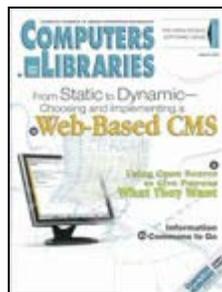
Moscow Times, Mar. 11



Tech Talk

[Choosing and implementing a CMS](#)

Ruth Kneale, systems librarian for the Advanced Technology Solar Telescope based in Tucson, describes how she decided to use a Drupal content management system to run her library website: “It couldn't cost very much, and it had to be compatible with the existing systems (Linux-Apache-MySQL-PHP, aka LAMP). After doing a bit of rough research using past issues of *Computers in Libraries*, *Library Hi-Tech*, and basic blog and web searches, I knew this was too broad a base to start



@ [More...](#)

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from. I had to define some 'must have,' 'should have,' and 'nice to have' features that would allow me to do some significant comparisons."...

Computers in Libraries 28, no. 2 (Mar.)

[The flexible future of e-books](#)

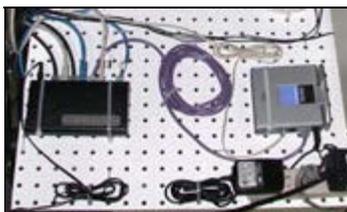
Karl McGoldrick is the CEO of Netherlands-based Polymer Vision, the only company that right now is working on making e-books in a form that's actually close to traditional books—ones that are mobile, bendable, and, above all, readable. But the device, called RADIUS, is not just an e-book reader—it receives email, text messages, and RSS feeds, makes phone calls, and keeps calendar and contact information—in addition to downloading books and newspapers wirelessly....



C|Net news, Mar. 12

[Get your cables under control](#)

Gina Trapani writes: "When you finally decide it's time to do something about that rat's nest of cables that's spreading like kudzu, you don't have to spend a lot of time and money to get it under control. Whether you're looking to stow your headphone wires tangle-free in your gym bag, hide the ugly wire spaghetti you keep kicking further under your desk, or organize your gadget chargers and power plugs, we've got some cord management tricks for you."...



Lifehacker, Mar. 5

[20 things to watch](#) (PDF file)

Stephen Abram writes: "So, what's on my list of things to pay extra special attention to? When we're deluged, swamped, and overwhelmed by news and blog postings and other media, what do I use as my filter to trap just the important stuff that will matter to libraries?" Here are his recommendations, in no particular order....

Information Outlook, Mar.

[Make your own video mashups for YouTube](#)

Rick Broida writes: "Exercise your video-editing muscles and create a YouTube mashup, something combining original material with existing audio and video. Whether you're looking for fun or fame, all you need is a video camera, an internet connection, some editing software, and an idea. Something involving Mentos, perhaps?"...



PC World, Mar. 11

[69 techie uses for duct tape](#)

As one of the world's most useful products, pretty much everyone loves duct tape, but techies seem to have a special place in their hearts for the versatile adhesive. From the practical (fix your printer) to the slightly silly (personalize your shoelaces), here is a list of some of the best techie uses for duct tape....



Virtual Hosting, Mar. 11

[Better YouTube Firefox extension](#)

Watch YouTube videos more efficiently with Better YouTube, a new Firefox extension that compiles YouTube Greasemonkey scripts into a

single convenient package. Better YouTube smartly enlarges videos for better viewing, hides user comments, declutters the page, and disables autoplay (great for vids open in a background tab). Created by Gina Trapani, using scripts by various developers....

Lifehacker, Mar. 5

[63 WordPress hacks and helps](#)

This is a fairly comprehensive list of the best WordPress tutorials, hacks, help files, and cheat sheets. They are written to make life easier, to help us expand WordPress functionality, and to give us a better understanding of WordPress and how powerful a blogging tool it is...

Speckyboy, Mar. 8



Actions & Answers

[Time to get your patrons converted](#)

The Department of Commerce's National Telecommunications and Information Administration has launched the TV Converter Box Coupon Program, as authorized in the Digital Television Transition and Public Safety Act of 2005. All U.S. households are now eligible to request up to two coupons, worth \$40 each, to be used toward the purchase of up to two digital-to-analog converter boxes. For more details on the federal regulations, including the budget information, see the coupon [program rules](#)....

National Telecommunications and Information Administration

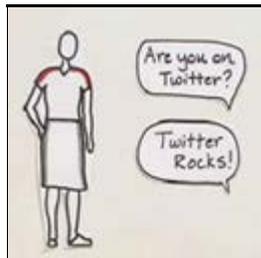


[Messaging service has academics](#)

[attwitter](#) (subscription required)

Some professors, librarians, and administrators have begun using Twitter, a service that can blast very short notes (up to 140 characters) to select users' cell phones or computer screens. Twitter lets you send a text message from your cell phone to a list of contacts, called followers, who can set the system to receive messages via their cell phones, their instant-message software, or a web-based program. Cindi Trainor [says](#) Twitter could be good for answering reference questions. Watch the [video](#) for more information....

Chronicle of Higher Education, Feb. 29; Citegeist, Mar. 2; Common Craft, Mar. 5



[IMLS study on the internet and libraries](#)

Institute of Museum and Library Services Director Anne-Imelda Radice released results of [InterConnections: A National Study of Users and Potential Users of Online Information](#) March 6 at the 9th annual WebWise Conference on Libraries and Museums in the Digital World in Miami. This new report offers insight into the ways people search for information in the online age, and how this affects the ways they interact with public libraries and museums, both online and in person....

Institute of Museum and Library Services, Mar. 6

[Poets in your pocket](#)

The Academy of American Poets has launched a [mobile poetry archive](#) that offers free and direct access on a mobile phone to the entire collection of over 2,500 poems on Poets.org, as well as hundreds of biographies and essays. Poems can be browsed by author, title, occasion, or form, and searched by keyword. The site is optimized



for the iPhone and formatted for effortless access on most mobile devices....

Academy of American Poets, Mar. 10

[Systems, schools, and structures](#)

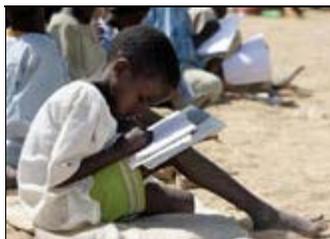
Dorothea Salo writes: "Librarianship has created an immense Somebody Else's Problem field around computers. Unlike reference work, unlike cataloging, unlike management, systems is all too often *not* considered a librarian specialization. It is therefore not taught at a basic level in some library schools, not offered as a clear specialization track, and not recruited for. And it is not often addressed in a systematic fashion by continuing-education programs in librarianship. This situation is no longer tenable, if indeed it ever was." Meredith Farkas agrees and says there's an even [wider problem](#)....

Caveat Lector, Mar. 5; Information Wants to Be Free, Mar. 9

[Libraries for Darfur refugees](#)

The Book Wish Foundation, a new nonprofit providing financial and material support for reading-related programs helping people in crisis around the world, is raising funds for the construction of libraries to serve camps in eastern Chad housing refugees from the Darfur region of Sudan. Donations of all sizes are appreciated....

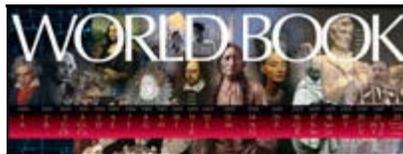
Book Wish Foundation



[Choose a spine](#)

Millions of World Book readers will again have the chance to decide the Spinescape image used for the 2009 *World Book Encyclopedia* by casting their vote in the encyclopedia's [You Be the Judge](#) event. The Spinescape is World Book's trademarked method of printing a unique image across the spine of the 22-volume set. Votes can be cast through March 31....

World Book, Mar. 10



[When book groups get really big](#)

Nick DiMartino writes: "How do you choose a book if your group has 5,000 members? Some brainy folks are attempting to answer this question for the third time on the University of Washington campus, as the little team of faculty members and librarians on the committee to choose the incoming freshman class's Common Book for 2008 begin searching for the next campus-wide read. Besides the freshmen, who will have discussion groups and planned activities around the book all year long, the rest of campus reads the book, too, so that the impact of the book is potentially huge."...

Book Group Buzz, Mar. 7

[Penn State acquires rare Hemingway correspondence](#)

The Pennsylvania State University Libraries have acquired an important collection of Ernest

Hemingway correspondence, the last sizeable and significant known collection of the famed novelist's letters still in private hands. Amassed by his sister Madelaine "Sunny" Hemingway Mainland and passed on to her son, the set includes more than 100 unpublished letters, telegrams, and notes from Hemingway to his family between 1917 and 1957. Watch the [video](#)....



Pennsylvania State University, Mar. 6

[Pennsylvania rare books move to improved facility](#)

Pennsylvania's collection of rare books and materials, including early newspapers and many of Benjamin Franklin's political and scientific publications, is moving into a new facility within the State Library in Harrisburg to ensure the historic documents are safely preserved. The Rare Collections Library uses state-of-the-art environmental control systems to protect thousands of irreplaceable items from detrimental conditions....

Pennsylvania Department of Education, Mar. 4

[Paula Poundstone partners with FOLUSA](#)

Emmy-award winning comedian Paula Poundstone has been named national spokesperson for Friends of Libraries U.S.A. She will lend her name, voice, and humor to help Friends groups around the country promote themselves and their libraries. Poundstone's 15- and 30-second [PSA videos](#) (right) are available for embedding on Friends websites....



Friends of Libraries U.S.A.

[IKEA brings books to Albania](#)

UNICEF and IKEA are reigniting enthusiasm for reading in a generation of children in Albania who have been deprived of books. With €1 million (\$1.55 million U.S.) from UNICEF's largest corporate donor, the Swedish home-furnishing retailer IKEA, the Albania Reads project aims to open a library in each of 850 schools. In collaboration with the government, libraries have already opened in 160 schools—to the delight of children and teachers alike....



UNICEF, Feb. 25

[Librarian III: The Curse of the Judas Chalice](#)

TNT has begun production on the third installment of its "Librarian" franchise, with Noah Wyle reprising his title role in *The Librarian: The Curse of the Judas Chalice*. After a series of dreams leads Flynn Carsen (Wyle), a librarian at the New York Metropolitan Library, to New Orleans (where the film began production in early March), he gets tangled up in a conspiracy involving both the chalice and the legendary vampire Count Dracula....



Zap2It, Mar. 6

[Weekly Reader joins Big Universe](#)

Big Universe, an online site dedicated to high-quality children's books, has signed an agreement with Weekly Reader Publishing to promote its beginning readers and early-learning titles. Weekly Reader titles have traditionally been used by teachers and librarians in schools throughout the country. Posting their books on Biguniverse.com will bring these lively, colorful nonfiction titles directly into the homes of a new generation of readers....

Big Universe, Mar. 11

[Steroid scandal rocks major league libraries](#) (PDF file, satire)

"Daniel Cohen" writes: "More than half of the systems responsible for managing the nearly 17 million titles in the Library of Congress catalog have tested positive for prohibited performance-enhancing content, called metadata, according to an Inspector General's report expected to be published next month. The investigation was triggered by anonymous tips and overheard conversations between certain unnamed Library staff members alluding to 'a card catalog on steroids.'"...

Library of Congress Professional Guild, Dec. 17

AL Direct, March 12, 2008

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

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | March 12, 2008

Contents

U.S. & World News [[#usworld](#)]
ALA News [[#alanews](#)]
Booklist Online [[#booklist](#)]
Anaheim Update [[#anaheim](#)]
Division News [[#divisionnews](#)]
Awards [[#awards](#)]
Seen Online [[#seenonline](#)]
Tech Talk [[#techtalk](#)]
Actions & Answers [[#actionsanswers](#)]
Calendar [[#datebook](#)]

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

[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

U.S. & World News

Eight students killed at Jerusalem religious school library

[http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/march2008/yes_hiva.cfm]

A lone gunman armed with an AK-47 assault rifle and pistol entered the library of the Mercaz HaRav Yeshiva in Jerusalem March 6 and sprayed bullets around the crowded room, killing eight students and wounding 10. The attacker, identified as an Arab resident of East Jerusalem named Ala' Abu Dhaim (or Dhein), was shot twice 10 minutes later at the library entrance by student Yitzhak Dadon, immobilizing him until an Israeli Defense Forces soldier arrived and killed him. Survivors described the scene in the library as terrifying, with students jumping out of the windows to escape....

returns to Loudoun County schools

[http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/march2008/tan_goreturn.cfm]

The controversial And Tango Makes Three returned to the general circulation shelves in the 16 elementary schools of Loudoun County (Va.)

Public Schools March 3. That day, Superintendent Edgar B. Hatrick declared the challenge that led to the book being relocated to areas accessible only by parents and teachers to be invalid because the person who made the challenge was not a parent of a student at Sugarland Elementary School in Sterling, where the challenge was made....

[<http://www.tech-logic.com/>]

ALA News

Rettig to testify on EPA libraries

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/march2008/RettigEPA.htm>]

On March 13, ALA President-elect Jim Rettig will testify before the U.S. House of Representatives on the impact of library closings at the Environmental Protection Agency. Speaking to the House Subcommittee on Investigations and Oversight, Rettig intends to address several of the developments of the past two years, specifically the loss of access to vitally important scientific and environmental government information, and the necessity of the information specialist—the staff librarian—to ensure the most effective access to this information....

Cancer survivorship notebooks for public libraries

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/march2008/csnb08.htm>]

ALA is collaborating with the Lance Armstrong Foundation to provide public libraries with reference materials to better serve those seeking cancer information. Last week, the LAF began shipping Livestrong Survivorship Notebooks to more than 14,200 libraries. The notebooks are designed to help cancer survivors, their families, and caregivers organize, retain, and access important information related to their cancer experiences. Libraries that have not received a notebook by March 31 can request one from Kelli Craddock [<mailto:kelli.craddock@livestrong.org>]....

Diahann Carroll to be Closing Session speaker

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/annual/2008a/specialevents.htm#closing>]

Diahann Carroll, actress, singer, and author of the forthcoming *The Legs Are the Last to Go: Aging, Acting, Marrying, Mothering, and Other Things I Learned Along the Way* (Amistad), will be the Closing Session speaker at ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, California, 11 a.m.–12 noon, July 1....

Accessibility is theme of Diversity and Outreach Fair

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/march2008/access08.htm>]

All types of libraries are invited to participate in the Diversity and Outreach Fair taking place 3–5 p.m., June 28, during ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim. The fair is organized by the Office for Literacy and Outreach Services as a way to celebrate examples of diversity in American libraries and to demonstrate possibilities for other libraries in search of “diversity in action”; ideas. To participate, complete the online entry form

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/olos/olosprograms/diversityfair/08divfair.htm>] by April 11....

Library Copyright Alliance advocates fair use in Geneva

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=395>]

International copyright advocate Lori Driscoll and OITP Copyright Specialist Carrie Russell are currently in Geneva, Switzerland, for a meeting of the World Intellectual Property Organization. On behalf of the Library Copyright Alliance, [<http://www.librarycopyrightalliance.org/>] they delivered a statement on fair use to the WIPO Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights....

District Dispatch, Mar. 12

’s Midwinter report

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/resources/selectedarticles/midwintermeeting2008.pdf>] (PDF file)

American Libraries brings you highlights of the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia, featuring Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, the Author Forum, the FBI whistleblower, the Youth Media Awards, the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Sunrise Service, the RDA Update Forum, free-speech advocate Anthony Lewis, ALA Council actions, and more....

American Libraries 39, no. 3 (Mar.): 54-63

Featured review: Books for youth

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=2398816]

Hopkins, Lee Bennett (editor). *America at War: Poems Selected by Lee Bennett Hopkins*. 96p. Mar. 2008. Simon & Schuster / Margaret K. McElderry, hardcover (978-1-4169-1832-5).

This handsome anthology, expressing Americans' varied experience during wartime, is a fine selection of poems accessible to children. Each poem appears on one or two pages, accompanied by strong, yet graceful illustrations. Though not all content is tied to a particular conflict and not all the poets are American, the poems work well together to represent the book's sections: the American Revolution, the Civil War, World Wars I and II, and the wars in Korea, Vietnam, the Persian Gulf, and Iraq. Each section begins with a short quote from a philosopher, political leader, or military officer and a few brief comments on the conflict. Once the poems begin, though, readers will be transported from the broad view to the particulars by the thoughts, words, and experiences of people affected by war in different ways....

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

Anaheim Update

=====
Show your badge and save

[<http://anaheimoc.org/Articles/Archive/Webpage101141.asp>]
The Anaheim/Orange County Visitor and Convention Bureau is listing promotional offers and discounts that are available to Annual Conference attendees. Show your conference badge and save at participating retail stores, restaurants, recreational facilities, spas, theaters, and tours. For example, you can get 20% off food at the House of Blues Anaheim [http://www.anaheimoc.org/member_details/member_detail.asp?memberID=4239] by showing your badge....
Anaheim/Orange County Visitor and Convention Bureau

Pretend you're in New Orleans [<http://www.rbjazzkitchen.com/>]
Ralph Brennan's Jazz Kitchen was one of Downtown Disney's first tenants in 2001. Brennan entered the family business in the early 1980s and now his company also runs nine New Orleans restaurants, including Commander's Palace and the Red Fish Grill. This French Quarter-like building offers a quick-service dining facility (Jazz Kitchen Express), a New Orleans-style jazz club (Flambeaux's), and an outdoor jazz balcony with seating that overlooks the revelry below....
Ralph Brennan's Jazz Kitchen

[<http://www.tutor.com/libraries/ttw/>]

Division News

ACRL launches chat series
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/march2008/chat08.htm>]
ACRL has launched ACRL OnPoint, [<http://www.acrl.org/ala/acrl/acrlproftools/OnPoint/onpoint.cfm>] a live chat series. Each informal monthly chat session provides the opportunity to connect with colleagues and experts to discuss an issue of the day in academic and research librarianship. Sessions are unmoderated, 30–45 minutes in length, and take place in a Meebo chat room. All sessions begin at 1 p.m. Central time....

Free webcast for ACRL members
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/march2008/onevent08.htm>]
ACRL will offer its first-ever Springboard Event, a free 90-minute interactive webcast for ACRL members, 11 a.m.–12:30 p.m. Central time, April 2. Henry Jenkins, Peter de Florez Professor of Humanities and codirector of the MIT Comparative Media Studies program, is the featured speaker....

ALSC preconference on summer reading
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/march2008/challenge08.htm>]
ALSC will host "Summer Reading Survivor: Overcoming the Challenges," 7–9:30 p.m., June 26, and 8 a.m.–4:45 p.m., June 27, during the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim. The first evening, folklorist and author Judy Sierra will open the preconference and get

attendees “Wild about Reading.”...

Meet Sara Kelly Johns, AASL President

[<http://www.aasl.ala.org/aaslblog/?p=238>]

Q: What does the President of AASL do? A: One thing that I’ve enjoyed is making progress on my presidency’s theme, AASL and You: A Partnership for Power. Each president has to continue ongoing initiatives and organizational work, and something new always emerges. There’s ongoing work with ALA and the AASL Advocacy and Legislative Committees and task forces for the SKILLS Act, the Instructional Classification Initiative and the Spokane Moms’ Fund Our Future Washington initiative, revitalization of School Library Media Month, and the new Standards....

AASL Blog, Mar. 10

ACRL and LAMA release space-planning wiki

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/march2008/wiki08.htm>]

Two divisions have jointly released the ACRL/LAMA Guide for Architects, [http://wikis.ala.org/acrl/index.php/ACRL/LAMA_Guide_for_Architects] a new resource for planning library spaces in higher education. In response to frequent inquiries for information about planning academic library buildings, ACRL and LAMA have partnered to develop a basic framework for architects, planners, and librarians embarking on the design of academic libraries....

Awards

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Loriene Roy to present James Madison Award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/march2008/foiday2008.htm>]

On March 14 during the National Freedom of Information Day Conference, ALA President Loriene Roy will present the James Madison Award, given annually to recognize an individual or group that has championed, protected, and promoted public access to government information and the public's right to know. The conference, sponsored by the First Amendment Center, will be held in the new conference facility at the Newseum, which will formally open in mid-April and is located at 555 Pennsylvania Ave, N.W., in Washington, D.C....

Michael Moodie receives Campbell Award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/february2008/moodie08.htm>]

Michael M. Moodie, deputy director of the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped from 2004 to 2006, is the recipient of ASCLA's 2008 Francis Joseph Campbell Award. The award is presented to a library or individual who has made an outstanding contribution to the advancement of library service for the blind and physically handicapped....

ASCLA Leadership and Professional Achievement Award

Connie Paul

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/march2008/paul08.htm>] (right),

executive director of the Central Jersey Regional Library Cooperative in Freehold, New Jersey, and the PLINKIT Collaborative [<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/march2008/PLINKIT08.htm>] are the 2008 corecipients of ASCLA's Leadership and Professional Achievement Award. The award is presented for leadership and achievement in consulting, multitype library cooperation, networking, statewide service and programs, and state library development....

ASCLA Cathleen Bourdon Service Award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/march2008/will08.htm>] Barbara H. Will, former library programs consultant in Library Development Services at the California State Library from 1987 to 2006, is the 2008 recipient of the ASCLA Cathleen Bourdon Service Award. Will, who died in July 2007, is receiving the award posthumously....

RUSA Reference Service Press Award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/march2008/elmborg08.htm>] James Elmborg, associate professor and director of the University of Iowa School of Library and Information Science, is the 2008 recipient of the Reference Service Press Award for his article, "Libraries in the Contact Zone: On the Creation of Educational Space," which appeared in Reference and User Services Quarterly (RUSQ) vol. 46, no. 1....

NEH funds 149 humanities projects

[<http://www.neh.gov/news/archive/20080310.html>] The National Endowment for the Humanities announced March 10 that 149 successful applicants in 35 states and the District of Columbia, many of them libraries, will receive a total of \$11.9 million in awards. The funding will support projects that provide high-quality public programming at museums and historic sites, improve humanities education and support educators' professional development, preserve and provide greater access to important cultural resources, and advance research in the humanities....

National Endowment for the Humanities, Mar. 10

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[<http://www.queenslibrary.org/jobs>]
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Seen Online

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Blackstone Group CEO gives \$100 million to NYPL

[<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/03/11/arts/design/11expa.html>] The New York Public Library's venerable lion-guarded building on Fifth Avenue at 42nd Street is to be renamed for the Wall Street financier Stephen A. Schwarzman, who has agreed to jump-start a \$1-billion expansion of the library system with a guaranteed \$100 million of his own. The project, announced [http://www.nypl.org/press/releases/?article_id=86] March 11, aims to transform the Central Library into a destination for book borrowing as

well as research. The Mid-Manhattan branch, on the east side of Fifth Avenue at 40th Street, will be sold and its circulating collection absorbed into the new space....

New York Times, Mar. 11; New York Public Library, Mar. 11

Washington school libraries get funded

[<http://librariesfordemocracy.org/fundfuture/?p=56>]

Washington State Rep. Skip Priest (R-30th) contacted the grassroots group Spokane Moms’ Fund Our Future initiative the morning of March 12 to inform them that the legislature had voted to add \$4 million more to school library programs starting in September....

Fund Our Future Blog, Mar. 12

Arizona school libraries in crisis

[<http://www.azcentral.com/arizonarepublic/news/articles/0311libraryfade0311.html>]

Arizona's consistently low school funding is claiming another victim: the school library. Many Arizona school districts are shedding librarians and cutting their hours. Administrators say they are not ignorant of the damage done by cutting library hours or staffing them with clerks or volunteers. But next year, eight schools in the Tempe Elementary District are likely to lose full-time librarians. Librarians who are serving 500 students all week this year will serve 900 students part-time next year....

Phoenix Arizona Republic, Mar. 11

Lincoln librarian portrays Harriet Tubman

[<http://www.sj-r.com/Heartland/stories/26471.asp>]

Kathryn Harris, library services director for the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library in Springfield, Illinois, likes to perform as antislavery activist Harriet Tubman and other historical characters at community events, schools, and libraries. Although Harris has had no formal theatrical training, her thorough research and attention to detail have allowed her to bring to life such women as Tubman, Mary Todd Lincoln confidante Elizabeth Keckley, and early African Methodist Episcopal preacher Jarena Lee....

Springfield (Ill.) Journal-Register, Mar. 7

TR Digital Presidential Library planned in North Dakota

[<http://www.thedickinsonpress.com/articles/index.cfm?id=14460§ion=homepage>]

Dickinson State University’s plans for a virtual library devoted to Theodore Roosevelt are one step closer to reality. DSU and the Library of Congress have agreed on a plan to digitize the papers of the rough-riding president, Sen. Byron Dorgan (D-N.Dak.) said March 11. The university will pay the Library of Congress up to \$500,000 to put the papers in electronic form....

Dickinson (N.Dak.) News, Mar. 12

New York librarian becomes embedded journalist in Iraq

[<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/03/09/nyregion/nyregionspecial2/09colwe.html>]

Twice in the past two years, librarian Shelby Monroe persuaded the 101st Airborne Division to let her be an embedded war correspondent and blogger [<http://headspinspiritup.blogspot.com/>]. In those articles and

accompanying photographs, she tries to capture the ordinary lives of American soldiers and Iraqis. To go to Iraq, she quit three part-time jobs—in the Chappaqua (N.Y.) Library, the Field Library in Peekskill (where she worked as adult services reference librarian), and in the Village Bookstore in Pleasantville....

New York Times, Mar. 9; Heads Down, Spirits Up! blog

Privacy threat from NSA data sweeps

[<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB120511973377523845.html>]

The central role the National Security Agency has come to occupy in domestic intelligence gathering has never been publicly disclosed. But an inquiry reveals that its efforts have evolved to reach more broadly into data about people's communications, travel, and finances in the U.S. than the Pentagon and FBI domestic surveillance programs attempted since the 2001 terrorist attacks. The spy agency now monitors a huge volume of records of domestic emails and internet searches as well as bank transfers, credit-card transactions, and travel and telephone records....

Wall Street Journal, Mar. 10

The long lineage of literary fakers

[<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/03/08/books/08fakes.html>]

When the news emerged this week that Margaret Seltzer

[http://topics.nytimes.com/top/reference/timestopics/people/s/margaret_seltzer/index.html]

had fabricated her gang memoir, *Love and Consequences*, under the pseudonym Margaret B. Jones, many in the publishing industry and beyond thought: Here we go again. But the history of literary fakers stretches far, far back, at least to the 19th century, when a slave narrative published in 1863 by Archy Moore was revealed as a novel written by a white historian, Richard Hildreth. And Booklist's Keir Graff [<http://blog.booklistonline.com/2008/03/05/blogswarm/>] and Galleycat [http://www.mediabistro.com/galleycat/authors/margaret_jones_punditry_devolves_into_farce_79387.asp] track the media mania....

New York Times, Mar. 4, 8; Likely Stories, Mar. 5; Galleycat, Mar. 5-10

Canceled library meeting prompts federal lawsuit

[http://www.dispatch.com/live/content/local_news/stories/2008/03/08/LIBRARY_RELIGION.ART_ART_03-08-08_B1_R09J3TM.html?sid=101]

A meeting titled "Politics and the Pulpit" has spurred a federal lawsuit about freedom of speech and religion filed against the Upper Arlington (Ohio) Public Library. Citizens for Community Values, a Cincinnati-based social-conservative group, claimed in a suit filed March 7 in U.S. District Court in Columbus that the library violated the group's constitutional rights by first approving and then canceling a meeting February 27 at the library....

Columbus (Ohio) Dispatch, Mar. 8

Sex books moved to library office

[<http://www.idahopress.com/news/?id=4295>]

Trustees of the Nampa (Idaho) Public Library voted 3–2 March 10 to take two controversial sex books off the shelves and place them in the director's office until the board can further explore the library's collection policy. It was the third time in the last two years the board has voted on whether to keep *The New Joy of Sex* and *The Joy of Gay Sex* in the stacks. However, both titles have already been checked out

[<http://www.idahopress.com/news/?id=4310>] by intrigued cardholders....
Nampa (Idaho) Press-Tribune, Mar. 11-12

out of school library

[http://www.boston.com/news/local/articles/2008/03/09/parent_wants_book_out_of_library/]

A long-running bestseller, *The Lovely Bones*, tells the story of a 14-year-old girl who was raped and killed by a neighbor. The book remains popular in local libraries and soon will be made into a movie. But in Waltham, Massachusetts, a local parent says the novel by Alice Sebold is too graphic. She wants it removed from the shelves of the library at the John W. McDevitt Middle School....
Boston Globe, Mar. 9

Gwinnett library to target porn viewers

[http://www.ajc.com/search/content/metro/gwinnett/stories/2008/03/11/library_0311.html]

Gwinnett County (Ga.) Public Library workers will be able to capture browsing histories from library computers and call police on suspected child pornography viewers under an internet safety policy approved March 10. The new policy comes six months after a Lawrenceville woman complained to library employees about seeing a man watching a pornographic video at the Collins Hill branch....
Atlanta Journal-Constitution, Mar. 11

Information experts appreciated more these days

[<http://www.newsweek.com/id/119091>]

Some of the same entrepreneurs that funded the user-generated revolution are now paying professionals to edit and produce online content. In short, the expert is back. The revival comes amid mounting demand for a more reliable, bankable Web. "People are beginning to recognize that the world is too dangerous a place for faulty information," says consumer strategist Charlotte Beal. She adds that choice fatigue and fear of bad advice are creating a "perfect storm of demand for expert information."...
Newsweek, Mar. 6

Nancy Pearl's 10 favorite libraries

[http://www.usatoday.com/travel/destinations/10great/2008-03-06-10great-libraries_N.htm]

NPR book commentator and *Book Lust* author Nancy Pearl shared the list of her 10 favorite libraries with USA Today. She says of the Oak Park (Ill.) Public Library: "Not only is there a dedicated art gallery, which has monthly displays of works by local artists, there are splendid examples of public art throughout the building—from quilts to sculptures to stained glass. I also enjoy reading the literary quotations scattered on walls throughout the library."...
USA Today, Mar. 6

Old Norse Bible donated to BYU

[<http://www.heraldextra.com/content/view/258100/3/>]

A Provo, Utah, resident has donated a nearly 400-year-old Bible written in Old Norse, now the modern Icelandic language, to Brigham Young University. Thor Leifson is the honorary consul of Iceland emeritus and said the Bible was given to his father, J. Victor Leifson, by the family

of a missionary who converted Leifson's relatives to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints when they lived in Iceland four generations ago....

Provo (Utah) Daily Herald, Mar. 8

British minister tells London libraries to innovate

[http://entertainment.timesonline.co.uk/tol/arts_and_entertainment/books/article3496617.ece]

London's public libraries must take innovative steps such as rewarding regular borrowers with vouchers for travel or the cinema if they are to stay relevant to an increasingly web-savvy population, U.K. Culture Secretary Margaret Hodge said March 6. To attract the Google Generation, libraries should consider extending weekend and evening opening hours, introducing a web-based lending service with home delivery, and striking deals with Starbucks or Costa coffee chains....

The Times (U.K.), Mar. 6

Warren Air Force Base closes its library

[<http://www.billingsgazette.net/articles/2008/03/10/news/wyoming/63-baselibrary.txt>]

Air Force budget cuts have forced F. E. Warren Air Force Base near Cheyenne, Wyoming, to close its library facility. Col. Mike Morgan, 90th Space Wing Commander, said the base lost \$814,600 in service programs as part of military-wide budget revisions. He said closing the library facility represented almost half of the directed cuts and if they didn't close the facility, the base would have to cut other programs....

Associated Press, Mar. 10

A visit to the Russian State Library

[<http://www.moscowtimes.ru/stories/2008/03/11/026.html>]

On its website, the Russian State Library—formerly the Lenin Library—is described as “Russia’s memory.” Much more than the library’s name has changed over the past 16 years, said librarian Galina Prosvetova, who has worked at the library for 23 years. She cited the advent of electronic cataloging and facilities upgrades such as the modern climate-control system in the stacks. One of the most striking differences is the level of accessibility to the public....

Moscow Times, Mar. 11

[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

Tech Talk

Choosing and implementing a CMS

[<http://www.infotoday.com/cilmag/mar08/Kneale.shtml>]

Ruth Kneale, systems librarian for the Advanced Technology Solar Telescope based in Tucson, describes how she decided to use a Drupal content management system to run her library website: “It couldn't

cost very much, and it had to be compatible with the existing systems (Linux-Apache-MySQL-PHP, aka LAMP). After doing a bit of rough research using past issues of Computers in Libraries, Library Hi-Tech, and basic blog and web searches, I knew this was too broad a base to start from. I had to define some ‘must have,’ ‘should have,’ and ‘nice to have’ features that would allow me to do some significant comparisons.”... Computers in Libraries 28, no. 2 (Mar.)

The flexible future of e-books

[http://www.news.com/8301-10784_3-9891347-7.html?tag=nefd.lede]
Karl McGoldrick is the CEO of Netherlands-based Polymer Vision, the only company that right now is working on making e-books in a form that’s actually close to traditional books—ones that are mobile, bendable, and, above all, readable. But the device, called RADIUS, is not just an e-book reader—it receives email, text messages, and RSS feeds, makes phone calls, and keeps calendar and contact information—in addition to downloading books and newspapers wirelessly.... C|Net news, Mar. 12

Get your cables under control

[<http://lifesacker.com/364054/top-10-ways-to-get-cables-under-control>]
Gina Trapani writes: “When you finally decide it’s time to do something about that rat’s nest of cables that’s spreading like kudzu, you don’t have to spend a lot of time and money to get it under control. Whether you’re looking to stow your headphone wires tangle-free in your gym bag, hide the ugly wire spaghetti you keep kicking further under your desk, or organize your gadget chargers and power plugs, we’ve got some cord management tricks for you.”... Lifehacker, Mar. 5

20 things to watch

[http://www.sirsidynix.com/Resources/Pdfs/Company/Abram/IOColumn_67.pdf]
(PDF file)
Stephen Abram writes: “So, what’s on my list of things to pay extra special attention to? When we’re deluged, swamped, and overwhelmed by news and blog postings and other media, what do I use as my filter to trap just the important stuff that will matter to libraries?” Here are his recommendations, in no particular order.... Information Outlook, Mar.

Make your own video mashups for YouTube

[<http://www.pcworld.com/article/id,143321/article.html>]
Rick Broida writes: “Exercise your video-editing muscles and create a YouTube mashup, something combining original material with existing audio and video. Whether you’re looking for fun or fame, all you need is a video camera, an internet connection, some editing software, and an idea. Something involving Mentos, perhaps?”... PC World, Mar. 11

69 techie uses for duct tape

[<http://www.virtualhosting.com/blog/2008/69-techie-uses-for-duct-tape/>]
As one of the world’s most useful products, pretty much everyone loves duct tape, but techies seem to have a special place in their hearts for the versatile adhesive. From the practical (fix your printer) to the

slightly silly (personalize your shoelaces), here is a list of some of the best techie uses for duct tape....

Virtual Hosting, Mar. 11

Better YouTube Firefox extension

[<http://lifehacker.com/software/exclusive-lifehacker-download/better-youtube-firefox-extension-319925.php>]

Watch YouTube videos more efficiently with Better YouTube, a new Firefox extension that compiles YouTube Greasemonkey scripts into a single convenient package. Better YouTube smartly enlarges videos for better viewing, hides user comments, declutters the page, and disables autoplay (great for vids open in a background tab). Created by Gina Trapani, using scripts by various developers....

Lifehacker, Mar. 5

63 WordPress hacks and helps

[<http://speckyboy.com/2008/03/08/63-essential-wordpress-hacks-tutorials-help-files-and-cheats/>]

This is a fairly comprehensive list of the best WordPress tutorials, hacks, help files, and cheat sheets. They are written to make life easier, to help us expand WordPress functionality, and to give us a better understanding of WordPress and how powerful a blogging tool it is...

Speckyboy, Mar. 8

Actions & Answers

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Time to get your patrons converted

[<http://www.ntia.doc.gov/dtvcoupon/index.html>]

The Department of Commerce's National Telecommunications and Information Administration has launched the TV Converter Box Coupon Program, as authorized in the Digital Television Transition and Public Safety Act of 2005. All U.S. households are now eligible to request up to two coupons, worth \$40 each, to be used toward the purchase of up to two digital-to-analog converter boxes. For more details on the federal regulations, including the budget information, see the coupon program rules [<http://www.ntia.doc.gov/dtvcoupon/rules.html>]....

National Telecommunications and Information Administration

Messaging service has academics atwitter

[<http://chronicle.com/weekly/v54/i25/25a01501.htm>] (subscription required)

Some professors, librarians, and administrators have begun using Twitter, a service that can blast very short notes (up to 140 characters) to select users' cell phones or computer screens. Twitter lets you send a text message from your cell phone to a list of contacts, called followers, who can set the system to receive messages via their cell phones, their instant-message software, or a web-based program. Cindi Trainor says [<http://citegeist.com/?p=393>] Twitter could be good for answering reference questions. Watch the video

[<http://www.commoncraft.com/Twitter>] for more information....

Chronicle of Higher Education, Feb. 29; Citegeist, Mar. 2; Common Craft, Mar. 5

IMLS study on the internet and libraries

[<http://www.ims.gov/news/2008/030608.shtm>]

Institute of Museum and Library Services Director Anne-Imelda Radice released results of InterConnections: A National Study of Users and Potential Users of Online Information

[<http://interconnectionsreport.org/>] March 6 at the 9th annual WebWise Conference on Libraries and Museums in the Digital World in Miami. This new report offers insight into the ways people search for information in the online age, and how this affects the ways they interact with public libraries and museums, both online and in person....

Institute of Museum and Library Services, Mar. 6

Poets in your pocket [<http://www.poets.org/page.php/prmID/404>]

The Academy of American Poets has launched a mobile poetry archive [<http://www.poets.org/m>] that offers free and direct access on a mobile phone to the entire collection of over 2,500 poems on Poets.org, as well as hundreds of biographies and essays. Poems can be browsed by author, title, occasion, or form, and searched by keyword. The site is optimized for the iPhone and formatted for effortless access on most mobile devices....

Academy of American Poets, Mar. 10

Systems, schools, and structures

[<http://cavlec.yarinareth.net/archives/2008/03/05/naturalizing-systems-librarians/>]

Dorothea Salo writes: "Librarianship has created an immense Somebody Else's Problem field around computers. Unlike reference work, unlike cataloging, unlike management, systems is all too often not considered a librarian specialization. It is therefore not taught at a basic level in some library schools, not offered as a clear specialization track, and not recruited for. And it is not often addressed in a systematic fashion by continuing-education programs in librarianship. This situation is no longer tenable, if indeed it ever was." Meredith Farkas agrees and says there's an even wider problem [<http://meredith.wolfwater.com/wordpress/index.php/2008/03/09/building-21st-century-librarians-and-libraries/>]....

Caveat Lector, Mar. 5; Information Wants to Be Free, Mar. 9

Libraries for Darfur refugees

[<http://www.bookwish.org/wish-list/chad/library-construction>]

The Book Wish Foundation, a new nonprofit providing financial and material support for reading-related programs helping people in crisis around the world, is raising funds for the construction of libraries to serve camps in eastern Chad housing refugees from the Darfur region of Sudan. Donations of all sizes are appreciated....

Book Wish Foundation

Choose a spine

[<http://www.earthtimes.org/articles/show/world-books-second-annual-you-be-the-judge-lets-you,308419.shtml>]

Millions of World Book readers will again have the chance to decide the Spinescape image used for the 2009 World Book Encyclopedia by casting their vote in the encyclopedia's You Be the Judge

[<http://vote.worldbook.com>] event. The Spinescape is World Book's trademarked method of printing a unique image across the spine of the 22-volume set. Votes can be cast through March 31....

World Book, Mar. 10

big

[<http://bookgroupbuzz.booklistonline.com/2008/03/07/when-book-groups-get-really-b-i-g/>]

Nick DiMartino writes: "How do you choose a book if your group has 5,000 members? Some brainy folks are attempting to answer this question for the third time on the University of Washington campus, as the little team of faculty members and librarians on the committee to choose the incoming freshman class's Common Book for 2008 begin searching for the next campus-wide read. Besides the freshmen, who will have discussion groups and planned activities around the book all year long, the rest of campus reads the book, too, so that the impact of the book is potentially huge."...

Book Group Buzz, Mar. 7

Penn State acquires rare Hemingway correspondence

[<http://live.psu.edu/story/29210>]

The Pennsylvania State University Libraries have acquired an important collection of Ernest Hemingway correspondence, the last sizeable and significant known collection of the famed novelist's letters still in private hands. Amassed by his sister Madelaine "Sunny" Hemingway Mainland and passed on to her son, the set includes more than 100 unpublished letters, telegrams, and notes from Hemingway to his family between 1917 and 1957. Watch the video

[http://x02.ur.psu.edu/video/in_motion/ehletters.html]....

Pennsylvania State University, Mar. 6

Pennsylvania rare books move to improved facility

[<http://www.earthtimes.org/articles/show/pennsylvanias-rare-books-library-moves-to-state-of-the-art-facility,301968.shtml>]

Pennsylvania's collection of rare books and materials, including early newspapers and many of Benjamin Franklin's political and scientific publications, is moving into a new facility within the State Library in Harrisburg to ensure the historic documents are safely preserved. The Rare Collections Library uses state-of-the-art environmental control systems to protect thousands of irreplaceable items from detrimental conditions....

Pennsylvania Department of Education, Mar. 4

Paula Poundstone partners with FOLUSA

[<http://www.folusa.org/about/poundstone.php>]

Emmy-award winning comedian Paula Poundstone has been named national spokesperson for Friends of Libraries U.S.A. She will lend her name, voice, and humor to help Friends groups around the country promote themselves and their libraries. Poundstone's 15- and 30-second PSA videos [<http://www.youtube.com/user/FOLUSA>] (right) are available for embedding on Friends websites....

Friends of Libraries U.S.A.

IKEA brings books to Albania

[http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/albania_42945.html]

UNICEF and IKEA are reigniting enthusiasm for reading in a generation of children in Albania who have been deprived of books. With €1 million (\$1.55 million U.S.) from UNICEF's largest corporate donor, the Swedish home-furnishing retailer IKEA, the Albania Reads project aims to open a library in each of 850 schools. In collaboration with the government, libraries have already opened in 160 schools—to the delight of children and teachers alike....

UNICEF, Feb. 25

Librarian III: The Curse of the Judas Chalice

[<http://www.zap2it.com/tv/news/zap-tntthirdlibrarianmovie,0,4957020.story>]

TNT has begun production on the third installment of its “Librarian” franchise, with Noah Wyle reprising his title role in *The Librarian: The Curse of the Judas Chalice*. After a series of dreams leads Flynn Carsen (Wyle), a librarian at the New York Metropolitan Library, to New Orleans (where the film began production in early March), he gets tangled up in a conspiracy involving both the chalice and the legendary vampire Count Dracula....

Zap2It, Mar. 6

Weekly Reader joins Big Universe

[<http://www.prweb.com/releases/2008/03/prweb762414.htm>]

Big Universe, an online site dedicated to high-quality children's books, has signed an agreement with Weekly Reader Publishing to promote its beginning readers and early-learning titles. Weekly Reader titles have traditionally been used by teachers and librarians in schools throughout the country. Posting their books on Biguniverse.com

[<http://www.biguniverse.com/>] will bring these lively, colorful nonfiction titles directly into the homes of a new generation of readers....

Big Universe, Mar. 11

Steroid scandal rocks major league libraries

[<http://www.guild2910.org/Steroid3.pdf>] (PDF file, satire)

“Daniel Cohen” writes: “More than half of the systems responsible for managing the nearly 17 million titles in the Library of Congress catalog have tested positive for prohibited performance-enhancing content, called metadata, according to an Inspector General's report expected to be published next month. The investigation was triggered by anonymous tips and overheard conversations between certain unnamed Library staff members alluding to ‘a card catalog on steroids.’”

Library of Congress Professional Guild, Dec. 17 [<http://www.shapingoutcomes.org>]

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[<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/annual/2008a/geninfo.htm>]

ALA Annual Conference

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/annual/2008a/home.htm>] in Anaheim, California, June 26–July 2. For a complete list of preconferences, see the Annual Conference wiki.

[<http://wikis.ala.org/annual2008/index.php/Preconferences>]

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

The March 15 Booklist [<http://www.booklistonline.com/>] spotlights graphic novels and offers a Spring travel roundup. Pick up your copy at the PLA National Conference. NEW! From Booklist.

In this issue
March 2008

All Seasons & All Reasons for Lifelong Learning

Story Quilt: Poems of a Place

ALA Candidates: Statements and Forum

Philadelphia
Wrap-up

Girls Raise Cash for Kenya

[<http://capwiz.com/ala/issues/alert/?alertid=11132541>]

Contact [<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=393>] your U.S. senator and representative and ask them to sign the Dear Colleague letters being circulated in both the Senate

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/wp-content/uploads/2008/03/fy09-dear-colleague-library-letter.pdf>] and the House

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/wp-content/uploads/2008/03/fy09house.pdf>] in support of funding for the Library Services and Technology Act and the Improving Literacy Through School Libraries Program. Legislators must sign the letters by March 14.

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

Chief Librarian,
[<http://joblist.ala.org/modules/jobseeker/controller.cfm?scr=jobdetail&jobid=9825>] Bibliotheca Alexandrina, Alexandria, Egypt. The Bibliotheca Alexandrina is a library, an international center of intellectual excellence, a space for research, dialogue, an academic institution, a cultural Mecca, and a pioneer in technology and communication. The Chief Librarian will oversee the overall administration, operation and services of the Main Library, the Arts and Multimedia Library, the Taha Hussein Library, the Nobel Section, the Young People's Library, and the Children's Library....

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

Digital Library of the Week

[http://digital.library.louisville.edu/cdm4/item_viewer.php?CISOROOT=/jthom&CISOPTR=849&CISOBOX=1&REC=20]

The University of Louisville Digital Collections

[<http://digital.library.louisville.edu/cdm4/about.php>] is a growing resource that includes rare and unique images, documents, and oral histories from the university archives, special collections, and other campus units. Included in the digital library are photos showing Louisville and neighboring areas, Kentucky maps, historic photos by Claude Matlack and Kate Matthews, an African-American oral history collection, the Newton Owen postcard collection, and snapshots of mountain life by Jean Thomas (the “Traipsin’ Woman,” above).

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

“Bad news, folks. The library is Alachua County’s version of Terri Schiavo, and life support is costing us nearly \$20 million each year. It would be an act of mercy to harvest the organs and move on. . . . With the advent of the Internet and Google, virtually no serious research is carried on in the library stacks.”

?George Elmore, in “Pull the Plug on the Library,” a guest editorial advocating closing the Alachua County (Fla.) Library District libraries, Gainesville Sun, Mar. 3.

[http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?_sn=catalog&_pn=product_detail&_op=2447]

April 30 will be El día de los niños/ El día de los libros. [<http://www.ala.org/ala/alsc/diadelosninos/diadelosninos.cfm>] Join Dora the Explorer and members of ALSC and Reforma in celebrating the event. Día celebrates the importance of advocating literacy for every child.

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/acrl/acrlpubs/crlnews/backissues2008/march08/March.cfm>]

Elizabeth M. Karle offers some ideas for imaginative outreach

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/acrl/acrlpubs/crlnews/backissues2008/march08/academ>

iclibraryexperience.cfm] to make the overall library experience more appealing to students, in the March 2008 issue of College & Research Libraries News.

Ask the ALA Librarian

Q. One of our regular library visitors recently brought in some leather-bound books he inherited from his grandmother. I don't feel able to evaluate these. Where should I turn?

A. This is a frequently asked question that prompted the development of a pamphlet RTSD

[http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Association_for_Library_Collections_%26_Technical_Services_%28ALCTS%29] formerly gave away called "My Old Books." Happily, the essence of that pamphlet is still available with the new title "Your Old Books" as a PDF

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/acrl/acrlpubs/downloadables/youoldbooks.pdf>] download. You are right to seek external sources for appraisals,

[<http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Appraisals>] though there are online sales records which would be a start. If it is likely that these books would be donated to your library, or the Friends group, remember that the donor is responsible for determining the value of the gift. From the ALA Professional Tips wiki.

[http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Value_of_Old_Books]

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

Calendar

Apr. 10–11:

Society of American Archivists,

[<http://www.archivists.org/prof-education/workshop-detail.asp?id=2270>]

"Understanding Photographs: Introduction to Archival Principles and Practices," Bryn Mawr School, Baltimore.

Apr. 10–11:

17th North Carolina Serials Conference,

[<http://www.nccuslis.org/conted/serials2008/serials2008.htm>] "What's in a

Name? From Serials to Continuing Resources," North Carolina Central University SLIS, William and Ida Friday Continuing Education Center, Chapel Hill.

Apr. 10–14:

Information Architecture Summit, [<http://www.iasummit.org/2008/>] Hyatt Regency, Miami. "Experiencing Information."

- Apr. 11:
Midwest Interlibrary Loan Conference, [<http://www.dalinc.org/midwestill/>]
Loras College, Dubuque, Iowa.
- Apr. 11–13:
International Association for Development of the Information Society,
[<http://www.mlearning-conf.org/>] Mobile Learning 2008 International
Conference, Algarve, Portugal.
- Apr. 13–16:
Community College Foundation, [<http://www.techedevents.org/>] TechEd 2008:
13th Annual Technology in Education International Conference. Ontario
Convention Center, California.
- Apr. 15–18:
Wisconsin Association of Academic Librarians,
[<http://www.wla.lib.wi.us/waal/conferences/2008/>] Annual Conference,
Manitowoc. “Winds of Change.”
- Apr. 16:
Scholarly Communication Symposium,
[<http://www.library.drexel.edu/scholarlycommunication/>] Drexel University
Libraries, Bossone Research Enterprise Center, Philadelphia. “How Web 2.0
Is Changing Scholarly Communication.”
- Apr. 21–24:
American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works,
[<http://aic.stanford.edu/meetings/index.html>] Annual Meeting, Denver.
“Creative Collaborations.”
- Apr. 23–25:
13th Off-Campus Library Services Conference,
[<http://ocls.cmich.edu/conference/index.html>] Salt Lake City.
- Apr. 26:
First Annual Celebration of Latino Children’s Literature,
[<http://www.libsci.sc.edu/latinoconf/index.htm>] University of South
Carolina, School of Library and Information Science, Columbia.
“Connecting Cultures and Celebrating Cuentos.” Contact: Jamie Naidoo,
[<mailto:jnaidoo@gwm.sc.edu>] (803) 777-5277.
- Oct. 3–4:
Georgia Conference on Information Literacy,
[<http://ceps.georgiasouthern.edu/conted/infolit.html>] Coastal Georgia
Center, Savannah. Submit presentation proposals
[<http://ceps.georgiasouthern.edu/conted/infolitproposals.html>] by April
15. Contact: Janice Reynolds, [<mailto:janreyn@georgiasouthern.edu>] (912)
871-1755.
- @ More [<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/calendar/calendar.cfm>]...

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American Libraries Direct

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www.ala.org/aldirect/
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american libraries DIRECT

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | March 19, 2008

Contents

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



SCHOOLROOMS
A new learning portal for K-12

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

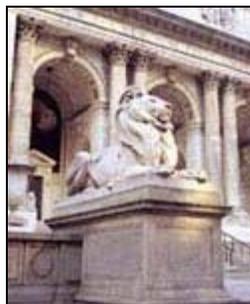


american
libraries
BUYERS GUIDE

U.S. & World News

[\\$1-billion NYPL expansion to add branches, technology](#)

New York Public Library announced a five-year, \$1-billion expansion March 11 with the goal of doubling its number of unique users. One element is a \$300-million renovation of the Humanities and Social Sciences Library on 5th Avenue that will transform it into a Central Library. The renovated library will also feature improved exhibition spaces, hundreds of new computers, wireless access, meeting rooms, programming venues, and a café....

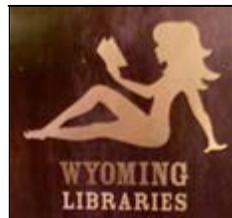


[Boston mayor, library trustees reach compromise](#)

Boston Public Library trustees agreed at a March 11 board meeting to supply city hall with a detailed accounting of how proceeds from tens of millions of dollars in its trust funds have been spent. In return, City Treasurer-Collector Lisa Signori promised to release about \$2.5 million in trust fund proceeds the city has held since December in a dispute about oversight....

[Wyoming libraries get endowment fund](#)

The Wyoming State House of Representatives voted 60-0 March 7 to pass the Public Library Endowment Challenge Program. The bill, S.F. 29, which passed the state senate February 21, establishes a \$9.1-million endowment for the state's 23 public library systems. Prior to approval, the Senate Appropriations Committee decreased the figure down from its original \$25.3 million, but after two years of unsuccessful attempts to pass the legislation, many library supporters see the establishment of the endowment as the true victory....



[Joy of Sex books relocated after third challenge](#)

In response to a third challenge by resident Randy Jackson, the Nampa (Idaho) Public Library board has relocated *The New Joy of Sex* and *The Joy of Gay Sex* to the director's office so the titles can only be accessed by patrons who specifically request them....



**shaping
outcomes**

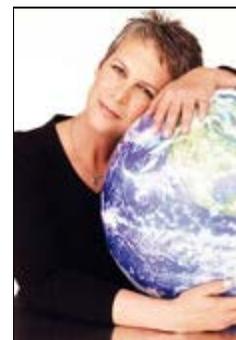
MAKING A DIFFERENCE
IN LIBRARIES AND MUSEUMS

Shaping Outcomes is an instructor-mediated online course for library professionals, presenting Outcomes Based Planning and Evaluation, an emerging "best practice" for grant development and project planning. Subsidized by IMLS, courses are available throughout the year.
For more information visit:
www.shapingoutcomes.org



[ALA Annual Conference](#)

in Anaheim, California,
June 26–July 2.



[TLA slams Memphis mayor for political library appointments](#)

The Tennessee Library Association executive board has sent a terse open letter to Mayor Willie Herenton criticizing him for placing political appointees in charge of the Memphis (Tenn.) Public Library and Information Center. The February 22 letter condemned the mayor's dismissal of longtime library director Judith Drescher as "a slap in the face" to professional librarians, questioned why a national search wasn't conducted for a replacement, and asked why the library is operating without a duly appointed library board of trustees....



ALA News

[Jim Rettig testifies on EPA libraries](#)

ALA President-elect Jim Rettig testified March 13 before the U.S. House of Representatives on the closure of libraries at the Environmental Protection Agency. Speaking to the House Committee on Science and Technology's Subcommittee on Investigations and Oversight, Rettig spoke on several questions that have raised alarm bells within the library community, the science community, and several other affected fields. Watch a [webcast](#) of the entire hearing (Rettig begins at 33:20) or read his [blog post](#) about the experience....



District Dispatch, Mar. 13; Twilight Librarian, Mar. 18

[Second ALA Life](#)

Jenny Levine writes: "ALA continues to work with its members and the public to experiment in the virtual world Second Life. We held a [party](#) in-world for Banned Books Week last year, and this year some very knowledgeable students in San Jose State University's SLIS helped rebuild our island. We went from a fairly static, sectioned presence to a more interactive and visually interesting one. There's a new events area, information about each of our divisions, general information about ALA, some games, and other things to explore."...



ALA Marginalia, Mar. 14

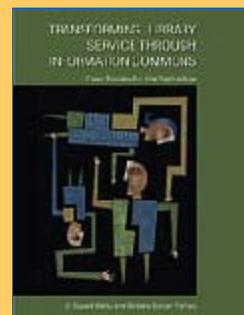
[Try out for a National Library Week prize](#)

The Campaign for America's Libraries is collecting examples from libraries about how they plan to "Join the circle of knowledge @ your library" during [National Library Week](#) (April 13–19), and there are rewards for sharing your story. From now until April 21, libraries are encouraged to submit stories, photos, and videos of NLW activities. Libraries can upload videos to [You Tube](#), submit photos to [Flickr](#), or submit a story to the National Library Week 2008 [database](#). Three winners will be selected....



[Political speech this election year](#)

Actress and author [Jamie Lee Curtis](#) will present the keynote address at the PLA President's Program and Awards Presentation at ALA Annual Conference, June 30, 5:00–6:30 p.m., courtesy of HarperCollins Children's Books.



Academic, public, and school librarians who are considering an Information Commons or are looking for ways to improve their existing one will find a wealth of information in [Transforming Library Service Through Information Commons](#) by D. Russell Bailey and Barbara Gunter Tierney. The authors provide 20 case studies with a wealth of how-to advice. **NEW! From ALA Editions.**

In this issue

March 2008



Mary Ghikas writes: "We are in the midst of an exciting and interesting election year. But that means I must remind you to avoid any action that could give the impression that the ALA—rather than you as an individual private citizen—is engaging in political speech ("the support of or opposition to a candidate for public office") or that ALA resources are being used for that purpose. ALA, because of its particular tax-exempt status, is expressly, absolutely prohibited by the U.S. Internal Revenue Code from engaging in political speech."...

ALA Marginalia, Mar. 12



All Seasons & All Reasons for Lifelong Learning

Story Quilt: Poems of a Place

ALA Candidates: Statements and Forum

Philadelphia Wrap-up

Girls Raise Cash for Kenya

[PIO launches PR blog](#)

The Public Information Office and the Campaign for America's Libraries are sharing valuable tips on promoting libraries with a new blog, [Visibility @ your library](#). This blog will provide librarians and library supporters with news and information about important communications issues. First up is a podcast ([MP3 file](#)) with *American Libraries* Editor-in-Chief Leonard Kniffel (right), who explains how news and features get into the magazine and its suite of products....



[South Africa celebrates](#)

The Library and Information Association of South Africa, the newest member of the ALA/IFLA [Campaign for the World's Libraries](#), celebrates South Africa Library Week this week with the theme "From local to global @ your library." The theme was inspired by Neal Petersen, a South African yachtsman who was the first black man to sail solo around the world....



[Ballot mailing begins](#)

this week, and the election polls are open.

AL Focus

[Doodlebug](#)

Nick Baker ([Short Pencil Saga](#), *March of the Librarians*) returns with another humorous take (0:33) on library life. This time out, he discovers the real culprit behind those annoying doodles you sometimes find in your library books....



Career Leads from
JobLIST

[Library Director](#),

Harrisburg Area Community College, Lancaster Campus Library. Strong leadership, visionary, communication, financial, interpersonal skills with open, supportive style are essential. The college also plays a vital role in improving the quality of life in Central Pennsylvania by providing high-quality, low-cost, educational opportunities....

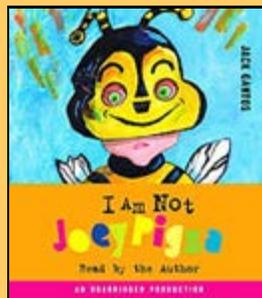
@ [More jobs...](#)

Booklist ONLINE

[Featured review: Media](#)

Gantos, Jack. *I Am Not Joey Pigza*. Nov. 2007. 5 hrs. Listening Library, CD. Grades 5–8 (978-0-7393-6147-4).

With the return of his good-for-nothing dad, Joey Pigza embarks on a new batch of adventures in this fourth title in the popular Pigza series. Joey's dad, whose new business venture is a bee-themed diner, renames everyone in the family (their surname is now Heinz), including the dogs. Joey (now



Digital Library

called Freddy) struggles with his dad's return and wonders if he can forgive him for the past. As creator of the hyperactive Joey character, Gantos brings empathy and understanding to his reading, fleshing out Joey rather than making him seem like a caricature....

[Booklist Online teams with Baker & Taylor](#)

Ordering selected materials will become easier for libraries after a unique functionality between online products Booklist Online and Title Source 3 from Baker & Taylor launches in late March. Title Source 3 customers will be able to click on a list of selected titles built into Booklist Online and place orders directly into Title Source 3 without having to navigate out of Booklist Online....

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

baker&taylor
title source 3

Anaheim Update

[Airports serving Anaheim](#)

Four airports serve the Anaheim/Orange County Area. The closest to the Convention Center is the [John Wayne Orange County Airport](#), with a drive time of 20 minutes (13 miles) to Anaheim. When the airport was renamed after John Wayne in 1979, sculptor Robert Summers was commissioned to create a bronze statue of "the Duke." It now stands in the lobby of the Thomas F. Riley Terminal. Other airports are Long Beach Airport (30 minutes away), Ontario International (45 minutes away), and Los Angeles International (50 minutes away)....

Anaheim/Orange County Visitor and Convention Bureau



[ALA discounts on Disney Park tickets](#)

Disney is offering exclusive discounted Disneyland park tickets to attendees of the ALA Annual Conference. These discounted tickets will not be available at the gate and must be purchased online prior to June 11. The discounts range from \$10 to \$80, depending on the type of ticket purchased. There is a shipping and handling charge of \$11.95 for the continental United States. The tickets are valid for 14 days from the time of first use....

Disneyland Resort

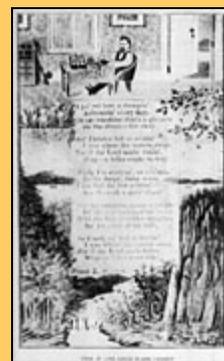


[Conference networking for introverts](#)

Allison Wolf writes: "Do you dread networking events? Wonder about what to say? Do you find there is something uncomfortable or possibly distasteful about the seemingly compulsory exchange of business cards? If so, then you probably value sincerity and professionalism. Too often networking is reduced to a numbers game of how many business cards you can pass out in an hour. If you are looking for a different approach, one more in alignment with your professional values, then read on."...

Slaw.ca, Mar. 16

of the Week



The [Nebraska Public Documents](#) project provides free public access to digitized historic annual reports of state agencies in Nebraska for the use of students, scholars, and the general public. Eventually, the project will provide access to state government agency reports from 1891 through 1956, with metadata enhancements as funds become available. Earlier reports will be provided as they are located and digitized. This site is made possible through the funding and support of the Nebraska Library Commission, the Nebraska State Historical Society, the Nebraska State Records Board, the University of Nebraska at Omaha, and the Center for Digital Research in the Humanities at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

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



Division News

[Little Miss Sunshine brightens School Library Media Month](#)

Abigail Breslin, nominated for an Academy Award for her role in *Little Miss Sunshine* and starring in the soon-to-be-released *Kit Kittredge: An American Girl*, has been named a national spokesperson for [2008 School Library Media Month](#). AASL has collaborated with Picturehouse, HBO Films, and American Girl to produce a poster featuring Breslin. The poster, which includes on its back information about the Great Depression and a host of activities developed by the AASL School Library Media Month Task Force, will be distributed for free to AASL members working in middle and elementary schools....



[YALSA seeks teen tech opinions](#)

YALSA is surveying teens through March 31 on their online habits. The [Teen Technology Survey](#) seeks input on teen use of social networking sites, online tools like instant messaging, and online tasks such as shopping or research. It also asks teens about the nonprint and technological resources available at their public and school libraries and allows teens to vote on the 2009 Teen Tech Week theme....

[YALSA offers travel help for YA Literature Symposium](#)

YALSA is offering \$1,000 stipends to two division members to attend its inaugural Young Adult Literature Symposium at the Millennium Maxwell House Hotel in Nashville, November 7–9. [Application](#) deadline is May 1....

[LAMA members to vote on name change](#)

LAMA President Bede Mitchell writes: "The LAMA membership will be asked to vote on a proposed name change for our division to the Library Leadership and Management Association (LLAMA). The proposal will be on this spring ballot, which will be available very shortly, but the idea has been simmering this entire decade."...

Leads from LAMA, Mar. 15

Round Table News

[Read about the LSSIRT candidates](#) (PDF file)

The February newsletter of the Library Support Staff Interests Round Table offers biographies of and statements from the candidates for president, secretary, treasurer, and members-at-large of the round table....

LSSIRT Newsletter, Feb.

Awards

Sees Us

"Do you honestly believe that these books that contain mystery, adventure, and science fiction are reality? Let me know the next time you see someone flying by with supernatural powers, animals talking, dragons breathing fire, and goblins living amongst us. . . . Please let me know and I'll contact the proper authorities."

—Lackawanna, New York, parent Lisa Lofredo, in expressing her objections to the school board's reconsideration of such "occult" titles as Eoin Colfer's *The Supernaturalist* for area middle schools, *Buffalo (N.Y.) News*, Mar. 15.



Want to discuss an issue or news item

you've read about in *AL Direct*? [Start a topic](#) in *AL Forum*, where readers can sound off and hold forth. If it's your first visit, be sure to check out the [FAQ](#). You have to [register](#) before can post, and you have to read the first question in the FAQ before you can register.

[Sen. Feingold honored with James Madison Award](#)

Senator Russ Feingold (D-Wis.) is the recipient of the 2008 James Madison Award, presented by ALA to honor those who, at the national level, have championed, protected, and promoted public access to government information. "His work in the United States Senate to promote the public's right to know has been extensive and effective," said ALA President Loriene Roy in her remarks at the National Freedom of Information Day Conference in Washington, D.C. Watch the Washington Office [video](#) (0:45)....



[ILA Intellectual Freedom Committee wins IF award](#)

The Illinois Library Association's two-pronged approach to defending intellectual freedom—advocacy in the Illinois General Assembly and U.S. Congress and education within the library community and general public—has won for its Intellectual Freedom Committee the IFRT ProQuest/SIRS State and Regional Intellectual Freedom Achievement Award. ILA successfully mobilized its membership to influence the defeat of 16 separate legislative efforts to require filters on library computers....



[OITP Copyright Award goes to Hoon](#)

Peggy Hoon, special assistant to the provost for copyright administration at North Carolina State University, is the 2008 recipient of the L. Ray Patterson Copyright Award: In Support of Users' Rights, which recognizes the contributions of an individual who pursues the constitutional purpose of U.S. copyright law, fair use, and the public domain. Sponsored by the Office for Information Technology Policy, the Patterson Award is named after Lyman Ray Patterson, an influential American copyright scholar and historian....



[Tarin receives Catalyst for Change Award](#)

Patricia Tarin, former director of Knowledge River in the School of Information Resources and Library Science at the University of Arizona, is the 2008 recipient of the ALA Elizabeth Futas Catalyst for Change Award. This award is given biennially to an individual for making positive changes in the profession of librarianship and consists of a 24K gold-framed citation and \$1,000 contributed by the Elizabeth Futas Memorial Fund....



[Chen receives Beta Phi Mu Award](#)

Ching-chih Chen, professor of the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at Simmons College, has received the ALA 2008 Beta Phi Mu Award. This annual award, donated by the Beta Phi Mu International Library Science Honorary Society, is presented to a library school faculty member or to an individual for distinguished service to education in librarianship....



[Let's Talk About It: Jewish Literature grants](#)

The ALA Public Programs Office and Nextbook (a gateway to Jewish literature, culture, and ideas) have selected 86 public and academic

Ask the ALA Librarian



Q. Is learning about Second Life worth my time?

A. Like blogs, wikis, MySpace, Plinkit, and all the other [Internet Web 2.0 and Library 2.0 tools](#), Second Life is what you make of it. [This online virtual world](#) allows for unique social interaction with others. If you can't see using it for patron outreach, consider using it to communicate with other librarians and library workers. From the [ALA Professional Tips wiki](#).

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

Calendar

Mar. 25–28:
[Catholic Library Association](#), Annual Convention, Embassy Hotel, Indianapolis.

Mar. 25–29:
[Public Library Association](#), 12th National Conference, Minneapolis.

Apr. 12:
[Third Annual Newberry Library/Caxton Club](#)

libraries in 34 states to receive grants for *Let's Talk About It: Jewish Literature* programs. The awards mark the final round of these grants. View the [full list](#) by state....

[Winners selected for Great Stories CLUB grants](#)

The Public Programs Office and YALSA have selected 173 libraries to receive Great Stories CLUB grants, which will support book discussion programs targeting troubled teens. Participating libraries will receive 11 sets of three theme-related books to provide to members of a book club. They will also have access to a variety of online resources, designed to help plan and implement programming. View the [full list](#) by state....

[Orange County Library System wins Wilson grant](#)

The Orange County (Fla.) Library System is the 2008 winner of the H. W. Wilson Library Staff Development Grant. This award is presented annually to a library that demonstrates the greatest need for a staff development program that will further the goals and objectives of the library. The award is donated by the H. W. Wilson Company and consists of a citation and \$3,500 to assist with the development of a library staff-training program....

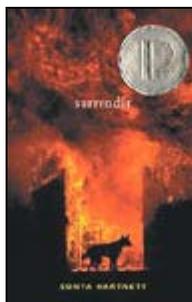


[Deadline extended for student writing award](#)

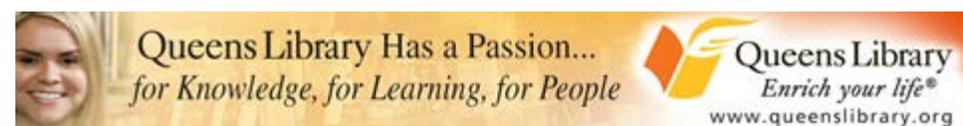
LITA has extended to April 10 the deadline for submitting a manuscript for consideration for the Ex Libris Student Writing Award. The award, which goes to an unpublished manuscript submitted by an LIS student, consists of \$1,000, a certificate, and publication in LITA's refereed journal, *Information Technology and Libraries*....

[Sonya Hartnett wins Lindgren Award](#)

Australian author Sonya Hartnett is the winner of the \$818,000 Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award for Literature, the highest-paying children's book award in the world. Hartnett published her first novel, *Trouble All the Way*, at the age of 15 and since then has written 18 novels for children, young people, and adults. The Swedish National Arts Council award is named after Astrid Lindgren, the Swedish children's writer whose Pippi Longstocking has captivated generations of children around the world....



Associated Press, Mar. 13



Seen Online

[Movers and Shakers for 2008](#)

The 50 individuals who are *Library Journal's* 2008 Movers and Shakers represent thousands of others across North America who are transforming libraries for the better. They work in public libraries, in school and academic libraries, in law firms and hospitals, in companies and government. Like those thousands, this

[Symposium on the Book](#), Newberry Library, Chicago. "Rare Books and the Common Good: American Perspectives." Seating is limited, so advance registration is required. Contact: [Caxton Club](#).

Apr. 12:
[Drop Everything and Read Day](#), sponsored by HarperCollins, encourages families to designate at least 30 minutes to enjoy books together. Libraries must [request materials](#) by **March 20**.

Apr. 13–19:
[National Library Week](#). "Join the circle of knowledge @ your library."

Apr. 15:
[National Library Workers Day](#). "Libraries Work Because We Do!"

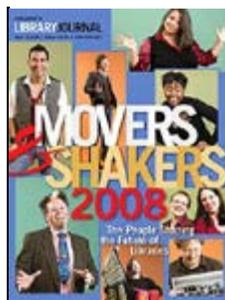
Apr. 23:
[Green Libraries Unconference](#), Arlington (Va.) Public Library. Explore ideas for greening public libraries, developing sustainable business practices, and creating public information. Contact: [Steve Carr](#).

Apr. 23–25:
[Conference on Understanding Institutional Copyright Policy](#), Omni Austin Hotel, Austin, Texas.

May 13–14:
[National Library Legislative Day](#), Washington, D.C.

year's Movers didn't ask for recognition—in fact, they don't even know when they've been nominated by their colleagues. See the [full list](#) here....

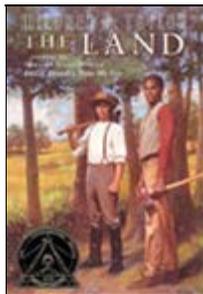
Library Journal, Mar. 15



[Word in two Tampa school library books angers family](#)

Two months ago, when Ashyaa Brown, a student in the gifted program at Hilda T. Turner Elementary School in Tampa, Florida, discovered a racially offensive term in two books from the school's accelerated reading list, her parents complained. Media Specialist Donna Simonetti-Tedesco told Darryl Brown he could file a formal complaint, but used the "n word" when discussing the book's contents. That incensed him even more, and now she has been reported to the Office of Professional Standards to review her use of language....

St. Petersburg (Fla.) Times, Mar. 17



[Jazz musician announces New Orleans Library plan](#)

Jazz trumpeter Irvin Mayfield, who is also chair of the New Orleans Public Library Board of Directors, unveiled a 25-year, \$625-million plan ([PDF file](#)) March 18 for a reinvigorated library system that reflects the city's identity. It would start with a jazz-themed branch that houses early recordings and reviews. Other branches planned for the next 5–10 years include a culinary branch based on the city's unique cuisine, and an architecture branch that pays homage to the city's woodworkers and ironworkers....

New Orleans Times-Picayune, Mar. 18



[Berkeley East Asian Library is first of its kind](#)

The new \$46.4-million, four-story, C. V. Starr East Asian Library opened March 17 at the University of California-Berkeley, with 450,000 items in Chinese, Japanese, and Korean under one roof for students, scholars, and members of the public alike. The university says it is the first freestanding structure at a U.S. university built solely for East Asian collections....

San Jose (Calif.) Mercury News, Mar. 17



[Marathon County librarians accept downgrades](#)

Three librarians whose positions at the downtown Wausau library were eliminated have accepted the new positions offered—and the \$10,000 pay cuts that go with them—but not without continued outcry. Library director Phyllis Christensen announced at the March 17 Marathon County (Wis.) Public Library trustees meeting that Sharyn Heili, Diane Peterson, and Michael O'Connor have accepted the spots offered them as customer service librarians....

Sept. 3–5:

[Triple-I](#), "Knowledge Acquisition from the Social Web," Messe Center, Graz, Austria. This workshop aims to develop and bring together a community of researchers interested in discussing the manifold challenges and potentials of knowledge acquisition from the social web. Submit presentation application by April 28.

@ [More...](#)

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Wausau (Wis.) Daily Herald, Mar. 17

[California librarian fired after reporting child-porn incident](#)

The Tulare County (Calif.) Board of Supervisors issued a [statement](#) March 18 saying that officials had "legitimate business reasons" to [fire](#) Lindsay branch librarian Brenda Biesterfeld and that her dismissal had nothing to do with her reporting a child-pornography incident at the library. But Biesterfeld has no doubt that losing her job March 6 stemmed from her decision to call police about a man she saw viewing images of naked boys on one of the library's public computers February 28. When she reported it to her supervisor Judi Hill, she was told not to go to police. She did so anyway, resulting in the patron's arrest. The incident has generated nationwide [debate](#)....

Visalia (Calif.) Times-Delta, Mar. 14, 18



[Library scuffle injures director](#)

The director of the Greensburg Hempfield (Pa.) Area Library was injured March 12 while blocking a married couple who allegedly tried to steal a Christmas novel, *Finding Noel* by Richard Paul Evans. During a scuffle near the metal detector at the downtown library's entrance, David Shawn Cook allegedly shoved Director Cesare J. Muccari, who needed three staples to close a gash on the right side of his head. Cook turned himself in March 15 and was [charged](#) with simple assault, conspiracy, and harassment....

Pittsburgh Tribune-Review, Mar. 14, 18

[Middle-school library affirms occult titles](#)

The Lackawanna (N.Y.) School Board voted 5-2 March 12 to restore six book titles to a list of 280 supernatural-fiction books recommended by its middle-school library committee following accusations of censorship by some parents and teachers. In January, a board member had asked that the books be pulled for review, but that didn't sit well with some parents. Lisa Berst, middle-school librarian and a member of the library committee, said the books were recommended for library shelves because of their popularity with students....

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



[Court: Drug testing unnecessary for library workers](#)

A city can't require all job applicants to be screened for narcotics and must instead show why drug use in a particular job would be dangerous, a federal appeals court ruled March 13. The Ninth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco ruled against the city of Woodburn, Oregon, which argued it was entitled to maintain a drug-free workplace. The city was sued by Janet Lanier, whose job offer as a part-time page at the city library was withdrawn in 2004 when she refused a drug and alcohol test. The court found no basis to test applicants for library positions....

San Francisco Chronicle, Mar. 14

[Magazines dust off their back issues](#)

As magazines and newspapers hunt for the new thing they need to be to thrive in the internet era, some find that part of the answer lies in the old thing they used to be. Publications are rediscovering their archives, like a person learning that a hand-me-down coffee table is a valuable antique. For

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AL Direct FAQ:
www.ala.org/aldirect/

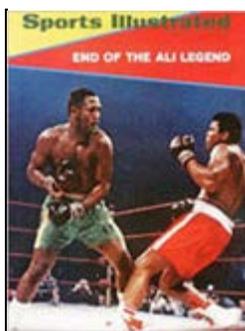
All links outside the ALA website are provided for informational purposes only. Questions about the content of any external site should be addressed to the administrator of that site.

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

ISSN 1559-369X.

magazines and newspapers with long histories, especially, old material can be reborn on the Web as an inexpensive way to attract readers, advertisers, and money....

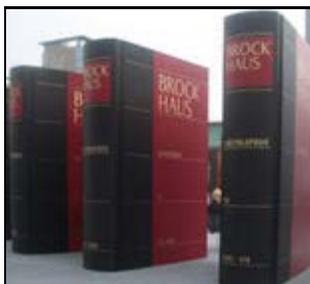
New York Times, Mar. 17



[Print encyclopedias in crisis](#)

A series of announcements from publishers across the globe in the last few weeks suggests that ahead of other books, magazines, and even newspapers, the classic multivolume encyclopedia is well on its way to becoming an internet casualty. Sales of the printed edition of *Encyclopaedia Britannica* are just 10% of what they were in 1990, Brockhaus is putting all 300,000 of its articles online for free, and Gyldendal has decided that the subscription plan for its online encyclopedia is misguided....

New York Times, Mar. 16



[Focus on algebra, panel tells schools](#)

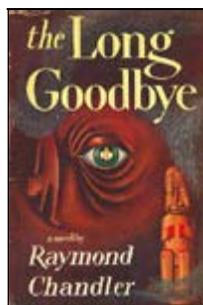
American students have fallen below top-performing nations in math because their courses skim the surface of too many topics, critics say. The National Mathematics Advisory Panel is calling for schools to focus on key topics that promote success in algebra, a gatekeeper for higher-level math and science. Its closely watched [report](#) *Foundations for Success*, released March 13, is part of a growing chorus of voices calling for reform in U.S. math education....

Christian Science Monitor, Mar. 13

[Chicago "One Book" pick is a Chandler classic](#)

The Long Goodbye by hard-boiled master Raymond Chandler is the 14th and latest book selected for the Chicago Public Library's "One Book, One Chicago" program. Twice a year, in the spring and fall, the library selects a new title for the program in an effort to promote reading and discussion among all city residents. "This program reminds us that we just can't tell kids reading is important," Chicago Mayor Richard Daley said. "We as adults have to set an example."...

Chicago Tribune, Mar. 15



[Julia Keller on public libraries](#)

Chicago Tribune columnist Julia Keller reflected on the future of public libraries on *The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer*: "The way we get our knowledge may change, but human nature doesn't. And there is something profoundly consoling about a public library, about a shared space brimming with stories."...

The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer, Mar. 13

[Librarian sues Ohio State to get his job back](#)

A former head of reference and instructional services at Ohio State University's Mansfield campus, who was accused of sexual harassment

in 2006 after recommending a conservative book for freshmen, has filed a lawsuit against the university and some of its faculty. Scott Savage, who said he resigned because of personal and professional attacks on his character, is asking for his job back and for OSU to be forced to change its sexual-harassment policies....

Columbus (Ohio) Dispatch, Mar. 15

[Gangs lay siege to Scottish library](#)

Police have been called 19 times in the last three months to a library in suburban Edinburgh after the building became a target for teenage gangs. Regular users of Muirhouse Library say they are being driven out by "intimidating" groups of youths who are using the internet facilities. On one occasion, police were called to the library three times in one night when £3,000 worth of damage was caused to the toilets. While officers were inside inspecting the damage, the police car was vandalized outside the library....

Edinburgh Evening News, Mar. 17



Tech Talk

[Fly through your images](#)

Jenny Levine writes: "Check out the cool [PicLens](#) browser extension for Firefox or Internet Explorer on Windows or Mac. It gives you a full-screen experience of flying through a photostream from a variety of websites. Simply install the extension and a small play button will appear over pictures on certain websites (such as Flickr, Facebook, and Google Image Search).



Click on the play button and you'll see a wall of the images that you can maneuver through. It's very cool." Download it and check out Jenny's [Flickr set](#) from the Delft (Holland) Public Library, "quite possibly the most amazing library I've ever seen."...

The Shifted Librarian, Mar. 14

[Facebook adds privacy controls, chat](#)

Michael Arrington writes: "Facebook announced new privacy controls at a press event at their Palo Alto headquarters March 18, and also demoed a new chat application—called Facebook Chat—that has been rumored since last week. The new privacy controls, scheduled to launch March 19, allow users to do more with Friend Lists. And in coming weeks, users will see a chat bar on the bottom of all Facebook pages, showing which of their friends are online, who they're chatting with currently, and other controls."...



TechCrunch, Mar. 18

[Google Books Availability API](#)

Google has released a new API that lets you link easily to any of its books. Web developers can use the [Books Viewability API](#) to quickly find out a book's [viewability](#) on Google Book Search and, in an automated fashion, embed a link to the book in Google Book Search on their own sites. [Here](#) is how the Deschutes (Oreg.) Public Library is using it....

Google Blog, Mar. 13

[Top 10 DIY laptop stands](#)

Gina Trapani writes: "When your hot laptop needs ventilation and your wrists need a break from a flat keyboard, you can drop 50 bucks on a fancy commercial laptop stand—or you can build one of your own. Do-it-yourself laptop users have built several creations from common household materials to keep their notebooks elevated while they work. Made of everything from wine corks to door stops to paper (and paper towel) holders, check out our favorite top 10 do-it-yourself laptop stands for your lap and workspace pleasure."...

Lifehacker, Mar. 19

[Network administrator's toolkit](#)

Oliver Rist writes: "Keeping your network healthy means putting together an effective toolkit to keep it running well. You'll need more than a little black bag with screwdrivers and a cable crimper—you'll need smart software and at least a little dedicated hardware. We've rounded up a set of software and hardware tools that will keep your network toolkit up-to-date—even extending to wireless networking. Best of all, these come in a wide range of prices."...

PC Magazine, Mar. 11

Actions & Answers

[On the Record, but off the track](#) (PDF file)

LC Reference Librarian Thomas Mann has responded to *On the Record* ([PDF file](#)), the final report of the Library of Congress Working Group on the Future of Bibliographic Control, in a 38-page paper. He writes that its recommendations, "while well-intentioned, are unfortunately so naive about the requirements of scholarly research that, if implemented in the particular way proposed by the Group, will seriously undercut the capacity of scholarly researchers everywhere to pursue their topics systematically and at in-depth levels." He does offer an alternative solution that "reflects reality over theory."...

Library of Congress Professional Guild, Mar. 14

[How-to video directory](#)

Have you ever wanted to know how to make Challah bread the old fashioned way? Try out [Videojug](#), voted best online video site of 2007 by OVGuide. They call themselves "the world's most comprehensive library of free factual video content online." The video quality is much better than what you find on YouTube and is generally edited decently well. They have offices in the U.K. and the U.S., so you get a fair amount of videos with those fantastic British accents....

Infodoodads, Mar. 18



[RDA/MARC working group established](#)

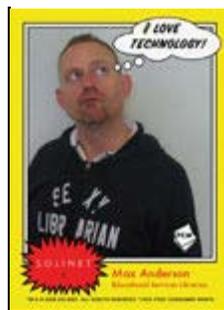
Under the auspices of the British Library, the Library and Archives Canada, and the Library of Congress, an RDA/MARC Working Group has been established to collaborate on the development of proposals for changes to the MARC 21 formats to accommodate the encoding of RDA data. With the implementation of RDA anticipated for late 2009, the Working Group will be drafting proposals for review and discussion by the MARC community in June....

Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA, Mar. 13

[Using trading cards as a promotional](#)

[tool](#)

Max Anderson writes: "At SOLINET, we are trying new and funky ways to make sure not only our fellow staff members know what we do, but also people we meet out in the field. The cost was quite good, and we even had them printed on post-consumer waste paper to fall in with our green initiatives this year. We are doing a Training Showcase March 24 to promote our newest classes to staff members, and each will get one of our cards." The picture is on one side, interesting facts are on the verso....
CE Buzz, Mar. 17



[17 tips for getting bloggers \(and maybe AL Direct\) to link to you](#)

Cory Doctorow writes: "I love getting good suggestions for things to write about in Boing Boing, but often I can't write about them because the people who posted the material did something crazy. These are simple design and deployment mistakes that kept me from picking up a link and reposting it where millions might find it. Here's the list, a kind of antichecklist for anyone who's spending money and time trying to get a message out."...

Information Week, Mar. 11

[Picturing America program launched at White House](#)

On February 26 at the White House the National Endowment for the Humanities launched Picturing America, an innovative program that helps teach American history and provides students with a gateway to the broader world of the humanities. [Picturing America](#) is composed of 40 carefully selected works of American art spanning several centuries. The NEH will distribute reproductions to schools and libraries nationwide....

National Endowment for the Humanities, Feb. 27



[Academic librarians and scholarly LIS journals](#)

Steven Bell writes: "Thanks to everyone who took two minutes or so to complete the completely unscientific survey instrument I created to capture some information about your reading habits when it comes to scholarly journals targeted to academic librarians. It's good to see that academic librarians are reading the scholarly journals after all—or at least scanning the contents. Hey, one person even admitted to reading the book reviews."...

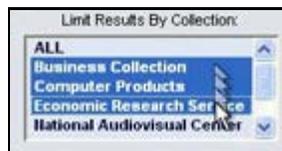
ACRLog, Mar. 17

[Better access to NTIS](#)

The National Technical Information Service has launched an improved search engine with such features as enhanced retrieval speed, expanded access, and efficient response to search requests.

Nearly 3 million NTIS records from 1964 to the present are retrievable, and you may order them in your choice of format (printed copy, downloads, CD-ROM, or microfiche)....

National Technical Information Service, Mar. 18



[Open-access dissertations](#) (subscription required)

Graduate students in the University of Iowa's writing programs are up in arms over a possible plan that could make their novels and other creative works—done as dissertations—freely available on the Web.

Language added to the thesis submission form this year says that the University of Iowa Library will scan hard-copy theses and “make them open-access documents,” which it defines as freely available over the internet and retrievable “via search engines such as Google.” However, it seems the plan is only in the very early [talking stage](#). Peter Suber has some [comments](#)....

Chronicle of Higher Education, Mar. 13; Emerging Writers Network, Mar. 17; Open Access News, Mar. 13

[Mellon grant to help catalog hidden collections](#)

The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation has awarded the Council on Library and Information Resources \$4.27 million to create a national program to identify and catalog hidden special collections and archives. Through a national competition, the program will award funds to institutions holding collections of high scholarly value that are difficult or impossible to locate through finding aids. Award recipients will create descriptive information for their hidden collections that will be linked to all other projects funded by this grant....

Council on Library and Information Resources, Mar. 18

[SLA lauds GAO report on EPA library closures](#)



The Special Libraries Association March 18 applauded the U.S. Government Accountability Office’s recent report on the Environmental Protection Agency’s library closures. SLA staff participated in the investigation to voice the concerns of the specialized librarian community. The GAO found that the EPA did not adequately consult agency staff, outside experts, or stakeholders before undertaking its reorganization, and failed to take into account the needs of the public to have access to the materials....

Special Libraries Association, Mar. 18

[FEMA funds to Findlay](#)

The Findlay–Hancock County (Ohio) Public Library has received notice of a \$1.43-million grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency to help pay for damage caused by the August 2007 flood in Findlay. President Bush declared the area a national disaster on September 11, 2007. The funds will be used to reconstruct the lower level of the building that was completely destroyed by the flood. The rest of the funds will be used for mitigation purposes....

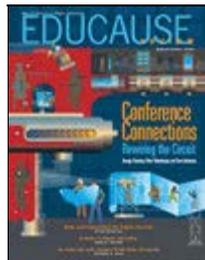


Findlay–Hancock County (Ohio) Public Library, Mar. 13

[Roles and expectations for digital libraries](#)

Peter Brantley writes: “Over the last 10 years, libraries have begun to struggle to put much of their content online. I think of these digital collections as ‘knapsacks’ of content. But the success of libraries is not to be counted by the number of books, either digital or paper, held by libraries or the number of pretty pictures that libraries can put online. Libraries are successful to the extent that they can bridge communities and can leverage the diversity of the quest, the research, and the discovery.”...

Educause Review 43, no. 2 (Mar/Apr.)



[A post-Patriot Reauthorization Act reassessment](#)

Susan Nevelow Mart writes: “Librarians do not oppose law

enforcement's legitimate efforts to fight terrorism through the use of legal process in libraries; what librarians oppose is government fishing expeditions directed at the content of what people read or access in the library. In light of the evidence of abuse of civil liberties and the questionable constitutionality of many of the Patriot Act's provisions, this paper suggests that the time for vigorous advocacy has not passed and that further legislative changes need to be made."...

Social Science Research Network, Mar. 12

[Children's librarian a finalist for Disney Chief Magic Official](#)

Jennifer Sechler, former children's librarian at Westerville (Ohio) Public Library, is one of 10 finalists for the honorary one-year position of Chief Magic Official for the Walt Disney Company. [Job duties](#) are making magical decrees, creating magic experiences, interacting with guests, and appearing at Walt Disney World and Disneyland. Watch her video and vote for your [favorite finalist](#) by March 22....



CareerBuilder

AL Direct, March 19, 2008

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The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | March 19, 2008

Contents

[U.S. & World News \[#usworld\]](#)
[ALA News \[#alanews\]](#)
[AL Focus \[#alfocus\]](#)
[Booklist Online \[#booklist\]](#)
[Anaheim Update \[#anaheim\]](#)
[Division News \[#divisionnews\]](#)
[Round Table News \[#roundtable\]](#)
[Awards \[#awards\]](#)
[Seen Online \[#seenonline\]](#)
[Tech Talk \[#techtalk\]](#)
[Actions & Answers \[#actionsanswers\]](#)
[Calendar \[#datebook\]](#)

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

[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

U.S. & World News

\$1-billion NYPL expansion to add branches, technology

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/march2008/nyplexpansion.cfm>]

New York Public Library announced a five-year, \$1-billion expansion March 11 with the goal of doubling its number of unique users. One element is a \$300-million renovation of the Humanities and Social Sciences Library on 5th Avenue that will transform it into a Central Library. The renovated library will also feature improved exhibition spaces, hundreds of new computers, wireless access, meeting rooms, programming venues, and a café....

Boston mayor, library trustees reach compromise

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/march2008/bostoncompromise.cfm>]

Boston Public Library trustees agreed at a March 11 board meeting to supply city hall with a detailed accounting of how proceeds from tens of

millions of dollars in its trust funds have been spent. In return, City Treasurer-Collector Lisa Signori promised to release about \$2.5 million in trust fund proceeds the city has held since December in a dispute about oversight....

Wyoming libraries get endowment fund

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/march2008/wyomingendowment.cfm>]

The Wyoming State House of Representatives voted 60–0 March 7 to pass the Public Library Endowment Challenge Program. The bill, S.F. 29, which passed the state senate February 21, establishes a \$9.1-million endowment for the state’s 23 public library systems. Prior to approval, the Senate Appropriations Committee decreased the figure down from its original \$25.3 million, but after two years of unsuccessful attempts to pass the legislation, many library supporters see the establishment of the endowment as the true victory....

books relocated after third challenge

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/march2008/nampabooks.cfm>]

In response to a third challenge by resident Randy Jackson, the Nampa (Idaho) Public Library board has relocated *The New Joy of Sex* and *The Joy of Gay Sex* to the director’s office so the titles can only be accessed by patrons who specifically request them....

TLA slams Memphis mayor for political library appointments

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/march2008/memphismayor.cfm>]

The Tennessee Library Association executive board has sent a terse open letter to Mayor Willie Herenton criticizing him for placing political appointees in charge of the Memphis (Tenn.) Public Library and Information Center. The February 22 letter condemned the mayor’s dismissal of longtime library director Judith Drescher as “a slap in the face” to professional librarians, questioned why a national search wasn’t conducted for a replacement, and asked why the library is operating without a duly appointed library board of trustees....

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[<http://www.tech-logic.com/>]
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ALA News

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Jim Rettig testifies on EPA libraries

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=400>]

ALA President-elect Jim Rettig testified March 13 before the U.S. House of Representatives on the closure of libraries at the Environmental Protection Agency. Speaking to the House Committee on Science and Technology’s Subcommittee on Investigations and Oversight, Rettig spoke on several questions that have raised alarm bells within the library community, the science community, and several other affected

fields. Watch a webcast

[http://science.house.gov/publications/hearings_markup_details.aspx?NewsID=2118] of the entire hearing (Rettig begins at 33:20) or read his blog post

[<http://jimrettig.org/blog/2008/03/18/testifying-before-congress-about-epas-libraries/>] about the experience....

District Dispatch, Mar. 13; Twilight Librarian, Mar. 18

Second ALA Life

[<http://discuss.ala.org/marginalia/2008/03/14/second-ala-life/>]

Jenny Levine writes: “ALA continues to work with its members and the public to experiment in the virtual world Second Life. We held a party [<http://flickr.com/photos/blazingdaze/1460359369/>] in-world for Banned Books Week last year, and this year some very knowledgeable students in San Jose State University’s SLIS helped rebuild our island. We went from a fairly static, sectioned presence to a more interactive and visually interesting one. There’s a new events area, information about each of our divisions, general information about ALA, some games, and other things to explore.”...

ALA Marginalia, Mar. 14

Try out for a National Library Week prize

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/march2008/nlwstories.htm>]

The Campaign for America’s Libraries is collecting examples from libraries about how they plan to “Join the circle of knowledge @ your library” during National Library Week

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pio/natlibraryweek/nlw.htm>] (April 13–19), and there are rewards for sharing your story. From now until April 21, libraries are encouraged to submit stories, photos, and videos of NLW activities. Libraries can upload videos to You Tube,

[<http://www.youtube.com/group/nlw>] submit photos to Flickr,

[<http://www.flickr.com/groups/nlw/>] or submit a story to the National Library Week 2008 database.

[http://cs.ala.org/websurvey/pio/national_library_week/] Three winners will be selected....

Political speech this election year

[<http://discuss.ala.org/marginalia/2008/03/12/election-year/>]

Mary Ghikas writes: “We are in the midst of an exciting and interesting election year. But that means I must remind you to avoid any action that could give the impression that the ALA—rather than you as an individual private citizen—is engaging in political speech (“the support of or opposition to a candidate for public office”) or that ALA resources are being used for that purpose. ALA, because of its particular tax-exempt status, is expressly, absolutely prohibited by the U.S. Internal Revenue Code from engaging in political speech.”...

ALA Marginalia, Mar. 12

PIO launches PR blog

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/march2008/blog08.htm>]

The Public Information Office and the Campaign for America’s Libraries are sharing valuable tips on promoting libraries with a new blog, Visibility @ your library. [<http://www.pio.ala.org/visibility/>] This blog will provide librarians and library supporters with news and information

about important communications issues. First up is a podcast (MP3 file [<http://pio.ala.org/visibility/wp-content/uploads/visibility.03-10.mp3>]) with American Libraries Editor-in-Chief Leonard Kniffel (right), who explains how news and features get into the magazine and its suite of products....

South Africa celebrates

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/march2008/southafrica.htm>]
The Library and Information Association of South Africa, the newest member of the ALA/IFLA Campaign for the World's Libraries [<http://www.ifla.org/@yourlibrary/index.htm>], celebrates South Africa Library Week this week with the theme "From local to global @ your library." The theme was inspired by Neal Petersen, a South African yachtsman who was the first black man to sail solo around the world....

AL Focus

Doodlebug [<http://alfocus.ala.org/videos/doodlebug>]
Nick Baker (Short Pencil Saga [<http://alfocus.ala.org/videos/short-pencil-saga>], March of the Librarians) returns with another humorous take (0:33) on library life. This time out, he discovers the real culprit behind those annoying doodles you sometimes find in your library books....

Featured review: Media

[http://booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=2461192]
Gantos, Jack. I Am Not Joey Pigza. Nov. 2007. 5 hrs. Listening Library, CD. Grades 5-8 (978-0-7393-6147-4).

With the return of his good-for-nothing dad, Joey Pigza embarks on a new batch of adventures in this fourth title in the popular Pigza series. Joey's dad, whose new business venture is a bee-themed diner, renames everyone in the family (their surname is now Heinz), including the dogs. Joey (now called Freddy) struggles with his dad's return and wonders if he can forgive him for the past. As creator of the hyperactive Joey character, Gantos brings empathy and understanding to his reading, fleshing out Joey rather than making him seem like a caricature....

Booklist Online teams with Baker & Taylor

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/march2008/team08.htm>]
Ordering selected materials will become easier for libraries after a unique functionality between online products Booklist Online and Title Source 3 from Baker & Taylor launches in late March. Title Source 3 customers will be able to click on a list of selected titles built into Booklist Online and place orders directly into Title Source 3 without having to navigate out of Booklist Online....

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

Anaheim Update

Airports serving Anaheim

[<http://www.anaheimoc.org/Articles/Archive/Webpage10258.asp>]

Four airports serve the Anaheim/Orange County Area. The closest to the Convention Center is the John Wayne Orange County Airport, [<http://www.ocair.com/>] with a drive time of 20 minutes (13 miles) to Anaheim. When the airport was renamed after John Wayne in 1979, sculptor Robert Summers was commissioned to create a bronze statue of "the Duke." It now stands in the lobby of the Thomas F. Riley Terminal. Other airports are Long Beach Airport (30 minutes away), Ontario International (45 minutes away), and Los Angeles International (50 minutes away)....
Anaheim/Orange County Visitor and Convention Bureau

ALA discounts on Disney Park tickets

[<http://www.conventionguest.com/ALA08/>]

Disney is offering exclusive discounted Disneyland park tickets to attendees of the ALA Annual Conference. These discounted tickets will not be available at the gate and must be purchased online prior to June 11. The discounts range from \$10 to \$80, depending on the type of ticket purchased. There is a shipping and handling charge of \$11.95 for the continental United States. The tickets are valid for 14 days from the time of first use....
Disneyland Resort

Conference networking for introverts

[<http://www.slaw.ca/2008/03/16/networking-for-introverts/>]

Allison Wolf writes: "Do you dread networking events? Wonder about what to say? Do you find there is something uncomfortable or possibly distasteful about the seemingly compulsory exchange of business cards? If so, then you probably value sincerity and professionalism. Too often networking is reduced to a numbers game of how many business cards you can pass out in an hour. If you are looking for a different approach, one more in alignment with your professional values, then read on."...
Slaw.ca, Mar. 16

[<http://www.tutor.com/libraries/ttw/>]

Division News

Little Miss Sunshine brightens School Library Media Month

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/march2008/sunshine08.htm>]

Abigail Breslin, nominated for an Academy Award for her role in Little

Miss Sunshine and starring in the soon-to-be-released Kit Kittredge: An American Girl, has been named a national spokesperson for 2008 School Library Media Month.

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aasl/aaslissues/aasladvocacy/schoollibrary.cfm>]
AASL has collaborated with Picturehouse, HBO Films, and American Girl to produce a poster featuring Breslin. The poster, which includes on its back information about the Great Depression and a host of activities developed by the AASL School Library Media Month Task Force, will be distributed for free to AASL members working in middle and elementary schools....

YALSA seeks teen tech opinions

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/march2008/tts08.htm>]
YALSA is surveying teens through March 31 on their online habits. The Teen Technology Survey [http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=aRxCPNSXnOQfqHb2Zx4veg_3d_3d] seeks input on teen use of social networking sites, online tools like instant messaging, and online tasks such as shopping or research. It also asks teens about the nonprint and technological resources available at their public and school libraries and allows teens to vote on the 2009 Teen Tech Week theme....

YALSA offers travel help for YA Literature Symposium

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/march2008/symposium08.htm>]
YALSA is offering \$1,000 stipends to two division members to attend its inaugural Young Adult Literature Symposium at the Millennium Maxwell House Hotel in Nashville, November 7–9. Application [<http://www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/yalitsymposium/symposium.cfm>] deadline is May 1....

LAMA members to vote on name change

[http://blogs.ala.org/lamaleads.php?title=lama_members_to_vote_on_division_name_ch&more=1&c=1&tb=1&pb=1]
LAMA President Bede Mitchell writes: “The LAMA membership will be asked to vote on a proposed name change for our division to the Library Leadership and Management Association (LLAMA). The proposal will be on this spring ballot, which will be available very shortly, but the idea has been simmering this entire decade.”...
Leads from LAMA, Mar. 15

Round Table News

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Read about the LSSIRT candidates

[http://www.ala.org/ala/lssirt/lssirtbenefits/February2008Final_2.pdf]
(PDF file)
The February newsletter of the Library Support Staff Interests Round Table offers biographies of and statements from the candidates for president, secretary, treasurer, and members-at-large of the round table....
LSSIRT Newsletter, Feb.

Awards

Sen. Feingold honored with James Madison Award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/march2008/feingoldmadison.htm>]

Senator Russ Feingold (D-Wis.) is the recipient of the 2008 James Madison Award, presented by ALA to honor those who, at the national level, have championed, protected, and promoted public access to government information. "His work in the United States Senate to promote the public's right to know has been extensive and effective," said ALA President Loriene Roy in her remarks at the National Freedom of Information Day Conference in Washington, D.C. Watch the Washington Office video [<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=403>] (0:45)....

ILA Intellectual Freedom Committee wins IF award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/march2008/ila08.htm>]

The Illinois Library Association's two-pronged approach to defending intellectual freedom—advocacy in the Illinois General Assembly and U.S. Congress and education within the library community and general public—has won for its Intellectual Freedom Committee the IFRT ProQuest/SIRS State and Regional Intellectual Freedom Achievement Award. ILA successfully mobilized its membership to influence the defeat of 16 separate legislative efforts to require filters on library computers....

OITP Copyright Award goes to Hoon

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/march2008/patterson2008.htm>]

Peggy Hoon, special assistant to the provost for copyright administration at North Carolina State University, is the 2008 recipient of the L. Ray Patterson Copyright Award: In Support of Users' Rights, which recognizes the contributions of an individual who pursues the constitutional purpose of U.S. copyright law, fair use, and the public domain. Sponsored by the Office for Information Technology Policy, the Patterson Award is named after Lyman Ray Patterson, an influential American copyright scholar and historian....

Tarin receives Catalyst for Change Award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/march2008/tarin08.htm>]

Patricia Tarin, former director of Knowledge River in the School of Information Resources and Library Science at the University of Arizona, is the 2008 recipient of the ALA Elizabeth Futas Catalyst for Change Award. This award is given biennially to an individual for making positive changes in the profession of librarianship and consists of a 24K gold-framed citation and \$1,000 contributed by the Elizabeth Futas Memorial Fund....

Chen receives Beta Phi Mu Award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/march2008/beta08.htm>]

Ching-chih Chen, professor of the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at Simmons College, has received the ALA 2008 Beta Phi Mu Award. This annual award, donated by the Beta Phi Mu International Library Science Honorary Society, is presented to a library school faculty member or to an individual for distinguished service to education

in librarianship....

Let's Talk About It: Jewish Literature

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/march2008/talk08.htm>] grants

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/march2008/talk08.htm>]

The ALA Public Programs Office and Nextbook (a gateway to Jewish literature, culture, and ideas) have selected 86 public and academic libraries in 34 states to receive grants for Let's Talk About It: Jewish Literature programs. The awards mark the final round of these grants.

View the full list

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/ppo/programs/currentprograms/letstalkaboutit/ltaijlphase2round2.cfm>] by state....

Winners selected for Great Stories CLUB grants

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/march2008/club08.htm>]

The Public Programs Office and YALSA have selected 173 libraries to receive Great Stories CLUB grants, which will support book discussion programs targeting troubled teens. Participating libraries will receive 11 sets of three theme-related books to provide to members of a book club. They will also have access to a variety of online resources, designed to help plan and implement programming. View the full list

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/ppo/programs/currentprograms/greatstories/gscgrantspring08.cfm>] by state....

Orange County Library System wins Wilson grant

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/march2008/wilson08.htm>]

The Orange County (Fla.) Library System is the 2008 winner of the H. W. Wilson Library Staff Development Grant. This award is presented annually to a library that demonstrates the greatest need for a staff development program that will further the goals and objectives of the library. The award is donated by the H. W. Wilson Company and consists of a citation and \$3,500 to assist with the development of a library staff-training program....

Deadline extended for student writing award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/march2008/litaexld08.htm>]

LITA has extended to April 10 the deadline for submitting a manuscript for consideration for the Ex Libris Student Writing Award. The award, which goes to an unpublished manuscript submitted by an LIS student, consists of \$1,000, a certificate, and publication in LITA's refereed journal, Information Technology and Libraries....

Sonya Hartnett wins Lindgren Award

[<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/03/12/AR2008031203549.html>]

Australian author Sonya Hartnett is the winner of the \$818,000 Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award for Literature, the highest-paying children's book award in the world. Hartnett published her first novel, *Trouble All the Way*, at the age of 15 and since then has written 18 novels for children, young people, and adults. The Swedish National Arts Council award is named after Astrid Lindgren, the Swedish children's writer whose *Pippi Longstocking* has captivated generations of children around the world....

Associated Press, Mar. 13

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[<http://www.queenslibrary.org/jobs>]
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Seen Online
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Movers and Shakers for 2008

[<http://www.libraryjournal.com/article/CA6535095.html>]

The 50 individuals who are Library Journal's 2008 Movers and Shakers represent thousands of others across North America who are transforming libraries for the better. They work in public libraries, in school and academic libraries, in law firms and hospitals, in companies and government. Like those thousands, this year's Movers didn't ask for recognition—in fact, they don't even know when they've been nominated by their colleagues. See the full list

[<http://www.libraryjournal.com/toc-archive/2008/20080315.html?section=Movers+%26+Shakers>] here....

Library Journal, Mar. 15

Word in two Tampa school library books angers family

[<http://www.tampabay.com/news/education/k12/article421608.ece>]

Two months ago, when Ashyaa Brown, a student in the gifted program at Hilda T. Turner Elementary School in Tampa, Florida, discovered a racially offensive term in two books from the school's accelerated reading list, her parents complained. Media Specialist Donna Simonetti-Tedesco told Darryl Brown he could file a formal complaint, but used the "n word" when discussing the book's contents. That incensed him even more, and now she has been reported to the Office of Professional Standards to review her use of language....

St. Petersburg (Fla.) Times, Mar. 17

Jazz musician announces New Orleans Library plan

[http://blog.nola.com/entertainment/2008/03/trumpeter_to_help_new_orleans.html]

Jazz trumpeter Irvin Mayfield, who is also chair of the New Orleans Public Library Board of Directors, unveiled a 25-year, \$625-million plan (PDF file

[<http://www.nutrias.org/~nopl/masterplan/noplmasterplan2008.pdf>]) March 18 for a reinvigorated library system that reflects the city's identity.

It would start with a jazz-themed branch that houses early recordings and reviews. Other branches planned for the next 5-10 years include a culinary branch based on the city's unique cuisine, and an architecture branch that pays homage to the city's woodworkers and ironworkers....

New Orleans Times-Picayune, Mar. 18

Berkeley East Asian Library is first of its kind

[http://origin.mercurynews.com/news/ci_8600340]

The new \$46.4-million, four-story, C. V. Starr East Asian Library opened March 17 at the University of California-Berkeley, with 450,000 items in

Chinese, Japanese, and Korean under one roof for students, scholars, and members of the public alike. The university says it is the first freestanding structure at a U.S. university built solely for East Asian collections....

San Jose (Calif.) Mercury News, Mar. 17

Marathon County librarians accept downgrades

[<http://www.wausaudailyherald.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080317/WDH0101/80317104/1981>]

Three librarians whose positions at the downtown Wausau library were eliminated have accepted the new positions offered—and the \$10,000 pay cuts that go with them—but not without continued outcry. Library director Phyllis Christensen announced at the March 17 Marathon County (Wis.) Public Library trustees meeting that Sharyn Heili, Diane Peterson, and Michael O’Connor have accepted the spots offered them as customer service librarians....

Wausau (Wis.) Daily Herald, Mar. 17

California librarian fired after reporting child-porn incident

[<http://www.visaliatimesdelta.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080318/NEWS01/80318013>]

The Tulare County (Calif.) Board of Supervisors issued a statement

[<http://www.visaliatimesdelta.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080318/NEWS01/80318015>] March 18 saying that officials had “legitimate business

reasons” to fire

[<http://www.visaliatimesdelta.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080314/NEWS01/803140331>] Lindsay branch librarian Brenda Biesterfeld and that her

dismissal had nothing to do with her reporting a child-pornography incident at the library. But Biesterfeld has no doubt that losing her job

March 6 stemmed from her decision to call police about a man she saw viewing images of naked boys on one of the library’s public computers

February 28. When she reported it to her supervisor Judi Hill, she was told not to go to police. She did so anyway, resulting in the

patron’s arrest. The incident has generated nationwide debate

[<http://www.visaliatimesdelta.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080318/NEWS01/803180318>]....

Visalia (Calif.) Times-Delta, Mar. 14, 18

Library scuffle injures director

[http://www.pittsburghlive.com/x/pittsburghtrib/search/s_557237.html]

The director of the Greensburg Hempfield (Pa.) Area Library was injured March 12 while blocking a married couple who allegedly tried to steal a

Christmas novel, Finding Noel by Richard Paul Evans. During a scuffle near the metal detector at the downtown library’s entrance, David Shawn

Cook allegedly shoved Director Cesare J. Muccari, who needed three staples to close a gash on the right side of his head. Cook turned

himself in March 15 and was charged

[http://www.pittsburghlive.com/x/pittsburghtrib/search/s_557787.html]

with simple assault, conspiracy, and harassment....

Pittsburgh Tribune-Review, Mar. 14, 18

Middle-school library affirms occult titles

[<http://www.buffalonews.com/cityregion/southernsuburbs/story/298128.html>]

The Lackawanna (N.Y.) School Board voted 5–2 March 12 to restore six book

titles to a list of 280 supernatural-fiction books recommended by its middle-school library committee following accusations of censorship by some parents and teachers. In January, a board member had asked that the books be pulled for review, but that didn't sit well with some parents. Lisa Berst, middle-school librarian and a member of the library committee, said the books were recommended for library shelves because of their popularity with students....

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

Court: Drug testing unnecessary for library workers

[<http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2008/03/13/BA1FVJK4K.DTL&tsp=1>]

A city can't require all job applicants to be screened for narcotics and must instead show why drug use in a particular job would be dangerous, a federal appeals court ruled March 13. The Ninth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco ruled against the city of Woodburn, Oregon, which argued it was entitled to maintain a drug-free workplace. The city was sued by Janet Lanier, whose job offer as a part-time page at the city library was withdrawn in 2004 when she refused a drug and alcohol test. The court found no basis to test applicants for library positions....

San Francisco Chronicle, Mar. 14

Magazines dust off their back issues

[<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/03/17/business/media/17mags.html>]

As magazines and newspapers hunt for the new thing they need to be to thrive in the internet era, some find that part of the answer lies in the old thing they used to be. Publications are rediscovering their archives, like a person learning that a hand-me-down coffee table is a valuable antique. For magazines and newspapers with long histories, especially, old material can be reborn on the Web as an inexpensive way to attract readers, advertisers, and money....

New York Times, Mar. 17

Print encyclopedias in crisis

[<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/03/16/weekinreview/16ncohen.html>]

A series of announcements from publishers across the globe in the last few weeks suggests that ahead of other books, magazines, and even newspapers, the classic multivolume encyclopedia is well on its way to becoming an internet casualty. Sales of the printed edition of Encyclopaedia Britannica are just 10% of what they were in 1990, Brockhaus is putting all 300,000 of its articles online for free, and Gyldendal has decided that the subscription plan for its online encyclopedia is misguided....

New York Times, Mar. 16

Focus on algebra, panel tells schools

[<http://www.csmonitor.com/2008/0314/p02s01-legn.html>]

American students have fallen below top-performing nations in math because their courses skim the surface of too many topics, critics say. The National Mathematics Advisory Panel is calling for schools to focus on key topics that promote success in algebra, a gatekeeper for higher-level math and science. Its closely watched report

[<http://www.ed.gov/about/bdscomm/list/mathpanel/index.html>] Foundations for Success, released March 13, is part of a growing chorus of voices

calling for reform in U.S. math education....
Christian Science Monitor, Mar. 13

Chicago “One Book” pick is a Chandler classic
[<http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/chi-one-book-chicagomar15,0,869284.stor>
y]

The Long Goodbye by hard-boiled master Raymond Chandler is the 14th and latest book selected for the Chicago Public Library's "One Book, One Chicago" program. Twice a year, in the spring and fall, the library selects a new title for the program in an effort to promote reading and discussion among all city residents. "This program reminds us that we just can't tell kids reading is important," Chicago Mayor Richard Daley said. "We as adults have to set an example."...
Chicago Tribune, Mar. 15

Julia Keller on public libraries
[http://www.pbs.org/newshour/bb/social_issues/jan-june08/libraries_03-13.ht
ml]

Chicago Tribune columnist Julia Keller reflected on the future of public libraries on The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer: "The way we get our knowledge may change, but human nature doesn't. And there is something profoundly consoling about a public library, about a shared space brimming with stories."...
The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer, Mar. 13

Librarian sues Ohio State to get his job back
[http://www.dispatch.com/live/content/local_news/stories/2008/03/15/Savagesuit.ART_ART_03-15-08_B3_J59LCAT.html]

A former head of reference and instructional services at Ohio State University's Mansfield campus, who was accused of sexual harassment in 2006 after recommending a conservative book for freshmen, has filed a lawsuit against the university and some of its faculty. Scott Savage, who said he resigned because of personal and professional attacks on his character, is asking for his job back and for OSU to be forced to change its sexual-harassment policies....
Columbus (Ohio) Dispatch, Mar. 15

Gangs lay siege to Scottish library
[<http://news.scotsman.com/latestnews/Gangs-put-library-under-siege.3884348.jp>]

Police have been called 19 times in the last three months to a library in suburban Edinburgh after the building became a target for teenage gangs. Regular users of Muirhouse Library say they are being driven out by "intimidating" groups of youths who are using the internet facilities. On one occasion, police were called to the library three times in one night when £3,000 worth of damage was caused to the toilets. While officers were inside inspecting the damage, the police car was vandalized outside the library....
Edinburgh Evening News, Mar. 17

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[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

Tech Talk

Fly through your images

[<http://theshiftedlibrarian.com/archives/2008/03/14/flying-through-pictures.html>]

Jenny Levine writes: “Check out the cool PicLens [<http://www.piclens.com/>] browser extension for Firefox or Internet Explorer on Windows or Mac. It gives you a full-screen experience of flying through a photostream from a variety of websites. Simply install the extension and a small play button will appear over pictures on certain websites (such as Flickr, Facebook, and Google Image Search). Click on the play button and you’ll see a wall of the images that you can maneuver through. It’s very cool.” Download it and check out Jenny’s Flickr set

[<http://flickr.com/photos/shifted/sets/72157604142377648/>] from the Delft (Holland) Public Library, “quite possibly the most amazing library I’ve ever seen.”...

The Shifted Librarian, Mar. 14

Facebook adds privacy controls, chat

[<http://www.techcrunch.com/2008/03/18/facebook-to-launch-new-privacy-controls-confirms-chat-is-coming/>]

Michael Arrington writes: “Facebook announced new privacy controls at a press event at their Palo Alto headquarters March 18, and also demoed a new chat application—called Facebook Chat—that has been rumored since last week. The new privacy controls, scheduled to launch March 19, allow users to do more with Friend Lists. And in coming weeks, users will see a chat bar on the bottom of all Facebook pages, showing which of their friends are online, who they’re chatting with currently, and other controls.”...

TechCrunch, Mar. 18

Google Books Availability API

[<http://googleblog.blogspot.com/2008/03/book-info-where-you-need-it-when-you.html>]

Google has released a new API that lets you link easily to any of its books. Web developers can use the Books Viewability API

[<http://code.google.com/apis/books>] to quickly find out a book’s viewability

[<http://books.google.com/intl/en/googlebooks/screenshots.html>] on Google Book Search and, in an automated fashion, embed a link to the book in Google Book Search on their own sites. Here

[<http://catalog.dpls.lib.or.us/record=b1022758>] is how the Deschutes (Oreg.) Public Library is using it....

Google Blog, Mar. 13

Top 10 DIY laptop stands

[<http://lifehacker.com/369689/top-10-diy-laptop-stands>]

Gina Trapani writes: “When your hot laptop needs ventilation and your wrists need a break from a flat keyboard, you can drop 50 bucks on a

fancy commercial laptop stand—or you can build one of your own. Do-it-yourself laptop users have built several creations from common household materials to keep their notebooks elevated while they work. Made of everything from wine corks to door stops to paper (and paper towel) holders, check out our favorite top 10 do-it-yourself laptop stands for your lap and workspace pleasure.”...
Lifehacker, Mar. 19

Network administrator’s toolkit
[<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2274959,00.asp>]
Oliver Rist writes: “Keeping your network healthy means putting together an effective toolkit to keep it running well. You’ll need more than a little black bag with screwdrivers and a cable crimper—you’ll need smart software and at least a little dedicated hardware. We’ve rounded up a set of software and hardware tools that will keep your network toolkit up-to-date—even extending to wireless networking. Best of all, these come in a wide range of prices.”...
PC Magazine, Mar. 11

Actions & Answers

On the Record, but off the track
[<http://www.guild2910.org/WorkingGrpResponse2008.pdf>] (PDF file)
LC Reference Librarian Thomas Mann has responded to On the Record (PDF file
[<http://www.loc.gov/bibliographic-future/news/lcwg-ontherecord-jan08-final.pdf>]), the final report of the Library of Congress Working Group on the Future of Bibliographic Control, in a 38-page paper. He writes that its recommendations, “while well-intentioned, are unfortunately so naïve about the requirements of scholarly research that, if implemented in the particular way proposed by the Group, will seriously undercut the capacity of scholarly researchers everywhere to pursue their topics systematically and at in-depth levels.” He does offer an alternative solution that “reflects reality over theory.”...
Library of Congress Professional Guild, Mar. 14

How-to video directory [<http://infodoodads.com/?p=330>]
Have you ever wanted to know how to make Challah bread the old fashioned way? Try out Videojug [<http://videojug.com>], voted best online video site of 2007 by OVGuide. They call themselves “the world’s most comprehensive library of free factual video content online.” The video quality is much better than what you find on YouTube and is generally edited decently well. They have offices in the U.K. and the U.S., so you get a fair amount of videos with those fantastic British accents....
Infodoodads, Mar. 18

RDA/MARC working group established
[<http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/jsc/rdamarSWG.html>]
Under the auspices of the British Library, the Library and Archives Canada, and the Library of Congress, an RDA/MARC Working Group has been established to collaborate on the development of proposals for changes to

the MARC 21 formats to accommodate the encoding of RDA data. With the implementation of RDA anticipated for late 2009, the Working Group will be drafting proposals for review and discussion by the MARC community in June....

Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA, Mar. 13

Using trading cards as a promotional tool

[<http://cebuzz.wordpress.com/2008/03/17/using-trading-cards-as-promotional-tool/>]

Max Anderson writes: "At SOLINET, we are trying new and funky ways to make sure not only our fellow staff members know what we do, but also people we meet out in the field. The cost was quite good, and we even had them printed on post-consumer waste paper to fall in with our green initiatives this year. We are doing a Training Showcase March 24 to promote our newest classes to staff members, and each will get one of our cards." The picture is on one side, interesting facts are on the verso....

CE Buzz, Mar. 17

) to link to you

[<http://www.informationweek.com/news/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=206903066>]

Cory Doctorow writes: "I love getting good suggestions for things to write about in Boing Boing, but often I can't write about them because the people who posted the material did something crazy. These are simple design and deployment mistakes that kept me from picking up a link and reposting it where millions might find it. Here's the list, a kind of antichecklist for anyone who's spending money and time trying to get a message out."...

Information Week, Mar. 11

Picturing America program launched at White House

[<http://www.neh.gov/news/archive/20080227.html>]

On February 26 at the White House the National Endowment for the Humanities launched Picturing America, an innovative program that helps teach American history and provides students with a gateway to the broader world of the humanities. Picturing America

[<http://picturingamerica.neh.gov/>] is composed of 40 carefully selected works of American art spanning several centuries. The NEH will distribute reproductions to schools and libraries nationwide....

National Endowment for the Humanities, Feb. 27

Academic librarians and scholarly LIS journals

[<http://acrlog.org/2008/03/17/you-do-read-some-of-those-journals/>]

Steven Bell writes: "Thanks to everyone who took two minutes or so to complete the completely unscientific survey instrument I created to capture some information about your reading habits when it comes to scholarly journals targeted to academic librarians. It's good to see that academic librarians are reading the scholarly journals after all—or at least scanning the contents. Hey, one person even admitted to reading the book reviews."...

ACRLog, Mar. 17

Better access to NTIS [<http://www.ntis.gov/>]

The National Technical Information Service has launched an improved search engine with such features as enhanced retrieval speed, expanded

access, and efficient response to search requests. Nearly 3 million NTIS records from 1964 to the present are retrievable, and you may order them in your choice of format (printed copy, downloads, CD-ROM, or microfiche)....

National Technical Information Service, Mar. 18

Open-access dissertations [<http://chronicle.com/daily/2008/03/2029n.htm>]
(subscription required)

Graduate students in the University of Iowa's writing programs are up in arms over a possible plan that could make their novels and other creative works—done as dissertations—freely available on the Web.

Language added to the thesis submission form this year says that the University of Iowa Library will scan hard-copy theses and “make them open-access documents,” which it defines as freely available over the internet and retrievable “via search engines such as Google.” However, it seems the plan is only in the very early talking stage

[http://emergingwriters.typepad.com/emerging_writers_network/2008/03/an-update-on-th.html]. Peter Suber has some comments

[<http://www.earlham.edu/~peters/fos/2008/03/controversy-over-oa-for-fine-arts.html>]....

Chronicle of Higher Education, Mar. 13; Emerging Writers Network, Mar. 17; Open Access News, Mar. 13

Mellon grant to help catalog hidden collections

[<http://www.clir.org/news/pressrelease/08hiddenpr.html>]

The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation has awarded the Council on Library and Information Resources \$4.27 million to create a national program to identify and catalog hidden special collections and archives. Through a national competition, the program will award funds to institutions holding collections of high scholarly value that are difficult or impossible to locate through finding aids. Award recipients will create descriptive information for their hidden collections that will be linked to all other projects funded by this grant....

Council on Library and Information Resources, Mar. 18

SLA lauds GAO report on EPA library closures

[<http://www.sla.org/content/SLA/pressroom/pressrelease/08pr/pr2806.cfm>]

The Special Libraries Association March 18 applauded the U.S. Government Accountability Office's recent report on the Environmental Protection Agency's library closures. SLA staff participated in the investigation to voice the concerns of the specialized librarian community. The GAO found that the EPA did not adequately consult agency staff, outside experts, or stakeholders before undertaking its reorganization, and failed to take into account the needs of the public to have access to the materials....

Special Libraries Association, Mar. 18

FEMA funds to Findlay

[<http://findlaylibrary.blogspot.com/2008/03/fema-approval.html>]

The Findlay–Hancock County (Ohio) Public Library has received notice of a \$1.43-million grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency to help pay for damage caused by the August 2007 flood in Findlay. President Bush declared the area a national disaster on September 11, 2007. The funds will be used to reconstruct the lower level of the building that was completely destroyed by the flood. The rest of the funds will be used for

mitigation purposes....

Findlay–Hancock County (Ohio) Public Library, Mar. 13

Roles and expectations for digital libraries

[<http://connect.educause.edu/Library/EDUCAUSE+Review/ArchitecturesforCollab/ora/46313>]

Peter Brantley writes: “Over the last 10 years, libraries have begun to struggle to put much of their content online. I think of these digital collections as ‘knapsacks’ of content. But the success of libraries is not to be counted by the number of books, either digital or paper, held by libraries or the number of pretty pictures that libraries can put online. Libraries are successful to the extent that they can bridge communities and can leverage the diversity of the quest, the research, and the discovery.”...

Educause Review 43, no. 2 (Mar/Apr.)

A post-Patriot Reauthorization Act reassessment

[http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=1105448]

Susan Nevelow Mart writes: “Librarians do not oppose law enforcement’s legitimate efforts to fight terrorism through the use of legal process in libraries; what librarians oppose is government fishing expeditions directed at the content of what people read or access in the library. In light of the evidence of abuse of civil liberties and the questionable constitutionality of many of the Patriot Act’s provisions, this paper suggests that the time for vigorous advocacy has not passed and that further legislative changes need to be made.”...

Social Science Research Network, Mar. 12

Children’s librarian a finalist for Disney Chief Magic Official

[<http://www.dreamcmo.com/jennifer>]

Jennifer Sechler, former children’s librarian at Westerville (Ohio)

Public Library, is one of 10 finalists for the honorary one-year position of Chief Magic Official for the Walt Disney Company. Job duties

[<http://www.dreamcmo.com/job-description-cmo.php>] are making magical decrees, creating magic experiences, interacting with guests, and appearing at Walt Disney World and Disneyland. Watch her video and vote for your favorite finalist [<http://www.dreamcmo.com/>] by March 22....

CareerBuilder [<http://www.shapingoutcomes.org>]

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/annual/2008a/geninfo.htm>]

ALA Annual Conference

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/annual/2008a/home.htm>] in Anaheim, California, June 26–July 2.

Actress and author Jamie Lee Curtis

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/annual/2008a/specialevents.htm#curtis>] will present the keynote address at the PLA President’s Program and Awards Presentation at ALA Annual Conference, June 30, 5:00–6:30 p.m., courtesy of HarperCollins Children’s Books.

[http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?_sn=catalog2&_pn=product_detail&_op=2470]

Academic, public, and school librarians who are considering an Information Commons or are looking for ways to improve their existing one will find a wealth of information in Transforming Library Service Through Information Commons

[http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?_sn=catalog2&_pn=product_detail&_op=2470] by D. Russell Bailey and Barbara Gunter Tierney. The authors provide 20 case studies with a wealth of how-to advice. NEW! From ALA Editions.

In this issue
March 2008

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/tableofcontents/2008contents/mar2008.cfm>]

All Seasons & All Reasons for Lifelong Learning

Story Quilt: Poems of a Place

ALA Candidates: Statements and Forum

Philadelphia
Wrap-up

Girls Raise Cash for Kenya

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/ourassociation/governanceofficeb/electioninfo/election2008.htm>]

Ballot mailing begins

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/ourassociation/governanceofficeb/electioninfo/election2008.htm>] this week, and the election polls are open.

Career Leads from

[<http://joblist.ala.org/>]

Library Director,

[<http://joblist.ala.org/modules/jobseeker/controller.cfm?scr=jobdetail&jobid=9903>] Harrisburg Area Community College, Lancaster Campus Library. Strong leadership, visionary, communication, financial, interpersonal skills with open, supportive style are essential. The college also plays a vital role in improving the quality of life in Central Pennsylvania by providing high-quality, low-cost, educational opportunities....

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

Digital Library of the Week

The Nebraska Public Documents [<http://cdrh.unl.edu/nebpubdocs/>] project provides free public access to digitized historic annual reports of state agencies in Nebraska for the use of students, scholars, and the general public. Eventually, the project will provide access to state government agency reports from 1891 through 1956, with metadata enhancements as funds become available. Earlier reports will be provided as they are located and digitized. This site is made possible through the funding and support of the Nebraska Library Commission, the Nebraska State Historical Society, the Nebraska State Records Board, the University of Nebraska at Omaha, and the Center for Digital Research in the Humanities at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

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

“Do you honestly believe that these books that contain mystery, adventure, and science fiction are reality? Let me know the next time you see someone flying by with supernatural powers, animals talking, dragons breathing fire, and goblins living amongst us. . . . Please let me know and I’ll contact the proper authorities.”

?Lackawanna, New York, parent Lisa Lofredo, in expressing her objections to the school board’s reconsideration of such “occult” titles as Eoin Colfer’s *The Supernaturalist* for area middle schools, Buffalo (N.Y.) News, Mar. 15.

Want to discuss an issue or news item you’ve read about in AL Direct? Start a topic [<http://al.ala.org/forum/viewforum.php?f=13>] in AL Forum, where readers can sound off and hold forth. If it’s your first visit, be sure to check out the FAQ. [<http://al.ala.org/forum/faq.php?sid=7b1a92ea10b2aa20988b46bec1de57e9>] You have to register [<http://al.ala.org/forum/profile.php?mode=register&sid=7b1a92ea10b2aa20988b46bec1de57e9>] before can post, and you have to read the first question in the FAQ before you can register.

Ask the ALA Librarian

Q. Is learning about Second Life worth my time?

A. Like blogs, wikis, MySpace, Plinkit, and all the other Internet Web 2.0 and Library 2.0 tools, [http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Using_Current_Technologies] Second Life is what you make of it. This online virtual world [http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Second_Life] allows for unique social interaction with others. If you can't see using it for patron outreach, consider using it to communicate with other librarians and library workers. From the ALA Professional Tips wiki. [http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Second_Life_and_Libraries]

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

Calendar

Mar. 25–28:

Catholic Library Association, [http://www.cathla.org/convention_2008.php] Annual Convention, Embassy Hotel, Indianapolis.

Mar. 25–29:

Public Library Association, [<http://www.placonference.org/>] 12th National Conference, Minneapolis.

Apr. 12:

Third Annual Newberry Library/Caxton Club Symposium on the Book, [http://www.caxtonclub.org/events/2008_symposium.html] Newberry Library, Chicago. "Rare Books and the Common Good: American Perspectives." Seating is limited, so advance registration is required. Contact: Caxton Club. [<mailto:caxtonclub@newberry.org>]

Apr. 12:

Drop Everything and Read Day, [<http://www.dropeverythingandread.com/>] sponsored by HarperCollins, encourages families to designate at least 30 minutes to enjoy books together. Libraries must request materials [<mailto:dear@harpercollins.com>] by March 20.

Apr. 13–19:

National Library Week. [<http://www.ala.org/pio/nlw/>] "Join the circle of knowledge @ your library."

Apr. 15:

National Library Workers Day. [<http://ala-apa.org/about/nlwd.html>] "Libraries Work Because We Do!"

Apr. 23:
Green Libraries Unconference,
[<http://greenlibraries.wetpaint.com/?t=anon>]Arlington (Va.) Public
Library. Explore ideas for greening public libraries, developing
sustainable business practices, and creating public information. Contact:
Steve Carr. [<mailto:scarr3@arlingtonva.us>]

Apr. 23–25:
Conference on Understanding Institutional Copyright Policy,
[<https://www.academicimpressions.com/conferences/0408-copyright.php>] Omni
Austin Hotel, Austin, Texas.

May 13–14:
National Library Legislative Day,
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/washoff/washevents/nlld/nlld2008.cfm>] Washington,
D.C.

Sept. 3–5:
Triple-I, [<http://kmi.tugraz.at/workshop/KASW08/>] “Knowledge Acquisition
from the Social Web,” Messe Center, Graz, Austria. This workshop aims to
develop and bring together a community of researchers interested in
discussing the manifold challenges and potentials of knowledge
acquisition from the social web. Submit presentation application by April
28.

@ 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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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 | March 26, 2008

Contents

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



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

[First Lady Laura Bush discusses plans with American Libraries](#)

In an exclusive interview at the White House March 19, First Lady Laura Bush told *American Libraries* that she would definitely play a role in the establishment of her husband's presidential library at Southern Methodist University in Dallas.



The first librarian ever to be First Lady of the United States, Mrs. Bush also talked about how her profession influenced her own initiatives and will continue to do so when President George W. Bush's term ends next January 20. An American Libraries Focus [videocast](#) (21:52) as well as a [transcript](#) of the interview with Laura Bush are available on the AL website....

[Memphis mayor announces closings of five library branches](#)

Memphis Mayor Willie Herenton announced March 18 that the city will close five library branches for reasons of efficiency and economy. The closings, along with those of four community centers, will save an estimated \$1.5–\$2 million annually. The closings of the Cossit, Highland, Poplar-White Station, Gaston, and Levi branches were recommended in an efficiency study released last April....



[Spokane moms win state funding for school libraries](#)

The advocacy of three determined Spokane women has resulted in the first-ever state-level support for school libraries in the state of Washington. A compromise budget passed March 12 includes \$4 million, which breaks down to \$4.09 per student, for the 2008–09 academic year to maintain and improve library materials, collections, and services, Lisa Layera Brunkan of Fund Our Future Washington told *American Libraries*....



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outcomes**

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IN LIBRARIES AND MUSEUMS

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www.shapingoutcomes.org



[ALA Annual Conference](#)

in Anaheim, California,
June 26–July 2.



Afghan-American writer



ALA News

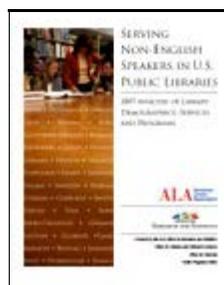
[Polls open in ALA elections](#)

The polls for the ALA 2008 elections opened March 17, with online voters receiving electronic ballot information between March 17 and 19, while paper ballot packages were mailed between March 17 and March 24. The last time for returning the ballots is April 24 at 11:59 p.m., Central time. Election results will be announced May 2. The 2008 ballot meets all applicable W3C accessibility standards and can be read by common screen readers for people with disabilities....



[Serving non-English speakers in public libraries](#)

A newly released ALA study provides information about library services and programs developed for non-English speakers, including effectiveness of services, barriers to library use, most frequently used services, and most successful library programs by language served. Some 78% of libraries reported Spanish as the priority #1 language for which they develop services and programs; Asian languages ranked second in priority at 29%. Find the full report ([PDF file](#)) online....



[Tales from an Emerging Leader](#)

Jessica Trujillo, an ALSC-sponsored 2008 Emerging Leader, writes: "When I was young, the term 'leader' sent chills down my spine; as a young adult, my mental picture of a leader was some guy with slicked-back hair in a power suit, wheeling and dealing—the kind of person who would put an old lady out on the street, in the cold, while it's raining. But my ideas of leadership became more nuanced as I gained more life and career experience. So when I saw the advertisement for the Emerging Leaders Program, I thought this might be an opportunity to gain more skills at becoming an effective leader."...

ALSC Blog, Mar. 21

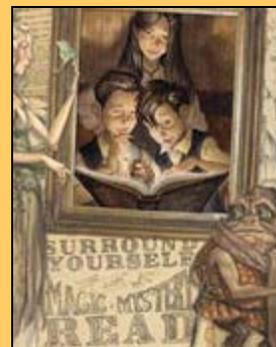
AL Focus

[National Library Week video: The reference desk](#)

"How do you undo nerve gas?" "How do you make rope out of human hair?" "Would you mind checking out this rash?" These and other burning reference questions are answered in this National Library Week (April 13–19) homage (1:55) to the 7.2 million questions answered weekly by the nation's public and academic librarians. Starring Chicago improv comic Shad Kunkle, and shot at lovely Morton College Library in Cicero, Illinois. The [animated introduction](#) is available as a separate video (0:21) that can be [downloaded](#) and incorporated into your own NLW productions....



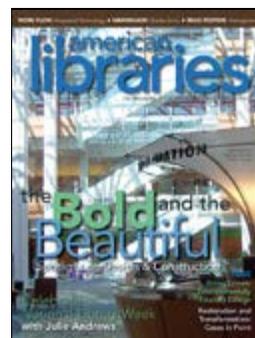
[Khaled Hosseini](#) (*The Kite Runner*, *A Thousand Splendid Suns*) will be an Auditorium Speaker, Tuesday, July 1, 8–9 a.m.



Fantastical readers can enter the mystical world of [The Spiderwick Chronicles](#) and appreciate your library's fantasy collection with this captivating poster and bookmark featuring art from the award-winning series by Tony DiTerlizzi and Holly Black. The movie opened in February and stars Freddie Highmore and Sarah Bolger. Their world is closer than you think! **NEW! From ALA Graphics.**

In this issue

April 2008



Going for the Green

Booklist

ONLINE

Featured review: Reference

Thompson, Jason. *Manga: The Complete Guide*. Oct. 2007. 553p. Del Rey, paperback (978-0-345-48590-8).

The *complete* in the title of this compendium is no misnomer. This is a comprehensive overview of *manga*, the genre of graphic literature sometimes referred to as Japanese comic books. Thompson, a longtime *manga* advocate and enthusiast, provides extensive background information, definitions, time lines, and in-depth explanations of numerous types and subgenres, themes and characters, formats, and audiences. Most importantly, he has compiled reviews of every *manga* series ever translated and released in the U.S....



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

Anaheim Update

Digital Anaheim

Browse through some 2,000 photos of historic Anaheim, California, in this digital collection hosted by the Anaheim Public Library. These unique local history resources have been organized for easy browsing by Anaheim residents, scholars, and history buffs throughout California and the world. The categories on this web page are based on the Anaheim City School District's local history curriculum for third grade classes....

Anaheim (Calif.) Public Library



Shop and restaurant map (PDF file)

Use this map to find out what dining, car rental, and business facilities are located near the Convention Center and the Disneyland Resort. Note that the Tourism Information Center at 1500 S. Harbor Boulevard offers discount tickets and coupons....

Anaheim Convention Center



Division News

Library Design Showcase

Makeover at the Mansion

Learning Side by Side

Homegrown Superstars Say READ to Succeed

John Hancock
the future is yours

ALA now offers [long-term care insurance](#)

from John Hancock Life Insurance Company as a membership benefit on a voluntary discounted premium basis. The policy provides benefits to help you and your family manage the cost of long-term care services that may be needed when you can no longer perform normal activities of daily living. The benefit is also available at discounted premiums to eligible family members as well.



Mark your calendars: There are only eight weeks remaining until [National Library Legislative Day](#), May 13-14. Each year, hundreds

[PLA National Conference in the news](#)

Melissa Brechon, director of the Carver County (Minn.) Library System, appeared on KSAX-TV in Alexandria March 22 to discuss the role of technology and free internet access in public libraries. Brechon also referred to the PLA National Conference taking place this week in Minneapolis....
KSAX-TV, Mar. 22



[Romance Readers Advisory at PLA](#)

Michael May writes: "I thought I'd try something different for my first preconference session, so I attended [Romance Readers Advisory 101](#). I sat in the back row with the other three guys. More than 64 million Americans read romance novels last year, and romance accounts for about 25% of all library circulation. Romance author Elizabeth Boyle summed it up nicely: 'We need romance novels. Dreaming big makes you a better person. If we all believed in happy endings, the world would be a better place.'"...
PLA Blog, Mar. 26

[PLA needs your data](#)

The *Public Library Data Service Survey* for the 2008 statistical report is currently underway. Since its beginning in 1988, the PLDS reports have been used extensively by the press to understand the public library and its environment. If your library has not received information on completing this year's survey, please contact [Virgil Varvel](#). The deadline is April 9....
PLA Blog, Mar. 20

[LITA offers three workshops in Anaheim](#)

LITA is offering three full-day educational workshops on June 27 at ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, California. The topics are library-wide IT proficiency, datagrid technologies and libraries, and getting started with Drupal....

[FOLUSA-ALTA author tea](#)

Join Friends of Libraries USA and ALTA for this traditional author event featuring authors Jacqueline Winspear (right), Ron Carlson, Christopher Reich, and Rick Wartzman talking about their current and forthcoming books. A book signing will follow the program, with some books given away free and others available for purchase at a generous discount. Visit the [FOLUSA site](#) for other events....



[College & Research Libraries preprints](#)

ACRL is now offering preprint articles from *College & Research Libraries* online. The addition of preprint articles gives the *C&RL* editor the ability to release important research articles online prior to publication in the print journal. All preprint articles have been accepted for future publication in *C&RL*....
ACRL Insider, Mar. 21

of library supporters come to Washington to talk with their members of Congress about the needs of their libraries. NLLD is a two-day event featuring advocacy and issue training sessions, talks from Capitol Hill insiders, and a visit to Congressional member offices on Capitol Hill.

Career Leads
from
ALTA JobLIST

[Bilingual Spanish Youth Librarian](#)

Multnomah County Public Library, Rockwood Library, Portland, Oregon. Bilingual Spanish Youth Librarians assist all patrons, including English and Spanish-speakers, with a special emphasis on serving youth (ages 0 to 18), families, and organizations that work with youth. This position performs the vital tasks of matching these patrons' personal, educational, and recreational needs with appropriate information and resources, and fostering literacy in youth and families....

@ [More jobs...](#)

Round Table News

[IRRT international librarians orientation](#)

The International Relations Round Table is hosting an orientation for overseas librarians coming to the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, California, June 27, 4:30–6:30 p.m. Attendees will be able to learn about conference transportation, the ALA Exhibit Hall, and the meanings of the many ALA acronyms. They can also meet mentors and representatives from ALA’s many divisions and round tables who will help them get the most from the conference experience....

Awards

[LAMA seeks “Best of Show” entries](#)

Give your outstanding public relations material the publicity it deserves by entering LAMA’s annual “Best of Show” awards competition. Sponsored by the Swap & Shop Committee of LAMA’s Public Relations and Marketing Section, the competition recognizes the very best in public relations materials produced by libraries during the previous calendar year....

[Tom Wolfe to receive Carl Sandburg Award](#)

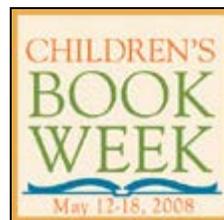
Author and journalist Tom Wolfe has been selected to receive the 2008 Carl Sandburg Literary Award, presented annually by the Chicago Public Library Foundation and the Chicago Public Library in honor of a significant body of work that has enhanced public awareness of the written word. The award will be presented at an October 15 fundraising dinner at the Harold Washington Library Center....



Chicago Public Library, Feb. 26

[Kids vote for Children’s Choice Book Awards](#)

Since 1975, the Children’s Book Council and the International Reading Association have sponsored Children’s Choices, where publishers submit some 700 titles to be evaluated and voted on by 10,000 children throughout the school year. This year, CBC is opening the contest up to children across the country. Kids can cast their votes for favorite books, author, and illustrator at bookstores, school libraries, and [online](#) through May 4. Winners will be announced during Children’s Book Week, May 12–18....



Children’s Book Council

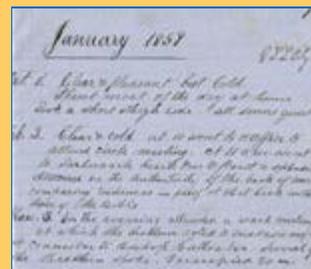
[StoryTubes 2008 national contest](#)

Kids across the United States in Grades 1–6 are invited to participate in a national contest. They can make a two-minute video about their favorite book, upload it to YouTube, go to the StoryTubes website, and submit a link to the



There’s still time to apply for the ALA Annual [Conference stipend](#) supported by the YALSA Unity Diversity Initiative. Deadline is **March 31**.

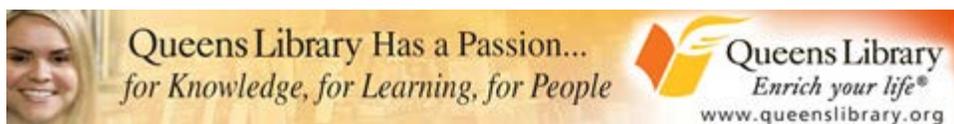
Digital Library of the Week



The L. Tom Perry Special Collections, housed in the Harold B. Lee Library at Brigham Young University, contains a superb collection of [Mormon missionary diaries](#).

After a five-year project supported by Angel Partners Inc., 376 of these diaries (more than 63,000 pages) have now been digitized. The collection contains short biographies of the diarists and images of the original pages alongside typed transcriptions from 114 Church of Latter-Day Saints missionaries who served from the 1830s to the 1960s. Arranged geographically by continents or island groups—including the

uploaded video using the contest entry form before April 20. The four winners in each genre category will win \$500 in books and select a school, library, or educational association to receive \$1,000 in books....
StoryTubes



Seen Online

[Warrants allege Sacramento Public Library scheme](#)

Arrest warrants were issued March 25 against two former Sacramento (Calif.) Public Library officials and the wife of one of them on grand theft and bribery charges stemming from a lengthy corruption probe. The case involves "tens of thousands" of dollars in alleged kickbacks and \$650,000 in taxpayer funds paid out in an overbilling scheme, court and investigative documents state. Sources said the arrest warrants name three people facing charges of grand theft and bribery: Dennis Nilsson, of Folsom, and Sacramento couple James Mayle and Janie Rankins-Mayle....

Sacramento (Calif.) Bee, Mar. 26

[Judge allows queries on Clinton document release](#)

One day after federal archivists released 11,000 pages of Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton's schedules during her time as first lady, a federal judge March 21 allowed a conservative group to question the National Archives about the process of dealing with requests for more documents. U.S. District Judge James Robertson authorized a lawyer for the conservative group Judicial Watch to question the archives about why it processes some requests before others. Judicial Watch is seeking Clinton's telephone logs....

Los Angeles Times, Mar. 20

[Middle school to keep challenged book](#)

The book *Alice on Her Way* by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor will stay in the library at Icicle River Middle School in Leavenworth, Washington, but with checkout restricted to students who have parental consent, the Cascade school board unanimously decided March 24. The board accepted the recommendation of a six-person review committee, which said the book contains intense sexual content, but is also beneficial for some older middle-school students....

Wenatchee (Wash.) World, Mar. 25



[Library, union upbeat on ending lockout](#)

A sit-in at a library board meeting was averted March 25 only after the library's chief executive officer assured outraged patrons that some progress is being made in a labor dispute that has shut all branches of the Greater Victoria (B.C.) Public Library. "Things are moving along," CEO Barry Holmes told a group who wouldn't leave a meeting at the Broughton Street branch when the board wanted to close the meeting to the public. The union and employer are expected to meet later this week....

Victoria (B.C.) Times Colonist, Mar. 26

[Retired judge may mediate Tulare library dispute](#)

Pacific, Asia, North America, Great Britain, Scandinavia, and Western Europe—the collection was organized for digitization by BYU students over an 18-month period. The diaries were chosen based on the writer's ability to be descriptive, introspective, and revealing about experiences, people, and places.

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

"Kindle includes wireless access to Wikipedia. I do not need wireless access to Wikipedia. I would prefer to stir-fry my own small intestines than to have continual access to a site where the entry for Klingon is longer than the entry for Latin."

—University of Brighton Professor of Media Studies Tara Brabazon on the Kindle and its potential to transform reading and writing, in *Times Higher Education*, Mar. 13.



YALSA still needs **teen opinions**. Tell your YAs to fill out the [Teen Technology](#)

[Survey](#) by March 31.

Retired Judge Kenneth Conn could act as a mediator between fired Lindsay branch librarian Brenda Biesterfeld and Tulare County (Calif.) Board of Supervisors. County lawyers sent a letter to Biesterfeld's attorney stating that supervisors do not agree that she was fired because she reported a library patron for viewing child pornography at a public computer. The letter also asks whether Biesterfeld wants Conn to act as mediator....

Visalia (Calif.) Times-Delta, Mar. 26

[Library addition made out of dirt](#)

The new wing under construction at the Sublette County Library in Pinedale, Wyoming, represents a groundbreaking project for the community, literally. The \$5-million addition is being built out of dirt, or, more specifically, rammed earth. The first-ever rammed-earth public building in the nation will complement Pinedale's decade-old library when the expansion project is completed in March 2009....



Casper (Wyo.) Tribune, Mar. 24

[Friends of lost photos](#)

The internet has created a thriving community of people who have found a calling in rescuing the thousands of [orphaned photos](#) that surface in dusty attics or estate sales, and trying to reunite them with family or friends or anyone who can identify them. For Jan Zwicker, who oversees the Waltham (Mass.) Public Library's local history collection, identifying orphan photos has a practical purpose. WPL owns more than 5,000 historical photos, in subjects that include architecture and local social clubs, and Zwicker said they are among the library's most sought-after resources....



Boston Globe, Mar. 20; Waltham Public Library blog, Mar. 5

[Determining age-appropriateness](#)

Picking books appropriate in theme and reading level is an art rather than a science, librarians and educators say. The nonprofit National Council of English Teachers, which issues guidelines for selecting materials for English classes, has another description for the process: problematic. The task has been complicated because today's children are exposed to more difficult themes earlier than ever and are often assumed to be emotionally maturing faster, too....

Washington Post, Mar. 24

[Library filter law moves through Alaska House](#)

Alaska's public librarians may soon be required to make sure kids aren't looking at pornography. On March 20, the House State Affairs Committee passed 4-3 a bill that would cut state funding for public libraries that don't prevent patrons under 18 from looking at sexually explicit material on library computers—either by using internet filter software to block offensive websites or by having computer screens watched by library staff....

Juneau (Alaska) Empire, Mar. 21

[St. Bonaventure donors default on library funds](#)

Paul and Irene Bogoni, philanthropists from the New York City area, had pledged \$2 million for an addition to the Friedsam Memorial Library at St. Bonaventure University in Allegeny, New

Ask the ALA Librarian



Q. Our community has a growing population of people who do not speak English. What are some things we should know about reaching out to them?

A. According to census data, about 21 million people in the U.S. (or very roughly 7%) speak limited or no English—50% more than a decade ago—so it is no surprise that this trend is affecting your community. The report, [Serving Non-English Speakers in U.S. Public Libraries](#), just released by ALA, found that the majority of libraries serving non-English speakers are in communities with fewer than 100,000 residents. That report also notes that [literacy programming](#) is an important feature of outreach. Other elements to consider as you adjust your program to meet the needs of your changing community include [promotion of programs](#) in the major languages spoken,



York, to house more than 9,000 rare books and manuscripts. The addition is 75% complete (right) and scheduled to open in the fall, but the Bogonis informed the university in October they didn't plan to pay the remainder of their pledge. Because defaulting on the gift would jeopardize the use of their name on the library addition, the Bogonis decided to sue the university....

Buffalo (N.Y.) News, Mar. 20

[School board could resume library funding fight](#)

The Kanawha County (W.Va.) school board is not satisfied with changes the state legislature made to a library funding bill during this year's session and may take the issue back to court. Board members say they don't think the legislature corrected a library funding inequity....

Charleston (W.Va.) Daily Mail, Mar. 21

[New Jersey school librarian keeps job](#)

Parents and teachers in Freehold Borough, New Jersey, may breathe a sigh of relief. The school district's lone librarian was [restored](#) March 20 in the \$19.6-million proposed budget. At a March 3 school board meeting, district officials had proposed eliminating the position of district library media specialist, a job held by Joan Murphy, who would have taken a teaching position. But parents and teachers packed the meeting to protest the cut....

Asbury Park (N.J.) Press, Mar. 20–21

[An inside look at the Wikipedia office](#)

The new headquarters of one of the world's most popular websites is 3,000 square feet of rented space in San Francisco furnished with desks and chairs bought on the cheap from eBay and Craigslist. With about 300 million page views a day, the site could be worth many hundreds of millions of dollars if it sold advertising space. It doesn't. Wikipedia's business plan is, basically, to hold out a tin cup whenever it runs low on funds, which is very often. (However, they just were [given \\$3 million](#) by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation.)...

Los Angeles Times, Mar. 10; *Washington Post*, Mar. 25

[Belchertown library ghost eludes hunters](#)

After a night-long stay with cameras and other equipment, the team from the Sci-Fi Channel's *Ghost Hunters* reported to custodian Jacques J. Benoit that they had no evidence of spirits in the Clapp Memorial Library in Belchertown, Massachusetts. But the Ghost Hunters team suggested that Benoit carry a camera with him and continue to try to document that he can see the ghost of 19th-century librarian Lydia Barton in a corner of the building where her desk used to be....

Springfield (Mass.) Republican, Mar. 23

[developing special language collections](#), officer [catalog access](#) in additional languages, and [other outreach programs](#). From the [ALA Professional Tips wiki](#).

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



Calendar

**Apr. 30–
May 2:**
[Center for the Study of Rural Librarianship Conference](#), Holiday Inn on the Lane, Columbus, Ohio. "From the Center City to the Exurbs: [Trends in] Public Library Realities."

**Apr. 30–
May 3:**
[Living the Future Conference](#), University of Arizona, Tucson. "Transforming Libraries Through Collaboration."

May 1–3:
[LOEX 2008](#), Oak Brook, Illinois. "Librarian as Architect: Planning, Building, and Renewing."

May 1–3:

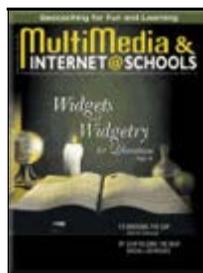


Tech Talk

[Widgets and widgetry for librarians](#)

Aaron Schmidt writes: "You don't need a spell from Hogwarts to make exciting multimedia appear on your website. It isn't magic—it's RSS and JavaScript. Thanks to the power of Web 2.0, we don't need to understand the intricacies of these two fabulous and geeky topics. The Web has sorted all of it out and made it easy for us to use. All you need to know to use the tools listed here is that after some (easy to do) customization, you'll see a little bit of code to copy and paste into your website, blog post, or blog's sidebar."...

Multimedia and Internet @ Schools, Mar./Apr.



[Three tech giants to promote open standards](#)

Yahoo has agreed to work with Google and MySpace to promote a common set of software standards to make it easier to create applications for internet social networks, the companies announced March 25. The companies said they are forming a nonprofit OpenSocial Foundation to promote the OpenSocial software standards that Mountain View-based Google announced in October....

San Jose (Calif.) Mercury News, Mar. 26

[The best USB keys](#)

Eric Griffith writes: "If you've been relying on some piddling 16MB USB flash drive with a USB 1.1 connection for transporting data from work to home, you should realize that mere portability doesn't cut it. You want speed and space to grow.

Today's USB keys are all USB 2.0-ready and boast capacities as high as 32GB—with high prices to match. The sweet spot is 4GB. There you'll find reasonably priced USB keys with worthwhile extras and all the space you need (for now)."...

PC Magazine, Mar. 20



[Alternative file formats for digital masters](#) (PDF file)

The Koninklijke Bibliotheek in The Hague, Netherlands, has published a study on the usefulness of JPEG 2000, PNG 1.2, Basic JFIF 1.02, and TIFF LZW formats for storing the master files for its digitization projects. Currently, master files are stored in the popular uncompressed TIFF file format, but 650 terabytes of storage space will be necessary to store 40 million files in this format. Desired image quality, long-term sustainability, storage capacity, and functionality had to be taken into account....

Koninklijke Bibliotheek, Mar. 8

[Entering exotic characters into blog posts](#)

Bill Poser writes: "If you've already got the text that you want in Unicode, the problem with getting it into a blog post is probably that your blog software, like Movable Type, gags on non-ASCII characters. To overcome this limitation, you need to replace your Unicode text with HTML numeric character references. For example, instead of directly entering the Unicode for 'lower case e with acute accent' é, you enter `é`. This consists of the Unicode codepoint in hexadecimal `00E9`, with the prefix `&#x` and the suffix `;`."...

Language Log, Mar. 22

Actions & Answers

[Pennsylvania School Librarians Association](#)

Annual Conference, Hershey Lodge and Convention Center. "Score! With Information Literacy and Reading @ Your Library."

May 1–5:

[Art Libraries Society of North America](#)

Annual Conference, Denver. "ARLIS/NA at Altitude."

May 2:

[University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg](#)

Children's Literature Conference.

May 4–8:

[International Reading Association](#)

Annual Convention, Atlanta. "Engaging Learners in Literacy."

May 7–8:

[Amigos Conference and Vendor Fair](#)

Crowne Plaza Hotel, Dallas.

May 8–9:

[SOLINET](#), Annual Meeting, Atlanta.

May 8–9:

[OCLC](#), Engaging Teens Conference, Arlington, Virginia.

May 8–10:

[GLBT Archives, Libraries, Museums, and Special Collections](#)

Conference, City University of New York.

May 14–16:

[Ohio Valley Group of Technical Services Librarians](#)

Annual Conference, Hope Hotel and Conference Center,

[Kaplicky defends Czech National Library design](#)

Jan Kaplicky has been on Czech television to defend his futuristic Czech National Library, winner a year ago of an international design competition. Though the design won fair and square, Kaplicky has found himself and his library at the eye of an intensely political storm, since Prague's mayor, Pavel Bém, came out against it in October. Prime Minister Mirek Topolánek is for it, and President Václav Klaus is located "somewhere in the middle."...

Building Design, Mar. 14



[Citizen sues RIAA for racketeering, fraud, and spying](#)

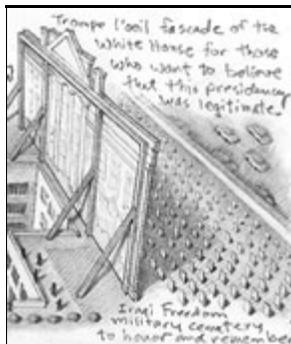
An Oregon woman is suing the music industry trade association in a case that could force the group to reveal how it targets people in its campaign to curb illegal downloading and sharing of music online. Tanya Andersen, who claims the Recording Industry Association of America's antipiracy campaign threatens and intimidates innocent people, has filed a new complaint accusing record companies of racketeering, fraud, and illegal spying. Filed March 14 in U.S. District Court in Portland, the complaint seeks national class-action status for other people allegedly victimized by the industry's campaign....

eSchool News, Mar. 25

[Illustrator wins Bush Library contest](#)

A medical illustrator from Dallas who spends his days drawing body parts and molecular structures has won the *Chronicle's* George W. Bush Presidential Library design contest. Lewis E. Calver, an associate professor and chair of biomedical communications at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, beat out 120 other contestants with his beautifully drawn and carefully thought-out "[Hole in the Ground](#)" design....

Chronicle of Higher Education, Mar. 26



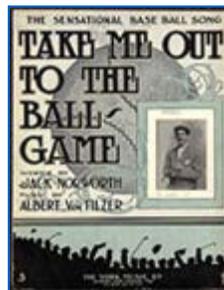
[Making library schools smarter](#)

Andrea Mercado writes in the new journal *Conversants* (a limited-run, open-access journal about participatory networks that launched March 21 as a joint project of the Information Institute of Syracuse and the ALA Office for Information Technology Policy): "Library school curricula need to change so that instead of constantly struggling to catch up with technology trends and innovations, librarians can stay on the bleeding edge, and even innovate in the field. My dream lineup of required classes would include local technology and new media specialists as adjunct instructors."...

Conversants 1 (2008)

[LC launches historic baseball resources website](#)

The rich holdings of the Library of Congress include many items that document the history of baseball and Americans' fascination with the game. LC has just launched a new [Historic Baseball Resources](#) page that features player profiles, historical news and events, collection guides, and presentations. The LC Digital Reference Team will also host a web conference, "Batter Up! Baseball at the Library of Congress," on April 4 at 2 p.m.



Dayton. "Technical Services Taking Flight: Soaring to New Heights of Innovation."

May 14–17:
[National Genealogical Society](#), Annual Conference, Kansas City, Missouri.

May 16–21:
[Medical Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Chicago. "Connections: Bridging the Gaps."

May 21–24:
[Canadian Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Vancouver. "Libraries and Publishing 3.0: Connecting Authors to Readers in the Digital Age."

**May 30–
June 1:**
[Canadian Association for Conservation of Cultural Property](#), Annual Conference, Bibliothèque et Archives Nationales du Québec, Montreal.

@ [More...](#)

Contact Us

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ALA American
Library
Association

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

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

Daniel Kraus,
Associate Editor:

Eastern time, through the [Online Programming for All Libraries](#) site....
Library of Congress, Mar. 24

[Author Name Pronunciation Guide](#)

So how do you pronounce "Jon Scieszka" (right), author of *The Stinky Cheese Man* and the National Ambassador for Young People's Literature? The Author Name Pronunciation Guide, a free website, can [tell you](#). Created by [TeachingBooks.net](#) in January 2007, the site has grown to feature hundreds of authors, including many winners of the ALA Youth Media Awards....

TeachingBooks.net



[Music circulation in decline](#)

Bryan Borzykowski writes: "Unfortunately for the thousands of Canadians who borrow music from the library, the days of flipping through a library's CD collection could be numbered. The problem right now isn't that libraries don't want to offer their patrons alternatives to the physical CD—it's that there's no easy way for them to provide digital music. Libraries aren't in the business of developing software and licensing albums from record labels, so they have to turn to another company, like Ohio-based OverDrive, to do the dirty work."...

Maclean's, Mar. 19

[E-book licensing and sales](#)

Matt Buchanan writes: "If you buy an old book, CD, or DVD, you can turn around and loan it to a friend or sell it again. The right to pass it along is called the first-sale doctrine. Digital books, music, and movies are a different story though. Four students at Columbia Law School's *Science and Technology Law Review* looked at the particular issue of reselling and copying e-books downloaded to Amazon's Kindle or the Sony Reader, and came up with answers to a fundamental question: Are you buying a crippled license to intellectual property when you download, or are you buying an honest-to-God book?"...

Gizmodo, Mar. 21

[OverDrive to distribute MP3 audiobooks to libraries](#)

Digital book distributor OverDrive will expand its catalog of downloadable audiobooks to include titles in MP3 format without DRM. [Borders](#) will be the first online bookstore to offer them. Following the Borders retail launch in May, a limited selection of OverDrive MP3 Audiobooks will be added to OverDrive's library network. These audiobooks will be compatible with nearly every MP3 player and mobile phone on the market, including iPod, Zune, iPhone, and Creative Labs products....

OverDrive, Mar. 19

[Senate confirms National Museum and Library Services Board nominees](#)

The U.S. Senate confirmed four presidential nominees to serve as members of the National Museum and Library Services Board March 13. The board advises the Institute of Museum and Library Services, an independent federal agency that is the primary source of federal support for the nation's museums and libraries.

The new board members are Mark Y. Herring (right, Winthrop University Library), Julia W. Bland (Louisiana Children's Museum), Jan Cellucci (NCLIS commissioner), and William J. Hagenah (Chicago Horticultural Society)....

Institute of Museum and Library Services, Mar. 20



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800-545-2433,
ext. 4216

ISSN 1559-369X.

[If it quacks like a librarian](#)

Rachel Singer Gordon writes: "I've been disturbed for some time about the vehemence with which we emphasize the divide between MLS librarians and everyone else working in libraries. Dean Giustini's [recent post](#) on the Google Scholar Blog decrying *Library Journal's* decision to honor paraprofessionals with Movers & Shakers awards and asserting they don't have the right to call themselves librarians simply reinforced what I hear when talking to groups of paraprofessionals or when surveying people for my books: Many non-MLS library workers are unappreciated, undervalued, and ignored."...

The Liminal Librarian, Mar. 20

[Bookplate collecting basics](#)

Lew Jaffe writes: "Bookplate mania in America and England peaked from 1890 to about 1920. That's when the really great collections were formed. Most of them were either dispersed or absorbed into other collections. Today, if there are 200 bookplate collectors in the United States I would be very surprised. People often ask me where to find bookplates, so I thought it might a good time to write about building a collection."...

Collectors Weekly, Mar. 19



[Online bookseller partners with libraries on discards](#)

Mishawaka, Indiana-based Better World Books distributed more than \$470,000 in proceeds from its Library Discards and Donations Program to hundreds of city, county, and university libraries in 2007, providing library systems with resources to pay for basic operations, staff salaries, and acquisitions. The online bookseller collects discarded and donated books from more than 900 libraries nationwide, resells them through 18 online marketplaces, and returns a percentage of net proceeds to participating libraries....

Better World Books, Mar. 18



[The traveling James Joyce Library book bag](#)

What do Antarctica, Paris, Krakow (right), Munich, Prague, and Belfield have in common? The University College Dublin James Joyce Library book bag, of course! The library's [Reader Services Department](#) urges patrons to take photos of their book bag in far-flung places and submit them to the Book Bag Blog. Best photo of the year will win a fantastic prize....

UCD Book Bag Blog



[Harvard and institutional repositories](#)

Walt Crawford writes: "The biggest news since my last Library Access to Scholarship column *should* have been formal passage of the NIH policy as a *requirement* for NIH-funded research—but that may be overshadowed by the actions of Harvard University's Faculty of Arts and Sciences. Harvard's action may indeed be a 'game-changer,' as the saying goes. This time I'll focus on two things: the Harvard mandate and institutional repositories."...

Cites & Insights 8, no. 4 (Apr.)

AL Direct, March 26, 2008

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

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | March 26, 2008

Contents

[U.S. & World News \[#usworld\]](#)
[ALA News \[#alanews\]](#)
[AL Focus \[#alfocus\]](#)
[Booklist Online \[#booklist\]](#)
[Anaheim Update \[#anaheim\]](#)
[Division News \[#divisionnews\]](#)
[Round Table News \[#roundtable\]](#)
[Awards \[#awards\]](#)
[Seen Online \[#seenonline\]](#)
[Tech Talk \[#techtalk\]](#)
[Actions & Answers \[#actionsanswers\]](#)
[Calendar \[#datebook\]](#)

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

[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

U.S. & World News

American Libraries

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/march2008/firstladyinterview.cfm>]

In an exclusive interview at the White House March 19, First Lady Laura Bush told American Libraries that she would definitely play a role in the establishment of her husband's presidential library at Southern Methodist University in Dallas. The first librarian ever to be First Lady of the United States, Mrs. Bush also talked about how her profession influenced her own initiatives and will continue to do so when President George W. Bush's term ends next January 20. An American Libraries Focus videocast

[<http://alfocus.ala.org/videos/interview-first-lady-laura-bush>] (21:52)

as well as a transcript

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/resources/selectedarticles/laurabushinterview.cfm>] of the interview with Laura Bush are available on the AL website....

Memphis mayor announces closings of five library branches

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/march2008/memphismayor1.cfm>]

Memphis Mayor Willie Herenton announced March 18 that the city will close five library branches for reasons of efficiency and economy. The closings, along with those of four community centers, will save an estimated \$1.5–\$2 million annually. The closings of the Cossit, Highland, Poplar-White Station, Gaston, and Levi branches were recommended in an efficiency study released last April....

Spokane moms win state funding for school libraries

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/march2008/momswin.cfm>]

The advocacy of three determined Spokane women has resulted in the first-ever state-level support for school libraries in the state of Washington. A compromise budget passed March 12 includes \$4 million, which breaks down to \$4.09 per student, for the 2008–09 academic year to maintain and improve library materials, collections, and services, Lisa Layera Brunkan of Fund Our Future Washington told American Libraries....

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[<http://www.tech-logic.com/>]
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ALA News

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Polls open in ALA elections

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/march2008/pollsopeninameric.cfm>]

The polls for the ALA 2008 elections opened March 17, with online voters receiving electronic ballot information between March 17 and 19, while paper ballot packages were mailed between March 17 and March 24. The last time for returning the ballots is April 24 at 11:59 p.m., Central time. Election results will be announced May 2. The 2008 ballot meets all applicable W3C accessibility standards and can be read by common screen readers for people with disabilities....

Serving non-English speakers in public libraries

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/olos/nonenglishspeakers/>]

A newly released ALA study provides information about library services and programs developed for non-English speakers, including effectiveness of services, barriers to library use, most frequently used services, and most successful library programs by language served. Some 78% of libraries reported Spanish as the priority #1 language for which they develop services and programs; Asian languages ranked second in priority at 29%. Find the full report (PDF file

[http://www.ala.org/ala/olos/nonenglishspeakers/docs/Linguistic_Isolation_Report-2007.pdf]) online....

Tales from an Emerging Leader [<http://www.alsc.ala.org/blog/?p=364>]

Jessica Trujillo, an ALSC-sponsored 2008 Emerging Leader, writes: "When I

was young, the term ‘leader’ sent chills down my spine; as a young adult, my mental picture of a leader was some guy with slicked-back hair in a power suit, wheeling and dealing—the kind of person who would put an old lady out on the street, in the cold, while it’s raining. But my ideas of leadership became more nuanced as I gained more life and career experience. So when I saw the advertisement for the Emerging Leaders Program, I thought this might be an opportunity to gain more skills at becoming an effective leader.”...

ALSC Blog, Mar. 21

AL Focus

National Library Week video: The reference desk

[<http://alfocus.ala.org/videos/national-library-week-reference-desk>]

“How do you undo nerve gas?” “How do you make rope out of human hair?”

“Would you mind checking out this rash?” These and other burning reference questions are answered in this National Library Week (April 13–19) homage (1:55) to the 7.2 million questions answered weekly by the nation’s public and academic librarians. Starring Chicago improv comic Shad Kunkle, and shot at lovely Morton College Library in Cicero, Illinois. The animated introduction

[<http://alfocus.ala.org/videos/national-library-week-introduction>] is

available as a separate video (0:21) that can be downloaded

[<http://theshiftedlibrarian.com/archives/2008/03/24/new-series-of-national-library-week-videos.html>] and incorporated into your own NLW

productions....

Featured review: Reference

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=1997132]

Thompson, Jason. *Manga: The Complete Guide*. Oct. 2007. 553p. Del Rey, paperback (978-0-345-48590-8).

The complete in the title of this compendium is no misnomer. This is a comprehensive overview of manga, the genre of graphic literature sometimes referred to as Japanese comic books. Thompson, a longtime manga advocate and enthusiast, provides extensive background information, definitions, time lines, and in-depth explanations of numerous types and subgenres, themes and characters, formats, and audiences. Most importantly, he has compiled reviews of every manga series ever translated and released in the U.S....

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

Anaheim Update

[<http://ipac.anaheim.net/ipac20/ipac.jsp?session=O206RA3651765.796&profile=c&uri=full=3100001~!2271682~!9&ri=1&aspect=subtab25&menu=search&source=~!horizon&staffonly=#focus>] Digital Anaheim

[<http://www2.anaheim.net/article.cfm?id=407>]

Browse through some 2,000 photos of historic Anaheim, California, in this digital collection hosted by the Anaheim Public Library. These unique local history resources have been organized for easy browsing by Anaheim residents, scholars, and history buffs throughout California and the world. The categories on this web page are based on the Anaheim City School District's local history curriculum for third grade classes....
Anaheim (Calif.) Public Library

Shop and restaurant map

[<http://www.anaheimconventioncenter.com/images/anaheimcc/pdfs/restshop.pdf>]
(PDF file)

Use this map to find out what dining, car rental, and business facilities are located near the Convention Center and the Disneyland Resort. Note that the Tourism Information Center at 1500 S. Harbor Boulevard offers discount tickets and coupons....

Anaheim Convention Center

[<http://www.tutor.com/libraries/ttw/>]

Division News

PLA National Conference in the news

[<http://ksax.com/article/stories/S387243.shtml?cat=10230>]

Melissa Brechon, director of the Carver County (Minn.) Library System, appeared on KSAX-TV in Alexandria March 22 to discuss the role of technology and free internet access in public libraries. Brechon also referred to the PLA National Conference taking place this week in Minneapolis....

KSAX-TV, Mar. 22

Romance Readers Advisory at PLA

[<http://plablog.org/2008/03/sweet-to-super-hot.html>]

Michael May writes: "I thought I'd try something different for my first preconference session, so I attended Romance Readers Advisory 101 [http://www.placonference.org/e_pop_profiles.cfm?session=1&session_id=99724&class_id=89613]. I sat in the back row with the other three guys. More than 64 million Americans read romance novels last year, and romance accounts for about 25% of all library circulation. Romance author Elizabeth Boyle summed it up nicely: 'We need romance novels. Dreaming big makes you a better person. If we all believed in happy endings, the world would be a better place.'"

PLA Blog, Mar. 26

PLA needs your data [<http://plablog.org/2008/03/pla-needs-your-data.html>]

The Public Library Data Service Survey for the 2008 statistical report is currently underway. Since its beginning in 1988, the PLDS reports have been used extensively by the press to understand the public library and its environment. If your library has not received information on completing this year's survey, please contact Virgil Varvel [mailto:vvarvel@uiuc.edu]. The deadline is April 9....
PLA Blog, Mar. 20

LITA offers three workshops in Anaheim
[http://web1.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/march2008/LITA08.cfm]
LITA is offering three full-day educational workshops on June 27 at ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, California. The topics are library-wide IT proficiency, datagrid technologies and libraries, and getting started with Drupal....

FOLUSA-ALTA author tea
[http://www.folusa.org/about/conferences/ala-2008-tea.php]
Join Friends of Libraries USA and ALTA for this traditional author event featuring authors Jacqueline Winspear (right), Ron Carlson, Christopher Reich, and Rick Wartzman talking about their current and forthcoming books. A book signing will follow the program, with some books given away free and others available for purchase at a generous discount. Visit the FOLUSA site [http://www.folusa.org/about/conferences-annual.php] for other events....

preprints
[http://www.acrl.ala.org/acrlinsider/2008/03/21/crl-launches-preprints/]
ACRL is now offering preprint articles from College & Research Libraries online. The addition of preprint articles gives the C&RL editor the ability to release important research articles online prior to publication in the print journal. All preprint articles have been accepted for future publication in C&RL....
ACRL Insider, Mar. 21

Round Table News

IRRT international librarians orientation
[http://ala.org/ala/irrt/intvisitor2008.cfm]
The International Relations Round Table is hosting an orientation for overseas librarians coming to the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, California, June 27, 4:30–6:30 p.m. Attendees will be able to learn about conference transportation, the ALA Exhibit Hall, and the meanings of the many ALA acronyms. They can also meet mentors and representatives from ALA's many divisions and round tables who will help them get the most from the conference experience....

Awards

LAMA seeks “Best of Show” entries

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/march2008/lamaseek081.cfm>]
Give your outstanding public relations material the publicity it deserves by entering LAMA's annual "Best of Show" awards competition. Sponsored by the Swap & Shop Committee of LAMA's Public Relations and Marketing Section, the competition recognizes the very best in public relations materials produced by libraries during the previous calendar year....

Tom Wolfe to receive Carl Sandburg Award
[http://www.chipublib.org/aboutcpl/cplpr/2008/wolfe_sandburg.php]
Author and journalist Tom Wolfe has been selected to receive the 2008 Carl Sandburg Literary Award, presented annually by the Chicago Public Library Foundation and the Chicago Public Library in honor of a significant body of work that has enhanced public awareness of the written word. The award will be presented at an October 15 fundraising dinner at the Harold Washington Library Center....
Chicago Public Library, Feb. 26

Kids vote for Children's Choice Book Awards
[<http://www.cbcbooks.org/cbweek/teachers.html>]
Since 1975, the Children's Book Council and the International Reading Association have sponsored Children's Choices, where publishers submit some 700 titles to be evaluated and voted on by 10,000 children throughout the school year. This year, CBC is opening the contest up to children across the country. Kids can cast their votes for favorite books, author, and illustrator at bookstores, school libraries, and online [<http://bookweekonline.com/kidsvote.html>] through May 4. Winners will be announced during Children's Book Week, May 12-18....
Children's Book Council

StoryTubes 2008 national contest [<http://www.storytubes.info/index.html>]
Kids across the United States in Grades 1-6 are invited to participate in a national contest. They can make a two-minute video about their favorite book, upload it to YouTube, go to the StoryTubes website, and submit a link to the uploaded video using the contest entry form before April 20. The four winners in each genre category will win \$500 in books and select a school, library, or educational association to receive \$1,000 in books...."
StoryTubes

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

Seen Online
=====

Warrants allege Sacramento Public Library scheme
[<http://www.sacbee.com/101/story/812390.html>]
Arrest warrants were issued March 25 against two former Sacramento (Calif.) Public Library officials and the wife of one of them on grand theft and bribery charges stemming from a lengthy corruption probe. The

case involves “tens of thousands” of dollars in alleged kickbacks and \$650,000 in taxpayer funds paid out in an overbilling scheme, court and investigative documents state. Sources said the arrest warrants name three people facing charges of grand theft and bribery: Dennis Nilsson, of Folsom, and Sacramento couple James Mayle and Janie Rankins-Mayle.... Sacramento (Calif.) Bee, Mar. 26

Judge allows queries on Clinton document release

[<http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/nation/la-na-clinton21mar21,1,884477.story>]

One day after federal archivists released 11,000 pages of Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton’s schedules during her time as first lady, a federal judge March 21 allowed a conservative group to question the National Archives about the process of dealing with requests for more documents. U.S. District Judge James Robertson authorized a lawyer for the conservative group Judicial Watch to question the archives about why it processes some requests before others. Judicial Watch is seeking Clinton’s telephone logs....

Los Angeles Times, Mar. 20

Middle school to keep challenged book

[<http://wenatcheeworld.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080325/NEWS04/259581184/1001>]

The book Alice on Her Way by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor will stay in the library at Icicle River Middle School in Leavenworth, Washington, but with checkout restricted to students who have parental consent, the Cascade school board unanimously decided March 24. The board accepted the recommendation of a six-person review committee, which said the book contains intense sexual content, but is also beneficial for some older middle-school students....

Wenatchee (Wash.) World, Mar. 25

Library, union upbeat on ending lockout

[<http://www.canada.com/victoriaticolonia/news/story.html?id=a3816afb-1889-4020-bb7d-ffc8c35e21e6&k=16542>]

A sit-in at a library board meeting was averted March 25 only after the library’s chief executive officer assured outraged patrons that some progress is being made in a labor dispute that has shut all branches of the Greater Victoria (B.C.) Public Library. “Things are moving along,” CEO Barry Holmes told a group who wouldn’t leave a meeting at the Broughton Street branch when the board wanted to close the meeting to the public. The union and employer are expected to meet later this week....

Victoria (B.C.) Times Colonist, Mar. 26

Retired judge may mediate Tulare library dispute

[<http://www.visaliatimesdelta.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080326/NEWS01/80326001>]

Retired Judge Kenneth Conn could act as a mediator between fired Lindsay branch librarian Brenda Biesterfeld and Tulare County (Calif.) Board of Supervisors. County lawyers sent a letter to Biesterfeld’s attorney stating that supervisors do not agree that she was fired because she reported a library patron for viewing child pornography at a public computer. The letter also asks whether Biesterfeld wants Conn to act as mediator....

Visalia (Calif.) Times-Delta, Mar. 26

Library addition made out of dirt

[<http://www.trib.com/articles/2008/03/24/news/wyoming/d346b052e82d65d48725741500267952.txt>]

The new wing under construction at the Sublette County Library in Pinedale, Wyoming, represents a groundbreaking project for the community, literally. The \$5-million addition is being built out of dirt, or, more specifically, rammed earth. The first-ever rammed-earth public building in the nation will complement Pinedale's decade-old library when the expansion project is completed in March 2009....

Casper (Wyo.) Tribune, Mar. 24

Friends of lost photos

[http://www.boston.com/news/local/articles/2008/03/20/the_friends_of_lost_photos/]

The internet has created a thriving community of people who have found a calling in rescuing the thousands of orphaned photos

[<http://www.waltham.lib.ma.us/blog/main/?p=20>] that surface in dusty attics or estate sales, and trying to reunite them with family or friends or anyone who can identify them. For Jan Zwicker, who oversees the Waltham (Mass.) Public Library's local history collection, identifying orphan photos has a practical purpose. WPL owns more than 5,000 historical photos, in subjects that include architecture and local social clubs, and Zwicker said they are among the library's most sought-after resources....

Boston Globe, Mar. 20; Waltham Public Library blog, Mar. 5

Determining age-appropriateness

[<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/story/2008/03/23/ST2008032301758.html>]

Picking books appropriate in theme and reading level is an art rather than a science, librarians and educators say. The nonprofit National Council of English Teachers, which issues guidelines for selecting materials for English classes, has another description for the process: problematic. The task has been complicated because today's children are exposed to more difficult themes earlier than ever and are often assumed to be emotionally maturing faster, too....

Washington Post, Mar. 24

Library filter law moves through Alaska House

[http://www.juneauempire.com/stories/032108/loc_260334356.shtml]

Alaska's public librarians may soon be required to make sure kids aren't looking at pornography. On March 20, the House State Affairs Committee passed 4-3 a bill that would cut state funding for public libraries that don't prevent patrons under 18 from looking at sexually explicit material on library computers—either by using internet filter software to block offensive websites or by having computer screens watched by library staff....

Juneau (Alaska) Empire, Mar. 21

St. Bonaventure donors default on library funds

[<http://www.buffalonews.com/cityregion/story/303618.html>]

Paul and Irene Bogoni, philanthropists from the New York City area, had

pledged \$2 million for an addition to the Friedsam Memorial Library at St. Bonaventure University in Allegeny, New York, to house more than 9,000 rare books and manuscripts. The addition is 75% complete (right) and scheduled to open in the fall, but the Bogonis informed the university in October they didn't plan to pay the remainder of their pledge. Because defaulting on the gift would jeopardize the use of their name on the library addition, the Bogonis decided to sue the university....

Buffalo (N.Y.) News, Mar. 20

School board could resume library funding fight

[<http://dailymail.com/News/200803210222>]

The Kanawha County (W.Va.) school board is not satisfied with changes the state legislature made to a library funding bill during this year's session and may take the issue back to court. Board members say they don't think the legislature corrected a library funding inequity....

Charleston (W.Va.) Daily Mail, Mar. 21

New Jersey school librarian keeps job

[<http://www.app.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080320/NEWS01/803200583>]

Parents and teachers in Freehold Borough, New Jersey, may breathe a sigh of relief. The school district's lone librarian was restored

[<http://www.app.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2008803210401>] March 20 in

the \$19.6-million proposed budget. At a March 3 school board meeting, district officials had proposed eliminating the position of district library media specialist, a job held by Joan Murphy, who would have taken a teaching position. But parents and teachers packed the meeting to protest the cut....

Asbury Park (N.J.) Press, Mar. 20-21

An inside look at the Wikipedia office

[<http://www.latimes.com/technology/la-fi-wikipedia10mar10,1,2707818.story>]

The new headquarters of one of the world's most popular websites is 3,000 square feet of rented space in San Francisco furnished with desks and chairs bought on the cheap from eBay and Craigslist. With about 300 million page views a day, the site could be worth many hundreds of millions of dollars if it sold advertising space. It doesn't. Wikipedia's business plan is, basically, to hold out a tin cup whenever it runs low on funds, which is very often. (However, they just were given \$3 million [<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/03/25/AR2008032502357.html>] by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation.)...

Los Angeles Times, Mar. 10; Washington Post, Mar. 25

Belchertown library ghost eludes hunters

[<http://www.masslive.com/hampfrank/republican/index.ssf?/base/news-13/1206256822289110.xml&coll=1>]

After a night-long stay with cameras and other equipment, the team from the Sci-Fi Channel's Ghost Hunters reported to custodian Jacques J. Benoit that they had no evidence of spirits in the Clapp Memorial Library in Belchertown, Massachusetts. But the Ghost Hunters team suggested that Benoit carry a camera with him and continue to try to document that he can see the ghost of 19th-century librarian Lydia Barton in a corner of the building where her desk used to be....

Springfield (Mass.) Republican, Mar. 23

=====
[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]
=====

Tech Talk

=====

Widgets and widgetry for librarians

[<http://www.mmischools.com/Articles/ReadArticle.aspx?ArticleID=13511>]

Aaron Schmidt writes: “You don’t need a spell from Hogwarts to make exciting multimedia appear on your website. It isn’t magic—it’s RSS and JavaScript. Thanks to the power of Web 2.0, we don’t need to understand the intricacies of these two fabulous and geeky topics. The Web has sorted all of it out and made it easy for us to use. All you need to know to use the tools listed here is that after some (easy to do) customization, you’ll see a little bit of code to copy and paste into your website, blog post, or blog’s sidebar.”...

Multimedia and Internet @ Schools, Mar./Apr.

Three tech giants to promote open standards

[http://www.mercurynews.com/business/ci_8700703]

Yahoo has agreed to work with Google and MySpace to promote a common set of software standards to make it easier to create applications for internet social networks, the companies announced March 25. The companies said they are forming a nonprofit OpenSocial Foundation to promote the OpenSocial software standards that Mountain View-based Google announced in October....

San Jose (Calif.) Mercury News, Mar. 26

[<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2278008,00.asp>]

[<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2278030,00.asp>]

Eric Griffith writes: “If you’ve been relying on some piddling 16MB USB flash drive with a USB 1.1 connection for transporting data from work to home, you should realize that mere portability doesn’t cut it. You want speed and space to grow. Today’s USB keys are all USB 2.0–ready and boast capacities as high as 32GB—with high prices to match. The sweet spot is 4GB. There you’ll find reasonably priced USB keys with worthwhile extras and all the space you need (for now).”...

PC Magazine, Mar. 20

Alternative file formats for digital masters

[http://www.kb.nl/hrd/dd/dd_links_en_publicaties/publicaties/Alternative%20File%20Formats%20for%20Storing%20Masters%202%201.pdf] (PDF file)

The Koninklijke Bibliotheek in The Hague, Netherlands, has published a study on the usefulness of JPEG 2000, PNG 1.2, Basic JFIF 1.02, and TIFF LZAW formats for storing the master files for its digitization projects. Currently, master files are stored in the popular uncompressed TIFF file format, but 650 terabytes of storage space will be necessary to store 40 million files in this format. Desired image quality, long-term

sustainability, storage capacity, and functionality had to be taken into account...

Koninklijke Bibliotheek, Mar. 8

Entering exotic characters into blog posts

[<http://itre.cis.upenn.edu/~myl/languageblog/archives/005484.html>]

Bill Poser writes: "If you've already got the text that you want in Unicode, the problem with getting it into a blog post is probably that your blog software, like Movable Type, gags on non-ASCII characters. To overcome this limitation, you need to replace your Unicode text with HTML numeric character references. For example, instead of directly entering the Unicode for 'lower case e with acute accent' é, you enter é. This consists of the Unicode codepoint in hexadecimal 00E9, with the prefix &#x and the suffix ;."...

Language Log, Mar. 22

Actions & Answers

Kaplicky defends Czech National Library design

[<http://www.bdonline.co.uk/story.asp?sectioncode=449&storycode=3108875>]

Jan Kaplicky has been on Czech television to defend his futuristic Czech National Library, winner a year ago of an international design competition. Though the design won fair and square, Kaplicky has found himself and his library at the eye of an intensely political storm, since Prague's mayor, Pavel Bém, came out against it in October. Prime Minister Mirek Topolánek is for it, and President Václav Klaus is located somewhere in the middle;...

Building Design, Mar. 14

Citizen sues RIAA for racketeering, fraud, and spying

[<http://www.eschoolnews.com/news/top-news/?i=53212>]

An Oregon woman is suing the music industry trade association in a case that could force the group to reveal how it targets people in its campaign to curb illegal downloading and sharing of music online. Tanya Andersen, who claims the Recording Industry Association of America's antipiracy campaign threatens and intimidates innocent people, has filed a new complaint accusing record companies of racketeering, fraud, and illegal spying. Filed March 14 in U.S. District Court in Portland, the complaint seeks national class-action status for other people allegedly victimized by the industry's campaign...

eSchool News, Mar. 25

Illustrator wins Bush Library contest

[<http://chronicle.com/blogs/architecture/1921/inspired-by-ann-richards-and-molly-ivans-illustrator-wins-bush-library-contest>]

A medical illustrator from Dallas who spends his days drawing body parts and molecular structures has won the Chronicle's George W. Bush Presidential Library design contest. Lewis E. Calver, an associate professor and chair of biomedical communications at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, beat out 120 other contestants with his beautifully drawn and carefully thought-out 'Hole in the

Ground” [<http://chronicle.com/free/v54/i26/26b01401.htm#7>]
design....

Chronicle of Higher Education, Mar. 26

Making library schools smarter

[<http://conversants.syr.edu/2008/02/21/making-library-schools-smarter/>]

Andrea Mercado writes in the new journal *Conversants*

[<http://conversants.syr.edu/>] (a limited-run, open-access journal about participatory networks that launched March 21 as a joint project of the Information Institute of Syracuse and the ALA Office for Information Technology Policy): “Library school curricula need to change so that instead of constantly struggling to catch up with technology trends and innovations, librarians can stay on the bleeding edge, and even innovate in the field. My dream lineup of required classes would include local technology and new media specialists as adjunct instructors.”...

Conversants 1 (2008)

[<http://lcweb2.loc.gov/diglib/ihas/loc.natlib.ihas.200033481/default.html>]

LC launches historic baseball resources website

[<http://www.loc.gov/today/pr/2008/08-055.html>]

The rich holdings of the Library of Congress include many items that document the history of baseball and Americans’ fascination with the game. LC has just launched a new Historic Baseball Resources

[<http://www.loc.gov/topics/baseball/>] page that features player profiles, historical news and events, collection guides, and presentations. The LC Digital Reference Team will also host a web conference, “Batter Up!

Baseball at the Library of Congress,” on April 4 at 2 p.m. Eastern time, through the Online Programming for All Libraries

[<http://www.opal-online.org/>] site....

Library of Congress, Mar. 24

Author Name Pronunciation Guide

[<http://www.teachingbooks.net/pronunciations.cgi>]

So how do you pronounce “Jon Scieszka” (right), author of *The Stinky Cheese Man* and the National Ambassador for Young People’s Literature? The Author Name Pronunciation Guide, a free website, can tell you.

[<http://www.teachingbooks.net/show.cgi?f=about>]

Created by TeachingBooks.net in January 2007, the site has grown to feature hundreds of authors, including many winners of the ALA Youth Media Awards....

TeachingBooks.net

Music circulation in decline

[http://www.macleans.ca/culture/media/article.jsp?content=20080319_114618_114618]

Bryan Borzykowski writes: “Unfortunately for the thousands of Canadians who borrow music from the library, the days of flipping through a library’s CD collection could be numbered. The problem right now isn’t that libraries don’t want to offer their patrons alternatives to the physical CD—it’s that there’s no easy way for them to provide digital music. Libraries aren’t in the business of developing software and licensing albums from record labels, so they have to turn to another company, like Ohio-based OverDrive, to do the dirty work.”...

Maclean's, Mar. 19

E-book licensing and sales

[<http://gizmodo.com/369235/amazon-kindle-and-sony-reader-locked-up-why-your-books-are-no-longer-yours>]

Matt Buchanan writes: "If you buy an old book, CD, or DVD, you can turn around and loan it to a friend or sell it again. The right to pass it along is called the first-sale doctrine. Digital books, music, and movies are a different story though. Four students at Columbia Law School's Science and Technology Law Review looked at the particular issue of reselling and copying e-books downloaded to Amazon's Kindle or the Sony Reader, and came up with answers to a fundamental question: Are you buying a crippled license to intellectual property when you download, or are you buying an honest-to-God book?"...

Gizmodo, Mar. 21

OverDrive to distribute MP3 audiobooks to libraries

[<http://www.overdrive.com/aboutus/getArticle.aspx?newsArticleID=20080319>]

Digital book distributor OverDrive will expand its catalog of downloadable audiobooks to include titles in MP3 format without DRM.

Borders

[<http://audiobooks.borders.com/B7990C71-1EE7-46CB-A84B-7DEDB78A25E2/10/128/en/Default.htm>] will be the first online bookstore to offer them.

Following the Borders retail launch in May, a limited selection of OverDrive MP3 Audiobooks will be added to OverDrive's library network. These audiobooks will be compatible with nearly every MP3 player and mobile phone on the market, including iPod, Zune, iPhone, and Creative Labs products....

OverDrive, Mar. 19

Senate confirms National Museum and Library Services Board nominees

[<http://www.ims.gov/news/2008/032008.shtm>]

The U.S. Senate confirmed four presidential nominees to serve as members of the National Museum and Library Services Board March 13. The board advises the Institute of Museum and Library Services, an independent federal agency that is the primary source of federal support for the nation's museums and libraries. The new board members are Mark Y. Herring (right, Winthrop University Library), Julia W. Bland (Louisiana Children's Museum), Jan Cellucci (NCLIS commissioner), and William J. Hagenah (Chicago Horticultural Society)....

Institute of Museum and Library Services, Mar. 20

If it quacks like a librarian [<http://www.lisjobs.com/blog/?p=278>]

Rachel Singer Gordon writes: "I've been disturbed for some time about the vehemence with which we emphasize the divide between MLS librarians and everyone else working in libraries. Dean Giustini's recent post

[<http://i299.photobucket.com/albums/mm311/philpheller/deanagainstparapros2.jpg>] on the Google Scholar Blog decrying Library Journal's decision

to honor paraprofessionals with Movers & Shakers awards and asserting they don't have the right to call themselves librarians simply reinforced what I hear when talking to groups of paraprofessionals or when surveying people for my books: Many non-MLS library workers are unappreciated, undervalued, and ignored."...

The Liminal Librarian, Mar. 20

[<http://bookplatejunkie.blogspot.com/2008/01/bookplates-from-hollywood-comp-ost-pile.html>] Bookplate collecting basics

[<http://www.collectorsweekly.com/blogs/dave/guest-column-bookplate-collecting-basics/>]

Lew Jaffe writes: "Bookplate mania in America and England peaked from 1890 to about 1920. That's when the really great collections were formed. Most of them were either dispersed or absorbed into other collections. Today, if there are 200 bookplate collectors in the United States I would be very surprised. People often ask me where to find bookplates, so I thought it might a good time to write about building a collection."...

Collectors Weekly, Mar. 19

Online bookseller partners with libraries on discards

[<http://www.csrwire.com/News/11429.html>]

Mishawaka, Indiana-based Better World Books distributed more than \$470,000 in proceeds from its Library Discards and Donations Program to hundreds of city, county, and university libraries in 2007, providing library systems with resources to pay for basic operations, staff salaries, and acquisitions. The online bookseller collects discarded and donated books from more than 900 libraries nationwide, resells them through 18 online marketplaces, and returns a percentage of net proceeds to participating libraries....

Better World Books, Mar. 18

The traveling James Joyce Library book bag

[<http://ucdrsbookbagblog.blogspot.com/>]

What do Antarctica, Paris, Krakow (right), Munich, Prague, and Belfield have in common? The University College Dublin James Joyce Library book bag, of course! The library's Reader Services Department [<http://ucdreaderservices.blogspot.com/2008/01/check-out-our-book-bag-blog-now.html>] urges patrons to take photos of their book bag in far-flung places and submit them to the Book Bag Blog. Best photo of the year will win a fantastic prize....

UCD Book Bag Blog

Harvard and institutional repositories

[<http://citesandinsights.info/v8i4b.htm>]

Walt Crawford writes: "The biggest news since my last Library Access to Scholarship column should have been formal passage of the NIH policy as a requirement for NIH-funded research—but that may be overshadowed by the actions of Harvard University's Faculty of Arts and Sciences. Harvard's action may indeed be a 'game-changer,' as the saying goes. This time I'll focus on two things: the Harvard mandate and institutional repositories."...

Cites & Insights 8, no. 4 (Apr.) [<http://www.shapingoutcomes.org>]

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/annual/2008a/geninfo.htm>]

ALA Annual Conference

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

Anaheim, California, June 26–July 2.

Afghan-American writer Khaled Hosseini

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/annual/2008a/specialevents.cfm#Hosseini>] (*The Kite Runner*, *A Thousand Splendid Suns*) will be an Auditorium Speaker, Tuesday, July 1, 8–9 a.m.

Fantastical readers can enter the mystical world of *The Spiderwick Chronicles*

[http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?_sn=catalog&_pn=product_detail&_op=2508] and appreciate your library's fantasy collection with this captivating poster and bookmark featuring art from the award-winning series by Tony DiTerlizzi and Holly Black. The movie opened in February and stars Freddie Highmore and Sarah Bolger. Their world is closer than you think! NEW! From ALA Graphics.

In this issue
April 2008

Going for the Green

Library Design Showcase

Makeover at the Mansion

Learning Side by Side

Homegrown Superstars Say READ to Succeed

ALA now offers long-term care insurance

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/ourassociation/membership/benefitsofmembership/membene.cfm>] from John Hancock Life Insurance Company as a membership benefit on a voluntary discounted premium basis. The policy provides benefits to help you and your family manage the cost of long-term care services that may be needed when you can no longer perform normal activities of daily living. The benefit is also available at discounted premiums to eligible family members as well.

Mark your calendars: There are only eight weeks remaining until National Library Legislative Day,

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/washoff/washevents/nlld/nlld2008.cfm?CFID=7416471&CFTOKEN=cf6f3918fe8dd9c2-913510CF-CAE6-8294-DC7F29E0B04A0CC8>] May 13–14.

Each year, hundreds of library supporters come to Washington to talk with their Members of Congress about the needs of their libraries. NLLD is a two-day event featuring advocacy and issue training sessions, talks from Capitol Hill insiders, and a visit to Congressional Member offices on Capitol Hill.

Career Leads from

[<http://joblist.ala.org/>]

Bilingual Spanish Youth Librarian,

[<http://joblist.ala.org/modules/jobseeker/controller.cfm?scr=jobdetail&jobid=9988>] Multnomah County Public Library, Rockwood Library, Portland, Oregon. Bilingual Spanish Youth Librarians assist all patrons, including English and Spanish-speakers, with a special emphasis on serving youth (ages 0 to 18), families, and organizations that work with youth. This position performs the vital tasks of matching these patrons’s personal, educational, and recreational needs with appropriate information and resources, and fostering literacy in youth and families....

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

There’s still time to apply for the ALA Annual Conference stipend

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/stipend.cfm>] supported by the YALSA Unity Diversity Initiative. Deadline is March 31.

Digital Library of the Week

[<http://contentdm.lib.byu.edu/cdm4/document.php?CISOROOT=/MMD&CISOPTR=64740&REC=9>]

The L. Tom Perry Special Collections, housed in the Harold B. Lee Library at Brigham Young University, contains a superb collection of Mormon missionary diaries. [<http://www.lib.byu.edu/dlib/mmd/>] After a five-year project supported by Angel Partners Inc., 376 of these diaries (more than 63,000 pages) have now been digitized. The collection contains short biographies of the diarists and images of the original pages alongside typed transcriptions from 114 Church of Latter-Day Saints missionaries who served from the 1830s to the 1960s. Arranged geographically by continents or island groups—including the Pacific, Asia, North America, Great Britain, Scandinavia, and Western Europe—the collection was organized for digitization by BYU students over an 18-month period. The diaries were chosen based on the writer’s ability to be descriptive, introspective, and revealing about experiences, people, and places.

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

“Kindle includes wireless access to Wikipedia. I do not need wireless access to Wikipedia. I would prefer to stir-fry my own small intestines than to have continual access to a site where the entry for Klingon is longer than the entry for Latin.”

?University of Brighton Professor of Media Studies Tara Brabazon on the Kindle and its potential to transform reading and writing, in Times Higher Education, Mar. 13.

YALSA still needs teen opinions. Tell your YAs to fill out the Teen Technology Survey

[http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=aRxCPNSXnOQfqHb2Zx4veg_3d_3d] by March 31.

Ask the ALA Librarian

Q. Our community has a growing population of people who do not speak English. What are some things we should know about reaching out to them?

A. According to census data, about 21 million people in the U.S. (or very roughly 7%) speak limited or no English—50% more than a decade ago—so it is no surprise that this trend is affecting your community. The report, *Serving Non-English Speakers in U.S. Public Libraries*, [<http://www.ala.org/ala/olos/nonenglishspeakers/>] just released by ALA, found that the majority of libraries serving non-English speakers are in communities with fewer than 100,000 residents. That report also notes that literacy programming [http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Adult_Literacy] is an important feature of outreach. Other elements to consider as you adjust your program to meet the needs of your changing community include promotion of programs [http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Public_Relations] in the major languages spoken, developing special language collections [<http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Selection>], officer catalog access

[http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Cataloging_and_Classification] in additional languages, and other outreach programs.

[http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Serving_Speakers_of_Languages_Other_than_English] From the ALA Professional Tips wiki.

[http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Reaching_Out_to_Non-English_Speakers]

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

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pio/campaign/sponsorship/womansdaymagazine/health.cfm>]

Calendar

Apr. 30–

May 2:

Center for the Study of Rural Librarianship Conference

[<http://news.clarion.edu/News/406.html>], Holiday Inn on the Lane,

Columbus, Ohio. “From the Center City to the Exurbs: [Trends in]

Public Library Realities.”

Apr. 30–

May 3:

Living the Future Conference

[<http://www.library.arizona.edu/conferences/ltf/2008/>], University of

Arizona, Tucson. “Transforming Libraries Through

Collaboration.”

May 1–3:

LOEX 2008 [<http://www.loexconference.org/index.htm>], Oak Brook, Illinois.

“Librarian as Architect: Planning, Building, and Renewing.”

May 1–3:

Pennsylvania School Librarians Association,

[<http://www.psla.org/conferences/conferences.php4>] Annual Conference,

Hershey Lodge and Convention Center. “Score! With Information

Literacy and Reading @ Your Library.”

May 1–5:

Art Libraries Society of North America,

[<http://arlisna-mw.lib.byu.edu/denver2008/>] Annual Conference, Denver.

“ARLIS/NA at Altitude.”

May 2:

University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg,

[<http://www.library.pitt.edu/green/webclc.html>] Children's Literature

Conference.

May 4–8:

International Reading Association,

[<http://www.reading.org/association/meetings/annual.html>] Annual

Convention, Atlanta. “Engaging Learners in Literacy.”

May 7–8:

Amigos Conference and Vendor Fair [<http://www.amigos.org>], Crowne Plaza Hotel, Dallas.

May 8–9:

SOLINET, [<http://www.solinet.net>] Annual Meeting, Atlanta.

May 8–9:

OCLC, [<http://www.oclc.org/eastern/membership/events/teens.htm>] Engaging Teens Conference, Arlington, Virginia.

May 8–10:

GLBT Archives, Libraries, Museums, and Special Collections, [<http://web.gc.cuny.edu/clags/glbtalms/>] Conference, City University of New York.

May 14–16:

Ohio Valley Group of Technical Services Librarians, [<http://www.libraries.wright.edu/conference/ovgtsl/>] Annual Conference, Hope Hotel and Conference Center, Dayton. “Technical Services Taking Flight: Soaring to New Heights of Innovation.”

May 14–17:

National Genealogical Society, [<http://www.ngsgenealogy.org>] Annual Conference, Kansas City, Missouri.

May 16–21:

Medical Library Association, [<http://www.mlanet.org/am/>] Annual Conference, Chicago. “Connections: Bridging the Gaps.”

May 21–24:

Canadian Library Association, [<http://www.cla.ca/conference/2008/>] Annual Conference, Vancouver. “Libraries and Publishing 3.0: Connecting Authors to Readers in the Digital Age.”

May 30–

June 1:

Canadian Association for Conservation of Cultural Property, [<http://www.cac-accr.ca/english/index.asp>] Annual Conference, Bibliothèque et Archives Nationales du Québec, Montreal.

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

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