

american libraries DIRECT

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | September 3, 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

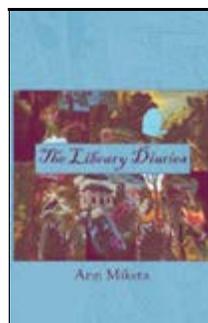


american
libraries
BUYERS GUIDE

U.S. & World News

[Director: *Library Diaries* author invaded patrons' privacy](#)

The director of the Mason County (Mich.) District Library contends that he did not violate the First Amendment rights of a library assistant he fired in late July after reading her unflattering book about the quirky and disreputable characters who populate *The Library Diaries*. Robert Dickson told *American Libraries* that "every single character in the book is a specific, identifiable person with nothing changed [except their names]," some 15–20 of which are real-life patrons of the Ludington library Dickson heads and at which author Sally Stern-Hamilton worked for 15 years. "The information she's learned about these people over the years was revealed in the book, and our immediate reaction was that this was an invasion of privacy."...
 American Libraries Online, Aug. 30



[City won't seek jail for *It's Perfectly Normal* protester](#)

A standoff of more than a year ended August 29 in Lewiston, Maine, when city officials decided not to pursue further action against JoAn Karkos (right), who has refused to return the Lewiston Public Library's copy of the youth sex-education book *It's Perfectly Normal* that she borrowed in the summer of 2007 to keep it out of circulation. Karkos had defied an August 27 district court order to return the book and pay a \$100 fine and was threatened with jail time if she did not return the book by 4 p.m., August 29....



American Libraries Online, Aug. 29; ABC News, Aug. 29



Four Great Conferences At One Site! Something For Everyone!
 KLA/KSMA/SELA/ARL

National Diversity in Libraries Conference: "Spectrum of the Future"
 October 1-4, 2008, Louisville Marriott Downtown, Louisville, Kentucky

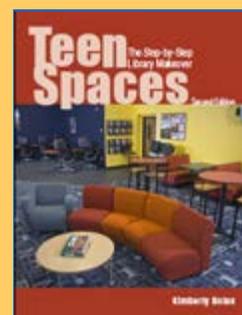
ALA News



ALA Denver
 MIDWINTER
 meeting & exhibits 09

[ALA Midwinter Meeting.](#)

Denver, January 23–28.
New this year: You must [register](#) for the Midwinter Meeting before you can register for [housing](#).



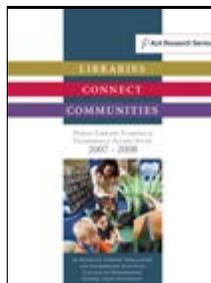
When writing the first edition of [Teen Spaces](#) in 2002, YA expert Kimberly Bolan was challenged to find excellent examples. Now, teen spaces in libraries abound and interest continues to grow. With a strategic use of web-based technologies—from the author's website to a Flickr account—this **second edition**

[ALA statement on censorship](#)

ALA opposes book banning and censorship in any form, and supports librarians whenever they resist censorship in their libraries. ALA is a nonprofit, 501(c) (3) educational association that supports quality library and information services and public access to information. As such, it is not allowed to take a position on political candidates and strives to be nonpartisan in its activities....

[New ALA study shows online public library services increasing](#)

America's 16,543 public library buildings are leveraging technology to help children succeed in school and support lifelong learning, according to a [report](#) released September 2 by ALA and Florida State University. More than 83% now offer online homework resources, including live tutors and collections of reliable web sources—a 15% increase in one year, according to *Libraries Connect Communities: Public Library Funding & Technology Access Study 2007–2008*. The new study collected data through surveys from more than 5,400 public libraries....



[Website progress](#)

At its August 27 meeting, ALA's Web Editorial Board reviewed the progress of the redesigned and restructured ALA website against 10 objectives that must be completed before it launches. Those key objectives will be met with increased staff effort over the next week or so. While this work is continuing, the current site will remain active; key content, such as the registration for the Midwinter Meeting, will be updated....

ITTS Update, Aug. 28

[Stepping up to the plate](#)

The Step Up to the Plate program, conducted by the Campaign for America's Libraries, in conjunction with the National Baseball Hall of Fame, teams up two American classics—baseball and libraries—to promote the importance of information literacy skills and increase awareness of the library as an essential information resource. In this video (4:35), Campaign manager Megan Humphrey talks about the program and author Andy Strasberg (above) discusses the song "Take Me Out to the Ball Game."...



Visibility @ your library, Aug. 28

[Gift benefits Cultural Communities Fund](#)

A generous estate gift of \$225,000 from Lee Allen Wheeler, a library enthusiast and frequent patron of the Oshkosh (Wis.) Public Library, will assist the Cultural Communities Fund in meeting its ambitious campaign goals. Though initial support has been strong, ALA must still raise a final \$52,000 by September 12 in order to meet the terms of the challenge grant....

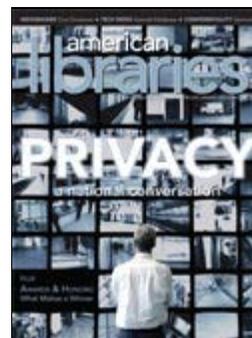


[Branford Marsalis promotes North Carolina library cards](#)

The State Library of North Carolina has selected world-renowned

showcases success stories as it reaches out to attract a global community of YA librarians committed to meeting the needs of young adults. **NEW!** From ALA Editions.

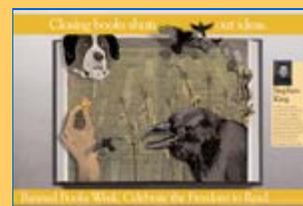
In this issue September 2008



The Future of Privacy

A Privacy Victory in Vermont

ALA Award Winners



Closing books shuts out ideas. **Banned Books Week**, September 27–October 4. Celebrate the Freedom to Read with a Stephen King poster.

Career Leads from



Media Specialist, Harford County Public

saxophonist Branford Marsalis as this year's state spokesperson for Library Card Sign-up Month. For the past three years, the state library has selected a celebrity to champion the library card as the most important card in every North Carolinian's wallet. Marsalis kicked off the campaign September 2 with a press conference at Durham County's North Regional Library....

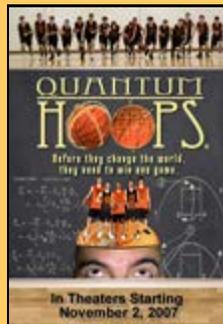
[New We the People Bookshelf grants](#)

The ALA Public Programs Office will again partner with the National Endowment for the Humanities for the sixth *We the People* Bookshelf project. Part of NEH's *We the People* program, the Bookshelf encourages young people to read and understand great literature while exploring themes in American history. This year's theme, "Picturing America," will be a literary complement to NEH's Picturing America art program. Public and school libraries can [apply](#) online through January 30....

Booklist ONLINE

[Featured review: Media](#)

Quantum Hoops: The Caltech Basketball Story. June 2008. 85min. Green Forest, DVD. California Institute of Technology (Caltech) is known for many things: an unparalleled reputation for high academic standards, illustrious alumni and faculty (including 31 Nobel Prize winners), and a basketball team that has lost 243 consecutive conference games. It's not easy to recruit athletes in a school with impossibly high entrance standards. What the players lack in basketball skills, they make up for with heart and spirit. In this overwhelmingly inspiring program, narrated by actor David Duchovny, players, alumni, and coaches speak fondly of the lessons learned on the basketball court, the rewards of cramming practices into schedules filled with academics, and the burden of constantly losing....



[Websites for youth: Sports](#)

Joanne Troutner writes: "The world of sports remains popular with most youngsters and is a good way to engage learners. This update of two previous Web-site sports lists (run in 2002 and 2006) again spans a variety of athletics and interests, including martial arts, baseball, and the Olympics. The sites were last accessed on July 24."...



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

Schools, Bel Air, Maryland. Establishes behavioral standards for students in the LMC. Assists students in becoming effective and discriminating users of library resources. Helps students develop habits of independent reference work and skills in the use of reference material in relation to planned assignments. Organizes library material, equipment, and facilities for effective and efficient utilization and circulation....

@ [More jobs...](#)

Digital Library of the Week



The collection of [Star Atlases](#) owned by the Linda Hall Library in Kansas City, Missouri, encompasses atlases and maps from 1482 to the 19th century. The materials in this collection range from the rudimentary to some of the most beautiful and accurate scientific books ever published, finishing with later pictorial atlases for the general public. The star chart above is Phillipe La Hire's *Planisphere Celeste Meridional* (1705). La Hire was a notable French astronomer, and

H.W. Wilson ad

Division News

AASL's Fall Forum

Early bird registration for AASL's Fall Forum ends Friday, September 12. Sessions for this year's gathering, "Assessment, Part II: Constructing and Interpreting Viable Tools for Effective Student Learning in the Library Media Center," will be led by Judith Dzikowski, Julie Gedeon, Celeste Nalwasky, and Barbara F. Schloman. The forum will be held October 17-19 at the Oak Brook Hills Marriott Resort in Oak Brook, Illinois....



Register for PLA's 2009 Spring Symposium

The 2009 PLA Spring Symposium will be held April 2-4 in Nashville, Tennessee, at the Renaissance Nashville Hotel and Nashville Convention Center. The Spring Symposium will feature six intensive day-and-a-half-long workshops focusing on subjects pertinent to public libraries and public librarians, as well as an Opening General Session with keynote speaker musician Tom Chapin, an author luncheon, and area library tours. The early bird registration rate for PLA members is \$250 before October 31....



Win a YA author visit

YALSA and AdLit.org are looking for the best Teen Read Week celebrations that involve significant collaboration between teachers and librarians. They are giving away two author visits plus other prizes in the 2008 Best Teen Read Week Celebration Contest. One winner will receive an author visit from Kimberly Pauley (right) of Mirrorstone Books; another will receive a visit from author Geno Salvatore, who will run a D&D game at the winning library; and five runners-up will each receive a \$50 prize package....



Advanced registration open for YALSA Symposium

Advanced [registration](#) begins September 3 for YALSA's inaugural Young Adult Literature Symposium, November 7-9, at the Millennium Maxwell House Hotel in Nashville, Tennessee. Registrants will save more than 10% over onsite registration fees before October 3....

Awards

Nominations open for I Love My Librarian Award

Nominations for the Carnegie Corporation of New York/*New York Times* I Love My Librarian Award are now open. Up to 10 librarians in public, school, and academic libraries will be selected for the award, which encourages library users to recognize



his two planispheres of the northern and southern stars were published as individual sheets (although they were included in many French atlases throughout the 18th century). The Linda Hall copies were colored expertly by hand. The constellation figures are ultimately derived from the prototypes in Bayer's *Uranometria*.

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

Public Perception

How the World Sees Us

"I recently learned of the pending forced closure of the Long Beach Main Library from public access to balance the city budget. This is heartbreak and an outrage. Libraries are also an essential core public service. How can a major city not provide public access to a civic center library? City Hall decisions will remove access to over 1.5 million books from one square mile of the city! Is Long Beach at war with the printed word and books?"

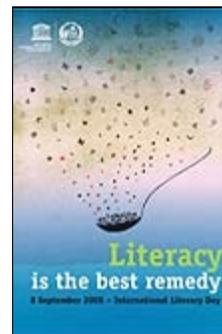
—Author Ray Bradbury, in a letter of protest on the proposed closure of the central Long Beach Public Library, *Long Beach (Calif.) Press-Telegram*, Aug. 5.

the accomplishments of librarians for their efforts to improve the lives of people in their community. [Nominations](#) for public librarians will be accepted through October 1, and for school and academic librarians through October 15....

[Stevie Wonder gets LC's Gershwin Prize](#)

Librarian of Congress James H. Billington named singer/songwriter Stevie Wonder the recipient of the Second Library of Congress Gershwin Prize for Popular Song on September 2. The award presentation will take place in the Great Hall of the Library on February 23. The prize is awarded to musicians whose lifetime contributions in the field of popular song exemplify the standard of excellence associated with George and Ira Gershwin. As an added distinction to this year's prize, LC has offered, and Wonder has accepted, a musical commission....

Library of Congress, Sept. 2



On [International Literacy Day](#) each year, UNESCO reminds the international community of the status of literacy and adult learning globally. This year, September 8, the theme is "Literacy Is the Best Remedy." Find out how other countries are [celebrating](#).

Seen Online

[What do we know about Sarah Palin and the library? Not much](#)

Norman Oder writes: "John McCain's surprise choice of Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin as his running mate on the Republican ticket has led journalists and bloggers to the clip and web files, and a library connection—suggesting but hardly proving dubious behavior by Palin as mayor of Wasilla, Alaska—has emerged. We do know that small-town politics can get ugly. It's not illegitimate for the press to dig up old quotes, but we'd be much better served if others in Alaska elaborate on situations that remain murky."...

Library Journal, Sept. 2



[Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh makes digital history](#)

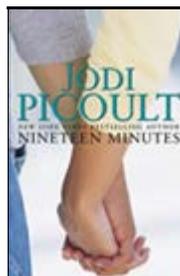
A 2008 National Leadership Demonstration Grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services will enable the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh to digitally preserve more than 400,000 pages of historic materials related to the iron and steel industry. The \$600,000 grant, awarded September 2 by IMLS Director Anne-Imelda M. Radice, will finance "The Legacy of Iron and Steel" project. With this grant, the library will demonstrate how it can use current technology to provide access to and excitement about its historic collections....

Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, Sept. 2



[Beardstown wrestles with school library challenge](#)

The Beardstown (Ill.) School Board meeting became a debate about morality, free speech, and the responsibilities of public school libraries August 27. Local resident Stephen Griffin approached the board with the request that the book *Nineteen Minutes* by Jodi Picoult be removed from the high school libraries' shelves permanently. Griffin said that his then-7th-



Ask the ALA Librarian



Q. We're reviewing our policies on overdue fines. Do you have anything to help?

A. Several state libraries and Webjunction have assembled [collections of sample policies](#)—and these are as varied as the libraries preparing them. Some may also be found with this prestructured [web search](#) and additional tips may be found in the portion of this wiki on [circulation](#) and [fines](#).

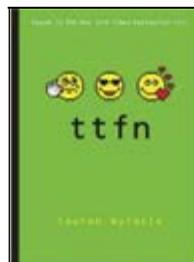
grade daughter brought the book home from school last year, and he was disturbed to find it contained the “f-word” more than 40 times in varying contexts...

Jacksonville (Ill.) Journal-Courier, Aug. 27

[TTFN pulled from Oklahoma school library](#)

Parent Kathy Davis was shocked when she saw what her 13-year-old daughter was reading. The book —*TTFN* by Lauren Myracle—came from the Marietta (Okla.) Middle School library, and it was on an advanced reading list. Graphic descriptions of oral sex are detailed in passages discussing recreational drug use. The book was recommended for Grades 10–12, but it has now been pulled from the shelves....

KXII-TV, Sherman, Texas, Sept. 2



[Aides now in charge of Mesa school libraries](#)

Debra Faysak used to help at the John Philip Sousa Elementary School library in Mesa, Arizona. Now she runs it. The library aide is part of a three-year plan to transfer certified librarians back into the classroom, saving the district about \$3 million. The librarians had fought to keep their jobs, protesting at school board meetings and proposing alternative plans last year. Of 78 Mesa school librarians, 47 retired or decided to return to classroom teaching this school year....

Phoenix Arizona Republic, Sept. 2

[No retirement for soon-to-be 103-year-old](#)

In 1926, Martha Smith (right) took a job at the tiny Coal Creek Library in Vinland, Kansas. Eighty-two years later, she's still there. Others might have retired 30 years ago. Not Smith. She still shows up every Sunday to put in her hours at the oldest continuously operated library in Kansas.

With her 103rd birthday coming up September 15, Smith wears a hearing aid and needs an oversized pair of magnifying goggles to read. Watch the [video](#) (2:50) of Smith at work....

Kansas City (Mo.) Star, Aug. 29



[New York Public Library for the Performing Arts](#)

The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts is a treasure trove of 9 million items related to every kind of performance. There are plenty of books, of course, but also audio and video recordings, manuscripts, sheet music, stage design models, press clippings, programs, posters, photographs, and letters. It's the largest collection devoted to music, dance, theater, recorded sound, and other performing arts that is free and open to the public....

St. Petersburg (Fla.) Times, Aug. 31



[Mesa County branch cuts its paid staff](#)

The Mesa County (Colo.) Public Library District board of trustees voted 4–2 August 28 to stop staffing the Gateway branch and transition to a stand-alone “leaf” that would be run by volunteers. Officials backed away from an initial option of shutting down the branch and moving the books to a new



From the [ALA Professional Tips wiki](#).

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

Calendar

Oct. 5–9:

[Canadian Association of Research Libraries](#),

Fall General Meeting, Ottawa, Ontario.

Oct. 7–8:

[University of Maryland at College Park and the National Archives and Records Administration](#), Joint

Conference, College Park, Maryland.

“Partnerships in Innovation II: From Vision to Reality and Beyond.”

Oct. 9–11:

[Oregon Association of School Libraries and Washington Library Media Association](#), Joint

Conference, Oregon Convention Center, Portland.

Oct. 16–17:

[Association of Research Libraries and the Coalition for Networked Information](#), Fall

Forum, Ritz-Carlton, Pentagon City, Arlington, Virginia.

“Reinventing Science Librarianship: Models for the Future.”

Oct. 16–17:

[Maryland Association of School Librarians](#),

Fall Conference, Turf

location in Orchard Mesa. Gateway librarian Janey Raney, who keeps the branch open four hours a day, four days a week, said after the meeting she figures she's out of a job....

Grand Junction (Colo.) Daily Sentinel, Aug. 28

[Volunteers filling in for laid-off pages](#)

Volunteers are picking up the slack at the public libraries in Riverside, California. The city's library system has a record number of volunteers who have stepped up to help the library maintain order following the layoffs of 30 part-time pages July 1 as a cost-savings measure. Staff also are taking on responsibilities to ensure there is no difference in service, said George Guzman, the library's Administrative Services manager....

Riverside (Calif.) Press Enterprise, Sept. 2

[Librarian works to revamp Arkansas prison libraries](#)

Dennice Alexander (right) is the first full-time library administrator for the Arkansas Department of Correction, whose prisons hold more than 14,000 inmates spread among 20 locations. For the longest time, advisory boards held sway over what books made it inside the double razor-wired fences. But in recent years, Alexander has approved the books and magazines that bring light inside a system once deemed by federal courts to be a "dark and evil world."...

Associated Press, Sept. 2



[Anti-porn group wants St. Louis County to review teen titles](#)

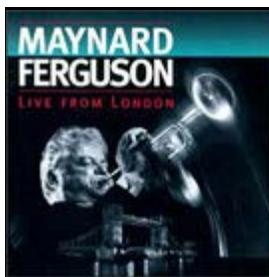
A citizens' anti-pornography group wants certain books in the St. Louis County (Mo.) Library's teen section segregated from younger eyes and placed in the adult section. Carl Hendrickson, chairman of Citizens Against Pornography, submitted petitions signed by almost 150 residents at the library's board of directors meeting. The petitions call on the board to establish an Adult Advisory Committee to review literature going into the teen section. However, Library Director Charles Pace says a system is already in place to review materials on the shelves....

Kirkwood-Webster (Mo.) Journal, Aug. 26

[Jazz library a high note for North Texas](#)

A moving van delivered the 400-piece Maynard Ferguson collection to the University of North Texas library in Denton last week. The materials, provided by a consortium of donors, spans the Canadian jazz trumpeter's career from the mid-1950s to his death in 2006. This important resource is the second for the university, which, decades ago, acquired the work of Ferguson's mentor, Stan Kenton. Like Kenton's music, Ferguson's will be cataloged and digitized by librarians experienced in preserving documents....

Denton (Tex.) Record-Chronicle, Aug. 30



[Cardiff wants to sell its rare books](#)

An action group says it is aghast at plans to sell some of Wales's oldest and rarest books. Cardiff Council could eventually sell up to 18,000 items dating from the 15th century at auction to raise money

Valley Conference Center, Ellicott City.

Oct. 19–24:
[Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research](#), Digital Preservation Management training program, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Oct. 22–24:
[Ohio Educational Library Media Association](#), Annual Conference, Columbus Convention Center. "School Libraries: Transforming Lives."

Oct. 24:
[Long Island Library Resources Council](#), Annual Conference on Libraries and the Future, Fortunoff Hall, Dowling College, Oakdale, New York. "Millennials: Talkin' Bout Y Generation."

Oct. 25–27:
[6th International Conference on the Book](#), Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C.

@ [More...](#)

Contact Us

American Libraries Direct



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

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

for improvements in library services. The collection at the central library includes early atlases along with a second edition of Shakespeare. An initial 139 items are under review, but the group, which includes academics, wants the process to end....

BBC News, Sept. 2

[Queens librarian donates hair](#)

A Queens librarian chopped off her long hair and donated it to charity August 27 after the kids in her summer reading program at the Hollis branch of the Queens (N.Y.) Public Library won a bet. Sueli Zaqem had wagered that the children couldn't finish twice as many books as they did last year—and said she'd cut off her black tresses if proven wrong. She lost, and the kids clapped and cheered as she sat in a chair and let a colleague snip off a 13-inch ponytail for Locks of Love, which donates hair to kids made bald by illness....

New York Daily News, Aug. 28

[Restoring ancient Buddhist texts a painstaking art](#)

Over the past 18 years, Hu Yuqing and her 29 colleagues at the Rare Books Restoration Center of the National Library of China have



repaired 5,000, or half of the Dunhuang scrolls—handwritten Buddhist scriptures dating from the Tang Dynasty (618–907)—owned by the library. Hu is one of fewer than 200 professionals in China who can restore ancient texts. Despite a shortage of funding, Hu and her colleagues have devoted themselves to restoring the ancient classics....

China Daily, Aug. 26

[Former Saskatchewan library director gets two years](#)

The former head of a regional library system in Saskatchewan, who embezzled half a million dollars over 14 years, was sentenced August 27 to a jail term of two years. Bruce Cameron pleaded guilty in May to defrauding the Wheatland Regional Library in Saskatoon of \$497,503 (Can.). Cameron, who was executive director of WRL for 30 years, created a fake company in Nevada called Desert Rose Books and operated under an alias to perpetrate the fraud....

Regina (Sask.) Leader-Post, Aug. 28

Tech Talk

[Giving Google Chrome a spin](#)

Don Riesinger writes: "Google announced its new web browser [Chrome](#) September 1 and already the company has offered Windows XP and Vista owners the opportunity to try it out. And although I've only been able to use it for just a little while, Google Chrome is not only one of the fastest browsers I've ever used, it's easily one of the best. Chrome offers an 'Omnibox,' which lets you input a web address or search the web in the address bar. Perhaps more than anything, you'll notice just how fast Chrome is immediately." [Tabs](#) are more robust, it's [crash-resistant](#), and the browser has its own [stealth mode](#). Ina Fried [warns](#) that you might see more ads and that Google might update the browser automatically. Beware cute [error messages](#) and occasional installation [glitches](#). Watch the [video](#) or read the



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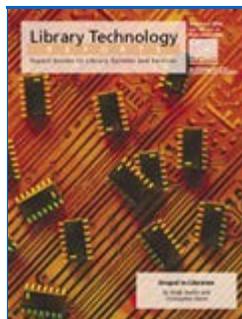
ISSN 1559-369X.

[comic interpretation](#) by Scott McCloud...

TechCrunch, Sept. 2; Ars Technica, Sept. 1; *PC World*, Sept. 2; C|Net, Sept. 2; Beyond Binary, Sept. 2; *Chicago Tribune*, Sept. 2; *Dallas Morning News*, Sept. 2; Google, Sept. 1

[Drupal in libraries](#)

Drupal is hot in the library world, with sessions devoted to it at several recent library conferences. Like many nonprofits, libraries turn to Drupal as a powerful tool with a low cost of entry. The Idaho Commission for Libraries has led the way, leveraging the multisite features of Drupal to provide sites for libraries across Idaho. [Drupal in Libraries](#) is the subject of the May/June edition of *Library Technology Reports*, written by Andy Austin and Chris Harris....



Drupal, Aug. 24

[Canada joins OLE Project](#)

Library and Archives Canada will be joining Duke University Libraries and other partners in the [Open Library Environment Project](#). With funding from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the OLE Project will develop a design document for a next-generation open-source library automation system that fits modern expectations for library workflows and is built on a modern service-oriented architecture. LAC will facilitate cooperation among Canadian institutions....



Library and Archives Canada, Sept. 2

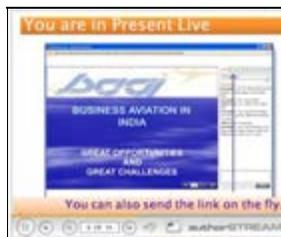
[20 tech habits to improve your life](#)

Gina Trapani writes: "Technology is supposed to make life easier, but it doesn't seem that way when you're struggling to wrangle 289 new email messages, dealing with a hard-drive crash, or suddenly realizing that you left an important file on the office computer. Thankfully, plenty of tools can help," among them the "inbox zero" philosophy, using a camera phone to remember things, and cable proliferation controls....

PC World, Aug. 28

[Present Live shares PowerPoint presentations](#)

Alana Taylor writes: "AuthorStream, the site that allows you to send PowerPoint presentations straight to YouTube , your iPod , and your blog, released Present Live September 2. This allows you to share your presentation with a selected group of friends and contacts on the internet in real time. I can see this working well not only at conferences but also in the classroom where students and teachers can easily interact through the internet."...



Mashable, Sept. 2

Publishing

[Free presidential election resources through November 4](#)

School librarians and teachers can use the excitement of current events as a springboard to answer questions about campaigns and voters,



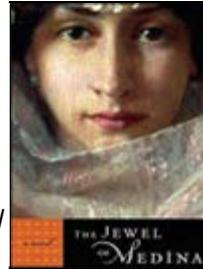
and teach the history of the American political process with an authoritative collection of free resources from ABC-CLIO. Launching on September 5, "Presidential Elections: In History and Today" features historical background on elections paired with classroom activities and research project ideas that will help put Campaign 2008 into historical context for students....

ABC-CLIO, Aug. 28

[Muhammad's bride finds another publisher](#)

British independent publisher Gibson Square has bought Sherry Jones's controversial novel about the child bride of Muhammad, which was dropped by Random House US following warnings that it could incite acts of violence from radical Muslims. *The Jewel of Medina* was also pulled from bookshops in Serbia last month after pressure from an Islamic group....

The Guardian (U.K.), Sept. 3



[Publishers should all have a covers directory](#)

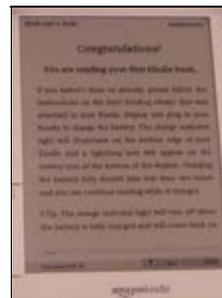
Cory Doctorow writes: "I often blog about books and when I do, I like to put up a picture of the cover. It's often the case that Amazon's covers are grainy, missing, too small, or otherwise unsuitable. So here's the idea: Publishers should create default directories called 'covers' at their server-root (for example, harpercollins.co.uk/covers/) filled with high-rez PNGs or JPGs named after the book's ISBN. Tweak your robots.txt file to make sure the search engines all crawl these directories, so when you search on images.google.com or images.yahoo.com for an ISBN, the high-rez cover image will be right there at the top."...

Boing Boing, Sept. 1

[Kindle kudos](#)

Jenny Levine writes: "I've had my Kindle ebook reader for just about four months now, and as I suspected, the amount of book reading I'm doing is going up. During the summer, I've tended to start multiple books and finish none of them. But the Kindle is changing this, mainly because I'm using my daily commute and other travel times to integrate reading books back into my routine. I'm reading less online and more on the Kindle. I especially like having *Newsweek* automatically appear on the device at the beginning of each week."...

The Shifted Librarian, Sept. 2



Actions & Answers

[LC's "Learning from Katrina" web page](#)

August 29 marked the third anniversary of Hurricane Katrina's devastating impact on New Orleans and the Gulf Coast. In commemoration, the Library of Congress has created a website titled [Learning from Katrina](#), which provides insights for better responses to record and artifact damage by hurricanes. Visitors can hear seven interviews with professional conservators who helped salvage collections affected in August 2005....

Library of Congress, Aug. 29



[October 14 is Open Access Day](#)

The Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition, the Public Library of Science, and Students for FreeCulture have jointly announced the first international [Open Access Day](#). The event will offer researchers, educators, librarians, students, and the public the chance to participate in live, worldwide broadcasts of events. In North America, events will be held at 7:00 p.m. (Eastern) and 7:00 p.m. (Pacific) and will feature appearances from English biochemist Sir Richard J. Roberts and pharmacist and PLoS editor Philip E. Bourne....

SPARC, Aug. 28



[The Net Neutrality debate on one page](#)

Erick Schonfeld writes: "Are you confused about Net Neutrality? Some people argue it is necessary for continued innovation on the internet; others claim that it is unnecessary regulation that will create unintended consequences. The debate site [Opposing Views](#) has put up a page that lays out the arguments pro and con for Net Neutrality, and then links to fuller arguments. Marshaling the arguments for Net Neutrality are the Save The Internet Coalition, the Open Internet Coalition, and Public Knowledge. Arguing against are the Cato Institute and Hands Off The Internet."...

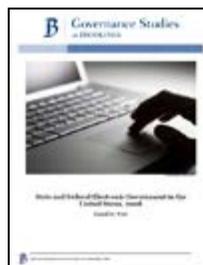
TechCrunch, Aug. 31



[The state of American e-government](#)

Using a detailed analysis of 1,537 state and federal government websites, a Brookings Institution report ([PDF file](#)) examines whether government agencies are making effective use of the Web to improve service delivery and public outreach. Although sites have generally improved in recent years, the report notes that "legislative and judicial sites often were simply billboards that offered little useful content or few electronic services," and "e-government has fallen short of its potential to transform public-sector operations."...

Brookings Institution, Aug. 26



[Survey of library digitization projects](#)

A new study by Primary Research Group offers data on digitization projects in more than 100 museums and academic, public, and special libraries in several countries. More than 53% have teamed up with another department to work jointly on a project. The mean number of hours spent obtaining rights permissions or copyright clearance was 221. Nearly 49% of the organizations in the sample outsource some form of digitization, in whole or in part, to an

outside party....

Primary Research Group, Aug.

[PALINET Leadership Network](#)

Meredith Farkas writes: "Walt Crawford started his work on the [PALINET Leadership Network](#) site less than a year ago, but already he has made it a terrific resource for people in our profession. Some of the articles on the wiki are original, while others are compilations of writings on a theme by a variety of innovators and leaders in our profession. For anyone interested in reading various perspectives on library leadership, management, planning, and marketing, this is a useful resource to check out. The site's more than 300 pages of content are easy to browse or search."...



Information Wants To Be Free, Sept. 1

[OCLC's Cooperative Identities Hub](#)

Amanda Hill writes: "OCLC is planning to prototype a [Cooperative Identities Hub](#) to bring together information from a wide range of name sources and make them available more widely. The hub will build on the work of the [WorldCat Identities](#) service, which takes the names of people and organizations from the LC/NACO authority file and WorldCat, and displays contextual information such as titles of works, associated subjects, publication timelines, and book covers. The service also holds links to library authority files and to Wikipedia."...

Names Project Blog, Aug. 26: OCLC

[The Dublin Core Abstract Model, demystified](#)

Karen Coyle writes: "I understand the need that standards have to be very precise in their terminology and to give terms specific meaning. There often is a conflict, however, between that desire for precision and the need to communicate well with the users of the standard. Simplification is needed for the [Dublin Core Abstract Model](#), which defines a set of metadata types that can help us communicate to each other about our metadata. I'm going to attempt that (even though I think it's a dangerous thing to do)."...

Coyle's InFormation, Sept. 2

[UC Berkeley revives arts loan program](#)

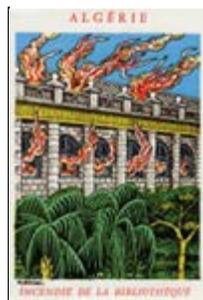
The University of California, Berkeley's Morrison Library is reviving a Graphic Arts Loan Collection program that 50 years ago began placing Picassos, Mirós, and the works of other renowned and emerging artists into the hands of students, faculty, and staff. To that end, the Morrison Library has launched a new [website](#) with images of approximately 700 framed original, numbered prints that are signed by their creators. The artwork can be perused and favorites selected for checkout by borrowers with valid UCB IDs....



University of California, Berkeley, Aug. 28

[Remembering the burning of the University of Algiers library](#)

Larry Nix writes: "On June 7, 1962, the Organisation de l'armée secrète (OAS), a militant underground organization opposed to Algerian independence, burned down the library of the University of Algiers,



destroying 112,500 books. This was one of the culminating acts of the 1954–1962 Algerian War. On July 1, 1962, Algerians in overwhelming numbers voted in favor of independence from France. The burning of the library was seen as a symbol of the rightness of Algerian independence and resulted in a number of Muslim countries issuing postage stamps commemorating the tragic event.”...

Library History Buff

[Librarian of the year](#)

Sean Becker stars as Jeff Paulson, a library assistant who is apparently the last employee to be nominated for Librarian of the Year. “He’s not ‘of the year’ material,” says a friend. “He’s a pretty rotten person.” Inspired by *The Office*, this video (10:25) is part of the “Three of a Kind” series of Atom’s user-uploaded comedy sketches. Filmed at the Milpitas branch of the Santa Clara County (Calif.) Library....

Atom.com



AL Direct, September 3, 2008

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

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | September 3, 2008

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

[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

U.S. & World News

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author invaded patrons's privacy

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/august2008/librarydiaries.cfm>]

The director of the Mason County (Mich.) District Library contends that he did not violate the First Amendment rights of a library assistant he fired in late July after reading her unflattering book about the quirky and disreputable characters who populate *The Library Diaries*. Robert Dickson told American Libraries that "every single character in the book is a specific, identifiable person with nothing changed [except their names], some 15-20 of which are real-life patrons of the Ludington library Dickson heads and at which author Sally Stern-Hamilton worked for 15 years. "The information she's learned about these people over the years was revealed in the book, and our immediate reaction was that this was an invasion of privacy."...

American Libraries Online, Aug. 30

[<http://www.abcnews.go.com/TheLaw/story?id=5678726&page=1>] protester

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/august2008/nojailforkarkos.cfm>]

A standoff of more than a year ended August 29 in Lewiston, Maine, when city officials decided not to pursue further action against JoAn Karkos (right), who has refused to return the Lewiston Public Library's

copy of the youth sex-education book It’s Perfectly Normal that she borrowed in the summer of 2007 to keep it out of circulation. Karkos had defied an August 27 district court order to return the book and pay a \$100 fine and was threatened with jail time if she did not return the book by 4 p.m., August 29....
American Libraries Online, Aug. 29; ABC News, Aug. 29

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[<http://www.kylibasn.org/conferences620.cfm>]

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ALA News

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ALA statement on censorship

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/September2008/RettigStatementSep08.cfm>]

ALA opposes book banning and censorship in any form, and supports librarians whenever they resist censorship in their libraries. ALA is a nonprofit, 501(c) (3) educational association that supports quality library and information services and public access to information. As such, it is not allowed to take a position on political candidates and strives to be nonpartisan in its activities....

New ALA study shows online public library services increasing

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/September2008/LibrariesConnectCommunities.cfm>]

America’s 16,543 public library buildings are leveraging technology to help children succeed in school and support lifelong learning, according to a report [<http://www.ala.org/ala/ors/plftas/0708report.cfm>] released September 2 by ALA and Florida State University. More than 83% now offer online homework resources, including live tutors and collections of reliable web sources—a 15% increase in one year, according to Libraries Connect Communities: Public Library Funding & Technology Access Study 2007–2008. The new study collected data through surveys from more than 5,400 public libraries....

Website progress [<http://itts.ala.org/update/current-website-progress/>]

At its August 27 meeting, ALA's Web Editorial Board reviewed the progress of the redesigned and restructured ALA website against 10 objectives that must be completed before it launches. Those key objectives will be met with increased staff effort over the next week or so. While this work is continuing, the current site will remain active; key content, such as the registration for the Midwinter Meeting, will be updated....
ITTS Update, Aug. 28

Stepping up to the plate [<http://www.pio.ala.org/visibility/?p=152>]

The Step Up to the Plate program, conducted by the Campaign for America’s Libraries, in conjunction with the National Baseball Hall of Fame, teams up two American classics—baseball and libraries—to promote the importance of information literacy skills and increase awareness of the library as an essential information resource. In this video (4:35), Campaign manager Megan Humphrey talks about the program and author Andy Strasberg (above) discusses the song “Take Me Out to the Ball Game.”...
Visibility @ your library, Aug. 28

Gift benefits Cultural Communities Fund

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/September2008/PPOwheeler.cfm>]

A generous estate gift of \$225,000 from Lee Allen Wheeler, a library enthusiast and frequent patron of the

Oshkosh (Wis.) Public Library, will assist the Cultural Communities Fund in meeting its ambitious campaign goals. Though initial support has been strong, ALA must still raise a final \$52,000 by September 12 in order to meet the terms of the challenge grant....

Branford Marsalis promotes North Carolina library cards

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/September2008/CampaignMarsalis.cfm>]

The State Library of North Carolina has selected world-renowned saxophonist Branford Marsalis as this year's state spokesperson for Library Card Sign-up Month. For the past three years, the state library has selected a celebrity to champion the library card as the most important card in every North Carolinian's wallet. Marsalis kicked off the campaign September 2 with a press conference at Durham County's North Regional Library....

Bookshelf grants [<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/September2008/PPOpicturingamerica.cfm>]

The ALA Public Programs Office will again partner with the National Endowment for the Humanities for the sixth We the People Bookshelf project. Part of NEH's We the People program, the Bookshelf encourages young people to read and understand great literature while exploring themes in American history. This year's theme, "Picturing America," will be a literary complement to NEH's Picturing America art program. Public and school libraries can apply [<http://publicprograms.ala.org/bookshelf/>] online through January 30....

Featured review: Media [http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=2883856]

Quantum Hoops: The Caltech Basketball Story. June 2008. 85min. Green Forest, DVD.

California Institute of Technology (Caltech) is known for many things: an unparalleled reputation for high academic standards, illustrious alumni and faculty (including 31 Nobel Prize winners), and a basketball team that has lost 243 consecutive conference games. It's not easy to recruit athletes in a school with impossibly high entrance standards. What the players lack in basketball skills, they make up for with heart and spirit. In this overwhelmingly inspiring program, narrated by actor David Duchovny, players, alumni, and coaches speak fondly of the lessons learned on the basketball court, the rewards of cramming practices into schedules filled with academics, and the burden of constantly losing....

Websites for youth: Sports [http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=2936303]

Joanne Troutner writes: "The world of sports remains popular with most youngsters and is a good way to engage learners. This update of two previous Web-site sports lists (run in 2002 and 2006) again spans a variety of athletics and interests, including martial arts, baseball, and the Olympics. The sites were last accessed on July 24."...

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

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

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Division News

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AASL's Fall Forum [<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/September2008/AASLfallforum.cfm>]

Early bird registration for AASL's Fall Forum ends Friday, September 12. Sessions for this year's gathering, "Assessment, Part II: Constructing and Interpreting Viable Tools for Effective Student Learning in the Library Media Center," will be led by Judith Dzikowski, Julie Gedeon, Celeste Nalwasky, and Barbara F. Schloman. The forum will be held October 17-19 at the Oak Brook Hills Marriott Resort in Oak Brook, Illinois....

Register for PLA's 2009 Spring Symposium

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/September2008/PLAspringsymposium.cfm>]

The 2009 PLA Spring Symposium will be held April 2-4 in Nashville, Tennessee, at the Renaissance Nashville Hotel and Nashville Convention Center. The Spring Symposium will feature six intensive day-and-a-half-long workshops focusing on subjects pertinent to public libraries and public librarians, as well as an Opening General Session with keynote speaker musician Tom Chapin, an author luncheon, and area library tours. The early bird registration rate for PLA members is \$250 before October 31....

Win a YA author visit [<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/September2008/YALSATRWauthorvisit.cfm>]

YALSA and AdLit.org are looking for the best Teen Read Week celebrations that involve significant collaboration between teachers and librarians. They are giving away two author visits plus other prizes in the 2008 Best Teen Read Week Celebration Contest. One winner will receive an author visit from Kimberly Pauley (right) of Mirrorstone Books; another will receive a visit from author Geno Salvatore, who will run a D&D game at the winning library; and five runners-up will each receive a \$50 prize package....

Advanced registration open for YALSA Symposium

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/September2008/YALSAadvancereg.cfm>]

Advanced registration [<http://www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/yalitsymposium/symposium.cfm>] begins September 3 for YALSA's inaugural Young Adult Literature Symposium, November 7-9, at the Millennium Maxwell House Hotel in Nashville, Tennessee. Registrants will save more than 10% over onsite registration fees before October 3....

Awards

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Nominations open for I Love My Librarian Award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/September2008/CampaignNYTnominations.cfm>]

Nominations for the Carnegie Corporation of New York/New York Times I Love My Librarian Award are now open. Up to 10 librarians in public, school, and academic libraries will be selected for the award, which encourages library users to recognize the accomplishments of librarians for their efforts to improve the lives of people in their community. Nominations [<http://www.ilovelibraries.org/lovelibrarian/home.cfm>] for public librarians will be accepted through October 1, and for school and academic librarians through October 15....

Stevie Wonder gets LC's Gershwin Prize [<http://www.loc.gov/today/pr/2008/08-144.html>]

Librarian of Congress James H. Billington named singer/songwriter Stevie Wonder the recipient of the Second Library of Congress Gershwin Prize for Popular Song on September 2. The award presentation will take place in the Great Hall of the Library on February 23. The prize is awarded to musicians whose lifetime contributions in the field of popular song exemplify the standard of excellence associated with George and Ira Gershwin. As an added distinction to this year's prize, LC has offered, and Wonder has accepted, a musical commission....

Library of Congress, Sept. 2

What do we know about Sarah Palin and the library? Not much

[<http://www.libraryjournal.com/blog/1010000101/post/1460032546.html?nid=3570>]

Norman Oder writes: “John McCain’s surprise choice of Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin as his running mate on the Republican ticket has led journalists and bloggers to the clip and web files, and a library connection—suggesting but hardly proving dubious behavior by Palin as mayor of Wasilla, Alaska—has emerged. We do know that small-town politics can get ugly. It’s not illegitimate for the press to dig up old quotes, but we’d be much better served if others in Alaska elaborate on situations that remain murky.”...

Library Journal, Sept. 2

Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh makes digital history

[<http://www.prnewswire.com/cgi-bin/stories.pl?ACCT=109&STORY=/www/story/09-02-2008/0004877027&EDATE=>]

A 2008 National Leadership Demonstration Grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services will enable the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh to digitally preserve more than 400,000 pages of historic materials related to the iron and steel industry. The \$600,000 grant, awarded September 2 by IMLS Director Anne-Imelda M. Radice, will finance “The Legacy of Iron and Steel” project. With this grant, the library will demonstrate how it can use current technology to provide access to and excitement about its historic collections....

Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, Sept. 2

Beardstown wrestles with school library challenge

[http://www.myjournalcourier.com/news/wrestles_19515___article.html/banning_beardstown.html]

The Beardstown (Ill.) School Board meeting became a debate about morality, free speech, and the responsibilities of public school libraries August 27. Local resident Stephen Griffin approached the board with the request that the book *Nineteen Minutes* by Jodi Picoult be removed from the high school libraries' shelves permanently. Griffin said that his then-7th-grade daughter brought the book home from school last year, and he was disturbed to find it contained the “f-word” more than 40 times in varying contexts....

Jacksonville (Ill.) Journal-Courier, Aug. 27

pulled from Oklahoma school library [<http://www.kxii.com/home/headlines/27787764.html>]

Parent Kathy Davis was shocked when she saw what her 13-year-old daughter was reading. The book—*TTFN* by Lauren Myracle—came from the Marietta (Okla.) Middle School library, and it was on an advanced reading list. Graphic descriptions of oral sex are detailed in passages discussing recreational drug use. The book was recommended for Grades 10–12, but it has now been pulled from the shelves....

KXII-TV, Sherman, Texas, Sept. 2

Aides now in charge of Mesa school libraries

[<http://www.azcentral.com/arizonarepublic/local/articles/2008/09/02/20080902librarians0902.html>]

Debra Faysak used to help at the John Philip Sousa Elementary School library in Mesa, Arizona. Now she runs it. The library aide is part of a three-year plan to transfer certified librarians back into the classroom, saving the district about \$3 million. The librarians had fought to keep their jobs, protesting at school board meetings and proposing alternative plans last year. Of 78 Mesa school librarians, 47 retired or decided to return to classroom teaching this school year....

Phoenix Arizona Republic, Sept. 2

No retirement for soon-to-be 103-year-old [<http://www.kansascity.com/238/story/773043.html>]

In 1926, Martha Smith (right) took a job at the tiny Coal Creek Library in Vinland, Kansas. Eighty-two years later, she's still there. Others might have retired 30 years ago. Not Smith. She still shows up every

Sunday to put in her hours at the oldest continuously operated library in Kansas. With her 103rd birthday coming up September 15, Smith wears a hearing aid and needs an oversized pair of magnifying goggles to read. Watch the video [http://videos.kansascity.com/vmix_hosted_apps/p/media?id=2129176] (2:50) of Smith at work....

Kansas City (Mo.) Star, Aug. 29

New York Public Library for the Performing Arts

[<http://www.tampabay.com/features/performingarts/article785550.ece>]

The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts is a treasure trove of 9 million items related to every kind of performance. There are plenty of books, of course, but also audio and video recordings, manuscripts, sheet music, stage design models, press clippings, programs, posters, photographs, and letters. It's the largest collection devoted to music, dance, theater, recorded sound, and other performing arts that is free and open to the public....

St. Petersburg (Fla.) Times, Aug. 31

Mesa County branch cuts its paid staff

[http://www.gjsentinel.com/hp/content/news/stories/2008/08/28/082908_1b_Gateway_library.html]

The Mesa County (Colo.) Public Library District board of trustees voted 4-2 August 28 to stop staffing the Gateway branch and transition to a stand-alone "leaf" that would be run by volunteers. Officials backed away from an initial option of shutting down the branch and moving the books to a new location in Orchard Mesa. Gateway librarian Janey Raney, who keeps the branch open four hours a day, four days a week, said after the meeting she figures she's out of a job....

Grand Junction (Colo.) Daily Sentinel, Aug. 28

Volunteers filling in for laid-off pages

[http://www.pe.com/localnews/riverside/stories/PE_News_Local_W_wvolunteers02.49b3d50.html]

Volunteers are picking up the slack at the public libraries in Riverside, California. The city's library system has a record number of volunteers who have stepped up to help the library maintain order following the layoffs of 30 part-time pages July 1 as a cost-savings measure. Staff also are taking on responsibilities to ensure there is no difference in service, said George Guzman, the library's Administrative Services manager....

Riverside (Calif.) Press Enterprise, Sept. 2

Librarian works to revamp Arkansas prison libraries

[<http://www.texarkanagazette.com/news/WireHeadlines/2008/09/02/librarian-lights-way-for-inmates-with-bo-33.php>]

Dennice Alexander (right) is the first full-time library administrator for the Arkansas Department of Correction, whose prisons hold more than 14,000 inmates spread among 20 locations. For the longest time, advisory boards held sway over what books made it inside the double razor-wired fences. But in recent years, Alexander has approved the books and magazines that bring light inside a system once deemed by federal courts to be a "dark and evil world."...

Associated Press, Sept. 2

Anti-porn group wants St. Louis County to review teen titles

[<http://kirkwoodwebsterjournal.stltoday.com/articles/2008/08/26/news/sj2tn20080826-0827wcj-cap0.ii1.txt>]

A citizens' anti-pornography group wants certain books in the St. Louis County (Mo.) Library's teen section segregated from younger eyes and placed in the adult section. Carl Hendrickson, chairman of Citizens Against Pornography, submitted petitions signed by almost 150 residents at the library's board of directors meeting. The petitions call on the board to establish an Adult Advisory Committee to review literature going into the teen section. However, Library Director Charles Pace says a system is already in place to review materials on the shelves....

Kirkwood-Webster (Mo.) Journal, Aug. 26

Jazz library a high note for North Texas

[http://www.dentonrc.com/sharedcontent/dws/drc/localnews/stories/DRC_jazz_library_0831.2bcaf58f.html]
A moving van delivered the 400-piece Maynard Ferguson collection to the University of North Texas library in Denton last week. The materials, provided by a consortium of donors, spans the Canadian jazz trumpeter's career from the mid-1950s to his death in 2006. This important resource is the second for the university, which, decades ago, acquired the work of Ferguson's mentor, Stan Kenton. Like Kenton's music, Ferguson's will be cataloged and digitized by librarians experienced in preserving documents....

Denton (Tex.) Record-Chronicle, Aug. 30

Cardiff wants to sell its rare books [http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/wales/south_east/7593883.stm]
An action group says it is aghast at plans to sell some of Wales's oldest and rarest books. Cardiff Council could eventually sell up to 18,000 items dating from the 15th century at auction to raise money for improvements in library services. The collection at the central library includes early atlases along with a second edition of Shakespeare. An initial 139 items are under review, but the group, which includes academics, wants the process to end....

BBC News, Sept. 2

Queens librarian donates hair

[http://www.nydailynews.com/ny_local/queens/2008/08/28/2008-08-28_one_for_the_books_queens_librarian_gets_2.h
tml]

A Queens librarian chopped off her long hair and donated it to charity August 27 after the kids in her summer reading program at the Hollis branch of the Queens (N.Y.) Public Library won a bet. Sueli Zaqem had wagered that the children couldn't finish twice as many books as they did last year—and said she'd cut off her black tresses if proven wrong. She lost, and the kids clapped and cheered as she sat in a chair and let a colleague snip off a 13-inch ponytail for Locks of Love, which donates hair to kids made bald by illness....

New York Daily News, Aug. 28

Restoring ancient Buddhist texts a painstaking art

[http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/china/2008-08/26/content_6970950.htm]

Over the past 18 years, Hu Yuqing and her 29 colleagues at the Rare Books Restoration Center of the National Library of China have repaired 5,000, or half of the Dunhuang scrolls—handwritten Buddhist scriptures dating from the Tang Dynasty (618–907)—owned by the library. Hu is one of fewer than 200 professionals in China who can restore ancient texts. Despite a shortage of funding, Hu and her colleagues have devoted themselves to restoring the ancient classics....

China Daily, Aug. 26

Former Saskatchewan library director gets two years

[<http://www.canada.com/reginaleaderpost/news/story.html?id=60fe593c-bf13-42f1-a879-8769bf9c43fd>]

The former head of a regional library system in Saskatchewan, who embezzled half a million dollars over 14 years, was sentenced August 27 to a jail term of two years. Bruce Cameron pleaded guilty in May to defrauding the Wheatland Regional Library in Saskatoon of \$497,503 (Can.). Cameron, who was executive director of WRL for 30 years, created a fake company in Nevada called Desert Rose Books and operated under an alias to perpetrate the fraud....

Regina (Sask.) Leader-Post, Aug. 28

Tech Talk

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Giving Google Chrome a spin

[<http://www.techcrunch.com/2008/09/02/giving-google-chrome-a-spin-this-thing-moves-fast/>]

Don Riesinger writes: “Google announced its new web browser Chrome [<http://www.google.com/chrome/>] September 1 and already the company has offered Windows XP and Vista owners the opportunity to try it out. And although I’ve only been able to use it for just a little while, Google Chrome is not only one of the fastest browsers I’ve ever used, it’s easily one of the best. Chrome offers an ‘Omnibox,’ which lets you input a web address or search the web in the address bar. Perhaps more than anything, you’ll notice just how fast Chrome is immediately.” Tabs

[<http://arstechnica.com/news.ars/post/20080901-google-opens-up-new-front-in-browser-wars-with-chrome.html>] are more robust, it’s crash-resistant,

[http://www.pcworld.com/article/150585/googles_chrome_7_reasons_for_it_and_7_reasons_against_it.html] and the browser has its own stealth mode.

[http://reviews.cnet.com/browsers/chrome-beta/4505-3514_7-33238322.html?tag=mncol;txt] Ina Fried warns [http://news.cnet.com/8301-13860_3-10030522-56.html] that you might see more ads and that Google might update the browser automatically. Beware cute error messages

[http://featuresblogs.chicagotribune.com/technology_internetcritic/2008/09/my-google-chrom.html] and occasional installation glitches.

[<http://techblog.dallasnews.com/archives/2008/09/google-chrome-seems-fast-but-i.html>] Watch the video

[<http://www.google.com/chrome/intl/en/features.html>] or read the comic interpretation

[<http://www.google.com/googlebooks/chrome/>] by Scott McCloud....

TechCrunch, Sept. 2; Ars Technica, Sept. 1; PC World, Sept. 2; C|Net, Sept. 2; Beyond Binary, Sept. 2; Chicago Tribune, Sept. 2; Dallas Morning News, Sept. 2; Google, Sept. 1

[<http://www.techsource.ala.org/ltr/drupal-in-libraries.html>]Drupal in libraries

[<http://drupal.org/Drupal-in-Library-Technology-Reports>]

Drupal is hot in the library world, with sessions devoted to it at several recent library conferences. Like many nonprofits, libraries turn to Drupal as a powerful tool with a low cost of entry. The Idaho Commission for Libraries has led the way, leveraging the multisite features of Drupal to provide sites for libraries across Idaho. Drupal in Libraries [<http://www.techsource.ala.org/ltr/drupal-in-libraries.html>] is the subject of the May/June edition of Library Technology Reports, written by Andy Austin and Chris Harris....
Drupal, Aug. 24

Canada joins OLE Project [<http://www.librarytechnology.org/ltg-displayarticle.pl?RC=13516>]

Library and Archives Canada will be joining Duke University Libraries and other partners in the Open Library Environment Project. [<http://oleproject.org>]With funding from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the OLE Project will develop a design document for a next-generation open-source library automation system that fits modern expectations for library workflows and is built on a modern service-oriented architecture. LAC will facilitate cooperation among Canadian institutions....

Library and Archives Canada, Sept. 2

20 tech habits to improve your life [<http://www.pcworld.com/article/150320/article.html>]

Gina Trapani writes: “Technology is supposed to make life easier, but it doesn’t seem that way when you’re struggling to wrangle 289 new email messages, dealing with a hard-drive crash, or suddenly realizing that you left an important file on the office computer. Thankfully, plenty of tools can help,” among them the “inbox zero” philosophy, using a camera phone to remember things, and cable proliferation controls....
PC World, Aug. 28

Present Live shares PowerPoint presentations [<http://mashable.com/2008/09/02/authorstream-present-live/>]

Alana Taylor writes: “AuthorStream, the site that allows you to send PowerPoint presentations straight to YouTube, your iPod, and your blog, released Present Live September 2. This allows you to share your presentation with a selected group of friends and contacts on the internet in real time. I can see this working well not only at conferences but also in the classroom where students and teachers can easily interact through the internet.”...

Mashable, Sept. 2

Publishing

Free presidential election resources through November 4

[<http://www.abc-clio.com/publishing/pressview.aspx?contentid=100380>]

School librarians and teachers can use the excitement of current events as a springboard to answer questions about campaigns and voters, and teach the history of the American political process with an authoritative collection of free resources from ABC-CLIO. Launching on September 5, "Presidential Elections: In History and Today" features historical background on elections paired with classroom activities and research project ideas that will help put Campaign 2008 into historical context for students....

ABC-CLIO, Aug. 28

Muhammad's bride finds another publisher [<http://www.guardian.co.uk/books/2008/sep/03/2>]

British independent publisher Gibson Square has bought Sherry Jones's controversial novel about the child bride of Muhammad, which was dropped by Random House US following warnings that it could incite acts of violence from radical Muslims. The Jewel of Medina was also pulled from bookshops in Serbia last month after pressure from an Islamic group....

The Guardian (U.K.), Sept. 3

Publishers should all have a covers directory

[<http://www.boingboing.net/2008/09/01/publishers-should-al.html>]

Cory Doctorow writes: "I often blog about books and when I do, I like to put up a picture of the cover. It's often the case that Amazon's covers are grainy, missing, too small, or otherwise unsuitable. So here's the idea: Publishers should create default directories called 'covers' at their server-root (for example, harpercollins.co.uk/covers/) filled with high-rez PNGs or JPGs named after the book's ISBN. Tweak your robots.txt file to make sure the search engines all crawl these directories, so when you search on images.google.com or images.yahoo.com for an ISBN, the high-rez cover image will be right there at the top."...

Boing Boing, Sept. 1

Kindle kudos

[<http://theshiftedlibrarian.com/archives/2008/09/02/four-months-two-books-and-a-weekly-magazine.html>]

Jenny Levine writes: "I've had my Kindle ebook reader for just about four months now, and as I suspected, the amount of book reading I'm doing is going up. During the summer, I've tended to start multiple books and finish none of them. But the Kindle is changing this, mainly because I'm using my daily commute and other travel times to integrate reading books back into my routine. I'm reading less online and more on the Kindle. I especially like having Newsweek automagically appear on the device at the beginning of each week."...

The Shifted Librarian, Sept. 2

[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

Actions & Answers

LC's "Learning from Katrina" web page [<http://www.loc.gov/today/pr/2008/08-148.html>]

August 29 marked the third anniversary of Hurricane Katrina's devastating impact on New Orleans and the Gulf Coast. In commemoration, the Library of Congress has created a website titled Learning from Katrina, [<http://www.loc.gov/preserv/emergprep/katrinarespond.html>] which provides insights for better responses to record and artifact damage by hurricanes. Visitors can hear seven interviews with professional conservators who helped salvage collections affected in August 2005....

Library of Congress, Aug. 29

October 14 is Open Access Day [<http://www.arl.org/sparc/media/08-0828.shtml>]

The Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition, the Public Library of Science, and Students for FreeCulture have jointly announced the first international Open Access Day. [<http://openaccessday.org/>] The event will offer researchers, educators, librarians, students, and the public the chance to participate in live, worldwide broadcasts of events. In North America, events will be held at 7:00 p.m. (Eastern) and 7:00 p.m. (Pacific) and will feature appearances from English biochemist Sir Richard J. Roberts and pharmacist and PLoS editor Philip E. Bourne....

SPARC, Aug. 28

The Net Neutrality debate on one page

[<http://www.techcrunch.com/2008/08/31/the-net-neutrality-debate-all-on-one-page/>]

Erick Schonfeld writes: "Are you confused about Net Neutrality? Some people argue it is necessary for continued innovation on the internet; others claim that it is unnecessary regulation that will create unintended consequences. The debate site Opposing Views

[<http://www.opposingviews.com/questions/should-the-government-regulate-net-neutrality>] has put up a page that lays out the arguments pro and con for Net Neutrality, and then links to fuller arguments. Marshaling the arguments for Net Neutrality are the Save The Internet Coalition, the Open Internet Coalition, and Public Knowledge. Arguing against are the Cato Institute and Hands Off The Internet."...

TechCrunch, Aug. 31

The state of American e-government [http://www.brookings.edu/reports/2008/0826_egovernment_west.aspx]
Using a detailed analysis of 1,537 state and federal government websites, a Brookings Institution report (PDF file

[http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/reports/2008/0826_egovernment_west/0826_egovernment_west.pdf]) examines whether government agencies are making effective use of the Web to improve service delivery and public outreach. Although sites have generally improved in recent years, the report notes that "legislative and judicial sites often were simply billboards that offered little useful content or few electronic services," and "e-government has fallen short of its potential to transform public-sector operations."...

Brookings Institution, Aug. 26

Survey of library digitization projects

[http://www.researchandmarkets.com/reportinfo.asp?report_id=649510&t=d&cat_id=]

A new study by Primary Research Group offers data on digitization projects in more than 100 museums and academic, public, and special libraries in several countries. More than 53% have teamed up with another department to work jointly on a project. The mean number of hours spent obtaining rights permissions or copyright clearance was 221. Nearly 49% of the organizations in the sample outsource some form of digitization, in whole or in part, to an outside party....

Primary Research Group, Aug.

PALINET Leadership Network [<http://meredith.wolfwater.com/wordpress/2008/09/01/palinet-leadership-network/>]

Meredith Farkas writes: “Walt Crawford started his work on the PALINET Leadership Network [http://pln.palinet.org/wiki/index.php/PLN_Home] site less than a year ago, but already he has made it a terrific resource for people in our profession. Some of the articles on the wiki are original, while others are compilations of writings on a theme by a variety of innovators and leaders in our profession. For anyone interested in reading various perspectives on library leadership, management, planning, and marketing, this is a useful resource to check out. The site's more than 300 pages of content are easy to browse or search.”...

Information Wants To Be Free, Sept. 1

OCLC's Cooperative Identities Hub [<http://namesproject.wordpress.com/2008/08/26/oclc-identities-hub/>]

Amanda Hill writes: “OCLC is planning to prototype a Cooperative Identities Hub [<http://www.oclc.org/programs/ourwork/renovating/leveragevocab/idresource.htm>] to bring together information from a wide range of name sources and make them available more widely. The hub will build on the work of the WorldCat Identities [<http://orlabs.oclc.org/Identities/>] service, which takes the names of people and organizations from the LC/NACO authority file and WorldCat, and displays contextual information such as titles of works, associated subjects, publication timelines, and book covers. The service also holds links to library authority files and to Wikipedia.”...

Names Project Blog, Aug. 26; OCLC

The Dublin Core Abstract Model, demystified [<http://kcoyle.blogspot.com/2008/09/semantic-dementia.html>]

Karen Coyle writes: “I understand the need that standards have to be very precise in their terminology and to give terms specific meaning. There often is a conflict, however, between that desire for precision and the need to communicate well with the users of the standard. Simplification is needed for the Dublin Core Abstract Model [<http://dublincore.org/documents/abstract-model/>], which defines a set of metadata types that can help us communicate to each other about our metadata. I'm going to attempt that (even though I think it's a dangerous thing to do).”...

Coyle's InFormation, Sept. 2

UC Berkeley revives arts loan program

[http://www.berkeley.edu/news/media/releases/2008/08/28_libraryart.shtml]

The University of California, Berkeley's Morrison Library is reviving a Graphic Arts Loan Collection program that 50 years ago began placing Picassos, Mirós, and the works of other renowned and emerging artists into the hands of students, faculty, and staff. To that end, the Morrison Library has launched a new website [<http://galc.lib.berkeley.edu/>] with images of approximately 700 framed original, numbered prints that are signed by their creators. The artwork can be perused and favorites selected for checkout by borrowers with valid UCB IDs....

University of California, Berkeley, Aug. 28

Remembering the burning of the University of Algiers library

[<http://www.libraryhistorybuff.org/bibliophilately-algiers-library.htm>]

Larry Nix writes: “On June 7, 1962, the Organisation de l'armée secrète (OAS), a militant underground organization opposed to Algerian independence, burned down the library of the University of Algiers, destroying 112,500 books. This was one of the culminating acts of the 1954–1962 Algerian War. On July 1, 1962, Algerians in overwhelming numbers voted in favor of independence from France. The burning of the library was seen as a symbol of the rightness of Algerian independence and resulted in a number of Muslim countries issuing postage stamps commemorating the tragic event.”...

Library History Buff

Librarian of the year [http://www.atom.com/funny_videos/3EFBFFFF00EBEF530017001CED3B/]

Sean Becker stars as Jeff Paulson, a library assistant who is apparently the last employee to be nominated for Librarian of the Year. “He's not ‘of the year’ material,” says a friend. “He's a pretty rotten person.” Inspired by The Office, this video (10:25) is part of the “Three of a Kind” series of Atom's user-uploaded comedy sketches. Filmed at the Milpitas branch of the Santa Clara County (Calif.) Library....

Atom.com

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/midwinter/home.cfm>]

ALA Midwinter Meeting, [<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/midwinter/2009/faq.cfm>] Denver, January 23–28. New this year: You must register

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/midwinter/2009/registration.cfm>] for the Midwinter Meeting before you can register for housing.

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/midwinter/2009/travel.cfm>]

[http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?_sn=catalog2&_pn=product_detail&_op=2575]

When writing the first edition of *Teen Spaces*

[http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?_sn=catalog2&_pn=product_detail&_op=2575] in 2002, YA expert Kimberly Bolan was challenged to find excellent examples. Now, teen spaces in libraries abound and interest continues to grow. With a strategic use of web-based technologies—;from the author’s website to a Flickr account—;this second edition showcases success stories as it reaches out to attract a global community of YA librarians committed to meeting the needs of young adults. NEW! From ALA Editions.

Ask the ALA Librarian

=====

Q. We're reviewing our policies on overdue fines. Do you have anything to help?

A. Several state libraries and Webjunction have assembled collections of sample policies

[http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Sources_of_Sample_Policies]
—and these are as varied as the libraries preparing them. Some may also be found with this prestructured web search

[[http://www.google.com/search?](http://www.google.com/search?site=unclesam&restrict=unclesam&hl=en&safe=off&output=unclesam&q=%22library+fine)

[site=unclesam&restrict=unclesam&hl=en&safe=off&output=unclesam&q=%22library+fine](http://www.google.com/search?site=unclesam&restrict=unclesam&hl=en&safe=off&output=unclesam&q=%22library+fine)

[s%22+library+policy](http://www.google.com/search?site=unclesam&restrict=unclesam&hl=en&safe=off&output=unclesam&q=%22library+fine)] and additional tips may be found in the portion of this wiki on circulation

[<http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Circulation>] and fines

[http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Fines_and_Overdues]. From the ALA Professional Tips wiki

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

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

Calendar

=====

Oct. 5–9:

Canadian Association of Research Libraries, [http://www.carl-abrc.ca/horaire/2008/fgm_programme-e.html] Fall General Meeting, Ottawa, Ontario.

Oct. 7–8:

University of Maryland at College Park and the National Archives and Records Administration,

[<http://archives.gov/era/presentations/innovations/it-conference08.html>] Joint Conference, College Park, Maryland. "Partnerships in Innovation II: From Vision to Reality and Beyond."

Oct. 9–11:

Oregon Association of School Libraries and Washington Library Media Association,
[<http://www.oemawlma2008.org/index.htm>] Joint Conference, Oregon Convention Center, Portland.

Oct. 16–17:

Association of Research Libraries and the Coalition for Networked Information,
[<http://www.arl.org/events/fallforum/forum08/index.shtml>] Fall Forum, Ritz-Carlton, Pentagon City, Arlington, Virginia. "Reinventing Science Librarianship: Models for the Future."

Oct. 16–17:

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

Oct. 19–24:

Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research,
[<http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/dpm/workshops/fiveday.html>] Digital Preservation Management training program, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Oct. 22–24:

Ohio Educational Library Media Association, [<http://www.oelma.org/conference/2008/default.asp>] Annual Conference, Columbus Convention Center. "School Libraries: Transforming Lives."

Oct. 24:

Long Island Library Resources Council, [<http://www.lilrc.org/calendars/eventdetail.php?eventID=452>] Annual Conference on Libraries and the Future, Fortunoff Hall, Dowling College, Oakdale, New York. "Millennials: Talkin' Bout Y Generation."

Oct. 25–27:

6th International Conference on the Book, [<http://b08.cgpublisher.com/>] Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C.

@ 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 | September 10, 2008

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SirsiDynix Enterprise™ Quick single search box
 State of the Art Faceted Search Easy-to-configure site profiles
 Industry-first fuzzy search



U.S. & World News

[Critics revisit library incident that paints Palin as censor](#)

Journalists and bloggers scrutinizing Sarah Palin's record of public service have made national news out of a 1996 library incident in Wasilla, Alaska, where the Republican vice-presidential nominee was then mayor. The story that has emerged—in countless reports, from the blogosphere to the *New York Times*—paints Palin as a would-be censor and then-city librarian Mary Ellen Emmons as nearly losing her job for disagreeing...

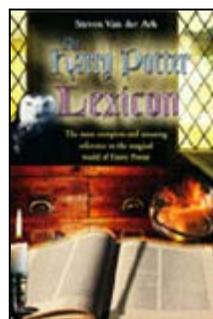
American Libraries Online, Sept. 8, 10



[J. K. Rowling wins copyright fight](#)

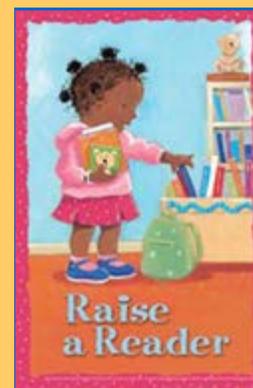
A federal district court ruled September 8 that Michigan publisher RDR Books could not proceed with the print publication of *The Harry Potter Lexicon*, a 400-page reference work by former school librarian Steven Vander Ark based on the [website](#) he created in 2000. In addition to ordering a permanent injunction barring the book's publication, Judge Robert P. Patterson awarded the minimum damages of \$750 for each of the series' seven novels and Rowling's two companion books—a total of \$6,750—to Rowling and Warner Brothers, which is in the midst of filming the final three movies based on the Potter series. The court did apply the [fair-use test](#); Karen Donovan offers [another take](#)....

American Libraries Online, Sept. 10; TeleRead, Sept. 8; Condé Nast Portfolio, Sept. 9



[ALA Midwinter Meeting.](#)

Denver, January 23–28. Exhibitors and attendees can download Midwinter logos [here](#).



Tuesday is Lola's favorite day because her mother takes her to the library. Share Lola's love of the library with this [mini-poster](#) from illustrator Rosalind Beardshaw, featuring Lola, from Anna McQuinn's *Lola at the Library*. **NEW!** From ALA Graphics.



Four Great Conferences At One Site! Something For Everyone!
 KL/KSMA/SELA/ARL
National Diversity in Libraries Conference: "Spectrum of the Future"
 October 1-4, 2008, Louisville Marriott Downtown, Louisville, Kentucky

ALA News

[Pennsylvania State Librarian to testify before Congress](#)

Pennsylvania Commissioner for Libraries Mary Clare Zales is testifying September 11 before the House Education and Labor Subcommittee on Healthy Families and Communities about how libraries are essential to the American public in the 21st century. Representing ALA, the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies, and the Pennsylvania Department of Education, Zales's testimony highlights the variety of services that libraries provide to their patrons....

District Dispatch, Sept. 10



[Book banning is alive and well in the United States](#)

Are books like *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* or the Harry Potter series available at your public or school library? According to the ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom, due to book challenges, more than one book a day faces removal from public access in school and public libraries. Challenges are defined as formal, written complaints filed with a library or school requesting that materials be removed because of content or appropriateness. Office for Intellectual Freedom Director Judith Krug and Nathan Ritchie from the McCormick Tribune Freedom Museum (above) discuss Banned Books Week 2008 on [Chicago Access Network TV](#) (27:33) August 27....



[25 libraries selected to host "Pride and Passion" exhibit](#)

The ALA Public Programs Office, in association with the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum, announced that 25 libraries have been selected to host "Pride and Passion: The African American Baseball Experience," a traveling exhibition telling the story of black baseball players in the U.S. over the past century and a half. The National Endowment for the Humanities provided major funding for the traveling exhibition....



[20 libraries selected for "John Adams Unbound"](#)

The ALA Public Programs Office, in association with the Boston Public Library, announced that 20 libraries have been selected to host "John Adams Unbound," a traveling exhibition based upon a larger exhibition of the same name recently on display at the Boston Public Library. Libraries selected for the tour will host the 1,000-square-foot exhibit for six weeks and receive a \$2,500 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities for attendance at an exhibit planning workshop and other exhibit-related expenses....



[Daniel Kraus joins Booklist](#)

American Libraries Associate Editor Daniel Kraus has joined *Booklist* as a Books for Youth associate editor, effective this week. A former librarian, Kraus brings a wealth of experience and talent to the magazine. His first novel for young adults, *The Monster Variations*

In this issue

September 2008



The Future of Privacy

A Privacy Victory in Vermont

ALA Award Winners

Career Leads from

[Cataloger, Asian Religions Collection](#)

(visiting project cataloger, one-year appointment), Florida State University, Tallahassee. This recently acquired collection contains approximately 25,000 volumes, mostly monographs. Under the direction of the associate director for technical services, the cataloger provides bibliographic access to the collection of Asian religions materials. Languages represented in this large collection include English, Tibetan, Sanskrit, Chinese, Japanese, and Korean. The cataloger

(Random House), will be published next summer, and he is the creator of the critically acclaimed series of AL Focus videos. Gillian Engberg has assumed a new role as managing editor of Books for Youth....

[CPLA graduates two more librarians](#)

The Certified Public Library Administrator Program Certification Review Committee has granted certification to two more CPLA candidates. In addition, the committee approved eight new candidates and renewed seven program courses in its first Fall 2008 review. The program now has nine graduates and 112 candidates representing public libraries of all sizes across the nation....



[Library Card Sign-Up Month in Second Life](#)

Visitors to ALA Island in Second Life are encouraged to show their library card pride by taking a snapshot of their avatar holding an "@ your library" library card. Snapshots can be posted on the Constellation of Library Stars gallery. Virtual library cards are available at the ALA Main Stage, located at 128, 107, 29....



must be able to perform original cataloging and complex copy cataloging in a variety of formats and languages....

@ [More jobs...](#)

Digital Library of the Week



[The Sjoerd Koopman Library Postcard Collection, 1900-](#)

[2003](#). Sjoerd Koopman, coordinator of professional activities for the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions at The Hague, Netherlands, recently made his collection of U.S. library postcards available to the [ALA Archives](#), hosted by the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, which has begun processing them as a digital collection on a state-by-state basis. Subjects include public libraries, private libraries, academic libraries, library interiors, reading rooms, and bookmobiles. The digital collection currently shows 388 postcards from Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, and Wyoming; some 3,600 cards from other states will eventually be added.

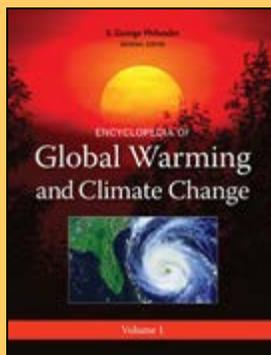
Do you know of a digital library collection that we can mention in this *AL Direct*

Booklist ONLINE

[Featured review: Reference](#)

S. George Philander, ed., *Encyclopedia of Global Warming and Climate Change*. 1,552p. Sage, hardcover (978-1-4129-5878-3).

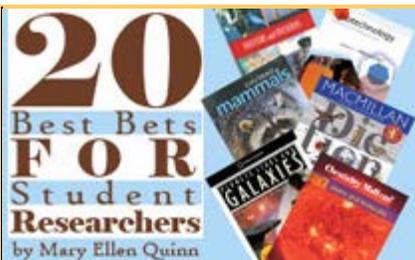
Philander, a member of the geosciences faculty at Princeton University and research director of the African Centre for Climate and Earth System Science in Cape Town, South Africa, has gathered authors from fields as diverse as anthropology, chemistry, geography, and medicine to put together an encyclopedia of about 750 articles. The entries cover countries, climate models, atmospheric sciences, institutions studying climate change, and people studying the climate. Individual country entries highlight changes by country instead of by broad climatic regions and will help users understand global-warming issues in, say, Argentina or Tuvalu. Organizational entries are predominately focused on U.S. institutions and governmental entities. Although the preface notes that "scientific objectivity have been the watchwords" for the encyclopedia, entries provide a range of perspectives....



[20 best bets for student researchers](#)

Mary Ellen Quinn writes: "As

the new school year gets under way, our annual Best Bets list features new titles we reviewed in the past 12 months that are targeted specifically for students from the elementary through high-school levels. Also here are the latest editions of some library standards. For more good bets, check out the Encyclopedia Update coming up in the September 15 issue of *Booklist*."...



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

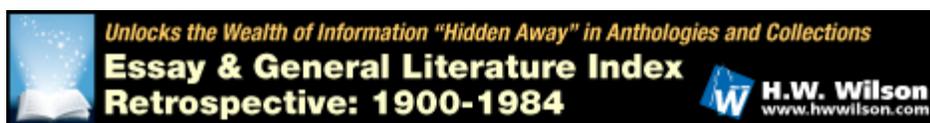
feature? [Tell us about it.](#)

Public Perception

How the World Sees Us

"We are facing a great change in civilization, and the responsibility, I think, for what we do with our leisure time is a very great responsibility for all of us who have intellectual interests. . . . That is a challenge. We, here in this country, ought to know what to do with our time, if we have it. I do not know whether we are going to have it, but if we are going to have more leisure time, it is the library, and people who live in the libraries and work in libraries, who are going to lead the way, who are going to give other people the curiosity and the vision of useful things, and pleasant things, and amusing things which can be done in those hours in which we may not have to work in the ways in which we have worked before."

—First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt, ["What Libraries Mean to the Nation,"](#) an address given at the District of Columbia Library Association Dinner, Carlton Hotel, Washington D.C., April 1, 1936.



Division News

[Mirrorstone returns as Teen Read Week sponsor](#)

Mirrorstone, an imprint of Wizards of the Coast, is a corporate sponsor of Teen Read Week for the second year in a row. Founded in 2004, Mirrorstone publishes fantasy fiction for children and teens, with the goal of turning reluctant readers into lifelong readers, which meshes well with TRW's mission to encourage teens to read, just for the fun of it. [Registration](#) for Teen Read Week ends September 12....



[New round of Great Stories CLUB grants](#)

YALSA and the Public Programs Office are accepting applications for the latest round of Great Stories CLUB grants. Electronic [applications](#) will be accepted through November 14. Launched in 2005, the Great Stories CLUB (Connecting Libraries, Underserved teens, and Books) is a reading and discussion program designed to reach underserved, troubled teen populations through books that are relevant to their lives....

[Check out PLAspace](#)

[PLAspace](#) is a new website designed to support the transition of PLA committees to Communities of Practice. In addition to CoPs, the site offers other interactive tools including blogs, forums, chats, an events calendar, a custom projects module, and file storage and archives. Nonmembers also are welcome....



[Women's Leadership Institute](#)

ACRL is partnering with six higher education associations to offer the 2008 Women's Leadership Institute, to be held December 7–10 in Amelia Island, Florida. [Application materials](#) are now available and

are due by September 25. Be a part of this special institute for women seeking to become leaders in higher education administration....

ACRL Insider, Sept. 9

[The Desk and Beyond podcast](#)

In this podcast (29:27), *College & Research Libraries News* editor-in-chief David Free talks with Sarah Steiner and Leslie Madden of Georgia State University, editors of the ACRL publication [The Desk and Beyond: Next Generation Reference Services](#). They are joined by chapter authors Meredith Farkas of Norwich University; Ross LaBaugh of California State University, Fresno; and Jerilyn Veldof of the University of Minnesota, to discuss the book along with current and future trends in reference services....

ACRL Insider, Sept. 5

Awards

[ACRL seeks nominations for 2009 awards](#)

ACRL is seeking nominations for its annual series of awards. Nominations and supporting materials for most awards must be submitted by December 5. With almost \$37,000 donated annually by corporate sponsors, ACRL has and will continue to nominate, select, and honor the very best in academic librarianship....

[Nominations sought for Kilgour Award](#)

Nominations are being accepted for the 2009 Frederick G. Kilgour Award for Research in Library and Information Technology, sponsored by OCLC and LITA. The award recognizes research relevant to the development of information technologies, in particular research that shows promise of having a substantive impact on any aspect of the publication, storage, retrieval, and dissemination of information. The deadline is December 31....

[National Leadership Grants awarded to 44 institutions](#)

The Institute of Museum and Library Services announced September 10 the [44 recipients](#) of National Leadership Grants, totaling \$18.2 million. The largest museum and library joint grant program administered by IMLS, National Leadership Grants support projects that will advance the ability of museums and libraries to preserve culture, heritage, and knowledge while enhancing learning....

Institute of Museum and Library Services, Sept. 10

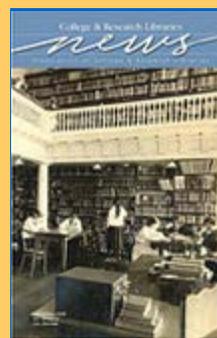
[Pat Mora to receive Luis Leal Literature Award](#)

Poet and author Pat Mora will receive the 2008 Luis Leal Award for Distinction in Chicano/Latino Literature at the Santa Barbara Book and Author Festival on September 27. The award is sponsored by the University of California, Santa Barbara, and the Santa Barbara Book Council. A champion of children's literacy, Mora is the author of several award-winning children's books and the forthcoming *Wiggling Pockets/Los bolsillos se menean*....

University of California, Santa Barbara, Sept. 4



[Branch wins 2008 Dayton Literary Peace](#)



In the [September issue of College & Research Libraries News](#), Sarah Faye Cohen offers some suggestions on how librarians can help teaching faculty overcome their fears and adopt 2.0 technology in and out of the classroom ([PDF file](#)).

Ask the ALA Librarian



Q. With the publicity leading up to Banned Books Week and some recent political coverage, I'm getting questions about why our library keeps banned books in our collection. How do I respond?

A. This is a frequent question for us, too, not just now with [Banned Books Week](#) coming up (September 27–

[Prize](#)

Taylor Branch, whose Pulitzer Prize–winning trilogy *America in the King Years* is widely considered the definitive history of Martin Luther King Jr. and the civil rights movement, will accept a special Dayton Literary Peace Prize for Lifetime Achievement at a ceremony in Dayton, Ohio, on September 28. The trilogy includes *Parting the Waters* (1988), which also won the National Book Critics Circle Award; *Pillar of Fire* (1998); and *At Canaan's Edge* (2006).... Dayton Literary Peace Prize



[Kingston gets Medal for Distinguished Contribution to American Letters](#)

The National Book Foundation will bestow its 2008 Medal for Distinguished Contribution to American Letters on [Maxine Hong Kingston](#) in recognition of her outstanding achievements as a writer of fiction, memoir, and nonfiction. Born to Chinese immigrant parents in California, Kingston has employed a range of literary styles and stories in her work to create a startling new approach to immigrant memoir and fiction and influence two generations of American writers....



National Book Foundation, Sept. 10

[Library clerk recognized for catching a thief](#)

Jacksonville (Fla.) Public Library Clerk Bradley Jaskula helped gather information that led to the arrest of a library patron who had stolen about \$7,000 worth of materials last spring. Jaskula noted that Jermaine Smith had more than a dozen library cards issued to fictional children. For his efforts, Jaskula was given a "Goal Star" civic award and a letter of recognition from Mayor John Peyton....

Jacksonville (Fla.) Daily Record, Sept. 9

Seen Online

[Groups criticize new copyright bill](#)

A broad intellectual property enforcement bill introduced in July is slated for markup by the Senate Judiciary Committee September 11. The Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights Act ([PDF file](#)), sponsored by Sen. Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.), enacts a potpourri of measures long sought by content industries. In a [letter](#) sent to the committee September 10, ALA and other groups criticized the bill, warning that an "unbalanced approach to enforcement would lead to unintended harms" that could stifle innovation....

Ars Technica, Sept. 11

[More details on the Chicago Annenberg Challenge papers release](#)

Before the University of Illinois at Chicago released the records of an educational charity where Democratic presidential candidate Barack Obama and former radical and UIC education professor William Ayers played key roles, school officials talked with the charity's former executive director about whether to withhold documents from the public, records released by the university show....

Chicago Tribune, Sept. 8

[Bid to restore Charlotte school library jobs fails](#)

October 4). We consulted with ALA's Office for Intellectual Freedom for further information about Banned Books Week. First, it helps to explain the [difference](#) between a "banned book" and a "challenged book": "A challenge is an attempt to remove or restrict materials, based upon the objections of a person or group. A banning is the removal of those materials. Challenges do not simply involve a person expressing a point of view; rather, they are an attempt to remove material from the curriculum or library, thereby restricting the access of others. The positive message of Banned Books Week (Free People Read Freely) is that due to the commitment of librarians, teachers, parents, students, and other concerned citizens, most challenges are unsuccessful and most materials are retained in the school curriculum or library collection." Then, you want to focus on the [key messages](#) that libraries provide ideas and information across the spectrum of social and political views; libraries are one of our great democratic institutions, providing freedom of choice for all people; and parents are responsible for supervising their own children's library use.

A move to restore more than 100 school library jobs by pulling the money out of Charlotte-Mecklenburg (N.C.) Schools' public relations department created strong debate before failing 6-3 September 9. Board member Ken Gjertsen's motion came during the final sign-off on CMS's \$1.2-billion budget. Superintendent Peter Gorman had announced in July that he would eliminate jobs for 11 librarians and 93.5 library assistants because county commissioners didn't approve all the money CMS had asked for....

Charlotte (N.C.) Observer, Sept. 10

[Bodleian Library expansion denied](#)

A public inquiry has ruled against Oxford University's plans for its world-famous Bodleian Library. The university, which hoped to build a £29-million depository at Osney Mead to house 8 million books, said the ruling was a "great disappointment." The project was approved by councillors in a narrow vote last year, but it was put on hold when critics said the building would ruin Oxford's skyline....

BBC News, Sept. 10



[Minister pays Karkos's library fine](#)

On September 5, Rev. Doug Taylor paid the fine JoAn Karkos faced for taking *It's Perfectly Normal* out of the Lewiston (Maine) Public Library and refusing to return it because she deemed it obscene. Taylor, who operates a Lewiston children's ministry, said, "I think it would have been horrible if she had to go out and write a check for \$100 after the stand that she took."...

Lewiston (Maine) Sun Journal, Sept. 6

[Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library planned](#)

Theodore Roosevelt lacks one thing that most modern-day presidents have: a presidential library. Dickinson (N. Dak.) State University is gearing up to change that and is planning a library, museum, meeting space, research center, and a comprehensive digital library, all in honor of the 26th president. DSU will incorporate a [database](#) of 600,000 digitized Theodore Roosevelt documents from the Library of Congress and Harvard University....

KFYR-TV, Dickinson, N. Dak., Sept. 8



[California poised to scrub adult literacy program](#)

Those who need help with basic reading and writing in their daily lives may be out of luck or, worse, forced to seek costly private tutoring if a state [budget proposal](#) by Republican senators goes unchecked during the ongoing and stalemated budget talks in Sacramento. "I don't know what they're thinking," Solano County (Calif.) Library Services Assistant Director Bonnie Katz said of the proposal, the elimination of state matching funds for the California Library Literacy Service—money that supports 103 literacy programs in public libraries statewide....

Vacaville (Calif.) Reporter, Sept. 9; California Library Association

[Long Beach library saved as budget adopted](#)

The Long Beach, California, city council adopted a \$3.1-billion city budget September 9 that keeps the once-threatened Main Library open and saves several other slated cuts. While the new proposal had

The OIF site provides a wealth of guidance for helping you [respond to challenges](#) to library materials— or perhaps more importantly, steps you can take before there is a challenge! ALA President Jim Rettig recently released a [statement on censorship](#). From the [ALA Professional Tips wiki](#).

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

Calendar

Sept. 23–26:

[Illinois Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Navy Pier, Chicago. "Libraries= Access: Provide, Promote, Protect."

Sept. 24–26:

[North Dakota Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Best Western Seven Seas, Mandan. "Libraries Under Construction: A Life of Continuous Education."

Sept. 24–26:

[South Dakota Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Chamberlain. "Your Passport to Success: Building Partnerships for Learning."

Oct. 1–3:

[Missouri Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Millennium Hotel St. Louis.

Oct. 1–3:

called for the library to be closed Sunday and Monday, the council also voted to cushion the financial impact of the cuts by giving the library \$258,000 more to work with. Eleanore Schmidt, director of library services, said that the library will at least be open 40 hours a week. Currently, it's open seven days a week for 55 hours....

Long Beach (Calif.) Press-Telegram, Sept. 9

[Highsmith company to close](#)

The Highsmith company in Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin, will close November 1, leaving 86 employees out of work. Lab Safety Supply of Janesville, which purchased Highsmith in July, has informed the Department of Workforce Development that it will close the Fort Atkinson facility. Highsmith, founded in 1956, is a distributor of supplies, furniture, and equipment to public, academic, school, and special libraries throughout the United States....

Madison (Wis.) Capital Times, Sept. 5



[Stolen manuscript to be returned to Israel](#)

A 215-year-old Jewish manuscript discovered missing a decade ago will be returned by the German library where it surfaced. Israeli Embassy officials are currently arranging the manuscript's transfer from the German National Library in Berlin back to Israel, said Avigdor Levin, the top cultural official at the Tel Aviv municipality. A 1998 inventory check at the city's Rambam Library revealed that the one-of-a-kind manuscript was missing. Titled *The Book of the Levite's Worship*, it is a [treatise](#) on Jewish law written by Rabbi Sefer Avodot Halevi in 1793....

Associated Press, Sept. 9; Haaretz (Tel Aviv), Sept. 9

[Highland Park's McGregor Library could reopen](#)

Nestled behind a wrought iron fence, surrounded by overgrown shrubbery, Highland Park, Michigan's McGregor Library stands as a symbol of the city's history, and soon, its future. For years, it served as a gathering place for this community, surrounded by Detroit, but the library was forced to close its doors in 2002. Now state and city officials aim to reopen the library early next year, thanks to a \$25-million state grant....

Detroit Free Press, Sept. 7



[Talking with Seattle Public Library architect Rem Koolhaas](#)

Mark Rahner writes: "Four years after this once-controversial project's completion, Dutch architect Rem Koolhaas and his creation are a key part of the Seattle Public Library's September 13 celebration of the conclusion to its decade-long 'Libraries for All' building program." Koolhaas talked about the project, the controversy, and how he might have done a couple things differently....

Seattle Times, Sept. 9



[Beethoven's last piano piece discovered in Berlin library](#)

Is this Beethoven's last work for piano? Peter McCallum, associate professor in musicology at

[Wyoming Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Casper.

Oct. 1–4:
[Kentucky Library Association/ Kentucky School Media Association/ Southeastern Library Association/ Association of Research Libraries](#), National Diversity in Libraries Joint Conference, Louisville. "Spectrum of the Future."

Oct. 1–4:
[Idaho Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Shilo Inn, Idaho Falls. "The Magic of Libraries."

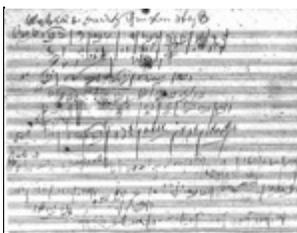
Oct. 15–17:
[Georgia Council of Media Organizations](#), Annual Conference, The Classic Center, Athens.

Oct. 15–17:
[Iowa Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Grand River Center, Dubuque. "Libraries: Anywhere, Any Way, Anytime."

Oct. 15–17:
[Nebraska Library Association/ Nebraska Educational Media Association](#), Annual Conference, Lincoln. "Nebraska Libraries: Vision for the Information Age."

Oct. 19–21:
[New England Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Radisson Hotel Manchester, New Hampshire. "Taking Charge of Change."

the University of Sydney, Australia, believes it is. The 32 bars of handwritten musical notation caught his eye when he was studying the composer's last sketchbook in the Berlin State Library a couple of years ago. McCallum said he believed the piece was written in October 1826, a few months before Beethoven died in March 1827....
Sydney (N.S.W.) Morning Herald, Sept. 5



[Czech National Librarian fired over library design](#)

Czech Culture Minister Václav Jehlicka dismissed National Library Director Vlastimil Jezek September 9 over the planned construction of a new library building (right) in Prague designed by Czech-born British architect Jan Kaplicky. Jezek was an avid supporter of the design, which critics have called a "blob" or an "octopus." However, [Jehlicka said](#) that the plan was "at variance with the law" and could neither begin at the site chosen nor on time....



Prague Daily Monitor, Sept. 10; Radio Praha, Sept. 10

Correction

In last week's story, [Queens librarian donates hair](#), the Hollis branch librarian's name should have been spelled Sueli Zaquem. *AL Direct's* source had also spelled the name incorrectly.

Tech Talk

[New Apple products satisfy, but no surprises](#)

Lance Ulanoff writes: "With a new [iPod nano](#) (right), an updated [iPod touch](#), and an enhanced [iTunes 8](#), Apple and Steve Jobs delivered what everyone expected. In other words, there were no big surprises. Bummer.



The new nano—all tall, thin, and curvy—turned out to be the industry's worst kept secret, and the iPod touch's updates are minor at best. While everyone's excited about a better and shakable nano, the real stories at today's event were about new software, mended partnerships, and a CEO who is still standing."...

PC Magazine, Sept. 9

[How to copy a DVD](#)

The movie and home video industries continue to search for what they deem to be acceptable ways to let consumers duplicate and watch DVD content on their computers. The latest is [RealDVD](#) from RealNetworks, which lets users copy a DVD to their hard drive while keeping the menus, options, special features—and the encryption—intact. There are some free alternatives to this DRM-laden approach; however, using or distributing any of these programs in the USA is illegal under the DMCA. [CSS encryption circumvention tools are illegal](#). In fact, *Wired* is on dangerous ground in even providing these links....

Wired How-To Wiki, Sept. 10; Wired, Sept. 8; Citizen Media Law Project, Sept. 10

Oct. 22–24:
[South Carolina Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Greenville Hyatt. "Going Green."

Oct. 22–24:
[Michigan Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Radisson Plaza Hotel, Kalamazoo. "Shaping Our Tomorrow."

Oct. 22–24:
[Mississippi Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Natchez Convention Center. "At the Center of Everything."

Oct. 23–24:
[Virginia Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Williamsburg. "Libraries: Champions of Democracy."

Oct. 23–25:
[Hawaii Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Grand Wailea Hotel and Spa, Maui.

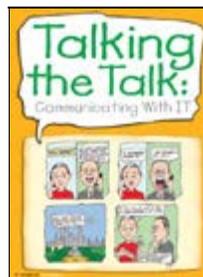
Nov. 4–7:
[Wisconsin Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Madison Marriott West, Middleton. "Wisconsin Libraries: Building a Better Tomorrow."

Nov. 5–8:
[New York Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Saratoga Springs. "Connecting, Collaborating, Cooperating."

[Communicating with IT](#)

Lisa A. Ennis writes: "Often in interactions between library folks and IT folks, I'll suddenly find myself in the role of Capt. Picard from *Star Trek: The Next Generation* as I try to get two very different delegations to see eye to eye on any number of topics. The delegations, like the alien cultures of *Star Trek*, have very different world views, belief systems, mores, and even languages—in short, the groups just have different ways of viewing the world. What I'm offering here is a recommendation for one book that has helped me the most and 10 tips to help you make your life with IT a bit easier."...

Computers in Libraries 28, no. 8 (Sept.)



[The best free video editors](#)

Errol Pierre-Louis writes: "Whether you're looking to create the next YouTube sensation or just a good-looking video, you need to do some editing or your clips won't have the shine and polish they deserve. But not everyone needs (or can afford) a high-end video editor. You can actually save money and skip the hassle of learning complicated software by using one of these three free but surprisingly capable video-editing solutions."...

PC Magazine, Sept. 1



[What's the real speed of your computer?](#)

J. Scott Gardner writes: "Even without delving into arcane microarchitectural details that define the inherent parallelism in a CPU core, there are a plethora of parameters that vary within the same processor family. We find ourselves comparing the number of cores, the number of threads-per-core, the sizes and speeds of various memories, and the speeds of the CPU pipeline, front-side bus, memory bus, and various I/O devices. As complex as this list may seem, things are about to get a lot more complicated."...

Extreme Tech, Sept. 9

[10 things that changed the face of computing](#)

The history of computing is a fascinating one. Over the last 40 years or so computers have evolved from enormous and complex machines requiring specialized knowledge for operating, to small devices that most people can understand and operate in a few hours. This is a list of 10 software developments that have been the most revolutionary in the history of computing. Number 1? The Xerox Alto operating system (above)....

The List Universe, Sept. 2



Publishing

[Oddest book titles of the past 30 years](#)

Greek Rural Postmen and Their Cancellation Numbers (Hellenic Philatelic Society of Great Britain, 1994) has been crowned the oddest book title of the past 30 years. In *The Bookseller's* online poll in celebration of the 30th anniversary of the Diagram Prize for Oddest

Nov. 6–8:
[Colorado Association of Libraries](#), Annual Conference, Marriott Denver Tech Center. "Communities and Libraries."

Nov. 8–15:
[Pennsylvania Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Valley Forge Convention Center/Scanticon Hotel, King of Prussia. "Pennsylvania Libraries: Leading For Life."

Nov. 14–17:
[California Library Association](#), Annual Conference, San Jose. "Leading the Way."

Nov. 18–20:
[Indiana Library Federation](#), Annual Conference, Indianapolis. "Libraries Without Walls."

Nov. 19–21:
[Minnesota Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Sheraton Bloomington, Minneapolis.

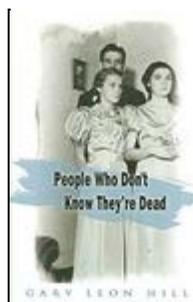
Dec. 3–5:
[West Virginia Library Association](#), Annual Conference, The Greenbrier, White Sulphur Springs.

Dec. 8–10:
[Arizona Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Renaissance Glendale Hotel & Spa. "New Frontiers Moving Into The Future."

@ [More...](#)

Book Title of the Year, Derek Willan's comprehensive record of a sector of Greece's postal routes gained 13% of the public vote. Gary Leon Hill's *People Who Don't Know They're Dead* (Weiser, 2005) finished second (11% of the public vote) and John W. Trimmer's guide to avoiding maritime mishaps, *How to Avoid Huge Ships* (The author, 1982) finished third (10%)....

The Bookseller, Sept. 5



[ProQuest and Google partner on newspaper archive](#)

ProQuest has formed a partnership with Google that has the potential to bring millions of pages of newspaper content to the open web. Google [launched](#) the initiative September 8 in conjunction with ProQuest and Heritage. ProQuest will also supply from its microfilm vault newspaper content that can be delivered effectively in the less formal framework of the open web. The company currently holds more than 10,000 newspaper titles, most of which are pristine master film copies. Users can explore this historical treasure trove by searching the [Google News Archive](#) or by using the timeline feature after searching Google News. Over time, Google will begin blending these archives into its main search results....

ProQuest, Sept. 8; Official Google Blog, Sept. 8



[New e-newspaper reader](#)

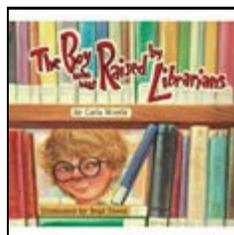
The electronic newspaper, a large portable screen that is constantly updated with the latest news, has been a prop in science fiction for ages. It also figures in the dreams of newspaper publishers struggling with rising production and delivery costs, lower circulation, and decreased ad revenue from their paper product. While the dream device remains on the drawing board, Plastic Logic introduced September 8 its version of an electronic newspaper reader: a lightweight plastic screen that mimics the look—but not the feel—of a printed newspaper. Watch the [demo](#) (5:55). Will it be a [Kindle killer](#)?...

International Herald Tribune, Sept. 8; Engadget, Sept. 11



[2008 Kansas Notable Book List](#)

State Librarian Christie Brandau and Roy Bird, director of the Kansas Center for the Book at the State Library of Kansas, announced the 2008 Kansas Notable Book List September 2. Fiction, nonfiction, and children's books all populate the list, which is considered to contain the best of the books published by Kansas authors or about Kansas in the preceding year. Number 2 is *The Boy Who Was Raised by Librarians* (Peachtree, 2007), by Carla Morris and illustrated by Kansan Brad Sneed....



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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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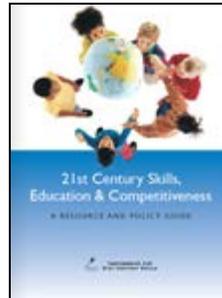
american libraries SEARCH FASTER & GET THE RESULTS YOU NEED BUYERS GUIDE

Actions & Answers

[Report: U.S. must revamp education to be globally competitive](#)

A new report ([PDF file](#)) by the Partnership for 21st Century Skills finds that the United States, in order to be globally competitive and for states to attract growth industries and create jobs, requires a fresh approach to education that recognizes the importance 21st-century skills play in the workplace. The report, *21st Century Skills, Education, and Competitiveness*, notes that as the world continues to shift from an industrial economy to a service economy driven by information, knowledge, and innovation, cultivating 21st-century skills is vital to economic success....

Partnership for 21st Century Skills, Sept. 10



[Visual literacy: An interview with NCTE's Peter Gutiérrez](#)

Organizations such as the National Council of Teachers of English have been examining ways to approach literacy to ensure that students learn both how to use and think critically about new media. Perhaps not coincidentally, NCTE has also been featuring an explosion of programming on the graphic format over the last couple of years. Diamond Bookshelf talked with comics and media literacy educator and NCTE spokesperson Peter Gutiérrez about how graphic novels fit into the discussion on new media and new literacies....

Diamond Bookshelf, Sept. 10

[Information is power: Even when it's wrong](#)

Steven Bell writes: "This is a guest post from Amy Fry, a San Diego-based librarian with whom I've done some research on aggregated databases. She was struck by the way a sloppy mistake in handling information led to a plunge in a company's stock prices—and what the implications might be for information literacy. If you're low on energy and thinking a cup of strong coffee might wake you up—hang on; this post might just do the trick."...

ACRLLog, Sept. 11

[America's most dangerous librarians](#)

Amy Goodman and David Goodman write: "They looked like they had walked off a film set, the two men standing at the door of the Library Connection in Windsor, Connecticut, as they flashed FBI badges and asked to speak to the boss. Director George Christian courteously shepherded them into the office. One agent explained the bureau was demanding 'any and all subscriber information, billing information, and access logs of any person or entity' that had used computers on February 15, 2005. He handed Christian a document called a national security letter (NSL); it said the



information was being sought 'to protect against international terrorism.'"...

Mother Jones, Sept./Oct.

[Evolution to revolution to chaos? Reference in transition](#)

Stephen Abram writes: "User expectations are changing, permanently. This is a good thing, since libraries have always been about service and personal relationships with our users. The technology is just catching up with our service ethic! Now we just have to reintroduce ourselves into every aspect of the virtual world. What are the possible scenarios for the future of reference? Let's explore a few."...

Searcher 16, no. 8 (Sept.)

[Libraries on postcards](#) (PDF file)

Sjoerd Koopman, coordinator of professional activities for the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions at The Hague, Netherlands, presented a paper at the IFLA Congress in Québec City in August on "Library Postcards: Historical Trends, Modern Applications, and Potential." He presented a sampling of the 10,700 postcards in his collection, including this modern card (above) published by the University of Hannover, Germany. Koopman recently made his collection of U.S. library postcards available to the [ALA Archives](#) (see Digital Library of the Week in the sidebar)....



IFLA Library History Section, Aug.

[Presentation tips](#)

David Lee King writes: "Brenda Hough asked me to come up with some presentation tips for both online and normal presentations, so I decided to post them. When I'm planning a presentation, I use a mind mapping program for an outline. I use [Mindjet's MindManager Pro](#), but any will do. I like the more visual way mind maps work—I can randomly come up with ideas around a topic, then easily arrange those ideas into points and sections as needed."...

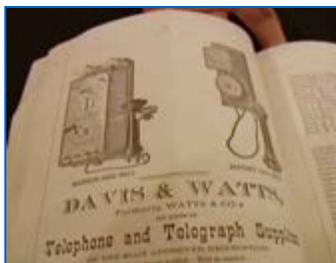


David Lee King, Sept. 5

[World's first telephone book sells for \\$170,500](#)

In June, Christie's auction house sold a 40-page [telephone directory](#) for New Haven, Connecticut, dating from November 1878 for \$170,500. Part of the private collection of physician and amateur astronomer Richard Green, the directory listed only names—no phone numbers—for the first telephone exchange in the world. Watch the "Off the Hook Auction" [video](#) (3:27)....

New York Times, June 10; Christie's; IEEE Spectrum



[The distraction factor in library instruction](#)

Steven Bell writes: "I wonder how many librarians are thinking about how they'll deal with electronic distractions. Not only can students tune out a library instructor with their personal communication gadgets or a laptop, but in a hands-on computer lab setting, putting a student in front of a computer is akin to saying, 'Please go ahead

and surf the Web or IM your friends while I try to teach you something.' Without a tight control on student access, texting, IMing, and surfing can quickly make a mockery of learning."...

ACRLog, Sept. 5

[National Mock Election Day, October 30](#)

Students of all ages, from kindergarten through college, will be joining the National Student/Parent Mock Election to vote for their candidates of choice on October 30, five days before eligible students and the rest of America select the next President of the United States. This national voter-education program for students and their parents gives young Americans the chance to make their voices heard in the electoral process. Every U.S. student, parent, and educator is invited to [participate](#) free of charge....

National Student/Parent Mock Election, Sept. 8



[Collections Emergency Response Team](#) (PDF file)

The American Institute for Conservation is offering free emergency response assistance to cultural organizations. Help make sure that staff members of collecting institutions know how to contact the AIC Collections Emergency Response Team when a disaster—hurricane, flooding, earthquake, fire—has damaged collections. Call AIC's 24-hour assistance number at (202) 661-8068 for advice or to arrange for a team to come to the site to complete damage assessments and help with salvage organization....

American Institute for Conservation, Sept. 9



[Electric hand dryers vs. paper towels](#)

Beth Filar Williams writes: "Which is really more environmentally friendly? The [GreenStrides blog](#) says, '95% of the time the electric hand dryer will be the greener choice.' More information can be found at Slate's [Green Lantern](#) site, which says hand dryers are better 'not because they necessarily prevent deforestation, but because they actually use less energy once everything's taken into account.' In the end, the majority of times a hand dryer is a better choice, though not completely green in itself. The greenest method: Dry your hands on your pants or bring your own hand towel." Technical confirmation [here](#)....

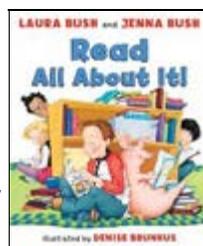
Going Green @ your library, Sept. 8; Go Green, Apr. 15



[Laura and Jenna Bush to appear at National Book Festival](#)

First Lady Laura Bush and her daughter, Jenna Bush, coauthors of *Read All About It!*, will join the authors and special guests presenting at the 2008 National Book Festival, organized and sponsored by the Library of Congress and Mrs. Bush. The festival will be held from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on September 27, rain or shine, on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., between 3rd and 7th streets. The festival is free and open to the public....

Library of Congress, Sept. 8

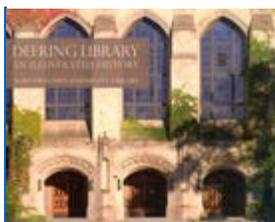


[75th anniversary of Northwestern's](#)

[Deering Library](#)

To celebrate the semisecular centennial of the Charles Deering Library, which served as Northwestern University's main library from 1933 to 1970, the NU Archives is running an exhibition through December of historical photos, artifacts, and correspondence related to the building and the librarians who worked there. Northwestern University Press has also issued a commemorative [book](#), edited by Nina Barrett, on Deering's history and its magnificent architecture....

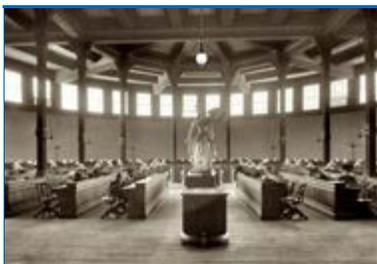
Northwestern University Library



[University of Michigan library reading room, 1901](#)

The old University of Michigan [library](#) (built 1881, removed 1918) sat on the southern side of what is now known as the "Diag" at the center of the campus, where the Hatcher Graduate Library is now. The statue in the center of the reading room, cast in plaster around 1886 by Randolph Rogers, was the [Heroic Figure of Michigan](#), which eventually deteriorated due to poor storage conditions after the library was renovated in 1902....

Shorpy: The 100-Year-Old Photo Blog, Sept. 7



[Google turns 20](#) (satire)

Philipp Lenssen writes: "This month, September 2018, marks the 20th anniversary of Google as a business—ever since in 1998, a Mr. Bechtolsheim signed a check for \$100,000. We've come a long way since the happy days of the 10th anniversary, around a time when Google employees got together to mass-dance the sirtaki in Greece for a world record. People often ask, what was it that brought down the Google as we knew it? I think it wasn't a single factor but many."...

Google Blogoscoped, Sept. 9

[The Hub at the University of Kentucky](#)

Stacey Greenwell writes: "At the University of Kentucky, we just launched a video about our information commons, the Hub. As part of a group focused on student and faculty support, the video was a collaboration between the library and the teaching and academic support center. The video takes a humorous look at what the Hub has to offer students. We worked with student actors over the summer (I paid them in vending machine snacks—which also made great props)." They have both a [short](#) (0:31) and a [long](#) (3:24) version....

The Uncommon Commons, Sept. 3; blip.tv



[Pennsylvania book cart drill team rocks you](#)

The Cleve J. Fredericksen Library Book Cart Drill Team in Camp Hill, Pennsylvania, likes to shake up the image of librarians as they twirl, dance, and rock the crowds at parades and



other events. The team [performed](#) August 3 after the library's fundraising Library Loop 5K Run & Fun Run/Walk. Their latest drill (2:45) started with prim, bespectacled librarians stamping books to the beat of "Marian the Librarian" and morphed into a crowd-pleasing rendition of Queen's "We Will Rock You."...

PennLive, Aug. 2; Harrisburg (Pa.) Patriot-News, Aug. 3

[Sing a song of library instruction](#)

Jonny Dailey and his friends created three musical videos about learning to use the Manchester (Conn.) Community College Learning Resources Center. The first (2:56) shows the student (Jeffrey Goritz) getting a library card, guided by a friend (Andrea Sokolowski), and finding what he needs to succeed. Dailey says: "We wrote and produced the song on a Sunday afternoon using a very cheap microphone and some good ol' imagination. The video was shot in one day on campus." The [third video](#) (3:45) is also online and even features an EBSCOhost search....



Vimeo

AL Direct, September 10, 2008

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

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | September 10, 2008

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

[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

U.S. & World News

Critics revisit library incident that paints Palin as censor

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/september2008/palinswasillastory.cfm>]

Journalists and bloggers scrutinizing Sarah Palin's record of public service have made national news out of a 1996 library incident in Wasilla, Alaska, where the Republican vice-presidential nominee was then mayor. The story that has emerged—in countless reports, from the blogosphere to the New York Times—paints Palin as a would-be censor and then—city librarian Mary Ellen Emmons as nearly losing her job for disagreeing....

American Libraries Online, Sept. 8, 10

J. K. Rowling wins copyright fight

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/september2008/rowlingwinsrdrsuit.cfm>]

A federal district court ruled September 8 that Michigan publisher RDR Books could not proceed with the print publication of The Harry Potter Lexicon, a 400-page reference work by former school librarian Steven Vander Ark based on the website

[<http://www.hp-lexicon.info/>] he created in 2000. In addition to ordering a permanent injunction barring the book's publication, Judge Robert P. Patterson awarded the minimum damages of \$750 for each of the series' seven novels and Rowling's two companion books—a total of \$6,750—to Rowling and Warner Brothers, which is in the midst of filming the final three movies based on the Potter series. The court did apply the fair-use test

[<http://www.teleread.org/blog/2008/09/08/harry-potter-lexicon/>]; Karen Donovan offers another take

[<http://www.portfolio.com/views/blogs/daily-brief/2008/09/09/taking-a-page-too-many-from-harry-potter>]...

American Libraries Online, Sept. 10; TeleRead, Sept. 8; Condé Nast Portfolio, Sept. 9

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[<http://www.kylibasn.org/conferences620.cfm>]

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ALA News

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Pennsylvania State Librarian to testify before Congress

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=738>]

Pennsylvania Commissioner for Libraries Mary Clare Zales is testifying September 11 before the House Education and Labor Subcommittee on Healthy Families and Communities about how libraries are essential to the American public in the 21st century.

Representing ALA, the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies, and the Pennsylvania Department of Education, Zales's testimony highlights the variety of services that libraries provide to their patrons....

District Dispatch, Sept. 10

[<http://cantv.blip.tv/#1215390>]Book banning is alive and well in the United States

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/September2008/OIFbookbanning.cfm>]

Are books like The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn or the Harry Potter series available at your public or school library? According to the ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom, due to book challenges, more than one book a day faces removal from public access in school and public libraries. Challenges are defined as formal, written complaints filed with a library or school requesting that materials be removed because of content or appropriateness. Office for Intellectual Freedom Director Judith Krug and Nathan Ritchie from the McCormick Tribune Freedom Museum (above) discuss Banned Books Week 2008 on Chicago Access Network TV [<http://cantv.blip.tv/#1215390>] (27:33) August 27....

25 libraries selected to host 'Pride and Passion'; exhibit

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/September2008/PPOpridepassion.cfm>]

The ALA Public Programs Office, in association with the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum, announced that 25 libraries have been selected to host 'Pride and Passion: The African American Baseball Experience,' a traveling exhibition telling the story of black baseball players in the U.S. over the past century and a half. The

National Endowment for the Humanities provided major funding for the traveling exhibition....

20 libraries selected for "John Adams Unbound";

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/September2008/PPOjohnadams.cfm>]

The ALA Public Programs Office, in association with the Boston Public Library, announced that 20 libraries have been selected to host "John Adams Unbound," a traveling exhibition based upon a larger exhibition of the same name recently on display at the Boston Public Library. Libraries selected for the tour will host the 1,000-square-foot exhibit for six weeks and receive a \$2,500 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities for attendance at an exhibit planning workshop and other exhibit-related expenses....

Booklist [<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/September2008/BooklistPersonnel.cfm>]

American Libraries Associate Editor Daniel Kraus has joined Booklist as a Books for Youth associate editor, effective this week. A former librarian, Kraus brings a wealth of experience and talent to the magazine. His first novel for young adults, *The Monster Variations* (Random House), will be published next summer, and he is the creator of the critically acclaimed series of AL Focus videos. Gillian Engberg has assumed a new role as managing editor of Books for Youth....

CPLA graduates two more librarians

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/September2008/APACPLA.cfm>]

The Certified Public Library Administrator Program Certification Review Committee has granted certification to two more CPLA candidates. In addition, the committee approved eight new candidates and renewed seven program courses in its first Fall 2008 review. The program now has nine graduates and 112 candidates representing public libraries of all sizes across the nation....

Library Card Sign-Up Month in Second Life

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/September2008/CampaignLCSUMinSL.cfm>]

Visitors to ALA Island in Second Life are encouraged to show their library card pride by taking a snapshot of their avatar holding an " @ your library " library card. Snapshots can be posted on the Constellation of Library Stars gallery. Virtual library cards are available at the ALA Main Stage, located at 128, 107, 29....

Booklist Online

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Featured review: Reference

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=2830097]

S. George Philander, ed., *Encyclopedia of Global Warming and Climate Change*. 1,552p. Sage, hardcover (978-1-4129-5878-3).

Philander, a member of the geosciences faculty at Princeton University and research director of the African Centre for Climate and Earth System Science in Cape Town, South Africa, has gathered authors from fields as diverse as anthropology, chemistry, geography, and medicine to put together an encyclopedia of about 750 articles. The entries cover countries, climate models, atmospheric sciences, institutions studying climate change, and people studying the climate. Individual country entries highlight changes by country instead of by broad climatic regions and will help users understand

global-warming issues in, say, Argentina or Tuvalu. Organizational entries are predominately focused on U.S. institutions and governmental entities. Although the preface notes that "scientific objectivity have been the watchwords"; for the encyclopedia, entries provide a range of perspectives....

20 best bets for student researchers

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=2879489]

Mary Ellen Quinn writes: "As the new school year gets under way, our annual Best Bets list features new titles we reviewed in the past 12 months that are targeted specifically for students from the elementary through high-school levels. Also here are the latest editions of some library standards. For more good bets, check out the Encyclopedia Update coming up in the September 15 issue of Booklist."...

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

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

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Division News

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Mirrorstone returns as Teen Read Week sponsor

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/September2008/TRWmirrorstone.cfm>]

Mirrorstone, an imprint of Wizards of the Coast, is a corporate sponsor of Teen Read Week for the second year in a row. Founded in 2004, Mirrorstone publishes fantasy fiction for children and teens, with the goal of turning reluctant readers into lifelong readers, which meshes well with TRW's mission to encourage teens to read, just for the fun of it. Registration

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/September2008/TRWregends.cfm>] for Teen Read Week ends September 12....

New round of Great Stories CLUB grants

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/September2008/PPOgreatstoriesclub.cfm>]

YALSA and the Public Programs Office are accepting applications for the latest round of Great Stories CLUB grants. Electronic applications [<http://www.ala.org/greatstories/>] will be accepted through November 14. Launched in 2005, the Great Stories CLUB (Connecting Libraries, Underserved teens, and Books) is a reading and discussion program designed to reach underserved, troubled teen populations through books that are relevant to their lives....

Check out PLAspace [<http://plablog.org/2008/09/check-out-plaspace.html>]

PLAspace [<http://www.plaspace.org>] is a new website designed to support the transition of PLA committees to Communities of Practice. In addition to CoPs, the site offers other interactive tools including blogs, forums, chats, an events calendar, a custom projects

module, and file storage and archives. Nonmembers also are welcome....
PLA Blog, Sept. 8

Women's Leadership Institute

[<http://www.acrl.ala.org/acrlinsider/2008/09/09/women%E2%80%99s-leadership-institute-accepting-applications-through-sept-25/>]

ACRL is partnering with six higher education associations to offer the 2008 Women's Leadership Institute, to be held December 7–10 in Amelia Island, Florida. Application materials [<http://www.acrl.org/ala/acrl/acrl/events/womensleadership.cfm>] are now available and are due by September 25. Be a part of this special institute for women seeking to become leaders in higher education administration....

ACRL Insider, Sept. 9

podcast

[<http://www.acrl.ala.org/acrlinsider/2008/09/05/acrl-podcast-the-desk-and-beyond/>]

In this podcast (29:27), College & Research Libraries News editor-in-chief David Free talks with Sarah Steiner and Leslie Madden of Georgia State University, editors of the ACRL publication *The Desk and Beyond: Next Generation Reference Services* [http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?_sn=catalog2&_pn=product_detail&_op=2635]. They are joined by chapter authors Meredith Farkas of Norwich University; Ross LaBaugh of California State University, Fresno; and Jerilyn Veldof of the University of Minnesota, to discuss the book along with current and future trends in reference services....

ACRL Insider, Sept. 5

Awards

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ACRL seeks nominations for 2009 awards

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/September2008/ACRL2009nominations.cfm>]

ACRL is seeking nominations for its annual series of awards. Nominations and supporting materials for most awards must be submitted by December 5. With almost \$37,000 donated annually by corporate sponsors, ACRL has and will continue to nominate, select, and honor the very best in academic librarianship....

Nominations sought for Kilgour Award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/September2008/LITAKilgour.cfm>]

Nominations are being accepted for the 2009 Frederick G. Kilgour Award for Research in Library and Information Technology, sponsored by OCLC and LITA. The award recognizes research relevant to the development of information technologies, in particular research that shows promise of having a substantive impact on any aspect of the publication, storage, retrieval, and dissemination of information. The deadline is December 31....

National Leadership Grants awarded to 44 institutions

[<http://www.ims.gov/news/2008/091008a.shtm>]

The Institute of Museum and Library Services announced September 10 the 44 recipients [http://www.ims.gov/news/2008/091008a_list.shtm] of National Leadership Grants, totaling \$18.2 million. The largest museum and library joint grant program administered by IMLS, National Leadership Grants support projects that will advance the ability of museums and libraries to preserve culture, heritage, and knowledge while enhancing

learning....

Institute of Museum and Library Services, Sept. 10

Pat Mora to receive Luis Leal Literature Award

[<http://www.ia.ucsb.edu/pa/display.aspx?pkey=1837>]

Poet and author Pat Mora will receive the 2008 Luis Leal Award for Distinction in Chicano/Latino Literature at the Santa Barbara Book and Author Festival on September 27.

The award is sponsored by the University of California, Santa Barbara, and the Santa Barbara Book Council. A champion of children's literacy, Mora is the author of several award-winning children's books and the forthcoming *Wiggling Pockets/Los bolsillos se menean*....

University of California, Santa Barbara, Sept. 4

Branch wins 2008 Dayton Literary Peace Prize

[<http://www.daytonliterarypeaceprize.org/2008-lifetime.htm>]

Taylor Branch, whose Pulitzer Prize-winning trilogy *America in the King Years* is widely considered the definitive history of Martin Luther King Jr. and the civil rights movement, will accept a special Dayton Literary Peace Prize for Lifetime Achievement at a ceremony in Dayton, Ohio, on September 28. The trilogy includes *Parting the Waters* (1988), which also won the National Book Critics Circle Award; *Pillar of Fire* (1998); and *At Canaan's Edge* (2006)....

Dayton Literary Peace Prize

Kingston gets Medal for Distinguished Contribution to American Letters

[http://www.nationalbook.org/nba2008_dcal_literarianpr.html]

The National Book Foundation will bestow its 2008 Medal for Distinguished Contribution to American Letters on Maxine Hong Kingston

[http://www.nationalbook.org/amerletters_2008_kingston.html] in recognition of her outstanding achievements as a writer of fiction, memoir, and nonfiction. Born to Chinese immigrant parents in California, Kingston has employed a range of literary styles and stories in her work to create a startling new approach to immigrant memoir and fiction and influence two generations of American writers....

National Book Foundation, Sept. 10

Library clerk recognized for catching a thief

[http://www.jaxdailyrecord.com/showstory.php?Story_id=50776]

Jacksonville (Fla.) Public Library Clerk Bradley Jaskula helped gather information that led to the arrest of a library patron who had stolen about \$7,000 worth of materials last spring. Jaskula noted that Jermaine Smith had more than a dozen library cards issued to fictional children. For his efforts, Jaskula was given a "Goal Star" civic award and a letter of recognition from Mayor John Peyton....

Jacksonville (Fla.) Daily Record, Sept. 9

Seen Online

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Groups criticize new copyright bill

[<http://arstechnica.com/news.ars/post/20080911-copyright-bill-blasted-as-enormous-gift-to-big-content.html>]

A broad intellectual property enforcement bill introduced in July is slated for markup

by the Senate Judiciary Committee September 11. The Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights Act (PDF file

[http://arstechnica.com/news.media/Senate_Enforcement_IP_Act_7-24-08-1.pdf]), sponsored

by Sen. Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.), enacts a potpourri of measures long sought by content

industries. In a letter [<http://www.publicknowledge.org/node/1732>] sent to committee September 10, ALA and other groups criticized the bill, warning that

an “unbalanced approach to enforcement would lead to unintended harms” that could stifle innovation....

Ars Technica, Sept. 11

More details on the Chicago Annenberg Challenge papers release

[<http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/chicago/chi-obama-ayers-universitysep09,0,2060865.story>]

Before the University of Illinois at Chicago released the records of an educational charity where Democratic presidential candidate Barack Obama and former radical and UIC education professor William Ayers played key roles, school officials talked with the charity’s former executive director about whether to withhold documents from the public, records released by the university show....

Chicago Tribune, Sept. 8

Bid to restore Charlotte school library jobs fails

[<http://www.charlotteobserver.com/breaking/story/183049.html>]

A move to restore more than 100 school library jobs by pulling the money out of Charlotte-Mecklenburg (N.C.) Schools’ public relations department created strong debate before failing 6-3 September 9. Board member Ken Gjertsen’s motion came during the final sign-off on CMS’s \$1.2-billion budget. Superintendent Peter Gorman had announced in July that he would eliminate jobs for 11 librarians and 93.5 library assistants because county commissioners didn’t approve all the money CMS had asked for....

Charlotte (N.C.) Observer, Sept. 10

Bodleian Library expansion denied

[http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/england/oxfordshire/7608890.stm]

A public inquiry has ruled against Oxford University’s plans for its world-famous Bodleian Library. The university, which hoped to build a £29-million depository at Osney Mead to house 8 million books, said the ruling was a “great disappointment.” The project was approved by councillors in a narrow vote last year, but it was put on hold when critics said the building would ruin Oxford’s skyline....

BBC News, Sept. 10

Minister pays Karkos’s library fine

[http://www.sunjournal.com/story/281761-3/LewistonAuburn/Minister_pays_fine_for_book_censor/]

On September 5, Rev. Doug Taylor paid the fine JoAn Karkos faced for taking It’s Perfectly Normal out of the Lewiston (Maine) Public Library and refusing to return it because she deemed it obscene. Taylor, who operates a Lewiston children’s ministry, said, “I think it would have been horrible if she had to go out and write a check for \$100 after the stand that she took.”...

Lewiston (Maine) Sun Journal, Sept. 6

[http://www.kfyrtv.com/News_video.asp?news=22119]Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library

planned [http://www.kfyrtv.com/News_Stories.asp?news=22119]

Theodore Roosevelt lacks one thing that most modern-day presidents have: a presidential library. Dickinson (N. Dak.) State University is gearing up to change that and is planning a library, museum, meeting space, research center, and a comprehensive digital library, all in honor of the 26th president. DSU will incorporate a database

[<http://www.theodorerooseveltcenter.org/Documents.asp>] of 600,000 digitized Theodore Roosevelt documents from the Library of Congress and Harvard University....
KFYR-TV, Dickinson, N. Dak., Sept. 8

California poised to scrub adult literacy program

[http://www.thereporter.com/news/ci_10418108]

Those who need help with basic reading and writing in their daily lives may be out of luck or, worse, forced to seek costly private tutoring if a state budget proposal [<http://capwiz.com/ala/ca/issues/alert/?alertid=11879761&type=CU>] by Republican senators goes unchecked during the ongoing and stalemated budget talks in Sacramento. "I don't know what they're thinking," Solano County (Calif.) Library Services Assistant Director Bonnie Katz said of the proposal, the elimination of state matching funds for the California Library Literacy Service—money that supports 103 literacy programs in public libraries statewide....

Vacaville (Calif.) Reporter, Sept. 9; California Library Association

Long Beach library saved as budget adopted [http://www.presstelegram.com/ci_10423943]

The Long Beach, California, city council adopted a \$3.1-billion city budget September 9 that keeps the once-threatened Main Library open and saves several other slated cuts. While the new proposal had called for the library to be closed Sunday and Monday, the council also voted to cushion the financial impact of the cuts by giving the library \$258,000 more to work with. Eleanore Schmidt, director of library services, said that the library will at least be open 40 hours a week. Currently, it's open seven days a week for 55 hours....

Long Beach (Calif.) Press-Telegram, Sept. 9

Highsmith company to close [<http://www.madison.com/tct/news/303685>]

The Highsmith company in Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin, will close November 1, leaving 86 employees out of work. Lab Safety Supply of Janesville, which purchased Highsmith in July, has informed the Department of Workforce Development that it will close the Fort Atkinson facility. Highsmith, founded in 1956, is a distributor of supplies, furniture, and equipment to public, academic, school, and special libraries throughout the United States....

Madison (Wis.) Capital Times, Sept. 5

Stolen manuscript to be returned to Israel

[<http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5hXWXL9mU7xBCWoFam4t9EglwzurAD9338F300>]

A 215-year-old Jewish manuscript discovered missing a decade ago will be returned by the German library where it surfaced. Israeli Embassy officials are currently arranging the manuscript's transfer from the German National Library in Berlin back to Israel, said Avigdor Levin, the top cultural official at the Tel Aviv municipality. A 1998 inventory check at the city's Rambam Library revealed that the one-of-a-kind manuscript was missing. Titled The Book of the Levite's Worship, it is a treatise

[<http://www.haaretz.com/hasen/spages/1019286.html>] on Jewish law written by Rabbi Sefer Avodot Halevi in 1793....

Associated Press, Sept. 9; Haaretz (Tel Aviv), Sept. 9

Highland Park's McGregor Library could reopen

[<http://www.freep.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2008809070420>]

Nestled behind a wrought iron fence, surrounded by overgrown shrubbery, Highland Park, Michigan's McGregor Library stands as a symbol of the city's history, and soon, its future. For years, it served as a gathering place for this community, surrounded by Detroit, but the library was forced to close its doors in 2002. Now state and city officials aim to reopen the library early next year, thanks to a \$25-million state

grant....

Detroit Free Press, Sept. 7

Talking with Seattle Public Library architect Rem Koolhaas

[http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/entertainment/2008167399_remkoolhaas09.html]

Mark Rahner writes: "Four years after this once-controversial project's completion, Dutch architect Rem Koolhaas and his creation are a key part of the Seattle Public Library's September 13 celebration of the conclusion to its decade-long 'Libraries for All' building program." Koolhaas talked about the project, the controversy, and how he might have done a couple things differently....

Seattle Times, Sept. 9

Beethoven's last piano piece discovered in Berlin library

[<http://www.smh.com.au/news/arts/music-genius-last-hurrah/2008/09/04/1220121428067.html>]

Is this Beethoven's last work for piano? Peter McCallum, associate professor in musicology at the University of Sydney, Australia, believes it is. The 32 bars of handwritten musical notation caught his eye when he was studying the composer's last sketchbook in the Berlin State Library a couple of years ago. McCallum said he believed the piece was written in October 1826, a few months before Beethoven died in March 1827....

Sydney (N.S.W.) Morning Herald, Sept. 5

Czech National Librarian fired over library design

[http://www.praguemonitor.com/en/419/czech_national_news/27841/]

Czech Culture Minister Václav Jehlicka dismissed National Library Director Vlastimil Jezek September 9 over the planned construction of a new library building (right) in Prague designed by Czech-born British architect Jan Kaplicky. Jezek was an avid supporter of the design, which critics have called a "blob" or an "octopus." However, Jehlicka said [<http://www.radio.cz/en/article/108128>] that the plan was "at variance with the law" and could neither begin at the site chosen nor on time....

Prague Daily Monitor, Sept. 10; Radio Praha, Sept. 10

Correction

In last week's story, Queens librarian donates hair,

[http://www.nydailynews.com/ny_local/queens/2008/08/28/2008-08-28_one_for_the_books_queens_librarian_gets_-2.html] the Hollis branch librarian's name should have been spelled

Sueli Zaquem. AL Direct's source had also spelled the name incorrectly.

Tech Talk

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New Apple products satisfy, but no surprises

[<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2330068,00.asp>]

Lance Ulanoff writes: "With a new iPod nano

[<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2330067,00.asp>] (right), an updated iPod touch,

[<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2330174,00.asp>] iTunes 8,

[<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2330070,00.asp>] Apple and Steve Jobs delivered what everyone expected. In other words, there were no big surprises. Bummer. The new nano—all tall, thin, and curvy—turned out to be the industry's worst kept secret, and the iPod touch's updates are minor at best. While everyone's excited about a

better and shakable nano, the real stories at today's event were about new software, mended partnerships, and a CEO who is still standing."...

PC Magazine, Sept. 9

How to copy a DVD [http://howto.wired.com/wiki/Copy_a_DVD]

The movie and home video industries continue to search for what they deem to be acceptable ways to let consumers duplicate and watch DVD content on their computers. The latest is RealDVD [<http://blog.wired.com/business/2008/09/realnetworks-ma.html>] from RealNetworks, which lets users copy a DVD to their hard drive while keeping the menus, options, special features—and the encryption—intact. There are some free alternatives to this DRM-laden approach; however, using or distributing any of these programs in the USA is illegal under the DMCA. CSS encryption circumvention tools are illegal [<http://www.citimedialaw.org/legal-guide/circumventing-copyright-controls>]. In fact, Wired is on dangerous ground in even providing these links....

Wired How-To Wiki, Sept. 10; Wired, Sept. 8; Citizen Media Law Project, Sept. 10

Communicating with IT [<http://www.infotoday.com/cilmag/sep08/Ennis.shtml>]

Lisa A. Ennis writes: "Often in interactions between library folks and IT folks, I'll suddenly find myself in the role of Capt. Picard from Star Trek: The Next Generation as I try to get two very different delegations to see eye to eye on any number of topics. The delegations, like the alien cultures of Star Trek, have very different world views, belief systems, mores, and even languages—in short, the groups just have different ways of viewing the world. What I'm offering here is a recommendation for one book that has helped me the most and 10 tips to help you make your life with IT a bit easier."...

Computers in Libraries 28, no. 8 (Sept.)

[<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2327543,00.asp>]The best free video editors

[<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2704,2329226,00.asp>]

Errol Pierre-Louis writes: "Whether you're looking to create the next YouTube sensation or just a good-looking video, you need to do some editing or your clips won't have the shine and polish they deserve. But not everyone needs (or can afford) a high-end video editor. You can actually save money and skip the hassle of learning complicated software by using one of these three free but surprisingly capable video-editing solutions."...

PC Magazine, Sept. 1

What's the real speed of your computer?

[<http://www.extremetech.com/article2/0,2845,2329964,00.asp>]

J. Scott Gardner writes: "Even without delving into arcane microarchitectural details that define the inherent parallelism in a CPU core, there are a plethora of parameters that vary within the same processor family. We find ourselves comparing the number of cores, the number of threads-per-core, the sizes and speeds of various memories, and the speeds of the CPU pipeline, front-side bus, memory bus, and various I/O devices. As complex as this list may seem, things are about to get a lot more complicated."...

Extreme Tech, Sept. 9

10 things that changed the face of computing

[<http://listverse.com/science/10-programs-that-changed-the-face-of-computing/>]

The history of computing is a fascinating one. Over the last 40 years or so computers have evolved from enormous and complex machines requiring specialized knowledge for operating, to small devices that most people can understand and operate in a few hours. This is a list of 10 software developments that have been the most revolutionary in the history of computing. Number 1? The Xerox Alto operating system (above)....

The List Universe, Sept. 2

Publishing

Oddest book titles of the past 30 years

[<http://www.thebookseller.com/news/66454-diagram-victory-for-greek-postmen.html>]
Greek Rural Postmen and Their Cancellation Numbers (Hellenic Philatelic Society of Great Britain, 1994) has been crowned the oddest book title of the past 30 years. In The Bookseller's online poll in celebration of the 30th anniversary of the Diagram Prize for Oddest Book Title of the Year, Derek Willan's comprehensive record of a sector of Greece's postal routes gained 13% of the public vote. Gary Leon Hill's People Who Don't Know They're Dead (Weiser, 2005) finished second (11% of the public vote) and John W. Trimmer's guide to avoiding maritime mishaps, How to Avoid Huge Ships (The author, 1982) finished third (10%)....
The Bookseller, Sept. 5

[<http://news.google.com/newspapers?id=w0sNAAAIBAJ&dq=armstrong&sjid=D20DAAAIBAJ&pg=6256%2C2864141>]ProQuest and Google partner on newspaper archive
[<http://www.proquest.com/pressroom/pressrelease/08/20080908.shtml>]
ProQuest has formed a partnership with Google that has the potential to bring millions of pages of newspaper content to the open web. Google launched [<http://googleblog.blogspot.com/2008/09/bringing-history-online-one-newspaper.html>] the initiative September 8 in conjunction with ProQuest and Heritage. ProQuest will also supply from its microfilm vault newspaper content that can be delivered effectively in the less formal framework of the open web. The company currently holds more than 10,000 newspaper titles, most of which are pristine master film copies. Users can explore this historical treasure trove by searching the Google News Archive [<http://news.google.com/archivesearch>] or by using the timeline feature after searching Google News. Over time, Google will begin blending these archives into its main search results....
ProQuest, Sept. 8; Official Google Blog, Sept. 8

[<http://link.brightcove.com/services/link/bcpid980795693/bctid1778578839>]New e-newspaper reader [<http://iht.com/articles/2008/09/08/technology/paper.php>]
The electronic newspaper, a large portable screen that is constantly updated with the latest news, has been a prop in science fiction for ages. It also figures in the dreams of newspaper publishers struggling with rising production and delivery costs, lower circulation, and decreased ad revenue from their paper product. While the dream device remains on the drawing board, Plastic Logic introduced September 8 its version of an electronic newspaper reader: a lightweight plastic screen that mimics the look—but not the feel—of a printed newspaper. Watch the demo [<http://link.brightcove.com/services/link/bcpid980795693/bctid1778578839>] (5:55). Will it be a Kindle killer [<http://www.engadget.com/2008/09/11/plastic-logics-e-reader-vs-amazon-kindle-fight/>]?...
International Herald Tribune, Sept. 8; Engadget, Sept. 11

2008 Kansas Notable Book List [<http://www.wibw.com/localnews/headlines/27788234.html>]
State Librarian Christie Brandau and Roy Bird, director of the Kansas Center for the Book at the State Library of Kansas, announced the 2008 Kansas Notable Book List September 2. Fiction, nonfiction, and children's books all populate the list, which is considered to contain the best of the books published by Kansas authors or

about Kansas in the preceding year. Number 2 is The Boy Who Was Raised by Librarians (Peachtree, 2007), by Carla Morris and illustrated by Kansan Brad Sneed...
WIBW-TV, Topeka, Kans., Sept. 2

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[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

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Actions & Answers

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Report: U.S. must revamp education to be globally competitive
[http://www.21stcenturyskills.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=483&Itemid=64]
A new report (PDF file
[http://www.21stcenturyskills.org/documents/21st_century_skills_education_and_competitiveness_guide.pdf]) by the Partnership for 21st Century Skills finds that the United States, in order to be globally competitive and for states to attract growth industries and create jobs, requires a fresh approach to education that recognizes the importance 21st-century skills play in the workplace. The report, 21st Century Skills, Education, and Competitiveness, notes that as the world continues to shift from an industrial economy to a service economy driven by information, knowledge, and innovation, cultivating 21st-century skills is vital to economic success....
Partnership for 21st Century Skills, Sept. 10

Visual literacy: An interview with NCTE's Peter Gutiérrez
[<http://www.diamondbookshelf.com/public/?t=1&m=3&c=40&s=325&ai=74165>]
Organizations such as the National Council of Teachers of English have been examining ways to approach literacy to ensure that students learn both how to use and think critically about new media. Perhaps not coincidentally, NCTE has also been featuring an explosion of programming on the graphic format over the last couple of years. Diamond Bookshelf talked with comics and media literacy educator and NCTE spokesperson Peter Gutiérrez about how graphic novels fit into the discussion on new media and new literacies....
Diamond Bookshelf, Sept. 10

Information is power: Even when it's wrong
[<http://acrlog.org/2008/09/11/information-is-power-even-when-its-wrong/>]
Steven Bell writes: "This is a guest post from Amy Fry, a San Diego-based librarian with whom I've done some research on aggregated databases. She was struck by the way a sloppy mistake in handling information led to a plunge in a company's stock prices—and what the implications might be for information literacy. If you're low on energy and thinking a cup of strong coffee might wake you up—hang on; this post might just do the trick."...
ACRLog, Sept. 11

America's most dangerous librarians

[<http://www.motherjones.com/news/feature/2008/09/exit-strategy-americas-most-dangerous-librarians.html>]

Amy Goodman and David Goodman write: “They looked like they had walked off a film set, the two men standing at the door of the Library Connection in Windsor, Connecticut, as they ?ashed FBI badges and asked to speak to the boss. Director George Christian courteously shepherded them into the office. One agent explained the bureau was demanding ‘any and all subscriber information, billing information, and access logs of any person or entity’ that had used computers on February 15, 2005. He handed Christian a document called a national security letter (NSL); it said the information was being sought ‘to protect against international terrorism.’”...
Mother Jones, Sept./Oct.

Evolution to revolution to chaos? Reference in transition

[<http://www.infotoday.com/searcher/sep08/Abram.shtml>]

Stephen Abram writes: “User expectations are changing, permanently. This is a good thing, since libraries have always been about service and personal relationships with our users. The technology is just catching up with our service ethic! Now we just have to reintroduce ourselves into every aspect of the virtual world. What are the possible scenarios for the future of reference? Let’s explore a few.”...
Searcher 16, no. 8 (Sept.)

Libraries on postcards [<http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla74/papers/098-Koopman-en.pdf>] (PDF file)

Sjoerd Koopman, coordinator of professional activities for the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions at The Hague, Netherlands, presented a paper at the IFLA Congress in Québec City in August on “Library Postcards: Historical Trends, Modern Applications, and Potential.” He presented a sampling of the 10,700 postcards in his collection, including this modern card (above) published by the University of Hannover, Germany. Koopman recently made his collection of U.S. library postcards available to the ALA Archives

[<http://www.library.uiuc.edu/archives/ala/holdings/index.php?p=collections/controlcard&id=8344>] (see Digital Library of the Week in the sidebar)....

IFLA Library History Section, Aug.

Presentation tips [<http://www.davidleeking.com/2008/09/05/presentation-tips/>]

David Lee King writes: “Brenda Hough asked me to come up with some presentation tips for both online and normal presentations, so I decided to post them. When I’m planning a presentation, I use a mind mapping program for an outline. I use Mindjet’s MindManager Pro [<http://www.mindjet.com/>], but any will do. I like the more visual way mind maps work—I can randomly come up with ideas around a topic, then easily arrange those ideas into points and sections as needed.”...
David Lee King, Sept. 5

[<http://www.spectrum.ieee.org/video?id=541>]World’s first telephone book sells for \$170,500 [<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/06/10/science/10auct.html>]

In June, Christie’s auction house sold a 40-page telephone directory

[http://www.christies.com/LotFinder/lot_details.aspx?from=searchresults&intObjectID=5084352] for New Haven, Connecticut, dating from November 1878 for \$170,500. Part of the private collection of physician and amateur astronomer Richard Green, the directory listed only names—no phone numbers—for the first telephone exchange in the world. Watch the “Off the Hook Auction” video [<http://www.spectrum.ieee.org/video?id=541>] (3:27)....
New York Times, June 10; Christie’s; IEEE Spectrum

The distraction factor in library instruction

[<http://acrlog.org/2008/09/05/what-to-tell-students-about-distractions/>]

Steven Bell writes: "I wonder how many librarians are thinking about how they deal with electronic distractions. Not only can students tune out a library instructor with their personal communication gadgets or a laptop, but in a hands-on computer lab setting, putting a student in front of a computer is akin to saying, 'Please go ahead and surf the Web or IM your friends while I try to teach you something.' Without a tight control on student access, texting, IMing, and surfing can quickly make a mockery of learning."...

ACRLog, Sept. 5

National Mock Election Day, October 30

[<http://www.prweb.com/releases/2008/09/prweb1302504.htm>]

Students of all ages, from kindergarten through college, will be joining the National Student/Parent Mock Election to vote for their candidates of choice on October 30, five days before eligible students and the rest of America select the next President of the United States. This national voter-education program for students and their parents gives young Americans the chance to make their voices heard in the electoral process. Every U.S. student, parent, and educator is invited to participate

[<http://www.nationalmockelection.org/index.html>] free of charge....

National Student/Parent Mock Election, Sept. 8

Collections Emergency Response Team [<http://aic.stanford.edu/news/AIC-CERT.pdf>] (PDF file)

The American Institute for Conservation is offering free emergency response assistance to cultural organizations. Help make sure that staff members of collecting institutions know how to contact the AIC Collections Emergency Response Team when a disaster—hurricane, flooding, earthquake, fire—has damaged collections. Call AIC's 24-hour assistance number at (202) 661-8068 for advice or to arrange for a team to come to the site to complete damage assessments and help with salvage organization....

American Institute for Conservation, Sept. 9

Electric hand dryers vs. paper towels

[<http://greeningyourlibrary.wordpress.com/2008/09/08/electric-hand-dryers-vs-paper-towels/>]

Beth Filar Williams writes: "Which is really more environmentally friendly? The GreenStrides blog [<http://www.greenstrides.com/2008/06/19/paper-towels-vs-hand-dryers/>] says, '95% of the time the electric hand dryer will be the greener choice.' More information can be found at Slate's Green Lantern

[<http://www.slate.com/id/2193740/?y=1>] site, which says hand dryers are better 'not because they necessarily prevent deforestation, but because they actually use less energy once everything's taken into account.' In the end, the majority of times a hand dryer is a better choice, though not completely green in itself. The greenest method: Dry your hands on your pants or bring your own hand towel." Technical confirmation here

[<http://gogreen.theconsortium.co.uk/which-is-more-eco-friendly-electric-hand-dryers-or-hand-towels/>]....

Going Green @ your library, Sept. 8; Go Green, Apr. 15

Laura and Jenna Bush to appear at National Book Festival

[<http://www.loc.gov/today/pr/2008/08-145.html>]

First Lady Laura Bush and her daughter, Jenna Bush, coauthors of Read All About It!, will join the authors and special guests presenting at the 2008 National Book Festival, organized and sponsored by the Library of Congress and Mrs. Bush. The festival will be

held from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on September 27, rain or shine, on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., between 3rd and 7th streets. The festival is free and open to the public....

Library of Congress, Sept. 8

[<http://nupress.northwestern.edu/title.cfm?ISBN=0-8101-2502-1>]75th anniversary of Northwestern's Deering Library

[<http://www.library.northwestern.edu/exhibits/otherspaces.html>]

To celebrate the semisecular centennial of the Charles Deering Library, which served as Northwestern University's main library from 1933 to 1970, the NU Archives is running an exhibition through December of historical photos, artifacts, and correspondence related to the building and the librarians who worked there. Northwestern University Press has also issued a commemorative book

[<http://nupress.northwestern.edu/title.cfm?ISBN=0-8101-2502-1>], edited by Nina Barrett, on Deering's history and its magnificent architecture....

Northwestern University Library

[http://www.shorpy.com/node/4382?size=_original]University of Michigan library reading room, 1901 [<http://www.shorpy.com/node/4382>]

The old University of Michigan library

[http://bentley.umich.edu/exhibits/campus_tour/oldlibrary.php] (built 1881, removed 1918) sat on the southern side of what is now known as the "Diag" at the center of the campus, where the Hatcher Graduate Library is now. The statue in the center of the reading room, cast in plaster around 1886 by Randolph Rogers, was the Heroic Figure of Michigan, [<http://www.plantext.bf.umich.edu/planner/sculpture/gone/heroic.htm>] which eventually deteriorated due to poor storage conditions after the library was renovated in 1902....

Shorpy: The 100-Year-Old Photo Blog, Sept. 7

Google turns 20 [<http://blogscoped.com/archive/2008-09-09-n33.html>] (satire)

Philipp Lenssen writes: "This month, September 2018, marks the 20th anniversary of Google as a business—ever since in 1998, a Mr. Bechtolsheim signed a check for \$100,000. We've come a long way since the happy days of the 10th anniversary, around a time when Google employees got together to mass-dance the sirtaki in Greece for a world record. People often ask, what was it that brought down the Google as we knew it? I think it wasn't a single factor but many."...

Google Blogscoped, Sept. 9

The Hub at the University of Kentucky

[<http://staceygreenwell.blogspot.com/2008/09/hub-video.html>]

Stacey Greenwell writes: "At the University of Kentucky, we just launched a video about our information commons, the Hub. As part of a group focused on student and faculty support, the video was a collaboration between the library and the teaching and academic support center. The video takes a humorous look at what the Hub has to offer students.

We worked with student actors over the summer (I paid them in vending machine snacks—which also made great props)." They have both a short

[<http://blip.tv/file/1228647>] (0:31) and a long [<http://patsycat.blip.tv/file/1231612/>]

(3:24) version....

The Uncommon Commons, Sept. 3; blip.tv

[http://videos.pennlive.com/2008/08/fredricksen_library_bookcart_d.html]Pennsylvania book cart drill team rocks you

[http://videos.pennlive.com/2008/08/fredricksen_library_bookcart_d.html]

The Cleve J. Fredericksen Library Book Cart Drill Team in Camp Hill, Pennsylvania, likes

to shake up the image of librarians as they twirl, dance, and rock the crowds at parades and other events. The team performed

[<http://www.pennlive.com/patriotnews/stories/index.ssf?/base/news/1217717703316170.xml&col=1>] August 3 after the library's fundraising Library Loop 5K Run & Fun Run/Walk. Their latest drill (2:45) started with prim, bespectacled librarians stamping books to the beat of "Marian the Librarian" and morphed into a crowd-pleasing rendition of Queen's "We Will Rock You."...

PennLive, Aug. 2; Harrisburg (Pa.) Patriot-News, Aug. 3

Sing a song of library instruction [<http://vimeo.com/1190764>]

Jonny Dailey and his friends created three musical videos about learning to use the Manchester (Conn.) Community College Learning Resources Center. The first (2:56) shows the student (Jeffrey Goritz) getting a library card, guided by a friend (Andrea Sokolowski), and finding what he needs to succeed. Dailey says: "We wrote and produced the song on a Sunday afternoon using a very cheap microphone and some good ol' imagination. The video was shot in one day on campus." The third video [<http://vimeo.com/1593484>] (3:45) is also online and even features an EBSCOhost search....

Vimeo

Ask the ALA Librarian

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Q. With the publicity leading up to Banned Books Week and some recent political coverage, I'm getting questions about why our library keeps banned books in our collection. How do I respond?

A. This is a frequent question for us, too, not just now with Banned Books Week [<http://www.ala.org/ala/oif/bannedbooksweek/bannedbooksweek.cfm>] coming up (September 27–October 4). We consulted with ALA's Office for Intellectual Freedom for further information about Banned Books Week. First, it helps to explain the difference [<http://www.ala.org/ala/oif/bannedbooksweek/backgroundb/background.cfm#wtdbbc>] between a "banned book" and a "challenged book": "A challenge is an attempt to remove or restrict materials, based upon the objections of a person or group. A banning is the removal of those materials. Challenges do not simply involve a person expressing a point of view; rather, they are an attempt to remove material from the curriculum or library, thereby restricting the access of others. The positive message of Banned Books Week (Free People Read Freely) is that due to the commitment of librarians, teachers, parents, students, and other concerned citizens, most challenges are unsuccessful and most materials are retained in the school curriculum or library collection." Then, you want to focus on the key messages

[<http://www.ala.org/Template.cfm?Section=dealing&Template=/ContentManagement/ContentDisplay.cfm&ContentID=77096#keymessages>] that libraries provide ideas and information across the spectrum of social and political views; libraries are one of our great democratic institutions, providing freedom of choice for all people; and parents are responsible for supervising their own children's library use. The OIF site provides a wealth of guidance for helping you respond to challenges

[http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Responding_to_Challenges_to_Library_Materials] to library materials—or perhaps more importantly, steps you can take before there is a challenge! ALA President Jim Rettig recently released a statement on censorship

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/September2008/RettigStatementSep08.cfm>]. From the ALA Professional Tips wiki [http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Banned_Books_Week_and_Reporters].

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

Calendar

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Sept. 23–26:

Illinois Library Association, [<http://www.ila.org/events/conference.htm>] Annual Conference, Navy Pier, Chicago. "Libraries= Access: Provide, Promote, Protect.”

Sept. 24–26:

North Dakota Library Association, [<http://www.ndla.info/Conference/08conf.htm>] Annual Conference, Best Western Seven Seas, Mandan. “Libraries Under Construction: A Life of Continuous Education.”

Sept. 24–26:

South Dakota Library Association, [http://www.sdlibraryassociation.org/conf_planning_files/AnnualConference.asp] Annual Conference, Chamberlain. “Your Passport to Success: Building Partnerships for Learning.”

Oct. 1–3:

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

Oct. 1–3:

Wyoming Library Association, [<http://conference.wyla.org/>] Annual Conference, Casper.

Oct. 1–4:

Kentucky Library Association/ Kentucky School Media Association/ Southeastern Library Association/ Association of Research Libraries, [<http://www.kylibasn.org/ndlc201.cfm>] National Diversity in Libraries Joint Conference, Louisville. “Spectrum of the Future.”

Oct. 1–4:

Idaho Library Association, [<http://emp.byui.edu/TWITCHELLL/2magic2008.html>] Annual Conference, Shilo Inn, Idaho Falls. “The Magic of Libraries.”

Oct. 15–17:

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

Oct. 15–17:

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

Oct. 15–17:

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

Oct. 19–21:

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

Oct. 22–24:

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

Oct. 22–24:

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

Oct. 22–24:

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

Oct. 23–24:

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

Oct. 23–25:

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

Nov. 4–7:

Wisconsin Library Association, [<http://www.wla.lib.wi.us/conferences/2008/index.htm>]
Annual Conference, Madison Marriott West, Middleton. “Wisconsin Libraries:
Building a Better Tomorrow.”

Nov. 5–8:

New York Library Association, [http://www.nyla.org/index.php?page_id=70] Annual
Conference, Saratoga Springs. “Connecting, Collaborating, Cooperating.”

Nov. 6–8:

Colorado Association of Libraries, [<http://cal-webs.org/conference.html>] Annual
Conference, Marriott Denver Tech Center. “Communities and Libraries.”

Nov. 8–15:

Pennsylvania Library Association,
[<http://pala.affiniscap.com/displayconvention.cfm?conventionnbr=5545>] Annual
Conference, Valley Forge Convention Center/Scanticon Hotel, King of Prussia.
“Pennsylvania Libraries: Leading For Life.”

Nov. 14–17:

California Library Association, [<http://www.cla-net.org/events/confexhibition.php>]
Annual Conference, San Jose. “Leading the Way.”

Nov. 18–20:

Indiana Library Federation,

[http://www.ilfonline.org/Upcoming_Conferences/annconf07.htm] Annual Conference,
Indianapolis. “Libraries Without Walls.”

Nov. 19–21:

Minnesota Library Association, [<http://www.mnlibraryassociation.org/conference.htm>]
Annual Conference, Sheraton Bloomington, Minneapolis.

Dec. 3–5:

West Virginia Library Association, [<http://www.wvla.org/conference/index.html>] Annual
Conference, The Greenbrier, White Sulphur Springs.

Dec. 8–10:

Arizona Library Association,

[<http://www.azla.org/displayconvention.cfm?conventionnbr=4799>] Annual Conference,
Renaissance Glendale Hotel & Spa. “New Frontiers Moving Into The Future.”

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

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SCHOOLROOMS
A new learning portal for K-12

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

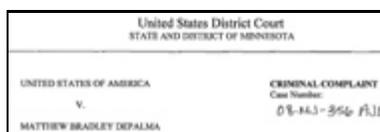
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BUYERS GUIDE

U.S. & World News

[FBI: Suspect surfed for bomb-making information](#)

The U.S. Department of Justice revealed September 3 that the content of a library internet search was among the pieces of evidence ([PDF file](#)) leading to the August 30 arrest of a Michigan man for allegedly plotting to disrupt the 2008 Republican National Convention with Molotov cocktails. However, FBI agents pursuing the case never asked for assistance from any staff members at Hennepin County (Minn.) Library, where the suspect allegedly sought information on how to make more effective bombs....

American Libraries Online, Sept. 12



[Shuttered Hartford branches get second reprieve](#)

The Hartford, Connecticut, city council broke into cheers September 9 at the announcement that two state legislators had persuaded the leaders of the state house and senate to give the city library one-time donations of \$100,000 apiece from their respective \$2-million contingency funds to reopen the Blue Hills and Mark Twain branches as of September 15. A September 4 library board meeting also brought trustees the news that Louise Blalock (above) would retire as director at the end of 2008 after 15 years at the library's helm....

American Libraries Online, Sept. 12




Four Great Conferences At One Site! Something For Everyone!
 KLA/KSMA/SELA/ARL
National Diversity in Libraries Conference: "Spectrum of the Future"
 October 1-4, 2008, Louisville Marriott Downtown, Louisville, Kentucky

ALA News

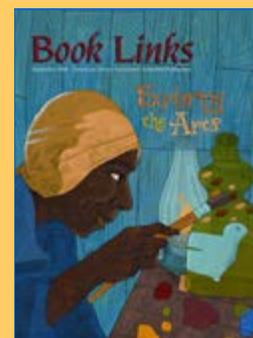
[Rettig to discuss creating connections](#)

Join ALA President Jim Rettig at the ALA Connections Salon, an online event scheduled for 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. Eastern Time, Friday, September 26. Online Programming for All Libraries (OPAL)



[ALA Midwinter Meeting.](#)

Denver, January 23–28. SuperShuttle is offering discounts on round trip travel to and from the Denver International Airport and the hotels in the ALA block: \$22 one way and \$36 round trip using the special ALA online discount code LET6A ([PDF file](#)).



Looking for ways to integrate the arts into the curriculum? Find inspiration in the [newest issue of Book Links](#), which features: interviews with Caldecott-winning illustrators Paul O.

Coordinator Tom Peters will begin the hour with an interview with Rettig, whose presidential focus is "Creating Connections." He is particularly interested in fostering connections among ALA members and exploring new ways for members to benefit from and contribute to our association....

[Lisa Loeb loves libraries](#)

Singer-songwriter Lisa Loeb discusses her love of libraries on a new video produced by the Public Information Office. Most recently, she used the public library as a resource when she remodeled her house in Los Angeles. "To me, the library is important because I have a lot of intellectual curiosity, and there's a lot of fun in that," she says. "And the library is the place to explore that."...



Visibility @ your library, Sept. 16

[Online ALA meeting spaces available](#)

ALA now has four virtual rooms—two 25-seat rooms, one 50-seat room, and one 100-seat room—available for use by any ALA or ALA-affiliated group at any time. This service is run through OPAL (Online Programming for All Libraries), but rooms must be booked by ALA staff. Groups may contact their staff liaison to reserve space....

ALA Marginalia, Sept. 11

[Frontline/World grants announced](#)

In celebration of its groundbreaking Social Entrepreneurs Series, the PBS-TV series *Frontline/World*, in cooperation with the ALA Public Programs Office, has selected 50 public and academic [libraries](#) to receive grants of \$500 plus supporting program materials. The funds will promote the screening and discussion of one of the series' short documentary films on innovative social entrepreneurs around the world....

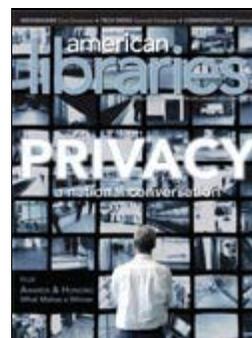


[School library named MVP](#)

This season's Step Up to the Plate Most Valuable Player is Maplewood Junior/Senior High School Library, in Guys Mills, Pennsylvania. The library brought in nearly 200 entries for this year's Step Up to the Plate @ your library program, which concluded September 1. For submitting the most entries, the library will receive a \$100 bookstore gift certificate, a copy of the book *Baseball's Greatest Hit*, and a baseball autographed by Ozzie Smith....

Zelinsky and Lois Ehlert; tips for conducting illustrator studies; an essay by Roxie Munro on the art of making mazes; a feature on Bob Raczka's Art Adventures series; spine-tingling ghost stories; features on Mary Downing Hahn and Neal Shusterman; ideas for celebrating Teen Read Week and fantasy read-alouds for fantasy-phobes. **NEW! From ALA Publishing.**

In this issue September 2008



The Future of Privacy

A Privacy Victory in Vermont

ALA Award Winners

Booklist ONLINE

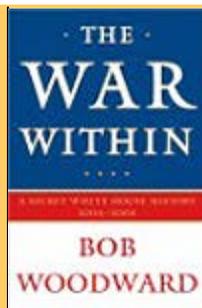
[Featured review: Adult books](#)

Woodward, Bob, *The War Within*. Sept. 2008. 512p. Simon & Schuster, hardcover (978-1-4165-5897-2).

Here is the fourth installment in Woodward's examination of the way the Bush administration has pursued the war on terror in

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Library Week Grant
Worlds connect
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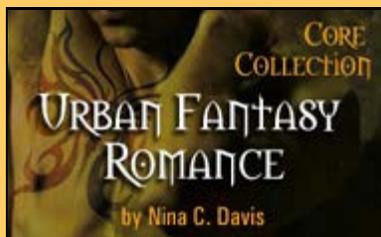
The [Scholastic Library Publishing National Library Week Grant](#) will award \$3,000 to a single



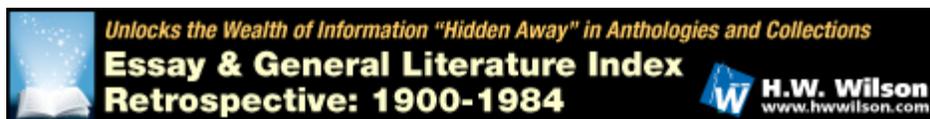
general and the war in Iraq in particular. The book picks up in early 2006, as violence in Iraq begins spiraling out of control, and as readers will soon see, the title of this book could easily have been, *The Confusion Within*. Even as President Bush repeated the mantra that progress was being made, those in the administration knew it was not, and perhaps more surprising, even at that rather late date, there were conflicting ideas among generals and the State and Defense Departments about what the war strategy actually was. Woodward, of course, has had unprecedented access to the players for all four of his books (though the president demurred last time around), and while this obviously is what makes his series a standout, the wealth of information sometimes becomes overwhelming for anyone not a policy wonk. That said, the enormity of invading and remaking a country comes through in all its amorphous and frustrating detail....

[The dark, paranormal side of romance](#)

Nina C. Davis writes: "Urban fantasy and paranormal romance are two of fiction's hottest genres. Urban fantasy blends the magic and larger-than-life battles between good and evil seen in *Lord of the Rings* with the interpersonal conflicts, romantic interests, and adventures found in *Pirates of the Caribbean*, and transports it all to the real world, usually a big modern city. Paranormal romance orchestrates love relationships between humans and vampires, werewolves, elves, and other fantastic beings. The following urban fantasy romance novels are an important, emerging subgenre. In these tales, the love story and the fight to protect the beloved take top billing over the epic struggle between good and evil."...



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



Division News

[Five authors chosen for Knowledge Quest](#)

In 2007, the Children's Book Council and AASL

U.S. library for the best public awareness campaign during National Library Week 2009. This year's grant focuses on the National Library Week theme, "Worlds connect @ your library." All proposals must use this theme. Applications must be postmarked **by October 17**.

Career Leads from



[Research Librarian for Mathematics and Physics and Astronomy](#)

University of California, Irvine, to plan and deliver innovative reference and instruction services, and develop and manage electronic and print collections in mathematics, physics, and astronomy. The successful candidate for this position will be based in Science Library Reference and jointly supervised by the Head, Reference Department and the Head, Collection Development Department....

@ [More jobs...](#)

Digital Library of the Week

created a "Meet the Author/Illustrator" column for the journal *Knowledge Quest*. Five new contributors have been chosen for the 2008–2009 editorial cycle. In order to show readers the wonderful variety in children's book publishing, columnists will represent different genres, target audiences, publishing companies, and levels of national prominence....



[2008 PLDS report highlights key financial statistics](#)

The PLA 2008 *Public Library Data Service Statistical Report*, which presents timely and topical data to public library administrators, is now available. For the fourth time since 1998, the *PLDS Statistical Report* includes a special section on public library financial practices. In addition to the report, a full dataset from the 2008 survey is available through an online subscription, which allows users to create customized reports and datasets....

Awards

Call for ALCTS awards

Nominations are being accepted for the 2009 ALCTS awards for [professional achievement](#), [publications](#), [serials](#), [preservation](#), [innovation](#), and the [Ross Atkinson Award](#). The deadline in all cases is December 1....

[ALSC offers eight awards, grants, and scholarships](#)

ALSC is offering more than \$82,000 to members through its 2009 professional awards, grants, and scholarships. All applications are due December 1, except for the Frederic G. Melcher Scholarship and the Bound to Stay Bound Books Scholarship, which are due March 1....

[LITA Library Hi Tech Award nominations sought](#)

Nominations are being accepted for the 2009 LITA *Library Hi Tech* Award, which is given each year to an individual or institution for outstanding achievement in communication for continuing education in library and information technology. The deadline for nominations is December 1....

[School principal rewarded for supporting libraries](#)

Kathy Harrington, principal of the Pine-Richland Middle School in Gibsonia, Pennsylvania, was presented recently with the Western Pennsylvania School Librarians Association's Advocate Award, which recognizes a school advocate who has maintained an exemplary library program, improved an existing program, or initiated a program where none existed. Middle School Librarian Kathy Batykefer nominated Harrington for the honor "because she has given me the funds and encouragement to really make an extraordinary library."...

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, Sept. 7

Seen Online

[In the digital age, government information gets](#)



The [Hagley Digital Archives](#) allow researchers to access digitized items from the collections of the Hagley Museum and Library. Located on 235 acres along the banks of the Brandywine River in Wilmington, Delaware, Hagley is the site of the gunpowder works founded by E. I. du Pont in 1802, and its mission is to collect, preserve, and interpret the history of business and technology in America. Among its special image collections are aerial photos from the Dallin Aerial Survey Company (1924–1941), the Sun Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company (1917–1983), the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company (ca. 1930), the Pierre Gentieu collection of Brandywine Valley images (1880–1920), and the Pusey & Jones Corporation collection (1865–1955). It also includes a small selection (approximately 300 items) from the library's collection of trade catalogs and pamphlets.

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

lost

Countless federal records are being lost to posterity because federal employees, grappling with a staggering growth in electronic records, do not regularly preserve the documents they create on government computers, send by email, and post on the Web. Federal agencies have rushed to embrace the internet and new information technology, but their record-keeping efforts lag far behind. Moreover, federal investigators have found widespread violations of federal record-keeping requirements....

New York Times, Sept. 12

UN agency eyes curbs on internet anonymity

The International Telecommunication Union, a United Nations agency, is quietly drafting technical standards, proposed by the Chinese government, to define methods of tracing the original source of internet communications and potentially curbing the ability of users to remain anonymous. The U.S. National Security Agency is also participating in the "IP Traceback" drafting group, named Q6/17, which is meeting this week in Geneva to work on the traceback proposal. Members of Q6/17 have declined to release key documents, and meetings are closed to the public....

CNET news, Sept. 12



Highsmith relocating, not closing

Contrary to a report in the *Madison (Wis.) Capital Times*, the library supply company Highsmith, of Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin, will not be closing. It will, however, be relocating in November to Janesville, where its new owner, Lab Safety Supply, is headquartered. The majority of Highsmith employees will be moving to the new location, according to LSS. Highsmith customers may continue to [reach the company](#) at the current phone, fax number, and website....

Watertown (Wis.) Daily Times, Sept. 10; Highsmith



Lawmaker to sponsor Oregon school library bill

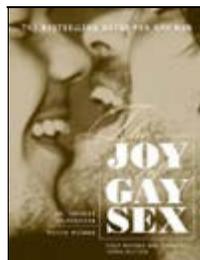
Fund Our Future Oregon, a campaign to save school libraries across the state, recently obtained word that state Rep. Peter Buckley (D-Ashland) will sponsor a bill to support their efforts. Nancy Sullivan, media specialist at James Madison High School in Portland, says she and FOFO cofounder Suzie Kabeiseman hope to meet with Buckley in coming weeks to help draft a bill....

School Library Journal, Sept. 8

Public hearing on Joy of Gay Sex in Helena

Mike Cronin testified that the public library has an obligation to provide all material to clients and does not have any obligation to serve as parents. He was one of about 20 people who spoke at a public hearing September 16 in support of keeping *The Joy of Gay Sex* at the Lewis and Clark Public Library in Helena, Montana. More than a dozen people testified for removal of the book. The request to remove the book came from Paul Cohen, of Helena, who found the book on one of his frequent visits to the library in February....

Helena (Mont.) Independent Record, Sept. 17



Friends of Libraries U.S.A. is coordinating the third annual [National Friends of Libraries Week](#), October 19–25. Friends groups can use the time to creatively promote their group in the community, to raise awareness, and to promote membership. The celebration also offers an excellent opportunity for the library staff and Board of Trustees to recognize the Friends for their help and support of the library.

Public Perception How the World Sees Us

“The coarsening of our society is worthy of concern and even action. It is up to us as a community of caring, thoughtful people to take that action, together, particularly in defense of our children. But let’s not start by taking library books.... Upon reflection, I wondered why my conservative brethren get so bothered by words that they resort to censorship and taking books from a library. We ought to defend all words and condemn censorship, particularly the

[Hackley Library discovers a rare book](#)

Philanthropist Charles H. Hackley continues to give to Muskegon, Michigan, this time through a chance purchase 110 years ago of a 50-year-old book that apparently had interested him. It turns out that book—long stored and virtually forgotten at the public library Hackley built—is a rare first-edition *Book of Mormon*, which library leaders believe will fetch more than \$70,000 that will be used to benefit library users....

Muskegon (Mich.) Chronicle, Sept. 15



[Maine librarian appears on Jeopardy](#)

Half a dozen staff members ambled into the Deerfield (Ill.) Public Library meeting room September 12 and took their seats. They clapped and cheered when the game show *Jeopardy* introduced one of their own, Cindy Schilling (right), who worked in the children's department until she took a job as assistant library director for youth services at the Wells (Maine) Public Library in 2006. She made an impressive showing in the first round, but in the end, Schilling was [done in](#) when a math teacher from Gurnee, Illinois, got all three daily double questions. Finishing second, she earned \$2,000....

Deerfield (Ill.) Review, Sept. 15; *Portsmouth (N.H.) Herald*, Sept. 16



[Why home libraries are back in style](#)

Reading rates are down and Americans say they love casual living. And yet, one of the most popular rooms in big new houses is a library. Rather than being about books, their appeal is often about creating a certain ambiance. In the latest annual National Association of Home Builders consumer survey, 63% of home buyers said they wanted a library or considered one essential, a percentage that has been edging up for the past few years. Many mass-market home builders are including libraries in their house plans, sometimes with retro touches like rolling ladders and circular stairs....

Wall Street Journal, Sept. 12

[Four Trenton branches to close](#)

All four Trenton (N.J.) Public Library branches will close later this year and workers there will be laid off due to budget cuts, according to the city library board. The board decided September 10 to shutter the branches after city officials informed the library that its \$3.5 million in funding would be cut by 10%. The closures of the Briggs, Cadwalader, East Trenton, and Skelton branches were decried by residents, city council members, and members of the library board....

Trenton (N.J.) Times, Sept. 12



[Fewer library hours for Hawaiians?](#)

With deeper, more severe budget cuts possibly on the horizon, the Hawaii State Public Library System may have to again cut services after nearly five years of attempting to restore previous cuts to library hours and staff. "We just barely recovered from the 2003 reductions," State Librarian Richard Burns said. The library's budget is down to \$28.3 million, a 6.9% reduction compared with 2007–2008....

Honolulu Advertiser, Sept. 15

ensorship by one zealot like [JoAn] Karkos who believes she knows better than her community what is acceptable to read. Words are not dangerous. Zealotry and censorship are dangerous."

—George Smith, executive director of the Sportsman's Alliance of Maine and chairman of the Trustees of the Shaw Memorial Library, Mount Vernon, Maine, in an editorial on JoAn Karkos, who refused to return a book she deemed inappropriate to the Lewiston Public Library, *Waterville (Maine) Morning Sentinel*, Sept. 3, 2008.

ALTAFF

In early September, ALTA members received a special ballot on a bylaws change that would provide for combining the division with Friends of Libraries U.S.A. into a new, expanded division of ALA. If approved, the new division would be called the [Association for Library Trustees, Advocates, Friends, and Foundations](#) (ALTAFF). Division members have until October 6 to return their ballots.

Ask the ALA Librarian

[NYPL Broadway photos stuck in a copyright tangle](#)

A 1957 photo (right) promoting *West Side Story*, as well as thousands of other famous images by photographer Leo Friedman, are in limbo, largely uncataloged, caught in a dispute between Friedman and the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts at Lincoln Center, where he had the pictures sent in 1971.



At stake is an extraordinary theater archive: about 4,580 prints and 2,655 contact sheets representing 168 stage productions from the 1950s and 1960s, the golden age of the Broadway musical....

New York Times, Sept. 12

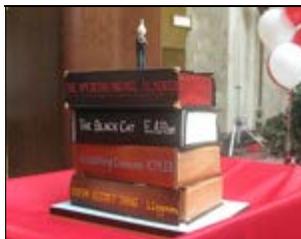
[Find out what's shaking at the library](#)

The new Portola Valley branch of the San Mateo County (Calif.) Library sports a seismograph that allows patrons to measure earthquakes affecting the tectonic plates that underlie the Bay Area. Built by local engineers for less than \$2,000, the instrument takes readings of earth movements and displays them on a digital screen in real time. The new green facility opened September 15....

San Mateo County (Calif.) Times, Sept. 12

[Happy birthday, Enoch Pratt](#)

As a pianist played "200 Candles," a roomful of Enoch Pratt Free Library fans in Baltimore toasted the bicentennial September 10 of the benefactor who gave away his millions, as he put it, "for all, rich and poor, without distinction of race or color." The event was cast as the start of a citywide celebration of philanthropist Enoch Pratt (1808–1896). Duff Goldman, owner of Charm City Cakes, donated a flour-and-sugar rendition of a book stack (right) that included H. L. Mencken's *The American Language*, Edgar Allan Poe's "The Black Cat," Anne Tyler's *Breathing Lessons*, and Laura Lippman's *Every Secret Thing*....



Baltimore Sun, Sept. 11

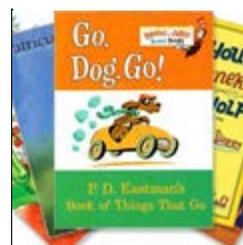
[Gulfport council delays library demolition](#)

The Gulfport, Mississippi, city council did its part September 16 to spare the former Gulfport Library building from demolition, for now at least. The council voted 4–3 to stop the demolition, despite this admission from the head librarian: "Our first choice was to never return to that building; we don't want to go back there," said Celia Barrett, who spent more than a decade as the head librarian in Gulfport. The library, which was heavily damaged by Hurricane Katrina, has been a hot-button issue between the county and the city for about a year....

Biloxi (Miss.) Sun-Herald, Sept. 17

[Yale's Mudd library closes](#)

On September 12, the Seeley G. Mudd Library—a two-million volume, high-density, storage library—



Q. One of my patrons mentioned something about Oprah and a children's book list. Can you give me more information about this?

A. In August, ALSC partnered with *The Oprah Winfrey Show*. There was a [press release](#) that explained the list, which can be found on [Oprah's Book Club](#) website. See the [Readers' Advisory](#) wiki page for additional sources of information on books to suggest to your patrons, be they young or old. By the way, the books listed are not part of the [ALA organizational membership benefit](#) of providing copies of the Oprah books. From the [ALA Professional Tips](#) wiki.

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



ALA Island in Second Life now has a [Facebook Fan page](#). Feel free to join and tell your friends.

officially closed to the public. There was no fanfare and little certainty for the library's future. For 12 to 18 months, Yale University officials say, the library staff will complete the cataloging of more than a million of Mudd's volumes. The library will then either be renovated or demolished to make room for Yale's two new residential colleges and a new Social Science Library....

Yale Daily News, Sept. 15



[Three arrested in Hayes Library book theft](#)

A Columbus, Ohio, couple and a Marysville man were arrested this week in connection with the thefts of two rare books from the Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Library in Fremont, Ohio, on June 27 and August 25. One of the books, *Laws of the Territory of the United States North-West of the Ohio* (the Maxwell Code, 1796, right), is thought to be the first book printed in the territory that became Ohio. Valued at more than \$100,000, it was [recovered](#) shortly after the couple's arrest. An apparent accomplice took a related volume, *Laws of the Territory of the United States North West of the River Ohio* (the Freeman Code, 1798), on the later date. The FBI has [located](#) that volume overseas, but it may be difficult to seize and return it....



Columbus (Ohio) Dispatch, Sept. 13; *Toledo Blade*, Sept. 12, 17

[UIUC professor: Library theft not unusual](#)

An expert on the theft of rare books says he is not surprised James Brubaker of Great Falls, Montana, was able to steal documents from libraries in broad daylight. "I don't find it odd at all," said Travis McDade, assistant professor of library administration at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. "This stuff is surprisingly common." McDade said Brubaker appeared smarter than many thieves by selling less expensive items that would attract less attention. Brubaker was [sentenced](#) to 2-1/2 years September 15 for stealing rare and valuable documents from libraries across the West....

Great Falls (Mont.) Tribune, Sept. 16

[Project tracks books stolen by Nazis in Berlin libraries](#)

Up to 150,000 of the books on the shelves of Berlin's Central and Regional Library headquarters are thought to have been stolen by Nazis from Jews, freemasons, social democrats, and other minorities persecuted between 1933 and 1945. Because previous ownership traces have been removed and victims' descendants are scattered across the globe, the job of returning them to their rightful owners will be difficult....

Die Welt, Sept. 14



Tech Talk

[10 platforms for creating online communities](#)

Dion Hinchcliffe writes: "Creating online

Calendar

Oct. 26–30:
[17th Conference on Information and Knowledge Management](#), Napa Valley Marriott Hotel and Spa, California.

Oct. 27–28:
[PALINET](#), Conference and Vendor Fair, Sheraton Philadelphia.

Oct. 28–31:
[Educause](#), Annual Conference, Orange County Convention Center, Orlando, Florida. "Interaction, Ideas, Inspiration."

Oct. 29–31:
[North Carolina School Library Media Association](#), Annual Conference, Benton Convention Center, Winston-Salem. "Innovation: Media Specialists for Change."

Nov. 7–8:
[WorldCat Hackathon](#), Science, Industry, and Business Library, New York City. Sponsored by the OCLC Developer's Network and NYPL Labs, the event will provide an opportunity for brainstorming and coding mashups with local systems and other Web services to take advantage of all that WorldCat has to offer.

Nov. 17–18:
[SPARC](#), Digital Repositories Meeting,



communities of customers and workers has been one of the hotter topics in business and technology this year. Whether you're on the business side, in IT, or are just trying to build virtual teams around shared goals, online communities are rapidly becoming a popular way to organize people and accomplish work in a highly collaborative manner. These communities aren't just for socializing but for *getting things done.*"... Enterprise Web 2.0, Sept. 4

[Screen size does matter](#)

Jennifer DeLeo writes: "The computer monitor or HDTV you pick says a lot about you. If you're a web designer, you'll need plenty of screen real estate to do your job, so a 22-inch or larger LCD monitor is a necessity. There is one universal truth, though: The standard 17-inch LCD monitors and 22-inch flat-panel TVs just don't cut it anymore; everyone—no matter their needs—wants to upgrade to a bigger screen. With that in mind, we've rounded up the 17 best LCD monitors and HDTV sets for your computing or viewing pleasure."...

PC Magazine, Sept. 16



[7 things you should know about geolocation](#)

Geolocation, also called geotagging, is the practice of associating a digital resource with a physical location. A photographer, for example, might include the longitude and latitude coordinates for where a picture was taken, allowing others to pinpoint that location on a map. Increasingly, geolocation is being applied to infrastructure components and end-user devices for the purpose of knowing where people are. This additional layer of location data can make resources much more useful to a broad range of users....

Educause Learning Initiative, Aug. 27

[WorldCat for iPhone](#)

Alice Sneary writes: "I don't have an iPhone yet, but I just found (another) reason to want one: There is now a WorldCat app developed for it, available for download at the Apple [apps section](#) (for free). If you have an iPhone, download it and let us know how it performs for you. In fact, we might even send you a free WorldCat t-shirt in exchange."...

WorldCat Blog, Sept. 16



[The state of cloud computing apps](#)

According to a new Pew Internet and American Life Project survey ([PDF file](#)), some 69% of online Americans use webmail services, store data online, or use software programs such as word processing applications whose functionality is located on the Web. Online users who take advantage of cloud applications say they like the convenience of having access to data and applications from any web-connected device. However, their message to providers of such services is: Let's keep the data between us....

Pew Internet and American Life Project, Sept. 12

Publishing

Renaissance
Harborplace Hotel,
Baltimore.

Nov. 17–21:

[E-Learn 2008](#), World Conference on E-Learning in Corporate, Government, Healthcare, and Higher Education, Riviera Hotel and Convention Center, Las Vegas, Nevada.

Dec. 1–3:

[ARL/ACRL Institute on Scholarly Communication](#), Portland, Oregon.

Dec. 5:

[ACRL Greater New York Metropolitan Area Chapter](#), Annual Symposium, Baruch College, New York City. "The 21st Century Library: Targeting the Trends."

Dec. 9–10:

[Northeast Document Conservation Center](#), InterContinental Hotel, Chicago. "Persistence of Memory: Sustaining Digital Collections."

@ [More...](#)

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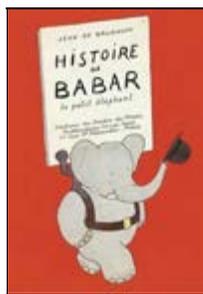


AL Direct is a free electronic newsletter emailed every Wednesday to personal members of the [American Library Association](#).

[Babar and the French colonial imagination](#)

An upcoming exhibition at the Morgan Library in New York of Jean de Brunhoff's working drafts and watercolors for *Histoire de Babar, le petit éléphant* (1931) has reignited a controversy over the meaning of the Babar books, said by some critics to represent European colonialism. Writer Adam Gopnik analyzes the series and concludes: "Far more than an allegory of colonialism, the Babar books are a fable of the difficulties of a bourgeois life."...

New Yorker, Sept. 22



[First the movie, then the book](#)

Marjorie Kehe writes: "It used to be that you read the book and then, a couple of years later, you saw the movie. But recently, it's been happening the other way around. Especially interesting is the fact that sometimes the book starts as a figment of the filmmaker's imagination. The forthcoming Christian movie *Fireproof* features an imaginary book, [The Love Dare](#), as a plot point. But the codirectors of the movie sat down and penned such a book in the space of a few weeks. It hasn't hit bookstores yet, but has already sold 300,000 copies and may become the bestselling Christian book of 2008."...

Christian Science Monitor, Sept. 16



[The roots of science fiction](#)

Lauren Davis writes: "Science fiction came of age in the 19th century under the talents of writers like Mary Shelley, Jules Verne, and H. G. Wells. But before these authors stands a long history of proto-science fiction tales, replete with voyages to the moon, socially and technologically advanced civilizations, and visions of the future. We've delved into our sci-fi roots and found some of the surprisingly forward-looking works from poets, mathematicians, politicians, and philosophers that predate the year 1800."...

io9, Sept. 16



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Actions & Answers

[Dayton flags banned books on Flickr](#)

Eric Wirick and Kevin Delecki at the Dayton (Ohio) Metro Library's East branch are showing the stars and stripes for Banned Books Week (September 27–October 4). This banner, posted on Flickr, features 99 of the 100 most banned books for the years 1990–2000. There are a great number of literary classics, children's books, and books that



many people have grown up reading at home, in the library, and at school....

Flickr

[Cartography project puts Newberry Library on the map](#)

Chicago's Newberry Library is finishing up a digital project that will provide a valuable tool for collections in demographics, geography, and genealogy—the *Atlas of Historical County Boundaries*. By December 31, the Newberry's project staff will have finished plotting the histories and drawing the maps that show all significant changes in the jurisdictions of the United States' 3,000-plus counties and parishes. The project began in 1988 with plans for a printed set of atlases, but by 2002 it became clear that a digital format was imperative....



Newberry Library

[School libraries try to do more with less](#)

This fall, school libraries across the country will be working to implement new standards for learning in the 21st century—but many will be doing so with fewer resources at their disposal. AASL's new *Standards for the 21st-Century Learner* come as budget cuts are threatening the job security of many library media specialists and are making it hard for school libraries to implement new programs....

eSchool News, Sept. 16

[Why cowboys read](#)

Libraries in Laramie County, Wyoming, are the best of an excellent lot. The collection is skewed towards local interests; there is a lot of Christian fiction, as well as volumes on truck repair. The central library runs book clubs for home-schooled children and teenagers, which are well-attended. In southern Wyoming, at least, an excellent library system was not built in the face of resistance to public spending. The interesting truth is that it is excellent precisely because of it....



The Economist, Sept. 11

[Teen gaming is universal, diverse, and constructive](#)

The first national survey of its kind ([PDF file](#)) finds that virtually all American teens play computer, console, or cell-phone games and that the gaming experience is rich and varied, with a significant amount of social interaction and potential for civic engagement. The survey was conducted by the Pew Internet and American Life Project and supported by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. The study found that most teens play games with others at least some of the time and can incorporate many aspects of civic and political life....

Say they are committed to civic participation.
Go online to get information about politics or current events.
Give or raise money for charity.
Stay informed about political issues or current events.
Say they are interested in politics.
Volunteer
Persuade others how to vote in an election.
Participated in a protest march, or demonstration.

Pew Internet and American Life Project, Sept. 16

[Oregon State alumnus leaves \\$2.6 million to main library](#)

An alumnus of Oregon State University who surrounded himself with books has



surprised his alma mater by giving OSU's Valley Library in Corvallis the vast majority of his estate. Franklin A. McEdward, a 1957 OSU electrical engineering graduate, left a total of \$2.6 million to the university. His gift, designated primarily for OSU's Valley Library, will fund a new professorship dedicated to undergraduate learning initiatives and a new reading room. A portion of his estate will also support the College of Engineering, naming a lounge in the Kelley Engineering Center....

Oregon State University, Sept. 17

[How to reach people who don't use social media](#)

Marshall Kirkpatrick writes: "Are you the only person at work who likes to read blogs? Is it your job to talk to people who would probably throw you out of their offices if you said the word 'Twitter?' Are you trying to reach audiences who've never visited a social networking website because they've heard those sites are used by no one but virus peddlers, sex fiends, and 14-year-old losers? Here are five strategies for using social media to reach people who don't use social media, with specific tools you can use to do it."...

ReadWriteWeb, Sept. 11

[Psst! Are you Twittering yet?](#)

Michael Sauers (right), technology innovation librarian at the Nebraska Library Commission, uses Twitter, a free message-routing and social-networking tool, to communicate with colleagues and spread the word about his organization's reference service. He encourages others to check out Twitter for themselves—but don't ask him to describe it. "My best answer is that it's a mix between email and chat, where you get the benefits of the group without requiring the group to be there all the time."...

Federal Computer Week, Aug. 25



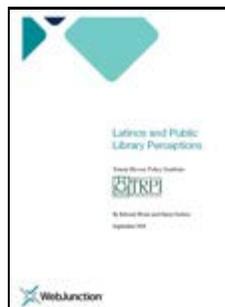
[Why doesn't anyone comment on your blog?](#)

Although written with associations in mind, this article offers tips that any blogger can use. Lindy Dreyer and Maddie Grant write: "Getting more comments is often important to achieving your blog's objectives. Most of us want our audience to be more vocal, but it's not something that happens overnight. It takes a lot of hard work and dedication to build an audience that cares enough to speak up. Here are five qualities common to many blogs with a vocal audience."...

Associations Now, Sept.

[New report: Latinos and Public Library Perceptions](#)

In partnership with the Tomás Rivera Policy Institute, WebJunction surveyed more than 2,860 Latinos in six U.S. states about their library use and perceptions of libraries. The results ([PDF file](#)) indicate that 54% of the Latino population visited libraries in the past year, and that Latinos hold positive perceptions of libraries. The report was written by Edward Flores and Harry Pachon with funds provided by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation as part of



the [Spanish Language Outreach](#) project....
WebJunction, Sept.

[Apply for a 21st Century Librarian Grant](#)

The Institute of Museum and Library Services invites proposals from libraries, archives, library agencies, associations, and consortia for the Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian grant program. Categories of funding for this grant include master's and doctoral LIS programs, research on librarianship, pre-professional LIS studies, and CE courses. IMLS staff will host two conference calls (October 21 and November 6) for prospective applicants....
Institute of Museum and Library Services, Sept. 15

[Puttering around in the stacks](#)

Jenny Levine writes: "The [Library Mini Golf](#) fundraising group will create a miniature golf course for a library, 80% of which is a standard course. The individual holes are created in such a way that they can be set up and taken down quickly, and they can be folded down for easy storage. LMG plans to work with college design-school students to create the unique 20% of the course, which might include replicas of local buildings or other items of interest to the community. For example, it's easy to imagine a Chicago version with a mini Sears Tower and Hancock Building."...
The Shifted Librarian, Sept. 15



[Cataloging tools from LC](#)

Carla writes: "LC's Cataloging and Acquisitions [homepage](#) contains a myriad of cataloging resources. One great resource that was just posted last week is an FAQ about form/genre headings ([PDF file](#)). Who hasn't struggled occasionally to keep the distinction between subject headings and form/genre headings clear, or to figure out whether an authority record represents a form/genre heading or not?"...
Blog About Technical Services, Sept. 15

[The top 20 scholarly Firefox add-ons](#)

Benson Varghese writes: "The popularity of Firefox continues to grow primarily because of its speed, ease of use, and the availability of free add-ons. As the amount of scholarly material available on the web increases, so to does the need to an efficient means to find, sort, organize, and cite the material. Here are 20 of the best tools available on Firefox that researchers can choose from to build a customized, highly efficient research tool."...
Res Ipsa Blog, Aug. 23



[Google News picks up some old stories](#)

Barry Schwartz writes: "Michael Gray [noticed](#) that Google News is continuously indexing old stories on some sites as new stories. Yes, this is the [exact issue](#) that influenced the United Airlines stock price drop just a week ago. But Google News is even indexing articles from 2007 as if they were posted just days ago, although the results are not supposed to contain articles older than 30 days. So what is going on here?"...
Search Engine Land, Sept. 16; Graywolf's SEO Blog, Sept. 16; Google News Blog, Sept. 8

[IMLS sponsors Pavilion of the States](#)

Librarians from every state will participate in the Pavilion of the States at the National Book Festival in Washington, D.C., on September 27. This is the seventh year the Institute of Museum and Library Services has supported the Pavilion at the festival. This year, IMLS is distributing a free "What's in Your Collection?" fan that includes information on the institute's *Connecting to Collections: A Call to Action*, a national initiative to raise public awareness of the importance of caring for our treasures....

Institute of Museum and Library Services, Sept. 15

[Public radio survey on library use](#)

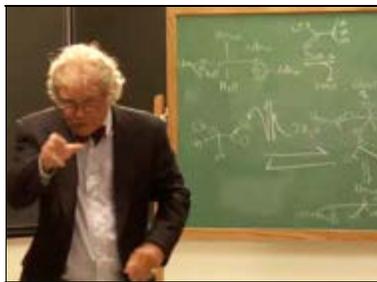
Are you experiencing an increase in library usage? Has the slowing economy changed the atmosphere in your workplace? Public Insight Network is conducting a [survey](#) on library use to help American Public Media's *Marketplace* show cover the news and add depth to its reporting. They claim to read every comment; a reporter may follow up for more information or an interview....

Marketplace

[Professor Wikipedia](#)

The latest video clip (2:54) from CollegeHumor, a New York City-based website, showcases Professor Wikipedia's attempts to teach a college class. Learn the fate of the yearbook editor who was not notable enough to include, and witness a guest appearance by Professor Britannica....

CollegeHumor, Sept. 16



AL Direct, September 17, 2008

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

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | September 17, 2008

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

[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

U.S. & World News

FBI: Suspect surfed for bomb-making information

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/september2008/rncbombsuspect.cfm>]

The U.S. Department of Justice revealed September 3 that the content of a library internet search was among the pieces of evidence (PDF file [<http://i2.cdn.turner.com/cnn/2008/images/09/03/depalma.pdf>]) leading to the August 30 arrest of a Michigan man for allegedly plotting to disrupt the 2008 Republican National Convention with Molotov cocktails. However, FBI agents pursuing the case never asked for assistance from any staff members at Hennepin County (Minn.) Library, where the suspect allegedly sought information on how to make more effective bombs....

American Libraries Online, Sept. 12

Shuttered Hartford branches get second reprieve

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/september2008/hartfordsecondreprieve.cfm>]

The Hartford, Connecticut, city council broke into cheers September 9 at the announcement that two state legislators had persuaded the leaders of

the state house and senate to give the city library one-time donations of \$100,000 apiece from their respective \$2-million contingency funds to reopen the Blue Hills and Mark Twain branches as of September 15. A September 4 library board meeting also brought trustees the news that Louise Blalock (above) would retire as director at the end of 2008 after 15 years at the library's helm....
American Libraries Online, Sept. 12

[<http://www.kylibasn.org/conferences620.cfm>]

ALA News

Rettig to discuss creating connections

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/September2008/RettigSalon.cfm>]

Join ALA President Jim Rettig at the ALA Connections Salon, an online event scheduled for 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. Eastern Time, Friday, September 26. Online Programming for All Libraries (OPAL) Coordinator Tom Peters will begin the hour with an interview with Rettig, whose presidential focus is "Creating Connections." He is particularly interested in fostering connections among ALA members and exploring new ways for members to benefit from and contribute to our association....

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iU3e28SyFVw>]

[<http://www.pio.ala.org/visibility/?p=158>]

Singer-songwriter Lisa Loeb discusses her love of libraries on a new video produced by the Public Information Office. Most recently, she used the public library as a resource when she remodeled her house in Los Angeles. "To me, the library is important because I have a lot of intellectual curiosity, and there's a lot of fun in that," she says. "And the library is the place to explore that."...

Visibility @ your library, Sept. 16

Online ALA meeting spaces available

[<http://discuss.ala.org/marginalia/2008/09/11/new-online-meeting-space-now-available/>]

ALA now has four virtual rooms—two 25-seat rooms, one 50-seat room, and one 100-seat room—available for use by any ALA or ALA-affiliated group at any time. This service is run through OPAL (Online Programming for All Libraries), but rooms must be booked by ALA staff. Groups may contact their staff liaison to reserve space....

ALA Marginalia, Sept. 11

grants announced

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/September2008/PPOfrontlineworldwinners.cfm>]

In celebration of its groundbreaking Social Entrepreneurs Series, the PBS-TV series Frontline/World, in cooperation with the ALA Public

Programs Office, has selected 50 public and academic libraries [<http://www.ppo.ala.org/blog/2008/08/frontline-grant/>] to receive grants of \$500 plus supporting program materials. The funds will promote the screening and discussion of one of the series's short documentary films on innovative social entrepreneurs around the world....

School library named MVP

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/September2008/CampaignStepupConcludes.cfm>]

This season's Step Up to the Plate Most Valuable Player is Maplewood Junior/Senior High School Library, in Guys Mills, Pennsylvania. The library brought in nearly 200 entries for this year's Step Up to the Plate @ your library program, which concluded September 1. For submitting the most entries, the library will receive a \$100 bookstore gift certificate, a copy of the book Baseball's Greatest Hit, and a baseball autographed by Ozzie Smith....

Featured review: Adult books

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=3073424]

Woodward, Bob, *The War Within*. Sept. 2008. 512p. Simon & Schuster, hardcover (978-1-4165-5897-2).

Here is the fourth installment in Woodward's examination of the way the Bush administration has pursued the war on terror in general and the war in Iraq in particular. The book picks up in early 2006, as violence in Iraq begins spiraling out of control, and as readers will soon see, the title of this book could easily have been, *The Confusion Within*. Even as President Bush repeated the mantra that progress was being made, those in the administration knew it was not, and perhaps more surprising, even at that rather late date, there were conflicting ideas among generals and the State and Defense Departments about what the war strategy actually was. Woodward, of course, has had unprecedented access to the players for all four of his books (though the president demurred last time around), and while this obviously is what makes his series a standout, the wealth of information sometimes becomes overwhelming for anyone not a policy wonk. That said, the enormity of invading and remaking a country comes through in all its amorphous and frustrating detail....

The dark, paranormal side of romance

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=2995961]

Nina C. Davis writes: "Urban fantasy and paranormal romance are two of fiction's hottest genres. Urban fantasy blends the magic and larger-than-life battles between good and evil seen in *Lord of the Rings* with the interpersonal conflicts, romantic interests, and adventures found in *Pirates of the Caribbean*, and transports it all to the real world, usually a big modern city. Paranormal romance orchestrates love relationships between humans and vampires, werewolves, elves, and other fantastic beings. The following urban fantasy romance novels are an important, emerging subgenre. In these tales, the love story and the fight to protect the beloved take top billing over the epic struggle between good and evil."...

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

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

Division News

Knowledge Quest

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/September2008/AASLmeettheauthor.cfm>]

In 2007, the Children's Book Council and AASL created a "Meet the Author/Illustrator" column for the journal Knowledge Quest. Five new contributors have been chosen for the 2008–2009 editorial cycle. In order to show readers the wonderful variety in children's book publishing, columnists will represent different genres, target audiences, publishing companies, and levels of national prominence....

2008 PLDS report highlights key financial statistics

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/September2008/PLAplds2008.cfm>]

The PLA 2008 Public Library Data Service Statistical Report, which presents timely and topical data to public library administrators, is now available. For the fourth time since 1998, the PLDS Statistical Report includes a special section on public library financial practices. In addition to the report, a full dataset from the 2008 survey is available through an online subscription, which allows users to create customized reports and datasets....

Awards

Call for ALCTS awards

Nominations are being accepted for the 2009 ALCTS awards for professional achievement,

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/September2008/ALCTSachievement.cfm>] publications,

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/September2008/ALCTSpubawards.cfm>] serials,

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/September2008/ALCTSserials.cfm>] preservation,

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/September2008/ALCTSpreservation.cfm>] innovation,

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/September2008/ALCTSinnovation.cfm>] and the Ross Atkinson Award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/September2008/ALCTSrossatkinsonaward.cfm>]

8/ALCTSatkinson.cfm]. The deadline in all cases is December 1....

ALSC offers eight awards, grants, and scholarships

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/September2008/ALSCmemberawards.cfm>]

ALSC is offering more than \$82,000 to members through its 2009 professional awards, grants, and scholarships. All applications are due December 1, except for the Frederic G. Melcher Scholarship and the Bound to Stay Bound Books Scholarship, which are due March 1....

Award nominations sought

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/September2008/LITAhitech.cfm>]

Nominations are being accepted for the 2009 LITA Library Hi Tech Award, which is given each year to an individual or institution for outstanding achievement in communication for continuing education in library and information technology. The deadline for nominations is December 1....

School principal rewarded for supporting libraries

[<http://www.post-gazette.com/pg/08251/909430-54.stm>]

Kathy Harrington, principal of the Pine-Richland Middle School in Gibsonia, Pennsylvania, was presented recently with the Western Pennsylvania School Librarians Association's Advocate Award, which recognizes a school advocate who has maintained an exemplary library program, improved an existing program, or initiated a program where none existed. Middle School Librarian Kathy Batykefer nominated Harrington for the honor "because she has given me the funds and encouragement to really make an extraordinary library."...
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, Sept. 7

Seen Online

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In the digital age, government information gets lost

[<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/09/13/us/13records.html>]

Countless federal records are being lost to posterity because federal employees, grappling with a staggering growth in electronic records, do not regularly preserve the documents they create on government computers, send by email, and post on the Web. Federal agencies have rushed to embrace the internet and new information technology, but their record-keeping efforts lag far behind. Moreover, federal investigators have found widespread violations of federal record-keeping requirements....

New York Times, Sept. 12

UN agency eyes curbs on internet anonymity

[http://news.cnet.com/8301-13578_3-10040152-38.html]

The International Telecommunication Union, a United Nations agency, is quietly drafting technical standards, proposed by the Chinese government, to define methods of tracing the original source of internet communications and potentially curbing the ability of users to remain anonymous. The U.S. National Security Agency is also participating in the "IP Traceback" drafting group, named Q6/17, which is meeting this week in

Geneva to work on the traceback proposal. Members of Q6/17 have declined to release key documents, and meetings are closed to the public....

CNET news, Sept. 12

Highsmith relocating, not closing

[<http://www.wdtimes.com/articles/2008/09/10/news/news5.txt>]

Contrary to a report in the Madison (Wis.) Capital Times, the library supply company Highsmith, of Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin, will not be closing. It will, however, be relocating in November to Janesville, where its new owner, Lab Safety Supply, is headquartered. The majority of Highsmith employees will be moving to the new location, according to LSS. Highsmith customers may continue to reach the company

[http://www.highsmith.com/webapp/wcs/stores/servlet/Production/Corp/pages/crp_press_release.jsp?&storeId=10001&langId=-1&catalogId=10001] at the current phone, fax number, and website....

Watertown (Wis.) Daily Times, Sept. 10; Highsmith

Lawmaker to sponsor Oregon school library bill

[<http://www.schoollibraryjournal.com/article/CA6594030.html?nid=2413&rid=474133042>]

Fund Our Future Oregon, a campaign to save school libraries across the state, recently obtained word that state Rep. Peter Buckley (D-Ashland) will sponsor a bill to support their efforts. Nancy Sullivan, media specialist at James Madison High School in Portland, says she and FOFO cofounder Suzie Kabeiseman hope to meet with Buckley in coming weeks to help draft a bill....

School Library Journal, Sept. 8

in Helena

[http://www.helenair.com/articles/2008/09/17/top/60lo_080917_book.txt]

Mike Cronin testified that the public library has an obligation to provide all material to clients and does not have any obligation to serve as parents. He was one of about 20 people who spoke at a public hearing September 16 in support of keeping *The Joy of Gay Sex* at the Lewis and Clark Public Library in Helena, Montana. More than a dozen people testified for removal of the book. The request to remove the book came from Paul Cohen, of Helena, who found the book on one of his frequent visits to the library in February....

Helena (Mont.) Independent Record, Sept. 17

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Image:The_Book_of_Mormon-_An_Account_Written_by_the_Hand_of_Mormon_upon_Plates_Taken_from_the_Plates_of_Nephi.jpg]Hackley Library discovers a rare book

[http://blog.mlive.com/chronicle/2008/09/hackley_library_eyeing_70000_f.html]

Philanthropist Charles H. Hackley continues to give to Muskegon, Michigan, this time through a chance purchase 110 years ago of a 50-year-old book that apparently had interested him. It turns out that book—long stored and virtually forgotten at the public library Hackley built—is a rare first-edition Book of Mormon, which library leaders believe will fetch more than \$70,000 that will be used to benefit library users....

Muskegon (Mich.) Chronicle, Sept. 15

Jeopardy

[<http://www.pioneerlocal.com/deerfield/news/1164103,de-webjeopardy-091508-s1.article>]

Half a dozen staff members ambled into the Deerfield (Ill.) Public Library meeting room September 12 and took their seats. They clapped and cheered when the game show Jeopardy introduced one of their own, Cindy Schilling (right), who worked in the children's department until she took a job as assistant library director for youth services at the Wells (Maine) Public Library in 2006. She made an impressive showing in the first round, but in the end, Schilling was done in

[<http://www.seacoastonline.com/articles/20080916-NEWS-80916020>] when a math teacher from Gurnee, Illinois, got all three daily double questions.

Finishing second, she earned \$2,000....

Deerfield (Ill.) Review, Sept. 15; Portsmouth (N.H.) Herald, Sept. 16

Why home libraries are back in style

[<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB122117550854125707.html>]

Reading rates are down and Americans say they love casual living. And yet, one of the most popular rooms in big new houses is a library. Rather than being about books, their appeal is often about creating a certain ambiance. In the latest annual National Association of Home Builders consumer survey, 63% of home buyers said they wanted a library or considered one essential, a percentage that has been edging up for the past few years. Many mass-market home builders are including libraries in their house plans, sometimes with retro touches like rolling ladders and circular stairs....

Wall Street Journal, Sept. 12

Four Trenton branches to close

[<http://www.nj.com/timesoftrenton/stories/index.ssf?/base/news-5/1221219909220150.xml&coll=5>]

All four Trenton (N.J.) Public Library branches will close later this year and workers there will be laid off due to budget cuts, according to the city library board. The board decided September 10 to shutter the branches after city officials informed the library that its \$3.5 million in funding would be cut by 10%. The closures of the Briggs, Cadwalader, East Trenton, and Skelton branches were decried by residents, city council members, and members of the library board....

Trenton (N.J.) Times, Sept. 12

Fewer library hours for Hawaiians?

[<http://www.honoluluadvertiser.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080915/NEWS03/809150361/1001/LOCALNEWSFRONT>]

With deeper, more severe budget cuts possibly on the horizon, the Hawaii State Public Library System may have to again cut services after nearly five years of attempting to restore previous cuts to library hours and staff. "We just barely recovered from the 2003 reductions," State Librarian Richard Burns said. The library's budget is down to \$28.3 million, a 6.9% reduction compared with 2007-2008....

Honolulu Advertiser, Sept. 15

NYPL Broadway photos stuck in a copyright tangle

[<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/09/13/nyregion/13photog.html>]

A 1957 photo (right) promoting West Side Story, as well as thousands of

other famous images by photographer Leo Friedman, are in limbo, largely uncataloged, caught in a dispute between Friedman and the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts at Lincoln Center, where he had the pictures sent in 1971. At stake is an extraordinary theater archive: about 4,580 prints and 2,655 contact sheets representing 168 stage productions from the 1950s and 1960s, the golden age of the Broadway musical....

New York Times, Sept. 12

Find out what's shaking at the library

[http://www.insidebayarea.com/search/ci_10450538]

The new Portola Valley branch of the San Mateo County (Calif.) Library sports a seismograph that allows patrons to measure earthquakes affecting the tectonic plates that underlie the Bay Area. Built by local engineers for less than \$2,000, the instrument takes readings of earth movements and displays them on a digital screen in real time. The new green facility opened September 15....

San Mateo County (Calif.) Times, Sept. 12

Happy birthday, Enoch Pratt

[http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/local/baltimore_city/bal-md.ci.library11sep11,0,5660592.story]

As a pianist played "200 Candles," a roomful of Enoch Pratt Free Library fans in Baltimore toasted the bicentennial September 10 of the benefactor who gave away his millions, as he put it, "for all, rich and poor, without distinction of race or color." The event was cast as the start of a citywide celebration of philanthropist Enoch Pratt (1808–1896). Duff Goldman, owner of Charm City Cakes, donated a flour-and-sugar rendition of a book stack (right) that included H. L. Mencken's *The American Language*, Edgar Allan Poe's "The Black Cat," Anne Tyler's *Breathing Lessons*, and Laura Lippman's *Every Secret Thing*....

Baltimore Sun, Sept. 11

Gulfport council delays library demolition

[<http://www.sunherald.com/pageone/story/820973.html>]

The Gulfport, Mississippi, city council did its part September 16 to spare the former Gulfport Library building from demolition, for now at least. The council voted 4–3 to stop the demolition, despite this admission from the head librarian: "Our first choice was to never return to that building; we don't want to go back there," said Celia Barrett, who spent more than a decade as the head librarian in Gulfport. The library, which was heavily damaged by Hurricane Katrina, has been a hot-button issue between the county and the city for about a year....

Biloxi (Miss.) Sun-Herald, Sept. 17

Yale's Mudd library closes

[<http://www.yaledailynews.com/articles/view/25134>]

On September 12, the Seeley G. Mudd Library—a two-million volume, high-density, storage library—officially closed to the public. There was no fanfare and little certainty for the library's future. For 12 to 18 months, Yale University officials say, the library staff will complete the cataloging of more than a million of Mudd's volumes. The library will then either be renovated or demolished to make room for Yale's two new residential colleges and a new Social Science

Library....

Yale Daily News, Sept. 15

Three arrested in Hayes Library book theft

[http://www.dispatch.com/live/content/local_news/stories/2008/09/13/rarebooks.ART_ART_09-13-08_B1_BFBAG40.html]

A Columbus, Ohio, couple and a Marysville man were arrested this week in connection with the thefts of two rare books from the Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Library in Fremont, Ohio, on June 27 and August 25. One of the books, Laws of the Territory of the United States North-West of the Ohio (the Maxwell Code, 1796, right), is thought to be the first book printed in the territory that became Ohio. Valued at more than \$100,000, it was recovered

[<http://toledoblade.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080912/NEWS03/809120347>] shortly after the couple's arrest. An apparent accomplice took a related volume, Laws of the Territory of the United States North West of the River Ohio (the Freeman Code, 1798), on the later date. The FBI has located

[<http://toledoblade.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080917/NEWS03/809179965>] that volume overseas, but it may be difficult to seize and return it....

Columbus (Ohio) Dispatch, Sept. 13; Toledo Blade, Sept. 12, 17

UIUC professor: Library theft not unusual

[<http://www.greatfallstribune.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080916/NEWS01/809160307>]

An expert on the theft of rare books says he is not surprised James Brubaker of Great Falls, Montana, was able to steal documents from libraries in broad daylight. "I don't find it odd at all," said Travis McDade, assistant professor of library administration at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. "This stuff is surprisingly common." McDade said Brubaker appeared smarter than many thieves by selling less expensive items that would attract less attention. Brubaker was sentenced [<http://www.greatfallstribune.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080916/NEWS01/809160301>] to 2-1/2 years September 15 for stealing rare and valuable documents from libraries across the West....

Great Falls (Mont.) Tribune, Sept. 16

Project tracks books stolen by Nazis in Berlin libraries

[<http://www.welt.de/english-news/article2443760/Berlin-libraries-research-books-stolen-by-Nazis.html>]

Up to 150,000 of the books on the shelves of Berlin's Central and Regional Library headquarters are thought to have been stolen by Nazis from Jews, freemasons, social democrats, and other minorities persecuted between 1933 and 1945. Because previous ownership traces have been removed and victims' descendants are scattered across the globe, the job of returning them to their rightful owners will be difficult....

Die Welt, Sept. 14

Tech Talk

=====
[<http://www.kickapps.com/>]10 platforms for creating online communities

[<http://blogs.zdnet.com/Hinchcliffe/?p=195>]

Dion Hinchcliffe writes: "Creating online communities of customers and workers has been one of the hotter topics in business and technology this year. Whether you're on the business side, in IT, or are just trying to build virtual teams around shared goals, online communities are rapidly becoming a popular way to organize people and accomplish work in a highly collaborative manner. These communities aren't just for socializing but for getting things done."...

Enterprise Web 2.0, Sept. 4

[<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2071695,00.asp>]Screen size does matter [<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2330363,00.asp>]

Jennifer DeLeo writes: "The computer monitor or HDTV you pick says a lot about you. If you're a web designer, you'll need plenty of screen real estate to do your job, so a 22-inch or larger LCD monitor is a necessity. There is one universal truth, though: The standard 17-inch LCD monitors and 22-inch flat-panel TVs just don't cut it anymore; everyone—no matter their needs—wants to upgrade to a bigger screen. With that in mind, we've rounded up the 17 best LCD monitors and HDTV sets for your computing or viewing pleasure."...

PC Magazine, Sept. 16

7 things you should know about geolocation

[<http://connect.educause.edu/Library/ELI/7ThingsYouShouldKnowAbout/47212?time=1221598880>]

Geolocation, also called geotagging, is the practice of associating a digital resource with a physical location. A photographer, for example, might include the longitude and latitude coordinates for where a picture was taken, allowing others to pinpoint that location on a map.

Increasingly, geolocation is being applied to infrastructure components and end-user devices for the purpose of knowing where people are. This additional layer of location data can make resources much more useful to a broad range of users....

Educause Learning Initiative, Aug. 27

WorldCat for iPhone

[<http://worldcat.org/blogs/archives/2008/09/worldcat-for-iphone.htm>]

Alice Sneary writes: "I don't have an iPhone yet, but I just found (another) reason to want one: There is now a WorldCat app developed for it, available for download at the Apple apps section

[<http://www.apple.com/webapps/searchtools/worldcat.html>] (for free). If you have an iPhone, download it and let us know how it performs for you. In fact, we might even send you a free WorldCat t-shirt in exchange."...

WorldCat Blog, Sept. 16

The state of cloud computing apps

[http://www.pewinternet.org/PPF/r/262/report_display.asp]

According to a new Pew Internet and American Life Project survey (PDF file [http://www.pewinternet.org/pdfs/PIP_Cloud.Memo.pdf]), some 69% of online Americans use webmail services, store data online, or use software programs such as word processing applications whose functionality is located on the Web. Online users who take advantage of cloud applications say they like the convenience of having access to data and applications from any web-connected device. However, their message to providers of

such services is: Let's keep the data between us....
Pew Internet and American Life Project, Sept. 12

Publishing

Babar and the French colonial imagination

[http://www.newyorker.com/reporting/2008/09/22/080922fa_fact_gopnik]

An upcoming exhibition at the Morgan Library in New York of Jean de Brunhoff's working drafts and watercolors for *Histoire de Babar, le petit éléphant* (1931) has reignited a controversy over the meaning of the Babar books, said by some critics to represent European colonialism. Writer Adam Gopnik analyzes the series and concludes: "Far more than an allegory of colonialism, the Babar books are a fable of the difficulties of a bourgeois life."...

New Yorker, Sept. 22

First the movie, then the book

[<http://features.csmonitor.com/books/2008/09/16/first-the-movie-then-the-book/>]

Marjorie Kehe writes: "It used to be that you read the book and then, a couple of years later, you saw the movie. But recently, it's been happening the other way around. Especially interesting is the fact that sometimes the book starts as a figment of the filmmaker's imagination. The forthcoming Christian movie *Fireproof* features an imaginary book, *The Love Dare*, [<http://thelovedarebook.com/>] as a plot point. But the codirectors of the movie sat down and penned such a book in the space of a few weeks. It hasn't hit bookstores yet, but has already sold 300,000 copies and may become the bestselling Christian book of 2008."...

Christian Science Monitor, Sept. 16

[http://bp1.blogger.com/_qTDAEasFLtU/Reqy1nu7yVI/AAAAAAAAACAM/90ecRucLacw/s1600-h/Les+Hommes-serpens.jpg]

[<http://io9.com/5050642/the-roots-of-todays-science-fiction-go-back-centuries>]

Lauren Davis writes: "Science fiction came of age in the 19th century under the talents of writers like Mary Shelley, Jules Verne, and H. G. Wells. But before these authors stands a long history of proto-science fiction tales, replete with voyages to the moon, socially and technologically advanced civilizations, and visions of the future. We've delved into our sci-fi roots and found some of the surprisingly forward-looking works from poets, mathematicians, politicians, and philosophers that predate the year 1800."...

io9, Sept. 16

[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

[<http://flickr.com/photos/dmleastbranch/374945272/sizes/l/in/set-72157602242718944/>] Dayton flags banned books on Flickr
[<http://flickr.com/photos/dmleastbranch/374945272/in/set-72157602242718944/>]
]

Eric Wirick and Kevin Delecki at the Dayton (Ohio) Metro Library's East branch are showing the stars and stripes for Banned Books Week (September 27–October 4). This banner, posted on Flickr, features 99 of the 100 most banned books for the years 1990–2000. There are a great number of literary classics, children's books, and books that many people have grown up reading at home, in the library, and at school....
Flickr

[<http://historical-county.newberry.org/website/Washington/viewer.htm>] Cartography project puts Newberry Library on the map
[<http://www.newberry.org/ahcbp/>]

Chicago's Newberry Library is finishing up a digital project that will provide a valuable tool for collections in demographics, geography, and genealogy—the Atlas of Historical County Boundaries. By December 31, the Newberry's project staff will have finished plotting the histories and drawing the maps that show all significant changes in the jurisdictions of the United States's 3,000-plus counties and parishes. The project began in 1988 with plans for a printed set of atlases, but by 2002 it became clear that a digital format was imperative....
Newberry Library

School libraries try to do more with less
[<http://www.eschoolnews.com/news/top-news/index.cfm?i=55239&page=1>]
This fall, school libraries across the country will be working to implement new standards for learning in the 21st century—but many will be doing so with fewer resources at their disposal. AASL's new Standards for the 21st-Century Learner come as budget cuts are threatening the job security of many library media specialists and are making it hard for school libraries to implement new programs....
eSchool News, Sept. 16

Why cowboys read
[http://www.economist.com/world/unitedstates/displaystory.cfm?story_id=12208693]

Libraries in Laramie County, Wyoming, are the best of an excellent lot. The collection is skewed towards local interests; there is a lot of Christian fiction, as well as volumes on truck repair. The central library runs book clubs for home-schooled children and teenagers, which are well-attended. In southern Wyoming, at least, an excellent library system was not built in the face of resistance to public spending. The interesting truth is that it is excellent precisely because of it....
The Economist, Sept. 11

Teen gaming is universal, diverse, and constructive
[http://www.pewinternet.org/PPF/r/263/report_display.asp]
The first national survey of its kind (PDF file)

[http://www.pewinternet.org/pdfs/PIP_Teens_Games_and_Civics_Report_FINAL.pdf]) finds that virtually all American teens play computer, console, or cell-phone games and that the gaming experience is rich and varied, with a significant amount of social interaction and potential for civic engagement. The survey was conducted by the Pew Internet and American Life Project and supported by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. The study found that most teens play games with others at least some of the time and can incorporate many aspects of civic and political life....

Pew Internet and American Life Project, Sept. 16

Oregon State alumnus leaves \$2.6 million to main library

[<http://oregonstate.edu/dept/ncs/newsarch/2008/Sep08/valleylibrary.html>]

An alumnus of Oregon State University who surrounded himself with books has surprised his alma mater by giving OSU's Valley Library in Corvallis the vast majority of his estate. Franklin A. McEdward, a 1957 OSU electrical engineering graduate, left a total of \$2.6 million to the university. His gift, designated primarily for OSU's Valley Library, will fund a new professorship dedicated to undergraduate learning initiatives and a new reading room. A portion of his estate will also support the College of Engineering, naming a lounge in the Kelley Engineering Center....

Oregon State University, Sept. 17

How to reach people who don't use social media

[http://www.readwriteweb.com/archives/five_ways_to_use_social_media.php]

Marshall Kirkpatrick writes: "Are you the only person at work who likes to read blogs? Is it your job to talk to people who would probably throw you out of their offices if you said the word 'Twitter?' Are you trying to reach audiences who've never visited a social networking website because they've heard those sites are used by no one but virus peddlers, sex fiends, and 14-year-old losers? Here are five strategies for using social media to reach people who don't use social media, with specific tools you can use to do it."...

ReadWriteWeb, Sept. 11

Psst! Are you Twittering yet?

[http://www.fcw.com/print/22_27/technology/153570-1.html]

Michael Sauers (right), technology innovation librarian at the Nebraska Library Commission, uses Twitter, a free message-routing and social-networking tool, to communicate with colleagues and spread the word about his organization's reference service. He encourages others to check out Twitter for themselves—but don't ask him to describe it. "My best answer is that it's a mix between email and chat, where you get the benefits of the group without requiring the group to be there all the time."...

Federal Computer Week, Aug. 25

Why doesn't anyone comment on your blog?

[<http://www.asaecenter.org/PublicationsResources/ANowDetail.cfm?ItemNumber=36272>]

Although written with associations in mind, this article offers tips that any blogger can use. Lindy Dreyer and Maddie Grant write: "Getting more comments is often important to achieving your blog's objectives. Most of

us want our audience to be more vocal, but it's not something that happens overnight. It takes a lot of hard work and dedication to build an audience that cares enough to speak up. Here are five qualities common to many blogs with a vocal audience.”...

Associations Now, Sept.

Latinos and Public Library Perceptions

[<http://www.webjunction.org/latino-perceptions/resources/overview>]

In partnership with the Tomás Rivera Policy Institute, WebJunction surveyed more than 2,860 Latinos in six U.S. states about their library use and perceptions of libraries. The results (PDF file [http://www.webjunction.org/c/document_library/get_file?folderId=10860985&name=DLFE-2520003.pdf]) indicate that 54% of the Latino population visited libraries in the past year, and that Latinos hold positive perceptions of libraries. The report was written by Edward Flores and Harry Pachon with funds provided by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation as part of the Spanish Language Outreach [<http://www.webjunction.org/slo>] project.... WebJunction, Sept.

[<http://www.imls.gov/news/2008/091508.shtm>]Apply for a 21st Century Librarian Grant [<http://www.imls.gov/news/2008/091508.shtm>]

The Institute of Museum and Library Services invites proposals from libraries, archives, library agencies, associations, and consortia for the Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian grant program. Categories of funding for this grant include master's and doctoral LIS programs, research on librarianship, pre-professional LIS studies, and CE courses. IMLS staff will host two conference calls (October 21 and November 6) for prospective applicants....

Institute of Museum and Library Services, Sept. 15

Puttering around in the stacks

[<http://theshiftedlibrarian.com/archives/2008/09/15/the-back-nine-stacks.html>]

Jenny Levine writes: “The Library Mini Golf [<http://www.libraryminigolf.org/>] fundraising group will create a miniature golf course for a library, 80% of which is a standard course. The individual holes are created in such a way that they can be set up and taken down quickly, and they can be folded down for easy storage. LMG plans to work with college design-school students to create the unique 20% of the course, which might include replicas of local buildings or other items of interest to the community. For example, it's easy to imagine a Chicago version with a mini Sears Tower and Hancock Building.”...

The Shifted Librarian, Sept. 15

Cataloging tools from LC

[http://blogs.minitex.umn.edu/bats/2008/09/excellent_cataloging_tool_from.html]

Carla writes: “LC's Cataloging and Acquisitions homepage [<http://www.loc.gov/aba/>] contains a myriad of cataloging resources. One great resource that was just posted last week is an FAQ about form/genre headings (PDF file [http://www.loc.gov/catdir/cpsd/genre_form_faq.pdf]). Who hasn't struggled occasionally to keep the distinction between subject headings and form/genre headings clear, or to figure out whether an

authority record represents a form/genre heading or not?”...
Blog About Technical Services, Sept. 15

[<https://addons.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/addon/5648>]The top 20 scholarly Firefox add-ons
[<http://resipsablog.com/2008/08/23/become-an-efficient-researcher-top-twenty-firefox-add-ons-that-make-firefox-the-researchers-browser-of-choice/>]
Benson Varghese writes: “The popularity of Firefox continues to grow primarily because of its speed, ease of use, and the availability of free add-ons. As the amount of scholarly material available on the web increases, so to does the need to an efficient means to find, sort, organize, and cite the material. Here are 20 of the best tools available on Firefox that researchers can choose from to build a customized, highly efficient research tool.”...
Res Ipsa Blog, Aug. 23

Google News picks up some old stories
[<http://searchengineland.com/080916-132032.php>]
Barry Schwartz writes: “Michael Gray noticed [<http://www.wolf-howl.com/google/google-news-date-wrong/>] that Google News is continuously indexing old stories on some sites as new stories. Yes, this is the exact issue [<http://googlenewsblog.blogspot.com/2008/09/update-on-united-airlines-story.html>] that influenced the United Airlines stock price drop just a week ago. But Google News is even indexing articles from 2007 as if they were posted just days ago, although the results are not supposed to contain articles older than 30 days. So what is going on here?”...
Search Engine Land, Sept. 16; Graywolf's SEO Blog, Sept. 16; Google News Blog, Sept. 8

IMLS sponsors Pavilion of the States
[<http://www.ims.gov/news/2008/091508c.shtm>]
Librarians from every state will participate in the Pavilion of the States at the National Book Festival in Washington, D.C., on September 27. This is the seventh year the Institute of Museum and Library Services has supported the Pavilion at the festival. This year, IMLS is distributing a free “What’s in Your Collection?” fan that includes information on the institute’s Connecting to Collections: A Call to Action, a national initiative to raise public awareness of the importance of caring for our treasures....
Institute of Museum and Library Services, Sept. 15

Public radio survey on library use
[http://elabs7.com/functions/message_view.html?mid=543066&mlid=747&siteid=506781&uid=cdc8f05b87]
Are you experiencing an increase in library usage? Has the slowing economy changed the atmosphere in your workplace? Public Insight Network is conducting a survey [http://www.publicradio.org/applications/formbuilder/user/form_display.php?isPIJ=Y&form_code=96f4dd0b4a08] on library use to help American Public Media’s Marketplace show cover the news and add depth to its reporting. They claim to read every comment; a reporter may follow up for more information or an interview....
Marketplace

Professor Wikipedia [<http://www.collegehumor.com/video:1830262>]
The latest video clip (2:54) from CollegeHumor, a New York City-based website, showcases Professor Wikipedia's attempts to teach a college class. Learn the fate of the yearbook editor who was not notable enough to include, and witness a guest appearance by Professor Britannica....
CollegeHumor, Sept. 16

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/midwinter/home.cfm>]

ALA Midwinter Meeting,
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/midwinter/2009/faq.cfm>]
Denver, January 23–28. SuperShuttle is offering discounts on round trip travel to and from the Denver International Airport and the hotels in the ALA block: \$22 one way and \$36 round trip using the special ALA online discount code LET6A (PDF file [<http://www.supershuttle.com/Coupons/DIA/ALA.pdf>]).

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

Looking for ways to integrate the arts into the curriculum? Find inspiration in the Book Links [<http://www.ala.org/booklinks>], which features: interviews with Caldecott-winning illustrators Paul O. Zelinsky and Lois Ehlert; tips for conducting illustrator studies; an essay by Roxie Munro on the art of making mazes; a feature on Bob Raczka's Art Adventures series; spine-tingling ghost stories; features on Mary Downing Hahn and Neal Shusterman; ideas for celebrating Teen Read Week and fantasy read-alouds for fantasy-phobes. NEW! From ALA Publishing.

In this issue
September 2008

The Future of Privacy

A Privacy Victory in Vermont

ALA Award Winners

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pio/natlibraryweek/nlwgrant.cfm>]

The Scholastic Library Publishing National Library Week Grant [<http://www.ala.org/ala/pio/natlibraryweek/nlwgrant.cfm>] will award \$3,000 to a single U.S. library for the best public awareness campaign during National Library Week 2009. This year's grant focuses on the National Library Week theme, "Worlds connect @ your library." All proposals must use this theme. Applications must be postmarked by October 17.

Career Leads from

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

Research Librarian for Mathematics and Physics and Astronomy, [<http://joblist.ala.org/modules/jobseeker/controller.cfm?scr=jobdetail&jobid=11664>] University of California, Irvine, to plan and deliver innovative reference and instruction services, and develop and manage electronic and print collections in mathematics, physics, and astronomy. The successful candidate for this position will be based in Science Library Reference and jointly supervised by the Head, Reference Department and the Head, Collection Development Department....

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

Digital Library of the Week

[<http://digital.hagley.org/cdm4/document.php?CISOROOT=/p268001coll12&CISOPTR=50&REC=5>]

The Hagley Digital Archives [<http://digital.hagley.org/>] allow researchers to access digitized items from the collections of the Hagley Museum and Library. Located on 235 acres along the banks of the Brandywine River in Wilmington, Delaware, Hagley is the site of the gunpowder works founded by E. I. du Pont in 1802, and its mission is to collect, preserve, and interpret the history of business and technology in America. Among its special image collections are aerial photos from the Dallin Aerial Survey Company (1924–1941), the Sun Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company (1917–1983), the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company (ca. 1930), the Pierre Gentieu collection of Brandywine Valley images (1880–1920), and the Pusey & Jones Corporation collection (1865–1955). It also includes a small selection (approximately 300 items) from the library's collection of trade catalogs and pamphlets.

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>]

[<http://www.folusa.org/sharing/national-friends-week.php>]

Friends of Libraries U.S.A. is coordinating the third annual National Friends of Libraries Week, [<http://www.folusa.org/sharing/national-friends-week.php>] October 19–25. Friends groups can use the time to creatively promote their group in the community, to raise awareness, and to promote membership. The celebration also offers an excellent opportunity for the library staff and Board of Trustees to recognize the Friends for their help and support of the library.

Public Perception
How the World

Sees Us

“The coarsening of our society is worthy of concern and even action. It is up to us as a community of caring, thoughtful people to take that action, together, particularly in defense of our children. But let’s not start by taking library books.... Upon reflection, I wondered why my conservative brethren get so bothered by words that they resort to censorship and taking books from a library. We ought to defend all words and condemn censorship, particularly the censorship by one zealot like [JoAn] Karkos who believes she knows better than her community what is acceptable to read. Words are not dangerous. Zealotry and censorship are dangerous.”

?George Smith, executive director of the Sportsman’s Alliance of Maine and chairman of the Trustees of the Shaw Memorial Library, Mount Vernon, Maine, in an editorial on JoAn Karkos, who refused to return a book she deemed inappropriate to the Lewiston Public Library, Waterville (Maine) Morning Sentinel, Sept. 3, 2008.

ALTAFF

In early September, ALTA members received a special ballot on a bylaws change that would provide for combining the division with Friends of Libraries U.S.A. into a new, expanded division of ALA. If approved, the new division would be called the Association for Library Trustees, Advocates, Friends, and Foundations [<http://ala.org/ala/alta/ALTAFF.cfm>] (ALTAFF). Division members have until October 6 to return their ballots.

Ask the ALA Librarian

Q. One of my patrons mentioned something about Oprah and a children’s book list. Can you give me more information about this?

A. In August, ALSC partnered with The Oprah Winfrey Show. There was a press release [<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/august2008/ALSCoprah.cfm>] that explained the list, which can be found on Oprah’s Book Club [http://www.oprah.com/article/oprahsbookclub/kidsreadinglist/pkgkidsreadinglist/20080701_orig_kids_books] website. See the Readers’ Advisory [http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Readers%27_Advisory] wiki page for additional sources of information on books to suggest to your patrons, be they young or old. By the way, the books listed are not part of the ALA organizational membership benefit [<http://www.ala.org/ala/ourassociation/membership/whyjoinala/memberbenefits/organizationalbenefits/oprahbooks/index.cfm>] of providing copies of the Oprah books. From the ALA Professional Tips wiki [http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Kids_Reading_List].

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

[<http://www.facebook.com/pages/ALA-Island/27005732898>]

ALA Island in Second Life now has a Facebook Fan page.

[<http://www.facebook.com/inbox/readmessage.php?t=1017271759748>] Feel free to join and tell your friends.

Calendar

Oct. 26–30:

17th Conference on Information and Knowledge Management, [<http://www.cikm2008.org/index.php>] Napa Valley Marriott Hotel and Spa, California.

Oct. 27–28:

PALINET, [<http://www.palinet.org/2008conference/ac2008.aspx?id=119>] Conference and Vendor Fair, Sheraton Philadelphia.

Oct. 28–31:

Educause, [<http://net.educause.edu/e08>] Annual Conference, Orange County Convention Center, Orlando, Florida. “Interaction, Ideas, Inspiration.”

Oct. 29–31:

North Carolina School Library Media Association, [<http://www.ncslma.org/Conference.htm>] Annual Conference, Benton Convention Center, Winston-Salem. “Innovation: Media Specialists for Change.”

Nov. 7–8:

WorldCat Hackathon, [<http://worldcat.org/devnet/index.php/2008NYCHackathon>] Science, Industry, and Business Library, New York City. Sponsored by the OCLC Developer’s Network and NYPL Labs, the event will provide an opportunity for brainstorming and coding mashups with local systems and other Web services to take advantage of all that WorldCat has to offer.

Nov. 17–18:

SPARC, [<http://www.arl.org/sparc/meetings/ir08/>] Digital Repositories Meeting, Renaissance Harborplace Hotel, Baltimore.

Nov. 17–21:

E-Learn 2008, [<http://www.aace.org/conf/elearn/call.htm>] World Conference on E-Learning in Corporate, Government, Healthcare, and Higher Education, Riviera Hotel and Convention Center, Las Vegas, Nevada.

Dec. 1–3:

ARL/ACRL Institute on Scholarly Communication, [<http://www.orbiscascade.org/index/isc/>] Portland, Oregon.

Dec. 5:

ACRL Greater New York Metropolitan Area Chapter,
[<http://acrlnsymp2008.wordpress.com/>] Annual Symposium, Baruch College,
New York City. "The 21st Century Library: Targeting the Trends."

Dec. 9–10:
Northeast Document Conservation Center,
[<http://www.nedcc.org/about/news.pom.php>] InterContinental Hotel,
Chicago. "Persistence of Memory: Sustaining Digital Collections."

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

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

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The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | September 24, 2008

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 State of the Art Faceted Search

- ✓ Quick single search box
- ✓ Easy-to-configure site profiles
- ✓ Industry-first fuzzy search

american
libraries
BUYERS GUIDE

U.S. & World News

[Trenton library plans to close all its branches](#)

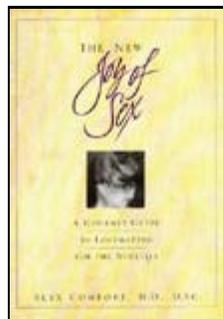
A potential citywide budget deficit of as much as \$28 million has led the Trenton (N.J.) Public Library to develop plans to close all four of its neighborhood branches. Library Director Kimberly Bray announced the library board's decision, which followed an across-the-board 10% cut in funding to all city departments, in an email to staff September 10. Some 60 residents attended a September 23 city council meeting devoted to the closings—the third such meeting held over eight days—at which Bray described three options, all requiring staff layoffs....

American Libraries Online, Sept. 24

[Nampa board reverses itself on sex-ed books](#)

The Nampa (Idaho) Public Library board voted unanimously September 5 to return to open circulation *The Joy of Gay Sex* and *The New Joy of Sex* in the latest move in a two-year battle between area social conservatives and freedom-to-read advocates regarding the books' presence in the library collection. Declaring the sequestration policy to be in violation of the First Amendment, the August 25 letter ([PDF files](#)) from three pro-bono ACLU attorneys emphasized that free-speech "precepts apply with particular force to public libraries."...

American Libraries Online, Sept. 17



ALA Denver
MIDWINTER
meeting & exhibits 09

[ALA Midwinter Meeting.](#)

Denver, January 23–28.



Join [four women of mystery](#), January 23, 4–5:15 p.m., at the Midwinter Exhibits Round Table Author Forum. Erica Spindler, Francine Mathews, Mary Jane Clark, and Nancy Atherton will discuss "The Art of Revealing 'Who Did It.'"



Four Great Conferences At One Site! Something For Everyone!
 KLA/KSMA/SELA/ARL
National Diversity in Libraries Conference: "Spectrum of the Future"
 October 1-4, 2008, Louisville Marriott Downtown, Louisville, Kentucky

ALA News

[Library card registration reaches historic high](#)

As Americans deal with a slumping economy, libraries in the United States are

experiencing a dramatic increase in library card registration. According to a Harris poll released September 22 during Library Card Sign-up Month, 68% of Americans have a library card, the largest number since ALA started to measure library card usage in 1990....



[Library Card sign-up podcast with Branford Marsalis](#)

This year, in conjunction with its print PSA, the State Library of North Carolina is hosting a podcast with Library Card spokesperson and world-renowned saxophonist Branford Marsalis (right). During the podcast Marsalis urged North Carolina residents to visit their local library to get the smartest card—a library card. Marsalis's [podcast](#) with library consultant Pam Jaskot can be heard on the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources website....



[ALA launches website upgrade](#)

Regular visitors to the ALA website will discover a more user-centered site with a new look and feel. The upgrade is the result of a two-year, member-driven redesign process. New features include: a homepage banner, with dropdown shortcuts to frequently requested areas of the site; a highlights section featuring images and timely information "above the fold"; a redesigned news section on the front page with three segments, updated frequently; and a new information architecture that doesn't require users to be familiar with internal ALA structure in order to browse successfully....



[Volunteer for an ALA committee](#)

ALA President-elect Camila Alire is seeking applicants and nominees for appointments to 2009–2010 ALA and Council committees. The deadline for submitting applications and nominations is December 5. Applicants are required to complete an online committee [volunteer form](#)....

[ALA and DebateWatch](#)

For the fourth consecutive presidential election, ALA will team up with the Commission on Presidential Debates to promote its DebateWatch initiative. DebateWatch is a voter education program that brings citizens together to watch televised presidential debates, discuss them, and share their reactions with the CPD. [Find out](#) how you can host a DebateWatch event in your library....



[National Gaming Day activity resources](#)

Hundreds of libraries across the country are preparing to celebrate ALA's first annual National Gaming Day @ your library on November 15. ALA invites libraries of all types to join in the celebration by registering for two national gaming

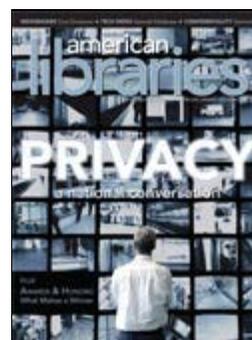


[The Hipster Librarian's Guide to Teen Craft Projects](#)

offers a unique way for teens to claim their identities and gain confidence at the library. It's not your grandmother's crafting project! Instead, hip librarians and their teen patrons can engage in the hottest new DIY way of life, recycling everything from discarded books to Altoids tins. Tina Coleman and Peggie Llanes offer detailed step-by-step instructions for a dozen unique craft items. **NEW! From ALA Editions.**

In this issue

September 2008



The Future of Privacy

A Privacy Victory in Vermont

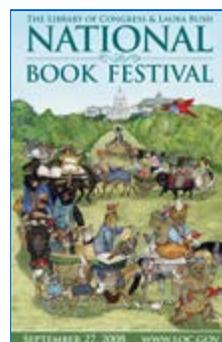
ALA Award Winners

activities: a national video game tournament, and a board game challenge. Libraries also can develop their own activities by using free resources from the ALA [Gaming Resources wiki](#)....

AL Focus

[Celebrate Bleeped Books Week](#)

A library patron needs some books. Famous, award-winning, acclaimed books. Seems simple enough. And yet... This video (1:54) was produced in honor of Banned Books Week, September 27–October 4, in cooperation with the ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom. Starring OIF's Bryan Campbell (right) and the ALA Library's Valerie Hawkins....



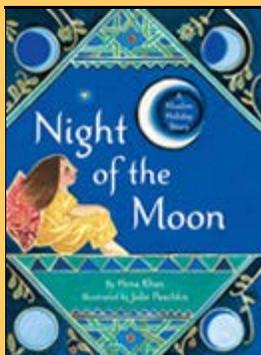
At the 2008 [National Book Festival](#), on the National Mall, Washington, D.C., 10 a.m.–5:30 p.m., September 27 (rain or shine), celebrate the joys of reading and lifelong literacy with the Library of Congress, First Lady Laura Bush, and more than 70 authors. Now in its 8th year, the festival is free and open to the public.

Booklist ONLINE

[Featured review: Books for youth](#)

Khan, Hena, *Night of the Moon: A Muslim Holiday Story*. Sept. 2008. 32p. Chronicle, hardcover (978-0-8118-6062-8).

The Muslim holiday of Ramadan gets a vibrant, visually exciting treatment here. Yasmeen, a seven-year-old Pakistani American girl, looks out the window with her mother, watching the moon's first crescent. Mom explains how in the Islamic calendar the months follow the lunar cycle, and an excited Yasmeen realizes it's time for Ramadan. In school, she shares with her classmates details of the holiday, such as the fast. At home, she shares meals with family. The holiday moves week by week, until finally the sky is moonless. "The Night of the Moon" means Ramadan is over, and the next day is the holiday of Eid....



[Top religion books for adults](#)

Ray Olson writes: "Booklist's warmest reviews of books on religion and spirituality during the last 12 months share one quality. They are, to a title, revelatory." The list covers the whole gamut of belief, from Frank Schaeffer's *Crazy for God: How I Helped Found the Religious Right and Ruin America* (Carroll & Graf, 2007) to Sharman Apt Russell's *Standing in the Light: My Life As a Pantheist* (Basic, 2008)....



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

Career Leads from JobLIST

[Librarian](#), World Maritime Library, Malmö, Sweden, established in 1983 by the International Maritime Organization, a specialized agency of the United Nations. WMU has gained an excellent reputation as a global center for the provision of advanced education, research, and consultancy to the international maritime community. The post involves active and hands-on involvement on a daily basis with the work of the library and the needs of its clients. It includes the management of the library's services, the

Unlocks the Wealth of Information "Hidden Away" in Anthologies and Collections

Essay & General Literature Index
Retrospective: 1900-1984

 **H.W. Wilson**
 www.hwwilson.com

Division News

[ACRL opens registration for 14th National Conference](#)

ACRL has opened registration for the ACRL 14th National Conference, "Pushing the Edge: Explore, Engage, Extend" to be held March 12–15, 2009, in Seattle. Registration materials are available [online](#). Keynote speakers include Naomi Klein, Sherman Alexie, and Ira Glass. The division will implement more eco-friendly practices than ever before during this conference....



[Adriana Trigiani to keynote PLA Spring Symposium luncheon](#)

American novelist Adriana Trigiani will present the keynote address at the Author Luncheon during the 2009 PLA Spring Symposium. The symposium will take place April 2–4, in Nashville, Tennessee, at the Renaissance Nashville Hotel and the Nashville Convention Center. Trigiani's popular "Big Stone Gap" series details the lives and loves of the residents of a small coal-mining town in Southwest Virginia....



[Teens choose the winners](#)

YALSA invites all teens to get out the vote for Teen Read Week, October 12–18. Teens can vote for their favorite books of the year in the annual [Teens' Top Ten](#) poll beginning October 12. The 26 nominees for this year are listed online ([PDF file](#)), along with a web badge, bookmarks, flyers, and other promotional tools for librarians to promote the voting to the young adults visiting their libraries....



[YALSA Midwinter events and awards](#)

YALSA will kick off the ALA Midwinter Meeting with "Reaching Today's Diverse Teens," a January 23 institute that looks at serving immigrant teens. After the institute, YALSA will host a happy hour. Midwinter also marks the announcement of the 2009 Youth Media Awards—including the debut of the William C. Morris Award for the best book for young adults by a first-time author....

[YALSA resources for LIS instructors](#)

Stephanie Kuenn writes: "As you begin the new academic year, think about tools available from YALSA to help you reach the future librarians in your classrooms. With more than 30 million teens in the U.S. today, no matter what type of librarianship your students choose, they'll be interacting with teen library users in some way. YALSA can provide handouts about its grants and awards, special events, initiatives, membership, and more, as well as swag including pens, posters, and pins."...

YALSA Blog, Sept. 23

acquisition of books and material, the cataloguing and classification of this material, forward planning for library services, and budgetary preparation and advice....

@ [More jobs...](#)

Digital Library of the Week



The [Kentuckiana Digital Library](#) was built to enhance scholarship, research, and lifelong learning through the establishment of access to shared digital archival collections in the state of Kentucky. Hosted by the University of Kentucky, the digital library includes over 80,000 photographic images, 100,000 newspaper pages, 230,000 book pages, hundreds of oral histories, and maps documenting the history and heritage of Kentucky. Participating repositories include the Kentucky Historical Society, Berea College, the Filson Historical Society, Murray State University, and the University of Louisville.

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

[LLAMA project management institute in Denver](#)

Learn how your projects can finish on time, under budget, at the level of quality you desire, and with everyone involved still speaking. Register for the LLAMA Midwinter Institute, "Mission Possible: Practical Project Management," held 9 a.m.–5 p.m., January 23, at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Denver....

[LLAMA communications skills institute in Denver](#)

Effective leaders in today's libraries require an increasingly broad range of communications skills in order to meet the challenges of a rapidly changing profession. Register for the LLAMA Midwinter Institute, "Library Leadership: You Are How You Communicate," held 9:30 a.m.–4 p.m., January 23, at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Denver....

[ARL/ACRL Institute deadline extended](#)

A limited number of seats remain for the regional ARL/ACRL Institute on Scholarly Communication, hosted by the Orbis Cascade Alliance December 1–3, in Portland, Oregon. The application deadline has been extended to October 6. Acceptance to the institute is competitive....

Orbis Cascade Alliance

Awards

[50 Love and Forgiveness program grant winners](#)



The ALA Public Programs Office, in collaboration with the Fetzer Institute's Campaign for Love and Forgiveness, announced that [50 libraries](#) will receive \$2,500 grants to support Let's Talk About It: Love & Forgiveness reading and discussion programs. Though program funding was originally intended to support 30 libraries, due to an abundance of exceptional applications, the Fetzer Institute will generously fund a total of 50 libraries....

[Download the I Love My Librarian award ad](#)



Librarians can now [download](#) an ad that appeared in the *New York Times* for the Carnegie Corporation of New York/*New York Times* I Love My Librarian Award. Libraries can use the ad in flyers or signs to promote the award. Other promotional tools include a web badge, sample press release, flyers, and award logos....

[Apply for the LLAMA John Cotton Dana PR Award](#)

Entries for the 62nd John Cotton Dana Library Public Relations Award are being accepted now through December 4. The LLAMA John Cotton Dana Award honors outstanding library public relations programs that support a specific project, goal, or activity, or a sustained, ongoing program. Winning entries receive \$5,000 for their organizations, courtesy of the award's sponsor, the H.W. Wilson Company. For an entry form, checklist, guidelines, and tips, visit the H. W. Wilson [website](#)....

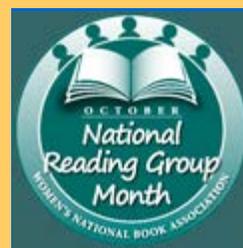
[LITA scholarships](#)

Applications are being accepted for three LITA scholarships in library

Public Perception How the World Sees Us

"I'd rather have one great library than five."

—Trenton (N.J.) Mayor Douglas H. Palmer on plans to close four neighborhood branches in the wake of a city budget crisis, *Trenton (N.J.) Times*, Sept. 17, 2008.



The Women's National Book Association is launching its second [National Reading Group Month](#) in October to promote reading groups and to celebrate the joy of shared reading. [Events](#) featuring reading group favorite authors are planned nationwide in the association's chapters, including Boston, Detroit, Los Angeles, Nashville, New York City, San Francisco, Washington, D.C., and the newly formed Seattle chapter.

Ask the ALA Librarian

and information science. The scholarships are designed to encourage the entry of qualified persons into the library automation field. Winners must have been accepted to an ALA accredited MLS Program. Application forms and instructions are available [online](#)....

[Manuscripts needed for LITA Ex Libris award](#)

LITA is offering an award for the best unpublished manuscript submitted by a student or students enrolled in an ALA-accredited graduate program. Sponsored by LITA and Ex Libris, the award consists of \$1,000, publication in LITA's refereed journal *Information Technology and Libraries*, and a certificate. The deadline for submission of the manuscript is February 28....

[LITA Brett Butler Entrepreneurship award](#)

Nominations are currently being sought for the LITA Brett Butler Entrepreneurship Award. This award is given annually to recognize a librarian or library that demonstrates exemplary entrepreneurship by providing innovative product(s) or service designed to meet the needs of the library world through the skillful application of information technology. The deadline for nominations is December 1....

Seen Online

[Hurricane Ike library status updates](#)

The Society of Southwest Archivists is assembling reports on libraries affected by Hurricane Ike on its blog. The [Texas Library Association](#) has a similar update, as well as a [disaster relief fund site](#). *Library Journal's* Norman Oder has an [interview](#) with John Augelli, executive director of the Rosenberg Library in Galveston on the extensive damage sustained by its collection....

Society of Southwest Archivists; Texas Library Association; *Library Journal*, Sept. 23

[Flooding closes Indiana branch](#)

The Hobart branch of the Lake County (Ind.) Public Library will remain closed indefinitely as officials assess damages caused by last week's flooding. As much as four feet of water filled the lower level of the library, which contained the mechanical equipment room, a meeting room, a community room with a kitchen and a Portage Adult Education Learning Center....

Merrillville (Ind.) Post-Tribune, Sept. 24

[Gay-lesbian titles donated to Wasilla Library](#)

Responding to news reports about then-Wasilla, Alaska, Mayor Sarah Palin in 1996 asking a librarian how she would feel about banning books, a San Francisco man has donated two children's books dealing with homosexuality to the Wasilla Library.

The news—old news in the Mat-Su Valley, but new in the Lower 48—prompted Mike Petrelis, a 49-year-old who files Freedom of Information requests for a living, to send the



Q. *Due to staff shortages in recent years, our collection hasn't been weeded in a while. Recently we were able to start the process again with some volunteers and new hires. In years past, we have held a book sale for discards, amounting to a book cart or two. But this time we are facing a much larger number of discards, and we don't have the space to sell all of these to the patrons. We'd be willing to donate them. Do you know of anyone that could use them?*

A. We're glad you've been able to return to weeding, which is an important (if sometimes misunderstood) step in collection development. Our main [Collection Development](#) page can provide further assistance, including the [Collection Evaluation—and De-Selection \(Weeding\)](#) page, which lists several resources for completing a weeding project, along with the names of organizations that accept library discards. From the [ALA Professional Tips wiki](#).

library *Heather Has Two Mommies and Daddy's Roommate*, both children's books that explain the gay lifestyle....

Wasilla (Alaska) *Mat-Su Valley Frontiersman*, Sept. 22

[Unknown Mozart score discovered in Nantes library](#)

Music scholars were celebrating September 18 after the municipal library of Nantes, France, announced it had stumbled upon a previously unknown score in its multimedia collection that had been composed by Mozart around 1787. Library staff came across the yellowing piece of paper in 2007 when they were sifting through their archives. Although it had been cataloged as part of the institution's collection in 1870, the work had subsequently been forgotten. [Listen](#) to (0:33) the score played on a harpsichord....

The Guardian (U.K.), Sept. 19; City of Nantes, Sept. 19



[New multicultural library to honor slaying victim](#)

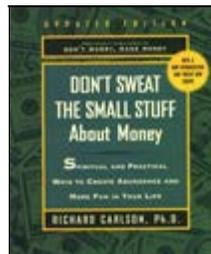
Officials at Woodrow Wilson Elementary School, South Salt Lake, Utah, announced plans for a new multicultural library, something they hope will go a long way toward educating their students who speak 48 different languages. The Hser Ner Moo Memorial Library, named for a 7-year-old student from Myanmar who was killed in her South Salt Lake apartment complex earlier this year, will be housed in the school....

Salt Lake City *Deseret News*, Sept. 24

[Fairfax County takes a hit](#)

The biggest single theft of books in the history of the Fairfax County (Va.) Public Library system took place this month at the Fairfax City Regional Library. On September 9, "an unknown suspect" stole an estimated 150 books from the branch. The books ranged in value from \$6 to \$40. One book was titled *Don't Sweat the Small Stuff about Money*, and another was *25 Days to Better Thinking and Better Living*....

Washington Post, Sept. 21



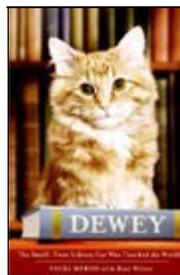
[Dracut library partners with local bank](#)

The Washington Savings Bank is partnering with the Moses Greeley Parker Memorial Library in Dracut, Massachusetts, as part of a community outreach effort. Customers who activate a debit card through the bank will receive a \$25 cash reward, and Friends of the Dracut Library will also receive \$25 for each card. Customers also receive up to 20 cents on most debit-card purchases and the library receives an additional 3 cents. "It adds up," said bank president and CEO Jim Hogan....

Dracut (Mass.) *Valley Dispatch*, Sept. 19

[This library cat has nine lives](#)

Dewey Readmore Books, the cat who lived at the Spencer (Iowa) Public Library from 1988 until his death in 2006, is getting more media attention than ever. Written by former Spencer Library Director Vicki Myron with Bret Witter, *Dewey: The Small-Town Library Cat Who Touched the World* (Grand Central) was published this week and already there is talk of a movie deal. "Helen Hunt. Meryl Streep. I don't care," says Myron of



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

Calendar

Oct. 8–11: [North American Cartographic Information Society](#),

Annual Meeting, Holiday Inn Downtown at the Park, Missoula, Montana.

Oct. 19–21: [New England Library Association](#),

Annual Conference, Radisson Hotel Manchester, New Hampshire. "Taking Charge of Change."

Oct. 21: [National Coalition Against Censorship](#),

Annual Celebration of Free Speech and Its Defenders, Rubin Museum of Art, New York City.

Nov. 5–8: [National Association for the Education of Young Children](#),

Annual Conference, Dallas Convention Center.

Nov. 5–9: [American Society for Theatre Research and Theatre Library Association](#),

Annual Conference, Park Plaza Hotel, Boston. "Unsettling Theatre: Migration, Map Memory."

who might play her. But who will star as Dewey?...

USA Today, Sept. 17

[The undoing of the DDC](#)

In the sober, settled atmosphere of a library there is a radical movement afoot that is knocking books off their long-established shelves and throwing Dewey out the window. At 6 a.m. on a Sunday morning, two bold and daring librarians are stirring at the Frankfort (Ill.) Public Library, shuffling books and tearing off those time-honored Dewey Decimal Classification numbers. Frankfort is one of the first libraries in the U.S. to retrofit its collection and go Dewey-free, eliminating the numbers and categorizing nonfiction books by topic....

Chicago SouthtownStar, Sept. 21

[FBI recovers second book stolen from Hayes Library](#)

FBI agents recovered September 17 the second of two books taken in June from the Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center library in Fremont, Ohio. Authorities said the rare book commonly known as the Freeman Code was sold for \$35,000 to someone in England through a book dealer in Philadelphia after Joshua McCarty and Angela Bays, both of Columbus, Ohio, stole it. U.S. Assistant Prosecutor Tom Secor said the Freeman Code is now in the hands of FBI agents in Texas....

Toledo (Ohio) Blade, Sept. 19

[Lancaster County stores photos with patron records](#)

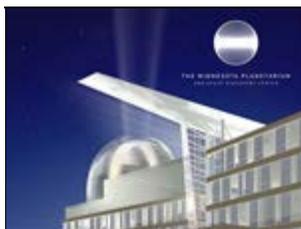
Some parents fear the Library System of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, might put children at risk by storing their photographs in a database. In October 2007, the system made it possible for the libraries it serves to take and store photos of patrons with their records. The new technology is intended to keep cardholders from getting stuck with fees incurred by someone else using their cards without permission. Of the 14 libraries in the system, eight take photos but don't require them, five do not take photos, and only one, the Elizabethtown Public Library, requires a photo....

Lancaster (Pa.) Sunday News, Sept. 21

[Minneapolis Library planetarium approved](#)

The Hennepin County (Minn.) Board has approved a proposal for a planetarium atop the Minneapolis Central Library. The project would occupy 38,000 square feet of space on the fifth and sixth floors of the library. About 11,000 square feet would be devoted to public displays and exhibits. There would also be a 200-seat domed theater, as well as a number of attractions for local students and the general public....

Minneapolis-St. Paul Business Journal, Sept. 24



[Investment losses prompt two library layoffs](#)

The roller coaster ride of the stock market has made dents in many a financial portfolio in recent months. One victim is the Carnegie Library of Homestead, Pennsylvania, where the board has laid off the executive director and library director because the library's endowment lost \$300,000 on its investments. The board chose in August to lay off Executive Director Kate Granneman and Library Director Tyrone Ward rather than reduce hours or services to the public. The move will save the library about \$100,000 annually....

Nov. 6–7:

[National Council of Teachers of Mathematics,](#)

Regional Conference, Reno-Sparks Convention Center, Nevada.

Nov. 6–8:

[National Church Library Association,](#)

Biennial Conference, Bloomington, Minnesota.

Nov. 12–14:

[Digital Library Federation,](#)

Fall Forum, Westin Providence, Rhode Island.

Nov. 18–20:

[Society for Scholarly Publishing,](#)

Fall Seminars, ASAE Center, Washington, D.C.

Nov. 20–21:

[2nd National Student Safety and Security Conference,](#)

Rio All Suite Hotel, Las Vegas, Nevada.

Nov. 20–21:

[Middle East Librarians](#)

[Association,](#) Annual Meeting, Library of Congress Thomas Jefferson Building.

Nov. 20–23:

[National Council of Teachers of English,](#)

Annual Convention, San Antonio, Texas. "Because Shift Happens: Teaching in the Twenty-First Century."

Dec. 8:

[National Federation of Advanced Information](#)

Pittsburgh (Pa.) Post-Gazette, Sept. 18

[Connecticut libraries share record gift](#)

The Community Foundation of Southeastern Connecticut is celebrating 25 years of giving with a special gift to southeastern Connecticut: a \$1.5-million grant to 13 libraries across the region. The grant, formally announced September 18 during the community foundation's gala at Connecticut College, will offer each library up to \$100,000 for innovative projects of their choice, from literacy programs to technology offerings....

New London (Conn.) Day, Sept. 18

[Sacramento library whistle-blower files pay claim](#)

The library worker who tried to warn officials about an overbilling scandal in the Sacramento Public Library three years ago before it broke into the open has filed complaints alleging that management retaliated by freezing her pay and taking away duties. Accounts Payable Clerk Diane Boerman says in her complaints that her attempt at whistle-blowing resulted in her suffering "damage to reputation, emotional distress, loss of income, and medical expenses."...

Sacramento (Calif.) Bee, Sept. 16

[Transgender woman wins lawsuit against LC](#)

A federal judge ruled September 19 that a former special forces commander was discriminated against when officials at the Library of Congress revoked a job offer after learning she was transitioning from being a man to a woman. The ruling came in a lawsuit filed in 2005 by the American Civil Liberties Union on behalf of Diane Schroer after she was denied a job as a terrorism research analyst at the Library of Congress's Congressional Research Service. Rep. Barney Frank (D-Mass.) [denounced](#) LC in a September 23 letter and asked it not to appeal....

Washington Post, Sept. 19; *The Hill*, Sept. 23

[Indian terror code: Book=bomb, library=blast site](#)

Atif, the alleged Mujahideen militant killed in a September 19 police raid in Jamia Nagar, India, had formulated a unique code language to plan and execute the serial blasts in Delhi on September 13, say police sources. Five suspected militants revealed that in their code, blast sites were called "library," and the bombs were called *kitaab*, or "book."...

Indian Express (Mumbai), Sept. 24

Tech Talk

[Make any web page printer friendly](#)

[PrintWhatYouLike](#) is a useful service to save ink while printing web pages. The tool allows you to customize printing of any web page by removing the sidebars, footers, and extraneous elements. Enter the URL, hit enter, and the page opens with sidebar containing editing tools. Delete the elements you don't want, like background images. You can also increase the text size and change the font type to improve the readability of the web page....

Technology Bites, Sept. 21



[Google Book Search API released](#)

Google now offers a book search API which allows other sites (like

[Services](#), Library of Congress. "Making the Web Work for Science: The Impact of e-Science and the Cyberinfrastructure."

Dec. 9–10:

[Northeast Document Conservation Center](#),

InterContinental Chicago Hotel.

"Persistence of Memory: Sustaining Digital Collections."

Dec. 27–30:

[Modern Language Association](#),

Annual Convention, Hilton San Francisco.

@ [More...](#)

Contact Us

American Libraries Direct



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libraries) to embed book previews, query for certain book information, or just link to books at Book Search. In the [blog post](#) announcing this, Google mentions it had already partnered with several online book sites who use its widget-style preview functionality—like [this BooksaMillion.com page](#) which shows a “Google preview” button. Clicking the button opens a box that lets you page through parts of the book, search, and zoom....

Google Blogoscoped, Sept. 23; Inside Google Book Search, Sept. 22

[The Android phone T-Mobile G1](#)

Philipp Lenssen writes: “T-Mobile’s [G1 phone](#) was officially [announced](#) September 23. It’s going to be the first mobile phone based on Android, the Google-and-partners powered (and supposedly soon to be open source released) mobile operating system. T-Mobile says the phone has a touch screen, a keyboard, and includes different apps, like Google Maps or Gmail, with data synchronization features to Google’s tools. The HTC-built G1 comes with a 3-megapixel camera and is wi-fi enabled.” The phone goes on sale October 22. Watch the promotional [video](#) (1:12). Be sure to check the Top 10 [G-1 disappointments](#)....



Google Blogoscoped, Sept. 23; YouTube, Sept. 23; *PC World*, Sept. 24

[OverDrive now works with Zune](#)

Sue Polanka writes: “If you are one of the 8,500 libraries using the [OverDrive Media Console](#) for digital audiobooks, you now have a [new feature](#)—compatibility with Microsoft’s Zune. Both DRM-free and DRM-protected (Digital Rights Management) audiobooks are compatible. This now opens up the direct transfer of audiofiles to Zune, iPod, and virtually all other mp3 devices.”...

No Shelf Required, Sept. 23; OverDrive, Sept. 23

[The wonderful world of Windows 7](#)

Doug Aamoth writes: “Here’s a little info to prepare you for the arrival of the post-Vista Windows 7. Sure, it’s still well over a year away and sure, all this stuff could change at the drop of a hat, but let’s just run with it. An early build of Windows 7 may contain the following: a fancier calculator (right); the Office 2007 Ribbon thing may cross over into WordPad and MS Paint; a lightweight version of Windows Media Player; and My Documents will be called Libraries. Come on Microsoft, there’s no need to rename that stuff all the time.”...



CrunchGear, Sept. 22

[Twitter for Christians](#)

Don Reisinger writes: “‘First things first: Praise God.’ That’s how [Gospelr](#) starts out its announcement that the company’s microblogging service is officially ready for users to sign up and ‘spread the word.’ The site prides itself on being the world’s first ‘Ministry Microblogging’ tool for those who want to share thoughts, ideas, words of encouragement, prayer requests, daily scripture readings, and much more. Gospelr is available now for those looking to try it out.”...



TechCrunch, Sept. 18

www.ala.org/aldirect/

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

American Libraries

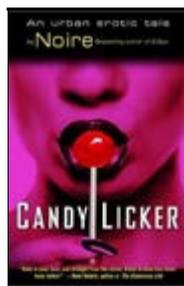
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800-545-2433,
ext. 4216

ISSN 1559-369X.

[Gossip girls and ghetto girls](#)

Kati Nolfi writes: "Why are so many librarians—advocates of the uncensored right to read anything on all points of view—panic-stricken over teens reading street lit? As Amy Pattee [wrote](#) in the July 2008 issue of *School Library Journal*, 'There's no getting around it: urban fiction forces many of us out of our comfort zones—and some librarians worry that by simply offering street lit, they're endorsing its unsavory actions.' I don't quite understand this. As librarians we are never endorsing anything that is on our shelves. We are providing free access to myriad ideas through information. Why would street lit be any different?"...

ForeWord Magazine, Sept. 12



[The Netflix model for magazines](#)

[Maghound](#) is Time Inc.'s new service that lets the consumer choose which magazines to receive each month—with no hassles, at three prices (three titles for \$5 a month, five for \$8, seven for \$10). This may not save the magazine industry, but it's a good product for anyone who likes magazines. Assuming Maghound takes off, it will offer a pure look at what consumers want to read....

Gawker, Sept. 16



[The 50 greatest villains in literature](#)

A panel of 11 critics writes: "Compiling a list of the 50 Greatest Villains in Literature, without too much recourse to comics and children's books, proved trickier than we'd imagined—but gosh it was fun. It's perhaps the nature of grown-up literature that it doesn't all that often have villains, in the sense of coal-black embodiments of the principle of evil. Yet even writers as subtle as Vladimir Nabokov have spiced their work with a fiend or two. And here they are."...

The Telegraph (U.K.), Sept. 20



Actions & Answers

[The law concerning photos taken at your library](#)

Bryan Carson writes: "Over the past two decades, there has been a substantial increase in the number of programs that libraries sponsor. It seems natural to document events by taking photographs. Pictures can be a powerful way of justifying a programming budget and can also be useful in attracting people to future lectures and programs. However, there are a few legal issues relating to photography that librarians need to be aware of, particularly the rights of privacy and publicity. In some situations, using a photograph of an identifiable person could be a one-way



ticket to a lawsuit.”...

Marketing Library Services 22, no. 5 (Sept./Oct.)

[Another case for gaming in libraries](#)

Jenny Levine writes: “A September 7 report ([PDF file](#)) on the *Civic Potential of Video Games* by the Mills College [Civic Engagement Research Group](#) literally screamed ‘libraries’ as I was reading it. While the recent [Pew report](#) has great statistics, this one delves deeper into those numbers. It actually makes a very strong case for gaming in libraries, even though it doesn’t mention us at all. We can now definitely add civic engagement to its list of benefits. The ROI on offering gaming just keeps getting better and better.”...

The Shifted Librarian, Sept. 24

[Kostelanetz papers donated to LC](#)

Papers of Russian-American conductor and arranger André Kostelanetz (1901–1980) are being donated to the Library of Congress by the musician’s estate, marking a significant expansion of the collection Kostelanetz provided to the library during his lifetime. Kostelanetz was a major figure in U.S. popular music and on radio for half a century. The new donation consists of 73 containers of correspondence, scrapbooks, photos, clippings, posters, business papers, posters, sound recordings, and materials related to his USO tours with his wife, opera star Lily Pons....

Library of Congress, Sept. 19



[When Google isn’t enough](#)

When you need to delve deep into a subject, sometimes Google just won’t do. What you really need is a research engine that explores the unindexed reaches of the Deep Web. For that, there’s now [Infovell](#), “the world’s research engine.” This new subscription-based software-as-a-service (SaaS) engine scours through open-access repositories of information like PubMed Central and the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Claims, but it also allows access to scholarly journals such as those from Oxford University Press, Sage, Taylor and Francis, Annual Reviews, and Mary Ann Liebert Publications. Infovell is available for a [30-day free trial](#)....

ReadWriteWeb, Sept. 18



[Hakia calls for help](#)

Semantic search engine hakia announced September 22 an open call to librarians and information professionals to participate in a new program to unlock credible and free resources to web searchers. Currently, hakia is generating credibility-stamped results for health and medical searches to guide users towards credible web content. These results come from websites vetted by the Medical Library Association. Now, hakia is aiming to further its coverage to all topics, with the [participation](#) of other librarians and information professionals....

Hakia, Sept. 22



[Center for the Book promotes daily reading to youngsters](#)

The Center for the Book in the Library of Congress and the [Read It Loud! Foundation](#) have formed a partnership to encourage parents



and other caregivers to read to their children daily. The goal of the partnership is to inspire 5 million parents and caregivers to read daily to their children by 2014. The program seeks participation by anyone who has children in his or her life and also will encourage persons with disabilities—parents, caregivers, and children—to participate....

Library of Congress, Sept. 23

[Russian libraries up close](#)

Kate Gordon writes: "In November 2007, I was honored to join a delegation of academic librarians on a nine-day adventure to Moscow and St. Petersburg, Russia. The trip offered the opportunity to learn first-hand differences and similarities in the world of college and research libraries of our quite different countries. Information was, at times, challenging to interpret. What was clear was these libraries were the result of centuries of dedicated staff who professionally obligated themselves to preserve materials."...

Newspoke, Apr./June 2008



[Military libraries launch media roundtable](#)

Military librarians came together September 18 to announce new additions to the [Military OneSource](#) online library. This has been a joint collaboration of all branches of the military in an effort to increase the online library offerings to all service members and their families. The new resources are a custom collection compiled by several vendors and consist of a combination of recreation and self-help material that comes in different formats including audio, interactive, and text....

District Dispatch, Sept. 19



[A personal library like no other](#)

Jay S. Walker, the entrepreneur who founded Priceline.com and Walker Digital, built his New England house in 2002 specifically to accommodate his massive library. With the help of architect Mark Finlay, Walker commissioned decorative etched glass, dynamic lighting, and even a custom soundtrack that sets the tone for the cerebral adventures hidden within this cabinet



of curiosities. The massive book by the planetarium window (above) is actually a specially commissioned, internally lit, 2.5-ton Clyde Lynds sculpture. It's meant to embody the spirit of the library: the mind on the right page, the universe on the left....

Wired Magazine 16, no. 10 (Oct.)

[Aren't you scared?](#)

Jill Merritt writes: "This is the question everyone always asks when you tell them you work in a prison library. The next being, 'Have you ever seen *Shawshank Redemption*?' The question is asked with all innocence and with no real aspect of what it is like to work in a prison. So you have to laugh and tell them what it is really like. Here is my answer when people ask me."...

Institutional Library Services, Sept. 22

[Wikia Green](#)

[Wikia Green](#) asks users to sign up and be a part of creating a green wiki guide. Created by Jimmy Wales, cofounder of Wikipedia, the goal is to offer more lifestyle tips, product options, and how-to's. The content differs from that on Wikipedia in three main ways: Content is written from a green point of view, is focused on things you can do, and is more accessible and relevant to an average reader....

Wikia Green



[Library 2.0 and the problem of hate speech](#)

Margaret Brown-Sica and Jeffrey Beall write: "It's possible for library users to abuse library 2.0 applications by uploading words, pictures, or other content that constitute hate speech. Universities and colleges today view hate speech as outside the realm of protected speech because it violates the terms of most codes of conduct and merits decisive action. Also, many libraries are big players in the overall college mission to value and promote diversity. Perhaps nothing can poison this more than a library website filled with racist, homophobic, or other defamatory speech."...

Electronic Journal of Academic and Special Librarianship 9, no. 2 (Summer)

[University of Michigan goes Espresso](#)

The University of Michigan's Shapiro Undergraduate Library in Ann Arbor became the first university library to install an Espresso Book Machine, from On Demand Books of New York. The machine produces perfect-bound, high-quality paperback books on demand, in this case out-of-copyright books from the university's digitized collections. At a cost of about \$10 per book, the service is available to researchers, students, and the public....

University of Michigan, Sept. 17



[Just the thing for Banned Books Week](#)

San Francisco-based design and gadget supplier Gama-Go is selling a burning bookmark perfect for using with any incendiary, outrage-provoking, banned book. As their promotion says, "Wedge it snugly between the pages of your favorite edition of *Fahrenheit 451* and let this stylized flame illuminate you quickly to your saved spot." Retailers for a smoldering \$6....

Gama-Go



[Wario Land game on YouTube](#)

It looks like Nintendo teamed up with YouTube to produce some intriguing special effects for this promotion of its Wii-based Wario Land: Shake It! game, which was released in North America September 22. Make sure you watch the full video (0:45) to see what happens....

YouTube, Sept. 19



AL Direct, September 24, 2008

Having trouble viewing this HTML e-mail (or seeing it in full)? Click here [[%= util.viewHtmlLink %>](#)].

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | September 24, 2008

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

[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

U.S. & World News

Trenton library plans to close all its branches

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/september2008/trentonbranchcrisis.cfm>]

A potential citywide budget deficit of as much as \$28 million has led the Trenton (N.J.) Public Library to develop plans to close all four of its neighborhood branches. Library Director Kimberly Bray announced the library board's decision, which followed an across-the-board 10% cut in funding to all city departments, in an email to staff September 10. Some 60 residents attended a September 23 city council meeting devoted to the closings—the third such meeting held over eight days—at which Bray described three options, all requiring staff layoffs....

American Libraries Online, Sept. 24

Nampa board reverses itself on sex-ed books

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/september2008/nampareversesitself.cfm>]

The Nampa (Idaho) Public Library board voted unanimously September 5 to return to open circulation *The Joy of Gay Sex* and *The New Joy of Sex* in the latest move in a two-year battle between area social conservatives and freedom-to-read advocates regarding the books' presence in the library collection. Declaring the sequestration policy to be in violation of the First Amendment, the August 25 letter (PDF

[<http://www.idahopress.com/cms/artwork/media/docs/08/September/6735.pdf>]
files

[<http://www.idahopress.com/cms/artwork/media/docs/08/September/6736.pdf>])

from three pro-bono ACLU attorneys emphasized that free-speech “precepts apply with particular force to public libraries.”...
American Libraries Online, Sept. 17

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[<http://www.kylibasn.org/conferences620.cfm>]
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ALA News

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Library card registration reaches historic high

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/September2008/ORSharris.cfm>]

As Americans deal with a slumping economy, libraries in the United States are experiencing a dramatic increase in library card registration. According to a Harris poll released September 22 during Library Card Sign-up Month, 68% of Americans have a library card, the largest number since ALA started to measure library card usage in 1990....

Library Card sign-up podcast with Branford Marsalis

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/September2008/CampaignNCtech.cfm>]

This year, in conjunction with its print PSA, the State Library of North Carolina is hosting a podcast with Library Card spokesperson and world-renowned saxophonist Branford Marsalis (right). During the podcast Marsalis urged North Carolina residents to visit their local library to get the smartest card—a library card. Marsalis's podcast

[<http://news.ncdcr.gov/2008/09/03/branford-marsalis-library-card-spokesman/>]
] with library consultant Pam Jaskot can be heard on the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources website....

ALA launches website upgrade

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/September2008/WebLaunch.cfm>]

Regular visitors to the ALA website will discover a more user-centered site with a new look and feel. The upgrade is the result of a two-year, member-driven redesign process. New features include: a homepage banner, with dropdown shortcuts to frequently requested areas of the site; a highlights section featuring images and timely information “above the fold"; a redesigned news section on the front page with three segments, updated frequently; and a new information architecture that

doesn't require users to be familiar with internal ALA structure in order to browse successfully....

Volunteer for an ALA committee

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/September2008/CommitteeVolunteers.cfm>]

ALA President-elect Camila Alire is seeking applicants and nominees for appointments to 2009–2010 ALA and Council committees. The deadline for submitting applications and nominations is December 5. Applicants are required to complete an online committee volunteer form

[<http://cs.ala.org/alacommittees/volunteer.html>]....

ALA and DebateWatch

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/September2008/DebateWatch.cfm>]

For the fourth consecutive presidential election, ALA will team up with the Commission on Presidential Debates to promote its DebateWatch initiative. DebateWatch is a voter education program that brings citizens together to watch televised presidential debates, discuss them, and share their reactions with the CPD. Find out [<http://www.debates.org/>] how you can host a DebateWatch event in your library....

National Gaming Day activity resources

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/September2008/NationalGamingDay.cfm>]

Hundreds of libraries across the country are preparing to celebrate ALA's first annual National Gaming Day @ your library on November 15. ALA invites libraries of all types to join in the celebration by registering for two national gaming activities: a national video game tournament, and a board game challenge. Libraries also can develop their own activities by using free resources from the ALA Gaming Resources wiki

[http://gaming.ala.org/resources/index.php?title=Main_Page]....

AL Focus

Celebrate Bleeped Books Week

[<http://alfocus.ala.org/videos/banned-books-week-id-find-bleep>]

A library patron needs some books. Famous, award-winning, acclaimed books. Seems simple enough. And yet... This video (1:54) was produced in honor of Banned Books Week, September 27–October 4, in cooperation with the ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom. Starring OIF's Bryan Campbell (right) and the ALA Library's Valerie Hawkins....

Featured review: Books for youth

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=2886835]

Khan, Hena, *Night of the Moon: A Muslim Holiday Story*. Sept. 2008. 32p. Chronicle, hardcover (978-0-8118-6062-8).

The Muslim holiday of Ramadan gets a vibrant, visually exciting treatment

here. Yasmeen, a seven-year-old Pakistani American girl, looks out the window with her mother, watching the moon's first crescent. Mom explains how in the Islamic calendar the months follow the lunar cycle, and an excited Yasmeen realizes it's time for Ramadan. In school, she shares with her classmates details of the holiday, such as the fast. At home, she shares meals with family. The holiday moves week by week, until finally the sky is moonless. "The Night of the Moon" means Ramadan is over, and the next day is the holiday of Eid....

Top religion books for adults

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=3016087]

Ray Olson writes: "Booklist's warmest reviews of books on religion and spirituality during the last 12 months share one quality. They are, to a title, revelatory." The list covers the whole gamut of belief, from Frank Schaeffer's *Crazy for God: How I Helped Found the Religious Right and Ruin America* (Carroll & Graf, 2007) to Sharman Apt Russell's *Standing in the Light: My Life As a Pantheist* (Basic, 2008)....

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

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[<http://www.hwwilson.com>]
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Division News
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ACRL opens registration for 14th National Conference

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/September2008/ACRLregistration.cfm>]

ACRL has opened registration for the ACRL 14th National Conference, "Pushing the Edge: Explore, Engage, Extend" to be held March 12-15, 2009, in Seattle. Registration materials are available online.

[<http://www.acrl.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/events/seattle/seattle.cfm>]

Keynote speakers include Naomi Klein, Sherman Alexie, and Ira Glass. The division will implement more eco-friendly practices than ever before during this conference....

Adriana Trigiani to keynote PLA Spring Symposium luncheon

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/September2008/PLAtrigiani.cfm>]

American novelist Adriana Trigiani will present the keynote address at the Author Luncheon during the 2009 PLA Spring Symposium. The symposium will take place April 2-4, in Nashville, Tennessee, at the Renaissance Nashville Hotel and the Nashville Convention Center. Trigiani's popular "Big Stone Gap" series details the lives and loves of the residents of a small coal-mining town in Southwest Virginia....

Teens choose the winners

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/September2008/TRWteenschoose.cfm>]

YALSA invites all teens to get out the vote for Teen Read Week, October 12–18. Teens can vote for their favorite books of the year in the annual Teens’ Top Ten

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/yalsa/teenreading/teenstopten/teenstopten.cfm>] poll beginning October 12. The 26 nominees for this year are listed online (PDF file

[http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/yalsa/teenreading/teenstopten/2008_nomindees.pdf]), along with a web badge, bookmarks, flyers, and other promotional tools for librarians to promote the voting to the young adults visiting their libraries....

YALSA Midwinter events and awards

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/September2008/YALSAmidwinter.cfm>]

YALSA will kick off the ALA Midwinter Meeting with “Reaching Today’s Diverse Teens,” a January 23 institute that looks at serving immigrant teens. After the institute, YALSA will host a happy hour. Midwinter also marks the announcement of the 2009 Youth Media Awards—including the debut of the William C. Morris Award for the best book for young adults by a first-time author....

YALSA resources for LIS instructors

[<http://yalsa.ala.org/blog/2008/09/23/yalsa-resources-for-slis-instructors-and-students/>]

Stephanie Kuenn writes: “As you begin the new academic year, think about tools available from YALSA to help you reach the future librarians in your classrooms. With more than 30 million teens in the U.S. today, no matter what type of librarianship your students choose, they’ll be interacting with teen library users in some way. YALSA can provide handouts about its grants and awards, special events, initiatives, membership, and more, as well as swag including pens, posters, and pins.”...

YALSA Blog, Sept. 23

LLAMA project management institute in Denver

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/September2008/LAMAmwinstitute.cfm>]

Learn how your projects can finish on time, under budget, at the level of quality you desire, and with everyone involved still speaking. Register for the LLAMA Midwinter Institute, “Mission Possible: Practical Project Management,” held 9 a.m.–5 p.m., January 23, at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Denver....

LLAMA communications skills institute in Denver

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/September2008/LLAMAsarkisian.cfm>]

Effective leaders in today’s libraries require an increasingly broad range of communications skills in order to meet the challenges of a rapidly changing profession. Register for the LLAMA Midwinter Institute, “Library Leadership: You Are How You Communicate,” held 9:30 a.m.–4 p.m., January 23, at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Denver....

ARL/ACRL Institute deadline extended

[<http://www.orbiscascade.org/index/isc/>]

A limited number of seats remain for the regional ARL/ACRL Institute on Scholarly Communication, hosted by the Orbis Cascade Alliance December 1–3, in Portland, Oregon. The application deadline has been extended to October 6. Acceptance to the institute is competitive....

Orbis Cascade Alliance

Awards

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50 Love and Forgiveness program grant winners

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/September2008/PPOfetzer.cfm>]

The ALA Public Programs Office, in collaboration with the Fetzer Institute’s Campaign for Love and Forgiveness, announced that 50 libraries

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/ppo/programming/ltai/ltailflibraries.cfm>] will receive \$2,500 grants to support Let’s Talk About It: Love & Forgiveness reading and discussion programs. Though program funding was originally intended to support 30 libraries, due to an abundance of exceptional applications, the Fetzer Institute will generously fund a total of 50 libraries....

Download the I Love My Librarian award ad

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/September2008/NYTadavailable.cfm>]

Librarians can now download

[<http://www.ilovelibraries.org/lovelibrarian/publicity.cfm>] an ad that appeared in the New York Times for the Carnegie Corporation of New York/New York Times I Love My Librarian Award. Libraries can use the ad in flyers or signs to promote the award. Other promotional tools include a web badge, sample press release, flyers, and award logos....

Apply for the LLAMA John Cotton Dana PR Award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/September2008/LLAMAjcd.cfm>]

Entries for the 62nd John Cotton Dana Library Public Relations Award are being accepted now through December 4. The LLAMA John Cotton Dana Award honors outstanding library public relations programs that support a specific project, goal, or activity, or a sustained, ongoing program. Winning entries receive \$5,000 for their organizations, courtesy of the award’s sponsor, the H.W. Wilson Company. For an entry form, checklist, guidelines, and tips, visit the H. W. Wilson website [http://www.hwwilson.com/jcdawards/nw_jcd.htm]....

LITA scholarships

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/September2008/LITAScholarships.cfm>]

Applications are being accepted for three LITA scholarships in library and information science. The scholarships are designed to encourage the entry of qualified persons into the library automation field. Winners

must have been accepted to an ALA accredited MLS Program. Application forms and instructions are available online

[<http://staging.ala.org/ala/educationcareers/education/scholarships/specialty/automationtech/index.cfm>]....

Manuscripts needed for LITA Ex Libris award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/September2008/LITAexlibris.cfm>]

LITA is offering an award for the best unpublished manuscript submitted by a student or students enrolled in an ALA-accredited graduate program. Sponsored by LITA and Ex Libris, the award consists of \$1,000, publication in LITA's refereed journal Information Technology and Libraries, and a certificate. The deadline for submission of the manuscript is February 28....

LITA Brett Butler Entrepreneurship award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/September2008/LITAbutler.cfm>]

Nominations are currently being sought for the LITA Brett Butler Entrepreneurship Award. This award is given annually to recognize a librarian or library that demonstrates exemplary entrepreneurship by providing innovative product(s) or service designed to meet the needs of the library world through the skillful application of information technology. The deadline for nominations is December 1....

Seen Online

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Hurricane Ike library status updates

[<http://ssarchivists.wikispaces.com/Ike>]

The Society of Southwest Archivists is assembling reports on libraries affected by Hurricane Ike on its blog. The Texas Library Association [http://www.txlablog.org/2008/09/status_of_tx_libraries_after_h.html] has a similar update, as well as a disaster relief fund site.

[<https://secure.txla.org/secure/forms/donmenu.asp>] Library Journal's Norman Oder has an interview

[<http://www.libraryjournal.com/article/CA6598457.html?desc=topstory>] with John Augelli, executive director of the Rosenberg Library in Galveston on the extensive damage sustained by its collection....

Society of Southwest Archivists; Texas Library Association; Library Journal, Sept. 23

Flooding closes Indiana branch

[<http://www.post-trib.com/news/1181518,flood-hblibrary.article>]

The Hobart branch of the Lake County (Ind.) Public Library will remain closed indefinitely as officials assess damages caused by last week's flooding. As much as four feet of water filled the lower level of the library, which contained the mechanical equipment room, a meeting room, a community room with a kitchen and a Portage Adult Education Learning Center....

Merrillville (Ind.) Post-Tribune, Sept. 24

Gay-lesbian titles donated to Wasilla Library

[http://frontiersman.com/articles/2008/09/23/local_news/doc48d8990632b66401661827.txt]

Responding to news reports about then-Wasilla, Alaska, Mayor Sarah Palin in 1996 asking a librarian how she would feel about banning books, a San Francisco man has donated two children's books dealing with homosexuality to the Wasilla Library. The news—old news in the Mat-Su Valley, but new in the Lower 48—prompted Mike Petrelis, a 49-year-old who files Freedom of Information requests for a living, to send the library Heather Has Two Mommies and Daddy's Roommate, both children's books that explain the gay lifestyle....

Wasilla (Alaska) Mat-Su Valley Frontiersman, Sept. 22

[<http://www.nantes.fr/mairie/actualites-mairie/une-partition-inedite-de-mozart-decouverte-a-nantes.html>] Unknown Mozart score discovered in Nantes library

[<http://www.guardian.co.uk/music/2008/sep/19/classicalmusicandopera.france>]

Music scholars were celebrating September 18 after the municipal library of Nantes, France, announced it had stumbled upon a previously unknown score in its multimedia collection that had been composed by Mozart around 1787. Library staff came across the yellowing piece of paper in 2007 when they were sifting through their archives. Although it had been cataloged as part of the institution's collection in 1870, the work had subsequently been forgotten. Listen

[<http://www.nantes.fr/mairie/actualites-mairie/une-partition-inedite-de-mozart-decouverte-a-nantes.html>] to (0:33) the score played on a harpsichord....

The Guardian (U.K.), Sept. 19; City of Nantes, Sept. 19

New multicultural library to honor slaying victim

[<http://deseretnews.com/article/1,5143,700261219,00.html>]

Officials at Woodrow Wilson Elementary School, South Salt Lake, Utah, announced plans for a new multicultural library, something they hope will go a long way toward educating their students who speak 48 different languages. The Hser Ner Moo Memorial Library, named for a 7-year-old student from Myanmar who was killed in her South Salt Lake apartment complex earlier this year, will be housed in the school....

Salt Lake City Deseret News, Sept. 24

Fairfax County takes a hit

[<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/09/20/AR2008092002631.html>]

The biggest single theft of books in the history of the Fairfax County (Va.) Public Library system took place this month at the Fairfax City Regional Library. On September 9, "an unknown suspect" stole an estimated 150 books from the branch. The books ranged in value from \$6 to \$40. One book was titled Don't Sweat the Small Stuff about Money, and another was 25 Days to Better Thinking and Better Living....

Washington Post, Sept. 21

Dracut library partners with local bank

[http://www.thevalleydispatch.com/ci_10508520]

The Washington Savings Bank is partnering with the Moses Greeley Parker Memorial Library in Dracut, Massachusetts, as part of a community outreach effort. Customers who activate a debit card through the bank

will receive a \$25 cash reward, and Friends of the Dracut Library will also receive \$25 for each card. Customers also receive up to 20 cents on most debit-card purchases and the library receives an additional 3 cents. "It adds up," said bank president and CEO Jim Hogan....
Dracut (Mass.) Valley Dispatch, Sept. 19

This library cat has nine lives
[http://www.usatoday.com/life/books/news/2008-09-17-dewey-the-library-cat_N.htm]

Dewey Readmore Books, the cat who lived at the Spencer (Iowa) Public Library from 1988 until his death in 2006, is getting more media attention than ever. Written by former Spencer Library Director Vicki Myron with Bret Witter, Dewey: The Small-Town Library Cat Who Touched the World (Grand Central) was published this week and already there is talk of a movie deal. "Helen Hunt. Meryl Streep. I don't care," says Myron of who might play her. But who will star as Dewey?...
USA Today, Sept. 17

The undoing of the DDC
[<http://www.southtownstar.com/news/1175144,092108ditchingdewey.article>]
In the sober, settled atmosphere of a library there is a radical movement afoot that is knocking books off their long-established shelves and throwing Dewey out the window. At 6 a.m. on a Sunday morning, two bold and daring librarians are stirring at the Frankfort (Ill.) Public Library, shuffling books and tearing off those time-honored Dewey Decimal Classification numbers. Frankfort is one of the first libraries in the U.S. to retrofit its collection and go Dewey-free, eliminating the numbers and categorizing nonfiction books by topic....
Chicago SouthtownStar, Sept. 21

FBI recovers second book stolen from Hayes Library
[<http://www.toledoblade.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080919/NEWS03/809199917>]
FBI agents recovered September 17 the second of two books taken in June from the Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center library in Fremont, Ohio. Authorities said the rare book commonly known as the Freeman Code was sold for \$35,000 to someone in England through a book dealer in Philadelphia after Joshua McCarty and Angela Bays, both of Columbus, Ohio, stole it. U.S. Assistant Prosecutor Tom Secor said the Freeman Code is now in the hands of FBI agents in Texas....
Toledo (Ohio) Blade, Sept. 19

Lancaster County stores photos with patron records
[<http://articles.lancasteronline.com/local/4/227654>]
Some parents fear the Library System of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, might put children at risk by storing their photographs in a database. In October 2007, the system made it possible for the libraries it serves to take and store photos of patrons with their records. The new technology is intended to keep cardholders from getting stuck with fees incurred by someone else using their cards without permission. Of the 14 libraries in the system, eight take photos but don't require them, five do not take photos, and only one, the Elizabethtown Public Library, requires a photo....
Lancaster (Pa.) Sunday News, Sept. 21

Minneapolis Library planetarium approved

[<http://www.bizjournals.com/twincities/stories/2008/09/22/daily20.html>]

The Hennepin County (Minn.) Board has approved a proposal for a planetarium atop the Minneapolis Central Library. The project would occupy 38,000 square feet of space on the fifth and sixth floors of the library. About 11,000 square feet would be devoted to public displays and exhibits. There would also be a 200-seat domed theater, as well as a number of attractions for local students and the general public....

Minneapolis–St. Paul Business Journal, Sept. 24

Investment losses prompt two library layoffs

[<http://www.post-gazette.com/pg/08262/912901-55.stm>]

The roller coaster ride of the stock market has made dents in many a financial portfolio in recent months. One victim is the Carnegie Library of Homestead, Pennsylvania, where the board has laid off the executive director and library director because the library's endowment lost \$300,000 on its investments. The board chose in August to lay off Executive Director Kate Granneman and Library Director Tyrone Ward rather than reduce hours or services to the public. The move will save the library about \$100,000 annually....

Pittsburgh (Pa.) Post-Gazette, Sept. 18

Connecticut libraries share record gift

[<http://www.theday.com/re.aspx?re=ce944daa-4b47-48c0-847d-651e82352dc8>]

The Community Foundation of Southeastern Connecticut is celebrating 25 years of giving with a special gift to southeastern Connecticut: a \$1.5-million grant to 13 libraries across the region. The grant, formally announced September 18 during the community foundation's gala at Connecticut College, will offer each library up to \$100,000 for innovative projects of their choice, from literacy programs to technology offerings....

New London (Conn.) Day, Sept. 18

Sacramento library whistle-blower files pay claim

[<http://www.sacbee.com/placer/story/1239273.html>]

The library worker who tried to warn officials about an overbilling scandal in the Sacramento Public Library three years ago before it broke into the open has filed complaints alleging that management retaliated by freezing her pay and taking away duties. Accounts Payable Clerk Diane Boerman says in her complaints that her attempt at whistle-blowing resulted in her suffering "damage to reputation, emotional distress, loss of income, and medical expenses."...

Sacramento (Calif.) Bee, Sept. 16

Transgender woman wins lawsuit against LC

[<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/09/19/AR2008091903437.html>]

A federal judge ruled September 19 that a former special forces commander was discriminated against when officials at the Library of Congress revoked a job offer after learning she was transitioning from being a man to a woman. The ruling came in a lawsuit filed in 2005 by the American Civil Liberties Union on behalf of Diane Schroer after she was denied a job as a terrorism research analyst at the Library of Congress's

Congressional Research Service. Rep. Barney Frank (D-Mass.) denounced [http://thehill.com/leading-the-news/rep.-frank-urges-library-of-congress-not-to-appeal-discrimination-lawsuit-2008-09-23.html] LC in a September 23 letter and asked it not to appeal...
Washington Post, Sept. 19; The Hill, Sept. 23

Indian terror code: Book=bomb, library=blast site
[http://www.expressindia.com/latest-news/terrors-code-lingo-book-is-bomb-library-blast-sites/365103/]
Atif, the alleged Mujahideen militant killed in a September 19 police raid in Jamia Nagar, India, had formulated a unique code language to plan and execute the serial blasts in Delhi on September 13, say police sources. Five suspected militants revealed that in their code, blast sites were called "library," and the bombs were called "kitaab," or "book."...
Indian Express (Mumbai), Sept. 24

Tech Talk

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Make any web page printer friendly
[http://www.teknobites.com/2008/09/21/printwhatyoulike-make-any-web-page-printer-friendly/]
PrintWhatYouLike [http://www.printwhatyoulike.com/] is a useful service to save ink while printing web pages. The tool allows you to customize printing of any web page by removing the sidebars, footers, and extraneous elements. Enter the URL, hit enter, and the page opens with sidebar containing editing tools. Delete the elements you don't want, like background images. You can also increase the text size and change the font type to improve the readability of the web page....
Technology Bites, Sept. 21

Google Book Search API released
[http://blogoscoped.com/archive/2008-09-23-n31.html]
Google now offers a book search API which allows other sites (like libraries) to embed book previews, query for certain book information, or just link to books at Book Search. In the blog post [http://booksearch.blogspot.com/2008/09/book-search-everywhere-with-new.html] announcing this, Google mentions it had already partnered with several online book sites who use its widget-style preview functionality—like this BooksaMillion.com page [http://www.booksamillion.com/product/9780738531366?id=4218541191991] which shows a "Google preview" button. Clicking the button opens a box that lets you page through parts of the book, search, and zoom....
Google Blogoscoped, Sept. 23; Inside Google Book Search, Sept. 22

The Android phone T-Mobile G1
[http://blogoscoped.com/archive/2008-09-23-n38.html]
Philipp Lenssen writes: "T-Mobile's G1 phone [http://www.t-mobileg1.com] was officially announced [http://www.t-mobileg1.com/g1-announcement.aspx] September 23. It's going to be the first mobile phone based on Android, the

Google-and-partners powered (and supposedly soon to be open source released) mobile operating system. T-Mobile says the phone has a touch screen, a keyboard, and includes different apps, like Google Maps or Gmail, with data synchronization features to Google's tools. The HTC-built G1 comes with a 3-megapixel camera and is wi-fi enabled." The phone goes on sale October 22. Watch the promotional video [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mBgRkFJUAdA>] (1:12). Be sure to check the Top 10 G-1 disappointments [<http://blogs.pcworld.com/staffblog/archives/007797.html>]....

Google Blogscoped, Sept. 23; YouTube, Sept. 23; PC World, Sept. 24

OverDrive now works with Zune

[<http://www.libraries.wright.edu/noshelfrequired/?p=104>]

Sue Polanka writes: "If you are one of the 8,500 libraries using the OverDrive Media Console

[<http://www.overdrive.com/software/omc/download.asp>] for digital audiobooks, you now have a new feature

[<http://www.overdrive.com/aboutus/getArticle.aspx?newsArticleID=20080923>]—compatibility with Microsoft's Zune. Both DRM-free and DRM-protected (Digital Rights Management) audiobooks are compatible. This now opens up the direct transfer of audiofiles to Zune, iPod, and virtually all other mp3 devices."...

No Shelf Required, Sept. 23; OverDrive, Sept. 23

The wonderful world of Windows 7

[<http://www.crunchgear.com/2008/09/22/some-more-windows-7-information-for-our-perusal/>]

Doug Aamoth writes: "Here's a little info to prepare you for the arrival of the post-Vista Windows 7. Sure, it's still well over a year away and sure, all this stuff could change at the drop of a hat, but let's just run with it. An early build of Windows 7 may contain the following: a fancier calculator (right); the Office 2007 Ribbon thing may cross over into WordPad and MS Paint; a lightweight version of Windows Media Player; and My Documents will be called Libraries. Come on Microsoft, there's no need to rename that stuff all the time."...

CrunchGear, Sept. 22

Twitter for Christians

[<http://www.techcrunch.com/2008/09/18/gospelr-twitter-for-christians/>]

Don Reisinger writes: "First things first: Praise God. That's how Gospelr [<http://gospelr.com>] starts out its announcement that the company's microblogging service is officially ready for users to sign up and 'spread the word.' The site prides itself on being the world's first 'Ministry Microblogging' tool for those who want to share thoughts, ideas, words of encouragement, prayer requests, daily scripture readings, and much more. Gospelr is available now for those looking to try it out."...

TechCrunch, Sept. 18

Publishing

Gossip girls and ghetto girls

[<http://www.forewordmagazine.com/blogs/shelfspace/PermaLink,guid,98f838a8-1029-4daf-85fc-2f2c2dc03ceb.aspx>]

Kati Nolfi writes: “Why are so many librarians—advocates of the uncensored right to read anything on all points of view—panic-stricken over teens reading street lit? As Amy Pattee wrote [<http://www.schoollibraryjournal.com/article/CA6573998.html>] in the July 2008 issue of School Library Journal, ‘There’s no getting around it: urban fiction forces many of us out of our comfort zones—and some librarians worry that by simply offering street lit, they’re endorsing its unsavory actions.’ I don’t quite understand this. As librarians we are never endorsing anything that is on our shelves. We are providing free access to myriad ideas through information. Why would street lit be any different?”...

ForeWord Magazine, Sept. 12

The Netflix model for magazines

[<http://gawker.com/5050486/the-netflix-of-magazines-is-here>]

Maghound [<http://maghound.com/>] is Time Inc.’s new service that lets the consumer choose which magazines to receive each month—with no hassles, at three prices (three titles for \$5 a month, five for \$8, seven for \$10). This may not save the magazine industry, but it’s a good product for anyone who likes magazines. Assuming Maghound takes off, it will offer a pure look at what consumers want to read....

Gawker, Sept. 16

The 50 greatest villains in literature

[<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/arts/main.jhtml?view=DETAILS&grid=A1YourView&xml=/arts/2008/09/20/bovillains120.xml>]

A panel of 11 critics writes: “Compiling a list of the 50 Greatest Villains in Literature, without too much recourse to comics and children’s books, proved trickier than we’d imagined—but gosh it was fun. It’s perhaps the nature of grown-up literature that it doesn’t all that often have villains, in the sense of coal-black embodiments of the principle of evil. Yet even writers as subtle as Vladimir Nabokov have spiced their work with a fiend or two. And here they are.”...

The Telegraph (U.K.), Sept. 20

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

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The law concerning photos taken at your library

[<http://www.infotoday.com/mls/sep08/Carson.shtml>]

Bryan Carson writes: “Over the past two decades, there has been a substantial increase in the number of programs that libraries sponsor. It seems natural to document events by taking photographs. Pictures can be a

powerful way of justifying a programming budget and can also be useful in attracting people to future lectures and programs. However, there are a few legal issues relating to photography that librarians need to be aware of, particularly the rights of privacy and publicity. In some situations, using a photograph of an identifiable person could be a one-way ticket to a lawsuit.”...

Marketing Library Services 22, no. 5 (Sept./Oct.)

Another case for gaming in libraries

[<http://theshiftedlibrarian.com/archives/2008/09/24/gaming-is-not-bowling-alone.html>]

Jenny Levine writes: “A September 7 report (PDF file

[http://www.macfound.org/atf/cf/%7Bb0386ce3-8b29-4162-8098-e466fb856794%7D/CIVIC_POTENTIAL_VIDEO_GAMES.PDF]) on the Civic Potential of Video Games by the Mills College Civic Engagement Research Group

[http://www.civicsurvey.org/CERG_Digital_Media.html] literally screamed ‘libraries’ as I was reading it. While the recent Pew report

[http://www.pewinternet.org/PPF/r/263/report_display.asp] has great statistics, this one delves deeper into those numbers. It actually makes a very strong case for gaming in libraries, even though it doesn’t mention us at all. We can now definitely add civic engagement to its list of benefits. The ROI on offering gaming just keeps getting better and better.”...

The Shifted Librarian, Sept. 24

Kostelanetz papers donated to LC

[<http://www.loc.gov/today/pr/2008/08-171.html>]

Papers of Russian-American conductor and arranger André Kostelanetz (1901–1980) are being donated to the Library of Congress by the musician’s estate, marking a significant expansion of the collection Kostelanetz provided to the library during his lifetime.

Kostelanetz was a major figure in U.S. popular music and on radio for half a century. The new donation consists of 73 containers of correspondence, scrapbooks, photos, clippings, posters, business papers, posters, sound recordings, and materials related to his USO tours with his wife, opera star Lily Pons....

Library of Congress, Sept. 19

When Google isn’t enough

[http://www.readwriteweb.com/archives/sometimes_google_isnt_enough_when_researching_deep_web.php]

When you need to delve deep into a subject, sometimes Google just won’t do. What you really need is a research engine that explores the unindexed reaches of the Deep Web. For that, there’s now Infovell

[<http://www.infovell.com>], “the world’s research engine.” This new subscription-based software-as-a-service (SaaS) engine scours through open-access repositories of information like PubMed Central and the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Claims, but it also allows access to scholarly journals such as those from Oxford University Press, Sage, Taylor and Francis, Annual Reviews, and Mary Ann Liebert Publications.

Infovell is available for a 30-day free trial

[http://www.infovell.com/product_risk_free_trial.shtml]....

ReadWriteWeb, Sept. 18

Hakia calls for help [<http://company.hakia.com/pr-092208.html>]
Semantic search engine hakia announced September 22 an open call to librarians and information professionals to participate in a new program to unlock credible and free resources to web searchers. Currently, hakia is generating credibility-stamped results for health and medical searches to guide users towards credible web content. These results come from websites vetted by the Medical Library Association. Now, hakia is aiming to further its coverage to all topics, with the participation [<http://club.hakia.com/lib/>] of other librarians and information professionals....
Hakia, Sept. 22

Center for the Book promotes daily reading to youngsters [<http://www.loc.gov/today/pr/2008/08-174.html>]
The Center for the Book in the Library of Congress and the Read It Loud! Foundation [<http://www.readitloud.org/index.cfm>] have formed a partnership to encourage parents and other caregivers to read to their children daily. The goal of the partnership is to inspire 5 million parents and caregivers to read daily to their children by 2014. The program seeks participation by anyone who has children in his or her life and also will encourage persons with disabilities—parents, caregivers, and children—to participate....
Library of Congress, Sept. 23

Russian libraries up close [<http://www.ilovelibraries.org/news/libraryshowcase/index.cfm>]
Kate Gordon writes: "In November 2007, I was honored to join a delegation of academic librarians on a nine-day adventure to Moscow and St. Petersburg, Russia. The trip offered the opportunity to learn first-hand differences and similarities in the world of college and research libraries of our quite different countries. Information was, at times, challenging to interpret. What was clear was these libraries were the result of centuries of dedicated staff who professionally obligated themselves to preserve materials."...
Newspoke, Apr./June 2008

Military libraries launch media roundtable [<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=845>]
Military librarians came together September 18 to announce new additions to the Military OneSource [<http://www.militaryonesource.com/skins/MOS/home.aspx>] online library. This has been a joint collaboration of all branches of the military in an effort to increase the online library offerings to all service members and their families. The new resources are a custom collection compiled by several vendors and consist of a combination of recreation and self-help material that comes in different formats including audio, interactive, and text....
District Dispatch, Sept. 19

[http://www.wired.com/techbiz/people/magazine/16-10/ff_walker?currentPage=3]
]A personal library like no other
[http://www.wired.com/techbiz/people/magazine/16-10/ff_walker?currentPage=all]
Jay S. Walker, the entrepreneur who founded Priceline.com and Walker

Digital, built his New England house in 2002 specifically to accommodate his massive library. With the help of architect Mark Finlay, Walker commissioned decorative etched glass, dynamic lighting, and even a custom soundtrack that sets the tone for the cerebral adventures hidden within this cabinet of curiosities. The massive book by the planetarium window (above) is actually a specially commissioned, internally lit, 2.5-ton Clyde Lynds sculpture. It's meant to embody the spirit of the library: the mind on the right page, the universe on the left....
Wired Magazine 16, no. 10 (Oct.)

Aren't you scared? [<http://blogs.secstate.wa.gov/ils/?p=35>]
Jill Merritt writes: "This is the question everyone always asks when you tell them you work in a prison library. The next being, 'Have you ever seen Shawshank Redemption?' The question is asked with all innocence and with no real aspect of what it is like to work in a prison. So you have to laugh and tell them what it is really like. Here is my answer when people ask me."...
Institutional Library Services, Sept. 22

Wikia Green [http://green.wikia.com/wiki/Wikia_Green]
Wikia Green [http://green.wikia.com/wiki/Wikia_Green] asks users to sign up and be a part of creating a green wiki guide. Created by Jimmy Wales, cofounder of Wikipedia, the goal is to offer more lifestyle tips, product options, and how-to's. The content differs from that on Wikipedia in three main ways: Content is written from a green point of view, is focused on things you can do, and is more accessible and relevant to an average reader....
Wikia Green

Library 2.0 and the problem of hate speech
[http://southernlibrarianship.icaap.org/content/v09n02/brown-sica_m01.html]
Margaret Brown-Sica and Jeffrey Beall write: "It's possible for library users to abuse library 2.0 applications by uploading words, pictures, or other content that constitute hate speech. Universities and colleges today view hate speech as outside the realm of protected speech because it violates the terms of most codes of conduct and merits decisive action. Also, many libraries are big players in the overall college mission to value and promote diversity. Perhaps nothing can poison this more than a library website filled with racist, homophobic, or other defamatory speech."...
Electronic Journal of Academic and Special Librarianship 9, no. 2 (Summer)

University of Michigan goes Espresso
[<http://www.ns.umich.edu/htdocs/releases/story.php?id=6735>]
The University of Michigan's Shapiro Undergraduate Library in Ann Arbor became the first university library to install an Espresso Book Machine, from On Demand Books of New York. The machine produces perfect-bound, high-quality paperback books on demand, in this case out-of-copyright books from the university's digitized collections. At a cost of about \$10 per book, the service is available to researchers, students, and the public....
University of Michigan, Sept. 17

Just the thing for Banned Books Week

[<http://www.gama-go.com/product.php?productid=16703&cat=279&page=1#>]
San Francisco-based design and gadget supplier Gama-Go is selling a burning bookmark perfect for using with any incendiary, outrage-provoking, banned book. As their promotion says, "Wedge it snugly between the pages of your favorite edition of Fahrenheit 451 and let this stylized flame illuminate you quickly to your saved spot." Retails for a smoldering \$6....
Gama-Go

[<http://www.youtube.com/experiencewii>] Wario Land game on YouTube
[<http://www.youtube.com/experiencewii>]
It looks like Nintendo teamed up with YouTube to produce some intriguing special effects for this promotion of its Wii-based Wario Land: Shake It! game, which was released in North America September 22. Make sure you watch the full video (0:45) to see what happens....
YouTube, Sept. 19

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[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/midwinter/home.cfm>]

ALA Midwinter Meeting,
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/midwinter/2009/faq.cfm>]
Denver, January 23-28.

Join four women of mystery
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/midwinter/2009/specialevents.cfm>], January 23, 4-5:15 p.m., at the Midwinter Exhibits Round Table Author Forum. Erica Spindler, Francine Mathews, Mary Jane Clark, and Nancy Atherton will discuss "The Art of Revealing 'Who Did It.'"

[http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?_sn=catalog2&_pn=product_detail&_op=2574]

The Hipster Librarian's Guide to Teen Craft Projects
[http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?_sn=catalog2&_pn=product_detail&_op=2574] offers a unique way for teens to claim their identities and gain confidence at the library. It's not your grandmother's crafting project! Instead, hip librarians and their teen patrons can engage in the hottest new DIY way of life, recycling everything from discarded books to Altoids tins. Tina Coleman and Peggie Llanes offer detailed step-by-step instructions for a dozen unique craft items. NEW! From ALA Editions.

In this issue
September 2008

The Future of Privacy

A Privacy Victory in Vermont

ALA Award Winners

[<http://www.loc.gov/bookfest/>]

At the 2008 National Book Festival, [<http://www.loc.gov/bookfest/>] on the National Mall, Washington, D.C., 10 a.m.–5:30 p.m., September 27 (rain or shine), celebrate the joys of reading and lifelong literacy with the Library of Congress, First Lady Laura Bush, and more than 70 authors. Now in its 8th year, the festival is free and open to the public.

Career Leads from

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

Librarian,

[<http://joblist.ala.org/modules/jobseeker/controller.cfm?scr=jobdetail&jobid=11732>] World Maritime Library, Malmö, Sweden, established in 1983 by the International Maritime Organization, a specialized agency of the United Nations. WMU has gained an excellent reputation as a global center for the provision of advanced education, research, and consultancy to the international maritime community. The post involves active and hands-on involvement on a daily basis with the work of the library and the needs of its clients. It includes the management of the library's services, the acquisition of books and material, the cataloguing and classification of this material, forward planning for library services, and budgetary preparation and advice....

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

Digital Library of the Week

[<http://kdl.kyvl.org/cgi/b/bib/bib-idx?type=simple;c=eadimages;q1=KNU:1987ph2:3402;rgn1=identifier;cc=eadimages;view=reslistlong;sort=A-Z;fmt=long;page=reslist>]

The Kentuckiana Digital Library [<http://kdl.kyvl.org/>] was built to enhance scholarship, research, and lifelong learning through the establishment of access to shared digital archival collections in the state of Kentucky. Hosted by the University of Kentucky, the digital library includes over 80,000 photographic images, 100,000 newspaper pages, 230,000 book pages, hundreds of oral histories, and maps

documenting the history and heritage of Kentucky. Participating repositories include the Kentucky Historical Society, Berea College, the Filson Historical Society, Murray State University, and the University of Louisville.

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’d rather have one great library than five.”

?Trenton (N.J.) Mayor Douglas H. Palmer on plans to close four neighborhood branches in the wake of a city budget crisis, Trenton (N.J.) Times, Sept. 17, 2008.

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

The Women’s National Book Association is launching its second National Reading Group Month [<http://www.nationalreadinggroupmonth.org/>] in October to promote reading groups and to celebrate the joy of shared reading. Events [http://www.wnba-books.org/press_release/] featuring reading group favorite authors are planned nationwide in the association’s chapters, including Boston, Detroit, Los Angeles, Nashville, New York City, San Francisco, Washington, D.C., and the newly formed Seattle chapter.

Ask the ALA Librarian

Q. Due to staff shortages in recent years, our collection hasn’t been weeded in a while. Recently we were able to start the process again with some volunteers and new hires. In years past, we have held a book sale for discards, amounting to a book cart or two. But this time we are facing a much larger number of discards, and we don’t have the space to sell all of these to the patrons. We’d be willing to donate them. Do you know of anyone that could use them?

A. We’re glad you’ve been able to return to weeding, which is an important (if sometimes misunderstood) step in collection development. Our main Collection Development [http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Collection_Development]

page can provide further assistance, including the Collection Evaluation and De-Selection (Weeding) [[http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Collection_Evaluation_--_and_De-Selection_\(Weeding\)](http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Collection_Evaluation_--_and_De-Selection_(Weeding))] page, which lists several resources for completing a weeding project, along with the names of organizations that accept library discards. From the ALA Professional Tips wiki [http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Weeding_and_Library_Discards].

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

Calendar

Oct. 8–11:
North American Cartographic Information Society,
[<http://dev.nacis.org/index.cfm?x=2>] Annual Meeting, Holiday Inn Downtown at the Park, Missoula, Montana.

Oct. 19–21:
New England Library Association, [<http://www.nelib.org/conference/2008/>] Annual Conference, Radisson Hotel Manchester, New Hampshire. “Taking Charge of Change.”

Oct. 21:
National Coalition Against Censorship,
[http://ncac.org/2008_celebration.cfm] Annual Celebration of Free Speech and Its Defenders, Rubin Museum of Art, New York City.

Nov. 5–8:
National Association for the Education of Young Children,
[<http://annualconference.naeyc.org/register/>] Annual Conference, Dallas Convention Center.

Nov. 5–9:
American Society for Theatre Research and Theatre Library Association,
[<http://tla.library.unt.edu/conferences.html>] Annual Conference, Park Plaza Hotel, Boston. “Unsettling Theatre: Migration, Map Memory.”

Nov. 6–7:
National Council of Teachers of Mathematics,
[<http://www.nctm.org/conferences/content.aspx?id=13000&linkidentifier=id&itmid=13000>] Regional Conference, Reno-Sparks Convention Center, Nevada.

Nov. 6–8:
National Church Library Association,
[<http://nclaevents.wiki.zoho.com/2008-Conference.html>] Biennial Conference, Bloomington, Minnesota.

Nov. 12–14:
Digital Library Federation, [<http://www.diglib.org/forums/fall2008/>] Fall

Forum, Westin Providence, Rhode Island.

Nov. 18–20:

Society for Scholarly Publishing,

[https://www.sspnet.org/Events/Meetings_and_Seminars/2008_Fall_Seminars/space.aspx] Fall Seminars, ASAE Center, Washington, D.C.

Nov. 20–21:

2nd National Student Safety and Security Conference,

[http://www.new-fields.com/nsssc2/conference_profile.php] Rio All Suite Hotel, Las Vegas, Nevada.

Nov. 20–21:

Middle East Librarians Association, [http://www.mela.us/08_info.html]

Annual Meeting, Library of Congress Thomas Jefferson Building.

Nov. 20–23:

National Council of Teachers of English,

[<http://www.ncte.org/profdev/conv/annual>] Annual Convention, San Antonio, Texas. “Because Shift Happens: Teaching in the Twenty-First Century.”

Dec. 8:

National Federation of Advanced Information Services,

[http://cendievents.foiaintl.com/nfais_cendi_120808/] Library of Congress. “Making the Web Work for Science: The Impact of e-Science and the Cyberinfrastructure.”

Dec. 9–10:

Northeast Document Conservation Center,

[<http://www.nedcc.org/education/conferences/pom2008/pombroc.php>] InterContinental Chicago Hotel. “Persistence of Memory: Sustaining Digital Collections.”

Dec. 27–30:

Modern Language Association, [<http://www.mla.org/convention>] Annual Convention, Hilton San Francisco.

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

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American Libraries Direct

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