

# american libraries DIRECT

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | April 1, 2009

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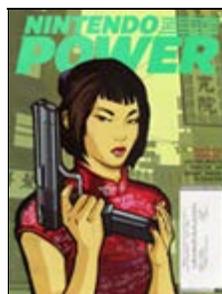
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## U.S. & World News

### [Ohio principal judges magazine by its cover](#)

Shortly after the 2008–09 school year began, Brian Sharosky, principal of the Cleveland Heights–University Heights (Ohio) City School District's Roxboro Middle School, instructed school librarian Amy Bloomberg to pull the November 2008 issue of *Nintendo Power* magazine from the shelves of the school library. Sharosky said he objected to the cover, which showed what he characterized as a "violent figure"—a videogame-like rendering of woman holding a large handgun—to promote a feature about the release of *Grand Theft Auto: Chinatown Wars*. The removal attracted the attention of the local teachers union and the ACLU, which sent a cautionary letter to the school board president....



American Libraries Direct, Mar. 27

### [New York City budget proposes major cuts to libraries](#)

The three library systems that serve New York City face major cuts in Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg's proposed FY2010 budget ([PDF file](#)). Representatives from the libraries testified on the likely effects of the 17% funding reduction at a March 13 city council hearing. New York Public Library faces a reduction of \$23.2 million. The effects of the cut would be exacerbated by a proposed reduction of \$3 million, or 14%, in state funding and by expected downturns in private revenues of some \$20 million....



American Libraries Online, Mar. 27

### [Concord mayor considers closing library](#)

Library boosters in Concord, New Hampshire, are decrying reports that Mayor Jim Bouley has been talking about shuttering the city library to narrow Concord's projected FY2010 budget deficit of up to \$4.8 million by \$1.7 million. The library is one of the few services funded by the city that



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### [ALA Annual Conference, Chicago, July 9–15.](#)

Chicago, July 9–15. ALA will rock the Art Institute of Chicago for the 10th Anniversary [Scholarship Bash](#), at 7:00 p.m., July 11. This is your chance to discover new works of art and visit your favorites without fighting the crowds. And the [5th Annual ERT Bookcart Drillteam World Championship](#) will take place 4–5:30 p.m., July

is not mandated by law. "Everything is going to be affected—library, recreation, police, fire," Mayor Bouley said....

American Libraries Online, Mar. 27



## ALA News

### Stimulate your library

ALA Washington Office Executive Director Emily Sheketoff writes: "Congress made history with the passage of the [American Recovery and Reinvestment Act](#) (ARRA), signed by President Obama February 17, and now libraries have their turn. ARRA will ultimately release an unprecedented level of federal spending—\$787 billion—into the U.S. economy in an effort to put our nation back on track through saving or creating 3 million jobs; providing tax relief; and investing in needs such as health, energy, and education. Yet while these opportunities are available to libraries, they won't be handed to them."...

*American Libraries* 40, no. 5 (May 2009)

### Figueroa named Office for Diversity director

Miguel A. Figueroa has been named the new director of the ALA Office for Diversity. Figueroa is currently the network services coordinator for the Middle Atlantic Region of the National Network of Libraries of Medicine and will begin his new duties May 5. A former member of the *American Libraries* Advisory Committee, he has been a presenter at the ALA Spectrum Institute, the Emporia Diversity Initiative Leadership Institute, and the 6th Institute of the Trejo Foster Foundation for Hispanic Library Education....



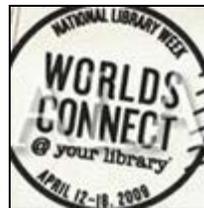
### Libraries showcase bilingual resources for El Día

As the nation's population becomes more diverse, hundreds of libraries will showcase their multicultural programs and services April 30 during national [El día de los niños/El día de los libros](#) (Children's Day/Book Day). This year marks the 13th anniversary of the observance, and libraries across the country will host Día celebrations with family programs, including bilingual story hours, book giveaways, and other literacy events....



### Worlds connect @ your library

National Library Week (April 12–18) is just around the corner, and libraries across the country are gearing up to demonstrate how "Worlds Connect @ your library," the 2009 theme. Libraries are encouraged to use [sample materials](#), available in both English and Spanish, developed by the ALA Campaign for America's Libraries....



### Countdown to National Library Legislative Day

The 2009 National Library Legislative Day is quickly approaching and will be held May 11–12 at the Liaison Hotel in Washington, D.C. With

12. The teams design creative costumes for themselves and their carts, so this event is always popular and exciting.



### In [Protecting Intellectual Freedom in Your School Library](#),

retired middle- and high-school librarian Pat Scales uses her experience and expertise to offer an intellectual freedom guide tailored to the school library environment. Scales provides case studies, easy and motivating ways to prepare new hires for handling intellectual freedom issues, and sidebars that offer sample policies, definitions of key terms, and analysis of important statutes and decisions. **NEW! From ALA Editions.**

### In this issue

April 2009



2009 Library Design Showcase

a new administration and a new political climate in both the House and the Senate, this is a critical and exciting time for us to get our message out to Congress. Fill out the registration form ([PDF file](#)) and get it to your state coordinator by April 15. For more info, contact [Kristin Murphy](#)....

### [Attract students to your academic library](#)

ALA Editions has released [Marketing Today's Academic Library: A Bold New Approach to Communicating with Students](#) by Brian Mathews. Most library marketing intended for undergraduates promotes the collection, reference and instructional services, and occasional events such as guest speakers or exhibits. Mathews's guiding principle is that marketing should focus on the lifestyle of the user, showcasing how the library fits within the daily life of the student....



### [Transform your storytime](#)

ALA Editions has released [Storytime Magic: 400 Fingerplays, Flannelboards, and Other Activities](#) by Kathy MacMillan and Christine Kirker. A unique addition to the programming shelf, this treasure trove of storytime tools is designed to help veteran librarians refresh and enliven ongoing programs, while providing novice storytime planners what they need to get started....



### [Webcast on lifelong literacy](#)

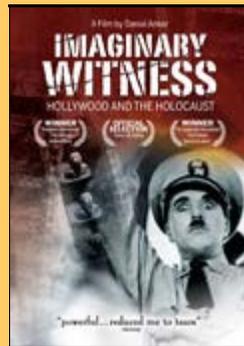
A panel of librarians and library practitioners—including ALA President Jim Rettig and National Institute for Literacy Acting Director Daniel J. Miller—will discuss the roles that libraries play in supporting lifelong literacy during a special webcast. "[Literacy for All: Advocacy, Libraries, and Literacy](#)" will be held 1–2:30 p.m. Eastern time on April 7. Librarians from public, school, and academic libraries will discuss successful library literacy programs, innovative community partnerships, and effective advocacy....

## Booklist ONLINE

### [Featured review: Media](#)

*Imaginary Witness: Hollywood and the Holocaust*. Jan. 2009. 92 min. Koch Lorber, DVD (978-1-4172-0187-7).

Packed with film clips and commentary by Hollywood insiders including Steven Spielberg, Sidney Lumet, and Rod Steiger, this stellar documentary mines newsreels and feature-film footage to tell the "unknown story of the 60-year relationship between the film industry and the atrocities of Nazi Germany." Film historians, actors, directors, screenwriters, and producers explain how filmmakers tried to balance a fine line between exploitation and truth. Restricted by movie codes and harassed by German sympathizers,



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### Career Leads from

ALA JobLIST

### [Manager of Web Development and Support](#)

Oklahoma City Metropolitan Library System. This position will manage the development of web content and services. You will manage a web support team and have responsibility for the overall look, content, and usefulness of the library's internet and intranet sites. You will provide long-term strategic vision of technical web enhancements that will increase responsiveness, efficiency, and value; monitor and report status and progress of project efforts; anticipate and identify issues that could inhibit achieving goals and objectives; and engage in usability testing and other assessments of the library's website....

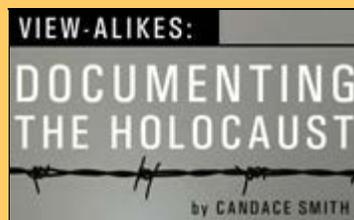
@ [More jobs...](#)

### Digital Library of the Week

Hollywood initially "treated Nazism with kid gloves": News clips and films portrayed the 1933 book burnings in Germany and escalating anti-Semitism with casualness and detachment. Surprisingly, Charlie Chaplin's 1940 classic *The Great Dictator* and some low-budget films were exceptions to this practice....

### [Documenting the Holocaust](#)

Candace Smith writes: "Although Hollywood initially ignored the Holocaust, documentary films continued to probe the horrific subject. These six films, reviewed previously in *Booklist*, artfully combine carefully selected archival footage with eyewitness accounts, contemporary interviews, and dramatic reenactments to present the Holocaust to new generations of viewers. To quote *Imaginary Witness*, the Holocaust is 'a standard by which we judge evil and establish values.' As one filmmaker succinctly states, 'feature films and documentaries serve to tell the world how we died and that this should never happen again.'"...



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



### [C. Szwedzicki: The North American Indian Works](#)

is a collection of 364 images and six texts hosted by the University of Cincinnati Libraries. Between 1929 and 1952 C. Szwedzicki, a publisher in Nice, France, produced six portfolios of North American Indian art. The publications were edited by American scholars Oscar Brousse Jacobson, Hartley Burr Alexander, and Kenneth Milton Chapman. Many of the images were published as pochoir prints, which are similar in appearance to silk-screen prints. These works represent original works by 20th-century American Indian artists. Important documentation of the Battle of the Little Big Horn is provided in the reproduction of the now lost ledger art of Amos Bad Heart Bull. The contents of this collection are drawn primarily from holdings of the Archives and Rare Books Library of the University of Cincinnati Libraries, but also include materials from the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County and the Yale Collection of Western Americana. Users must allow Java

## Chicago Update

### [Welcome to Chicago](#)

Chicago welcomes attendees and exhibitors to the 2009 ALA Annual Conference. While you are here, be sure to check out the best that Chicago has to offer. Fine dining, world-famous museums, and legendary entertainment are all at your fingertips. Let the Chicago Convention and Tourism Bureau website be your personal concierge to help you plan your visit....

Chicago Convention and Tourism Bureau



### [Annual Conference on the cheap](#)

These tips are from seasoned conference goers—who have tried them all: If you have relatives or college friends in the conference city, invite yourself to stay with them. Share a room. Plan your stay around walking and public transportation. Eat only a couple of restaurant meals, if any....

Annual Conference wiki

### [Arrived OK?](#)

If you're tired of picking up the phone and calling half a dozen people every time you land at the ALA Annual Conference city to let them know you arrived OK, you might want to check out a new service called [ArrivedOK](#). What ArrivedOK does is track your information and send out alerts to let people know when you're safe and sound. You just visit the



website, enter your flight information, and add a list of people you want to send email or SMS notifications to....

Download Squad, Mar. 25

## Division News

### [Amalgamating for advocacy](#)

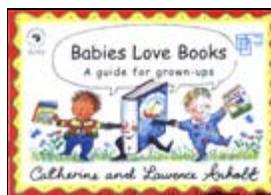
ALTAFF Executive Director Sally Gardner Reed writes: "Tough financial times, combined with the exponential increase in demand for library services that they bring, spell perfect timing for the formation of a new ALA division that can rally the nation's library lovers under the banner of the Association for Library Trustees, Advocates, Friends, and Foundations—ALTAFF. But library aficionados did not unite overnight; that public support began many years ago."...

*American Libraries* 40, no. 3 (Mar. 2009): 34–36



### [ALTAFF and Nordstrom to award Books for Babies grants](#)

In partnership with Nordstrom, ALTAFF will award 20 grants of \$500 each to match \$1,000 raised by selected Friends groups, women's groups, libraries, and other nonprofit organizations for purchasing Books for Babies kits from ALTAFF. Books for Babies is a national literacy program that acquaints parents of newborns with the important role books play in their children's development. The deadline for [applying](#) for the first round of grants has been extended to April 15....



### [YALSA girlz and guys celebrate Support Teen Lit Day](#)

Teen patients in pediatric hospitals across the United States will receive more than 8,000 young-adult novels, audiobooks, and graphic novels as readergirlz, Guys Lit Wire, and YALSA celebrate the third annual Support Teen Literature Day April 16. In its second year, Operation Teen Book Drop puts books donated by 18 publishers into the hands of teens in need of escape, inspiration, and a sense of personal accomplishment....



### [YALSA offers Teens and Technology Institute](#)

YALSA will offer a full-day institute on using technology to reach teens in libraries April 30 at the Southern Maryland Regional Library Association in Charlotte Hall. YALSA President-Elect Linda Braun will lead the institute. Participants will explore how reading, writing, and communicating are expanding and changing via technologies like chat, IM, blogs, text messaging, and wikis....

### [ACRL draws record-breaking participation](#)

More than 4,300 library staff, exhibitors, speakers, and guests from every state and 22 countries met March 12–15 at the Washington State Convention and Trade Center in downtown Seattle for the ACRL 14th National Conference. Combined with the more than 350 people participating online in the ACRL 2009 Virtual Conference, the Seattle conference boasted the highest participation ever. Ira Glass (right) of



and pop-ups for this collection site.

**Do you know** of a digital library collection that we can mention in this *AL Direct* feature? [Tell us about it.](#) Browse previous Digital Libraries of the Week at the [Love Libraries](#) site.

## Public Perception

How the World Sees Us

**"Librarie-Keepers, in most Universities that I know; nay indeed in all, their places are but Mercenarie, and their employment of little or no use further, then to look to the Books committed to their custodie, that they may not bee lost; or embezeled by those that use them: and this is all.**

**. . . The proper charge then of the Honorarie Librarie-Keeper in a Universitie . . . is to keep the publick stock of Learning, which is in Books and Manuscripts to increas it, and to propose it to others in the waie which may bee most useful unto all; his work then is to bee a Factor and Trader for helps to Learning, and a Treasurer to keep them, and a dispenser to applie them to use, or to see them well used, or at least not abused."**

—John Dury, Calvinist minister and deputy keeper of the royal library of the recently executed Charles I,

National Public Radio's *This American Life* brought the conference to a close with a standing ovation after a presentation that demonstrated the power of personal narrative....

### [ACRL invites proposals for 2010 programs](#)

ACRL invites proposal submissions for half- or full-day professional development programs to be held prior to the 2010 ALA Midwinter Meeting or the 2010 ALA Annual Conference. ACRL workshops at Midwinter will be held in Boston January 15. Preconferences at the Annual Conference will be held in Washington, D.C., June 25. [Submissions](#) will be accepted through May 4....

### [Get inspired with AASL's school tours](#)

Be sure to arrive early to the AASL 14th National Conference and Exhibition in Charlotte, North Carolina, November 5–8. The Wednesday and Thursday before conference will be dedicated to many networking events, including school tours. With four different tour options, including the Charlotte Country Day School and the Providence Day School, library media specialists are sure to find inspiration to bring back to their schools....

## Awards

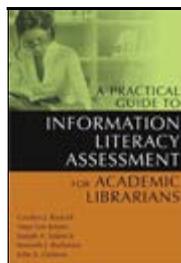
### [John Ames Humphry/OCLC/Forest Press winner](#)

Patricia Oyler, associate dean and professor at Simmons College GSLIS, is the 2009 recipient of the ALA International Relations Committee's John Ames/Humphry/OCLC/Forest Press Award. The award is given for significant contribution to international librarianship. Oyler received this award for her work in library development in Vietnam, including cataloging standards, modern services, and new technology applications....



### [Ilene F. Rockman Publication of the Year](#)

*A Practical Guide to Information Literacy Assessment for Academic Librarians* is the winner of the ACRL Instruction Section's Ilene F. Rockman Publication of the Year Award. Written by Kent State University librarians Carolyn Radcliff, Mary Lee Jensen, Joseph A. Salem Jr., Kenneth J. Burhanna, and Julie A. Gedeon, the guide provides information on the evaluation of both students and library instruction programs....



### [ALA Information Today Library of the Future](#)

The Indianapolis–Marion County Public Library is the 2009 winner of the ALA *Information Today* Library of the Future Award. The award is presented annually to a library that demonstrates innovative planning and development of patron training programs about information technology in a library setting. The winning initiative was IMCPL's "The Learning Curve @ Central Library" project, an outstanding programming space (both physical and virtual) that provides a high-tech, high-energy, hands-on information environment designed for today's children....

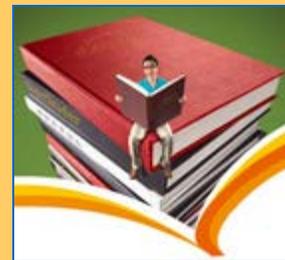


### [2009 World Book/ALA Information Literacy Goal](#)

in [The Reformed Librarian-Keeper](#) (London: William Du-Gard, 1650).

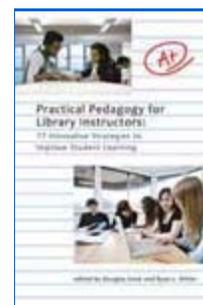


**AL on Twitter?** Follow *American Libraries* news stories, videos, and blog posts on [Twitter](#).



The [Hong Kong Book Fair](#) is offering a Free Pass Program for Librarians for its [20th Annual Fair](#), which will be held in the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre, July 22–28. The Fair will provide selected librarians from the U.S. and Canada who collect Chinese language materials four nights of hotel accommodation, free registration, and invitation to a cocktail reception. [Apply](#) by June 12.

## Ask the ALA Librarian



## [winners](#)

The winners of the first-ever World Book/ALA Information Literacy Goal Award are the Brockport (N.Y.) Central School District, for its Information Literacy Continuum; and Troy (Mich.) Public Library, for its program, "Information Literacy for the Job Seeker." This annual award, donated by World Book, seeks to promote exemplary information literacy programs in both public and school libraries....

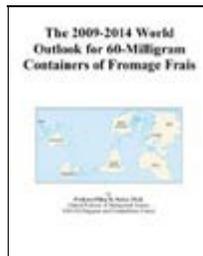
## [Bogle-Pratt International Library Travel Fund](#)

Jessica Brooks is the 2009 recipient of the ALA International Relations Committee's Bogle-Pratt International Library Travel Fund. The Bogle Memorial Fund and the Pratt Institute School of Information and Library Science will provide a \$1,000 cash award for Brooks to attend her first international conference, in Bologna, Italy. The award is in recognition of Sarah Comly Norris Bogle, a prominent U.S. librarian who made notable contributions to international library service....

## [Oddest Book Title of 2009](#)

To those outside dairy (or container) circles, a book called *The 2009–2014 World Outlook for 60-Milligram Containers of Fromage Frais* tends to provoke more questions than it resolves. But it has won the *Bookseller*/Diagram Prize for Oddest Book Title of the Year, sponsored by [The Bookseller](#) magazine. The work is a statistical report written by Philip M. Parker, professor of marketing at the French campus of INSEAD, who uses econometric models to publish niche reports in the thousands....

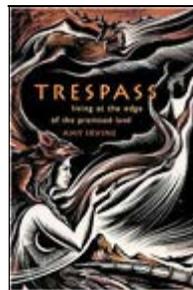
*New York Times*, Mar. 27; *The Bookseller*, Mar. 9



## [2009 Orion Book Award winner](#)

Amy Irvine has won the 2009 Orion Book Award for *Trespass: Living at the Edge of the Promised Land* (North Point, 2008). The award was founded in 2007 to recognize books that deepen our connection to the natural world, present new ideas about our relationship with nature, and achieve excellence in writing. Irvine will be presented with a prize of \$3,000 at an April 15 celebration in New York City....

Orion Magazine



## [ABC-CLIO History Uncovered Award](#)

Students from Cincinnati's Northwest High School, working with library media specialist Bethany Miller, are the February winners of the monthly drawing for teams participating in the company's History Uncovered annual [research competition](#) for secondary students. Meanwhile, teams of secondary students around the country are busy working on finishing their projects in time for the competition's March 30 deadline....

ABC-CLIO, Mar. 25

## Seen Online

### [Defense calls witnesses in Indianapolis fraud case](#)

An engineering firm accused of fraudulent practices regarding the troubled Indianapolis Central Library project began presenting its witnesses March 31 as the trial reached its midpoint. A Boone County jury already has heard three weeks of testimony from witnesses

***Q. I am looking for some resources on providing library instruction to students. Can you help?***

**A.** There are many resources available for providing library instruction. ACRL has a [bibliography](#) for the instruction of diverse populations, such as those found at colleges. They also offer a [research agenda](#) for library instruction and information literacy, which covers learners, teaching, organizational context, and assessment tools. ALA also has a [Library Instruction Round Table](#) whose purpose is to advocate library instruction and information literacy as a part of lifelong learning. Several books on this topic may be found in the [ALA Store](#). Here are some further resources on [user education](#). From the [ALA Professional Tips wiki](#).

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

### [Upcoming ALA Annual Conferences](#)

- July 9–15, 2009:**  
Chicago.
- June 24–29, 2010:**  
Washington, D.C.
- June 23–28, 2011:**  
New Orleans.
- June 21–26, 2012:**  
Anaheim, Calif.
- June 27–July 2, 2013:**

called by the Indianapolis–Marion County Public Library. The library is seeking \$24 million, plus punitive damages, by pressing claims of fraud against New York–based Thornton Tomasetti and a managing principal....

*Indianapolis Star*, Apr. 1

### [Most Portland schools don't have librarians](#)

Seven Portland, Oregon, school campuses have no library staff. In 42 libraries, assistants or clerks run the show on their own. Only 28 campuses have librarians who can teach classes on research and library skills. Half of them are part-time. Superintendent Carole Smith wants to fix that. In her budget released in mid-March, Smith is requiring all traditional schools, about 75, to staff their libraries for at least 20 hours a week....

*Portland Oregonian*, Mar. 21

### [Spider-Man faces banishment in Omaha](#)

A mother in southwest Omaha says she's upset by a [graphic novel](#) that she considers sexually explicit in the library of Norris Elementary School, which her 6-year-old son attends. The novel, *The Amazing Spider-Man Volume 2: Revelations*, by J. Michael Straczynski (Marvel, 2002), is part of a popular series. Donna Helvering, head librarian of the Millard School District, said it's been in high demand. Physha Svendsen didn't elaborate on the book's literary elements that she found sexually inappropriate, but she plans to keep it while the district review process takes place....

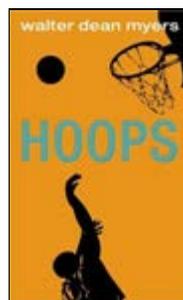
KETV-TV, Omaha, Mar. 27; Comicbook.com Blog, Mar. 28



### [Hoops ruckus in Council Bluffs](#)

Judi Wheeldon wants the Council Bluffs (Iowa) Community School District to ban the 1981 Walter Dean Myers book *Hoops* from all classrooms and libraries. "My kids can't comprehend some of this stuff," she told a committee March 30. "This stuff," she said, includes the use of racial slurs as well as references to smoking a joint, overdosing on drugs, gambling, point shaving, violence, and sex. A reconsideration committee will meet for discussion April 13....

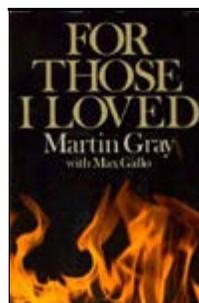
*Council Bluffs (Iowa) Daily Nonpareil*, Mar. 31



### [Memoir challenged in Deer Lodge](#)

A patron has challenged a personal memoir and requested its removal from the William K. Kohrs Library in Deer Lodge, Montana. Greg Gerdes characterized Martin Gray's *For Those I Loved* (Little, Brown, 1972), a personal account of the Treblinka concentration camp holocaust in occupied Poland, as untrue and anti-German hate propaganda. Gerdes said he would donate \$5,000 to the library if anyone can prove there were graves at Treblinka. The board will decide the issue at an April 16 public meeting....

Butte *Montana Standard*, Mar. 31



### [Petition against YA books in West Bend](#)

A concerned couple is circulating petitions asking the West Bend (Wis.) Community Memorial Library board to remove books they consider to be obscene or child

Chicago.

**June 26-July 1, 2014:**

Las Vegas, Nev.

**June 25-30, 2015:**

San Francisco.

**June 23-28, 2016:**

Orlando, Fla.

**June 22-27, 2017:**

Chicago.

### [Upcoming ALA Midwinter Meetings](#)

**Jan. 15-19, 2010:**

Boston.

**Jan. 7-11, 2011:**

San Diego, Calif.

**Jan. 20-24, 2012:**

Dallas.

**Jan. 25-29, 2013:**

Seattle.

**Jan. 24-28, 2014:**

Philadelphia.

**Jan. 23-27, 2015:**

Chicago.

**Jan. 22-26, 2016:**

Boston.

**Jan. 20-24, 2017:**

Atlanta.

## Calendar

**Apr. 1-30:**

[National Poetry Month.](#)

**Apr. 1-30:**

[Celebrate Diversity Month.](#)

**Apr. 1-30:**

[School Library Media Month.](#)

**Apr. 2:**

[International Children's Book Day.](#)

**Apr. 12-18:**

[National Library Week.](#)

**Apr. 14:**

[National Library Workers Day.](#)

pornography from a section designated for young adults. Ginny and Jim Maziarka want the books reclassified, labeled, and placed in a restricted area requiring parental approval. The Maziarkas object to "the overt indoctrination of the gay agenda into our community youth."...

*Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel*, Mar. 31



### [Future of presidential libraries examined](#)

The George W. Bush Presidential Library in Dallas could be one of the last brick-and-mortar institutions of its kind. Congress is looking for ways to cut the expense of overseeing such buildings, and some researchers say the traditional library setup for keeping presidential documents is outdated in a digital world. Some alternative plans: Use a cave to store vital paper records, or get out of the museum business and let the president's backers run that part of the library....

*Dallas Morning News*, Mar. 31

### [The art on the library walls](#)

Over the last nine years the Robin Hood Foundation and New York City's schools administration have built libraries in 62 schools in low-income neighborhoods. Some of the libraries, including those recently completed at three schools in the Bronx, have also come with the addition of permanent works by well-known artists. At P.S. 69, Christoph Niemann has created a mural that uses images of books serving as almost everything, all organized with Dewey Decimal System numbers (above)....

*New York Times*, Mar. 13



### [Malden challenges validity of ex-senator's pension](#)

The city of Malden, Massachusetts, is challenging the legal validity of the \$22,000 annual pension paid to Beacon Hill lobbyist and former state senator John A. Brennan Jr. for years of volunteer service as a Malden Public Library trustee. City Attorney Katheryn M. Fallon told the city council March 31 that Brennan should not receive a pension based on library service because the library is a private corporation, not a branch of the city government. During his 19 years as a trustee, Brennan missed more than half of the meetings....

*Boston Globe*, Apr. 1

### [New challenges for Boston's Amy Ryan](#)

When Amy Ryan took over as the new president of the Boston Public Library in October 2008, she knew she had to make peace with City Hall following the tumultuous ousting of her predecessor, Bernard Margolis. She did not know about the budget crisis and tough decisions that would soon descend. Before she and her husband found a permanent place to settle on Beacon Hill, the economy tanked. The city's budget deficit ballooned. Mayor Thomas Menino said that the library would need to shed \$4 million from its \$48-million budget for the next fiscal year....

*Boston Globe*, Mar. 29



### **Apr. 15–18:** [Washington Library Association](#)

Annual Conference, Red Lion Hotel, Spokane.

"Impact & Influence."

### **Apr. 16:** [Support Teen Literature Day](#)

**Apr. 16:**  
[Digital Dilemmas Symposium](#), William and Anita Newman Conference Center at Baruch College, City University of New York, New York City.  
"Challenges + Opportunities + Solutions."

### **Apr. 16–19:** [Arkansas Literary Festival](#)

Little Rock.

**Apr. 17–20:**  
[Major Orchestra Librarians' Association](#), Marriott at Metro Center Hotel, Washington, D.C.

**Apr. 18:**  
[Alabama Book Festival](#), Old Alabama Town, Montgomery.

**Apr. 18–19:**  
[Free Library Festival](#), Parkway Central Library, Free Library of Philadelphia.

**Apr. 20–22:**  
[London Book Fair](#), Earls Court, London.

**Apr. 22:**  
[Earth Day](#).

**Apr. 24:**  
[From Transaction to](#)

### [Fresh hope for new Cedar Rapids library](#)

Cedar Rapids, Iowa, is likely to build a new public library downtown after a hard-won federal decision in mid-March. Board President Susan Corrigan said that means a relocation from its perilous site next to the Cedar River. The Federal Emergency Management Agency concluded that the June 2008 flood had damaged the library by more than 50% of its value (58% actually), which means the city can ask for FEMA funding to build the library elsewhere....

*Cedar Rapids (Iowa) Gazette, Mar. 20*

### [Mormons to get new church history library](#)

After nearly 15 years of planning and more than four years of construction, a new Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints [church history library](#) will open for public use in Salt Lake City after a June 20 dedication ceremony. The new library will hold more than 3.5 million manuscripts, 210,000 publications, 100,000 photographs, some 50,000 audiovisual records, and other items spanning the 179 years since the church's founding by Joseph Smith in western New York....

*Salt Lake Tribune, Mar. 26*



### [Jamming at New Port Richey](#)

They start straggling in a little after 3 p.m. when school's out for the day. A few have guitars slung over their shoulders. Others simply bring their voices and an eagerness to share the stage with like-minded kids. Then, as soon as the clock strikes 4, the purple neon Open sign is flipped on outside the upstairs community room, and the Garage Jam session starts at the New Port Richey (Fla.) Library. The jam sessions are the brainchild of Youth Services Librarian Ghelder Arriaga....

*St. Petersburg (Fla.) Times, Mar. 25*

### [War of words in Carol Stream library board race](#)

The signs make it clear where the challenging candidates stand: "Stop library referendums and taxes." The incumbents, and the Carol Stream (Ill.) Public Library staff, think that's unfair and misleading. The library, in turn, is handing out a [Facts About the Library](#) sheet to all patrons that outlines past referendum questions and issues on property taxes. The fact sheet has raised the eyebrows of challengers, but the idea actually came from Library Director Ann Kennedy....

*Arlington Heights (Ill.) Daily Herald, Mar. 27*



[Go back to the Top](#)

## Tech Talk

### [Six technologies soon to affect education](#) (registration required)

Collaborative environments, cloud computing, and "smart" objects are among the technologies that a group of experts believes will have a profound impact on K-12 education within the next five years or sooner. The New Media Consortium has come out with an annual report on emerging technologies in



### [Interaction: Transforming the User Experience.](#)

Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center Library, New York City.

**Apr. 24-26:**  
[Media in Transition 6.](#) MIT, Cambridge, Mass.

**Apr. 25-26:**  
[Los Angeles Times Festival of Books.](#) UCLA.

**Apr. 30:**  
[El día de los niños/El día de los libros.](#)

**Apr. 30:**  
[Poem in Your Pocket Day.](#) New York City.

**May 5-8:**  
[Massachusetts Library Association.](#) Annual Conference, Mass Mutual Center, Springfield. "Refresh, Renew, Sustain."

**May 5-8:**  
[Substance Abuse Librarians and Information Specialists.](#) Annual Conference, Marriott Residence Inn, Halifax, Nova Scotia. "Setting Sail: Best Practices for the Next Decade."

**May 8:**  
[Small-Scale, High-Impact Renovations: Redesigning Library Spaces on a Budget.](#) Inaugural Kathleen A. Zar Symposium, John Crerar Library, University of Chicago.

**May 11-12:**  
[National Library Legislative Day.](#)

higher education for the last several years. This year, for the first time, NMC has issued a K–12 version. [The Horizon Report: 2009 K-12 Edition](#) groups these technologies according to their time-to-adoption horizon and outlines key trends and challenges associated with their adoption....

eSchool News, Mar. 26

### [OpenDNS protects against Conficker worm](#)

Kevin Purdy writes: "On March 31 we offered up a [guide](#) to protecting your Windows PC from the Conficker worm, set to start doing something April 1. Free net service [OpenDNS](#) is another option for anyone concerned about the not-so-funny happening. Even if Conficker has made it onto your PC, or a PC somewhere in your house or office, OpenDNS will likely stop the worm from contacting the site that would tell it what to do."...

Lifehacker, Apr. 1



### [Saving your digital life](#)

Jason Griffey writes: "I have three kinds of data that I'm worried about protecting in some way: working files, files that are important but replaceable, and files that I can't afford to lose at all. So how do I handle all of this? With one piece of hardware (an external drive called a [Drobo](#)), a few pieces of software ([Dropbox](#) and either [Mozy](#) or [Carbonite](#)), and broadband."...

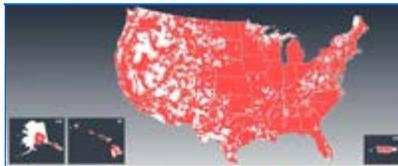
ALA TechSource blog, Mar. 27



### [How to buy a cellular modem](#)

Sascha Segan writes: "A cellular modem will let you and your laptop tap into the high-speed wireless 3G networks that blanket the U.S., so you can surf the web and download files at broadband speeds anywhere you can use your cell phone. Over the past couple of years, modems have become more compact, compatible, and flexible, but you do have to pay for the device itself along with cellular broadband service that'll cost you from \$40 to \$60 a month. Still, if you want to get online with a fast network that's more ubiquitous than Wi-Fi, here are some tips to keep in mind when picking a carrier and a device."...

PC Magazine, Mar. 27



### [Movement up in the cloud](#)

Daniel Freeman writes: "The last few weeks have seen several interesting developments in the growing popularity of Cloud Computing. Slowly but surely, we are starting to see major corporate investment in this concept. *PC World* pointed out that, despite the troubled economy, revenue for cloud computing–related services is [set to explode](#) in 2009. Then, there was the release of the Open Cloud Manifesto ([PDF file](#)), a document aimed at explaining the significance of this new technology and setting direction for its widespread implementation."...

ALA TechSource blog, Mar. 30

### [Top 10 utterly pointless USB devices](#)

When it was developed almost 11 years ago, the USB port was envisioned as a way to

**May 11–17:**  
[Children's Book Week.](#)

**May 12–13:**  
[Vermont Library Conference.](#) Sheraton Hotel and Conference Center, South Burlington. "Speaking Up! Advocacy for Libraries."

**May 12–18:**  
[Reading Is Fun Week.](#)

**May 13–14:**  
[Fourth Rethinking Resource Sharing Initiative Forum.](#) OCLC Conference Center, Dublin, Ohio.

**May 15–17:**  
[Ann Arbor Book Festival.](#) Ann Arbor, Michigan.

**May 15–20:**  
[Medical Library Association.](#) Annual Conference, Honolulu. "iFusions."

**May 16–17:**  
[Hawaii Book and Music Festival.](#) Civic Grounds, Honolulu.

**May 19–20:**  
[New Hampshire Library Association.](#) Spring Conference, Attitash Grand Summit Hotel and Conference Center, Bartlett.

**May 27–29:**  
[Society for Scholarly Publishing.](#) Annual Meeting, Marriott Baltimore Waterfront. "Advancing Scholarly Communities in the Brave New World."

make it easy for users to attach devices to their PCs. But budding designers took it as a new medium for any kind of wacky device they dreamed up. An increasing number of oddball peripherals have appeared in recent years, such as a USB fridge, a scan toaster (right), and hamster wheel....

Listverse, Mar. 26



### [Should you worry about data rot?](#)

Dag Spicer, curator of the Computer History Museum in Silicon Valley, says: "Data rot refers mainly to problems with the medium on which information is stored. Over time, things like temperature, humidity, exposure to light, or being stored in not-very-good locations like moldy basements, make this information very difficult to read. The problem, strangely enough, is not so bad on the older stuff, but quite bad on the more recent stuff. So we can read tapes here at the museum that are 50 years old. With a CD or a DVD, if there's an error, often it's nonrecoverable, and you've just lost all your information."...

*New York Times*, Mar. 26

### [Retro media: Memory \(and memories\) lost](#)

The past 120 years have seen some of the most rapid changes in how we record, collect, and use audio, visual, and digital information. This pace creates a long list of obsolete technologies in its wake, some of which still exist, but for which equipment and storage technologies are not always available. This online exhibit, compiled by David J. Bertuca of the University at Buffalo's Science and Engineering Library, displays a selection of recently departed media formats....

University at Buffalo Libraries, Mar. 19



## Publishing

### [Guardian moves to Twitter, after 188 years of print](#)

(satire)

Consolidating its position at the cutting edge of new media technology, *The Guardian* announced April 1 that it will become the first newspaper in the world to be published exclusively via Twitter. All news content will be tailored to fit the format of Twitter's text messages, which are limited to 140 characters each. A mammoth project is also under way to rewrite the whole of the newspaper's archive in the form of tweets. Major stories already completed include: "OMG Hitler invades Poland, allies declare war see [tinyurl.com/b5x6e](http://tinyurl.com/b5x6e) for more"; and "JFK assassin8d @ Dallas, def. heard second gunshot from grassy knoll WTF?"...

*The Guardian* (U.K.), Apr. 1

### [It's a Kindle 2 world: The great, the fair, and the bad](#)

Matt Haughey writes: "Moments after I first saw a spy shot of the new Kindle 2, I placed an order for one. Now that I've used it for a

### **June 1:** [National Information Standards Organization](#)

Assessment and Performance Measurement Forum, Radisson Plaza Lord Baltimore, Maryland.

**June 5–6:**  
[New York Book Festival](#), Tompkins Square Park, New York City.

**June 6–7:**  
[Chicago Tribune Printers Row Lit Fest](#), Printers Row, Chicago.

**June 14–17:**  
[Special Libraries Association](#), Annual Conference, Walter E. Washington Convention Center, Washington, D.C.

**July 3–8:**  
[Seminar on the Acquisition of Latin American Library Materials](#), 54th Annual Meeting, sponsored by the Ibero-American Institute, Maritim Hotel Berlin, Germany. "Migrations and Connections: Latin America and Europe in the Modern World."

**July 28–  
Aug. 5:**  
[Digital Libraries à la Carte](#), Tilburg University, the Netherlands.

**Aug. 11–16:**  
[Society of American Archivists](#), Annual

month, I figured it'd probably be high time for a review. I wish it were cheaper and I wish there were open APIs to the device and tons of free book options, but it's really simple to use, the screen works great for me, and I'm reading tons of books without having to send a UPS truck to my door several times a week."...

A Whole Lotta Nothing, Mar. 28

### [The new Britannica](#)

The venerable *Encyclopaedia Britannica* is preparing for the most radical overhaul in its 241-year history, and it's recruiting its readers to do much of the work. It's a bid by *Britannica* to remain relevant at a time when the world's most popular encyclopedia, the eight-year-old Wikipedia, is written entirely by amateur experts. The new version of Britannica Online, set to debut this summer, will emulate the Wikipedia concept by letting subscribers make changes to any article, ranging from minor edits to near-total rewrites....

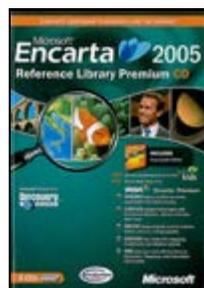
*Boston Globe*, Mar. 31



### [Microsoft Encarta dies](#)

Microsoft delivered the [coup de grâce](#) March 30 to its dying Encarta encyclopedia, acknowledging what everyone else realized long ago: It just couldn't compete with Wikipedia. Encarta can be embarrassingly outdated. The entry for [Joseph R. Biden Jr.](#) for example, identifies him as vice president-elect and a U.S. senator. The Encarta software will be removed from stores by June, and the affiliated worldwide websites will be closed by the end of October....

*New York Times*, Mar. 30



### [MIT faculty embraces open access](#)

If there were any doubt that open access publishing was setting off a bit of a power struggle, a decision made in mid-March by the MIT faculty should put it to rest. The faculty unanimously voted to make any publications they produce open access. Ann Wolpert, who directs the MIT Libraries, said, "in the quest for higher profits, publishers have lost sight of the values of the academy." Those are pretty clearly fighting words....

*Ars Technica*, Mar. 24



## Actions & Answers

### [The passing of John Hope Franklin](#)

*American Libraries* Editor in Chief Leonard Kniffel writes: "John Hope Franklin died March 25 at the age of 94. The Associated Press called him 'a towering scholar and pioneer of African-American studies who wrote the seminal text on the black experience in the U.S. and worked on the landmark Supreme Court case that outlawed public school segregation.' He lived a remarkable life. His name is etched in my librarian memory because, in the 1970s when I began my career at the



Meeting, Hilton Austin, Texas. "Sustainable Archives."

**Sept. 23–26:**  
[North Dakota Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Days Hotel–Grand Dakota Lodge and Conference Center, Dickinson. "Evolution of the Library."

@ [More...](#)

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Library  
Association

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

Detroit Public Library, his book *From Slavery to Freedom* was the most reliable source for black history that we had available.”...  
AL Inside Scoop, Mar. 30

### [100 tips and apps for teachers on Twitter](#)

The idea of writing small blog posts of 140 characters or less to a group of your followers is actually a revolutionary new way to bring communities together, learn from each other, and keep updated with all that is happening. Busy teachers may feel that taking the time to learn how to use Twitter isn't worth the return for the students' benefit, so that's why this list is worth browsing....

Online College Degree, Mar. 19



### [U.S. congressman lent out as Living Book](#)

The first Living Library in Michigan took place March 28 at Stair Public Library in Morenci. The 26 living book titles available included U.S. Rep. Mark Schauer (D-Jackson, right) as the "Politician" book and he was impressed with the experience. A total of 114 readers attended the event, which also included a Muslim, an Agnostic, a Blonde, a Cop, a Grease Monkey, a Conservative, a Liberal, and a Wiccan. Organizing librarian Colleen Leddy said, "The Muslim was constantly busy. We had to take him out of circulation just so he could grab a cup of coffee and a bite to eat."...

Living Library, Mar. 28



### [Looking for a green speaker?](#)

EcoSpeakers.com promotes speakers for conferences, meetings, training programs, and community, business, and university speaker series. It represents accomplished leaders, authors, and advocates who have inspired many with messages of hope and direction for the creation of a sustainable future. You can search by name or topic....

EcoSpeakers.com

### [Will a bad economy wipe out Oregon history?](#)

Floyd McKay writes: "Last week closed with nearly all of the research librarians and archivists at the 110-year-old [Oregon Historical Society](#) picking up their personal effects and exiting into the crisp March air. The newly unemployed staff were greeted by almost 100 Oregon historians and friends of the archives in a hastily organized protest across from the library in the Portland Park Blocks. In the crowd was Tom Vaughan, who directed the society for 35 years, beginning in 1954, and put together much of the research collection and museum."...

Crosscut.com, Mar. 19



### [What does that have to do with libraries?](#)

mk Eagle writes: "I returned triumphantly from [Sex::Tech](#) 2009, a conference focusing on youth, technology, and sexual health. Folks from all over the map in universities, nonprofits, and health departments came to share the exciting work that's being done where sexual health and



be addressed to the administrator of that site.

**American Libraries**  
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[www.ala.org/alonline/](http://www.ala.org/alonline/)  
800-545-2433,  
ext. 4216

ISSN 1559-369X.

technology collide to serve teens. And guess what? Some of that work is happening in libraries. Here are some conference highlights.”...

YALSA Blog, Mar. 27

### [SLA opens certificate programs to nonmembers](#)

The Special Libraries Association's [Click University](#) certificate programs, previously available to SLA members only, are now open to nonmembers who wish to enhance their skills in the fields of knowledge management, competitive intelligence, or copyright management. Most SLA certificate courses are offered online through the association's Click University and are taught by instructors who are thought leaders in their fields....

Special Libraries Association, Mar. 24

### [No public domain for Edison cylinders until 2067](#)

A Library of Congress report indicates that the miscellany of state laws protecting pre-1972 sound recordings will extend copyright protection until 2067, creating a situation where some recordings dating to the 19th century are not available in public domain. The Council on Library and Information Resources [report](#) addresses the question of what libraries and archives are legally empowered to do to preserve and make accessible for research their pre-1972 sound recordings....



Library of Congress, Mar. 30

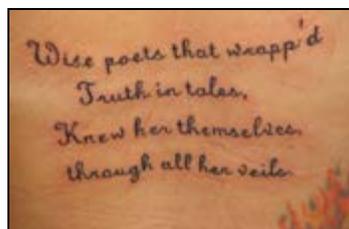
### [Rap lyrics, translated](#)

Do you sometimes find yourself perplexed by rap music? Scratch your head in anxious confusion no longer! This just in: Discover [UnderstandRap.com](#), which “lets people who don't understand rap music submit confusing terms (parts of lyrics) used in rap songs for other people to explain”—often with Webster-like literalness....

Mind the Gap, Mar. 31

### [Get tattooed for National Poetry Month](#)

April is [National Poetry Month](#), and one way you can celebrate is by getting that literary tat you always wanted. It could be verse. At [Contrariwise: Literary Tattoos](#), you can share your new body art, as Lisa did with this excerpt (right) from Thomas Carew's “Ingrateful Beauty Threatened.”...



Contrariwise: Literary Tattoos, Mar. 10

### [Sounds good to me](#)

Mary Burkey writes: “One challenge for both listeners and narrators of audiobooks is determining the correct pronunciation of words. Here are some quick tools to use when checking the accuracy of an audiobook narrator's work—or for your own use.”...

Audiobooker, Mar. 31

### [Single serving sites](#)

Brian Herzog writes: “The internet is endlessly innovative and entertaining. My current favorite phenomenon is the Single Serving Site—a website that does only one thing. Most of them can't even be called websites because they consist of only



one page—but, for a fraction of a minute, they serve a purpose." Categorized by useful, weather, and silly sites....

Swiss Army Librarian, Mar. 31

### [Explore health careers](#)

Reference librarians might find [Explore Health Careers.org](#) an excellent resource to alert job seekers who inquire about a career in the health-care system. The site is a [joint initiative](#) involving national foundations, professional associations, health career advisors, educational institutions, and college students. Its mission is twofold: Increase the under-representation of minorities in the workforce, and address the lack of health professionals in medically underserved communities....

ExploreHealthCareers.org



### [Become an RDA tester](#)

The three U.S. national libraries—Library of Congress, National Library of Medicine, and National Agricultural Library—agreed during the 2009 ALA Midwinter Meeting in Denver to make a joint decision on whether or not to implement *Resource Description and Access*, based on the results of a test of both RDA and the web product. The goal is to assure the operational, technical, and economic feasibility of RDA. Individuals and institutions interested in participating in the test should contact Susan Morris using the [fill-in PDF form](#) by April 13....

Library of Congress

### [The old Wisconsin railroad car library](#)

Larry Nix writes: "A fellow library history buff made me aware of an [image](#) in the Wisconsin Historical Society's digital collection that pictured a railroad car library. I came across an [article](#) in the October 30, 1938, issue of the *Milwaukee Journal* that told the story behind it.



The library was located in Adams, Wisconsin, and the car was donated by the North Western Railroad at the request of the Adams Library Association (a membership library) in 1929. By 1937, the library had 2,088 books."...

Wisconsin Library Heritage Center, Mar. 28

### [Google unleashes the Bodleian collections](#)

Ben Bunnell writes: "In 2004, Google began a partnership with Oxford University Library to scan mostly 19th-century public domain books from its Bodleian library. Five years on, we're delighted to announce the end of this phase of our scanning with Oxford, our first European partner. Together, we have digitized and made available on Google Book Search many hundreds of thousands of



public domain books from the Bodleian and other Oxford libraries, representing the bulk of their available public domain content."...  
Inside Google Book Search, Mar. 26

### [Crunch books for British teens](#)

The Tower Hamlets Schools Library Service in London, England, has released its eighth annual list of recommended books for teens. The 2009 list, entitled *Crunch: Books with Bite* ([Word file](#)) features 56 titles, all published in the last 12–15 months. All the books were reviewed by Tower Hamlets secondary school librarians, public library staff, and schools library service staff...



Tower Hamlets Schools Library Service

### [YouTube creates new college section](#)

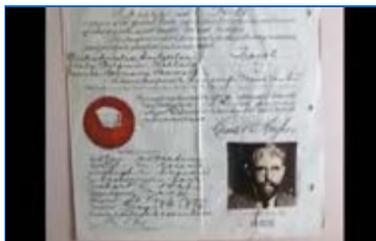
More than 100 colleges have set up channels on YouTube, and in late March the popular video service unveiled a new [YouTube EDU](#) section that brings together all of that campus content in one area. It had been difficult to find college lectures on YouTube, since they are generally far less popular than the site's humorous and outrageous clips, and so they do not show up in lists of the most viewed videos on the site. Currently one of the most popular is Purdue's [Compliment Guys](#) (1:42, above)....



*Chronicle of Higher Education*, Mar. 27

### [The James J. Hill Collection](#)

Early in 2008 the papers of legendary Minnesota businessman James J. Hill and several of his family members were transferred from the James J. Hill Reference Library in St. Paul to the Minnesota Historical Society a few blocks away. In this video (4:47), learn about the history and contents of the collection and the reasons for the move, and catch a behind-the-scenes glimpse of the incredible process of relocating almost 2,500 boxes of valuable historical documents, photographs, books, and artifacts....



YouTube, Apr. 1

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AL Direct, April 1, 2009

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## U.S. & World News

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Ohio principal judges magazine by its cover

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2009/march2009/nintendopowerpulled.cfm>]

Shortly after the 2008&ndash;09 school year began, Brian Sharosky, principal of the Cleveland Heights&ndash;University Heights (Ohio) City School District&rsquo;s Roxboro Middle School, instructed school librarian Amy Bloomberg to pull the November 2008 issue of Nintendo Power magazine from the shelves of the school library. Sharosky said he objected to the cover, which showed what he characterized as a &ldquo;violent figure&rdquo;&mdash;a videogame-like rendering of woman holding a large handgun&mdash;to promote a feature about the release of Grand Theft Auto: Chinatown Wars. The removal attracted the attention of the local teachers union and the ACLU, which sent a cautionary letter to the school board president....

American Libraries Direct, Mar. 27

New York City budget proposes major cuts to libraries

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2009/march2009/nypbudgetcrisis.cfm>]

The three library systems that serve New York City face major cuts in Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg's proposed FY2010 budget (PDF file [[http://council.nyc.gov/html/budget/PDFs/budget\\_report\\_libraries\\_3\\_13\\_09.pdf](http://council.nyc.gov/html/budget/PDFs/budget_report_libraries_3_13_09.pdf)]). Representatives from the libraries testified on the likely effects of the 17% funding reduction at a March 13 city council hearing. New York Public Library faces a reduction of \$23.2 million. The effects of the cut would be exacerbated by a proposed reduction of \$3 million, or 14%, in state funding and by expected downturns in private revenues of some \$20 million....

American Libraries Online, Mar. 27

Concord mayor considers closing library

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2009/march2009/concordmayorrumor.cfm>]

Library boosters in Concord, New Hampshire, are decrying reports that Mayor Jim Bouley has been talking about shuttering the city library to narrow Concord's projected FY2010 budget deficit of up to \$4.8 million by \$1.7 million. The library is one of the few services funded by the city that is not mandated by law. "Everything is going to be affected—library, recreation, police, fire," Mayor Bouley said....

American Libraries Online, Mar. 27

=====  
[<http://www.tlcdelivers.com/tlc/default.asp>]  
=====

ALA News  
=====

Stimulate your library

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/resources/selectedarticles/arrastimulus.cfm>]

ALA Washington Office Executive Director Emily Sheketoff writes: "Congress made history with the passage of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/wo/woissues/washfunding/fedfund/arra101.cfm>] (ARRA), signed by President Obama February 17, and now libraries have their turn. ARRA will ultimately release an unprecedented level of federal spending—\$787 billion—into the U.S. economy in an effort to put our nation back on track through saving or creating 3 million jobs; providing tax relief; and investing in needs such as health, energy, and education. Yet while these opportunities are available to libraries, they won't be handed to them."...

American Libraries 40, no. 5 (May 2009)

Figueroa named Office for Diversity director

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/ofdfigueroa.cfm>]

Miguel A. Figueroa has been named the new director of the ALA Office for Diversity. Figueroa is currently the network services coordinator for the Middle Atlantic Region of the National Network of Libraries of Medicine and will begin his new duties May 5. A former member of the American Libraries Advisory Committee, he has been a presenter at the ALA Spectrum Institute, the Emporia Diversity Initiative Leadership Institute, and the 6th Institute of the Trejo Foster Foundation for Hispanic Library Education....

Libraries showcase bilingual resources for El Día  
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/dia2009release.cfm>]

As the nation's population becomes more diverse, hundreds of libraries will showcase their multicultural programs and services April 30 during national El día de los niños/El día de los libros

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/alsc/initiatives/diadelosninos/index.cfm>] (Children's Day/Book Day). This year marks the 13th anniversary of the observance, and libraries across the country will host Día celebrations with family programs, including bilingual story hours, book giveaways, and other literacy events....

Worlds connect @ your library

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/campaignnlworldsconnect.cfm>]

National Library Week (April 12–18) is just around the corner, and libraries across the country are gearing up to demonstrate how "Worlds Connect @ your library," the 2009 theme. Libraries are encouraged to use sample materials [<http://www.ala.org/nlw>], available in both English and Spanish, developed by the ALA Campaign for America's Libraries....

Countdown to National Library Legislative Day

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/wo/washevents/nlld/nlld2009.cfm>]  
The 2009 National Library Legislative Day is quickly approaching and will be held May 11–12 at the Liaison Hotel in Washington, D.C. With a new administration and a new political climate in both the House and the Senate, this is a critical and exciting time for us to get our message out to Congress. Fill out the registration form (PDF file [<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/wo/washevents/nlld/2009%20NLLD%20Registration%20Form%20final.pdf>]) and get it to your state coordinator by April 15. For more info, contact Kristin Murphy [<mailto:kmurphy@alawash.org>]....

Attract students to your academic library

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/editionsmathews.cfm>]

ALA Editions has released Marketing Today's Academic Library: A Bold New Approach to Communicating with Students

[<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2596>] by Brian Mathews. Most library marketing intended for undergraduates promotes the collection, reference and instructional services, and occasional events such as guest speakers or exhibits. Mathews's guiding principle is that marketing should focus on the lifestyle of the user, showcasing how the library

fits within the daily life of the student....

Transform your storytime

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/editionsstorytimes.cfm>]

ALA Editions has released Storytime Magic: 400 Fingerplays, Flannelboards, and Other Activities

[<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2496>] by Kathy MacMillan and Christine Kirker. A unique addition to the programming shelf, this treasure trove of storytime tools is designed to help veteran librarians refresh and enliven ongoing programs, while providing novice storytime planners what they need to get started....

Webcast on lifelong literacy

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/olosliteracypanel.cfm>]

A panel of librarians and library practitioners—including ALA President Jim Rettig and National Institute for Literacy Acting Director Daniel J. Miller—will discuss the roles that libraries play in supporting lifelong literacy during a special webcast. “Literacy for All: Advocacy, Libraries, and Literacy

[<http://www.nifl.gov/nifl/webcasts/literacyforall09/webcast0407.html>]” will be held 1–2:30 p.m. Eastern time on April 7. Librarians from public, school, and academic libraries will discuss successful library literacy programs, innovative community partnerships, and effective advocacy....

Featured review: Media

[[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show\\_product&pid=3306769](http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=3306769)]

Imaginary Witness: Hollywood and the Holocaust. Jan. 2009. 92 min. Koch Lorber, DVD (978-1-4172-0187-7).

Packed with film clips and commentary by Hollywood insiders including Steven Spielberg, Sidney Lumet, and Rod Steiger, this stellar documentary mines newsreels and feature-film footage to tell the “unknown story of the 60-year relationship between the film industry and the atrocities of Nazi Germany.” Film historians, actors, directors, screenwriters, and producers explain how filmmakers tried to balance a fine line between exploitation and truth. Restricted by movie codes and harassed by German sympathizers, Hollywood initially “treated Nazism with kid gloves”; News clips and films portrayed the 1933 book burnings in Germany and escalating anti-Semitism with casualness and detachment. Surprisingly, Charlie Chaplin’s 1940 classic The Great Dictator and some low-budget films were exceptions to this practice....

Documenting the Holocaust

[[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show\\_product&pid=3386794](http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=3386794)]

Candace Smith writes: “Although Hollywood initially ignored the Holocaust, documentary films continued to probe the horrific subject. These six films, reviewed previously in Booklist, artfully combine carefully selected archival footage with eyewitness accounts, contemporary interviews, and dramatic reenactments to present the Holocaust to new generations of viewers. To quote Imaginary Witness, the

Holocaust is 'a standard by which we judge evil and establish values.' As one filmmaker succinctly states, 'feature films and documentaries serve to tell the world how we died and that this should never happen again.'

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

## Chicago Update

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### Welcome to Chicago

[<http://www.choosechicago.com/ALA2009/Pages/default.aspx>]

Chicago welcomes attendees and exhibitors to the 2009 ALA Annual Conference. While you are here, be sure to check out the best that Chicago has to offer. Fine dining, world-famous museums, and legendary entertainment are all at your fingertips. Let the Chicago Convention and Tourism Bureau website be your personal concierge to help you plan your visit....

Chicago Convention and Tourism Bureau

### Annual Conference on the cheap

[[http://wikis.ala.org/annual2009/index.php/Annual\\_Conference\\_on\\_the\\_Cheap](http://wikis.ala.org/annual2009/index.php/Annual_Conference_on_the_Cheap)]

These tips are from seasoned conference goers—who have tried them all: If you have relatives or college friends in the conference city, invite yourself to stay with them. Share a room. Plan your stay around walking and public transportation. Eat only a couple of restaurant meals, if any....

Annual Conference wiki

### Arrived OK?

[<http://www.downloadsquad.com/2009/03/25/arrivedok-sends-flight-arrival-info-to-twitter-blogs-email-an/>]

If you're tired of picking up the phone and calling half a dozen people every time you land at the ALA Annual Conference city to let them know you arrived OK, you might want to check out a new service called ArrivedOK [<http://www.arrivedok.mobi/>]. What ArrivedOK does is track your information and send out alerts to let people know when you're safe and sound. You just visit the website, enter your flight information, and add a list of people you want to send email or SMS notifications to....

Download Squad, Mar. 25

## Division News

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### Amalgamating for advocacy

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/resources/selectedarticles/reedamalgamating.cfm>]

ALTAFF Executive Director Sally Gardner Reed writes: "Tough financial times, combined with the exponential increase in demand for library

services that they bring, spell perfect timing for the formation of a new ALA division that can rally the nation's library lovers under the banner of the Association for Library Trustees, Advocates, Friends, and Foundations—ALTAFF. But library aficionados did not unite overnight; that public support began many years ago.”...  
American Libraries 40, no. 3 (Mar. 2009): 34–36

#### ALTAFF and Nordstrom to award Books for Babies grants

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/altaffnordstrom.cfm>]

In partnership with Nordstrom, ALTAFF will award 20 grants of \$500 each to match \$1,000 raised by selected Friends groups, women's groups, libraries, and other nonprofit organizations for purchasing Books for Babies kits from ALTAFF. Books for Babies is a national literacy program that acquaints parents of newborns with the important role books play in their children's development. The deadline for applying [<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/altaff/outreach/booksforbabies/matchinggrants.cfm>] for the first round of grants has been extended to April 15....

#### YALSA girlz and guys celebrate Support Teen Lit Day

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/yalsareadergirlz.cfm>]

Teen patients in pediatric hospitals across the United States will receive more than 8,000 young-adult novels, audiobooks, and graphic novels as readergirlz, Guys Lit Wire, and YALSA celebrate the third annual Support Teen Literature Day April 16. In its second year, Operation Teen Book Drop puts books donated by 18 publishers into the hands of teens in need of escape, inspiration, and a sense of personal accomplishment....

#### YALSA offers Teens and Technology Institute

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/yalsamaryland.cfm>]

YALSA will offer a full-day institute on using technology to reach teens in libraries April 30 at the Southern Maryland Regional Library Association in Charlotte Hall. YALSA President-Elect Linda Braun will lead the institute. Participants will explore how reading, writing, and communicating are expanding and changing via technologies like chat, IM, blogs, text messaging, and wikis....

#### ACRL draws record-breaking participation

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/acrlconferencewrap.cfm>]

More than 4,300 library staff, exhibitors, speakers, and guests from every state and 22 countries met March 12–15 at the Washington State Convention and Trade Center in downtown Seattle for the ACRL 14th National Conference. Combined with the more than 350 people participating online in the ACRL 2009 Virtual Conference, the Seattle conference boasted the highest participation ever. Ira Glass (right) of National Public Radio's This American Life brought the conference to a close with a standing ovation after a presentation that demonstrated the power of personal narrative....

#### ACRL invites proposals for 2010 programs

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/acrl2010proposals.cfm>]

ACRL invites proposal submissions for half- or full-day professional development programs to be held prior to the 2010 ALA Midwinter Meeting or the 2010 ALA Annual Conference. ACRL workshops at Midwinter will be held in Boston January 15. Preconferences at the Annual Conference will be held in Washington, D.C., June 25. Submissions [[https://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=iU2AmiQZRvchslVkkWGSTg\\_3d\\_3d](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=iU2AmiQZRvchslVkkWGSTg_3d_3d)] will be accepted through May 4....

Get inspired with AASL's school tours

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/aaslschooltours.cfm>]

Be sure to arrive early to the AASL 14th National Conference and Exhibition in Charlotte, North Carolina, November 5–8. The Wednesday and Thursday before conference will be dedicated to many networking events, including school tours. With four different tour options, including the Charlotte Country Day School and the Providence Day School, library media specialists are sure to find inspiration to bring back to their schools....

Awards

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John Ames Humphry/OCLC/Forest Press winner

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/irahumphrywinner.cfm>]

Patricia Oyler, associate dean and professor at Simmons College GSLIS, is the 2009 recipient of the ALA International Relations Committee's John Ames/Humphry/OCLC/Forest Press Award. The award is given for significant contribution to international librarianship. Oyler received this award for her work in library development in Vietnam, including cataloging standards, modern services, and new technology applications....

Ilene F. Rockman Publication of the Year

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/acrlrockman.cfm>]

A Practical Guide to Information Literacy Assessment for Academic Librarians is the winner of the ACRL Instruction Section's Ilene F. Rockman Publication of the Year Award. Written by Kent State University librarians Carolyn Radcliff, Mary Lee Jensen, Joseph A. Salem Jr., Kenneth J. Burhanna, and Julie A. Gedeon, the guide provides information on the evaluation of both students and library instruction programs....

Library of the Future

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/alalibraryofthefuture.cfm>]

The Indianapolis–Marion County Public Library is the 2009 winner of the ALA Information Today Library of the Future Award. The award is presented annually to a library that demonstrates innovative planning and development of patron training programs about information technology in a library setting. The winning initiative was IMCPL's "The Learning Curve @ Central Library" project, an outstanding

programming space (both physical and virtual) that provides a high-tech, high-energy, hands-on information environment designed for today's children....

#### 2009 World Book/ALA Information Literacy Goal winners

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/alaworldbook.cfm>]

The winners of the first-ever World Book/ALA Information Literacy Goal Award are the Brockport (N.Y.) Central School District, for its Information Literacy Continuum; and Troy (Mich.) Public Library, for its program, "Information Literacy for the Job Seeker." This annual award, donated by World Book, seeks to promote exemplary information literacy programs in both public and school libraries....

#### Bogle-Pratt International Library Travel Fund

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/irobogleprattwinner.cfm>]

Jessica Brooks is the 2009 recipient of the ALA International Relations Committee's Bogle-Pratt International Library Travel Fund. The Bogle Memorial Fund and the Pratt Institute School of Information and Library Science will provide a \$1,000 cash award for Brooks to attend her first international conference, in Bologna, Italy. The award is in recognition of Sarah Comly Norris Bogle, a prominent U.S. librarian who made notable contributions to international library service....

#### Oddest Book Title of 2009

[<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/03/28/books/28contest.html>]

To those outside dairy (or container) circles, a book called *The 2009–2014 World Outlook for 60-Milligram Containers of Fromage Frais* tends to provoke more questions than it resolves. But it has won the Bookseller/Diagram Prize for Oddest Book Title of the Year, sponsored by The Bookseller

[<http://www.thebookseller.com/news/81144-fromage-frais-wins-odd-title-prize.html>] magazine. The work is a statistical report written by Philip M.

Parker, professor of marketing at the French campus of INSEAD, who uses econometric models to publish niche reports in the thousands....

New York Times, Mar. 27; The Bookseller, Mar. 9

#### 2009 Orion Book Award winner

[<http://www.orionmagazine.org/index.php/mag/3003/>]

Amy Irvine has won the 2009 Orion Book Award for *Trespass: Living at the Edge of the Promised Land* (North Point, 2008). The award was founded in 2007 to recognize books that deepen our connection to the natural world, present new ideas about our relationship with nature, and achieve excellence in writing. Irvine will be presented with a prize of \$3,000 at an April 15 celebration in New York City....

Orion Magazine

#### ABC-CLIO History Uncovered Award

[<http://www.abc-clio.com/publishing/pressview.aspx?contentid=100416>]

Students from Cincinnati's Northwest High School, working with library media specialist Bethany Miller, are the February winners of the monthly drawing for teams participating in the company's History Uncovered annual research competition [<http://www.abc-clio.com/historyuncovered/>] for

secondary students. Meanwhile, teams of secondary students around the country are busy working on finishing their projects in time for the competition's March 30 deadline....

ABC-CLIO, Mar. 25

Seen Online

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Defense calls witnesses in Indianapolis fraud case

[<http://www.indystar.com/article/20090401/LOCAL/904010342/1001/NEWS>]

An engineering firm accused of fraudulent practices regarding the troubled Indianapolis Central Library project began presenting its witnesses March 31 as the trial reached its midpoint. A Boone County jury already has heard three weeks of testimony from witnesses called by the Indianapolis-Marion County Public Library. The library is seeking \$24 million, plus punitive damages, by pressing claims of fraud against New York-based Thornton Tomasetti and a managing principal....

Indianapolis Star, Apr. 1

Most Portland schools don't have librarians

[[http://www.oregonlive.com/portland/index.ssf/2009/03/most\\_portland\\_schools\\_dont\\_hav.html](http://www.oregonlive.com/portland/index.ssf/2009/03/most_portland_schools_dont_hav.html)]

Seven Portland, Oregon, school campuses have no library staff. In 42 libraries, assistants or clerks run the show on their own. Only 28 campuses have librarians who can teach classes on research and library skills. Half of them are part-time. Superintendent Carole Smith wants to fix that. In her budget released in mid-March, Smith is requiring all traditional schools, about 75, to staff their libraries for at least 20 hours a week....

Portland Oregonian, Mar. 21

Spider-Man faces banishment in Omaha

[<http://www.ketv.com/news/19025174/detail.html>]

A mother in southwest Omaha says she's upset by a graphic novel

[<http://comicbook.com/blog/2009/03/28/spider-man-faces-being-banned-in-nebraska-public-school/>] that she considers sexually explicit in the library of Norris Elementary School, which her 6-year-old son attends. The novel, *The Amazing Spider-Man Volume 2: Revelations*, by J. Michael Straczynski (Marvel, 2002), is part of a popular series. Donna Helvering, head librarian of the Millard School District, said it's been in high demand. Physha Svendsen didn't elaborate on the book's literary elements that she found sexually inappropriate, but she plans to keep it while the district review process takes place....

KETV-TV, Omaha, Mar. 27; Comicbook.com Blog, Mar. 28

ruckus in Council Bluffs

[[http://southwestiowanews.com/articles/2009/04/01/council\\_bluffs/doc49d2366110897216915708.txt](http://southwestiowanews.com/articles/2009/04/01/council_bluffs/doc49d2366110897216915708.txt)]

Judi Wheeldon wants the Council Bluffs (Iowa) Community School District to ban the 1981 Walter Dean Myers book *Hoops* from all classrooms and libraries. "My kids can't comprehend some of this stuff," she told a committee March 30. "This stuff," she said, includes the use of racial slurs as well as references to

smoking a joint, overdosing on drugs, gambling, point shaving, violence, and sex. A reconsideration committee will meet for discussion April 13.... Council Bluffs (Iowa) Daily Nonpareil, Mar. 31

#### Memoir challenged in Deer Lodge

[<http://www.mtstandard.com/articles/2009/03/31/area/hjjajggijagjhh.txt>]  
A patron has challenged a personal memoir and requested its removal from the William K. Kohrs Library in Deer Lodge, Montana. Greg Gerdes characterized Martin Gray's *For Those I Loved* (Little, Brown, 1972), a personal account of the Treblinka concentration camp holocaust in occupied Poland, as untrue and anti-German hate propaganda. Gerdes said he would donate \$5,000 to the library if anyone can prove there were graves at Treblinka. The board will decide the issue at an April 16 public meeting....  
Butte Montana Standard, Mar. 31

#### Petition against YA books in West Bend

[<http://www.jsonline.com/news/ozwash/42239872.html>]  
A concerned couple is circulating petitions asking the West Bend (Wis.) Community Memorial Library board to remove books they consider to be obscene or child pornography from a section designated for young adults. Ginny and Jim Maziarka want the books reclassified, labeled, and placed in a restricted area requiring parental approval. The Maziarkas object to "the overt indoctrination of the gay agenda into our community youth."...  
Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel, Mar. 31

#### Future of presidential libraries examined

[<http://www.dallasnews.com/sharedcontent/dws/news/politics/national/stories/033109dnmetarchives.4a4f4d0.html>]  
The George W. Bush Presidential Library in Dallas could be one of the last brick-and-mortar institutions of its kind. Congress is looking for ways to cut the expense of overseeing such buildings, and some researchers say the traditional library setup for keeping presidential documents is outdated in a digital world. Some alternative plans: Use a cave to store vital paper records, or get out of the museum business and let the president's backers run that part of the library....  
Dallas Morning News, Mar. 31

[[http://www.nytimes.com/slideshow/2009/03/13/arts/design/03142009-mural-sli-deshow\\_6.html](http://www.nytimes.com/slideshow/2009/03/13/arts/design/03142009-mural-sli-deshow_6.html)]

[[http://www.nytimes.com/slideshow/2009/03/13/arts/design/03142009-mural-sli-deshow\\_6.html](http://www.nytimes.com/slideshow/2009/03/13/arts/design/03142009-mural-sli-deshow_6.html)]  
The art on the library walls

[[http://www.nytimes.com/slideshow/2009/03/13/arts/design/03142009-mural-sli-deshow\\_index.html](http://www.nytimes.com/slideshow/2009/03/13/arts/design/03142009-mural-sli-deshow_index.html)]

Over the last nine years the Robin Hood Foundation and New York City's schools administration have built libraries in 62 schools in low-income neighborhoods. Some of the libraries, including those recently completed at three schools in the Bronx, have also come with the addition of permanent works by well-known artists. At P.S. 69, Christoph Niemann has created a mural that uses images of books serving as almost everything, all organized with Dewey Decimal System numbers (above)....  
New York Times, Mar. 13

#### Malden challenges validity of ex-senator's pension

[[http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2009/04/01/malden\\_challenges\\_pension\\_validity/](http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2009/04/01/malden_challenges_pension_validity/)]

The city of Malden, Massachusetts, is challenging the legal validity of the \$22,000 annual pension paid to Beacon Hill lobbyist and former state senator John A. Brennan Jr. for years of volunteer service as a Malden Public Library trustee. City Attorney Katheryn M. Fallon told the city council March 31 that Brennan should not receive a pension based on library service because the library is a private corporation, not a branch of the city government. During his 19 years as a trustee, Brennan missed more than half of the meetings....

Boston Globe, Apr. 1

New challenges for Boston's Amy Ryan

[[http://www.boston.com/news/local/articles/2009/03/29/library\\_director\\_turns\\_a\\_new\\_page/](http://www.boston.com/news/local/articles/2009/03/29/library_director_turns_a_new_page/)]

When Amy Ryan took over as the new president of the Boston Public Library in October 2008, she knew she had to make peace with City Hall following the tumultuous ousting of her predecessor, Bernard Margolis. She did not know about the budget crisis and tough decisions that would soon descend. Before she and her husband found a permanent place to settle on Beacon Hill, the economy tanked. The city's budget deficit ballooned. Mayor Thomas Menino said that the library would need to shed \$4 million from its \$48-million budget for the next fiscal year....

Boston Globe, Mar. 29

Fresh hope for new Cedar Rapids library

[<http://www.gazetteonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20090320/NEWS/703209932>]

Cedar Rapids, Iowa, is likely to build a new public library downtown after a hard-won federal decision in mid-March. Board President Susan Corrigan said that means a relocation from its perilous site next to the Cedar River. The Federal Emergency Management Agency concluded that the June 2008 flood had damaged the library by more than 50% of its value (58% actually), which means the city can ask for FEMA funding to build the library elsewhere....

Cedar Rapids (Iowa) Gazette, Mar. 20

Mormons to get new church history library

[[http://www.sltrib.com/faith/ci\\_12001617](http://www.sltrib.com/faith/ci_12001617)]

After nearly 15 years of planning and more than four years of construction, a new Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints church history

[<http://www.lds.org/ldsorg/v/index.jsp?vgnextoid=eea5ab9adc46e110VgnVCM100000176f620aRCRD&locale=0>] library

[<http://www.lds.org/ldsorg/v/index.jsp?vgnextoid=eea5ab9adc46e110VgnVCM100000176f620aRCRD&locale=0>] will open for public use in Salt Lake City after a June 20 dedication ceremony. The new library will hold more than 3.5 million manuscripts, 210,000 publications, 100,000 photographs, some 50,000 audiovisual records, and other items spanning the 179 years since the church's founding by Joseph Smith in western New York....

Salt Lake Tribune, Mar. 26

Jamming at New Port Richey

[<http://www.tampabay.com/news/education/k12/article986712.ece>]

They start straggling in a little after 3 p.m. when school's out for the day. A few have guitars slung over their shoulders. Others simply bring their voices and an eagerness to share the stage with like-minded kids. Then, as soon as the clock strikes 4, the purple neon Open sign is flipped on outside the upstairs community room, and the Garage Jam session starts at the New Port Richey (Fla.) Library. The jam sessions are the brainchild of Youth Services Librarian Ghelder Arriaga....  
St. Petersburg (Fla.) Times, Mar. 25

War of words in Carol Stream library board race  
[<http://www.dailyherald.com/story/?id=281956>]  
The signs make it clear where the challenging candidates stand: "Stop library referendums and taxes." The incumbents, and the Carol Stream (Ill.) Public Library staff, think that's unfair and misleading. The library, in turn, is handing out a Facts About the Library [<http://cslibrary.org/facts.html>] sheet to all patrons that outlines past referendum questions and issues on property taxes. The fact sheet has raised the eyebrows of challengers, but the idea actually came from Library Director Ann Kennedy....  
Arlington Heights (Ill.) Daily Herald, Mar. 27

Go back to the Top [#top]

Tech Talk

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Six technologies soon to affect education  
[<http://www.eschoolnews.com/news/top-news/index.cfm?i=57910>]  
(registration required)  
Collaborative environments, cloud computing, and "smart" objects are among the technologies that a group of experts believes will have a profound impact on K-12 education within the next five years or sooner. The New Media Consortium has come out with an annual report on emerging technologies in higher education for the last several years. This year, for the first time, NMC has issued a K-12 version. The Horizon Report: 2009 K-12 Edition [<http://wp.nmc.org/horizon-k12-2009/>] groups these technologies according to their time-to-adoption horizon and outlines key trends and challenges associated with their adoption....  
eSchool News, Mar. 26

OpenDNS protects against Conficker worm  
[<http://lifehacker.com/5193681/opendns-protects-against-the-conficker-worm>]  
Kevin Purdy writes: "On March 31 we offered up a guide [<http://lifehacker.com/5192415/protect-your-windows-pc-from-the-conficker-worm>] to protecting your Windows PC from the Conficker worm, set to start doing something April 1. Free net service OpenDNS [<http://opendns.com>] is another option for anyone concerned about the not-so-funny happening. Even if Conficker has made it onto your PC, or a PC somewhere in your house or office, OpenDNS will likely stop the worm from contacting the site that would tell it what to do."...  
Lifehacker, Apr. 1

[<http://www.drobo.com/products/drobo.php>] Saving your digital life

[<http://www.alatechsource.org/blog/2009/03/saving-your-digital-life.html>]  
Jason Griffey writes: “I have three kinds of data that I’m worried about protecting in some way: working files, files that are important but replaceable, and files that I can’t afford to lose at all. So how do I handle all of this? With one piece of hardware (an external drive called a Drobo [<http://www.drobo.com/products/drobo.php>]), a few pieces of software (Dropbox [<https://www.getdropbox.com/>] and either Mozy [<http://mozy.com/>] or Carbonite [<http://carbonite.com/>]), and broadband.”...

ALA TechSource blog, Mar. 27

[<http://www.verizonwireless.com/b2c/CoverageLocatorController?requesttype=N EWREQUEST&lid=//global/plans/coverage+maps>]  
[<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2343915,00.asp>]

Sascha Segan writes: “A cellular modem will let you and your laptop tap into the high-speed wireless 3G networks that blanket the U.S., so you can surf the web and download files at broadband speeds anywhere you can use your cell phone. Over the past couple of years, modems have become more compact, compatible, and flexible, but you do have to pay for the device itself along with cellular broadband service that’ll cost you from \$40 to \$60 a month. Still, if you want to get online with a fast network that’s more ubiquitous than Wi-Fi, here are some tips to keep in mind when picking a carrier and a device.”...

PC Magazine, Mar. 27

#### Movement up in the cloud

[<http://www.alatechsource.org/blog/2009/03/movement-up-in-the-cloud.html>]

Daniel Freeman writes: “The last few weeks have seen several interesting developments in the growing popularity of Cloud Computing. Slowly but surely, we are starting to see major corporate investment in this concept. PC World pointed out that, despite the troubled economy, revenue for cloud computing–related services is set to explode

[[http://www.pcworld.com/businesscenter/article/162157/more\\_cash\\_for\\_cloud\\_computing\\_in\\_2009.html](http://www.pcworld.com/businesscenter/article/162157/more_cash_for_cloud_computing_in_2009.html)] in 2009. Then, there was the release of the Open Cloud Manifesto (PDF file

[<http://gevaperry.typepad.com/Open%20Cloud%20Manifesto%20v1.0.9.pdf>]), a document aimed at explaining the significance of this new technology and setting direction for its widespread implementation.”...

ALA TechSource blog, Mar. 30

#### Top 10 utterly pointless USB devices

[<http://listverse.com/science/top-10-utterly-pointless-usb-devices/>]

When it was developed almost 11 years ago, the USB port was envisioned as a way to make it easy for users to attach devices to their PCs. But budding designers took it as a new medium for any kind of wacky device they dreamed up. An increasing number of oddball peripherals have appeared in recent years, such as a USB fridge, a scan toaster (right), and hamster wheel....

Listverse, Mar. 26

#### Should you worry about data rot?

[<http://www.nytimes.com/indexes/2009/03/26/technology/circuitsemail/index.html>]

Dag Spicer, curator of the Computer History Museum in Silicon Valley,

says: "Data rot refers mainly to problems with the medium on which information is stored. Over time, things like temperature, humidity, exposure to light, or being stored in not-very-good locations like moldy basements, make this information very difficult to read. The problem, strangely enough, is not so bad on the older stuff, but quite bad on the more recent stuff. So we can read tapes here at the museum that are 50 years old. With a CD or a DVD, if there's an error, often it's nonrecoverable, and you've just lost all your information."...  
New York Times, Mar. 26

Retro media: Memory (and memories) lost

[<http://library.buffalo.edu/asl/exhibits/technology/retro-media.html>]

The past 120 years have seen some of the most rapid changes in how we record, collect, and use audio, visual, and digital information. This pace creates a long list of obsolete technologies in its wake, some of which still exist, but for which equipment and storage technologies are not always available. This online exhibit, compiled by David J. Bertuca of the University at Buffalo's Science and Engineering Library, displays a selection of recently departed media formats....

University at Buffalo Libraries, Mar. 19

Publishing

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moves to Twitter, after 188 years of print

[<http://www.guardian.co.uk/media/2009/apr/01/guardian-twitter-media-technology>] (satire)

Consolidating its position at the cutting edge of new media technology, The Guardian announced April 1 that it will become the first newspaper in the world to be published exclusively via Twitter. All news content will be tailored to fit the format of Twitter's text messages, which are limited to 140 characters each. A mammoth project is also under way to rewrite the whole of the newspaper's archive in the form of tweets. Major stories already completed include: "OMG Hitler invades Poland, allies declare war see [tinyurl.com/b5x6e](http://tinyurl.com/b5x6e) [<http://tinyurl.com/b5x6e>] for more"; and "JFK assassin8d @ Dallas, def. heard second gunshot from grassy knoll WTF?"...

The Guardian (U.K.), Apr. 1

It's a Kindle 2 world: The great, the fair, and the bad

[<http://a.wholelottanothing.org/2009/03/its-a-kindle-world-now.html>]

Matt Haughey writes: "Moments after I first saw a spy shot of the new Kindle 2, I placed an order for one. Now that I've used it for a month, I figured it'd probably be high time for a review. I wish it were cheaper and I wish there were open APIs to the device and tons of free book options, but it's really simple to use, the screen works great for me, and I'm reading tons of books without having to send a UPS truck to my door several times a week."...

A Whole Lotta Nothing, Mar. 28

Britannica

[[http://www.boston.com/business/technology/articles/2009/03/31/enter\\_britannica/?page=full](http://www.boston.com/business/technology/articles/2009/03/31/enter_britannica/?page=full)]

The venerable Encyclopaedia Britannica is preparing for the most radical overhaul in its 241-year history, and it's recruiting its readers to do much of the work. It's a bid by Britannica to remain relevant at a time when the world's most popular encyclopedia, the eight-year-old Wikipedia, is written entirely by amateur experts. The new version of Britannica Online, set to debut this summer, will emulate the Wikipedia concept by letting subscribers make changes to any article, ranging from minor edits to near-total rewrites....

Boston Globe, Mar. 31

Microsoft Encarta dies

[<http://bits.blogs.nytimes.com/2009/03/30/microsoft-encarta-dies-after-long-battle-with-wikipedia/>]

Microsoft delivered the coup de gr&acirc;ce

[[http://encarta.msn.com/guide\\_page\\_FAQ/FAQ.html](http://encarta.msn.com/guide_page_FAQ/FAQ.html)] March 30 to its dying Encarta encyclopedia, acknowledging what everyone else realized long ago:

It just couldn't compete with Wikipedia. Encarta can be

embarrassingly outdated. The entry for Joseph R. Biden Jr.,

[[http://encarta.msn.com/encyclopedia\\_761581442/Biden\\_Joseph\\_R\\_Jr\\_.html](http://encarta.msn.com/encyclopedia_761581442/Biden_Joseph_R_Jr_.html)]

for example, identifies him as vice president-elect and a U.S. senator.

The Encarta software will be removed from stores by June, and the

affiliated worldwide websites will be closed by the end of October....

New York Times, Mar. 30

MIT faculty embraces open access

[<http://arstechnica.com/tech-policy/news/2009/03/mit-to-make-all-faculty-publications-open-access.ars>]

If there were any doubt that open access publishing was setting off a bit

of a power struggle, a decision made in mid-March by the MIT faculty

should put it to rest. The faculty unanimously voted to make any

publications they produce open access. Ann Wolpert, who directs the MIT

Libraries, said, "in the quest for higher profits, publishers have lost

sight of the values of the academy." Those are pretty clearly fighting

words....

Ars Technica, Mar. 24

=====  
[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]  
=====

Actions & Answers  
=====

The passing of John Hope Franklin

[<http://www.al.ala.org/insidescoop/2009/03/30/the-passing-of-john-hope-franklin/>]

American Libraries Editor in Chief Leonard Kniffel writes: "John Hope Franklin died March 25 at the age of 94. The Associated Press called him 'a towering scholar and pioneer of African-American studies who wrote the seminal text on the black experience in the U.S. and worked on the landmark Supreme Court case that outlawed public school segregation.' He

lived a remarkable life. His name is etched in my librarian memory because, in the 1970s when I began my career at the Detroit Public Library, his book *From Slavery to Freedom* was the most reliable source for black history that we had available.”...

AL Inside Scoop, Mar. 30

[<http://twitterforteachers.wetpaint.com/>] 100 tips and apps for teachers on Twitter

[<http://onlinecollegedegree.org/2009/03/19/100-tips-apps-and-resources-for-teachers-on-twitter/>]

The idea of writing small blog posts of 140 characters or less to a group of your followers is actually a revolutionary new way to bring communities together, learn from each other, and keep updated with all that is happening. Busy teachers may feel that taking the time to learn how to use Twitter isn't worth the return for the students' benefit, so that's why this list is worth browsing....

Online College Degree, Mar. 19

U.S. congressman lent out as Living Book

[<http://living-library.org/michigan-off-to-great-start.html>]

The first Living Library in Michigan took place March 28 at Stair Public Library in Morenci. The 26 living book titles available included U.S. Rep. Mark Schauer (D-Jackson, right) as the “Politician” book and he was impressed with the experience. A total of 114 readers attended the event, which also included a Muslim, an Agnostic, a Blonde, a Cop, a Grease Monkey, a Conservative, a Liberal, and a Wiccan. Organizing librarian Colleen Leddy said, “The Muslim was constantly busy. We had to take him out of circulation just so he could grab a cup of coffee and a bite to eat.”...

Living Library, Mar. 28

Looking for a green speaker?

[<http://www.ecospeakers.com/speakers/index.html>]

EcoSpeakers.com promotes speakers for conferences, meetings, training programs, and community, business, and university speaker series. It represents accomplished leaders, authors, and advocates who have inspired many with messages of hope and direction for the creation of a sustainable future. You can search by name or topic....

EcoSpeakers.com

Will a bad economy wipe out Oregon history?

[<http://crosscut.com/2009/03/19/oregon/18914/>]

Floyd McKay writes: “Last week closed with nearly all of the research librarians and archivists at the 110-year-old Oregon Historical Society [<http://www.ohs.org>] picking up their personal effects and exiting into the crisp March air. The newly unemployed staff were greeted by almost 100 Oregon historians and friends of the archives in a hastily organized protest across from the library in the Portland Park Blocks. In the crowd was Tom Vaughan, who directed the society for 35 years, beginning in 1954, and put together much of the research collection and museum.”...

Crosscut.com, Mar. 19

have to do with libraries?

[<http://yalsa.ala.org/blog/2009/03/27/what-does-that-have-to-do-with-librar>

ies/]  
mk Eagle writes: “I returned triumphantly from Sex::Tech  
[<http://sextechconference.org/>] 2009, a conference focusing on youth,  
technology, and sexual health. Folks from all over the map in  
universities, nonprofits, and health departments came to share the  
exciting work that’s being done where sexual health and technology  
collide to serve teens. And guess what? Some of that work is happening in  
libraries. Here are some conference highlights.”...  
YALSA Blog, Mar. 27

SLA opens certificate programs to nonmembers  
[<http://www.sla.org/content/SLA/pressroom/pressrelease/09pr/pr2906.cfm>]  
The Special Libraries Association’s Click University  
[<http://www.sla.org/content/learn/courseindex/index.cfm>] certificate  
programs, previously available to SLA members only, are now open to  
nonmembers who wish to enhance their skills in the fields of knowledge  
management, competitive intelligence, or copyright management. Most SLA  
certificate courses are offered online through the association’s Click  
University and are taught by instructors who are thought leaders in their  
fields....  
Special Libraries Association, Mar. 24

No public domain for Edison cylinders until 2067  
[<http://www.loc.gov/today/pr/2009/09-060.html>]  
A Library of Congress report indicates that the miscellany of state laws  
protecting pre-1972 sound recordings will extend copyright protection  
until 2067, creating a situation where some recordings dating to the 19th  
century are not available in public domain. The Council on Library and  
Information Resources report  
[<http://www.clir.org/pubs/abstract/pub144abst.html>] addresses the  
question of what libraries and archives are legally empowered to do to  
preserve and make accessible for research their pre-1972 sound  
recordings....  
Library of Congress, Mar. 30

Rap lyrics, translated  
[<http://www.artsjournal.com/gap/2009/03/i-dont-think-that-means-what-y.html>]  
] Do you sometimes find yourself perplexed by rap music? Scratch your head  
in anxious confusion no longer! This just in: Discover UnderstandRap.com  
[<http://www.understandrap.com/>], which “lets people who don’t understand  
rap music submit confusing terms (parts of lyrics) used in rap songs for  
other people to explain”—often with Webster-like literalness....  
Mind the Gap, Mar. 31

Get tattooed for National Poetry Month  
[<http://www.contrariwise.org/2009/03/10/through-all-her-veils/>]  
April is National Poetry Month, [<http://www.poets.org/page.php/prmID/41>]  
and one way you can celebrate is by getting that literary tat you always  
wanted. It could be verse. At Contrariwise: Literary Tattoos,  
[<http://www.contrariwise.org/about/>] you can share your new body art, as  
Lisa did with this excerpt (right) from Thomas Carew’s “Ingrateful Beauty  
Threatened.”...  
Contrariwise: Literary Tattoos, Mar. 10

Sounds good to me [<http://audiobooker.booklistonline.com/2009/03/31/648/>]  
Mary Burkey writes: “One challenge for both listeners and narrators of audiobooks is determining the correct pronunciation of words. Here are some quick tools to use when checking the accuracy of an audiobook narrator’s work—or for your own use.”...  
Audiobooker, Mar. 31

[<http://www.whattimeisit.com/>]Single serving sites  
[<http://www.swissarmylibrarian.net/2009/03/31/single-serving-sites>]  
Brian Herzog writes: “The internet is endlessly innovative and entertaining. My current favorite phenomenon is the Single Serving Site—a website that does only one thing. Most of them can’t even be called websites because they consist of only one page—but, for a fraction of a minute, they serve a purpose.” Categorized by useful, weather, and silly sites....  
Swiss Army Librarian, Mar. 31

Explore health careers  
[<http://www.explorehealthcareers.org/en/Page.OurMission.aspx>]  
Reference librarians might find Explore Health Careers.org  
[<http://www.explorehealthcareers.org/en/index.aspx>] an excellent resource to alert job seekers who inquire about a career in the health-care system. The site is a joint initiative  
[<http://www.explorehealthcareers.org/en/Page.History.aspx>] involving national foundations, professional associations, health career advisors, educational institutions, and college students. Its mission is twofold: Increase the under-representation of minorities in the workforce, and address the lack of health professionals in medically underserved communities....  
ExploreHealthCareers.org

Become an RDA tester [<http://www.loc.gov/bibliographic-future/rda/>]  
The three U.S. national libraries—Library of Congress, National Library of Medicine, and National Agricultural Library—agreed during the 2009 ALA Midwinter Meeting in Denver to make a joint decision on whether or not to implement Resource Description and Access, based on the results of a test of both RDA and the web product. The goal is to assure the operational, technical, and economic feasibility of RDA. Individuals and institutions interested in participating in the test should contact Susan Morris using the fill-in PDF form  
[[http://www.loc.gov/bibliographic-future/rda/testing\\_application\\_rev\\_april\\_13.pdf](http://www.loc.gov/bibliographic-future/rda/testing_application_rev_april_13.pdf)] by April 13....  
Library of Congress

[[http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/whi/fullRecord.asp?id=42938&qstring=http%3A//www.wisconsinhistory.org/whi/results.asp?pageno=7&keyword1=libraries&search\\_type=basic&sort\\_by=date](http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/whi/fullRecord.asp?id=42938&qstring=http%3A//www.wisconsinhistory.org/whi/results.asp?pageno=7&keyword1=libraries&search_type=basic&sort_by=date)]The old Wisconsin railroad car library  
[<http://heritage.wisconsinlibraries.org/2009/03/railroad-car-library.html>]  
Larry Nix writes: “A fellow library history buff made me aware of an image [[http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/whi/fullRecord.asp?id=42938&qstring=http%3A//www.wisconsinhistory.org/whi/results.asp?pageno=7&keyword1=libraries&search\\_type=basic&sort\\_by=date](http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/whi/fullRecord.asp?id=42938&qstring=http%3A//www.wisconsinhistory.org/whi/results.asp?pageno=7&keyword1=libraries&search_type=basic&sort_by=date)] in the Wisconsin Historical Society’s digital collection that pictured a railroad car library. I came across an

article

[<http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/wlha/articleView.asp?pg=1&id=4737>] in the October 30, 1938, issue of the Milwaukee Journal that told the story behind it. The library was located in Adams, Wisconsin, and the car was donated by the North Western Railroad at the request of the Adams Library Association (a membership library) in 1929. By 1937, the library had 2,088 books.”...

Wisconsin Library Heritage Center, Mar. 28

[<http://books.google.com/books?id=Ty8OAAAAQAAJ&printsec=titlepage#PPA223,M1>]  
]Google unleashes the Bodleian collections

[<http://booksearch.blogspot.com/2009/03/bodleians-treasures-available-to-all.html>]

Ben Bunnell writes: “In 2004, Google began a partnership with Oxford University Library to scan mostly 19th-century public domain books from its Bodleian library. Five years on, we’re delighted to announce the end of this phase of our scanning with Oxford, our first European partner. Together, we have digitized and made available on Google Book Search many hundreds of thousands of public domain books from the Bodleian and other Oxford libraries, representing the bulk of their available public domain content.”...

Inside Google Book Search, Mar. 26

Crunch books for British teens [<http://www.towerhamlets-sls.org.uk/>]  
The Tower Hamlets Schools Library Service in London, England, has released its eighth annual list of recommended books for teens. The 2009 list, entitled Crunch: Books with Bite (Word file [<http://www.lgfl.net/lgfl/leas/tower-hamlets/accounts/TH%20Grid/thsls/homepage/documents/Crunch%20booklist.doc>]) features 56 titles, all published in the last 12&ndash;15 months. All the books were reviewed by Tower Hamlets secondary school librarians, public library staff, and schools library service staff....

Tower Hamlets Schools Library Service

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QShPNcjgfts>]YouTube creates new college section

[<http://chronicle.com/wiredcampus/article/3684/youtube-creates-new-section-to-highlight-college-content>]

More than 100 colleges have set up channels on YouTube, and in late March the popular video service unveiled a new YouTube EDU

[<http://www.youtube.com/edu>] section that brings together all of that campus content in one area. It had been difficult to find college lectures on YouTube, since they are generally far less popular than the site’s humorous and outrageous clips, and so they do not show up in lists of the most viewed videos on the site. Currently one of the most popular is Purdue’s Compliment Guys

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QShPNcjgfts>] (1:42, above)....

Chronicle of Higher Education, Mar. 27

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UT9jAtMbfkY>]The James J. Hill Collection

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UT9jAtMbfkY>]

Early in 2008 the papers of legendary Minnesota businessman James J. Hill and several of his family members were transferred from the James J. Hill Reference Library in St. Paul to the Minnesota Historical Society a few

blocks away. In this video (4:47), learn about the history and contents of the collection and the reasons for the move, and catch a behind-the-scenes glimpse of the incredible process of relocating almost 2,500 boxes of valuable historical documents, photographs, books, and artifacts....

YouTube, Apr. 1

Go back to the Top [#top]

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edition.unsubscribeLink %>](#)]

=====  
[<http://www.r2library.com/>]

=====  
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/index.cfm>]

ALA Annual Conference,

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/2009/faq.cfm>]

Chicago, July 9–15. ALA will rock the Art Institute of Chicago for the 10th Anniversary Scholarship Bash,

[[http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/2009/specialevent  
s.cfm#scholarshipbash](http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/2009/specialevents.cfm#scholarshipbash)] at 7:00 p.m., July 11. This is your chance to

discover new works of art and visit your favorites without fighting the

crowds. And the 5th Annual ERT Bookcart Drillteam World Championship

[[http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/2009/specialevent  
s.cfm#bookcart](http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/2009/specialevents.cfm#bookcart)] will take place 4&ndash;5:30 p.m., July 12. The teams

design creative costumes for themselves and their carts, so this event is always popular and exciting.

[<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2491>]

In Protecting Intellectual Freedom in Your School Library,

[<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2491>] retired middle- and high-school librarian Pat Scales uses her experience and expertise to

offer an intellectual freedom guide tailored to the school library

environment. Scales provides case studies, easy and motivating ways to

prepare new hires for handling intellectual freedom issues, and sidebars

that offer sample policies, definitions of key terms, and analysis of

important statutes and decisions. NEW! From ALA Editions.

In this issue

April 2009

## 2009 Library Design Showcase

A Greener Library, A Greener You

Building Science 101

Meeting Students' Need States

Career Leads from

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

Manager of Web Development and Support

[<http://joblist.ala.org/modules/jobseeker/controller.cfm?scr=jobdetail&jobid=12954>], Oklahoma City Metropolitan Library System. This position will manage the development of web content and services. You will manage a web support team and have responsibility for the overall look, content, and usefulness of the library's internet and intranet sites. You will provide long-term strategic vision of technical web enhancements that will increase responsiveness, efficiency, and value; monitor and report status and progress of project efforts; anticipate and identify issues that could inhibit achieving goals and objectives; and engage in usability testing and other assessments of the library's website....

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

## Digital Library of the Week

C. Szwedzicki: The North American Indian Works

[<http://digitalprojects.libraries.uc.edu/szwedzicki/index.asp>] is a collection of 364 images and six texts hosted by the University of Cincinnati Libraries. Between 1929 and 1952 C. Szwedzicki, a publisher in Nice, France, produced six portfolios of North American Indian art. The publications were edited by American scholars Oscar Brousse Jacobson, Hartley Burr Alexander, and Kenneth Milton Chapman. Many of the images were published as pochoir prints, which are similar in appearance to silk-screen prints. These works represent original works by 20th-century American Indian artists. Important documentation of the Battle of the Little Big Horn is provided in the reproduction of the now lost ledger art of Amos Bad Heart Bull. The contents of this collection are drawn primarily from holdings of the Archives and Rare Books Library of the University of Cincinnati Libraries, but also include materials from the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County and the Yale Collection of Western Americana. Users must allow Java and pop-ups for this collection site.

Do you know of a digital library collection that we can mention in this AL Direct feature? Tell us about it. [mailto:aldirect@ala.org] Browse previous Digital Libraries of the Week at the I Love Libraries [http://www.ilovelibraries.ala.org/diglibweekly/] site.

Public Perception  
How the World  
Sees Us

“Librarie-Keepers, in most Universities that I know; nay indeed in all, their places are but Mercenarie, and their employment of little or no use further, then to look to the Books committed to their custodie, that they may not bee lost; or embezeled by those that use them: and this is all. . . . The proper charge then of the Honorable Librarie-Keeper in a Universitie . . . is to keep the publick stock of Learning, which is in Books and Manuscripts to increas it, and to propose it to others in the waie which may bee most useful unto all; his work then is to bee a Factor and Trader for helps to Learning, and a Treasurer to keep them, and a dispenser to applie them to use, or to see them well used, or at least not abused.”

—John Dury, Calvinist minister and deputy keeper of the royal library of the recently executed Charles I, in *The Reformed Librarie-Keeper* [http://infomotions.com/etexts/gutenberg/dirs/1/5/1/9/15199/15199.htm] (London: William Du-Gard, 1650).

[http://www.twitter.com/amlibraries]

AL on Twitter? Follow American Libraries news stories, videos, and blog posts on Twitter. [http://www.twitter.com/amlibraries]

[http://hkbookfair.hktdc.com/]

The Hong Kong Book Fair [http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/iro/awardsactivities/hongkongbookfair.cfm] is offering a Free Pass Program for Librarians for its 20th Annual Fair, [http://hkbookfair.hktdc.com/] which will be held in the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre, July 22–28. The Fair will provide selected librarians from the U.S. and Canada who collect Chinese language materials four nights of hotel accommodation, free registration, and invitation to a cocktail reception. Apply [http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/iro/awardsactivities/Hong%20Kong%20Book%20Fair%20.pdf] by June 12.

Ask the ALA Librarian

[<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2479>]

Q. I am looking for some resources on providing library instruction to students. Can you help?

A. There are many resources available for providing library instruction.

ACRL has a bibliography

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/about/sections/is/publicationsacrl/diversebib.cfm>] for the instruction of diverse populations, such as those found at colleges. They also offer a research agenda

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/about/sections/is/publicationsacrl/researchagendalibrary.cfm>] for library instruction and information

literacy, which covers learners, teaching, organizational context, and

assessment tools. ALA also has a Library Instruction Round Table

[<http://www3.baylor.edu/LIRT/>] whose purpose is to advocate library instruction and information literacy as a part of lifelong learning.

Several books on this topic may be found in the ALA Store.

[[http://www.alastore.ala.org/SearchResult.aspx?KeyWords=library instruction](http://www.alastore.ala.org/SearchResult.aspx?KeyWords=library%20instruction)] Here are some further resources on user education.

[[http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Bibliographic\\_Instruction](http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Bibliographic_Instruction)]

From the ALA Professional Tips wiki

[[http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Library\\_Instruction](http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Library_Instruction)].

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

Upcoming ALA Annual Conferences

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

July 9&ndash;15, 2009: Chicago.

June 24&ndash;29, 2010:

Washington, D.C.

June 23&ndash;28, 2011:

New Orleans.

June 21&ndash;26, 2012:

Anaheim, Calif.

June 27-July 2, 2013:

Chicago.

June 26-July 1, 2014:

Las Vegas, Nev.

June 25&ndash;30, 2015:

San Francisco.

June 23&ndash;28, 2016:

Orlando, Fla.

June 22&ndash;27, 2017:

Chicago.

Upcoming ALA Midwinter Meetings

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

Jan. 15&ndash;19, 2010:

Boston.  
Jan. 7–11, 2011:  
San Diego, Calif.  
Jan. 20–24, 2012:  
Dallas.  
Jan. 25–29, 2013:  
Seattle.  
Jan. 24–28, 2014:  
Philadelphia.  
Jan. 23–27, 2015:  
Chicago.  
Jan. 22–26, 2016:  
Boston.  
Jan. 20–24, 2017:  
Atlanta.

## Calendar

Apr. 1–30:  
National Poetry Month. [<http://www.poets.org/page.php/prmID/41>]

Apr. 1–30:  
Celebrate Diversity Month.  
[[http://www.celebratediversitymonth.org/site/page/pg270-pn\\_Home.html](http://www.celebratediversitymonth.org/site/page/pg270-pn_Home.html)]

Apr. 1–30:  
School Library Media Month.  
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/aasl/aaslissues/aasladvocacy/schoollibrary.cfm>]

Apr. 2:  
International Children's Book Day.  
[<http://www.ibby.org/index.php?id=269>]

Apr. 12–18:  
National Library Week.  
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/pio/natlibraryweek/nlw.cfm>]

Apr. 14:  
National Library Workers Day. [<http://www.ala-apa.org/about/nlwd.html>]

Apr. 15–18:  
Washington Library Association, [<http://old.spokanelibrary.org/wla/>]  
Annual Conference, Red Lion Hotel, Spokane. "Impact & Influence."

Apr. 16:  
Support Teen Literature Day.  
[[http://wikis.ala.org/yalsa/index.php/Support\\_Teen\\_Literature\\_Day](http://wikis.ala.org/yalsa/index.php/Support_Teen_Literature_Day)]

Apr. 16:  
Digital Dilemmas Symposium,

[[http://www.metro.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=331](http://www.metro.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=331)]  
William and Anita Newman Conference Center at Baruch College, City  
University of New York, New York City. "Challenges + Opportunities  
+ Solutions."

Apr. 16–19:  
Arkansas Literary Festival, [<http://www.arkansasliteraryfestival.org/>]  
Little Rock.

Apr. 17–20:  
Major Orchestra Librarians' Association, [<http://www.mola-inc.org/>]  
Marriott at Metro Center Hotel, Washington, D.C.

Apr. 18:  
Alabama Book Festival, [<http://www.alabamabookcenter.org/>] Old Alabama  
Town, Montgomery.

Apr. 18–19:  
Free Library Festival, [<http://libwww.freelibrary.org/bookfestival/>]  
Parkway Central Library, Free Library of Philadelphia.

Apr. 20–22:  
London Book Fair, [<http://www.londonbookfair.co.uk/>] Earls Court, London.

Apr. 22:  
Earth Day. [<http://earthday.net/>]

Apr. 24:  
From Transaction to Interaction: Transforming the User Experience,  
[<http://liswire.com/node/376>] Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center  
Library, New York City.

Apr. 24–26:  
Media in Transition 6, [<http://web.mit.edu/comm-forum/mit6/index.html>]  
MIT, Cambridge, Mass.

Apr. 25–26:  
Festival of Books, [<http://www.latimes.com/extras/festivalofbooks/>] UCLA.

Apr. 30:  
El día de los niños/El día de los libros.  
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/alsc/initiatives/diadelosninos/index.cfm>  
]

Apr. 30:  
Poem in Your Pocket Day,  
[<http://www.nyc.gov/html/poem/html/home/home.shtml>] New York City.

May 5–8:  
Massachusetts Library Association,  
[<http://www.masslib.org/conference/2009Conference/index.htm>] Annual  
Conference, Mass Mutual Center, Springfield. "Refresh, Renew, Sustain."

May 5–8:

Substance Abuse Librarians and Information Specialists,  
[<http://www.salis.org/conference/conference.html>] Annual Conference,  
Marriott Residence Inn, Halifax, Nova Scotia. “Setting Sail: Best  
Practices for the Next Decade.”

May 8:  
, [<http://www.lib.uchicago.edu/e/crerar/kazsymposium.html>] Inaugural  
Kathleen A. Zar Symposium, John Crerar Library, University of Chicago.

May 11–12:  
National Library Legislative Day.  
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/wo/washevents/nlld/nlld2009.cfm>]

May 11–17:  
Children’s Book Week. [<http://www.bookweekonline.com/>]

May 12–13:  
Vermont Library Conference, [<http://www.vermontlibraryconference.org/>]  
Sheraton Hotel and Conference Center, South Burlington. “Speaking Up!  
Advocacy for Libraries.”

May 12–18:  
Reading Is Fun Week. [[http://www.rif.org/rif\\_week.msp/](http://www.rif.org/rif_week.msp/)]

May 13–14:  
Fourth Rethinking Resource Sharing Initiative Forum,  
[<http://www.rethinkingresourcesharing.org/forum09/index.html>] OCLC  
Conference Center, Dublin, Ohio.

May 15–17:  
Ann Arbor Book Festival, [<http://www.aabookfestival.org/>] Ann Arbor,  
Michigan.

May 15–20:  
Medical Library Association, [<http://www.mlanet.org/am/>] Annual  
Conference, Honolulu. “iFusions.”

May 16–17:  
Hawaii Book and Music Festival,  
[<http://www.hawaiibookandmusicfestival.org/>] Civic Grounds, Honolulu.

May 19–20:  
New Hampshire Library Association,  
[<http://www.nhlibrarians.org/springconference.html>] Spring Conference,  
Attitash Grand Summit Hotel and Conference Center, Bartlett.

May 27–29:  
Society for Scholarly Publishing,  
[[https://www.sspnet.org/Events/Meetings\\_and\\_Seminars/2009\\_Annual\\_Meeting\\_Information/spage.aspx](https://www.sspnet.org/Events/Meetings_and_Seminars/2009_Annual_Meeting_Information/spage.aspx)] Annual Meeting, Marriott Baltimore Waterfront.  
“Advancing Scholarly Communities in the Brave New World.”

June 1:  
National Information Standards Organization,

[<http://www.niso.org/news/events/2009/assess09>] Assessment and Performance Measurement Forum, Radisson Plaza Lord Baltimore, Maryland.

June 5–6:

New York Book Festival, [<http://www.newyorkbookfestival.com/>] Tompkins Square Park, New York City.

June 6–7:

Printers Row Lit Fest,  
[<http://www.chicagotribune.com/entertainment/events/printersrow/>]  
Printers Row, Chicago.

June 14–17:

Special Libraries Association,  
[<http://www.sla.org/content/Events/conference/ac2009/index.cfm>] Annual Conference, Walter E. Washington Convention Center, Washington, D.C.

July 3–8:

Seminar on the Acquisition of Latin American Library Materials,  
[<http://www.salalm.org/conference/salalmliiv.html>] 54th Annual Meeting, sponsored by the Ibero-American Institute, Maritim Hotel Berlin, Germany. “Migrations and Connections: Latin America and Europe in the Modern World.”

July 28–

Aug. 5:  
Digital Libraries & la Carte,  
[<http://www.tilburguniversity.nl/services/lis/ticer/09carte/>] Tilburg University, the Netherlands.

Aug. 11–16:

Society of American Archivists,  
[<http://www.archivists.org/conference/austin2009/index.asp>] Annual Meeting, Hilton Austin, Texas. “Sustainable Archives.”

Sept. 23–26:

North Dakota Library Association,  
[<http://www.ndla.info/Conference/09conf.htm>] Annual Conference, Days Hotel–Grand Dakota Lodge and Conference Center, Dickinson. “Evolution of the Library.”

@ 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>] and subscribers.

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ISSN 1559-369X.

# american libraries DIRECT

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | April 8, 2009

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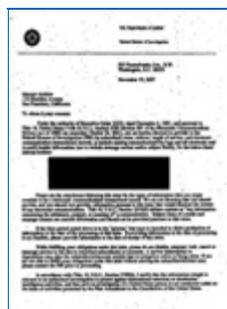
american  
**libraries**  
BUYERS GUIDE

## U.S. & World News

### [Federal bills revisit NSLs, digital privacy](#)

With the Patriot Act due to sunset at the end of 2009, Congress is considering several bills that would affect the ability of law enforcement to access, amass, and warehouse digital data about the activities of private citizens. On March 30, Rep. Jerrold Nadler (D-N.Y.) and Jeff Flake (R-Ariz.) introduced the National Security Letters Reform Act of 2009 ([PDF file](#)), which would limit the issuance of an NSL. A month earlier, lawmakers in both the House and the Senate introduced internet safety legislation that would require all Wi-Fi providers and end users, including libraries, to retain for at least two years all records pertaining to the identity of a user of a temporarily assigned network address....

American Libraries Online, Apr. 3



### [Man gets life for raping child in library](#)

Corey Deen Saunders was sentenced April 2 to life in prison for the 2008 rape of a 6-year-old boy in the magazine room of the New Bedford (Mass.) Public Library. As a result of the attack, library trustees have [modified](#) their patron behavior policy to prohibit adults from speaking to a minor inside the library....

American Libraries Online, Apr. 3



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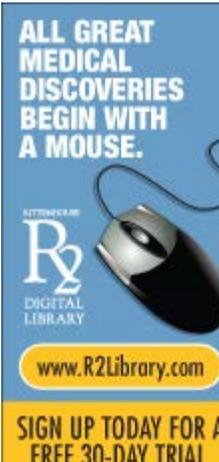
TLCdelivers.com  
800.325.7759

## ALA News

### [ALA Connect debuts](#)

ALA is now providing its members a common virtual space to engage in ALA business and network with other members around issues and interests relevant to the profession. In the first phase of [ALA Connect](#), every ALA group will

**ALAConnect**



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### [ALA Annual Conference, Chicago, July 9–15.](#)

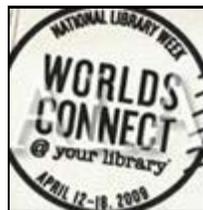
Get one of the [six buttons](#) for your blog or website that says you are attending or recruiting or exhibiting.



have the ability to utilize posts, online docs, a group calendar, surveys, polls, chat rooms, and discussion forums. Members can log in using their regular ALA website username and password. Their records are automatically synchronized with the ALA membership database, so affiliations with committees, divisions, events, round tables, and sections are displayed. Project Manager Jenny Levine offers an [overview of the site](#) and writes: "I feel a little like Doctor Frankenstein—it's aliiiiive—but so far the patient is doing quite well."...

### [National Library Week is at hand](#)

The 2009 National Library Week theme is "Worlds Connect @ your library," and all types of libraries—school, public, and academic—will celebrate with special programs, April 12–18. Use these [resources](#) from ALA to help carry the theme throughout the year. And be sure to check out these [NLW events in Second Life](#)....



### [Rev. Jackson to read to children during National Library Week](#)

In recognition of the valuable contributions of our nation's libraries, Rev. Jesse L. Jackson Sr., CEO and founder of the RainbowPUSH Coalition, and ALA Executive Director Keith Michael Fiels will participate in a reading event on April 11 to kick off the 2009 observance of National Library Week, April 12–18. During the coalition's Saturday Morning Forum at 930 E. 50th Street, Chicago, at 10 a.m., Jackson and Fiels will discuss how libraries are an important community hub of literacy and learning....



### [Public awareness @ your library](#)

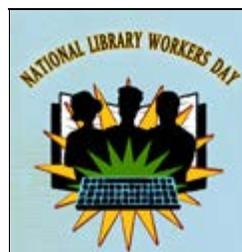
Just in time for National Library Week, ALA will launch a new [@ your library website](#) April 9 aimed at raising public awareness. Focusing on what's available at libraries for families, kids and teens, and jobseekers, this website is a pilot project funded by the Carnegie Corporation of New York and is the first website to aim ALA outreach directly at the public, a goal of the Campaign for America's Libraries since its inception. The new site is also designed to complement the [I Love Libraries](#) public advocacy website....



AL Inside Scoop, Apr. 8

### [National Library Workers Day honors library staff](#)

On April 14, thousands of communities will celebrate National Library Workers Day, a time when library staff, patrons, administrators, and Friends groups will recognize the valuable contributions made by all library workers. The ALA–Allied Professional Association is sponsoring the day, whose theme, "Libraries Work Because We Do!", focuses on how library services depend on the important work done by every library staff member....



### [Peer reviewers needed](#)

[Make your own READ posters](#) featuring your patrons or local celebrities. The newly optimized READ CD Box Set contains everything you need for producing your own posters, bookmarks, and giveaways. The files have been reorganized on the disks and there are new file types available. Adobe Photoshop Elements comes included. **NEW!** From ALA Graphics.

### [In this issue](#)

April 2009



**2009 Library Design Showcase**

**A Greener Library, A Greener You**

**Building Science 101**

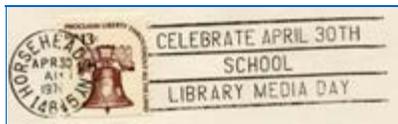
**Meeting Students' Need States**

### [Career Leads](#)

The ALA Office for Research and Statistics invites nominations for peer reviewers for the *ALA Research Series* that publishes annual quantitative and qualitative research and analysis addressing topics important to libraries, librarians, and education in the profession. In this initial establishment of the review panel, two members will serve two-year terms beginning this summer. The deadline for nominations ([PDF file](#)) is April 29....

### [U.S. celebrates School Library Media Month](#)

Libraries are at the heart of the learning experience for almost 44 million elementary-, middle-, and high-school students. During the month of April, parents, students, and library media specialists celebrate the value of our nation's school library media centers with [School Library Media Month](#). From virtual homework help to wireless environments, school library media centers are dynamic places....



### [ALA: Spend stimulus funds on school libraries](#)

As school leaders prepare to spend billions of dollars in federal stimulus money, ALA is urging that some of those dollars be used to keep school libraries up-to-date during hard economic times. Funding from the State Fiscal Stabilization Fund, Title I Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, and the Educational Technology State Grant can be used to prevent cutbacks, prevent layoffs, and modernize school libraries....

*eSchool News, Apr. 7*

### [A letter to President Obama](#)

On March 18, ALA President Jim Rettig submitted a letter to President Obama ([PDF file](#)) to address the issues ALA members chose to share with the administration during a January 24 Town Hall Meeting during the Midwinter Meeting in Denver: "Libraries are perfectly positioned to disseminate information relevant to the issues and challenges that face us as a nation, the same key issues which your administration is seeking to address."...

### [Librarianship and cultural heritage](#)

Your [feedback](#) is needed on the draft document, *Librarianship and Traditional Cultural Expressions: Nurturing Understanding and Respect* ([PDF file](#)), which represents librarian principles on the management and protection of traditional cultural expressions. Its purpose is to help librarians appreciate the unique nature of indigenous culture and to highlight ways that librarians can better manage traditional cultural expressions in their collections and share expertise with cultures that choose to self-manage their own cultural heritage. Ultimately the principles will be brought to ALA Council for endorsement as ALA policy....

*District Dispatch, Apr. 6*

### [Merola to discuss library advocacy](#)

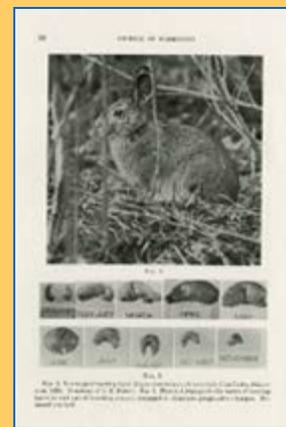
The next installment in the series of ALA President Jim Rettig's [ALA Connections Salons](#) will be an online discussion with Marci Merola, director of the ALA Office for Library Advocacy, scheduled for 2–3 p.m. Eastern time, April 17. Merola will discuss the various aspects of library advocacy, from the Seattle Moms to the economic crisis. OPAL Coordinator Tom Peters will begin the hour with an interview with Merola....



[Library Director](#), Moscow School of Management SKOLKOVO, Russia. Lead and supervise project for organization of the Business School Library including design, architecture, provision of books and subscription resources, and creation of general electronic database system. Strategic planning, budget preparation, and resources allocation....

@ [More jobs...](#)

### [Digital Library of the Week](#)



[The Aldo Leopold Archives](#), University of Wisconsin Digital Collections. Aldo Leopold (1887–1948) is considered the most influential conservation thinker of the 20th century. He is most

# Booklist

ONLINE

## Featured review: Reference

*Cinema Image Gallery*, Jan. 2009.  
H. W. Wilson.

A case might be made that film is the art form that most uniquely defined the 20th century, and, of course, its impact continues.

Researchers and fans wanting access to more than 152,000 high-quality film stills and related images copyright-cleared for educational use—as well as linked biographies and articles on actors, directors, films, and related topics—could do no better than Wilson's *Cinema Image Gallery*. The images are a subset of the Kobal Collection, which contains more than a million images. Results display as thumbnails, and links to any related content are available from the record pages. This would make an excellent companion to Wilson's *Art Museum Image Gallery*; together, the two databases would provide a comprehensive view of the visual arts in the 20th century and beyond....



## New databases

Mary Ellen Quinn writes: "Reference database publishers provided us with the following information about new products. Information is effective February 2009 through July 2009.

Where no pricing information is given, contact the publisher." Included are new offerings from Accessible Archives, Adam Matthew Digital, Alexander Street Press, Capstone, CQ, EBSCO, Gale, ProQuest, and many others....



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

widely known as the author of *A Sand County Almanac*, one of the most respected books about the environment ever published. The Leopold Collection houses the raw materials that document not only his rise to prominence but also the history of conservation and the emergence of the field of ecology. The archive is augmented by correspondence and related materials carefully retained over the years by his mother, his wife, and other family members and professional associates; these span his entire life, but are most rich and voluminous for his early years. The Leopold Collection serves scholars, policy leaders, and the general public who look to Leopold for insight and inspiration in dealing with complex conservation challenges facing 21st-century society.

**Do you know** of a digital library collection that we can mention in this *AL Direct* feature? [Tell us about it.](#) Browse previous Digital Libraries of the Week at the [Love Libraries](#) site.

## Chicago Update

### You'll see more than just "The Bean"

Chicago's Millennium Park, known for Anish Kapoor's public sculpture *Cloud Gate* (which everyone calls "The Bean"), will soon sport two temporary pavilions by internationally renowned architects. Scheduled to open June 19, they will join with the Art Institute of Chicago's soon-to-debut Modern Wing to give five-year-old Millennium Park a fresh shot of energy. Designed by Zaha Hadid of London and Ben van Berkel of Amsterdam, the privately funded pavilions will be the focal point of the region's celebration of the 1909 Plan of Chicago, also known as the [Burnham Plan](#)....

*Chicago Tribune*, Apr. 7



### Public Perception

How the World Sees Us

**"Book burning has never worked. Sooner or later, people find the books and the ideas they want."**

—David B. Offer, in an

## [Real pirates at the Field Museum](#)

The Field Museum of Natural History is hosting the exhibition, "Real Pirates: The Untold Story of the *Whydah* from Slave Ship to Pirate Ship," through October. More than 200 artifacts recovered since 1984 from the wreck of the *Whydah*, the first fully authenticated pirate ship ever to be discovered in U.S. waters, are on display. On April 26, 1717, the perfect storm put an end to her pirating days, and the *Whydah* sank with most of her crew aboard—as well as the bounty from more than 50 captured ships....



Field Museum of Natural History

editorial on historical book burnings in the wake of the March 6 arson at the C. M. Bailey Public Library in Winthrop, Maine, *Waterville (Maine) Morning Sentinel*, Mar. 31.



**AL on Twitter?** Follow *American Libraries* news stories, videos, and blog posts on [Twitter](#).

## Division News

### [New ALSC executive director](#)

Effective April 6, Aimee Strittmatter is the new ALSC Executive Director. She has been with the division since 2005 as deputy director, working specifically on continuing education, Annual Conference programs, preconferences, and special workshops. Prior to joining ALA, Strittmatter was children's services supervisor at the William P. Faust Public Library in Westland, Michigan. She succeeds Diane Foote, who [stepped down](#) in March to spend more time with her family....



### [Brett Butler Award winner to present LITA Camp keynote](#)

John Blyberg, 2009 recipient of the LITA/Brett Butler Entrepreneurship Award, will present one of the keynote sessions at LITACamp, "The Everywhere Library: Creating, Communicating, Integrating," May 7–8, in Dublin, Ohio. Blyberg received the award for his development of the [Social OPAC application suite](#). Join library colleagues, along with Blyberg and fellow keynoter Joan Frye Williams, at LITACamp, LITA's first-ever unconference....



**Still time to be a YALSA Editor**  
YALSA is seeking a [Member Editor](#) for its award-winning quarterly journal, *Young Adult Library Services*. The deadline for applications is April 10.

## Awards

### [Scholastic Library Publishing Award](#)

ALA has named Kathleen T. Horning the recipient of the 2009 Scholastic Library Publishing Award. The honor, which will be presented during the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago, is bestowed on a librarian whose extraordinary contributions to promoting access to books and encouraging a love of reading for lifelong learning exemplifies outstanding achievement in the profession. Horning is director of the Cooperative Children's Book Center at the University of Wisconsin-Madison....



### [RUSA distinguished ILL librarian](#)

Barbara Coopey, head of interlibrary loan for Penn State University Libraries, has been selected as the winner of the 2009 Virginia Boucher/OCLC Distinguished ILL Librarian award. The award,

## Ask the ALA Librarian



**Q. Are there wheelchair accessibility requirements for bookmobiles? If so, what are the requirements on a 28-foot bookmobile?**

**A.** There are two parts to the answer. The first: Is physical accessibility required? The second: If physical accessibility is



administered by RUSA, recognizes an individual for outstanding professional achievement, leadership, and significant contributions to the fields of interlibrary loan and document delivery....

### [African-American history tool wins RUSA award](#)

Robert A. Aken II, web administration librarian, and Reinette F. Jones, diversity and multicultural activities librarian, both of the University of Kentucky Libraries, have won the 2009 Gale Cengage Learning Award for Excellence in Reference and Adult Library Services for the libraries' [Notable Kentucky African Americans Database](#). The award is administered by RUSA and is given to a library for development of an imaginative and unique resource to meet patrons' reference needs....

### [Award-winning project educates librarians about autism](#)

"[Libraries and Autism: We're Connected](#)," a project developed by Margaret Kolaya, director of the Scotch Plains (N.J.) Public Library, and Daniel Weiss, director of the Fanwood (N.J.) Memorial Library, has been selected as the 2009 winner of the ASCLA/KLAS/NOD Award. The award is sponsored by ASCLA, Keystone Library Automation Systems, and the National Organization on Disability. Winners are honored for innovative and well-organized projects that have successfully developed or expanded library services for people with disabilities....



### [We the People Bookshelf awards](#)

The ALA Public Programs Office and the National Endowment for the Humanities selected 4,000 school and public libraries throughout the country to receive the sixth annual We the People Bookshelf. Libraries from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and several U.S. territories will receive the collection of 17 books for young readers on the theme "Picturing America." A full list of recipients will be [available](#) mid-April....



### [IFLA International Marketing Awards](#)

The IFLA Section on Management and Marketing, in collaboration with Emerald, has announced the winners of the 7th IFLA International Marketing Award for 2009. First place was awarded to the National Library Board of Singapore, for its winning campaign "[Go Library](#)," a multiplatform project that aims to entice customers to the library. Wrexham County Borough Council in Wales won second place, and the Alberta Library in Edmonton won third....



International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions, Apr. 2

### [2009 Manchester Book Award](#)

The fourth annual Manchester Book Award, sponsored by the Manchester (U.K.) Library and Information

required, what are the parameters? For an answer to the first question, see the [ADA Guide for Small Towns](#) from the Department of Justice, which states: "If a library facility or building is not accessible, these services may be offered in a different accessible library facility, in another accessible facility nearby, or in an alternate manner." Notice that the ADA Guide shows an example of an older, smaller bookmobile, which can be considered an "alternate manner." There are newer, [larger bookmobiles](#) that are already compliant with the ADA requirements and include lifts for disabled patrons. For wheelchair accessibility, the usual [ADA space requirements](#) apply, including a minimum clear-aisle space of 36 inches (a minimum of 42 inches is preferred). From the [ALA Professional Tips wiki](#).

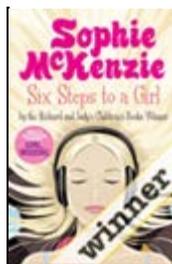
@ The [ALA Librarian](#) welcomes your questions.

**ALA periodicals,  
all in one list**

This is a [list of the newsletters](#).

Service and aimed at British youth aged 11–14, went to Sophie McKenzie's *Six Steps to a Girl* (Simon and Schuster, 2007). Teens and preteens across the city voted for their favorites on the shortlist, with the winner announced March 11....

Manchester Book Award



## Seen Online

### [Downturn puts new stresses on libraries](#)

As the national economic crisis deepens and social services become casualties of budget cuts, libraries have come to fill a void for more people, particularly job-seekers and those who have fallen on hard times. Libraries across the country are seeing double-digit increases in patronage, often from 10% to 30% over previous years. Many librarians say they feel ill-equipped for the newfound demands of the job, the result of working with anxious and often depressed patrons who say they have nowhere else to go....

*New York Times*, Apr. 1

### [From librarian to career counselor](#)

Southfield (Mich.) Public Library Adult Services Intern Eva Gronowska writes: "The library as an institution has many roles, but as our country struggles through an economic crisis, I have watched the library where I work evolve into a career and business center, a community gathering place, and a bastion for hope. Things worsened in 2008, and in 2009 the economic crisis continues to suffocate Michigan. Interest in small businesses has remained high, but unemployment, the credit crunch, and foreclosures command our patrons' attention and, consequently, ours."...

*Newsweek*, Apr. 6



### [Earthquake damage in L'Aquila](#)

The April 6 earthquake that centered on the medieval town of L'Aquila, Italy, has caused a significant amount of damage to the region's cultural heritage. The third floor of the 16th-century castle that houses the National Museum of Abruzzo suffered a collapse on its third floor and is too dangerous to enter. The cupola of the 18th-century Baroque church of St. Augustine collapsed, flattening the prefecture that held L'Aquila's [state archives](#). And a primary-school library was [destroyed](#) in Goriano Scoli....

Medieval News, Apr. 7; ANSA, Apr. 6; *Corriere della Sera* (Milan), Apr. 8



### [Schindler's list found in Australian library](#)

Workers at the State Library of New South Wales in Sydney have rediscovered a carbon typescript copy of the list of 801 Jews saved by German businessman Oskar Schindler that inspired the 1982 novel *Schindler's Ark* and the 1993 Oscar-winning film *Schindler's List*. The 13-page document was found in the papers of the novel's author, Thomas Keneally. Library co-curator Olwen Pryke described it as "one of the most powerful documents of the 20th century." She said the library had no idea the list was among six boxes of material

[magazines, and journals](#) published within ALA, including those which are only available online. A brief profile is offered of each title; it includes the name and email address of the editor(s), the ISSN, the publishing frequency per year, the subscription cost per year, and contact information for placing a subscription order. Availability of a website is indicated, as are the titles with advertising opportunities.

Compiled by Valerie Hawkins of the ALA Library.

## Calendar

### Apr. 21–22:

[Marketing](#), Kansas City Metropolitan Library and Information Network, Missouri. Certified Public Library Administrator course sponsored by PLA.

### Apr. 24:

[From Transaction to Interaction: Transforming the User Experience](#), Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center Library, New York City.

### Apr. 27:

[Zena Sutherland Lecture](#), Chicago Public Library, Harold Washington Library Center. "Writer's Soup," by Christopher Paul Curtis.

acquired in 1996....  
 Agence France Presse, Apr. 6

### [Mom: Give \*Gossip Girl\* the boot](#)

Dixie Fechtel is in a tug of war with the Leesburg (Fla.) Public Library about what she calls questionable books in the young adult section and has asked library officials to pull them from the shelves. Her battle began in August when she read excerpts of two books her 13-year-old daughter had checked out: *The Bermudez Triangle* by Maureen Johnson and *Only in Your Dreams: A Gossip Girl Novel* by Cecily von Ziegesar. Since then, Fechtel has had a series of back-and-forths with city and county leaders that has led nowhere....  
*Orlando (Fla.) Sentinel*, Apr. 6



### [Arson repair to cost \\$160,000](#)

Repairing the fire-damaged Charles M. Bailey Public Library (right) will cost an estimated \$160,000, Winthrop, Maine, Town Manager Cornell Knight told councilors April 6. Investigators said the March 6 fire was intentionally set in the ground-floor boiler room. Zachary B. Lowe, 16, confessed to police he set the fire and is due to appear in court in mid-April. Winthrop police Officer John Hall received a plaque recognizing his role in discovering and reporting the fire....  
*Augusta (Maine) Kennebec Journal*, Apr. 8



### [Google's plan for orphan works](#)

Millions of orphan books may get a new legal guardian. Google has been scanning the pages of those books and others as part of its plan to bring a digital library and bookstore, unprecedented in scope, to computer screens across the United States. But a growing chorus, including ALA, is expressing [concern](#) that a far-reaching settlement of a suit brought against Google by publishers and authors is about to grant the company too much power over orphan works....  
*New York Times*, Apr. 3-4

### [It's a plot!](#)

John Kelly writes: "Most librarians are liberal, forward-thinking public servants, always pondering ways to do their job better. And for this, I hate them. You see, by the end of June, all public libraries in Montgomery County, Maryland, will have done away with the date-due stamp, the familiar feature perfected by no less a figure than that Edison of bibliotechnology, Melvil Dewey. In its place you will get a printed receipt. My Lovely Wife was pleased. Her sister's a librarian, so I fear she may have been co-opted by the library-industrial complex."...  
*Washington Post*, Apr. 7

LAST CHECKED-OUT ON	
MAR 16	FEB 4
MAR 20	FEB 15
MAR 5	
AUG 25	
OCT 4	
NOV 5	
NOV 10	
NOV 15	
NOV 24	
NOV 25	

### [Sister-city librarians visit Fredericksburg](#)

A visit to the special collections at the University of Mary Washington's Simpson Library was one of dozens of stops Catherine Lecat and Christine Ortuno, both librarians from Fréjus, France, made during their visit to Fredericksburg, Virginia, in late March. The two cities have been sister cities for nearly 30 years, and plenty of residents—artists, archaeologists, teachers, students, and elected officials—have exchanged visits. But this was the first time librarians

**May 11–12:**  
[National Library Legislative Day.](#)

**May 11–12:**  
[International Digital Publishing Forum.](#)  
 "Digital Book 2009: An eBook Stimulus Plan for Publishing," McGraw-Hill Auditorium, New York City.

**May 27–29:**  
[Fourth International Conference on ICT for Development, Education, and Training.](#) Le Méridien Président, Dakar, Senegal.

**May 28–31:**  
[BookExpo America.](#) Jacob J. Javits Center, New York City.

**June 3–4:**  
[Inspiration, Innovation, and Celebration: An Entrepreneurial Conference for Librarians.](#) University of North Carolina, Greensboro.

**June 4–5:**  
[Politics and Networking.](#) Decatur (Ga.) Public Library. Certified Public Library Administrator course sponsored by PLA.

**Aug. 6–7:**  
[Serving Diverse Populations.](#) Houston, Texas. Certified Public Library Administrator course sponsored by PLA.

**Sept. 27–  
 Oct. 1:**  
[International Association of](#)

traveled from the ancient city along the Riviera to the historic city along the Rappahannock....

*Fredericksburg (Va.) Free Lance-Star, Apr. 6*

### [Georgia plans a new special collections library](#)

A snippet of Jefferson Davis's hair, hundreds of old Georgia Bulldog football films, and Sen. Richard Russell's political papers will get a new home, along with millions of other items now in the University of Georgia's main library in Athens. A 110,000-square-foot building planned for Waddell Street as soon as 2011 will give librarians state-of-the art rooms to store and preserve UGA's special collections—an ever-expanding vault of rare books, manuscripts, and films. Watch the [video](#) (4:46)....

*Athens (Ga.) Banner-Herald, Feb. 2*



### [Posen library board member charged with theft](#)

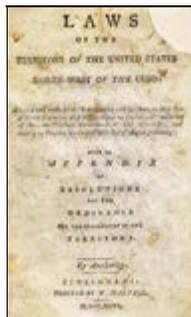
A Posen (Ill.) Library District official has been indicted for stealing more than \$135,000 from the Midlothian Public Library. Admitted gambling addict Susan Quirk faces charges of theft and official misconduct after she frittered away the stolen loot at riverboat casinos, the Cook County state's attorney's office said April 2. Posen has no library, but taxpayers give MPL \$90,000 a year in return for access to its book, music, and DVD collections. Quirk allegedly stole from the fund between 2001 and 2007....

*Tinley Park (Ill.) Southtown Star, Apr. 3*

### [Two men convicted for stolen books from Hayes Presidential Library](#)

Two rare books that were stolen from the Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center in Fremont, Ohio, in August 2008 were finally returned April 1. One of the books, *Laws of the Territory of the United States North West of the Ohio*, also known as the Maxwell Code (right), is the first book printed in what would become the state of Ohio. Printed in 1796, it is valued at more than \$100,000. Investigators finished up their cases against the two people responsible for the thefts, Joshua McCarty and Zachary Scranton....

*Fremont (Ohio) News-Messenger, Apr. 2*



### [National Library of Sweden accused of distributing child porn](#)

Two child-welfare organizations filed a report to Stockholm police April 6 accusing the Swedish National Library of possessing and distributing child pornography. The large collection at the library was built up in the years between 1971—when the possession, distribution, and display of child pornography was legalized in Sweden—and 1980, when the law was repealed. Hand in Hand and the Association of Relatives of Sexually Abused Children claim that the collection should be restricted to legitimate researchers....

*The Local (Stockholm), Apr. 6*



[Go back to the Top](#)

### [Aquatic and Marine Science Libraries and Information Centers,](#)

Annual Conference, Brugge and Oostende, Belgium. "Confluence of Ideas: Evolving to Meet the Challenges of Global Change."

### **Nov. 11–14:**

### [Museum Computer Network,](#)

Annual Conference, Doubletree Hotel–Lloyd Center, Portland, Oregon.

"Museum Information, Museum Efficiency: Doing More with Less!"

@ [More...](#)

## Contact Us

American Libraries Direct



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

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## Tech Talk

### [Web redesign on a dime](#)

Karine Joly writes: "What can you do if your latest web redesign was done a few years ago and there's no sign that the long-awaited budget to launch a major overhaul project will become a reality in the upcoming budget? Compiled with the help and the suggestions of several web professionals working in universities and colleges across the country, the following list of inexpensive—and often free—resources can help an institution's web team achieve great results on (or without) a budget during three key steps of a website redesign or realignment."...

*University Business*, Apr.



### [A look at the best computer interfaces](#)

Say goodbye to the mouse and hello to augmented reality, voice recognition, and geospatial tracking. *Technology Review* looks at computer input devices past and present, from the Linux command line and an early mouse to a gesture-sensing interface (right) from [Oblong Industries](#) and Microsoft's multitouch screen....

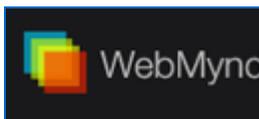
*Technology Review*, Apr. 5



### [Combine your Google and Twitter searches](#)

Ann Smarty writes: "No one says Twitter search is better than Google; instead, it is different. You can't compare them, but you can combine them. This post looks into ways to check relevant Twitter updates while you are searching Google."...

*Search Engine Journal*, Apr. 6



### [Five Windows tools to keep your digital life in sync](#)

Ed Bott writes: "Keeping files, programs, bookmarks, and passwords in sync across two computers is a tricky task. It gets even tougher when I throw a third or fourth PC into the mix. Over the course of the last few years, I've built up an assortment of tools and techniques that help me keep track of files, bookmarks, passwords, RSS feeds, and other assorted data as I switch between PCs.

In this post, I'll share my favorite software, services, and shortcuts for keeping stuff in sync."...

Ed Bott's Microsoft Report, Apr. 5



### [One cell phone per child](#)

Dan Costa writes: "Once upon a time, PCs were the primary tools for connecting to the internet. Globally, the mobile phone is now the primary communication tool. This shift has had a stunning impact on developing nations, the wireless industry, and even the internet itself. To get an understanding of the scale of the worldwide mobile revolution, consider that 4.1 billion people subscribe to a mobile phone service. For much of the developing world, wireless has leapfrogged landlines. There are only 1.27 billion fixed-line

[www.ala.org/aldirect/](http://www.ala.org/aldirect/)

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

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ISSN 1559-369X.

subscriptions globally.”...  
PC Magazine, Apr. 2

## Publishing

### [Reading advocates protest disabled Kindle 2](#)

The Reading Rights Coalition and the National Federation for the Blind, advocates for readers with print disabilities, staged a protest outside the Authors Guild’s New York offices April 7. Their complaint: The guild’s objections to the text-to-speech feature of Amazon’s Kindle 2 e-book reader disenfranchises people who have difficulty reading. Amazon, which introduced the feature in its second-generation Kindle in February, later backed off from the guild’s criticism and said it would allow authors and publishers to disable it for their own titles. See photos and a [video](#) (1:06)....



Los Angeles Times, Apr. 7; Gizmodo, Apr. 7

### [More authors turn to web publishing](#)

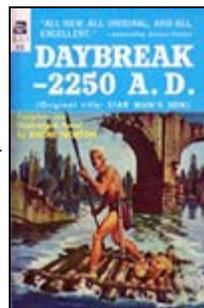
As the economy takes its toll on traditional publishing houses—HarperCollins dropped its Collins division in February, losing major executives and editors, and Random House continues with cutbacks—more authors are looking to online self-publishing companies. Companies like [Author Solutions](#) or [Lulu.com](#) allow budding authors to submit digital files of their manuscript on any subject matter. Unlike traditional publishing companies, these publishers only produce hard copies of the books when a customer buys one, a process known as print on demand....



CNN, Apr. 6

### [Post-Apocalyptic reading](#)

Richard Davies writes: “Things can always be worse, and you can rely on novelists to put that phrase into cold, hard words on the page. The method of worldwide destruction varies. Readers could encounter a plague, global nuclear war, biological weaponry, a comet collision, or a blinding meteor shower followed by flesh-eating plants. Many authors don’t explain in detail the nature of their book’s catastrophe, but in many ways that’s unimportant—the thoughts and actions of the survivors are what counts.” Here are 20 of the best....



AbeBooks

### [Amazon customers boycotting e-books over \\$9.99](#)

Nearly 250 Amazon customers have joined an informal boycott of digital books priced more than \$9.99 at the popular online retailer—they have already tagged more than 770 books with a [9.99boycott tag](#). One Amazon reader [summed up](#) the boycott: “While you can reread the book, you cannot donate it to a library, sell it to a used bookstore, sell it on Amazon’s Used Marketplace, or trade it to a friend. The publisher does not need to pay for paper, glue, press time, press employees, insurance, ink, boxes, or shipping.”...



GalleyCat, Apr. 3

## [Six ideas for improving publishing](#)

Cory Doctorow writes: "Michael Tamblin, CEO of BookNet Canada, presents six technology initiatives that could radically alter the course of publishing for the better. It's a refreshing presentation (28:49), focused on selling more paper books using better technology that improves workflow and marketing, while acknowledging that there's lots of room for improvement in e-book readers as well."...



Boing Boing, Apr. 5; BookNet Canada, Mar. 19



## Actions & Answers

### [Gamers are readers](#)

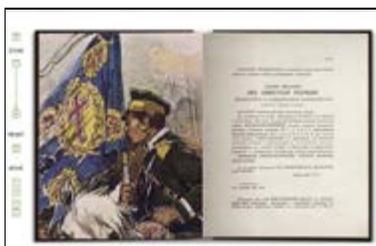
Lori Easterwood and Lindsey Patrick Wesson write: "Today's video games are multifaceted experiences that feature cinematic visuals, well-defined characters, challenging puzzles, and a plot that is easy to delineate. We already use these criteria to recommend books and movies to patrons. Video games are just another medium that we can utilize in the same way by identifying characters, plot, and genre. For the purpose of reader's advisory, you only need a familiarity with a few key genres to have the confidence to pair gamers with excellent books."...

*School Library Journal*, Apr. 1

### [World Digital Library to launch April 21](#)

On April 21, the Library of Congress, UNESCO, and 32 partner institutions will launch the [World Digital Library](#), a website that features unique cultural materials from libraries and archives from around the world. The brainchild of Librarian of Congress James Billington, the site will include manuscripts, maps, rare books, films, sound recordings, and prints and photographs—available unrestricted to the public and free of charge. The browseable, searchable site will function in seven languages (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Portuguese, Russian, and Spanish) and offer content in dozens of others....

Library of Congress, Apr. 7



### [The Darien statements](#)

On March 26, Darien (Conn.) Library hosted an event called "In the Foothills: A Not-Quite-Summit on the Future of Libraries" at which participants were instructed to "come prepared to help sketch out the role librarians should play in defining the future of libraries." The two speakers, John Berry and Kathryn Greenhill, provoked a conversation among Kathryn, John Blyberg, and Cindi Trainor (above) that spilled out across the ensuing week. This is the document that resulted....



Blyberg.net, Apr. 3

## [Measuring ROI in libraries](#)

Cory Lown and Hilary Davis write: "Return on investment (ROI) is how much you get back for what you put into something. ROI can be an integral part of the process for evaluating a library's services, collections, staffing levels, planning for new services and resources, or measuring how valuable your library is to your community and stakeholders. Direct, individual benefits are easier to measure and quantify than indirect and collective benefits. This poses a challenge for libraries, as many of the benefits they provide are indirect and collective, such as the value of having a better-educated citizenry."...

In the Library with the Lead Pipe, Apr. 1



## [Five best image-editing tools](#)

Jason Fitzpatrick writes: "Long gone are the days where snapshots came back from the photo lab and disappeared into albums and shoe boxes. Now, digital photos are tweaked, adjusted, and remixed in ways their analog counterparts couldn't imagine. On April 2, we asked you to share your favorite image-editing tools. The votes have been tallied and now we're back with the top five contenders for the crown of Best Image Editor."...

Lifehacker, Apr. 5



## [Five reasons URL shorteners are useful](#)

Ben Parr writes: "URL shorteners take long URLs (which can be over 100 characters) and transform them into manageable links that almost never exceed 20 characters. URL shorteners are good for web culture and the growth of the internet. Here are my top five reasons for why URL shorteners are useful to the web." And Danny Sullivan helps you [choose which one](#) to use....

Mashable, Apr. 5; Search Engine Land, Apr. 4



## [A few reasons URL shorteners are bad](#)

Delicious creator Joshua Schachter writes: "URL-shortening services such as TinyURL have been around for a number of years. Their original purpose was to prevent cumbersome URLs from getting fragmented by broken email clients that felt the need to wrap everything to an 80-column screen. But it's 2009 now, and this problem no longer exists. With URL shorteners in use, the long-term archivability of the hyperlink depends on the health of a third party."...

joshua schachter's blog, Apr. 3

## [Twitter, Facebook can improve work productivity](#)

A study conducted in Australia found that people who engage in Workplace Internet Leisure Browsing (WILB) are more productive than those who don't. Workers who "surf the internet for fun at work—within a reasonable limit of less than 20% of their total time in the office—are more productive by about 9%," according to the study's author, University of Melbourne Professor of Management and Marketing Brent Coker....

Cnet News, Apr. 2

## [Alexander Street launches Music Online resource](#)

Electronic publisher Alexander Street Press announced April 2 the launch of [Music Online](#), a comprehensive resource for the study of classical, jazz, world, and American music. The resource can deliver audio recordings, video content, full-text reference materials, musical scores, liner notes, biographies, and images through a single interface. Every object in the collection is indexed for subjects, historical events, genres, people, cultural groups, places, time periods, and ensembles....

Alexander Street Press, Apr. 2



### [What are you doing for MayDay?](#)

Libraries, museums, archives, and arts and historic preservation organizations across the nation are setting aside May 1 to participate in MayDay, a national effort to prepare for disasters. Sponsored by Heritage Preservation and other members of the Heritage Emergency National Task Force, MayDay encourages organizations to take one simple step to protect the art, artifacts, records, and historic sites they hold in trust....

Heritage Preservation



### [Our Kids Count campaign](#)

The National Center for Learning Disabilities launched a multiyear campaign April 7 to help struggling learners succeed. *Our Kids Count* aims to recruit new NCLD advocates and raise \$20 million in an effort to provide resources to children with learning disabilities. Between now and April 22, new donations will be matched up to \$200,000 by anonymous donors. Advocates will champion NCLD's early literacy screening program and outreach to parents and educators....

National Center for Learning Disabilities, Apr. 7



### [Special collections in ARL libraries](#)

The Association of Research Libraries Working Group on Special Collections, formed in 2007, has released a discussion report ([PDF file](#)) that identifies key issues in the management and exposure of special collections material in the 21st century. The group's main focus was on 19th- and 20th-century materials, including emerging digital materials and media, but most of the report applies with equal force to collecting and caring for materials from previous centuries....

Association of Research Libraries, Apr. 6

### [Du Bois papers to be digitized](#)

The W. E. B. Du Bois Library at the University of Massachusetts Amherst will digitize an estimated 100,000 items from its Du Bois collection, thanks to a \$200,000 grant from the Verizon Foundation. The project will provide online access for the first time to original diaries, letters, photographs, and other material related to Du Bois (1868–1963), an influential African-American scholar and political activist. The two-year project, to start in July, will provide unprecedented access to his papers, more than 4,000 articles, essays, and books....



University of Massachusetts Amherst, Apr. 3

## [The Malagasy People's Library Project](#)

This video (10:32) was created for schools, churches, organizations, and anyone else who wishes to help provide educational materials to the people of Madagascar. Eleventh- and 12th-grade students in the Mid-East Career and



Technology Centers digital media program created the presentation with information provided by Muskingum College Library Head of User Services Cherie Bronkar. The [Malagasy People's Library Project](#) sent over 4,000 children's books to the Madagascar Public Schools to support the addition of English-language skills being added to the curriculum in September 2008....

YouTube, Mar. 25

## [LC does YouTube](#)

Matt Raymond writes: "The Library of Congress has been working for several months now so that we could 'do YouTube right.' When you are the stewards of the world's largest collection of audiovisual materials (some 6 million films, broadcasts, and sound recordings), nothing less would be expected of you, and our own [YouTube channel](#) has now gone public. We are starting with more than 70 videos, but this is just the beginning."...



Library of Congress Blog, Apr. 7

## [Twitter be worried: Introducing Flutter](#)

Is 140 characters too many for you? Check out Flutter (3:44), which promises to take Twitter's microblogging to the next level, nanoblogging, with a limit of 26 characters per post, or Flap. "Plus, they're coming out with Flutter Eyes!" Written, produced, and edited by Andy Bouvé for Slate V....



Slate V, Apr. 4

[Go back to the Top](#)

AL Direct, April 8, 2009

Having trouble viewing this HTML e-mail (or seeing it in full)? Click here [[<%= util.viewHtmlLink %>](#)].

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | April 8, 2009

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

[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

## U.S. & World News

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[[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National\\_Security\\_Letter](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Security_Letter)]Federal bills revisit NSLs, digital privacy  
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2009/april2009/surveillancebillsintro.cfm>]  
With the Patriot Act due to sunset at the end of 2009, Congress is considering several bills that would affect the ability of law enforcement to access, amass, and warehouse digital data about the activities of private citizens. On March 30, Rep. Jerrold Nadler (D-N.Y.) and Jeff Flake (R-Ariz.) introduced the National Security Letters Reform Act of 2009 (PDF file [[http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=111\\_cong\\_bills&docid=f:h1800ih.txt.pdf](http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=111_cong_bills&docid=f:h1800ih.txt.pdf)]), which would limit the issuance of an NSL. A month earlier, lawmakers in both the House and the Senate introduced internet safety legislation that would require all Wi-Fi providers and end users, including libraries, to retain for at least two years all records pertaining to the identity of a user of a temporarily assigned network address....

American Libraries Online, Apr. 3

Man gets life for raping child in library

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2009/april2009/mol estergetslife.cfm>]

Corey Deen Saunders was sentenced April 2 to life in prison for the 2008 rape of a 6-year-old boy in the magazine room of the New Bedford (Mass.) Public Library. As a result of the attack, library trustees have modified [<http://www.newbedford-ma.gov/Library/policyBehavior.html>] their patron behavior policy to prohibit adults from speaking to a minor inside the library....

American Libraries Online, Apr. 3

=====  
[<http://www.tlcdelivers.com/tlc/default.asp>]  
=====

ALA News  
=====

ALA Connect debuts

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/al aconnectlaunch.cfm>]

ALA is now providing its members a common virtual space to engage in ALA business and network with other members around issues and interests relevant to the profession. In the first phase of ALA Connect,

[<http://connect.ala.org/>] every ALA group will have the ability to utilize posts, online docs, a group calendar, surveys, polls, chat rooms, and discussion forums. Members can log in using their regular ALA website username and password. Their records are automatically synchronized with the ALA membership database, so affiliations with committees, divisions, events, round tables, and sections are displayed. Project Manager Jenny Levine offers an overview of the site

[<http://discuss.ala.org/marginalia/2009/04/07/welcome-ala-connect-and-great er-privacy-options/>] and writes: “I feel a little like Doctor Frankenstein—it&rsquo;s aliiiiiiive—but so far the patient is doing quite well.”...

National Library Week is at hand

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/pi onlwvisitssurge.cfm>]

The 2009 National Library Week theme is “Worlds Connect @ your library,” and all types of libraries—school, public, and academic—will celebrate with special programs, April 12–18. Use these resources

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/ca mpaignworldsconnect.cfm>] from ALA to help carry the theme throughout the year. And be sure to check out these NLW events in Second Life [<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/ca mpaignworldsconnectsl.cfm>]....

Rev. Jackson to read to children during National Library Week  
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/pionlwjessejackson.cfm>]

In recognition of the valuable contributions of our nation's libraries, Rev. Jesse L. Jackson Sr., CEO and founder of the RainbowPUSH Coalition, and ALA Executive Director Keith Michael Fiels will participate in a reading event on April 11 to kick off the 2009 observance of National Library Week, April 12–18. During the coalition's Saturday Morning Forum at 930 E. 50th Street, Chicago, at 10 a.m., Jackson and Fiels will discuss how libraries are an important community hub of literacy and learning....

Public awareness @ your library

[<http://www.ala.org/insidescoop/2009/04/08/public-awareness-your-library/>]

Just in time for National Library Week, ALA will launch a new @ your library website [<http://www.atyourlibrary.org/>] April 9 aimed at raising public awareness. Focusing on what's available at libraries for families, kids and teens, and jobseekers, this website is a pilot project funded by the Carnegie Corporation of New York and is the first website to aim ALA outreach directly at the public, a goal of the Campaign for America's Libraries since its inception. The new site is also designed to complement the I Love Libraries

[<http://www.ilovelibraries.org/>] public advocacy website....

AL Inside Scoop, Apr. 8

National Library Workers Day honors library staff

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/apanlwd.cfm>]

On April 14, thousands of communities will celebrate National Library Workers Day, a time when library staff, patrons, administrators, and Friends groups will recognize the valuable contributions made by all library workers. The ALA–Allied Professional Association is sponsoring the day, whose theme, "Libraries Work Because We Do!," focuses on how library services depend on the important work done by every library staff member....

Peer reviewers needed

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/orpeerreviewpanel.cfm>]

The ALA Office for Research and Statistics invites nominations for peer reviewers for the ALA Research Series that publishes annual quantitative and qualitative research and analysis addressing topics important to libraries, librarians, and education in the profession. In this initial establishment of the review panel, two members will serve two-year terms beginning this summer. The deadline for nominations (PDF file

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/ors/ALAREsearchPanelform.pdf>])

is April 29....

[<http://libraryhistorybuff.blogspot.com/2009/04/school-libraries.html>] U.S. celebrates School Library Media Month

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/aaslpioslmm.cfm>]

Libraries are at the heart of the learning experience for almost 44

million elementary-, middle-, and high-school students. During the month of April, parents, students, and library media specialists celebrate the value of our nation's school library media centers with School Library Media Month.

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/aasl/aaslissues/aasladvocacy/schoollibrary.cfm>] From virtual homework help to wireless environments, school library media centers are dynamic places....

ALA: Spend stimulus funds on school libraries

[<http://www.eschoolnews.com/news/top-news/index.cfm?i=58111>]

As school leaders prepare to spend billions of dollars in federal stimulus money, ALA is urging that some of those dollars be used to keep school libraries up-to-date during hard economic times. Funding from the State Fiscal Stabilization Fund, Title I Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, and the Educational Technology State Grant can be used to prevent cutbacks, prevent layoffs, and modernize school libraries....

eSchool News, Apr. 7

A letter to President Obama

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/woobamaletter.cfm>]

On March 18, ALA President Jim Rettig submitted a letter to President Obama (PDF file

[[http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/wp-content/uploads/2009/04/obama-to-wn-hall-ltr-3-18-09-\\_2\\_.pdf](http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/wp-content/uploads/2009/04/obama-to-wn-hall-ltr-3-18-09-_2_.pdf)]) to address the issues ALA members chose to share with the administration during a January 24 Town Hall Meeting during the Midwinter Meeting in Denver: "Libraries are perfectly positioned to disseminate information relevant to the issues and challenges that face us as a nation, the same key issues which your administration is seeking to address."...

Librarianship and cultural heritage

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=2478>]

Your feedback [<mailto:crussell@alawash.org>] is needed on the draft document, Librarianship and Traditional Cultural Expressions: Nurturing Understanding and Respect (PDF file

[<http://wo.ala.org/tce/wp-content/uploads/2009/04/tcepentultimatedraft3.pdf>]), which represents librarian principles on the management and protection of traditional cultural expressions. Its purpose is to help librarians appreciate the unique nature of indigenous culture and to highlight ways that librarians can better manage traditional cultural expressions in their collections and share expertise with cultures that choose to self-manage their own cultural heritage. Ultimately the principles will be brought to ALA Council for endorsement as ALA policy....

District Dispatch, Apr. 6

Merola to discuss library advocacy

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/governancemerola.cfm>]

The next installment in the series of ALA President Jim Rettig's ALA Connections Salons

[<http://www.conference321.com/masteradmin/room.asp?id=rs423c62c43df0>]

will be an online discussion with Marci Merola, director of the ALA Office for Library Advocacy, scheduled for 2&ndash;3 p.m. Eastern time, April 17. Merola will discuss the various aspects of library advocacy, from the Seattle Moms to the economic crisis. OPAL Coordinator Tom Peters will begin the hour with an interview with Merola....

[<http://www.hwwilson.com/Databases/artcinema.htm>]Featured review:  
Reference

[[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show\\_product&pid=3332046](http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=3332046)]  
Cinema Image Gallery, Jan. 2009. H. W. Wilson.

A case might be made that film is the art form that most uniquely defined the 20th century, and, of course, its impact continues. Researchers and fans wanting access to more than 152,000 high-quality film stills and related images copyright-cleared for educational use&mdash;as well as linked biographies and articles on actors, directors, films, and related topics&mdash;could do no better than Wilson&rsquo;s Cinema Image Gallery. The images are a subset of the Kobal Collection, which contains more than a million images. Results display as thumbnails, and links to any related content are available from the record pages. This would make an excellent companion to Wilson&rsquo;s Art Museum Image Gallery; together, the two databases would provide a comprehensive view of the visual arts in the 20th century and beyond....

#### New databases

[[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show\\_product&pid=3370453](http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=3370453)]

Mary Ellen Quinn writes: "Reference database publishers provided us with the following information about new products. Information is effective February 2009 through July 2009. Where no pricing information is given, contact the publisher." Included are new offerings from Accessible Archives, Adam Matthew Digital, Alexander Street Press, Capstone, CQ, EBSCO, Gale, ProQuest, and many others....

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

#### Chicago Update

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You&#8217;ll see more than just &#8220;The Bean&#8221;  
[<http://featuresblogs.chicagotribune.com/theskyline/2009/04/move-over-bean-youre-about-to-get-companyseeking-to-spotlight-the-100th-anniversary-of-the-document-that-changed-the-fa.html>]

Chicago's Millennium Park, known for Anish Kapoor&rsquo;s public sculpture Cloud Gate [[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cloud\\_Gate](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cloud_Gate)] (which everyone calls "The Bean"), will soon sport two temporary pavilions by internationally renowned architects. Scheduled to open June 19, they will join with the Art Institute of Chicago&rsquo;s soon-to-debut Modern Wing to give five-year-old Millennium Park a fresh shot of energy. Designed by

Zaha Hadid of London and Ben van Berkel of Amsterdam, the privately funded pavilions will be the focal point of the region's celebration of the 1909 Plan of Chicago, also known as the Burnham Plan [<http://www.encyclopedia.chicagohistory.org/pages/10537.html>].... Chicago Tribune, Apr. 7

#### Real pirates at the Field Museum

[<http://www.fieldmuseum.org/pirates/highlights.asp>]

The Field Museum of Natural History is hosting the exhibition, "Real Pirates: The Untold Story of the Whydah from Slave Ship to Pirate Ship," through October. More than 200 artifacts recovered since 1984 from the wreck of the Whydah, the first fully authenticated pirate ship ever to be discovered in U.S. waters, are on display. On April 26, 1717, the perfect storm put an end to her pirating days, and the Whydah sank with most of her crew aboard—as well as the bounty from more than 50 captured ships....

Field Museum of Natural History

#### Division News

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#### New ALSC executive director

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/alscstrittmatter.cfm>]

Effective April 6, Aimee Strittmatter is the new ALSC Executive Director. She has been with the division since 2005 as deputy director, working specifically on continuing education, Annual Conference programs, preconferences, and special workshops. Prior to joining ALA, Strittmatter was children's services supervisor at the William P. Faust Public Library in Westland, Michigan. She succeeds Diane Foote, who stepped down [<http://www.alsc.ala.org/blog/?p=744>] in March to spend more time with her family....

#### Brett Butler Award winner to present LITA Camp keynote

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/litacampbutler.cfm>]

John Blyberg, 2009 recipient of the LITA/Brett Butler Entrepreneurship Award, will present one of the keynote sessions at LITACamp, "The Everywhere Library: Creating, Communicating, Integrating," May 7–8, in Dublin, Ohio. Blyberg received the award for his development of the Social OPAC application suite [<http://thesocialopac.net>]. Join library colleagues, along with Blyberg and fellow keynoter Joan Frye Williams, at LITACamp, LITA's first-ever unconference....

#### Awards

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#### Scholastic Library Publishing Award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/governancehorning.cfm>]

ALA has named Kathleen T. Horning the recipient of the 2009 Scholastic

Library Publishing Award. The honor, which will be presented during the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago, is bestowed on a librarian whose extraordinary contributions to promoting access to books and encouraging a love of reading for lifelong learning exemplifies outstanding achievement in the profession. Horning is director of the Cooperative Children's Book Center at the University of Wisconsin-Madison....

RUSA distinguished ILL librarian

[[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/ru\\_sacoopey.cfm](http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/ru_sacoopey.cfm)]

Barbara Coopey, head of interlibrary loan for Penn State University Libraries, has been selected as the winner of the 2009 Virginia Boucher/OCLC Distinguished ILL Librarian award. The award, administered by RUSA, recognizes an individual for outstanding professional achievement, leadership, and significant contributions to the fields of interlibrary loan and document delivery....

African-American history tool wins RUSA award

[[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/ru\\_sagalecengagewinner.cfm](http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/ru_sagalecengagewinner.cfm)]

Robert A. Aken II, web administration librarian, and Reinet F. Jones, diversity and multicultural activities librarian, both of the University of Kentucky Libraries, have won the 2009 Gale Cengage Learning Award for Excellence in Reference and Adult Library Services for the libraries' Notable Kentucky African Americans Database.

[<http://www.uky.edu/Libraries/nkaa/>] The award is administered by RUSA and is given to a library for development of an imaginative and unique resource to meet patrons' reference needs....

Award-winning project educates librarians about autism

[[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/as\\_claklasnod.cfm](http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/as_claklasnod.cfm)]

"Libraries and Autism: We're Connected

[<http://www.thejointlibrary.org/autism/>], a project developed by Margaret Kolaya, director of the Scotch Plains (N.J.) Public Library, and Daniel Weiss, director of the Fanwood (N.J.) Memorial Library, has been selected as the 2009 winner of the ASCLA/KLAS/NOD Award. The award is sponsored by ASCLA, Keystone Library Automation Systems, and the National Organization on Disability. Winners are honored for innovative and well-organized projects that have successfully developed or expanded library services for people with disabilities....

We the People Bookshelf awards

[[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/pp\\_opicturingamericawinners.cfm](http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/pp_opicturingamericawinners.cfm)]

The ALA Public Programs Office and the National Endowment for the Humanities selected 4,000 school and public libraries throughout the country to receive the sixth annual We the People Bookshelf. Libraries from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and several U.S. territories will receive the collection of 17 books for young readers on the theme "Picturing America." A full list of recipients will be available [<http://publicprograms.ala.org/bookshelf/>] mid-April....

IFLA International Marketing Awards

[<http://www.ifla.org/III/grants/marketing-award-winners.htm>]

The IFLA Section on Management and Marketing, in collaboration with Emerald, has announced the winners of the 7th IFLA International Marketing Award for 2009. First place was awarded to the National Library Board of Singapore, for its winning campaign “Go Library [<http://golibrary.nlb.gov.sg/>],” a multiplatform project that aims to entice customers to the library. Wrexham County Borough Council in Wales won second place, and the Alberta Library in Edmonton won third....  
International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions, Apr. 2

2009 Manchester Book Award

[<http://www.manchesterbookaward.com/article/195>]

The fourth annual Manchester Book Award, sponsored by the Manchester (U.K.) Library and Information Service and aimed at British youth aged 11–14, went to Sophie McKenzie’s *Six Steps to a Girl* (Simon and Schuster, 2007). Teens and preteens across the city voted for their favorites on the shortlist, with the winner announced March 11....

Manchester Book Award

Seen Online

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Downturn puts new stresses on libraries

[<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/04/02/us/02library.html>]

As the national economic crisis deepens and social services become casualties of budget cuts, libraries have come to fill a void for more people, particularly job-seekers and those who have fallen on hard times. Libraries across the country are seeing double-digit increases in patronage, often from 10% to 30% over previous years. Many librarians say they feel ill-equipped for the newfound demands of the job, the result of working with anxious and often depressed patrons who say they have nowhere else to go....

New York Times, Apr. 1

From librarian to career counselor [<http://www.newsweek.com/id/192764>]

Southfield (Mich.) Public Library Adult Services Intern Eva Gronowska writes: “The library as an institution has many roles, but as our country struggles through an economic crisis, I have watched the library where I work evolve into a career and business center, a community gathering place, and a bastion for hope. Things worsened in 2008, and in 2009 the economic crisis continues to suffocate Michigan. Interest in small businesses has remained high, but unemployment, the credit crunch, and foreclosures command our patrons’ attention and, consequently, ours.”...

Newsweek, Apr. 6

[[http://multimedia.iltempo.ilsole24ore.com/?media=183&tipo=photo&id=1783&cat\\_principale\\_page=1&canale=0&canale\\_page=1](http://multimedia.iltempo.ilsole24ore.com/?media=183&tipo=photo&id=1783&cat_principale_page=1&canale=0&canale_page=1)]Earthquake damage in L’Aquila

[<http://medievalnews.blogspot.com/2009/04/earthquake-hits-medieval-italian-city.html>]

The April 6 earthquake that centered on the medieval town of L’Aquila, Italy, has caused a significant amount of damage to the region’s cultural heritage. The third floor of the 16th-century castle that houses the

National Museum of Abruzzo suffered a collapse on its third floor and is too dangerous to enter. The cupola of the 18th-century Baroque church of St. Augustine collapsed, flattening the prefecture that held L'Aquila's state archives

[[http://www.ansa.it/site/notizie/awnplus/english/news/2009-04-06\\_106344308.html](http://www.ansa.it/site/notizie/awnplus/english/news/2009-04-06_106344308.html)]. And a primary-school library was destroyed

[[http://www.corriere.it/english/09\\_aprile\\_08/heroes\\_trucks\\_01bd4c20-2453-11de-a75a-00144f02aabc.shtml](http://www.corriere.it/english/09_aprile_08/heroes_trucks_01bd4c20-2453-11de-a75a-00144f02aabc.shtml)] in Goriano Sicoli....

Medieval News, Apr. 7; ANSA, Apr. 6; Corriere della Sera (Milan), Apr. 8

Schindler's list found in Australian library

[[http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5jBZ\\_W23J0YxoZ6Jrk-qP4ASLEbSA](http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5jBZ_W23J0YxoZ6Jrk-qP4ASLEbSA)]

Workers at the State Library of New South Wales in Sydney have rediscovered a carbon typescript copy of the list of 801 Jews saved by German businessman Oskar Schindler that inspired the 1982 novel Schindler's Ark and the 1993 Oscar-winning film Schindler's List. The 13-page document was found in the papers of the novel's author, Thomas Keneally. Library co-curator Olwen Pryke described it as "one of the most powerful documents of the 20th century." She said the library had no idea the list was among six boxes of material acquired in 1996....

Agence France Presse, Apr. 6

the boot

[<http://www.orlandosentinel.com/news/local/lake/orl-1klbook06040609apr06,0,1430387.story>]

Dixie Fechtel is in a tug of war with the Leesburg (Fla.) Public Library about what she calls questionable books in the young adult section and has asked library officials to pull them from the shelves. Her battle began in August when she read excerpts of two books her 13-year-old daughter had checked out: The Bermudez Triangle by Maureen Johnson and Only in Your Dreams: A Gossip Girl Novel by Cecily von Ziegesar. Since then, Fechtel has had a series of back-and-forths with city and county leaders that has led nowhere....

Orlando (Fla.) Sentinel, Apr. 6

Arson repair to cost \$160,000

[<http://kennebecjournal.maintoday.com/news/local/6171236.html>]

Repairing the fire-damaged Charles M. Bailey Public Library (right) will cost an estimated \$160,000, Winthrop, Maine, Town Manager Cornell Knight told councilors April 6. Investigators said the March 6 fire was intentionally set in the ground-floor boiler room. Zachary B. Lowe, 16, confessed to police he set the fire and is due to appear in court in mid-April. Winthrop police Officer John Hall received a plaque recognizing his role in discovering and reporting the fire....

Augusta (Maine) Kennebec Journal, Apr. 8

Google's plan for orphan works

[<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/04/04/technology/internet/04books.html>]

Millions of orphan books may get a new legal guardian. Google has been scanning the pages of those books and others as part of its plan to bring a digital library and bookstore, unprecedented in scope, to computer screens across the United States. But a growing chorus, including ALA, is expressing concern

[<http://bits.blogs.nytimes.com/2009/04/04/its-not-just-microsoft-thats-balking-at-googles-book-plans/>] that a far-reaching settlement of a suit brought against Google by publishers and authors is about to grant the company too much power over orphan works....  
New York Times, Apr. 3–4

It's a plot!

[<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/04/06/AR2009040603445.html>]

John Kelly writes: "Most librarians are liberal, forward-thinking public servants, always pondering ways to do their job better. And for this, I hate them. You see, by the end of June, all public libraries in Montgomery County, Maryland, will have done away with the date-due stamp, the familiar feature perfected by no less a figure than that Edison of bibliotechnology, Melvil Dewey. In its place you will get a printed receipt. My Lovely Wife was pleased. Her sister's a librarian, so I fear she may have been co-opted by the library-industrial complex."...  
Washington Post, Apr. 7

Sister-city librarians visit Fredericksburg

[<http://fredericksburg.com/News/FLS/2009/042009/04062009/455198>]

A visit to the special collections at the University of Mary Washington's Simpson Library was one of dozens of stops Catherine Lecat and Christine Ortuno, both librarians from Fréjus, France, made during their visit to Fredericksburg, Virginia, in late March. The two cities have been sister cities for nearly 30 years, and plenty of residents—artists, archaeologists, teachers, students, and elected officials—have exchanged visits. But this was the first time librarians traveled from the ancient city along the Riviera to the historic city along the Rappahannock....  
Fredericksburg (Va.) Free Lance-Star, Apr. 6

[<http://link.brightcove.com/services/player/bcpid1556063505?bctid=9777348001>]

[[http://www.onlineathens.com/stories/020209/uga\\_383873044.shtml](http://www.onlineathens.com/stories/020209/uga_383873044.shtml)]

A snippet of Jefferson Davis's hair, hundreds of old Georgia Bulldog football films, and Sen. Richard Russell's political papers will get a new home, along with millions of other items now in the University of Georgia's main library in Athens. A 110,000-square-foot building planned for Waddell Street as soon as 2011 will give librarians state-of-the-art rooms to store and preserve UGA's special collections—an ever-expanding vault of rare books, manuscripts, and films. Watch the video

[<http://link.brightcove.com/services/player/bcpid1556063505?bctid=9777348001>] (4:46)....

Athens (Ga.) Banner-Herald, Feb. 2

Posen library board member charged with theft

[<http://www.southtownstar.com/news/1509524,040309quirk.article>]

A Posen (Ill.) Library District official has been indicted for stealing more than \$135,000 from the Midlothian Public Library. Admitted gambling addict Susan Quirk faces charges of theft and official misconduct after she frittered away the stolen loot at riverboat casinos, the Cook County state's attorney's office said April 2. Posen has no library, but taxpayers give MPL \$90,000 a year in return for access to its book, music, and DVD collections. Quirk allegedly stole from the fund between

2001 and 2007....

Tinley Park (Ill.) Southtown Star, Apr. 3

Two men convicted for stolen books from Hayes Presidential Library

[<http://www.thenews-messenger.com/article/20090402/NEWS01/904020306/-1/newsfront2>]

Two rare books that were stolen from the Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center in Fremont, Ohio, in August 2008 were finally returned April 1.

One of the books, Laws of the Territory of the United States North West of the Ohio, also known as the Maxwell Code (right), is the first book printed in what would become the state of Ohio. Printed in 1796, it is valued at more than \$100,000. Investigators finished up their cases against the two people responsible for the thefts, Joshua McCarty and Zachary Scranton....

Fremont (Ohio) News-Messenger, Apr. 2

National Library of Sweden accused of distributing child porn

[<http://www.thelocal.se/18704/20090406/>]

Two child-welfare organizations filed a report to Stockholm police April 6 accusing the Swedish National Library of possessing and distributing child pornography. The large collection at the library was built up in the years between 1971—when the possession, distribution, and display of child pornography was legalized in Sweden—and 1980, when the law was repealed. Hand in Hand and the Association of Relatives of Sexually Abused Children claim that the collection should be restricted to legitimate researchers....

The Local (Stockholm), Apr. 6

Go back to the Top [#top]

Tech Talk

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[<http://www.edustyle.net/site.php?site=2722>]Web redesign on a dime

[<http://www.universitybusiness.com/viewarticle.aspx?articleid=1269>]

Karine Joly writes: “What can you do if your latest web redesign was done a few years ago and there’s no sign that the long-awaited budget to launch a major overhaul project will become a reality in the upcoming budget? Compiled with the help and the suggestions of several web professionals working in universities and colleges across the country, the following list of inexpensive—and often free—resources can help an institution’s web team achieve great results on (or without) a budget during three key steps of a website redesign or realignment.”...

University Business, Apr.

A look at the best computer interfaces

[<http://www.technologyreview.com/computing/22394/?a=f>]

Say goodbye to the mouse and hello to augmented reality, voice recognition, and geospatial tracking. Technology Review looks at computer input devices past and present, from the Linux command line and an early mouse to a gesture-sensing interface (right) from Oblong Industries [<http://oblong.com/>] and Microsoft’s multitouch screen....

Technology Review, Apr. 5

[<http://www.webmynd.com/html/>]Combine your Google and Twitter searches  
[<http://www.searchenginejournal.com/google-search-twitter-search/9653/>]  
Ann Smarty writes: “No one says Twitter search is better than Google; instead, it is different. You can’t compare them, but you can combine them. This post looks into ways to check relevant Twitter updates while you are searching Google.”...  
Search Engine Journal, Apr. 6

Five Windows tools to keep your digital life in sync  
[<http://blogs.zdnet.com/Bott/?p=787>]  
Ed Bott writes: “Keeping files, programs, bookmarks, and passwords in sync across two computers is a tricky task. It gets even tougher when I throw a third or fourth PC into the mix. Over the course of the last few years, I’ve built up an assortment of tools and techniques that help me keep track of files, bookmarks, passwords, RSS feeds, and other assorted data as I switch between PCs. In this post, I’ll share my favorite software, services, and shortcuts for keeping stuff in sync.”...  
Ed Bott’s Microsoft Report, Apr. 5

One cell phone per child  
[<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2344283,00.asp>]  
Dan Costa writes: “Once upon a time, PCs were the primary tools for connecting to the internet. Globally, the mobile phone is now the primary communication tool. This shift has had a stunning impact on developing nations, the wireless industry, and even the internet itself. To get an understanding of the scale of the worldwide mobile revolution, consider that 4.1 billion people subscribe to a mobile phone service. For much of the developing world, wireless has leapfrogged landlines. There are only 1.27 billion fixed-line subscriptions globally.”...  
PC Magazine, Apr. 2

Publishing

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Reading advocates protest disabled Kindle 2  
[<http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/technology/2009/04/kindleblindreadaloud.html>]  
The Reading Rights Coalition and the National Federation for the Blind, advocates for readers with print disabilities, staged a protest outside the Authors Guild’s New York offices April 7. Their complaint: The guild’s objections to the text-to-speech feature of Amazon’s Kindle 2 e-book reader disenfranchises people who have difficulty reading. Amazon, which introduced the feature in its second-generation Kindle in February, later backed off from the guild’s criticism and said it would allow authors and publishers to disable it for their own titles. See photos and a video  
[<http://i.gizmodo.com/5202554/photos-and-video-from-the-national-federation-of-the-blinds-kindle-2-protest>] (1:06)....  
Los Angeles Times, Apr. 7; Gizmodo, Apr. 7

More authors turn to web publishing

[<http://www.cnn.com/2009/TECH/04/06/print.on.demand.publishing/index.html>]

As the economy takes its toll on traditional publishing houses—HarperCollins dropped its Collins division in February, losing major executives and editors, and Random House continues with cutbacks—more authors are looking to online self-publishing companies. Companies like Author Solutions

[<http://www.authorsolutions.com/about.aspx>] or Lulu.com

[<http://www.lulu.com/>] allow budding authors to submit digital files of their manuscript on any subject matter. Unlike traditional publishing companies, these publishers only produce hard copies of the books when a customer buys one, a process known as print on demand....

CNN, Apr. 6

Post-Apocalyptic reading

[<http://www.abebooks.com/books/apocalypse-end-world-armageddon/post-apocalyptic-fiction.shtml>]

Richard Davies writes: “Things can always be worse, and you can rely on novelists to put that phrase into cold, hard words on the page. The method of worldwide destruction varies. Readers could encounter a plague, global nuclear war, biological weaponry, a comet collision, or a blinding meteor shower followed by flesh-eating plants. Many authors don’t explain in detail the nature of their book’s catastrophe, but in many ways that’s unimportant—the thoughts and actions of the survivors are what counts.” Here are 20 of the best....

AbeBooks

Amazon customers boycotting e-books over \$9.99

[[http://www.mediabistro.com/galleycat/trends/amazon\\_customers\\_boycotting\\_ebooks\\_over\\_999\\_113225.asp](http://www.mediabistro.com/galleycat/trends/amazon_customers_boycotting_ebooks_over_999_113225.asp)]

Nearly 250 Amazon customers have joined an informal boycott of digital books priced more than \$9.99 at the popular online retailer—they have already tagged more than 770 books with a 999boycott tag

[[http://www.amazon.com/tag/999boycott/products/ref=tag\\_tdp\\_bkt\\_istp\\_4](http://www.amazon.com/tag/999boycott/products/ref=tag_tdp_bkt_istp_4)].

One Amazon reader summed up

[[http://www.amazon.com/tag/999boycott/forum/ref=cm\\_cd\\_ef\\_tft\\_tp?encoding=UTF8&cdForum=Fx1QQ0EHG6YPZUC&cdThread=Tx3OW3F9IBBCP1Z&displayType=tagsDetail](http://www.amazon.com/tag/999boycott/forum/ref=cm_cd_ef_tft_tp?encoding=UTF8&cdForum=Fx1QQ0EHG6YPZUC&cdThread=Tx3OW3F9IBBCP1Z&displayType=tagsDetail)]

the boycott: “While you can reread the book, you cannot donate it to a library, sell it to a used bookstore, sell it on Amazon’s Used Marketplace, or trade it to a friend. The publisher does not need to pay for paper, glue, press time, press employees, insurance, ink, boxes, or shipping.”...

GalleyCat, Apr. 3

Six ideas for improving publishing

[<http://www.boingboing.net/2009/04/05/six-good-technologic.html>]

Cory Doctorow writes: “Michael Tamblyn, CEO of BookNet Canada, presents six technology initiatives that could radically alter the course of publishing for the better. It’s a refreshing presentation (28:49), focused on selling more paper books using better technology that improves workflow and marketing, while acknowledging that there’s lots of room for improvement in e-book readers as well.”...

Boing Boing, Apr. 5; BookNet Canada, Mar. 19

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[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

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## Actions & Answers

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### Gamers are readers

[<http://www.schoollibraryjournal.com/article/CA6647714.html>]

Lori Easterwood and Lindsey Patrick Wesson write: “Today’s video games are multifaceted experiences that feature cinematic visuals, well-defined characters, challenging puzzles, and a plot that is easy to delineate. We already use these criteria to recommend books and movies to patrons. Video games are just another medium that we can utilize in the same way by identifying characters, plot, and genre. For the purpose of reader’s advisory, you only need a familiarity with a few key genres to have the confidence to pair gamers with excellent books.”...  
School Library Journal, Apr. 1

### World Digital Library to launch April 21

[<http://www.loc.gov/today/pr/2009/09-070.html>]

On April 21, the Library of Congress, UNESCO, and 32 partner institutions will launch the World Digital Library,

[<http://www.worlddigitallibrary.org/project/english/>] a website that features unique cultural materials from libraries and archives from around the world. The brainchild of Librarian of Congress James Billington, the site will include manuscripts, maps, rare books, films, sound recordings, and prints and photographs—available unrestricted to the public and free of charge. The browseable, searchable site will function in seven languages (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Portuguese, Russian, and Spanish) and offer content in dozens of others....  
Library of Congress, Apr. 7

[<http://www.flickr.com/photos/trucolorsfly/3402009548/>]The Darien statements

[<http://www.blyberg.net/2009/04/03/the-darien-statements-on-the-library-and-librarians/>]

On March 26, Darien (Conn.) Library hosted an event called “In the Foothills: A Not-Quite-Summit on the Future of Libraries”; at which participants were instructed to “come prepared to help sketch out the role librarians should play in defining the future of libraries.” The two speakers, John Berry and Kathryn Greenhill, provoked a conversation among Kathryn, John Blyberg, and Cindi Trainor (above) that spilled out across the ensuing week. This is the document that resulted....

Blyberg.net, Apr. 3

[<http://www.flickr.com/photos/smailtronic/2360667357/>]Measuring ROI in libraries

[<http://inthelibrarywiththeleadpipe.org/2009/are-you-worth-it-what-return-on-investment-can-and-can%E2%80%99t-tell-you-about-your-library/>]

Cory Lown and Hilary Davis write: “Return on investment (ROI) is how much

you get back for what you put into something. ROI can be an integral part of the process for evaluating a library's services, collections, staffing levels, planning for new services and resources, or measuring how valuable your library is to your community and stakeholders. Direct, individual benefits are easier to measure and quantify than indirect and collective benefits. This poses a challenge for libraries, as many of the benefits they provide are indirect and collective, such as the value of having a better-educated citizenry.”...

In the Library with the Lead Pipe, Apr. 1

[<http://www.gimp.org/>]Five best image-editing tools

[<http://lifehacker.com/5198025/five-best-image-editing-tools>]

Jason Fitzpatrick writes: “Long gone are the days where snapshots came back from the photo lab and disappeared into albums and shoe boxes. Now, digital photos are tweaked, adjusted, and remixed in ways their analog counterparts couldn’t imagine. On April 2, we asked you to share your favorite image-editing tools. The votes have been tallied and now we’re back with the top five contenders for the crown of Best Image Editor.”...

Lifehacker, Apr. 5

Five reasons URL shorteners are useful

[<http://mashable.com/2009/04/05/url-shorteners/>]

Ben Parr writes: “URL shorteners take long URLs (which can be over 100 characters) and transform them into manageable links that almost never exceed 20 characters. URL shorteners are good for web culture and the growth of the internet. Here are my top five reasons for why URL shorteners are useful to the web.” And Danny Sullivan helps you choose which one

[<http://searchengineland.com/analysis-which-url-shortening-service-should-you-use-17204>] to use....

Mashable, Apr. 5; Search Engine Land, Apr. 4

A few reasons URL shorteners are bad

[<http://joshua.schachter.org/2009/04/on-url-shorteners.html>]

Delicious creator Joshua Schachter writes: “URL-shortening services such as TinyURL have been around for a number of years. Their original purpose was to prevent cumbersome URLs from getting fragmented by broken email clients that felt the need to wrap everything to an 80-column screen. But it’s 2009 now, and this problem no longer exists. With URL shorteners in use, the long-term archivability of the hyperlink depends on the health of a third party.”...

joshua schachter’s blog, Apr. 3

Twitter, Facebook can improve work productivity

[[http://news.cnet.com/8301-19518\\_3-10211019-238.html](http://news.cnet.com/8301-19518_3-10211019-238.html)]

A study conducted in Australia found that people who engage in Workplace Internet Leisure Browsing (WILB) are more productive than those who don’t. Workers who “surf the internet for fun at work—within a reasonable limit of less than 20% of their total time in the office—are more productive by about 9%,” according to the study’s author, University of Melbourne Professor of Management and Marketing Brent Coker....

Cnet News, Apr. 2

resource

[<http://alexanderstreet.com/pressroom/releases/09.0402.musiconline.htm>]  
Electronic publisher Alexander Street Press announced April 2 the launch of Music Online [<http://alexanderstreet.com/products/muso.htm>], [<http://alexanderstreet.com/products/muso.htm>] a comprehensive resource for the study of classical, jazz, world, and American music. The resource can deliver audio recordings, video content, full-text reference materials, musical scores, liner notes, biographies, and images through a single interface. Every object in the collection is indexed for subjects, historical events, genres, people, cultural groups, places, time periods, and ensembles....  
Alexander Street Press, Apr. 2

What are you doing for MayDay?

[<http://www.heritagepreservation.org/PROGRAMS/TFlessons/MayDayAnnc.html>]  
Libraries, museums, archives, and arts and historic preservation organizations across the nation are setting aside May 1 to participate in MayDay, a national effort to prepare for disasters. Sponsored by Heritage Preservation and other members of the Heritage Emergency National Task Force, MayDay encourages organizations to take one simple step to protect the art, artifacts, records, and historic sites they hold in trust....  
Heritage Preservation

campaign [<http://www.nclld.org/>]

The National Center for Learning Disabilities launched a multiyear campaign April 7 to help struggling learners succeed. Our Kids Count aims to recruit new NCLD advocates and raise \$20 million in an effort to provide resources to children with learning disabilities. Between now and April 22, new donations will be matched up to \$200,000 by anonymous donors. Advocates will champion NCLD's early literacy screening program and outreach to parents and educators....  
National Center for Learning Disabilities, Apr. 7

Special collections in ARL libraries

[<http://www.arl.org/news/pr/scwg-6apr09.shtml>]  
The Association of Research Libraries Working Group on Special Collections, formed in 2007, has released a discussion report (PDF file [<http://www.arl.org/bm~doc/scwg-report.pdf>]) that identifies key issues in the management and exposure of special collections material in the 21st century. The group's main focus was on 19th- and 20th-century materials, including emerging digital materials and media, but most of the report applies with equal force to collecting and caring for materials from previous centuries....  
Association of Research Libraries, Apr. 6

Du Bois papers to be digitized

[<http://www.umass.edu/newsoffice/newsreleases/articles/86582.php>]  
The W. E. B. Du Bois Library at the University of Massachusetts Amherst will digitize an estimated 100,000 items from its Du Bois collection, thanks to a \$200,000 grant from the Verizon Foundation. The project will provide online access for the first time to original diaries, letters, photographs, and other material related to Du Bois (1868–1963), an influential African-American scholar and political activist. The two-year project, to start in July, will provide unprecedented access to his

papers, more than 4,000 articles, essays, and books....  
University of Massachusetts Amherst, Apr. 3

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pxW7R6mXGss#t=0m16s>]The Malagasy People's Library Project

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pxW7R6mXGss#t=0m16s>]  
This video (10:32) was created for schools, churches, organizations, and anyone else who wishes to help provide educational materials to the people of Madagascar. Eleventh- and 12th-grade students in the Mid-East Career and Technology Centers digital media program created the presentation with information provided by Muskingum College Library Head of User Services Cherie Bronkar. The Malagasy People's Library Project [<http://www.bronkars.com/MalagasyPeoplesLibrary/index.html>] sent over 4,000 children's books to the Madagascar Public Schools to support the addition of English-language skills being added to the curriculum in September 2008....  
YouTube, Mar. 25

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HWM2ixqua3Y>]LC does YouTube  
[<http://www.loc.gov/blog/?p=467>]  
Matt Raymond writes: "The Library of Congress has been working for several months now so that we could 'do YouTube right.' When you are the stewards of the world's largest collection of audiovisual materials (some 6 million films, broadcasts, and sound recordings), nothing less would be expected of you, and our own YouTube channel [<http://www.youtube.com/user/LibraryOfCongress>] has now gone public. We are starting with more than 70 videos, but this is just the beginning."...  
Library of Congress Blog, Apr. 7

[<http://link.brightcove.com/services/player/bcpid271557392?bctid=1832857000>]  
1]Twitter be worried: Introducing Flutter  
[<http://link.brightcove.com/services/player/bcpid271557392?bctid=1832857000>]  
1]  
Is 140 characters too many for you? Check out Flutter (3:44), which promises to take Twitter's microblogging to the next level, nanoblogging, with a limit of 26 characters per post, or Flap. "Plus, they're coming out with Flutter Eyes!" Written, produced, and edited by Andy Bouvé for Slate V....  
Slate V, Apr. 4

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[<http://www.r2library.com/>]

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[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/index.cfm>]

ALA Annual Conference,

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/2009/faq.cfm>]

Chicago, July 9–15. Get one of the six buttons

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/index.cfm>] for

your blog or website that says you are attending or recruiting or

exhibiting.

[<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=1216>]

Make your own READ posters

[<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=1216>] featuring your patrons

or local celebrities. The newly optimized READ CD Box Set contains

everything you need for producing your own posters, bookmarks, and

giveaways. The files have been reorganized on the disks and there are new

file types available. Adobe Photoshop Elements comes included. NEW! From

ALA Graphics.

In this issue

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[<http://site.ebrary.com/lib/ala>]

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Career Leads from

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[<http://www.skolkovo.ru/>]

Library Director

[<http://joblist.ala.org/modules/jobseeker/controller.cfm?scr=jobdetail&jobid=12976>],

[<http://joblist.ala.org/modules/jobseeker/controller.cfm?scr=jobdetail&jobid=12976>] Moscow School of Management SKOLKOVO, Russia. Lead and supervise project for organization of the Business School Library including design, architecture, provision of books and subscription resources, and creation of general electronic database system. Strategic planning, budget

preparation, and resources allocation....

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

## Digital Library of the Week

[<http://digicoll.library.wisc.edu/cgi-bin/AldoLeopold/AldoLeopold-idx?type=turn&entity=AldoLeopold.ALRodents.p0553&id=AldoLeopold.ALRodents&isize=>]

### The Aldo Leopold Archives

[<http://digicoll.library.wisc.edu/AldoLeopold/>], University of Wisconsin Digital Collections. Aldo Leopold (1887–1948) is considered the most influential conservation thinker of the 20th century. He is most widely known as the author of *A Sand County Almanac*, one of the most respected books about the environment ever published. The Leopold Collection houses the raw materials that document not only his rise to prominence but also the history of conservation and the emergence of the field of ecology. The archive is augmented by correspondence and related materials carefully retained over the years by his mother, his wife, and other family members and professional associates; these span his entire life, but are most rich and voluminous for his early years. The Leopold Collection serves scholars, policy leaders, and the general public who look to Leopold for insight and inspiration in dealing with complex conservation challenges facing 21st-century society.

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>] Browse previous Digital Libraries of the Week at the I Love Libraries [<http://www.ilovelibraries.ala.org/diglibweekly/>] site.

## Public Perception

How the World  
Sees Us

“Book burning has never worked. Sooner or later, people find the books and the ideas they want.”

—David B. Offer, in an editorial on historical book burnings in the wake of the March 6 arson at the C. M. Bailey Public Library in Winthrop, Maine, Waterville (Maine) Morning Sentinel, Mar. 31.

[<http://www.twitter.com/amlibraries>]

AL on Twitter? Follow American Libraries news stories, videos, and blog posts on Twitter. [<http://www.twitter.com/amlibraries>]

Still time to be a YALSA Editor

YALSA is seeking a Member Editor

[<http://yalsa.ala.org/blog/2009/02/27/yalsa-seeks-editor-for-quarterly-journal/>] for its award-winning quarterly journal, Young Adult Library Services. The deadline for applications is April 10.

Ask the ALA Librarian

Q. Are there wheelchair accessibility requirements for bookmobiles? If so, what are the requirements on a 28-foot bookmobile?

A. There are two parts to the answer. The first: Is physical accessibility required? The second: If physical accessibility is required, what are the parameters? For an answer to the first question, see the ADA Guide for Small Towns [<http://www.ada.gov/smtown.htm>] from the Department of Justice, which states: "If a library facility or building is not accessible, these services may be offered in a different accessible library facility, in another accessible facility nearby, or in an alternate manner." Notice that the ADA Guide shows an example of an older, smaller bookmobile, which can be considered an "alternate manner."

There are newer, larger bookmobiles

[[http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Mobile\\_Libraries](http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Mobile_Libraries)] that are already compliant with the ADA requirements and include lifts for disabled patrons. For wheelchair accessibility, the usual ADA space requirements

[[http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Access\\_to\\_Facilities,\\_including\\_ADA\\_issues](http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Access_to_Facilities,_including_ADA_issues)] apply, including a minimum clear-aisle space of 36 inches (a minimum of 42 inches is preferred). From the ALA Professional Tips wiki

[[http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/ADA\\_and\\_Bookmobiles](http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/ADA_and_Bookmobiles)].

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

ALA periodicals, all in one list

This is a list of the newsletters, magazines, and journals

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/library/alaperiodicals/index.cfm>] published within ALA, including those which are only available online. A brief profile is offered of each title; it includes the name and email address of the editor(s), the ISSN, the publishing frequency per year, the subscription cost per year, and contact information for placing a subscription order. Availability of a website is indicated, as are the titles with advertising opportunities. Compiled by Valerie Hawkins of the ALA Library.

## Calendar

Apr. 21&ndash;22:

Marketing,

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/pla/plaevents/cplacourses/marketing.cfm>]

Kansas City Metropolitan Library and Information Network, Missouri.

Certified Public Library Administrator course sponsored by PLA.

Apr. 24:

From Transaction to Interaction: Transforming the User Experience,

[<http://liswire.com/node/376>] Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center

Library, New York City.

Apr. 27:

Zena Sutherland Lecture,

[<http://www.chipublib.org/eventsprog/events/sutherland/sutherland.php>]

Chicago Public Library, Harold Washington Library Center. “Writer’s

Soup,” by Christopher Paul Curtis.

May 11&ndash;12:

National Library Legislative Day.

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/wo/washevents/nlld/nlld2009.cfm>]

May 11–12:

International Digital Publishing Forum,

[<http://www.idpf.org/digitalbook09/default.htm>] “Digital Book 2009: An

eBook Stimulus Plan for Publishing,” McGraw-Hill Auditorium, New York

City.

May 27–29:

Fourth International Conference on ICT for Development, Education, and

Training, [<http://www.elearning-africa.com/conference.php>] Le Méridien

Président, Dakar, Senegal.

May 28&ndash;31:

BookExpo America, [<http://www.bookexpoamerica.com/>] Jacob J. Javits

Center, New York City.

June 3&ndash;4:

Inspiration, Innovation, and Celebration: An Entrepreneurial Conference

for Librarians, [<http://zsr.wfu.edu/iic/>] University of North Carolina,

Greensboro.

June 4&ndash;5:

Politics and Networking,

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/pla/plaevents/cplacourses/politics.cfm>]

Decatur (Ga.) Public Library. Certified Public Library Administrator

course sponsored by PLA.

Aug. 6&ndash;7:

Serving Diverse Populations,  
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/pla/plaevents/cplacourses/diversepopulations.cfm>] Houston, Texas. Certified Public Library Administrator course sponsored by PLA.

Sept. 27&ndash;

Oct. 1:

International Association of Aquatic and Marine Science Libraries and Information Centers, [<http://www.iamslc.org/index.php?section=214>] Annual Conference, Brugge and Oostende, Belgium. &ldquo;Confluence of Ideas: Evolving to Meet the Challenges of Global Change.&rdquo;

Nov. 11&ndash;14: Museum Computer Network, [<http://www.mcn.edu/conferences/index.asp>] Annual Conference, Doubletree Hotel&ndash;Lloyd Center, Portland, Oregon. &ldquo;Museum Information, Museum Efficiency: Doing More with Less!&rdquo;

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

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American Libraries Direct

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# american libraries DIRECT

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | April 15, 2009

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## U.S. & World News

### [Rutgers drops "library" from name of school](#)

The Rutgers University Board of Governors approved a resolution April 2 removing the words "library studies" from the name of the School of Communication, Information, and Library Studies. Effective July 1, its name will be the School of Communication and Information. The school's faculty had voted 30–10 in favor of the name change at a February 4 faculty meeting. Dean Jorge Reina Schement noted that Rutgers is the only member of the Association of American Universities with a library program connected to a journalism program....

American Libraries Online, Apr. 10



### [Objection to Google scanning settlement filed](#)

The consumer advocacy group Consumer Watchdog has sent a letter ([PDF file](#)) to the Justice Department asking to delay implementation of the October 2008 settlement of publisher lawsuits over Google's scanning of copyrighted books. Concerns from more groups are anticipated before the May 5 deadline for filing objections. ALA, in conjunction with ACRL and the Association for Research Libraries, plans to file an amicus brief with the court about the settlement....

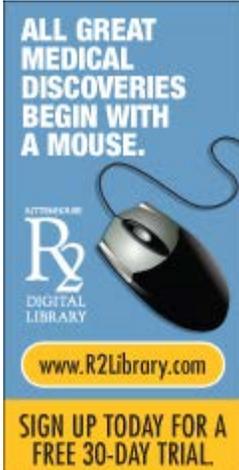
American Libraries Online, Apr. 15



### [Protests disrupt white-supremacist meeting at library](#)

Police were called to Clifton (N.J.) Public Library's Allwood branch March 21 in response to a brawl between five protesters and about 15 members of the League of American Patriots, a white supremacist group. No one was arrested, and while one man claimed to have been assaulted, he did not file a complaint. The group had met at the library's main branch at least twice before without incident, although it had reserved rooms under the name "Polish-American Issues Forum."...

American Libraries Online, Apr. 10



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### [ALA Annual Conference, Chicago, July 9–15.](#)

On the evening of July 9, [Wait Wait . . . Don't Tell Me!](#), the National Public Radio weekly hour-long quiz program sponsored by ALTAFF in partnership with Conference Services will feature host Peter Sagal, official scorekeeper Carl Kasell, and a panel of the nation's foremost pundits, including Paula Poundstone, who will play



## ALA News

### [OIF Director Judith Krug dies](#)

Judith Krug, 69, director of the ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom and executive director of the Freedom to Read Foundation for more than 40 years, died April 11 after a lengthy illness. Through her unwavering support of First Amendment rights, she advised countless librarians and trustees in dealing with challenges to library materials. She was involved in multiple First Amendment cases that have gone all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court. Krug was also the founder of ALA's Banned Books Week. See statements from the [Freedom to Read Foundation](#), the [Intellectual Freedom Committee](#), ALA President [Jim Rettig](#), and Executive Director [Keith Michael Fiels](#). *American Libraries* will be developing a retrospective on Krug's career for the May issue. See the *New York Times* [obituary](#) and [editorial](#). ALA has established a [tribute page](#); to share your condolences, please send an [email](#)....



### [ALA releases State of America's Libraries report](#)

The value of libraries in communities across the country continued to grow in 2008—and accelerated dramatically as the national economy sank and people looked for cost-effective resources in a time of crisis, according to ALA's 2009 [State of America's Libraries](#) report, released April 14. United States libraries experienced a dramatic increase in library card registration as the public continued to turn to their local library for free services. More than 68% of Americans have a library card. This is the greatest number of Americans with library cards since ALA started to measure library-card usage in 1990....



### [American Libraries' Spring digital supplement](#)

Check out the expanded Facilities Showcase in the Spring digital supplement from *American Libraries*. Included is a showcase of more than 80 library architectural project reviews, the winners of the 2009 AIA/ALA Library Building Awards, two features by Wanda Urbanska on green products for libraries, and an article on two libraries that created successful spaces for the preschool set....

*American Libraries*, Spring 2009 digital supplement



### [Rev. Jackson, Fiels kick off National Library Week](#)

Reverend Jesse L. Jackson Sr., CEO and founder of the RainbowPUSH Coalition in Chicago, and ALA Executive Director Keith Michael Fiels spoke April 11 at a televised forum about the value of libraries and then read to 20 children. The event kicked off the 2009 observance of National Library Week and took place in



this witty and quirky weekly quiz show during a live taping at the Chase Auditorium.



*Booklist* publications have joined the [Twitterati](#). Daily postings keep followers informed about the *Booklist Online Review of the Day* and other noteworthy articles or *Booklist* happenings. Start following today! **NEW! From *Booklist*.**

### In this issue April 2009



#### 2009 Library Design Showcase

#### A Greener Library, A Greener You

#### Building Science 101

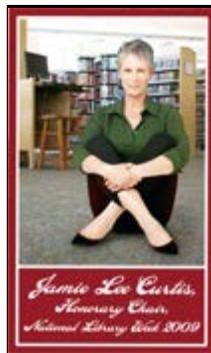
#### Meeting Students' Need States

Career Leads  
from  
**JobLIST**

RainbowPUSH's library. Jackson and Fiels discussed how libraries are an important community hub of literacy and learning, as well as a place people turn to during difficult economic times....

### [Visits surge as nation celebrates libraries](#)

During National Library Week, April 12–18, the nation is celebrating the invaluable contributions of libraries. Libraries across America report a surge in visits by patrons who want free computer and internet access, job information, and accurate financial materials, in addition to many other services. The demand for books, CDs, and DVDs continues to grow as well. Best-selling author and actress Jamie Lee Curtis is the honorary chair of National Library Week 2009. Her messages about the value of America's libraries are available by [downloading](#) PSAs....



### [ALA comments on broadband](#)

ALA submitted a filing ([PDF file](#)) April 14 to the Federal Communications Commission in response to its call for comments to help inform the commission's consultative role in the broadband provisions of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. ALA also prepared [comments](#) ([PDF file](#)) for the National Telecommunications and Information Administration and the Rural Utilities Service....

### [Step Up to the Plate begins](#)

Just as thousands of libraries across the country are celebrating National Library Week, thousands of families are stepping up to learn about a library program at the National Baseball Hall of Fame's Youth Baseball Week. Season Four of the national [Step Up to the Plate @ your library](#) program officially kicked off April 14. Patrons of all ages are encouraged to visit their library and answer a series of [trivia questions](#) inspired by the history and diversity of our national pastime.....



### [Attract and retain high-performing employees](#)

ALA Editions has released the second edition of [Developing a Compensation Plan for Your Library](#) by Paula M. Singer and Laura L. Francisco. This thorough treatment of compensation plans includes updated versions of the numerous checklists, worksheets, and salary surveys that made the first edition a reliable resource. The book helps readers become familiar with the process of developing a compensation plan and offers tips that will guide them through potential challenges like maintaining staff morale....



### [Libraries, Second Life, and Education with Joe Sanchez](#)

ALA TechSource is presenting its first virtual world event—a discussion of virtual worlds, libraries, and education with Second Life expert Joe Sanchez. Sanchez, a doctoral candidate at the University of Texas at Austin, is the author of the February issue of *Library Technology Reports*, "[Implementing](#)



[Librarian](#), Multinational Force and Observers, El Gorah, Sinai, Egypt. The Multinational Force and Observers, the independent international peacekeeping organization responsible for supervising implementation of the security provisions of the Egypt-Israel Peace Treaty, seeks an experienced library professional to oversee proper functioning of the two libraries and provide library support services to 28 remote site locations for a multinational military and civilian force of approximately 1700 people in the Sinai Desert. A two-year renewable unaccompanied status contract including housing, meals, and recreational facilities is offered....

@ [More jobs...](#)

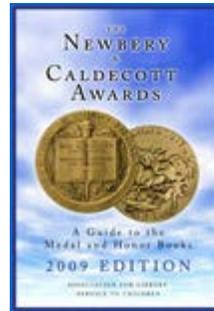
**Digital Library of the Week**



[Second Life: Ideas, Challenges and Innovations.](#) An exclusive interactive discussion and presentation of his work will be held on the ALA Island at 9 p.m. Eastern time on April 15....

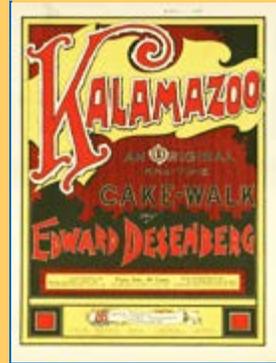
### [2009 Newbery and Caldecott awards](#)

ALA Editions has released the 2009 edition of [The Newbery and Caldecott Awards: A Guide to the Medal and Honor Books](#) by ALSC. This annual guide covers the most distinguished American children's literature and illustration. For more than eight decades, librarians from ALSC have intensely scrutinized the children's books published each year, selecting the winning and honor books for the Newbery and Caldecott Awards....



### [Avatar stars for National Library Workers Day](#)

In celebration of the ALA-Allied Professional Association's National Library Workers Day, April 14, ALA Island in Second Life is featuring the Gallery of Library Stars. Visiting avatars can pose for a picture and have it added to the gallery. The feature will be available for several weeks, so just go to ALA Party Central (167, 73, 30) for pose-center instructions and gallery contacts. Shown above is Bunny Iwish (ALA's Megan McFarlane)....



### [Seeking Michigan.](#)

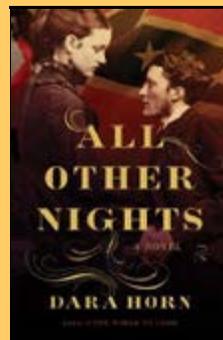
launched in March by the state's Department of History, Arts, and Libraries, is a growing collection of digitized documents, maps, films, images, oral histories, and artifacts that creatively tells the stories of Michigan's families, homes, businesses, communities, and landscapes. Its first major accomplishment was the addition of some 1 million death records covering the years 1897 through 1920; these records are indexed by name, death date, location, and age. Other special collections include more than 100,000 pages of Civil War documents; some 10,000 photographs; a variety of Michigan sheet music; background on the state's 44 governors; Works Progress Administration data on land and buildings throughout rural Michigan; photographs and postcards of 120 lighthouses and life-saving stations in the state; and thousands of maps in the state archives. The Library of Michigan and Archives of Michigan began work on this site in 2008.

## Booklist ONLINE

### [Featured review: Adult books](#)

Horn, Dara. *All Other Nights*. Apr. 2009. 384p. Norton, hardcover (978-0-393-06492-6).

"How is this night different from all other nights?" Jacob Rappaport, a Jewish soldier in the Union army during the Civil War, has his own, very different answer to this ritual question, traditionally asked at a Passover seder. In March 1861, Jacob is spending Passover at the home of relatives in New Orleans, but he is there with a special assignment: kill his uncle, a loyal southerner, who is planning to assassinate President Lincoln. Horn, author of *In the Image* (2002) and *The World to Come* (2006), follows this stunning set-piece with a complex, multilayered, and thoroughly involving historical novel. Rappaport's second assignment as a Union spy is every bit as troubling as his first: to woo and then marry the



daughter of a Jewish businessman in Virginia with whom he had dealings before the war. It is no surprise, of course, that Rappaport falls deeply in love with the woman—purported to be a Confederate spy—he was sent to entrap, but it is certainly surprising to watch how Horn develops this premise....

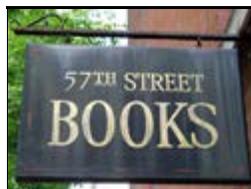
@ Visit [Booklist Online](#) for other reviews and much more....

## Chicago Update

### [Barack Obama's Chicago](#)

At ALA Annual Conference, tour the Chicago that Barack Obama knows—from his home, to his barber, to the spot of his victory rally, the Baskin-Robbins where he and Michelle first kissed, and many places in between. At [57th Street Books](#), 1301 E. 57th Street in Hyde Park, Obama held launch parties here for his books, *Dreams* and *The Audacity of Hope*, and has reportedly called it his favorite bookstore....

*Chicago Tribune*



## Division News

### [WrestleMania Reading Challenge champs](#)

Stephanie Diaz (left) and Christian Cervantes (second from right) of Houston were crowned national champions in the WrestleMania Reading Challenge, sponsored by YALSA and World Wrestling Entertainment. In the grade 9–12 finals, Cervantes answered the most questions correctly about the book *Shift* by Jennifer Bradbury. Diaz successfully defeated her competition in the grade 7–8 competition by answering the most questions correctly about the book *Soccer Chicks Rule* by Dawn Fitzgerald....

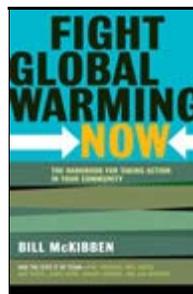


### [Ko, Christensen win YALSA Flip cams](#)

Donna Ko, media assistant at the Central Academy of Technology and Arts in Monroe, North Carolina, won a Flip Ultra video camera by becoming a new member of YALSA. Deborah Christensen, media coordinator at the school, also won a Flip Ultra for recommending that Ko join YALSA as part of the division's 2009 membership drive....

### [YALSA offers Earth Day ideas](#)

YALSA has compiled a list of [activity ideas](#) to help teens learn about their environment on Earth Day, April 22. Earth Day activity ideas include geocaching seminars, recycled jewelry programs, and community clean-up programs. In addition, YALSA offers a booklist called [Change Your World](#), highlighting titles nominated for the 2010 Popular Paperbacks for Young Adults booklist, which includes books about activism, politics, and volunteering....



**Do you know** of a digital library collection that we can mention in this *AL Direct* feature? [Tell us about it.](#) Browse previous Digital Libraries of the Week at the [Love Libraries](#) site.

## Public Perception

How the World Sees Us

**“When [best-selling author Elizabeth Berg] became a writer, it was a dream of hers to have a ‘real book in a real library’ that would be read by no one she knew. When it really happened, she was the first to check it out, she said. She was nervous that someone would think it was tacky to borrow her own book. But the librarian hadn’t even noticed who she was and told her that she was checking out a good book by a new author. Berg couldn’t believe the librarian already had read the book and enjoyed it... [Now, her 84-year-old] mother brings the librarians big tins of pralines each Christmas. Berg said her mother once told her, ‘If it weren’t for libraries, so many would not read at all—and look where they’d be.’”**

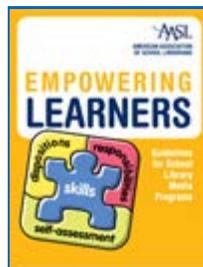
—Lori Van Ingen's profile of Elizabeth Berg, author of *Durable Goods* and *Joy School*, who was speaker at a National Library Week Author Luncheon April 14 at the Eden Resort Inn, Lancaster (Pa.) *Intelligencer Journal*, Apr. 15.

## [Invite a legislator to your school library](#)

AASL urges school library media specialists to advocate for their school library media programs by inviting local representatives to visit during School Library Media Month. It is important to help your legislator understand why school library media specialists are indispensable to a student's educational career. AASL has created downloadable tip sheets ([PDF file](#)) for invitations....

## [New AASL guidelines](#)

AASL has released [Empowering Learners: Guidelines for School Library Media Programs](#), completing an essential professional-development package for school library media specialists. *Empowering Learners* provides leadership principles that address the requirements for mastering a changing school library environment. It builds on a strong history of guidelines published to ensure that program planners go beyond the basics to provide goals, priorities, criteria, and general principles for establishing effective library media programs....



## [ACRL's Immersion '09 program](#)

The ACRL Institute for Information Literacy invites applications for its [Immersion '09 program](#). For the first time, the Intentional Teacher and Assessment Tracks will be offered simultaneously December 2–6 in Nashville. Applications for both tracks are now being accepted through May 29....



## [ACRL preconferences in Chicago](#)

ACRL is offering three [preconferences](#) July 10 in conjunction with the 2009 ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. The topics are digitization, instructional design, and online library instruction. May 22 is the advance registration deadline....

## [ACRL debuts revamped website](#)

ACRL launched an updated, user-centered design for its [website](#) on April 14. The results of an ACRL membership survey informed the redesign process, with many suggestions on usability incorporated into the final design....

## [RUSA professional development](#)

Library professionals interested in adding basic business knowledge and business reference skills to their résumés are invited to participate in [Business Reference 101](#), an online course, and [Mastering Business Acumen \(MBA\) in a Day](#), a one-day workshop, both offered by RUSA. The next session of Business Reference 101 runs May 4–29 and is taught by Celia Ross. The MBA preconference will be held July 10 in conjunction with the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. Another online course, [The Reference Interview](#), runs May 4–June 19 and is taught by Dave Tyckoson; [registration](#) closes April 27....

## [YALSA summer online courses](#)

YALSA will offer two online courses this summer—Beyond Booklists: Serving Today's Diverse Teens (taught by Jennifer Velasquez), and Pain in the Brain: Adolescent Development and Library Behavior (taught by Beth Gallaway). Both classes meet for four weeks, running June 1–26. [Registration](#) ends May 26....

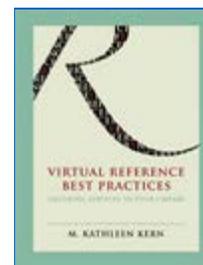


**AL on Twitter?** Follow *American Libraries* news stories, videos, and blog posts on [Twitter](#).



[Children's Book Week](#), May 11–17, will be here before you know it. ALSC has many creative ideas for celebrating it using materials found in the [Kids! @ your library toolkit](#).

## **Ask the ALA Librarian**



***Q. My library is looking to start offering a virtual reference service. Do you have any resources to help us?***

***A. [Virtual reference](#), also known as digital or electronic reference, is an evolving service that libraries offer. ALA has a [fact sheet](#) that offers a selection of articles, web resources, and some***

## [YALSA Podcast: Stephanie Rosalia](#)

In this podcast (16:40), Matthew Moffett talks with school librarian Stephanie Rosalia about her work. Rosalia was [profiled](#) February 15 by the *New York Times*. The conversation covers how the interview came about, her information and media literacy teaching techniques, library and classroom collaboration in her school, what constitutes reading, the importance of informing people about what the modern library is all about, and the [SKILLS Act](#)....

YALSA Blog, Apr. 8

## Awards

### [PLA Harvard University fellowship](#)

PLA has awarded Ishwar Laxminarayan, director of the Jackson (Mich.) District Library, a PLA Leadership Fellows scholarship for the Senior Executives in State and Local Government program at Harvard University Kennedy School of Government. The program offers public library managers a chance to attend executive leadership training at some of the best universities in the United States....



### [Gale's third annual NLW video contest](#)

In honor of National Library Week, Gale Cengage Learning has announced its third annual video contest. Library fans are invited to create a one-minute video promoting their library. The video should explain how the library brings "power to the users." The winning entry will be awarded \$2,500 to the individual and an additional \$2,500 will be presented to the winner's favorite library. Entrants must load their videos to the [Librereo group](#) on YouTube. The deadline is June 1....



Librereo

### [Donna Flake wins MLA International Service Award](#)

Donna Flake, director of the Robert M. Fales Health Sciences Library of the South East Area Health Education Center in Wilmington, North Carolina, has won the Medical Library Association's 2009 T. Mark Hodges International Service Award. Flake has organized partnerships between medical libraries in the United States and sister institutions in Latvia and Moldova, leading to the exchange of thousands of medical books, electronic databases, and the delivery of journal articles by email....



Wilmington (N.C.) *Star-News*, Apr. 13

### [Janice Rice receives UW Woman of Color Award](#)

Janice Rice, senior academic librarian in the University of Wisconsin-Madison College Library and member of the Ho-Chunk Nation, has been selected as a recipient of the 14th annual UW System Outstanding Women of Color in Education Award. Rice was honored along with recipients from other UW System institutions at an awards ceremony and luncheon on April 4....



vendor information and provides an introduction to the issues to consider when contemplating the implementation of virtual reference services. From the [ALA Professional Tips wiki](#).

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

### [State privacy laws](#)

ALA encourages all librarians, particularly those in public libraries, to work with their local legal counsel to ensure they understand **state confidentiality laws** so they may respond quickly to any requests from law enforcement. Forty-eight of 50 states have such laws on the books. This [web page](#) includes links to all state privacy laws regarding library records.

## Calendar

**Apr. 22:** [Conservation Center for Art and Historic Artifacts](#).

"Preservation Best Practices for Optimal Collections Care," The Wistar Institute, Philadelphia.

**Apr. 22-29:** [USENIX](#), Symposium on Networked Systems Design and Implementation, Boston Park Plaza Hotel and Towers.

University of Wisconsin–Madison, Apr. 9

### [Tie for Philip K. Dick Award](#)

The 2008 Philip K. Dick Award has resulted in a tie between *Emissaries from the Dead* by Adam-Troy Castro (Eos Books) and *Terminal Mind* by David Walton (Meadowhawk Press). The award, sponsored by the Philadelphia Science Fiction Society, honors the most distinguished science fiction published in paperback original form in the United States....

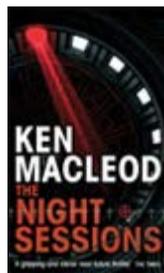
Philip K. Dick Award



### [Best British SF novel](#)

Ken MacLeod has won the 2008 British Science Fiction Association Award for Best Novel published in the UK for his latest book, *The Night Sessions* (Orbit). A gripping hybrid of SF thriller and police procedural, *The Night Sessions* is set in the future of the Second Enlightenment, where religion has finally been crushed and removed from political life....

Orbit, Apr. 13



### [2009 Sparky video contest](#)

The organizers of the Sparky Awards, which recognize the best new short videos on the value of information sharing, are calling on colleges and universities to organize their own campus video competitions in 2009 to get maximum benefit from the contest. Well-suited for adoption as a class assignment, the Sparky Awards invite contestants to submit videos of two minutes or less that imaginatively portray the benefits of the open, legal exchange of information. Entries must be [submitted](#) by December 6....

Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition, Apr. 9

## Seen Online

### [Amazon error removed rankings from gay books](#)

In response to nearly two days of angry online commentary, particularly on [Twitter](#), Amazon.com said April 13 that "an embarrassing and ham-fisted cataloging error" had caused thousands of books on its site to lose their sales rankings and become harder to find in searches. Amazon managers [found](#) that an employee who happened to work in France had filled out a field incorrectly and more than 50,000 items got flipped over to be flagged as "adult." Most of the company's online critics complained that the problem appeared to have a disproportionate effect on books with a gay and lesbian theme, leading to cries of censorship....

*New York Times*, Apr. 13; *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*, Apr. 13

### [Job seekers at NYPL, in Obama's footsteps](#)

Jobless New Yorkers are being invited to follow in the footsteps of President Barack Obama, starting at a Midtown branch of the public library. Officials of the New York Public Library unveiled [Job Search Central](#) April 14, a concentration of resources to help the unemployed find work, in the lower level of the Science, Industry, and Business Library on Madison Avenue. NYPL President Paul LeClerc said librarians will be on hand to advise and guide job seekers just as one once did for Obama....

*New York Times*, Apr. 14

### **Apr. 24–25:**

#### [Celebration of Latino Children's Literature Conference](#)

University of South Carolina, College of Education, Columbia.

### **Apr. 28:**

#### [ARMA Utah–Salt Lake Chapter](#)

Rocky Mountain SharePoint Conference, Sandy, Utah. "Leveraging SharePoint for Cost-Effective Electronic Document Management."

### **May 1:**

[NFAIS](#), "Social Media and the Future of Scholarly Communication," PALINET Headquarters, Philadelphia.

### **May 6–7:**

[Amigos Library Services](#), Member Conference, Crowne Plaza Hotel North Dallas-Addison, Texas. "Navigating the Now."

### **May 13–15:**

[Second World Congress: Information and Knowledge: Technology Issues](#), Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.

### **May 15:**

[ACRL New England Chapter](#), Spring Conference, College of the Holy Cross, Hogan Center, Worcester, Massachusetts. "Are You Being Served? Customer Satisfaction and Library Service."

### **June 12:**

[Pres4Lib2009](#), a camp for library

## [Libraries seeing more patrons with mental illness](#)

Librarians are seeing varying degrees of problems with patrons exhibiting severe mental illnesses. Nationally, libraries have become daytime shelters for many people with severe mental disorders who need to be in treatment, according to E. Fuller Torrey (right), founder of the Treatment Advocacy Center in Arlington, Virginia, the chief author of a survey ([PDF file](#)) published in the March/April issue of *Public Libraries*....

*Waterville (Maine) Morning Sentinel*, Apr. 11; *Public Libraries*, Mar./Apr., pp. 45-51



## [Montana libraries in a bind](#)

Tax coffers are shrinking, leaving libraries with slumping income at a time of booming business. In Flathead County, Montana, which is experiencing double-digit unemployment rates, branch libraries aren't as busy as New York's, but Library Director Kim Crowley sees the same sorts of people: a diesel mechanic who drives 50 miles to Whitefish just to learn computer skills and laid-off construction workers eager to learn word processing and spreadsheet software. In hot spots such as Columbia Falls—where lumber and smelter layoffs have left hundreds unemployed—library foot traffic has spiked by more than 22%....

*The Missoulian*, Apr. 14



## [San Jose to look at porn filters again](#)

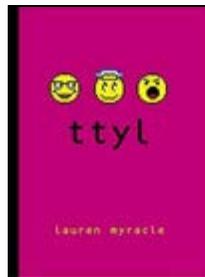
San Jose, California, officials are preparing for a showdown over online pornography in the city's libraries. Officials last considered whether to filter library internet use in 1997 but concluded the technology was too primitive. The council will revisit that decision in what is expected to be a heavily attended meeting April 21. Councilman Pete Constant's filtering crusade has put him on a collision course with the city's head librarian, Jane Light....

*San Jose (Calif.) Mercury News*, Apr. 11

## [Myracle's \*ttyl\* okayed for Wausau middle school](#)

The Wausau, Wisconsin, school board voted 7-2 April 13 to keep a book in the John Muir Middle School library after a parent asked that it be removed because of sexually explicit content. Board President Dale Lawson and member Pat Keefe voted to remove Lauren Myracle's novel *ttyl*. Yolanta Soroko Baumann had asked district officials to remove the book after her 6th-grade daughter showed it to her. The formal review process has not been used for at least a decade, said Joel VerDuin, the school district's director of technology and media service....

*Wausau (Wis.) Daily Herald*, Apr. 14



## [Puyallup principal censured after standing up for librarians](#)

A Puyallup, Washington, principal has been disciplined after emailing school board members about the value of school librarians in helping students meet educational standards. Guy Kovacs (right), principal of G. W. Edgerton Elementary School, received a letter of reprimand for going outside the chain of command, not for commenting on impending budget reductions, according to a district spokesperson. School officials are considering the elimination of



presenters and speakers, Princeton (N.J.) Public Library.

## **June 18-19:** [Homeland Defense Journal workshop.](#)

Jefferson Plaza Building, Arlington, Virginia. "Emergency Preparedness for Libraries."

## **June 23-24:** [International m-Libraries Conference.](#)

University of British Columbia, Vancouver.

## **Oct. 1-4:** [Association for Rural and Small Libraries.](#)

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

## **Oct. 20-22:** [Internet Librarian International.](#)

Conference on Interlending and Document Supply, Hannover, Germany.

## **Oct. 21-23:** [Ohio Library Council.](#)

Convention and Expo, Renaissance Hotel, Cleveland, Ohio. "Educating 21st-Century Leaders."

## **Feb. 4-6, 2010:** [Association of Writers and Illustrators for Children.](#)

Conference on Children's Libraries, New Delhi. "Building a Book Culture."

@ [More...](#)

nearly half of the 27.6 librarian positions, reducing the current \$3 million library-staff budget by \$640,000....

*Tacoma (Wash.) News-Tribune, Apr. 12*

### [Iowa ILL system uses bicycle delivery](#)

When libraries in Iowa want to borrow materials from another library in the state, they use the U.S. Postal Service—except in Ames. In town, it's faster to send things with [Jim Gregory](#), who bikes books, articles, and other circulating materials daily between Ames Public Library, the Veterinary Medical Library, and the Iowa State University's Parks Library. The idea that bicycle delivery would be faster got started in 2007, when librarians realized the postal service added at least a day to deliveries across town....

*Ames (Iowa) Tribune, Apr. 12*

### [Seattle's new city librarian discusses budget cuts, e-books, and Mickey Rourke](#)

In six weeks on the job, Susan Hildreth, Seattle's new city librarian, has been busy getting to know the department's 26 branches, \$50-million budget, and 700 staffers. But there's a more recent number on her plate: a potential 3% cut to the library's budget, in light of a \$43-million revenue shortfall facing Seattle this year. All city departments have been asked to identify such budget reductions. This is an excerpt from her interview....

*Seattle Post-Intelligencer, Apr. 9*



### [Book returned 110 years late](#)

An overdue library book with a storied past—including being pulled across an ice-covered St. Lawrence River on a skid—is back home in Canada after no less than 110 years. The cost of its journey in late fees, dating back to 1899 from the Lyn (Ontario) Public Library, should have been more than \$9,000, but retired Denver engineer Dale Fenton Baird Sr. will not have to pay it....

*Brockville (Ont.) Recorder and Times, Apr. 9*

### [Marin County to close San Geronimo Valley branch](#)

Despite protests from a handful of residents, the Marin County (Calif.) Free Library agreed April 7 to shut down its 80-year-old San Geronimo Valley branch, saying it will close by July when its services are merged with the Fairfax branch. The board called the branch, located in leased school-district space, a victim of the recession and said it had no alternative. The move will eliminate a library staffer and other costs, saving \$144,000 a year....

*Novato (Calif.) Marin Independent Journal, Apr. 7*



### [Schaumburg's new odor policy](#)

The Schaumburg Township (Ill.) District Library recently added "offensive bodily odors" to its list of prohibitions. The policy stemmed from complaints about an apparently homeless person, but Director Stephanie Sarnoff said the aroma would have to be so overpowering that it interfered with others' use of the facility and would apply just as much to an overuse of perfume as an underuse of soap. Advocates for the homeless, though, say it's not easy for a person living on the street to stay clean....

*Chicago Tribune, Apr. 13*

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

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## [New Henderson branch opens in mall](#)

The Galleria at Sunset mall has given the Henderson (Nev.) Library District a 1,300-square-foot store for use without rent until August, after which a discounted rate will kick in. The library's newest branch opened there February 28. The Galleria Family Branch will be used as a prime pickup location for requested materials and for checking out popular best-sellers and high-interest books. The branch also has a space for family literacy programming that focuses on pre-kindergarten literacy skills....

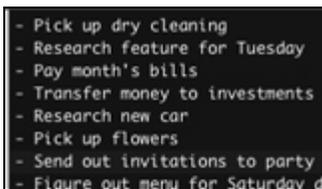
*Green Valley/Henderson (Nev.) View, Mar. 3*

[Go back to the Top](#)

## Tech Talk

### [What to do when the internet is out](#)

Kevin Purdy writes: "A while back, we wrote about hypothetical [internet outages](#). These days, with [bandwidth caps](#) and [cable cutters kicking whole areas offline](#), we've got new



suggestions for the best uses of time when a disconnection really happens." For example, look at your to-do list; clean up your computer files and folders; or do some actual work....

*Lifehacker, Apr. 14*

### [Why open-source library software is a trend](#)

(subscription required)

School and public librarians list flexibility, low cost, and convenience as some of the major benefits of migrating to an open-source library management system. Some of the best-known open-source library management products include Koha, Evergreen, and OPALS. Many larger libraries pay a hosting site, such as Equinox Software or LibLime.com, to help with the initial implementation and then pay a yearly fee for hosting....

*eSchool News, Apr. 10*

### [Get the most out of Gmail Labs](#)

Ben Parr writes: "Google has been on a tear with Gmail lately—it has been releasing new features at a rapid pace. You can now watch YouTube videos within Gmail, undo sent



messages, and, as of this week, you are able to insert images into Gmail. These are all useful and wonderful features—if you've turned them on in Gmail Labs. Gmail Labs, the Gmail version of Google Labs, has several dozen features you can enable, from location-based signatures to multiple inboxes."...

*Mashable, Apr. 11*

### [New tool aims to make browser's history more useful](#)

Carnegie Mellon University graduate student Jing Jin and her colleagues demonstrated a new browser-history tool at the 2009 Computer-Human Interaction Conference, April 4-9, in Boston. Researchers tested users' ability to recall web pages and found that URLs and textual descriptions (by which most browsers organize their history) weren't as easy to remember as colors or images collected from the pages themselves. So the tool—currently a plug-in for the

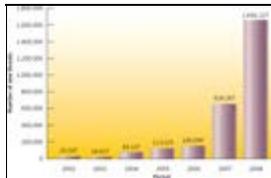
Firefox browser—lets users browse images of websites they have visited in the past....

*Technology Review*, Apr. 10

### [The dangerous web](#)

Worldwide malicious code activity reached alarming figures last year, said information security vendor Symantec. In 2008, Symantec created more than 1.6-million new malicious code signatures, which helps the organization block attacks. This equates to more than 60% of the total malicious code signatures ever created by Symantec, a response to the rapidly increasing threats. The figures were reported in Symantec's [Internet Security Threat Report, Volume XIV](#)....

*Network World*, Apr. 15

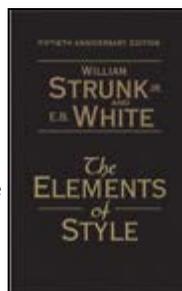


## Publishing

### [50 years of stupid grammar advice](#)

Geoffrey K. Pullum writes: "April 16 is the 50th anniversary of the publication of a little book that is loved and admired throughout American academe. Celebrations, readings, and toasts are being held, and a commemorative edition has been released. I won't be celebrating. *The Elements of Style* does not deserve the enormous esteem in which it is held by American college graduates. Its advice ranges from limp platitudes to inconsistent nonsense. Its enormous influence has not improved American students' grasp of English grammar; it has significantly degraded it."...

*Chronicle of Higher Education*, Apr. 17



### [Print no longer the default MLA citation style](#)

Even in citations, print is the default no more. The seventh edition of the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*, released March 9, states that the Modern Language Association no longer recognizes print as the default medium and suggests that the medium of publication should be included in each work's cited entry. Moreover, MLA has ceased to recommend inclusion of URLs in citing web-based works—unless the instructor requires it or a reader would likely be unable to locate the source otherwise....

*Inside Higher Ed*, Mar. 11



### [ABC-CLIO open house](#)

ABC-CLIO is offering [free access](#) to its electronic products during National Library Week, April 12–18. Entrants who sign up for a free 60-day trial of any of the publisher's databases could win a one-year database subscription; those who follow the link to a multiple-choice trivia quiz based on the databases and answer the questions correctly, could win an iPod Touch....

ABC-CLIO, Apr. 10

### [Oxford's library scavenger hunt](#)

To kick off National Library Week, Oxford University Press is offering free access to [Oxford Reference Online](#) (login as *user* nationallibraryweek and *password* oxford). They are also hosting a library-related scavenger hunt to encourage you to use ORO to find

the answers to such questions as "Under which pope was the Vatican Library established in 1450?"...

Oxford University Press, Apr. 13

### [Alexander Street launches American History in Video](#)

Electronic publisher Alexander Street Press and A&E Television Networks released *American History in Video* April 9, a new online resource designed for college and university instructors and researchers. The only online source for the complete series of both United News and Universal Newsreel, the collection contains much other rare archival footage. Alexander Street is offering [free access](#) through April 30....

Alexander Street Press, Apr. 9



### [ProQuest encourages library advocacy](#)

Database publisher ProQuest is celebrating National Library Week by encouraging libraries to take advantage of the company's popular [advocacy program](#). The program includes tools and services that help librarians connect with their user communities, free database access and scholarship support for library students, and awards to recognize outstanding library school educators and those who protect intellectual freedom....

WWJ-AM, Detroit, Apr. 12

### [The world's weirdest book](#)

Richard Davies writes: "Some people think it's one of the weirdest books ever published. An art book unlike any other art book, a unique and disturbing surreal parody. *Codex Seraphinianus* by Italian artist Luigi Serafini is a window on a bizarre fantasy world complete with its own unique (and unreadable) alphabet and numerous illustrations that borrow from the modern age but veer into the extremely unusual. First published in two volumes by Franco Maria Ricci in 1981, the pictures in this article are from the 1983 American edition published by Abbeville."...

AbeBooks

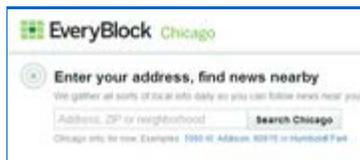


### [Hyperlocal websites deliver news without newspapers](#)

If your local newspaper shuts down, what will take the place of its coverage?

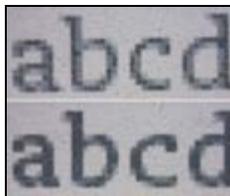
Perhaps a package of information about your neighborhood, or even your block, assembled by a computer. A number of web start-up companies are creating so-called hyperlocal news sites that let people zoom in on what is happening closest to them, often without involving traditional journalists. The sites, like [EveryBlock](#), [Outside.in](#), [Placeblogger](#), and [Patch](#), collect links to articles and blogs and often supplement them....

*The New York Times*, Apr. 12



### [Kindle 2's fuzzy fonts](#)

Priya Ganapati writes: "Amazon's Kindle 2 is slimmer, faster, and has longer battery life than its predecessor. But the newly launched e-book reader falls short when it comes to how well it displays text, say some users. Kindle 2 has font-smoothing algorithms and its screen offers more levels of gray in order to better



render text and pictures. But the changes have backfired by making text more difficult to read at smaller sizes. The problem seems especially acute for older users.”...

Gadget Lab, Apr. 13

### [Lost in the pixels of a good book](#)

Elizabeth Bluemle writes: “I’d always dismissed e-books as handy tools for business travelers. No one would really want to read fiction in pixels, would they? Book lovers love the artifact. I even said as much, all calm and confident, to a customer last month. No way, José. Not for me. Not for anyone who loves the feel and smell of paper and ink, the textures of matte covers and deckled edges, the heft of a heavy tome or the personal goodness of a little smooth square hardcover.”...

Shelftalker, Apr. 9



## Actions & Answers

### [Apple’s DRM-free music: 8 things you should know](#)

Tim Gideon writes: “Apple brought its only slightly delayed new pricing scheme to the public on April 7, after initially promising an April 1 launch. To catch you up, the big news is that Digital Rights Management is now a thing of the past, meaning that from now on you can play the iTunes store files you buy on any computer that has iTunes, and you can pass those files along to anyone you wish. Apple was already selling this codec under the name iTunes Plus, but the files were priced at 30 cents more than the regular 99-cent iTunes tracks because they also had a slightly higher bit rate. Have any questions? We certainly did. Here are our top eight, along with answers.”...

PC Magazine, Apr. 7



### [Gates Foundation and OCLC partner to increase library support](#)

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation announced April 14 a \$5-million grant to the OCLC library cooperative to develop a campaign that will help public library leaders heighten awareness of the needs of local libraries and increase support for the services they provide during challenging times. The campaign will launch in select areas of Georgia and Iowa. This spring, OCLC will solicit proposals from libraries that wish to participate in the early pilot campaign and will award a limited number of small grants to support the campaign in select communities....

OCLC, Apr. 14

### [Third OCLC research software contest](#)

OCLC Research is once again celebrating libraries, archives, museums, and their heritage of technological innovation, by sponsoring a software contest to encourage innovation in the use of web-based services. The prize is \$2,500 and a visit to OCLC in Dublin, Ohio. The challenge is to use an OCLC resource to create a

web service that does something interesting, innovative, and useful. The deadline is June 30....

OCLC

### [April is Jazz Appreciation Month](#)

Angela Hanshaw writes: "The Smithsonian launched Jazz Appreciation Month in 2001 to pay tribute to jazz both as a historic and living American art form. This year's celebration marks the centennial of Chicago jazz-musician Benny Goodman, the King of Swing, who is featured on the 2009 poster ([PDF file](#)). Visitors to the [JAM site](#) can learn how to take part in the celebration."...

Programming Librarian, Apr. 10



### [Can't afford a prom dress? Try the library](#)

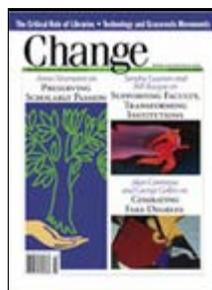
With its community facing tough economic times, the Galesburg (Ill.) Public Library has reached out by offering free prom dresses to teens who otherwise couldn't afford them. As a result of the 100 Dresses Program launched by YA Librarian Kari Smith, more than two dozen local girls from four high schools recently chose from gently used evening dresses donated from women's clubs, college students, and other high school kids. Some even walked away with matching accessories to wear on their big night, April 25....

*School Library Journal*, Apr. 8

### [School libraries and the educational ecosystem](#)

ALA President Jim Rettig writes: "No Child Left Behind put the spotlight on K-12 education and outcomes assessment. But faculty who teach introductory college courses also conduct outcomes assessment every year. They perennially conclude that our K-12 system fails to prepare many students to meet professors' reasonable academic performance expectations, as the ubiquity of remedial education makes clear. College librarians are also in a unique position to assess new students' college readiness."...

*Change: The Magazine of Higher Learning*, Mar. -Apr.



### [NBPTS creates Library Media Standards Committee](#)

The National Board for Professional Teaching Standards is accepting applications from educators who wish to serve on the NBPTS Library Media Standards Committee. Applications must be completed by May 15. As part of the NBPTS ongoing mission to provide leading standards for what accomplished teachers should know and be able to do, NBPTS Standards Committees are periodically formed to review the standards....

National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, Apr. 7



### [Digital Library Federation merges with CLIR](#)

The board of the Council on Library and Information Resources voted April 14 to merge the Digital Library Federation into CLIR as a program of the council, starting July 1. The vote follows recommendations by a DLF review committee in March to merge the two organizations, and a unanimous vote of consent by the DLF board on April 8. With the merger, DLF's current members will become "charter sponsors" of the



DLF program at CLIR...

Council on Library and Information Resources, Apr. 14

### [Admissions of another sort](#)

Mary W. George writes: "When professors assign a library project to undergraduates, just what do they expect students to learn from the research part of the experience? This is an issue I often fret about. My concern arises not from a general suspicion that students are engaging in what I call WIGWAM research (Wikipedia – Internet – Google – Without Anything More), but from what students themselves have been telling me for decades. Here are the most persistent and troubling confessions I've heard from students over the years, with my speculation on their cause and cure."...

Inside Higher Ed, Apr. 13

### [FCC launches "transformative" inquiry on broadband](#)



Matthew Lasar writes: "You may have concluded by now that I think this is a pretty big deal. It really is," remarked interim Federal Communications Commission Chair Michael Copps at the April 8 Open Commission meeting. Copps was talking about the agency's Notice of Inquiry asking for feedback on how to create a National Broadband Plan. 'If we do our job well,' he told his audience, 'this will be the most formative—indeed transformative—proceeding ever in the commission's history.' The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 requires the FCC to come up with the plan."...

Ars Technica, Apr. 8

### [Library training survey](#)

Lori Reed writes: "Calling all trainers, training coordinators, HR managers, directors, consultants, and anyone who supports the training and learning function within libraries. Please take a few minutes and complete a short, anonymous [survey](#). Your feedback is key to developing a support group and networking resource for trainers. The deadline is April 24."....

Library Trainer, Apr. 13

### [A map of the land of books](#)

This map by German illustrator Alphons Woelfle (1938) shows the extent and the divisions of *Büherland* (the Land of Books). The land consists of about half-a-dozen distinct territories, most of which are explicitly named: *Leserrepublik* (Reader's Republic), *Vereinigte Buchhandelsstaaten* (United States of Booksellers), *Recensentia* (a Realm for Reviewers), *Makulaturia* (Waste Paper Land), and *Poesia* (Poetry). The capital of the US of B is the city of *Officina* (Latin for print shop). The map can be found in the digital archives of the Bayerische Staatsbibliothek....

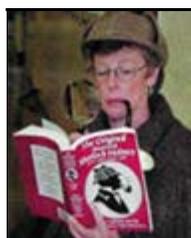


Strange Maps, Apr. 8

### [Apply for Stauber literacy funding](#) (PDF file)

The Beacon Society, an organization dedicated to supporting educational experiences involving Sherlock Holmes literature, is offering grants of up to \$250 to fund projects that will introduce young people to Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's fictional detective. The deadline for [applications](#) for the Jan Stauber Grant is June 1....

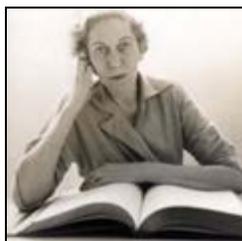
Beacon Society, Apr. 14



## [Eudora Welty collection donated to Mississippi State](#)

The legacy of Eudora Welty (1909–2001) as a great American writer continues through her critically acclaimed books, short stories, letters, and photographs. Many of her works were left with Hunter Cole, a fellow native of Jackson, Mississippi, who knew her well. Over 40 years, his collection of Welty memorabilia grew to measure more than 35 linear feet, and it was recently donated to Mississippi State University's Mitchell Memorial Library....

Mississippi State University, Apr. 13



## [NARA releases Reagan and Bush records](#)

Some 245,763 pages of Ronald Reagan and George H. W. Bush presidential records opened for research April 13 at their respective libraries. The records, which as of January 20 were still pending with the George W. Bush administration, on April 10 cleared the review process established by President Obama under Executive Order 13489, signed January 21. The Reagan documents include presidential briefing papers, speechwriting research materials, and declassified foreign policy records, while the Bush papers deal with Saudi Arabia....

National Archives, Apr. 10

## [10 surprising former librarians](#)

Sara Newton writes: "Appropriately enough, I'm writing today's Quick 10 from my neighborhood public library. Since it's National Library Week, here's a look at 10 people who once worked amongst the bookshelves. Number 1 is Mao Zedong (right). Before he led the Communist Party of China, Mao worked as a librarian's assistant at Peking University between 1918 and 1919."...

Mental Floss, Apr. 13



## [Library bookmarks](#)

Larry Nix writes: "Bookmarks have been a common library handout for more than a century. An ongoing purpose has been promoting reading. National Library Week and summer reading promotional materials usually include bookmarks. I've put images of some of them on a [Library Bookmark](#) web page; a nice collection of links is available at the [BiblioBuffet](#)."...

Library History Buff, Apr. 14; BiblioBuffet



## [Original Librarian Trading Cards](#)

Donna Cavallini, business development research and competitive intelligence librarian for Arnold & Porter in Washington, D.C., writes: "Being a librarian has taught me how to ask the right questions and how research is iterative. It's taught me how databases are structured so that I can ferret out the hidden, how to piece together bits of information to build a case, and how to leave no stone unturned. I'm inquisitive by nature, but being a librarian honed my skills." Librarians interested in appearing in this blog should contact [Amy n' the Librarians](#)....

Original Librarian Trading Cards, Apr. 6



## [WIU markets "Text Me" service](#)

Western Illinois University Libraries recently launched a "Text Me" service. When a library user finds a book, journal article, or other resource through the online catalog on the library's website, he or she can just click on the words "Text me this call number," enter the mobile phone number and service provider, and the call number will be sent to the individual's mobile phone in the form of a text message. To see how Text Me works, check out the [video](#) (3:29)....



Western Illinois University, Apr. 9

### [EW's favorite libraries and librarians](#)

Margaret Lyons writes: "Happy National Library Week! To help celebrate, I'm going to organize information in a logical, easy-to-understand way. And oh yeah, present to you, PopWatchers, some awesome pop references to libraries and librarians." With YouTube excerpts from *The Music Man* (1962), *The Breakfast Club* (1985), *Ghostbusters* (1984), and *Party Girl* (1994) (1:27). Parker Posey as Mary, library clerk: "Why are we wasting our time with the Dewey Decimal System when yours is so much easier?"...



*Entertainment Weekly*, Apr. 13

[Go back to the Top](#)

AL Direct, April 15, 2009

Having trouble viewing this HTML e-mail (or seeing it in full)? Click here [[% = util.viewHtmlLink %>](#)].

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | April 15, 2009

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

[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

## U.S. & World News

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Rutgers drops "library" from name of school

[[http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2009/april2009/rutgers.cfm?persistent=&expy\\_dt=](http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2009/april2009/rutgers.cfm?persistent=&expy_dt=)]

The Rutgers University Board of Governors approved a resolution April 2 removing the words "library studies" from the name of the School of Communication, Information, and Library Studies. Effective July 1, its name will be the School of Communication and Information. The school's faculty had voted 30-10 in favor of the name change at a February 4 faculty meeting. Dean Jorge Reina Schement noted that Rutgers is the only member of the Association of American Universities with a library program connected to a journalism program....

American Libraries Online, Apr. 10

Objection to Google scanning settlement filed

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2009/april2009/googleobjections.cfm>]

The consumer advocacy group Consumer Watchdog has sent a letter (PDF file

[<http://www.consumerwatchdog.org/resources/ltrjusticegooglebook040109.pdf>])  
to the Justice Department asking to delay implementation of the October 2008 settlement of publisher lawsuits over Google's scanning of copyrighted books. Concerns from more groups are anticipated before the May 5 deadline for filing objections. ALA, in conjunction with ACRL and the Association for Research Libraries, plans to file an amicus brief with the court about the settlement....  
American Libraries Online, Apr. 15

Protests disrupt white-supremacist meeting at library  
[[http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2009/april2009/clifton.cfm?persistent=&expy\\_dt=](http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2009/april2009/clifton.cfm?persistent=&expy_dt=)]  
Police were called to Clifton (N.J.) Public Library's Allwood branch March 21 in response to a brawl between five protesters and about 15 members of the League of American Patriots, a white supremacist group. No one was arrested, and while one man claimed to have been assaulted, he did not file a complaint. The group had met at the library's main branch at least twice before without incident, although it had reserved rooms under the name "Polish-American Issues Forum."  
American Libraries Online, Apr. 10

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[<http://www.tlcdelivers.com/tlc/default.asp>]  
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## ALA News

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OIF Director Judith Krug dies  
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/oifkrug.cfm>]  
Judith Krug, 69, director of the ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom and executive director of the Freedom to Read Foundation for more than 40 years, died April 11 after a lengthy illness. Through her unwavering support of First Amendment rights, she advised countless librarians and trustees in dealing with challenges to library materials. She was involved in multiple First Amendment cases that have gone all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court. Krug was also the founder of ALA's Banned Books Week. See statements from the Freedom to Read Foundation [<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/oifkrugfrfstatement.cfm>], the Intellectual Freedom Committee [<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/oifkrugifcstatement.cfm>], ALA President Jim Rettig [<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/oifkrugrettigstatement.cfm>], and Executive Director Keith Michael Fiels [<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/oifkrugkmfstatement.cfm>]. American Libraries will be developing a retrospective on Krug's career for the May issue. See the New York Times obituary [<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/04/15/us/15krug.html>] and editorial [<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/04/15/opinion/15wed4.html>]. ALA has established a tribute page

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/mediapresscenter/presskits/judithkrug/judithkrug.cfm>]; to share your condolences, please send an email [<mailto:rememberingjudith@ala.org>]....

report

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/2009state.cfm>]

The value of libraries in communities across the country continued to grow in 2008—and accelerated dramatically as the national economy sank and people looked for cost-effective resources in a time of crisis, according to ALA's 2009 State of America's Libraries [<http://www.ala.org/2009state>] report, released April 14. United States libraries experienced a dramatic increase in library card registration as the public continued to turn to their local library for free services. More than 68% of Americans have a library card. This is the greatest number of Americans with library cards since ALA started to measure library-card usage in 1990....

[<http://viewer.zmags.com/publication/5a2490e9#/5a2490e9/1>] Spring digital supplement [<http://viewer.zmags.com/publication/5a2490e9#/5a2490e9/1>]

Check out the expanded Facilities Showcase in the Spring digital supplement from American Libraries. Included is a showcase of more than 80 library architectural project reviews, the winners of the 2009 AIA/ALA Library Building Awards, two features by Wanda Urbanska on green products for libraries, and an article on two libraries that created successful spaces for the preschool set....

American Libraries, Spring 2009 digital supplement

Rev. Jackson, Fiels kick off National Library Week

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/piojacksonwrap.cfm>]

Reverend Jesse L. Jackson Sr., CEO and founder of the RainbowPUSH Coalition in Chicago, and ALA Executive Director Keith Michael Fiels spoke April 11 at a televised forum about the value of libraries and then read to 20 children. The event kicked off the 2009 observance of National Library Week and took place in RainbowPUSH's library. Jackson and Fiels discussed how libraries are an important community hub of literacy and learning, as well as a place people turn to during difficult economic times....

Visits surge as nation celebrates libraries

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/pionlw.cfm>]

During National Library Week, April 12–18, the nation is celebrating the invaluable contributions of libraries. Libraries across America report a surge in visits by patrons who want free computer and internet access, job information, and accurate financial materials, in addition to many other services. The demand for books, CDs, and DVDs continues to grow as well. Best-selling author and actress Jamie Lee Curtis is the honorary chair of National Library Week 2009. Her messages about the value of America's libraries are available by downloading [<http://www.ala.org/nlw>] PSAs....

ALA comments on broadband

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/wofcc.cfm>]

ALA submitted a filing (PDF file

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/wp-content/uploads/2009/04/ala-fcc-comments-consult-4-13-09.pdf>]) April 14 to the Federal Communications Commission in response to its call for comments to help inform the commission's consultative role in the broadband provisions of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. ALA also prepared comments [<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/wo rus.cfm>] (PDF file [<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/wp-content/uploads/2009/04/ntia-rus-april13-final3.pdf>]) for the National Telecommunications and Information Administration and the Rural Utilities Service....

Step Up to the Plate begins

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/su triviaquestions.cfm>]

Just as thousands of libraries across the country are celebrating National Library Week, thousands of families are stepping up to learn about a library program at the National Baseball Hall of Fame's Youth Baseball Week. Season Four of the national Step Up to the Plate @ your library [<http://www.ala.org/baseball>] program officially kicked off April 14. Patrons of all ages are encouraged to visit their library and answer a series of trivia questions [<http://www.ala.org/ala/issuesadvocacy/advocacy/publicawareness/campaign@yourlibrary/sponsorship/stepup/howtoenter.cfm>] inspired by the history and diversity of our national pastime.....

[<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2598>] Attract and retain high-performing employees

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/alaeditionsnewrelease.cfm>]

ALA Editions has released the second edition of Developing a Compensation Plan for Your Library [<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2598>] by Paula M. Singer and Laura L. Francisco. This thorough treatment of compensation plans includes updated versions of the numerous checklists, worksheets, and salary surveys that made the first edition a reliable resource. The book helps readers become familiar with the process of developing a compensation plan and offers tips that will guide them through potential challenges like maintaining staff morale....

Libraries, Second Life, and Education with Joe Sanchez

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/techsourcejoesanchez.cfm>]

ALA TechSource is presenting its first virtual world event—a discussion of virtual worlds, libraries, and education with Second Life expert Joe Sanchez. Sanchez, a doctoral candidate at the University of Texas at Austin, is the author of the February issue of Library Technology Reports, "Implementing Second Life: Ideas, Challenges and Innovations" [<http://www.techsource.ala.org/ltr/implementing-second-life-ideas-challenges-and-innovations.html>]. An exclusive interactive discussion and presentation of his work will be held on the ALA Island at 9 p.m. Eastern time on April 15....

[<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2602>]2009 Newbery and Caldecott awards

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/alaeditionsnewguide.cfm>]

ALA Editions has released the 2009 edition of The Newbery and Caldecott Awards: A Guide to the Medal and Honor Books

[<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2602>] by ALSC. This annual guide covers the most distinguished American children's literature and illustration. For more than eight decades, librarians from ALSC have intensely scrutinized the children's books published each year, selecting the winning and honor books for the Newbery and Caldecott Awards....

Avatar stars for National Library Workers Day

[<http://connect.ala.org/node/72782>]

In celebration of the ALA–Allied Professional Association's National Library Workers Day, April 14, ALA Island in Second Life is featuring the Gallery of Library Stars. Visiting avatars can pose for a picture and have it added to the gallery. The feature will be available for several weeks, so just go to ALA Party Central (167, 73, 30) for pose-center instructions and gallery contacts. Shown above is Bunny Iwish (ALA's Megan McFarlane)....

Featured review: Adult books

[[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show\\_product&pid=3291396](http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=3291396)]

Horn, Dara. All Other Nights. Apr. 2009. 384p. Norton, hardcover (978-0-393-06492-6).

"How is this night different from all other nights?" Jacob Rappaport, a Jewish soldier in the Union army during the Civil War, has his own, very different answer to this ritual question, traditionally asked at a Passover seder. In March 1861, Jacob is spending Passover at the home of relatives in New Orleans, but he is there with a special assignment: kill his uncle, a loyal southerner, who is planning to assassinate President Lincoln. Horn, author of *In the Image* (2002) and *The World to Come* (2006), follows this stunning set-piece with a complex, multilayered, and thoroughly involving historical novel.

Rappaport's second assignment as a Union spy is every bit as troubling as his first: to woo and then marry the daughter of a Jewish businessman in Virginia with whom he had dealings before the war. It is no surprise, of course, that Rappaport falls deeply in love with the woman—purported to be a Confederate spy—he was sent to entrap, but it is certainly surprising to watch how Horn develops this premise....

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

Chicago Update

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Barack Obama's Chicago

[<http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/politics/obama/chi-obama-chicago-htmlpage,0,1817071.htmlpage>]

At ALA Annual Conference, tour the Chicago that Barack Obama knows—from his home, to his barber, to the spot of his victory rally, the Baskin-Robbins where he and Michelle first kissed, and many places in between. At 57th Street Books,

[<http://semcoop.booksense.com/NASApp/store/IndexJsp?s=localbestsellers>]  
1301 E. 57th Street in Hyde Park, Obama held launch parties here for his books, *Dreams* and *The Audacity of Hope*, and has reportedly called it his favorite bookstore....

Chicago Tribune

Division News

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WrestleMania Reading Challenge champs

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/yalsawwechampions.cfm>]

Stephanie Diaz (left) and Christian Cervantes (second from right) of Houston were crowned national champions in the WrestleMania Reading Challenge, sponsored by YALSA and World Wrestling Entertainment. In the grade 9–12 finals, Cervantes answered the most questions correctly about the book *Shift* by Jennifer Bradbury. Diaz successfully defeated her competition in the grade 7–8 competition by answering the most questions correctly about the book *Soccer Chicks Rule* by Dawn Fitzgerald....

Ko, Christensen win YALSA Flip cams

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/yalsafliwin.cfm>]

Donna Ko, media assistant at the Central Academy of Technology and Arts in Monroe, North Carolina, won a Flip Ultra video camera by becoming a new member of YALSA. Deborah Christensen, media coordinator at the school, also won a Flip Ultra for recommending that Ko join YALSA as part of the division's 2009 membership drive....

YALSA offers Earth Day ideas

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/yalsaearthday.cfm>]

YALSA has compiled a list of activity ideas

[[http://wikis.ala.org/yalsa/index.php/Teen\\_Volunteering\\_%26\\_Service\\_Projects#Earth\\_Day](http://wikis.ala.org/yalsa/index.php/Teen_Volunteering_%26_Service_Projects#Earth_Day)] to help teens learn about their environment on Earth Day,

April 22. Earth Day activity ideas include geocaching seminars, recycled jewelry programs, and community clean-up programs. In addition, YALSA offers a booklist called *Change Your World*,

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/yalsa/booklistsawards/popularpaperback/nominations.cfm#change>] highlighting titles nominated for the 2010 Popular Paperbacks for Young Adults booklist, which includes books about activism, politics, and volunteering....

Invite a legislator to your school library

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/aaslrepresentative.cfm>]

AASL urges school library media specialists to advocate for their school library media programs by inviting local representatives to visit during School Library Media Month. It is important to help your legislator understand why school library media specialists are indispensable to a student's educational career. AASL has created downloadable tip sheets (PDF file

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/aasl/aaslissues/aasladvocacy/leginvite.pdf>]) for invitations....

[<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2682>]New AASL guidelines

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/aaslnewstandards.cfm>]

AASL has released Empowering Learners: Guidelines for School Library Media Programs, [<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2682>] completing an essential professional-development package for school library media specialists. Empowering Learners provides leadership principles that address the requirements for mastering a changing school library environment. It builds on a strong history of guidelines published to ensure that program planners go beyond the basics to provide goals, priorities, criteria, and general principles for establishing effective library media programs....

ACRL's Immersion '09 program

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/acrlimmersion.cfm>]

The ACRL Institute for Information Literacy invites applications for its Immersion '09 program.

[<http://www.acrl.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/issues/infolit/professactivity/iil/immersion/invitation09.cfm>] For the first time, the Intentional Teacher and Assessment Tracks will be offered simultaneously December 2–6 in Nashville. Applications for both tracks are now being accepted through May 29....

ACRL preconferences in Chicago

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/acrlpreconferences.cfm>]

ACRL is offering three preconferences

[<http://www.acrl.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/events/annual09.cfm>] July 10 in conjunction with the 2009 ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. The topics are digitization, instructional design, and online library instruction. May 22 is the advance registration deadline....

ACRL debuts revamped website

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/acrlwebupgrade.cfm>]

ACRL launched an updated, user-centered design for its website

[<http://www.acrl.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/index.cfm>] on April 14. The results of an ACRL membership survey informed the redesign process, with many suggestions on usability incorporated into the final design....

RUSA professional development

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/ru sabusinessref.cfm>]

Library professionals interested in adding basic business knowledge and business reference skills to their résumés are invited to participate in Business Reference 101,

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/rusa/development/businessreference101/index.cfm>] an online course, and Mastering Business Acumen (MBA) in a Day, [<http://rusa.ala.org/blog/2009/02/19/business-know-how-subject-of-rusa-bras s-preconference/>] a one-day workshop, both offered by RUSA. The next session of Business Reference 101 runs May 4–29 and is taught by Celia Ross. The MBA preconference will be held July 10 in conjunction with the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. Another online course, The Reference Interview,

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/rusa/development/referenceinterview/index.cfm>] runs May 4–June 19 and is taught by Dave Tyckoson; registration [<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/ru sarefbasics.cfm>] closes April 27....

#### YALSA summer online courses

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/yalsasummeronline.cfm>]

YALSA will offer two online courses this summer—Beyond Booklists: Serving Today’s Diverse Teens (taught by Jennifer Velasquez), and Pain in the Brain: Adolescent Development and Library Behavior (taught by Beth Gallaway). Both classes meet for four weeks, running June 1–26.

#### Registration

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/yalsa/onlinecourses/info.cfm>] ends May 26....

#### YALSA Podcast: Stephanie Rosalia

[<http://yalsa.ala.org/blog/2009/04/08/yalsa-podcast-67-stephanie-rosalia/>]

In this podcast (16:40), Matthew Moffett talks with school librarian Stephanie Rosalia about her work. Rosalia was profiled

[<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/02/16/books/16libr.html>] February 15 by the New York Times. The conversation covers how the interview came about, her information and media literacy teaching techniques, library and classroom collaboration in her school, what constitutes reading, the importance of informing people about what the modern library is all about, and the SKILLS Act

[[http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/aasl/aaslissues/SKILLS\\_Act.cfm](http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/aasl/aaslissues/SKILLS_Act.cfm)]....

YALSA Blog, Apr. 8

#### Awards

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#### PLA Harvard University fellowship

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/plaharvard.cfm>]

PLA has awarded Ishwar Laxminarayan, director of the Jackson (Mich.) District Library, a PLA Leadership Fellows scholarship for the Senior Executives in State and Local Government program at Harvard University Kennedy School of Government. The program offers public library managers a chance to attend executive leadership training at some of the best

universities in the United States....

Gale's third annual NLW video contest

[<http://www.gale.cengage.com/librareo/>]

In honor of National Library Week, Gale Cengage Learning has announced its third annual video contest. Library fans are invited to create a one-minute video promoting their library. The video should explain how the library brings "power to the users." The winning entry will be awarded \$2,500 to the individual and an additional \$2,500 will be presented to the winner's favorite library. Entrants must load their videos to the Librereo [<http://www.youtube.com/group/LIBRAREO>] group [<http://www.youtube.com/group/LIBRAREO>] on YouTube. The deadline is June 1....

Librereo

Donna Flake wins MLA International Service Award

[<http://www.starnewsonline.com/article/20090413/ARTICLES/904134004/1004>]

Donna Flake, director of the Robert M. Fales Health Sciences Library of the South East Area Health Education Center in Wilmington, North Carolina, has won the Medical Library Association's 2009 T. Mark Hodges International Service Award. Flake has organized partnerships between medical libraries in the United States and sister institutions in Latvia and Moldova, leading to the exchange of thousands of medical books, electronic databases, and the delivery of journal articles by email....

Wilmington (N.C.) Star-News, Apr. 13

[<http://www.flickr.com/photos/15474129@N00/2634924160/>]Janice Rice

receives UW Woman of Color Award [<http://www.news.wisc.edu/16529>]

Janice Rice, senior academic librarian in the University of Wisconsin-Madison College Library and member of the Ho-Chunk Nation, has been selected as a recipient of the 14th annual UW System Outstanding Women of Color in Education Award. Rice was honored along with recipients from other UW System institutions at an awards ceremony and luncheon on April 4....

University of Wisconsin-Madison, Apr. 9

Tie for Philip K. Dick Award

[<http://www.philipkdickaward.org/2009/04/it-was-announced-today-at-norwescon-30-in-seatac-washington-that-the-winner-for-the-distinguished-original-science-fiction.html>]

The 2008 Philip K. Dick Award has resulted in a tie between Emissaries from the Dead by Adam-Troy Castro (Eos Books) and Terminal Mind by David Walton (Meadowhawk Press). The award, sponsored by the Philadelphia Science Fiction Society, honors the most distinguished science fiction published in paperback original form in the United States....

Philip K. Dick Award

Best British SF novel

[<http://www.orbitbooks.net/2009/04/13/congratulations-to-ken-macleod/>]

Ken MacLeod has won the 2008 British Science Fiction Association Award for Best Novel published in the UK for his latest book, The Night Sessions (Orbit). A gripping hybrid of SF thriller and police procedural, The Night Sessions is set in the future of the Second Enlightenment, where religion has finally been crushed and removed from political

life....

Orbit, Apr. 13

2009 Sparky video contest [<http://www.arl.org/sparc/media/09-0409.shtml>]

The organizers of the Sparky Awards, which recognize the best new short videos on the value of information sharing, are calling on colleges and universities to organize their own campus video competitions in 2009 to get maximum benefit from the contest. Well-suited for adoption as a class assignment, the Sparky Awards invite contestants to submit videos of two minutes or less that imaginatively portray the benefits of the open, legal exchange of information. Entries must be submitted

[<http://www.sparkyawards.org/>] by December 6....

Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition, Apr. 9

## Seen Online

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Amazon error removed rankings from gay books

[<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/04/14/technology/internet/14amazon.html>]

In response to nearly two days of angry online commentary, particularly on Twitter, [<http://search.twitter.com/search?q=amazonfail>] Amazon.com said April 13 that “an embarrassing and ham-fisted cataloging error” had caused thousands of books on its site to lose their sales rankings and become harder to find in searches. Amazon managers found [<http://blog.seattlepi.com/amazon/archives/166384.asp>] that an employee who happened to work in France had filled out a field incorrectly and more than 50,000 items got flipped over to be flagged as “adult.” Most of the company’s online critics complained that the problem appeared to have a disproportionate effect on books with a gay and lesbian theme, leading to cries of censorship....

New York Times, Apr. 13; Seattle Post-Intelligencer, Apr. 13

Job seekers at NYPL, in Obama’s footsteps

[<http://cityroom.blogs.nytimes.com/2009/04/14/job-seekers-at-the-library-in-obamas-footsteps/>]

Jobless New Yorkers are being invited to follow in the footsteps of President Barack Obama, starting at a Midtown branch of the public library. Officials of the New York Public Library unveiled Job Search Central [<http://www.nypl.org/services/jobs/>] April 14, a concentration of resources to help the unemployed find work, in the lower level of the Science, Industry, and Business Library on Madison Avenue. NYPL President Paul LeClerc said librarians will be on hand to advise and guide job seekers just as one once did for Obama....

New York Times, Apr. 14

[[http://www.medicine.mcgill.ca/alumnicorner/photogallery/1963\\_images/HC2003\\_images/Nikon-11546-Torre-VF.jpg](http://www.medicine.mcgill.ca/alumnicorner/photogallery/1963_images/HC2003_images/Nikon-11546-Torre-VF.jpg)]Libraries seeing more patrons with mental illness

[<http://morningsentinel.mainetoday.com/news/local/6186879.html>]

Librarians are seeing varying degrees of problems with patrons exhibiting severe mental illnesses. Nationally, libraries have become daytime shelters for many people with severe mental disorders who need to be in

treatment, according to E. Fuller Torrey (right), founder of the Treatment Advocacy Center in Arlington, Virginia, the chief author of a survey (PDF file [[http://pla.org/ala/mgrps/divs/pla/plapublications/publiclibraries/PL\\_48n2\\_Torrey\\_etal.pdf](http://pla.org/ala/mgrps/divs/pla/plapublications/publiclibraries/PL_48n2_Torrey_etal.pdf)]) published in the March/April issue of Public Libraries....  
Waterville (Maine) Morning Sentinel, Apr. 11; Public Libraries, Mar./Apr., pp. 45–51

Montana libraries in a bind  
[<http://www.missoulian.com/articles/2009/04/14/news/local/znews03.txt>]  
Tax coffers are shrinking, leaving libraries with slumping income at a time of booming business. In Flathead County, Montana, which is experiencing double-digit unemployment rates, branch libraries aren't as busy as New York's, but Library Director Kim Crowley sees the same sorts of people: a diesel mechanic who drives 50 miles to Whitefish just to learn computer skills and laid-off construction workers eager to learn word processing and spreadsheet software. In hot spots such as Columbia Falls—where lumber and smelter layoffs have left hundreds unemployed—library foot traffic has spiked by more than 22%....  
The Missoulian, Apr. 14

San Jose to look at porn filters again  
[[http://www.mercurynews.com/ci\\_12124098](http://www.mercurynews.com/ci_12124098)]  
San Jose, California, officials are preparing for a showdown over online pornography in the city's libraries. Officials last considered whether to filter library internet use in 1997 but concluded the technology was too primitive. The council will revisit that decision in what is expected to be a heavily attended meeting April 21. Councilman Pete Constant's filtering crusade has put him on a collision course with the city's head librarian, Jane Light....  
San Jose (Calif.) Mercury News, Apr. 11

okayed for Wausau middle school  
[<http://www.wausaudailyherald.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/200904140429/WDH0101/904140612>]  
The Wausau, Wisconsin, school board voted 7–2 April 13 to keep a book in the John Muir Middle School library after a parent asked that it be removed because of sexually explicit content. Board President Dale Lawson and member Pat Keefe voted to remove Lauren Myracle's novel *ttyl*. Yolanta Soroko Baumann had asked district officials to remove the book after her 6th-grade daughter showed it to her. The formal review process has not been used for at least a decade, said Joel VerDuin, the school district's director of technology and media service....  
Wausau (Wis.) Daily Herald, Apr. 14

Puyallup principal censured after standing up for librarians  
[<http://www.thenewstribune.com/topstories/story/706867.html>]  
A Puyallup, Washington, principal has been disciplined after emailing school board members about the value of school librarians in helping students meet educational standards. Guy Kovacs (right), principal of G. W. Edgerton Elementary School, received a letter of reprimand for going outside the chain of command, not for commenting on impending budget reductions, according to a district spokesperson. School officials are

considering the elimination of nearly half of the 27.6 librarian positions, reducing the current \$3 million library-staff budget by \$640,000....

Tacoma (Wash.) News-Tribune, Apr. 12

Iowa ILL system uses bicycle delivery

[[http://www.amestrib.com/articles/2009/04/12/ames\\_tribune/news/doc49e16e6b6d45e669923716.txt](http://www.amestrib.com/articles/2009/04/12/ames_tribune/news/doc49e16e6b6d45e669923716.txt)]

When libraries in Iowa want to borrow materials from another library in the state, they use the U.S. Postal Service—except in Ames. In town, it’s faster to send things with Jim Gregory [<http://www.bikesatwork.com/>], who bikes books, articles, and other circulating materials daily between Ames Public Library, the Veterinary Medical Library, and the Iowa State University’s Parks Library. The idea that bicycle delivery would be faster got started in 2007, when librarians realized the postal service added at least a day to deliveries across town....

Ames (Iowa) Tribune, Apr. 12

Seattle’s new city librarian discusses budget cuts, e-books, and Mickey Rourke [[http://www.seattlepi.com/local/405019\\_library10.html](http://www.seattlepi.com/local/405019_library10.html)]

In six weeks on the job, Susan Hildreth, Seattle’s new city librarian, has been busy getting to know the department’s 26 branches, \$50-million budget, and 700 staffers. But there’s a more recent number on her plate: a potential 3% cut to the library’s budget, in light of a \$43-million revenue shortfall facing Seattle this year. All city departments have been asked to identify such budget reductions. This is an excerpt from her interview....

Seattle Post-Intelligencer, Apr. 9

Book returned 110 years late

[<http://recorder.ca/ArticleDisplay.aspx?e=1518410>]

An overdue library book with a storied past—including being pulled across an ice-covered St. Lawrence River on a skid—is back home in Canada after no less than 110 years. The cost of its journey in late fees, dating back to 1899 from the Lyn (Ontario) Public Library, should have been more than \$9,000, but retired Denver engineer Dale Fenton Baird Sr. will not have to pay it....

Brockville (Ont.) Recorder and Times, Apr. 9

Marin County to close San Geronimo Valley branch

[[http://www.marinij.com/ci\\_12092478?source=rss](http://www.marinij.com/ci_12092478?source=rss)]

Despite protests from a handful of residents, the Marin County (Calif.) Free Library agreed April 7 to shut down its 80-year-old San Geronimo Valley branch, saying it will close by July when its services are merged with the Fairfax branch. The board called the branch, located in leased school-district space, a victim of the recession and said it had no alternative. The move will eliminate a library staffer and other costs, saving \$144,000 a year....

Novato (Calif.) Marin Independent Journal, Apr. 7

Schaumburg’s new odor policy

[<http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/chi-smelly-libraries-13-apr13,0,2550405.story>]

The Schaumburg Township (Ill.) District Library recently added “offensive bodily odors” to its list of prohibitions. The policy stemmed from complaints about an apparently homeless person, but Director Stephanie Sarnoff said the aroma would have to be so overpowering that it interfered with others’ use of the facility and would apply just as much to an overuse of perfume as an underuse of soap. Advocates for the homeless, though, say it’s not easy for a person living on the street to stay clean....  
Chicago Tribune, Apr. 13

New Henderson branch opens in mall  
[<http://www.viewnews.com/2009/VIEW-Mar-03-Tue-2009/Henderson/27167127.html>]  
The Galleria at Sunset mall has given the Henderson (Nev.) Library District a 1,300-square-foot store for use without rent until August, after which a discounted rate will kick in. The library’s newest branch opened there February 28. The Galleria Family Branch will be used as a prime pickup location for requested materials and for checking out popular best-sellers and high-interest books. The branch also has a space for family literacy programming that focuses on pre-kindergarten literacy skills....  
Green Valley/Henderson (Nev.) View, Mar. 3

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Tech Talk

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What to do when the internet is out  
[<http://lifehacker.com/5210286/what-you-should-do-when-your-internets-out>]  
Kevin Purdy writes: “A while back, we wrote about hypothetical internet outages.  
[<http://lifehacker.com/software/internet/5-things-to-do-at-your-pc-when-you-r-internet-is-out-234673.php>] These days, with bandwidth caps  
[[http://news.cnet.com/8301-1035\\_3-10218431-94.html](http://news.cnet.com/8301-1035_3-10218431-94.html)] and cable cutters kicking whole areas offline  
[<http://finance.yahoo.com/news/ATampT-Increases-Reward-to-prnews-14901715.html>], we’ve got new suggestions for the best uses of time when a disconnection really happens.” For example, look at your to-do list; clean up your computer files and folders; or do some actual work....  
Lifehacker, Apr. 14

Why open-source library software is a trend  
[<http://www.eschoolnews.com/news/top-news/index.cfm?i=58176>]  
(subscription required)  
School and public librarians list flexibility, low cost, and convenience as some of the major benefits of migrating to an open-source library management system. Some of the best-known open-source library management products include Koha, Evergreen, and OPALS. Many larger libraries pay a hosting site, such as Equinox Software or LibLime.com, to help with the initial implementation and then pay a yearly fee for hosting....  
eSchool News, Apr. 10

Get the most out of Gmail Labs

[<http://mashable.com/2009/04/11/gmail-labs/>]

Ben Parr writes: "Google has been on a tear with Gmail lately—it has been releasing new features at a rapid pace. You can now watch YouTube videos within Gmail, undo sent messages, and, as of this week, you are able to insert images into Gmail. These are all useful and wonderful features—if you've turned them on in Gmail Labs. Gmail Labs, the Gmail version of Google Labs, has several dozen features you can enable, from location-based signatures to multiple inboxes...."

Mashable, Apr. 11

New tool aims to make browser's history more useful

[<http://www.technologyreview.com/computing/22417/?a=f>]

Carnegie Mellon University graduate student Jing Jin and her colleagues demonstrated a new browser-history tool at the 2009 Computer–Human Interaction Conference, April 4–9, in Boston. Researchers tested users' ability to recall web pages and found that URLs and textual descriptions (by which most browsers organize their history) weren't as easy to remember as colors or images collected from the pages themselves. So the tool—currently a plug-in for the Firefox browser—lets users browse images of websites they have visited in the past....

Technology Review, Apr. 10

The dangerous web

[<http://www.networkworld.com/news/2009/041509-the-dangerous.html>]

Worldwide malicious code activity reached alarming figures last year, said information security vendor Symantec. In 2008, Symantec created more than 1.6-million new malicious code signatures, which helps the organization block attacks. This equates to more than 60% of the total malicious code signatures ever created by Symantec, a response to the rapidly increasing threats. The figures were reported in Symantec's Internet Security Threat Report, Volume XIV

[<http://www.symantec.com/business/theme.jsp?themeid=threatreport>]....

Network World, Apr. 15

Publishing

50 years of stupid grammar advice

[<http://chronicle.com/free/v55/i32/32b01501.htm>]

Geoffrey K. Pullum writes: "April 16 is the 50th anniversary of the publication of a little book that is loved and admired throughout American academe. Celebrations, readings, and toasts are being held, and a commemorative edition has been released. I won't be celebrating. The Elements of Style does not deserve the enormous esteem in which it is held by American college graduates. Its advice ranges from limp platitudes to inconsistent nonsense. Its enormous influence has not improved American students' grasp of English grammar; it has significantly degraded it...."

Chronicle of Higher Education, Apr. 17

Print no longer the default MLA citation style

[<http://www.insidehighered.com/news/2009/03/11/mla>]

Even in citations, print is the default no more. The seventh edition of the MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers, released March 9, states that the Modern Language Association no longer recognizes print as the default medium and suggests that the medium of publication should be included in each work's cited entry. Moreover, MLA has ceased to recommend inclusion of URLs in citing web-based works—unless the instructor requires it or a reader would likely be unable to locate the source otherwise....

Inside Higher Ed, Mar. 11

ABC-CLIO open house

[<http://www.abc-clio.com/publishing/pressview.aspx?contentid=100435>]

ABC-CLIO is offering free access [<http://www.nlw.abc-clio.com/>] to its electronic products during National Library Week, April 12–18. Entrants who sign up for a free 60-day trial of any of the publisher's databases could win a one-year database subscription; those who follow the link to a multiple-choice trivia quiz based on the databases and answer the questions correctly, could win an iPod Touch....

ABC-CLIO, Apr. 10

Oxford's library scavenger hunt

[[http://blog.oup.com/2009/04/scavenger\\_hunt/](http://blog.oup.com/2009/04/scavenger_hunt/)]

To kick off National Library Week, Oxford University Press is offering free access to Oxford Reference Online

[<http://www.oxfordreference.com/pub/views/home.html>] (login as user nationallibraryweek and password oxford). They are also hosting a library-related scavenger hunt to encourage you to use ORO to find the answers to such questions as “Under which pope was the Vatican Library established in 1450?”...

Oxford University Press, Apr. 13

[<http://ahivfree.alexanderstreet.com/View/516812>] American History in Video [[http://ahivfree.alexanderstreet.com/help/view/about\\_american\\_history\\_in\\_video](http://ahivfree.alexanderstreet.com/help/view/about_american_history_in_video)]

Electronic publisher Alexander Street Press and A&E Television Networks released American History in Video April 9, a new online resource designed for college and university instructors and researchers. The only online source for the complete series of both United News and Universal Newsreel, the collection contains much other rare archival footage.

Alexander Street is offering free access

[<http://ahivfree.alexanderstreet.com/>] through April 30....

Alexander Street Press, Apr. 9

ProQuest encourages library advocacy

[<http://www.wwj.com/ProQuest-Encourages-Library-Advocacy-During-Nation/4186893>]

Database publisher ProQuest is celebrating National Library Week by encouraging libraries to take advantage of the company's popular advocacy program.

[<http://www.proquest.com/en-US/utilities/toolkits/tk-schools.shtml>] The program includes tools and services that help librarians connect with their user communities, free database access and scholarship support for library students, and awards to recognize outstanding library school educators and those who protect intellectual freedom....

WWJ-AM, Detroit, Apr. 12

The world's weirdest book

[<http://www.abebooks.com/books/RareBooks/serafini-fantasy-art-weird/Codex-Seraphinianus.shtml>]

Richard Davies writes: "Some people think it's one of the weirdest books ever published. An art book unlike any other art book, a unique and disturbing surreal parody. Codex Seraphinianus by Italian artist Luigi Serafini is a window on a bizarre fantasy world complete with its own unique (and unreadable) alphabet and numerous illustrations that borrow from the modern age but veer into the extremely unusual. First published in two volumes by Franco Maria Ricci in 1981, the pictures in this article are from the 1983 American edition published by Abbeville."...

AbeBooks

[<http://chicago.everyblock.com/>]Hyperlocal websites deliver news without newspapers

[<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/04/13/technology/start-ups/13hyperlocal.html>]

If your local newspaper shuts down, what will take the place of its coverage? Perhaps a package of information about your neighborhood, or even your block, assembled by a computer. A number of web start-up companies are creating so-called hyperlocal news sites that let people zoom in on what is happening closest to them, often without involving traditional journalists. The sites, like EveryBlock

[<http://www.everyblock.com/>], Outside.in [<http://outside.in/>],

Placeblogger [<http://placeblogger.com/>], and Patch

[<http://www.patch.com/>], collect links to articles and blogs and often supplement them....

The New York Times, Apr. 12

Kindle 2's fuzzy fonts

[<http://blog.wired.com/gadgets/2009/04/kindle-2-displa.html>]

Priya Ganapati writes: "Amazon's Kindle 2 is slimmer, faster, and has longer battery life than its predecessor. But the newly launched e-book reader falls short when it comes to how well it displays text, say some users. Kindle 2 has font-smoothing algorithms and its screen offers more levels of gray in order to better render text and pictures. But the changes have backfired by making text more difficult to read at smaller sizes. The problem seems especially acute for older users."...

Gadget Lab, Apr. 13

Lost in the pixels of a good book

[<http://www.publishersweekly.com/blog/660000266/post/1700043170.html>]

Elizabeth Bluemle writes: "I've always dismissed e-books as handy tools for business travelers. No one would really want to read fiction in pixels, would they? Book lovers love the artifact. I even said as much, all calm and confident, to a customer last month. No way, José. Not for me. Not for anyone who loves the feel and smell of paper and ink, the textures of matte covers and deckled edges, the heft of a heavy tome or the personal goodness of a little smooth square hardcover."...

Shelftalker, Apr. 9

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[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

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## Actions & Answers

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Apple's DRM-free music: 8 things you should know

[<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2344520,00.asp>]

Tim Gideon writes: "Apple brought its only slightly delayed new pricing scheme to the public on April 7, after initially promising an April 1 launch. To catch you up, the big news is that Digital Rights Management is now a thing of the past, meaning that from now on you can play the iTunes store files you buy on any computer that has iTunes, and you can pass those files along to anyone you wish. Apple was already selling this codec under the name iTunes Plus, but the files were priced at 30 cents more than the regular 99-cent iTunes tracks because they also had a slightly higher bit rate. Have any questions? We certainly did.

Here are our top eight, along with answers."

PC Magazine, Apr. 7

Gates Foundation and OCLC partner to increase library support

[<http://www.oclc.org/us/en/news/releases/200924.htm>]

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation announced April 14 a \$5-million grant to the OCLC library cooperative to develop a campaign that will help public library leaders heighten awareness of the needs of local libraries and increase support for the services they provide during challenging times. The campaign will launch in select areas of Georgia and Iowa. This spring, OCLC will solicit proposals from libraries that wish to participate in the early pilot campaign and will award a limited number of small grants to support the campaign in select communities....

OCLC, Apr. 14

Third OCLC research software contest

[<http://www.oclc.org/research/researchworks/contest/>]

OCLC Research is once again celebrating libraries, archives, museums, and their heritage of technological innovation, by sponsoring a software contest to encourage innovation in the use of web-based services. The prize is \$2,500 and a visit to OCLC in Dublin, Ohio. The challenge is to use an OCLC resource to create a web service that does something interesting, innovative, and useful. The deadline is June 30....

OCLC

April is Jazz Appreciation Month

[<http://programminglibrarian.org/blog/jazz-appreciation-month.html>]

Angela Hanshaw writes: "The Smithsonian launched Jazz Appreciation Month in 2001 to pay tribute to jazz both as a historic and living American art form. This year's celebration marks the centennial of Chicago jazz-musician Benny Goodman, the King of Swing, who is featured on the 2009 poster (PDF file

[[http://www.smithsonianjazz.org/jam/images/JAM\\_2009\\_poster.pdf](http://www.smithsonianjazz.org/jam/images/JAM_2009_poster.pdf)]).

Visitors to the JAM site

[[http://www.smithsonianjazz.org/jam/jam\\_start.asp](http://www.smithsonianjazz.org/jam/jam_start.asp)] can learn how to take

part in the celebration.”...  
Programming Librarian, Apr. 10

Can't afford a prom dress? Try the library  
[[http://www.schoollibraryjournal.com/index.asp?layout=talkbackCommentsFull&talk\\_back\\_header\\_id=6591885&articleid=CA6646294](http://www.schoollibraryjournal.com/index.asp?layout=talkbackCommentsFull&talk_back_header_id=6591885&articleid=CA6646294)]  
With its community facing tough economic times, the Galesburg (Ill.) Public Library has reached out by offering free prom dresses to teens who otherwise couldn't afford them. As a result of the 100 Dresses Program launched by YA Librarian Kari Smith, more than two dozen local girls from four high schools recently chose from gently used evening dresses donated from women's clubs, college students, and other high school kids. Some even walked away with matching accessories to wear on their big night, April 25....  
School Library Journal, Apr. 8

School libraries and the educational ecosystem  
[<http://www.changemag.org/March-April2009/full-educational-ecosystem.html>]  
ALA President Jim Rettig writes: “No Child Left Behind put the spotlight on K–12 education and outcomes assessment. But faculty who teach introductory college courses also conduct outcomes assessment every year. They perennially conclude that our K–12 system fails to prepare many students to meet professors’ reasonable academic performance expectations, as the ubiquity of remedial education makes clear. College librarians are also in a unique position to assess new students’ college readiness.”...  
Change: The Magazine of Higher Learning, Mar.-Apr.

NBPTS creates Library Media Standards Committee  
[[http://www.nbpts.org/about\\_us/news\\_media/web\\_feature\\_releases?ID=190](http://www.nbpts.org/about_us/news_media/web_feature_releases?ID=190)]  
The National Board for Professional Teaching Standards is accepting applications from educators who wish to serve on the NBPTS Library Media Standards Committee. Applications must be completed by May 15. As part of the NBPTS ongoing mission to provide leading standards for what accomplished teachers should know and be able to do, NBPTS Standards Committees are periodically formed to review the standards....  
National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, Apr. 7

Digital Library Federation merges with CLIR  
[<http://www.clir.org/news/pressrelease/09dlfclir.html>]  
The board of the Council on Library and Information Resources voted April 14 to merge the Digital Library Federation into CLIR as a program of the council, starting July 1. The vote follows recommendations by a DLF review committee in March to merge the two organizations, and a unanimous vote of consent by the DLF board on April 8. With the merger, DLF’s current members will become “charter sponsors” of the DLF program at CLIR....  
Council on Library and Information Resources, Apr. 14

Admissions of another sort  
[<http://www.insidehighered.com/views/2009/04/13/george>]  
Mary W. George writes: “When professors assign a library project to undergraduates, just what do they expect students to learn from the

research part of the experience? This is an issue I often fret about. My concern arises not from a general suspicion that students are engaging in what I call WIGWAM research (Wikipedia – Internet &ndash; Google &ndash; Without Anything More), but from what students themselves have been telling me for decades. Here are the most persistent and troubling confessions I&rsquo;ve heard from students over the years, with my speculation on their cause and cure.”...

Inside Higher Ed, Apr. 13

FCC launches &ldquo;transformative&rdquo; inquiry on broadband  
[<http://arstechnica.com/telecom/news/2009/04/fcc-launches-transformative-inquiry-on-broadband.ars>]

Matthew Lasar writes: &ldquo;&lsquo;You may have concluded by now that I think this is a pretty big deal. It really is,&rsquo; remarked interim Federal Communications Commission Chair Michael Copps at the April 8 Open Commission meeting. Copps was talking about the agency&rsquo;s Notice of Inquiry asking for feedback on how to create a National Broadband Plan. &lsquo;If we do our job well,&rsquo; he told his audience, &lsquo;this will be the most formative&mdash;indeed transformative&mdash;proceeding ever in the commission&rsquo;s history.&rsquo; The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 requires the FCC to come up with the plan.&rdquo;...

Ars Technica, Apr. 8

Library training survey

[<http://librarytrainer.com/2009/04/13/your-feedback-is-needed/>]

Lori Reed writes: “Calling all trainers, training coordinators, HR managers, directors, consultants, and anyone who supports the training and learning function within libraries. Please take a few minutes and complete a short, anonymous survey.

[[http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=liS10IT9GH96h3YLrfCLdg\\_3d\\_3d](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=liS10IT9GH96h3YLrfCLdg_3d_3d)] Your feedback is key to developing a support group and networking resource for trainers. The deadline is April 24.”....

Library Trainer, Apr. 13

A map of the land of books

[<http://strangemaps.wordpress.com/2009/04/08/373-a-map-of-the-land-of-books/>]

This map by German illustrator Alphons Woelfle (1938) shows the extent and the divisions of B uherland (the Land of Books). The land consists of about half-a-dozen distinct territories, most of which are explicitly named: Leserrepublik (Reader&rsquo;s Republic), Vereinigte Buchhandelsstaaten (United States of Booksellers), Recensentia (a Realm for Reviewers), Makulaturia (Waste Paper Land), and Poesia (Poetry). The capital of the US of B is the city of Officina (Latin for print shop). The map can be found in the digital archives of the Bayerische Staatsbibliothek....

Strange Maps, Apr. 8

Apply for Stauber literacy funding

[<http://www.beaconsociety.com/BeaconPressRelease%20041409.pdf>] (PDF file)

The Beacon Society, an organization dedicated to supporting educational experiences involving Sherlock Holmes literature, is offering grants of up to \$250 to fund projects that will introduce young people to Sir

Arthur Conan Doyle's fictional detective. The deadline for applications [<http://www.beaconsociety.com/JanStauberGrant.html>] for the Jan Stauber Grant is June 1....

Beacon Society, Apr. 14

Eudora Welty collection donated to Mississippi State [<http://www.msstate.edu/web/media/detail.php?id=4534>]

The legacy of Eudora Welty (1909–2001) as a great American writer continues through her critically acclaimed books, short stories, letters, and photographs. Many of her works were left with Hunter Cole, a fellow native of Jackson, Mississippi, who knew her well. Over 40 years, his collection of Welty memorabilia grew to measure more than 35 linear feet, and it was recently donated to Mississippi State University's Mitchell Memorial Library....

Mississippi State University, Apr. 13

NARA releases Reagan and Bush records

[<http://news.prnewswire.com/DisplayReleaseContent.aspx?ACCT=104&STORY=/www/story/04-10-2009/0005004239&EDATE=>]

Some 245,763 pages of Ronald Reagan and George H. W. Bush presidential records opened for research April 13 at their respective libraries. The records, which as of January 20 were still pending with the George W. Bush administration, on April 10 cleared the review process established by President Obama under Executive Order 13489, signed January 21. The Reagan documents include presidential briefing papers, speechwriting research materials, and declassified foreign policy records, while the Bush papers deal with Saudi Arabia....

National Archives, Apr. 10

10 surprising former librarians

[<http://www.mentalfloss.com/blogs/archives/24574>]

Sara Newton writes: "Appropriately enough, I'm writing today's Quick 10 from my neighborhood public library. Since it's National Library Week, here's a look at 10 people who once worked amongst the bookshelves. Number 1 is Mao Zedong (right). Before he led the Communist Party of China, Mao worked as a librarian's assistant at Peking University between 1918 and 1919."...

Mental Floss, Apr. 13

[[http://3.bp.blogspot.com/\\_DtpYdAYE0TY/SeScViFKGzI/AAAAAAAAAN0/7-S\\_Y4qwaRc/s1600-h/bkmrk-nlw-68-72.jpg](http://3.bp.blogspot.com/_DtpYdAYE0TY/SeScViFKGzI/AAAAAAAAAN0/7-S_Y4qwaRc/s1600-h/bkmrk-nlw-68-72.jpg)]

Library bookmarks [<http://libraryhistorybuff.blogspot.com/2009/04/library-bookmarks.html>]

Larry Nix writes: "Bookmarks have been a common library handout for more than a century. An ongoing purpose has been promoting reading. National Library Week and summer reading promotional materials usually include bookmarks. I've put images of some of them on a Library Bookmark [<http://www.libraryhistorybuff.com/bookmarks.htm>] web page; a nice collection of links is available at the BiblioBuffet.

[<http://www.bibliobuffet.com/content/view/19/290/>]"...

Library History Buff, Apr. 14; BiblioBuffet

Original Librarian Trading Cards

[<http://librariantradingcards.blogspot.com/2009/04/33-for-win.html>]

Donna Cavallini, business development research and competitive intelligence librarian for Arnold & Porter in Washington, D.C., writes: “Being a librarian has taught me how to ask the right questions and how research is iterative. It’s taught me how databases are structured so that I can ferret out the hidden, how to piece together bits of information to build a case, and how to leave no stone unturned. I’m inquisitive by nature, but being a librarian honed my skills.” Librarians interested in appearing in this blog should contact Amy n#8217; the Librarians [mailto:libserves@gmail.com].... Original Librarian Trading Cards, Apr. 6

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2yjlz1zZ1cU] WIU markets &ldquo;Text Me&rdquo; service [http://www.wiu.edu/newsrelease.sphp?release\_id=7230] Western Illinois University Libraries recently launched a &ldquo;Text Me&rdquo; service. When a library user finds a book, journal article, or other resource through the online catalog on the library&rsquo;s website, he or she can just click on the words &ldquo;Text me this call number,&rdquo; enter the mobile phone number and service provider, and the call number will be sent to the individual&rsquo;s mobile phone in the form of a text message. To see how Text Me works, check out the video [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2yjlz1zZ1cU] (3:29).... Western Illinois University, Apr. 9

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gzbDdgWiaS0]&#8217;s favorite libraries and librarians [http://popwatch.ew.com/popwatch/2009/04/checking-out-ou.html] Margaret Lyons writes: “Happy National Library Week! To help celebrate, I’m going to organize information in a logical, easy-to-understand way. And oh yeah, present to you, PopWatchers, some awesome pop references to libraries and librarians.” With YouTube excerpts from The Music Man (1962), The Breakfast Club (1985), Ghostbusters (1984), and Party Girl (1994) (1:27). Parker Posey as Mary, library clerk: “Why are we wasting our time with the Dewey Decimal System when yours is so much easier?”... Entertainment Weekly, Apr. 13

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[<http://www.r2library.com/>]

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[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/index.cfm>]

ALA Annual Conference,  
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/2009/faq.cfm>]  
Chicago, July 9–15. On the evening of July 9, Wait Wait . . . Don&#8217;t

Tell Me!,

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/altaff/conferences/annual/ticketedevents/waitwait.cfm>] the National Public Radio weekly hour-long quiz program sponsored by ALTAFF in partnership with Conference Services will feature host Peter Sagal, official scorekeeper Carl Kasell, and a panel of the nation's foremost pundits, including Paula Poundstone, who will play this witty and quirky weekly quiz show during a live taping at the Chase Auditorium.

[[http://twitter.com/ALA\\_Booklist](http://twitter.com/ALA_Booklist)]

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[<http://site.ebrary.com/lib/ala>]

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Librarian,

[<http://joblist.ala.org/modules/jobseeker/controller.cfm?scr=jobdetail&jobid=12989>] Multinational Force and Observers, El Gorah, Sinai, Egypt. The Multinational Force and Observers, the independent international peacekeeping organization responsible for supervising implementation of the security provisions of the Egypt-Israel Peace Treaty, seeks an experienced library professional to oversee proper functioning of the two libraries and provide library support services to 28 remote site locations for a multinational military and civilian force of approximately 1700 people in the Sinai Desert. A two-year renewable unaccompanied status contract including housing, meals, and recreational facilities is offered....

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

## Digital Library of the Week

[[http://haldigitalcollections.cdmhost.com/seeking\\_michigan/discover\\_item\\_viewer.php?CISOROOT=/p4006coll5&CISOPTR=2787&DMSCALE=12.5&DMWIDTH=600&DMHEIGHT=600&DMX=0&DMY=0&DMTEXT=&REC=1&DMROTATE=0](http://haldigitalcollections.cdmhost.com/seeking_michigan/discover_item_viewer.php?CISOROOT=/p4006coll5&CISOPTR=2787&DMSCALE=12.5&DMWIDTH=600&DMHEIGHT=600&DMX=0&DMY=0&DMTEXT=&REC=1&DMROTATE=0)]

Seeking Michigan, [<http://seekingmichigan.org/>] launched in March by the state's Department of History, Arts, and Libraries, is a growing collection of digitized documents, maps, films, images, oral histories, and artifacts that creatively tells the stories of Michigan's families, homes, businesses, communities, and landscapes. Its first major accomplishment was the addition of some 1 million death records covering the years 1897 through 1920; these records are indexed by name, death date, location, and age. Other special collections include more than 100,000 pages of Civil War documents; some 10,000 photographs; a variety of Michigan sheet music; background on the state's 44 governors; Works Progress Administration data on land and buildings throughout rural Michigan; photographs and postcards of 120 lighthouses and life-saving stations in the state; and thousands of maps in the state archives. The Library of Michigan and Archives of Michigan began work on this site in 2008.

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>] Browse previous Digital Libraries of the Week at the I Love Libraries [<http://www.ilovelibraries.ala.org/diglibweekly/>] site.

## Public Perception How the World Sees Us

“When [best-selling author Elizabeth Berg] became a writer, it was a dream of hers to have a ‘real book in a real library’ that would be read by no one she knew. When it really happened, she was the first to check it out, she said. She was nervous that someone would think it was tacky to borrow her own book. But the librarian hadn’t even noticed who she was and told her that she was checking out a good book by a new author. Berg couldn’t believe the librarian already had read the book and enjoyed it... [Now, her 84-year-old] mother brings the librarians big tins of pralines each Christmas. Berg said her mother once told her, ‘If it weren’t for libraries, so many would not read at all—and look where they’d be.’”

—Lori Van Ingen’s profile of Elizabeth Berg, author of *Durable Goods* and *Joy School*, who was speaker at a National Library Week Author Luncheon April 14 at the Eden Resort Inn, Lancaster (Pa.) *Intelligencer Journal*,

Apr. 15.

[<http://www.twitter.com/amlibraries>]

AL on Twitter? Follow American Libraries news stories, videos, and blog posts on Twitter. [<http://www.twitter.com/amlibraries>]

Children's Book Week, [<http://www.bookweekonline.com/>] May 11–17, will be here before you know it. ALSC has many creative ideas for celebrating it using materials found in the Kids! @ your library toolkit. [<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/alsc/initiatives/kidscampaign/kidstoolkit.cfm>]

Ask the ALA Librarian

[<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2419>]

Q. My library is looking to start offering a virtual reference service. Do you have any resources to help us?

A. Virtual reference,

[[http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Virtual\\_Reference](http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Virtual_Reference)] also known as digital or electronic reference, is an evolving service that libraries offer. ALA has a fact sheet

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/library/libraryfactsheet/alalibraryfactsheet19.cfm>] that offers a selection of articles, web resources, and some vendor information and provides an introduction to the issues to consider when contemplating the implementation of virtual reference services. From the ALA Professional Tips wiki [[http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Starting\\_a\\_Virtual\\_Reference\\_Service](http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Starting_a_Virtual_Reference_Service)].

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

State privacy laws

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/oif/ifgroups/stateifcchairs/stateifcinaction/stateprivacy.cfm>]

ALA encourages all librarians, particularly those in public libraries, to work with their local legal counsel to ensure they understand state confidentiality laws so they may respond quickly to any requests from law enforcement. Forty-eight of 50 states have such laws on the books. This web page

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/oif/ifgroups/stateifcchairs/stateifcination/stateprivacy.cfm>] includes links to all state privacy laws regarding library records.

## Calendar

Apr. 22:

Conservation Center for Art and Historic Artifacts,  
[<http://guest.cvent.com/EVENTS/Info/Summary.aspx?e=9cc69c70-e532-40d2-8690-6160b7025d7a>] “Preservation Best Practices for Optimal Collections Care,”  
The Wistar Institute, Philadelphia.

Apr. 22&ndash;29:

USENIX, [<http://www.usenix.org/event/nsdi09/>] Symposium on Networked Systems Design and Implementation, Boston Park Plaza Hotel and Towers.

Apr. 24&ndash;25:

Celebration of Latino Children&#8217;s Literature Conference,  
[<http://www.ed.sc.edu/latinoconf/>] University of South Carolina, College of Education, Columbia.

Apr. 28:

ARMA Utah&#8211;Salt Lake Chapter,  
[<http://www.armautah.org/Conference2009.htm>] Rocky Mountain SharePoint Conference, Sandy, Utah. &ldquo;Leveraging SharePoint for Cost-Effective Electronic Document Management.&rdquo;

May 1:

NFAIS, [[http://www.nfaais.org/events/event\\_details.cfm?id=55](http://www.nfaais.org/events/event_details.cfm?id=55)] “Social Media and the Future of Scholarly Communication,” PALINET Headquarters, Philadelphia.

May 6&ndash;7:

Amigos Library Services, [<http://conference.amigos.org>] Member Conference, Crowne Plaza Hotel North Dallas-Addison, Texas.  
&ldquo;Navigating the Now.&rdquo;

May 13–15:

Second World Congress: Information and Knowledge: Technology Issues,  
[<http://www.documentalistas.com/events/2wc09/about.php>] Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.

May 15:

ACRL New England Chapter,  
[<http://www.acrlnec.org/springconf09/index.html>] Spring Conference, College of the Holy Cross, Hogan Center, Worcester, Massachusetts. “Are You Being Served? Customer Satisfaction and Library Service.”

June 12:

Pres4Lib2009, [<http://pres4lib.pbwiki.com/>] a camp for library presenters and speakers, Princeton (N.J.) Public Library.

June 18–19:

Homeland Defense Journal workshop,  
[<http://www.homelanddefensejournal.com/Courses/2009Courses/Emergency-Preparedness-Libraries.html>] Jefferson Plaza Building, Arlington, Virginia.  
“Emergency Preparedness for Libraries.”

June 23–24:

International m-Libraries Conference,  
[<http://library.open.ac.uk/mLibraries/>] University of British Columbia,  
Vancouver.

Oct. 1–4:

Association for Rural and Small Libraries,  
[<http://www.bcr.org/ARSL/index.html>] National Diversity in Libraries  
Conference, Marriott Louisville Downtown, Kentucky, “Spectrum of  
the Future.”

Oct. 20–22:

Internet Librarian International,  
[<http://www.internet-librarian.com/index.php>] Conference on Interlending  
and Document Supply, Hannover, Germany.

Oct. 21–23:

Ohio Library Council, [<http://www.oelma.org/conference/2009/default.asp>]  
Convention and Expo, Renaissance Hotel, Cleveland, Ohio. “Educating  
21st-Century Leaders.”

Feb. 4–6, 2010:

Association of Writers and Illustrators for Children,  
[<http://www.awic.in/events/forthcoming-events/international-conference-on-childrens-libraries.htm>] Conference on Children’s Libraries, New Delhi.  
“Building a Book Culture.”

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

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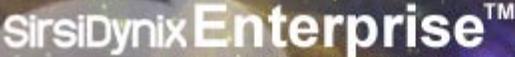
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# american libraries DIRECT

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | April 22, 2009

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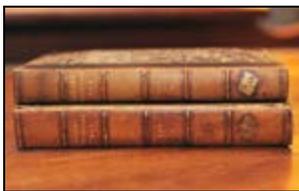


## U.S. & World News

### [Book pilfered in Civil War returned to Washington and Lee](#)

Nearly 145 years after it was taken by a Union soldier during a raid on Lexington, Virginia, a book on the Napoleonic Wars has found its way back to the special collections department of Washington and Lee University. Charles S. Gates, of the 54th Pennsylvania Infantry, pilfered it from Washington College, as it was then called, on June 11, 1864, when Union Gen. David Hunter raided the town and burned the neighboring Virginia Military Institute. The volume was returned to the Leyburn Library by Lake Forest (Ill.) College Handball Coach Mike Dau in February....

American Libraries Online, Apr. 17

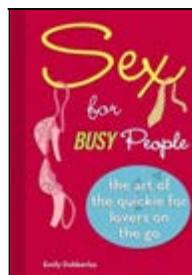


### [Topeka woman: Relocating titles on sexuality isn't enough](#)

Eight weeks after barring minors from checking out four books about sexuality, the board of the Topeka and Shawnee County (Kans.) Public Library voted 6–3 on April 16 to restore the titles to unrestricted circulation but keep them where they were relocated in February—the Health Information Neighborhood collection in the library's adult materials section.

However, several days before the vote was taken, complainant Kim Borchers had declared herself dissatisfied with the books' relocation, as well as an alternate option that would have barred patrons younger than 13 from borrowing the titles altogether....

American Libraries Online, Apr. 20



### [Municipal pay cuts avert San Diego branch closures](#)

San Diego Mayor Jerry Sanders's attempt to close a \$43-million budget deficit resolved on a positive note April 13 when he announced that there would be no service cuts, layoffs, or branch closures at the public library. This announcement came after community protests resulting from the mayor's original proposal last November to temporarily shutter seven branches....

American Libraries Online, Apr. 21

### What are Teens doing in YOUR library?

Please take this university-sponsored survey to help us find out! We want to protect teens online just like you do!

**10 MINUTES AND A CHANCE FOR \$100!**

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## ALA News

### [Top 10 most challenged books of 2008](#)

For the third consecutive year, Justin Richardson and Peter Parnell's award-winning *And Tango Makes Three*, a children's book about two male penguins caring for an orphaned egg, tops the ALA's Top Ten list of the [Most Frequently Challenged Books of 2008](#). Four books are new this year: *Bless Me, Ultima*, by Rudolfo Anaya; *Uncle Bobby's Wedding*, by Sarah S. Brannen; *The Kite Runner*, by Khaled Hosseini; and *Flashcards of My Life*, by Charise Mericle Harper. In 2008, the Office for Intellectual Freedom received 513 reports on efforts to remove or restrict materials from school curricula and library bookshelves....



### [A tribute to Judith Krug](#)

*American Libraries* Editor in Chief Leonard Kniffel writes this tribute to Judith Krug (on left), director of the ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom, who died April 11: "Krug believed that no one has the right to tell other people what they can or cannot read. When asked where libraries should draw the line when it comes to stocking controversial material, she always had one answer: 'The law.' She understood that we are a nation living under the rule of law, and that creating, enforcing, or overturning the laws of the land is the single most important way to safeguard the freedom to read for all Americans."...



AL Inside Scoop, Apr. 21

### [1995 interview with Judith Krug](#)

*American Libraries* Senior Editor Beverly Goldberg conducted this interview in July 1995 with Judith Krug. A towering champion of free speech and vigorous opponent of censorship, Krug shared her views on threats to intellectual freedom, her influences, policies on library challenges, filtering software, and internet safety....

*American Libraries* 26 (Sept. 1995): 774-78



### [Caldwell-Stone named OIF acting director](#)

Deborah Caldwell-Stone will serve as acting director of ALA's Office for Intellectual Freedom, effective immediately. Longtime OIF Director Judith Krug died



### [ALA Annual Conference](#)

Chicago, July 9-15.

**Tours** are provided by Accent on Arrangements; advance registration and payment are strongly recommended. The deadline for advance registration is June 19. You may find out more about the tours [here](#) and you have the option of [registering online](#) or sending in the [registration form](#). Onsite registration will only be on a space-available basis.



### [Developing a Compensation Plan for Your Library](#) (2d ed.)

by Paula M. Singer and Laura L. Francisco, offers a new analysis of emerging workforce trends. The authors tackle the new challenges facing administrators and human-resource planners such as the retirement of Baby Boomers, determining the compensation value of an MLS, and how to retain your organization's high-performing employees. **NEW! From ALA**



April 11 after a lengthy illness. Caldwell-Stone, who will also serve as acting director of the Freedom to Read Foundation, joined OIF in October 2000, working on projects dealing with censorship and privacy in libraries. While at ALA, she has written a number of articles on privacy and confidentiality, as well as filtering....

### [House considers resolution on National Library Week](#)

Reps. Paul Tonko (D-21) and Vern Ehlers (Mich.-3) presented powerful statements April 22 in support of a House resolution acknowledging and commending National Library Week. Ehlers, a long-time supporter of libraries and a sponsor of the resolution, also spoke to the importance of libraries and librarians to communities and why libraries are important to him personally. A vote was deferred until the end of the day....

District Dispatch, Apr. 22

### [The Senate highlights National Library Week](#)

The U.S. Senate's tribute to National Library Week on its [homepage](#) in mid-April brings attention to the importance of libraries and the difference libraries are making in the lives of millions of Americans. "The ALA appreciates the Senate for making note of National Library Week on its website this week and for reminding the Congress and all those who use their own libraries on a daily basis of the myriad contributions libraries make in today's information-driven world," ALA President Jim Rettig said....

### [OITP participates in Google Book settlement panel](#)

On April 21, Alan Inouye (second from right), director of the ALA Office for Information Technology Policy, participated in a panel called



["Copyright, Content, and Class Action Lawsuits: A Debate on the Google Book Search Settlement."](#) The talk was sponsored by the Innovation Technology and Innovation Foundation, and held at the Library of Congress. Inouye offered remarks on the proposed Google Book settlement from the library and public-interest perspective....

District Dispatch, Apr. 22

### [Millennial membership survey](#)

ALA Emerging Leaders Team L (Amalia Monroe, Morgan Montgomery, Karen Keys, and Erin Dorney) would like library workers born after 1978 to spend 15–20 minutes completing a brief survey about ALA chapter membership. They are interested in finding out more about millennial generation needs and wants....

### [How to get involved in ALA chapters](#)

ALA chapters (state library associations such as the Illinois Library Association) promote general library service and librarianship within their geographic areas, provide geographic representation to the ALA Council, and cooperate in the promotion of general and joint enterprises with the ALA and other library groups. ALA student

## Editions.

### In this issue April 2009



**2009 Library Design Showcase**

**A Greener Library, A Greener You**

**Building Science 101**

**Meeting Students' Need States**

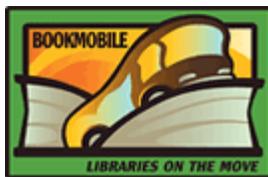


**LSTA funding.** Please contact your senators and ask them sign the "Dear Colleague" letter ([PDF file](#)) being circulated by Sens. Jack Reed (D-R.I.) and Olympia Snowe (R-Maine) in support of funding for the Library Services and Technology Act and the Improving Literacy Through School Libraries Program. The deadline to sign the letter is **May 5**. The letter requests ([PDF file](#)) that the Senate include \$300 million for LSTA and \$100 million for the Improving Literacy program for FY 2010.

chapters enhance students' ALA membership by providing leadership and programming opportunities on their campuses....

## [Celebrate National Bookmobile Day next year](#)

Bookmobiles and direct-delivery outreach services are an integral, vital part of libraries across the country. Their contribution to public life will be recognized during National Bookmobile Day on April 14, 2010, as part of National Library Week. The ALA Office for Literacy and Outreach Services and the Association for Bookmobile and Outreach Services are sponsors of National Bookmobile Day....



## AL Focus

### [Judith Krug memorial video](#)

This memorial video (8:04) to intellectual freedom legend Judith Krug, the long-time director of the ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom and Freedom to Read Foundation, features messages from colleagues, interviews with Judith, and photos from throughout her career....

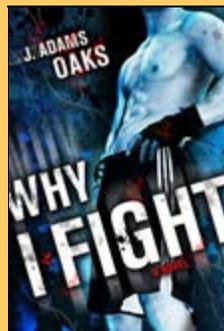


## Booklist ONLINE

### [Featured review: Books for youth](#)

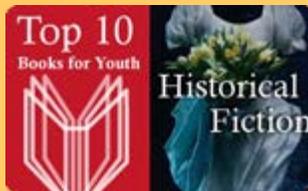
Oaks, J. Adams. *Why I Fight*. Apr. 2009. 240p. Grades 8–12. Atheneum, hardcover (978-1-4169-1177-7).

Ever since he turned 12-and-a-half, Wyatt has been on the road with his cool uncle Spade, who lives by his wits and has a different "ladyfriend" in every new town they visit. For six years his uncle's Chevy "was my house," Wyatt tells the reader, and "all his ladyfriends was my mom." It's Spade's idea that Wyatt, who is unusually tall and strong, should start bare-knuckle fighting for money, and the boy, heartbreakingly eager to please, complies, winning fight after fight . . . until the last one. Oaks's first novel is a breathtaking debut with an unforgettable protagonist, a boy who may claim he hates the word *love* but is nonetheless desperately in search of it and of himself....



### [Historical fiction for youth](#)

Gillian Engberg writes: "Rather than our usual practice of drawing from the past 12 months of reviews, this Top 10 list highlights the best historical-fiction youth titles published between January and April 2009. Why? Because we've seen such a wealth of



## Career Leads from ALA JobLIST

### [Librarian, Western History Collections,](#)

University of Oklahoma, Norman. Responsible for the general operation of the library and photographic archives. Supervises the reading room, coordinates reference services, conducts tours of the collections, and prepares exhibits. Supervises reproduction and digital conversion of photographs and sound recordings, and coordinates technical processing for books and images. Assists in collection development and maintains the photographic archives web page. Provides instruction using the holdings of the collections and supervises collections' staff and students....

@ [More jobs...](#)

## Digital Library of the Week



The [World Digital Library](#), launched [April 21](#), makes it possible

excellent titles this year that we couldn't decide which ones to leave off. For more outstanding recent historical fiction for youth, see the [2008 Editors' Choice list](#)."

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

## Chicago Update

### [Top 10 reasons to attend Annual Conference](#)

The ALA Annual Conference is always a great opportunity to learn and grow, and this year will be no exception when it returns to Chicago. With more than 20,000 librarians, a huge exhibit hall with 900 exhibitors, and more than 2,400 sessions and meetings, Annual Conference is an event not to be missed. The value of your week in Chicago will be measured by so much more than what you take back to your job. It's also about the memories and stories you'll have seeing friends and colleagues, taking in the city, and reacquainting yourself with what makes you happy to be a librarian. Here are just a few reasons to make plans to be with us July 9–15....

2009 ALA Annual Conference wiki



### [The Shedd's Oceanarium](#)

The Shedd Aquarium is always worth a visit, but after May 22 when its revamped and reimagined Oceanarium reopens, it will offer even more opportunities to interact with sea creatures. The new Regenstein Otter Trail and Habitat takes guests through Shedd's rain forest to the coast; the ITW Foundation Beluga Trail winds along a rushing river that pours into a pristine estuary exhibit; Secluded Bay, the birthplace for the aquarium's beluga calves, is better equipped for breeding efforts; and a greatly enlarged sea lion habitat features new staging areas and trainer platforms. Watch the [video](#) (2:33)....

Shedd Aquarium



## Division News

### [Registration opens for Teen Read Week](#)

YALSA launched its Teen Read Week 2009 [website](#) on April 16 (Support Teen Literature Day), opening registration and offering resources for the annual celebration of teen reading. Teen Read Week is October 18–24, with a theme of Read Beyond Reality @ your library, encouraging teens to read something out of this world, just for the fun of it. Teen Read Week is a national literacy initiative aimed at teens, their parents, librarians, educators, booksellers, and other concerned adults....

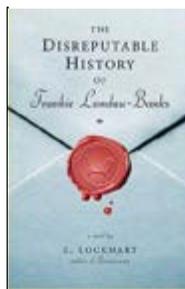


### [Teens' Top Ten nominations](#)

YALSA has announced that nominations for the annual

to discover, study, and enjoy cultural treasures from around the world on one site. These treasures include, but are not limited to, manuscripts, maps, rare books, musical scores, recordings, films, prints, photographs, and architectural drawings. Items on the site may easily be browsed by place, time, topic, type of item, and contributing institution, or can be located by an open-ended search in several languages. Special features include interactive geographic clusters, a timeline, and advanced image-viewing and interpretive capabilities. Item-level descriptions and interviews with curators about featured items provide additional information. Navigation tools and content descriptions are provided in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Portuguese, Russian, and Spanish. Many more languages are represented in the actual books, manuscripts, maps, photographs, and other primary materials, which are provided in their original languages. The collection was developed by a team at the U.S. Library of Congress, with contributions by partner institutions in many countries; the support of UNESCO; and the financial support of a number of companies and private foundations.

Teens' Top Ten are now [available](#). YALSA encourages teens to read the 25 nominees before the national Teens' Top Ten vote, which will take place during Teen Read Week, October 18–24. The Teens' Top Ten is a teen choice list, in which teens nominate and choose their favorite books of the previous year. The 10 nominations that receive the most votes during Teen Read Week will be named the official Teens' Top Ten....



### [New ACRL publication: Library Rx](#)

ACRL has released [Library Rx: Measuring and Treating Library Anxiety](#) by Martina Malvasi, Catherine Rudowsky, and Jesus M. Valencia. *Library Rx* presents research findings on library anxiety in college and university students. There is strong evidence that library anxiety has a negative impact on undergraduate student performance. The authors review existing research on student reactions to the library environment, describe the findings of a research project on library anxiety, and present ideas for its treatment....



### [New FINRA unemployment resource](#)

Public libraries can take advantage of important financial and unemployment-related information developed by the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority. FINRA's Investor Alert, *Job Dislocation: Making Smart Financial Choices after a Job Loss* ([PDF file](#)), offers guidance and tips for the general public on maintaining financial stability during a period of unemployment. The agency is making this brochure available to public libraries for distribution to patrons in the spirit of Smart investing @ your library, the ongoing grant initiative managed as a partnership between RUSA and the FINRA Investor Education Foundation....



### [Toby Barlow to speak at RUSA breakfast](#)

Toby Barlow, author of *Sharp Teeth*, is slated to speak about his spellbinding werewolf novel at the RUSA Literary Tastes Breakfast at ALA Annual Conference in Chicago, July 12. *Sharp Teeth* was the top horror selection for the 2009 Reading List, a RUSA award that annually highlights the best titles in genre fiction that merit attention from both adult readers and librarians....



### [Williams, Needham to speak at ASCLA President's Program](#)

Joan Frye Williams and George Needham will discuss issues of interest to all types of librarians at this year's ASCLA President's Program, "Revitalizing the Library Experience," on July 12 in conjunction with ALA's Annual Conference in Chicago. In a stimulating and fast-paced presentation, Williams and Needham will tackle emerging issues affecting all library environments and employees—from the rural library to the large library system employee, to the information broker....



BibliOdyssey has a [nice selection](#) of illustrations (with descriptions) from the World Digital Library.

**Do you know** of a digital library collection that we can mention in this *AL Direct* feature? [Tell us about it](#). Browse previous Digital Libraries of the Week at the [Love Libraries](#) site.

## Public Perception

### How the World Sees Us

**"I have no doubt that Mr. Toast was the cleanest person I knew at the time, although he never bathed anywhere but at the library. After finishing, he always went downstairs, to the periodicals room, and read each of New York's daily newspapers from cover to cover, like any other retiree with time to kill."**

—Novelist John Wray describing how his friend Mr. Toast taught him to bathe at the Brooklyn Heights branch of the Brooklyn (N.Y.) Public Library during a period of near-homelessness, in "How Mr. Toast Took a Bath," *New York Times*, Mar. 13.



**AL on Twitter?** Follow *American Libraries* news stories, videos, and blog posts on [Twitter](#).

### [ASCLA seeks proposals for 2010 conference](#)

ASCLA is now accepting [proposals](#) for programs at the 2010 ALA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. Division members are invited to submit proposals that cover developing trends in accessibility; library networks, co-ops, and consortia; state library agencies; prison libraries and library services to incarcerated youth; library consulting; and special populations, including libraries and library services for the blind, deaf, and hard of hearing. The deadline is May 15....

### [ACRL sets 2009 legislative agenda](#)

The ACRL board of directors recently adopted its annual legislative agenda, with objectives for legislative action at the national level that affects the welfare of academic and research libraries. The eight-point agenda was formulated in time for National Library Legislative Day, to be held May 11–12 in Washington, D.C. The committee sought input from the ACRL Scholarly Communications and Copyright Committees, ACRL leaders, and the ALA Washington Office....

### [PLA workshop on serving diverse populations](#)

To help public librarians learn how to effectively serve diverse populations, PLA is offering an intensive two-day [workshop](#) designed to teach these practical skills in Houston, Texas, August 6–7. Participants will learn how to identify the challenges of these groups and assess the library's readiness to work with them, develop a culturally responsive library-services plan that addresses specific community needs, and develop marketing messages that connect with these populations....

### [Be a Better Manager on PLAspace](#)

A new group, Be a Better Manager, has joined [PLAspace](#). This community is a perfect place for managers and managers-to-be to discuss their questions, workplace situations, and solutions. Group members can also give insight about formal and informal professional development opportunities (blogs, workshops, courses, programs, books, and journals) that have helped them make good decisions....



### [PSAs for School Library Media Month](#)

As spokesperson for School Library Media Month, best-selling author James Patterson is the voice behind public service announcements promoting the work of school library media specialists in schools across the country. The PSAs are [available](#) for downloading in MP3 format in lengths of 10, 15, and 20 seconds....

## Awards

### [2009 Arbuthnot Honor Lecture](#)

Author Walter Dean Myers (center) delivered the 2009 May Hill Arbuthnot Honor Lecture April 18 at the Langston Hughes Library of the Children's Defense Fund Alex Haley Farm in Clinton, Tennessee. CDF Founder and President Marian Wright Edelman gave the welcome. The local host of the event was Theresa Venable, librarian of the Langston Hughes



[Request](#) a printed ALA Editions Spring/Summer catalog or download [\(PDF file\)](#) a virtual one to find out the latest titles published by the Association.

### Ask the ALA Librarian



**Q. Our library is near a number of homeless shelters, and many of the people who use the shelters also use our library. Lately we have been getting complaints from some of our other patrons about body-odor problems with some of the shelter patrons. Do you have any suggestions on how we can deal with this?**

**A.** Your library is certainly not the only one to face this issue. Issues of body odor are not limited to [homeless library patrons](#), so you need to be careful in crafting a policy that

Library....

### [ALSC award podcasts](#)

Hear about the 2009 ALSC book and media awards from the committee chairs themselves through new podcasts by Sarah Long, the executive director of the North Suburban Library System in Wheeling, Illinois. The podcasts are available on the Library Beat website and feature interviews about the [Newbery Award](#) (15:23) with Committee Chair Rose Treviño, the [Caldecott Award](#) (16:29) with Committee Chair Nell Colburn, and the [Carnegie Award](#) (18:11) with Committee Chair Margaret Tice....

ALSC Blog, Apr. 20; Library Beat

### [Moline celebrates National Library Week kaleidoscopically](#)

As the winner of the 2009 Scholastic Library Publishing National Library Week Grant for its public awareness campaign, the Moline (Ill.) Public Library had the opportunity to celebrate the week in style. The library's campaign was inspired by local artist Thomas Chouteau's "River of Life" kaleidoscope (above) and promoted its connection with the community by creating a series of community kaleidoscope programs throughout the entire year. Check out the library's [video PSA](#) (0:32)....



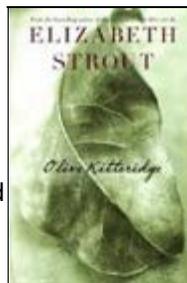
### [National Library Legislative Day travel grants](#)

ACRL has chosen 11 winners of the 2009 National Library Legislative Day travel grants. Reflecting ACRL President Erika Linke's focus on legislative advocacy, the division awarded \$250 grants to 11 ACRL legislative advocates to travel to Washington, D.C., May 11–12. During NLLD, library staff and supporters from around the country converge on Capitol Hill to meet with their federal representatives to advocate for libraries....

### [Elizabeth Strout wins 2009 Pulitzer for fiction](#)

*Olive Kitteridge*, a set of linked stories about a gruff, 60-something school teacher in a coastal town in Maine, is the work that has won its author, Elizabeth Strout, the 2009 Pulitzer Prize for fiction. The 13 linked stories also serve as microcosms of small-town life, with its gossip, small kindnesses, and everyday tragedies. The full list of Pulitzer winners is [here](#)....

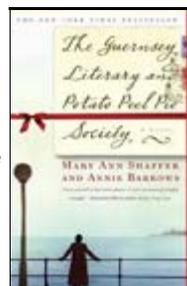
*Christian Science Monitor*, Apr. 20



### [2009 Indies Choice Book Awards](#)

The American Booksellers Association has announced the winners of the inaugural Indies Choice Book Awards. Formerly the Book Sense Book of the Year Awards, the new Indies Choice Book Awards reflect the spirit of independent bookstores nationwide through new categories and a broader range of winners and honor books. Winner in the fiction category is *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society*, by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows (Dial Press)....

American Booksellers Association, Apr. 16



## Seen Online

does not single out these individuals. See our pages on [policy development](#) and [sample policies](#) for help in creating a new policy for your library. From the [ALA Professional Tips wiki](#).

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

### Stimulus funding and construction.

The most frequently asked questions by state and local officials have been about the use of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds for construction. The ALA Washington Office has issued a brief ([PDF file](#)) that provides the answers. Four states (California, Illinois, Maine, and South Dakota) have submitted [applications](#) for the State Fiscal Stabilization Fund to the U.S. Department of Education. The applications from South Dakota and Illinois were approved April 20.

## Calendar

**May 4-7:** [Society for Imaging Science and Technology](#), Archiving Conference, Hilton Crystal City, Arlington, Virginia.

**May 6-7:** [Enterprise 2009: The Educause Enterprise](#)

### [Seattle libraries to close for a week in August](#)

The city of Seattle plans to close its libraries for a week during the summer because of a midyear budget shortfall, Mayor Greg Nickels announced April 17. The Seattle Public Library initially proposed shorter branch hours, but the mayor reinstated \$500,000 to its budget to allow it to keep its regular hours and avoid layoffs. Library spokeswoman Andra Addison said the closure will probably be the last week of August....

*Seattle Times*, Apr. 18

### [Broward County faces branch closings](#)

Pain and politics were on display April 21 as Broward County, Florida, commissioners settled into the tough task of figuring out how to cut \$160 million in spending next year. Money-saving proposals from staff included closing all county libraries on Sundays, cutting hours, and eliminating seven smaller branches. The cuts, if approved, would run counter to voter intent: Twice in the last 11 years, voters approved expanding the county's libraries....

*Miami Herald*, Apr. 22



### [Escondido could forgo new library to soften cuts](#)

Aiming to avoid further cuts to vital city services, the Escondido, California, city council's budget subcommittee decided April 21 to help close projected budget deficits over the next four years with \$8.1 million previously earmarked for a new downtown library. The subcommittee said it chose the library money instead of \$17 million in reserves set aside for a downtown hotel because the hotel would boost and diversify city revenue in the long term....

*Escondido (Calif.) North County Times*, Apr. 21

### [San Jose votes down porn filters](#)

A year and a half of debate over filtering pornography out of San Jose (Calif.) Public Library computers came to a head late April 21 when the city council rejected spending money on the technology. After a lively debate that lasted hours, the council voted 7-3 to approve a proposal by the vice mayor and two councilmen that would remind computer users of existing policies to be courteous to others. Mayor Chuck Reed and council members Pete Constant and Pierluigi Oliverio were opposed, favoring filters in children's areas....

*San Jose (Calif.) Mercury News*, Apr. 22

### [Clearwater budget squeeze versus library fans](#)

It's another busy afternoon at the Clearwater (Fla.) Public Library's East branch (right). The book stacks and computer terminals are packed with people, and they don't want to hear about a plan to move their local library three miles away. But Clearwater might not be able to afford five branches anymore. To save money, city leaders are seriously considering closing the Countryside and East branches and merging them into one large regional library between the two....

*St. Petersburg (Fla.) Times*, Apr. 19



### [Libraries take a hit in L.A. budget proposals](#)

### [Information and Technology Conference.](#)

Indianapolis Marriott Downtown.

### **May 8-9:**

[SciBarCamp2](#), Hart House, University of Toronto. SciBarCamp is a gathering of scientists, artists, and technologists for a day of talks and active discussion.

### **May 13-14:**

[Rethinking Resource Sharing](#), OCLC Conference Center, Dublin, Ohio. "Inspiring Librarians, Empowering People."

### **May 13-17:**

[Association of Canadian Archivists](#), Annual Conference, Calgary, Alberta. "Rights, Responsibilities, Trust: Archives and Public Affairs."

### **May 17-20:**

[Innovative Users Group](#), Hilton Anaheim, California.

### **May 27-29:**

[Society for Scholarly Publishing](#), Annual Meeting, Marriott Baltimore Waterfront.

### **May 27-30:**

[Association for Recorded Sound Collections](#), Annual Conference, Liaison Capitol Hill Hotel, Washington, D.C.

### **May 28-31:**

[BookExpo America](#), Jacob K. Javits Center, New York City.

### **June 2-5:**

Public libraries and municipal arts agencies did not fare well in either the Los Angeles County budget proposal released April 20 or in the city of Los Angeles spending plan recently issued. The separate county and city public library systems each would take hits of about 10% to core operations under proposed budgets submitted by Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa and county administrator William Fujioka....

*Los Angeles Times, Apr. 20*

### [UC System restarts salary talks with librarians](#)

The University of California met with a union representing about 400 UC librarians April 17 to negotiate salary and professional development funding. The meeting was the second mediated session since an impasse was declared in February, after salary negotiations between the American Federation of Teachers and the university resumed last November. Michelle Squitieri, a local representative of the union, said UC librarians want equal pay with librarians in the California State University system....

*The Daily Californian (UC Berkeley), Apr. 20*

### [Boston trims its holdings](#)

The Boston Public Library is poised to sell or even give away a handful of items from its extensive special collection, as the landmark institution culls its vast holdings. So far, the library's collections committee has discussed parting with three items: an early American piano, a series of large Audubon prints, and a collection of glass printing plates once used to make postcards. Library officials stressed that these discussions are not related to the city's budget crunch....

*Boston Globe, Apr. 20*

### [Stonewall Library to reopen April 23](#)

The [Stonewall Library and Archives](#) has been operating at its new home on Sunrise Boulevard in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, since the end of January. On April 23, Stonewall Executive Director Jack Rutland will unlock the entrance to the site in the building it shares with ArtServe and Broward County Library's Fort Lauderdale branch. The GLBT collection's move almost didn't happen; in 2007 former Mayor Jim Naugle tried to stop it from going to a public building....

*Fort Lauderdale (Fla.) Sun Sentinel, Apr. 16*



### [Feeling Wii in the knee?](#)

To say that Wii injuries are an epidemic would be an overstatement, but they are proliferating along with the popular video-game system. Interviews with orthopedists and sports-medicine physicians revealed few serious injuries, but rather a phenomenon more closely resembling a spreading national ache: patients of all ages complaining of strains and swelling related to their use—and overuse—of the Wii....

*New York Times, Apr. 21*



### [School deregulation bill passes Oklahoma House](#)

The Oklahoma House of Representatives passed April 15 the School District Empowerment Program (S.B. 834), which would deregulate education in 20% of the state's schools. If the bill is signed into law, the State Board of Education would randomly select 20% of school districts to participate in the program, under which individual districts would be in charge of things the state now controls. The Oklahoma

### [International Conference on New Directions in the Humanities.](#)

Friendship Hotel, Beijing, China.

### **June 3–4:**

[Inspiration, Innovation, and Celebration: An Entrepreneurial Conference for Librarians.](#) Elliott University Center, University of North Carolina, Greensboro.

### **June 3–5:**

[Digitization and Museums.](#) Spring Hill Suites Marriott Boise ParkCenter, Boise, Idaho. Hosted by the American Association for State and Local History.

### **June 4–5:**

[Politics and Networking.](#) Decatur, Georgia. Certified Public Library Administrator course sponsored by PLA.

### **June 21–24:**

[International Society for Professional Innovation Management.](#) Annual Conference, Vienna, Austria. "The Future of Innovation."

### **Sept. 11–13:**

[Association for Rural and Small Libraries.](#) Conference, Gatlinburg, Tennessee.

### **Oct. 1–4:**

[LITA.](#) National Forum, Salt Lake City, Utah. "Open and Mobile."

### **Oct. 1–4:**

[Kentucky Library Association /](#)

Library Association notes ([Word file](#)) that the bill has been amended to require certification for librarians, but the requirement is in place only if a district chooses to hire a librarian....

KTUL-TV, Tulsa, Okla.; Oklahoma Library Association

### [UW-Madison and the Google Books Initiative](#)

As part of the Google Books Initiative, the University of Wisconsin–Madison Library System was the eighth library worldwide to join with Google to bring books into the digital age. The UW project, which also includes the Wisconsin Historical Society, has no direct costs because Google pays for the digitization. However, the library employs three full-time staffers to gather the books for shipping and reshelve them when they return....

*The Daily Cardinal* (UW-Madison), Apr. 16

### [Gun drama as accused Folio thief arrives at court](#)

Dressed as Che Guevara, the man accused of stealing a priceless first edition of Shakespeare’s works from Durham University triggered a gun drama when he arrived at court April 14. The eccentric Raymond Scott made his dramatic entrance at Consett Magistrates Court in County Durham, England, charged with three counts of theft and three of handling stolen goods. Scott was stopped by staff after trying to enter the court with a handgun and a rifle....

*Sunderland (U.K.) Echo*, Apr. 15

### [Gloucester libraries criticized for playing music](#)

Visitors to libraries in Gloucestershire, England, must now endure pop music being played as managers seek to boost the appeal of their services to younger users. The libraries are equipped with sound systems to provide background music because “libraries are not just about books anymore,” organizers claim. However, the move has been condemned as totally inappropriate by critics, who believe that libraries are the last bastion of hush in an increasingly noisy world....

*The Telegraph* (U.K.), Apr. 20

[Go back to the Top](#)

## Tech Talk

### [Top 10 unlocked smartphones](#)

Freedom of choice—that’s the biggest advantage of buying an unlocked phone. You’re not bound to a carrier, and you have some pretty enticing choices when it comes to a handset. Reviews here include the RIM BlackBerry Bold, the Nokia E71, the Palm Treo Pro, and the Samsung Innov8....

*PC World*, Apr. 20



### [22 ways to make your iPhone a better camera](#)

Michael Muchmore writes: “One of the few disappointments in the Apple iPhone is its camera. It’s just 2 megapixels, has no video capability, and performs poorly in low light and with moving subjects. Add to the list of missing features zoom, burst mode, timer, and white balance. Luckily, there are apps that address most of these issues and some picture-taking techniques that also can help you mitigate the iPhone



[Kentucky School Media Association / Southeastern Library Association](#), National Diversity in Libraries Conference, Louisville (Ky.) Marriott Downtown. “Spectrum of the Future.”

**Nov. 7:**  
[Self-Publishing Book Expo](#), 630 Second Ave., New York City.

@ [More...](#)

### Contact Us

American Libraries Direct



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

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All links outside the ALA website are provided for informational purposes only. Questions about the content

camera's shortcomings."...

PC Magazine, Apr. 17

### [Should governments build iPhone apps?](#)

Marshall Kirkpatrick writes: "The State of Utah has released the first iPhone app by a state government, and it is pretty impressive. In addition to the directory of departments and services available through the Utah.gov app ([iTunes link](#)) there's also a second app available called the Utah Professional License Lookup. But is building an app for a device owned by the relatively well-to-do really a good priority?"...

ReadWriteWeb, Apr. 16



### [Behind the scenes with Windows 7](#)

Jessica Mintz writes: "To design Windows 7, Microsoft analyzed billions of pieces of data. It studied exactly what PC users do in front of their screens. It tallied hundreds of thousands of Windows surveys. It got feedback from people all over the world who tried different versions of the software. As a result, every change or new feature in Windows 7 comes with a back story. Here is a sampling of things you'll see in the next operating system and explanations of how each came about."...

Associated Press, Apr. 19



### [In defense of web-design eye candy](#)

Stephen P. Anderson writes: "We've all seen arguments in the design community that dismiss the role of beauty in visual interfaces, insisting that good designers base their choices strictly on matters of branding or basic design principles. Lost in these discussions is an understanding of the powerful role aesthetics play in shaping how we come to know, feel, and respond. If we shift the conversation away from graphical elements and instead focus on aesthetics, we learn that this distinction between how something looks and how it works is somewhat artificial."...

A List Apart, Apr. 21



REALITY

### [Google launches Profile Results](#)

Danny Sullivan writes: "Ever searched for yourself on Google and come away dissatisfied, especially if someone else you share a name with seems to dominate the results? Ever looked for someone else and been disappointed that you couldn't find the person you wanted? Google's new Profile Results that launched April 21 aims to correct both problems. Now Google Profile pages are being promoted as a way for people to tell the world who they are and, to some degree, being offered as a way for people to claim their identity in Google's main search results."...

Search Engine Land, Apr. 21



### [How to track social media analytics](#)

Ben Parr writes: "Social media websites have become an increasingly important source of website traffic. This creates a massive demand for statistical data related to social media. Where are users coming from? What topics excite them? These are questions

of any external site should be addressed to the administrator of that site.

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ISSN 1559-369X.

that, when answered, can be the difference between a successful website and a failed social media campaign. But social media analytics is young, and not many people know where to start."...

Mashable, Apr. 19

### [On being PLNtrenched](#)

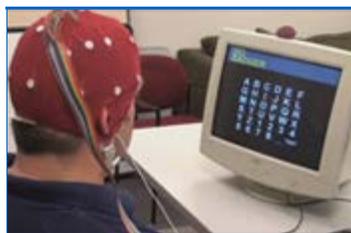
Joyce Valenza writes: "I want all my colleagues to have them. I speak about them with awe and admiration at conferences. And I probably browbeat those who are *without* them into being *with* them. But lately, when I wake up in the middle of the night, I find that I am thinking about my PLN (that is, my professional—or personal—learning network). I confess. I am hyperconnected. And being hyperconnected is both a blessing and a curse."...

NeverEndingSearch, Apr. 11

### [Twitter directly from your brain](#)

"Go Badgers" isn't an unusual message to get from the University of Wisconsin at Madison—particularly when it's a status update from Twitter, the texting service that limits users to 140 characters at a time. The unusual thing about this message is how it got to Twitter in the first place: via brain waves. University of Wisconsin doctoral student [Adam Wilson's cheer](#) is among the first direct brain-to-Twitter messages ever sent—and it points the way to better communication systems for paralyzed patients who have to cope with the conditions faced by physicist Stephen Hawking....

Cosmic Log, Apr. 20; NITRO Lablog, Apr. 20



## Publishing

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### [E-readers and libraries](#)

The release of the Kindle 2 has set off a firestorm of speculation about how e-readers are going to transform (or destroy) the publishing industry. If widely adopted, they have the potential to allow libraries new ways to house and circulate materials. But could there be downsides as well? Jason Griffey, Tom Peters, and Cindi Trainor weigh in with their predictions on how e-readers are going to change librarianship in coming years....

ALA TechSource blog, Apr. 21

### [BookSwim: Netflix for books?](#)

Peter Glaskowsky writes: "A new web-based rental service called [BookSwim](#) describes itself as Netflix for books. After checking it out, that seems to be a fair enough summary. The pricing doesn't seem to be quite as good a deal as Netflix; the fees are slightly higher and the average price of books is somewhat lower than for movies. BookSwim now offers a subscription with three books out at a time for \$19.98 per month; it plans go up to 11 books at a time for \$39.94 per month."...

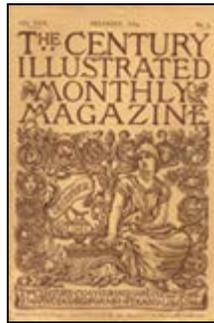


Speeds and Feeds, Apr. 21

### [Mark Twain in magazines](#)

Steven Lomazow writes: "Having just acquired an extremely rare periodical that contains 12 early Mark Twain appearances, it is an excellent time to present a short treatise about the magazine appearances of America's foremost humorist. I believe that my collection now contains the best representation of Twain periodicals in private hands. Twain's first appearance was way back when he was 16, in Benjamin Shillaber's *Carpet Bag* in 1852. His original work was published in magazines 178 times in a few dozen different publications, some posthumously. Most notable is the earliest excerpt of *Huckleberry Finn* in December 1884 in *The Century*."...

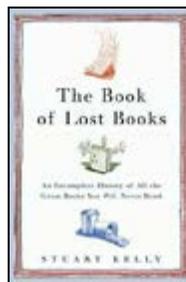
Magazine History: A Collector's Blog, Mar. 26



### [Longing for great lost works](#)

Stephen Marche writes: "On World Book Day (April 23) I always find myself thinking about the books that don't exist more than the ones that do. The silence makes the missing books even more attractive. We are left to impose our own Shakespeare into the vacuums of his rumored plays *Cardenio* and *Love's Labour's Won*. Maybe that is why I am so addicted to lists of phantom texts and consumed Stuart Kelly's wonderful *Book of Lost Books*, published in 2005, at a single sitting. The main fun is deciding which text you would have back from oblivion if you could pick only one."...

Wall Street Journal, Apr. 18



### [Earliest-known publisher's jacket discovered](#)

A dust jacket belonging to *Friendship's Offering for 1830* (London: Smith, Elder, & Co., 1829) is apparently the earliest on record. Discovered in March in the archives of Oxford's Bodleian Library by Michael Turner, it no longer is on the book it originally covered, but folded and bound with booktrade ephemera. Despite the lack of the publisher's name, it is clear from this jacket that the potential for advertising on dust jackets was recognized from their inception....

19th Century Dust Jackets, Apr. 6



## Actions & Answers

### [Google News Timeline](#)

On April 20, Google unveiled a new experimental product called [Google News Timeline](#) that displays news and related search results on an interactive timeline. It offers interesting possibilities for exploring stories,



especially older ones, that are largely hidden in newspaper and magazine archives. It is also a powerful way to view trends in culture and society or the careers of famous people. The service includes current stories gathered by Google News, as well as archival news; scanned newspapers, magazines, and books; blog posts; sports scores; and media like music and movies....

*New York Times*, Apr. 21

### [Nancy goes to the library](#)

Finally, after 76 years as a comic-strip character, the wily 8-year-old Nancy discovers the library. The current Nancy artists, Guy and Brad Gilchrist, show Nancy finding out about all the free things that a public library offers....

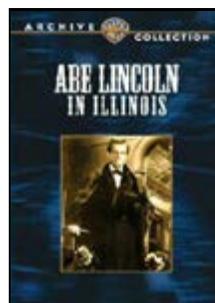
*Nancy*, Apr. 19



### [Warner DVD movies on demand](#)

Mark Harris writes: "All cinephiles are hostages to what we can and cannot see. The 'everything' that we imagine is available on DVD is a tiny fraction of the 'everything' that actually exists. The recent launch of the [Warner Archive Collection](#) could well portend a revolution; it's DVD on demand. Go to the archive and browse the titles. Click on the ones you want, and for \$19.95 apiece, they'll burn a DVD-R and ship you the movie in a standard plastic case with cover art."...

*Slate*, Apr. 21



### [NextGens and Boomers: Bridging the gap](#)

Laurel Tarulli writes: "Are you a Boomer or New Gener? Where do your biases fall? Whichever you are, biases work both ways. As a NextGener, you don't want to be looked at as a wet-behind-the-ears-you-have-so-much-to-learn librarian. But as a Boomer, you don't want to be seen as a washed-up-your-career-is-over librarian. So how do we meet in the middle? And how do these biases present themselves in the workplace?"...

*The Cataloguing Librarian*, Apr. 16

### [NELINET to join Lyrasis](#)

The boards of directors of NELINET and Lyrasis have approved a resolution to recommend that NELINET join Lyrasis. Together, the two organizations will comprise the largest membership collaborative of its kind, serving more than 4,500 libraries and cultural-heritage institutions in New England, the Mid-Atlantic, and the Southeastern United States. Lyrasis was created from the merger of two well-established regional library networks, PALINET and SOLINET....

NELINET, Apr. 16



### [Mobile connectivity and engagement on the rise](#)

Some 39% of Americans have positive and improving attitudes about their mobile communication devices, which in turn draws them further into engagement with digital resources on both wireless and wireline platforms, according to a Pew Internet and American Life Project [survey](#). Those who plug into the information and communications world while on-the-go are notably more active in many aspects of digital life than those who are wired to the internet or the 14% of Americans who are off the grid entirely....

Pew Internet and American Life Project, Mar. 25

### [Online catalogs: What users and librarians want](#)

In 2008, OCLC conducted focus groups, administered a pop-up survey on WorldCat, and conducted a web-based survey of librarians worldwide to find and compare the data-quality expectations of catalog end users and librarians. The results are now available online ([PDF file](#)). The findings indicate, among other things, that although library catalogs are often thought of as discovery tools, the catalog's delivery-related information is just as important to end users....

OCLC, Apr.



### [Digital archives that disappear](#)

Scott Jaschik writes: "As digital archives have become more important and more popular, there are varying schools of thought among scholars about how best to guarantee that they will be around for good. The fate of Paper of Record, a digital archive of early newspapers with a particularly strong collection from Mexico, may be cited in the years ahead as an example of the dangers of purchase by a large entity. Paper of Record was purchased (secretly) by Google in 2006, and shortly after Google took over management of the site, late last year, the archive [disappeared](#) from view."...

Inside Higher Ed, Apr. 22; AHA Today, Apr. 17

### [Best Buy community grants](#)

Through its Community Grants program, each Best Buy territory across the United States annually supports nonprofit organizations that offer programs and services providing opportunities for young teens related to education, life skills, leadership skills, or relationship development. This year, the Best Buy Children's Foundation will grant \$1 million to qualifying organizations. Applications will be accepted between May 15 and June 15....

Best Buy



### [Lawyers, librarians, clergy, and coaches](#)

Scott Walter writes: "Both [Inside Higher Ed](#) and the [Chronicle](#) point to a new report ([PDF file](#)) by the Center for College Affordability and Productivity on 'Trends in the Higher Education Workforce' that notes that the number of support staff positions have increased far more rapidly over the past 20 years than has the number of instructional positions. This, it is suggested, 'reflects unproductive spending by academe.' I see echoes in this report of the 2006 debate in school library circles over the [65% solution](#), the question of whether school librarians should be counted as instructional staff."...

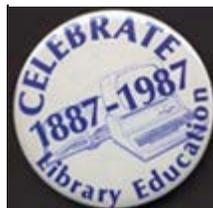
ACRLog, Apr. 20; Inside Higher Ed, Apr. 20; *Chronicle of Higher Education*, Apr. 24



### [Library buttons](#)

Larry Nix writes: "Library buttons are a common device used by libraries to promote library services and programs. They are also used by professional library associations to promote conferences and activities. Over the years I have collected hundreds of library-related buttons. I've selected a few to include on a [Library Buttons](#) page."...

Library History Buff Blog, Apr. 16



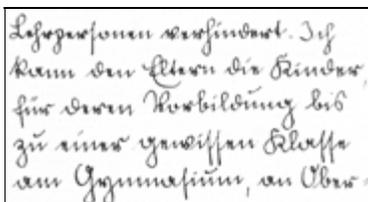
## [12 steps for coping with book-group interruptions](#)

Neil Hollands writes: "Interruptions are the bane of many book groups, a chronic problem that can destroy the flow of discussion, create ill will between readers, and distract the group from its most important points. I'll start with suggestions that should cure a minor interruption problem and slowly raise the response level. Let's hope you don't have to resort to step 12." Make sure you link to [part two](#)....

Book Group Buzz, Apr. 15, 21

## [Tips for deciphering old Germanic scripts](#)

Peter Doerling writes: "Sütterlinschrift, or 'old German hand,' is a script created by the Berlin graphic artist Ludwig Sütterlin (1865–1917) that was taught from 1915 to 1941 in German schools. Sütterlin



script is rarely written precisely, since it occurs almost only in handwriting. Even an experienced reader must first get used to the specific handwriting before the text can become understandable." Doerling provides a [short primer](#) in the script, along with [tips and tricks](#) for recognizing variants, [examples](#) in different hands, and comparisons of the Sütterlin alphabet to other 17th- to 19th-century letters ([lower-case](#) and [upper-case](#))....

Old German Writings

## [The Dewey Decimal Rap](#)

Scott "Scooter" Hayes, a literacy consultant, may be the only New Hanover County (N.C.) Public Library staffer who stars in his own [rap video](#) (4:14). Clad in a hoodie, dark glasses, and a blond wig, he hip-hops his way through an explanation of how the Dewey Decimal system can help readers find information on subjects as disparate as sharks, Italian recipes, and history's most famous shipwreck. His catchy tune illustrates how far Hayes will go to make learning fun....

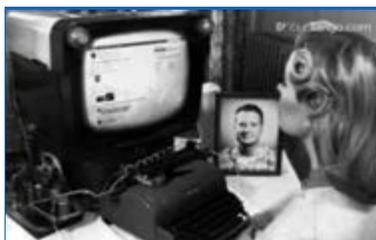
Wilmington (N.C.) Star-News, Apr. 14; YouTube, Mar. 10



## [Facebook manners and you](#)

Do you have good Facebook manners? Timmy and Alice don't. Watch their bad behavior to learn the do's and don'ts of Facebook breakups. Rule #2, Don't post embarrassing photographs of other people; and Rule #5, Don't start hate groups. Produced by Your Tango Instructional Films....

YouTube, Apr. 15



[Go back to the Top](#)

AL Direct, April 22, 2009

Having trouble viewing this HTML e-mail (or seeing it in full)? Click here [[% = util.viewHtmlLink %>](#)].

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | April 22, 2009

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

[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

## U.S. & World News

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### Book pilfered in Civil War returned to Washington and Lee

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2009/april2009/1845bookreturned.cfm>]

Nearly 145 years after it was taken by a Union soldier during a raid on Lexington, Virginia, a book on the Napoleonic Wars has found its way back to the special collections department of Washington and Lee University. Charles S. Gates, of the 54th Pennsylvania Infantry, pilfered it from Washington College, as it was then called, on June 11, 1864, when Union Gen. David Hunter raided the town and burned the neighboring Virginia Military Institute. The volume was returned to the Leyburn Library by Lake Forest (Ill.) College Handball Coach Mike Dau in February....  
American Libraries Online, Apr. 17

### Topeka woman: Relocating titles on sexuality isn't enough

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2009/april2009/topkaunrestrictssexbks.cfm>]

Eight weeks after barring minors from checking out four books about sexuality, the board of the Topeka and Shawnee County (Kans.) Public Library voted 6&ndash;3 on April 16 to restore the titles to unrestricted circulation but keep them where they were relocated in February—the Health Information Neighborhood collection in the library&rsquo;s adult materials section. However, several days before the vote was taken, complainant Kim Borchers had declared herself dissatisfied with the books&rsquo; relocation, as well as an alternate option that would have barred patrons younger than 13 from borrowing the titles altogether....

American Libraries Online, Apr. 20

Municipal pay cuts avert San Diego branch closures

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2009/april2009/sandiegobranchessaved.cfm>]

San Diego Mayor Jerry Sanders&rsquo;s attempt to close a \$43-million budget deficit resolved on a positive note April 13 when he announced that there would be no service cuts, layoffs, or branch closures at the public library. This announcement came after community protests resulting from the mayor&rsquo;s original proposal last November to temporarily shutter seven branches....

American Libraries Online, Apr. 21

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[<http://www.tlcdelivers.com/tlc/default.asp>]

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ALA News

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Top 10 most challenged books of 2008

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/nlw08bbtopten.cfm>]

For the third consecutive year, Justin Richardson and Peter Parnell's award-winning *And Tango Makes Three*, a children's book about two male penguins caring for an orphaned egg, tops the ALA's Top Ten list of the Most Frequently Challenged Books of 2008.

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/oif/bannedbooksweek/challengedbanned/frequentlychallengedbooks.cfm>] Four books are new this year: *Bless Me, Ultima*, by Rudolfo Anaya; *Uncle Bobby's Wedding*, by Sarah S. Brannen; *The Kite Runner*, by Khaled Hosseini; and *Flashcards of My Life*, by Charise Mericle Harper. In 2008, the Office for Intellectual Freedom received 513 reports on efforts to remove or restrict materials from school curricula and library bookshelves....

A tribute to Judith Krug

[<http://www.al.ala.org/insidescoop/2009/04/21/a-tribute-to-judith-krug/>]

American Libraries Editor in Chief Leonard Kniffel writes this tribute to Judith Krug (on left), director of the ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom, who died April 11: "Krug believed that no one has the right to tell other people what they can or cannot read. When asked where libraries should draw the line when it comes to stocking controversial

material, she always had one answer: 'The law.' She understood that we are a nation living under the rule of law, and that creating, enforcing, or overturning the laws of the land is the single most important way to safeguard the freedom to read for all Americans."...

AL Inside Scoop, Apr. 21

1995 interview with Judith Krug

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/resources/selectedarticles/judithkruginterview.cfm>]

American Libraries Senior Editor Beverly Goldberg conducted this interview in July 1995 with Judith Krug. A towering champion of free speech and vigorous opponent of censorship, Krug shared her views on threats to intellectual freedom, her influences, policies on library challenges, filtering software, and internet safety....

American Libraries 26 (Sept. 1995): 774-78

Caldwell-Stone named OIF acting director

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/oifcaldwellstone.cfm>]

Deborah Caldwell-Stone will serve as acting director of ALA's Office for Intellectual Freedom, effective immediately. Longtime OIF Director Judith Krug died April 11 after a lengthy illness.

Caldwell-Stone, who will also serve as acting director of the Freedom to Read Foundation, joined OIF in October 2000, working on projects dealing with censorship and privacy in libraries. While at ALA, she has written a number of articles on privacy and confidentiality, as well as filtering....

House considers resolution on National Library Week

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=2611>]

Reps. Paul Tonko (D-21) and Vern Ehlers (Mich.-3) presented powerful statements April 22 in support of a House resolution acknowledging and commending National Library Week. Ehlers, a long-time supporter of libraries and a sponsor of the resolution, also spoke to the importance of libraries and librarians to communities and why libraries are important to him personally. A vote was deferred until the end of the day....

District Dispatch, Apr. 22

The Senate highlights National Library Week

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/wo nlw.cfm>]

The U.S. Senate's tribute to National Library Week on its homepage [[http://www.senate.gov/general/Features/art\\_bibliography\\_display.htm](http://www.senate.gov/general/Features/art_bibliography_display.htm)] in mid-April brings attention to the importance of libraries and the difference libraries are making in the lives of millions of Americans.

"The ALA appreciates the Senate for making note of National Library Week on its website this week and for reminding the Congress and all those who use their own libraries on a daily basis of the myriad contributions libraries make in today's information-driven world," ALA President Jim Rettig said....

OITP participates in Google Book settlement panel

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=2592>]

On April 21, Alan Inouye (second from right), director of the ALA Office for Information Technology Policy, participated in a panel called “Copyright, Content, and Class Action Lawsuits: A Debate on the Google Book Search Settlement. [<http://www.itif.org/index.php?id=235>]” The talk was sponsored by the Innovation Technology and Innovation Foundation, and held at the Library of Congress. Inouye offered remarks on the proposed Google Book settlement from the library and public-interest perspective....

District Dispatch, Apr. 22

Millennial membership survey

[[http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=l2y9vQxaMRF6OSNMMyjdJTQ\\_3d\\_3d](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=l2y9vQxaMRF6OSNMMyjdJTQ_3d_3d)]

ALA Emerging Leaders Team L (Amalia Monroe, Morgan Montgomery, Karen Keys, and Erin Dorney) would like library workers born after 1978 to spend 15–20 minutes completing a brief survey about ALA chapter membership. They are interested in finding out more about millennial generation needs and wants....

How to get involved in ALA chapters

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/cro/getinvolved/getinvolved.cfm>]

ALA chapters (state library associations such as the Illinois Library Association) promote general library service and librarianship within their geographic areas, provide geographic representation to the ALA Council, and cooperate in the promotion of general and joint enterprises with the ALA and other library groups. ALA student chapters enhance students’ ALA membership by providing leadership and programming opportunities on their campuses....

Celebrate National Bookmobile Day next year

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/olsbookmobile.cfm>]

Bookmobiles and direct-delivery outreach services are an integral, vital part of libraries across the country. Their contribution to public life will be recognized during National Bookmobile Day on April 14, 2010, as part of National Library Week. The ALA Office for Literacy and Outreach Services and the Association for Bookmobile and Outreach Services are sponsors of National Bookmobile Day....

AL Focus

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Judith Krug memorial video

[<http://alfocus.ala.org/videos/judy-krug-memorial>]

This memorial video (8:04) to intellectual freedom legend Judith Krug, the long-time director of the ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom and Freedom to Read Foundation, features messages from colleagues, interviews with Judith, and photos from throughout her career....

Featured review: Books for youth

[[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show\\_product&pid=3309481](http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=3309481)]

Oaks, J. Adams. *Why I Fight*. Apr. 2009. 240p. Grades 8–12. Atheneum, hardcover (978-1-4169-1177-7).

Ever since he turned 12-and-a-half, Wyatt has been on the road with his cool uncle Spade, who lives by his wits and has a different “ladyfriend” in every new town they visit. For six years his uncle’s Chevy “was my house,” Wyatt tells the reader, and “all his ladyfriends was my mom.” It’s Spade’s idea that Wyatt, who is unusually tall and strong, should start bare-knuckle fighting for money, and the boy, heartbreakingly eager to please, complies, winning fight after fight . . . until the last one. Oaks’s first novel is a breathtaking debut with an unforgettable protagonist, a boy who may claim he hates the word love but is nonetheless desperately in search of it and of himself....

Historical fiction for youth

[[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show\\_product&pid=3437780](http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=3437780)]

Gillian Engberg writes: “Rather than our usual practice of drawing from the past 12 months of reviews, this Top 10 list highlights the best historical-fiction youth titles published between January and April 2009.

Why? Because we’ve seen such a wealth of excellent titles this year that we couldn’t decide which ones to leave off. For more outstanding recent historical fiction for youth, see the 2008

Editors’ Choice list

[[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show\\_product&pid=3245317](http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=3245317)].

”...

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

Chicago Update

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Top 10 reasons to attend Annual Conference

[[http://wikis.ala.org/annual2009/index.php/Tips\\_for\\_a\\_Successful\\_Annual#Top\\_Ten\\_Reasons\\_to\\_Attend\\_Annual\\_Conference](http://wikis.ala.org/annual2009/index.php/Tips_for_a_Successful_Annual#Top_Ten_Reasons_to_Attend_Annual_Conference)]

The ALA Annual Conference is always a great opportunity to learn and grow, and this year will be no exception when it returns to Chicago. With more than 20,000 librarians, a huge exhibit hall with 900 exhibitors, and more than 2,400 sessions and meetings, Annual Conference is an event not to be missed. The value of your week in Chicago will be measured by so much more than what you take back to your job. It’s also about the memories and stories you’ll have seeing friends and colleagues, taking in the city, and reacquainting yourself with what makes you happy to be a librarian. Here are just a few reasons to make plans to be with us July 9–15....

2009 ALA Annual Conference wiki

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-WYWwoSfFvI>]  
The Shedd’s Oceanarium

[<http://www.sheddaquarium.org/oceanarium.html>]

The Shedd Aquarium is always worth a visit, but after May 22 when its revamped and reimagined Oceanarium reopens, it will offer even more

opportunities to interact with sea creatures. The new Regenstien Otter Trail and Habitat takes guests through Shedd's rain forest to the coast; the ITW Foundation Beluga Trail winds along a rushing river that pours into a pristine estuary exhibit; Secluded Bay, the birthplace for the aquarium's beluga calves, is better equipped for breeding efforts; and a greatly enlarged sea lion habitat features new staging areas and trainer platforms. Watch the video  
[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-WYWwoSfFvI>] (2:33)....  
Shedd Aquarium

## Division News

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### Registration opens for Teen Read Week

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/yalsatrwreg.cfm>]

YALSA launched its Teen Read Week 2009 website

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/yalsa/teenreading/trw/trw2009/home.cfm>]

on April 16 (Support Teen Literature Day), opening registration and offering resources for the annual celebration of teen reading. Teen Read Week is October 18–24, with a theme of Read Beyond Reality @ your library, encouraging teens to read something out of this world, just for the fun of it. Teen Read Week is a national literacy initiative aimed at teens, their parents, librarians, educators, booksellers, and other concerned adults....

### Teens' Top Ten nominations

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/yalsatoptennominations.cfm>]

YALSA has announced that nominations for the annual Teens' Top Ten are now available.

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/yalsa/teenreading/teenstopten/teenstopten.cfm>] YALSA encourages teens to read the 25 nominees before the national Teens' Top Ten vote, which will take place during Teen Read Week, October 18–24. The Teens' Top Ten is a teen choice list, in which teens nominate and choose their favorite books of the previous year. The 10 nominations that receive the most votes during Teen Read Week will be named the official Teens' Top Ten....

### New ACRL publication: Library Rx

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/acrlpx.cfm>]

ACRL has released Library Rx: Measuring and Treating Library Anxiety [<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2683>] by Martina Malvasi, Catherine Rudowsky, and Jesus M. Valencia. Library Rx presents research findings on library anxiety in college and university students. There is strong evidence that library anxiety has a negative impact on undergraduate student performance. The authors review existing research on student reactions to the library environment, describe the findings of a research project on library anxiety, and present ideas for its treatment....

### New FINRA unemployment resource

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/ru safinra.cfm>]

Public libraries can take advantage of important financial and unemployment-related information developed by the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority. FINRA's Investor Alert, Job Dislocation: Making Smart Financial Choices after a Job Loss (PDF file [<http://www.finra.org/web/groups/investors/@inv/documents/investors/p118460.pdf>]), offers guidance and tips for the general public on maintaining financial stability during a period of unemployment. The agency is making this brochure available to public libraries for distribution to patrons in the spirit of Smart investing @ your library, the ongoing grant initiative managed as a partnership between RUSA and the FINRA Investor Education Foundation....

Toby Barlow to speak at RUSA breakfast

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/ru sabarlow.cfm>]

Toby Barlow, author of Sharp Teeth, is slated to speak about his spellbinding werewolf novel at the RUSA Literary Tastes Breakfast at ALA Annual Conference in Chicago, July 12. Sharp Teeth was the top horror selection for the 2009 Reading List, a RUSA award that annually highlights the best titles in genre fiction that merit attention from both adult readers and librarians....

Williams, Needham to speak at ASCLA President's Program

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/as clapresidentspgm.cfm>]

Joan Frye Williams and George Needham will discuss issues of interest to all types of librarians at this year's ASCLA President's Program, "Revitalizing the Library Experience," on July 12 in conjunction with ALA's Annual Conference in Chicago. In a stimulating and fast-paced presentation, Williams and Needham will tackle emerging issues affecting all library environments and employees—from the rural library to the large library system employee, to the information broker....

ASCLA seeks proposals for 2010 conference

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/as clacallforproposals.cfm>]

ASCLA is now accepting proposals

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/ascla/asclaourassoc/asclaforms/programpreconference.cfm>] for programs at the 2010 ALA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. Division members are invited to submit proposals that cover developing trends in accessibility; library networks, co-ops, and consortia; state library agencies; prison libraries and library services to incarcerated youth; library consulting; and special populations, including libraries and library services for the blind, deaf, and hard of hearing. The deadline is May 15....

ACRL sets 2009 legislative agenda

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/ac rllegagenda.cfm>]

The ACRL board of directors recently adopted its annual legislative agenda, with objectives for legislative action at the national level that

affects the welfare of academic and research libraries. The eight-point agenda was formulated in time for National Library Legislative Day, to be held May 11–12 in Washington, D.C. The committee sought input from the ACRL Scholarly Communications and Copyright Committees, ACRL leaders, and the ALA Washington Office....

#### PLA workshop on serving diverse populations

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/pladiversepop.cfm>]

To help public librarians learn how to effectively serve diverse populations, PLA is offering an intensive two-day workshop [<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/pla/plaevents/cplacourses/diversepopulations.cfm>] designed to teach these practical skills in Houston, Texas, August 6&ndash;7. Participants will learn how to identify the challenges of these groups and assess the library&rsquo;s readiness to work with them, develop a culturally responsive library-services plan that addresses specific community needs, and develop marketing messages that connect with these populations....

#### Be a Better Manager on PLAspace

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/apaplaspace.cfm>]

A new group, Be a Better Manager, has joined PLAspace. [<http://www.plaspace.org/>] This community is a perfect place for managers and managers-to-be to discuss their questions, workplace situations, and solutions. Group members can also give insight about formal and informal professional development opportunities (blogs, workshops, courses, programs, books, and journals) that have helped them make good decisions....

#### PSAs for School Library Media Month

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/aaslpatricksonpsa.cfm>]

As spokesperson for School Library Media Month, best-selling author James Patterson is the voice behind public service announcements promoting the work of school library media specialists in schools across the country.

The PSAs are available

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/aasl/aaslissues/aasladvocacy/schoollibrary.cfm>] for downloading in MP3 format in lengths of 10, 15, and 20 seconds....

#### Awards

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2009 Arbuthnot Honor Lecture [<http://arbuthnotlecture2009.eventbrite.com/>]  
Author Walter Dean Myers (center) delivered the 2009 May Hill Arbuthnot Honor Lecture April 18 at the Langston Hughes Library of the Children&rsquo;s Defense Fund Alex Haley Farm in Clinton, Tennessee. CDF Founder and President Marian Wright Edelman gave the welcome. The local host of the event was Theresa Venable, librarian of the Langston Hughes Library....

ALSC award podcasts [<http://www.alsc.ala.org/blog/?p=754>]

Hear about the 2009 ALSC book and media awards from the committee chairs themselves through new podcasts by Sarah Long, the executive director of the North Suburban Library System in Wheeling, Illinois. The podcasts are available on the Library Beat website and feature interviews about the Newbery Award [<http://www.librarybeat.org/longshots/play/158>] (15:23) with Committee Chair Rose Treviño, the Caldecott Award [<http://www.librarybeat.org/longshots/play/157>] (16:29) with Committee Chair Nell Colburn, and the Carnegie Award [<http://www.librarybeat.org/longshots/play/159>] (18:11) with Committee Chair Margaret Tice....  
ALSC Blog, Apr. 20; Library Beat

[[http://www.flickr.com/photos/ala\\_members/3459223847/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/ala_members/3459223847/)]Moline celebrates National Library Week kaleidoscopically  
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/campaignmoline.cfm>]  
As the winner of the 2009 Scholastic Library Publishing National Library Week Grant for its public awareness campaign, the Moline (Ill.) Public Library had the opportunity to celebrate the week in style. The library's campaign was inspired by local artist Thomas Chouteau's "River of Life" kaleidoscope (above) and promoted its connection with the community by creating a series of community kaleidoscope programs throughout the entire year. Check out the library's video PSA [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AzmfzPeL9mY>] (0:32)....

National Library Legislative Day travel grants  
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/acrlnlldgrants.cfm>]  
ACRL has chosen 11 winners of the 2009 National Library Legislative Day travel grants. Reflecting ACRL President Erika Linke's focus on legislative advocacy, the division awarded \$250 grants to 11 ACRL legislative advocates to travel to Washington, D.C., May 11–12. During NLLD, library staff and supporters from around the country converge on Capitol Hill to meet with their federal representatives to advocate for libraries....

Elizabeth Strout wins 2009 Pulitzer for fiction  
[<http://features.csmonitor.com/books/2009/04/20/olive-kitteridge-takes-2009-pulitzer-prize-for-fiction/>]  
Olive Kitteridge, a set of linked stories about a gruff, 60-something school teacher in a coastal town in Maine, is the work that has won its author, Elizabeth Strout, the 2009 Pulitzer Prize for fiction. The 13 linked stories also serve as microcosms of small-town life, with its gossip, small kindnesses, and everyday tragedies. The full list of Pulitzer winners is here [<http://www.pulitzer.org/awards/2009>]....  
Christian Science Monitor, Apr. 20

2009 Indies Choice Book Awards [<http://news.bookweb.org/6759.html>]  
The American Booksellers Association has announced the winners of the inaugural Indies Choice Book Awards. Formerly the Book Sense Book of the Year Awards, the new Indies Choice Book Awards reflect the spirit of independent bookstores nationwide through new categories and a broader range of winners and honor books. Winner in the fiction category is The

Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society, by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows (Dial Press)....

American Booksellers Association, Apr. 16

Seen Online

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Seattle libraries to close for a week in August

[[http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/politics/2009078866\\_citybudget18m.html](http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/politics/2009078866_citybudget18m.html)]

The city of Seattle plans to close its libraries for a week during the summer because of a midyear budget shortfall, Mayor Greg Nickels announced April 17. The Seattle Public Library initially proposed shorter branch hours, but the mayor reinstated \$500,000 to its budget to allow it to keep its regular hours and avoid layoffs. Library spokeswoman Andra Addison said the closure will probably be the last week of August....

Seattle Times, Apr. 18

Broward County faces branch closings

[<http://www.miamiherald.com/news/broward/story/1011167.html>]

Pain and politics were on display April 21 as Broward County, Florida, commissioners settled into the tough task of figuring out how to cut \$160 million in spending next year. Money-saving proposals from staff included closing all county libraries on Sundays, cutting hours, and eliminating seven smaller branches. The cuts, if approved, would run counter to voter intent: Twice in the last 11 years, voters approved expanding the county's libraries....

Miami Herald, Apr. 22

Escondido could forgo new library to soften cuts

[<http://www.northcountytimes.com/articles/2009/04/21/news/inland/escondido/zaffd13a61d20e71b8825759f007c5f4f.txt>]

Aiming to avoid further cuts to vital city services, the Escondido, California, city council's budget subcommittee decided April 21 to help close projected budget deficits over the next four years with \$8.1 million previously earmarked for a new downtown library. The subcommittee said it chose the library money instead of \$17 million in reserves set aside for a downtown hotel because the hotel would boost and diversify city revenue in the long term....

Escondido (Calif.) North County Times, Apr. 21

San Jose votes down porn filters

[[http://www.mercurynews.com/breakingnews/ci\\_12195045](http://www.mercurynews.com/breakingnews/ci_12195045)]

A year and a half of debate over filtering pornography out of San Jose (Calif.) Public Library computers came to a head late April 21 when the city council rejected spending money on the technology. After a lively debate that lasted hours, the council voted 7-3 to approve a proposal by the vice mayor and two councilmen that would remind computer users of existing policies to be courteous to others. Mayor Chuck Reed and council members Pete Constant and Pierluigi Oliverio were opposed, favoring filters in children's areas....

San Jose (Calif.) Mercury News, Apr. 22

### Clearwater budget squeeze versus library fans

[<http://www.tampabay.com/news/localgovernment/article993330.ece>]

It's another busy afternoon at the Clearwater (Fla.) Public Library's East branch (right). The book stacks and computer terminals are packed with people, and they don't want to hear about a plan to move their local library three miles away. But Clearwater might not be able to afford five branches anymore. To save money, city leaders are seriously considering closing the Countryside and East branches and merging them into one large regional library between the two....

St. Petersburg (Fla.) Times, Apr. 19

### Libraries take a hit in L.A. budget proposals

[<http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/culturemonster/2009/04/arts-funding.html>]

Public libraries and municipal arts agencies did not fare well in either the Los Angeles County budget proposal released April 20 or in the city of Los Angeles spending plan recently issued. The separate county and city public library systems each would take hits of about 10% to core operations under proposed budgets submitted by Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa and county administrator William Fujioka....

Los Angeles Times, Apr. 20

### UC System restarts salary talks with librarians

[[http://www.dailycal.org/article/105336/uc\\_system\\_restarts\\_salary\\_talks\\_with\\_librarians](http://www.dailycal.org/article/105336/uc_system_restarts_salary_talks_with_librarians)]

The University of California met with a union representing about 400 UC librarians April 17 to negotiate salary and professional development funding. The meeting was the second mediated session since an impasse was declared in February, after salary negotiations between the American Federation of Teachers and the university resumed last November. Michelle Squitieri, a local representative of the union, said UC librarians want equal pay with librarians in the California State University system....

The Daily Californian (UC Berkeley), Apr. 20

### Boston trims its holdings

[[http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2009/04/20/public\\_library\\_trimming\\_holdings/](http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2009/04/20/public_library_trimming_holdings/)]

The Boston Public Library is poised to sell or even give away a handful of items from its extensive special collection, as the landmark institution culls its vast holdings. So far, the library's collections committee has discussed parting with three items: an early American piano, a series of large Audubon prints, and a collection of glass printing plates once used to make postcards. Library officials stressed that these discussions are not related to the city's budget crunch....

Boston Globe, Apr. 20

### Stonewall Library to reopen April 23

[[http://www.sun-sentinel.com/community/news/fort\\_lauderdale/sfl-flesbstonewall0416sbapr16,0,5904236.story](http://www.sun-sentinel.com/community/news/fort_lauderdale/sfl-flesbstonewall0416sbapr16,0,5904236.story)]

The Stonewall Library and Archives

[<http://www.stonewall-library.org/index.html>] has been operating at its new home on Sunrise Boulevard in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, since the end of January. On April 23, Stonewall Executive Director Jack Rutland will unlock the entrance to the site in the building it shares with ArtServe

and Broward County Library's Fort Lauderdale branch. The GLBT collection's move almost didn't happen; in 2007 former Mayor Jim Naugle tried to stop it from going to a public building....

Fort Lauderdale (Fla.) Sun Sentinel, Apr. 16

Feeling Wii in the knee?

[<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/04/21/health/21wii.html>]

To say that Wii injuries are an epidemic would be an overstatement, but they are proliferating along with the popular video-game system.

Interviews with orthopedists and sports-medicine physicians revealed few serious injuries, but rather a phenomenon more closely resembling a spreading national ache: patients of all ages complaining of strains and swelling related to their use—and overuse—of the Wii....

New York Times, Apr. 21

School deregulation bill passes Oklahoma House

[<http://www.ktul.com/news/stories/0409/613665.html>]

The Oklahoma House of Representatives passed April 15 the School District Empowerment Program (S.B. 834), which would deregulate education in 20% of the state's schools. If the bill is signed into law, the State Board of Education would randomly select 20% of school districts to participate in the program, under which individual districts would be in charge of things the state now controls. The Oklahoma Library Association notes (Word file [<http://www.oklibs.org/legislative/SB834.doc>]) that the bill has been amended to require certification for librarians, but the requirement is in place only if a district chooses to hire a librarian....

KTUL-TV, Tulsa, Okla.; Oklahoma Library Association

UW-Madison and the Google Books Initiative

[<http://www.dailycardinal.com/article/22838>]

As part of the Google Books Initiative, the University of Wisconsin–Madison Library System was the eighth library worldwide to join with Google to bring books into the digital age. The UW project, which also includes the Wisconsin Historical Society, has no direct costs because Google pays for the digitization. However, the library employs three full-time staffers to gather the books for shipping and reshelve them when they return....

The Daily Cardinal (UW-Madison), Apr. 16

Gun drama as accused Folio thief arrives at court

[<http://www.sunderlandecho.com/news/Gun-drama-as-Shakespeare-accused.5170981.jp>]

Dressed as Che Guevara, the man accused of stealing a priceless first edition of Shakespeare's works from Durham University triggered a gun drama when he arrived at court April 14. The eccentric Raymond Scott made his dramatic entrance at Consett Magistrates Court in County Durham, England, charged with three counts of theft and three of handling stolen goods. Scott was stopped by staff after trying to enter the court with a handgun and a rifle....

Sunderland (U.K.) Echo, Apr. 15

Gloucester libraries criticized for playing music

[<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/5185201/Libraries-criticised-for-playing-music.html>]

Visitors to libraries in Gloucestershire, England, must now endure pop music being played as managers seek to boost the appeal of their services to younger users. The libraries are equipped with sound systems to provide background music because “libraries are not just about books anymore,” organizers claim. However, the move has been condemned as totally inappropriate by critics, who believe that libraries are the last bastion of hush in an increasingly noisy world....

The Telegraph (U.K.), Apr. 20

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Tech Talk

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Top 10 unlocked smartphones

[[http://www.pcworld.com/article/163304/top\\_10\\_unlocked\\_smartphones.html](http://www.pcworld.com/article/163304/top_10_unlocked_smartphones.html)]

Freedom of choice—that’s the biggest advantage of buying an unlocked phone. You’re not bound to a carrier, and you have some pretty enticing choices when it comes to a handset. Reviews here include the RIM BlackBerry Bold, the Nokia E71, the Palm Treo Pro, and the Samsung Innov8....

PC World, Apr. 20

[<http://www.phanfare.com/home.aspx>]22 ways to make your iPhone a better camera

[<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2345395,00.asp>]

Michael Muchmore writes: “ is its camera. It’s just 2 megapixels, has no video capability, and performs poorly in low light and with moving subjects. Add to the list of missing features zoom, burst mode, timer, and white balance. Luckily, there are apps that address most of these issues and some picture-taking techniques that also can help you mitigate the iPhone camera’s shortcomings.”...

PC Magazine, Apr. 17

Should governments build iPhone apps?

[[http://www.readwriteweb.com/archives/government\\_iphone\\_apps.php](http://www.readwriteweb.com/archives/government_iphone_apps.php)]

Marshall Kirkpatrick writes: “The State of Utah has released the first iPhone app by a state government, and it is pretty impressive. In addition to the directory of departments and services available through the Utah.gov app (iTunes link [<http://is.gd/rf8V>]) there’s also a second app available called the Utah Professional License Lookup. But is building an app for a device owned by the relatively well-to-do really a good priority?”...

ReadWriteWeb, Apr. 16

Behind the scenes with Windows 7

[[http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/T/TEC\\_WINDOWS\\_BEHIND\\_THE\\_SCENES?SITE=AP&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT&CTIME=2009-04-19-14-07-58](http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/T/TEC_WINDOWS_BEHIND_THE_SCENES?SITE=AP&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT&CTIME=2009-04-19-14-07-58)]

Jessica Mintz writes: “To design Windows 7, Microsoft analyzed billions of pieces of data. It studied exactly what PC users do in front of their screens. It tallied hundreds of thousands of Windows surveys. It got feedback from people all over the world who tried different versions of the software. As a result, every change or new feature in Windows 7 comes with a back story. Here is a sampling of things you’ll see in the next

operating system and explanations of how each came about.”...  
Associated Press, Apr. 19

In defense of web-design eye candy

[<http://www.alistapart.com/articles/indefenseofeyecandy>]

Stephen P. Anderson writes: “We’ve all seen arguments in the design community that dismiss the role of beauty in visual interfaces, insisting that good designers base their choices strictly on matters of branding or basic design principles. Lost in these discussions is an understanding of the powerful role aesthetics play in shaping how we come to know, feel, and respond. If we shift the conversation away from graphical elements and instead focus on aesthetics, we learn that this distinction between how something looks and how it works is somewhat artificial.”...

A List Apart, Apr. 21

Google launches Profile Results

[<http://searchengineland.com/google-profile-results-launched-17865>]

Danny Sullivan writes: “Ever searched for yourself on Google and come away dissatisfied, especially if someone else you share a name with seems to dominate the results? Ever looked for someone else and been disappointed that you couldn’t find the person you wanted? Google’s new Profile Results that launched April 21 aims to correct both problems. Now Google Profile pages are being promoted as a way for people to tell the world who they are and, to some degree, being offered as a way for people to claim their identity in Google’s main search results.”...

Search Engine Land, Apr. 21

How to track social media analytics

[<http://mashable.com/2009/04/19/social-media-analytics/>]

Ben Parr writes: “Social media websites have become an increasingly important source of website traffic. This creates a massive demand for statistical data related to social media. Where are users coming from? What topics excite them? These are questions that, when answered, can be the difference between a successful website and a failed social media campaign. But social media analytics is young, and not many people know where to start.”...

Mashable, Apr. 19

On being PLNtrenched

[<http://www.schoollibraryjournal.com/blog/1340000334/post/1900042990.html>]

Joyce Valenza writes: “I want all my colleagues to have them. I speak about them with awe and admiration at conferences. And I probably browbeat those who are without them into being with them. But lately, when I wake up in the middle of the night, I find that I am thinking about my PLN (that is, my professional—or personal—learning network). I confess. I am hyperconnected. And being hyperconnected is both a blessing and a curse.”...

NeverEndingSearch, Apr. 11

[<http://nitrolab.engr.wisc.edu/media/P3Twitter.mov>]Twitter directly from your brain

[<http://cosmiclog.msnbc.msn.com/archive/2009/04/20/1900342.aspx>]

“Go Badgers” isn’t an unusual message to get from the University of Wisconsin at Madison—particularly when it’s a status update from Twitter, the texting service that limits users to 140 characters at a time. The unusual thing about this message is how it got to Twitter in the first place: via brain waves. University of Wisconsin doctoral student Adam Wilson’s cheer [<http://nitrolab.engr.wisc.edu/blog/?p=39>] is among the first direct brain-to-Twitter messages ever sent—and it points the way to better communication systems for paralyzed patients who have to cope with the conditions faced by physicist Stephen Hawking....  
Cosmic Log, Apr. 20; NITRO Lablog, Apr. 20

## Publishing

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### E-readers and libraries

[<http://alatechsource.org/blog/2009/04/a-techsource-blogger-forum-e-readers-and-libraries.html>]

The release of the Kindle 2 has set off a firestorm of speculation about how e-readers are going to transform (or destroy) the publishing industry. If widely adopted, they have the potential to allow libraries new ways to house and circulate materials. But could there be downsides as well? Jason Griffey, Tom Peters, and Cindi Trainor weigh in with their predictions on how e-readers are going to change librarianship in coming years....

ALA TechSource blog, Apr. 21

### BookSwim: Netflix for books?

[[http://news.cnet.com/8301-13512\\_3-10223739-23.html](http://news.cnet.com/8301-13512_3-10223739-23.html)]

Peter Glaskowsky writes: “A new web-based rental service called BookSwim [<https://www.bookswim.com/>] describes itself as Netflix for books. After checking it out, that seems to be a fair enough summary. The pricing doesn’t seem to be quite as good a deal as Netflix; the fees are slightly higher and the average price of books is somewhat lower than for movies. BookSwim now offers a subscription with three books out at a time for \$19.98 per month; it plans go up to 11 books at a time for \$39.94 per month.”...

Speeds and Feeds, Apr. 21

### Mark Twain in magazines

[<http://magazinehistory.blogspot.com/2009/03/mark-twain-in-magazines.html>]

Steven Lomazow writes: “Having just acquired an extremely rare periodical that contains 12 early Mark Twain appearances, it is an excellent time to present a short treatise about the magazine appearances of America’s foremost humorist. I believe that my collection now contains the best representation of Twain periodicals in private hands. Twain’s first appearance was way back when he was 16, in Benjamin Shillaber’s Carpet Bag in 1852. His original work was published in magazines 178 times in a few dozen different publications, some posthumously. Most notable is the earliest excerpt of Huckleberry Finn in December 1884 in The Century.”...

Magazine History: A Collector’s Blog, Mar. 26

### Longing for great lost works

[<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB124001426103530947.html>]

Stephen Marche writes: “On World Book Day (April 23) I always find myself thinking about the books that don’t exist more than the ones that do. The silence makes the missing books even more attractive. We are left to impose our own Shakespeare into the vacuums of his rumored plays *Cardenio* and *Love’s Labour’s Won*. Maybe that is why I am so addicted to lists of phantom texts and consumed Stuart Kelly’s wonderful *Book of Lost Books*, published in 2005, at a single sitting. The main fun is deciding which text you would have back from oblivion if you could pick only one.”...  
Wall Street Journal, Apr. 18

Earliest-known publisher’s jacket discovered  
[<http://nineteenthcenturydustjackets.com/gallery/index.php?showimage=206>]  
A dust jacket belonging to *Friendship’s Offering* for 1830 (London: Smith, Elder, & Co., 1829) is apparently the earliest on record. Discovered in March in the archives of Oxford’s Bodleian Library by Michael Turner, it no longer is on the book it originally covered, but folded and bound with booktrade ephemera. Despite the lack of the publisher’s name, it is clear from this jacket that the potential for advertising on dust jackets was recognized from their inception....  
19th Century Dust Jackets, Apr. 6

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[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

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## Actions & Answers

Google News Timeline  
[<http://bits.blogs.nytimes.com/2009/04/20/google-news-and-more-on-a-timeline/>]  
On April 20, Google unveiled a new experimental product called Google News Timeline [<http://newstimeline.googlelabs.com/>] that displays news and related search results on an interactive timeline. It offers interesting possibilities for exploring stories, especially older ones, that are largely hidden in newspaper and magazine archives. It is also a powerful way to view trends in culture and society or the careers of famous people. The service includes current stories gathered by Google News, as well as archival news; scanned newspapers, magazines, and books; blog posts; sports scores; and media like music and movies....  
New York Times, Apr. 21

Nancy goes to the library [<http://comics.com/nancy/2009-04-19/>]  
Finally, after 76 years as a comic-strip character, the wily 8-year-old Nancy discovers the library. The current Nancy artists, Guy and Brad Gilchrist, show Nancy finding out about all the free things that a public library offers....  
Nancy, Apr. 19

Warner DVD movies on demand [<http://www.slate.com/id/2216522/>]  
Mark Harris writes: “All cinephiles are hostages to what we can and cannot see. The ‘everything’ that we imagine is available on DVD is a tiny fraction of the ‘everything’ that actually exists. The recent launch

of the Warner Archive Collection

[<http://www.wbshop.com/Warner-Archive/ARCHIVE,default,sc.html>] could well portend a revolution; it's DVD on demand. Go to the archive and browse the titles. Click on the ones you want, and for \$19.95 apiece, they'll burn a DVD-R and ship you the movie in a standard plastic case with cover art."...

Slate, Apr. 21

NextGens and Boomers: Bridging the gap

[<http://laureltarulli.wordpress.com/2009/04/16/bridging-the-gap-between-new-generation-librarians-and-boomers/>]

Laurel Tarulli writes: "Are you a Boomer or New Gener? Where do your biases fall? Whichever you are, biases work both ways. As a NextGener, you don't want to be looked at as a wet-behind-the-ears-you-have-so-much-to-learn librarian. But as a Boomer, you don't want to be seen as a washed-up-your-career-is-over librarian. So how do we meet in the middle? And how do these biases present themselves in the workplace?"...

The Cataloguing Librarian, Apr. 16

NELINET to join Lyris [http://www3.nelinet.net/node/535]

The boards of directors of NELINET and Lyris have approved a resolution to recommend that NELINET join Lyris. Together, the two organizations will comprise the largest membership collaborative of its kind, serving more than 4,500 libraries and cultural-heritage institutions in New England, the Mid-Atlantic, and the Southeastern United States. Lyris was created from the merger of two well-established regional library networks, PALINET and SOLINET....

NELINET, Apr. 16

Mobile connectivity and engagement on the rise

[<http://www.pewinternet.org/Reports/2009/5-The-Mobile-Difference--Typology.aspx>]

Some 39% of Americans have positive and improving attitudes about their mobile communication devices, which in turn draws them further into engagement with digital resources on both wireless and wireline platforms, according to a Pew Internet and American Life Project survey. [http://www.pewinternet.org/Reports/2009/5-The-Mobile-Difference--Typology.aspx?r=1] Those who plug into the information and communications world while on-the-go are notably more active in many aspects of digital life than those who are wired to the internet or the 14% of Americans who are off the grid entirely....

Pew Internet and American Life Project, Mar. 25

Online catalogs: What users and librarians want

[<http://www.oclc.org/reports/onlinecatalogs/default.htm>]

In 2008, OCLC conducted focus groups, administered a pop-up survey on WorldCat, and conducted a web-based survey of librarians worldwide to find and compare the data-quality expectations of catalog end users and librarians. The results are now available online (PDF file [<http://www.oclc.org/reports/onlinecatalogs/fullreport.pdf>]). The findings indicate, among other things, that although library catalogs are often thought of as discovery tools, the catalog's delivery-related information is just as important to end users....

OCLC, Apr.

Digital archives that disappear

[<http://www.insidehighered.com/news/2009/04/22/record>]

Scott Jaschik writes: “As digital archives have become more important and more popular, there are varying schools of thought among scholars about how best to guarantee that they will be around for good. The fate of Paper of Record, a digital archive of early newspapers with a particularly strong collection from Mexico, may be cited in the years ahead as an example of the dangers of purchase by a large entity. Paper of Record was purchased (secretly) by Google in 2006, and shortly after Google took over management of the site, late last year, the archive disappeared

[<http://blog.historians.org/news/771/paper-of-record-disappears-leaving-historians-in-the-lurch>] from view.”...

Inside Higher Ed, Apr. 22; AHA Today, Apr. 17

Best Buy community grants

[[http://209.68.13.147/community\\_relations/local\\_donations\\_rfp.htm](http://209.68.13.147/community_relations/local_donations_rfp.htm)]

Through its Community Grants program, each Best Buy territory across the United States annually supports nonprofit organizations that offer programs and services providing opportunities for young teens related to education, life skills, leadership skills, or relationship development. This year, the Best Buy Children’s Foundation will grant \$1 million to qualifying organizations. Applications will be accepted between May 15 and June 15....

Best Buy

Lawyers, librarians, clergy, and coaches

[<http://acrlog.org/2009/04/20/lawyers-librarians-clergy-and-coaches/>]

Scott Walter writes: “Both Inside Higher Ed

[<http://www.insidehighered.com/news/2009/04/20/workforce>] and the

Chronicle [<http://chronicle.com/weekly/v55/i33/33a00102.htm>] point to a new report (PDF file

[[http://www.centerforcollegeaffordability.org/uploads/Labor\\_Force.pdf](http://www.centerforcollegeaffordability.org/uploads/Labor_Force.pdf)])

by the Center for College Affordability and Productivity on ‘Trends in the Higher Education Workforce’ that notes that the number of support staff positions have increased far more rapidly over the past 20 years than has the number of instructional positions. This, it is suggested, ‘reflects unproductive spending by academe.’ I see echoes in this report of the 2006 debate in school library circles over the 65% solution

[<http://www.schoollibrarymedia.com/articles/Harada2006v23n3p25.html>], the question of whether school librarians should be counted as instructional staff.”...

ACRLog, Apr. 20; Inside Higher Ed, Apr. 20; Chronicle of Higher Education, Apr. 24

Library buttons

[<http://libraryhistorybuff.blogspot.com/2009/04/library-buttons.html>]

Larry Nix writes: “Library buttons are a common device used by libraries to promote library services and programs. They are also used by professional library associations to promote conferences and activities.

Over the years I have collected hundreds of library-related buttons. I’ve selected a few to include on a Library Buttons

[<http://www.libraryhistorybuff.com/buttons.htm>] page.”...

Library History Buff Blog, Apr. 16

12 steps for coping with book-group interruptions

[<http://bookgroupbuzz.booklistonline.com/2009/04/15/battling-buttskys-a-12-step-program-for-coping-with-interruptions/>]

Neil Hollands writes: “Interruptions are the bane of many book groups, a chronic problem that can destroy the flow of discussion, create ill will between readers, and distract the group from its most important points.

I’ll start with suggestions that should cure a minor interruption problem and slowly raise the response level. Let’s hope you don’t have to resort to step 12.” Make sure you link to part two

[<http://bookgroupbuzz.booklistonline.com/2009/04/21/battling-buttskys-12-steps-for-coping-with-interruptions-pt-2/>]....

Book Group Buzz, Apr. 15, 21

Tips for deciphering old Germanic scripts

[<http://www.suetterlinschrift.de/Englisch/Titel.htm>]

Peter Doerling writes: “Sütterlinschrift, or ‘old German hand,’ is a script created by the Berlin graphic artist Ludwig Sütterlin (1865–1917) that was taught from 1915 to 1941 in German schools. Sütterlin script is rarely written precisely, since it occurs almost only in handwriting.

Even an experienced reader must first get used to the specific handwriting before the text can become understandable.” Doerling provides a short primer [<http://www.suetterlinschrift.de/Englisch/Sutterlin.htm>]

in the script, along with tips and tricks

[[http://www.suetterlinschrift.de/Englisch/Tips\\_and\\_tricks.htm](http://www.suetterlinschrift.de/Englisch/Tips_and_tricks.htm)] for recognizing variants, examples

[<http://www.suetterlinschrift.de/Lese/Sutterlin1.htm>] in different hands, and comparisons of the Sütterlin alphabet to other 17th- to 19th-century

letters (lower-case [<http://www.suetterlinschrift.de/Lese/Kanzlei1.htm>]

and upper-case [<http://www.suetterlinschrift.de/Lese/Kanzlei2.htm>])....

Old German Writings

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NHiUQb5xg7A>]The Dewey Decimal Rap

[<http://www.starnewsonline.com/article/20090414/columnists/904149919>]

Scott “Scooter” Hayes, a literacy consultant, may be the only New Hanover County (N.C.) Public Library staffer who stars in his own rap video

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NHiUQb5xg7A>] (4:14). Clad in a hoodie, dark glasses, and a blond wig, he hip-hops his way through an explanation

of how the Dewey Decimal system can help readers find information on subjects as disparate as sharks, Italian recipes, and history’s

most famous shipwreck. His catchy tune illustrates how far Hayes will go to make learning fun...

Wilmington (N.C.) Star-News, Apr. 14; YouTube, Mar. 10

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iROYzrm5SBM>]Facebook manners and you

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iROYzrm5SBM>]

Do you have good Facebook manners? Timmy and Alice don’t. Watch their bad behavior to learn the do’s and don’ts of Facebook breakups. Rule #2,

Don’t post embarrassing photographs of other people; and Rule #5, Don’t start hate groups. Produced by Your Tango Instructional Films....

YouTube, Apr. 15

Go back to the Top [#top]

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edition.unsubscribeLink %>](#)]

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[<http://FreeOnlineSurveys.com/rendersurvey.asp?sid=z5prkrw86096kcy578959>]

[<http://www.r2library.com/>]

---

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/index.cfm>]

ALA Annual Conference,

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/2009/faq.cfm>]

Chicago, July 9–15. Tours are provided by Accent on Arrangements; advance registration and payment are strongly recommended. The deadline for advance registration is June 19. You may find out more about the tours here

[[http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/2009/tours\\_09.pdf](http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/2009/tours_09.pdf)

] and you have the option of registering online

[<http://www.accentoca.com/alatours09>] or sending in the registration form

[[http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/2009/tours\\_09.pdf](http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/2009/tours_09.pdf)

]. Onsite registration will only be on a space-available basis.

[<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2598>]

Developing a Compensation Plan for Your Library

[<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2598>] (2d ed.), by Paula M.

Singer and Laura L. Francisco, offers a new analysis of emerging workforce trends. The authors tackle the new challenges facing administrators and human-resource planners such as the retirement of Baby Boomers, determining the compensation value of an MLS, and how to retain your organization's high-performing employees. NEW! From ALA Editions.

In this issue

April 2009

[<http://site.ebrary.com/lib/ala>]

2009 Library Design Showcase

A Greener Library, A Greener You

## Building Science 101

### Meeting Students' Need States

LSTA funding. [<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=2584>] Please contact your senators and ask them sign the "Dear Colleague" letter (PDF file [<http://www.ala.org/ala/issuesadvocacy/libfunding/fed/DearColleague1.pdf>]) being circulated by Sens. Jack Reed (D-R.I.) and Olympia Snowe (R-Maine) in support of funding for the Library Services and Technology Act and the Improving Literacy Through School Libraries Program. The deadline to sign the letter is May 5. The letter requests (PDF file [<http://www.ala.org/ala/issuesadvocacy/libfunding/fed/DearColleague2.pdf>]) that the Senate include \$300 million for LSTA and \$100 million for the Improving Literary program for FY 2010.

### Career Leads from

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

### Librarian, Western History Collections,

[<http://joblist.ala.org/modules/jobseeker/controller.cfm?scr=jobdetail&jobid=13037>] University of Oklahoma, Norman. Responsible for the general operation of the library and photographic archives. Supervises the reading room, coordinates reference services, conducts tours of the collections, and prepares exhibits. Supervises reproduction and digital conversion of photographs and sound recordings, and coordinates technical processing for books and images. Assists in collection development and maintains the photographic archives web page. Provides instruction using the holdings of the collections and supervises collections' staff and students....

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

### Digital Library of the Week

[<http://www.wdl.org/en/item/2564>]

The World Digital Library, [<http://www.wdl.org/en/>] launched April 21, [<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/04/20/AR2009042001324.html>] makes it possible to discover, study, and enjoy cultural treasures from around the world on one site. These treasures include, but are not limited to, manuscripts, maps, rare books, musical scores, recordings, films, prints, photographs, and architectural drawings. Items on the site may easily be browsed by place, time, topic, type of item, and contributing institution, or can be located by an open-ended search in several languages. Special features include interactive geographic clusters, a timeline, and advanced image-viewing and interpretive

capabilities. Item-level descriptions and interviews with curators about featured items provide additional information. Navigation tools and content descriptions are provided in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Portuguese, Russian, and Spanish. Many more languages are represented in the actual books, manuscripts, maps, photographs, and other primary materials, which are provided in their original languages. The collection was developed by a team at the U.S. Library of Congress, with contributions by partner institutions in many countries; the support of UNESCO; and the financial support of a number of companies and private foundations. BibliOdyssey has a nice selection [<http://bibliodyssey.blogspot.com/2009/04/world-digital-library.html>] of illustrations (with descriptions) from the World Digital Library.

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>] Browse previous Digital Libraries of the Week at the I Love Libraries [<http://www.ilovelibraries.ala.org/diglibweekly/>] site.

## Public Perception How the World Sees Us

“I have no doubt that Mr. Toast was the cleanest person I knew at the time, although he never bathed anywhere but at the library. After finishing, he always went downstairs, to the periodicals room, and read each of New York’s daily newspapers from cover to cover, like any other retiree with time to kill.”

—Novelist John Wray describing how his friend Mr. Toast taught him to bathe at the Brooklyn Heights branch of the Brooklyn (N.Y.) Public Library during a period of near-homelessness, in “How Mr. Toast Took a Bath,” New York Times, Mar. 13.

[<http://www.twitter.com/amlibraries>]

AL on Twitter? Follow American Libraries news stories, videos, and blog posts on Twitter. [<http://www.twitter.com/amlibraries>]

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

Request [<http://www.alastore.ala.org/catalog.aspx>] a printed ALA Editions Spring/Summer catalog or download (PDF file

[[http://www.alastore.ala.org/pdf/editions\\_catalog.pdf](http://www.alastore.ala.org/pdf/editions_catalog.pdf)]) a virtual one to find out the latest titles published by the Association.

## Ask the ALA Librarian

[<http://www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/homeless/library/index.cfm>]

Q. Our library is near a number of homeless shelters, and many of the people who use the shelters also use our library. Lately we have been getting complaints from some of our other patrons about body- odor problems with some of the shelter patrons. Do you have any suggestions on how we can deal with this?

A. Your library is certainly not the only one to face this issue. Issues of body odor are not limited to homeless library patrons, [[http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Homeless\\_Library\\_Patrons](http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Homeless_Library_Patrons)] so you need to be careful in crafting a policy that does not single out these individuals. See our pages on policy development [[http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Policy\\_Development](http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Policy_Development)] and sample policies [[http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Sources\\_of\\_Sample\\_Policies](http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Sources_of_Sample_Policies)] for help in creating a new policy for your library. From the ALA Professional Tips wiki [[http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Libraries\\_and\\_the\\_Homeless](http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Libraries_and_the_Homeless)].

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

Stimulus funding and construction. The most frequently asked questions by state and local officials have been about the use of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds for construction. The ALA Washington Office has issued a brief (PDF file [[http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/wp-content/uploads/2009/04/construction-and-the-stimulus-package-\\_4\\_.pdf](http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/wp-content/uploads/2009/04/construction-and-the-stimulus-package-_4_.pdf)]) that provides the answers. Four states (California, Illinois, Maine, and South Dakota) have submitted applications [<http://www.ed.gov/programs/statestabilization/resources.html>] for the State Fiscal Stabilization Fund to the U.S. Department of Education. The applications from South Dakota and Illinois were approved April 20.

## Calendar

May 4-7:  
Society for Imaging Science and Technology,  
[<http://www.imaging.org/conferences/archiving2009/>] Archiving Conference,  
Hilton Crystal City, Arlington, Virginia.

May 6&ndash;7:  
Enterprise 2009: The Educause Enterprise Information and Technology  
Conference, [[http://net.educause.edu/content.asp?SECTION\\_ID=390](http://net.educause.edu/content.asp?SECTION_ID=390)]  
Indianapolis Marriott Downtown.

May 8-9:

SciBarCamp2, [[http://scibarcamp.org/SciBarCamp2\\_-\\_Toronto](http://scibarcamp.org/SciBarCamp2_-_Toronto)] Hart House, University of Toronto. SciBarCamp is a gathering of scientists, artists, and technologists for a day of talks and active discussion.

May 13&ndash;14: Rethinking Resource Sharing, [<http://rethinkingresourcesharing.org/forum09/index.html>] OCLC Conference Center, Dublin, Ohio. &ldquo;Inspiring Librarians, Empowering People.&rdquo;

May 13-17:  
Association of Canadian Archivists, [<http://www.usask.ca/archives/aca2009/>] Annual Conference, Calgary, Alberta. &ldquo;Rights, Responsibilities, Trust: Archives and Public Affairs.&rdquo;

May 17&ndash;20:  
Innovative Users Group, [<http://www.innovativeusers.org/iug-conferences>] Hilton Anaheim, California.

May 27&ndash;29:  
Society for Scholarly Publishing, [<https://www.sspnet.org/Events/spage.aspx>] Annual Meeting, Marriott Baltimore Waterfront.

May 27&ndash;30: Association for Recorded Sound Collections, [<http://www.arsc-audio.org/conference/>] Annual Conference, Liaison Capitol Hill Hotel, Washington, D.C.

May 28&ndash;31:  
BookExpo America, [<http://www.bookexpoamerica.com/>] Jacob K. Javits Center, New York City.

June 2&ndash;5:  
International Conference on New Directions in the Humanities, [<http://thehumanities.com/conference-2009/#conf>] Friendship Hotel, Beijing, China.

June 3&ndash;4:  
Inspiration, Innovation, and Celebration: An Entrepreneurial Conference for Librarians, [<http://zsr.wfu.edu/iic/>] Elliott University Center, University of North Carolina, Greensboro.

June 3&ndash;5:  
Digitization and Museums, [<http://www.aaslh.org/DigitizationAgenda.htm>] Spring Hill Suites Marriott Boise ParkCenter, Boise, Idaho. Hosted by the American Association for State and Local History.

June 4&ndash;5:  
Politics and Networking, [<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/pla/plaevents/cplacourses/politics.cfm>] Decatur, Georgia. Certified Public Library Administrator course sponsored by PLA.

June 21&ndash;24:

International Society for Professional Innovation Management,  
[<http://conference.ispim.org/index.php>] Annual Conference, Vienna,  
Austria. &ldquo;The Future of Innovation.&rdquo;

Sept. 11&ndash;13:

Association for Rural and Small Libraries,  
[<http://www.bcr.org/ARSL/index.html>] Conference, Gatlinburg, Tennessee.

Oct. 1&ndash;4:

LITA,  
[<http://www.lita.org/ala/mgrps/divs/lita/litaevents/forum2009/proposals.cfm>  
] National Forum, Salt Lake City, Utah. &ldquo;Open and Mobile.&rdquo;

Oct. 1–4:

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

Nov. 7:

Self-Publishing Book Expo, [<http://www.selfpubbookexpo.com/where.htm>] 630  
Second Ave., New York City.

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

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# american libraries DIRECT

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | April 29, 2009

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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



## U.S. & World News

### [OCLC challenges ILS vendors](#)

In what clearly represents a challenge to the integrated library system industry, OCLC announced April 23 that it has created what it calls “the first web-scale cooperative library management service,” inviting member libraries to “take the first step to realizing this cooperative service model with a new, ‘quick start’ version of the OCLC WorldCat Local service.” The service expands WorldCat Local’s cataloging and discovery tools to include functions now performed in most libraries by a locally installed integrated library system. Andrew Pace, OCLC’s executive director for networked library services, explains why this service is a “sea change” in this [exclusive interview](#)....

American Libraries Online, Apr. 24



### [LSU library school to lose autonomy](#)

At an April 14 faculty forum, Louisiana State University Chancellor Michael V. Martin announced major changes in the university’s organization that will affect the School of Library and Information Science. Effective July 1, the school is to be incorporated into a new and as-yet-unnamed college that will also include the current College of Education and School of Social Work. SLIS Dean Beth Paskoff said that the school would lose a certain amount of its autonomy as a result of the move, but its curriculum and faculty would not change....

American Libraries Online, Apr. 29



### [Providence board cedes control of branches to city](#)

The nonprofit entity that has run the library system in Providence, Rhode Island, for the last century voted April 23 to transfer control of the city’s nine branch libraries to the city. The organization, Providence Public Library, will retain control of the downtown Central Library for now, but Mayor David M. Cicilline is likely to give a newly formed nonprofit group, [Providence Community](#)



### What are Teens doing in YOUR library?

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[Library](#). control of the nine branches....

American Libraries Online, Apr. 28

### [Indianapolis library loses construction suit](#)

A jury rejected claims by the Indianapolis–Marion County Public Library that an engineering firm was responsible for \$24.5 million in damages caused by defects in the concrete beams of an underground parking garage in its renovated downtown central library. The problems halted construction of the project and added \$50 million to the eventual \$150-million cost of the project, which opened last December, two years behind schedule....

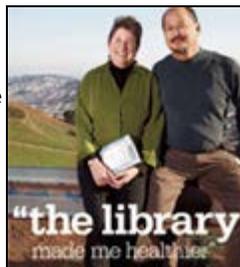
American Libraries Online, Apr. 24



## ALA News

### [Woman's Day initiative open through May 18](#)

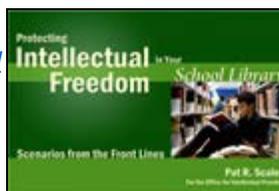
Libraries have until May 18 to promote an initiative sponsored by ALA's Campaign for America's Libraries and *Woman's Day* magazine. The magazine is looking for stories on how readers have used the library to save money during tough economic times. Stories of 700 words or less can be sent to [womansday@ala.org](mailto:womansday@ala.org). Up to four of the submissions will be featured the March 2010 issue....



### [Protecting intellectual freedom](#)

ALA Editions has released [Protecting Intellectual Freedom in Your School Library](#) by Pat R. Scales and [Protecting Intellectual Freedom in Your Academic Library](#) by Barbara M. Jones.

Scales is a retired middle- and high-school librarian who is currently president of the ALSC and serves as a spokesperson for First Amendment issues as they relate to children and young adults. Jones has worked for intellectual freedom in a multitude of roles since the 1980s, most recently as the first chair of the ACRL Intellectual Freedom Committee....



### [A mysterious way to acquaint patrons with their library](#)

ALA Editions has just released [Hosting a Library Mystery: A Programming Guide](#) by Elizabeth M. Karle. Five thoroughly researched, original, sample mystery scripts serve as a starting point for librarians to acquaint different audiences with library services,



### [ALA Annual Conference](#).

Chicago, July 9–15. [Job seekers](#) can search online for jobs and [employers](#) can search online for job seekers before and during the Annual Conference. The Placement Center is located on the exhibit floor. Visit [ALA Placement Services](#) for more information.

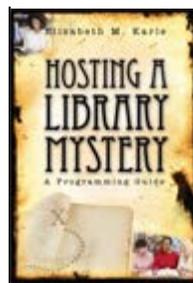


### [Get into the Game—Read!](#)

Celebrate America's favorite pastime with a poster from the *New York Times*–bestselling series *Sluggers* by Loren Long and Phil Bildner. In the critically acclaimed series about three kids, a mystery, and a magic baseball, readers join the adventure as the Travelin' Nine move around the country playing baseball. Featuring original art created specifically for ALA Graphics. **NEW!** From ALA Graphics.

### In this issue

April 2009



staff, special collections, and research skills. Karle is collection management supervisor for the Cushwa-Leighton Library at Saint Mary's College in Notre Dame, Indiana....

### [Have you Connect-ed yet?](#)

Jenny Levine writes: "Just a quick note to say how happy we are about the response to [ALA Connect](#). We've received many positive emails, tweets, and more about the site, but even better—folks are checking it out and using it. This can be difficult to see, as many working groups are not posting their content publicly, but we're only a couple of weeks into this new endeavor, so we expect content in the working groups and communities will continue to grow, especially going into Annual Conference. Here are some early numbers from the site's first two weeks."...



ALA Marginalia, Apr. 28

### [Groups submit comments in favor of access](#)

ALA, ACRL, and the Association for Research Libraries jointly submitted comments ([PDF file](#)) to the U.S. Copyright Office April 28 on the topic of facilitating access to copyrighted works for the blind or persons with other disabilities. The associations believe they should be afforded the same access to materials as sighted persons. Currently, only about 5% of published books are available in accessible formats for the visually impaired. Some materials are not available at all, particularly scholarly journals, research materials, professional resources, and local history materials....

District Dispatch, Apr. 28

### [Congress supports National Library Week](#)

The U.S. House of Representatives passed H. Res. 336, a resolution in support of National Library Week, April 22. During the floor debate, Reps. Paul Tonko (D-N.Y.), Vern Ehlers (R-Mich.), and Michele Bachmann (R-Minn.) made statements highlighting the significant role libraries and librarians serve in communities across the country....

District Dispatch, Apr. 23

## AL Focus

### [Best books and media committee chairs discuss their favorites](#)

ALA's book and media awards represent some of the best works of the year. In this video (3:41), the chairs of many of the committees charged with choosing the award winners discuss the winning books and why they were selected. For more information, see the accompanying "Read This Now" article in the May 2009 issue of *American Libraries*, as well as ALA's main [awards](#) page....



### **2009 Library Design Showcase**

### **A Greener Library, A Greener You**

### **Building Science 101**

### **Meeting Students' Need States**



### [A Fund evening at Steppenwolf Theatre, July 10.](#)

The event includes a cocktail reception, tickets to *500 Clown and the Elephant Deal*, and a talk-back with cast and creative staff following the performance. A limited number of tickets may be purchased for \$100 as part of registration for the 2009 ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. Proceeds will benefit the [ALA Cultural Communities Fund](#).

### **Career Leads**

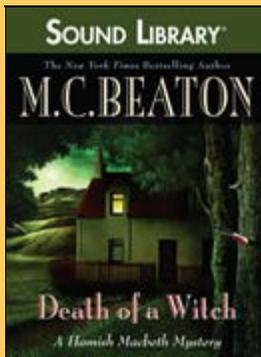
# Booklist

ONLINE

## Featured review: Media

Beaton, M. C. *Death of a Witch*. Read by Graeme Malcolm. Dec. 2008. 5.5 hr. BBC/Sound Library, CD (978-0-7927-5955-3).

Hamish Macbeth is back in this treat of a mystery set in his hometown of Lochdubh. The latest in the long-running series is a great example of Beaton's wit and skill and ability to create crafty plots with dialogue and scenes that hold depth. The village and Highland landscape come alive as Hamish is drawn into an investigation of Catriona Beldame, a newly arrived inhabitant of the village, whispered to be a witch. Who is she? What exactly is she selling to the older men of the village? And why did she show up out of the blue? Her death, and that of three other women, draws Hamish into more than speculation about spells and serial killers as the clever plot unwinds. Malcolm's lovely, rich voice carries the story well, offering a narration that flows over listeners, seducing and readying us to experience the story....



## Interview with Avi

Legendary author Avi speaks (4:14) to *Booklist* reviewer Kay Weisman about *Poppy and Ereth*—his newest and most autobiographical book—as well as how he ended up with his famous name, how his lack of a distinctive style helps him as a writer, his thoughts on how the Newbery Award could improve, and which of his books is the “best.” Hint: It’s a trick question....

Likely Stories, Apr. 23



## Top 10 crime fiction audiobooks

Karen Harris writes: “Murder and mayhem are hardly in short supply in this superb group of audiobook mysteries, including one nonfiction title. Felons are busy leaving bodies and destruction in their wake, and their pursuers, many familiar to mystery aficionados, are astute, determined, and generally successful.”...



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

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ALA JobLIST

## Digital Projects

Librarian, Sandia National Laboratories, Albuquerque, New Mexico, will work with Sandia library staff, the library IS Team, and library customers in order to identify, analyze, and address library technology needs and future direction. The librarian will also take a role in supporting access to e-resources, including implementing and managing electronic resource management applications including SFX, MetaLib, and Verde; collecting usage statistics and creating reports needed to manage and monitor electronic resource subscriptions; and implementing e-resource subscriptions troubleshooting access, maintenance, and other performance issues related to electronic resources....



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Digital Library  
of the Week

## Chicago Update

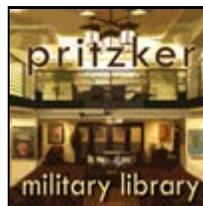
[Dorm housing](#)

Dorm housing at Annual Conference will be available at the University Center Conference Chicago, located at 525 S. State Street, between State and Congress. ALA will provide busing between the dorms and McCormick Place West, just as if you were staying in a hotel. Dorm amenities include a recreation area, fitness center, outdoor terrace, laundry room, and computer center. Reservations must be made by May 22. Use this form ([PDF file](#)) to send in with your payment. Only 200 spaces are available....

### [Pritzker Military Library](#)

Just minutes away from the Water Tower and ALA Headquarters, the Pritzker Military Library at 610 N. Fairbanks Court is free and open to the public, with live events and a collection of books, posters, photographs, and other fascinating artifacts that tell the story of the citizen soldier in American military history. On July 9, the library will host a talk by [Doug Stanton](#), the author of *Horse Soldiers* and *In Harm's Way*....

Pritzker Military Library



### [Buckingham Fountain](#)

A Chicago landmark, the Clarence F. Buckingham Memorial Fountain is located in Grant Park along the shore of Lake Michigan. Every hour on the hour for 20 minutes, the fountain provides a major water display and the center jet shoots 150 feet into the air. The fountain opened in 1927 and was restored in 1994. Edward H. Bennett designed the fountain to represent the lake with four sea horses (built by Marcel Loyau) to symbolize the four states that touch the lake: Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, and Michigan....

Chicago Park District



### [Where to find out what to do](#)

*Time Out Chicago* is a magazine and website that lists upcoming major events and recommends galleries, clubs, comedy venues, dance, film, restaurants, GLBT resources, museums, music, shopping, spas, sports, and theater around town. Also quite handy is the [Metromix Chicago website](#), which also offers a calendar, reader reviews and editor picks, photo galleries, news, and videos....



## Division News

### [El día de los niños/El día de los libros](#)

ALSC Program Officer Linda Mays discusses [El día de los niños/El día de los libros](#) (Children's Day/Book Day), a national celebration of children, families, and reading, in this podcast (5:33). Held each April 30, Día is a national celebration that brings together children, books, languages, and cultures, emphasizing the importance of literacy for children of all linguistic and cultural backgrounds....



### The [Printer's Devices Database](#)

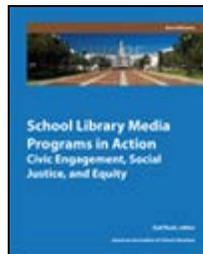
of the Library of the University of Barcelona, Spain, was launched in October 1998. The database covers the 16th through the 18th century and all of Europe, but mostly Spain, France, Italy, Portugal, Germany, and the Low Countries, reflecting the collection's own personality. Each entry of the database includes information of the printers' activity, the years and places in which they worked, and other remarkable biographical facts. The records also contain information about the marks they used, including a description of the mark, and the main keywords in Catalan, Spanish, and English. The database is updated on a monthly basis. In March 2009, it contained 1,372 printer files and 2,182 device images.

**Do you know** of a digital library collection that we can mention in this *AL Direct* feature? [Tell us about it](#). Browse previous Digital Libraries of the Week at the [Love Libraries](#) site.

Visibility @ your library, Apr. 24

### [School library media programs in action](#)

[School Library Media Programs in Action](#) is the latest in the "Best of KQ" series of publications that highlight articles from the highly respected print journal *Knowledge Quest*, published by AASL. The new publication includes topics addressing the big picture of civic engagement, equity, democracy, and social justice. Best practices are also highlighted...



### [Divisional intellectual freedom activities](#)

Bryan Campbell writes: "Much of the great intellectual freedom work happening in ALA is done at the division level. Recently, OIF began to compile the divisional publications, resources, and activities, from AASL to YALSA. Take a look at this list to see some great programs planned for 2009 Annual Conference, and learn who the various IF contacts are in the divisions."...

OIF Blog, Apr. 24

### [Intellectual freedom and youth](#)

(PDF file)

Annette Lamb writes: "Rather than viewing social-networking tools as negative, school library media specialists should investigate the value of online tools for furthering intellectual freedom by promoting creative thought, communication, and collaboration. How will these technologies affect the school library program? What's the role of the teacher librarian? Let's explore eight ways you can address key issues related to intellectual freedom and social technology for young people."...



*Knowledge Quest* 36, no. 2 (Nov./Dec. 2007): 38-45

### [ACRL selects Scholarly Communication 101 Road Show hosts](#)

The ACRL Scholarly Communications Committee has selected five sites to host the "Scholarly Communication 101: Starting with the Basics" workshop this summer. ACRL is underwriting the costs of delivering the content by sending expert presenters on the road. The institutions selected are: ACRL Louisiana Chapter, Baton Rouge; Auraria Library, Denver; State University of New York at Buffalo Libraries; University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez; and Washington University in St. Louis....

### [Summer online education courses](#)

School's not out for the summer! ALSC is offering engaging online education courses that will enhance your skills and knowledge. The three summer courses being offered are: "Reading Instruction and Children's Books," "The Newbery Medal: Past, Present and Future," and "Sharing Poetry with Children." Registration opens May 18, and discounted rates are available for ALSC members. Courses begin the week of July 20. Detailed descriptions and course registration



The Spring 2009 edition of [Prism](#), the ALA Office for Accreditation newsletter, covers recent accreditation actions and other news relating to ALA-accredited library science programs.

### Public Perception

How the World Sees Us

**"I hate work. Libraries are a quite pleasant way of earning a living. Dismal prospects though! Jobs connected with books like publishing are not good for creative writing. That's why libraries, all technical and administration, are so good."**

—British poet and University of Hull Librarian Philip Larkin (1922–1985) in a 1956 [interview](#) with journalist John Shakespeare, *Times Literary Supplement*, Apr. 1.



**AL on Twitter?** Follow *American Libraries* news stories, videos, and blog posts on [Twitter](#).

**Ask the ALA Librarian**

information are available [online](#)....

### [Great Ideas contest ends May 1](#)

YALSA seeks members' best ideas to help achieve the goals listed in the division's new strategic plan for the new Great Ideas contest. The contest is open to all individual members as well as all YALSA committees, juries, task forces, discussion groups, interest groups, and advisory boards. The deadline to submit items to the contest is May 1. Entrants are asked to brainstorm and submit activities that will allow YALSA to achieve a specific goal or strategy in the plan. Entry forms can be downloaded ([PDF file](#))....

### [Seas of change in Charlottesville](#)

The ACRL Rare Books and Manuscripts Section is offering its 50th anniversary preconference, "[Seas of Change: Navigating the Cultural and Institutional Contexts of Special Collections](#)," June 17–20, in Charlottesville, Virginia, the site of the first RBMS preconference in 1959. Programming will take a broad look at how special collections librarianship has evolved over the past half century with respect to changes in social, cultural, technological, economic, and academic environments, and how we will need to respond to such changes in the future....

ACRL Insider, Apr. 27



### [PLA talk table proposals for 2010 conference](#)

PLA is now accepting talk table proposals for its 12th National Conference, to be held March 23–27, 2010, in Portland, Oregon. Proposals may be submitted through an [online form](#) on the PLA National Conference website. Faxed or mailed proposals will not be accepted. Proposals may be created and updated until July 20. PLA will notify all successful applicants by September 1....

## Round Table News

### [IRRT's 60th anniversary endowment campaign](#)

At the 2009 ALA Midwinter Meeting, the International Relations Round Table announced a "Sixty for Sixty" [campaign](#) to create an endowment to support ongoing programmatic activity. IRRT, which is marking the 60th anniversary of its founding in 1949, has established the endowment goal at \$60,000, to be raised by the end of the year....



## Awards

### [Great interactive software for kids](#)

ALSC has selected eight items for its Spring 2009 list of Great Interactive Software for Kids, which recognizes high-quality computer programs and digital media for children 14 years of age and younger. An [annotated list](#) of the programs is on the ALSC website....



### [Ten libraries receive gaming and literacy grants](#)



**Q. With all of the news recently about swine flu, we're working on a policy on infectious diseases and considering how the library might cope with with a flu pandemic. Does the ALA have information to help libraries on this subject?**

**A.** As yet, ALA has not prepared detailed guidelines for a pandemic response, other than as part of general disaster-readiness guidelines. The reasons for this are that most libraries are part of another organization that may have plans to guide the broader community, and that our member groups, who write the guidelines, are focusing on their expertise: protecting the collections. See [ALA Library Fact Sheet 10: Disaster Response: A Selected Annotated Bibliography](#) for resources for developing a plan to protect collections from natural and other disasters. However, there are some topics to include in an individual library policy—after being sure these are consistent with the plans by the larger

Ten libraries in 10 states from New York to Alaska will receive \$5,000 grants as part of ALA's Libraries, Literacy, and Gaming initiative, funded by the Verizon Foundation. The winners, representing a broad spectrum of libraries—seven public, two school, and one academic—will use the funds to develop and implement gaming and literacy programs that provide innovative gaming experiences for youths 10–18 years of age. The 10 libraries were selected out of 390 that applied for the grant....

### [Emily Dean Heilman Award winners](#)

The International Relations Committee has awarded four LIS students in Turkey the Emily Dean Heilman Award for excellence in research that contributes to the progress and development of Turkish libraries. Winners are selected from the graduating class by a committee in Ankara....



### [2009 Caroline Hewins Scholarship winner](#) (PDF file)

Amber Lansing, library specialist in the Avon (Conn.) Free Public Library children's room, has been awarded a 2009 scholarship from the Caroline Hewins Scholarship Fund administered by the Hartford Public Library. The scholarship of \$4,000 is awarded to those who plan to specialize in library work with children and who have applied to, or are participating in, a graduate library school program. Lansing is pursuing her degree at Southern Connecticut State University....  
Avon (Conn.) Free Public Library



### [2009 Lyrasis NextGen Librarian Award winners](#) (PDF file)

Lyrasis has announced five winners of its first annual NextGen Librarian Award, created to identify and celebrate rising leaders in the library community. The winners will attend the SAMM09 meeting May 14–15 in Atlanta. The award is a legacy SOLINET program that will be open to all Lyrasis members in 2010....

Lyrasis, Apr. 23

### [Ursula K. Le Guin wins sixth Nebula Award](#)

Ursula K. Le Guin has added a sixth Nebula award to her trophy cabinet after winning the best novel prize at the April 25 ceremony. Le Guin picked up the award for her YA novel *Powers*, the third in her "Annals of the Western Shore" saga, which follows the adventures of a runaway young slave with amazing powers of memory. This year's ceremony also saw *Stainless Steel Rat* creator Harry Harrison honored as a Grand Master for a career that spans more than 50 years and 62 novels....

*The Guardian* (U.K.), Apr. 28



### [2008 LA Times Book Awards](#)

The 2008 *Los Angeles Times* Book Prizes were awarded April 24 in a ceremony at the *Los Angeles Times* building. Winners included Marilynne Robinson's *Home* (fiction), Michael Koryta's *Envy the Night* (mystery/thriller), Barton Gellman's *Angler: The Cheney Vice Presidency* (current interest), and Paula J.

jurisdiction. See more at the [ALA Professional Tips wiki](#).

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

## Calendar

**Apr. 29:**  
[ACRL OnPoint chat](#), "Seattle Green: Lessons learned from greening the ACRL 14th National Conference."

**Apr. 30:**  
[El Día de los Niños/El Día de los Libros](#).

**May 7:**  
[TechNet](#), Lockheed Martin Recreation Area, Fort Worth, Texas. "Technology is the Answer!"

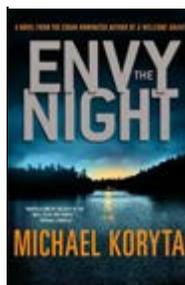
**May 7–8:**  
[LITACamp](#), Dublin, Ohio. The housing deadline is May 1.

**May 11–12:**  
[National Library Legislative Day](#).

**May 11–12:**  
[International Digital Publishing Forum](#), McGraw-Hill Auditorium, New York City. "Digital Book 2009: An eBook Stimulus Plan for Publishing."

**May 29:**  
[The Learning Commons: New Frontiers in Instruction](#), University of West Georgia, Carrollton.

Giddings's *Ida: A Sword Among Lions: Ida B. Wells and the Campaign Against Lynching* (biography)....  
Los Angeles Times Book Awards



## Seen Online

### [Antitrust inquiry into Google Books settlement](#)

The Justice Department has begun an inquiry into the antitrust implications of Google's settlement with authors and publishers over its Google Book Search service. Federal lawyers in recent weeks have been talking to groups opposed to the settlement, including the Internet Archive and Consumer Watchdog. More recently, Google and the Association of American Publishers were both notified that the feds were looking into antitrust issues. Meanwhile, Judge Denny Chin of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York has [granted](#) authors worldwide until September 4 to decide whether to join the settlement or opt out....

*New York Times*, Apr. 28; Cnet Digital Media, Apr. 28

### [German authors outraged at Google Book Search](#)

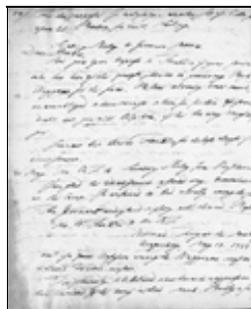
German politicians have voiced their support for an appeal by 1,300 German authors who believe that the search-engine giant Google is violating copyright laws by allowing their works to be viewed online free of charge and without previous author approval. The appeal came in the form of a letter—known as the "[Heidelberg Appeal](#)"—sent in mid-April to German President Horst Köhler, Chancellor Angela Merkel, and the heads of Germany's 16 federal states....

*Der Spiegel*, Apr. 27

### [Benjamin Franklin letters found in British Library](#)

A trove of Benjamin Franklin letters turned up recently in the British Library. Discovered by University of California—San Diego Political Science Professor Alan Houston, the letters are copies of correspondence that hasn't been seen in more than 250 years. All dating from 1755, the 47 letters by, to, and about Franklin are in the hand of Thomas Birch (1706–1766), a British historian who compiled and transcribed many historical documents. The letters, which involve British General Edward Braddock's attempt to capture Fort Duquesne, were published for the first time in the April issue of the *William and Mary Quarterly*....

University of California—San Diego, Apr. 23



### [Schulz donates \\$1 million to Ohio State cartoon library](#)

Extending her support for the art form her late husband helped define, Jean Schulz, widow of *Peanuts* creator Charles M. Schulz, has donated \$1 million toward a new home



Hosted by the Atlanta Area Bibliographic Instruction Group.

### **June 1:** [National Information Standards](#)

[Organization](#), Forum, Radisson Plaza Lord Baltimore, Maryland. "Performance Measures and Assessment: Critical Tools During Challenging Times."

### **June 3–4:**

[Inspiration, Innovation, and Celebration: An Entrepreneurial Conference for Librarians](#), University of North Carolina, Greensboro.

### **June 14–18:** [Semantic Technology Conference](#)

The Fairmont Hotel, San Jose, California.

**June 20–24:**  
[O'Reilly Open Source Convention](#), McEnery Convention Center, San Jose, California.

### **June 22–23:** [British Chapter of the International Society for Knowledge Organization](#)

University College London. "Content Architecture: Exploiting and Managing Diverse Resources."

**July 25–28:**  
[American Association of Law Libraries](#)

for the Cartoon Library and Museum at Ohio State University in Columbus. Her donation will be spent toward an estimated \$20.6-million renovation of Sullivant Hall that will make room for the collection's more than 400,000 original cartoons and comic art, manuscripts, and newspaper clippings....

*Santa Rosa (Calif.) Press Democrat, Apr. 24*

### [Students maced at UTC library rave](#)

Freshman Vanessa Parks didn't know what to expect late April 23 when she decided to attend the rave at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga's Lupton Library, an event she had heard about from messages online. She saw hundreds of students gathered outside the building, dancing and jumping off the building. [This](#) (4:25) is what it looked like. According to UTC officials, the crowd began storming the library doors, chanting "Let us in!" and "Take the library" as they attempted to enter. Then the police [responded](#) by spraying Mace to disperse the crowd....



*Chattanooga (Tenn.) Times Free Press, Apr. 25; YouTube, Apr. 23; The Chattanooga, Apr. 24*

### [Smith College music library at risk](#)

Music lovers are fretting over a proposal to close the Werner Josten Performing Arts Library at Smith College in Northampton, Massachusetts. They call it a blow to music research in the area. The Josten Library boasts a generous collection of books, music scores, sound recordings, and videotapes. In a recent letter, President Carol T. Christ proposed consolidating the Josten into the Neilson Library, the college's main library, as a cost-saving measure....



*Springfield (Mass.) Republican, Apr. 26*

### [Transsexual wins \\$500,000 lawsuit](#)

A federal judge has awarded a former Army Special Forces commander nearly \$500,000 because she was rejected from a job with the Congressional Research Service at the Library of Congress while transitioning from a man to a woman. Diane Schroer applied for the terrorism analyst job while she was still a man named David Schroer. He was offered the job, but the offer was pulled after he told an official that he was having surgery to change his gender. U.S. District Judge James Robinson ruled April 28 that Schroer was entitled to \$491,190 in back pay and damages because of sex discrimination....



*Associated Press, Apr. 29*

### [New Yorkers want the Donnell branch back](#)

A group of library users and residents of Midtown Manhattan are fuming over what they are calling the inept and heartless handling of New York Public Library's Donnell branch, which was known for its rich holdings of movies, music, foreign language materials, and children's books until it closed in August 2008. Opened in 1955, the branch was closed as part of a decision to sell the building to Orient-Express Hotels for \$59



Annual Meeting, Walter E. Washington Convention Center, Washington, D.C.

### **Sept. 16–17:**

[Planning and Management of Buildings](#), Saratoga Springs, New York. Certified Public Library Administrator course sponsored by PLA.

### **Oct. 1–4:**

[LITA National Forum](#), Salt Lake City, Utah. "Open and Mobile."

### **Oct. 19–20:**

[Marketing](#), Cleveland, Ohio. Certified Public Library Administrator course sponsored by PLA.

### **Nov. 5–8:**

[AASL National Conference](#), Charlotte, North Carolina. "Rev Up Learning @ your library."

@ [More...](#)

## Contact Us

American Libraries Direct



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Sean Fitzpatrick,

million. But the deal fell apart in March with the hotel company backing out, citing the financial and credit crises....

*New York Times*, Apr. 23

### [Library credit-card audit in Lexington](#)

Lexington (Ky.) Public Library CEO Kathleen Imhoff spent more than \$134,000 in five years on national and international travel, scores of meals at upscale Lexington restaurants, gifts for employees and board members, and other items, mostly on her library credit card. Trustees defended Imhoff's spending as appropriate for a high-profile businesswoman running a \$15-million-a-year institution. City agencies are being scrutinized following a credit-card spending scandal at Blue Grass Airport that led to the resignations of top managers and a criminal investigation....

*Lexington (Ky.) Herald-Leader*, Apr. 26

### [Toxic lead levels in Seattle library books? Not so fast](#)

"Toxic Levels of Lead Found in Children's Books," screams reporter Chris Halsne in this April 24 KIRO-TV [story](#) and [video](#) (3:02). What he never discusses is how this lead magically transfers from the book to a child's bloodstream, which is where the danger point actually exists. Halsne says the two books they tested from the Seattle Public Library were *Poems of Childhood* and *Japanese Children's Stories*. Neither title sounds like a toddler's book, so it's a bit disingenuous to use test results for two books for older children and then talk about how toddlers suck on these books "all the time." In an [update](#), Halsne reports that librarians are confused about the proposed standards....

The Common Room, Apr. 24; KIRO-TV, Seattle, Apr. 24, 28



### [Youngstown library cancels talk by ex-con](#)

The Public Library of Youngstown and Mahoning County, Ohio, canceled an April 28 appearance at its Poland branch by Michael Swiger, who writes legal thrillers and mysteries, because of his criminal past. Swiger, who served 15 years in prison for involuntary manslaughter and kidnapping in the murder of a Thiel College graduate in 1988, also said that he wanted to cancel the appearance when he found out the brother of victim Roger Pratt lives in the area....

*Youngstown (Ohio) Vindicator*, Apr. 26

### [Black cat loves the Deal Library](#)

Fidel, an 8-year-old black cat, has turned up at the public library in Deal, England, almost every day for the past two years while his owners are at work. He spends most of the day on his favorite blue chair, only leaving the building when he sees his owners arriving home. A spokeswoman for Kent County Council said Fidel was such a "dedicated customer" that he sometimes arrives before staff and can be found waiting at the front door....

BBC News, Apr. 27



[Go back to the Top](#)

## Tech Talk

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## [GE unveils holographic disc breakthrough](#)

Scientists at GE's Global Research Center in upstate New York announced a breakthrough in the pursuit of holographic data storage. They have successfully demonstrated technology that can put 500 gigabytes onto a single DVD-sized disc. The process works by imprinting chemical changes in the form of patterns (holograms) within the disc. Those holograms are then read by lasers, similar to the ones in Blu-ray players. At 500GB, these holographic discs could offer 20 times the capacity of a single-layer Blu-ray disc. Watch the [video](#) (1:52)....



GE Reports, Apr. 27

## [Five best malware removal tools](#)

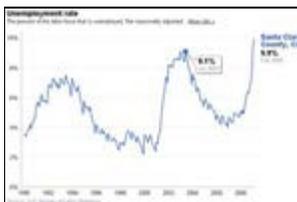
Jason Fitzpatrick writes: "The internet, unfortunately, isn't a never-ending buffet of secure open source software and Bollywood-style musicals starring LOLcats. There are people and organizations that delight in stealing your personal data, hijacking your computer, and making a general nuisance of themselves through malicious software. This week we're highlighting the top five tools for removing software with ill intentions from your PC."...



Lifehacker, Apr. 26

## [Google public data](#)

Google has launched a search feature that makes it easy to find and compare public data. For example, when comparing Santa Clara County data to the national unemployment rate, it becomes clear not only that Santa Clara's peak during 2002–2003 was dramatic, but also that the recent increase is a bit more drastic than the national rate. If you enter terms like "unemployment rate" or "population" followed by a U.S. state or county, you will see the most recent estimates. This first launch represents a small fraction of all the interesting public data available on the web....



Official Google Blog, Apr. 28

## [Picasa vs. Flickr](#)

David K. Israel writes: "Okay shutterbugs, let's see a show of comments: Who likes Flickr and why? Who likes Picasa and why? Who has a better alternative for photo sharing (Photobucket, Ovi, Picheo)? I'm using both Flickr and Picasa and I find that each has its strengths and weaknesses. (And I use them both on my desktop and iPhone.) For those who don't use either, or who don't know much about these great, powerful sites, here's some basics, plus my thumbnail review."...



Mental Floss, Apr. 28

## [The coming Android invasion](#)

Kate Greene writes: "Since last fall, T-Mobile's G1 has been the only hardware running Android, Google's Linux-based operating system. But soon we'll see a new set of phones and even netbooks that showcase the capabilities of the open source OS. On April 27, Samsung unveiled a forthcoming Android phone (right),



available in European countries in June. Some experts believe that the Linux-based Android could pose a real threat to Windows XP, which runs on the majority of netbooks, and to the forthcoming Windows 7."...

*Technology Review* Editors blog, Apr. 28

### [Top 10 Ubuntu downloads](#)

Kevin Purdy writes: "The reviews are in, and the just-released Ubuntu 9.04, i.e. Jaunty Jackalope, rates as a slick, fully formed Linux desktop. Looking to get started or upgrade your system? We're recommending 10 downloads for everyone to try. We link to each application's home page, but most of them (with exceptions noted) can be installed from Ubuntu's repositories."...

Lifehacker, Apr. 25



### [Cloud-based free antivirus](#)

With threats like Conficker fresh in the public's mind, security remains a top concern for Windows users. [Panda Cloud Antivirus](#) beta bets that nearly three years of development can pay off into a better protection system for users. To that end, Panda's willing to make the client free for personal use—even after it leaves beta testing. The program uses Panda's proprietary cloud computing technology, which they call Collective Intelligence, to detect viruses, malware, rootkits, and heuristics....

The Download Blog, Apr. 29

### [Yahoo quietly pulls the plug on GeoCities](#)

Not with a bang, but with a whimper, Yahoo is unceremoniously closing GeoCities, one of the original web-hosting services it acquired in 1999 for \$2.87 billion. In a message on Yahoo's help site, the company said that it would not be accepting any new customers. Existing customers will still be able to access GeoCities but Yahoo is encouraging them to upgrade to a paid web-hosting service....

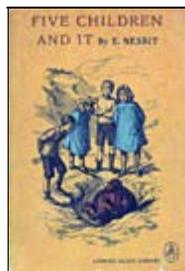
TechCrunch, Apr. 23



## Publishing

### [Vintage is the best children's read, say Laureates](#)

Anne Frank is in there, as is *Oliver Twist*, the four March sisters, William, and the Famous Five. But a certain Hogwarts wizard was notable by his absence from the list when the five past UK [Children's Laureates](#) were asked to hand-pick their "favorite ever" reads. Quentin Blake, Anne Fine, Michael Morpurgo, Jacqueline Wilson, and current Laureate Michael Rosen have each selected seven works as part of the 10th



anniversary celebrations for the Children's Laureate position....

*The Independent* (U.K.), Apr. 28

### [A challenge to Goliath](#)

Mike Rossner writes: "Megapublishers obligate librarians to buy hundreds of journals they do not need in order to access the journals their constituents actually read. The time has come to challenge this business model, which is unsustainable for the libraries. What can publishers do to help librarians in these financially difficult times? Smaller publishers who do not have multiyear-subscription deals with librarians can help by keeping their subscription prices flat for 2010."...

*Journal of Experimental Medicine*, Apr. 27

### [Is a book still a book on a Kindle?](#)

The publishing world is all caught up in weighty questions about the Kindle and other such devices: Will they help or hurt book sales and authors' advances? Cannibalize the industry? Galvanize it? Please, they're overlooking the really important concern: How will the Kindle affect literary snobbism? The practice of judging people by the covers of their books is old and time-honored. And the Kindle, which looks kind of like a giant white calculator, is the technological equivalent of a plain brown wrapper....

*New York Times*, Apr. 24

### [Amazon acquires Lexcycle e-book reading software](#)



Amazon has acquired Lexcycle, makers of the electronic book reader Stanza. Stanza is a desktop and iPhone application that allows users to download and read e-books in multiple formats, such as Adobe PDF, and EPUB. Of course, one of the features that would have attracted Amazon is Stanza's ability to export PDFs, Word documents, and other e-books for the Kindle....

*PC World*, Apr. 27



## Actions & Answers

### [U.S. News & World Report's LIS rankings](#)

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill library schools are tied for first place in *U.S. News & World Report's* 2009 rankings. The rankings are based solely on the results of a fall 2008 survey sent to the dean of each program, the program director, and a senior faculty member in each program. The [questionnaires](#) asked individuals to rate the academic quality of programs at each institution as outstanding (5), strong (4), good (3), adequate (2), or marginal (1). Rankings are also given for seven LIS specialty programs....

*U.S. News & World Report*, Apr. 22

### [Virginia tests video games as teaching tools](#)

Virginia reportedly has become the first state to implement a pilot program using Tabula Digita's DimensionM video



games to help boost student test scores in mathematics and motivate students to learn. DimensionM is an immersive video-game world that engages students in learning pre-algebra and algebra objectives through a series of missions. After seeing some empirical research on the games' efficacy as a teaching tool, Tammy McGraw, director of educational technology for the Virginia Department of Education, decided she wanted to find out more....

eSchool News, Apr. 28

### [Eight ARL libraries face major cuts](#)

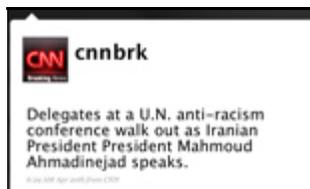
Charles W. Bailey Jr. writes: "Eight member libraries of the Association of Research Libraries are facing major planned or potential budget cuts: Cornell, Emory, MIT, UCLA, Tennessee, Washington, Florida, and Yale. These examples suggest that significant cuts may be widespread in ARL libraries." Potentially one of the largest is at the University of Washington, which could range from \$2.4 to \$3.7 million in 2010....

DigitalKoans, Apr. 28

### [Six ways you should be using Twitter](#)

Adam Pash writes: "Twitter has become a nationwide phenomenon, and like any phenom, all the Twitter talk grows quickly tiresome. But despite what you may think, Twitter isn't just for narcissists; it's actually insanely useful. Discounting Twitter altogether because you think it's ridiculous that people tweet about what they had for breakfast is like claiming that email is useless because of forward chains. It's a mistake, and you'd be missing out on a great tool if you let that put you off Twitter completely."...

Lifehacker, Apr. 21



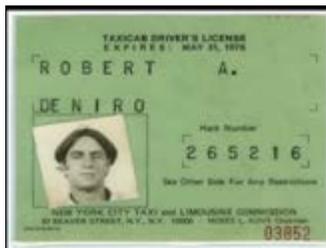
### [The ultimate classroom library: The media center](#)

Buffy Hamilton writes: "Over the last few weeks, conversations about classroom libraries and school library collections have been taking place in response to a [blog post](#) from teacher Donalyn Miller. Most educators agree that students of all ages need regular access to a diverse collection of books. Miller argues that stimulus money would be better spent on actual books rather than test-prep materials or reading-incentive programs. However, Miller would like to see the funds used for stocking classroom collections."...

AASL Blog, Apr. 26; The Book Whisperer, Mar. 25

### [De Niro collection opens at Ransom Center](#)

The Robert De Niro collection of film-related materials is now open to researchers and the public at the Harry Ransom Center, a humanities research library and museum at the University of Texas at Austin. The materials, donated in 2006 by actor, director, and producer De Niro, document his professional career from the 1960s through 2005. The collection includes more than



1,300 boxes of papers, film, movie props, and costumes. Watch the [video description](#)....

Harry Ransom Center, Apr. 27

### [PLN bill of rights and responsibilities](#)

Doug Johnson writes: "This week seems to have been the perfect storm of work. Hence, neglect of my Personal Learning Network has been pretty much complete. Are we in need of a Bill of Rights for PLN participants to help relieve some guilt and stress for the occasional need for a break or severe deceleration? Here's a first stab at it."...

Blue Skunk Blog, Apr. 24

### [OCLC numbers as edition identifiers](#)

Jonathan Rochkind writes: "In writing software to tie together disparate databases of bibliographic information, having unambiguous identifiers to represent an edition is crucial for making things work simply and reliably. We're used to thinking of an OCLC number as identifying a particular WorldCat record, but that's not the way I'm using them at all. For instance, Google Books will allow you to query on an OCLC number to see if it has a record matching that number. This is incredibly valuable. Of ISBN, LCCN, and OCLC number, the OCLC number has the greatest coverage."...

Bibliographic Wilderness, Apr. 28

### [Simmons GSLIS gets \\$1 million for scholarships](#)

The Simmons College Graduate School of Library and Information Science has received a \$1 million gift that pays tribute to the late library science professor Allen Smith. Smith's family made the gift from his estate to enhance a scholarship fund and create a visiting scholars program....

Simmons College, Apr. 23

### [New IFLA website](#)

The International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions officially launched its new [website](#) April 22 when IFLA President Claudia Lux (right) pushed the button at the group's headquarters in The Hague, Netherlands, during a meeting of its governing board. The occasion was captured for all time in a YouTube [video](#) (0:33)....



International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions, Apr. 24

### [Writing for nonreaders in the postprint era](#) (satire)

Robert Lanham writes: "As print takes its place alongside smoke signals, cuneiform, and hollering, there has emerged a new literary age, one in which writers no longer need to feel encumbered by the paper cuts, reading, and excessive use of words traditionally associated with the writing trade. 21st-century literary genres are defining a new 'Lost Generation' of minimalists who would much rather watch *Lost* on their iPhones than toil over long-winded articles and short stories."...

McSweeney's Internet Tendency, Apr. 20

### ["Bob's Angels" at the GCC](#)

#### [Library](#)

Using the theme from the 1970s *Charlie's Angels* TV series, the staff of the Greenfield (Mass.) Community College Educational Technology Center springs into action in this promotional video (3:09) to



aid a panicked student. No library patrons were injured during the production of this film (though several were annoyed). "Your library card provides you with access to billions of information resources that the wimpy internet just can't get to."...

YouTube, Apr. 27

[Go back to the Top](#)

AL Direct, April 29, 2009

Having trouble viewing this HTML e-mail (or seeing it in full)? Click here [[%= util.viewHtmlLink %>](#)].

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | April 29, 2009

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

[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

## U.S. & World News

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### OCLC challenges ILS vendors

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2009/april2009/oclcilswebapp42409.cfm>]

In what clearly represents a challenge to the integrated library system industry, OCLC announced April 23 that it has created what it calls “the first web-scale cooperative library management service,” inviting member libraries to “take the first step to realizing this cooperative service model with a new, “quick start” version of the OCLC WorldCat Local service.” The service expands WorldCat Local’s cataloging and discovery tools to include functions now performed in most libraries by a locally installed integrated library system. Andrew Pace, OCLC’s executive director for networked library services, explains why this service is a “sea change” in this exclusive interview

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/resources/selectedarticles/paceonquickstar>]

t42909.cfm]....

American Libraries Online, Apr. 24

LSU library school to lose autonomy

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2009/april2009/lisdemotesslis42809.cfm>]

At an April 14 faculty forum, Louisiana State University Chancellor Michael V. Martin announced major changes in the university's organization that will affect the School of Library and Information Science. Effective July 1, the school is to be incorporated into a new and as-yet-unnamed college that will also include the current College of Education and School of Social Work. SLIS Dean Beth Paskoff said that the school would lose a certain amount of its autonomy as a result of the move, but its curriculum and faculty would not change....

American Libraries Online, Apr. 29

Providence board cedes control of branches to city

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2009/april2009/citytakesoverprovbranches42809.cfm>]

The nonprofit entity that has run the library system in Providence, Rhode Island, for the last century voted April 23 to transfer control of the city's nine branch libraries to the city. The organization, Providence Public Library, will retain control of the downtown Central Library for now, but Mayor David M. Cicilline is likely to give a newly formed nonprofit group, Providence Community Library, [<http://providencecommunitylibrary.org/>] control of the nine branches....

American Libraries Online, Apr. 28

Indianapolis library loses construction suit

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2009/april2009/imcplloesssuit42409.cfm>]

A jury rejected claims by the Indianapolis-Marion County Public Library that an engineering firm was responsible for \$24.5 million in damages caused by defects in the concrete beams of an underground parking garage in its renovated downtown central library. The problems halted construction of the project and added \$50 million to the eventual \$150-million cost of the project, which opened last December, two years behind schedule....

American Libraries Online, Apr. 24

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[<http://www.tlcdelivers.com/tlc/default.asp>]  
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ALA News  
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initiative open through May 18

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/campaignwdreminder.cfm>]

Libraries have until May 18 to promote an initiative sponsored by

ALA's Campaign for America's Libraries and Woman's Day magazine. The magazine is looking for stories on how readers have used the library to save money during tough economic times. Stories of 700 words or less can be sent to [womansday@ala.org](mailto:womansday@ala.org) [mailto:womansday@ala.org]. Up to four of the submissions will be featured the March 2010 issue....

Protecting intellectual freedom

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/editionsoif.cfm>]

ALA Editions has released Protecting Intellectual Freedom in Your School Library [<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2491>] by Pat R. Scales and Protecting Intellectual Freedom in Your Academic Library [<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2490>] by Barbara M. Jones. Scales is a retired middle- and high-school librarian who is currently president of the ALSC and serves as a spokesperson for First Amendment issues as they relate to children and young adults. Jones has worked for intellectual freedom in a multitude of roles since the 1980s, most recently as the first chair of the ACRL Intellectual Freedom Committee....

A mysterious way to acquaint patrons with their library

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/editionskarle.cfm>]

ALA Editions has just released Hosting a Library Mystery: A Programming Guide [<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2597>] by Elizabeth M. Karle. Five thoroughly researched, original, sample mystery scripts serve as a starting point for librarians to acquaint different audiences with library services, staff, special collections, and research skills. Karle is collection management supervisor for the Cushwa-Leighton Library at Saint Mary's College in Notre Dame, Indiana....

Have you Connect-ed yet?

[<http://discuss.ala.org/marginalia/2009/04/28/have-you-connect-ed-yet/>]

Jenny Levine writes: "Just a quick note to say how happy we are about the response to ALA Connect [<http://connect.ala.org/>]. We've received many positive emails, tweets, and more about the site, but even better—folks are checking it out and using it. This can be difficult to see, as many working groups are not posting their content publicly, but we're only a couple of weeks into this new endeavor, so we expect content in the working groups and communities will continue to grow, especially going into Annual Conference. Here are some early numbers from the site's first two weeks."...

ALA Marginalia, Apr. 28

Groups submit comments in favor of access

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=2637>]

ALA, ACRL, and the Association for Research Libraries jointly submitted comments (PDF file

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/wp-content/uploads/2009/04/cofilingblindfinal.pdf>]) to the U.S. Copyright Office April 28 on the topic of facilitating access to copyrighted works for the blind or persons with other disabilities. The associations believe they should be afforded the same access to materials as sighted persons. Currently, only about 5% of published books are available in accessible formats for the visually

impaired. Some materials are not available at all, particularly scholarly journals, research materials, professional resources, and local history materials....

District Dispatch, Apr. 28

Congress supports National Library Week

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=2616>]

The U.S. House of Representatives passed H. Res. 336, a resolution in support of National Library Week, April 22. During the floor debate, Reps. Paul Tonko (D-N.Y.), Vern Ehlers (R-Mich.), and Michele Bachmann (R-Minn.) made statements highlighting the significant role libraries and librarians serve in communities across the country....

District Dispatch, Apr. 23

AL Focus

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Best books and media committee chairs discuss their favorites

[<http://alfocus.ala.org/videos/read-now>]

ALA's book and media awards represent some of the best works of the year. In this video (3:41), the chairs of many of the committees charged with choosing the award winners discuss the winning books and why they were selected. For more information, see the accompanying "Read This Now" article in the May 2009 issue of American Libraries, as well as ALA's main awards [<http://www.ala.org/ala/awardsgrants/>] page....

Featured review: Media

[[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show\\_product&pid=3265490](http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=3265490)]

Beaton, M. C. *Death of a Witch*. Read by Graeme Malcolm. Dec. 2008. 5.5 hr. BBC/Sound Library, CD (978-0-7927-5955-3).

Hamish Macbeth is back in this treat of a mystery set in his hometown of Lochdubh. The latest in the long-running series is a great example of Beaton's wit and skill and ability to create crafty plots with dialogue and scenes that hold depth. The village and Highland landscape come alive as Hamish is drawn into an investigation of Catriona Beldame, a newly arrived inhabitant of the village, whispered to be a witch. Who is she? What exactly is she selling to the older men of the village? And why did she show up out of the blue? Her death, and that of three other women, draws Hamish into more than speculation about spells and serial killers as the clever plot unwinds. Malcolm's lovely, rich voice carries the story well, offering a narration that flows over listeners, seducing and readying us to experience the story....

Interview with Avi

[<http://blog.booklistonline.com/2009/04/23/how-do-you-say-avi/>]

Legendary author Avi speaks (4:14) to Booklist reviewer Kay Weisman about *Poppy and Ereth*—his newest and most autobiographical book—as well as how he ended up with his famous name, how his lack of a distinctive style helps him as a writer, his thoughts on how the Newbery Award could improve, and which of his books is the "best." Hint: It's a trick

question....

Likely Stories, Apr. 23

Top 10 crime fiction audiobooks

[[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show\\_product&pid=3450077](http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=3450077)]

Karen Harris writes: "Murder and mayhem are hardly in short supply in this superb group of audiobook mysteries, including one nonfiction title. Felons are busy leaving bodies and destruction in their wake, and their pursuers, many familiar to mystery aficionados, are astute, determined, and generally successful."...

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

Chicago Update

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Dorm housing

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/2009/travelandhotels.cfm#dorm>]

Dorm housing at Annual Conference will be available at the University Center Conference Chicago, located at 525 S. State Street, between State and Congress. ALA will provide busing between the dorms and McCormick Place West, just as if you were staying in a hotel. Dorm amenities include a recreation area, fitness center, outdoor terrace, laundry room, and computer center. Reservations must be made by May 22. Use this form (PDF file

[[http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/2009/ALA\\_Dorm\\_Form\\_V4\\_FINAL.pdf](http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/2009/ALA_Dorm_Form_V4_FINAL.pdf)]) to send in with your payment. Only 200 spaces are available....

Pritzker Military Library [<http://www.pritzkermilitarylibrary.org>]

Just minutes away from the Water Tower and ALA Headquarters, the Pritzker Military Library at 610 N. Fairbanks Court is free and open to the public, with live events and a collection of books, posters, photographs, and other fascinating artifacts that tell the story of the citizen soldier in American military history. On July 9, the library will host a talk by Doug Stanton,

[<http://www.pritzkermilitarylibrary.org/events/2009/07-09-doug-stanton.jsp>]  
the author of *Horse Soldiers* and *In Harm's Way*....

Pritzker Military Library

Buckingham Fountain

[[http://www.cpdit01.com/resources/buckingham\\_fountain.cfm](http://www.cpdit01.com/resources/buckingham_fountain.cfm)]

A Chicago landmark, the Clarence F. Buckingham Memorial Fountain is located in Grant Park along the shore of Lake Michigan. Every hour on the hour for 20 minutes, the fountain provides a major water display and the center jet shoots 150 feet into the air. The fountain opened in 1927 and was restored in 1994. Edward H. Bennett designed the fountain to represent the lake with four sea horses (built by Marcel Loyau) to symbolize the four states that touch the lake: Wisconsin, Illinois,

Indiana, and Michigan....  
Chicago Park District

Where to find out what to do [<http://chicago.timeout.com/>]  
Time Out Chicago is a magazine and website that lists upcoming major events and recommends galleries, clubs, comedy venues, dance, film, restaurants, GLBT resources, museums, music, shopping, spas, sports, and theater around town. Also quite handy is the Metromix Chicago website, [<http://chicago.metromix.com/>] which also offers a calendar, reader reviews and editor picks, photo galleries, news, and videos....

Division News

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El día de los niños/El día de los libros  
[<http://www.pio.ala.org/visibility/?p=577>]  
ALSC Program Officer Linda Mays discusses El día de los niños/El día de los libros [<http://ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/alsc/initiatives/diadelosninos/index.cfm>] (Children's Day/Book Day), a national celebration of children, families, and reading, in this podcast (5:33). Held each April 30, Día is a national celebration that brings together children, books, languages, and cultures, emphasizing the importance of literacy for children of all linguistic and cultural backgrounds....  
Visibility @ your library, Apr. 24

School library media programs in action  
[[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/aa\\_slbestofkq.cfm](http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/aa_slbestofkq.cfm)]  
School Library Media Programs in Action [<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2700>] is the latest in the "Best of KQ" series of publications that highlight articles from the highly respected print journal Knowledge Quest, published by AASL. The new publication includes topics addressing the big picture of civic engagement, equity, democracy, and social justice. Best practices are also highlighted....

Divisional intellectual freedom activities  
[<http://www.oif.ala.org/oif/?p=211>]  
Bryan Campbell writes: "Much of the great intellectual freedom work happening in ALA is done at the division level. Recently, OIF began to compile the divisional publications, resources, and activities, from AASL to YALSA. Take a look at this list to see some great programs planned for 2009 Annual Conference, and learn who the various IF contacts are in the divisions." ...  
OIF Blog, Apr. 24

Intellectual freedom and youth  
[<http://www.pbs.org/teachers/librarymedia/aasl/lamb.pdf>] (PDF file)  
Annette Lamb writes: "Rather than viewing social-networking tools as negative, school library media specialists should investigate the value of online tools for furthering intellectual freedom by promoting creative thought, communication, and collaboration. How will these technologies

affect the school library program? What's the role of the teacher librarian? Let's explore eight ways you can address key issues related to intellectual freedom and social technology for young people.”...

Knowledge Quest 36, no. 2 (Nov./Dec. 2007): 38–45

ACRL selects Scholarly Communication 101 Road Show hosts  
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/acrlscroadshowhosts.cfm>]

The ACRL Scholarly Communications Committee has selected five sites to host the “Scholarly Communication 101: Starting with the Basics” workshop this summer. ACRL is underwriting the costs of delivering the content by sending expert presenters on the road. The institutions selected are: ACRL Louisiana Chapter, Baton Rouge; Auraria Library, Denver; State University of New York at Buffalo Libraries; University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez; and Washington University in St. Louis....

Summer online education courses

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/alscsummeronline.cfm>]

School's not out for the summer! ALSC is offering engaging online education courses that will enhance your skills and knowledge. The three summer courses being offered are: “Reading Instruction and Children's Books,” “The Newbery Medal: Past, Present and Future,” and “Sharing Poetry with Children.” Registration opens May 18, and discounted rates are available for ALSC members. Courses begin the week of July 20. Detailed descriptions and course registration information are available online

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

Great Ideas contest ends May 1

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/yalsagreatideas.cfm>]

YALSA seeks members' best ideas to help achieve the goals listed in the division's new strategic plan for the new Great Ideas contest. The contest is open to all individual members as well as all YALSA committees, juries, task forces, discussion groups, interest groups, and advisory boards. The deadline to submit items to the contest is May 1. Entrants are asked to brainstorm and submit activities that will allow YALSA to achieve a specific goal or strategy in the plan. Entry forms can be downloaded (PDF file

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/yalsa/sp09contest.pdf>]....

Seas of change in Charlottesville

[<http://www.acrl.ala.org/acrlinsider/2009/04/27/50th-anniversary-rbms-preconference/>]

The ACRL Rare Books and Manuscripts Section is offering its 50th anniversary preconference, “Seas of Change: Navigating the Cultural and Institutional Contexts of Special Collections

[<http://rbms.info/conferences/preconferences/2009/index.shtml>],” June

17–20, in Charlottesville, Virginia, the site of the first RBMS preconference in 1959. Programming will take a broad look at how special collections librarianship has evolved over the past half century with

respect to changes in social, cultural, technological, economic, and academic environments, and how we will need to respond to such changes in the future....

ACRL Insider, Apr. 27

PLA talk table proposals for 2010 conference

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/platabletalk.cfm>]

PLA is now accepting talk table proposals for its 12th National Conference, to be held March 23–27, 2010, in Portland, Oregon. Proposals may be submitted through an online form

[[http://www.placonference.org/talk\\_table\\_app.cfm](http://www.placonference.org/talk_table_app.cfm)] on the PLA National Conference website. Faxed or mailed proposals will not be accepted.

Proposals may be created and updated until July 20. PLA will notify all successful applicants by September 1....

Round Table News

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IRRT's 60th anniversary endowment campaign

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/irrtanniversary.cfm>]

At the 2009 ALA Midwinter Meeting, the International Relations Round Table announced a "Sixty for Sixty" campaign

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/rts/irrt/initiatives/irrt60thanniversary.cfm>] to create an endowment to support ongoing programmatic activity. IRRT, which is marking the 60th anniversary of its founding in 1949, has established the endowment goal at \$60,000, to be raised by the end of the year....

Awards

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[[http://www.beanstalkgames.com/games/view/world\\_of\\_goo](http://www.beanstalkgames.com/games/view/world_of_goo)] Great interactive software for kids

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/alscgisk.cfm>]

ALSC has selected eight items for its Spring 2009 list of Great Interactive Software for Kids, which recognizes high-quality computer programs and digital media for children 14 years of age and younger. An annotated list

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/alsc/awardsgrants/childrensnortable/gisk/index.cfm>] of the programs is on the ALSC website....

Ten libraries receive gaming and literacy grants

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/olosgaminggrants.cfm>]

Ten libraries in 10 states from New York to Alaska will receive \$5,000 grants as part of ALA's Libraries, Literacy, and Gaming initiative, funded by the Verizon Foundation. The winners, representing a broad spectrum of libraries—seven public, two school, and one academic—will use the funds to develop and implement gaming and literacy programs that

provide innovative gaming experiences for youths 10–18 years of age. The 10 libraries were selected out of 390 that applied for the grant....

Emily Dean Heilman Award winners

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/iro/awardsactivities/emilydeanaward.cfm>]

The International Relations Committee has awarded four LIS students in Turkey the Emily Dean Heilman Award for excellence in research that contributes to the progress and development of Turkish libraries. Winners are selected from the graduating class by a committee in Ankara....

2009 Caroline Hewins Scholarship winner

[[http://www.avonctlibrary.info/PDFS/amber\\_lansing\\_scholarship2009.pdf](http://www.avonctlibrary.info/PDFS/amber_lansing_scholarship2009.pdf)]  
(PDF file)

Amber Lansing, library specialist in the Avon (Conn.) Free Public Library children's room, has been awarded a 2009 scholarship from the Caroline Hewins Scholarship Fund administered by the Hartford Public Library. The scholarship of \$4,000 is awarded to those who plan to specialize in library work with children and who have applied to, or are participating in, a graduate library school program. Lansing is pursuing her degree at Southern Connecticut State University....

Avon (Conn.) Free Public Library

2009 Lyrasis NextGen Librarian Award winners

[<http://www.lyrasis.org/News/Press%20Releases/~/.media/Files/Lyrasis/News/Press%20Releases/2009/PR%20NextGen%20Awards.ashx>]  
(PDF file)

Lyrasis has announced five winners of its first annual NextGen Librarian Award, created to identify and celebrate rising leaders in the library community. The winners will attend the SAMM09 meeting May 14–15 in Atlanta. The award is a legacy SOLINET program that will be open to all Lyrasis members in 2010....

Lyrasis, Apr. 23

Ursula K. Le Guin wins sixth Nebula Award

[<http://www.guardian.co.uk/books/2009/apr/28/ursula-k-le-guin-nebula>]

Ursula K. Le Guin has added a sixth Nebula award to her trophy cabinet after winning the best novel prize at the April 25 ceremony. Le Guin picked up the award for her YA novel *Powers*, the third in her “Annals of the Western Shore” saga, which follows the adventures of a runaway young slave with amazing powers of memory. This year’s ceremony also saw *Stainless Steel Rat* creator Harry Harrison honored as a Grand Master for a career that spans more than 50 years and 62 novels....

The Guardian (U.K.), Apr. 28

Book Awards [<http://www.latimes.com/extras/bookprizes/>]

The 2008 Los Angeles Times Book Prizes were awarded April 24 in a ceremony at the Los Angeles Times building. Winners included Marilynne Robinson’s *Home* (fiction), Michael Koryta’s *Envy the Night* (mystery/thriller), Barton Gellman’s *Angler: The Cheney Vice Presidency* (current interest), and Paula J. Giddings’s *Ida: A Sword Among Lions: Ida B. Wells and the Campaign Against Lynching* (biography)....

Los Angeles Times Book Awards

#### Antitrust inquiry into Google Books settlement

[<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/04/29/technology/internet/29google.html>]

The Justice Department has begun an inquiry into the antitrust implications of Google's settlement with authors and publishers over its Google Book Search service. Federal lawyers in recent weeks have been talking to groups opposed to the settlement, including the Internet Archive and Consumer Watchdog. More recently, Google and the Association of American Publishers were both notified that the feds were looking into antitrust issues. Meanwhile, Judge Denny Chin of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York has granted

[[http://news.cnet.com/8301-1023\\_3-10229372-93.html](http://news.cnet.com/8301-1023_3-10229372-93.html)] authors worldwide until September 4 to decide whether to join the settlement or opt out....

New York Times, Apr. 28; Cnet Digital Media, Apr. 28

#### German authors outraged at Google Book Search

[<http://www.spiegel.de/international/germany/0,1518,621385,00.html>]

German politicians have voiced their support for an appeal by 1,300 German authors who believe that the search-engine giant Google is violating copyright laws by allowing their works to be viewed online free of charge and without previous author approval. The appeal came in the form of a letter—known as the “Heidelberg Appeal

[[http://www.textkritik.de/urheberrecht/index\\_engl.htm](http://www.textkritik.de/urheberrecht/index_engl.htm)]”—sent in mid-April to German President Horst Köhler, Chancellor Angela Merkel, and the heads of Germany's 16 federal states....

Der Spiegel, Apr. 27

#### Benjamin Franklin letters found in British Library

[<http://ucsdnews.ucsd.edu/newsrel/soc/04-09FranklinFind.asp>]

A trove of Benjamin Franklin letters turned up recently in the British Library. Discovered by University of California–San Diego Political Science Professor Alan Houston, the letters are copies of correspondence that hasn't been seen in more than 250 years. All dating from 1755, the 47 letters by, to, and about Franklin are in the hand of Thomas Birch (1706–1766), a British historian who compiled and transcribed many historical documents. The letters, which involve British General Edward Braddock's attempt to capture Fort Duquesne, were published for the first time in the April issue of the William and Mary Quarterly....

University of California–San Diego, Apr. 23

#### Schulz donates \$1 million to Ohio State cartoon library

[<http://www.pressdemocrat.com/article/20090424/ARTICLES/904249966/1350?Title=Schulz-makes-a-donation-even-Charlie-Brown-would-love>]

Extending her support for the art form her late husband helped define, Jean Schulz, widow of Peanuts creator Charles M. Schulz, has donated \$1 million toward a new home for the Cartoon Library and Museum at Ohio State University in Columbus. Her donation will be spent toward an estimated \$20.6-million renovation of Sullivant Hall that will make room for the collection's more than 400,000 original cartoons and comic art, manuscripts, and newspaper clippings....

Santa Rosa (Calif.) Press Democrat, Apr. 24

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UtYqLPQcppE>] Students maced at UTC library rave

[<http://timesfreepress.com/news/2009/apr/25/students-maced-utc/?print>] Freshman Vanessa Parks didn't know what to expect late April 23 when she decided to attend the rave at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga's Lupton Library, an event she had heard about from messages online. She saw hundreds of students gathered outside the building, dancing and jumping off the building. This

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UtYqLPQcppE>] (4:25) is what it looked like. According to UTC officials, the crowd began storming the library doors, chanting "Let us in!" and "Take the library" as they attempted to enter. Then the police responded

[[http://www.chattanooga.com/articles/article\\_149661.asp](http://www.chattanooga.com/articles/article_149661.asp)] by spraying Mace to disperse the crowd....

Chattanooga (Tenn.) Times Free Press, Apr. 25; YouTube, Apr. 23; The Chattanooga, Apr. 24

Smith College music library at risk

[<http://www.masslive.com/springfield/republican/index.ssf?/base/news-20/124064374945720.xml&coll=1>]

Music lovers are fretting over a proposal to close the Werner Josten Performing Arts Library at Smith College in Northampton, Massachusetts.

They call it a blow to music research in the area. The Josten Library boasts a generous collection of books, music scores, sound recordings, and videotapes. In a recent letter, President Carol T. Christ proposed consolidating the Josten into the Neilson Library, the college's main library, as a cost-saving measure....

Springfield (Mass.) Republican, Apr. 26

Transsexual wins \$500,000 lawsuit

[[http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/U/US\\_TRANSSEXUAL\\_LAWSUIT?SITE=AP&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT](http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/U/US_TRANSSEXUAL_LAWSUIT?SITE=AP&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT)]

A federal judge has awarded a former Army Special Forces commander nearly \$500,000 because she was rejected from a job with the Congressional Research Service at the Library of Congress while transitioning from a man to a woman. Diane Schroer applied for the terrorism analyst job while she was still a man named David Schroer. He was offered the job, but the offer was pulled after he told an official that he was having surgery to change his gender. U.S. District Judge James Robinson ruled April 28 that Schroer was entitled to \$491,190 in back pay and damages because of sex discrimination....

Associated Press, Apr. 29

New Yorkers want the Donnell branch back

[<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/04/24/nyregion/24library.html>]

A group of library users and residents of Midtown Manhattan are fuming over what they are calling the inept and heartless handling of New York Public Library's Donnell branch, which was known for its rich holdings of movies, music, foreign language materials, and children's books until it closed in August 2008. Opened in 1955, the branch was closed as part of a decision to sell the building to Orient-Express Hotels for \$59 million. But the deal fell apart in March with the hotel company backing

out, citing the financial and credit crises....  
New York Times, Apr. 23

Library credit-card audit in Lexington

[<http://www.kentucky.com/1041/story/774507.html>]

Lexington (Ky.) Public Library CEO Kathleen Imhoff spent more than \$134,000 in five years on national and international travel, scores of meals at upscale Lexington restaurants, gifts for employees and board members, and other items, mostly on her library credit card. Trustees defended Imhoff's spending as appropriate for a high-profile businesswoman running a \$15-million-a-year institution. City agencies are being scrutinized following a credit-card spending scandal at Blue Grass Airport that led to the resignations of top managers and a criminal investigation....

Lexington (Ky.) Herald-Leader, Apr. 26

[<http://www.kirotv.com/video/19311269/index.html>] Toxic lead levels in Seattle library books? Not so fast

[<http://heartkeepercommonroom.blogspot.com/2009/04/irresponsible-reporting-at-seattles.html>]

"Toxic Levels of Lead Found in Children's Books," screams reporter Chris Halsne in this April 24 KIRO-TV story

[<http://www.kirotv.com/news/19252956/detail.html>] and video

[<http://www.kirotv.com/video/19311269/index.html>] (3:02). What he never discusses is how this lead magically transfers from the book to a child's bloodstream, which is where the danger point actually exists. Halsne says the two books they tested from the Seattle Public Library were Poems of Childhood and Japanese Children's Stories. Neither title sounds like a toddler's book, so it's a bit disingenuous to use test results for two books for older children and then talk about how toddlers suck on these books "all the time." In an update,

[<http://www.kirotv.com/news/19306641/detail.html>] Halsne reports that librarians are confused about the proposed standards....

The Common Room, Apr. 24; KIRO-TV, Seattle, Apr. 24, 28

Youngstown library cancels talk by ex-con

[<http://www.vindy.com/news/2009/apr/26/youngstown-library-cancels-csi-talk-by-ex-convict/>]

The Public Library of Youngstown and Mahoning County, Ohio, canceled an April 28 appearance at its Poland branch by Michael Swiger, who writes legal thrillers and mysteries, because of his criminal past. Swiger, who served 15 years in prison for involuntary manslaughter and kidnapping in the murder of a Thiel College graduate in 1988, also said that he wanted to cancel the appearance when he found out the brother of victim Roger Pratt lives in the area....

Youngstown (Ohio) Vindicator, Apr. 26

Black cat loves the Deal Library

[[http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk\\_news/england/kent/8021407.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/england/kent/8021407.stm)]

Fidel, an 8-year-old black cat, has turned up at the public library in Deal, England, almost every day for the past two years while his owners are at work. He spends most of the day on his favorite blue chair, only leaving the building when he sees his owners arriving home. A spokeswoman for Kent County Council said Fidel was such a "dedicated customer" that

he sometimes arrives before staff and can be found waiting at the front door....

BBC News, Apr. 27

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Tech Talk

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[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hXrJgXYq0Bk>]GE unveils holographic disc breakthrough

[<http://www.gereports.com/ge-unveils-holographic-disc-breakthrough/>] Scientists at GE's Global Research Center in upstate New York announced a breakthrough in the pursuit of holographic data storage. They have successfully demonstrated technology that can put 500 gigabytes onto a single DVD-sized disc. The process works by imprinting chemical changes in the form of patterns (holograms) within the disc. Those holograms are then read by lasers, similar to the ones in Blu-ray players. At 500GB, these holographic discs could offer 20 times the capacity of a single-layer Blu-ray disc. Watch the video

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hXrJgXYq0Bk>] (1:52)....

GE Reports, Apr. 27

[<http://www.malwarebytes.org/>]Five best malware removal tools

[<http://lifehacker.com/5227896/five-best-malware-removal-tools>]

Jason Fitzpatrick writes: "The internet, unfortunately, isn't a never-ending buffet of secure open source software and Bollywood-style musicals starring LOLcats. There are people and organizations that delight in stealing your personal data, hijacking your computer, and making a general nuisance of themselves through malicious software. This week we're highlighting the top five tools for removing software with ill intentions from your PC...."

Lifehacker, Apr. 26

Google public data

[<http://googleblog.blogspot.com/2009/04/adding-search-power-to-public-data.html>]

Google has launched a search feature that makes it easy to find and compare public data. For example, when comparing Santa Clara County data to the national unemployment rate, it becomes clear not only that Santa Clara's peak during 2002–2003 was dramatic, but also that the recent increase is a bit more drastic than the national rate. If you enter terms like "unemployment rate" or "population" followed by a U.S. state or county, you will see the most recent estimates. This first launch represents a small fraction of all the interesting public data available on the web....

Official Google Blog, Apr. 28

Picasa vs. Flickr [<http://www.mentalfloss.com/blogs/archives/25029>]

David K. Israel writes: "Okay shutterbugs, let's see a show of comments: Who likes Flickr and why? Who likes Picasa and why? Who has a better alternative for photo sharing (Photobucket, Ovi, Pikeo)? I'm using both Flickr and Picasa and I find that each has its strengths and

weaknesses. (And I use them both on my desktop and iPhone.) For those who don't use either, or who don't know much about these great, powerful sites, here's some basics, plus my thumbnail review."...  
Mental Floss, Apr. 28

[<http://androidcommunity.com/samsung-i7500-official-20090427/>]The coming Android invasion [<http://www.technologyreview.com/blog/editors/23456/>]  
Kate Greene writes: "Since last fall, T-Mobile's G1 has been the only hardware running Android, Google's Linux-based operating system. But soon we'll see a new set of phones and even netbooks that showcase the capabilities of the open source OS. On April 27, Samsung unveiled a forthcoming Android phone (right), available in European countries in June. Some experts believe that the Linux-based Android could pose a real threat to Windows XP, which runs on the majority of netbooks, and to the forthcoming Windows 7."...  
Technology Review Editors blog, Apr. 28

Top 10 Ubuntu downloads  
[<http://lifehacker.com/5227309/top-10-ubuntu-downloads>]  
Kevin Purdy writes: "The reviews are in, and the just-released Ubuntu 9.04, i.e. Jaunty Jackalope, rates as a slick, fully formed Linux desktop. Looking to get started or upgrade your system? We're recommending 10 downloads for everyone to try. We link to each application's home page, but most of them (with exceptions noted) can be installed from Ubuntu's repositories."...  
Lifehacker, Apr. 25

Cloud-based free antivirus  
[[http://download.cnet.com/8301-2007\\_4-10229588-12.html](http://download.cnet.com/8301-2007_4-10229588-12.html)]  
With threats like Conficker fresh in the public's mind, security remains a top concern for Windows users. Panda Cloud Antivirus [<http://www.cloudantivirus.com>] beta bets that nearly three years of development can pay off into a better protection system for users. To that end, Panda's willing to make the client free for personal use—even after it leaves beta testing. The program uses Panda's proprietary cloud computing technology, which they call Collective Intelligence, to detect viruses, malware, rootkits, and heuristics....  
The Download Blog, Apr. 29

Yahoo quietly pulls the plug on GeoCities  
[<http://www.techcrunch.com/2009/04/23/yahoo-quietly-pulls-the-plug-on-geocities/>]  
Not with a bang, but with a whimper, Yahoo is unceremoniously closing GeoCities, one of the original web-hosting services it acquired in 1999 for \$2.87 billion. In a message on Yahoo's help site, the company said that it would not be accepting any new customers. Existing customers will still be able to access GeoCities but Yahoo is encouraging them to upgrade to a paid web-hosting service....  
TechCrunch, Apr. 23

Publishing

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Vintage is the best children's read, say Laureates  
[<http://www.independent.co.uk/arts-entertainment/books/news/forget-hogwarts-vintage-is-the-best-childrens-read-say-laureates-1675187.html>]  
Anne Frank is in there, as is Oliver Twist, the four March sisters, William, and the Famous Five. But a certain Hogwarts wizard was notable by his absence from the list when the five past UK Children's Laureates [[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Children%27s\\_Laureate](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Children%27s_Laureate)] were asked to hand-pick their "favorite ever" reads. Quentin Blake, Anne Fine, Michael Morpurgo, Jacqueline Wilson, and current Laureate Michael Rosen have each selected seven works as part of the 10th anniversary celebrations for the Children's Laureate position....  
The Independent (U.K.), Apr. 28

A challenge to Goliath  
[<http://jem.rupress.org/cgi/content/full/jem.20090836v1>]  
Mike Rossner writes: "Megapublishers obligate librarians to buy hundreds of journals they do not need in order to access the journals their constituents actually read. The time has come to challenge this business model, which is unsustainable for the libraries. What can publishers do to help librarians in these financially difficult times? Smaller publishers who do not have multiyear-subscription deals with librarians can help by keeping their subscription prices flat for 2010."...  
Journal of Experimental Medicine, Apr. 27

Is a book still a book on a Kindle?  
[[http://www.nytimes.com/2009/04/26/fashion/26kindle.html?\\_r=3](http://www.nytimes.com/2009/04/26/fashion/26kindle.html?_r=3)]  
The publishing world is all caught up in weighty questions about the Kindle and other such devices: Will they help or hurt book sales and authors' advances? Cannibalize the industry? Galvanize it? Please, they're overlooking the really important concern: How will the Kindle affect literary snobbism? The practice of judging people by the covers of their books is old and time-honored. And the Kindle, which looks kind of like a giant white calculator, is the technological equivalent of a plain brown wrapper....  
New York Times, Apr. 24

Amazon acquires Lexcycle e-book reading software  
[[http://www.pcworld.com/article/163917/amazon\\_acquires\\_lexcycle.html](http://www.pcworld.com/article/163917/amazon_acquires_lexcycle.html)]  
Amazon has acquired Lexcycle, makers of the electronic book reader Stanza. Stanza is a desktop and iPhone application that allows users to download and read e-books in multiple formats, such as Adobe PDF, and EPUB. Of course, one of the features that would have attracted Amazon is Stanza's ability to export PDFs, Word documents, and other e-books for the Kindle....  
PC World, Apr. 27

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[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

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Actions & Answers

&#8217;s LIS rankings

[<http://grad-schools.usnews.rankingsandreviews.com/best-graduate-schools/top-library-information-science-programs>]

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill library schools are tied for first place in U.S. News & World Report's 2009 rankings. The rankings are based solely on the results of a fall 2008 survey sent to the dean of each program, the program director, and a senior faculty member in each program. The questionnaires

[<http://www.usnews.com/articles/education/best-graduate-schools/2009/04/22/library-and-information-studies-rankings-methodology.html>] asked individuals to rate the academic quality of programs at each institution as outstanding (5), strong (4), good (3), adequate (2), or marginal (1). Rankings are also given for seven LIS specialty programs....

U.S. News & World Report, Apr. 22

Virginia tests video games as teaching tools

[<http://www.eschoolnews.com/news/top-news/index.cfm?i=58473>]

Virginia reportedly has become the first state to implement a pilot program using Tabula Digita's DimensionM video games to help boost student test scores in mathematics and motivate students to learn. DimensionM is an immersive video-game world that engages students in learning pre-algebra and algebra objectives through a series of missions. After seeing some empirical research on the games' efficacy as a teaching tool, Tammy McGraw, director of educational technology for the Virginia Department of Education, decided she wanted to find out more....

eSchool News, Apr. 28

Eight ARL libraries face major cuts

[<http://digital-scholarship.org/digitalkoans/2009/04/28/seven-arl-libraries-face-major-planned-or-potential-budget-cuts/>]

Charles W. Bailey Jr. writes: "Eight member libraries of the Association of Research Libraries are facing major planned or potential budget cuts: Cornell, Emory, MIT, UCLA, Tennessee, Washington, Florida, and Yale. These examples suggest that significant cuts may be widespread in ARL libraries." Potentially one of the largest is at the University of Washington, which could range from \$2.4 to \$3.7 million in 2010....

DigitalKoans, Apr. 28

Six ways you should be using Twitter

[<http://lifehacker.com/5207514/six-ways-you-should-be-using-twitter-that-do-not-involve-breakfast>]

Adam Pash writes: "Twitter has become a nationwide phenomenon, and like any phenom, all the Twitter talk grows quickly tiresome. But despite what you may think, Twitter isn't just for narcissists; it's actually insanely useful. Discounting Twitter altogether because you think it's ridiculous that people tweet about what they had for breakfast is like claiming that email is useless because of forward chains. It's a mistake, and you'd be missing out on a great tool if you let that put you off Twitter completely."...

Lifehacker, Apr. 21

The ultimate classroom library: The media center

[<http://www.aasl.ala.org/aaslblog/?p=438>]

Buffy Hamilton writes: “Over the last few weeks, conversations about classroom libraries and school library collections have been taking place in response to a blog post [[http://blogs.edweek.org/teachers/book\\_whisperer/2009/03/a\\_book\\_in\\_every\\_bookpack\\_1.html](http://blogs.edweek.org/teachers/book_whisperer/2009/03/a_book_in_every_bookpack_1.html)] from teacher Donalyn Miller. Most educators agree that students of all ages need regular access to a diverse collection of books. Miller argues that stimulus money would be better spent on actual books rather than test-prep materials or reading-incentive programs. However, Miller would like to see the funds used for stocking classroom collections.”...  
AASL Blog, Apr. 26; The Book Whisperer, Mar. 25

De Niro collection opens at Ransom Center  
[<http://www.hrc.utexas.edu/press/releases/2009/deniro/>]  
The Robert De Niro collection of film-related materials is now open to researchers and the public at the Harry Ransom Center, a humanities research library and museum at the University of Texas at Austin. The materials, donated in 2006 by actor, director, and producer De Niro, document his professional career from the 1960s through 2005. The collection includes more than 1,300 boxes of papers, film, movie props, and costumes. Watch the video description [<http://www.hrc.utexas.edu/multimedia/video/2009/deniro/video.html>]....  
Harry Ransom Center, Apr. 27

PLN bill of rights and responsibilities  
[<http://doug-johnson.squarespace.com/blue-skunk-blog/2009/4/24/pln-bill-of-rights-and-responsibilities.html>]  
Doug Johnson writes: “This week seems to have been the perfect storm of work. Hence, neglect of my Personal Learning Network has been pretty much complete. Are we in need of a Bill of Rights for PLN participants to help relieve some guilt and stress for the occasional need for a break or severe deceleration? Here’s a first stab at it.”...  
Blue Skunk Blog, Apr. 24

OCLC numbers as edition identifiers  
[<http://bibwild.wordpress.com/2009/04/28/oclc-numbers-as-manifestation-identifiers/>]  
Jonathan Rochkind writes: “In writing software to tie together disparate databases of bibliographic information, having unambiguous identifiers to represent an edition is crucial for making things work simply and reliably. We’re used to thinking of an OCLC number as identifying a particular WorldCat record, but that’s not the way I’m using them at all. For instance, Google Books will allow you to query on an OCLC number to see if it has a record matching that number. This is incredibly valuable. Of ISBN, LCCN, and OCLC number, the OCLC number has the greatest coverage.”...  
Bibliographic Wilderness, Apr. 28

Simmons GSLIS gets \$1 million for scholarships  
[<http://www.simmons.edu/overview/about/news/press/816.php>]  
The Simmons College Graduate School of Library and Information Science has received a \$1 million gift that pays tribute to the late library science professor Allen Smith. Smith’s family made the gift from his estate to enhance a scholarship fund and create a visiting scholars

program....

Simmons College, Apr. 23

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9sMoBAOyE5E>]New IFLA website

[<http://www.ifla.org/en/news/welcome-to-the-new-ifla-website>]

The International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions officially launched its new website [<http://www.ifla.org/en/>] April 22 when IFLA President Claudia Lux (right) pushed the button at the group's headquarters in The Hague, Netherlands, during a meeting of its governing board. The occasion was captured for all time in a YouTube video

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9sMoBAOyE5E>] (0:33)....

International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions, Apr. 24

Writing for nonreaders in the postprint era

[<http://www.mcsweeney.net/2009/4/20/lanham.html>] (satire)

Robert Lanham writes: "As print takes its place alongside smoke signals, cuneiform, and hollering, there has emerged a new literary age, one in which writers no longer need to feel encumbered by the paper cuts, reading, and excessive use of words traditionally associated with the writing trade. 21st-century literary genres are defining a new 'Lost Generation' of minimalists who would much rather watch Lost on their iPhones than toil over long-winded articles and short stories."...

McSweeney's Internet Tendency, Apr. 20

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hbL9mw8p8ag>]; at the GCC Library

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hbL9mw8p8ag>]

Using the theme from the 1970s Charlie's Angels TV series, the staff of the Greenfield (Mass.) Community College Educational Technology Center springs into action in this promotional video (3:09) to aid a panicked student. No library patrons were injured during the production of this film (though several were annoyed). "Your library card provides you with access to billions of information resources that the wimpy internet just can't get to."...

YouTube, Apr. 27

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[<http://FreeOnlineSurveys.com/rendersurvey.asp?sid=z5prkrw86096kcy578959>]

[<http://www.r2library.com/>]

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[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/index.cfm>]

ALA Annual Conference,

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/2009/faq.cfm>]

Chicago, July 9–15. Job seekers

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/hrdr/placementservice/currentconference.cfm>] can search online for jobs and employers

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/hrdr/placementservice/currentconference.cfm>] can search online for job seekers before and during the Annual Conference. The Placement Center is located on the exhibit floor. Visit

ALA Placement Services

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/hrdr/placementservice/index.cfm>] for more information.

[<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2664>]

Get into the Game&#8212;Read!

[<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2664>] Celebrate America’s favorite pastime with a poster from the New York Times–bestselling series *Sluggers* by Loren Long and Phil Bildners. In the critically acclaimed series about three kids, a mystery, and a magic baseball, readers join the adventure as the Travelin’ Nine move around the country playing baseball. Featuring original art created specifically for ALA Graphics. NEW! From ALA Graphics.

In this issue

April 2009

[<http://site.ebrary.com/lib/ala>]

2009 Library Design Showcase

A Greener Library, A Greener You

Building Science 101

Meeting Students’ Need States

A Fund evening at Steppenwolf Theatre, July 10.

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/ppo/about/ac2009/ac2009.cfm>] The event includes a cocktail reception, tickets to *500 Clown* and the *Elephant Deal*, and a talk-back with cast and creative staff following the performance. A limited number of tickets may be purchased for \$100 as part of registration for the 2009 ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. Proceeds will benefit the ALA Cultural Communities Fund.

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/ppo/ccf/culturalcommunities.cfm>]

Career Leads from

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

Digital Projects Librarian,

[<http://joblist.ala.org/modules/jobseeker/controller.cfm?scr=jobdetail&jobid=13070>] Sandia National Laboratories, Albuquerque, New Mexico, will work with Sandia library staff, the library IS Team, and library customers in order to identify, analyze, and address library technology needs and future direction. The librarian will also take a role in supporting access to e-resources, including implementing and managing electronic resource management applications including SFX, MetaLib, and Verde; collecting usage statistics and creating reports needed to manage and monitor electronic resource subscriptions; and implementing e-resource subscriptions troubleshooting access, maintenance, and other performance issues related to electronic resources....

[<http://www.facebook.com/pages/ALA-JobLIST/47377008761>]

[[http://twitter.com/ALA\\_JobLIST](http://twitter.com/ALA_JobLIST)]

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

Digital Library of the Week

[[http://eclipsi.bib.ub.es/cgi-bin/awecgi2?db=imp\\_eng&ol=getent&pa=10&k1=9360](http://eclipsi.bib.ub.es/cgi-bin/awecgi2?db=imp_eng&ol=getent&pa=10&k1=9360)]

The Printer's Devices Database

[[http://eclipsi.bib.ub.es/imp/home\\_eng.htm](http://eclipsi.bib.ub.es/imp/home_eng.htm)] of the Library of the University of Barcelona, Spain, was launched in October 1998. The database covers the 16th through the 18th century and all of Europe, but mostly Spain, France, Italy, Portugal, Germany, and the Low Countries, reflecting the collection's own personality. Each entry of the database includes information of the printers' activity, the years and places in which they worked, and other remarkable biographical facts. The records also contain information about the marks they used, including a description of the mark, and the main keywords in Catalan, Spanish, and English. The database is updated on a monthly basis. In March 2009, it contained 1,372 printer files and 2,182 device images.

Do you know of a digital library collection that we can mention in this AL Direct feature? Tell us about it. [<mailto:aldirect@ala.org>] Browse previous Digital Libraries of the Week at the I Love Libraries [<http://www.ilovelibraries.ala.org/diglibweekly/>] site.

[[http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/accreditation/prp/prism/prism\\_current.cfm](http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/accreditation/prp/prism/prism_current.cfm)]

The Spring 2009 edition of Prism,

[[http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/accreditation/prp/prism/prism\\_current.cfm](http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/accreditation/prp/prism/prism_current.cfm)] the ALA Office for Accreditation newsletter, covers recent

accreditation actions and other news relating to ALA-accredited library science programs.

## Public Perception How the World Sees Us

“I hate work. Libraries are a quite pleasant way of earning a living. Dismal prospects though! Jobs connected with books like publishing are not good for creative writing. That’s why libraries, all technical and administration, are so good.”

—British poet and University of Hull Librarian Philip Larkin (1922–1985) in a 1956 interview

[[http://entertainment.timesonline.co.uk/tol/arts\\_and\\_entertainment/the\\_tls/article6013896.ece](http://entertainment.timesonline.co.uk/tol/arts_and_entertainment/the_tls/article6013896.ece)] with journalist John Shakespeare, Times Literary Supplement, Apr. 1.

[<http://www.twitter.com/amlibraries>]

AL on Twitter? Follow American Libraries news stories, videos, and blog posts on Twitter. [<http://www.twitter.com/amlibraries>]

## Ask the ALA Librarian

[<http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/>]

Q. With all of the news recently about swine flu, we’re working on a policy on infectious diseases and considering how the library might cope with with a flu pandemic. Does the ALA have information to help libraries on this subject?

A. As yet, ALA has not prepared detailed guidelines for a pandemic response, other than as part of general disaster-readiness guidelines. The reasons for this are that most libraries are part of another organization that may have plans to guide the broader community, and that our member groups, who write the guidelines, are focusing on their expertise: protecting the collections. See ALA Library Fact Sheet 10: Disaster Response: A Selected Annotated Bibliography [<http://www.ala.org/library/fact10.html>] for resources for developing a plan to protect collections from natural and other disasters. However, there are some topics to include in an individual library policy—after being sure these are consistent with the plans by the larger jurisdiction. See more at the ALA Professional Tips wiki [[http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Swine\\_Flu\\_Pandemic\\_Preparedness](http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Swine_Flu_Pandemic_Preparedness)].

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

## Calendar

Apr. 29:

ACRL OnPoint chat,

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/events/onpoint/index.cfm>]

“Seattle Green: Lessons learned from greening the ACRL 14th National Conference.”

Apr. 30:

El Día de los Niños/El Día de los Libros.

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/alsc/initiatives/diadelosninos/index.cfm>]

]

May 7:

TechNet, [<http://www.librarytechnetwork.com/conferencenews.html>] Lockheed Martin Recreation Area, Fort Worth, Texas. “Technology is the Answer!”

May 7–8:

LITACamp,

[<http://www.lita.org/ala/mgrps/divs/lita/litaevents/litacamp/index.cfm>]

Dublin, Ohio. The housing deadline is May 1.

May 11–12:

National Library Legislative Day.

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/wo/washevents/nlld/nlld2009.cfm>]

May 11–12:

International Digital Publishing Forum,

[<http://www.idpf.org/digitalbook09/default.htm>] McGraw-Hill Auditorium,

New York City. “Digital Book 2009: An eBook Stimulus Plan for Publishing.”

May 29:

The Learning Commons: New Frontiers in Instruction,

[<http://sites.google.com/site/atlantaareabig/current>] University of West

Georgia, Carrollton. Hosted by the Atlanta Area Bibliographic Instruction Group.

June 1:

National Information Standards Organization,

[<http://www.niso.org/news/events/2009/assess09/>] Forum, Radisson Plaza

Lord Baltimore, Maryland. “Performance Measures and Assessment:

Critical Tools During Challenging Times.”

June 3–4: Inspiration, Innovation, and Celebration: An

Entrepreneurial Conference for Librarians, [<http://zsr.wfu.edu/iic/>]

University of North Carolina, Greensboro.

June 14–18:

Semantic Technology Conference, [<http://www.semantic-conference.com/>] The Fairmont Hotel, San Jose, California.

June 20&ndash;24:

O&#8217;Reilly Open Source Convention, [<http://en.oreilly.com/oscon2009>]  
McEnery Convention Center, San Jose, California.

June 22&ndash;23: British Chapter of the International Society for  
Knowledge Organization, [<http://www.iskouk.org/conf2009/>] University  
College London. &ldquo;Content Architecture: Exploiting and Managing  
Diverse Resources.&rdquo;

July 25&ndash;28: American Association of Law Libraries,  
[<http://www.aallnet.org/events/>] Annual Meeting, Walter E. Washington  
Convention Center, Washington, D.C.

Sept. 16&ndash;17:

Planning and Management of Buildings,  
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/pla/plaevents/cplacourses/buildings.cfm>]  
Saratoga Springs, New York. Certified Public Library Administrator  
course sponsored by PLA.

Oct. 1&ndash;4:

LITA National Forum,  
[<http://www.lita.org/ala/mgrps/divs/lita/litaevents/forum2009/index.cfm>]  
Salt Lake City, Utah. &ldquo;Open and Mobile.&rdquo;

Oct. 19&ndash;20: Marketing,

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/pla/plaevents/cplacourses/marketing.cfm>]  
Cleveland, Ohio. Certified Public Library Administrator course sponsored  
by PLA.

Nov. 5&ndash;8:

AASL National Conference,  
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aasl/conferencesandevents/national/charlotte2009.cfm>]  
Charlotte, North Carolina. &ldquo;Rev Up Learning @ your  
library.&rdquo;

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

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