

american libraries DIRECT

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

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SCHOOLROOMS
A new learning portal for K-12

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



american libraries BUYERS GUIDE

U.S. & World News

[Stanislaus County Library lays off 94 part-timers](#)

Anticipating drastically reduced revenue from a dedicated sales tax and state aid, Stanislaus County (Calif.) Library officials issued layoff notices May 1 to 94 of the system's 138 part-time staff, effective June 30, just before the FY 2008–09 budget year begins. "This is a very, very sad thing for us to do," Stanislaus County Librarian Vanessa Czopek said in the May 2 *Modesto Bee*. "We hope we don't have to be in this mode for very long."...

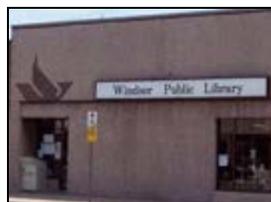


[Librarians join challenge to Oregon harmful-to-minors laws](#)

The American Civil Liberties Union of Oregon and ALA's Freedom to Read Foundation have joined 13 other plaintiffs in challenging two state laws that criminalize the provision of "sexually explicit" materials to minors. Filed in U.S. District Court April 25, the suit says that the statute, which is aimed at sexual predators, is so vague that it could intimidate Oregonians from giving youngsters sex-education materials and other constitutionally protected works....

[Oversight tension threatens future of Ontario branch](#)

The board of the Windsor (Ont.) Public Library, which voted April 9 to close the South Walkerville branch (right) as a result of a \$400,000 budget cut imposed by the city council in February, is rethinking its decision after the council ousted one trustee and appointed two new ones April 28. The library board's original plan was to close the branch in August when its lease is due to expire....



[ALA Annual Conference](#)

in Anaheim, California, June 26–July 2. **May 16** is the last day to [pre-register](#), and on **May 28** the [housing reservations](#) close.



Steve Carell stars in the upcoming movie *Get Smart*, based on the popular television series and due for release June 20. Get prepared with this [smart-looking ALA poster](#). "Would you believe that you can get smart @ your



Revitalize your investment in serials and anthologies!
Short Story Index Retrospective: 1915-1983



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ALA News

[Camila Alire elected 2009–2010 ALA president](#)

Camila Alire, dean emerita at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque and Colorado State University in Fort Collins, has been elected ALA president for the 2009–2010 term. Alire won over J. Linda Williams, coordinator of library media services for Anne Arundel County public schools in Annapolis, Maryland. Alire was elected with 8,956 votes. Williams received 7,102 votes. Alire will become president-elect in July 2008, and will assume the ALA presidency in July 2009, following the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago....

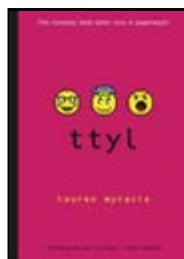


[ALA election results](#)

Thirty-five members have been elected to ALA Council. Thirty-three of those elected will begin their term at the conclusion of the 2008 Annual Conference in Anaheim, California, and extend through the end of the 2011 Annual Conference held in New Orleans. One councilor will serve a one-year term that begins immediately and extends to the end of the 2009 Annual Conference in Chicago. Voting results for Council ([PDF file](#)), for divisions and round tables ([PDF file](#)), as well as bylaws outcomes ([PDF file](#)), are on the ALA website....

[10 most challenged books of 2007](#)

For a second consecutive year, Justin Richardson and Peter Parnell's award-winning *And Tango Makes Three*, a children's book about two male penguins caring for an orphaned egg, tops the list of ALA's 10 Most Challenged Books of 2007. Three books are new to the list: *Olive's Ocean*, by Kevin Henkes; *The Golden Compass*, by Philip Pullman; and *TTYL*, by Lauren Myracle....



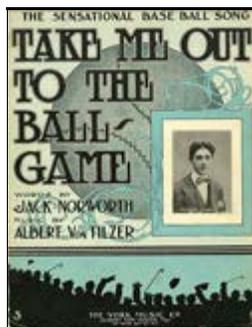
[Website redesign on ITTS blog](#)

A preview of the redesigned ALA website, to be unveiled at the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, California, is now available online on the [ITTS Update](#) blog. The purpose of this post is to introduce the new graphic design and information architecture, as well as get feedback. The redesign is in response to user concerns about the way information was organized. Users were saying the site didn't match their mental models....



[100th anniversary of "Take Me Out to the Ball-Game"](#)

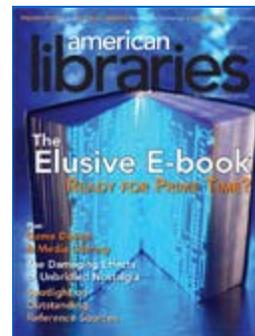
2008 marks the 100th anniversary of the iconic song "Take Me Out to the Ball-Game," and to celebrate, the Campaign for America's Libraries will host a program focused on this seventh-inning classic. "Baseball's Greatest Hit: The Story of 'Take Me Out to the Ball-Game'" will feature Andy Strasberg, coauthor of a book of the same name and one of the country's leading experts on the song, on Saturday, June 28, in Anaheim, California....



[Día on Capitol Hill](#)

library even without a cone of silence?"
NEW! From ALA Graphics.

In this issue
May 2008



Laura Bush Talks about Her Plans

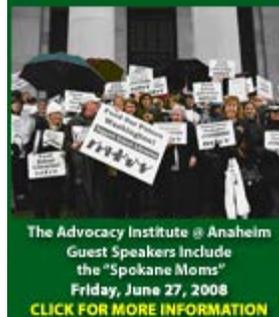
The Elusive E-Book

Killed by Kindness

Teens and Computer Games

2008 Outstanding Reference Sources

School Libraries in Crisis: Why Everyone Should Care



Career Leads from

ALA JobLIST

Curator of Manuscripts, Lilly Library, Indiana

On April 30, several U.S. Senators and Representatives celebrated Día de los Niños/Día de los Libros in the Russell Senate Office Building on Capitol Hill. Pat Mora, award-winning children's author and founder of the celebration, joined them for the event in the U.S. Capitol. Congressional Democrats discussed the importance of strengthening literacy programs for young children as they celebrated literature and the joy of teaching children to read....

District Dispatch, May 1



[Call for gaming presenters in November](#)

Jenny Levine writes: "We're in full swing for planning the second annual [ALA TechSource Gaming, Learning, and Libraries Symposium](#), which will take place November 2-4, in Oak Brook, Illinois, a western suburb of Chicago. If your library is doing something innovative with gaming, if you're doing research around gaming and libraries, or if you have ideas to propose and share, please [submit a proposal](#). We want to offer another great program chock full o' the best sessions, and that could include you! The deadline is June 15."...

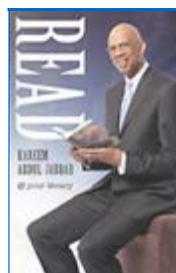
ALA TechSource, May 7



[Kareem and ALA](#)

Author and retired NBA basketball player Kareem Abdul-Jabbar has joined ALA's popular Celebrity READ poster series. The poster campaign is one of the most effective ways to encourage people to get a good education, improve reading skills, and read for sheer enjoyment. Abdul-Jabbar is the 2008 Honorary Chair of Library Card Sign-up Month, which takes place in September....

NBA Fan Voice, May 2



[Idearc volunteers spruce up a Bronx library](#)

The children's room of the New York Public Library's Soundview branch in the Bronx was renovated April 25-26 by 40 Idearc Media volunteers. This makeover of the children's area features a Bronx Zoo theme, with murals of animals reading with children.

Idearc Media, home to Superpages.com and publisher of the Verizon Yellow Pages, is partnering with ALA to refurbish reading areas in three public libraries....



[California associations to cosponsor Advocacy Institute](#)

The California Library Association and the California School Library Association will cosponsor the Advocacy Institute to be held during ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, California. "School Libraries in Crisis: Why Everyone Should Care" will take place on Friday, June 27....

Booklist
ONLINE

University of
Bloomington.
Manages acquisitions of manuscript materials for Lilly Library, including selection of materials acquired by purchase and gift. Consults with Lilly Library Director on collection development policy. In consultation with Head of Technical Services and in coordination with Manuscripts Cataloger, determines priorities of collections to be processed and cataloged. Curates exhibitions of Lilly Library materials, and consults with other curators....

@ [More jobs...](#)



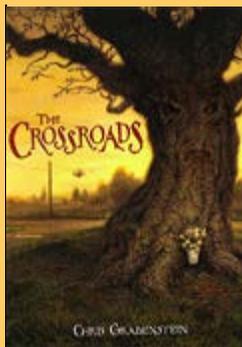
[Legislation has been introduced](#) in both the Senate and House that limits remedies in copyright infringement cases involving **orphan works**. As time is running out, the ALA Washington Office asks that you contact your Senators and Representatives (with priority given to members of the Senate), to communicate the library community's enthusiastic support for orphan works legislation that does not include a **dark archive** provision (mandating that users file a notice to the U.S. Copyright Office before using an orphan work).

**Digital Library
of the Week**

[Featured review: Books for youth](#)

Grabenstein, Chris. *The Crossroads*. May 2008. 336p. Random, hardcover. (978-0-375-84697-7).

If Grabenstein's first YA book were to receive a one-word review, the word would be *Cooooool*, a term that applies in a variety of ways—from the book's cover image (a face peering out of the bark of a tree) and its hitchhiking, hot-rodding ghosts to its creepy atmosphere, believable story, and suspense that engulfs readers from the very first page. Even the characters are cool, including contemporary, doo-wop, and even Dickensian types. Grabenstein, who has won the Anthony Award for his adult mysteries and whose writing career encompassed writing for television and work for the Muppets, brings a great sense of timing to this mysterious fright ride....



[Top 10 crime fiction for youth, 2008](#)

Gillian Engberg writes: "Fantasy and historical-fiction fans will find plenty to please them among this year's Top 10 youth mystery selections, all reviewed in *Booklist* during the past 12 months. Young Anglophiles, though, are the real winners; half of the following titles are set in London, past and present."...

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

Anaheim Update

[Housing in Anaheim](#)

Rumor has it that ALA has no hotel rooms left for Annual Conference in Anaheim. Well, rumor can be a helpful source—but not this time. As of May 6, there were 7,992 sold or committed rooms on Friday night, rising to 8,212 on Saturday night, with 8,025 on Sunday night. Those figures put us right in our normal range. It's still possible to get a "pending" message from ALA's housing bureau. Why? Usually it relates to the specifics of a given request—dates, room type, configuration. More rooms will open up at the end of this week....



ALA Marginalia, May 7

[Beta Phi Mu celebrates 60 years](#) (PDF file)

Members of Beta Phi Mu will be celebrating the 60th anniversary of the international honor society for library and information science at the Sheraton Park Hotel Tiffany Terrace and Patio in Anaheim, June 28. The event will also serve as the initiation ceremony for its new members and the installation ceremony for its new chapter at Valdosta (Ga.) State University....

Beta Phi Mu

[Thrill seekers, rejoice](#)

Orange County's theme parks aren't just for kids. Several rides that will have even grown-ups gripping the seat include Disney's California



[The Science and Society Picture Library](#)

in South Kensington, London, represents over a million images from the UK Science Museum; the National Museum of Photography, Film, and Television; and the National Railway Museum. SSPL now has over 150 image collections from both within and outside the museums' core collections. These contain over 70,000 online records, including more than 40,000 digital images. Collections include 4,000 personalities, the *Daily Herald* and *Manchester Daily Express* archives, and the work of Julia Margaret Cameron, William Henry Fox Talbot, and Tony Ray-Jones. The library provides transparencies and digital images on loan to clients for reproduction. A small service fee is charged for the loan of the images.

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

Adventure's [California Screamin'](#) and [Twilight Zone Tower of Terror](#); Knott's Berry Farm's [GhostRider](#), [Xcelerator](#), and [Supreme Scream](#); and Wild Rivers Waterpark's [Congo River Rapids](#)....



Anaheim/Orange County Visitor and Convention Bureau

[Carbon Canyon Regional Park](#)

If you have some time for some nearby outdoor recreation after the conference, you might consider Carbon Canyon Regional Park in Brea, nestled among the rolling foothills of the Chino Hills range. Sixty of the park's 124 acres are developed; of the remaining acreage, a 10-acre grove of coastal redwoods (*Sequoia sempervirens*) has been established. Throughout the developed park are pepper trees, sycamores, eucalyptus, and pines....



Orange County Parks

[Richard Nixon Presidential Library and Museum](#)

The Nixon Library in Yorba Linda is now one of 12 administered by the National Archives. The museum offers a narrative of the 37th president's life and career. Behind the museum is the birthplace, the house constructed by Nixon's father and restored as it was in 1910. President and Mrs. Nixon are buried on the grounds, just a few feet from the birthplace. The compound also contains the Loker Center and Annenberg Court, a wing with a special exhibit room, and a replica of the East Room of the White House....



Richard Nixon Library and Birthplace Foundation

"I was walking near the downtown Seattle Public Library and felt strongly that it was the 'center' of everything in Seattle. I went inside the library and my feelings were confirmed. I felt really intelligent and existentially superior while inside the library, talking on Gmail chat on a public computer, walking around taking cell-phone pictures of red walls. I had the feeling I could look out the window and see the rest of the city, from a 'bird's-eye view,' though this was not true, there was not an elevated area that I knew of where I could do that like I might from the Empire State Building. Still, walking on the street toward the library, I felt that I was 'nearing' the 'epicenter' of Seattle, and walking away from the library I felt like I was leaving behind the 'main activity' of my day."

—Tao Lin, "What I Can Tell You About Seattle Based on the People I've Met Who Are From There (I'm from Brooklyn)," in the Seattle alternative weekly newspaper *The Stranger*, Apr. 29.

Order your **FREE White Paper** **Online Homework Help: Evaluating the Options** courtesy of  **tutor.com**

Division News

[LAMA becomes LLAMA](#)

LAMA members have voted overwhelmingly to change the name of the division to the Library Leadership and Management Association (LLAMA). The new name will become official September 1. More than 90% of the division's members were in favor of the change....

[Sari Feldman elected PLA vice president](#)

Sari Feldman, executive director of the Cuyahoga County (Ohio) Public Library, has been elected PLA vice-president/president-elect. Feldman has been a member of PLA and ALA for more than 15 years and has served on numerous committees. She is a member of WebJunction's E-Learning Advisory Committee and a former president of the New York Library Association's Youth Services Section....



[PLA approves new bylaws](#)

PLA members voted to approve changes to the bylaws, effectively reshaping the structure of the organization. The process to change the bylaws began several years ago when the PLA Board undertook a strategic planning process with the goal of determining how to become a more nimble organization that is highly responsive to member needs....

[Klein, Alexie, and Glass will keynote ACRL National Conference](#)

ACRL has gathered a celebrated lineup of keynote speakers for its 14th National Conference, "Pushing the Edge: Explore, Engage, Extend," March 12–15, 2009, in Seattle. Journalist Naomi Klein (right) will provide the opening keynote, author and filmmaker Sherman Alexie will give the keynote luncheon, and radio producer Ira Glass will be the closing speaker....



[Brazelton to speak at ALSC President's Program](#)

Pediatrician T. Berry Brazelton will be the featured speaker at the 2007 Charlemae Rollins President's Program, sponsored by ALSC on June 30. The program is part of the ALA Auditorium Speaker Series to be held during Annual Conference in Anaheim, California. Brazelton will address the role of librarians, educators, and other child advocates in the strengthening of families....



[Got tweens?](#)

Reach the burgeoning tween generation with YALSA's "Got Tweens? Serving Younger Teens and Tweens" preconference, June 27, in Anaheim, California. You'll meet authors who write for this audience (Bruce Hale, Jon Scieszka, Lisi Harrison, Amy Goldman Koss, Ingrid Law, and Lisa Yee), gain exposure to literature for them through booktalks, and learn about professional resources to aid in providing library service to this group in your school and public library....



[LITA's BIGWIG launches new site](#)

On May 1, the LITA Blogs, Interactive Groupware, and Wikis Interest Group (BIGWIG), launched [YourBIGWIG](#), a new site designed to promote better communication among members. BIGWIG is responsible for maintaining the LITA Blog and LITA Wiki, and it puts on the Social Software Showcase, an online unconference occurring around and during the time of ALA Annual Conference....

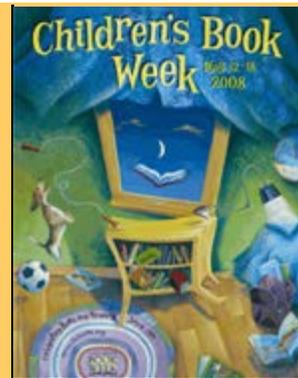


[C&RL preprints are now open access](#)

ACRL's *College & Research Libraries* has launched an open access, pre-publication service for accepted articles. The preprint service, which made its debut in March, moved to an open access model in an effort to make timely new research articles available to a wider audience. C&RL preprint articles are now freely available on the [ACRL website](#)....

[New ALCTS Electronic Discussion Forum](#)

Registration begins May 8 and ends May 13 for ALCTS leaders and



[Children's Book Week](#)

will be celebrated by libraries, schools, bookstores, and families across the country May 12–18 with storytelling, parties, author and illustrator appearances, and other book-related events. The Children's Book Council sponsors the event. Harry Potter illustrator Mary GrandPré designed this year's [official poster](#). A downloadable CBW [bookmark](#) created by Gene Yang is available online.

[Ask the ALA Librarian](#)



Q. I am trying to create a survey for programming. We've just recently opened a renovated building and I want to get an idea from the community what types of programs they would like to see in our new space. I was wondering if ALA had a basic programming

membership to take part in an electronic discussion focusing on communication. The discussion begins at 10 a.m. Eastern time on May 14 and concludes at 6 p.m. on May 16. The facilitators for this discussion are Pamela Bluh and Dina Giambi....

Round Table News

[New reduced student rate for MAGERT membership](#)

Library and information science students who are ALA members can now join the Map and Geography Round Table for a reduced annual fee of \$10. MAGERT offers exciting opportunities to engage the rapidly evolving world of map and geography librarianship, geospatial metadata (including map cataloging), and Geographic Information Systems through its meetings, publications, and discussion list....

Awards

[Library of the Future Award winner](#)

San Diego County (Calif.) Library is the 2008 winner of the ALA *Information Today* Library of the Future Award. This award is presented annually to a library with an application demonstrating innovative planning for, applications of, or development of patron training programs about information technology in a library setting. Its winning initiative was the [Gateway/Al-Bawaba Project](#), a community outreach program that provides internet and computer instruction to the Middle Eastern population in San Diego County....



[AASL Distinguished Service Award winner](#)

Nancy P. Zimmerman, associate professor at the University of South Carolina SLIS, is the recipient of the 2008 AASL Distinguished Service Award. Since 1986, Zimmerman has made an impact on the mission of AASL as a membership chair, a key member of several committees, a creator of the "Celebrate Conference," a member of the *School Library Media Research* Editorial Board, and AASL treasurer and president....



[AASL Intellectual Freedom Award winner](#)

Kristie Michalowski, media specialist at the J. C. Magill Elementary School in Loganville, Georgia, has been awarded the 2008 AASL Intellectual Freedom Award, sponsored by ProQuest. Over the course of her career in the Gwinnett County Public School system, Michalowski has been challenged four times regarding titles in the school library, and she has been active in the revision of local policies for use of instructional resources....

[AASL Frances Henne Award winner](#)

Sarah Prielipp, school library media specialist at Lakeview Elementary School in Gillette, Wyoming, is the recipient of the 2008 AASL Frances Henne Award. The \$1,250 award, sponsored by Greenwood Publishing Group, recognizes a school library media specialist with no more than five years of experience who demonstrates leadership qualities with students, teachers, and administrators....

[AASL ABC-CLIO Leadership Grant winner](#)

survey that I could use or at least review to give me a starting point?

A. ALA does not have any sample patron surveys on its website. However, several public libraries have made their own patron surveys available online, and you can view these for further assistance. See our [Patron Surveys](#) page. From the [ALA Professional Tips wiki](#) for more.

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

Calendar

May 13–16:

[Association of Canadian Map Libraries and Archives / Canadian Cartographic Association](#), Carto 2008, University of British Columbia, Vancouver.

May 26–30:

[Canadian Health Libraries Association](#), Conference, Halifax, Nova Scotia.

May 29–June 1:

[BookExpo America](#), Los Angeles Convention Center.

June 4–6:

[Council on Botanical and Horticultural Libraries](#), Annual Conference, Frederik Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park, Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Su Eckhardt, president of the Colorado Association of School Libraries, is the recipient of the 2008 ABC-CLIO Leadership Grant. The grant of up to \$1,750 is given to school library media associations affiliated with AASL in planning and implementing leadership programs at the state, regional, or local levels. It will support CASL and Technology in Education-Colorado's (TIE) project, "Wireless Dreams," a one-day conference targeting school librarians....

[AASL Innovative Reading Grant winner](#)

Barbara Powell-Schager, media specialist at the Big Shanty Intermediate School in Kennesaw, Georgia, is the recipient of the 2008 AASL Innovative Reading Grant. The goal of her project, titled "The Boys' Lunch Bunch: Improving At-Risk Boys' Reading," is to increase reading interest and comprehension in at-risk boys by at least 125 points on the Scholastic Reading Inventory....

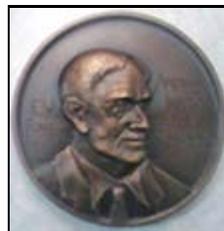


[Collaborative School Library Media Award winners](#)

Ronda Hassig and Kathy Hill of Harmony Middle School in Overland Park, Kansas, are the winners of the 2008 AASL Collaborative School Library Media Award. Hassig and Hill collaborated on a project, "A Small World—Technology Connecting Kids to Kids," involving students in a problem-solving model to identify a world problem to research and look for viable solutions....

[Radice receives AIC Forbes Medal](#)

Institute of Museum and Library Services Director Anne-Imelda M. Radice received the Forbes Medal for Distinguished Contribution to the Field of Conservation from the American Institute for the Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works at its annual meeting April 22 in Denver. Since its inception in 1994, the medal has been awarded to only six other nonconservators for their distinguished contributions to the field of conservation....

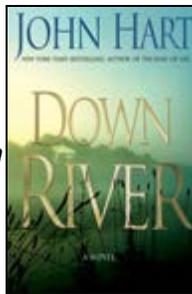


Institute of Museum and Library Service, Apr. 24

[2008 Edgar Award winners](#)

Mystery Writers of America has announced the winners of its 2008 Edgar Allen Poe Awards, honoring the best in mystery fiction, nonfiction, television, film, and theatre published or produced in the past year. John Hart's *Down River* (St. Martin's Minotaur) won for best novel, Katherine Marsh's *The Night Tourist* (Hyperion) won for best juvenile fiction, and Tedd Arnold's *Rat Life* (Penguin) won for best young adult fiction....

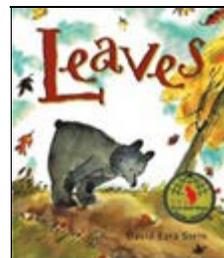
Mystery Writers of America, May 1



[2008 Ezra Jack Keats awards](#)

Children's book illustrator Jonathan Bean and writer David Ezra Stein will be awarded the 2008 Ezra Jack Keats Book Award for their outstanding work in children's literature on May 15 in the New York Public Library's Donnell Library Center. Stein will receive the New Writer Award for *Leaves* (G.P. Putnam's Sons), while the New Illustrator Award will be granted to Bean, who illustrated *The Apple Pie That Papa Baked* (Simon & Schuster) by Lauren Thompson....

Ezra Jack Keats Foundation, May 1



[LAPL honors Larry McMurtry](#)

"Growing Awareness: The Whys and Hows of Marketing Your Library." Contact: [Shelly Kilroy](#).

June 4: [National Information Standards Organization](#), NASIG

preconference on "Metadata in a Digital Age," Tapatio Cliffs Resort, Phoenix.

June 5–8: [North American Serials Interest Group](#), Annual

Conference, Tapatio Cliffs Resort, Phoenix. "Taking the Sting out of Serials." Contact: [NASIG](#).

June 8–20: [Oral History Research Office](#), Columbia

University Libraries, Summer Institute, New York City. "Oral History, Advocacy, and the Law." Contact: (212) 854-7083.

June 11–14: [Association of Canadian Archivists](#),

Annual Conference, Crowne Plaza Fredericton Lord Beaverbrook Hotel, New Brunswick. "Stemming the Tide."

June 12–15: [Association des Bibliothécaires de France](#), 54th Congress,

Reims. "Par cours en bibliothèques."

June 25–28: [American Theological Library Association](#),

Annual Conference, St. Paul University, Ottawa, Ontario. "La connexion française."

The stars came out for *Lonesome Dove* author Larry McMurtry April 30 at Los Angeles Public Library's Literary Awards dinner. His friend, actress and photographer Diane Keaton, was there to hand him the award, but it was McMurtry himself who delivered the sorrowful note of the evening. Every eye was on his damp eyes as he read part of a Philip Larkin poem called "Going, Going..."

Los Angeles Times, May 1

[National Poetry Recitation Contest winner](#)

16-year-old Shawntay A. Henry of the U.S. Virgin Islands captured the audience with her poetry recitations April 29 and received the title of 2008 *Poetry Out Loud* National Champion. Henry received a \$20,000 scholarship prize and her school, Charlotte Amalie High School, will receive a \$500 stipend for the purchase of poetry books. She was among 12 finalists who participated in the third national poetry recitation contest, sponsored by the National Arts Endowment and the Poetry Foundation....

National Endowment for the Arts, Apr. 30



[Miriam Braverman Memorial Prize](#)

The Progressive Librarians Guild has awarded the 2008 Miriam Braverman Memorial Prize to Miriam Rigby for her essay titled "Just Throw It All Away! (And Other Thoughts I Have Had That May Bar Me from a Career in Archiving)." Rigby is currently enrolled in the MLIS program at the University of Washington's Information School and plans to graduate this spring. The essay will be published in the forthcoming issue of *Progressive Librarian*....

Progressive Librarians Guild, Apr. 29

[Barbara Bush Foundation grant winners](#)

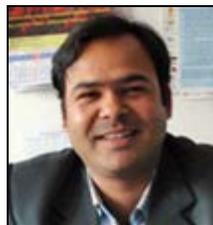
The Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy has awarded a total of \$647,029 to develop or expand 10 programs that will improve the literacy skills of parents and their children. Ranging in size from \$63,432 to \$65,000, the 10 winning grant applications were chosen from over 300 proposals, submitted by a wide variety of private nonprofit and public organizations including libraries, correctional institutions, universities, housing projects, and public schools....

Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy, Apr. 24

[CILIP Anthony Thompson Award](#)

Raj Kumar Gandharba, recently promoted as executive director of the Jana Utthan Pratishan non-government organization in Nepal, is the winner of the 2008 Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals Anthony Thompson Award. His work includes management of community learning centers with special importance given to the underprivileged Dalit peoples. The award is a grant to bring young librarians to the United Kingdom to study library and information science....

Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals, May 1



Seen Online

June 29–

July 2:

[National Educational Computing Conference](#), San

Antonio, Texas.

"Convene, Connect, Transform." Contact: [ISTE](#).

July 23–25:

[Art Libraries Society UK and Ireland](#),

Annual Conference, University of Liverpool.

July 23–26:

[National Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators](#),

Annual Meeting, Westin Peachtree Plaza, Atlanta. "All Roads Lead to Records: Making the Journey Count."

July 28–31:

[World Congress on Reading](#), San José,

Costa Rica. "Reading in a Diverse World."

Contact: [International Reading Association](#).

Aug. 3–7:

[International Association of School Librarianship](#), Annual

Conference, University of California, Berkeley.

"World Class Learning and Literacy through School Libraries."

Contact: [Blanche Woolls](#).

Aug. 10–14:

[International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions](#), World

Library and Information Congress, Québec City,

Québec. "Libraries Without Borders:

Navigating Towards Global Understanding."

ALA members can

[NAL: A precious resource at risk](#)

Flatlined for years, the National Agricultural Library's budget is slated for drastic cuts in the fiscal year beginning October 1. The cuts could end the acquisition of new printed works, endanger the preservation of its special collections, halt document delivery, and turn a national library into a local one. Unless Congress votes to restore the money, a farmer or researcher will soon have to travel to Beltsville, Maryland, to investigate a new soil amendment, study an old crop rotation scheme, or gauge the progress of an invading weed....

Washington Post, May 1



[Reading First initiative judged ineffective](#)

President Bush's \$1-billion-a-year initiative to teach reading to low-income children has not helped improve their reading comprehension, according to a [Department of Education report](#) released May 1. The program, known as Reading First, was included in the No Child Left Behind legislation that passed in 2001. It has been a subject of dispute almost ever since, however, with the Bush administration and some state officials characterizing the program as beneficial for young students, and Congressional Democrats and federal investigators criticizing conflict of interest among its top advisers....

New York Times, May 2

Reading First Impact Study:
Interim Report

[Illinois legislator pushes DOPA again](#)

The internet can be a buffet for sexual predators, and Rep. Mark Kirk (R-Ill.) would like to limit access to students at public libraries. Librarians, however, oppose the Deleting Online Predators Act that Kirk is cosponsoring. Kirk held a press conference May 5 in Mount Prospect, Illinois, to renew interest in the bill. He is also warning the Federal Trade Commission about the [sexual dangers](#) of Second Life, after an aide logged in last week....

Mount Prospect (Ill.) Times, May 6; *Chicago Tribune*, May 6

[Truth: Do you know it when you see it?](#)

"If it's wrong" is the big if, the question that plagues librarians and teachers today. Of course, the information you see online might be right—in one study, published in *Nature*, Wikipedia was found to be only slightly less reliable than *Encyclopedia Britannica*. But without peer review, it's so easy to be wrong, and for your wrongness to become the top Google hit on a subject, and for your wrongness to be repeated by other people who think it's right, until everyone decides that it's raining in Phoenix....

Washington Post, Apr. 27



[Knife-wielding man at Ohio library](#)

A man held a knife to his throat and threatened to kill himself May 7 at the Batavia branch of the Clermont County (Ohio) Public Library. The branch opened at 9 a.m., and the incident occurred a few minutes later, Interim Director Dave Mezack said. The man had used one of the library's computers the previous night, and he pulled the knife after Branch Manager Leslie Jacobs said he couldn't come into the library. Jacobs called the police, who subdued the man....

register at the IFLA Member Rate using the ALA membership code of US-0002. Contact: [IFLA](#).

Sept. 2–5:
[Australian Library and Information Association](#), Biennial Conference, Alice Springs Convention Centre, Northern Territory.
"Dreaming08."

Sept. 9–12:
[American Association for State and Local History](#), Annual Meeting, Hyatt Regency, Rochester, New York. "Discovering the Power of Transformation."

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

Sept. 14–18:
[International Association of Aquatic and Marine Science Libraries and Information Centers](#), Annual Conference, Suva, Fiji.
"Sustainability in a Changing Climate."

@ [More...](#)

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Cincinnati Inquirer, May 7

[Armed man at University of Richmond eludes police](#)

The University of Richmond planned to reopen May 7 under heightened security after school authorities locked down the campus the previous day in response to a suspicious, possibly armed man seen in the Boatwright Memorial Library. Efforts to locate a man, who first was spotted wearing a brown windbreaker with the word "sheriff" on the back, a navy T-shirt, and disguised in a fake gray beard were unsuccessful....

Richmond (Va.) Times-Dispatch, May 7

[First Lady announces school library grants](#)

First Lady Laura Bush was at the Fort Worth (Tex.) School District administration building April 30 to announce that her foundation was awarding more than \$1.09 million in grants to 190 school libraries for 2008. The full list of schools ([PDF file](#)) is on the Laura Bush Foundation for America's Libraries website....

Fort Worth (Tex.) Star-Telegram, May 1

[Nevada Test Site oral history](#)

The University of Nevada at Las Vegas launched its first fully digitized oral history site, [Nevada Test Site Oral History Project](#), April 27. The site compiles interviews with people who either contributed to the Nevada Test Site—an atomic testing site north of Las Vegas—or were affected by it in some way. Mary Palevsky, the director of the project, and a group of about 40 graduate students worked for four and a half years to create the site....

UNLV *The Rebel Yell*, May 1



[UK police requesting more library records](#)

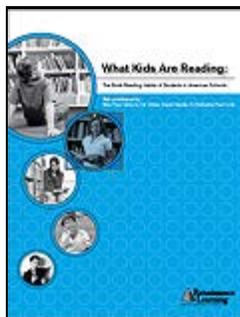
Police forces are requesting information on the library borrowing records of individuals under police surveillance, British librarians have reported. The requests are understood to center on areas with a large Muslim population. John Pateman, head of libraries in Lincolnshire, criticized the development, saying it went against library ethics and could damage community cohesion....

The Bookseller, May 2

[What do children read? Hint: Harry Potter's Not No. 1](#)

Children have welcomed the Harry Potter books in recent years like free ice cream in the cafeteria, but the largest survey ever of youthful reading in the United States by Renaissance Learning ([PDF file](#)) revealed May 5 that none of J.K. Rowling's phenomenally popular books has been able to dislodge the works of longtime favorites Dr. Seuss, E.B. White, Judy Blume, S.E. Hinton, and Harper Lee as the most read....

Washington Post, May 5



[Librarian returns to Ethiopia to set up libraries](#)

Born in rural Ethiopia to an illiterate cattle merchant who insisted upon his son's education, Yohannes Gebregeorgis had seen a few books in school. Today, after getting an MLS and working as a children's librarian in the U.S., he is establishing libraries and literacy programs to connect Ethiopian children with books. He established Ethiopia Reads in 1988 to

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

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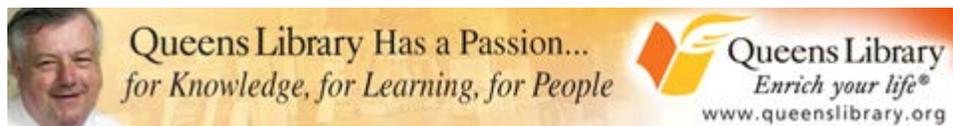
All links outside the ALA website are provided for informational purposes only. Questions about the content of any external site should be addressed to the administrator of that site.

American Libraries
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www.ala.org/alonline/
800-545-2433,
ext. 4216

ISSN 1559-369X.

open reading centers and donkey-pulled mobile libraries. "With literate children there is no limit as to how much we can do," Gebregeorgis says....

CNN, May 1



Tech Talk

[How to buy the right GPS](#)

Molly K. McLaughlin writes: "The best way to shop for a personal navigation device is to start with the basics, including a large, readable display, preloaded maps, and a strong receiver. Next, you should tackle the question of how much control you want over your routes—many devices can help you avoid tolls, traffic, and even speeding tickets." If the price tag is a problem, there are some [less expensive](#) options....

PC Magazine, Feb. 29, Apr. 4



[BlackBerry in the library](#)

Dan Overfield, business librarian at Villanova University, describes a pilot project in which three librarians traded their office phones for BlackBerry mobile devices: "Students, faculty, and colleagues can reach me at one telephone number, or via email, at any time, regardless of which building I am in, or whether or not I am even on campus. With emerging technology like Twitter I can make updates to my websites by simply texting them to my account. With the BlackBerry there is the potential to communicate with patrons without anyone having to be at a desk or in front of a computer."...

ACRLog, May 6

[Social hardware](#)

Karen Schneider writes: "I brought this small travel [power strip](#) to the Information Architecture Summit 2008. It's small, powerful, sturdy, folds up neatly, and is insanely useful. Some of its uses are obvious if you've ever been in a hotel room where you found yourself moving furniture to get to the second plug, but as someone at IA Summit 2008 commented, 'It's very social hardware!'"...

Free Range Librarian, May 3



[How to analyze your site with del.icio.us](#)

Ann Smarty writes: "Social bookmarking is not only a nice way to get more traffic and links, it's also a most effective method to explore what people think about your site. The most powerful tool to track your content popularity at social bookmarking sites is [del.icio.us URL search](#) that shows you tags and descriptions people attached to a post when bookmarking."...

Search Engine Journal, Apr. 28

[All the spam in China](#) (registration required)

Where do spam, viruses, and worms come from? Team Cymru, a security research firm in Burr Ridge, Illinois, ranks countries according to the number of internal internet addresses where malicious content

originates. The worst offender? China, by far, followed by Brazil, Turkey, and the United States....

Technology Review, May/June 2008

[Moving to Unicode 5.1](#)

Mark Davis writes: "Google has just begun supporting Unicode 5.1, less than one month after it was released. It's now available in search, so people speaking languages such as Malayalam can now search for words containing the new characters in Unicode 5.1. In December 2007, for the first time, we found that Unicode was the most frequent encoding found on web pages, overtaking both ASCII and Western European encodings—and by coincidence, within 10 days of one another."...

Official Google Blog, May 5

[How to overclock your system](#)

Overclocking—forcing a computer component to run at a higher clock rate than it was designed for to increase performance, especially for video games—can be mystifying and scary, particularly if you've never done it before. Figuring out the right set of components, understanding cooling solutions, and trying to sort out those mysterious BIOS settings can be confusing and complex. Extreme Tech offers a video tutorial on the basics....

Extreme Tech, Apr. 28



Actions & Answers

[Arizona petition supports school libraries](#)

The Arizona Coalition for School Libraries and Information Technology launched a statewide petition in late April to provide Arizona citizens a forum to voice their support of school library programs. Arizona residents can support ACSLIT by signing the online [petition](#). Non-residents can support school libraries by buying a "Fund Our Future" [T-shirt](#)....

Arizona Coalition for School Libraries and Information Technology, May 1



[Tips for coordinating press events](#)

Thinking of planning an event to publicize your library or spread awareness of a library issue? There are several factors to consider. Here are a few tips from Macey Morales, media relations manager for the ALA Public Information Office....

[Library one of AIA's top green projects](#)

The Phoenix Public Library's César Chávez branch in Laveen, Arizona, has been selected by the American Institute of Architects as one of the top 10 examples of sustainable design for 2008. Designed by Line and Space



architects, the building uses extensive overhangs to protect from the sun's radiation. The scarcity of water led to rooftop rainwater collection for irrigation, while water-reducing fixtures are used indoors....

MSNBC, Apr. 22

[Lowry named ARL Executive Director](#)

The Association of Research Libraries Board of Directors has appointed Charles B. Lowry executive director of the association, effective July 1, 2008. Lowry is currently dean of libraries at the University of Maryland, College Park. He will take a leave of absence to lead ARL for the next three years. When this limited term concludes, Lowry will return to teaching and research in the university's iSchool....



Association of Research Libraries, Apr. 23

[Perry elected to SACS](#)

Emma Bradford Perry, professor and dean of libraries at Southern University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, was recently elected to the Commission on Colleges for the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. In the 95-year history of the Commission on Colleges, she is the first librarian to serve as a commissioner....



Southern University System

[African-American library directors in the United States](#)

Two members of the Black Caucus of the American Library Association created this database of African-American library directors based on names and addresses received through the BCALA discussion list.

Alonzo W. Hill, of the Independence Township Library in Clarkston, Michigan, and Reinette Jones of the University of Kentucky will also keep the database current....

Black Caucus of the American Library Association

[Is this how we encourage people?](#)

Meredith Farkas writes: "A person I'm friendly with in California wrote me asking for advice about a speaking gig he just got. He's pretty new to the speaking thing (though he is *excellent*) and wants to grow his reputation as a speaker, but also doesn't get funding from his institution for professional development. It's sad that someone who is talented and enthusiastic about contributing to the profession is getting a bucket of cold water thrown in his face. He has so much to offer the profession, and yet he is being discouraged."...

Information Wants To Be Free, May 5

[Disruptive student blues](#)

Jay Seidel writes: "Disruptive behavior such as sleeping, talking, and cell phones are easy to handle and most of us have policies about these topics spelled out. However, it's the verbal altercations and threats of violence that are the ones that pose more of a challenge. Sometimes students can act out in violent ways for reasons that we have no clue as to why."...

College Life, May 3

[Teaching website highlights ancient Mesopotamia](#)

Twelve-year-old students across the country are digging into the secrets of ancient Mesopotamia through a teaching website

that lets them direct virtual archeological expeditions and curate museum exhibits with the excavated artifacts. The website, [Ancient Mesopotamia: This History, Our History](#), examines gifts left to the modern world of the region that includes Iraq. It was developed by the University of Chicago's Oriental Institute Museum....



Institute of Museum and Library Services, May 5

[New Journal of e-Media Studies](#)

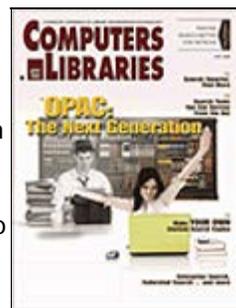
Dartmouth College Library has launched a new open-access digital publication, the *Journal of e-Media Studies*. Conceived of and edited by Mark Williams, associate professor of film and television studies, this new online journal showcases the best new scholarly work on current and historical issues regarding electronic media....



Dartmouth College Library

[Citation searching: Search smarter and find more](#)

Chelsea C. Hammond and Stephanie Willen Brown write: "At the University of Connecticut, we have been enticing graduate students to join student trainers to learn how to answer the following questions and improve the breadth of their research: Do you need to find articles published outside your primary discipline? What are some seminal articles in your field? Have you ever wanted to know who cited an article you wrote? We are participating in Elsevier's Student Ambassador Program in which graduate students train their peers on 'citation searching' research using Scopus and Web of Science."...



Computers in Libraries 28, no. 5 (May)

[Statement of International Cataloguing Principles](#)

Barbara Tillett, chair of the IFLA Meeting of Experts on an International Cataloguing Code, is asking for comments from the worldwide library community on the final draft of the *Statement of International Cataloguing Principles* and its accompanying Glossary. Comments are due by June 30 to [Barbara Tillett](#)....

[Joint statement on RDA](#)

A May 1 letter from LC Associate Librarian for Library Services Deanna Marcum provides the joint statement of the Library of Congress, the National Library of Medicine, and the National Agricultural Library on *Resource Description and Access*. The three institutions agreed that these steps will be followed and, if there is a decision to implement RDA, that the implementation would not occur before the end of 2009....

Cataloging Futures, May 2

[LC Subject Headings suggestions: The results](#)

Radical Reference's LCSH blog-a-thon resulted in suggestions for 24 subject headings, 6 cross-references, and 2 subdivisions. Members of Radical Reference hope to work with catalogers, particularly those from the [RADCAT discussion list](#), to SACOfy suggested headings that haven't

previously been submitted to LC in a formal manner....
Radical Reference, Apr. 29

[Librarians in comic books](#)

Robert Hulshof-Schmidt writes: "The vast majority of caped and masked superheroes are either scientists or socialites (or both, in the case of Tony [Iron Man] Stark), identities that lend themselves to flexible hours and personal fortunes. But where are the librarians? Surely information professionals deserve their place in the pursuit of truth and justice. And we are there, if in somewhat smaller numbers. Certainly the most famous costumed librarian is Barbara Gordon (right). By day the librarian daughter of Gotham City's police commissioner, by night Barbara donned cape and cowl as Batgirl."...



"Look! Up in the Sky! It's a . . . Librarian," *Oregon Library Association Quarterly* 14, no. 1 (Spring): 7-8, 27

[Second Life and the public good](#)

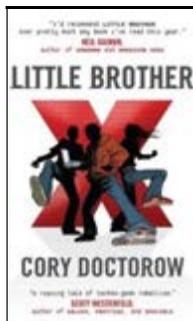
The University of Southern California's Network Culture Project has invited residents of Second Life to imagine new ways that virtual worlds such as Second Life can be used to make a contribution to the public good. They are currently accepting proposals from groups, organizations, or individuals for projects that show how Second Life can enhance, develop, or sustain the public good. Three finalists will be provided with a \$100,000L per month building stipend (and land, if required) for three months. Proposals are due June 1....



University of Southern California Network Culture Project, May 2

[Little Brother = le awesome YA sci-fi](#)

Danah Boyd writes: "Although I've always been eh about most sci-fi, I've grown increasingly fond of young adult science fiction and sci-fi focused on teens. There's something fun in reading about teens running around trying to save the world. I can thank/blame Cory Doctorow for most of this because he's the one who got me hooked on reading it. So I'm super super super stoked to announce that his first young adult sci-fi book is on the shelves." Doctorow is offering a [free copy](#) to librarians and teachers; email your request to [Olga Nunes](#)....



Apophenia, May 1; Boing Boing, May 6

[News from the digital music universe](#)

Joseph Wilk writes: "This past month has witnessed a lot of news and developments in the world of digital music, whether major acquisitions, new studies on teen habits, and cool new technologies. Here's an extensive rundown" that includes news from MySpace, imeem, MOG, and Pitchfork Media....

YALSA Blog, May 3

[May is Better Hearing and Speech Month](#)

The American Speech-Language-Hearing Association has designated May as Better Hearing and Speech Month to provide opportunities to raise awareness about communication disorders and to promote treatment that can improve the quality of life for those who experience problems with speaking, understanding, or hearing. This year, the campaign is offering five downloadable bookmarks ([PDF file](#)), a children's activity book, and a BHSM poster....



American Speech-Language-Hearing Association

[Open Access Directory wiki](#)

Peter Suber and Robin Peek have compiled some factual lists about open access to science and scholarship, maintained by the OA community at large. By bringing many OA-related lists together in one place, the wiki will make it easier for users, especially newcomers, to find them and use them for reference. The easier they are to maintain and discover, the more effectively they can spread useful, accurate information about OA....

Open Access Directory

[Facebook in reality](#)

Comedy from Idiots of Ants, a British comedy sketch group. What would it be like if Facebook was actually played out in real life? As featured on the BBC Three show *The Wall*. Featuring Elliott Tiney, Benjamin Wilson, and Andrew Spiers....

YouTube, Apr. 28



AL Direct, May 7, 2008

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

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

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

[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

U.S. & World News

Stanislaus County Library lays off 94 part-timers

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/may2008/Stanislauslayoffs.cfm>]

Anticipating drastically reduced revenue from a dedicated sales tax and state aid, Stanislaus County (Calif.) Library officials issued layoff notices May 1 to 94 of the system's 138 part-time staff, effective June 30, just before the FY 2008–09 budget year begins. "This is a very, very sad thing for us to do," Stanislaus County Librarian Vanessa Czopek said in the May 2 Modesto Bee. "We hope we don't have to be in this mode for very long..."

Librarians join challenge to Oregon harmful-to-minors laws

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/may2008/Oregonhtmlawschallenged.cfm>]

The American Civil Liberties Union of Oregon and ALA's Freedom to Read Foundation have joined 13 other plaintiffs in challenging two state laws that criminalize the provision of "sexually explicit";

materials to minors. Filed in U.S. District Court April 25, the suit says that the statute, which is aimed at sexual predators, is so vague that it could intimidate Oregonians from giving youngsters sex-education materials and other constitutionally protected works....

Oversight tension threatens future of Ontario branch

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/may2008/Windsormonthbymonth.cfm>]

The board of the Windsor (Ont.) Public Library, which voted April 9 to close the South Walkerville branch (right) as a result of a \$400,000 budget cut imposed by the city council in February, is rethinking its decision after the council ousted one trustee and appointed two new ones April 28. The library board's original plan was to close the branch in August when its lease is due to expire....

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

ALA News

Camila Alire elected 2009–2010 ALA president

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/april2008/alapresidentresults08.cfm>]

Camila Alire, dean emerita at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque and Colorado State University in Fort Collins, has been elected ALA president for the 2009–2010 term. Alire won over J. Linda Williams, coordinator of library media services for Anne Arundel County public schools in Annapolis, Maryland. Alire was elected with 8,956 votes. Williams received 7,102 votes. Alire will become president-elect in July 2008, and will assume the ALA presidency in July 2009, following the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago....

ALA election results

[http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/april2008/_alacouncilors08.cfm]

Thirty-five members have been elected to ALA Council. Thirty-three of those elected will begin their term at the conclusion of the 2008 Annual Conference in Anaheim, California, and extend through the end of the 2011 Annual Conference held in New Orleans. One councilor will serve a one-year term that begins immediately and extends to the end of the 2009 Annual Conference in Chicago. Voting results for Council (PDF file [<http://www.ala.org/ala/ourassociation/governanceofficeb/electioninfo/councilors-at-large.pdf>]), for divisions and round tables (PDF file [<http://www.ala.org/ala/ourassociation/governanceofficeb/electioninfo/alldsrballots.pdf>]), as well as bylaws outcomes (PDF file [<http://www.ala.org/ala/ourassociation/governanceofficeb/electioninfo/bylaw.pdf>]), are on the ALA website....

10 most challenged books of 2007

[<http://ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/penguin.cfm>]

For a second consecutive year, Justin Richardson and Peter Parnell's award-winning *And Tango Makes Three*, a children's book about two male penguins caring for an orphaned egg, tops the list of ALA's 10 Most Challenged Books of 2007. Three books are new to the list: *Olive's Ocean*, by Kevin Henkes; *The Golden Compass*, by Philip Pullman; and *TTYL*, by Lauren Myracle....

Website redesign on ITTS blog

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/websiteredesignonblog.cfm>]

A preview of the redesigned ALA website, to be unveiled at the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, California, is now available online on the ITTS Update [<http://itts.ala.org/update/2008/05/05/website-redesign-update/>] blog. The purpose of this post is to introduce the new graphic design and information architecture, as well as get feedback. The redesign is in response to user concerns about the way information was organized. Users were saying the site didn't match their mental models....

100th anniversary of 'Take Me Out to the Ball-Game';
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/baseballsgreatesthit.cfm>]
2008 marks the 100th anniversary of the iconic song 'Take Me Out to the Ball-Game,' and to celebrate, the Campaign for America's Libraries will host a program focused on this seventh-inning classic. 'Baseball's Greatest Hit: The Story of 'Take Me Out to the Ball-Game' will feature Andy Strasberg, coauthor of a book of the same name and one of the country's leading experts on the song, on Saturday, June 28, in Anaheim, California....

Day on Capitol Hill [<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=471>]

On April 30, several U.S. Senators and Representatives celebrated Día de los Niños/Día de los Libros in the Russell Senate Office Building on Capitol Hill. Pat Mora, award-winning children's author and founder of the celebration, joined them for the event in the U.S. Capitol. Congressional Democrats discussed the importance of strengthening literacy programs for young children as they celebrated literature and the joy of teaching children to read....

District Dispatch, May 1

Call for gaming presenters in November

[<http://www.techsource.ala.org/blog/2008/05/call-for-presenters-for-glls2008.html>]

Jenny Levine writes: "We're in full swing for planning the second annual ALA TechSource Gaming, Learning, and Libraries Symposium [<http://gaming.techsource.ala.org/>], which will take place November 2-4, in Oak Brook, Illinois, a western suburb of Chicago. If your library is doing something innovative with gaming, if you're doing research around gaming and libraries, or if you have ideas to propose and share, please submit a proposal.

[http://gaming.techsource.ala.org/index.php/Call_for_Presenters] We want to offer another great program chock full of the best sessions, and that could include you! The deadline is June 15."...

ALA TechSource, May 7

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

l&_op=2541]Kareem and ALA

[<http://my.nba.com/thread.jspa?threadID=570005338>]

Author and retired NBA basketball player Kareem Abdul-Jabbar has joined ALA's popular Celebrity READ poster series. The poster campaign is one of the most effective ways to encourage people to get a good education, improve reading skills, and read for sheer enjoyment. Abdul-Jabbar is the 2008 Honorary Chair of Library Card Sign-up Month, which takes place in September....

NBA Fan Voice, May 2

Idearc volunteers spruce up a Bronx library

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/cro/projectsandactivities/idearcala.cfm>]

The children's room of the New York Public Library's Soundview branch in the Bronx was renovated April 25–26 by 40 Idearc Media volunteers. This makeover of the children's area features a Bronx Zoo theme, with murals of animals reading with children. Idearc Media, home to Superpages.com and publisher of the Verizon Yellow Pages, is partnering with ALA to refurbish reading areas in three public libraries....

California associations to cosponsor Advocacy Institute

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/advocacycosponsors.cfm>]

The California Library Association and the California School Library Association will cosponsor the Advocacy Institute to be held during ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, California. "School Libraries in Crisis: Why Everyone Should Care" will take place on Friday, June 27....

Featured review: Books for youth

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=2527948]

Grabenstein, Chris. *The Crossroads*. May 2008. 336p. Random, hardcover. (978-0-375-84697-7).

If Grabenstein's first YA book were to receive a one-word review, the word would be Cooool, a term that applies in a variety of ways—from the book's cover image (a face peering out of the bark of a tree) and its hitchhiking, hot-rodding ghosts to its creepy atmosphere, believable story, and suspense that engulfs readers from the very first page. Even the characters are cool, including contemporary, doo-wop, and even Dickensian types. Grabenstein, who has won the Anthony Award for his adult mysteries and whose writing career encompassed writing for television and work for the Muppets, brings a great sense of timing to this mysterious fright ride....

Top 10 crime fiction for youth, 2008

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=2726447]

Gillian Engberg writes: "Fantasy and historical-fiction fans will find plenty to please them among this year's Top 10 youth mystery selections, all reviewed in Booklist during the past 12 months. Young Anglophiles, though, are the real winners; half of the following titles are set in London, past and present."...

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

and much more....

Anaheim Update

Housing in Anaheim

[<http://discuss.ala.org/marginalia/2008/05/07/so-im-going-to-anaheim/>]
Rumor has it that ALA has no hotel rooms left for Annual Conference in Anaheim. Well, rumor can be a helpful source—but not this time. As of May 6, there were 7,992 sold or committed rooms on Friday night, rising to 8,212 on Saturday night, with 8,025 on Sunday night. Those figures put us right in our normal range. It's still possible to get a "pending" message from ALA's housing bureau. Why? Usually it relates to the specifics of a given request—dates, room type, configuration. More rooms will open up at the end of this week....
ALA Marginalia, May 7

Beta Phi Mu celebrates 60 years

[<http://www.beta-phi-mu.org/docs/G-ALA%20Press%20Release.pdf>] (PDF file)
Members of Beta Phi Mu will be celebrating the 60th anniversary of the international honor society for library and information science at the Sheraton Park Hotel Tiffany Terrace and Patio in Anaheim, June 28. The event will also serve as the initiation ceremony for its new members and the installation ceremony for its new chapter at Valdosta (Ga.) State University....
Beta Phi Mu

Thrill seekers, rejoice

Orange County's theme parks aren't just for kids. Several rides that will have even grown-ups gripping the seat include Disney's California Adventure's California Screamin'; [http://disneyland.disney.go.com/disneyland/en_US/parks/attractions/detail?name=CaliforniaScreaminAttractionPage] and Twilight Zone Tower of Terror [http://disneyland.disney.go.com/disneyland/en_US/parks/attractions/detail?name=TwilightZoneTowerOfTerrorAttractionPage]; Knott's Berry Farm's GhostRider, [<http://www.knotts.com/park/tour/gtown/grfacts.shtml>] Xcelerator, [<http://www.knotts.com/park/tour/brdwalk/xcelerator.shtml>] and Supreme Scream [<http://www.knotts.com/park/tour/brdwalk/sscream.shtml>]; and Wild Rivers Waterpark's Congo River Rapids [<http://www.wildrivers.com/>]....
Anaheim/Orange County Visitor and Convention Bureau

Carbon Canyon Regional Park

[<http://www.ocparks.com/carboncanyon/default.asp>]
If you have some time for some nearby outdoor recreation after the conference, you might consider Carbon Canyon Regional Park in Brea, nestled among the rolling foothills of the Chino Hills range. Sixty of the park's 124 acres are developed; of the remaining acreage, a 10-acre grove of coastal redwoods (*Sequoia sempervirens*) has been established. Throughout the developed park are pepper trees, sycamores, eucalyptus, and pines....

Orange County Parks

Richard Nixon Presidential Library and Museum

[<http://www.nixonlibraryfoundation.org/index.php>]

The Nixon Library in Yorba Linda is now one of 12 administered by the National Archives. The museum offers a narrative of the 37th president's life and career. Behind the museum is the birthplace, the house constructed by Nixon's father and restored as it was in 1910. President and Mrs. Nixon are buried on the grounds, just a few feet from the birthplace. The compound also contains the Loker Center and Annenberg Court, a wing with a special exhibit room, and a replica of the East Room of the White House....

Richard Nixon Library and Birthplace Foundation

[<http://www.tutor.com/evaluate>]

Division News

LAMA becomes LLAMA

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/llama.cfm>]

LAMA members have voted overwhelmingly to change the name of the division to the Library Leadership and Management Association (LLAMA). The new name will become official September 1. More than 90% of the division's members were in favor of the change....

Sari Feldman elected PLA vice president

[<http://ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/feldman.cfm>]

Sari Feldman, executive director of the Cuyahoga County (Ohio) Public Library, has been elected PLA vice-president/president-elect. Feldman has been a member of PLA and ALA for more than 15 years and has served on numerous committees. She is a member of WebJunction's E-Learning Advisory Committee and a former president of the New York Library Association's Youth Services Section....

PLA approves new bylaws

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/PLAnewbylaws.cfm>]

PLA members voted to approve changes to the bylaws, effectively reshaping the structure of the organization. The process to change the bylaws began several years ago when the PLA Board undertook a strategic planning process with the goal of determining how to become a more nimble organization that is highly responsive to member needs....

Klein, Alexie, and Glass will keynote ACRL National Conference

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/ACRL09keynotespeakers.cfm>]

ACRL has gathered a celebrated lineup of keynote speakers for its 14th National Conference, "Pushing the Edge: Explore, Engage, Extend," March 12-15, 2009, in Seattle. Journalist Naomi Klein

(right) will provide the opening keynote, author and filmmaker Sherman Alexie will give the keynote luncheon, and radio producer Ira Glass will be the closing speaker....

Brazelton to speak at ALSC President's Program

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/ALSCpresprogram.cfm>]

Pediatrician T. Berry Brazelton will be the featured speaker at the 2007 Charlemae Rollins President's Program, sponsored by ALSC on June 30. The program is part of the ALA Auditorium Speaker Series to be held during Annual Conference in Anaheim, California. Brazelton will address the role of librarians, educators, and other child advocates in the strengthening of families....

Got tweens?

[http://wikis.ala.org/yalsa/index.php/YALSA_at_the_2008_ALA_Annual_Conference#FRIDAY_JUNE_27]

Reach the burgeoning tween generation with YALSA's "Got Tweens? Serving Younger Teens and Tweens" preconference, June 27, in Anaheim, California. You'll meet authors who write for this audience (Bruce Hale, Jon Scieszka, Lisi Harrison, Amy Goldman Koss, Ingrid Law, and Lisa Yee), gain exposure to literature for them through booktalks, and learn about professional resources to aid in providing library service to this group in your school and public library....

LITA's BIGWIG launches new site

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/bigwig.cfm>]

On May 1, the LITA Blogs, Interactive Groupware, and Wikis Interest Group (BIGWIG), launched YourBIGWIG, [<http://www.yourbigwig.com/>] a new site designed to promote better communication among members. BIGWIG is responsible for maintaining the LITA Blog and LITA Wiki, and it puts on the Social Software Showcase, an online unconference occurring around and during the time of ALA Annual Conference....

preprints are now open access

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/CRLpreprints.cfm>]

ACRL's College & Research Libraries has launched an open access, pre-publication service for accepted articles. The preprint service, which made its debut in March, moved to an open access model in an effort to make timely new research articles available to a wider audience. C&RL preprint articles are now freely available on the ACRL website [<http://www.ala.org/ala/acrl/acrlpubs/crljournal/preprints/preprints.cfm>].

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New ALCTS Electronic Discussion Forum

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/ALCTSforum.cfm>]

Registration begins May 8 and ends May 13 for ALCTS leaders and membership to take part in an electronic discussion focusing on communication. The discussion begins at 10 a.m. Eastern time on May 14 and concludes at 6 p.m. on May 16. The facilitators for this discussion are Pamela Bluh and Dina Giambi....

Round Table News

New reduced student rate for MAGERT membership

[<http://ala.org/ala/magert/magert.cfm>]

Library and information science students who are ALA members can now join the Map and Geography Round Table for a reduced annual fee of \$10. MAGERT offers exciting opportunities to engage the rapidly evolving world of map and geography librarianship, geospatial metadata (including map cataloging), and Geographic Information Systems through its meetings, publications, and discussion list....

Awards

Library of the Future Award winner

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/libraryofthefuture.cfm>]

San Diego County (Calif.) Library is the 2008 winner of the ALA Information Today Library of the Future Award. This award is presented annually to a library with an application demonstrating innovative planning for, applications of, or development of patron training programs about information technology in a library setting. Its winning initiative was the Gateway/Al-Bawaba Project,

[<http://dbpcosdcsqt.co.san-diego.ca.us/screens/www/gateway.html>] a community outreach program that provides internet and computer instruction to the Middle Eastern population in San Diego County....

AASL Distinguished Service Award winner

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/AASLdistinguished.cfm>]

Nancy P. Zimmerman, associate professor at the University of South Carolina SLIS, is the recipient of the 2008 AASL Distinguished Service Award. Since 1986, Zimmerman has made an impact on the mission of AASL as a membership chair, a key member of several committees, a creator of the "Celebrate Conference," a member of the School Library Media Research Editorial Board, and AASL treasurer and president....

AASL Intellectual Freedom Award winner

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/AASLIFA.cfm>]

Kristie Michalowski, media specialist at the J. C. Magill Elementary School in Loganville, Georgia, has been awarded the 2008 AASL Intellectual Freedom Award, sponsored by ProQuest. Over the course of her career in the Gwinnett County Public School system, Michalowski has been challenged four times regarding titles in the school library, and she has been active in the revision of local policies for use of instructional resources....

AASL Frances Henne Award winner

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/AASLhenne.cfm>]

Sarah Prielipp, school library media specialist at Lakeview Elementary School in Gillette, Wyoming, is the recipient of the 2008 AASL Frances Henne Award. The \$1,250 award, sponsored by Greenwood Publishing Group, recognizes a school library media specialist with no more than five years of experience who demonstrates leadership qualities with students,

teachers, and administrators....

AASL ABC-CLIO Leadership Grant winner

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/AASLabcclio.cfm>]

Su Eckhardt, president of the Colorado Association of School Libraries, is the recipient of the 2008 ABC-CLIO Leadership Grant. The grant of up to \$1,750 is given to school library media associations affiliated with AASL in planning and implementing leadership programs at the state, regional, or local levels. It will support CASL and Technology in Education-Colorado's (TIE) project, "Wireless Dreams," a one-day conference targeting school librarians....

AASL Innovative Reading Grant winner

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/AASLinnovativereading.cfm>]

Barbara Powell-Schager, media specialist at the Big Shanty Intermediate School in Kennesaw, Georgia, is the recipient of the 2008 AASL Innovative Reading Grant. The goal of her project, titled "The Boys' Lunch Bunch: Improving At-Risk Boys' Reading," is to increase reading interest and comprehension in at-risk boys by at least 125 points on the Scholastic Reading Inventory....

Collaborative School Library Media Award winners

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/collaborativeSLM.cfm>]

Ronda Hassig and Kathy Hill of Harmony Middle School in Overland Park, Kansas, are the winners of the 2008 AASL Collaborative School Library Media Award. Hassig and Hill collaborated on a project, "A Small World—Technology Connecting Kids to Kids," involving students in a problem-solving model to identify a world problem to research and look for viable solutions....

Radice receives AIC Forbes Medal

[<http://www.imls.gov/news/2008/042408.shtm>]

Institute of Museum and Library Services Director Anne-Imelda M. Radice received the Forbes Medal for Distinguished Contribution to the Field of Conservation from the American Institute for the Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works at its annual meeting April 22 in Denver. Since its inception in 1994, the medal has been awarded to only six other nonconservators for their distinguished contributions to the field of conservation....

Institute of Museum and Library Service, Apr. 24

2008 Edgar Award winners

[<http://www.earthtimes.org/articles/show/mystery-writers-of-america-announce-the-2008-edgar-award-winners,376715.shtml>]

Mystery Writers of America has announced the winners of its 2008 Edgar Allen Poe Awards, honoring the best in mystery fiction, nonfiction, television, film, and theatre published or produced in the past year.

John Hart's *Down River* (St. Martin's Minotaur) won for best novel, Katherine Marsh's *The Night Tourist* (Hyperion) won for best juvenile fiction, and Tedd Arnold's *Rat Life* (Penguin) won for best young adult fiction....

Mystery Writers of America, May 1

2008 Ezra Jack Keats awards

[<http://www.ezra-jack-keats.org/bookawards/index.html>]

Children's book illustrator Jonathan Bean and writer David Ezra Stein will be awarded the 2008 Ezra Jack Keats Book Award for their outstanding work in children's literature on May 15 in the New York Public Library's Donnell Library Center. Stein will receive the New Writer Award for *Leaves* (G.P. Putnam's Sons), while the New Illustrator Award will be granted to Bean, who illustrated *The Apple Pie That Papa Baked* (Simon & Schuster) by Lauren Thompson....

Ezra Jack Keats Foundation, May 1

LAPL honors Larry McMurtry

[<http://opinion.latimes.com/opinionla/2008/05/lonesome-dove-1.html>]

The stars came out for Lonesome Dove author Larry McMurtry April 30 at Los Angeles Public Library's Literary Awards dinner. His friend, actress and photographer Diane Keaton, was there to hand him the award, but it was McMurtry himself who delivered the sorrowful note of the evening. Every eye was on his damp eyes as he read part of a Philip Larkin poem called "Going, Going."...

Los Angeles Times, May 1

National Poetry Recitation Contest winner

[<http://www.arts.gov/news/news08/POLfinals.html>]

16-year-old Shawntay A. Henry of the U.S. Virgin Islands captured the audience with her poetry recitations April 29 and received the title of 2008 Poetry Out Loud National Champion. Henry received a \$20,000 scholarship prize and her school, Charlotte Amalie High School, will receive a \$500 stipend for the purchase of poetry books. She was among 12 finalists who participated in the third national poetry recitation contest, sponsored by the National Arts Endowment and the Poetry Foundation....

National Endowment for the Arts, Apr. 30

Miriam Braverman Memorial Prize [<http://librarian.lishost.org/?p=1076>]

The Progressive Librarians Guild has awarded the 2008 Miriam Braverman Memorial Prize to Miriam Rigby for her essay titled "Just Throw It All Away! (And Other Thoughts I Have Had That May Bar Me from a Career in Archiving)." Rigby is currently enrolled in the MLIS program at the University of Washington's Information School and plans to graduate this spring. The essay will be published in the forthcoming issue of *Progressive Librarian*....

Progressive Librarians Guild, Apr. 29

Barbara Bush Foundation grant winners

[<http://www.barbarabushfoundation.com/wn.html>]

The Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy has awarded a total of \$647,029 to develop or expand 10 programs that will improve the literacy skills of parents and their children. Ranging in size from \$63,432 to \$65,000, the 10 winning grant applications were chosen from over 300 proposals, submitted by a wide variety of private nonprofit and public organizations including libraries, correctional institutions, universities, housing projects, and public schools....

Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy, Apr. 24

CILIP Anthony Thompson Award

[<http://www.cilip.org.uk/aboutcilip/newsandpressreleases/news080501.htm>]

Raj Kumar Gandharba, recently promoted as executive director of the Jana Utthan Pratishan non-government organization in Nepal, is the winner of the 2008 Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals Anthony Thompson Award. His work includes management of community learning centers with special importance given to the underprivileged Dalit peoples. The award is a grant to bring young librarians to the United Kingdom to study library and information science....

Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals, May 1

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

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NAL: A precious resource at risk

[<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/04/30/AR2008043000928.html>]

Flatlined for years, the National Agricultural Library's budget is slated for drastic cuts in the fiscal year beginning October 1. The cuts could end the acquisition of new printed works, endanger the preservation of its special collections, halt document delivery, and turn a national library into a local one. Unless Congress votes to restore the money, a farmer or researcher will soon have to travel to Beltsville, Maryland, to investigate a new soil amendment, study an old crop rotation scheme, or gauge the progress of an invading weed....

Washington Post, May 1

Reading First initiative judged ineffective

[<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/05/02/education/02reading.html>]

President Bush's \$1-billion-a-year initiative to teach reading to low-income children has not helped improve their reading comprehension, according to a Department of Education report [<http://ies.ed.gov/ncee/pubs/20084016/index.asp>] released May 1. The program, known as Reading First, was included in the No Child Left Behind legislation that passed in 2001. It has been a subject of dispute almost ever since, however, with the Bush administration and some state officials characterizing the program as beneficial for young students, and Congressional Democrats and federal investigators criticizing conflict of interest among its top advisers....

New York Times, May 2

Illinois legislator pushes DOPA again

[<http://www.pioneerlocal.com/mountprospect/news/933969,mp-predatorsweb-050608-s1.article>]

The internet can be a buffet for sexual predators, and Rep. Mark Kirk (R-Ill.) would like to limit access to students at public libraries. Librarians, however, oppose the Deleting Online Predators Act that Kirk is cosponsoring. Kirk held a press conference May 5 in Mount Prospect, Illinois, to renew interest in the bill. He is also warning the Federal

Trade Commission about the sexual dangers

[<http://www.chicagotribune.com/features/chi-online-predator-alert-06-may06,0,894825.story>] of Second Life, after an aide logged in last week....

Mount Prospect (Ill.) Times, May 6; Chicago Tribune, May 6

[<http://www.wikiality.com/Wikiality>]Truth: Do you know it when you see it? [<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/04/25/AR2008042500922.html>]

“If it’s wrong” is the big if, the question that plagues librarians and teachers today. Of course, the information you see online might be right—in one study, published in Nature, Wikipedia was found to be only slightly less reliable than Encyclopedia Britannica. But without peer review, it’s so easy to be wrong, and for your wrongness to become the top Google hit on a subject, and for your wrongness to be repeated by other people who think it’s right, until everyone decides that it’s raining in Phoenix....

Washington Post, Apr. 27

Knife-wielding man at Ohio library

[<http://news.enquirer.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080507/NEWS01/30507026/1056/COL02>]

A man held a knife to his throat and threatened to kill himself May 7 at the Batavia branch of the Clermont County (Ohio) Public Library. The branch opened at 9 a.m., and the incident occurred a few minutes later, Interim Director Dave Mezack said. The man had used one of the library’s computers the previous night, and he pulled the knife after Branch Manager Leslie Jacobs said he couldn’t come into the library. Jacobs called the police, who subdued the man....

Cincinnati Inquirer, May 7

Armed man at University of Richmond eludes police

[<http://www.inrich.com/cva/ric/news/policebeat.apx.-content-articles-RTD-2008-05-07-0196.html>]

The University of Richmond planned to reopen May 7 under heightened security after school authorities locked down the campus the previous day in response to a suspicious, possibly armed man seen in the Boatwright Memorial Library. Efforts to locate a man, who first was spotted wearing a brown windbreaker with the word “sheriff” on the back, a navy T-shirt, and disguised in a fake gray beard were unsuccessful....

Richmond (Va.) Times-Dispatch, May 7

First Lady announces school library grants

[<http://www.star-telegram.com/local/story/616041.html>]

First Lady Laura Bush was at the Fort Worth (Tex.) School District administration building April 30 to announce that her foundation was awarding more than \$1.09 million in grants to 190 school libraries for 2008. The full list of schools (PDF file

[http://www.laurabushfoundation.org/pressrelease_04302008.pdf]) is on the Laura Bush Foundation for America’s Libraries website....

Fort Worth (Tex.) Star-Telegram, May 1

Nevada Test Site oral history

[<http://www.unlvrebelyell.com/article.php?ID=11998>]

The University of Nevada at Las Vegas launched its first fully digitized

oral history site, Nevada Test Site Oral History Project,
[<http://digital.library.unlv.edu/ntsohp/>] April 27. The site compiles interviews with people who either contributed to the Nevada Test Site—an atomic testing site north of Las Vegas—or were affected by it in some way. Mary Palevsky, the director of the project, and a group of about 40 graduate students worked for four and a half years to create the site....
UNLV The Rebel Yell, May 1

UK police requesting more library records
[<http://www.thebookseller.com/news/57851-anti-terror-threat-to-librarian-role.html>]
Police forces are requesting information on the library borrowing records of individuals under police surveillance, British librarians have reported. The requests are understood to center on areas with a large Muslim population. John Pateman, head of libraries in Lincolnshire, criticized the development, saying it went against library ethics and could damage community cohesion....
The Bookseller, May 2

What do children read? Hint: Harry Potter's Not No. 1
[<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/05/05/AR2008050501331.html>]
Children have welcomed the Harry Potter books in recent years like free ice cream in the cafeteria, but the largest survey ever of youthful reading in the United States by Renaissance Learning (PDF file [<http://www.renlearn.com/whatkidsarereading/ReadingHabits.pdf>]) revealed May 5 that none of J.K. Rowling's phenomenally popular books has been able to dislodge the works of longtime favorites Dr. Seuss, E.B. White, Judy Blume, S.E. Hinton, and Harper Lee as the most read....
Washington Post, May 5

Librarian returns to Ethiopia to set up libraries
[<http://www.cnn.com/2008/WORLD/africa/04/30/heroes.ethiopia/index.html>]
Born in rural Ethiopia to an illiterate cattle merchant who insisted upon his son's education, Yohannes Gebregeorgis had seen a few books in school. Today, after getting an MLS and working as a children's librarian in the U.S., he is establishing libraries and literacy programs to connect Ethiopian children with books. He established Ethiopia Reads in 1988 to open reading centers and donkey-pulled mobile libraries. "With literate children there is no limit as to how much we can do," Gebregeorgis says....
CNN, May 1

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[<http://www.queenslibrary.org/jobs>]
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Tech Talk
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[<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2142071,00.asp>]How to buy the right

GPS [<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,1759,2280992,00.asp>]
Molly K. McLaughlin writes: “The best way to shop for a personal navigation device is to start with the basics, including a large, readable display, preloaded maps, and a strong receiver. Next, you should tackle the question of how much control you want over your routes—many devices can help you avoid tolls, traffic, and even speeding tickets.” If the price tag is a problem, there are some less expensive [<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2271293,00.asp>] options....
PC Magazine, Feb. 29, Apr. 4

BlackBerry in the liberry
[<http://acrlog.org/2008/05/06/blackberry-in-the-liberry/>]
Dan Overfield, business librarian at Villanova University, describes a pilot project in which three librarians traded their office phones for BlackBerry mobile devices: “Students, faculty, and colleagues can reach me at one telephone number, or via email, at any time, regardless of which building I am in, or whether or not I am even on campus. With emerging technology like Twitter I can make updates to my websites by simply texting them to my account. With the BlackBerry there is the potential to communicate with patrons without anyone having to be at a desk or in front of a computer.”...
ACRLog, May 6

Social hardware
[<http://freerangelibrarian.com/2008/05/03/social-hardware/>]
Karen Schneider writes: “I brought this small travel power strip [<http://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B000F9YN22>] to the Information Architecture Summit 2008. It’s small, powerful, sturdy, folds up neatly, and is insanely useful. Some of its uses are obvious if you’ve ever been in a hotel room where you found yourself moving furniture to get to the second plug, but as someone at IA Summit 2008 commented, ‘It’s very social hardware!’”...
Free Range Librarian, May 3

How to analyze your site with del.icio.us
[<http://www.searchenginejournal.com/how-to-analyze-your-site-with-delicious/6789/>]
Ann Smarty writes: “Social bookmarking is not only a nice way to get more traffic and links, it’s also a most effective method to explore what people think about your site. The most powerful tool to track your content popularity at social bookmarking sites is del.icio.us URL search [<http://del.icio.us/url/>] that shows you tags and descriptions people attached to a post when bookmarking.”...
Search Engine Journal, Apr. 28

All the spam in China
[<https://www.technologyreview.com/Infotech/20579/?a=f>] (registration required)
Where do spam, viruses, and worms come from? Team Cymru, a security research firm in Burr Ridge, Illinois, ranks countries according to the number of internal internet addresses where malicious content originates. The worst offender? China, by far, followed by Brazil, Turkey, and the United States....
Technology Review, May/June 2008

Moving to Unicode 5.1

[<http://googleblog.blogspot.com/2008/05/moving-to-unicode-51.html>]

Mark Davis writes: “Google has just begun supporting Unicode 5.1, less than one month after it was released. It’s now available in search, so people speaking languages such as Malayalam can now search for words containing the new characters in Unicode 5.1. In December 2007, for the first time, we found that Unicode was the most frequent encoding found on web pages, overtaking both ASCII and Western European encodings—and by coincidence, within 10 days of one another.”...

Official Google Blog, May 5

How to overclock your system

[<http://www.extremetech.com/article2/0,1697,2287804,00.asp>]

Overclocking—forcing a computer component to run at a higher clock rate than it was designed for to increase performance, especially for video games—can be mystifying and scary, particularly if you’ve never done it before. Figuring out the right set of components, understanding cooling solutions, and trying to sort out those mysterious BIOS settings can be confusing and complex. Extreme Tech offers a video tutorial on the basics....

Extreme Tech, Apr. 28

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[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]
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Actions & Answers

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Arizona petition supports school libraries

[<http://fundourfuturearizona.org/index.html>]

The Arizona Coalition for School Libraries and Information Technology launched a statewide petition in late April to provide Arizona citizens a forum to voice their support of school library programs. Arizona residents can support ACSLIT by signing the online petition

[<http://gopetition.com/online/18626.html>]. Non-residents can support school libraries by buying a “Fund Our Future” T-shirt

[<http://www.cafepress.com/fundlibraries>]....

Arizona Coalition for School Libraries and Information Technology, May 1

Tips for coordinating press events

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/presseventtips.cfm>]

Thinking of planning an event to publicize your library or spread awareness of a library issue? There are several factors to consider. Here are a few tips from Macey Morales, media relations manager for the ALA Public Information Office....

Library one of AIA’s top green projects

[<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/24254721/>]

The Phoenix Public Library’s César Chávez branch in Laveen, Arizona, has

been selected by the American Institute of Architects as one of the top 10 examples of sustainable design for 2008. Designed by Line and Space architects, the building uses extensive overhangs to protect from the sun's radiation. The scarcity of water led to rooftop rainwater collection for irrigation, while water-reducing fixtures are used indoors....

MSNBC, Apr. 22

Lowry named ARL Executive Director

[<http://www.arl.org/news/pr/lowry-executive-director-23apr08.shtml>]

The Association of Research Libraries Board of Directors has appointed Charles B. Lowry executive director of the association, effective July 1, 2008. Lowry is currently dean of libraries at the University of Maryland, College Park. He will take a leave of absence to lead ARL for the next three years. When this limited term concludes, Lowry will return to teaching and research in the university's iSchool....

Association of Research Libraries, Apr. 23

Perry elected to SACS

[http://www.sus.edu/enews/dec_jan/article_newsperry.htm]

Emma Bradford Perry, professor and dean of libraries at Southern University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, was recently elected to the Commission on Colleges for the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. In the 95-year history of the Commission on Colleges, she is the first librarian to serve as a commissioner....

Southern University System

African-American library directors in the United States

[<http://www.uky.edu/Libraries/NKAA/directors.php>]

Two members of the Black Caucus of the American Library Association created this database of African-American library directors based on names and addresses received through the BCALA discussion list. Alonzo W. Hill, of the Independence Township Library in Clarkston, Michigan, and Renette Jones of the University of Kentucky will also keep the database current....

Black Caucus of the American Library Association

Is this how we encourage people?

[<http://meredith.wolfwater.com/wordpress/index.php/2008/05/05/is-this-how-we-encourage-people-to-contribute/>]

Meredith Farkas writes: "A person I'm friendly with in California wrote me asking for advice about a speaking gig he just got. He's pretty new to the speaking thing (though he is excellent) and wants to grow his reputation as a speaker, but also doesn't get funding from his institution for professional development. It's sad that someone who is talented and enthusiastic about contributing to the profession is getting a bucket of cold water thrown in his face. He has so much to offer the profession, and yet he is being discouraged."...

Information Wants To Be Free, May 5

Disruptive student blues

[<http://collegelife.freedomblogging.com/2008/05/03/disruptive-student-blues/>]

Jay Seidel writes: "Disruptive behavior such as sleeping, talking, and

cell phones are easy to handle and most of us have policies about these topics spelled out. However, it's the verbal altercations and threats of violence that are the ones that pose more of a challenge. Sometimes students can act out in violent ways for reasons that we have no clue as to why."...
College Life, May 3

Teaching website highlights ancient Mesopotamia

[<http://www.imls.gov/profiles/May08.shtm>]

Twelve-year-old students across the country are digging into the secrets of ancient Mesopotamia through a teaching website that lets them direct virtual archeological expeditions and curate museum exhibits with the excavated artifacts. The website, Ancient Mesopotamia: This History, Our History, [<http://mesopotamia.lib.uchicago.edu/>] examines gifts left to the modern world of the region that includes Iraq. It was developed by the University of Chicago's Oriental Institute Museum....
Institute of Museum and Library Services, May 5

Journal of e-Media Studies

[<http://journals.dartmouth.edu/cgi-bin/WebObjects/Journals.woa/xmlpage/4/issue>]

Dartmouth College Library has launched a new open-access digital publication, the Journal of e-Media Studies. Conceived of and edited by Mark Williams, associate professor of film and television studies, this new online journal showcases the best new scholarly work on current and historical issues regarding electronic media....
Dartmouth College Library

Citation searching: Search smarter and find more

[http://infotoday.com/cilmag/may08/Hammond_Brown.shtml]

Chelsea C. Hammond and Stephanie Willen Brown write: "At the University of Connecticut, we have been enticing graduate students to join student trainers to learn how to answer the following questions and improve the breadth of their research: Do you need to find articles published outside your primary discipline? What are some seminal articles in your field? Have you ever wanted to know who cited an article you wrote? We are participating in Elsevier's Student Ambassador Program in which graduate students train their peers on 'citation searching' research using Scopus and Web of Science."...
Computers in Libraries 28, no. 5 (May)

Statement of International Cataloguing Principles

[http://www.ifla.org/VII/s13/icc/principles_review_200804.htm]

Barbara Tillett, chair of the IFLA Meeting of Experts on an International Cataloguing Code, is asking for comments from the worldwide library community on the final draft of the Statement of International Cataloguing Principles and its accompanying Glossary. Comments are due by June 30 to Barbara Tillett [<mailto:btil@loc.gov>]....

Joint statement on RDA

[<http://www.catalogingfutures.com/catalogingfutures/2008/05/letter-from-deanna.html>]

A May 1 letter from LC Associate Librarian for Library Services Deanna Marcum provides the joint statement of the Library of Congress, the

National Library of Medicine, and the National Agricultural Library on Resource Description and Access. The three institutions agreed that these steps will be followed and, if there is a decision to implement RDA, that the implementation would not occur before the end of 2009....

Cataloging Futures, May 2

LC Subject Headings suggestions: The results

[<http://radicalreference.info/lcsh/2008/reportback>]

Radical Reference's LCSH blog-a-thon resulted in suggestions for 24 subject headings, 6 cross-references, and 2 subdivisions. Members of Radical Reference hope to work with catalogers, particularly those from the RADCAT discussion list,

[<http://www.listserv.uga.edu/archives/radcat.html>] to SACOfy suggested headings that haven't previously been submitted to LC in a formal manner....

Radical Reference, Apr. 29

Librarians in comic books

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

Rudolf Hulshof-Schmidt writes: "The vast majority of caped and masked superheroes are either scientists or socialites (or both, in the case of Tony [Iron Man] Stark), identities that lend themselves to flexible hours and personal fortunes. But where are the librarians? Surely information professionals deserve their place in the pursuit of truth and justice.

And we are there, if in somewhat smaller numbers. Certainly the most famous costumed librarian is Barbara Gordon (right). By day the librarian daughter of Gotham City's police commissioner, by night Barbara donned cape and cowl as Batgirl."...

"Look! Up in the Sky! It's a . . . Librarian," Oregon Library Association Quarterly 14, no. 1 (Spring): 7-8, 27

Second Life and the public good

[http://networkculture.usc.edu/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=35]

The University of Southern California's Network Culture Project has invited residents of Second Life to imagine new ways that virtual worlds such as Second Life can be used to make a contribution to the public good. They are currently accepting proposals from groups, organizations, or individuals for projects that show how Second Life can enhance, develop, or sustain the public good. Three finalists will be provided with a \$100,000L per month building stipend (and land, if required) for three months. Proposals are due June 1....

University of Southern California Network Culture Project, May 2

= le awesome YA sci-fi

[http://www.zephorias.org/thoughts/archives/2008/05/01/little_brother.html]

Danah Boyd writes: "Although I've always been eh about most sci-fi, I've grown increasingly fond of young adult science fiction and sci-fi focused on teens. There's something fun in reading about teens running around trying to save the world. I can thank/blame Cory Doctorow for most of this because he's the one who got me hooked on reading it. So I'm super super super stoked to announce that his first young adult sci-fi book is on the shelves." Doctorow is offering a free copy

[<http://www.boingboing.net/2008/05/06/free-little-brother.html>] to

librarians and teachers; email your request to Olga Nunes
[mailto:freelittlebrother@gmail.com]....
Apophenia, May 1; Boing Boing, May 6

News from the digital music universe

[http://yalsa.ala.org/blog/2008/05/03/news-notes-from-the-digital-music-universe/]

Joseph Wilk writes: “This past month has witnessed a lot of news and developments in the world of digital music, whether major acquisitions, new studies on teen habits, and cool new technologies. Here’s an extensive rundown” that includes news from MySpace, imeem, MOG, and Pitchfork Media....

YALSA Blog, May 3

May is Better Hearing and Speech Month [http://www.asha.org/bhsm/]

The American Speech-Language-Hearing Association has designated May as Better Hearing and Speech Month to provide opportunities to raise awareness about communication disorders and to promote treatment that can improve the quality of life for those who experience problems with speaking, understanding, or hearing. This year, the campaign is offering five downloadable bookmarks (PDF file

[http://www.asha.org/NR/rdonlyres/F9D59A6A-D48D-4329-B383-C1829BDF3A5E/0/2008_BHSM_Bookmark.pdf]), a children’s activity book, and a BHSM poster....

American Speech-Language-Hearing Association

Open Access Directory wiki [http://oad.simmons.edu/oadwiki/Main_Page]

Peter Suber and Robin Peek have compiled some factual lists about open access to science and scholarship, maintained by the OA community at large. By bringing many OA-related lists together in one place, the wiki will make it easier for users, especially newcomers, to find them and use them for reference. The easier they are to maintain and discover, the more effectively they can spread useful, accurate information about OA....

Open Access Directory

Facebook in reality [http://youtube.com/watch?v=nrlSkU0TFLs]

Comedy from Idiots of Ants, a British comedy sketch group. What would it be like if Facebook was actually played out in real life? As featured on the BBC Three show The Wall. Featuring Elliott Tiney, Benjamin Wilson, and Andrew Spiers....

YouTube, Apr. 28

[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. May 16 is the last day to pre-register,

[http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/annual/2008a/registration.cfm] and on May 28 the housing reservations

[http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/annual/2008a/travel.cfm#hotels] close.

[http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?_sn=catalog&_pn=product_detail&_op=2570]

Steve Carell stars in the upcoming movie *Get Smart*, based on the popular television series and due for release June 20. Get prepared with this smart-looking ALA poster.

[http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?_sn=catalog&_pn=product_detail&_op=2570] “Would you believe that you can get smart @ your library even without a cone of silence?” NEW! From ALA Graphics.

In this issue
May 2008

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/tableofcontents/2008contents/may2008.cfm>]

Laura Bush Talks about Her Plans

The Elusive E-Book

Killed by Kindness

Teens and Computer Games

2008 Outstanding Reference Sources

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/issues/advocacyinstitute.cfm>]

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

Curator of Manuscripts,
[<http://joblist.ala.org/modules/jobseeker/controller.cfm?scr=jobdetail&jobid=10333>] Lilly Library, Indiana University Bloomington. Manages acquisitions of manuscript materials for Lilly Library, including selection of materials acquired by purchase and gift. Consults with Lilly Library Director on collection development policy. In consultation with Head of Technical Services and in coordination with Manuscripts Cataloger, determines priorities of collections to be processed and cataloged. Curates exhibitions of Lilly Library materials, and consults with other curators....

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

Legislation has been introduced
[<http://capwiz.com/ala/issues/alert/?alertid=11338266>] in both the Senate

and House that limits remedies in copyright infringement cases involving orphan works. As time is running out, the ALA Washington Office asks that you contact your Senators and Representatives (with priority given to members of the Senate), to communicate the library community's enthusiastic support for orphan works legislation that does not include a dark archive provision (mandating that users file a notice to the U.S. Copyright Office before using an orphan work).

Digital Library of the Week

[<http://www.scienceandsociety.co.uk/results.asp?image=10418885&wwwflag=2&imagepos=5>]

The Science and Society Picture Library

[<http://www.scienceandsociety.co.uk/index.asp>] in South Kensington, London, represents over a million images from the UK Science Museum; the National Museum of Photography, Film, and Television; and the National Railway Museum. SSPL now has over 150 image collections from both within and outside the museums' core collections. These contain over 70,000 online records, including more than 40,000 digital images. Collections include 4,000 personalities, the Daily Herald and Manchester Daily Express archives, and the work of Julia Margaret Cameron, William Henry Fox Talbot, and Tony Ray-Jones. The library provides transparencies and digital images on loan to clients for reproduction. A small service fee is charged for the loan of the images.

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

Public Perception How the World Sees Us

"I was walking near the downtown Seattle Public Library and felt strongly that it was the 'center' of everything in Seattle. I went inside the library and my feelings were confirmed. I felt really intelligent and existentially superior while inside the library, talking on Gmail chat on a public computer, walking around taking cell-phone pictures of red walls. I had the feeling I could look out the window and see the rest of the city, from a 'bird's-eye view,' though this was not true, there was not an elevated area that I knew of where I could do that like I might from the Empire State Building. Still, walking on the street toward the library, I felt that I was 'nearing' the 'epicenter' of Seattle, and walking away from the library I felt like I was leaving behind the 'main activity' of my day."

?Tao Lin, "What I Can Tell You About Seattle Based on the People I've Met Who Are From There (I'm from Brooklyn)," in the Seattle alternative weekly newspaper *The Stranger*, Apr. 29.

Children's Book Week [<http://www.cbcbooks.org/cbweek/gala.html>] will be celebrated by libraries, schools, bookstores, and families across the country May 12–18 with storytelling, parties, author and illustrator appearances, and other book-related events. The Children's Book Council sponsors the event. Harry Potter illustrator Mary GrandPré designed this year's official poster. [<http://www.cbcbooks.org/cbweek/poster.html>] A downloadable CBW bookmark [<http://www.cbcbooks.org/cbweek/bookmark.html>] created by Gene Yang is available online.

Ask the ALA Librarian

Q. I am trying to create a survey for programming. We've just recently opened a renovated building and I want to get an idea from the community what types of programs they would like to see in our new space. I was wondering if ALA had a basic programming survey that I could use or at least review to give me a starting point?

A. ALA does not have any sample patron surveys on its website. However, several public libraries have made their own patron surveys available online, and you can view these for further assistance. See our Patron Surveys [http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Patron_Surveys] page. From the ALA Professional Tips wiki [http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Sample_Patron_Surveys] for more.

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

Calendar

May 13–16:

Association of Canadian Map Libraries and Archives / Canadian Cartographic Association, [<http://www.rdl.sfu.ca/carto>] Carto 2008, University of British Columbia, Vancouver.

May 26–30:

Canadian Health Libraries Association, [<http://www.chla-absc.ca/2008/>] Conference, Halifax, Nova Scotia.

May 29–June 1:

BookExpo America, [<http://www.bookexpoamerica.com/>] Los Angeles

Convention Center.

June 4–6:

Council on Botanical and Horticultural Libraries,
[<http://www.cbhl.net/meetings/meetings.htm>] Annual Conference, Frederik Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park, Grand Rapids, Michigan. “Growing Awareness: The Whys and Hows of Marketing Your Library.” Contact: Shelly Kilroy [<mailto:skilroy@meijergardens.org>].

June 4:

National Information Standards Organization,
[<http://www.niso.org/news/events/2008/metadata08>] NASIG preconference on “Metadata in a Digital Age,” Tapatio Cliffs Resort, Phoenix.

June 5–8:

North American Serials Interest Group,
[<http://www.nasig.org/conference/2008/>] Annual Conference, Tapatio Cliffs Resort, Phoenix. “Taking the Sting out of Serials.” Contact: NASIG. [<mailto:conf-plan@nasig.org>]

June 8–20:

Oral History Research Office,
[<http://www.columbia.edu/cu/lweb/indiv/oral/>] Columbia University Libraries, Summer Institute, New York City. “Oral History, Advocacy, and the Law.” Contact: (212) 854-7083.

June 11–14:

Association of Canadian Archivists,
[<http://archivists.ca/conference/default.aspx>] Annual Conference, Crowne Plaza Fredericton Lord Beaverbrook Hotel, New Brunswick. “Stemming the Tide.”

June 12–15:

Association des Bibliothécaires de France,
[http://www.abf.asso.fr/article.php3?id_article=971] 54th Congress, Reims. “Par cours en bibliothèques.”

June 25–28:

American Theological Library Association,
[http://www.atla.com/member/conference/conf_2008/conference_home.html] Annual Conference, St. Paul University, Ottawa, Ontario. “La connexion française.”

June 29–

July 2:

National Educational Computing Conference,
[<http://center.uoregon.edu/ISTE/NECC2008/>] San Antonio, Texas. “Convene, Connect, Transform.” Contact: ISTE. [<mailto:neccreg@iste.org>]

July 23–25:

Art Libraries Society UK and Ireland, [<http://www.arlis.org.uk/>] Annual Conference, University of Liverpool.

July 23–26:

National Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators,
[<http://www.nagara.org/>] Annual Meeting, Westin Peachtree Plaza, Atlanta.
“All Roads Lead to Records: Making the Journey Count.”

July 28–31:

World Congress on Reading,
[<http://www.reading.org/association/meetings/world.html>] San José, Costa Rica. “Reading in a Diverse World.” Contact: International Reading Association. [<mailto:customerservice@reading.org>]

Aug. 3–7:

International Association of School Librarianship,
[<http://www.iasl-online.org/events/conf/2008/index.htm>] Annual Conference, University of California, Berkeley. “World Class Learning and Literacy through School Libraries.” Contact: Blanche Woolls. [<mailto:bwoolls@slis.sjsu.edu>]

Aug. 10–14:

International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions,
[<http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla74/index.htm>] World Library and Information Congress, Québec City, Québec. “Libraries Without Borders: Navigating Towards Global Understanding.” ALA members can register at the IFLA Member Rate using the ALA membership code of US-0002. Contact: IFLA. [<mailto:ifla@ifla.org>]

Sept. 2–5:

Australian Library and Information Association,
[<http://www.alia2008.com/>] Biennial Conference, Alice Springs Convention Centre, Northern Territory. “Dreaming08.”

Sept. 9–12:

American Association for State and Local History,
[<http://www.aaslh.org/anmeeting.htm>] Annual Meeting, Hyatt Regency, Rochester, New York. “Discovering the Power of Transformation.”

Sept. 12–13:

Center for the History of Print Culture in Modern America,
[<http://slisweb.lis.wisc.edu/~printcul/STEMConferencePage.html>]
Conference, Madison, Wisconsin. “The Culture of Print in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Medicine.”

Sept. 14–18:

International Association of Aquatic and Marine Science Libraries and Information Centers, [<http://www.iamslc.org/index.php?section=180>]
Annual Conference, Suva, Fiji. “Sustainability in a Changing Climate.”

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

Contact Us

American Libraries Direct

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american libraries DIRECT

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | May 14, 2008

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SCHOOLROOMS
A new learning portal for K-12

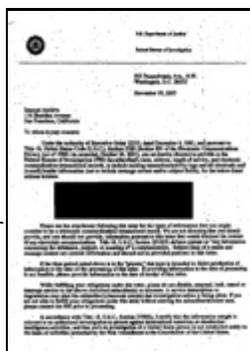
- ✓ Teacher-selected Content
- ✓ 71 Subjects – Aligned to Curriculum
- ✓ 3 Million High-quality Pages Searchable

american
libraries
BUYERS GUIDE

U.S. & World News

[Libraries win second round against National Security Letters](#)

"I'm grateful that I am able now to talk about what happened to me, so that other libraries can learn how they can fight back from these overreaching demands," Internet Archive founder and digital librarian Brewster Kahle stated May 7, two days after records were unsealed documenting his six-month legal battle to force the FBI to withdraw a National Security Letter because it sought details of several patrons' archive use without a court order. ALA President Loriene Roy in a May 7 [statement](#) reaffirmed the Association's commitment to urge "Congress to pass legislation for meaningful Congressional oversight of these risky law enforcement tools."...



[Congressman takes aim at Second Life](#)

U.S. Rep. Mark Kirk (R-Ill.) announced May 5 that he was gearing up to reintroduce the Deleting Online Predators Act, legislation that would require libraries and schools that rely on e-rate funding to prohibit minors from using chat rooms and social-networking sites without parental permission. He indicated that the new bill would create an adults only (.ado) domain for such sites as MySpace and Facebook, and he singled out Second Life as an environment where youngsters were particularly vulnerable. Second Life's Linden Labs promptly [responded](#) to Kirk's allegations....



[Library noise has neighbors complaining](#)

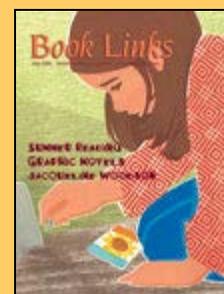
Stillwater (Minn.) Public Library's new outdoor terrace, a popular venue for weddings and other events since it was added as part of an expansion and renovation in 2006, is drawing concern from neighbors over the potential for noise late at night. About a dozen residents attended the city council meeting May 6 to protest the council's prior granting of a blanket variance to the noise ordinance for the library events this summer, extending the noise curfew for them from 10 to 11:30 p.m....

[Maine town relents](#)



[ALA Annual Conference](#)

in Anaheim, California, June 26–July 2. Take advantage of special Conference pricing with [Advance Registration](#) which ends this **Friday, May 16.**



The [May issue](#) of **Book Links** focuses on Language Arts, featuring an article on graphic novels for the K–6 classroom, a column about Google Earth Lit Trips, and a report from audiobook expert Mary Burkey on new formats in that area of publishing, including audio e-

The town of Woolwich, Maine, whose officials had considered eliminating more than \$43,000 in fiscal support for the Patten Free Library in Bath because of the September 2007 firing of popular children's librarian Nyree Thomas, has opted to continue its participation with the Patten Library after all. Townspeople approved the Patten contribution 114-59 at the May 7 town meeting....



ALA News

[Ron Reagan to be Opening General Session speaker](#)

Journalist and activist Ron Reagan will be the Opening General Session speaker at ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, California, June 28. Reagan, the son of former President Ronald Reagan, is a frequent guest on *Larry King Live* on CNN and Air America Radio. He serves on the board of the Creative Coalition, a nonpartisan political organization founded in 1989 to mobilize entertainers and artists for First Amendment rights and such causes as arts advocacy and public education....



[Virtual Library Legislative Day in Second Life](#)

Archimedes Hollak (Jonathan West of AASL) models the free National Library Legislative Day 2008 T-shirt by the kiosk on ALA Island in Second Life (right). There is still time to have your avatar pick up a T-shirt on May 14. Take a snapshot and upload it to an online photo-sharing website, such as Flickr, and add the tag "VLLD08" or "VLLD2008" for Virtual Library Legislative Day 2008. You also have time to join Friends of Libraries USA's [Virtual March](#)....



[Triathlete to compete for Spectrum Scholarship program](#)

Miriam Tuliao, coordinator of adult and reference services for the New York Public Library, announced that she will participate in the New Jersey State Triathlon to raise awareness and funds for the Spectrum Scholarship program. The race consists of a 1.5K swim, a 23-mile bike ride, and a 10K run. The event will take place July 27. Tuliao is a United States Masters swimmer who has participated in several long-distance open-water events, including the Big Shoulders 5K Swim in Chicago in September 2007....



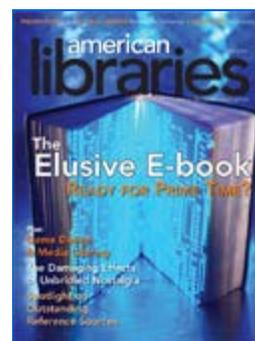
[PR Forum to focus on diversity](#)

This year's PR Forum at the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim will focus on "Diversity @ your library: Broadening Your Audience and Engaging Communities." Led by Eric Friedenwald-Fishman and Maria

books and print-and-audio combinations. [Subscribe](#) to this one-stop resource for connecting children to books. **NEW! From ALA Book Links.**

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May 2008



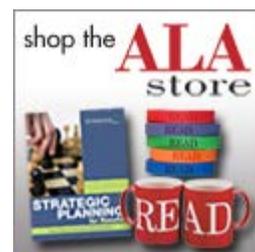
Laura Bush Talks about Her Plans

The Elusive E-Book

Killed by Kindness

Teens and Computer Games

2008 Outstanding Reference Sources



Career Leads from

ALA JobLIST

[Director of Information Resources](#), Wildlife Conservation Society, The Bronx Zoo, New



Elena Campisteguy of Metropolitan Group, the program will discuss designing communication to meet specific needs and values, message development and testing, and the importance of cultural context....

[24 authors on the LIVE! @ your library Reading Stage](#)

The Public Programs Office will present 24 critically acclaimed [authors](#) on the LIVE! @ your library Reading Stage, June 26–July 2 in the exhibits hall at the upcoming ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, California. Attendees can take a break from their busy conference schedules and listen to some of their favorite authors and poets read from and autograph their recent works....



[Chu to present 2008 Coleman Outreach lecture](#)

Clara M. Chu, associate professor in the Department of Information Studies at the University of California, Los Angeles, will present the 2008 Dr. Jean E. Coleman Outreach Lecture for the Office for Literacy and Outreach Services at ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim. This year's lecture is entitled "Dislocations of Multicultural Librarianship: A Critical Examination for a Liberatory Practice."...



York. Manage the current library services and archives and redesign the WCS library and related information resource services to better serve the Society. Some responsibilities in this role include assessing existing library/archives service models and developing and implementing projects to facilitate the transition to next-generation discovery, access, and resource management technologies relevant to WCS operations....

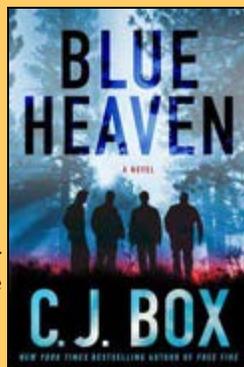
@ [More jobs...](#)

Booklist ONLINE

[Featured review: Media](#)

Box, C.J. *Blue Heaven*. Read by John Bedford Lloyd. Jan. 2008. 11.5 hr. BBC/Sound Library, CD (978-0-7927-5229-5).

Lloyd delivers a smashing performance of this surprisingly tender story. From opening scenes when two siblings (a boy and his 12-year-old sister) witness a brutal murder, the tension never flags. The bad guys are former members of the LAPD, conspirators in a money heist that allows them to retire early and live high on the hog in an area of Idaho dubbed "Blue Heaven" because of the large population of ex-cops. One plotline follows the pursuit of the conspirators by a newly retired police officer who sees the unsolved crime as a blot on his record. The main plot concerns the children, who flee into the woods after witnessing the murder and find themselves being pursued by the murderers....



[The big hangover](#)

Keir Graff describes the day-to-day

Digital Library of the Week



[American Social History Online](#) is a Digital Library Federation portal that provides scholars with access to distributed [digital library collections](#) pertaining to American culture and life. Its tools and services are designed to make it easy to find, organize,

worklife of a hard-boiled *Booklist* reviewer and reveals the harsh truth about low-priority galleys, in this mostly fictional short story (the magazine's first ever): "Bill Ott was old-school, by-the-book, and any other hard-tack cliché you can think of. My head hurt too much to come up with a fourth. 'Jesus, Graff,' he said, shaking his head. 'What time did you quit drinking?' Define 'quit,' I wanted to say. Instead I fished a tin of Altoids out of my desk drawer and popped two."...

Booklist, May 1



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

Anaheim Update

[The arts in Anaheim](#) (PDF file)

If you feel the need for a gallery, a play, a recital, or an architectural experience during Annual Conference, consult the ACRL Arts Section's excellent *ArtsGuide Anaheim*, a 20-page compilation of all things aesthetic in Orange County. Some of the most interesting venues are within a couple of miles of the convention center and conference hotels, but the editors have also skimmed the surface of the vast art world of Los Angeles....



[Don't wait until the last minute](#)

Travelers will see more price hikes for summer as the airlines struggle with staggering jet fuel costs, say airline analysts. Last May, a ticket purchased seven days in advance between Denver, Colorado, and Raleigh, North Carolina, was \$258. This May that same ticket sells for about \$460, according to FareCompare. Planes are increasingly full as airlines gradually trim capacity, giving airlines no incentive to discount summer travel....

CNN, May 13

[Picky traveler? TripKick rates individual hotel rooms](#)

Jason Kincaid writes: "It's been a long day. You've finally gotten to your hotel room, and the only thing you can think of is the 12-hour snoozefest you're about to enjoy. Just as you're about to nod off, you hear it: the slow, metallic squeal of the ice machine next door that will test your sanity for the rest of the night. [TripKick](#), a new travel review site that launched May 13, goes the extra mile, offering reviews on *every individual room*." The [Hilton Anaheim](#) and [Marriott Anaheim](#) (above) are two of the hotels reviewed....

TechCrunch, May 13



[Convention Center set to expand](#)

Plans are in the works for the sixth expansion of the Anaheim Convention Center, which would add meeting and exhibit space to the 1.6-million square foot center. The expansion is to include 200,000 square feet of space for exhibits and meetings, a three-star or higher hotel, and 1,500 parking spaces. The city is reviewing plans from three

use, and share items from diverse collections. By using Zotero, a free and easy-to-use research tool that works with the Firefox web browser, scholars can gather and organize resources as well as annotate and share them. To support the use of images, [Collectus and ImageViewer](#) tools developed at the University of Virginia are integrated into American Social History Online. These tools not only support saving and organizing image collections but provide for slide-show creation so the image material can be used easily in the classroom. The portal was developed using open source software and is currently available without fees or restrictions through generous support from the Mellon Foundation.

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

"We need to keep the library for children. Adults have no business staying at the library all day anyway."

—Ragland, Alabama, Councilman Gene Ford, after discovering pornography on a computer at the local branch of the St. Clair County Library, in the Pell

developers....
Orange County (Calif.) Register, May 9

City (Ala.) St. Clair Times,
May 7.



Division News

[Susan J. Beck is RUSA president-elect for 2009–2010](#)

Susan J. Beck, head of public services at Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, is the new RUSA president-elect. An active member of RUSA, Beck served as chair of the Reference Services Section and on several divisional committees. She will begin her term as president-elect in July 2008 and will assume the presidency in 2009–2010....



[Linda W. Braun is YALSA president-elect](#)

YALSA members chose Linda W. Braun, educational technology consultant with LEO: Librarians & Educators Online, as the division's next vice-president/ president-elect. Braun will begin her term as president-elect in July 2008, becoming president for one term in July 2009. She has previously chaired YALSA's Website Advisory committee, and is the division's blog manager....



[YALSA summer courses](#)

YALSA has opened [registration](#) for three online courses this summer: "Reaching Teens with Gaming" (Beth Gallaway); "Making the Match: The Right Book with the Right Teen at the Right Time" (Teri Lesesne); and "Tech Tools for Teen Leadership" (Linda W. Braun). All courses last six weeks and meet July 7–August 18....

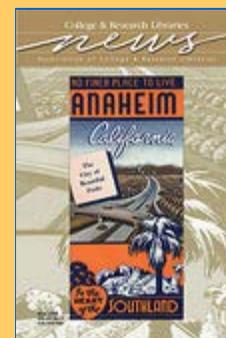
Awards

[2008 Spectrum Doctoral Fellows](#)

ALA and the University of Pittsburgh's School of Information Sciences have announced the second and final group of Spectrum Doctoral Fellowship recipients: Eric Chuk (UCLA), Mónica Colón-Aquirre (University of Tennessee), Nicole Cook and Stefani Gomez (Rutgers), Asher Isaac Jackson (Syracuse), and Brenda Mitchell-Powell (Simmons)....

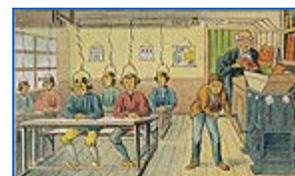
[NSLMPY Award winners](#)

Luella Elementary School in Locust Grove, Georgia, and Simsbury (Conn.) High School (right) are the winners of AASL's 2008 National School Library Media Program of the Year Awards. The NSLMPY Awards honor school library media programs practicing their commitment to ensure that students and staff are effective users of ideas and information, as well as exemplifying implementation of *Information Power*....



University of Colorado Denver Systems Librarian Nina McHale suggests some ways to help [eradicate "rogue assignments"](#)—faculty-created, library-related tasks for students that are either out of sync with library resources or ineffective—in the May issue of *College & Research Libraries News*. Listen to the [podcast](#) (11:10).

Ask the ALA Librarian



Q. Someone just wrote to our local paper suggesting that the internet makes libraries obsolete. Our circulation figures don't bear this out, but I need more information before I write the official response. Can ALA help?

A. You are not alone in showing an

[Jesse H. Shera Award winners](#)

The Library Research Round Table has chosen the winners of the Jesse H. Shera Award for Distinguished Published Research (Eric M. Meyers, Karen E. Fisher, and Elizabeth Marcoux) and the Jesse H. Shera Award for the Support of Dissertation Research (Sharon McQueen)....

[School Librarian's Workshop Scholarship awarded](#)

Charisse Nicole Byers, a library science student at the University of Southern Mississippi and a kindergarten teacher with the Atlanta public schools, has been awarded the AASL 2008 School Librarian's Workshop Scholarship. The scholarship is awarded to a full-time student preparing to become a school library media specialist....

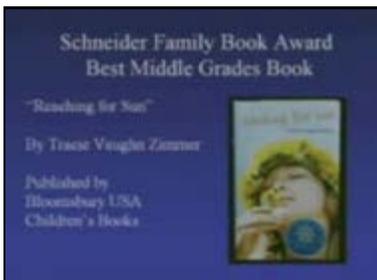
[Office for Diversity honors Clara M. Chu](#)

The ALA Office for Diversity has designated Clara M. Chu for its Achievement in Library Diversity Research award. Chu, an associate professor at the Department of Information Studies, University of California, Los Angeles, has published, presented, and consulted internationally in English and Spanish on multicultural library and information issues. She is a leading voice on the subject and actively recruits people of culturally diverse backgrounds into the information profession....

[2008 Youth Media Awards presentation](#)

The Public Information Office has made the 2008 ALA Youth Media Awards presentation webcast (39:59) available for viewing online. You can now relive the moment of sitting on the edge of your seat at the Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia waiting to hear which books for youth were selected as the most distinguished....

Google Video, May 8



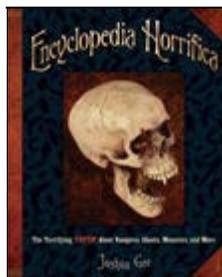
[YALSA to honor literary award winners in Anaheim](#)

YALSA will celebrate the winners of its literary awards with special events and programs at the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, California, June 27–July 2. Tickets are available for both the Margaret A. Edwards Award Luncheon on Saturday, June 28, and the Michael L. Printz Award Dessert Reception on Monday, June 30. YALSA will also highlight winners of its annual Alex and Odyssey Awards....

[Children's Choice Book Award winners](#)

The Children's Book Council announced the winners of the first annual Children's Choice Book Awards May 13 at a gala in New York City hosted by Jon Scieszka. Some 55,000 children across the country voted for their favorite books, authors, and illustrators at libraries, bookstores, and online. Book of the Year for 5th–6th graders was Joshua Gee's *Encyclopedia Horrifica* (Scholastic)....

Children's Book Council, May 13



increase in circulation, and yes, we have reports and statistics to help you. Our [State of America's Libraries report](#) shows many measures of library vitality. Among the important trends and statistics reported are these: [Surveyed libraries](#) said the three internet services most critical to their community were online educational resources and databases for K–12 students (67.7%), services for job-seekers (44%), and computer and internet skills training (29.8%). More than half of American adults said they had visited a local public library in the past 12 months, according to a [Pew report](#). Multiple studies show that libraries provide an [excellent return on investment](#), with a measurable positive impact on the local economy. From the [ALA Professional Tips wiki](#).

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

Calendar

June 10: [Stepping into History: Experiencing the Past through Virtual Worlds](#), an online Second Life conference sponsored by the Alliance Library System and Learning Times. Contact: [John Howard](#). (309) 694-

Seen Online

[Florida libraries face deep cuts](#)

The four-year-old library in Clearwater, Florida, could close on weekends and most evenings if deep cuts to the system's budget are approved. And it's not the only one pondering cutbacks. In January, Florida voters amended the state constitution to lower property taxes for some residents. In addition, the economy took a nosedive and property values fell, meaning governments would collect less. Cities and counties all over the state are cutting their budgets, and in order to preserve what they consider essential services such as police and fire, many are slashing funding for recreation, parks, and libraries....

St. Petersburg (Fla.) Times, May 11



[Fitchburg Youth Library saved from closure](#)

Fitchburg (Mass.) Public Library Director Ann Wirtanen said Mayor Lisa Wong has restored about \$88,000 to the library's budget to pay for its Youth Library, which will be open on the same limited schedule (only three days a week) as the rest of the library beginning in July. [Visitors](#) to the May 8 board meeting were outraged on hearing about a sudden 72% budget cut imposed by the city. The library will still have to reduce staff by 17 full-time and part-time employees....

Fitchburg (Mass.) Sentinel and Enterprise, May 9, 13

[Another school district cuts media technicians](#)

In the wake of nearly \$8 million in cuts to the Pajaro Valley Unified School District in Watsonville, California, 16 elementary library media technicians will lose their positions, likely resulting in every elementary school closing its library next year. The positions are included in a package of layoffs that include nurses, custodians, and other school employees. Nearly 50 students, teachers, and parents staged a protest May 9 in the city plaza....

Watsonville (Calif.) Register-Pajaronian, May 10

[University of Chicago to add new showpiece library](#)

A glass-domed, mostly underground library, to be built just west of the University of Chicago's Joseph Regenstein Library, will have space for 3.5 million volumes, allowing the university to keep its entire collection on campus even as other top academic libraries are building off-site facilities to store books. Designed by Chicago architect Helmut Jahn, the new structure will sport an above-ground, naturally lit reading room surrounded by a glass dome with an energy-efficient coating....

Chicago Tribune, May 12



[Legendary law librarian passes away](#)

Roy Mersky was a giant in his field who made the University of Texas law library one of the best in the nation, friends and colleagues said. Along the way, he taught worldwide, wrote prolifically, and compiled a résumé more than 40 pages long. Mersky, 82, died May 6 at an Austin hospice. He built an extensive collection of legal research and rare books at the UT library, and established a system so that each law school faculty

9200, ext. 2121.

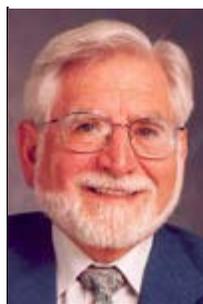
June 10–12:
[Digital Directions: Fundamentals of Creating and Managing Digital Collections](#), Hyatt Regency Jacksonville (Fla.) Riverfront. Sponsored by the Northeast Document Conservation Center and SOLINET.

July 12:
[South African Children's Literature Seminar](#), Simmons College, Boston. Lectures and breakout sessions cover historical and contemporary literature in South Africa, how to read South African children's literature critically, and the storytelling tradition in South Africa. Contact: [Kate Sipples](#). (617) 443-1072.

Aug. 7–10:
[Multimedia Educational Resource for Learning and Online Teaching](#), 8th International Conference, Hilton Minneapolis Hotel. "MERLOT: Still Blazing the Trail and Meeting New Challenges in the Digital Age." Presentations on Web 2.0, learning management systems, social networking, and games.

Aug. 17–22:
[International Association of Jewish Genealogy](#), Conference, Chicago Marriott Downtown Magnificent Mile.

Aug. 20–21:



member had a librarian to help with research....

Austin (Tex.) American-Statesman, May 8

[Detroit plans to HYPE teen users](#)

The original 1923 children's reading room of the Detroit Public Library has been transformed into a high-tech haven for teens. The new HYPE Center—the name stands for Helping Young People Excel—offers 3,884 square feet of game consoles, big-screen TVs, performance spaces, quiet study areas, CDs, DVDs, free Wi-Fi, and lots of books. It will open to the public May 15....
WWJ-AM, Detroit, May 5



[Man who caused Richmond lockdown released on bond](#)

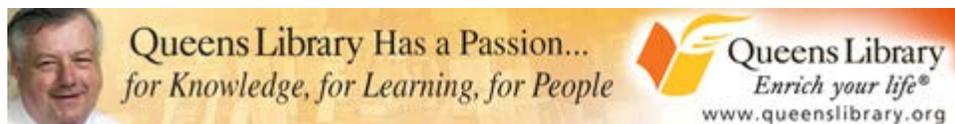
A 19-year-old dishwasher named Seth A. Newman has told police he was the person in costume with a pellet gun who prompted a four-hour lockdown May 6 at the University of Richmond. A campus library employee said Newman told her he was a police officer and had heard people were having sex inside the building. He left the library after failing to produce identification....

Richmond (Va.) Times-Dispatch, May 8-9

[Former director pleads guilty to child abuse](#)

Howard Curtis, director of the Haverhill (Mass.) Public Library from 1981 to 1996, pleaded guilty May 7 in Salem Superior Court to two counts of sexual abuse of a child under 15. The plea came as the result of a complaint by a New Hampshire man who said that Curtis forced him into sexual acts when he was a child in Haverhill in the 1980s....

Salem (Mass.) News, May 8



Tech Talk

[Microsoft brings the universe into focus](#)

Microsoft Research launched a free application May 12 that lets you navigate deep into the universe and view galaxies, nebulae, planets, and other celestial objects through the lenses of the world's best observatories. [WorldWide Telescope](#) draws on more than 12 terabytes of imagery from several orbiting and land-based telescopes. The desktop application downloads the images



Ohio Library Council, Children and Teen Services Conference, Columbus.

Sept. 12: [Ohio Library Council Expo](#), Columbus.

Sept. 18-21: [Reforma](#), National Conference, El Paso, Texas. "Bridging the Gaps: Juntos @ the Border."

Sept. 19-21: [Association for Rural and Small Libraries](#), Annual Conference, Sacramento, California. "Go West: Discover Gold @ Your Library."

Sept. 22-26: [International Conference on Dublin Core and Metadata Applications](#), Berlin. "Metadata for Semantic and Social Applications."

Sept. 24-25: [Ohio Library Council](#), Supportive Staff Conference, Columbus.

Oct. 2-4: [Youth Literature Festival](#), University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Oct. 16-17: [Maryland Association of School Librarians](#), Turf Valley Convention Center, Ellicott City.

on demand and stitches them together to form an interactive, browsable universe supplemented with information from top astronomical databases and guided tours that put it all into context....

Seattle Times, May 13

[Top 10 things you forgot your Mac can do](#)

Gina Trapani writes: "Macs may be more expensive, and Mac users more elitist (ahem), but blind Apple loyalty aside, there are a number of neat features bundled into your Mac that make it super useful and fun. Today we're highlighting 10 lesser-known Mac tricks that come baked into Leopard. From pure eye candy to outright productivity-boosters, read on to get reminded of some of the more obscure things you can do with your Mac, fresh out of the box."...

Lifehacker, May 14

[IM-speak](#)

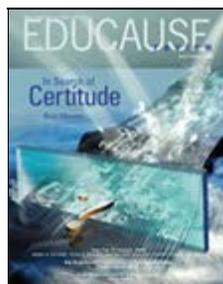
Let's be honest (LBH)—easy (EZ) is better. Get your message across quickly. This AIM acronym dictionary has the most common abbreviations that you (U) might come across while IMing with your friends. Good luck (GL) and have a nice day (HAND)....

AOL Instant Messenger

[Big Broadband connectivity in the U.S.](#)

John Windhausen Jr. writes: "The United States is facing a growing crisis in broadband connectivity. Very few of the nation's businesses and homes have the type of high-speed broadband connection that they need to participate fully in the international economy and society. Current U.S. broadband networks are under stress because of the increasing demand for greater content, especially video. In contrast, the countries of eastern Asia and northern Europe have more widely deployed broadband networks, generally provide faster internet access, and offer service at much lower prices than the United States."...

EDUCAUSE Review 43, no. 3 (May/June): 62-78



[Lawsuit threatens launch of speedy WiMax network](#)

Last week, Sprint and Clearwire said they were combining their wireless broadband businesses to operate a next-generation network using WiMax technology, which blankets large metropolitan areas with coverage, allowing internet access from mobile phones and other gadgets at speeds similar to what is available for residential broadband service. Chicago was [slated](#) to be the first city to have it. But on May 12, a local wireless-service provider and three subsidiaries filed suit to block the deal....

Chicago Tribune, May 7, 13



Actions & Answers

[To catch a thief](#)

Steve Twomey describes how a Civil War buff's chance discovery led to a sting, a raid, and a victory against traffickers in stolen historical documents: "In the fall of

@ [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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2006, a history devotee named Dean Thomas was surprised by something he saw on eBay, the online auction house. Someone was offering 144-year-old letters sent by munitions companies to Philadelphia's Frankford Arsenal, a major supplier of the Union Army during the Civil War. How had he missed these?"...

Smithsonian, April



Green roofs

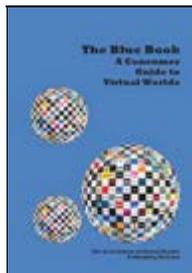
Beth Filar Williams writes: "When planning a new library building or upgrading an existing one, could you add a green rooftop? A green roof is a multilayer roofing system, an extension of the existing roof with waterproofing, a root-repellent membrane system, a drainage system, and a multitude of plants that grow on top of a building. Many credits toward [LEED Certification](#) can be earned by building green rooftops, which have been established in Europe for centuries due to both private and public benefits."...

Going Green @ your library, May 8

A guidebook to virtual worlds

Ellyssa Kroski writes: "The Association of Virtual Worlds has published [The Blue Book: A Consumer Guide to Virtual Worlds](#). This free downloadable book provides a guide, with links, to over 250 virtual worlds along with a glossary. Included are virtual environments for every age group ranging from Disney Fairies Pixie Hollow, Creebies, and Frenzoo, to Neopets (one of my faves), Planet Cazmo, and Scions of Fate."...

iLibrarian, May 13



How Second Life affects real life

Kristina Dell writes: "Research conducted at Stanford University's Virtual Human Interaction Lab suggests that the qualities you acquire online—whether it's confidence or insecurity—can spill over and change your conduct in the real world, often without your awareness. Lab Director Jeremy Bailenson has found that even 90 seconds spent chatting it up with avatars is enough to elicit behavioral changes offline—at least in the short-term. But researchers are still trying to figure out the psychological mechanisms at work, and which way the effect flows."...

Time, May 12



Wikipedia added to Google Maps

In what is proving to be another busy day for Google, Wikipedia articles have been added to Google Maps. The new Wikipedia tags can be turned on through a "More" button that has been added to the top right-hand corner of the map. When the Wikipedia tick box is selected, small "W" tags appear on the map where Wikipedia articles are available. Clicking on the "W" tag will open an information window containing the Wikipedia article. Chicago's Harold Washington Library is included



(above). Is your library in the mashup? (Google Maps has also added [real estate listings.](#))...

Google Maps Mania, May 13; Today @ PC World, May 14

[Open-access humanities titles](#) (subscription required)

Jennifer Howard writes: "Scholars in the sciences have been light-years ahead of their peers in the humanities in exploring the possibilities of open-access publishing. But a new venture with prominent academic backers, the [Open Humanities Press](#), wants to help humanists close the gap. The nonprofit operation—described by those involved as 'an international open-access publishing collective'—made its official debut May 12 with a roster of seven already-established journals in critical and cultural studies and related fields."...

Chronicle of Higher Education, May 7

[LC announces 2007 National Recording Registry](#)

Librarian of Congress James H. Billington named 25 additions May 14 to LC's National Recording Registry as part of its efforts to preserve the nation's aural history. The selections include a wide variety of spoken and musical recordings, among them the first trans-Atlantic radio broadcast in 1925, Michael Jackson's *Thriller* album, the *Sounds of Earth* disc that traveled with Voyager through space, and the first recording of "Call it Stormy Monday, but Tuesday is Just As Bad" (T-Bone Walker, 1947)....

Library of Congress, May 14



[Old maids, policemen, and social rejects](#)

Maura Seale, arts and humanities librarian at Grand Valley State University in Allendale, Michigan, has written an article on how mass-media depictions of librarians color user perceptions. Mass media portrayals fall into five categories: the old maid librarian, the policeman librarian, the librarian as parody, the inept librarian, and the hero/ine librarian. She concludes that "due to the lack of substantive representations of librarians that highlight their professionalism, public perceptions draw more heavily on stereotypical representations of librarians' personalities."...

Electronic Journal of Academic and Special Librarianship 9, no. 1 (Spring)



[What to do with weeded books](#) (PDF file)

Space limitations, collection development, and customer service dictate that periodic weeding or discarding of books must occur. However, one library or school's unwanted book might be appreciated by another organization or individual. Environmental awareness also mandates that books be reused rather than trashed. Here is a list of options to consider and test to see what fits your needs best....

Friends of Colorado Libraries

[Using Firefox on public computers](#)

Brian Herzog writes: "My library is in the process of re-doing all of its public computers. One major change we're making is to switch to Firefox for our web browser. The reason we're switching is a simple one—Firefox is just cooler. It lets us have more control over how the browser functions, and lets us offer more tools integrated right into the browser. Better for us, better for patrons."...

Swiss Army Librarian, May 8



[How little do users read online?](#)

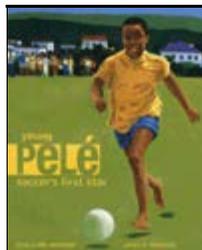
In a February [article](#) in *ACM Transactions on the Web*, Harald Weinreich, et al., instrumented 25 users' browsers and recorded extended information about everything they did as they went about their normal web activities. Jakob Nielsen calculated from this study that on an average visit users will read about 20% of the text on a page (which averaged 593 words in the study), and they tend to get to 50% of the text only if there are 111 words or less....

Jakob Nielsen's Alertbox, May 6

[The world's most athletic booklist](#)

Get into the Summer Reading Olympics spirit by checking out these youth books suggested by Reading Is Fundamental. Each book centers around one of the official sports of the 2008 Summer Olympics, which will take place in Beijing this August. Books are grouped by age level....

Reading Is Fundamental



[Joint Steering Committee outcomes from April meeting](#)

The Joint Steering Committee for the Development of RDA has released its summary of major actions taken in the development of the new cataloging content standard, *Resource Description and Access*, at the group's April 13–22 meeting in Chicago....

Joint Steering Committee, May 8

[Archive madness](#)

Two University of Denver LIS students, Adrienne Breznau (right) and Antonia Dauster, put this video (4:47) together for a Visual Media class on perceptions in libraries. It's a silent film, so perhaps they will be taking an Audiovisual Media class next semester. Filmed at Denver's Westminster Law Library, where Amanda Samland (who plays both the angry librarian and the helpful archivist) works as a government documents assistant....

YouTube, Mar. 5



[What teens are listening to](#)

The Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh interviewed their teen patrons to find out what music they like, when and how they listen to it, how they learn about music, and what music means to them. This video (7:13) shows interviews with six of them, and their interests cover a wide range of styles....

YouTube, May 13



AL Direct, May 14, 2008

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

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | May 14, 2008

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

[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

U.S. & World News

Libraries win second round against National Security Letters

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/may2008/kahlewinsnslbattle.cfm>]

“I’m grateful that I am able now to talk about what happened to me, so that other libraries can learn how they can fight back from these overreaching demands,” Internet Archive founder and digital librarian Brewster Kahle stated May 7, two days after records were unsealed documenting his six-month legal battle to force the FBI to withdraw a National Security Letter because it sought details of several patrons’ archive use without a court order. ALA President Loriene Roy in a May 7 statement

[<http://ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/nationalsecurityletter.cfm>]

reaffirmed the Association’s commitment to urge “Congress to pass legislation for meaningful Congressional oversight of these risky law enforcement tools.”...

Congressman takes aim at Second Life

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/may2008/kirkr>]

einroducingdopa.cfm]

U.S. Rep. Mark Kirk (R-Ill.) announced May 5 that he was gearing up to reintroduce the Deleting Online Predators Act, legislation that would require libraries and schools that rely on e-rate funding to prohibit minors from using chat rooms and social-networking sites without parental permission. He indicated that the new bill would create an adults only (.ado) domain for such sites as MySpace and Facebook, and he singled out Second Life as an environment where youngsters were particularly vulnerable. Second Life's Linden Labs promptly responded [<http://www.virtualworldsnews.com/2008/05/representative-k.html>] to Kirk's allegations....

Library noise has neighbors complaining

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/may2008/stillwatertooloud.cfm>]

Stillwater (Minn.) Public Library's new outdoor terrace, a popular venue for weddings and other events since it was added as part of an expansion and renovation in 2006, is drawing concern from neighbors over the potential for noise late at night. About a dozen residents attended the city council meeting May 6 to protest the council's prior granting of a blanket variance to the noise ordinance for the library events this summer, extending the noise curfew for them from 10 to 11:30 p.m....

Maine town relents

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/may2008/woolwichsupportslibrary.cfm>]

The town of Woolwich, Maine, whose officials had considered eliminating more than \$43,000 in fiscal support for the Patten Free Library in Bath because of the September 2007 firing of popular children's librarian Nyree Thomas, has opted to continue its participation with the Patten Library after all. Townspeople approved the Patten contribution 114–59 at the May 7 town meeting....

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

ALA News

Ron Reagan to be Opening General Session speaker

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

Journalist and activist Ron Reagan will be the Opening General Session speaker at ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, California, June 28. Reagan, the son of former President Ronald Reagan, is a frequent guest on Larry King Live on CNN and Air America Radio. He serves on the board of the Creative Coalition, a nonpartisan political organization founded in 1989 to mobilize entertainers and artists for First Amendment rights and such causes as arts advocacy and public education....

Virtual Library Legislative Day in Second Life

[<http://flickr.com/photos/alastaff/2489134111/>]

Archimedes Hollak (Jonathan West of AASL) models the free National Library Legislative Day 2008 T-shirt by the kiosk on ALA Island in Second Life (right). There is still time to have your avatar pick up a T-shirt on May 14. Take a snapshot and upload it to an online photo-sharing website, such as Flickr, and add the tag “VLLD08” or “VLLD2008” for Virtual Library Legislative Day 2008. You also have time to join Friends of Libraries USA’s Virtual March

[<http://www.folusa.org/advocacy/virtual-march.php>]....

Triathlete to compete for Spectrum Scholarship program

[<http://ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/spectrumrun.cfm>]

Miriam Tuliao, coordinator of adult and reference services for the New York Public Library, announced that she will participate in the New Jersey State Triathlon to raise awareness and funds for the Spectrum Scholarship program. The race consists of a 1.5K swim, a 23-mile bike ride, and a 10K run. The event will take place July 27. Tuliao is a United States Masters swimmer who has participated in several long-distance open-water events, including the Big Shoulders 5K Swim in Chicago in September 2007....

PR Forum to focus on diversity

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/PRForum2008.cfm>]

This year’s PR Forum at the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim will focus on “Diversity @ your library: Broadening Your Audience and Engaging Communities.” Led by Eric Friedenwald-Fishman and Maria Elena Campisteguy of Metropolitan Group, the program will discuss designing communication to meet specific needs and values, message development and testing, and the importance of cultural context....

24 authors on the LIVE! @ your library Reading Stage

[<http://ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/liveauthorsannual08.cfm>]

The Public Programs Office will present 24 critically acclaimed authors [<http://www.ala.org/ala/ppo/calendar/ac2008/LIVEstage2008.cfm>] on the LIVE! @ your library Reading Stage, June 26–July 2 in the exhibits hall at the upcoming ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, California. Attendees can take a break from their busy conference schedules and listen to some of their favorite authors and poets read from and autograph their recent works....

Chu to present 2008 Coleman Outreach lecture

[<http://ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/colemanlecture.cfm>]

Clara M. Chu, associate professor in the Department of Information Studies at the University of California, Los Angeles, will present the 2008 Dr. Jean E. Coleman Outreach Lecture for the Office for Literacy and Outreach Services at ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim. This year’s lecture is entitled “Dislocations of Multicultural Librarianship: A Critical Examination for a Liberatory Practice.”...

Featured review: Books for youth

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=2592360]

Box, C.J. Blue Heaven. Read by John Bedford Lloyd. Jan. 2008. 11.5 hr.

BBC/Sound Library, CD (978-0-7927-5229-5).

Lloyd delivers a smashing performance of this surprisingly tender story. From opening scenes when two siblings (a boy and his 12-year-old sister) witness a brutal murder, the tension never flags. The bad guys are former members of the LAPD, conspirators in a money heist that allows them to retire early and live high on the hog in an area of Idaho dubbed "Blue Heaven" because of the large population of ex-cops. One plotline follows the pursuit of the conspirators by a newly retired police officer who sees the unsolved crime as a blot on his record. The main plot concerns the children, who flee into the woods after witnessing the murder and find themselves being pursued by the murderers....

The big hangover

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=2697422]

Keir Graff describes the day-to-day worklife of a hard-boiled Booklist reviewer and reveals the harsh truth about low-priority galleys, in this mostly fictional short story (the magazine's first ever): "Bill Ott was old-school, by-the-book, and any other hard-tack cliché you can think of. My head hurt too much to come up with a fourth. 'Jesus, Graff,' he said, shaking his head. 'What time did you quit drinking?' Define 'quit,' I wanted to say. Instead I fished a tin of Altoids out of my desk drawer and popped two."...

Booklist, May 1

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

Anaheim Update

[http://www.anaheim.net/com_dev/aipp/1a.htm]The arts in Anaheim
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/acrl/aboutacrl/acrlsections/arts/artsguide/ArtsGuide-Anaheim-An.pdf>] (PDF file)

If you feel the need for a gallery, a play, a recital, or an architectural experience during Annual Conference, consult the ACRL Arts Section's excellent ArtsGuide Anaheim, a 20-page compilation of all things aesthetic in Orange County. Some of the most interesting venues are within a couple of miles of the convention center and conference hotels, but the editors have also skimmed the surface of the vast art world of Los Angeles....

Don't wait until the last minute

[<http://www.cnn.com/2008/TRAVEL/05/13/domestic.airfares/index.html>]

Travelers will see more price hikes for summer as the airlines struggle with staggering jet fuel costs, say airline analysts. Last May, a ticket purchased seven days in advance between Denver, Colorado, and Raleigh, North Carolina, was \$258. This May that same ticket sells for about \$460, according to FareCompare. Planes are increasingly full as airlines

gradually trim capacity, giving airlines no incentive to discount summer travel...

CNN, May 13

Picky traveler? TripKick rates individual hotel rooms

[<http://www.techcrunch.com/2008/05/13/picky-traveler-tripkick-rates-individual-hotel-rooms/>]

Jason Kincaid writes: “It’s been a long day. You’ve finally gotten to your hotel room, and the only thing you can think of is the 12-hour snoozefest you’re about to enjoy. Just as you’re about to nod off, you hear it: the slow, metallic squeal of the ice machine next door that will test your sanity for the rest of the night.

TripKick, [<http://www.tripkick.com/>] a new travel review site that launched May 13, goes the extra mile, offering reviews on every individual room.” The Hilton Anaheim

[<http://www.tripkick.com/hotels/view/238/hilton-anaheim>] and Marriott

Anaheim [<http://www.tripkick.com/hotels/view/237/marriott-anaheim>]

(above) are two of the hotels reviewed....

TechCrunch, May 13

Convention Center set to expand

[<http://www.ocregister.com/articles/space-meeting-square-2038264-anaheim-exhibit>]

Plans are in the works for the sixth expansion of the Anaheim Convention Center, which would add meeting and exhibit space to the 1.6-million square foot center. The expansion is to include 200,000 square feet of space for exhibits and meetings, a three-star or higher hotel, and 1,500 parking spaces. The city is reviewing plans from three developers....

Orange County (Calif.) Register, May 9

[<http://www.tutor.com/ala>]

Division News

Susan J. Beck is RUSA president-elect for 2009–2010

[<http://ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/RUSAbeck.cfm>]

Susan J. Beck, head of public services at Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, is the new RUSA president-elect. An active member of RUSA, Beck served as chair of the Reference Services Section and on several divisional committees. She will begin her term as president-elect in July 2008 and will assume the presidency in 2009–2010....

Linda W. Braun is YALSA president-elect

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/YALSABraun.cfm>]

YALSA members chose Linda W. Braun, educational technology consultant with LEO: Librarians & Educators Online, as the division’s next vice-president/ president-elect. Braun will begin her term as president-elect in July 2008, becoming president for one term in July

2009. She has previously chaired YALSA's Website Advisory committee, and is the division's blog manager....

YALSA summer courses

[<http://ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/YALSAsummer.cfm>]

YALSA has opened registration

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/onlinecourses/info.cfm#summer>] for three online courses this summer: "Reaching Teens with Gaming"; (Beth Gallaway); "Making the Match: The Right Book with the Right Teen at the Right Time"; (Teri Lesesne); and "Tech Tools for Teen Leadership"; (Linda W. Braun). All courses last six weeks and meet July 7–August 18....

Awards

2008 Spectrum Doctoral Fellows

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/spectrumdoctoral.cfm>]

ALA and the University of Pittsburgh's School of Information Sciences have announced the second and final group of Spectrum Doctoral Fellowship recipients: Eric Chuk (UCLA), Mónica Colón-Aquirre (University of Tennessee), Nicole Cook and Stefani Gomez (Rutgers), Asher Isaac Jackson (Syracuse), and Brenda Mitchell-Powell (Simmons)....

NSLMPY Award winners

[<http://ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/NSLMPY.cfm>]

Luella Elementary School in Locust Grove, Georgia, and Simsbury (Conn.) High School (right) are the winners of AASL's 2008 National School Library Media Program of the Year Awards. The NSLMPY Awards honor school library media programs practicing their commitment to ensure that students and staff are effective users of ideas and information, as well as exemplifying implementation of Information Power....

Jesse H. Shera Award winners

[<http://ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/LRRTShera.cfm>]

The Library Research Round Table has chosen the winners of the Jesse H. Shera Award for Distinguished Published Research (Eric M. Meyers, Karen E. Fisher, and Elizabeth Marcoux) and the Jesse H. Shera Award for the Support of Dissertation Research (Sharon McQueen)....

School Librarian's Workshop Scholarship awarded

[<http://ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/AASLscholarship.cfm>]

Charisse Nicole Byers, a library science student at the University of Southern Mississippi and a kindergarten teacher with the Atlanta public schools, has been awarded the AASL 2008 School Librarian's Workshop Scholarship. The scholarship is awarded to a full-time student preparing to become a school library media specialist....

Office for Diversity honors Clara M. Chu

[<http://ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/chudiversity.cfm>]

The ALA Office for Diversity has designated Clara M. Chu for its Achievement in Library Diversity Research award. Chu, an associate

professor at the Department of Information Studies, University of California, Los Angeles, has published, presented, and consulted internationally in English and Spanish on multicultural library and information issues. She is a leading voice on the subject and actively recruits people of culturally diverse backgrounds into the information profession....

2008 Youth Media Awards presentation

[<http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=-4514698237320024574&hl=en>]
The Public Information Office has made the 2008 ALA Youth Media Awards presentation webcast (39:59) available for viewing online. You can now relive the moment of sitting on the edge of your seat at the Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia waiting to hear which books for youth were selected as the most distinguished....
Google Video, May 8

YALSA to honor literary award winners in Anaheim

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/YALSAawards.cfm>]
YALSA will celebrate the winners of its literary awards with special events and programs at the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, California, June 27–July 2. Tickets are available for both the Margaret A. Edwards Award Luncheon on Saturday, June 28, and the Michael L. Printz Award Dessert Reception on Monday, June 30. YALSA will also highlight winners of its annual Alex and Odyssey Awards....

Children's Choice Book Award winners

[<http://www.cbcbooks.org/cbweek/gala2.html>]
The Children's Book Council announced the winners of the first annual Children's Choice Book Awards May 13 at a gala in New York City hosted by Jon Scieszka. Some 55,000 children across the country voted for their favorite books, authors, and illustrators at libraries, bookstores, and online. Book of the Year for 5th–6th graders was Joshua Gee's Encyclopedia Horrifica (Scholastic)....
Children's Book Council, May 13

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

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Florida libraries face deep cuts

[<http://www.tampabay.com/opinion/columns/article498452.ece>]
The four-year-old library in Clearwater, Florida, could close on weekends and most evenings if deep cuts to the system's budget are approved. And it's not the only one pondering cutbacks. In January, Florida voters amended the state constitution to lower property taxes for some residents. In addition, the economy took a nosedive and property values fell, meaning governments would collect less. Cities and counties all over the state are cutting their budgets, and in order to preserve what they consider essential services such as police and fire, many are slashing funding for recreation, parks, and libraries....

St. Petersburg (Fla.) Times, May 11

Fitchburg Youth Library saved from closure

[http://www.sentinelandenterprise.com/ci_9243482]

Fitchburg (Mass.) Public Library Director Ann Wirtanen said Mayor Lisa Wong has restored about \$88,000 to the library's budget to pay for its Youth Library, which will be open on the same limited schedule (only three days a week) as the rest of the library beginning in July. Visitors [http://www.sentinelandenterprise.com/ci_9203774] to the May 8 board meeting were outraged on hearing about a sudden 72% budget cut imposed by the city. The library will still have to reduce staff by 17 full-time and part-time employees....

Fitchburg (Mass.) Sentinel and Enterprise, May 9, 13

Another school district cuts media technicians

[http://www.register-pajaronian.com/V2_news_articles.php?heading=0&page=&story_id=4308]

In the wake of nearly \$8 million in cuts to the Pajaro Valley Unified School District in Watsonville, California, 16 elementary library media technicians will lose their positions, likely resulting in every elementary school closing its library next year. The positions are included in a package of layoffs that include nurses, custodians, and other school employees. Nearly 50 students, teachers, and parents staged a protest May 9 in the city plaza....

Watsonville (Calif.) Register-Pajaronian, May 10

University of Chicago to add new showpiece library

[<http://www.chicagotribune.com/features/chi-uofclibrary-12-may12,0,7665516.story>]

A glass-domed, mostly underground library, to be built just west of the University of Chicago's Joseph Regenstein Library, will have space for 3.5 million volumes, allowing the university to keep its entire collection on campus even as other top academic libraries are building off-site facilities to store books. Designed by Chicago architect Helmut Jahn, the new structure will sport an above-ground, naturally lit reading room surrounded by a glass dome with an energy-efficient coating....

Chicago Tribune, May 12

Legendary law librarian passes away

[<http://www.statesman.com/news/content/news/stories/local/05/08/0508mersky.html>]

Roy Mersky was a giant in his field who made the University of Texas law library one of the best in the nation, friends and colleagues said. Along the way, he taught worldwide, wrote prolifically, and compiled a résumé more than 40 pages long. Mersky, 82, died May 6 at an Austin hospice. He built an extensive collection of legal research and rare books at the UT library, and established a system so that each law school faculty member had a librarian to help with research....

Austin (Tex.) American-Statesman, May 8

Detroit plans to HYPE teen users

[<http://www.wwj.com/Detroit-Library-Opening-High-Tech-Haven-For-Teens/2129510>]

The original 1923 children's reading room of the Detroit Public Library

has been transformed into a high-tech haven for teens. The new HYPE Center—the name stands for Helping Young People Excel—offers 3,884 square feet of game consoles, big-screen TVs, performance spaces, quiet study areas, CDs, DVDs, free Wi-Fi, and lots of books. It will open to the public May 15....

WWJ-AM, Detroit, May 5

Man who caused Richmond lockdown released on bond

[<http://www.inrich.com/cva/ric/search.apx.-content-articles-RTD-2008-05-09-0163.html>]

A 19-year-old dishwasher named Seth A. Newman has told police he was the person in costume with a pellet gun who prompted a four-hour lockdown May 6 at the University of Richmond. A campus library employee said Newman told her he was a police officer and had heard people were having sex inside the building. He left the library after failing to produce identification....

Richmond (Va.) Times-Dispatch, May 8–9

Former director pleads guilty to child abuse

[http://www.salemnews.com/archivesearch/local_story_128235448.html]

Howard Curtis, director of the Haverhill (Mass.) Public Library from 1981 to 1996, pleaded guilty May 7 in Salem Superior Court to two counts of sexual abuse of a child under 15. The plea came as the result of a complaint by a New Hampshire man who said that Curtis forced him into sexual acts when he was a child in Haverhill in the 1980s....

Salem (Mass.) News, May 8

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

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Tech Talk

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Microsoft brings the universe into focus

[http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/microsoft/2004409651_telescope13.htm]

Microsoft Research launched a free application May 12 that lets you navigate deep into the universe and view galaxies, nebulae, planets, and other celestial objects through the lenses of the world's best observatories. WorldWide Telescope [<http://www.worldwidetelescope.org/>] draws on more than 12 terabytes of imagery from several orbiting and land-based telescopes. The desktop application downloads the images on demand and stitches them together to form an interactive, browsable universe supplemented with information from top astronomical databases and guided tours that put it all into context....

Seattle Times, May 13

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Top 10 things you forgot your Mac can do

[<http://lifehacker.com/390226/top-10-things-you-forgot-your-mac-can-do>]

Gina Trapani writes: "Macs may be more expensive, and Mac users more

elitist (ahem), but blind Apple loyalty aside, there are a number of neat features bundled into your Mac that make it super useful and fun. Today we're highlighting 10 lesser-known Mac tricks that come baked into Leopard. From pure eye candy to outright productivity-boosters, read on to get reminded of some of the more obscure things you can do with your Mac, fresh out of the box."...
Lifehacker, May 14

IM-speak [<http://www.aim.com/acronyms.adp>]
Let's be honest (LBH)—easy (EZ) is better. Get your message across quickly. This AIM acronym dictionary has the most common abbreviations that you (U) might come across while IMing with your friends. Good luck (GL) and have a nice day (HAND)....
AOL Instant Messenger

Big Broadband connectivity in the U.S.
[<http://connect.educause.edu/Library/EDUCAUSE+Review/BigBroadbandConnectivity/46606>]
John Windhausen Jr. writes: "The United States is facing a growing crisis in broadband connectivity. Very few of the nation's businesses and homes have the type of high-speed broadband connection that they need to participate fully in the international economy and society. Current U.S. broadband networks are under stress because of the increasing demand for greater content, especially video. In contrast, the countries of eastern Asia and northern Europe have more widely deployed broadband networks, generally provide faster internet access, and offer service at much lower prices than the United States."...
EDUCAUSE Review 43, no. 3 (May/June): 62–78

Lawsuit threatens launch of speedy WiMax network
[<http://www.chicagotribune.com/business/chi-tue-sprint-clearwire-suitmay13,0,6040092.story>]
Last week, Sprint and Clearwire said they were combining their wireless broadband businesses to operate a next-generation network using WiMax technology, which blankets large metropolitan areas with coverage, allowing internet access from mobile phones and other gadgets at speeds similar to what is available for residential broadband service. Chicago was slated
[<http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/nationworld/chi-thu-wimax-sprint-nextel-may08,0,3734872.story>] to be the first city to have it. But on May 12, a local wireless-service provider and three subsidiaries filed suit to block the deal....
Chicago Tribune, May 7, 13

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[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]
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Actions & Answers
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To catch a thief

[<http://www.smithsonianmag.com/history-archaeology/to-catch-a-thief.html>]

Steve Twomey describes how a Civil War buff's chance discovery led to a sting, a raid, and a victory against traffickers in stolen historical documents: "In the fall of 2006, a history devotee named Dean Thomas was surprised by something he saw on eBay, the online auction house. Someone was offering 144-year-old letters sent by munitions companies to Philadelphia's Frankford Arsenal, a major supplier of the Union Army during the Civil War. How had he missed these?"...

Smithsonian, April

Green roofs

[<http://greeningyourlibrary.wordpress.com/2008/05/08/green-roofs/>]

Beth Filar Williams writes: "When planning a new library building or upgrading an existing one, could you add a green rooftop? A green roof is a multilayer roofing system, an extension of the existing roof with waterproofing, a root-repellent membrane system, a drainage system, and a multitude of plants that grow on top of a building. Many credits toward LEED Certification [<http://www.usgbc.org/DisplayPage.aspx?CategoryID=19>] can be earned by building green rooftops, which have been established in Europe for centuries due to both private and public benefits."...

Going Green @ your library, May 8

A guidebook to virtual worlds

[<http://oedb.org/blogs/ilibrarian/2008/a-guidebook-to-virtual-worlds/>]

Ellyssa Kroski writes: "The Association of Virtual Worlds has published The Blue Book: A Consumer Guide to Virtual Worlds.

[http://www.associationofvirtualworlds.com/publishing_blue_book.htm] This free downloadable book provides a guide, with links, to over 250 virtual worlds along with a glossary. Included are virtual environments for every age group ranging from Disney Fairies Pixie Hollow, Creebies, and Frenzoo, to Neopets (one of my faves), Planet Cazmo, and Scions of Fate."...

iLibrarian, May 13

How Second Life affects real life

[<http://www.time.com/time/health/article/0,8599,1739601,00.html>]

Kristina Dell writes: "Research conducted at Stanford University's Virtual Human Interaction Lab suggests that the qualities you acquire online—whether it's confidence or insecurity—can spill over and change your conduct in the real world, often without your awareness. Lab Director Jeremy Bailenson has found that even 90 seconds spent chatting it up with avatars is enough to elicit behavioral changes offline—at least in the short-term. But researchers are still trying to figure out the psychological mechanisms at work, and which way the effect flows."...

Time, May 12

Wikipedia added to Google Maps

[<http://googlemapsmania.blogspot.com/2008/05/wikipedia-added-to-google-maps.html>]

In what is proving to be another busy day for Google, Wikipedia articles have been added to Google Maps. The new Wikipedia tags can be turned on through a "More" button that has been added to the top right-hand corner

of the map. When the Wikipedia tick box is selected, small “W” tags appear on the map where Wikipedia articles are available. Clicking on the “W” tag will open an information window containing the Wikipedia article. Chicago’s Harold Washington Library is included (above). Is your library in the mashup? (Google Maps has also added real estate listings. [<http://blogs.pcworld.com/staffblog/archives/006958.html>])...
Google Maps Mania, May 13; Today @ PC World, May 14

Open-access humanities titles

[<http://chronicle.com/daily/2008/05/2759n.htm>] (subscription required)
Jennifer Howard writes: “Scholars in the sciences have been light-years ahead of their peers in the humanities in exploring the possibilities of open-access publishing. But a new venture with prominent academic backers, the Open Humanities Press, [<http://openhumanitiespress.org/>] wants to help humanists close the gap. The nonprofit operation—described by those involved as ‘an international open-access publishing collective’—made its official debut May 12 with a roster of seven already-established journals in critical and cultural studies and related fields.”...
Chronicle of Higher Education, May 7

LC announces 2007 National Recording Registry

[<http://www.loc.gov/today/pr/2008/08-079.html>]
Librarian of Congress James H. Billington named 25 additions May 14 to LC’s National Recording Registry as part of its efforts to preserve the nation’s aural history. The selections include a wide variety of spoken and musical recordings, among them the first trans-Atlantic radio broadcast in 1925, Michael Jackson’s Thriller album, the Sounds of Earth disc that traveled with Voyager through space, and and the first recording of “Call it Stormy Monday, but Tuesday is Just As Bad” (T-Bone Walker, 1947)....
Library of Congress, May 14

Old maids, policemen, and social rejects

[http://southernlibrarianship.icaap.org/content/v09n01/seale_m01.html]
Maura Seale, arts and humanities librarian at Grand Valley State University in Allendale, Michigan, has written an article on how mass-media depictions of librarians color user perceptions. Mass media portrayals fall into five categories: the old maid librarian, the policeman librarian, the librarian as parody, the inept librarian, and the hero/ine librarian. She concludes that “due to the lack of substantive representations of librarians that highlight their professionalism, public perceptions draw more heavily on stereotypical representations of librarians’ personalities.”...
Electronic Journal of Academic and Special Librarianship 9, no. 1 (Spring)

What to do with weeded books

[http://www.lrs.org/documents/field_stats/weeding_LP.pdf] (PDF file)
Space limitations, collection development, and customer service dictate that periodic weeding or discarding of books must occur. However, one library or school’s unwanted book might be appreciated by another organization or individual. Environmental awareness also mandates that books be reused rather than trashed. Here is a list of options to consider and test to see what fits your needs best....

Friends of Colorado Libraries

Using Firefox on public computers

[<http://www.swissarmylibrarian.net/2008/05/08/using-firefox-on-our-public-computers>]

Brian Herzog writes: “My library is in the process of re-doing all of its public computers. One major change we’re making is to switch to Firefox for our web browser. The reason we’re switching is a simple one—Firefox is just cooler. It lets us have more control over how the browser functions, and lets us offer more tools integrated right into the browser. Better for us, better for patrons.”...

Swiss Army Librarian, May 8

How little do users read online?

[<http://www.useit.com/alertbox/percent-text-read.html>]

In a February article

[<http://portal.acm.org/citation.cfm?doid=1326561.1326566>] in ACM Transactions on the Web, Harald Weinreich, et al., instrumented 25 users’ browsers and recorded extended information about everything they did as they went about their normal web activities. Jakob Nielsen calculated from this study that on an average visit users will read about 20% of the text on a page (which averaged 593 words in the study), and they tend to get to 50% of the text only if there are 111 words or less....

Jakob Nielsen’s Alertbox, May 6

The world’s most athletic booklist

[http://www.rif.org/readingplanet/bookzone/content/athletic_booklist.msp]

Get into the Summer Reading Olympics spirit by checking out these youth books suggested by Reading Is Fundamental. Each book centers around one of the official sports of the 2008 Summer Olympics, which will take place in Beijing this August. Books are grouped by age level....

Reading Is Fundamental

Joint Steering Committee outcomes from April meeting

[<http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/jsc/0804out.html>]

The Joint Steering Committee for the Development of RDA has released its summary of major actions taken in the development of the new cataloging content standard, Resource Description and Access, at the group’s April 13–22 meeting in Chicago....

Joint Steering Committee, May 8

Archive madness [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SiEmhN-Fe08>]

Two University of Denver LIS students, Adrienne Breznau (right) and Antonia Dauster, put this video (4:47) together for a Visual Media class on perceptions in libraries. It’s a silent film, so perhaps they will be taking an Audiovisual Media class next semester. Filmed at Denver’s Westminster Law Library, where Amanda Samland (who plays both the angry librarian and the helpful archivist) works as a government documents assistant....

YouTube, Mar. 5

What teens are listening to [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ue1mM1wRkUE>]

The Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh interviewed their teen patrons to find out what music they like, when and how they listen to it, how they learn

about music, and what music means to them. This video (7:13) shows interviews with six of them, and their interests cover a wide range of styles....

YouTube, May 13

[<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. Take advantage of special Conference pricing with Advance Registration

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/annual/2008a/registration.cfm>] which ends this Friday, May 16.

The May issue

[<http://ala.org/ala/productsandpublications/periodicals/booklinks/currentissue/currentissue.cfm>] of Book Links focuses on Language Arts, featuring an article on graphic novels for the K–6 classroom, a column about Google Earth Lit Trips, and a report from audiobook expert Mary Burkey on new formats in that area of publishing, including audio e-books and print-and-audio combinations. Subscribe

[<https://www.kable.com/pub/blnk/news subs.asp>] to this one-stop resource for connecting children to books. NEW! From ALA Book Links.

In this issue

May 2008

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/tableofcontents/2008contents/may2008.cfm>]

Laura Bush Talks about Her Plans

The Elusive E-Book

Killed by Kindness

Teens and Computer Games

2008 Outstanding Reference Sources

[<http://www.alastore.ala.org/>]

Career Leads from

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

Director of Information Resources,

[<http://joblist.ala.org/modules/jobseeker/controller.cfm?scr=jobdetail&jobid=10446>] Wildlife Conservation Society, The Bronx Zoo, New York. Manage the current library services and archives and redesign the WCS library and related information resource services to better serve the Society. Some responsibilities in this role include assessing existing library/archives service models and developing and implementing projects to facilitate the transition to next-generation discovery, access, and resource management technologies relevant to WCS operations....

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

Digital Library of the Week

[<http://content.cdlib.org/ark:/13030/hb6k4010p2/>]

American Social History Online [<http://www.dlfaquifer.org/>] is a Digital Library Federation portal that provides scholars with access to distributed digital library collections [<http://www.dlfaquifer.org/collection>] pertaining to American culture and life. Its tools and services are designed to make it easy to find, organize, use, and share items from diverse collections. By using Zotero, a free and easy-to-use research tool that works with the Firefox web browser, scholars can gather and organize resources as well as annotate and share them. To support the use of images, Collectus and ImageViewer [<http://www.lib.virginia.edu/digital/collections/CollectorTool.html>] tools developed at the University of Virginia are integrated into American Social History Online. These tools not only support saving and organizing image collections but provide for slide-show creation so the image material can be used easily in the classroom. The portal was developed using open source software and is currently available without fees or restrictions through generous support from the Mellon Foundation.

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

“We need to keep the library for children. Adults have no business staying at the library all day anyway.”

?Ragland, Alabama, Councilman Gene Ford, after discovering pornography on a computer at the local branch of the St. Clair County Library, in the Pell City (Ala.) St. Clair Times, May 7.

[<http://ala.org/ala/acrl/acrlpubs/crlnews/backissues2008/may08/May.cfm>]
University of Colorado Denver Systems Librarian Nina McHale suggests some ways to help eradicate “rogue assignments” [<http://ala.org/ala/acrl/acrlpubs/crlnews/backissues2008/may08/rogueassign.cfm>] —faculty-created, library-related tasks for students that are either out of sync with library resources or ineffective—in the May issue of College & Research Libraries News. Listen to the podcast [<http://www.acrl.ala.org/acrlinsider/2008/05/09/acrl-podcast-eradicating-the-rogue-assignment/>] (11:10).

Ask the ALA Librarian

[http://bp3.blogger.com/_sGYULzoQCgA/RuSSRaUYz8I/AAAAAAAAABC4/WiaKbdhqWRE/s1600-h/At+the+School.jpg]

Q. Someone just wrote to our local paper suggesting that the internet makes libraries obsolete. Our circulation figures don't bear this out, but I need more information before I write the official response. Can ALA help?

A. You are not alone in showing an increase in circulation, and yes, we have reports and statistics to help you. Our State of America’s Libraries report

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pio/presscentera/piopresskits/2008statereport/2008statereport.cfm>] shows many measures of library vitality. Among the important trends and statistics reported are these: Surveyed libraries [<http://www.ala.org/ala/ors/plftas/0607report.cfm>] said the three internet services most critical to their community were online educational resources and databases for K–12 students (67.7%), services for job-seekers (44%), and computer and internet skills training (29.8%). More than half of American adults said they had visited a local public library in the past 12 months, according to a Pew report. [http://www.pewinternet.org/pdfs/Pew_UI_LibrariesReport.pdf] Multiple studies show that libraries provide an excellent return on investment, [http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Value_of_Libraries] with a measurable positive impact on the local economy. From the ALA Professional Tips wiki [http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Future_of_Libraries].

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

Calendar

June 10:
Stepping into History: Experiencing the Past through Virtual Worlds, [<http://www.steppingintohistory.org/Conference%20Schedule.html>] an online Second Life conference sponsored by the Alliance Library System and

Learning Times. Contact: John Howard,
[mailto:jhoward@alliancelibrarysystem.com] (309) 694-9200, ext. 2121.

June 10–12:

Digital Directions: Fundamentals of Creating and Managing Digital Collections

[<http://www.nedcc.org/education/conferences/dd2008/description.php>],
Hyatt Regency Jacksonville (Fla.) Riverfront. Sponsored by the Northeast Document Conservation Center and SOLINET.

July 12:

South African Children's Literature Seminar,
[http://www.sapartners.org/documents/simmons_invite.pdf] Simmons College,
Boston. Lectures and breakout sessions cover historical and contemporary literature in South Africa, how to read South African children's literature critically, and the storytelling tradition in South Africa.
Contact: Kate Sipples, [mailto:ksipples@sapartners.org] (617) 443-1072.

Aug. 7–10:

Multimedia Educational Resource for Learning and Online Teaching,
[<http://conference.merlot.org/2008/>] 8th International Conference, Hilton Minneapolis Hotel. "MERLOT: Still Blazing the Trail and Meeting New Challenges in the Digital Age." Presentations on Web 2.0, learning management systems, social networking, and games.

Aug. 17–22:

International Association of Jewish Genealogy,
[<http://www.chicago2008.org/>] Conference, Chicago Marriott Downtown Magnificent Mile.

Aug. 20–21:

Ohio Library Council, [<http://www.olc.org/ChildrenTeen08Conferences.asp>]
Children and Teen Services Conference, Columbus.

Sept. 12:

Ohio Library Council Expo, [<http://www.olc.org/exhibitors.asp>] Columbus.

Sep. 18–21:

Reforma, [http://www.geocities.com/rnc_3/] National Conference, El Paso, Texas. "Bridging the Gaps: Juntos @ the Border."

Sep. 19–21:

Association for Rural and Small Libraries,
[<http://www.webjunction.org/arsl>] Annual Conference, Sacramento, California. "Go West: Discover Gold @ Your Library."

Sep. 22–26: International Conference on Dublin Core and Metadata Applications, [<http://dc2008.de/>] Berlin. "Metadata for Semantic and Social Applications";

Sep. 24–25:

Ohio Library Council,
[<http://www.olc.org/SupportiveStaff08Conferences.asp>] Supportive Staff Conference, Columbus.

Oct. 2–4:

Youth Literature Festival, [<http://youthlitfest.ed.uiuc.edu/>] University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Oct. 16–17:

Maryland Association of School Librarians, [<http://www.maslmd.org/>] Turf Valley Convention Center, Ellicott City.

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

Contact Us

American Libraries Direct

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

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american libraries DIRECT

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | May 21, 2008

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SCHOOLROOMS
A new learning portal for K-12

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

american
libraries
BUYERS GUIDE

U.S. & World News

[Libraries toppled in devastating Chinese earthquake](#)

The 7.9-magnitude earthquake that struck Sichuan Province in western China on the afternoon of May 12 killed more than 40,000 people and left another 5 million homeless. In the week after the quake, the Library Society of China posted information on damage to libraries in the region on its Chinese-language [website](#). The library building in Beichuan County collapsed, burying five staff members under the debris, but all were rescued after being trapped for more than 70 hours. The Chinese American Librarians Association has set up a [website](#) for donations to support earthquake recovery efforts in China....

[Arkansas library regroups after tornado stops service](#)

The Stuttgart (Ark.) Public Library will be closed for several months as it struggles to recover from at least \$300,000 in damage caused by a May 10 tornado that cut a three-quarter-mile swath through the southern part of the town. No library staff were injured, although one staff member and five of the seven trustees have had significant damage to their homes. All together, townspeople suffered the destruction of 200 homes and 50 businesses. All nine people injured in the tornado have since been released from the hospital....



[Library advocates converge on the Capitol](#)

More than 400 librarians and library supporters converged on Washington, D.C., May 13–14 for ALA's 34th annual National Library Legislative Day. They came from as far away as Hawaii and from a variety of libraries to lobby their members of Congress on such issues as copyright, telecommunications, and funding. "Vote for Libraries!" was the message of the day and the enthusiastic crowd set out to bring that message to their senators and representatives....



[Memphis city council nixes mayor's branch closures](#)

A Memphis (Tenn.) City Council budget committee nixed May 14 Mayor

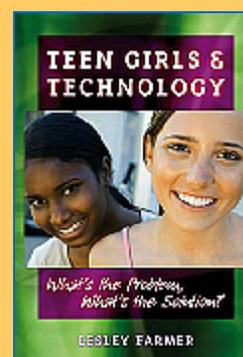


[ALA Annual Conference](#)

in Anaheim, California, June 26–July 2.

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[Read How You Want](#) is offering the ALA Annual Pre-Conference Program in multiple accessible formats. Its technology converts standard-formatted books into seven different EasyRead formats as well as Braille, DAISY, and e-books.



According to author and professor Lesley

Willie Herenton's proposal to transition the Memphis Public Library and Information Center from a neighborhood-library system to a regional model by closing five branches for a \$2-million savings while appropriating \$1 million to buy land on which to build two regional facilities....

[San Jose library's filter report not enough for city councilor](#)

In spite of the San Jose (Calif.) Public Library's detailed report ([PDF file](#)) on the ineffectiveness of software filtering, City Councilor Pete Constant (right) insisted at a May 14 council meeting that the library take some measures to restrict pornography on its public computers. Constant had requested last October 18 that the library reconsider its no-filter policy in the light of a local TV news report that purported to document instances of patrons viewing pornography at library computer terminals....



[Retail developer edges out DCPL relocation plan](#)

A plan proposed by former District of Columbia Mayor Anthony Williams to build a new central library on the site of the old convention center has fallen through. Current Mayor Adrian Fenty announced May 12 that the city had reached an agreement with a developer to build a luxury hotel and up to 100,000 square feet of retail space on the site instead. DCPL Chief Information Officer George Williams said that the library was focusing on revitalizing branch libraries. The library has a number of other branch-[renovation projects](#) (above) in various stages...



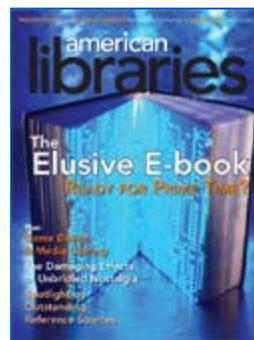
[Orphan works bills move through Congress](#)

Both houses of Congress are acting on measures designed to limit the liability of good-faith users of orphan works—copyrighted works whose owners are difficult or impossible to find. The Senate Judiciary Committee unanimously approved the Shawn Bentley Orphan Works Act of 2008 (S.2913) May 15, while a companion bill was adopted by a House subcommittee. ALA has urged its members to support the Senate version....

Farmer, teenage girls are not embracing technology and all of its potential impact on their futures. In her [Teen Girls & Technology: What's the Problem, What's the Solution?](#) Farmer explores the developmental issues of teen girls, including the reality of girls and tech as it now stands. **NEW! From ALA Editions.**

In this issue

May 2008



Laura Bush Talks about Her Plans

The Elusive E-Book

Killed by Kindness

Teens and Computer Games

2008 Outstanding Reference Sources

Revitalize your investment in serials and anthologies!
Short Story Index Retrospective: 1915-1983
H.W. Wilson www.hwwilson.com

ALA News

[Literacy efforts for Native children](#)

ALA President Loriene Roy will welcome an array of presenters to her President's Program, to be held 3:30–5:30 p.m., June 29, at Annual Conference in Anaheim, California, to discuss literacy efforts for indigenous children. This media-rich program will include remarks from claymation artist and author Roy Boney Jr. (right), along with other tribal school educators who will discuss efforts to support English and Native language literacy programs for Native children....



Registration is open for the [11th Annual LITA National Forum](#), October 16–19, Hilton Netherland

[Virtual Library Day on the Hill—in Anaheim](#)

The Washington Office is hosting an event at ALA's 2008 Annual Conference in Anaheim that is set to steal the spotlight of election year politics: Virtual Library Day on the Hill, which will take place on July 1 from 8 a.m. to noon. Conference attendees will have the chance to both email and fax their Members of Congress on important library issues, using computer terminals located on the exhibit floor....

District Dispatch, May 21

[Open Society Institute gives ALA \\$350,000 seed grant](#)

ALA has received a \$350,000 seed grant from the Open Society Institute. The grant will launch a three-year public engagement initiative to inspire library patrons and Americans to stand with librarians as they fight to usher in privacy standards for the digital age....

[Become an Emerging Leader](#)

ALA is now accepting [applications](#) for the 2009 class of Emerging Leaders. The program is designed to enable more than 100 new librarians to get on the fast track to ALA and professional leadership. Participants are given the opportunity to work on a variety of projects, network with peers, and get an inside look into ALA structure and activities. The deadline to apply is July 31....

[Celebrity READ posters](#)

Rachel Johnson, director of products and promotions for ALA Graphics, is charged with developing products that promote libraries, literacy, and reading. In this video, Johnson talks about the new Kareem Abdul-Jabbar READ poster produced for Library Card Sign-up Month. She also discusses how ALA Graphics chooses celebrities for the posters....



Visibility @ your library, May 20

[ALA website redesign: The podcast](#)

The new ALA website will take a huge step in visual appeal and usability when it debuts at Annual Conference in June. In this podcast (13:58), Billie Peterson-Lugo and Michelle Frisque, the current and past chair of the ALA Website Advisory Committee, are interviewed by Karen Muller about their connections to the redesign. They discuss the process that was followed to perform the website usability study, which ultimately led to new information architecture and graphical design....

ITTS Update, May 15

[2008 Freedom to Read Foundation trustees](#)

Five trustees were elected to two-year terms on the board of the Freedom to Read Foundation, beginning in June: Carrie Gardner, Barbara M. Jones, Burton Joseph, Pamela Klipsch, and Kenton Oliver. FTRF was founded in 1969 to promote and defend the right of individuals to freely express ideas and to access information in libraries and elsewhere....



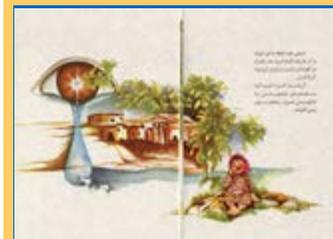
Plaza Hotel, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Career Leads from JobLIST

[Digital Repository Resident](#), University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Explores, adapts, and implements emerging digital repository technologies in support of library and campus digital collections and publishing initiatives. Develops and manages repository projects, researches and recommends changes and enhancements, and works with other library staff to develop and implement metadata and preservation standards. Two-year-term position....

@ [More jobs...](#)

Digital Library of the Week



The [International Children's Digital Library](#) is a free online library of digitized children's books in many languages from various countries. Designed specifically for use by children ages 3 to 13, ICDL is operated by the International Children's Digital Library

[Featured review: Reference](#)

Herald, Diana Tixier, and Bonnie Kunzel. *Fluent in Fantasy: The Next Generation*. Dec. 2007. 309p. Libraries Unlimited, hardcover (978-1-59158-198-7).

Since the publication of *Fluent in Fantasy: A Guide to Reading Interests* (1999), the genre has undergone "an extraordinary renaissance," so *The Next Generation* is an appropriate subtitle for this entry in the Genreflecting Advisory Series. According to authors Herald (who was also responsible for the earlier book) and Kunzel, the renaissance has been fueled in part by the Harry Potter phenomenon and the films based on the *Lord of the Rings* trilogy. In the new guide, more than 2,000 titles are arranged by author in 14 thematic chapters, including "Epic Fantasy," "Arthurian Legend," and "Time Travel Romance." Publication dates range from the 19th century through 2007, with emphasis on titles that have been published or reissued in the last 10 years....



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

Anaheim Update

[Alexander Street Press breakfast](#)

Enjoy a hearty, California-style breakfast and be the first to learn about Alexander Street's new series: Critical Video Editions. The breakfast will be held Sunday, June 29, at 7:30 a.m. at the Anaheim Maingate Hotel. Attendees will be treated to a live performance of a scene from *Top Secret: The Battle for the Pentagon Papers* performed by actors from the L.A. Theatre Works, followed by our guest speaker, Daniel Ellsberg (right). As always, space is limited so be sure to [RSVP](#)....



Alexander Street Press

[Spokane Moms to speak at Advocacy Institute](#)

Meet the "Spokane Moms" at the ALA Advocacy Institute, June 27, in Anaheim, California. Founders of the Washington Coalition for School Libraries and Information Technology, Spokane Moms Lisa Layera Brunkan, Denette Hill, and Susan McBurney will discuss their grassroots efforts, which have raised \$4 million for school libraries in Washington state....

[Conference events with food](#)

There's no need to go hungry in Anaheim with so many sponsored breakfasts, lunches, dinners, and meet-and-greets in the lineup. Of course, some require tickets or preregistration....

[Astor Museum and Event Center](#)

This remarkable collection of some 270 stunning automobiles in pristine working order and driven weekly by their owner, Arthur Astor, is located at 1045 S. East Street in Anaheim. Beyond the six

Foundation and originally developed in the College of Information Studies and the Human-Computer Interaction Laboratory at the University of Maryland, College Park. Children can search for books by location, color, length, intended age group, content type, and emotional quality, among other qualifiers. An advanced search option is also provided for more experienced or older users, and all users can register to save search preferences and favorite books. Books are selected based on quality and appropriateness, and are presented in their original language with copyright permission from publishers or authors. The Library's ultimate goal is to foster a love of reading, a readiness to learn, and a response to the challenges of world literacy.

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

"About 200 years ago, Thomas Jefferson sold his personal library of 6,000 books to the Library of Congress. About 150 years ago, more than half were destroyed in a fire. But today, all 6,000 of them have been recovered or recreated and will

halls housing the automobiles are the communication and radio museums that boast one of the largest collections of antique telephones, a working collection of vintage television sets, antique and vintage radios, and antique commercial radio microphones. Other collections in the museum include model trains, antique gasoline pumps, slot machines, and pedal cars....

Astor Classic Museum and Event Center



go on display at the Library of Congress. Now we're living in the so-called information age, where almost a gigabyte of new data is being created each year for every man, woman, and child on earth. But what's going to happen in it to it all 250 years from now? Is digital content too ephemeral to last? Will digital information have the same lifespan as printed books?"

—Freelance writer Josh Catone, in "Digital Information 250 Years from Now," ReadWriteWeb, Apr. 12.



Division News



ASCLA, ALSC, ACRL, and AASL presidents-elect

Brenda Bailey-Hainer, president and CEO of the Bibliographical Center for Research in Aurora, Colorado, is the new president-elect of [ASCLA](#). Kate McClelland, youth services librarian at Perrot Memorial Library in Old Greenwich, Connecticut, is president-elect of [ALSC](#). Lori A. Goetsch, dean of libraries at Kansas State University in Manhattan, is president-elect of [ACRL](#). And Cassandra G. Barnett, school library media specialist at Fayetteville (Ark.) High School, is president-elect of [AASL](#)....

[YALSA hosts YA Author Coffee Klatch](#)

[Tickets](#) are still available for the June 29 YA Author Coffee Klatch, presented by YALSA at the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, California. Attendees will mingle in an informal breakfast setting with more than 25 [popular young adult authors](#) whose books have appeared on YALSA's [Best Books for Young Adults list](#)....

[Demystifying Library Standards webinar](#)

The National Information Standards Organization and ALCTS have announced the first in a series of webinars on standards in the library environment. "Demystifying Library Standards," which takes place 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. on June 18, will focus on placing standards in context. The speakers will address why standards are important to libraries and not just in the traditional technical services areas....



Order or download a brand new [Summer ALA Graphics catalog](#) featuring new celebrity READ posters, Books with Bite items, and other Summer Fun @ your library.

Awards

Ask the ALA Librarian

[2008 Melvil Dewey Award winner](#)

Librarian, author, and consultant Sandra Nelson has been chosen to receive the ALA 2008 Melvil Dewey Medal Award, sponsored by OCLC. Beginning this year, OCLC will provide both a \$2,000 cash award and the traditional medal. She is the 56th recipient of this prestigious professional honor, given in recognition of creative leadership of a high order. Nelson is the author of PLA's *Strategic Planning for Results* (2008)....



[National Library Week Grant winner to be honored](#)

Tony Tallent, director of youth and outreach services for the Public Library of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, and winner of the 2008 Scholastic Library Publishing National Library Week grant, will be honored at the [PR Forum](#) at the 2008 Annual Conference in Anaheim, California, June 29, 8–10 a.m....



[Diversity stipend winners](#)

YALSA has chosen Helen Snowden (Drexel University) and Angie Mirafior (San Jose Public Library) as the 2008 Supporting Diversity Conference Stipend recipients. Each will receive up to \$1,000 to use for registration, housing, and other costs at the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim....

[San Antonio Public Library wins conservation award](#)

The San Antonio (Tex.) Conservation Society honored the San Antonio Public Library with a Historic Preservation Award May 16 for the restoration of its San Pedro Springs Park branch. Built in 1930, it is the library's oldest existing branch. Renovation architects Kinnison and Associates returned the building to an appearance closely matching the original....

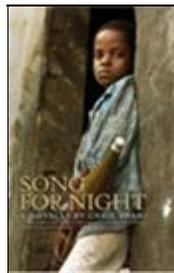


San Antonio Public Library, May 19

[2008 Beyond Margins Awards](#)

The PEN American Center announced the recipients of its 2008 Beyond Margins Award, which celebrates outstanding books by writers of color published in the United States during the previous year. Sponsored by the Open Book Program, the award is intended to encourage racial and ethnic diversity within the literary and publishing communities....

PEN American Center, May 15



Seen Online

[Delft University may lose rare books after fire](#)



Q. *We would really love to book an author, preferably one whose work is included in our summer reading program. But how do we do this? Didn't ALA have a program to help with this?*

A. ALA did have an online author/library matchmaking service, Authors @ your library, which was a joint project of ALA's Public Programs Office, the Association of American Publishers, Friends of Libraries USA, and *Library Journal* magazine. This program was discontinued in 2007. There are other websites that list authors in order for schools and libraries to contact them, however. See the list of [bookmarks](#) to these websites, as well as to articles and other publications with helpful tips and advice, that was compiled by the ALA Library. From the [ALA Professional Tips wiki](#).

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

A fire that [destroyed](#) the Faculty of Architecture building at Delft University of Technology in the Netherlands may lead to the loss of 40,000 books and illustrated works from as early as the 17th century.

As many as 300 people had to be [evacuated](#) on May 13 after the fire started

on the sixth floor of the building. The library special collections included old plans of Dutch towns and cities, topographical prints, and architectural drawings. Officials suspect that a short-circuit in a coffee machine started the blaze....

TU Delft, May 13; *De Volkskrant*, May 13; YouTube, May 14; Bloomberg, May 17



[Grand jury urges Sacramento library chief's ouster](#)

A grand jury report recommends the ouster of Sacramento Public Library Director Anne Marie Gold over an alleged overbilling and kickback scheme involving two former employees. The report also found that Gold ignored library employees who tried to warn officials of the alleged scheme and "failed to adequately safeguard public funds."

Director of Human Resources Arevik Bagdassari was also cited in the document for "repeated abuses" of travel and credit card policies....

Sacramento (Calif.) Bee, May 15

[Flood shuts Library and Archives Canada building](#)

A broken water pipe flooded the main building of Library and Archives Canada in Ottawa early May 20, closing the building and causing a small amount of damage to some books. The building was [closed](#) to its 275 employees the entire day as fire crews continued to pump water from the lower floors where some books are kept and where the water collected. Some 20th-century books got wet, but none were lost beyond repair....

CBC News, May 20; Library and Archives Canada

[Royal Oak library forced to use filters](#)

The Royal Oak (Mich.) Public Library will get filtering devices on all but one of the computers used by adults following passage May 19 of an ordinance aimed at restricting internet access. The library has always filtered computers in its children's department, but the February arrest of a man who allegedly looked at child pornography in the adult computer lab resurrected the debate of filtering those terminals as well....

Royal Oak (Mich.) Daily Tribune, May 20

[Vermont enacts library confidentiality bill](#)

On May 13, Vermont Governor Jim Douglas signed into law "An Act Relating to the Confidentiality of Library Patron Records" ([S. 220](#)), to take effect July 1. The bill specifies that libraries are not to release patron circulation records unless there is a court order. Another exception is made for requests from parents of children younger than 16. A patron whose records have been wrongly disclosed may now bring a civil action against the library....

Vermont Library Association, May 14

[Stanislaus County approves library cuts](#)

County supervisors approved a plan May 20 to reduce the days that the Stanislaus County (Calif.) Library branches are open and eliminate half of the part-time positions in the system. Because of the slumping economy, the library budget for the 2008-09 fiscal year will shrink by

Calendar

June 16-20:

[Primarily Teaching: Original Documents and Classroom Strategies](#), Gerald Ford Presidential Library, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

June 17-19:

[Bank Street College of Education](#), Infancy Institute, New York City.

June 20:

[Mississippi Library 2.0 Summit](#), Mississippi State University, Starkville.

June 24-25:

[Institute of Museum and Library Services](#), Conservation Forum for Collecting Institutions, Denver.

June 24-

July 3:

[Primarily Teaching: Original Documents and Classroom Strategies](#), National Archives, Washington, D.C.

July 14-17:

[National Institutes for Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums](#), Cherokee Resort and Casino, Tulsa, Oklahoma. "Displaying and Caring for American Indian Objects."

July 14-18:

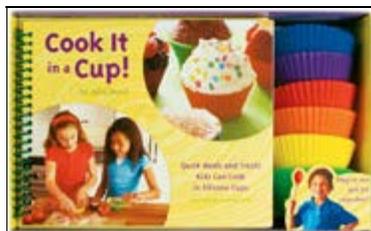
[Primarily Teaching: Original Documents and Classroom Strategies](#), National

almost \$1.8 million....
Modesto (Calif.) Bee, May 21

[Cookbook publishers try to think small](#)

Children's cookbooks have long been among the tiniest of literary niches. Rarely taken seriously or invited to the adult cookbook party, they have usually ended up stuck on the bottom shelf. That is changing, as parents who have a keen interest in cooking encourage their young children to spend time in the kitchen. If there is a flaw in all this expansion, it's that some cookbook authors have swung from the simple to the complex. *Booklist* YA Editor Gillian Engberg said, "We're seeing some books that are trying to do too much."...

New York Times, May 14



[Arrest made in 1994 library theft](#)

A 70-year-old Indiana man was arrested May 19 in connection with the 1994 theft of valuable artwork from the Transylvania University library in Lexington, Kentucky. Eugene C. Zollman, described as a significant Jefferson Davis collector, is accused of stealing documents of the former president of the Confederate States of America valued in excess of \$15,000, the U.S. attorney's office said. Investigators say Zollman recently tried to auction the documents online....

Lexington (Ky.) Herald-Leader, May 21

[OSU cartoon library doubles in size](#)

The Cartoon Research Library at Ohio State University in Columbus just got twice as funny, doubling its already-substantial holdings with the acquisition of 200,000 pieces from the International Museum of Cartoon Art in Boca Raton, Florida. The combination will create what is thought to be the world's largest collection of cartoon art. The IMCA was founded in 1974 in Greenwich, Connecticut, by cartoonist Mort Walker, creator of the *Beetle Bailey* strip....

Columbus (Ohio) Dispatch, May 17

[Indianapolis reaches deal in cost overruns case](#)

The Indianapolis-Marion County Public Library has reached a nearly \$1.3-million settlement with two parties in a web of lawsuits over the botched Central Library project. The agreement, announced May 21, is with Patriot Engineering and Environmental and its subcontractor, the ROSK Group. It marks another step toward recovering cost overruns estimated at more than \$50 million, centering on defects in concrete in the underground parking garage that were discovered during construction....

Indianapolis Star, May 21

[British Library displays 17th-century Ramayana](#)

A collection of lavishly illustrated 17th-century manuscripts of the epic Sanskrit poem *Ramayana*, hidden away in the archives of the British Library since 1844, went on public and [online](#) display for the first time May 16. The manuscripts were commissioned by Rana Jagat Singh, who ruled over Mewar in north India from 1628 to 1652, and who claimed direct descent from Rama. It took several years for the artists to produce seven volumes containing over 400 paintings. It is the most



Archives Regional Facility, Denver.

July 17–25:

[Primarily Teaching: Original Documents and Classroom Strategies](#), Dwight D. Eisenhower Library, Abilene, Kansas.

July 28–

Aug. 1:

[Primarily Teaching: Original Documents and Classroom Strategies](#), Lyndon B. Johnson Library, Austin, Texas.

Aug. 4–8:

[Primarily Teaching: Original Documents and Classroom Strategies](#), National Archives Regional Facility, Philadelphia.

Aug. 11–14:

[National Institutes for Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums](#), Cherokee Resort and Casino, Tulsa, Oklahoma. "Collection, Use, and Care of Photographs."

Aug. 11–15:

[Primarily Teaching: Original Documents and Classroom Strategies](#), George Bush Library, College Station, Texas.

Aug. 14–15:

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

@ [More...](#)

heavily illustrated edition of the *Ramayana* and the only one to survive from Rajasthan from this period....

The Independent (U.K.), May 16

[A Welsh 21st-century library strategy](#)

A three-year strategy to modernize libraries across Wales is set to be launched by the Welsh Assembly government. The Libraries for Life program aims to improve facilities and allow more than 20% of libraries to open at least 10 hours a week by the year 2011. The scheme includes upgrading internet facilities at libraries, introducing Wi-Fi, and allowing users to search for books via an all-library search system....

BBC News, May 15

[Carnegie libraries thrive with redevelopment](#)

Carnegie libraries across Iowa are suffering the same fate. While about 80 of the historic buildings remain in use, fewer and fewer are still used as libraries as the communities they were built in have grown. Shana Stuart, director of the University of Iowa's Carnegie Libraries in Iowa project, said 101 Carnegies were built in Iowa, most in the first two decades of the 20th century. More than 80 remain standing....

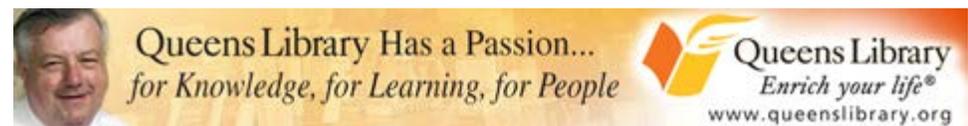
Associated Press, May 19



[Woman gives library \\$5,000 free-speech settlement](#)

A Canterbury, Connecticut, woman who was awarded \$60,000 in a free-speech settlement suit with the town, gave the town's library a check for \$5,000 May 19. In March 2007, Kildea filed a complaint with the Connecticut ACLU claiming she had been prevented from speaking at several Board of Selectmen meetings....

Norwich (Conn.) Bulletin, May 20



Tech Talk

[Microsoft/Yahoo update](#)

Michael Arrington writes: "More details are emerging on Round 2 of Yahoo/Microsoft: Instead of a simple straight-up acquisition, Microsoft may be able to pull off a deal where they get to pick off just what they want—search—and leave the rest of Yahoo and its troubles behind. This is a deal that would cost Microsoft much less than a \$40+ billion full buyout."...

TechCrunch, May 19



[Final Firefox 3 expected in June](#)

Firefox fans looking for a major update to the open-source web browser probably will get a final version of it next month. One of Firefox's strengths is its broad collection of hundreds of add-ons, but that also means things move more slowly when programmers must update their projects to be compatible with Firefox 3. And that's part of what Mozilla is watching closely as it seeks feedback from the 1.5 million people who have installed the Firefox 3 release candidate 1....

C|Net News.com, May 21

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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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[26 tips to tame Google Calendar](#)

Getting started with Google Calendar is easy. If you already have a Google account (for Gmail, say), you don't even need to sign up. Just click Calendar at the top of the Gmail screen, or surf to google.com/calendar and log in. If you don't have an account yet, click "Sign up for Gmail" on the home page, enter your name, create a log-in name, and choose a password and security question....

PC World, May 19

[Digitize your vinyl](#)

Isn't it a pity you can't transfer your old records onto your computer? Well guess what? You can! That's right, vinyl lovers, thanks to these ingenious USB Turntables you can put all your LPs, 12-inch's, and singles straight into your digital library. Simply plug in either of these chic little turntables into the nearest USB port, fire up the idiot-proof Audacity software, and start converting your collection....

Firebox



[13 free CMS options for your website](#)

Choosing a Content Management System for your website is no easy task. Whether that system is something complex or something simple (such as hand editing), it is an essential part of a successful site. Thankfully there are a number of platforms and open source projects out there which take the hassle out of developing your own system. Here is an overview of some of the best out there....

WebDistortion, May 17



[Alarming open source security holes](#)

Simson Garfinkel writes: "Back in May 2006, a few programmers working on an open source security project made a whopper of a mistake. Last week, the full impact of that mistake was just beginning to dawn on security professionals around the world. We now know that two changed lines of code have created profound security vulnerabilities in at least four different open source operating systems, 25 different application programs, and millions of individual computer systems on the internet."...

Technology Review, May 20



Actions & Answers

[Google China in mourning](#)

The home pages of [Google China](#), [Yahoo China](#), and other sites turned black May 19 to commemorate the victims of last week's devastating earthquake. Google China links to [a custom search engine](#) for sites that include information about missing persons. There's also a page for offering [donations](#) that mentions, "Google will donate \$2



million, including \$1.7 million from Google.org, to help assist in relief and rebuilding efforts." A special [Google Earth layer](#) shows recent high-resolution imagery from the areas affected by the earthquake....

Google Operating System, May 19

[Google and OCLC to link digitized books](#)

OCLC and Google have signed an agreement to exchange data that will make it easier to find library collections on the Web through Google search services. OCLC member libraries participating in the Google Book Search will be able to share their WorldCat-derived MARC records with Google. Google will link from Google Book Search to WorldCat, which will drive traffic to library OPACs and other library services....

OCLC, May 19

[Google Health beta launches](#)

Jacqui Cheng writes: "[Google Health](#) opened up to the public May 19 after several months of private beta testing. The long-anticipated health records project now allows Google users to manage their doctor records, prescriptions, and test results, as well as find out information about drug interactions and search for new doctors. All you need is a Gmail account and a healthy dose of trust to get started with Google Health, although some are still skeptical about the terms of service." Watch a cautious C|Net [video](#) (3:46) on the topic....

Ars Technica, May 19; C|Net News.com, May 20



[Google Earth gets Google News](#)

The launch of Google News on Google Earth is a milestone in the evolution of the geobrowser. By spatially locating the Google News constantly updating index of stories from more than 4,500 news sources, Google Earth now shows an ever-changing world of human activity as chronicled by reporters worldwide. Zoom into areas of personal interest and peruse headlines of national, regional, and—when fully zoomed in—even the most local of interest. From library storytimes to global warming, there is now literally a world of information at your fingertips....

Google Lat Long Blog, May 20



[Aussie biker librarians roar through New South Wales](#)

A scramble of leather-clad librarians will descend on country towns in New South Wales, Australia, May 22–25 as part of the third annual 1,200-kilometer Biblio Turismo motorcycle tour. Starting from Gosford, the bevy of bookish bikers will visit libraries throughout the state. Organized by Gosford Library staff, the event is intended to counter the librarian stereotype and raise awareness of public library services....

Biblio Turismo

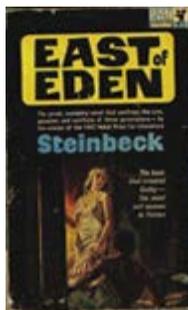


[The essential man's library](#)

Jason Lankow writes: "There are the books you read, and then there are the books that change your life. We can all look back on the books that have shaped our perspective on politics, religion, money, and love. Some

will even become a source of inspiration for the rest of your life. From a seemingly infinite list of books of anecdotal or literal merit, we have narrowed down the top 100 books that have shaped the lives of individual men while also helping define broader cultural ideas of what it means to be a man.”...

The Art of Manliness, May 14



[How Amazon could change publishing](#)

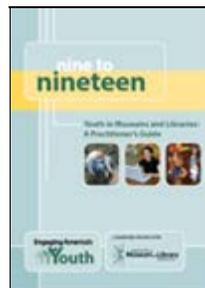
Sramana Mitra writes: “Amazon is poised to revolutionize the book printing business through vertical integration. Let’s look at the numbers. Assuming that Amazon already pockets 50% of the retail price of a book, it could directly engage with authors and cut out the middlemen: the agent and the publisher. That would free up 30% to 40% of the pie, which can easily be split between Amazon and the author. For decades, the publishing industry has taken advantage of authors. Amazon: authors are counting on you to turn the table!”...

Forbes, May 16

[IMLS releases *Nine to Nineteen*](#)

To assist museums and libraries in developing effective and engaging youth programs, the Institute of Museum and Library Services has published *Nine to Nineteen: Youth in Museums and Libraries: A Practitioner’s Guide*. The guide, downloadable as a [PDF](#) or available on [request](#), features several examples of successful youth programming from around the country, as well as useful information for planning exemplary youth programs....

Institute of Museum and Library Services, May 16



[A teen talks about Second Life](#)

In this YALSA podcast, Kelly Czarnecki talks with teen Storm Basiat about Congressman Mark Kirk’s (R-III.) proposal to the Federal Trade Commission to warn parents of the “dangers Second Life presents.” Also discussed is how Kirk feels that access to Second Life should be banned in schools and libraries. Storm points out some interesting things to listeners....

YALSA blog, May 16

[Seven types of bad bosses, according to *Star Trek*](#)

Charlie Jane Anders writes: “They yell at you and fire you twice a day. They insist that a five-day job should only take five hours. They flip-flop and then blame you for their mistakes. Sci-fi space captains can model some pretty awful management, and nowhere is this more apparent than in dear old *Star Trek*. Luckily, they also show us what to do with a boss who’s out of touch with reality.”...

Lifehacker, May 20



[NexGen: Finding your inner moxie](#)

Lia Friedman and Char Booth write: “Much has been made of the purported difference between tech-savvy Web 2.0 librarians and the old guard. In practice, we know this is largely an ageist

mischaracterization. All of us work with colleagues who are meeting the challenges of a changing field head-on, regardless of experience or status. That said, the digital librarian divide isn't the point. The point is what individuals are able and motivated to do within our institutional contexts."...

Library Journal, May 15

[Why Gen Y is going to change the Web](#)

Sarah Perez writes: "Gen Y (born 1983–1997) is taking over. The generation of young adults that's composed of the children of Boomers, Generation Jones, and even some Gen X'ers, is the biggest generation since the Baby Boomers and three times the size of Gen X. As the Boomers fade into retirement and Gen Y takes root in the workplace, we're going to see some big changes ahead, not just at work, but on the Web as a whole." Find out how they are different and how they look at technology....

ReadWriteWeb, May 15

[Free access to Civil War resources](#)

Alexander Street Press is allowing open access to *The American Civil War Online*, its comprehensive series of online Civil War collections, through June 30. New to this series is *Images of the American Civil War: Photographs, Posters, and Ephemera*.



Alexander Street is a premier publisher of scholarly databases in the arts, humanities, and social sciences....

Alexander Street Press

[Library job titles](#)

Michelle Mach writes: "Job titles used to be fairly simple: Librarian, Cataloger, Director. The following job titles have been found in job listings in *American Libraries*, *College and Research Libraries News*, or have been sent to me by employed librarians. Common initial words (like Web, Media, Electronic) are marked with italics for easy identification."...

Michelle Mach

[Nine ways to get through tough times @ your library](#)

Christine Ayar writes: "All this talk of recession and economic downturn is a bit scary. As a librarian, I begin to wonder how it will affect our budgets in coming years. But I couldn't help but think of all the ways libraries can help their communities and actually increase patronage during tough times through the 'free' services they offer. In some ways, this brief list oversimplifies all the things we can offer, but that is kind of the point."...

I Love Libraries

[Abraham Lincoln: Self-Made in America exhibit](#)

As part of the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial celebration in 2009, the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum, in collaboration with ALA and the Tribeca Film Institute, and with funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities, has produced *Abraham Lincoln: Self-Made in America*. The exhibit is composed of seven learning stations designed for libraries and other cultural institutions. [Apply](#) by June 15....



Illinois Lincoln Bicentennial Commission

[Recommendation and Ranganathan](#)

OCLC's Lorcan Dempsey writes: "From time to time, we see a discussion about the relative merits of Google, or Amazon, and library catalogs as retrieval or search engines. There is one main difference that doesn't tend to get discussed much, and that has to do with the type of data that gets factored into the experience. Essentially, we have four sources of metadata about things."...

Lorcan Dempsey's Weblog, May 13

[A library mission to Kyrgyzstan](#)

Herb Landau writes: "Something weird and wonderful happened to me in October 2007. The U.S. State Department sent me to the Kyrgyz Republic in central Asia on a public library goodwill mission. This odyssey began in August 2007 when I found a message on my desk from the U.S. State Department offering me a speaking engagement in a central Asian republic. I first believed this was a practical joke—'Yeah,' I thought, 'The government wants me to go to Kazakhstan and teach the Dewey Decimal Classification to Borat.' However, when I returned the call to Washington, I found out this was for real."...



Pennsylvania Library Association Bulletin, Jan.

[Where videos go to die](#)

Ever wonder exactly how many videos are taken down from YouTube because of copyright violations or other reasons? So did the folks at the MIT Free Culture student group. They created [YouTomb](#) to document all YouTube videos that have been taken down. You cannot watch the videos on the site. But it does document what happened to them, in case any were taken down wrongfully, in accordance with the Digital Millennium Copyright Act....



TechCrunch, May 20

[Knowledge Rocks @ your library](#)

As part of its National Library Week promotion, the Public Library of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, winner of the 2008 Scholastic Library Publishing National Library Week grant, hosted two public concerts in April with the nationally recognized band Lunch Money. This is Part 1 (8:00) of their video of the concerts, which were held in PLCMC's famed ImaginOn facility. If you like this one, be sure to check out [Part 2](#) (6:44)....



YouTube, May 20

[Twittering your life away](#)

In *Wired's* Alt Text Episode 6 (4:48), Lore Sjöberg says that "there are two things the internet excels at: helping us connect with people, and helping us avoid people. Twitter fits right into the crawlpace between these functions, giving you an IV drip of tiny pseudo-interactions." On social networking: "The term itself glistens with utilitarian smarm."...



YouTube, Apr. 23

[Behind the scenes in Technical Services](#)

What happens before a book, CD, or other item makes it to the library shelves? Take a fun, tongue-in-cheek, behind-the-scenes look (6:23) at the Arlington Heights (Ill.) Public Library's Technical Services Department. "Just call me Elliot... It's the good part of the job: We see the beginning and the end in TS." Library paste, stat! For more AHPL videos, see their [main page](#)....
Arlington Heights (Ill.) Public Library



AL Direct, May 21, 2008

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

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | May 21, 2008

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

[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

U.S. & World News

Libraries toppled in devastating Chinese earthquake

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/may2008/sichuanchinaearthquake.cfm>]

The 7.9-magnitude earthquake that struck Sichuan Province in western China on the afternoon of May 12 killed more than 40,000 people and left another 5 million homeless. In the week after the quake, the Library Society of China posted information on damage to libraries in the region on its Chinese-language website

[http://www.lsc.org.cn/CN/News/2008-05/EnableSite_ReadNews167819531210694400.html]. The library building in Beichuan County collapsed, burying five staff members under the debris, but all were rescued after being trapped for more than 70 hours. The Chinese American Librarians Association has set up a website [<http://www.cala-web.org/forms/earthquakedonation.htm>] for donations to support earthquake recovery efforts in China....

Arkansas library regroups after tornado stops service

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/may2008/stuttgarttornado.cfm>]

The Stuttgart (Ark.) Public Library will be closed for several months as it struggles to recover from at least \$300,000 in damage caused by a May 10 tornado that cut a three-quarter-mile swath through the southern part of the town. No library staff were injured, although one staff member and five of the seven trustees have had significant damage to their homes. All together, townspeople suffered the destruction of 200 homes and 50 businesses. All nine people injured in the tornado have since been released from the hospital....

Library advocates converge on the Capitol

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/may2008/legisday2008.cfm>]

More than 400 librarians and library supporters converged on Washington, D.C., May 13–14 for ALA’s 34th annual National Library Legislative Day. They came from as far away as Hawaii and from a variety of libraries to lobby their members of Congress on such issues as copyright, telecommunications, and funding. “Vote for Libraries!” was the message of the day and the enthusiastic crowd set out to bring that message to their senators and representatives....

Memphis city council nixes mayor’s branch closures

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/may2008/memphisCouncilsavesbranches.cfm>]

A Memphis (Tenn.) City Council budget committee nixed May 14 Mayor Willie Herenton’s proposal to transition the Memphis Public Library and Information Center from a neighborhood-library system to a regional model by closing five branches for a \$2-million savings while appropriating \$1 million to buy land on which to build two regional facilities....

San Jose library’s filter report not enough for city councilor

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/may2008/sanjoseCouncilmanwantsfilters.cfm>]

In spite of the San Jose (Calif.) Public Library’s detailed report (PDF file

[http://www.sjlibrary.org/about/sjpl/commission/agen0208_report.pdf]) on the ineffectiveness of software filtering, City Councilor Pete Constant (right) insisted at a May 14 council meeting that the library take some measures to restrict pornography on its public computers. Constant had requested last October 18 that the library reconsider its no-filter policy in the light of a local TV news report that purported to document instances of patrons viewing pornography at library computer terminals....

Retail developer edges out DCPL relocation plan

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/may2008/DCPLlosesconvcenterland.cfm>]

A plan proposed by former District of Columbia Mayor Anthony Williams to build a new central library on the site of the old convention center has fallen through. Current Mayor Adrian Fenty announced May 12 that the city had reached an agreement with a developer to build a luxury hotel and up to 100,000 square feet of retail space on the site instead. DCPL Chief Information Officer George Williams said that the library was focusing on revitalizing branch libraries. The library has a number of other branch-renovation projects

[<http://dclibrary.org/dcpl/cwp/view.asp?a=1273&q=566653>] (above) in

various stages...

Orphan works bills move through Congress

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/may2008/orphanworksbilladvances.cfm>]

Both houses of Congress are acting on measures designed to limit the liability of good-faith users of orphan works—copyrighted works whose owners are difficult or impossible to find. The Senate Judiciary Committee unanimously approved the Shawn Bentley Orphan Works Act of 2008 (S.2913) May 15, while a companion bill was adopted by a House subcommittee. ALA has urged its members to support the Senate version....

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

ALA News

Literacy efforts for Native children

[<http://ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/Roypresidentialprogram.cfm>]

ALA President Lorienne Roy will welcome an array of presenters to her President’s Program, to be held 3:30—5:30 p.m., June 29, at Annual Conference in Anaheim, California, to discuss literacy efforts for indigenous children. This media-rich program will include remarks from claymation artist and author Roy Boney Jr. (right), along with other tribal school educators who will discuss efforts to support English and Native language literacy programs for Native children....

Virtual Library Day on the Hill—in Anaheim

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=498>]

The Washington Office is hosting an event at ALA’s 2008 Annual Conference in Anaheim that is set to steal the spotlight of election year politics: Virtual Library Day on the Hill, which will take place on July 1 from 8 a.m. to noon. Conference attendees will have the chance to both email and fax their Members of Congress on important library issues, using computer terminals located on the exhibit floor....

District Dispatch, May 21

Open Society Institute gives ALA \$350,000 seed grant

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/soros.cfm>]

ALA has received a \$350,000 seed grant from the Open Society Institute. The grant will launch a three-year public engagement initiative to inspire library patrons and Americans to stand with librarians as they fight to usher in privacy standards for the digital age....

Become an Emerging Leader

[<http://ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/emergingleaders.cfm>]

ALA is now accepting applications

[<http://cs.ala.org/hrdr/emergingleaders/>] for the 2009 class of Emerging Leaders. The program is designed to enable more than 100 new librarians

to get on the fast track to ALA and professional leadership. Participants are given the opportunity to work on a variety of projects, network with peers, and get an inside look into ALA structure and activities. The deadline to apply is July 31....

Celebrity READ posters [<http://www.pio.ala.org/visibility/?p=118>]
Rachel Johnson, director of products and promotions for ALA Graphics, is charged with developing products that promote libraries, literacy, and reading. In this video, Johnson talks about the new Kareem Abdul-Jabbar READ poster produced for Library Card Sign-up Month. She also discusses how ALA Graphics chooses celebrities for the posters....
Visibility @ your library, May 20

ALA website redesign: The podcast
[<http://itts.ala.org/update/2008/05/15/website-redesign-podcast/>]
The new ALA website will take a huge step in visual appeal and usability when it debuts at Annual Conference in June. In this podcast (13:58), Billie Peterson-Lugo and Michelle Frisque, the current and past chair of the ALA Website Advisory Committee, are interviewed by Karen Muller about their connections to the redesign. They discuss the process that was followed to perform the website usability study, which ultimately led to new information architecture and graphical design....
ITTS Update, May 15

2008 Freedom to Read Foundation trustees
[<http://ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/FTRFboardtrustees.cfm>]
Five trustees were elected to two-year terms on the board of the Freedom to Read Foundation, beginning in June: Carrie Gardner, Barbara M. Jones, Burton Joseph, Pamela Klipsch, and Kenton Oliver. FTRF was founded in 1969 to promote and defend the right of individuals to freely express ideas and to access information in libraries and elsewhere....

Featured review: Reference
[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=2612900]
Herald, Diana Tixier, and Bonnie Kunzel. *Fluent in Fantasy: The Next Generation*. Dec. 2007. 309p. Libraries Unlimited, hardcover (978-1-59158-198-7).
Since the publication of *Fluent in Fantasy: A Guide to Reading Interests* (1999), the genre has undergone "an extraordinary renaissance," so *The Next Generation* is an appropriate subtitle for this entry in the Genreflecting Advisory Series. According to authors Herald (who was also responsible for the earlier book) and Kunzel, the renaissance has been fueled in part by the Harry Potter phenomenon and the films based on the Lord of the Rings trilogy. In the new guide, more than 2,000 titles are arranged by author in 14 thematic chapters, including "Epic Fantasy," "Arthurian Legend," and "Time Travel Romance." Publication dates range from the 19th century through 2007, with emphasis on titles that have been published or reissued in the last 10 years....

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

and much more....

Anaheim Update

Alexander Street Press breakfast

[<http://www.alexanderstreet.com/events/ALA08/anaheim.htm>]

Enjoy a hearty, California-style breakfast and be the first to learn about Alexander Street's new series: Critical Video Editions. The breakfast will be held Sunday, June 29, at 7:30 a.m. at the Anaheim Maingate Hotel. Attendees will be treated to a live performance of a scene from Top Secret: The Battle for the Pentagon Papers performed by actors from the L.A. Theatre Works, followed by our guest speaker, Daniel Ellsberg (right). As always, space is limited so be sure to RSVP

[<http://www.alexanderstreet.com/events/ALA08/rsvp.htm>]....

Alexander Street Press

Spokane Moms to speak at Advocacy Institute

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/advocacyinstituterelease.cfm>]

Meet the "Spokane Moms" at the ALA Advocacy Institute, June 27, in Anaheim, California. Founders of the Washington Coalition for School Libraries and Information Technology, Spokane Moms Lisa Layera Brunkan, Denette Hill, and Susan McBurney will discuss their grassroots efforts, which have raised \$4 million for school libraries in Washington state....

Conference events with food

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

There's no need to go hungry in Anaheim with so many sponsored breakfasts, lunches, dinners, and meet-and-greets in the lineup. Of course, some require tickets or preregistration....

Astor Museum and Event Center [<http://www.astorclassics.com/index.html>]

This remarkable collection of some 270 stunning automobiles in pristine working order and driven weekly by their owner, Arthur Astor, is located at 1045 S. East Street in Anaheim. Beyond the six halls housing the automobiles are the communication and radio museums that boast one of the largest collections of antique telephones, a working collection of vintage television sets, antique and vintage radios, and antique commercial radio microphones. Other collections in the museum include model trains, antique gasoline pumps, slot machines, and pedal cars....

Astor Classic Museum and Event Center

[<http://www.tutor.com/ala>]

Division News

ASCLA, ALSC, ACRL, and AASL presidents-elect
Brenda Bailey-Hainer, president and CEO of the Bibliographical Center for Research in Aurora, Colorado, is the new president-elect of ASCLA [<http://ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/ASCLAbaileyhainer.cfm>].
Kate McClelland, youth services librarian at Perrot Memorial Library in Old Greenwich, Connecticut, is president-elect of ALSC [<http://ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/ALSCmclelland.cfm>]. Lori A. Goetsch, dean of libraries at Kansas State University in Manhattan, is president-elect of ACRL [<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/ACRLGoetsch.cfm>]. And Cassandra G. Barnett, school library media specialist at Fayetteville (Ark.) High School, is president-elect of AASL [<http://ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/AASLBarnett.cfm>]....

YALSA hosts YA Author Coffee Klatch [<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/YALSAcoffeeclatch.cfm>]
Tickets [<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/annual/2008a/optionalevents.cfm#yalsaop>] are still available for the June 29 YA Author Coffee Klatch, presented by YALSA at the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, California. Attendees will mingle in an informal breakfast setting with more than 25 popular young adult authors [http://wikis.ala.org/yalsa/index.php/YALSA_at_the_2008_ALA_Annual_Conference#SUNDAY_JUNE_29] whose books have appeared on YALSA's Best Books for Young Adults list [<http://www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/booklistsawards/bestbooksya/bestbooksyoung.cfm>]....

Demystifying Library Standards webinar [<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/NISOALCTSwebinar.cfm>]
The National Information Standards Organization and ALCTS have announced the first in a series of webinars on standards in the library environment. "Demystifying Library Standards," which takes place 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. on June 18, will focus on placing standards in context. The speakers will address why standards are important to libraries and not just in the traditional technical services areas....

Awards

2008 Melvil Dewey Award winner [<http://ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/dewey.cfm>]
Librarian, author, and consultant Sandra Nelson has been chosen to receive the ALA 2008 Melvil Dewey Medal Award, sponsored by OCLC. Beginning this year, OCLC will provide both a \$2,000 cash award and the traditional medal. She is the 56th recipient of this prestigious

professional honor, given in recognition of creative leadership of a high order. Nelson is the author of PLA's Strategic Planning for Results (2008)....

National Library Week Grant winner to be honored

[<http://ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/knowledgerocks.cfm>]

Tony Tallent, director of youth and outreach services for the Public Library of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, and winner of the 2008 Scholastic Library Publishing National Library Week grant, will be honored at the PR Forum

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pio/prforum/prforum.cfm>] at the 2008 Annual Conference in Anaheim, California, June 29, 8–10 a.m....

Diversity stipend winners

[<http://ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/YALSAdiversity.cfm>]

YALSA has chosen Helen Snowden (Drexel University) and Angie Mirafior (San Jose Public Library) as the 2008 Supporting Diversity Conference Stipend recipients. Each will receive up to \$1,000 to use for registration, housing, and other costs at the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim....

San Antonio Public Library wins conservation award

[<http://www.saconservation.org/events/buildingawards.htm>]

The San Antonio (Tex.) Conservation Society honored the San Antonio Public Library with a Historic Preservation Award May 16 for the restoration of its San Pedro Springs Park branch. Built in 1930, it is the library's oldest existing branch. Renovation architects Kinnison and Associates returned the building to an appearance closely matching the original....

San Antonio Public Library, May 19

2008 Beyond Margins Awards [<http://www.pen.org/page.php/prmID/151>]

The PEN American Center announced the recipients of its 2008 Beyond Margins Award, which celebrates outstanding books by writers of color published in the United States during the previous year. Sponsored by the Open Book Program, the award is intended to encourage racial and ethnic diversity within the literary and publishing communities....

PEN American Center, May 15

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

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[<http://youtube.com/watch?v=lc1Lri34OmY>]Delft University may lose rare books after fire

[<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601088&sid=a48XIYMJalPA&refer=muse>]

A fire that destroyed

[http://www.volkskrant.nl/binnenland/article535992.ece/Brand_verwoest_gebouw_TU_Delft] the Faculty of Architecture building at Delft University of

Technology in the Netherlands may lead to the loss of 40,000 books and illustrated works from as early as the 17th century. As many as 300 people had to be evacuated

[<http://www.tudelft.nl/live/pagina.jsp?id=ee9dd68b-5af5-44f5-b186-ac6834cd5e7d&lang=en>] on May 13 after the fire started on the sixth floor of the building. The library special collections included old plans of Dutch towns and cities, topographical prints, and architectural drawings. Officials suspect that a short-circuit in a coffee machine started the blaze....

TU Delft, May 13; De Volkskrant, May 13; YouTube, May 14; Bloomberg, May 17

Grand jury urges Sacramento library chief's ouster

[<http://www.sacbee.com/101/story/939949.html>]

A grand jury report recommends the ouster of Sacramento Public Library Director Anne Marie Gold over an alleged overbilling and kickback scheme involving two former employees. The report also found that Gold ignored library employees who tried to warn officials of the alleged scheme and "failed to adequately safeguard public funds." Director of Human Resources Arevik Bagdassari was also cited in the document for "repeated abuses" of travel and credit card policies....

Sacramento (Calif.) Bee, May 15

Flood shuts Library and Archives Canada building

[<http://www.cbc.ca/canada/ottawa/story/2008/05/20/ot-archives-080520.html>]

A broken water pipe flooded the main building of Library and Archives Canada in Ottawa early May 20, closing the building and causing a small amount of damage to some books. The building was closed [<http://collectionsCanada.ca/notices/016-240-e.html>] to its 275 employees the entire day as fire crews continued to pump water from the lower floors where some books are kept and where the water collected. Some 20th-century books got wet, but none were lost beyond repair....

CBC News, May 20; Library and Archives Canada

Royal Oak library forced to use filters

[http://www.dailytribune.com/stories/052008/loc_localn04.shtml]

The Royal Oak (Mich.) Public Library will get filtering devices on all but one of the computers used by adults following passage May 19 of an ordinance aimed at restricting internet access. The library has always filtered computers in its children's department, but the February arrest of a man who allegedly looked at child pornography in the adult computer lab resurrected the debate of filtering those terminals as well....

Royal Oak (Mich.) Daily Tribune, May 20

Vermont enacts library confidentiality bill

[<http://www.vermontlibraries.org/governor-signs-s-220-library-patron-confidentiality-bill-to-become-law>]

On May 13, Vermont Governor Jim Douglas signed into law "An Act Relating to the Confidentiality of Library Patron Records" (S. 220 [<http://www.leg.state.vt.us/docs/legdoc.cfm?URL=/docs/2008/bills/passed/S-220.HTM>]), to take effect July 1. The bill specifies that libraries are not to release patron circulation records unless there is a court order. Another exception is made for requests from parents of children younger than 16. A patron whose records have been wrongly disclosed may now bring

a civil action against the library....
Vermont Library Association, May 14

Stanislaus County approves library cuts
[<http://www.modbee.com/local/story/304996.html>]
County supervisors approved a plan May 20 to reduce the days that the Stanislaus County (Calif.) Library branches are open and eliminate half of the part-time positions in the system. Because of the slumping economy, the library budget for the 2008–09 fiscal year will shrink by almost \$1.8 million....
Modesto (Calif.) Bee, May 21

Cookbook publishers try to think small
[<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/05/14/dining/14kids.html>]
Children’s cookbooks have long been among the tiniest of literary niches. Rarely taken seriously or invited to the adult cookbook party, they have usually ended up stuck on the bottom shelf. That is changing, as parents who have a keen interest in cooking encourage their young children to spend time in the kitchen. If there is a flaw in all this expansion, it’s that some cookbook authors have swung from the simple to the complex. Booklist YA Editor Gillian Engberg said, “We’re seeing some books that are trying to do too much.”...
New York Times, May 14

Arrest made in 1994 library theft
[<http://www.kentucky.com/254/story/410773.html>]
A 70-year-old Indiana man was arrested May 19 in connection with the 1994 theft of valuable artwork from the Transylvania University library in Lexington, Kentucky. Eugene C. Zollman, described as a significant Jefferson Davis collector, is accused of stealing documents of the former president of the Confederate States of America valued in excess of \$15,000, the U.S. attorney’s office said. Investigators say Zollman recently tried to auction the documents online....
Lexington (Ky.) Herald-Leader, May 21

OSU cartoon library doubles in size
[http://www.columbusdispatch.com/live/content/life/stories/2008/05/17/1A_CA_RTOON_LIBRARY.ART_ART_05-17-08_D1_N2A7NPL.html?sid=101]
The Cartoon Research Library at Ohio State University in Columbus just got twice as funny, doubling its already-substantial holdings with the acquisition of 200,000 pieces from the International Museum of Cartoon Art in Boca Raton, Florida. The combination will create what is thought to be the world’s largest collection of cartoon art. The IMCA was founded in 1974 in Greenwich, Connecticut, by cartoonist Mort Walker, creator of the Beetle Bailey strip....
Columbus (Ohio) Dispatch, May 17

Indianapolis reaches deal in cost overruns case
[<http://www.indystar.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080521/NEWS02/80521046>]
The Indianapolis-Marion County Public Library has reached a nearly \$1.3-million settlement with two parties in a web of lawsuits over the botched Central Library project. The agreement, announced May 21, is with Patriot Engineering and Environmental and its subcontractor, the ROSK

Group. It marks another step toward recovering cost overruns estimated at more than \$50 million, centering on defects in concrete in the underground parking garage that were discovered during construction.... Indianapolis Star, May 21

Ramayana

[<http://www.independent.co.uk/arts-entertainment/art-and-architecture/news/picture-post-the-british-library-reveals-a-collection-of-17thcentury-manuscripts-of-a-sanskrit-epic-829134.html>]

A collection of lavishly illustrated 17th-century manuscripts of the epic Sanskrit poem Ramayana, hidden away in the archives of the British Library since 1844, went on public and online

[<http://www.bl.uk/onlinegallery/whatson/exhibitions/ramayana/ttplaunch.html>]

display for the first time May 16. The manuscripts were commissioned by Rana Jagat Singh, who ruled over Mewar in north India from 1628 to 1652, and who claimed direct descent from Rama. It took several years for the artists to produce seven volumes containing over 400 paintings. It is the most heavily illustrated edition of the Ramayana and the only one to survive from Rajasthan from this period....

The Independent (U.K.), May 16

A Welsh 21st-century library strategy

[<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/wales/7401118.stm>]

A three-year strategy to modernize libraries across Wales is set to be launched by the Welsh Assembly government. The Libraries for Life program aims to improve facilities and allow more than 20% of libraries to open at least 10 hours a week by the year 2011. The scheme includes upgrading internet facilities at libraries, introducing Wi-Fi, and allowing users to search for books via an all-library search system....

BBC News, May 15

Carnegie libraries thrive with redevelopment

[<http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/chi-ap-ia-carnegielibraries,0,1183357.story>]

Carnegie libraries across Iowa are suffering the same fate. While about 80 of the historic buildings remain in use, fewer and fewer are still used as libraries as the communities they were built in have grown. Shana Stuart, director of the University of Iowa's Carnegie Libraries in Iowa project, said 101 Carnegies were built in Iowa, most in the first two decades of the 20th century. More than 80 remain standing....

Associated Press, May 19

Woman gives library \$5,000 free-speech settlement

[<http://www.norwichbulletin.com/news/x934426955/Woman-gives-library-5-000-she-received-in-free-speech-suits-settlement>]

A Canterbury, Connecticut, woman who was awarded \$60,000 in a free-speech settlement suit with the town, gave the town's library a check for \$5,000 May 19. In March 2007, Kildea filed a complaint with the Connecticut ACLU claiming she had been prevented from speaking at several Board of Selectmen meetings....

Norwich (Conn.) Bulletin, May 20

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

Tech Talk

Microsoft/Yahoo update

[<http://www.techcrunch.com/2008/05/19/microsoft-is-moving-towards-checkmate/>]

Michael Arrington writes: “More details are emerging on Round 2 of Yahoo/Microsoft: Instead of a simple straight-up acquisition, Microsoft may be able to pull off a deal where they get to pick off just what they want—search—and leave the rest of Yahoo and its troubles behind. This is a deal that would cost Microsoft much less than a \$40+ billion full buyout.”...

TechCrunch, May 19

Final Firefox 3 expected in June

[http://news.cnet.com/8301-13580_3-9949358-39.html]

Firefox fans looking for a major update to the open-source web browser probably will get a final version of it next month. One of Firefox’s strengths is its broad collection of hundreds of add-ons, but that also means things move more slowly when programmers must update their projects to be compatible with Firefox 3. And that’s part of what Mozilla is watching closely as it seeks feedback from the 1.5 million people who have installed the Firefox 3 release candidate 1....

C|Net News.com, May 21

26 tips to tame Google Calendar

[<http://www.pcworld.com/article/id,145844/article.html>]

Getting started with Google Calendar is easy. If you already have a Google account (for Gmail, say), you don’t even need to sign up. Just click Calendar at the top of the Gmail screen, or surf to google.com/calendar and log in. If you don’t have an account yet, click “Sign up for Gmail” on the home page, enter your name, create a log-in name, and choose a password and security question....

PC World, May 19

Digitize your vinyl [<http://www.firebox.com/product/1401/USB-Turntable>]

Isn’t it a pity you can’t transfer your old records onto your computer? Well guess what? You can! That’s right, vinyl lovers, thanks to these ingenious USB Turntables you can put all your LPs, 12-inch’s, and singles straight into your digital library. Simply plug in either of these chic little turntables into the nearest USB port, fire up the idiot-proof Audacity software, and start converting your collection....

Firebox

[<http://www.madebyfrog.com/>]13 free CMS options for your website

[<http://blog.webdistortion.com/2008/05/17/13-free-cms-options-for-web-design-professionals/>]

Choosing a Content Management System for your website is no easy task.

Whether that system is something complex or something simple (such as hand editing), it is an essential part of a successful site. Thankfully there are a number of platforms and open source projects out there which take the hassle out of developing your own system. Here is an overview of some of the best out there....

WebDistortion, May 17

Alarming open source security holes

[<http://www.technologyreview.com/Infotech/20801/>]

Simson Garfinkel writes: "Back in May 2006, a few programmers working on an open source security project made a whopper of a mistake. Last week, the full impact of that mistake was just beginning to dawn on security professionals around the world. We now know that two changed lines of code have created profound security vulnerabilities in at least four different open source operating systems, 25 different application programs, and millions of individual computer systems on the internet."...

Technology Review, May 20

[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

Actions & Answers

Google China in mourning

[<http://googlesystem.blogspot.com/2008/05/google-chinas-homepage-in-mourning.html>]

The home pages of Google China [<http://www.google.cn/>], Yahoo China, [http://bp1.blogger.com/_ZaGO7GjCqAI/SDHnAIy2YMI/AAAAAAAAAJAE/MI6qJj3wcs/s1600-h/yahoo-china-black-homepage.png] and other sites turned black May 19 to commemorate the victims of last week's devastating earthquake. Google

China links to a custom search engine

[<http://www.google.cn/intl/zh-CN/qinren/cse.html>] for sites that include information about missing persons. There's also a page for offering donations [<http://www.google.com/chinaearthquake/index.html>] that mentions, "Google will donate \$2 million, including \$1.7 million from Google.org, to help assist in relief and rebuilding efforts." A special

Google Earth layer

[http://mw2.google.com/mw-earth-vectordb/china_earthquake/china_earthquake.kml] shows recent high-resolution imagery from the areas affected by the earthquake....

Google Operating System, May 19

Google and OCLC to link digitized books

[<http://www.oclc.org/us/en/news/releases/200811.htm>]

OCLC and Google have signed an agreement to exchange data that will make it easier to find library collections on the Web through Google search services. OCLC member libraries participating in the Google Book Search will be able to share their WorldCat-derived MARC records with Google. Google will link from Google Book Search to WorldCat, which will drive

traffic to library OPACs and other library services....
OCLC, May 19

[<https://www.google.com/health/html/tour/index.html>]Google Health beta launches

[<http://arstechnica.com/news.ars/post/20080519-google-health-beta-launches-with-security-issues-looming.html>]

Jacqui Cheng writes: “Google Health [<https://www.google.com/health/>] opened up to the public May 19 after several months of private beta testing. The long-anticipated health records project now allows Google users to manage their doctor records, prescriptions, and test results, as well as find out information about drug interactions and search for new doctors. All you need is a Gmail account and a healthy dose of trust to get started with Google Health, although some are still skeptical about the terms of service.” Watch a cautious C|Net video

[http://www.news.com/1606-2_3-50002344.html] (3:46) on the topic....
Ars Technica, May 19; C|Net News.com, May 20

Google Earth gets Google News

[<http://google-latlong.blogspot.com/2008/05/extra-extra-now-you-can-discover-worlds.html>]

The launch of Google News on Google Earth is a milestone in the evolution of the geobrowser. By spatially locating the Google News constantly updating index of stories from more than 4,500 news sources, Google Earth now shows an ever-changing world of human activity as chronicled by reporters worldwide. Zoom into areas of personal interest and peruse headlines of national, regional, and—when fully zoomed in—even the most local of interest. From library storytimes to global warming, there is now literally a world of information at your fingertips....

Google Lat Long Blog, May 20

Aussie biker librarians roar through New South Wales

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

A scramble of leather-clad librarians will descend on country towns in New South Wales, Australia, May 22–25 as part of the third annual 1,200-kilometer Biblio Turismo motorcycle tour. Starting from Gosford, the bevy of bookish bikers will visit libraries throughout the state.

Organized by Gosford Library staff, the event is intended to counter the librarian stereotype and raise awareness of public library services....

Biblio Turismo

The essential man’s library

[<http://artofmanliness.com/2008/05/14/100-must-read-books-the-essential-mans-library/>]

Jason Lankow writes: “There are the books you read, and then there are the books that change your life. We can all look back on the books that have shaped our perspective on politics, religion, money, and love. Some will even become a source of inspiration for the rest of your life. From a seemingly infinite list of books of anecdotal or literal merit, we have narrowed down the top 100 books that have shaped the lives of individual men while also helping define broader cultural ideas of what it means to be a man.”...

The Art of Manliness, May 14

How Amazon could change publishing

[http://www.forbes.com/2008/05/16/mitra-amazon-books-tech-enter-cx_sm_0516mitra.html]

Sramana Mitra writes: “Amazon is poised to revolutionize the book printing business through vertical integration. Let’s look at the numbers. Assuming that Amazon already pockets 50% of the retail price of a book, it could directly engage with authors and cut out the middlemen: the agent and the publisher. That would free up 30% to 40% of the pie, which can easily be split between Amazon and the author. For decades, the publishing industry has taken advantage of authors. Amazon: authors are counting on you to turn the table!”...

Forbes, May 16

Nine to Nineteen [<http://www.ims.gov/news/2008/051608.shtm>]

To assist museums and libraries in developing effective and engaging youth programs, the Institute of Museum and Library Services has published Nine to Nineteen: Youth in Museums and Libraries; A Practitioner’s Guide. The guide, downloadable as a PDF [<http://www.ims.gov/pdf/YouthGuide.pdf>] or available on request, [<mailto:imsinfo@ims.gov>] features several examples of successful youth programming from around the country, as well as useful information for planning exemplary youth programs....

Institute of Museum and Library Services, May 16

A teen talks about Second Life

[<http://yalsa.ala.org/blog/2008/05/16/yalsa-podcast-50-access-to-second-life/>]

In this YALSA podcast, Kelly Czarnecki talks with teen Storm Basiat about Congressman Mark Kirk’s (R-Ill.) proposal to the Federal Trade Commission to warn parents of the “dangers Second Life presents.” Also discussed is how Kirk feels that access to Second Life should be banned in schools and libraries. Storm points out some interesting things to listeners....

YALSA blog, May 16

Star Trek

[<http://io9.com/392142/the-7-types-of-bad-bosses-according-to-star-trek-and-how-to-survive-them>]

Charlie Jane Anders writes: “They yell at you and fire you twice a day. They insist that a five-day job should only take five hours. They flip-flop and then blame you for their mistakes. Sci-fi space captains can model some pretty awful management, and nowhere is this more apparent than in dear old Star Trek. Luckily, they also show us what to do with a boss who’s out of touch with reality.”...

Lifehacker, May 20

NexGen: Finding your inner moxie

[<http://www.libraryjournal.com/article/CA6556171.html>]

Lia Friedman and Char Booth write: “Much has been made of the purported difference between tech-savvy Web 2.0 librarians and the old guard. In practice, we know this is largely an ageist mischaracterization. All of us work with colleagues who are meeting the challenges of a changing field head-on, regardless of experience or status. That said, the digital librarian divide isn’t the point. The point is what individuals are able

and motivated to do within our institutional contexts.”...

Library Journal, May 15

Why Gen Y is going to change the Web

[http://www.readwriteweb.com/archives/why_gen_y_is_going_to_change_the_web.php]

Sarah Perez writes: “Gen Y (born 1983–1997) is taking over. The generation of young adults that’s composed of the children of Boomers, Generation Jones, and even some Gen X’ers, is the biggest generation since the Baby Boomers and three times the size of Gen X. As the Boomers fade into retirement and Gen Y takes root in the workplace, we’re going to see some big changes ahead, not just at work, but on the Web as a whole.” Find out how they are different and how they look at technology....

ReadWriteWeb, May 15

Free access to Civil War resources

[<http://alexanderstreet.com/resources/civilwar.access.htm>]

Alexander Street Press is allowing open access to The American Civil War Online, its comprehensive series of online Civil War collections, through June 30. New to this series is Images of the American Civil War: Photographs, Posters, and Ephemera. Alexander Street is a premier publisher of scholarly databases in the arts, humanities, and social sciences....

Alexander Street Press

Library job titles [<http://www.michellemach.com/jobtitles/realjobs.html>]

Michelle Mach writes: “Job titles used to be fairly simple: Librarian, Cataloger, Director. The following job titles have been found in job listings in American Libraries, College and Research Libraries News, or have been sent to me by employed librarians. Common initial words (like Web, Media, Electronic) are marked with italics for easy identification.”...

Michelle Mach

Nine ways to get through tough times @ your library

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

Christine Ayar writes: “All this talk of recession and economic downturn is a bit scary. As a librarian, I begin to wonder how it will affect our budgets in coming years. But I couldn’t help but think of all the ways libraries can help their communities and actually increase patronage during tough times through the ‘free’ services they offer. In some ways, this brief list oversimplifies all the things we can offer, but that is kind of the point.”...

I Love Libraries

Abraham Lincoln: Self-Made in America exhibit

[<http://www.lincoln200.net/alplmf/>]

As part of the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial celebration in 2009, the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum, in collaboration with ALA and the Tribeca Film Institute, and with funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities, has produced Abraham Lincoln: Self-Made in America. The exhibit is composed of seven learning stations designed for libraries and other cultural institutions. Apply

[<http://www.lincoln200.net/alplmf/application.asp>] by June 15....
Illinois Lincoln Bicentennial Commission

Recommendation and Ranganathan

[<http://orweblog.oclc.org/archives/001566.html>]

OCLC's Lorcan Dempsey writes: "From time to time, we see a discussion about the relative merits of Google, or Amazon, and library catalogs as retrieval or search engines. There is one main difference that doesn't tend to get discussed much, and that has to do with the type of data that gets factored into the experience. Essentially, we have four sources of metadata about things."...

Lorcan Dempsey's Weblog, May 13

A library mission to Kyrgyzstan

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

Herb Landau writes: "Something weird and wonderful happened to me in October 2007. The U.S. State Department sent me to the Kyrgyz Republic in central Asia on a public library goodwill mission. This odyssey began in August 2007 when I found a message on my desk from the U.S. State Department offering me a speaking engagement in a central Asian republic. I first believed this was a practical joke—'Yeah,' I thought, 'The government wants me to go to Kazakhstan and teach the Dewey Decimal Classification to Borat.' However, when I returned the call to Washington, I found out this was for real."...

Pennsylvania Library Association Bulletin, Jan.

Where videos go to die

[<http://www.techcrunch.com/2008/05/20/youtomb-where-videos-go-to-die/>]

Ever wonder exactly how many videos are taken down from YouTube because of copyright violations or other reasons? So did the folks at the MIT Free Culture student group. They created YouTomb [<http://youtomb.mit.edu/>] to document all YouTube videos that have been taken down. You cannot watch the videos on the site. But it does document what happened to them, in case any were taken down wrongfully, in accordance with the Digital Millennium Copyright Act....

TechCrunch, May 20

Knowledge Rocks @ your library

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7RUaUDwdIck>]

As part of its National Library Week promotion, the Public Library of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, winner of the 2008 Scholastic Library Publishing National Library Week grant, hosted two public concerts in April with the nationally recognized band Lunch Money. This is Part 1 (8:00) of their video of the concerts, which were held in PLCMC's famed ImaginOn facility. If you like this one, be sure to check out Part 2 [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=opXRje0XPis>] (6:44)....

YouTube, May 20

Twittering your life away [<http://youtube.com/watch?v=ZThJzr09bGc>]

In Wired's Alt Text Episode 6 (4:48), Lore Sjöberg says that "there are two things the internet excels at: helping us connect with people, and helping us avoid people. Twitter fits right into the crawlspace between these functions, giving you an IV drip of tiny pseudo-interactions." On social networking: "The term itself glistens with utilitarian smarm."...

YouTube, Apr. 23

Behind the scenes in Technical Services

[<http://www.ahml.info/vlog/default.asp?ID=49>]

What happens before a book, CD, or other item makes it to the library shelves? Take a fun, tongue-in-cheek, behind-the-scenes look (6:23) at the Arlington Heights (Ill.) Public Library's Technical Services Department. "Just call me Elliot... It's the good part of the job: We see the beginning and the end in TS." Library paste, stat! For more AHPL videos, see their main page [<http://www.ahml.info/vlog/vault.asp>]...
Arlington Heights (Ill.) Public Library

[<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.

Read How You Want

[http://www.combinedbook.com/ala/ala_readhowyouwantit_main.htm] is offering the ALA Annual Pre-Conference Program in multiple accessible formats. Its technology converts standard-formatted books into seven different EasyRead formats as well as Braille, DAISY, and e-books.

[http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?_sn=catalog2&_pn=product_detail&_op=2577]

According to author and professor Lesley Farmer, teenage girls are not embracing technology and all of its potential impact on their futures. In her *Teen Girls & Technology: What's the Problem, What's the Solution?*

[http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?_sn=catalog2&_pn=product_detail&_op=2577] Farmer explores the developmental issues of teen girls, including the reality of girls and tech as it now stands. NEW! From ALA Editions.

In this issue

May 2008

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/tableofcontents/2008contents/may2008.cfm>]

Laura Bush Talks about Her Plans

The Elusive E-Book

Killed by Kindness

Teens and Computer Games

2008 Outstanding Reference Sources

Registration is open for the 11th Annual LITA National Forum,
[<http://www.lita.org/ala/lita/litaevents/litaforum2008/litaforum2008.cfm>]
October 16–19, Hilton Netherland Plaza Hotel, Cincinnati, Ohio.

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

Digital Repository Resident,
[<http://joblist.ala.org/modules/jobseeker/controller.cfm?scr=jobdetail&jobid=10527>] University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Explores, adapts, and implements emerging digital repository technologies in support of library and campus digital collections and publishing initiatives. Develops and manages repository projects, researches and recommends changes and enhancements, and works with other library staff to develop and implement metadata and preservation standards. Two-year-term position....

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

Digital Library of the Week

[http://www.childrenslibrary.org/icdl/BookPage?bookid=khatear_00500104&pnum1=12&pnum2=13&twoPage=true&route=text&size=0&fullscreen=false&lang=English]

The International Children's Digital Library
[<http://www.icdlbooks.org/>] is a free online library of digitized children's books in many languages from various countries. Designed specifically for use by children ages 3 to 13, ICDL is operated by the International Children's Digital Library Foundation and originally developed in the College of Information Studies and the Human-Computer Interaction Laboratory at the University of Maryland, College Park. Children can search for books by location, color, length, intended age group, content type, and emotional quality, among other qualifiers. An advanced search option is also provided for more experienced or older users, and all users can register to save search preferences and favorite books. Books are selected based on quality and appropriateness, and are presented in their original language with copyright permission from publishers or authors. The Library's ultimate goal is to foster a love of reading, a readiness to learn, and a response to the challenges of world literacy.

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

“About 200 years ago, Thomas Jefferson sold his personal library of 6,000 books to the Library of Congress. About 150 years ago, more than half were destroyed in a fire. But today, all 6,000 of them have been recovered or recreated and will go on display at the Library of Congress. Now we’re living in the so-called information age, where almost a gigabyte of new data is being created each year for every man, woman, and child on earth. But what’s going to happen to it all 250 years from now? Is digital content too ephemeral to last? Will digital information have the same lifespan as printed books?”

?Freelance writer Josh Catone, in “Digital Information 250 Years from Now,” ReadWriteWeb, Apr. 12.

[http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?_sn=catalog2&_pn=catreqform]
Order or download a brand new Summer ALA Graphics catalog
[http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?_sn=catalog2&_pn=catreqform]
featuring new celebrity READ posters, Books with Bite items, and other
Summer Fun @ your library.

Ask the ALA Librarian

Q. We would really love to book an author, preferably one whose work is included in our summer reading program. But how do we do this? Didn't ALA have a program to help with this?

A. ALA did have an online author/library matchmaking service, Authors @ your library, which was a joint project of ALA's Public Programs Office, the Association of American Publishers, Friends of Libraries USA, and Library Journal magazine. This program was discontinued in 2007. There are other websites that list authors in order for schools and libraries to contact them, however. See the list of bookmarks [<http://del.icio.us/alalibrary/authorvisits>] to these websites, as well as to articles and other publications with helpful tips and advice, that was compiled by the ALA Library. From the ALA Professional Tips wiki [http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Booking_An_Author].

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

Calendar

June 16–20:

Primarily Teaching: Original Documents and Classroom Strategies
[<http://www.archives.gov/education/primarily-teaching/>], Gerald Ford
Presidential Library, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

June 17–19:

Bank Street College of Education,
[<http://www.bankstreet.edu/infancyinstitute>] Infancy Institute, New York
City.

June 20:

Mississippi Library 2.0 Summit
[<http://library.msstate.edu/mslibrarysummit/>], Mississippi State
University, Starkville.

June 24–25:

Institute of Museum and Library Services,
[<http://www.imls.gov/collections/tour/>] Conservation Forum for Collecting
Institutions, Denver.

June 24–

July 3:
Primarily Teaching: Original Documents and Classroom Strategies
[<http://www.archives.gov/education/primarily-teaching/>], National
Archives, Washington, D.C.

July 14–17:

National Institutes for Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums
[[HTTP://www.tribalconference.org](http://www.tribalconference.org)], Cherokee Resort and Casino, Tulsa,
Oklahoma. “Displaying and Caring for American Indian Objects.”

July 14–18:

Primarily Teaching: Original Documents and Classroom Strategies
[<http://www.archives.gov/education/primarily-teaching/>], National
Archives Regional Facility, Denver.

July 17–25:

Primarily Teaching: Original Documents and Classroom Strategies
[<http://www.archives.gov/education/primarily-teaching/>], Dwight D.
Eisenhower Library, Abilene, Kansas.

July 28–

Aug. 1:
Primarily Teaching: Original Documents and Classroom Strategies
[<http://www.archives.gov/education/primarily-teaching/>], Lyndon B.
Johnson Library, Austin, Texas.

Aug. 4–8:

Primarily Teaching: Original Documents and Classroom Strategies
[<http://www.archives.gov/education/primarily-teaching/>], National
Archives Regional Facility, Philadelphia.

Aug. 11–14:

National Institutes for Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums
[[HTTP://www.tribalconference.org](http://www.tribalconference.org)], Cherokee Resort and Casino, Tulsa,
Oklahoma. “Collection, Use, and Care of Photographs.”

Aug. 11–15:

Primarily Teaching: Original Documents and Classroom Strategies
[<http://www.archives.gov/education/primarily-teaching/>], George Bush
Library, College Station, Texas.

Aug. 14–15:

OCLC Western Digital Forum,
[<http://www.oclc.org/western/digitalforum/default.htm>] Hotel Murano,
Tacoma, Washington. “Making Digitization Count: Assessment and Evaluation
Practices.”

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

Contact Us

American Libraries Direct

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

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american libraries DIRECT

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | May 28, 2008

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SCHOOLROOMS
A new learning portal for K-12

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



american
libraries
BUYERS GUIDE

U.S. & World News

[Saskatchewan director admits to embezzling \\$500,000](#)

The former executive director of the Wheatland Regional Library in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada, has pleaded guilty to embezzling at least \$500,000 Canadian between 1990 and 2004. Bruce Cameron, who had headed the library since 1971, admitted in provincial court May 14 that he established a fictitious Nevada-based company called Desert Rose Books with which he placed book orders and then funneled the money back to himself, the Canadian *National Post* reported May 20....

[Sacramento library board weighs scathing grand jury report](#)

The Sacramento Public Library governing board held a special meeting May 22 to begin formulating a response to a grand jury report ([PDF](#)) that charges both the board and Director Anne Marie Gold with mismanagement and suggests that Gold be replaced. Stemming largely from an ongoing investigation into [overpayments](#) made to a subcontracting firm co-owned by a library staffer and his wife, the grand jury investigation also looked at larger issues of how the board and the library administration handle supervision, communication, and accountability....

[Medical librarians get healthy dose of social networking](#)

"MLA 2.0," said [Medical Library Association](#) President Mark Funk, "will be about communication, community, openness, participation, and connecting." Kicking off MLA's May 16–21 annual meeting and exhibition in Chicago, the head of resource management and collections at the Weill Cornell Medical Library in New York City told 2,484 enthusiastic attendees that new technology decreases isolation if we learn to use it right....



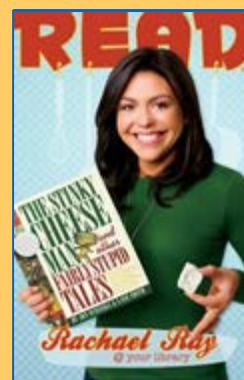
[City commission mandates library filters](#)

Royal Oak (Mich.) Public Library will install filters on all but one of its adult computers, after the City Commission passed an ordinance mandating the action May 19. The statute overrides a decision by the library board not to use blocking software on adult

ropl.org

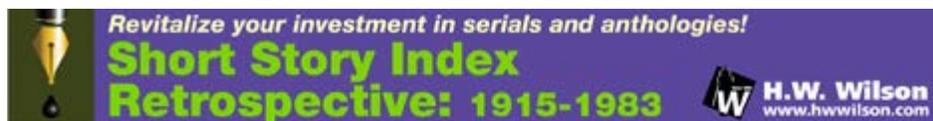


[ALA Annual Conference](#) in Anaheim, California, June 26–July 2. If you're new to the conference, get a preview of the daily conference publication, [Cognotes](#).



Rachael Ray, the host of television's *Rachael Ray Show* and *30-Minute Meals*, sets a place at the table for Jon Scieszka's *The Stinky Cheese Man and Other Fairly Stupid Tales* in this [READ poster](#). **NEW! From ALA Editions.**

computers. The 4–3 vote was a reaction to the February arrest of a man who allegedly used the adult computer lab to view child pornography....



ALA News

[National Library Legislative Day overview](#)

Learn what National Library Legislative Day is all about in this video primer (8:03) created by the ALA Washington Office. The two-day event starts with Briefing Day, featuring comments from ALA President Lorienne Roy, Adrienne Hallett from the office of Rep. Tom Harkin (D-Ia.), and more. Then we get to watch as librarians pay personal visits to their legislators with library advocacy materials in hand....



District Dispatch, May 23

[ALA 2009 Nominating Committee seeks candidates](#)

ALA's 2009 Nominating Committee is soliciting nominees to run on the 2009 spring ballot for the offices of ALA President-elect and Councilor-at-large. The Nominating Committee will select two candidates to run for President-elect and no fewer than 50 candidates for the 33 at-large Council seats to be filled in the 2009 spring election. The President-elect will serve a three-year term....

[PIO launches redesigned library funding website](#)

ALA's Public Information Office has redesigned its [Library Funding website](#). Launched in 2004 in response to budget cuts, layoffs, and facility closures, the site is a valuable resource that provides librarians, library supporters, and members of the media with a searchable database of news stories. The site also has a section devoted to school libraries....

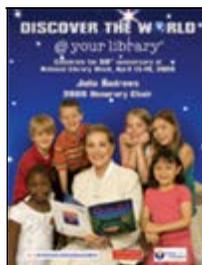


[ALA 2006–07 Annual Report released](#)

The 2006–07 Annual Report is now [available online](#). The report includes such highlights as Congress ordering the Environmental Protection Agency to restore its library network, ALA's active role in the debate over the use of National Security Letters, President Leslie Burger's Transformation Summit and related programs, the creation of [I Love Libraries](#), and much more....

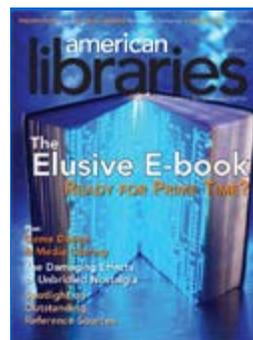
[Create a personal thank-you note to Julie Andrews](#)

This year Academy Award–winning actress and honorary chair of National Library Week Julie Andrews donated her image to public service [videos](#) as well as a print announcement placed by ALA in national magazines such as *Entertainment Weekly*, where it was seen by more than 30 million readers. In appreciation, please



In this issue

May 2008



Laura Bush Talks about Her Plans

The Elusive E-Book

Killed by Kindness

Teens and Computer Games

2008 Outstanding Reference Sources

AASL logo



June 6th is the deadline for [submitting your comments](#) on the first draft of the AASL *Standards for the 21st Century Learner in Action*. This document provides support for school library media specialists and other educators in teaching the essential learning skills defined in standards for the 21st century learner.

Career Leads from
ALA **JobLIST**

visit The Campaign for America's Libraries exhibit space at ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim to write or videotape a personalized message of thanks....

[Workplace Wellness Fair offered](#)

How much physical and mental strength does it take to stock the stacks? ALA's Workplace Wellness Task Force will host a Wellness Fair on Sunday, June 29, during the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim. From yoga to pilates, attendees will share ideas and receive tips from health experts on how to stay healthy and fit in the workplace....

[Parade of Bookmobiles rolling in soon](#)

ALA's Office for Literacy and Outreach Services will hold its second annual Parade of Bookmobiles June 29 during this year's ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim. The event will feature bookmobiles parading through the streets surrounding the Anaheim Convention Center. The parade will coincide with the ALA "Bookmobile Sunday."...

[Emerging Leaders poster session scheduled](#)

ALA's 2008 class of [Emerging Leaders](#) will showcase its final projects during a poster session on Friday, June 27, during the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim. The poster session will be the culminating event for this class of Emerging Leaders. Since the ALA Midwinter Meeting, the groups have been working virtually on projects related to ALA or a professional concern....

[Technology access in public libraries](#)

What are the most challenging issues public library staff face in funding and meeting the technology needs of their communities? How can libraries improve their bandwidth? National researchers and librarians on the front lines will come together to discuss these issues and other trends and strategies for addressing barriers to providing high-quality public access computing at the "State of Technology Access and Funding in U.S. Public Libraries" program on Saturday, June 28, at the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim....

[Use research to build people-friendly libraries](#)

Library design now places users at the center of planning, and successful libraries must understand how patrons currently use our spaces. At "Your Library, Your Space: Using Research to Make Libraries People Friendly," a panel will discuss how to use qualitative research methods to enhance institutional missions and social dimensions of learning and community. The program will take place June 30 at the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim....

Booklist ONLINE

[Featured review: Adult books](#)

Zivkovic, Zoran. *The Last Book*. May 2008. 196p. PS, hardcover, \$40 (9781906301194).
When one person dies in a bookshop, it's sad; although it requires calling in the police, it's nothing more, especially since the deceased was old. But when two further deaths occur in the same shop within two

[Librarian III Children's Coordinator](#)

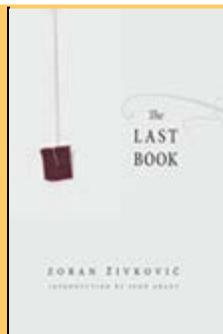
Utah State Library is seeking a creative and energetic Librarian for a full-time Children's Services Coordinator. The successful applicant will develop and coordinate training and provide support for young adult and children's services in Utah Libraries....

@ [More jobs...](#)

Digital Library of the Week



[Digital Past](#) is a local history digitization initiative undertaken by libraries, historical societies, museums, and other cultural venues throughout Illinois in partnership with the [North Suburban Library System](#) in Wheeling, Illinois. It began in 1998 with a grant from the Illinois State Library and has become a popular resource for researchers of all ages and interests including schoolchildren, genealogists, historians, authors, producers, and special interest groups—for more information, watch the public service announcement ([video](#)). Digital Past contains collections from nearly 40 institutions of varying topics and formats



days, and the coroner can ascertain no cause of death in all three cases, suspicion seems justified. Detective Inspector Dejan Lukic is suspicious and also concerned, since the shop's coproprietor and he are immediately attracted to one another. He is also sympathetic because he loves books (his collegiate studies were literary; he finally got work with the police, however). Two more die; the possibilities that a killer inspired by Umberto Eco's *The Name of the Rose* or powerful forces (governmental? corporate?) possessing secret, traceless poisons may be responsible are considered; the involvement of a secretive, apocalyptic cult is established; and a green volume entitled *The Last Book* contains or is the key to the mystery....

[Is this the end of critics?](#)

Keir Graff writes: "And why doesn't literature have the power it once did? I'm going with Option A: competition. If you were a 19th-century sodbuster and you owned two books, the Bible and *Great Expectations*, those stories would be pretty vivid in your mind, right? And a generation later, when radio came to your prairie town, those tinny voices would have made your neurons light up. And then TV . . . and the internet . . . and so on. With each new technological advance helping to eliminate the need to imagine and visualize other worlds, each new generation is seduced a little bit more by the ease of having it done for them."...

Likely Stories, May 22

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

Anaheim Update

[Pedal power](#)

If gas prices have got you so frustrated that even public transportation seems wasteful, consider renting a bicycle to get around sunny Anaheim. Adrenaline Bike Shop is open Monday through Saturday, and though they usually cater to serious cyclists, they also rent bikes for \$80 per day or \$200 for three days. Adrenaline is [not far](#) from the Convention Center, though you may want to call them in advance of showing up....

Adrenaline Bike Shop



[American to charge \\$15 for first checked bag](#)

American Airlines will start charging \$15 for the first checked bag as the nation's largest carrier grapples with record-high fuel prices. American said May 21 that the fee for the first checked bag starts June 15, and it will raise other fees for services ranging from reservation

including over 87,000 records in 85 collections....

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

"One little piece on how to get out of paying late fees and we aroused the shushing armies of Dewey-decimated ur-geeks. Do we really want to bankrupt the libraries once and for all? What kind of cretinous text-messaging, law-breaking morons are we, anyway? Uh, the sorry kind (and, ahem, the kind who even gave public libraries a shout-out in our February list of things that don't suck). Please, can we just pay the fine and have our card back?"

—Editorial response in "Rants" readers forum, *Wired*, June.

help to oversized bags. Those fees could cost between \$5 and \$50. United Airlines, the nation's No. 2 carrier, is "seriously studying" imposing its own fee on first bags, and has already [raised domestic ticket prices](#) by as much as \$60...

Associated Press, May 21, May 23



Division News

[Win a Flip Video camera with YALSA's Passport to Teen Read Week](#)

Visitors to the Exhibits at ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim can win one of two Flip Video cameras from YALSA. All visitors who bring a completed Teen Read Week passport to the YALSA booth in the ALA Pavilion will be entered into the contest....



[AASL to sponsor Spectrum Scholars at Fall Forum](#)

AASL will sponsor the attendance of up to two Spectrum Scholars at its 2008 Fall Forum. This year's forum will be held Oct. 17-19 in Oak Brook, Illinois. AASL will select two Spectrum Scholars who are pursuing a library degree concentrating on school library media or are working as school library media specialists....

[Register for YALSA Young Adult Literature Symposium](#)

[Registration](#) opened this month for the inaugural Young Adult Literature Symposium, Nov. 7-9, at the Millennium Maxwell House Hotel in Nashville. Early-bird pricing for the symposium is available until Sept. 1, with advance registration from Sept. 2 to Oct. 3. The 2008 theme is "How We Read Now."...

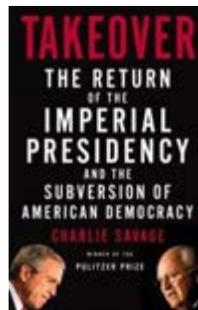


Awards

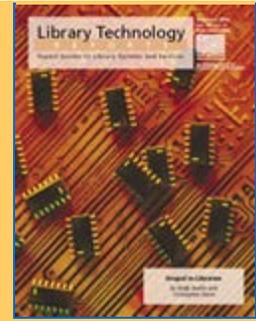
[Charlie Savage wins NYPL journalism award](#)

The 2008 New York Public Library Helen Bernstein Book Award for Excellence in Journalism was awarded May 20 to Charlie Savage for his book *Takeover: The Return of the Imperial Presidency and the Subversion of American Democracy*. The \$15,000 award is given annually to a journalist whose work brings clarity and public attention to issues, events, or policies....

New York Public Library, May 21

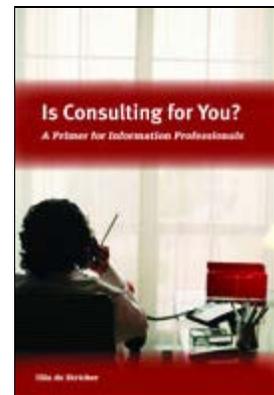


[Innovative reading-promotion efforts recognized](#)



The May/June *Library Technology Reports* is now available to [read or purchase](#), featuring "Drupal in Libraries" by Andy Austin and Christopher Harris.

Ask the ALA Librarian



Q. Now retired, I've been asked to assist in the creation of a new library in a library consultant capacity. I honestly hadn't considered such a step. Any advice or pointers you can pass along?

A. Becoming a library consultant or independent librarian is often the next step of librarians facing retirement. There are several resources available to help librarians grow into this new role within the ever-changing

Center for the Book Director John Y. Cole has announced that affiliated state centers for the book from Kansas, Ohio, and Rhode Island are the 2008 winners of the \$1,000 Boorstin Award for innovative reading-promotion efforts. Cole presented the awards at the 2008 state center for the book "idea exchange" on May 13, and expressed his hope that the award-winning projects would stimulate new reading-promotion ideas and partnerships across the nation....

Library of Congress, May 22

[Diversity Leadership Development Program awards](#)

The Special Libraries Association Diversity Leadership Development Program, in conjunction with sponsor EBSCO, announced May 27 the five SLA members who will be honored in June as recipients of the 2008 DLDP Awards. The award includes a \$1,000 cash prize, as well as complimentary registration for the 2008 SLA Annual Conference....

Special Libraries Association

[Raised by Librarians wins Read Aloud Book Award](#)

The Curriculum Materials Center of Livingston Lord Library at the Minnesota State University in Moorhead has announced the 2008 Read Aloud Book Awards. The Comstock Book Award, an annual prize for the best read-aloud picture book for older children (ages 8–12), went to *The Boy Who Was Raised by Librarians*, written by Carla Morris and illustrated by Brad Sneed....



Curriculum Materials Center of Livingston Lord Library, May 13



Seen Online

[Steve Cisler, "first internet librarian," dies](#)

Paul Jones writes: "I met Steve Cisler at INET 93 when he was working for Apple as their digital libraries guy. Steve saw the internet as a great place for public libraries even then. For a while I saw a lot of Steve and then our paths diverged even though I was becoming more of a library person and he was becoming more of a technology person. Luckily for us all, Steve kept his librarian identity." [Many others](#) are remembering Cisler, and a [website](#) has been established for remembrances....

The Real Paul Jones, May 15; Beyond the Beyond, May 20; *San Jose (Calif.) Mercury News*, May 23; CommunityNetworking2008, May 21

[ACLU files suit in Harry Potter librarian case](#)

The American Civil Liberties Union of Eastern Missouri announced May 27 that it has filed a suit on behalf of a part-time librarian in Poplar Bluff, Missouri, who was disciplined after she objected to participating in the promotion of a Harry Potter book. The employee, Deborah Smith, had religious objections to the promotion. Library employees were expected to dress as witches and wizards at a July 21, 2007, Potter book release party at the library....

Cape Girardeau Southeast Missourian, May 27

[Library theft suspect arrested . . . at the library](#)

Police have arrested a man accused of using the names of imaginary children on library cards to steal from libraries all over the Jacksonville,

information landscape, including Ulla de Stricker's 2007 publication, *Is Consulting For You?: A Primer for Information Professionals* and Rachel Singer Gordon's 2008 publication, *What's the Alternative?: Career Options for Librarians and Info Pros*.

Additional resources are listed on the [Independent and Consultants](#) page. From the [ALA Professional Tips wiki](#).

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

Calendar

June 18–20:

[International Workshop on Content-Based Multimedia Indexing](#), London, U.K.

June 19–21:

[Hypertext](#), School of Information Sciences at the University of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

June 23–24:

[Search Engine Strategies Latino Conference and Expo](#), Miami, Florida.

July 5–9:

[International Conference on Machine Learning](#), University of Helsinki City Centre Campus, Helsinki, Finland.

Florida, area. Ironically, police handcuffed 34-year-old Jermaine Smith at the library. Investigators say Smith stole nearly \$7,000 worth of DVDs, comic books, and sound recordings over two years. Smith is accused of opening nearly a dozen library cards under fake children's names to steal items and sell them for cash....

Jacksonville (Fla.) First Coast News, May 22

[In Google we trust—but should we?](#)

Victor Keegan writes: "A question increasingly asked is whether Google is becoming a dangerous monopoly. It is a very serious question. If we end up with one company controlling search—the gateway to information—it could be catastrophic if it abused its position. Google is already technically a monopoly with nearly 70% of U.S. search and as much as 90% in the U.K. on some surveys. But it is highly unusual for two reasons. First, it lacks the typical symptom—charging excessively for its products. Nearly all of Google's products from search to document storage are free. What kind of monopoly is that?"...

The Guardian (U.K.), May 22



[Stanford faculty weigh pros and cons of e-books](#)

Seven years after its inception, Google Books remains a subject of debate among Stanford University faculty, with some championing its practical benefits and others worrying that the age of the physical book has come to an end. Some faculty members worry that the digitization of books may lead to even more texts being removed from campus....

The Stanford (Calif.) Daily, May 27

[Little orphan artworks](#)

Lawrence Lessig writes: "Congress is considering a major reform of copyright law intended to solve the problem of 'orphan works'—those works whose owner cannot be found. This 'reform' would be an amazingly onerous and inefficient change, which would unfairly and unnecessarily burden copyright holders with little return to the public. The problem of orphan works is real. It was caused by a fundamental shift in the architecture of copyright law."...

New York Times, May 20

[Group wants public library in area known for polygamy](#)

Living in a remote area of northern Arizona affords privacy for many who practice a polygamous lifestyle, but some in Colorado City crave connection to the outside world. Melvin Williams, who leads a Friends of the Library group working to establish a public library there, told Mohave County supervisors on May 19 there's a yearning for learning. This conflicts with the teachings of various leaders of the Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, but the proposal for a new library [passed](#) May 27....

Las Vegas (Nev.) Review-Journal, May 21; Salt Lake City Deseret News, May 27

[Express libraries, self-service studied](#)

The Milwaukee Public Library is studying the idea of creating three "express libraries" that would give residents access to library materials and services at convenient places and times. Library officials are considering the express libraries and self-service checkout technology as they search for ways to maintain service while cutting costs. At each express library, patrons could check out or return books or other items they had ordered over the internet....

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, May 26

July 13–17:

[AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence](#)

Hyatt Regency
McCormick Place,
Chicago.

July 27–29:

[Ex Libris Technical Seminar](#)

Renaissance
Long Beach Hotel, Long
Beach, California.

Aug. 3–7:

[International Association of School Librarianship Conference](#)

University
of California at
Berkeley.

Aug. 5–6:

[International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions Satellite Meeting](#)

McGill
University, Montréal,
Quebec, Canada.

Aug. 9–11:

[Natural Resources Information Council Conference](#)

University
of Oregon and Oregon
State University Library
Systems, Eugene.

Aug. 24–30:

[International Conference on Very Large Data Bases](#)

SkyCity Convention
Centre, Auckland, New
Zealand.

@ [More...](#)

Contact Us

American Libraries
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ALA American
Library
Association

AL Direct is a free electronic

[Library planetarium stalled by money concerns](#)

The new downtown Minneapolis library was built, at an additional cost of \$1.8 million, to handle a rooftop planetarium. But the library's new owner, Hennepin County, is wary of taking on the financial responsibility associated with a planetarium. Augsburg College is pursuing the planetarium for its new science center, but some proponents say that would "skinny down" the project. These issues are stalling the campaign to raise money for the \$39-million facility....

Minneapolis Star-Tribune, May 27



[Ministers launch PR campaign to stop Bush library](#)

Praying for a last-minute miracle, some Methodist ministers are launching a public relations campaign to try to stop George W. Bush's presidential library, museum, and think tank from being built at Southern Methodist University in Dallas. Rev. Andrew Weaver said the goal is informing people about the partisan think tank, which won't be under SMU's control and will promote the Bush administration's policies....

Associated Press, May 21

[Archivist says Bush library will be an asset to SMU](#)

National Archivist Allen Weinstein, who oversees America's 12 presidential libraries, assured 2008 graduates of Southern Methodist University that the 13th will be an asset to their alma mater—despite being the greatest controversy during their time at the school. Early in his administration, President Bush issued an executive order that allows presidents and vice presidents broad authority to withhold records or delay their release indefinitely, overturning a previous order that required records to be released 12 years after an administration ends....

Dallas Morning News, May 18

[Iran establishes free mail-service library](#)

A Tehran-based institute working on Quranic studies has recently set up a section sending books via post to readers free of charge. It is part of the Javan Quran Interpretation Institute's program aiming to promote reading among children and youth, institute director Mohammad Bisotuni told the Mehr News Agency May 24. He described the bureaucratic regulations on using public libraries as one of the main reasons for the people's disregard toward books....

Tehran Times (Iran), May 25

[X-rated content infiltrates library's story line for kids](#)

In most children's fairy tales, romantic relations between characters don't go much further than a kiss. But a Contra Costa County, California, mother and her daughter unexpectedly heard a raunchier tale May 22 when they called the Benicia Public Library's story line. Apparently someone had hacked into the library's dial-a-story service and replaced the fairy tale with a story that explicitly detailed an X-rated relationship between two animals....

San Jose (Calif.) Mercury News, May 23

[Librarians issue challenge: Read and we'll eat bugs](#)

Something's bugging Betty Collins, children's librarian at Musser Public Library in Muscatine, Iowa. Collins, along with teen librarian Tina Miksch, said they will eat bugs if area children and teens read 15,000 books in the



newsletter emailed every Wednesday to personal members of the [American Library Association](#).

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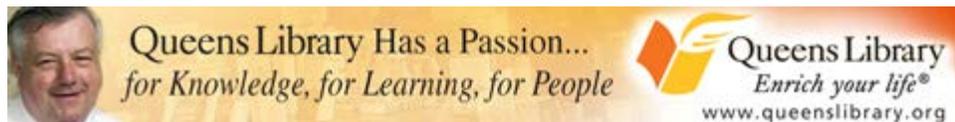
All links outside the ALA website are provided for informational purposes only. Questions about the content of any external site should be addressed to the administrator of that site.

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

ISSN 1559-369X.

library's "Go Buggy for Books" summer reading program. But they want to make sure they don't give kids the impression they're trying to worm out of the deal. "What I have in the freezer now are chocolate-covered crickets," said Collins....

Muscatine (Iowa) Journal, May 20



Tech Talk

[Google: Viacom lawsuit "threatens net"](#)

A \$1-billion lawsuit against YouTube threatens internet freedom, according to its owner Google.



Google's claim follows Viacom's move to sue the video sharing service for its inability to keep copyrighted material off its site. Viacom says it has identified 150,000 unauthorized clips on YouTube. In court documents Google's lawyers say the action "threatens the way hundreds of millions of people legitimately exchange information" over the Web....

BBC News, May 27

[Nine Firefox extensions to protect your privacy](#)

Mike Gunderloy talks about cookie control, proxy surfing, and other methods of protection, writing: "Firefox's privacy controls start with its built-in preferences. Here you can decide whether to accept cookies, and specifically whether to accept third-party cookies (which are often used for tracking your travels around the Net). You can also decide when your cookie stash should be deleted. These are relatively blunt instruments, though."...



Web Worker Daily, May 22

[The 100 best tech products of 2008](#)

Mark Sullivan writes: "After a good deal of—ahem—lively discussion, the editors at *PC World* have completed this year's list of the 100 best technology products available today. How did we do it? After nominating hundreds of devices, apps, sites, and services we knew to be good, we rated each one on its design, functionality, performance, and impact; the ones garnering the highest total scores made our list." The video site [Hulu](#) leads the list....



PC World, May 26

[Using technology for balance instead of guilt](#)

Jenny Levine examines Facebook, Twitter, social aggregators, and smartphones, writing: "After the questions about gaming, the thing I'm asked about the most these days is how I balance work, home, and the crazy speed of the online world. For most of my professional career, the line between work and personal has been blurred, making it difficult to tell where one starts and the other ends. That wasn't a new phenomenon (even for me, as this was true when I worked in a bookstore and a record store), but it's been interesting to watch that line blur for librarians—and now the general public—around the internet."...

The Shifted Librarian, May 22

[Microsoft closes Live Search Books](#)

Satya Nadella writes May 23: "Today we informed our partners that we are ending the Live Search Books and Live Search Academic projects and that both sites will be taken down next week. Books and scholarly publications will continue to be integrated into our Search results, but not through separate indexes. This also means that we are winding down our digitization initiatives, including our library scanning and our in-copyright book programs."...
Live Search blog, May 23



[Why don't you back up your computer?](#)

Michael Horowitz offers up answers to this question, writing: "Most computer users know they should back up the files on their computer, yet many don't. Why not? No computer techie can answer this question. We're computer nerds and, as such, backup is part of our DNA. Techies can't put themselves in the shoes of the millions of computer users who don't back up their computers."...
C|net News, May 26

[Facebook Platform to become open source](#)

Sometime soon, Facebook will turn the year-old Facebook Platform into an open source project. The immediate effect will be to allow any social network to become Facebook Platform compatible—meaning application developers can easily take their Facebook applications and have them run on those social networks, too. [Bebo](#) already licenses the Facebook Platform, which allows third parties to make their Facebook applications work on Bebo, too....
TechCrunch, May 26; Bebo



[To-do tattoos](#)

Your Outlook Calendar may be wonderful, but sometimes it's the low-tech solutions that best remind us of those budget meetings, phone calls, and other tasks that need doing. This temporary tattoo kit includes 12 graphic "To Do" forms that you can apply to your body wherever it's most convenient (or creative) and a skin-safe, washable-ink gel pen....
Fred & Friends



Actions & Answers

[Implementing a catalog recommendation system](#)

Michael Moennich and Marcus Spiering write: "Recommender systems are useful tools for adding a reference component to a library catalog, and they help develop library catalogs that serve as customer-oriented portals, deploying Web 2.0 technology. Recommender systems are based on statistical models, and they can lead users from one record to similar literature held in the catalog. In this article we describe the recommender system BibTip, developed in Karlsruhe University in Germany, and we discuss its application in



libraries.”...

D-Lib Magazine, May/June.

[Closed EPA libraries reopen in tiny spaces](#)

Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility announced May 21: “Ordered by Congress to reopen its shuttered libraries, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is grudgingly allocating only minimal space and resources, according to agency documents released May 21 ([PDF](#)). At the same time, EPA is issuing a series of edicts ([PDF](#)) placing virtually every aspect of library operations under centralized control of a political appointee.”...

Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility, May 21

[PMOG: Passively Multiplayer Online Game](#)

Greg Landgraf wrote May 16: “PMOG, the Passively Multiplayer Online Game, was released to the general public this week. Players earn points for each unique domain on the internet they visit; they can use those points to buy crates to store gifts for other players, mines that distract other players, and lightposts that can be used to make missions—a series of websites on a given topic for other players to explore. I created the [Libraries Doing Cool Stuff](#) mission, based on the Library Showcases from [I Love Libraries](#).”...

Library 2.0 Ning, May 16



[Vietnam archive opens collection of political prisoner records](#)

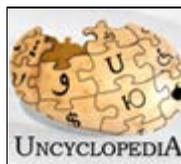
At the conclusion of the Vietnam War, thousands of U.S. allies, employees, and Vietnamese dissidents were imprisoned in communist reeducation camps. [The Families of Vietnamese Political Prisoners Association Collection](#) provides more than 10,000 primary sources for studying the experiences of these prisoners and refugees and their families who immigrated to the U.S. once they were released. Donated in 2005 to Texas Tech by the Vietnamese American Heritage Foundation, the collection contains 156 linear feet of documents—meaning the materials stretch approximately 52 yards when stacked end-to-end....

Texas Tech University, May 23; The Vietnam Center and Archive

[Eight best: Non-Wikipedia pedias](#)

Wired takes a look at a handful of fascinating “-pedias,” including [Lostpedia](#) (beware of spoilers!), [Uncyclopedia](#), [Chickipedia](#) (borderline NSFW), [Dickipedia](#) (mostly SFW, believe it or not), [Wookieepedia](#), [Dealipedia](#), [Congresspedia](#), and [Pedialyte](#). If not for Wookieepedia, how would you know that the [Codex of Karness Muur](#) was translated into [Basic](#) by [Naga Sadow](#)....

Wired, May 19; Wookieepedia



[Narrative nonfiction—a new genre heading?](#)

Laurel Tarulli writes: “A new term has emerged among Readers Advisory Services: narrative nonfiction. With the emergence of this genre, it is necessary to consider this term for library catalogues. If patrons and RAs are using this to find books, then we need to examine its usefulness in our catalogue and the possibility of implementing it. Currently, it is not a valid authority. However, it is being used as a valid genre in RA databases such as [Novelist](#). What I came up with was the following list of subdivisions in our 650 fields.”...

The Cataloguing Librarian, May 26; Novelist

[Going green with vending machines](#)

Beth Filar-Williams writes: "Do you have vending machines in your library? Vending machines run very inefficiently. You can possibly cut your energy cost in half by looking into [Vending Miser](#). Vending Miser is a sensing device that shuts down the cooling function after a set amount of time—especially great for overnight or holidays."...

Going Green @ Your Library, May 26



[Ingram Book Group launches podcast sites](#)

Ingram Book Company and Ingram Library Services have announced the launch of [two websites](#) specifically designed to deliver podcasts of interest to booksellers and librarians. Author interviews to be featured on the podcasts are scheduled to occur at BookExpo in the Los Angeles Convention Center beginning May 30. Attendees are invited to observe the interviews and, time permitting, submit questions for the authors, who include Dr. Ruth, George Hamilton, and Marty Stuart....

Bookselling This Week, May 22



[Just read it](#)

In honor of their summer reading theme of "Just Read It," the librarians and staff at Worthington (Ohio) Libraries spoof Michael Jackson's famous "Beat It" music video, complete with snazzily dressed punks, stylized gang warfare among the stacks, and a choreographed finale that shows how the perfect book can sometimes save the day.

YouTube



AL Direct, May 28, 2008

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

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | May 28, 2008

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

[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

U.S. & World News

=====

Saskatchewan director admits to embezzling \$500,000

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/may2008/saskdirectoradmitsembezzling.cfm>]

The former executive director of the Wheatland Regional Library in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada, has pleaded guilty to embezzling at least \$500,000 Canadian between 1990 and 2004. Bruce Cameron, who had headed the library since 1971, admitted in provincial court May 14 that he established a fictitious Nevada-based company called Desert Rose Books with which he placed book orders and then funneled the money back to himself, the Canadian National Post reported May 20....

Sacramento library board weighs scathing grand jury report

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/may2008/sacboardweighsgrandjuryreport.cfm>]

The Sacramento Public Library governing board held a special meeting May 22 to begin formulating a response to a grand jury report (PDF [<http://www.sacgrandjury.org/reports/07-08/LibraryReport.pdf>]) that charges both the board and Director Anne Marie Gold with mismanagement

and suggests that Gold be replaced. Stemming largely from an ongoing investigation into overpayments

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/april2008/sacramentosuesforwrongfulfiring.cfm>] made to a subcontracting firm co-owned by a library staffer and his wife, the grand jury investigation also looked at larger issues of how the board and the library administration handle supervision, communication, and accountability....

Medical librarians get healthy dose of social networking

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/may2008/medla2008conf.cfm>]

“MLA 2.0,” said Medical Library Association [http://www.mlanet.org/] President Mark Funk, “will be about communication, community, openness, participation, and connecting.” Kicking off MLA’s May 16–21 annual meeting and exhibition in Chicago, the head of resource management and collections at the Weill Cornell Medical Library in New York City told 2,484 enthusiastic attendees that new technology decreases isolation if we learn to use it right....

City commission mandates library filters

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/may2008/royal-oakforcedtofilter.cfm>]

Royal Oak (Mich.) Public Library will install filters on all but one of its adult computers, after the City Commission passed an ordinance mandating the action May 19. The statute overrides a decision by the library board not to use blocking software on adult computers. The 4–3 vote was a reaction to the February arrest of a man who allegedly used the adult computer lab to view child pornography....

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

ALA News

National Library Legislative Day overview

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=501>]

Learn what National Library Legislative Day is all about in this video primer (8:03) created by the ALA Washington Office. The two-day event starts with Briefing Day, featuring comments from ALA President Loriene Roy, Adrienne Hallet from the office of Rep. Tom Harkin (D-Ia.), and more. Then we get to watch as librarians pay personal visits to their legislators with library advocacy materials in hand....
District Dispatch, May 23

ALA 2009 Nominating Committee seeks candidates

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/2009nominatingcommittee.cfm>]

ALA’s 2009 Nominating Committee is soliciting nominees to run on the 2009

spring ballot for the offices of ALA President-elect and Councilor-at-large. The Nominating Committee will select two candidates to run for President-elect and no fewer than 50 candidates for the 33 at-large Council seats to be filled in the 2009 spring election. The President-elect will serve a three-year term....

PIO launches redesigned library funding website

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/LFredesign.cfm>]

ALA's Public Information Office has redesigned its Library Funding website [<http://www.ala.org/ala/news/libraryfunding/libraryfunding.cfm>]. Launched in 2004 in response to budget cuts, layoffs, and facility closures, the site is a valuable resource that provides librarians, library supporters, and members of the media with a searchable database of news stories. The site also has a section devoted to school libraries....

ALA 2006–07 Annual Report released

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/annualreport.cfm>]

The 2006–07 Annual Report is now available online

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/ourassociation/annualreport/lettertothemembership/lettertomembership.cfm>]. The report includes such highlights as Congress ordering the Environmental Protection Agency to restore its library network, ALA's active role in the debate over the use of National Security Letters, President Leslie Burger's Transformation Summit and related programs, the creation of I Love Libraries [<http://www.ilovelibraries.org/>], and much more....

Create a personal thank-you note to Julie Andrews

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/thanksja.cfm>]

This year Academy Award–winning actress and honorary chair of National Library Week Julie Andrews donated her image to public service videos [<http://www.youtube.com/user/atyourlibrary>] as well as a print announcement placed by ALA in national magazines such as Entertainment Weekly, where it was seen by more than 30 million readers. In appreciation, please visit The Campaign for America's Libraries exhibit space at ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim to write or videotape a personalized message of thanks....

Workplace Wellness Fair offered

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/Anaheimwellnessfair.cfm>]

How much physical and mental strength does it take to stock the stacks? ALA's Workplace Wellness Task Force will host a Wellness Fair on Sunday, June 29, during the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim. From yoga to pilates, attendees will share ideas and receive tips from health experts on how to stay healthy and fit in the workplace....

Parade of Bookmobiles rolling in soon

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/OLOSbookmobiles.cfm>]

ALA's Office for Literacy and Outreach Services will hold its second annual Parade of Bookmobiles June 29 during this year's ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim. The event will feature bookmobiles parading through the streets surrounding the Anaheim Convention Center. The parade will coincide with the ALA "Bookmobile Sunday."...

Emerging Leaders poster session scheduled

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/HRDRpostersession.cfm>]

ALA's 2008 class of Emerging Leaders

[http://wikis.ala.org/emergingleaders/index.php/Main_Page] will showcase

its final projects during a poster session on Friday, June 27, during the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim. The poster session will be the culminating event for this class of Emerging Leaders. Since the ALA Midwinter Meeting, the groups have been working virtually on projects related to ALA or a professional concern....

Technology access in public libraries

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/ORStechaccessanaheim.cfm>]

What are the most challenging issues public library staff face in funding and meeting the technology needs of their communities? How can libraries improve their bandwidth? National researchers and librarians on the front lines will come together to discuss these issues and other trends and strategies for addressing barriers to providing high-quality public access computing at the "State of Technology Access and Funding in U.S. Public Libraries" program on Saturday, June 28, at the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim....

Use research to build people-friendly libraries

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/peoplefriendlylibraries.cfm>]

Library design now places users at the center of planning, and successful libraries must understand how patrons currently use our spaces. At "Your Library, Your Space: Using Research to Make Libraries People Friendly," a panel will discuss how to use qualitative research methods to enhance institutional missions and social dimensions of learning and community. The program will take place June 30 at the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim....

Featured review: Adult books

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=2738324]

Zivkovic, Zoran. *The Last Book*. May 2008. 196p. PS, hardcover, \$40 (9781906301194).

When one person dies in a bookshop, it's sad; although it requires calling in the police, it's nothing more, especially since the deceased was old. But when two further deaths occur in the same shop within two days, and the coroner can ascertain no cause of death in all three cases, suspicion seems justified. Detective Inspector Dejan Lukic is suspicious and also concerned, since the shop's coproprietor and he are immediately attracted to one another. He is also sympathetic because he loves books (his collegiate studies were literary; he finally got work with the police, however). Two more die; the possibilities that a killer inspired by Umberto Eco's *The Name of the Rose* or powerful forces (governmental? corporate?) possessing secret, traceless poisons may be responsible are considered; the involvement of a secretive, apocalyptic cult is established; and a green volume entitled *The Last Book* contains or is the key to the mystery....

Is this the end of critics?

[<http://blog.booklistonline.com/2008/05/22/mother-of-mercy-is-this-the-end-of-critics/>]

Keir Graff writes: “And why doesn’t literature have the power it once did? I’m going with Option A: competition. If you were a 19th-century sodbuster and you owned two books, the Bible and Great Expectations, those stories would be pretty vivid in your mind, right? And a generation later, when radio came to your prairie town, those tinny voices would have made your neurons light up. And then TV . . . and the internet . . . and so on. With each new technological advance helping to eliminate the need to imagine and visualize other worlds, each new generation is seduced a little bit more by the ease of having it done for them.”...

Likely Stories, May 22

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

Anaheim Update

Pedal power [<http://www.adrenalinebikes.com/retailstore.html>]

If gas prices have got you so frustrated that even public transportation seems wasteful, consider renting a bicycle to get around sunny Anaheim. Adrenaline Bike Shop is open Monday through Saturday, and though they usually cater to serious cyclists, they also rent bikes for \$80 per day or \$200 for three days. Adrenaline is not far

[<http://www.mapquest.com/maps/366+S+Tustin+St%2C+Orange%2C+Orange%2C+California++Orange+ca/800+West+Katella+Avenue%2C+anaheim+ca/>] from the Convention Center, though you may want to call them in advance of showing up....

Adrenaline Bike Shop

American to charge \$15 for first checked bag

[http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20080521/ap_on_bi_ge/american_airlines_reductions]

American Airlines will start charging \$15 for the first checked bag as the nation’s largest carrier grapples with record-high fuel prices.

American said May 21 that the fee for the first checked bag starts June 15, and it will raise other fees for services ranging from reservation help to oversized bags. Those fees could cost between \$5 and \$50. United Airlines, the nation’s No. 2 carrier, is “seriously studying” imposing its own fee on first bags, and has already raised domestic ticket prices [<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/24792779/>] by as much as \$60....

Associated Press, May 21, May 23

[<http://www.tutor.com/ala>]

Division News

Win a Flip Video camera with YALSA's Passport to Teen Read Week
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/YALSAPassport.cfm>]
Visitors to the Exhibits at ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim can win one of two Flip Video cameras from YALSA. All visitors who bring a completed Teen Read Week passport to the YALSA booth in the ALA Pavilion will be entered into the contest....

AASL to sponsor Spectrum Scholars at Fall Forum
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/AASLSpectrum.cfm>]
AASL will sponsor the attendance of up to two Spectrum Scholars at its 2008 Fall Forum. This year's forum will be held Oct. 17-19 in Oak Brook, Illinois. AASL will select two Spectrum Scholars who are pursuing a library degree concentrating on school library media or are working as school library media specialists....

Register for YALSA Young Adult Literature Symposium
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/YALitregistration.cfm>]
Registration [<http://www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/yalitsymposium/symposium.cfm>]
opened this month for the inaugural Young Adult Literature Symposium, Nov. 7-9, at the Millennium Maxwell House Hotel in Nashville. Early-bird pricing for the symposium is available until Sept. 1, with advance registration from Sept. 2 to Oct. 3. The 2008 theme is "How We Read Now."...

Awards

Charlie Savage wins NYPL journalism award
[http://www.nypl.org/press/releases/?article_id=128]
The 2008 New York Public Library Helen Bernstein Book Award for Excellence in Journalism was awarded May 20 to Charlie Savage for his book *Takeover: The Return of the Imperial Presidency and the Subversion of American Democracy*. The \$15,000 award is given annually to a journalist whose work brings clarity and public attention to issues, events, or policies....
New York Public Library, May 21

Innovative reading-promotion efforts recognized
[<http://www.loc.gov/today/pr/2008/08-106.html>]
Center for the Book Director John Y. Cole has announced that affiliated state centers for the book from Kansas, Ohio, and Rhode Island are the 2008 winners of the \$1,000 Boorstin Award for innovative reading-promotion efforts. Cole presented the awards at the 2008 state center for the book "idea exchange" on May 13, and expressed his hope that the award-winning projects would stimulate new reading-promotion ideas and partnerships across the nation....

Library of Congress, May 22

Diversity Leadership Development Program awards

[<http://www.sla.org/content/SLA/pressroom/pressrelease/08pr/pr2810.cfm>]

The Special Libraries Association Diversity Leadership Development Program, in conjunction with sponsor EBSCO, announced May 27 the five SLA members who will be honored in June as recipients of the 2008 DLDP Awards. The award includes a \$1,000 cash prize, as well as complimentary registration for the 2008 SLA Annual Conference....

Special Libraries Association

wins Read Aloud Book Award

[<http://www.mnstate.edu/cmc/ReadAloudBookAwardWinners08.htm>]

The Curriculum Materials Center of Livingston Lord Library at the Minnesota State University in Moorhead has announced the 2008 Read Aloud Book Awards. The Comstock Book Award, an annual prize for the best read-aloud picture book for older children (ages 8–12), went to *The Boy Who Was Raised by Librarians*, written by Carla Morris and illustrated by Brad Sneed....

Curriculum Materials Center of Livingston Lord Library, May 13

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

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Steve Cisler, “first internet librarian,” dies

[<http://ibiblio.org/pjones/wordpress/?p=2503>]

Paul Jones writes: "I met Steve Cisler at INET 93 when he was working for Apple as their digital libraries guy. Steve saw the internet as a great place for public libraries even then. For a while I saw a lot of Steve and then our paths diverged even though I was becoming more of a library person and he was becoming more of a technology person. Luckily for us all, Steve kept his librarian identity." Many

[<http://blog.wired.com/sterling/2008/05/steve-cisler-ri.html>] others

[http://www.mercurynews.com/ci_9356437?IADID=Search-www.mercurynews.com-www.mercurynews.com] are remembering Cisler, and a website

[<http://communitynetworking2008.wordpress.com/>] has been established for remembrances....

The Real Paul Jones, May 15; Beyond the Beyond, May 20; San Jose (Calif.)

Mercury News, May 23; CommunityNetworking2008, May 21

ACLU files suit in Harry Potter librarian case

[<http://www.semissourian.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080527/NEWS01/346452116/-1/news01>]

The American Civil Liberties Union of Eastern Missouri announced May 27 that it has filed a suit on behalf of a part-time librarian in Poplar Bluff, Missouri, who was disciplined after she objected to participating in the promotion of a Harry Potter book. The employee, Deborah Smith, had religious objections to the promotion. Library employees were expected to dress as witches and wizards at a July 21, 2007, Potter book release

party at the library....

Cape Girardeau Southeast Missourian, May 27

Library theft suspect arrested . . . at the library

[<http://www.firstcoastnews.com/news/local/news-article.aspx?storyid=109540&catid=3>]

Police have arrested a man accused of using the names of imaginary children on library cards to steal from libraries all over the Jacksonville, Florida, area. Ironically, police handcuffed 34-year-old Jermaine Smith at the library. Investigators say Smith stole nearly \$7,000 worth of DVDs, comic books, and sound recordings over two years. Smith is accused of opening nearly a dozen library cards under fake children's names to steal items and sell them for cash....

Jacksonville (Fla.) First Coast News, May 22

In Google we trust—but should we?

[<http://www.guardian.co.uk/technology/2008/may/22/internet.google>]

Victor Keegan writes: "A question increasingly asked is whether Google is becoming a dangerous monopoly. It is a very serious question. If we end up with one company controlling search—the gateway to information—it could be catastrophic if it abused its position. Google is already technically a monopoly with nearly 70% of U.S. search and as much as 90% in the U.K. on some surveys. But it is highly unusual for two reasons. First, it lacks the typical symptom—charging excessively for its products. Nearly all of Google's products from search to document storage are free. What kind of monopoly is that?"...

The Guardian (U.K.), May 22

Stanford faculty weigh pros and cons of e-books

[<http://daily.stanford.edu/article/2008/5/27/facultyWeighProsAndConsOfEbooks>]

Seven years after its inception, Google Books remains a subject of debate among Stanford University faculty, with some championing its practical benefits and others worrying that the age of the physical book has come to an end. Some faculty members worry that the digitization of books may lead to even more texts being removed from campus....

The Stanford (Calif.) Daily, May 27

Little orphan artworks

[<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/05/20/opinion/20lessig.html>]

Lawrence Lessig writes: "Congress is considering a major reform of copyright law intended to solve the problem of 'orphan works'—those works whose owner cannot be found. This 'reform' would be an amazingly onerous and inefficient change, which would unfairly and unnecessarily burden copyright holders with little return to the public. The problem of orphan works is real. It was caused by a fundamental shift in the architecture of copyright law."...

New York Times, May 20

Group wants public library in area known for polygamy

[<http://www.lvrj.com/news/19131559.html>]

Living in a remote area of northern Arizona affords privacy for many who practice a polygamous lifestyle, but some in Colorado City crave connection to the outside world. Melvin Williams, who leads a Friends of

the Library group working to establish a public library there, told Mohave County supervisors on May 19 there's a yearning for learning. This conflicts with the teachings of various leaders of the Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, but the proposal for a new library passed
[<http://www.deseretnews.com/article/1,5143,700229307,00.html>] May 27....
Las Vegas (Nev.) Review-Journal, May 21; Salt Lake City Deseret News, May 27

Express libraries, self-service studied
[<http://www.jsonline.com/story/index.aspx?id=755097>]
The Milwaukee Public Library is studying the idea of creating three "express libraries" that would give residents access to library materials and services at convenient places and times. Library officials are considering the express libraries and self-service checkout technology as they search for ways to maintain service while cutting costs. At each express library, patrons could check out or return books or other items they had ordered over the internet....
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, May 26

Library planetarium stalled by money concerns
[[http://www.startribune.com/local/19269494.html?location_refer=\\$sectionName](http://www.startribune.com/local/19269494.html?location_refer=$sectionName)]
The new downtown Minneapolis library was built, at an additional cost of \$1.8 million, to handle a rooftop planetarium. But the library's new owner, Hennepin County, is wary of taking on the financial responsibility associated with a planetarium. Augsburg College is pursuing the planetarium for its new science center, but some proponents say that would "skinny down" the project. These issues are stalling the campaign to raise money for the \$39-million facility....
Minneapolis Star-Tribune, May 27

Ministers launch PR campaign to stop Bush library
[<http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/ap/tx/5795211.html>]
Praying for a last-minute miracle, some Methodist ministers are launching a public relations campaign to try to stop George W. Bush's presidential library, museum, and think tank from being built at Southern Methodist University in Dallas. Rev. Andrew Weaver said the goal is informing people about the partisan think tank, which won't be under SMU's control and will promote the Bush administration's policies....
Associated Press, May 21

Archivist says Bush library will be an asset to SMU
[http://www.dallasnews.com/sharedcontent/dws/dn/education/stories/DN-smucom_mencement_18met.ART.Central.Edition1.467abda.html]
National Archivist Allen Weinstein, who oversees America's 12 presidential libraries, assured 2008 graduates of Southern Methodist University that the 13th will be an asset to their alma mater—despite being the greatest controversy during their time at the school. Early in his administration, President Bush issued an executive order that allows presidents and vice presidents broad authority to withhold records or delay their release indefinitely, overturning a previous order that required records to be released 12 years after an administration ends....
Dallas Morning News, May 18

Iran establishes free mail-service library

[http://www.tehrantimes.com/index_View.asp?code=169496]

A Tehran-based institute working on Quranic studies has recently set up a section sending books via post to readers free of charge. It is part of the Javan Quran Interpretation Institute's program aiming to promote reading among children and youth, institute director Mohammad Bisotuni told the Mehr News Agency May 24. He described the bureaucratic regulations on using public libraries as one of the main reasons for the people's disregard toward books....

Tehran Times (Iran), May 25

X-rated content infiltrates library's story line for kids

[http://www.mercurynews.com/breakingnews/ci_9365862?nclick_check=1&forced=true]

In most children's fairy tales, romantic relations between characters don't go much further than a kiss. But a Contra Costa County, California, mother and her daughter unexpectedly heard a raunchier tale May 22 when they called the Benicia Public Library's story line. Apparently someone had hacked into the library's dial-a-story service and replaced the fairy tale with a story that explicitly detailed an X-rated relationship between two animals....

San Jose (Calif.) Mercury News, May 23

Librarians issue challenge: Read and we'll eat bugs

[<http://www.muscatinejournal.com/articles/2008/05/20/news/doc4832ebbb980c8411763232.txt>]

Something's bugging Betty Collins, children's librarian at Musser Public Library in Muscatine, Iowa. Collins, along with teen librarian Tina Miksch, said they will eat bugs if area children and teens read 15,000 books in the library's "Go Buggy for Books" summer reading program. But they want to make sure they don't give kids the impression they're trying to worm out of the deal. "What I have in the freezer now are chocolate-covered crickets," said Collins....

Muscatine (Iowa) Journal, May 20

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

Tech Talk
=====

Google: Viacom lawsuit threatens net;

[<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/technology/7420955.stm>]

A \$1-billion lawsuit against YouTube threatens internet freedom, according to its owner Google. Google's claim follows Viacom's move to sue the video sharing service for its inability to keep copyrighted material off its site. Viacom says it has identified 150,000 unauthorized clips on YouTube. In court documents Google's lawyers say the action "threatens the way hundreds of millions of people legitimately exchange

information” over the Web....
BBC News, May 27

Nine Firefox extensions to protect your privacy
[<http://webworkerdaily.com/2008/05/22/9-firefox-extensions-to-protect-your-privacy/>]

Mike Gunderloy talks about cookie control, proxy surfing, and other methods of protection, writing: “Firefox’s privacy controls start with its built-in preferences. Here you can decide whether to accept cookies, and specifically whether to accept third-party cookies (which are often used for tracking your travels around the Net). You can also decide when your cookie stash should be deleted. These are relatively blunt instruments, though.”...
Web Worker Daily, May 22

The 100 best tech products of 2008
[<http://www.pcworld.com/article/id,146161/article.html>]
Mark Sullivan writes: “After a good deal of—ahem—lively discussion, the editors at PC World have completed this year’s list of the 100 best technology products available today. How did we do it? After nominating hundreds of devices, apps, sites, and services we knew to be good, we rated each one on its design, functionality, performance, and impact; the ones garnering the highest total scores made our list.” The video site Hulu [<http://www.pcworld.com/article/id,146161/article.html>] leads the list....
PC World, May 26

Using technology for balance instead of guilt
[<http://theshiftedlibrarian.com/archives/2008/05/22/using-technology-for-balance-instead-of-guilt.html>]
Jenny Levine examines Facebook, Twitter, social aggregators, and smartphones, writing: “After the questions about gaming, the thing I’m asked about the most these days is how I balance work, home, and the crazy speed of the online world. For most of my professional career, the line between work and personal has been blurred, making it difficult to tell where one starts and the other ends. That wasn’t a new phenomenon (even for me, as this was true when I worked in a bookstore and a record store), but it’s been interesting to watch that line blur for librarians—and now the general public—around the internet.”...
The Shifted Librarian, May 22

Microsoft closes Live Search Books [<http://blogs.msdn.com/livesearch/>]
Satya Nadella writes May 23: “Today we informed our partners that we are ending the Live Search Books and Live Search Academic projects and that both sites will be taken down next week. Books and scholarly publications will continue to be integrated into our Search results, but not through separate indexes. This also means that we are winding down our digitization initiatives, including our library scanning and our in-copyright book programs.”...
Live Search blog, May 23

Why don’t you back up your computer?
[http://news.cnet.com/8301-13554_3-9952088-33.html?part=rss&subj=news&tag=2]

547-1_3-0-5]

Michael Horowitz offers up answers to this question, writing: “Most computer users know they should back up the files on their computer, yet many don’t. Why not? No computer techie can answer this question. We’re computer nerds and, as such, backup is part of our DNA. Techies can’t put themselves in the shoes of the millions of computer users who don’t back up their computers.”...

C|net News, May 26

Facebook Platform to become open source

[<http://www.techcrunch.com/2008/05/26/facebook-to-open-source-facebook-platform/>]

Sometime soon, Facebook will turn the year-old Facebook Platform into an open source project. The immediate effect will be to allow any social network to become Facebook Platform compatible—meaning application developers can easily take their Facebook applications and have them run on those social networks, too. Bebo [<http://www.bebo.com/>] already licenses the Facebook Platform, which allows third parties to make their Facebook applications work on Bebo, too....

TechCrunch, May 26; Bebo

To-do tattoos [<http://www.worldwidedfred.com/todotattoo.htm>]

Your Outlook Calendar may be wonderful, but sometimes it’s the low-tech solutions that best remind us of those budget meetings, phone calls, and other tasks that need doing. This temporary tattoo kit includes 12 graphic “To Do” forms that you can apply to your body wherever it’s most convenient (or creative) and a skin-safe, washable-ink gel pen....

Fred & Friends

[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

Actions & Answers

Implementing a catalog recommendation system

[<http://www.dlib.org/dlib/may08/monnich/05monnich.html>]

Michael Moennich and Marcus Spiering write: “Recommender systems are useful tools for adding a reference component to a library catalog, and they help develop library catalogs that serve as customer-oriented portals, deploying Web 2.0 technology. Recommender systems are based on statistical models, and they can lead users from one record to similar literature held in the catalog. In this article we describe the recommender system BibTip, developed in Karlsruhe University in Germany, and we discuss its application in libraries.”...

D-Lib Magazine, May/Jun.

[http://peer.org/news/news_id.php?row_id=1051]Public Employees for

Environmental Responsibility announced May 21: “Ordered by Congress to reopen its shuttered libraries, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is grudgingly allocating only minimal space and resources, according to agency documents released May 21 (PDF

[http://www.peer.org/docs/epa/08_21_5_library_space_memo.pdf]). At the same time, EPA is issuing a series of edicts (PDF [http://peer.org/docs/epa/08_21_5_library_network_policy.pdf]) placing virtually every aspect of library operations under centralized control of a political appointee.”...

Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility, May 21

PMOG: Passively Multiplayer Online Game

[<http://library20.ning.com/profiles/blog/show?id=515108%3ABlogPost%3A78675>]

Greg Landgraf wrote May 16: “PMOG, the Passively Multiplayer Online Game, was released to the general public this week. Players earn points for each unique domain on the internet they visit; they can use those points to buy crates to store gifts for other players, mines that distract other players, and lightposts that can be used to make missions—a series of websites on a given topic for other players to explore. I created the Libraries Doing Cool Stuff

[http://pmog.com/missions/libraries_doing_cool_stuff] mission, based on the Library Showcases from I Love Libraries

[<http://www.ilovelibraries.org/news/libraryshowcase/archive.cfm>].”...

Library 2.0 Ning, May 16

Vietnam archive opens collection of political prisoner records

[<http://www.depts.ttu.edu/communications/news/stories/08/05-vietnam-collection.php>]

At the conclusion of the Vietnam War, thousands of U.S. allies, employees, and Vietnamese dissidents were imprisoned in communist reeducation camps. The Families of Vietnamese Political Prisoners Association Collection [<http://www.vietnam.ttu.edu/vietnamarchive/fvppa/>] provides more than 10,000 primary sources for studying the experiences of these prisoners and refugees and their families who immigrated to the U.S. once they were released. Donated in 2005 to Texas Tech by the Vietnamese American Heritage Foundation, the collection contains 156 linear feet of documents—meaning the materials stretch approximately 52 yards when stacked end-to-end....

Texas Tech University, May 23; The Vietnam Center and Archive

Eight best: Non-Wikipedia pedias

[http://www.wired.com/culture/culturereviews/magazine/16-06/st_best]

Wired takes a look at a handful of fascinating “-pedias,” including Lostpedia [http://www.lostpedia.com/wiki/Main_Page] (beware of spoilers!), Uncyclopedia [http://uncyclopedia.org/wiki/Main_Page], Chickipedia [<http://www.chickipedia.com/>] (borderline NSFW), Dickipedia [http://www.dickipedia.org/dick.php?title=Main_Page] (mostly SFW, believe it or not), Wookieepedia [http://starwars.wikia.com/wiki/Main_Page], Dealipedia [<http://www.dealipedia.com/>], Congresspedia [<http://www.sourcewatch.org/index.php?title=Congresspedia>], and Pedialyte [<http://pedialyte.com/>]. If not for Wookieepedia, how would you know that the Codex of Karness Muur

[http://starwars.wikia.com/wiki/Codex_of_Karness_Muur] was translated into Basic [<http://starwars.wikia.com/wiki/Basic>] by Naga Sadow

ALA Annual Conference

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/annual/2008a/home.htm>] in Anaheim, California, June 26–July 2. If you're new to the conference, get a preview of the daily conference publication, Cognotes [<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/annual/2008a/cognotes.cfm>].

[http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?_sn=catalog&_pn=product_detail&_op=2539]

Rachael Ray, the host of television's Rachael Ray Show and 30-Minute Meals, sets a place at the table for Jon Scieszka's The Stinky Cheese Man and

Other Fairly Stupid Tales in this READ poster

[http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?_sn=catalog&_pn=product_detail&_op=2539]. NEW! From ALA Editions.

In this issue
May 2008

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/tableofcontents/2008contents/may2008.cfm>]

Laura Bush Talks about Her Plans

The Elusive E-Book

Killed by Kindness

Teens and Computer Games

2008 Outstanding Reference Sources

June 6th is the deadline for submitting your comments

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aasl/aaslproftools/standardsinaction/standardsinaction.cfm>] on the first draft of the AASL Standards for the 21st Century Learner in Action. This document provides support for school library media specialists and other educators in teaching the essential learning skills defined in standards for the 21st century learner.

Career Leads from

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

Librarian III Children's Coordinator.

[<http://joblist.ala.org/modules/jobseeker/controller.cfm?scr=jobdetail&jobid=10556>] Utah State Library is seeking a creative and energetic Librarian for a full-time Children's Services Coordinator. The successful applicant will develop and coordinate training and provide support for young adult and children's services in Utah Libraries....

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

Digital Library of the Week

[http://cdm.digitalpast.org/cdm4/item_viewer.php?CISOROOT=/foxriver001&CISOPTR=2&DMSCALE=100&DMWIDTH=600&DMHEIGHT=600&DMMODE=viewer&DMFULL=0&DMX=20&DMY=0&DMTEXT=&DMTHUMB=1&REC=1&DMROTATE=0&x=392&y=166]

Digital Past [<http://cdm.digitalpast.org//nsls.php>] is a local history digitization initiative undertaken by libraries, historical societies, museums, and other cultural venues throughout Illinois in partnership with the North Suburban Library System [<http://www.nsls.info>] in Wheeling, Illinois. It began in 1998 with a grant from the Illinois State Library and has become a popular resource for researchers of all ages and interests including schoolchildren, genealogists, historians, authors, producers, and special interest groups—for more information, watch the public service announcement (video [<http://cdm.digitalpast.org/cdm4/DigitalPastPSA.rmvb>]). Digital Past contains collections from nearly 40 institutions of varying topics and formats including over 87,000 records in 85 collections....

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

“One little piece on how to get out of paying late fees and we aroused the shushing armies of Dewey-decimated ur-geeks. Do we really want to bankrupt the libraries once and for all? What kind of cretinous text-messaging, law-breaking morons are we, anyway? Uh, the sorry kind (and, ahem, the kind who even gave public libraries a shout-out in our February list of things that don’t suck). Please, can we just pay the fine and have our card back?”

?Editorial response in “Rants” readers forum, Wired, June.

[http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?_sn=catalog2&_pn=catreqform]
[<http://www.techsource.ala.org/ltr/drupal-in-libraries.html>]

The May/June Library Technology Reports is now available to read or purchase, [<http://www.techsource.ala.org/ltr/drupal-in-libraries.html>] featuring “Drupal in Libraries” by Andy Austin and Christopher Harris.

Ask the ALA Librarian

Q. Now retired, I've been asked to assist in the creation of a new library in a library consultant capacity. I honestly hadn't considered such a step. Any advice or pointers you can pass along?

A. Becoming a library consultant or independent librarian is often the next step of librarians facing retirement. There are several resources available to help librarians grow into this new role within the ever-changing information landscape, including Ulla de Stricker's 2007 publication, *Is Consulting For You?: A Primer for Information Professionals* and Rachel Singer Gordon's 2008 publication, *What's the Alternative?: Career Options for Librarians and Info Pros*. Additional resources are listed on the *Independent and Consultants* [http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Independent_and_Consultants] page. From the ALA Professional Tips wiki [http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Main_Page].

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

Calendar

June 18–20:
International Workshop on Content-Based Multimedia Indexing
[<http://cbmi08.qmul.net/>], London, U.K.

June 19–21:
Hypertext, [<http://www.sigweb.org/ht08/>] School of Information Sciences
at the University of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

June 23–24:
Search Engine Strategies Latino Conference and Expo,
[http://www.searchenginestrategies.com/latino/index.html?utm_source=czemmm091107+newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_content=calendar&utm_campaign=czblast]
Miami, Florida.

July 5–9:
International Conference on Machine Learning,
[<http://icml2008.cs.helsinki.fi/>] [<http://icml2008.cs.helsinki.fi/>]
University of Helsinki City Centre Campus, Helsinki, Finland.

July 13–17:
AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence,
[<http://www.aaai.org/Conferences/AAAI/aaai08.php>]

[<http://www.aaai.org/Conferences/AAAI/aaai08.php>] Hyatt Regency McCormick Place, Chicago.

July 27–29:

Ex Libris Technical Seminar,

[<http://www.regonline.com/Checkin.asp?EventId=173947>]

[<http://www.regonline.com/Checkin.asp?EventId=173947>] Renaissance Long Beach Hotel, Long Beach, California.

Aug. 3–7:

International Association of School Librarianship Conference,

[<http://www.iasl-online.org/events/conf/2008/index.htm>]

[<http://www.iasl-online.org/events/conf/2008/index.htm>] University of California at Berkeley.

Aug. 5–6:

International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions

Satellite Meeting, [<http://www.majuscules.ca/satelliteifla2008/home.html>]

[<http://www.majuscules.ca/satelliteifla2008/home.html>] McGill University, Montréal, Quebec, Canada.

Aug. 9–11:

Natural Resources Information Council Conference, [<http://www.nric.info/>]

[<http://www.nric.info/>] University of Oregon and Oregon State University Library Systems, Eugene.

Aug. 24–30:

International Conference on Very Large Data Bases,

[https://www.cs.auckland.ac.nz/research/conferences/vldb08/index.php/VLDB_08]

[https://www.cs.auckland.ac.nz/research/conferences/vldb08/index.php/VLDB_08] SkyCity Convention Centre, Auckland, New Zealand.

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

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