

american libraries DIRECT

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

american
libraries
BUYERS GUIDE

U.S. & World News

[Community outrage prompts reopening of Colton libraries](#)

Less than a month after city administrators in Colton, California, abruptly shuttered both public libraries as part of an effort to close a \$5-million budget gap, Colton Public Library is back in business. The December 1 reopening of the main library (right) came just two weeks after some 100 area residents, including library board President Pete Carrasco, voiced their displeasure to the city council about the sudden November 12 closure of the libraries and the dismissal of all 17 library staff members. The city's only branch was slated to reopen December 3....

American Libraries Online, Dec. 2



[ALA Midwinter Meeting.](#)

Boston, January 15–19.

[Advance registration](#)
ends **December 4.**



DISCOUNTED
ADVANCED REGISTRATION
ENDS DEC. 4
MIDWINTER MEETING

Register today
www.ala.org/midwinter

ALA News

[Barbara M. Jones appointed OIF director](#)

Barbara M. Jones has been appointed director of the ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom and executive director of the Freedom to Read Foundation, effective December 14. Jones brings 25 years of active engagement on intellectual freedom issues to her new position. She currently serves as FTRF treasurer, and from 2003 to 2009 she was university librarian at Wesleyan University in Middletown, Connecticut. Her article on "Libel Tourism" appeared in the November issue of *American Libraries*....



[ALA submits comments on broadband adoption](#)

ALA submitted comments ([PDF file](#)) December 2 to the Federal Communications Commission regarding broadband adoption as part of the National Broadband Plan. As the FCC develops the plan, the



Web services and service-oriented architecture (SOA) have become dominant themes in IT across many industries. Web-based computing, service orientation, and cloud computing increasingly displace the client/server approach favored by libraries in the past. In this new Library Technology Report, [Opening Up Library](#)

commission is looking at the societal cost of having a large group of people who do not use the internet as well as the barriers that prevent people from using it....

District Dispatch, Dec. 2

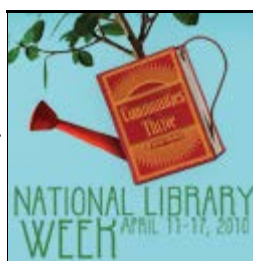
[ALA files comments on broadband stimulus](#)

ALA filed comments ([PDF file](#)) November 30 with the National Telecommunications and Information Administration and Rural Utilities Service regarding the implementation of the Broadband Initiatives Program and Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. The comments called for increasing funding for the Public Computer Center Program, streamlining and simplifying the application and review process, and prioritizing funding for community anchor institutions....

District Dispatch, Nov. 30

[Get connected @ your library](#)

The Campaign for America's Libraries is inviting ALA members to join its communities in ALA Connect, the home of the ALA online communities. Communities include National Library Week, Library Card Sign-up Month, and the Campaign for the World's Libraries. ALA Connect is open to all and provides community members with an arena to post programming ideas and discuss campaign initiatives. To join, visit ALA Connect [Groups](#) and search for the community you would like to join. A discussion of promotional ideas for National Library Week 2010, using the theme "Communities thrive @ your library," is [available](#)....



[ALA participates in Decision to Learn survey](#)

ALA is participating in a project initiated by the American Society of Association Executives called Decision to Learn. A division-stratified random sample of ALA membership has been requested to respond to the survey about formal and informal, structured or self-directed, voluntary or required learning that is directly related to professional growth or job opportunities. ALA members are encouraged to take 15 minutes to respond....

[Forging innovative partnerships with communities](#)

ALA Editions has released [Librarians as Community Partners: An Outreach Handbook](#). As editor Carol Smallwood states in the preface, this volume is "a mosaic of 66 articles by 34 innovative librarians from across the United States who share their successful outreach activities with the reader. These previously unpublished articles by school, public, academic, and special librarians and LIS faculty convey the effectiveness of outreach and the dedication, inventiveness, and enthusiasm of librarians."...



[Writing and publishing for the busy librarian](#)

ALA Editions has released [Writing and Publishing: The Librarian's Handbook](#), edited by Carol Smallwood. This practical, how-to volume offers guidance to help the time-strapped library professional effectively share information about

[Systems through Web Services and SOA](#)

Marshall Breeding shows why libraries should care about Application Programming Interfaces and cuts through the myth of API hype and reality. **NEW! From ALA Publishing.**

In this issue

Nov. 2009



[Word-of-Mouth Marketing](#)

Libel Tourism

Multivendor RFID Rollouts

How to Work a Crisis

Career Leads from

ALA JobLIST

[Electronic Records Archivist](#)

Wisconsin Historical Society, Madison. The Library-Archives Division of the Wisconsin Historical Society, located on the campus of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, holds a premier research collection on American

their library through websites, blogs, and online columns; write fiction, poetry, children's books, magazine articles, book reviews, bibliographic essays, and lists; and understand the ins and outs of self-publishing and working with literary agents....



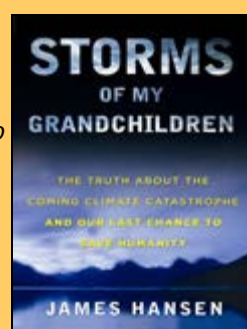
history, with library holdings of three million items. The electronic records archivist works with other public-records staff in a program designed to manage public records in digital format. It supports the work of the State Archives by guiding efforts to acquire, preserve, and make accessible electronic records and other information systems from Wisconsin state and local governments and by providing direct assistance to state agency personnel in the area of managing electronic records and access systems. The work of this position involves frequent contacts with outside agencies, institutions, and the Wisconsin Public Records Board....

Booklist ONLINE

Featured review: Sci-tech

Hansen, James. *Storms of My Grandchildren: The Truth about the Coming Climate Catastrophe and Our Last Chance to Save Humanity*. Dec. 2009. 320p. Bloomsbury, hardcover (978-1-60819-200-7).

Climatologist Hansen, director of the NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies and an internationally renowned global-warming expert, became even more famous when he was censored by the Bush administration. After decades of studying the role fossil fuels play in global warming and witnessing the federal government's failure to take action to lower carbon emissions, he felt compelled to write his first book out of concern about the potentially catastrophic future facing his grandchildren. Hansen condemns governmental "greenwashing" and the undue influence of more than 2,300 energy lobbyists, and attempts to close the gap "between public perception and scientific reality" by lucidly explaining the dynamics of global warming, its acceleration, and how a slight rise in temperature can lead to disastrous consequences. He then boldly declares that the way to solve the climate crisis is to "rapidly phase out coal emissions."...



Top 10 sci-tech books of 2009

Donna Seaman writes: "The obsessions of this stellar group of science writers—including polar bears, a missing aviator, dawn, computer programming, dogs, and antimatter—inspired a year's worth of significant and intriguing books."...



@ Visit [Booklist Online](http://BooklistOnline.com) for other reviews and much more....



@ [More jobs...](#)

**Digital Library
of the Week**

Boston Update

[The Raven returns to Boston](#)

One of the best-kept secrets in Boston's literary history concerns one of the most influential writers ever born there: Edgar Allan Poe. The current year marks the bicentennial of Poe's birth. To celebrate, Boston Public Library is hosting a Poe exhibition, "The Raven in the Frog Pond: Edgar Allan Poe and the City of Boston," December 17 through March. The exhibition presents newly uncovered information about Poe's time in Boston and explores urban legends that have grown up around him....

Boston Public Library, Dec. 1



[Boston Children's Museum](#)

For over 90 years, the Boston Children's Museum at 308 Congress Street has served as a leader in Boston and within the museum community. The museum exists to help children understand and enjoy the world in which they live. It is a private, nonprofit, educational institution that is recognized internationally as a research and development center and pacesetter for children's exhibitions, educational programs, and curriculum. The museum focuses on three key areas of expertise: visitor programs, teacher resources, and early childhood education. A special exhibit during Midwinter will be "Top Secret: Mission Toy."...

Boston Children's Museum



Division News

[ACRL partners with HighWire Press](#)

ACRL has announced a new partnership with HighWire Press, a division of the Stanford University Libraries, to provide online hosting of *College and Research Libraries*, *College and Research Libraries News*, *RBM*, and *Choice Review Online*. The move from the ALA website to the HighWire platform will provide a number of benefits—improved search capabilities both within and across publications, increased Web 2.0 functionality, and online access for individual and institutional nonmember subscribers....

ACRL Insider, Dec. 1

[ALCTS working group on romanization](#)

The ALCTS Non-English Access Working Group on Romanization has created a draft report on the use of romanized data in bibliographic and authority records, whether romanization is still needed, and whether two different MARC21 models for multiscript records can coexist in one catalog. Comments are invited by December 8....

[Advance rates for ASCLA accessibility workshop](#)

Registration rates will rise after December 4 for "Breaking Down Barriers: Best Practices in Universal Design for Libraries," a half-day workshop sponsored by ASCLA and held in conjunction with the 2010 ALA Midwinter Meeting. Library directors, trustees, Friends, and



The [Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States \(MOLLUS\)](#) from the [Massachusetts Commandery](#) includes

some 23,000 Civil War photographs hosted by the U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center in Carlisle, Pennsylvania. This collection is considered by historians the single best Civil War photograph collection in the world. Richard J. Sommers, senior historian at AHEC, said many of the images may seem familiar, having been used extensively by authors of history books and by the editors of *Civil War Times*, which used to be in Harrisburg. Ken Burns and his staff spent six weeks in Carlisle going through the MOLLUS collection to pull illustrations for his popular PBS series on the Civil War. The collection was built by Gen. Albert Ordway and Col. Arnold Rand. Ordway worked in Washington, D.C., and had many connections while Rand sent out cards to Civil War veterans. Much of the collection is contained in rather ornate, leather-bound, Victorian Era albums together with a handwritten card catalog that was used to help AHEC develop a searchable database

leaders interested in low-cost, high-impact ways to make a library fully accessible should attend this event. Register at the Midwinter [website](#)....

Proposals for 2011 Annual Conference

The ALSC Program Coordinating Committee is now accepting proposals for innovative, creative programs that have broad appeal for the ALA Annual Conference to be held June 24–27, 2011, in New Orleans. The committee is looking for a wide range of topics, such as advocacy, multiculturalism, administration and management, early literacy, research, partnerships, best practices, programming, outreach, and technology. Proposal forms are on the ALSC [website](#). The deadline is April 30....

ALSC Blog, Nov. 29

Awards

RUSA achievement awards

RUSA offers many annual achievement awards, and the nomination period for most of them will be closing December 15. The division is accepting nominations for 13 awards and grants to be presented at next summer's ALA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C....

ALTAFF accepting applications for Trustee awards

ALTAFF is accepting applications for the Gale Outstanding Trustee Conference Grant, the Trustee Citation, and the Major Benefactors Award. Applications are due December 15. The conference grant enables a public library trustee to attend ALA Annual Conference. A grant of \$850 is awarded annually to a public library trustee who has demonstrated excellence in support of his or her public library....

2010 ASCLA Century Scholarship

LIS students with access needs are encouraged to [apply](#) (login required) for the 2010 ASCLA Century Scholarship, a one-time \$2,500 award that funds necessary services or accommodations to enable the winner to complete a master's or doctoral program in the field. The scholarship is an initiative of ASCLA, its Library Service to Special Populations Section, and the Library Service to People with Visual or Physical Disabilities Forum....

Guadalajara Librarian of the Year

Helen Ladrón de Guevara Cox, advisor for the New Public Library of the State of Jalisco in Guadalajara, Mexico, and president of the Public Library Section of the Asociación Mexicana de Bibliotecarios, was named Librarian of the Year at the Guadalajara International Book Fair December 2. An ALA member, Guevara also founded the Historical Archives of Jalisco and has headed the Institute Library at the University of Guadalajara....

Guadalajara International Book Fair



2009 Amelia Elizabeth Walden Award

The Assembly on Literature for Adolescents, an independent assembly of the National Council of Teachers of English, presented the 2009 Amelia Elizabeth Walden Award and \$5,000 to Steve Kluger for *My Most Excellent Year: A Novel of Love, Mary Poppins, and Fenway Park* (Dial, 2008). The award

of the online images. The digitization process began in early 2007 and was just opened on the website in November. AHEC has a total of 60,000 other photographs on the Civil War and 1.7 million photographs from the Mexican War to the present.

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

“Too much time has been spent thinking about ‘libraries of the future.’ The reason for falling use is that too little attention has been given to what people have wanted in libraries of today. The balance of resources has swung too far away from the obvious daily need. The reason why use has declined is not because people have lost their desire or need for reading or what books contain or because technologies have changed, but because public libraries haven’t got what they want. And in their turn because of that have lost their reputation for being useful places to visit.”

—Richard Charkin, executive director of Bloomsbury

honors a book most relevant to adolescents that has enjoyed a wide and appreciative teenage audience....
ALAN Online

[2009 Bad Sex in Fiction Award](#)

Jonathan Littell has won the 17th annual *Literary Review* Bad Sex in Fiction Award, for his World War II novel *The Kindly Ones* (Harper, 2009). The awards were announced at a lavish ceremony November 30 at the In and Out (Naval and Military) Club in London. *The Kindly Ones*, originally published in French, won the Prix Goncourt in 2006. Littell clinched the award with one "mythologically inspired passage" and another that compared a sexual climax to "a jolt that emptied my head like a spoon scraping the inside of a soft-boiled egg."...

Bloomberg, Dec. 1



Publishing, in *Empower, Inform, Enrich* ([PDF file](#)), the consultation paper published December 1 as part of the UK Libraries Modernisation Review. p. 16.

[2009 Writers' Trust Fiction Award](#)

Annabel Lyon won the \$25,000 Writers' Trust Fiction Award November 24 for her debut novel *The Golden Mean*, a tale of Greek philosopher Aristotle's stint as a tutor to a young Alexander the Great. The Writers' Trust of Canada is a charitable organization that grants awards in various categories annually. *The Golden Mean* was the only book to be shortlisted for all three Canadian literary awards this fall (the others being the Scotiabank Giller Prize and the Governor General's Literary Award)....

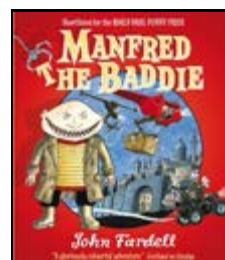
Toronto Globe and Mail, Nov. 25



[Scottish Children's Books Awards](#)

The winners of the 2009 Royal Mail Awards for Scottish Children's Books were announced in Edinburgh November 24. This is Scotland's largest children's book prize and is voted for exclusively by some 30,000 Scottish children themselves. The winner of the Early Years category (1–7 years) was John Fardell for *Manfred the Baddie*. Lari Don's *First Aid for Fairies and Other Fabled Beasts* won in the Younger Readers category (8–11 years), and Keith Gray's *Ostrich Boys* won in the Older Readers section (12–16 years)....

Scottish Book Trust, Nov. 25

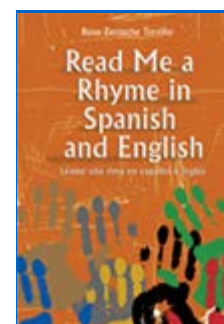


[2009 John Llewellyn Rhys Prize](#)

29-year-old Evie Wyld has won the 2009 John Llewellyn Rhys Prize for her book *After the Fire, a Still Small Voice* (Pantheon, 2009). The novel is set in eastern Australia and tells a story of fathers and sons, their wars, and the things that they will never know about each other. The prize rewards the best work of literature (fiction, nonfiction, poetry, drama) by a U.K. or Commonwealth writer aged 35 or under. It is awarded in honor of the writer John Llewellyn Rhys, who was killed in



Ask the ALA Librarian



Q. The Spanish-



TweetWatch

Follow:

Arizona Library Association, annual conference, Glendale, Dec. 7–9, at: [azla conference](#)

Search Engine Strategies, conference and expo, Hilton Chicago, Dec. 7–11, at: [#ses](#)

American Libraries news stories, videos, and blog posts at: [amlibraries](#)

action in the Second World War....

Booktrust, Nov. 30

Seen Online

[Colleges urged to defend free speech](#)

Citing the recent decision by Yale University Press to remove all images of Muhammad from a scholarly book in response to fears their publication would trigger violence, a long list of academic and free-speech groups called on colleges and universities November 30 "to exercise moral and intellectual leadership" and stand up for free expression. A [joint statement](#) issued by the groups characterizes Yale's decision as one of several recent developments that "suggest that our longstanding commitment to the free exchange of ideas is in peril of falling victim to a spreading fear of violence."...

Chronicle of Higher Education, Nov. 30; American Association of University Professors

[Publishers can now set limits in Google News](#)

Google announced December 1 it will let publishers set a daily limit on the number of articles readers can view for free through the Google News search engine. The change, which will let publishers limit readers to five free articles per day, comes as news executives step up their war of words against Google. Senior Business Product Manager Josh Cohen [writes](#): "If you're a Google user, this means that you may start to see a registration page after you've clicked through to more than five articles on the website of a publisher using the First Click Free program in a day." For a Dr. Seuss version of the backstory, see Sam Gustin's "[How the Grinch Stole Google News.](#)"...

Dow Jones Newswires, Dec. 1; *Google News Blog*, Dec. 1; *Daily Finance*, Nov. 26



[The future of journalism in an internet world](#)

Nate Anderson writes: "The war between old media titans and scrappy internet upstarts heated up December 1 as the Federal Trade Commission rounded up journalists of all stripes for a [two-day conference](#) on the future of journalism. It wasn't long before the gloves came off—and were replaced by *Nightmare on Elm Street* slasher claws. It's clear that major fault lines still exist between content producers like the *Wall Street Journal* (a News Corp. paper now) and aggregators (like the *Huffington Post*) who squeeze much of the value from content by excerpting its most vital bits."...

Ars Technica, Dec. 1

[Bloomberg closes Business Week library](#)

Now that Bloomberg owns *Business Week*, having bought it from McGraw-Hill, it has laid off about 100 staff people. One casualty was the library. According to [Stephen Baker](#), who wrote one of the seminal articles on the importance of blogging in the corporate world, published in *Business Week*, reporters are being advised to take their research needs to Google. That is, for any reporters who are left....

Online Insider, Nov. 25; *The Numerati*, Nov. 23



[New Hampshire Political Library lets staff go](#)

speaking population in our town has doubled over the past few years. I've been so concerned with adding Spanish, bilingual, and ESL books and other materials to our collection, that I was taken aback when our page pointed out something very simple: All of our signage is in English! What resources do you have to help with this?

A. According to census data about 21 million people in the U.S. (or very roughly 7%) speak limited or no English—50% more than a decade ago—so it is no surprise that this trend is affecting your community. The report, [Serving Non-English Speakers in U.S. Public Libraries: 2007 Analysis of Library Demographics, Services and Programs](#), released by the ALA Office for Research and Statistics, the Office for Literacy and Outreach Services, the Office for Diversity, and the Public Programs Office, found that the majority of libraries serving non-English speakers are in communities with fewer than 100,000 residents. That report also notes that [literacy programming](#) is an important feature of outreach. [Non-English signage](#) is just one aspect of reaching out to your

The [New Hampshire Political Library](#) in Concord has laid off its paid staff due to financial difficulties but will continue to operate, though board members are still figuring out what its priorities will be. Board Chairman Terry Shumaker said the library "has been around in various forms with and without staff" since it was founded in 1997. The political library is most active about the time of the New Hampshire primary, hosting candidates, holding educational events, collecting an archive of primary-related material, and serving as a resource for journalists, researchers, and candidates....

Concord (N.H.) Monitor, Dec. 1



[Pittsburgh approves \\$600,000 to help libraries](#)

Pittsburgh City Council today cast a final vote to dedicate \$600,000 to the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh system, in advance of a December 14 meeting of the library board that could postpone the planned closing of four branches and the merger of two others. The money comes from a fund the city uses to pay for vehicle fuel. A dip in fuel prices has left that fund with excess cash, which Council President Doug Shields eyed as a temporary fix for the library's budget gap....

Pittsburgh (Pa.) Post-Gazette, Dec. 1

[Fire rips through Cliffside Park library](#)

The Cliffside Park (N.J.) Public Library could be closed for two weeks after a fire tore through the building November 30, causing extensive damage to books and two offices inside. Library officials said they still were assessing damage to the library, which is one of the busiest in Bergen County. Library Director Ana Chelariu said the collection of borough high school yearbooks dating back to 1928, along with the library's magazines and opera CDs, were ruined, but the local history room was unscathed. Investigators believe a transformer outside the building exploded, possibly setting an electrical panel on fire....

Bergen (N.J.) Record, Nov. 30



[Library to stay open during furlough or lose certification](#)

The town council of Charlton, Massachusetts, decided not to close its public library during an employee furlough after state Board of Library Commissioners said doing so would terminate its certification. The town had decided to close the library from December 21 to January 4 to give clerical employees a two-week paid vacation in lieu of a 5% wage increase. Library Director Cheryl Hansen said she and an assistant director would keep the library open six hours a day to retain certification....

Worcester (Mass.) Telegram and Gazette, Nov. 27

[Darby Free Library still at risk](#)

In Darby Borough, Pennsylvania, where the number of families living below the poverty line is twice the national average, a few dollars mean a lot. Yet officials, facing the possible closing of the historic library founded in 1743, say they are committed to keeping it open,



changing community. Other elements to consider as you adjust your program to meet the needs of your changing community include [promotion of programs](#) in the major languages spoken, [developing special language collections](#), offering [catalog access](#) in additional languages, and [other outreach programs](#). From the [ALA Professional Tips wiki](#).

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

Calendar

Jan. 12:

[LIS Online Career Fair](#), sponsored by the Alliance Library System and TAP Information Services. An online OPAL conference. Contact: [Lori Bell](#).

Jan. 12–15:

[Association for Library and Information Science Education](#), Annual Conference, Boston.

Jan. 16:

[SPARC-ACRL Forum](#), Sheraton Boston. "The E-book Transition: Collaborations and Innovations behind Open-Access Monographs."

Jan. 19–21:

[Educause Learning Initiative](#), Annual Meeting, Hilton Austin, Texas. "Learning

even if taxes go up. At a time when libraries in Philadelphia and across the state are cutting hours and staff, Darby hopes to patch the library's \$30,000 budget deficit, which was widened by a 20.8% cut in state funding this year....

Philadelphia Inquirer, Nov. 30

[New law would force British Library to return missal](#)

A 12th-century missal could become the first item from a British national museum to be returned to its rightful owners under a new law governing looted artifacts. The Benevento Missal, which was stolen from a cathedral in southern Italy soon after the Allies bombed the city during World War II, has been in the collection of the British Library since 1947. After a change in the law, it could be back in Italy within months....

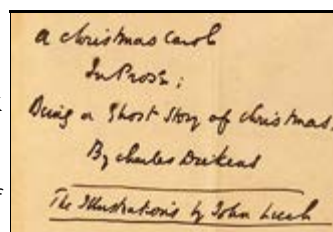
The Times (U.K.), Dec. 1



[A Christmas rewrite, as Dickens edits Dickens](#)

What secrets lie entombed beneath the thick scribbles that Charles Dickens made as he wrote, and rewrote, the 66 pages of "A Christmas Carol" in 1843? The manuscript of this classic holiday ghost story, written in six weeks to raise much-needed cash, is housed at the Morgan Library and Museum in Manhattan, where it bears all of Dickens's additions and subtractions in his own hand. This year the Morgan agreed to allow the *New York Times* to photograph and display the entire handwritten manuscript online. Readers are invited to examine high-resolution images and submit what they think is the most interesting edit in the work....

New York Times, Dec. 1



[Birds and planes blend at Playa Vista](#)

Two silk-screened windows at the Playa Vista branch of the Los Angeles Public Library are the latest work of artist Anne Marie Karlsen, who took her cues from the building's location. The relatively new library sits on land formerly occupied by Hughes Airport and close to Ballona Wetlands, on a flight path for migrating birds. Also mindful of digital design offices that have sprouted in the area, she eventually came up with a plan for "Flyway" that incorporates digital technology....

Los Angeles Times Culture Monster, Nov. 30



[Cornell libraries consider merging](#)

At the beginning of December, Cornell University's Physical Sciences Library closed, a victim of last semester's 5% budget cut. But there may be others. A library task force suggests closing some of the 18 existing library facilities in an effort to organize physical spaces around disciplines rather than colleges. Its report outlines such scenarios as reducing the number of libraries to nine or reorganizing the library around only four central spaces....

Cornell Daily Sun, Nov. 30

[Hodge defends library modernization review](#)

Environments for a Web 2.0 World."

[Feb. 1–3: Electronic Resources and Libraries conference](#)

AT&T Executive Education and Conference Center, University of Texas at Austin.

[Feb. 3–5: Professional Scholarly Publishing](#)

Annual Conference, Mayflower Hotel, Washington, D.C. "The New Reality: Disruption, Innovation, Relevance."

[Feb. 3–6: Fifth Annual iConference](#)

iHotel and Conference Center, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

[Feb. 3–6: ACM Third International Conference on Web Search and Data Mining](#)

Polytechnic Institute of NYU in Brooklyn, New York.

[Feb. 4–5: Society of American Archivists](#)

Records Management for Archivists, Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives, Nashville, Tennessee.

[Feb. 6–10: ACM Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work](#)

Savannah (Ga.) Marriott Riverfront.

[Feb. 17–19: Educause Southwest Regional Conference](#)

U.K. Culture Minister Margaret Hodge faced skeptical press questioning at the December 1 launch of the paper, *Empower, Inform, Enrich* ([PDF file](#)), the latest phase of the [Libraries Modernisation Review](#) that began in October 2008. Unveiling the paper at the John Harvard Library in Southwark, London, Hodge described it as "the very last phase of what has been a long consultation" and said she hoped readers would find the essays stimulating, in which senior figures in the library world, publishers, and authors offer their vision for British libraries....

The Bookseller, Dec. 1; U.K. Department for Culture, Media, and Sport, Dec. 1



[British phone booth converted to book kiosk](#)

When villagers in Westbury-sub-Mendip in Somerset, England, found out that British Telecom was sponsoring a contest for creative uses of the phone booths it was decommissioning, Janet Fisher suggested converting theirs to a [book exchange kiosk](#). "We used to have a mobile library here which called once a week on a Monday," she said, "but that ceased a few months ago so it was missed and we're all readers around here." The booth cost them £1, but they won £500 in the contest....

BBC Somerset, Nov. 23; Westbury-sub-Mendip village announcements



[Trekking librarian reaches another peak](#)

Rosemary Dunstan, manager of the Sonning Common Library in South Oxfordshire, England, has completed her latest charity challenge by trekking seven hours a day through Nepal. The 53-year-old spent five days climbing some of the highest peaks in the world to raise money for the Institute of Cancer Research. Dunstan has previously been dog sledding in Lapland, trekked to the Mt. Everest base camp, and completed the Summer Solstice marathon in Iceland....

Henley (U.K.) Standard, Nov. 23



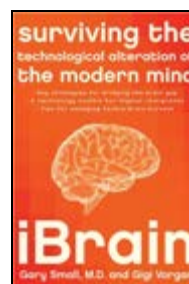
[Go back to the Top](#)

Tech Talk

[What the web is teaching our brains](#)

Gary Small of UCLA, one of America's leading neurologists, has written a book, *iBrain: Surviving the Technological Alteration of the Modern Mind* (Collins Living, 2008) that describes what he believes is the profound impact of new technology on our brains and behavior. His research indicates that internet use and web browsing has a marked effect on our brains, which, he argues, are much more changeable than most of us think, especially in the case of young people....

The Independent (U.K.), Nov. 24



[Search engines as a source of learning](#)

Search engine use is not just part of our daily routines; it is also becoming part of our learning process, according to Penn State

Sheraton Austin Hotel, Texas. "Connect, Collaborate, Contribute."

Feb. 28–

Mar. 2:

[National Federation of Advanced Information Services](#), Annual

Conference, Park Hyatt at the Bellevue, Philadelphia.

"Redefining the Value of Information: Exploring the New Equation."

Mar. 15–17:

[Educause Midwest Regional Conference](#),

InterContinental Chicago Hotel, Chicago. "Connect, Collaborate, Contribute."

Mar. 17–19:

[Wisconsin Educational Media and Technology Association](#),

Spring Conference, Kalahari Conference Center, Wisconsin Dells. "Into the Wild."

Mar. 18–20:

[National Science Teachers Association](#),

National Conference on Science Education, Pennsylvania Convention Center, Philadelphia. "Connecting Science Past to Science Future."

Apr. 7-9:

[Florida Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Rosen Plaza Hotel, Orlando.

researchers. Information Science Professors Jim Jansen and Brian Smith found that search engines are primarily used for fact checking users' own internal knowledge, meaning that they are part of the learning process rather than simply a source for information. They also found that people's learning styles can affect how they use search engines....

Science Daily, Nov. 27

[Facebook's big announcement: The translation](#)

Caroline McCarthy writes: "Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg (right) put out an 'open letter' to the site's massive membership December 1, explaining the revised privacy controls that are finally going into effect after being announced this summer, and additionally announcing the milestone that the site has reached 350 million active users around the world. But CEOs are notoriously deft with spin, and Zuckerberg is a clever fellow. So, luckily, CNET has translated his entire letter for you!"...

CNET News: The Social, Dec. 1



[Size photos perfectly with mypictr](#)

Sarah Houghton-Jan writes: "Check out [mypictr](#), a webpage that helps you quickly create perfectly sized profile pictures or icons for websites and social networks. Upload any photo, then zoom and crop the image automatically to the perfect size, based on what service you need the image/icon for. Choose from all the biggies—Facebook, Twitter, Skype, YouTube. Too cool."...

Librarian in Black, Nov. 24



[61 free apps to be thankful for](#)

Adam Pash writes: "After rounding up thousands of your suggestions, considering our own favorites, and performing a little spreadsheet magic, we've cooked up our own cornucopia of excellent free software and web apps we are extremely thankful for." The apps that received the most votes were: Firefox, VLC, CCleaner, Dropbox, 7-Zip, OpenOffice.org, and Chrome....

Lifehacker, Nov. 26

[RoomAtlas is awesome](#)

Sarah Rae Trover writes: "Many sites that help you find a hotel can be a little frustrating to use. They're either pumped full of ads or jumble results according to advertisers. [RoomAtlas](#) does away with all that, providing a simplified but impressive Google Maps-powered hotel search. You can type in an intersection, event center, or a city or street, and it will return all the results placed nicely and color-coded by price on a Google Map. Once you click through to a hotel, you can then see what the building looks like and read reviews."...

Lifehacker, Dec. 1



[Zotero and iCyte simplify citations](#)

Reference management software has been available for more than 20 years, but those programs often were



Apr. 11–17:
[National Library Week.](#)

Apr. 28–30:
[Off-Campus Library Services Conference.](#)

Cleveland Marriott
Downtown, Cleveland,
Ohio.

**Apr. 29–
May 1:**
[LOEX](#), Annual
Conference, Hyatt
Regency Hotel,
Dearborn, Michigan.
"Bridging and Beyond:
Developing Librarian
Infrastructure."

May 2–8:
[Choose Privacy Week.](#)

May 15–18:
[Acquisitions Institute.](#) Timberline
Lodge, Oregon.

@ [More...](#)

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pricey and required IT know-how, whereas tools such as Zotero (a tool created by George Mason University's Center for History and New Media that allows researchers and students to drag and drop web page references into a massive, searchable database) and iCyte (a program that lets users save and share online research material in the virtual cloud) are free and made for a broader web-using audience....

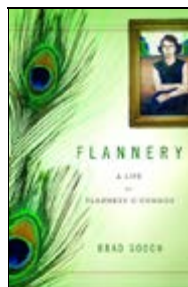
eSchool News, Dec. 1

Publishing

[New York Times 100 notable books of 2009](#)

The *New York Times Book Review* has made these selections from books reviewed since December 7, 2008, when it published its previous notables list. The ever-expanding literary universe resists generalizing, but one heartening development has been the resurgence of the short story—and of the short-story writer. Twelve collections made the fiction list, and four biographies of short-story masters are on the nonfiction list....

New York Times, Dec. 1



[Heard any good books lately?](#)

Mary Burkey writes: "Audiobooks were featured on NPR's *Morning Edition* as part of the Open Mic series November 30—an awesome program featuring two of the best author/narrators, Neil Gaiman (right) and David Sedaris, both winners of the Audio Publishers Association's Audie Award. Also part of the program were professional narrator Martin Jarvis, who narrates the audiobook of Gaiman and Terry Pratchett's *Good Omens*; audiobook director Rick Harris; and Audible.com's Don Katz. [Listen](#) to the program (7:47) or read the [transcript](#). A lovely homage to the power of the spoken word."...

Audiobooker, Nov. 30



[NPR's 10 best cookbooks of 2009](#)

T. Susan Chang writes: "Cooks and bakers outdid themselves this year, clarifying flavors and streamlining their methods until they fit snugly in anybody's kitchen. This year's cookbook instructions are detailed and sure-handed, so you'll feel confident even taking on those fiddly little jobs you usually leave to your good friend Joe, the Trader. With these books you can make your own bread, your own pasta, even your own Asian dumplings."...

National Public Radio, Nov. 25



[Favorite book covers of 2009, part one](#)

Joseph Sullivan writes: "These are the selections from the staff of the WORD bookstore in Brooklyn, New York. They limited their selections to books published this year, so I was glad to see them include some YA and children's books. There's a poll at the bottom of the post so you can vote for your favorite. The top three vote-getting designs from this list will eventually join the other favorites from the upcoming lists in a final poll."...



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The Book Design Review, Nov. 30

Waldo Hunt and pop-up books: An overview

Stephen J. Gertz writes: "The pop-up or moveable book has come a long way since the groundbreaking work of Lothar Meggendorfer (1847–1925). Much of the credit for the revival of the pop-up or movable book goes to book collector and entrepreneur Waldo Hunt, who [died](#) November 6 at age 88. In 1965, Hunt created Graphics International, which produced pop-up books for Random House. In 1969, Hallmark Cards bought GI and, after producing more than 40 titles with Hallmark, Hunt left to start Intervisual Communications in Los Angeles."...

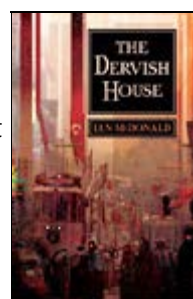


Book Patrol, Nov. 30; *Washington Post*, Nov. 23

20 SF books coming out in 2010

Annalee Newitz writes: "We've picked out 20 sci-fi and contemporary fantasy books coming out next year that have us filled with excitement. Many publishers haven't firmed up their winter releases for next year, so most of these books are coming in spring and summer 2010." Included is Ian McDonald's *The Dervish House*, a tale of terrorism and outlaw science from the man who penned *Brasyl* and *River of Gods*...

io9, Nov. 18



Actions & Answers

Gates Foundation to support libraries in 19 states

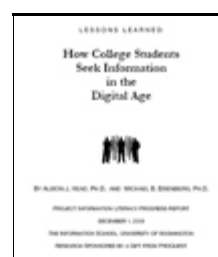
The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation committed nearly \$3.4 million in grants December 1 to bolster internet connections for libraries in Arkansas, Kansas, Massachusetts, New York, and Virginia. It also announced partnerships with 14 additional states to help public libraries compete for federal broadband stimulus funds. Nationally, libraries report that patron demand for high-speed internet access is growing faster than their ability to provide increased bandwidth. A recent ALA [study](#) reports that 60% of all libraries say their current internet speed is insufficient....

Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Dec. 1



How college students seek information

Project Information Literacy released *Lessons Learned: How College Students Seek Information in the Digital Age* ([PDF file](#)) December 1, with findings from its large-scale student survey administered on six different U.S. campuses during Spring 2009. The study found that nearly all students used course readings and Google first for course-related research



and Google and Wikipedia for everyday life research. Most used library resources, especially scholarly databases, for course-related research, but far fewer used library services that required interacting with librarians....

Project Information Literacy, Dec. 1

[Libraries should become better with use](#)

Aaron Schmidt writes: "I don't think I've met a librarian who really values circ stats beyond being happy to report favorable ones. Everyone just seems to accept that shuffling content around and reporting the stats is the way the game is played. I'm not terribly interested in *just* being a content distributor. Are you? I doubt it. I'm interested in helping people accomplish tasks that support their goals. But that poses some challenges."...

Walking Paper, Nov. 30

[So you want to write about libraries?](#)

Brett Bonfield writes: "In this article, I do my best to explain why we think we've been able to reach people with our blog. Although it's hard to avoid talking about ourselves in an article that describes our experience, our motivation is to encourage our readers to produce their own experiments, not to encourage them to adopt our model. When we created In the Library with the Lead Pipe, we had to figure out a lot of things for ourselves. Because we love reading good writing about libraries, we're sharing what we know in the hope of bringing more good library writing into the world."...

In the Library with the Lead Pipe, Dec. 2



[How to use Twitter's new retweet feature](#)

Josh Catone writes: "Retweeting someone used to be a completely manual process and often led to redundancy within your timeline. Twitter's new official retweet feature fixes both of these issues. Now, instead of retweets being appended with the RT text designation, they have a special retweet icon. The new retweets are undeniably cleaner and more organized; however, it can also be somewhat jarring to see people you're not following in your timeline, and the new retweets lack the ability to add commentary to retweets."...

Mashable, Nov. 23



[Conference humiliation: Tweeting behind your back](#)

Marc Parry writes: "***Tweckle*** (twek´ul) v.t. *to abuse a speaker only to Twitter followers in the audience while he/she is speaking.* Conference speakers beware: Twecklers are watching. They're out for blood. Twitter is changing a staple of academic life from a one-way presentation into a real-time conversation. Flub a talk badly enough and you now risk mobilizing a scrum of digital-spitball-slinging snark-masters called twecklers."...

Chronicle of Higher Education, Nov. 17

[GWU experiments with robotic book digitization](#)

George Washington University announced November 30 that it will use an automated system to digitize rare Middle Eastern texts from its own library and from that of Georgetown University. The [KABIS III](#) machine in the Gelman Library uses a



black plastic arm to turn a page, pause as two cameras take pictures of both open pages, and then turn the page again. Air circulates through the arm of the machine, creating a gentle vacuum that can attract a page and guide it from the right side of the book to the left. The machine, purchased from Kirtas Technologies, can photograph up to 3,000 pages in an hour....

Wired Campus, Dec. 1; Kirtas Technologies

New research suggests that porn is overly demonized

Elizabeth Armstrong Moore writes: "Pornography has long been considered to be one of the main motivators of major technological inventions, from the camera to the web. Its effects on human health and sexuality have also been, and likely will always be, hotly debated. But [new research](#) out of the University of Montreal suggests that pornography is so widely digested, and with such a seemingly low correlation to pathological behavior, that it is grossly over-demonized. The research is funded by the [Interdisciplinary Research Center on Family Violence and Violence Against Women](#)."...

CNET News: Health Tech, Dec. 1; University of Montreal, Dec. 1

LIS Online Career Fair

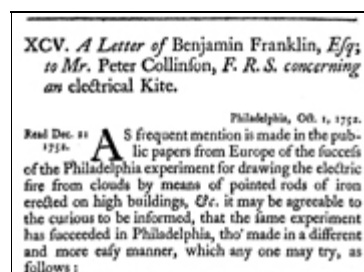
Alliance Library System and TAP Information Services are holding their first annual LIS Online Career Fair. Join them online in OPAL January 12 for a day of learning how to start or rejuvenate your library career in tough times. The day will kick off at 10 a.m. Central Time. The keynote speaker is Rachel Singer Gordon, who will speak on "Career Building in a Down Economy."...

LIS Online Career Fair

Royal Society: Past, present, future

The Royal Society is offering public access to 60 of the most influential, inspiring, and intriguing papers it has published over the last 350 years, including those in the *Philosophical Transactions*, the oldest continuously published scientific journal in the world. Scientists and historians have chosen the articles from the 60,000 published since the journal first began in 1665. [Trailblazing](#) will make the original manuscripts available online for the first time, including Benjamin Franklin's account of flying a kite in a storm (1752) and Stephen Hawking's early writing on black holes (1970)....

Royal Society, Nov. 30



Rethinking restroom questions

Lorraine J. Pellack writes: "Every library that I have worked in over the last 20-plus years has had at least one staff member grumbling about how often they have to give directions to the restroom. They grumble about patrons who need lessons in reading signs and architects who evilly plan library buildings with invisible restrooms or restrooms far from the entrance. My question is this: Why grumble? This is our chance to shine, to invite people in."...

RUSQ 49, no. 1

Grumbings from the reference desk

The Merry Librarian writes: "Reference desk workers everywhere have a love-hate thing going on with technology. And we just can't help but hate it the most when it comes at us in the ultimate, hideous duo

of telephone *and* computer. There's nothing more frustrating than patrons using the reference desk as a computer help line . . . except, of course, when the patron is as stubborn as they are demanding. Then the real fun begins."...

The Merry Librarian, Nov. 29

[Ethiopia reads: Partnering for a greater good](#)

Janet Lee writes: "Ato Yohannes, a political refugee turned U.S. citizen and children's librarian, returned to his native Ethiopia after 19 years in the U.S. to form Ethiopia Reads, an organization that is establishing children's libraries in Ethiopia. He soon learned that not only does it take a village to raise a child, but it takes a global village to put together the resources needed to run the organization successfully."...

ICOSA, Nov. -Dec., pp. 128-31



[Canada shares WWI images](#)

Library and Archives Canada has posted a selection of digital images from the First World War on [Flickr](#). The images depict the significant military efforts of Canadians during the conflict. The collection is interactive, so that visitors can comment, tag, or share content. The photos supplement a [web exhibition](#) on Canadians in World War I that LAC has posted....

Library and Archives Canada



[2010 Mildly Attractive Men of SLIS calendar](#)

Another year, another calendar to choose for your wall. The mildly attractive gentlemen attending the University of South Carolina School of Library and Information Science have gathered for your viewing pleasure throughout 2010, arranging themselves in iconic poses from the history of film. And the calendar includes important ALA and SCLA dates so you can plan the year's conferences around a bevy of ALA-certified, grade-A guybrarians....

USC LISSA Blog, Nov. 13



[A library card under the Christmas tree](#)

Joseph Esposito writes: "Of course I have a library card, but that card is to my hometown public library. What I really want is remote access to the digital collections of the University of California. As I do not have a university affiliation, the only way I can use the digital collections is to go on campus and use a computer within the walls of the library. For the most part my research needs are one-shot questions—the need to look up a single article from a journal or a desire to check out the etymology of one word in the Oxford English Dictionary. Remote access would be a godsend—or a Santa-send. It's mind-boggling that I cannot obtain it at any price."...

The Scholarly Kitchen, Dec. 1



[Go back to the Top](#)

AL Direct, December 2, 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 | December 2, 2009

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

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

U.S. & World News

Community outrage prompts reopening of Colton libraries

[<http://www.americanlibrariesmagazine.org/news/12022009/community-outrage-prompts-officials-reopen-colton-libraries>]

Less than a month after city administrators in Colton, California, abruptly shuttered both public libraries as part of an effort to close a \$5-million budget gap, Colton Public Library is back in business. The December 1 reopening of the main library (right) came just two weeks after some 100 area residents, including library board President Pete Carrasco, voiced their displeasure to the city council about the sudden November 12 closure of the libraries and the dismissal of all 17 library staff members. The city's only branch was slated to reopen December 3....

American Libraries Online, Dec. 2

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/midwinter/2010/registrat>

ion.cfm]

ALA News

Barbara M. Jones appointed OIF director

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/december2009/jones_oif.cfm]

Barbara M. Jones has been appointed director of the ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom and executive director of the Freedom to Read Foundation, effective December 14. Jones brings 25 years of active engagement on intellectual freedom issues to her new position. She currently serves as FTRF treasurer, and from 2003 to 2009 she was university librarian at Wesleyan University in Middletown, Connecticut. Her article on "Libel Tourism" appeared in the November issue of American Libraries....

ALA submits comments on broadband adoption

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=4077>]

ALA submitted comments (PDF file

[http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/wp-content/uploads/2009/12/ALA-NBP-Public-Notice-16-12_2_09.pdf]) December 2 to the Federal Communications Commission regarding broadband adoption as part of the National Broadband Plan. As the FCC develops the plan, the commission is looking at the societal cost of having a large group of people who do not use the internet as well as the barriers that prevent people from using it....
District Dispatch, Dec. 2

ALA files comments on broadband stimulus

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=4072>]

ALA filed comments (PDF file

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/wp-content/uploads/2009/11/ALA-RFI-11-30.pdf>]) November 30 with the National Telecommunications and Information Administration and Rural Utilities Service regarding the implementation of the Broadband Initiatives Program and Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. The comments called for increasing funding for the Public Computer Center Program, streamlining and simplifying the application and review process, and prioritizing funding for community anchor institutions....
District Dispatch, Nov. 30

Get connected @ your library

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/december2009/getconnected_pio.cfm]

The Campaign for America's Libraries is inviting ALA members to join its communities in ALA Connect, the home of the ALA online communities. Communities include National Library Week, Library Card Sign-up Month, and the Campaign for the World's Libraries. ALA Connect is open to all and provides community members with an arena to post programming ideas and discuss campaign initiatives. To join, visit ALA Connect Groups [<http://connect.ala.org/og?type=Community>] and search

for the community you would like to join. A discussion of promotional ideas for National Library Week 2010, using the theme "Communities thrive @ your library," is available [<http://connect.ala.org/node/85425>]....

ALA participates in Decision to Learn survey

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/december2009/dtl_apr.cfm]

ALA is participating in a project initiated by the American Society of Association Executives called Decision to Learn. A division-stratified random sample of ALA membership has been requested to respond to the survey about formal and informal, structured or self-directed, voluntary or required learning that is directly related to professional growth or job opportunities. ALA members are encouraged to take 15 minutes to respond....

Forging innovative partnerships with communities

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/december2009/partner_pub.cfm]

ALA Editions has released *Librarians as Community Partners: An Outreach Handbook* [<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2774>]. As editor Carol Smallwood states in the preface, this volume is "a mosaic of 66 articles by 34 innovative librarians from across the United States who share their successful outreach activities with the reader. These previously unpublished articles by school, public, academic, and special librarians and LIS faculty convey the effectiveness of outreach and the dedication, inventiveness, and enthusiasm of librarians."...

Writing and publishing for the busy librarian

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/december2009/busy_editions.cfm]

ALA Editions has released *Writing and Publishing: The Librarian's Handbook* [<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2646>], edited by Carol Smallwood. This practical, how-to volume offers guidance to help the time-strapped library professional effectively share information about their library through websites, blogs, and online columns; write fiction, poetry, children's books, magazine articles, book reviews, bibliographic essays, and lists; and understand the ins and outs of self-publishing and working with literary agents....

Featured review: Sci-tech

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=3869898]

Hansen, James. *Storms of My Grandchildren: The Truth about the Coming Climate Catastrophe and Our Last Chance to Save Humanity*. Dec. 2009. 320p. Bloomsbury, hardcover (978-1-60819-200-7).

Climatologist Hansen, director of the NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies and an internationally renowned global-warming expert, became even more famous when he was censored by the Bush administration. After decades of studying the role fossil fuels play in global warming and witnessing the federal government's failure to take action to lower carbon emissions, he felt compelled to write his first book out of

concern about the potentially catastrophic future facing his grandchildren. Hansen condemns governmental "greenwashing" and the undue influence of more than 2,300 energy lobbyists, and attempts to close the gap "between public perception and scientific reality" by lucidly explaining the dynamics of global warming, its acceleration, and how a slight rise in temperature can lead to disastrous consequences. He then boldly declares that the way to solve the climate crisis is to "rapidly phase out coal emissions."

Top 10 sci-tech books of 2009

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=3885134]

Donna Seaman writes: "The obsessions of this stellar group of science writers—including polar bears, a missing aviator, dawn, computer programming, dogs, and antimatter—inspired a year's worth of significant and intriguing books."

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

Boston Update

=====

The Raven returns to Boston [<http://www.bpl.org/news/poe09.htm>]

One of the best-kept secrets in Boston's literary history concerns one of the most influential writers ever born there: Edgar Allan Poe. The current year marks the bicentennial of Poe's birth. To celebrate, Boston Public Library is hosting a Poe exhibition, "The Raven in the Frog Pond: Edgar Allan Poe and the City of Boston," December 17 through March. The exhibition presents newly uncovered information about Poe's time in Boston and explores urban legends that have grown up around him....
Boston Public Library, Dec. 1

Boston Children's Museum [<http://www.bostonkids.org/plan/hours.html>]

For over 90 years, the Boston Children's Museum at 308 Congress Street has served as a leader in Boston and within the museum community. The museum exists to help children understand and enjoy the world in which they live. It is a private, nonprofit, educational institution that is recognized internationally as a research and development center and pacesetter for children's exhibitions, educational programs, and curriculum. The museum focuses on three key areas of expertise: visitor programs, teacher resources, and early childhood education. A special exhibit during Midwinter will be "Top Secret: Mission Toy."...
Boston Children's Museum

Division News

=====

ACRL partners with HighWire Press

[<http://www.acrl.ala.org/acrlinsider/2009/12/01/acrl-partners-with-highwire-press/>]

ACRL has announced a new partnership with HighWire Press, a division of the Stanford University Libraries, to provide online hosting of College and Research Libraries, College and Research Libraries News, RBM, and Choice Review Online. The move from the ALA website to the HighWire platform will provide a number of benefits—improved search capabilities both within and across publications, increased Web 2.0 functionality, and online access for individual and institutional nonmember subscribers....
ACRL Insider, Dec. 1

ALCTS working group on romanization [<http://connect.ala.org/node/88651>]
The ALCTS Non-English Access Working Group on Romanization has created a draft report on the use of romanized data in bibliographic and authority records, whether romanization is still needed, and whether two different MARC21 models for multiscript records can coexist in one catalog. Comments are invited by December 8....

Advance rates for ASCLA accessibility workshop
[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/december2009/access_ascla.cfm]
Registration rates will rise after December 4 for “Breaking Down Barriers: Best Practices in Universal Design for Libraries,” a half-day workshop sponsored by ASCLA and held in conjunction with the 2010 ALA Midwinter Meeting. Library directors, trustees, Friends, and leaders interested in low-cost, high-impact ways to make a library fully accessible should attend this event. Register at the Midwinter website [<http://www.ala.org/midwinter>]....

Proposals for 2011 Annual Conference [<http://www.alsc.ala.org/blog/?p=929>]
The ALSC Program Coordinating Committee is now accepting proposals for innovative, creative programs that have broad appeal for the ALA Annual Conference to be held June 24–27, 2011, in New Orleans. The committee is looking for a wide range of topics, such as advocacy, multiculturalism, administration and management, early literacy, research, partnerships, best practices, programming, outreach, and technology. Proposal forms are on the ALSC website [<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/alsc/confevents/alscannual/index.cfm>]. The deadline is April 30....
ALSC Blog, Nov. 29

Awards

=====

RUSA achievement awards
[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/december2009/nomination_rusa.cfm]
RUSA offers many annual achievement awards, and the nomination period for most of them will be closing December 15. The division is accepting nominations for 13 awards and grants to be presented at next summer’s ALA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C....

ALTAFf accepting applications for Trustee awards
[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/december2009/applications_altaff.cfm]

ALTAF is accepting applications for the Gale Outstanding Trustee Conference Grant, the Trustee Citation, and the Major Benefactors Award. Applications are due December 15. The conference grant enables a public library trustee to attend ALA Annual Conference. A grant of \$850 is awarded annually to a public library trustee who has demonstrated excellence in support of his or her public library....

2010 ASCLA Century Scholarship

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/december2009/century_ascla.cfm]

LIS students with access needs are encouraged to apply

[<http://www.ala.org/cfapps/scholarships/login/index.cfm?CFID=39823419&CFTOKEN=c208d29f524b7ad2-4CA91319-D7D6-CCB3-B1279E74D238F342>] (login required)

for the 2010 ASCLA Century Scholarship, a one-time \$2,500 award that funds necessary services or accommodations to enable the winner to complete a master's or doctoral program in the field. The scholarship is an initiative of ASCLA, its Library Service to Special Populations Section, and the Library Service to People with Visual or Physical Disabilities Forum....

Guadalajara Librarian of the Year

[<http://www.fil.com.mx/bibliotecario/guevara.asp>]

Helen Ladrón de Guevara Cox, advisor for the New Public Library of the State of Jalisco in Guadalajara, Mexico, and president of the Public Library Section of the Asociación Mexicana de Bibliotecarios, was named Librarian of the Year at the Guadalajara International Book Fair December 2. An ALA member, Guevara also founded the Historical Archives of Jalisco and has headed the Institute Library at the University of Guadalajara....
Guadalajara International Book Fair

2009 Amelia Elizabeth Walden Award

[<http://www.alan-ya.org/amelia-elizabeth-walden-award/>]

The Assembly on Literature for Adolescents, an independent assembly of the National Council of Teachers of English, presented the 2009 Amelia Elizabeth Walden Award and \$5,000 to Steve Kluger for *My Most Excellent Year: A Novel of Love, Mary Poppins, and Fenway Park* (Dial, 2008). The award honors a book most relevant to adolescents that has enjoyed a wide and appreciative teenage audience....

ALAN Online

2009 Bad Sex in Fiction Award

[<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601088&sid=aOSi69bvKLsk>]

Jonathan Littell has won the 17th annual Literary Review Bad Sex in Fiction Award, for his World War II novel *The Kindly Ones* (Harper, 2009). The awards were announced at a lavish ceremony November 30 at the In and Out (Naval and Military) Club in London. *The Kindly Ones*, originally published in French, won the Prix Goncourt in 2006. Littell clinched the award with one "mythologically inspired passage" and another that compared a sexual climax to "a jolt that emptied my head like a spoon scraping the inside of a soft-boiled egg...."

Bloomberg, Dec. 1

2009 Writers' Trust Fiction Award

[<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/books/annabel-lyon-wins-writers-trust-award>]

/article1376820/]

Annabel Lyon won the \$25,000 Writers' Trust Fiction Award November 24 for her debut novel *The Golden Mean*, a tale of Greek philosopher Aristotle's stint as a tutor to a young Alexander the Great. The Writers' Trust of Canada is a charitable organization that grants awards in various categories annually. The *Golden Mean* was the only book to be shortlisted for all three Canadian literary awards this fall (the others being the Scotiabank Giller Prize and the Governor General's Literary Award)....
Toronto Globe and Mail, Nov. 25

Scottish Children's Books Awards

[<http://www.scottishbooktrust.com/learning-and-inclusion/royal-mail-awards>]

The winners of the 2009 Royal Mail Awards for Scottish Children's Books were announced in Edinburgh November 24. This is Scotland's largest children's book prize and is voted for exclusively by some 30,000 Scottish children themselves. The winner of the Early Years category (1–7 years) was John Fardell for *Manfred the Baddie*. Lari Don's *First Aid for Fairies and Other Fabled Beasts* won in the Younger Readers category (8–11 years), and Keith Gray's *Ostrich Boys* won in the Older Readers section (12–16 years)....

Scottish Book Trust, Nov. 25

2009 John Llewellyn Rhys Prize

[<http://www.booktrust.org.uk/show/feature/Home/John-Llewellyn-Rhys-Prize-home>]

29-year-old Evie Wyld has won the 2009 John Llewellyn Rhys Prize for her book *After the Fire, a Still Small Voice* (Pantheon, 2009). The novel is set in eastern Australia and tells a story of fathers and sons, their wars, and the things that they will never know about each other. The prize rewards the best work of literature (fiction, nonfiction, poetry, drama) by a U.K. or Commonwealth writer aged 35 or under. It is awarded in honor of the writer John Llewellyn Rhys, who was killed in action in the Second World War....

Booktrust, Nov. 30

Seen Online

Colleges urged to defend free speech

[<http://chronicle.com/article/Colleges-Are-Urged-to-Defend/49297/>]

Citing the recent decision by Yale University Press to remove all images of Muhammad from a scholarly book in response to fears their publication would trigger violence, a long list of academic and free-speech groups called on colleges and universities November 30 "to exercise moral and intellectual leadership" and stand up for free expression. A joint statement [<http://www.aaup.org/AAUP/newsroom/Highlights/NCAC.htm>] issued by the groups characterizes Yale's decision as one of several recent developments that "suggest that our longstanding commitment to the free exchange of ideas is in peril of falling victim to a spreading fear of violence."...

Chronicle of Higher Education, Nov. 30; American Association of University Professors

Publishers can now set limits in Google News

[<http://www.nasdaq.com/aspx/stock-market-news-story.aspx?storyid=200912011449dowjonesdjonline000386&title=google-to-let-news-groups-set-reader-limits>]

Google announced December 1 it will let publishers set a daily limit on the number of articles readers can view for free through the Google News search engine. The change, which will let publishers limit readers to five free articles per day, comes as news executives step up their war of words against Google. Senior Business Product Manager Josh Cohen writes [<http://googlenewsblog.blogspot.com/2009/12/update-to-first-click-free.html>]: “If you’re a Google user, this means that you may start to see a registration page after you’ve clicked through to more than five articles on the website of a publisher using the First Click Free program in a day.” For a Dr. Seuss version of the backstory, see Sam Gustin’s “How the Grinch Stole Google News.” [<http://www.dailyfinance.com/2009/11/26/how-the-grinch-stole-google-news/>]

...

Dow Jones Newswires, Dec. 1; Google News Blog, Dec. 1; Daily Finance, Nov. 26

The future of journalism in an internet world

[<http://arstechnica.com/tech-policy/news/2009/12/tech-tapeworms-bloggers-denounce-parasite-label-at-ftc.ars>]

Nate Anderson writes: “The war between old media titans and scrappy internet upstarts heated up December 1 as the Federal Trade Commission rounded up journalists of all stripes for a two-day conference [<http://www.ftc.gov/opp/workshops/news/index.shtml>] on the future of journalism. It wasn’t long before the gloves came off—and were replaced by Nightmare on Elm Street slasher claws. It’s clear that major fault lines still exist between content producers like the Wall Street Journal (a News Corp. paper now) and aggregators (like the Huffington Post) who squeeze much of the value from content by excerpting its most vital bits.”...

Ars Technica, Dec. 1

library

[<http://www.onlineinsider.net/2009/11/25/bloomberg-closes-business-week-library/>]

Now that Bloomberg owns Business Week, having bought it from McGraw-Hill, it has laid off about 100 staff people. One casualty was the library.

According to Stephen Baker [<http://thenumerati.net/index.cfm?postID=450>], who wrote one of the seminal articles on the importance of blogging in the corporate world, published in Business Week, reporters are being advised to take their research needs to Google. That is, for any reporters who are left....

Online Insider, Nov. 25; The Numerati, Nov. 23

New Hampshire Political Library lets staff go

[<http://www.concordmonitor.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20091201/FRONTPAGE/912010303>]

The New Hampshire Political Library [<http://www.politicallibrary.org/>] in Concord has laid off its paid staff due to financial difficulties but will continue to operate, though board members are still figuring out what its priorities will be. Board Chairman Terry Shumaker said the library “has been around in various forms with and without staff” since

it was founded in 1997. The political library is most active about the time of the New Hampshire primary, hosting candidates, holding educational events, collecting an archive of primary-related material, and serving as a resource for journalists, researchers, and candidates....
Concord (N.H.) Monitor, Dec. 1

Pittsburgh approves \$600,000 to help libraries
[<http://www.post-gazette.com/pg/09335/1017601-100.stm>]
Pittsburgh City Council today cast a final vote to dedicate \$600,000 to the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh system, in advance of a December 14 meeting of the library board that could postpone the planned closing of four branches and the merger of two others. The money comes from a fund the city uses to pay for vehicle fuel. A dip in fuel prices has left that fund with excess cash, which Council President Doug Shields eyed as a temporary fix for the library's budget gap....
Pittsburgh (Pa.) Post-Gazette, Dec. 1

Fire rips through Cliffside Park library
[http://www.northjersey.com/news/bergen/113009_Fire_rips_through_Cliffside_Park_library.html]
The Cliffside Park (N.J.) Public Library could be closed for two weeks after a fire tore through the building November 30, causing extensive damage to books and two offices inside. Library officials said they still were assessing damage to the library, which is one of the busiest in Bergen County. Library Director Ana Chelariu said the collection of borough high school yearbooks dating back to 1928, along with the library's magazines and opera CDs, were ruined, but the local history room was unscathed. Investigators believe a transformer outside the building exploded, possibly setting an electrical panel on fire....
Bergen (N.J.) Record, Nov. 30

Library to stay open during furlough or lose certification
[<http://www.telegram.com/article/20091127/NEWS/911270346/1003/NEWS03>]
The town council of Charlton, Massachusetts, decided not to close its public library during an employee furlough after state Board of Library Commissioners said doing so would terminate its certification. The town had decided to close the library from December 21 to January 4 to give clerical employees a two-week paid vacation in lieu of a 5% wage increase. Library Director Cheryl Hansen said she and an assistant director would keep the library open six hours a day to retain certification....
Worcester (Mass.) Telegram and Gazette, Nov. 27

Darby Free Library still at risk
[http://www.philly.com/inquirer/local/pa/20091130_Despite_hard_times__Darby_vows_to_save_library.html]
In Darby Borough, Pennsylvania, where the number of families living below the poverty line is twice the national average, a few dollars mean a lot. Yet officials, facing the possible closing of the historic library founded in 1743, say they are committed to keeping it open, even if taxes go up. At a time when libraries in Philadelphia and across the state are cutting hours and staff, Darby hopes to patch the library's \$30,000 budget deficit, which was widened by a 20.8% cut in state funding this year....

Philadelphia Inquirer, Nov. 30

New law would force British Library to return missal

[http://entertainment.timesonline.co.uk/tol/arts_and_entertainment/books/article6938045.ece]

A 12th-century missal could become the first item from a British national museum to be returned to its rightful owners under a new law governing looted artifacts. The Benevento Missal, which was stolen from a cathedral in southern Italy soon after the Allies bombed the city during World War II, has been in the collection of the British Library since 1947. After a change in the law, it could be back in Italy within months....

The Times (U.K.), Dec. 1

A Christmas rewrite, as Dickens edits Dickens

[<http://cityroom.blogs.nytimes.com/2009/12/01/a-christmas-rewrite-as-dickens-edits-dickens/>]

What secrets lie entombed beneath the thick scribbles that Charles Dickens made as he wrote, and rewrote, the 66 pages of "A Christmas Carol" in 1843? The manuscript of this classic holiday ghost story, written in six weeks to raise much-needed cash, is housed at the Morgan Library and Museum in Manhattan, where it bears all of Dickens's additions and subtractions in his own hand. This year the Morgan agreed to allow the New York Times to photograph and display the entire handwritten manuscript online. Readers are invited to examine high-resolution images and submit what they think is the most interesting edit in the work....

New York Times, Dec. 1

Birds and planes blend at Playa Vista

[<http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/culturemonster/2009/11/anne-marie-karlsen-at-playa-vista-library.html>]

Two silk-screened windows at the Playa Vista branch of the Los Angeles Public Library are the latest work of artist Anne Marie Karlsen, who took her cues from the building's location. The relatively new library sits on land formerly occupied by Hughes Airport and close to Ballona Wetlands, on a flight path for migrating birds. Also mindful of digital design offices that have sprouted in the area, she eventually came up with a plan for "Flyway" that incorporates digital technology....

Los Angeles Times Culture Monster, Nov. 30

Cornell libraries consider merging

[<http://www.cornellsun.com/section/news/content/2009/11/30/libraries-consider-merging-despite-faculty-questions-1>]

At the beginning of December, Cornell University's Physical Sciences Library closed, a victim of last semester's 5% budget cut. But there may be others. A library task force suggests closing some of the 18 existing library facilities in an effort to organize physical spaces around disciplines rather than colleges. Its report outlines such scenarios as reducing the number of libraries to nine or reorganizing the library around only four central spaces....

Cornell Daily Sun, Nov. 30

Hodge defends library modernization review

[<http://www.thebookseller.com/news/105240-margaret-hodge-defends-late-review-at-library-launch.html>]

U.K. Culture Minister Margaret Hodge faced skeptical press questioning at the December 1 launch of the paper, Empower, Inform, Enrich (PDF file [http://www.culture.gov.uk/images/consultations/LibrariesReview_consultation.pdf]), the latest phase of the Libraries Modernisation Review [http://www.culture.gov.uk/reference_library/consultations/6488.aspx] that began in October 2008. Unveiling the paper at the John Harvard Library in Southwark, London, Hodge described it as “the very last phase of what has been a long consultation” and said she hoped readers would find the essays stimulating, in which senior figures in the library world, publishers, and authors offer their vision for British libraries....

The Bookseller, Dec. 1; U.K. Department for Culture, Media, and Sport, Dec. 1

British phone booth converted to book kiosk

[http://news.bbc.co.uk/local/somerset/hi/people_and_places/arts_and_culture/newsid_8373000/8373906.stm]

When villagers in Westbury-sub-Mendip in Somerset, England, found out that British Telecom was sponsoring a contest for creative uses of the phone booths it was decommissioning, Janet Fisher suggested converting theirs to a book exchange kiosk.

[<http://www.westbury-sub-mendip.org.uk/current/content/blogcategory/80/125/>]

“We used to have a mobile library here which called once a week on a Monday,” she said, “but that ceased a few months ago so it was missed and we’re all readers around here.” The booth cost them £1, but they won £500 in the contest....

BBC Somerset, Nov. 23; Westbury-sub-Mendip village announcements

Trekking librarian reaches another peak

[<http://www.henleystandard.co.uk/news/news.php?id=682524>]

Rosemary Dunstan, manager of the Sonning Common Library in South Oxfordshire, England, has completed her latest charity challenge by trekking seven hours a day through Nepal. The 53-year-old spent five days climbing some of the highest peaks in the world to raise money for the Institute of Cancer Research. Dunstan has previously been dog sledding in Lapland, trekked to the Mt. Everest base camp, and completed the Summer Solstice marathon in Iceland....

Henley (U.K.) Standard, Nov. 23

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Tech Talk

What the web is teaching our brains

[<http://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/health-and-families/features/what-the-web-is-teaching-our-brains-1826419.html>]

Gary Small of UCLA, one of America’s leading neurologists, has written a book, iBrain: Surviving the Technological Alteration of the Modern Mind (Collins Living, 2008) that describes what he believes is the profound impact of new technology on our brains and behavior. His research

indicates that internet use and web browsing has a marked effect on our brains, which, he argues, are much more changeable than most of us think, especially in the case of young people....

The Independent (U.K.), Nov. 24

Search engines as a source of learning

[<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2009/11/091119111417.htm>]

Search engine use is not just part of our daily routines; it is also becoming part of our learning process, according to Penn State researchers. Information Science Professors Jim Jansen and Brian Smith found that search engines are primarily used for fact checking users' own internal knowledge, meaning that they are part of the learning process rather than simply a source for information. They also found that people's learning styles can affect how they use search engines....

Science Daily, Nov. 27

Facebook's big announcement: The translation

[http://news.cnet.com/8301-13577_3-10407330-36.html]

Caroline McCarthy writes: "Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg (right) put out an 'open letter' to the site's massive membership December 1, explaining the revised privacy controls that are finally going into effect after being announced this summer, and additionally announcing the milestone that the site has reached 350 million active users around the world. But CEOs are notoriously deft with spin, and Zuckerberg is a clever fellow. So, luckily, CNET has translated his entire letter for you!"...

CNET News: The Social, Dec. 1

Size photos perfectly with mypictr

[<http://librarianinblack.net/librarianinblack/2009/11/mypictr.html>]

Sarah Houghton-Jan writes: "Check out mypictr [<http://mypictr.com/>], a webpage that helps you quickly create perfectly sized profile pictures or icons for websites and social networks. Upload any photo, then zoom and crop the image automatically to the perfect size, based on what service you need the image/icon for. Choose from all the biggies—Facebook, Twitter, Skype, YouTube. Too cool."...

Librarian in Black, Nov. 24

61 free apps to be thankful for

[<http://lifehacker.com/5412886/61-free-apps-were-most-thankful-for>]

Adam Pash writes: "After rounding up thousands of your suggestions, considering our own favorites, and performing a little spreadsheet magic, we've cooked up our own cornucopia of excellent free software and web apps we are extremely thankful for." The apps that received the most votes were: Firefox, VLC, CCleaner, Dropbox, 7-Zip, OpenOffice.org, and Chrome....

Lifehacker, Nov. 26

RoomAtlas is awesome

[<http://lifehacker.com/5415000/roomatlas-puts-hotel-searches-on-a-google-map-is-awesome>]

Sarah Rae Trover writes: "Many sites that help you find a hotel can be a little frustrating to use. They're either pumped full of ads or jumble results according to advertisers. RoomAtlas [<http://www.roomatlas.com/>] does away with all that, providing a simplified but impressive Google

Maps-powered hotel search. You can type in an intersection, event center, or a city or street, and it will return all the results placed nicely and color-coded by price on a Google Map. Once you click through to a hotel, you can then see what the building looks like and read reviews.”...
Lifehacker, Dec. 1

Zotero and iCite simplify citations

[<http://www.eschoolnews.com/news/top-news/index.cfm?i=62008>]

Reference management software has been available for more than 20 years, but those programs often were pricey and required IT know-how, whereas tools such as Zotero (a tool created by George Mason University's Center for History and New Media that allows researchers and students to drag and drop web page references into a massive, searchable database) and iCite (a program that lets users save and share online research material in the virtual cloud) are free and made for a broader web-using audience....

eSchool News, Dec. 1

Publishing

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100 notable books of 2009

[<http://www.nytimes.com/gift-guide/holiday-2009/100-notable-books-of-2009-gift-guide/list.html>]

The New York Times Book Review has made these selections from books reviewed since December 7, 2008, when it published its previous notables list. The ever-expanding literary universe resists generalizing, but one heartening development has been the resurgence of the short story—and of the short-story writer. Twelve collections made the fiction list, and four biographies of short-story masters are on the nonfiction list....

New York Times, Dec. 1

Heard any good books lately?

[<http://audiobooker.booklistonline.com/2009/11/30/neil-gaiman-asks-heard-any-good-books-lately/>]

Mary Burkey writes: “Audiobooks were featured on NPR’s Morning Edition as part of the Open Mic series November 30—an awesome program featuring two of the best author/narrators, Neil Gaiman (right) and David Sedaris, both winners of the Audio Publishers Association’s Audie Award. Also part of the program were professional narrator Martin Jarvis, who narrates the audiobook of Gaiman and Terry Pratchett’s Good Omens; audiobook director Rick Harris; and Audible.com’s Don Katz. Listen

[<http://www.npr.org/templates/player/mediaPlayer.html?action=1&t=1&islist=false&id=120769925&m=120940912>] to the program (7:47) or read the transcript.

[<http://www.npr.org/templates/transcript/transcript.php?storyId=120769925>]

A lovely homage to the power of the spoken word.”...

Audiobooker, Nov. 30

NPR’s 10 best cookbooks of 2009

[<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=120683356>]

T. Susan Chang writes: “Cooks and bakers outdid themselves this year, clarifying flavors and streamlining their methods until they fit snugly in anybody’s kitchen. This year’s cookbook instructions are detailed and sure-handed, so you’ll feel confident even taking on those fiddly little jobs you usually leave to your good friend Joe, the Trader. With these books you can make your own bread, your own pasta, even your own Asian dumplings.”...

National Public Radio, Nov. 25

Favorite book covers of 2009, part one

[<http://nytimesbooks.blogspot.com/2009/11/favorite-book-covers-of-2009-part-one.html>]

Joseph Sullivan writes: “These are the selections from the staff of the WORD bookstore in Brooklyn, New York. They limited their selections to books published this year, so I was glad to see them include some YA and children’s books. There’s a poll at the bottom of the post so you can vote for your favorite. The top three vote-getting designs from this list will eventually join the other favorites from the upcoming lists in a final poll.”...

The Book Design Review, Nov. 30

Waldo Hunt and pop-up books: An overview

[<http://www.bookpatrol.net/2009/11/waldo-hunt-and-pop-up-books-brief.html>]

Stephen J. Gertz writes: “The pop-up or moveable book has come a long way since the groundbreaking work of Lothar Meggendorfer (1847–1925). Much of the credit for the revival of the pop-up or movable book goes to book collector and entrepreneur Waldo Hunt, who died

[<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/11/22/AR2009112202143.html>] November 6 at age 88. In 1965, Hunt created Graphics

International, which produced pop-up books for Random House. In 1969, Hallmark Cards bought GI and, after producing more than 40 titles with Hallmark, Hunt left to start Intervisual Communications in Los Angeles.”...

Book Patrol, Nov. 30; Washington Post, Nov. 23

20 SF books coming out in 2010

[<http://io9.com/5405400/20-science-fiction-books-we-cant-wait-to-read-in-2010>]

Annalee Newitz writes: “We’ve picked out 20 sci-fi and contemporary fantasy books coming out next year that have us filled with excitement. Many publishers haven’t firmed up their winter releases for next year, so most of these books are coming in spring and summer 2010.” Included is Ian McDonald’s The Dervish House, a tale of terrorism and outlaw science from the man who penned Brasyl and River of Gods....

io9, Nov. 18

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

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Actions & Answers

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Gates Foundation to support libraries in 19 states
[<http://www.gatesfoundation.org/press-releases/Pages/opportunity-online-helping-libraries-get-broadband-funding-091201.aspx>]
The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation committed nearly \$3.4 million in grants December 1 to bolster internet connections for libraries in Arkansas, Kansas, Massachusetts, New York, and Virginia. It also announced partnerships with 14 additional states to help public libraries compete for federal broadband stimulus funds. Nationally, libraries report that patron demand for high-speed internet access is growing faster than their ability to provide increased bandwidth. A recent ALA study
[http://www.ala.org/ala/research/initiatives/plftas/2008_2009/index.cfm]
reports that 60% of all libraries say their current internet speed is insufficient....
Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Dec. 1

How college students seek information [<http://projectinfofolit.org/>]
Project Information Literacy released Lessons Learned: How College Students Seek Information in the Digital Age (PDF file
[http://projectinfofolit.org/pdfs/PIL_Fall2009_Year1Report_12_2009.pdf])
December 1, with findings from its large-scale student survey administered on six different U.S. campuses during Spring 2009. The study found that nearly all students used course readings and Google first for course-related research and Google and Wikipedia for everyday life research. Most used library resources, especially scholarly databases, for course-related research, but far fewer used library services that required interacting with librarians....
Project Information Literacy, Dec. 1

Libraries should become better with use [<http://www.walkingpaper.org/2399>]
Aaron Schmidt writes: "I don't think I've met a librarian who really values circ stats beyond being happy to report favorable ones. Everyone just seems to accept that shuffling content around and reporting the stats is the way the game is played. I'm not terribly interested in just being a content distributor. Are you? I doubt it. I'm interested in helping people accomplish tasks that support their goals. But that poses some challenges."...
Walking Paper, Nov. 30

So you want to write about libraries?
[<http://inthelibrarywiththeleadpipe.org/2009/so-you-want-to-write-about-libraries/>]
Brett Bonfield writes: "In this article, I do my best to explain why we think we've been able to reach people with our blog. Although it's hard to avoid talking about ourselves in an article that describes our experience, our motivation is to encourage our readers to produce their own experiments, not to encourage them to adopt our model. When we created In the Library with the Lead Pipe, we had to figure out a lot of things for ourselves. Because we love reading good writing about libraries, we're sharing what we know in the hope of bringing more good library writing into the world."...
In the Library with the Lead Pipe, Dec. 2

How to use Twitter's new retweet feature

[<http://mashable.com/2009/11/21/retweets-how-to/>]

Josh Catone writes: "Retweeting someone used to be a completely manual process and often led to redundancy within your timeline. Twitter's new official retweet feature fixes both of these issues. Now, instead of retweets being appended with the RT text designation, they have a special retweet icon. The new retweets are undeniably cleaner and more organized; however, it can also be somewhat jarring to see people you're not following in your timeline, and the new retweets lack the ability to add commentary to retweets."...

Mashable, Nov. 23

Conference humiliation: Tweeting behind your back

[<http://chronicle.com/article/Conference-Humiliation-/49185/>]

Marc Parry writes: "Tweckle (twek'ul) v.t. to abuse a speaker only to Twitter followers in the audience while he/she is speaking. Conference speakers beware: Twecklers are watching. They're out for blood. Twitter is changing a staple of academic life from a one-way presentation into a real-time conversation. Flub a talk badly enough and you now risk mobilizing a scrum of digital-spitball-slinging snark-masters called twecklers."...

Chronicle of Higher Education, Nov. 17

GWU experiments with robotic book digitization

[<http://chronicle.com/blogPost/George-Washington-U/9036/>]

George Washington University announced November 30 that it will use an automated system to digitize rare Middle Eastern texts from its own library and from that of Georgetown University. The KABIS III [http://www.kirtas.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=69&Itemid=88] machine in the Gelman Library uses a black plastic arm to turn a page, pause as two cameras take pictures of both open pages, and then turn the page again. Air circulates through the arm of the machine, creating a gentle vacuum that can attract a page and guide it from the right side of the book to the left. The machine, purchased from Kirtas Technologies, can photograph up to 3,000 pages in an hour....

Wired Campus, Dec. 1; Kirtas Technologies

New research suggests that porn is overly demonized

[http://news.cnet.com/8301-27083_3-10407102-247.html?tag=newsFeaturedBlogArea.0]

Elizabeth Armstrong Moore writes: "Pornography has long been considered to be one of the main motivators of major technological inventions, from the camera to the web. Its effects on human health and sexuality have also been, and likely will always be, hotly debated. But new research [http://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2009-12/uom-ate120109.php] out of the University of Montreal suggests that pornography is so widely digested, and with such a seemingly low correlation to pathological behavior, that it is grossly over-demonized. The research is funded by the Interdisciplinary Research Center on Family Violence and Violence Against Women

[<http://www.criviff.qc.ca/cms/index.php?lang=en&accueil=1>]."

CNET News: Health Tech, Dec. 1; University of Montreal, Dec. 1

LIS Online Career Fair [<http://liscareerfair.org/program.htm>]

Alliance Library System and TAP Information Services are holding their first annual LIS Online Career Fair. Join them online in OPAL January 12 for a day of learning how to start or rejuvenate your library career in tough times. The day will kick off at 10 a.m. Central Time. The keynote speaker is Rachel Singer Gordon, who will speak on “Career Building in a Down Economy.”...

LIS Online Career Fair

Royal Society: Past, present, future

[<http://royalsociety.org/Royal-Society-Past-Present-Future/>]

The Royal Society is offering public access to 60 of the most influential, inspiring, and intriguing papers it has published over the last 350 years, including those in the Philosophical Transactions, the oldest continuously published scientific journal in the world. Scientists and historians have chosen the articles from the 60,000 published since the journal first began in 1665. Trailblazing

[<http://trailblazing.royalsociety.org/>] will make the original manuscripts available online for the first time, including Benjamin Franklin’s account of flying a kite in a storm (1752) and Stephen Hawking’s early writing on black holes (1970)....

Royal Society, Nov. 30

Rethinking restroom questions

[<http://www.rusq.org/2009/11/28/first-impressions-and-rethinking-restroom-questions/>]

Lorraine J. Pellack writes: “Every library that I have worked in over the last 20-plus years has had at least one staff member grumbling about how often they have to give directions to the restroom. They grumble about patrons who need lessons in reading signs and architects who evilly plan library buildings with invisible restrooms or restrooms far from the entrance. My question is this: Why grumble? This is our chance to shine, to invite people in.”...

RUSQ 49, no. 1

Grumblings from the reference desk

[<http://www.merrylibrarian.com/?m=200911>]

The Merry Librarian writes: “Reference desk workers everywhere have a love-hate thing going on with technology. And we just can’t help but hate it the most when it comes at us in the ultimate, hideous duo of telephone and computer. There’s nothing more frustrating than patrons using the reference desk as a computer help line . . . except, of course, when the patron is as stubborn as they are demanding. Then the real fun begins.”...

The Merry Librarian, Nov. 29

Ethiopia reads: Partnering for a greater good

[http://icosamag.epubxpress.com/wps/portal/icosamag/c1/04_SB8K8xLLM9MSSzPy8xBz9CP0os3iLkCAPEzcpIwMDf0dLAyNzz4AgU28jI38jI_1wkA6cKtzDTCDyBjiAo4G-n0d-bqp-QXZ2mqOjoiAI1BIhA!!/dl2/d1/L2dJQSEvUUt3QS9ZQnB3LzZfOFRSSDRGSDIwME9BOTAYN0lQUjVLMjJPSTE!]

Janet Lee writes: “Ato Yohannes, a political refugee turned U.S. citizen and children’s librarian, returned to his native Ethiopia after 19 years in the U.S. to form Ethiopia Reads, an organization that is establishing

children’s libraries in Ethiopia. He soon learned that not only does it take a village to raise a child, but it takes a global village to put together the resources needed to run the organization successfully.”... ICOSA, Nov.-Dec., pp. 128–31

[<http://www.flickr.com/photos/lac-bac/4056214566/>]Canada shares WWI images [<http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/whats-new/013-429-e.html>] Library and Archives Canada has posted a selection of digital images from the First World War on Flickr. [<http://www.flickr.com/photos/lac-bac/>] The images depict the significant military efforts of Canadians during the conflict. The collection is interactive, so that visitors can comment, tag, or share content. The photos supplement a web exhibition [<http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/firstworldwar/index-e.html>] on Canadians in World War I that LAC has posted.... Library and Archives Canada

2010 Mildly Attractive Men of SLIS calendar [<http://students.libsci.sc.edu/lissa/2009/11/mildly-attractive-men-of-slis-calendar.html>] Another year, another calendar to choose for your wall. The mildly attractive gentlemen attending the University of South Carolina School of Library and Information Science have gathered for your viewing pleasure throughout 2010, arranging themselves in iconic poses from the history of film. And the calendar includes important ALA and SCLA dates so you can plan the year’s conferences around a bevy of ALA-certified, grade-A guybrarians.... USC LISSA Blog, Nov. 13

[<http://www.flickr.com/photos/7167652@N06/3123692128/>]A library card under the Christmas tree [<http://scholarlykitchen.sspnet.org/2009/12/01/a-library-card-under-the-christmas-tree/>] Joseph Esposito writes: “Of course I have a library card, but that card is to my hometown public library. What I really want is remote access to the digital collections of the University of California. As I do not have a university affiliation, the only way I can use the digital collections is to go on campus and use a computer within the walls of the library. For the most part my research needs are one-shot questions—the need to look up a single article from a journal or a desire to check out the etymology of one word in the Oxford English Dictionary. Remote access would be a godsend—or a Santa-send. It’s mind-boggling that I cannot obtain it at any price.”... The Scholarly Kitchen, Dec. 1

Go back to the Top [#top]

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[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/midwinter/2010/index.cfm>]
]

ALA Midwinter Meeting,

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/midwinter/2010/information.cfm>] Boston, January 15–19. Advance registration

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/midwinter/2010/registration.cfm>] ends December 4.

[<http://www.alatechsource.org/library-technology-reports/opening-up-library-systems-through-web-services-and-soa-hype-or-reality>]

Web services and service-oriented architecture (SOA) have become dominant themes in IT across many industries. Web-based computing, service orientation, and cloud computing increasingly displace the client/server approach favored by libraries in the past. In this new Library Technology Report, *Opening Up Library Systems through Web Services and SOA*, [<http://www.alatechsource.org/library-technology-reports/opening-up-library-systems-through-web-services-and-soa-hype-or-reality>] Marshall Breeding shows why libraries should care about Application Programming Interfaces and cuts through the myth of API hype and reality. NEW! From ALA Publishing.

In this issue
Nov. 2009

[<http://site.ebrary.com/lib/ala>]

Word-of-Mouth Marketing

[<http://www.americanlibrariesmagazine.org/features/10262009/power-word-mouth-marketing>]

Libel Tourism

Multivendor RFID Rollouts

How to Work a Crisis

Career Leads from

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

Electronic Records Archivist,

[<http://joblist.ala.org/modules/jobseeker/controller.cfm?scr=jobdetail&jobid=14004>] Wisconsin Historical Society, Madison. The Library-Archives Division of the Wisconsin Historical Society, located on the campus of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, holds a premier research collection on American history, with library holdings of three million items. The

electronic records archivist works with other public-records staff in a program designed to manage public records in digital format. It supports the work of the State Archives by guiding efforts to acquire, preserve, and make accessible electronic records and other information systems from Wisconsin state and local governments and by providing direct assistance to state agency personnel in the area of managing electronic records and access systems. The work of this position involves frequent contacts with outside agencies, institutions, and the Wisconsin Public Records Board....

[<http://www.facebook.com/pages/ALA-JobLIST/47377008761>]

[http://twitter.com/ALA_JobLIST]

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

Digital Library of the Week

The Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States (MOLLUS) from the Massachusetts Commandery [<http://www.ahco.army.mil/site/index.jsp>] includes some 23,000 Civil War photographs hosted by the U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center in Carlisle, Pennsylvania. This collection is considered by historians the single best Civil War photograph collection in the world. Richard J. Sommers, senior historian at AHEC, said many of the images may seem familiar, having been used extensively by authors of history books and by the editors of Civil War Times, which used to be in Harrisburg. Ken Burns and his staff spent six weeks in Carlisle going through the MOLLUS collection to pull illustrations for his popular PBS series on the Civil War. The collection was built by Gen. Albert Ordway and Col. Arnold Rand. Ordway worked in Washington, D.C., and had many connections while Rand sent out cards to Civil War veterans. Much of the collection is contained in rather ornate, leather-bound, Victorian Era albums together with a handwritten card catalog that was used to help AHEC develop a searchable database of the online images. The digitization process began in early 2007 and was just opened on the website in November. AHEC has a total of 60,000 other photographs on the Civil War and 1.7 million photographs from the Mexican War to the present.

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

“Too much time has been spent thinking about ‘libraries of the future.’ The reason for falling use is that too little attention has been given to what people have wanted in libraries of today. The balance of resources has swung too far away from the obvious daily need. The reason why use has declined is not because people have lost their desire or need for reading or what books contain or because technologies have changed, but because public libraries haven’t got what they want. And in their turn because of that have lost their reputation for being useful places to visit.”

—Richard Charkin, executive director of Bloomsbury Publishing, in Empower, Inform, Enrich (PDF file [http://www.culture.gov.uk/images/consultations/LibrariesReview_consultation.pdf]), the consultation paper published December 1 as part of the UK Libraries Modernisation Review. p. 16.

TweetWatch

Follow:

Arizona Library Association, annual conference, Glendale, Dec. 7–9, at: [azla_conference](http://twitter.com/azla_conference) [http://twitter.com/azla_conference]

Search Engine Strategies, conference and expo, Hilton Chicago, Dec. 7–11, at: [#ses](http://twitter.com/#search?q=%23SES) [<http://twitter.com/#search?q=%23SES>]

American Libraries news stories, videos, and blog posts at: [amlibraries](http://www.twitter.com/amlibraries) [<http://www.twitter.com/amlibraries>]

Ask the ALA Librarian

[<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2599>]

Q. The Spanish-speaking population in our town has doubled over the past few years. I’ve been so concerned with adding Spanish, bilingual, and ESL books and other materials to our collection, that I was taken aback when our page pointed out something very simple: All of our signage is in English! What resources do you have to help with this?

A. According to census data about 21 million people in the U.S. (or very roughly 7%) speak limited or no English—50% more than a decade ago—so it is no surprise that this trend is affecting your community. The report, *Serving Non-English Speakers in U.S. Public Libraries: 2007 Analysis of Library Demographics, Services and Programs*, [<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/olos/nonenglishspeakers/index.cfm>]

released by the ALA Office for Research and Statistics, the Office for Literacy and Outreach Services, the Office for Diversity, and the Public Programs Office, found that the majority of libraries serving non-English speakers are in communities with fewer than 100,000 residents. That report also notes that literacy programming [http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Adult_Literacy] is an important feature of outreach. Non-English signage [http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Non-English_Signage] is just one aspect of reaching out to your changing community. Other elements to consider as you adjust your program to meet the needs of your changing community include promotion of programs [http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Public_Relations] in the major languages spoken, developing special language collections, [<http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Selection>] offering catalog access [http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Cataloging_and_Classification] in additional languages, and other outreach programs. [http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Serving_Speakers_of_Languages_Other_than_English] From the ALA Professional Tips wiki [http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Reaching_Out_to_Non-English_Speakers].

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

Calendar

Jan. 12:
LIS Online Career Fair, [<http://liscareerfair.org/program.htm>] sponsored by the Alliance Library System and TAP Information Services. An online OPAL conference. Contact: Lori Bell. [<mailto:lbell@alliancelibrarysystem.com>]

Jan. 12–15:
Association for Library and Information Science Education, [<http://www.alise.org/mc/page.do?sitePageId=84121&orgId=ali>] Annual Conference, Boston.

Jan. 16:
SPARC-ACRL Forum, [<http://www.acrl.ala.org/acrlinsider/2009/12/02/sparc-acrl-forum-to-examine-open-access-monographs/>] Sheraton Boston. "The E-book Transition: Collaborations and Innovations behind Open-Access Monographs."

Jan. 19–21:
Educause Learning Initiative, [<http://net.educause.edu/ELI10>] Annual Meeting, Hilton Austin, Texas. "Learning Environments for a Web 2.0 World."

Feb. 1–3:
Electronic Resources and Libraries conference,

[<http://electroniclibrarian.org/erlwiki/>] AT&T Executive Education and Conference Center, University of Texas at Austin.

Feb. 3–5:

Professional Scholarly Publishing,
[http://www.pspcentral.org/events2/eventsAnnConf_001.cfm] Annual Conference, Mayflower Hotel, Washington, D.C. “The New Reality: Disruption, Innovation, Relevance.”

Feb. 3–6:

Fifth Annual iConference,
[<http://www.ischools.org/iConference10/2010index/>] iHotel and Conference Center, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Feb. 3–6:

ACM Third International Conference on Web Search and Data Mining,
[<http://www.wsdm-conference.org/2010/>] Polytechnic Institute of NYU in Brooklyn, New York.

Feb. 4–5:

Society of American Archivists,
[http://saa.archivists.org/Scripts/4Disapi.dll/4DCGI/events/175.html?Action=Conference_Detail&ConfID_W=175&Time=236717787&SessionID=645316183una72a1b5nhjg1ufdzilipmnqe242n993hd68waj12i1023z76y343h] Records Management for Archivists, Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives, Nashville, Tennessee.

Feb. 6–10:

ACM Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work,
[<http://www.cscw2010.org/>] Savannah (Ga.) Marriott Riverfront.

Feb. 17–19:

Educause Southwest Regional Conference, [<http://net.educause.edu/SWRC10>] Sheraton Austin Hotel, Texas. “Connect, Collaborate, Contribute.”

Feb. 28–

Mar. 2:

National Federation of Advanced Information Services,
[<http://www.nfais.org/page/23-2010-annual-conference>] Annual Conference, Park Hyatt at the Bellevue, Philadelphia. “Redefining the Value of Information: Exploring the New Equation.”

Mar. 15–17:

Educause Midwest Regional Conference, [<http://net.educause.edu/mwrc10>] InterContinental Chicago Hotel, Chicago. “Connect, Collaborate, Contribute.”

Mar. 17–19:

Wisconsin Educational Media and Technology Association,
[<http://wemtaonline.org/se3bin/clientgenie.cgi?geniesite=159&statusFlag=goGenie&job=&schoolname=school1000292&MID=>] Spring Conference, Kalahari Conference Center, Wisconsin Dells. “Into the Wild.”

Mar. 18–20:

National Science Teachers Association,
[<http://www.nsta.org/conferences/2010phi/>] National Conference on Science
Education, Pennsylvania Convention Center, Philadelphia.
"Connecting Science Past to Science Future."

Apr. 7-9:

Florida Library Association, [http://www.flalib.org/conference_2010.php]
Annual Conference, Rosen Plaza Hotel, Orlando.

Apr. 11-17:

National Library Week.

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/pio/natlibraryweek/nlw.cfm>]

Apr. 28-30:

Off-Campus Library Services Conference, [<http://ocls.cmich.edu/conf2010/>]
Cleveland Marriott Downtown, Cleveland, Ohio.

Apr. 29-

May 1:

LOEX, [<http://www.loexconference.org/>] Annual Conference, Hyatt Regency
Hotel, Dearborn, Michigan. "Bridging and Beyond: Developing
Librarian Infrastructure."

May 2-8:

Choose Privacy Week.

[http://www.privacyrevolution.org/index.php/privacy_week/]

May 15-18:

Acquisitions Institute, [<http://libweb.uoregon.edu/ec/aitl/>] Timberline
Lodge, Oregon.

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

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American Libraries Direct

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The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | December 9, 2009

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U.S. & World News

[Jessamine County reclassifies and reshelves](#)

In response to concerns voiced in November to officials of the Jessamine County (Ky.) Public Library about sexually explicit drawings by illustrator Kevin O'Neill in author Alan Moore's graphic novel *The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen: The Black Dossier*, JCPL's senior staff and trustees have decided to reclassify the library's entire graphic-novel collection and reshelve the titles in the young-adult and adult sections, respectively, as appropriate....

American Libraries Online, Dec. 9



[State associations join call to end Patriot Act library provision](#)

As the December 31 deadline for reauthorization of three provisions of the USA Patriot Act approached, more than 30 state library associations have passed resolutions calling for Congress to allow Section 215, which permits the Justice Department to conduct searches of library and bookstore records, to expire. As of mid-December, 34 state associations had approved resolutions condemning the provision; many also voiced opposition to Section 505, which gives the FBI authority to secretly issue national security letters to obtain records from libraries without prior judicial oversight....

American Libraries Online, Dec. 9

[Imhoff responds to inflammatory audit report](#)

Embattled former Lexington (Ky.) Public Library director Kathleen Imhoff (right) is scheduled to appear at a board meeting December 9 and present a detailed [response](#) to a report from city auditors that accuses her of, among other things, conflict of interest in her consulting work and using her library laptop to view "adult materials" on the internet. The results of the audit of the public library were published in detail by the [Lexington Herald-Leader](#) with a headline reading, "Audit finds adult materials on library



[ALA Midwinter Meeting.](#)
Boston, January 15–19.



Cognotes is the daily paper of the ALA Midwinter Meeting. This [interactive issue](#) offers a glimpse of the highlights of the Boston meeting.

CEO's computers."...

AL Inside Scoop, Dec. 9; *Lexington (Ky.) Herald-Leader*, Dec. 4; WKYT-TV, Lexington, Dec. 4

ALA News

[Reasons to go to the Midwinter Meeting](#)

ALA members share the reasons (2:54) why they enjoy coming to Midwinter Meetings—networking, professional development, exhibits, new technology, committee work, programming, meet authors, reconnect with old friends, and much more....

AL Focus, Dec. 4



[ALA Placement Center will help attendees search for jobs](#)

During the 2010 Midwinter Meeting in Boston, January 15–19, the ALA Placement Center will have a variety of activities scheduled to assist attendees, improve their skills, and prepare for a job search. The Placement Center will be located in the Convention Center, and will be open January 16–17. Included in these activities is [free counseling](#) by career development professional Caitlin Williams (right), an [Open House](#), and [free workshops](#)

ALA Student Member Blog, Dec. 2



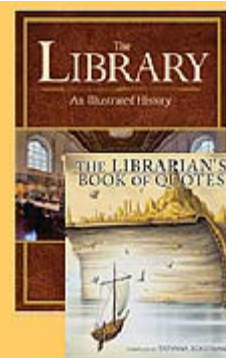
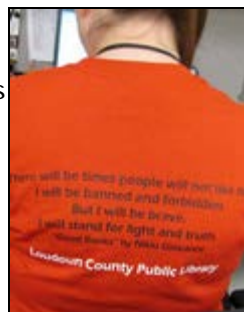
[ALA urges FCC to consider role of libraries](#)

In its December 4 filing ([PDF file](#)) to the Federal Communications Commission, ALA highlighted the vital role libraries play in communities by supporting workforce development, small business creation, lifelong education, and access to government resources through public-access computer terminals and broadband internet. The filing was a response to the FCC's call for comments regarding the relationship between economic development and broadband and how broadband access spurs business productivity and growth....

District Dispatch, Dec. 7

[Looking back on Banned Books Week](#)

Rachel Yoke writes: "Banned Books Week 2009 gave libraries, librarians, and library patrons across the U.S. an opportunity to speak out against censorship and demonstrate the meaning of free speech. Events were held around the country in places as varied as [Texas](#), [Florida](#), [Illinois](#), and [Virginia](#) ([PDF file](#)), and where displays exhibited challenged books, concerts supported the reading



The Library: An Illustrated History and *The Librarian's Book of Quotes* are [great gifts for the holidays](#) for all who love reading and libraries. **NEW!** From ALA Editions.

In this issue Dec. 2009



**Building Bridges
between Students
and Faculty**

**Buena Casa, Buena
Brasa**

Deployed to Iraq

**Career Leads
from
ALA JobLIST**

[Executive Director.](#)
Connecticut Library Consortium. CLC is a statewide membership collaborative serving all types of Connecticut

of banned books, and t-shirts proclaimed a need for free expression.”...

American Libraries Online, Dec. 4

[Getting the word out with AL Direct](#)

Sarah Long talks with George Eberhart (right), founding editor of *American Libraries Direct*, ALA's weekly e-newsletter, in her weekly podcast (16:23). Eberhart reveals how the newsletter got started, where content comes from, and how he seeks to make each issue “informative, practical, and amusing at times.” He also explains plans for the newsletter and the AL website, as well as the impact *AL Direct* has had on the *American Libraries* magazine....

Longshots, Dec. 8



[Treaty to ensure access for readers with disabilities](#)

ALA, as a member of the Library Copyright Right Alliance, filed comments ([PDF file](#)) to the Library of Congress Copyright Office December 4 regarding access to copyrighted works for the blind or other persons with disabilities. The comments, which were filed jointly by the Library Copyright Alliance, the Electronic Frontier Foundation, the Internet Archive, and the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies, called for a multilateral treaty to resolve issues of accessibility for the blind and visually impaired....

District Dispatch, Dec. 7

[ALA Dollars for Scholars fundraiser](#)

During the 2010 Midwinter Meeting in Boston, the ALA Office for Human Resource Development and Recruitment will offer attendees an opportunity to help support the careers of a new generation of librarians. For a \$10 donation, conference attendees can have two business cards laminated as luggage tags and be entered in a raffle for a free conference registration for the 2010 Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. All proceeds from the fundraiser will benefit the annual giving campaign for ALA general scholarship endowments....



[RDA publication date](#)

RDA: Resource Description and Access will be released in June 2010. The transition from the publication of *AACR2* as a printed manual to the release of *RDA* as a web-based toolkit is a complex process with many interdependencies. The updated text of *RDA* incorporates recommendations from constituencies and other stakeholders approved at the JSC meeting earlier in 2009. Pricing and purchasing information will be available at the Midwinter Meeting in Boston....

RDA-L, Dec. 3



[Gifts for library lovers](#)

ALA Editions is making a special offer to help you with your holiday shopping for library professionals and anyone who loves books. Three popular titles are now available in multipacks, offering savings of up to 30% off the single copy price: *The Librarian's Book of Quotes*, *The Back Page*, and *The Library: An Illustrated History*. ALA Store purchases fund

libraries by initiating and facilitating cost-effective services to strengthen their ability to serve their users. Responsibilities: Establishing and coordinating organizational goals, program directions, and services; developing and cultivating partnerships with other statewide nonlibrary groups; monitoring actions of the state legislature that may impact upon CLC and serving as its advocate; engaging in budget planning and oversight; hiring and managing all staff and supervising all operations; coordinating membership communications; and marketing CLC to its constituencies....



Digital Library of the Week



The [Government Comics Collection](#) at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln is a

advocacy, awareness, and accreditation programs for library professionals worldwide....

Essential archives resources

ALA Editions is partnering with the Society of American Archivists to make [select SAA titles](#), such as [Film Preservation: Competing Definitions of Value, Use, and Practice](#) (right) and [College and University Archives: Readings in Theory and Practice](#), available for purchase through the ALA Store. Founded in 1936, SAA is North America's oldest and largest national archival professional association....



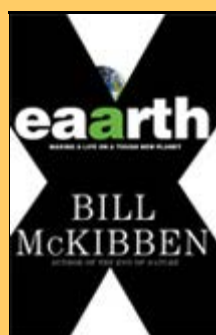
database of more than 180 comic books and related items, such as congressional hearings dealing with comics. Through funding from UNL Undergraduate Creative Activities and Research Experiences and the Pepsi Foundation, Media Services Librarian Richard Graham worked from fall 2007 to spring 2009 to launch this collection, which continues to grow. Most of the materials he has gathered were created by governments and given to citizens or soldiers as a sort of crash course in foreign culture and relations during critical times, such as the onset of World War I. Included are documents from federal and state governments in the United States as well as comics created by the United Nations, European Union, Canada, and Ghana.

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.

Booklist ONLINE

Featured review: Environment

McKibben, Bill. *Eaarth*. Apr. 2010. 256p. Times, hardcover (978-0-8050-9056-7). For 20 years McKibben has been writing with clarity and zeal about global warming, initially in the hope of staving it off and now in an effort to lessen its dire impact. With climate change under way, we now live on a far less hospitable planet than the one on which our civilizations coalesced for 10,000 years amidst resplendent biological diversity. McKibben postulates that because today's planet is so much hotter, stormier, and more chaotic with droughts, vanishing ice, dying forests, encroaching deserts, acid oceans, increased wildfires, and diminishing food crops, it merits a new name: "Eaarth." Although his meticulous chronicling of the current "cascading effects" of climate change is truly alarming, it isn't utterly devastating. That's because McKibben, reasonable and compassionate, reports with equal thoroughness on the innovations of proactive individuals and groups and explicates the benefits of ending our dependence on fossil fuels, industrial agriculture, and the unbalanced, unjust global economy....

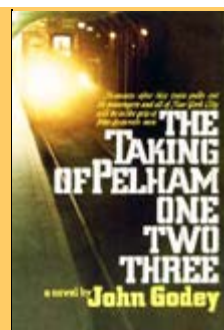


Reading the screen: Thrillers, then and now

David Pitt writes: "John Godey's 1973 novel, *The Taking of Pelham One Two Three*, has been adapted for the big screen twice—with radically different results. The novel is a lean, efficient thriller: Four men hijack a New York City subway train and demand \$1 million in exchange for the lives of the passengers.

Public Perception
How the World Sees Us

"I see the web and



Tension runs high, and Godey's cleverly orchestrated conclusion is full of surprises, including the unexpected fates of the hijackers. The first film version was released in 1974. Robert Shaw turns in a quiet, cold performance as Ryder, the mastermind, and Martin Balsam is perfect as Longman, the fatalistic ex-motorman with a score to settle. Director Joseph Sargent works with an almost military precision, and he clearly understands and respects the source material." Pitt goes on to compare the second adaptation with the novel, and he compares other films with the thrillers they were based on: *Hopscotch*, *Marathon Man*, and *The Boys from Brazil*....

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

Boston Update

[The Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art](#)

Don't miss the opportunity to travel to this museum in Amherst January 17 and see examples of original art by Eric Carle and the artists of the Golden Books. Participants will hear presentations by Leonard S. Marcus and Norton Juster, as well as have time to enjoy the museum shop, galleries, art studio, and reading library. RSVP directly with the museum by January 8 by calling (413) 658-1155 or by [email](#). The cost is \$50....

Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art



[The Great Midwinter Kids/YA Lit Tweet-Up](#)

If you're a tweeting librarian, author, illustrator, publisher, agent, editor, reviewer, blogger, or anyone interested in children's and YA lit, join the Great Midwinter Kids/YA Lit Tweet-Up, January 16, 4–6 p.m., at the Birch Bar in the Westin Waterfront hotel. A few spots are left out of a total of 150. Talk social media, chat about books, share program ideas, meet the people you've been retweeting, listing, and following, see old friends....

Mitali Perkins and Deborah Sloan

[The Rose Kennedy Greenway](#)

When Boston's Big Dig project plunged previously elevated roadways underground, the city found itself rich in prime urban land. Community leaders seized the opportunity to enhance Boston's city life by providing additional parks and gardens. One of the most important public projects in Boston's history, the Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy Greenway is a series of four parks extending approximately one mile through downtown Boston. To experience the



everything it stands for as being an immense improvement over our old arrangements. It's absurd to sit around sentimentalizing about the decline of the book in the face of the kind of knowledge that the web now gives us, and the research it allows us to do."

—Terry Belanger, MacArthur Fellow and founder of the Rare Book School, in "The Book Mechanic," [Chronicle of Higher Education](#), Dec. 6.



TweetWatch

Follow:

Coalition for Networked Information, Fall Membership Meeting, Washington, D.C., Dec. 14–15, at: [#cni09f](#)

Mediabistro, E-book Summit, New York City, Dec. 15–16, at: [#ebooksummit](#)

American Libraries news stories, videos, and blog posts at: [amlibraries](#)

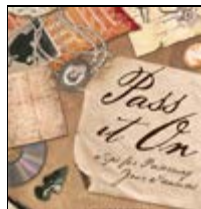
entire Greenway on foot without retracing your steps, start at either Chinatown Park in the south or at the North End Parks (above)....

Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy Greenway Conservancy

Division News

[ALCTS launches National Preservation Week](#)

Recognizing the critical role libraries play in preservation, ALCTS will sponsor the first national [Preservation Week](#), May 9–15. Preservation Week intends to raise awareness of libraries' role in connecting the general public to preservation information and expertise. Events sponsored by libraries will increase preservation awareness by emphasizing the close relationships among personal, family, community, and public collections and their preservation. Preservation Week [posters](#) and [bookmarks](#) are available in the ALA Store....



[YALSA's 31 Days of Dollars and Sense](#)

In December, YALSA is spotlighting 31 Days of Dollars and Sense on its [blog](#). The division features daily posts on the economic difficulties libraries face and how to cope with them successfully as demand for services rises. Topics include grant writing, programming on a limited budget, finding free supplies, defending budgets, and keeping up morale. School and public librarians alike offer up their own success stories and expertise....

[ASCLA summer event registration opens soon](#)

The ASCLA Midwinter Institute, "Assembling a Consulting Toolkit: What You Need to Know to Become a Successful Library Consultant," has sold out, but [registration](#) for the next offering, scheduled for June 25 in Washington, D.C., in conjunction with the ALA Annual Conference, will open on January 4. Seasoned consultants Nancy Bolt and Sara Laughlin will present an overview of library consulting....

[ASCLA/COSLA reception offers desserts, networking](#)

ASCLA and the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies invite Midwinter Meeting attendees to cap their day with dessert, networking and socializing at the ASCLA/COSLA reception, January 17, 8:30–11 p.m. The event is open to all meeting participants who are current or potential members of ASCLA. Reception guests can take advantage of desserts, coffee, and a cash bar while catching up with old colleagues and meeting new ones....

[Seats available for RUSA genealogy institute](#)

Although advance registration has ended, there are still seats available for the upcoming RUSA Midwinter Institute, "The Genealogy Reference Desk: Where Everyone Knows Your Name," a full-day workshop whose content will benefit public librarians, academic librarians, experienced genealogists, and those who are new to or have an interest in genealogy reference. The workshop will be held January 15 at the New England Historic Genealogical Society in conjunction with the ALA 2010 Midwinter Meeting. Presentations will focus on New England genealogy resources and genealogy research techniques....

Ask the ALA Librarian



Q. Using several sources, both print and online, I've tracked down the type of art media used in many of the Caldecott Medal-winning books, but I haven't been able to find some of the older ones, so my list is incomplete. Can ALA help with this? I just want the art media for the Caldecott winners, not the honor books, if that helps.

A. ALSC, which is responsible for the Caldecott and Newbery Medals, publishes a book every year that lists the winning titles, [The Newbery and Caldecott Awards: A Guide to the Medal and Honor Books](#). Starting with the 1991 edition, an article appeared by Christine Behrmann containing the art media information for each Caldecott title, both winners and honors, titled, "The Media Used in Caldecott Picture Books: Notes toward a Definitive List." It originally appeared in the Winter 1988 issue of the *Journal of Youth Services in Libraries* and was reprinted every year in the back

[LITA seeks volunteer acquisitions editor](#)

LITA invites applications for the member volunteer position of acquisitions editor to develop topics for LITA publications, solicit suggestions for publications, interact with authors to produce the publications in manuscript format, and coordinate the editorial review of manuscripts by members of the LITA Publications Committee. Applications are due to [Kristin Antelman](#) by December 31....

[AASL's winter tour of online courses](#)

School library media specialists are encouraged to sign up for AASL's winter tour of online courses. Designed to isolate problem areas, the four 4-week courses will help develop the skills and techniques to help school library media specialists bring their programs into the 21st century. Registration and course information are available [online](#). Just for signing up, AASL is offering a free archived Learning4Life (L4L) webinar with every course registration....



[AASL seeks proposals for webinars](#)

AASL is currently seeking 60-minute webinar proposals for a Learning4Life (L4L) webinar series to be held Wednesdays in April 2010. Proposals should focus on one of the four chapters of AASL's *Empowering Learners: Guidelines for School Library Media Programs*. More information, a PDF of the application, and submission details can be found on the [AASL website](#). The deadline is January 4....

AASL Blog, Dec. 4

Awards

[2009 I Love My Librarian Award](#)

American Libraries Editor in Chief Leonard Kniffel writes: "New York City welcomed the 10 winners of the [2009 I Love My Librarian Award](#) with the lighting of the city's Christmas tree at Rockefeller Center. At least the timing made it look that way, and some 750,000 extra people in the streets made it seem as if the entire city had turned out to welcome America's favorite librarians to the December 3 award ceremony at the splendid *New York Times* building on Eighth Avenue. Sponsored by the *Times* and Carnegie Corporation of New York and administered by ALA, the award recognizes quality service and dedication by library professionals across the country."...

AL Inside Scoop, Dec. 4



[West Bend library receives 2009 Robert Downs Award](#)

The West Bend (Wis.) Community Memorial Library has received the 2009 Robert B. Downs Intellectual Freedom Award from the faculty of the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. The faculty voted overwhelmingly to give this year's award to the West Bend Library for its steadfast advocacy on behalf of intellectual freedom in the face of a February 2009 library challenge that garnered national attention....

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign GSLIS, Dec. 8



of the book, with changes, updates, and any needed corrections to keep the list up-to-date and accurate. *The Newbery and Caldecott Awards: 2008 Edition* was the last to reprint an updated version of Behrman's original article. Starting with the 2009 edition, the art media information now appears as part of the entry for the book entry itself. From the [ALA Professional Tips wiki](#).

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



Susan D. Herring, Robert R. Burkhardt, and Jennifer L. Wolfe discuss the Athens State University embedded librarian program, designed to bring the library to online students, in their article "[Reaching Remote Students](#)" in the December issue of *College & Research Libraries News*.

Calendar

Dec. 20:
[Do Nothing But Read](#)

New ALA African-American literature award

A new ALA award recognizes outstanding African-American authors, illustrators, author/illustrators, and practitioners for lasting and significant contributions to youth or young adult literature. The inaugural Coretta Scott King–Virginia Hamilton Award for Lifetime Achievement will be announced at the Midwinter Meeting in Boston, as part of the Youth Media Awards press conference on January 18. The award is named for children's author Virginia Hamilton (1936–2002), recipient of the 1974 National Book Award and the 1975 John Newbery Medal....

YALSA names 2010 William C. Morris Award shortlist

YALSA has selected five books as finalists for the 2010 William C. Morris Award, which honors a book written for young adults by a previously unpublished author. YALSA will name the 2010 winner at the Youth Media Awards on January 18, during the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Boston. More information on the finalists can be found on the [YALSA website](#)....



ALSC Great Web Sites for Kids

ALSC has added 20 recommended websites to its online resource containing hundreds of links to outstanding sites for children. [Great Web Sites for Kids](#) features links to websites of interest to children 14 years of age and younger, organized into diverse subject headings, from astronomy and space to zoos and aquariums, from games and entertainment to geography and maps....



FLA wins inaugural ALA Presidential Award for Advocacy

The Florida Library Association is the first recipient of a new ALA Presidential Award for Advocacy, sponsored by ALTAFF. FLA received the award for its work to save state funding in 2009. The ALA Presidential Award for Advocacy includes \$1,500 to the winning state campaign for the further development of citizens across the state as advocates....



7th annual We the People Bookshelf grants

The ALA Public Programs Office is partnering with the National Endowment for the Humanities for the seventh *We the People* Bookshelf project. Part of the NEH *We the People* program, the Bookshelf encourages young people to read and understand great literature while exploring themes in American history. The theme for the 2009–2010 Bookshelf is "A More Perfect Union." Public and school libraries are invited to [apply online](#) through January 29. Some 4,000 libraries will be selected to receive the materials....



Coming Up Taller Award nominations

The Institute of Museum and Library Services invites nominations for the 2010 Coming Up Taller awards, which honor excellence in afterschool, out-of-school, and summer arts and humanities programs for underserved children and youth. Award recipients

[Day](#). You must read more than one book, put on comfy clothing, wear no shoes, and consume beverages and snacks.

Jan. 7–10:
[Consumer Electronics Show](#), Las Vegas Convention Center / Las Vegas Hilton and the Venetian.

Jan. 11–12:
[Public Libraries and Access to Justice Training](#), Austin, Texas. The deadline for teams to apply is December 11.

Jan. 22–24:
[International Conference on Agents and Artificial Intelligence](#), Hotel Sidi Saler, Valencia, Spain.

Jan. 29:
[Bibliographical Society of America](#), New York City.

Feb. 5:
[Online Northwest](#), Oregon State University, Corvallis.

Feb. 13–15:
[Design Principles and Practices](#), University of Illinois, Chicago.

Mar. 1–31:
[Pop Culture in Libraries](#), online course hosted by Simmons GSLIS.

Mar. 17–18:
[Time Management for Librarians](#), live online course hosted by Lyrasis.

receive \$10,000 each, an individualized plaque, and an invitation to attend the annual Coming Up Taller Leadership Enhancement Conference. Nominations ([PDF file](#)) are due by January 29....



John Berger picks up Golden PEN Award

English PEN presented John Berger with the Golden PEN Award, which celebrates an author whose "body of work has had a profound impact on readers." The writer, who won the 1972 Booker Prize for his novel *G.*, and whose most recent novel *A-X* was longlisted for the Booker in 2008, was awarded the £1,000 prize money and commemorative golden pen December 7 by fellow author Geoff Dyer....

The Bookseller, Dec. 8



Queensland Writers Centre 2010 Johnno Award

Jenny Stubbs, Australian librarian and founder of the Ipswich Festival of Children's Literature, was named the winner of the Queensland Writers Centre 2010 Johnno Award. Stubbs, who has more than 20 years experience in literacy programs for children, was recognized for her commitment to literacy and engagement through reading and writing, particularly in Queensland's southwest rural and regional communities. Established in 2001, the Johnno Award is presented to an individual or group in recognition of an outstanding contribution to Queensland writers and writing....

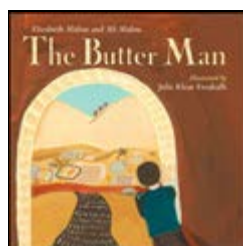
Queensland Writers Centre, Dec. 3



2009 Middle East Book Awards

The Middle East Outreach Council has announced the three winners of its 2009 Middle East Book Awards. The titles are: *The Butter Man* by Elizabeth Alalou and Ali Alalou for picture book, *Wanting Mor* by Rukhsana Khan for youth literature, and *The Iranian Revolution* by Brendan January for youth nonfiction. Established in 1999, the Middle East Book Award recognizes quality books for children and young adults that contribute meaningfully to an understanding of the Middle East and its component societies and cultures....

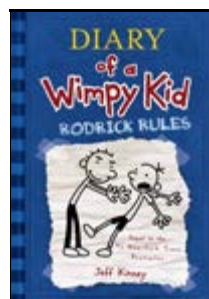
Middle East Outreach Council



2009 Tower Hamlets Book Award

The winner of the 2009 Tower Hamlets Book Award was announced to a packed audience at the London borough's flagship superlibrary, the Whitechapel Idea Store, December 4. By a clear margin, this year's winner was Jeff Kinney's *Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Rodrick Rules* (Amulet, 2008). The award, now in its third year, is fast becoming recognized as one of London's premier annual children's book prizes and is aimed at the 9–12 age group....

Tower Hamlets Schools Library Service, Dec. 4



Mar. 22–23:
[Museums Advocacy Day](#).

Mar. 22–24:
[Council on East Asian Libraries](#), Philadelphia Marriott Downtown.

**Mar. 31–
Apr. 3:**
[Popular Culture Association / American Culture Association](#), Joint Conference, Renaissance Grand Hotel, St. Louis.

Apr. 6–8:
[Catholic Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Minneapolis. "Leadership, Direction, Service."

Apr. 7–9:
[New Mexico Library Association](#), the Lodge at Sierra Blanca, Ruidoso. "Evolve, Enrich, Empower: Libraries Transform!"

Apr. 12–14:
[Computers in Libraries](#), Hyatt Regency Crystal City, Arlington, Virginia.

Apr. 14–17:
[Texas Library Association](#), George R. Brown Convention Center, San Antonio.

Apr. 23–26:
[Art Libraries Society of North America](#), Annual Conference,

Seen Online

[Google adds live updates to search results](#)

Unveiling significant changes to its search engine on December 7, Google said it would begin supplementing its search results with the updates posted each second to sites like Twitter, Facebook, and MySpace. As part of its much-anticipated entrance into the field known as real-time search, Google said that over the next few days its users would begin seeing brand-new tweets, blog items, news articles, and social networking updates in results for certain topical searches. Previously it took a few minutes for updates from social networks and blogs to filter into Google's results. Watch the demo [video](#) (1:14)....

New York Times, Dec. 7; YouTube, Dec. 7



[Amazon.com fails to get judge to reject Google agreement](#)

Amazon.com, the world's largest online retailer, failed to persuade a federal judge to withdraw his preliminary approval of a settlement between Google and groups of authors and publishers over a digital book library. U.S. District Judge Denny Chin rejected Amazon.com's argument December 1 that the settlement is "doomed from the start and fails to satisfy even the low standard for preliminary approval." He said Amazon can make its arguments during a February 18 hearing to determine if the agreement should be granted final approval....

Bloomberg, Dec. 2

[Sharing a sense of history at the National Archives](#)

David S. Ferriero is the first librarian in charge of the U.S. National Archives. He comes armed with the dry wit and sense of humility friends say he brings to one of the nation's most hallowed government repositories. "I have 10 billion things I have to worry about," he said, citing the archives' estimated holdings. Ferriero, who looks as much like an amiable police detective as an academic, was nominated by President Obama on July 28 and confirmed by the Senate on November 6. His name rhymes with "stereo."...

Washington Post, Dec. 7



[New York cuts library funding for the fourth time](#)

While New York schools were spared midyear cuts during the latest state deficit reduction efforts in early December, libraries will see a roughly 12% reduction in remaining funding—and library officials are worried it will affect services. Library funding has already been [cut three times](#) in the last 20 months, going from \$102 million in 2007 to \$99 million in 2008, to \$91 million in April 2009, and now \$87 million in this latest round—despite record increases in library usage. The \$4.2-million cut brings Library Aid down to 1998 levels....

Watertown (N.Y.) Daily Times, Dec. 6; New York Library Association, Dec. 4

Boston. "Revolution and Innovation: At the Hub of Discovery."

Apr. 26-28:
[New Jersey Library Association](#), Ocean Place Resort, Long Branch.

Apr. 26-29:
[International Association of Agricultural Information Specialists](#), IAALD 13th World Congress, Montpellier, France.

Apr. 30-May 4:
[American Educational Research Association](#), Annual Meeting, Denver. "Understanding Complex Ecologies in a Changing World."

May 9-15:
[Preservation Week](#). Celebrate collecting and preservation in your community and highlight your institution as a source of preservation information.

May 11-14:
[American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works](#), Annual Meeting, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. "The Conservation Continuum: Examining the Past, Envisioning the Future."

May 15-16:
[Connections 2010](#), a conference for LIS doctoral students and candidates, University of Western Ontario, London.

[Despite Ray Bradbury's efforts, a Ventura library closes](#)

Even author Ray Bradbury put up a fight, but it was not enough to save the H. P. Wright branch of the Ventura County (Calif.) Library, which closed November 30. The branch, like so many around the country, had fallen on hard times as city and state budgets tightened. Bradbury, a fierce advocate for public libraries, appeared at a fundraiser in June aimed at helping to save the ailing branch. While that helped the library hang on for a bit, the long-term picture was bleak, and a recent bond measure that would have helped close a \$650,000 deficit sunk....

New York Times, Dec. 9



[Aurora votes to close second-busiest branch](#)

A bid to save the Mission Viejo branch of the Aurora (Colo.) Public Library from closing fell short December 7, after the city council voted overwhelmingly against revising its earlier decision to shutter the facility. A resolution proposed by Councilman Bob Broom would have saved the branch from permanent closure by putting it on limited hours. After the central branch, Mission Viejo is the city's busiest library....

Aurora (Colo.) Sentinel, Dec. 8



[Grad students find Jefferson letter at University of Delaware](#)

Two University of Delaware graduate students working in archives recently acquired by the University of Delaware Library have discovered a February 24, 1808, letter written by Thomas Jefferson about the death of another prominent Colonial figure, John Dickinson. Graduate students Amanda Daddona and Matt Davis found the letter November 5 while processing the archives of the Rockwood Museum, which the library received as a gift from New Castle County earlier in 2009....

UDaily, Dec. 7



[Judge backs student in file-sharing case](#)

Four record companies that were awarded a total of \$675,000 in damages after a Boston University graduate student illegally downloaded and shared music online have lost their bid to get a federal judge to order the student to stop promoting such activity. U.S. District Court Judge Nancy Gertner granted December 7 a request by the companies that she order Joel Tenenbaum to destroy the 30 songs that a federal jury found he downloaded and to not commit further copyright infringement. But she rebuffed their request to bar him from encouraging others to break the law....

Boston Globe, Dec. 8

[Rave draws hundreds to JMU library](#)

Hundreds of students at James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Virginia, tried to cure their studying ills by throwing a rave December 6 in the lobby of the East Campus Library. The flash mob appeared

May 19–22:

[Association for Recorded Sound Collections](#), Annual Conference, Chateau Bourbon, New Orleans.

May 25–27:

[BookExpo America](#), Jacob K. Javits Center, New York City.

June 2–4:

[Canadian Association for Information Science](#), Annual Conference, Concordia University, Montreal, Quebec. "Information Science: Synergy through Diversity."

@ [More...](#)

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about 9:35 p.m., with students arriving in the library in droves. It was quiet at first, but that changed after not even 10 minutes. A mass of students flooded the lobby, with shouts of assorted JMU cheers. Police locked the doors and did not let other students in, so hundreds stood at the doors while banging on the glass. Watch the [video](#) (3:31)....

James Madison University *The Breeze*, Dec. 7

[Jersey City amnesty program reclaims 54-year-overdue book](#)

Frank Lancellotti finally came clean and returned the Spanish-English dictionary he borrowed from the Jersey City (N.J.) Public Library on January 12, 1955. The \$1,750 in fines will be forgiven under an amnesty program that runs for two weeks in December. Assistant Library Director Sonja Araujo said the library might put the book on display as part of an effort to encourage more people to return books....

Newark (N.J.) *Star-Ledger*, Dec. 6



[Chicago Public Library to start reduced hours](#)

Keith Gage hadn't been to the library in so long that he let his card lapse. Now unemployed, the Chicago resident recently rediscovered the Austin branch, where he searches online job sites for free. Gage was disappointed to learn the city's library system will cut hours at its 76 neighborhood branches. On January 2, Chicago Public Library will shift to 48 hours per week from 64 at most branches. Even so, the system is building new libraries, experimenting with self-checkout, and setting up an outpost where patrons can read and pick up books....

Chicago *Tribune*, Dec. 4

[West Linn censorship lesson backfires](#)

A longtime West Linn-Wilsonville (Oreg.) School District program about censorship and banned books stirred controversy after an Athey Creek Middle School teacher used sexual vulgarity as a part of a classroom lesson. Teacher and librarian Michael Diltz wrote two vulgar words on the board in front of 8th-graders in early December as a part of a districtwide "Banned/Challenged Book" project that explores the limits of free speech. But at a December 7 [school board meeting](#) (above), parents objected to Diltz's method....

Portland *Oregonian*, Dec. 8; NBC News Channel, Dec. 8



[Woman wants sex book banned from Pataskala library](#)

An area woman wants the Pataskala (Ohio) Public Library to toss out a book she considers obscene. The book in question is Eric Marlowe Garrison's *Mastering Multiple Position Sex*, billed on its back cover as a

Send feedback:

aldirect@ala.org

AL Direct FAQ:

www.ala.org/aldirect/

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

American Libraries

50 E. Huron St.
Chicago, IL 60611
www.ala.org/alonline/
800-545-2433,
ext. 4216

ISSN 1559-369X.



lovemaking guide. Marti Shrigley said she saw the book on display while visiting the library and found it offensive. "This, to me, is porn, under the guise of a learning manual," Shrigley said. She has checked out the book, saying she has no intention of giving it back to the library and will pay the overdue fines instead....

Newark (Ohio) Advocate, Dec. 3

[Yale to make additional cuts](#)

The Yale University Library will soon begin cutting back on some of its resources in the face of a third round of university budget cuts. In a December 1 statement, the library announced it will reduce duplication of materials and cut journal and database subscriptions, as well as purchases of books and other print materials, by 5%. Still, the library will try to minimize the impact on faculty activity. Electronic journal subscriptions will likely be prioritized over their print counterparts....

Yale Daily News, Dec. 3

[Beauvoir library begins rebuilding](#)

Bertram Hayes-Davis, the 61-year-old president of the Davis Family Association, was the keynote speaker at a December 6 groundbreaking ceremony in Biloxi, Mississippi, the first step in a \$10.5-million project to rebuild the Jefferson Davis Presidential Library and Museum. In 2005, Hurricane Katrina damaged Beauvoir, the Confederate president's home, and destroyed the library and museum also located on the beachfront property....

Associated Press, Dec. 6

[Artist's work "too negative" for Edinburgh University](#)

An exhibition to mark the reopening of the Edinburgh University Library will feature a magnificent medieval psalter, dubbed Scotland's Book of Kells—but it will go ahead without a new, minimalist work commissioned from Scottish artist Douglas Gordon. It was anticipated that the 1,000-year-old psalter would be shown in the library near a new work by Gordon, who had proposed to inscribe a wall of the library in gold lettering with the words: "Every time you turn a page, it dies a little." But his proposal was frowned upon for not being positive enough, and he angrily pulled out of the project....

The Times (U.K.), Dec. 7

[A monk saves threatened manuscripts](#)

(subscription only)

Fr. Columba Stewart, executive director of the Hill Museum and Manuscript Library at St. John's Abbey and University in Collegeville, Minnesota, is a historian of the early monastic period. He leads the museum's ambitious and longstanding effort to find and digitize manuscripts held in monastic communities in the Middle East, Europe, and Africa. Since the 1960s, the museum has made a photographic record of more than 110,000 manuscripts, shifting from microfilm to digital imaging as the technology has evolved....



Chronicle of Higher Education, Nov. 29

[Saving Africa's precious written heritage](#)

Across Timbuktu, in cupboards, rusting chests, private collections, and libraries, tens or perhaps hundreds of thousands of manuscripts bear witness to this legendary city's remarkable intellectual history, and by extension, to Africa's much overlooked precolonial heritage. Now, after several years of building and delays, the doors are finally about to open at the [Ahmed Baba Institute](#)'s new home in the Malian city—a 200-million rand (\$26.8 million) project paid for by the South African government....

BBC News, Nov. 30



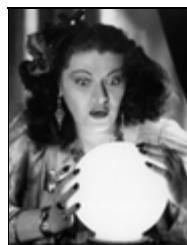
[Go back to the Top](#)

Tech Talk

[Top digital trends for 2010](#)

Nuri Djavit and Paul Newnes write: "In 2009, digital marketing experienced some major shifts in marketing opportunities, budgets, and attitude. 2010 will see the hype calming around Facebook apps and Twitter campaigns and the development of ROI models around social media marketing. The following trends are based on thoughts we have shared with our clients and now share with DMB's readers."...

Digital Media Buzz, Dec. 3



[No cancer risk from mobile phone use](#)

Increased use of mobile phones since the late 1990s is not causing a rise in the frequency of brain tumors, a [Scandinavian study](#) has found. The survey of cancers reported among 16 million adults in Denmark, Finland, Norway, and Sweden found no related, observable change in the incidence of cases up until 2003. Published in the *Journal of the National Cancer Institute*, the research suggests that if there is any risk from regular use, it would take more than 5–10 years for the tumors to appear. But wearing a cell phone on your hip could lead to [bone density problems](#)....

The Guardian (U.K.), Dec. 4; WebMD Health News, Oct. 27

[Google Goggles for your mobile phone](#)

[Google Goggles](#), released to [Android users](#) December 7, allows you to search on your cell phone simply by snapping photos: You point your phone's camera at a place or object, and it delivers detailed information to you within seconds. *PC World* has confirmed with Google that the Goggles app will indeed reach other platforms. However, you may not want to hold your breath for the Android exclusivity to end....

PC World, Dec. 7–8



[Top 100 free apps for your smartphone](#)

With 100,000 apps, the iPhone certainly has the

most apps available, but there's no lack of choice on other platforms. Google's Android phones have more than 10,000. There are thousands for BlackBerry, Windows Mobile, and Symbian phones, and a couple hundred for the Palm Pre and Pixi. Even simple phones like the Motorola RAZR can get into the app game. *PC Magazine* editors have sifted through a huge stack of apps to find the best free ones for almost every phone....

PC Magazine, Dec. 1



[How to buy a gaming PC](#)

Joel Santo Domingo writes: "For a truly connected and immersive gaming experience, desktop PCs reign supreme. They are more upgradable than laptops, and it's still easier to install game expansion packages on PCs than on consoles. The new 120Hz monitors have heralded a new chapter in 3D gaming, and you simply can't get all the new gaming bells and whistles unless you have a high-powered gaming machine. That said, you don't necessarily have to buy the most expensive desktop to play the most popular games."...

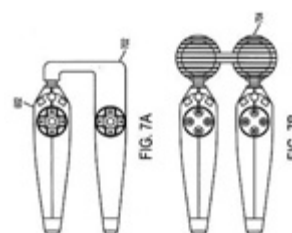
PC Magazine, Dec. 3



[Sony goes berserk with future gaming controller](#)

If you find many Wii Remote attachments (such as fishing rods and tennis rackets) unconventional, wait till you check out what Sony Computer Entertainment has detailed in its latest patent. The application documents an "expandable control device via hardware attachment" with the unmistakable square, triangle, circle, and cross buttons unique to all [PlayStation](#) game consoles. What makes this wand-like controller special, though, is its modular design for various configurations....

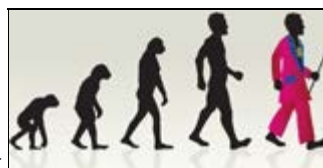
CNET News: Crave blog, Dec. 8



[How HTML5 will change the way you use the web](#)

Kevin Purdy writes: "Firefox and Safari partially support it, Google's Wave and Chrome projects are banking on it, and most web developers are ecstatic about what it means. It's HTML5, and if you're not exactly sure what it is, here's an explainer: [HTML5](#) is a specification for how the web's core language, HTML, should be formatted and utilized to deliver text, images, multimedia, web apps, search forms, and anything else you see in your browser. In some ways, it's mostly a core set of standards that only web developers really need to know. In other ways, it's a major revision to how the web is put together."...

Lifehacker, Dec. 1



[How to catch up](#)

David Lee King writes: "I recently read '[Is It Too Late to Catch Up?](#)' at Seth Godin's blog. The post is great—it includes ideas on how to catch up if you haven't really done much in the web and social media

world for the last 14 years. One of Seth's points is this: You need to create your web presence yourself. Especially if you want that web presence to reflect your library's values, be truly dynamic on an ongoing basis, and be one of your major service points."...

David Lee King, Dec. 5; Seth Godin's Blog, Dec. 3

Publishing

[Baker & Taylor acquires Blackwell North America](#)

Book distributor Baker & Taylor announced December 7 it has acquired Blackwell Book Services North America and Blackwell's Australia-based James Bennett bookseller. As part of the deal, Blackwell U.K. will acquire Baker & Taylor's Lindsay and Croft business in the U.K. The combination of B&T's YBP Library Services and Blackwell's North American and Australian businesses brings together two of the world's largest academic and research library service providers....

Baker & Taylor, Dec. 7



[NPR's best YA fiction of 2009](#)

Jonathan Hunt writes: "During the past decade young adult literature has seen a number of critical and commercial successes that have rejuvenated the genre, transforming it from the redheaded stepchild of the literary world into one of the most dynamic and exciting niches in publishing. The conventional problem novel, once a staple of YA fiction, is now complemented by a variety of genres and formats. These titles may be marketed to your teens and tweens, but beware: You'll find yourself reading them just as compulsively."...

National Public Radio, Dec. 8



[Ramparts: Agent of change](#)

Steven Heller writes: "Few American magazines are agents of change. Most are chroniclers of their time and place, lightning rods rather than lightning. Then came *Ramparts* in the mid-1960s. *Ramparts* was the clarion of new aesthetics, politics, and social mores. It exposed CIA involvement in American colleges and universities and reintroduced muckraking to American journalism. In providing alternatives to the dominant culture, *Ramparts* nurtured the New Left's emerging sensibilities, which for better or worse helped foment the revolutionary spirit of the time."...

Observatory: Design Observer, Nov. 30



[Unconventional children's books](#)

Children's books don't just help our kids develop better reading skills, but they can be extremely important in shaping their values and helping them understand complicated issues. But there are a lot more books on the shelf (or Kindle library) than there were when we were kids. Covering topics like prison, drugs, and conservatism, there are some very unconventional children's books out there today....

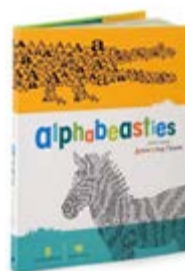
KidCrave



[Favorite book covers of 2009, part 2](#)

Joseph Sullivan writes: "Here's the second of this year's Favorite Covers of 2009 posts, chosen by some of the staff members of [RiverRun Bookstore](#) in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. Some contributors chose to let the covers speak for themselves, others provided some words about their choices. Like [Part 1](#), there is a poll."...

Book Design Review, Dec. 6



Actions & Answers

[White House unveils Open Government Directive](#)

The Obama administration officially unveiled on December 8 its Open Government Directive ([PDF file](#)), a document that charges each federal agency with making high-value data publicly available and coming up quickly with formal open government plans. The directive [requires](#) executive departments and agencies to publish government information online, improve the quality of the information, create and institutionalize a culture of open government, and create an enabling framework for open government....

CNET News: Geek Gestalt, Dec. 8; District Dispatch, Dec. 8

[It's the content, stupid](#)

Steven Escar Smith and Holly Mercer write: "Libraries and librarians have an important stake in the development of online scholarship. Many benefits will come from the growth of digital monographs and journals as well as the development of scholarly websites, online archives, blogs, wikis, and other outlets for research even farther afield from the traditional models. There are, however, many impediments to the digital transition, and as key stakeholders in this arena, librarians must understand the obstacles as well as the advantages."...

American Libraries, Jan./Feb.



[The real-time web may kill the radio star](#)

Kent Anderson writes: "Can we go back to an age of publisher-centric content distribution? While the wishful thinking of news providers might be fulfilled by withholding content from the search engines and extracting revenue deals in exchange for crawling and indexing that content, the money will never materialize because access to news isn't controllable in the modern information age. The real issue is this: The useful lifespan of proprietary news has decreased from days (pre-newspaper), to hours (newspaper and network news), minutes (cable news), and seconds (blogs, search, Twitter, Facebook)."

The Scholarly Kitchen, Dec. 7

[First carbon-positive library in the United States](#)

Anythink Brighton, a branch of the Rangeview

Library District in Adams County, Colorado, has become the first carbon-positive library in the U.S. Through a combination of the library's 108kW photovoltaic system (right), geothermal heating and cooling, sustainable building features, the purchase of carbon credits, and the collaborative spirit of the project, Anythink Brighton is offsetting 16% more carbon than it is using. Total energy savings for the district will be upwards of \$30,000 per year....

Rangeview Library District, Dec. 8



PLCMC is now Charlotte Mecklenburg Library

The Public Library of Charlotte (N.C.) and Mecklenburg County is gradually shifting to its new, much shorter name—the Charlotte Mecklenburg Library. The century-old institution began using its new name in November after filing paperwork with the county and notifying the state librarian. However, very few visible signs of the change have been seen yet, due to a gradual rollout process geared toward saving resources in a tight budget year. Next steps will include using the new name on printed materials as supplies run out and switching the look and URL of the [website](#) in January...

Charlotte Mecklenburg Library, Nov. 30



Free *We Shall Remain* webinar

WGBH-Boston is hosting a free webinar for high school teachers and librarians on December 17, 4–5 p.m. Eastern Time. The event will focus on the library event kit developed for the *We Shall Remain* PBS television series. The presenters include former ALA President Lorienne Roy and AASL President Cassandra Barnett. To participate, visit the [WGBH website](#); to listen by phone, call toll free (888) 394-8197, participant passcode 757416....

WGBH-TV



Survey: Campus technology is underused

Fewer than half of college students responding to a national survey said their professors are using instructional technology, and educators worry that the technology gap between faculty and students might hinder campus learning. Students are using far more technology tools than their professors, according to CDW-G's [21st Century Campus Report](#). Some 31% of students said they use an iPod for educational purposes, compared to 12% of faculty, and 52% of students use open-source tools like Google Apps, compared to 14% of faculty....

eCampus News, Dec. 8; CDW-G, Nov. 2

ARL Statistics, 2007–2008

The Association of Research Libraries has published *ARL Statistics 2007–2008*, the latest in a series of annual publications that describe the collections, staffing, expenditures, and service activities of ARL's 123 member libraries. The complete data series from

1908 through the present represents the oldest, most comprehensive, continuing library statistical series in North America....

Association of Research Libraries, Dec. 7



[How five trends will reshape the social sector](#)

A new report ([PDF file](#)) commissioned by the James Irvine Foundation highlights five key trends and how their convergence will shape the social sector of the future. Based on extensive review of existing research and in-depth interviews with thought leaders and nonprofit leaders and activists, it explores the trends (demographic shifts, technological advances, networks enabling work to be organized in new ways, rising interest in civic engagement and volunteerism, and blurring of sector boundaries) and looks at the ways nonprofits can successfully navigate these changes....

James Irvine Foundation, Nov.



[Displays on a dime](#)

Karen Perry writes: "Displays can be so important in encouraging teens to read or to broaden their reading habits. And there is nothing more satisfying for a teen librarian than to have a book display emptied out by teen readers. So how do you accomplish these wonders? And how do you do it without spending money? It's called the power of suggestion. Here are a few specific theme ideas for book displays using recycled, free, cheap, or borrowed materials to get your creative juices flowing."...

YALSA Blog, Dec. 5

[Presidential libraries](#)

Larry Nix writes: "Fundraising and planning for the [George W. Bush Presidential Library](#), which will be located on the campus of Southern Methodist University in Dallas, is well underway. The way presidential libraries are established and operated is dictated by federal law. The archives and artifacts of a president are administered by the National Archives. The first presidential library in which the archives of a president were deliberately housed at a single location was what is now referred to as the [Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center](#) in Fremont, Ohio."...

Library History Buff Blog, Dec. 7



[Durham in line to host the Lindisfarne Gospels](#)

The Lindisfarne Gospels, one of the world's great treasures, could be heading to Durham's World Heritage Site in 2013. Durham is bidding to become the U.K.'s 2013 City of Culture and wishes to display the gospels during that year. The British Library has agreed to work with Durham University, Durham Cathedral, and Durham County Council towards a



three-month loan of the gospels, subject to the satisfactory completion of a six-month feasibility study....

Medieval News, Dec. 8

Green tips and gift ideas for the holidays

Beth Filar Williams writes: "Plant a tree in someone's name from [Eco-Libris](#). Make a wish list at a variety of online sites or email it to close friends or family. Give the gift of experiences or activities. Feed and hydrate your loved ones. Seeds: the gift that will continue to keep on giving. Honor your loved one with a donation in their name. Reuse papers to wrap gifts. Be creative with shipping containers and ways of packing the goodies."...

Going Green @ your library, Dec. 6



Gift ideas for your book group

Neil Hollands writes: "Here's a holiday dilemma: Do you buy presents for your book group? If you're particularly well off or the member of a very small book group, this isn't so difficult. But if you're like me, making the big bucks in a job that pays like my library job does, even \$8 a person for paperbacks might be a budget breaker. Never fear, there are inexpensive gifts to be had, enough to celebrate the season and show you care without denting that battered wallet or purse any further."...

Book Group Buzz, Dec. 4



Librarian lump of coal gift guide

Travis Jonker writes: "In need of gift ideas for the insufferable librarian in your life? You're in luck. With help from CafePress and Etsy, the 100 Scope Notes Librarian Lump of Coal Gift Guide has you covered. For example, for librarians who can't remember what their profession is: The appropriately named 'Librarian Sweatshirt.' This pairs nicely with pants that say 'pants' on them."...

100 Scope Notes, Dec. 8



Win \$2,500 for your library

Early Word is offering the opportunity for YA librarians to win \$2,500 for their libraries by showing off what they do to make kids passionate about reading. Sponsored by Asset Based Thinking for Teens and James Patterson's Read Kiddo Read, the program will donate \$2,500 to a library for creating a program that sparks the passion for reading in teens. [Submit](#) a program plan by December 31....

EarlyWord: The Publisher/Librarian Connection, Dec. 8



Hot coffee

Scott Douglas writes: "There was nothing odd about a mentally challenged man having a borderline nervous breakdown in front of me screaming 'Coffee!' The mentally challenged are frequent visitors to the library, and frequent visitors to these dispatches. When something unusual happens in this regard, I usually take a deep breath and find the patron's life coach. This day, however, the life coach was nowhere to be found, which made the man my problem."...

Dispatches from a Public Librarian, no. 35 (Dec. 3)

[Capistrano Cowgirls win book cart contest at CSLA](#)

The Capistrano Cowgirls of St. Margaret's Episcopal School library in San Juan Capistrano, California, were named grand champions at the California School Library Association's Book Cart Drill Team



Competition in Ontario November 19. The team, consisting of Karen Angus, Bonnie Bauer, Rosemary DeSa, and Library Director Darla Magaña, entered the arena with book carts decorated with steer heads, saddles, and wagon wheels, performing to the 1988 Escape Club hit, "Wild, Wild West." Watch the [video](#) (2:56)....

St. Margaret's *Tartan Today*, Nov. 23; YouTube, Dec. 1

[Play "Who Wants to Be a Librarian?"](#)

The telecommunications staff at the Bossier Parish (La.) Community College produced and acted in this quiz-show spoof (5:33) for the campus library as a way to promote its services. Written by Production Coordinator Jonathan Posey, who plays the game-show host....



YouTube, Dec. 2

[Top five library videos on YouTube: TV commercial edition](#)

Charlie Thomason writes: "Have you ever seen a television commercial for your local public library? Although not all libraries have them, some have created highly imaginative and entertaining ways of informing people about their services. For our biweekly series of YouTube library videos, we present to you five of the best library commercials on YouTube." This video (above, 0:30) was the winner of a Gold Addy and the 2004 Ralph Gabbard Television Excellence award....



@ your library, Dec. 4

[Go back to the Top](#)

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

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | December 9, 2009

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

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

U.S. & World News

Jessamine County reclassifies and reshelves

[<http://www.americanlibrariesmagazine.org/news/12092009/graphic-novel-flap-fuels-recataloging-kentucky-library's-collection>]

In response to concerns voiced in November to officials of the Jessamine County (Ky.) Public Library about sexually explicit drawings by illustrator Kevin O'Neill in author Alan Moore's graphic novel *The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen: The Black Dossier*, JCPL's senior staff and trustees have decided to reclassify the library's entire graphic-novel collection and reshelve the titles in the young-adult and adult sections, respectively, as appropriate....
American Libraries Online, Dec. 9

State associations join call to end Patriot Act library provision

[<http://www.americanlibrariesmagazine.org/news/12092009/state-associations-join-call-end-patriot-acts-library-provision>]

As the December 31 deadline for reauthorization of three provisions of the USA Patriot Act approached, more than 30 state library associations

have passed resolutions calling for Congress to allow Section 215, which permits the Justice Department to conduct searches of library and bookstore records, to expire. As of mid-December, 34 state associations had approved resolutions condemning the provision; many also voiced opposition to Section 505, which gives the FBI authority to secretly issue national security letters to obtain records from libraries without prior judicial oversight....

American Libraries Online, Dec. 9

[<http://www.wkyt.com/home/headlines/78555157.html>]Imhoff responds to inflammatory audit report

[<http://www.al.ala.org/insidescoop/2009/12/09/imhoff-responds-to-inflammatory-lexington-library-audit-report/>]

Embattled former Lexington (Ky.) Public Library director Kathleen Imhoff (right) is scheduled to appear at a board meeting December 9 and present a detailed response [<http://www.wkyt.com/home/headlines/78555157.html>] to a report from city auditors that accuses her of, among other things, conflict of interest in her consulting work and using her library laptop to view "adult materials" on the internet. The results of the audit of the public library were published in detail by the Lexington Herald-Leader [<http://www.kentucky.com/254/story/1045087.html>] with a headline reading, "Audit finds adult materials on library CEO's computers;..."

AL Inside Scoop, Dec. 9; Lexington (Ky.) Herald-Leader, Dec. 4; WKYT-TV, Lexington, Dec. 4

ALA News

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Reasons to go to the Midwinter Meeting

[<http://alfocus.ala.org/videos/midwinter-preview>]

ALA members share the reasons (2:54) why they enjoy coming to Midwinter Meetings—networking, professional development, exhibits, new technology, committee work, programming, meet authors, reconnect with old friends, and much more....

AL Focus, Dec. 4

ALA Placement Center will help attendees search for jobs

[<http://www.students.ala.org/studentmemberblog/?p=499>]

During the 2010 Midwinter Meeting in Boston, January 15–19, the ALA Placement Center will have a variety of activities scheduled to assist attendees, improve their skills, and prepare for a job search. The Placement Center will be located in the Convention Center, and will be open January 16–17. Included in these activities is free counseling

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/december2009/counseling_hrdr.cfm] by career development professional Caitlin Williams (right), an Open House,

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/december2009/openhouse_hrdr.cfm] and free workshops

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/december2009/workshops_hrdr.cfm]

ALA Student Member Blog, Dec. 2

ALA urges FCC to consider role of libraries

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=4092>]

In its December 4 filing (PDF file

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/wp-content/uploads/2009/12/Libraries-Economy-FCC.pdf>]) to the Federal Communications Commission, ALA highlighted the vital role libraries play in communities by supporting workforce development, small business creation, lifelong education, and access to government resources through public-access computer terminals and broadband internet. The filing was a response to the FCC's call for comments regarding the relationship between economic development and broadband and how broadband access spurs business productivity and growth....

District Dispatch, Dec. 7

Looking back on Banned Books Week

[<http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/content/banned-books-week-2009>]

Rachel Yoke writes: "Banned Books Week 2009 gave libraries, librarians, and library patrons across the U.S. an opportunity to speak out against censorship and demonstrate the meaning of free speech. Events were held around the country in places as varied as Texas

[http://www.victoriadvocate.com/news/2009/sep/26/vc_read_out_092709_67601/?features&education], Florida

[<http://www.wjhg.com/home/headlines/63171917.html>], Illinois

[<http://archives.chicagotribune.com/2009/sep/26/books/chi-0929-books-best-bets-eventssep26>], and Virginia (PDF file

[<http://library.loudoun.gov/Portals/0/pdf/Pages.pdf>]), and where displays exhibited challenged books, concerts supported the reading of banned books, and t-shirts proclaimed a need for free expression."...

American Libraries Online, Dec. 4

AL Direct [<http://www.librarybeat.org/longshots/play/198>]

Sarah Long talks with George Eberhart (right), founding editor of American Libraries Direct, ALA's weekly e-newsletter, in her weekly podcast (16:23). Eberhart reveals how the newsletter got started, where content comes from, and how he seeks to make each issue "informative, practical, and amusing at times." He also explains plans for the newsletter and the AL website, as well as the impact AL Direct has had on the American Libraries magazine....

Longshots, Dec. 8

Treaty to ensure access for readers with disabilities

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=4099>]

ALA, as a member of the Library Copyright Right Alliance, filed comments (PDF file

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/wp-content/uploads/2009/12/LCA.pdf>]) to the Library of Congress Copyright Office December 4 regarding access to copyrighted works for the blind or other persons with disabilities.

The comments, which were filed jointly by the Library Copyright Alliance, the Electronic Frontier Foundation, the Internet Archive, and the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies, called for a multilateral treaty to resolve issues of accessibility for the blind and visually impaired....

District Dispatch, Dec. 7

ALA Dollars for Scholars fundraiser

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/december2009/dollars_hrd.cfm]

During the 2010 Midwinter Meeting in Boston, the ALA Office for Human Resource Development and Recruitment will offer attendees an opportunity to help support the careers of a new generation of librarians. For a \$10 donation, conference attendees can have two business cards laminated as luggage tags and be entered in a raffle for a free conference registration for the 2010 Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. All proceeds from the fundraiser will benefit the annual giving campaign for ALA general scholarship endowments....

RDA publication date

[<http://www.mail-archive.com/rda-l@listserv.lac-bac.gc.ca/msg02969.html>]

RDA: Resource Description and Access will be released in June 2010. The transition from the publication of AACR2 as a printed manual to the release of RDA as a web-based toolkit is a complex process with many interdependencies. The updated text of RDA incorporates recommendations from constituencies and other stakeholders approved at the JSC meeting earlier in 2009. Pricing and purchasing information will be available at the Midwinter Meeting in Boston....

RDA-L, Dec. 3

Gifts for library lovers

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/december2009/gifts_pub.cfm]

ALA Editions is making a special offer to help you with your holiday shopping for library professionals and anyone who loves books. Three popular titles are now available in multipacks, offering savings of up to 30% off the single copy price: The Librarian's Book of Quotes, The Back Page, and The Library: An Illustrated History. ALA Store purchases fund advocacy, awareness, and accreditation programs for library professionals worldwide....

Essential archives resources

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/december2009/saa_pub.cfm]

ALA Editions is partnering with the Society of American Archivists to make select SAA titles

[<http://www.alastore.ala.org/SearchResult.aspx?KeyWords=saa>], such as Film Preservation: Competing Definitions of Value, Use, and Practice

[<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2788>] (right) and College and University Archives: Readings in Theory and Practice

[<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2789>], available for purchase through the ALA Store. Founded in 1936, SAA is North America's oldest and largest national archival professional association....

Featured review: Environment

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=3925348]

McKibben, Bill. Eearth. Apr. 2010. 256p. Times, hardcover (978-0-8050-9056-7).

For 20 years McKibben has been writing with clarity and zeal about global

warming, initially in the hope of staving it off and now in an effort to lessen its dire impact. With climate change under way, we now live on a far less hospitable planet than the one on which our civilizations coalesced for 10,000 years amidst resplendent biological diversity. McKibben postulates that because today's planet is so much hotter, stormier, and more chaotic with droughts, vanishing ice, dying forests, encroaching deserts, acid oceans, increased wildfires, and diminishing food crops, it merits a new name: "Eaarth." Although his meticulous chronicling of the current "cascading effects" of climate change is truly alarming, it isn't utterly devastating. That's because McKibben, reasonable and compassionate, reports with equal thoroughness on the innovations of proactive individuals and groups and explicates the benefits of ending our dependence on fossil fuels, industrial agriculture, and the unbalanced, unjust global economy....

Reading the screen: Thrillers, then and now

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=3919813]

David Pitt writes: "John Godey's 1973 novel, *The Taking of Pelham*

One Two Three, has been adapted for the big screen twice—with radically different results. The novel is a lean, efficient thriller:

Four men hijack a New York City subway train and demand \$1 million in exchange for the lives of the passengers. Tension runs high, and

Godey's cleverly orchestrated conclusion is full of surprises,

including the unexpected fates of the hijackers. The first film version

was released in 1974. Robert Shaw turns in a quiet, cold performance as

Ryder, the mastermind, and Martin Balsam is perfect as Longman, the

fatalistic ex-motorman with a score to settle. Director Joseph Sargent

works with an almost military precision, and he clearly understands and

respects the source material." Pitt goes on to compare the second

adaptation with the novel, and he compares other films with the thrillers

they were based on: *Hopscotch*, *Marathon Man*, and *The Boys from Brazil*....

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

Boston Update

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The Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art

[http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/alsc/confevents/alscmidwinter/Carle_Museum_Tour.cfm]

Don't miss the opportunity to travel to this museum in Amherst January 17

and see examples of original art by Eric Carle and the artists of the

Golden Books. Participants will hear presentations by Leonard S. Marcus

and Norton Juster, as well as have time to enjoy the museum shop,

galleries, art studio, and reading library. RSVP directly with the museum

by January 8 by calling (413) 658-1155 or by email

[<mailto:programs@carlemuseum.org>]. The cost is \$50....

Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art

The Great Midwinter Kids/YA Lit Tweet-Up

[<http://alakidyalittweetup.eventbrite.com/>]

If you're a tweeting librarian, author, illustrator, publisher, agent, editor, reviewer, blogger, or anyone interested in children's and YA lit, join the Great Midwinter Kids/YA Lit Tweet-Up, January 16, 4–6 p.m., at the Birch Bar in the Westin Waterfront hotel. A few spots are left out of a total of 150. Talk social media, chat about books, share program ideas, meet the people you've been retweeting, listing, and following, see old friends....

Mitali Perkins and Deborah Sloan

The Rose Kennedy Greenway [<http://www.rosekennedygreenway.org/>]

When Boston's Big Dig project plunged previously elevated roadways underground, the city found itself rich in prime urban land. Community leaders seized the opportunity to enhance Boston's city life by providing additional parks and gardens. One of the most important public projects in Boston's history, the Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy Greenway is a series of four parks extending approximately one mile through downtown Boston. To experience the entire Greenway on foot without retracing your steps, start at either Chinatown Park in the south or at the North End Parks (above)....

Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy Greenway Conservancy

Division News

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ALCTS launches National Preservation Week

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/december2009/preservation_alcts.cfm]

Recognizing the critical role libraries play in preservation, ALCTS will sponsor the first national Preservation Week

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/alcts/confevents/preswk/index.cfm>],

May 9–15. Preservation Week intends to raise awareness of libraries' role in connecting the general public to preservation information and expertise. Events sponsored by libraries will increase preservation awareness by emphasizing the close relationships among personal, family, community, and public collections and their preservation. Preservation Week posters

[<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2823>] and bookmarks

[<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2824>] are available in the ALA Store....

YALSA's 31 Days of Dollars and Sense

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/december2009/sense_yalsa.cfm]

In December, YALSA is spotlighting 31 Days of Dollars and Sense on its blog. [<http://yalsa.ala.org/blog>] The division features daily posts on the economic difficulties libraries face and how to cope with them successfully as demand for services rises. Topics include grant writing, programming on a limited budget, finding free supplies, defending budgets, and keeping up morale. School and public librarians alike offer up their own success stories and expertise....

ASCLA summer event registration opens soon

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/december2009/soldout_ascla.cfm]

The ASCLA Midwinter Institute, "Assembling a Consulting Toolkit: What You Need to Know to Become a Successful Library Consultant," has sold out, but registration

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/registration/index.cfm>] for the next offering, scheduled for June 25 in Washington, D.C.,

in conjunction with the ALA Annual Conference, will open on January 4.

Seasoned consultants Nancy Bolt and Sara Laughlin will present an overview of library consulting....

ASCLA/COSLA reception offers desserts, networking

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/december2009/desserts_ascla.cfm]

ASCLA and the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies invite Midwinter Meeting attendees to cap their day with dessert, networking and socializing at the ASCLA/COSLA reception, January 17, 8:30–11 p.m.

The event is open to all meeting participants who are current or potential members of ASCLA. Reception guests can take advantage of desserts, coffee, and a cash bar while catching up with old colleagues and meeting new ones....

Seats available for RUSA genealogy institute

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/december2009/genealogy_rusa.cfm]

Although advance registration has ended, there are still seats available for the upcoming RUSA Midwinter Institute, "The Genealogy Reference Desk: Where Everyone Knows Your Name," a full-day workshop whose content will benefit public librarians, academic librarians, experienced genealogists, and those who are new to or have an interest in genealogy reference. The workshop will be held January 15 at the New England Historic Genealogical Society in conjunction with the ALA 2010 Midwinter Meeting. Presentations will focus on New England genealogy resources and genealogy research techniques....

LITA seeks volunteer acquisitions editor

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/december2009/acquisitions_lita.cfm]

LITA invites applications for the member volunteer position of acquisitions editor to develop topics for LITA publications, solicit suggestions for publications, interact with authors to produce the publications in manuscript format, and coordinate the editorial review of manuscripts by members of the LITA Publications Committee. Applications are due to Kristin Antelman [mailto:kristin_antelman@ncsu.edu] by December 31....

AASL's winter tour of online courses

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/december2009/winter_aasl.cfm]

School library media specialists are encouraged to sign up for AASL's winter tour of online courses. Designed to isolate problem areas, the four 4-week courses will help develop the skills and techniques to help school library media specialists bring their programs into the 21st century. Registration and course information are available online

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/aasl/conferencesandevents/eacademy/courses.cfm>]. Just for signing up, AASL is offering a free archived Learning4Life (L4L) webinar with every course registration....

AASL seeks proposals for webinars

[<http://www.aasl.ala.org/aaslblog/?p=848>]

AASL is currently seeking 60-minute webinar proposals for a Learning4Life (L4L) webinar series to be held Wednesdays in April 2010. Proposals should focus on one of the four chapters of AASL's Empowering Learners: Guidelines for School Library Media Programs. More information, a PDF of the application, and submission details can be found on the AASL website.

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/aasl/conferencesandevents/aaslrfp/aaslrfp.cfm>] The deadline is January 4....

AASL Blog, Dec. 4

Awards

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2009 I Love My Librarian Award

[<http://www.ala.org/insidescoop/2009/12/04/merry-christmas-from-new-york-to-americas-most-loved-librarians/>]

American Libraries Editor in Chief Leonard Kniffel writes: "New York City welcomed the 10 winners of the 2009 I Love My Librarian Award [http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/december2009/ilmlwinners_pio.cfm] with the lighting of the city's Christmas tree at Rockefeller Center. At least the timing made it look that way, and some 750,000 extra people in the streets made it seem as if the entire city had turned out to welcome America's favorite librarians to the December 3 award ceremony at the splendid New York Times building on Eighth Avenue. Sponsored by the Times and Carnegie Corporation of New York and administered by ALA, the award recognizes quality service and dedication by library professionals across the country."...

AL Inside Scoop, Dec. 4

West Bend library receives 2009 Robert Downs Award

[<http://www.lis.illinois.edu/oc/news/displaynews.html?source=rd-qm2Zi6hZ7KbEaeODGKkfAAQuDAf6DV-pay8UMH2k=&year=tOG8lFItJFv5z3pYQu94mw==>]

The West Bend (Wis.) Community Memorial Library has received the 2009 Robert B. Downs Intellectual Freedom Award from the faculty of the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. The faculty voted overwhelmingly to give this year's award to the West Bend Library for its steadfast advocacy on behalf of intellectual freedom in the face of a February 2009 library challenge that garnered national attention....

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign GSLIS, Dec. 8

New ALA African-American literature award

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/december2009/lifetime_olos.cfm]

A new ALA award recognizes outstanding African-American authors, illustrators, author/illustrators, and practitioners for lasting and significant contributions to youth or young adult literature. The

inaugural Coretta Scott King–Virginia Hamilton Award for Lifetime Achievement will be announced at the Midwinter Meeting in Boston, as part of the Youth Media Awards press conference on January 18. The award is named for children’s author Virginia Hamilton (1936–2002), recipient of the 1974 National Book Award and the 1975 John Newbery Medal....

YALSA names 2010 William C. Morris Award shortlist

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/december2009/morrisawardshortlist_yalsa.cfm]

YALSA has selected five books as finalists for the 2010 William C. Morris Award, which honors a book written for young adults by a previously unpublished author. YALSA will name the 2010 winner at the Youth Media Awards on January 18, during the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Boston. More information on the finalists can be found on the YALSA website [<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/yalsa/booklistsawards/morris/morrisaward.cfm>]....

[<http://www.colorwithleo.com/>]ALSC Great Web Sites for Kids

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/december2009/web_alsc.cfm]

ALSC has added 20 recommended websites to its online resource containing hundreds of links to outstanding sites for children. Great Web Sites for Kids [<http://www.ala.org/greatsites>] features links to websites of interest to children 14 years of age and younger, organized into diverse subject headings, from astronomy and space to zoos and aquariums, from games and entertainment to geography and maps....

FLA wins inaugural ALA Presidential Award for Advocacy

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/december2009/award_alta.cfm]

The Florida Library Association is the first recipient of a new ALA Presidential Award for Advocacy, sponsored by ALTAFF. FLA received the award for its work to save state funding in 2009. The ALA Presidential Award for Advocacy includes \$1,500 to the winning state campaign for the further development of citizens across the state as advocates....

Bookshelf grants

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/september2009/wethepeople_ppo.cfm]

The ALA Public Programs Office is partnering with the National Endowment for the Humanities for the seventh We the People Bookshelf project. Part of the NEH We the People program, the Bookshelf encourages young people to read and understand great literature while exploring themes in American history. The theme for the 2009–2010 Bookshelf is “A More Perfect Union.” Public and school libraries are invited to apply online [<http://publicprograms.ala.org/bookshelf/application/2009/>] through January 29. Some 4,000 libraries will be selected to receive the materials....

Coming Up Taller Award nominations

[<http://www.imls.gov/news/2009/120809.shtm>]

The Institute of Museum and Library Services invites nominations for the 2010 Coming Up Taller awards, which honor excellence in afterschool,

out-of-school, and summer arts and humanities programs for underserved children and youth. Award recipients receive \$10,000 each, an individualized plaque, and an invitation to attend the annual Coming Up Taller Leadership Enhancement Conference. Nominations (PDF file [<http://www.pcah.gov/cut/2010CUTNominationApplication.pdf>]) are due by January 29....

John Berger picks up Golden PEN Award

[<http://www.thebookseller.com/news/106032-berger-picks-up-golden-pen-award.html>]

English PEN presented John Berger with the Golden PEN Award, which celebrates an author whose “body of work has had a profound impact on readers.” The writer, who won the 1972 Booker Prize for his novel *G.*, and whose most recent novel *A-X* was longlisted for the Booker in 2008, was awarded the £1,000 prize money and commemorative golden pen December 7 by fellow author Geoff Dyer....

The Bookseller, Dec. 8

Queensland Writers Centre 2010 Johnno Award

[<http://www.qwc.asn.au/ProgramsProjects/Projects/JohnnoAward.aspx>]

Jenny Stubbs, Australian librarian and founder of the Ipswich Festival of Children’s Literature, was named the winner of the Queensland Writers Centre 2010 Johnno Award. Stubbs, who has more than 20 years experience in literacy programs for children, was recognized for her commitment to literacy and engagement through reading and writing, particularly in Queensland’s southwest rural and regional communities. Established in 2001, the Johnno Award is presented to an individual or group in recognition of an outstanding contribution to Queensland writers and writing....

Queensland Writers Centre, Dec. 3

2009 Middle East Book Awards

[<http://socialscience.tjc.edu/mkho/MEOC/index.htm>]

The Middle East Outreach Council has announced the three winners of its 2009 Middle East Book Awards. The titles are: *The Butter Man* by Elizabeth Alalou and Ali Alalou for picture book, *Wanting Mor* by Rukhsana Khan for youth literature, and *The Iranian Revolution* by Brendan January for youth nonfiction. Established in 1999, the Middle East Book Award recognizes quality books for children and young adults that contribute meaningfully to an understanding of the Middle East and its component societies and cultures....

Middle East Outreach Council

2009 Tower Hamlets Book Award [<http://www.towerhamlets-sls.org.uk/>]

The winner of the 2009 Tower Hamlets Book Award was announced to a packed audience at the London borough’s flagship superlibrary, the Whitechapel Idea Store, December 4. By a clear margin, this year’s winner was Jeff Kinney’s *Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Rodrick Rules* (Amulet, 2008). The award, now in its third year, is fast becoming recognized as one of London’s premier annual children’s book prizes and is aimed at the 9–12 age group....

Tower Hamlets Schools Library Service, Dec. 4

Seen Online

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[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WRkYmx4A9Do>]Google adds live updates to search results

[<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/12/08/technology/companies/08google.html>]

Unveiling significant changes to its search engine on December 7, Google said it would begin supplementing its search results with the updates posted each second to sites like Twitter, Facebook, and MySpace. As part of its much-anticipated entrance into the field known as real-time search, Google said that over the next few days its users would begin seeing brand-new tweets, blog items, news articles, and social networking updates in results for certain topical searches. Previously it took a few minutes for updates from social networks and blogs to filter into Google's results. Watch the demo video

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WRkYmx4A9Do>] (1:14)....

New York Times, Dec. 7; YouTube, Dec. 7

Amazon.com fails to get judge to reject Google agreement

[<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601103&sid=ac4TE0ZYSei4>]

Amazon.com, the world's largest online retailer, failed to persuade a federal judge to withdraw his preliminary approval of a settlement between Google and groups of authors and publishers over a digital book library. U.S. District Judge Denny Chin rejected Amazon.com's argument December 1 that the settlement is "doomed from the start and fails to satisfy even the low standard for preliminary approval." He said Amazon can make its arguments during a February 18 hearing to determine if the agreement should be granted final approval....

Bloomberg, Dec. 2

Sharing a sense of history at the National Archives

[<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/12/06/AR2009120602415.html>]

David S. Ferriero is the first librarian in charge of the U.S. National Archives. He comes armed with the dry wit and sense of humility friends say he brings to one of the nation's most hallowed government repositories. "I have 10 billion things I have to worry about," he said, citing the archives' estimated holdings. Ferriero, who looks as much like an amiable police detective as an academic, was nominated by President Obama on July 28 and confirmed by the Senate on November 6. His name rhymes with "stereo."...

Washington Post, Dec. 7

New York cuts library funding for the fourth time

[<http://www.watertowndailytimes.com/article/20091206/NEWS05/312069968>]

While New York schools were spared midyear cuts during the latest state deficit reduction efforts in early December, libraries will see a roughly 12% reduction in remaining funding—and library officials are worried it will affect services. Library funding has already been cut three times [http://www.nyla.org/index.php?page_id=1865] in the last 20 months, going from \$102 million in 2007 to \$99 million in 2008, to \$91 million in April 2009, and now \$87 million in this latest round—despite record increases in library usage. The \$4.2-million cut brings Library

Aid down to 1998 levels....

Watertown (N.Y.) Daily Times, Dec. 6; New York Library Association, Dec. 4

Despite Ray Bradbury's efforts, a Ventura library closes

[<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/12/09/us/09library.html>]

Even author Ray Bradbury put up a fight, but it was not enough to save the H. P. Wright branch of the Ventura County (Calif.) Library, which closed November 30. The branch, like so many around the country, had fallen on hard times as city and state budgets tightened. Bradbury, a fierce advocate for public libraries, appeared at a fundraiser in June aimed at helping to save the ailing branch. While that helped the library hang on for a bit, the long-term picture was bleak, and a recent bond measure that would have helped close a \$650,000 deficit sunk....

New York Times, Dec. 9

Aurora votes to close second-busiest branch

[<http://www.aurorasentinel.com/articles/2009/12/09/news/doc4b1ddd41c138b797094608.txt>]

A bid to save the Mission Viejo branch of the Aurora (Colo.) Public Library from closing fell short December 7, after the city council voted overwhelmingly against revising its earlier decision to shutter the facility. A resolution proposed by Councilman Bob Broom would have saved the branch from permanent closure by putting it on limited hours. After the central branch, Mission Viejo is the city's busiest library....

Aurora (Colo.) Sentinel, Dec. 8

Grad students find Jefferson letter at University of Delaware

[<http://www.udel.edu/udaily/2010/dec/jefferson120309.html>]

Two University of Delaware graduate students working in archives recently acquired by the University of Delaware Library have discovered a February 24, 1808, letter written by Thomas Jefferson about the death of another prominent Colonial figure, John Dickinson. Graduate students Amanda Daddona and Matt Davis found the letter November 5 while processing the archives of the Rockwood Museum, which the library received as a gift from New Castle County earlier in 2009....

UDaily, Dec. 7

Judge backs student in file-sharing case

[http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2009/12/08/judge_refuses_to_bar_student_from_promoting_illegal_music_downloading/]

Four record companies that were awarded a total of \$675,000 in damages after a Boston University graduate student illegally downloaded and shared music online have lost their bid to get a federal judge to order the student to stop promoting such activity. U.S. District Court Judge Nancy Gertner granted December 7 a request by the companies that she order Joel Tenenbaum to destroy the 30 songs that a federal jury found he downloaded and to not commit further copyright infringement. But she rebuffed their request to bar him from encouraging others to break the law....

Boston Globe, Dec. 8

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ml1wygMK6-k>]Rave draws hundreds to JMU library

[<http://breezejmu.org/2009/12/07/rave-draws-hundreds-to-east-campus-library>]

/]

Hundreds of students at James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Virginia, tried to cure their studying ills by throwing a rave December 6 in the lobby of the East Campus Library. The flash mob appeared about 9:35 p.m., with students arriving in the library in droves. It was quiet at first, but that changed after not even 10 minutes. A mass of students flooded the lobby, with shouts of assorted JMU cheers. Police locked the doors and did not let other students in, so hundreds stood at the doors while banging on the glass. Watch the video

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ml1wygMK6-k>] (3:31)....

James Madison University The Breeze, Dec. 7

Jersey City amnesty program reclaims 54-year-overdue book

[http://www.nj.com/ledgerlive/index.ssf/2009/12/man_returns_library_book_54_ye.html]

Frank Lancellotti finally came clean and returned the Spanish-English dictionary he borrowed from the Jersey City (N.J.) Public Library on January 12, 1955. The \$1,750 in fines will be forgiven under an amnesty program that runs for two weeks in December. Assistant Library Director Sonja Araujo said the library might put the book on display as part of an effort to encourage more people to return books....

Newark (N.J.) Star-Ledger, Dec. 6

Chicago Public Library to start reduced hours

[<http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/chicago/chi-library-city-zone-04-dec04,0,7968037.story>]

Keith Gage hadn't been to the library in so long that he let his card lapse. Now unemployed, the Chicago resident recently rediscovered the Austin branch, where he searches online job sites for free. Gage was disappointed to learn the city's library system will cut hours at its 76 neighborhood branches. On January 2, Chicago Public Library will shift to 48 hours per week from 64 at most branches. Even so, the system is building new libraries, experimenting with self-checkout, and setting up an outpost where patrons can read and pick up books....

Chicago Tribune, Dec. 4

[http://www2.wsav.com/sav/news/national/article/repeat_after_me/75089/]West Linn censorship lesson backfires

[http://www.oregonlive.com/west-linn/index.ssf/2009/12/west_linn_teachers_censorship_lesson_crosses_a_vulgar_line.html]

A longtime West Linn–Wilsonville (Oreg.) School District program about censorship and banned books stirred controversy after an Athey Creek Middle School teacher used sexual vulgarity as a part of a classroom lesson. Teacher and librarian Michael Diltz wrote two vulgar words on the board in front of 8th-graders in early December as a part of a districtwide “Banned/Challenged Book” project that explores the limits of free speech. But at a December 7 school board meeting

[http://www2.wsav.com/sav/news/national/article/repeat_after_me/75089/] (above), parents objected to Diltz's method....

Portland Oregonian, Dec. 8; NBC News Channel, Dec. 8

Woman wants sex book banned from Pataskala library

[<http://www.newarkadvocate.com/article/20091203/NEWS01/912030331>]

An area woman wants the Pataskala (Ohio) Public Library to toss out a

book she considers obscene. The book in question is Eric Marlowe Garrison's Mastering Multiple Position Sex, billed on its back cover as a lovemaking guide. Marti Shrigley said she saw the book on display while visiting the library and found it offensive. "This, to me, is porn, under the guise of a learning manual," Shrigley said. She has checked out the book, saying she has no intention of giving it back to the library and will pay the overdue fines instead....
Newark (Ohio) Advocate, Dec. 3

Yale to make additional cuts
[<http://www.yaledailynews.com/news/university-news/2009/12/03/library-make-additional-cuts/>]

The Yale University Library will soon begin cutting back on some of its resources in the face of a third round of university budget cuts. In a December 1 statement, the library announced it will reduce duplication of materials and cut journal and database subscriptions, as well as purchases of books and other print materials, by 5%. Still, the library will try to minimize the impact on faculty activity. Electronic journal subscriptions will likely be prioritized over their print counterparts....
Yale Daily News, Dec. 3

Beauvoir library begins rebuilding
[<http://www.thesunnews.com/575/story/1202324.html>]
Bertram Hayes-Davis, the 61-year-old president of the Davis Family Association, was the keynote speaker at a December 6 groundbreaking ceremony in Biloxi, Mississippi, the first step in a \$10.5-million project to rebuild the Jefferson Davis Presidential Library and Museum. In 2005, Hurricane Katrina damaged Beauvoir, the Confederate president's home, and destroyed the library and museum also located on the beachfront property....
Associated Press, Dec. 6

Artist's work too negative; for Edinburgh University
[<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/uk/scotland/article6946695.ece>]
An exhibition to mark the reopening of the Edinburgh University Library will feature a magnificent medieval psalter, dubbed Scotland's Book of Kells—but it will go ahead without a new, minimalist work commissioned from Scottish artist Douglas Gordon. It was anticipated that the 1,000-year-old psalter would be shown in the library near a new work by Gordon, who had proposed to inscribe a wall of the library in gold lettering with the words: "Every time you turn a page, it dies a little." But his proposal was frowned upon for not being positive enough, and he angrily pulled out of the project....
The Times (U.K.), Dec. 7

A monk saves threatened manuscripts
[<http://chronicle.com/article/A-Monk-Saves-Threatened/49283/>]
(subscription only)
Fr. Columba Stewart, executive director of the Hill Museum and Manuscript Library at St. John's Abbey and University in Collegeville, Minnesota, is a historian of the early monastic period. He leads the museum's ambitious and longstanding effort to find and digitize manuscripts held in monastic communities in the Middle East, Europe, and Africa. Since the 1960s, the museum has made a photographic record of more than 110,000 manuscripts,

shifting from microfilm to digital imaging as the technology has evolved....

Chronicle of Higher Education, Nov. 29

Saving Africa's precious written heritage

[<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/africa/8386866.stm>]

Across Timbuktu, in cupboards, rusting chests, private collections, and libraries, tens or perhaps hundreds of thousands of manuscripts bear witness to this legendary city's remarkable intellectual history, and by extension, to Africa's much overlooked precolonial heritage. Now, after several years of building and delays, the doors are finally about to open at the Ahmed Baba Institute

[<http://www.sum.uio.no/research/mali/timbuktu/cedrab/index.html>]'s new home in the Malian city—a 200-million rand (\$26.8 million) project paid for by the South African government....

BBC News, Nov. 30

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Tech Talk

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Top digital trends for 2010

[<http://www.digitalmediabuzz.com/2009/12/top-digital-trends-for-2010/>]

Nuri Djavit and Paul Newnes write: "In 2009, digital marketing experienced some major shifts in marketing opportunities, budgets, and attitude. 2010 will see the hype calming around Facebook apps and Twitter campaigns and the development of ROI models around social media marketing. The following trends are based on thoughts we have shared with our clients and now share with DMB's readers."...

Digital Media Buzz, Dec. 3

No cancer risk from mobile phone use

[<http://www.guardian.co.uk/society/2009/dec/04/cancer-mobile-phones-risk-brain-tumour>]

Increased use of mobile phones since the late 1990s is not causing a rise in the frequency of brain tumors, a Scandinavian study

[<http://jnci.oxfordjournals.org/cgi/content/abstract/djp415>] has found.

The survey of cancers reported among 16 million adults in Denmark, Finland, Norway, and Sweden found no related, observable change in the incidence of cases up until 2003. Published in the Journal of the National Cancer Institute, the research suggests that if there is any risk from regular use, it would take more than 5–10 years for the tumors to appear. But wearing a cell phone on your hip could lead to bone density problems

[http://www.webmd.com/news/20091027/cell-phone-on-hip-may-weaken-bone?ecd=wnl_hbn_120709]....

The Guardian (U.K.), Dec. 4; WebMD Health News, Oct. 27

Google Goggles for your mobile phone

[http://www.pcworld.com/article/184011/confirmed_google_goggles_will_reach_other_platforms.html]

Google Goggles

[http://www.pcworld.com/article/183933/a_handson_tour_google_goggles_visual_search.html], released to Android users

[<http://www.google.com/mobile/goggles>] December 7, allows you to search on your cell phone simply by snapping photos: You point your phone's camera at a place or object, and it delivers detailed information to you within seconds. PC World has confirmed with Google that the Goggles app will indeed reach other platforms. However, you may not want to hold your breath for the Android exclusivity to end....

PC World, Dec. 7-8

Top 100 free apps for your smartphone

[<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2356415,00.asp>]

can get into the app game. PC Magazine editors have sifted through a huge stack of apps to find the best free ones for almost every phone....

PC Magazine, Dec. 1

[<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2352453,00.asp>]

PC [<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2356567,00.asp>]

Joel Santo Domingo writes: "For a truly connected and immersive gaming experience, desktop PCs reign supreme. They are more upgradable than laptops, and it's still easier to install game expansion packages on PCs than on consoles. The new 120Hz monitors have heralded a new chapter in 3D gaming, and you simply can't get all the new gaming bells and whistles unless you have a high-powered gaming machine. That said, you don't necessarily have to buy the most expensive desktop to play the most popular games."...

PC Magazine, Dec. 3

Sony goes berserk with future gaming controller

[http://news.cnet.com/8301-17938_105-10411469-1.html]

If you find many Wii Remote attachments (such as fishing rods and tennis rackets) unconventional, wait till you check out what Sony Computer Entertainment has detailed in its latest patent. The application documents an "expandable control device via hardware attachment" with the unmistakable square, triangle, circle, and cross buttons unique to all PlayStation [<http://www.cnet.com/ps3.html>] game consoles. What makes this wand-like controller special, though, is its modular design for various configurations....

CNET News: Crave blog, Dec. 8

How HTML5 will change the way you use the web

[<http://lifehacker.com/5416100/how-html5-will-change-the-way-you-use-the-web>]

Kevin Purdy writes: "Firefox and Safari partially support it, Google's Wave and Chrome projects are banking on it, and most web developers are ecstatic about what it means. It's HTML5, and if you're not exactly sure what it is, here's an explainer: HTML5 [<http://dev.w3.org/html5/spec/Overview.html>] is a specification for how the web's core language, HTML, should be formatted and utilized to deliver text, images, multimedia, web apps, search forms, and anything else you see in your browser. In some ways, it's mostly a core set of standards that only web developers really need to know. In other ways, it's a major revision to how the web is put together."...

Lifehacker, Dec. 1

How to catch up

[<http://www.davidleeking.com/2009/12/05/seth-godins-good-advice/>]

David Lee King writes: “I recently read ‘Is It Too Late to Catch Up?’

[http://sethgodin.typepad.com/seths_blog/2009/12/is-it-too-late-to-catch-up.html] at Seth Godin’s blog. The post is great—it includes ideas on

how to catch up if you haven’t really done much in the web and social media world for the last 14 years. One of Seth’s points is this:

You need to create your web presence yourself. Especially if you want that web presence to reflect your library’s values, be truly dynamic on an ongoing basis, and be one of your major service points.”...

David Lee King, Dec. 5; Seth Godin’s Blog, Dec. 3

Publishing

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Baker & Taylor acquires Blackwell North America

[http://www.baker-taylor.com/viewnews.cfm?press_id=208&typ=c]

Book distributor Baker & Taylor announced December 7 it has acquired Blackwell Book Services North America and Blackwell’s Australia-based James Bennett bookseller. As part of the deal, Blackwell U.K. will acquire Baker & Taylor’s Lindsay and Croft business in the U.K. The combination of B&T’s YBP Library Services and Blackwell’s North American and Australian businesses brings together two of the world’s largest academic and research library service providers....

Baker & Taylor, Dec. 7

NPR’s best YA fiction of 2009

[<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=121173632&ft=1&f=1032>]

Jonathan Hunt writes: “During the past decade young adult literature has seen a number of critical and commercial successes that have rejuvenated the genre, transforming it from the redheaded stepchild of the literary world into one of the most dynamic and exciting niches in publishing. The conventional problem novel, once a staple of YA fiction, is now complemented by a variety of genres and formats. These titles may be marketed to your teens and tweens, but beware: You’ll find yourself reading them just as compulsively.”...

National Public Radio, Dec. 8

: Agent of change

[<http://observatory.designobserver.com/entry.html?entry=11367>]

Steven Heller writes: “Few American magazines are agents of change. Most are chroniclers of their time and place, lightning rods rather than lightning. Then came Ramparts in the mid-1960s. Ramparts was the clarion of new aesthetics, politics, and social mores. It exposed CIA involvement in American colleges and universities and reintroduced muckraking to American journalism. In providing alternatives to the dominant culture, Ramparts nurtured the New Left’s emerging sensibilities, which for better or worse helped foment the revolutionary spirit of the time.”...

Observatory: Design Observer, Nov. 30

Unconventional children's books

[<http://kidcrave.com/uncategorized/unconventional-childrens-books/>]

Children's books don't just help our kids develop better reading skills, but they can be extremely important in shaping their values and helping them understand complicated issues. But there are a lot more books on the shelf (or Kindle library) than there were when we were kids. Covering topics like prison, drugs, and conservatism, there are some very unconventional children's books out there today....

KidCrave

Favorite book covers of 2009, part 2

[<http://nytimesbooks.blogspot.com/2009/12/favorite-book-covers-of-2009-part-two.html>]

Joseph Sullivan writes: "Here's the second of this year's Favorite Covers of 2009 posts, chosen by some of the staff members of RiverRun Bookstore [<http://www.riverrunbookstore.com/>] in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. Some contributors chose to let the covers speak for themselves, others

provided some words about their choices. Like Part 1, [<http://nytimesbooks.blogspot.com/2009/11/favorite-book-covers-of-2009-part-one.html>] there is a poll."...

Book Design Review, Dec. 6

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

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Actions & Answers

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White House unveils Open Government Directive

[http://news.cnet.com/8301-13772_3-10411429-52.html]

The Obama administration officially unveiled on December 8 its Open Government Directive (PDF file

[http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/assets/memoranda_2010/m10-06.pdf]), a document that charges each federal agency with making high-value data publicly available and coming up quickly with formal open government plans. The directive requires

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=4106>] executive departments and agencies to publish government information online, improve the quality of the information, create and institutionalize a culture of open government, and create an enabling framework for open government....

CNET News: Geek Gestalt, Dec. 8; District Dispatch, Dec. 8

It's the content, stupid

[<http://www.americanlibrariesmagazine.org/features/12012009/it's-content-stupid>]

Steven Escar Smith and Holly Mercer write: "Libraries and librarians have an important stake in the development of online scholarship. Many benefits will come from the growth of digital monographs and journals as

well as the development of scholarly websites, online archives, blogs, wikis, and other outlets for research even farther afield from the traditional models. There are, however, many impediments to the digital transition, and as key stakeholders in this arena, librarians must understand the obstacles as well as the advantages.”...
American Libraries, Jan./Feb.

The real-time web may kill the radio star
[<http://scholarlykitchen.sspnet.org/2009/12/07/the-real-time-web-may-kill-the-radio-star-unless-radio-toughens-up/>]
Kent Anderson writes: “Can we go back to an age of publisher-centric content distribution? While the wishful thinking of news providers might be fulfilled by withholding content from the search engines and extracting revenue deals in exchange for crawling and indexing that content, the money will never materialize because access to news isn’t controllable in the modern information age. The real issue is this: The useful lifespan of proprietary news has decreased from days (pre-newspaper), to hours (newspaper and network news), minutes (cable news), and seconds (blogs, search, Twitter, Facebook).”...
The Scholarly Kitchen, Dec. 7

First carbon-positive library in the United States
[<http://www.anythinklibraries.org/news-item/anythink-brighton-becomes-first-carbon-positive-library-us>]
Anythink Brighton, a branch of the Rangeview Library District in Adams County, Colorado, has become the first carbon-positive library in the U.S. Through a combination of the library’s 108kW photovoltaic system (right), geothermal heating and cooling, sustainable building features, the purchase of carbon credits, and the collaborative spirit of the project, Anythink Brighton is offsetting 16% more carbon than it is using. Total energy savings for the district will be upwards of \$30,000 per year....
Rangeview Library District, Dec. 8

PLCMC is now Charlotte Mecklenburg Library
[http://www.plcmc.org/About_Us/in_The_News/releaseDetails.asp?id=408]
The Public Library of Charlotte (N.C.) and Mecklenburg County is gradually shifting to its new, much shorter name—the Charlotte Mecklenburg Library. The century-old institution began using its new name in November after filing paperwork with the county and notifying the state librarian. However, very few visible signs of the change have been seen yet, due to a gradual rollout process geared toward saving resources in a tight budget year. Next steps will include using the new name on printed materials as supplies run out and switching the look and URL of the website [<http://www.cmlibrary.org>] in January...
Charlotte Mecklenburg Library, Nov. 30

webinar [<http://www.wgbh.org/programs/ProgramDetail.cfm?programID=43>]
WGBH-Boston is hosting a free webinar for high school teachers and librarians on December 17, 4–5 p.m. Eastern Time. The event will focus on the library event kit developed for the We Shall Remain PBS television series. The presenters include former ALA President Lorie Roy and AASL President Cassandra Barnett. To participate, visit the WGBH website [<https://wgbh2.na4.acrobat.com/weshallremain>]; to listen by phone, call

toll free (888) 394-8197, participant passcode 757416....
WBGH-TV

Survey: Campus technology is underused

[http://www.ecampusnews.com/news/top-news/?i=62114;_hbguid=8d3f9297-12fe-4557-a663-50df514eb7fd]

Fewer than half of college students responding to a national survey said their professors are using instructional technology, and educators worry that the technology gap between faculty and students might hinder campus learning. Students are using far more technology tools than their professors, according to CDW-G's 21st Century Campus Report. [<http://newsroom.cdwg.com/features/feature-11-02-09.html>] Some 31% of students said they use an iPod for educational purposes, compared to 12% of faculty, and 52% of students use open-source tools like Google Apps, compared to 14% of faculty....

eCampus News, Dec. 8; CDW-G, Nov. 2

ARL Statistics, 2007–2008

[<http://www.arl.org/news/pr/ARL-Statistics-7dec09.shtml>]

The Association of Research Libraries has published ARL Statistics 2007–2008, the latest in a series of annual publications that describe the collections, staffing, expenditures, and service activities of ARL's 123 member libraries. The complete data series from 1908 through the present represents the oldest, most comprehensive, continuing library statistical series in North America....

Association of Research Libraries, Dec. 7

How five trends will reshape the social sector

[<http://www.irvine.org/publications/new-publications>]

A new report (PDF file

[http://www.lapiana.org/downloads/Convergence_Report_2009.pdf])

commissioned by the James Irvine Foundation highlights five key trends and how their convergence will shape the social sector of the future.

Based on extensive review of existing research and in-depth interviews with thought leaders and nonprofit leaders and activists, it explores the trends (demographic shifts, technological advances, networks enabling work to be organized in new ways, rising interest in civic engagement and volunteerism, and blurring of sector boundaries) and looks at the ways nonprofits can successfully navigate these changes....

James Irvine Foundation, Nov.

Displays on a dime

[<http://yalsa.ala.org/blog/2009/12/05/dollars-and-sense-5-displays-on-a-dime/>]

Karen Perry writes: "Displays can be so important in encouraging teens to read or to broaden their reading habits. And there is nothing more satisfying for a teen librarian than to have a book display emptied out by teen readers. So how do you accomplish these wonders? And how do you do it without spending money? It's called the power of suggestion. Here are a few specific theme ideas for book displays using recycled, free, cheap, or borrowed materials to get your creative juices flowing."...

YALSA Blog, Dec. 5

Presidential libraries

[<http://libraryhistorybuff.blogspot.com/2009/12/presidential-libraries.html>]

Larry Nix writes: "Fundraising and planning for the George W. Bush Presidential Library, [<http://www.georgewbushlibrary.gov/>] which will be located on the campus of Southern Methodist University in Dallas, is well underway. The way presidential libraries are established and operated is dictated by federal law. The archives and artifacts of a president are administered by the National Archives. The first presidential library in which the archives of a president were deliberately housed at a single location was what is now referred to as the Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center [<http://www.rbhayes.org/hayes/>] in Fremont, Ohio."... Library History Buff Blog, Dec. 7

Durham in line to host the Lindisfarne Gospels

[<http://medievalnews.blogspot.com/2009/12/durham-in-line-to-host-lindisfarne.html>]

The Lindisfarne Gospels, one of the world's great treasures, could be heading to Durham's World Heritage Site in 2013. Durham is bidding to become the U.K.'s 2013 City of Culture and wishes to display the gospels during that year. The British Library has agreed to work with Durham University, Durham Cathedral, and Durham County Council towards a three-month loan of the gospels, subject to the satisfactory completion of a six-month feasibility study.... Medieval News, Dec. 8

Green tips and gift ideas for the holidays

[<http://greeningyourlibrary.wordpress.com/2009/12/06/green-tips-gift-ideas-for-the-holidays/>]

Beth Filar Williams writes: "Plant a tree in someone's name from Eco-Libris. [<http://www.ecolibris.net/>] Make a wish list at a variety of online sites or email it to close friends or family. Give the gift of experiences or activities. Feed and hydrate your loved ones. Seeds: the gift that will continue to keep on giving. Honor your loved one with a donation in their name. Reuse papers to wrap gifts. Be creative with shipping containers and ways of packing the goodies."... Going Green @ your library, Dec. 6

Gift ideas for your book group

[<http://bookgroupbuzz.booklistonline.com/2009/12/04/gift-ideas-for-your-book-group/>]

Neil Hollands writes: "Here's a holiday dilemma: Do you buy presents for your book group? If you're particularly well off or the member of a very small book group, this isn't so difficult. But if you're like me, making the big bucks in a job that pays like my library job does, even \$8 a person for paperbacks might be a budget breaker. Never fear, there are inexpensive gifts to be had, enough to celebrate the season and show you care without denting that battered wallet or purse any further."... Book Group Buzz, Dec. 4

Librarian lump of coal gift guide

[<http://100scopenotes.wordpress.com/2009/12/08/librarian-lump-of-coal-gift-guide/>]

Travis Jonker writes: “In need of gift ideas for the insufferable librarian in your life? You’re in luck. With help from CafePress and Etsy, the 100 Scope Notes Librarian Lump of Coal Gift Guide has you covered. For example, for librarians who can’t remember what their profession is: The appropriately named ‘Librarian Sweatshirt.’ This pairs nicely with pants that say ‘pants’ on them.”...
100 Scope Notes, Dec. 8

Win \$2,500 for your library
[<http://www.earlyword.com/2009/12/08/win-2500-for-your-library/>]
Early Word is offering the opportunity for YA librarians to win \$2,500 for their libraries by showing off what they do to make kids passionate about reading. Sponsored by Asset Based Thinking for Teens and James Patterson’s Read Kiddo Read, the program will donate \$2,500 to a library for creating a program that sparks the passion for reading in teens. Submit [<mailto:info@earlyword.com>] a program plan by December 31....
EarlyWord: The Publisher/Librarian Connection, Dec. 8

Hot coffee [<http://www.mcsweeneys.net/links/librarian/35.html>]
Scott Douglas writes: “There was nothing odd about a mentally challenged man having a borderline nervous breakdown in front of me screaming ‘Coffee!’ The mentally challenged are frequent visitors to the library, and frequent visitors to these dispatches. When something unusual happens in this regard, I usually take a deep breath and find the patron’s life coach. This day, however, the life coach was nowhere to be found, which made the man my problem.”...
Dispatches from a Public Librarian, no. 35 (Dec. 3)

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YylRvoMdTRI>]Capistrano Cowgirls win book cart contest at CSLA
[<http://smesnews.org/today/2009/11/23/librarians-named-grand-champions-at-book-cart-drill-team-competition>]
The Capistrano Cowgirls of St. Margaret’s Episcopal School library in San Juan Capistrano, California, were named grand champions at the California School Library Association’s Book Cart Drill Team Competition in Ontario November 19. The team, consisting of Karen Angus, Bonnie Bauer, Rosemary DeSa, and Library Director Darla Magaña, entered the arena with book carts decorated with steer heads, saddles, and wagon wheels, performing to the 1988 Escape Club hit, “Wild, Wild West.” Watch the video [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YylRvoMdTRI>] (2:56)....
St. Margaret’s Tartan Today, Nov. 23; YouTube, Dec. 1

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CD1VOA3IBcQ>]Play “Who Wants to Be a Librarian?” [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CD1VOA3IBcQ>]
The telecommunications staff at the Bossier Parish (La.) Community College produced and acted in this quiz-show spoof (5:33) for the campus library as a way to promote its services. Written by Production Coordinator Jonathan Posey, who plays the game-show host....
YouTube, Dec. 2

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-fICrVTZmWo>]Top five library videos on YouTube: TV commercial edition
[<http://www.atyourlibrary.org/top-5-library-videos-youtube-tv-commercial-ed>]

ition]

Charlie Thomason writes: “Have you ever seen a television commercial for your local public library? Although not all libraries have them, some have created highly imaginative and entertaining ways of informing people about their services. For our biweekly series of YouTube library videos, we present to you five of the best library commercials on YouTube.” This video (above, 0:30) was the winner of a Gold Addy and the 2004 Ralph Gabbard Television Excellence award....

@ your library, Dec. 4

Go back to the Top [#top]

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edition.unsubscribeLink %>](#)]

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[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/midwinter/2010/index.cfm>]

ALA Midwinter Meeting,

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/midwinter/2010/information.cfm>] Boston, January 15–19.

[http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/hall-erickson/alacognotes_preview2010/]

Cognotes is the daily paper of the ALA Midwinter Meeting. This interactive issue

[http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/hall-erickson/alacognotes_preview2010/]
offers a glimpse of the highlights of the Boston meeting.

[<http://www.alastore.ala.org/SearchResult.aspx?CategoryID=279>]

The Library: An Illustrated History and The Librarian’s Book of Quotes are great gifts for the holidays

[<http://www.alastore.ala.org/SearchResult.aspx?CategoryID=279>] for all who love reading and libraries. NEW! From ALA Editions.

In this issue
Dec. 2009

[<http://site.ebrary.com/lib/ala>]

Building Bridges between Students and Faculty

Buena Casa, Buena Brasa

Deployed to Iraq

Career Leads from

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

Executive Director,

[<http://joblist.ala.org/modules/jobseeker/controller.cfm?scr=jobdetail&jobid=14057>] Connecticut Library Consortium. CLC is a statewide membership collaborative serving all types of Connecticut libraries by initiating and facilitating cost-effective services to strengthen their ability to serve their users. Responsibilities: Establishing and coordinating organizational goals, program directions, and services; developing and cultivating partnerships with other statewide nonlibrary groups; monitoring actions of the state legislature that may impact upon CLC and serving as its advocate; engaging in budget planning and oversight; hiring and managing all staff and supervising all operations; coordinating membership communications; and marketing CLC to its constituencies....

[<http://www.facebook.com/pages/ALA-JobLIST/47377008761>]

[http://twitter.com/ALA_JobLIST]

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

Digital Library of the Week

[http://contentdm.unl.edu/cdm4/item_viewer.php?CISOROOT=/comics&CISOPTR=185&DMSCALE=12.5&DMWIDTH=600&DMHEIGHT=600&DMX=0&DMY=0&DMMODE=viewer&DMTEXT=&RE=C=14&DMTHUMB=1&DMROTATE=0]

The Government Comics Collection

[<http://contentdm.unl.edu/cdm4/browse.php?CISOROOT=%2Fcomics>] at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln is a database of more than 180 comic books and related items, such as congressional hearings dealing with comics. Through funding from UNL Undergraduate Creative Activities and Research Experiences and the Pepsi Foundation, Media Services Librarian Richard Graham worked from fall 2007 to spring 2009 to launch this collection, which continues to grow. Most of the materials he has gathered were created by governments and given to citizens or soldiers as a sort of crash course in foreign culture and relations during critical times, such as the onset of World War I. Included are documents from federal and state governments in the United States as well as comics created by the United Nations, European Union, Canada, and Ghana.

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 see the web and everything it stands for as being an immense improvement over our old arrangements. It’s absurd to sit around sentimentalizing about the decline of the book in the face of the kind of knowledge that the web now gives us, and the research it allows us to do.”

—Terry Belanger, MacArthur Fellow and founder of the Rare Book School, in
“The Book Mechanic,” Chronicle of Higher Education,
[<http://chronicle.com/article/The-Book-Mechanic/49310/>] Dec. 6.

TweetWatch

Follow:

Coalition for Networked Information, Fall Membership Meeting, Washington, D.C., Dec. 14–15, at:
#cni09f [<http://twitter.com/#search?q=%23cni09f>]

Mediabistro, E-book Summit, New York City, Dec. 15–16, at:
#ebooksummit [<http://twitter.com/#search?q=%23ebooksummit>]

American Libraries news stories, videos, and blog posts at: amlibraries
[<http://www.twitter.com/amlibraries>]

Ask the ALA Librarian

Q. Using several sources, both print and online, I’ve tracked down the type of art media used in many of the Caldecott Medal–winning books, but I haven’t been able to find some of the older ones, so my list is incomplete. Can ALA help with this? I just want the art media for the Caldecott winners, not the honor books, if that helps.

A. ALSC, which is responsible for the Caldecott and Newbery Medals, publishes a book every year that lists the winning titles, The Newbery and Caldecott Awards: A Guide to the Medal and Honor Books

[<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2602>].
[<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2602>] Starting with the 1991 edition, an article appeared by Christine Behrmann containing the art media information for each Caldecott title, both winners and honors, titled, “The Media Used in Caldecott Picture Books: Notes toward a Definitive List.” It originally appeared in the Winter 1988 issue of the Journal of Youth Services in Libraries and was reprinted every year in the back of the book, with changes, updates, and any needed corrections to keep the list up-to-date and accurate. The Newbery and Caldecott Awards: 2008 Edition was the last to reprint an updated version of Behrmann’s original article. Starting with the 2009 edition, the art media information now appears as part of the entry for the book entry itself. From the ALA Professional Tips wiki
[http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Art_Media_in_the_Caldecott_Medal_Books].

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

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/publications/crlnews/2009/dec/index.cfm>]

Susan D. Herring, Robert R. Burkhardt, and Jennifer L. Wolfe discuss the Athens State University embedded librarian program, designed to bring the library to online students, in their article “Reaching Remote Students”
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/publications/crlnews/2009/dec/reachremote.cfm>] in the December issue of College & Research Libraries News.

Calendar

Dec. 20:
Do Nothing But Read Day.
[<http://donothingbutreadday.blogspot.com/2009/12/introducing-first-ever-do-nothing-but.html>] You must read more than one book, put on comfy clothing, wear no shoes, and consume beverages and snacks.

Jan. 7–10:
Consumer Electronics Show, [<http://www.cesweb.org/default.asp>] Las Vegas Convention Center / Las Vegas Hilton and the Venetian.

Jan. 11–12:
Public Libraries and Access to Justice Training,
[<http://www.selfhelpsupport.org/libraries/>] Austin, Texas. The deadline for teams to apply is December 11.

Jan. 22–24:

International Conference on Agents and Artificial Intelligence,
[<http://www.icaart.org/index.htm>] Hotel Sidi Saler, Valencia, Spain.

Jan. 29:
Bibliographical Society of America, [<http://www.bibsocamer.org/>] New York City.

Feb. 5:
Online Northwest, [<http://www.ous.edu/onlinenw/>] Oregon State University, Corvallis.

Feb. 13–15:
Design Principles and Practices,
[<http://designprinciplesandpractices.com/Conference-2010/>] University of Illinois, Chicago.

Mar. 1–31:
Pop Culture in Libraries,
[<http://www.simmons.edu/gslis/careers/continuing-education/workshops/online.php#popculture>] online course hosted by Simmons GSLIS.

Mar. 17–18:
Time Management for Librarians,
[http://www.lyrasis.org/?sc_itemid={0448017C-F3F2-4FC5-8FAF-8E666605D1F2}]
live online course hosted by Lyrasis.

Mar. 22–23:
Museums Advocacy Day.
[<http://www.speakupformuseums.org/MuseumAdvocacyDay.htm>]

Mar. 22–24:
Council on East Asian Libraries,
[<http://www.eastasianlib.org/CEAL/AnnualMeeting/CEALMeetingSchedule/CEAL2010.htm>] Philadelphia Marriott Downtown.

Mar. 31–
Apr. 3:
Popular Culture Association / American Culture Association,
[<http://www.pcaaca.org/conference/national.php>] Joint Conference,
Renaissance Grand Hotel, St. Louis.

Apr. 6–8:
Catholic Library Association, [http://www.cathla.org/convention_2010.php]
Annual Conference, Minneapolis. “Leadership, Direction, Service.”

Apr. 7–9:
New Mexico Library Association, [<http://nmla.org/annual-conference-2010/>]
the Lodge at Sierra Blanca, Ruidoso. “Evolve, Enrich, Empower:
Libraries Transform!”

Apr. 12–14:
Computers in Libraries, [<http://www.infotoday.com/CIL2010/>] Hyatt Regency
Crystal City, Arlington, Virginia.

Apr. 14-17:

Texas Library Association, [<http://www.txla.org/conference/conf.html>]
George R. Brown Convention Center, San Antonio.

Apr. 23-26:

Art Libraries Society of North America,
[<http://www.arlisna.org/boston2010/>] Annual Conference, Boston.
“Revolution and Innovation: At the Hub of Discovery.”

Apr. 26-28:

New Jersey Library Association, [<http://njla.pbworks.com/Conference-2010>]
Ocean Place Resort, Long Branch.

Apr. 26-29:

International Association of Agricultural Information Specialists,
[http://iaald2010.agropolis.fr/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+Delicious%2Fiaald%2Fconference+%28AgInfo+conferences%29]
IAALD 13th World Congress, Montpellier, France.

Apr. 30-

May 4:

American Educational Research Association,
[<http://www.aera.net/2010AnnualMeeting.htm>] Annual Meeting, Denver.
“Understanding Complex Ecologies in a Changing World.”

May 9-15:

Preservation Week.

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/alcts/confevents/preswk/index.cfm>]
Celebrate collecting and preservation in your community and highlight
your institution as a source of preservation information.

May 11-14:

American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works,
[<http://www.conservation-us.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=Page.viewPage&pageId=710>]
Annual Meeting, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. “The Conservation Continuum:
Examining the Past, Envisioning the Future.”

May 15-16:

Connections 2010, [<http://conferences.fims.uwo.ca/connections2010/>] a
conference for LIS doctoral students and candidates, University of
Western Ontario, London.

May 19-22:

Association for Recorded Sound Collections,
[<http://www.arsc-audio.org/conference/>] Annual Conference, Chateau
Bourbon, New Orleans.

May 25-27:

BookExpo America, [<http://www.bookweb.org/events/bea>] Jacob K. Javits
Center, New York City.

June 2-4:

Canadian Association for Information Science,
[<http://www.cais-acsi.ca/cfp2010.htm>] Annual Conference, Concordia

University, Montreal, Quebec. "Information Science: Synergy through Diversity."

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

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 **SCHOOLROOMS**
A new learning portal for K-12

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



U.S. & World News

[New Colorado facility becomes first carbon-positive library](#)

Thanks to solar panels, a geothermal heating and cooling system, and a gift of carbon-offset credits, Rangeview Library District's new Anythink Brighton, Colorado, [branch](#) is believed to be the first carbon-positive library in the United States. The building, which opened in September, offsets 167,620 pounds of carbon dioxide—16% more than it is anticipated to use annually....

American Libraries Online, Dec. 12



[Staff shortages stymie service stability in Philly](#)

Attrition, layoffs, and budget cuts have been plaguing the Free Library of Philadelphia's 54 branches since the fall, making it difficult for the system's reduced workforce to maintain five-day-a-week service in the neighborhoods. "The library is critically short-staffed," Friends Director Amy Dougherty said in the December 14 *Philadelphia Daily News*. "Librarians [are] completely stressed out. They wake up not knowing what branches they're going to that day."...

American Libraries Online, Dec. 15

[Dupree in Afghanistan](#)

Blue-eyed octogenarian and information advocate Nancy Hatch Dupree (right) is a rare bright spot in Afghanistan today. But the impact of her work can only be fully appreciated in its brutally unglamorous context. The National Archive of Afghanistan is plagued by preservation challenges, with no heat, electricity, or climate control, and an infestation of insects that are destroying the collections. And there is almost no publishing industry. But despite all odds, Dupree has dedicated a lifetime to documenting and preserving Afghanistan's cultural heritage, spearheading an effort to develop the Afghan Center at Kabul University....

American Libraries, Jan./Feb.



[ALA Midwinter Meeting.](#)

Boston, January 15–19.

Make the connections you want at the new

[Networking](#)

[Uncommons](#) space in the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center. It's a dedicated area where you can gather in small groups to have a quick meeting, polish your presentation, or just recharge your batteries. Tables, chairs, power strips, and a projector for general use (first come, first served) will be available, as well as some 2.0 gadgets. Meet and greet, or bring something to eat. Look for signs in Lobby B near the entrance to the Exhibit Hall and the ALA Store.

ALA News

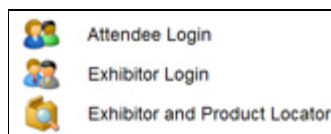
[ALA asks for library positions in jobs bill](#)

The ALA Washington Office has prepared a proposal ([PDF file](#)) to include jobs for librarians in the Jobs for Main Street Act, which was taken up on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives December 16. The bill, which bypassed the standard procedure of introduction and passage in committee, calls for immediate action by library supporters. See the background ([PDF file](#)) on the bill....

District Dispatch, Dec. 16

[Midwinter Meeting Event Planner](#)

The 2010 Midwinter Meeting schedule ([PDF file](#)) with room assignments is now available. The [Event Planner](#) is also open to fully registered attendees, who will be able to create a personalized agenda and search for meetings, programs, and events. To log in, use the email address you provided when you registered and the generic password "ala." If you are having any problems with the Event Planner or with logging in, contact [Karee Williams](#)....



[U.S. copyright statement at WIPO](#)

The Library Copyright Alliance strongly supports the statement ([PDF file](#)) made December 15 by Justin Hughes (right), head of the U.S. delegation at the session of the World Intellectual Property Organization Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights in Geneva, Switzerland. Hughes expressed support for library-endorsed international copyright policies during his speech on copyright exceptions and limitations for persons with print disabilities. Carrie Russell, Director of the ALA Program on Public Access to Information, said Hughes's statement demonstrates that leadership in the White House is maintaining its emphasis on the importance of ensuring access for all....



District Dispatch, Dec. 16

Booklist ONLINE

[Featured review: Online reference](#)

Grzimek's Animal Life. Oct. Gale. *Grzimek's* has long been a standout on the reference shelves. Bernhard Grzimek (1909–1987) served as director of the Frankfurt Zoo for more than 30 years, and when the original 13-volume *Grzimek's Animal Life Encyclopedia* was published in the U.S. in the 1970s, it distinguished itself from older animal encyclopedias



In a dynamic new portrayal of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's most famous characters, [Sherlock Holmes](#) sends the intrepid Holmes and his stalwart partner Watson to bring down a new nemesis and unravel a deadly plot. This poster will inspire patrons to rediscover Doyle's classic tales in anticipation of the film's release December 25. **NEW!**
From ALA Graphics.

In this issue Dec. 2009



**Building Bridges
between Students
and Faculty**

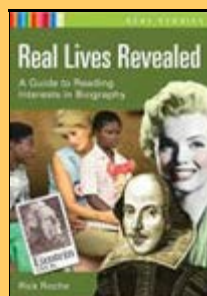
**Buena Casa, Buena
Brasa**

Deployed to Iraq

by dealing with behavior and conservation rather than just appearance and habitat. In 1989 McGraw-Hill published a substantial revision of the four volumes of *Grzimek's* that dealt with mammals, and many librarians fondly remember *Grzimek's Encyclopedia of Mammals* for its illustrations as much as for its content. Gale undertook a revision of the complete set, and the new *Grzimek's Animal Life Encyclopedia* was published in 17 volumes beginning in 2002. Now, Gale has taken *Grzimek's* online and added videos, audio clips, interactive tools, and links to periodicals ranging from *Field and Stream* to the *Journal of Orthoptera Research*, real-time news, and websites....

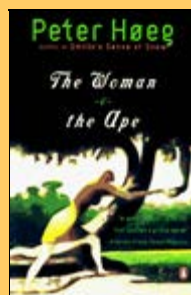
Readers' advisory

Merle Jacob writes: "Libraries Unlimited has added a new and very needed book to its Real Stories Series for nonfiction readers' advisory. This one organizes and analyzes the biography genre, the most popular nonfiction subject in libraries. Only third-person biographies are covered; another entry in the series will be covering autobiographies, memoirs, and letters. Author Rick Roche found titles by looking at small and medium-sized public library collections, reference books, review journals, and book-review blogs and internet sites, but a title's inclusion in *Real Lives Revealed* is based on interest, readability, publishing date (2000–2008), length, and availability in libraries. Because of these criteria, many older biographies and classic titles are not included."...



Gold in the stacks

Booklist Editor Bill Ott writes: "It's best-books-of-the-year time, but I have a problem. Many of my favorite titles of 2009—Dara Horn's *All Other Days*, Michael Malone's *The Four Corners of the Sky*, Mark Frost's *Game Six*, and Wil Haygood's *Sweet Thunder*, for example—have already been celebrated in my *American Libraries* column. So that leaves me looking beyond the borders of 2009. It's easy to focus only on what's new. Every librarian knows, on the other hand, that the stacks are full of gold—books that need only a readers' advisor to give them new life. I'm especially fond of *The Woman and the Ape* (1996, above), an audacious mix of fantasy, fable, myth, and love story."...



American Libraries Online, Dec. 15

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

Boston Update

Where to eat in Boston

Betsy Clarke and Jessica Snow write:
"Welcome to Boston, ALA attendees! The city



Atyourlibrary.org is the website for ALA's public awareness campaign—the Campaign for America's Libraries, which promotes the value of libraries and librarians. The mission of the site is to be a catalyst that drives people to their local libraries and to encourage a long-term, vibrant relationship between communities and their libraries.

Career Leads from

ALA JobLIST



Dean of University Libraries and Archives

Emporia State University, Emporia, Kansas. Responsible for all areas of library and archive management including strategic planning, fiscal management, personnel supervision, policy and program development, collection development, public and technical services, and facilities planning. Serving as the executive director of the William Allen White Children's Book Award is also an expected duty....



has a world of mouth-watering restaurants to sate every palate. Boston is made up of distinct neighborhoods that each offer a view into the life of Bostonians, and this guide is arranged that way as well. The city is compact and walkable, and it has a good public transportation system of subways and bus lines to get you to whichever neighborhood you choose to dine in. Bon appétit!"...

American Libraries, Jan./Feb.



[ARTS guide to Boston](#) (PDF file)

The ACRL Art Section has put together a selective guide to cultural attractions and events in the Boston area for the benefit of Midwinter attendees. It covers the areas of Downtown/Old West End, The Fenway/Kenmore Square, Cambridge, South Boston, Columbia Point, and Back Bay, and offers suggestions on art museums, galleries, architecture, film, theatre, music, dance, and arts centers....

ArtsGuide, Boston



[Boston Public Library's Author Talk series](#)

Join the Boston Public Library in welcoming a talented group of authors to its 2010 Author Talk series taking place during the Midwinter Meeting. Toby Lester (right, *The Fourth Part of the World*) will tell the story of the Waldseemüller map of 1507 at 6 p.m. on January 14. National Book Award-winning author Ha Jin (*A Good Fall*) and George Saunders (*The Braindead Megaphone*) will read selections from their books at 1:30 p.m. on January 17....

Boston Public Library



[Amtrak discount for Midwinter](#)

Amtrak offers a 10% discount off the lowest available rail fare to Boston January 12–22. The package includes travel up to three days prior to the meeting start date and three days following the last day. To book your reservation call Amtrak at (800) 872-7245 or contact your travel agent. Refer to Convention Fare Code X98Y-968 when making your reservation; a 10% discount has been approved. When calling, you need to say "operator" or "agent" during the automated calling to be referred to a live agent....

Division News

[AASL 14th National Conference video recap](#)

AASL's closing session in Charlotte in November featured a video (3:34) capturing the fun and excitement of the four days of conference. See your colleagues and get a glimpse of what lies in store for AASL attendees in Minneapolis in 2011....

YouTube, Dec. 15



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twitter

@ [More jobs...](#)

Digital Library of the Week



The [David Rumsey Map Collection Database](#) has over 21,000 maps and images online. The collection focuses on rare 18th- and 19th-century North American and South American maps and other cartographic materials. Historic maps of the World, Europe, Asia, and Africa are also represented. Popular collection categories include [antique atlas](#), [globe](#), [school geography](#), [maritime chart](#), [state](#), [county](#), [city](#), [pocket](#), [wall](#), [children's](#), and [manuscript](#) maps. With Luna Imaging's Insight software, multiple maps from different time periods can be viewed side-by-side. Viewers can also create their own collections of maps that hold particular interest by saving groups of images. Complete cataloging data accompany each

[Register for RUSA preconferences](#)

Registration for RUSA's 2010 preconferences, held prior to the Annual Conference in Washington, D.C., will open January 4. Events will address topics such as genealogy reference, the present state and future path of reference services, and how to use interlibrary loan statistics to make business decisions. Advance [registration](#) is \$140 for RUSA members, \$155 for ALA members, \$175 for nonmembers, and \$120 for student and retired members....

[Issues facing sci-tech librarians](#) (PDF file)

Join the ACRL Science and Technology Section Hot Topics Discussion Group for a lively discussion of issues facing academic science and technology librarians, January 16, at the Midwinter Meeting in Boston. To spark the conversation they will start with a presentation by William Mischo and Mary Schlembach from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign's Grainger Engineering Library Information Center....

[Midwinter social for reference and user services librarians](#)

Kick off the Midwinter Meeting in style with the RUSA Membership Social, an opportunity to eat, drink, network, and learn more about RUSA. The social, held January 15 in the Rooftop Ballroom at the Omni Parker House, is open to all current RUSA members, friends of RUSA, and those attendees interested in learning more. RUSA leadership and longtime members will be on hand to answer questions about ways to get involved with the division, which serves a broad range of library professionals....

[Registration open for ALSC winter courses](#)

Registration is now open for ALSC winter [online courses](#), which begin February 1 and last four to six weeks. Space is limited. The course selections are: Connecting with Tween Readers; Information Literacy—From Preschool to High School; The Newbery Medal: Past, Present and Future; Reading Instruction and Children's Books; and Series Programming for Elementary School Age. Discounted rates are available for ALSC members....

Awards

[Photoessay: I Love My Librarian Awards 2009](#)

Ten librarians were recognized for their outstanding service December 3 as the 2009 winners of the Carnegie Corporation of New York/*New York Times* I Love My Librarian award. The winners were selected by more than 3,200 library users from academic, public, and school libraries nationwide. The award—now a collaborative program of the Carnegie Corporation of New York, the *New York Times*, and ALA—will continue through 2012....

American Libraries Online, Dec. 16



[2010 YALSA Nonfiction Award finalists](#)

YALSA has selected five books as finalists for the 2010 Excellence in Nonfiction for Young Adults, which honors the best nonfiction books written for young adults between November 1, 2008, and October

image, enabling in-depth searches of the collection. Digitization of the collection began in 1996. For the first time since its launch in 1999, the website was completely redesigned and updated in 2009. A [blog](#) has been added to the site that includes entries for recent additions, news, featured maps, related sites, and videos. Over 200 historic maps from the collection can be viewed in a [new browser-based version](#) of Google Earth, and users can enter the Second Life version of the map collection directly from a dedicated [Second Life portal page](#) on the site. The collection ticker at the bottom of the home page shows the entire online map library in random order over about 10 hours. All maps can be downloaded for free directly from the site at full resolution. The larger maps generate files frequently approaching 2 GB in size; the average file size of images in the collection is 200 MB. David Rumsey is president of Cartography Associates, a digital publishing company based in San Francisco, and is chairman of Luna Imaging, a provider of enterprise software for online image collections.

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 [I Love Libraries](#) site.

31, 2009. This is the first time the awards have been announced. YALSA will name the 2010 winner at the Youth Media Awards on January 18, during the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Boston....

[YALSA nominated for Edublog Award](#)

The Edublog Awards nominated the YALSA Blog for Best Group Edublog of 2009. Anyone can [vote](#), until midnight Eastern Time December 16. YALSA's blog could win a one-year subscription to Edublogs Campus software and a 10-seat Elluminate web-video conference room for one year....

[Cincinnati library wins Ohio Auditor's Award](#)

The Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County received an Ohio Auditor's 2008 Making Your Tax Dollars Count Award. Ohio Auditor Mary Taylor bestowed the award to the top 5% of finance directors in the State. Recipients were honored for their careful spending, accurate fiscal recording, and efficiency....

Cincinnati Enquirer, Dec. 11



[Contra Costa wins grant for "Snap & Go" technology](#)

The Contra Costa County (Calif.) Library has been awarded a \$60,000 Bay Area Library and Information Systems innovation grant to create a mobile platform that will push new and existing library content and services into the hands of cell phone users. The "Snap & Go" project will allow county residents with mobile phones and a library card to access library materials, enhanced content, and manage their accounts without having to visit a library building or gain access to a computer....

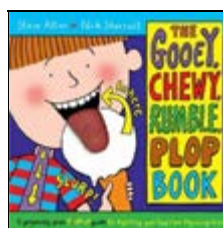
Contra Costa County (Calif.) Library, Dec. 14



[2009 Educational Writers Award](#)

The combined talents of illustrator Nick Sharratt, writer Steve Alton, and Designer Sally Symes have won the 2009 Educational Writers Award for their *Goopy, Chewy, Rumble, Plop Book* (published in the U.S. by Dial, 2007). The award was presented December 3 at the All Party Writers Group Christmas Reception hosted by Member of Parliament Janet Anderson of the U.K. House of Commons. The award celebrates educational writing that encourages students to read widely and build up their understanding of a subject beyond the requirements of exam specifications....

PRNewswire, Dec. 4



Seen Online

[Congress clears the way to fund LSTA](#)

The U.S. Senate passed omnibus legislation December 13 that included the Labor, HHS, and Education appropriations, clearing the bill for the President's signature. The final version, which passed the House a few days before, included a slight increase for Library Services and Technology Act funding. LSTA was appropriated \$213.5 million for FY2010, a 0.63% increase over FY2009....



Staff at [Loyola Marymount University's](#) William H. Hannon Library got creative for the holidays with their *National Union Catalogue Pre-56* volumes.

Public Perception

How the World Sees Us

"Too often a response to closing school libraries is a description of how the digital age is here and libraries are obsolete. This could not be further from the truth. We will always need the printed page. The internet provides no easy solution to the hard work of research. Librarians will tell you true research includes printed copy of standardized material, often not available on the internet.

"Taking into account the current state of the economy, many families in this area can afford neither internet access, nor the computers to give them that access. Nor are

District Dispatch, Dec. 16

Warnings mount as Ohio budget clock ticks

Ohio Gov. Ted Strickland says he will call the state legislature back to Columbus on Christmas day if necessary if it recesses for the holidays without reaching agreement on how to resolve the budget deadlock. The administration released a new analysis December 15 of how failing to shore up the budget could cost higher education more than \$600 million over the next 18 months. Ohio colleges and universities could expect a 15% cut in state aid in the fiscal year ending June 30 and up to 17% the following year. The Ohio Library Council [urges action](#)....

Columbus (Ohio) Dispatch, Dec. 16; Ohio Library Council



France to digitize its literary works

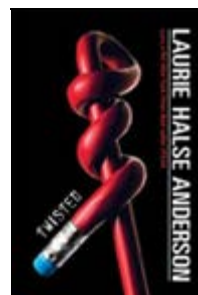
French President Nicolas Sarkozy pledged nearly \$1.1 billion December 14 toward the computer scanning of French literary works, audiovisual archives, and historical documents, an announcement that underscored his government's desire to maintain control over the country's cultural heritage. Sarkozy said the money pledged will finance a public-private partnership that will digitize the nation's cultural works. The money is [expected](#) to go to boosting Gallica, France's own book-scanning project linked to Europeana, the EU's digital library. Others suspect that the partnership could also involve Google....

New York Times, Dec. 14; *The Telegraph* (U.K.), Dec. 14

Laurie Halse Anderson reflects on book challenges

For Laurie Halse Anderson, another season of book-ban attempts has come and gone. The author of many books for children and young adults, Anderson is moving into a writer's cottage, built by her husband, in the woods in Oswego County, New York. But the start of this school year saw six banning challenges of her books *Twisted* and *Speak* in schools in Pennsylvania, Indiana, Kentucky, and California....

Syracuse (N.Y.) Post-Standard, Dec. 13



Anaheim city schools cut library positions

Anaheim, California, school trustees voted unanimously December 14 to cut about \$9.7 million from their 2010–11 spending plan, mostly by eliminating 136 jobs—including 12 librarian positions. District officials said they need to trim \$9.6 million more in coming weeks. Librarian Kathy Heard told the school board that students would suffer by not having libraries adequately staffed....

Orange County (Calif.) Register, Dec. 14

Boca Raton pastor demands library nativity scene

Pastor and talk-show host Rev. Mark Boykin is upset about what he saw at the Boca Raton (Fla.) Public Library: The holiday display has a menorah (right) and other decorations, but no nativity scene. The library lobby has a gorgeous Christmas tree, but Boykin said that has nothing to do with his faith. He said he will be donating a nativity scene to the display, and he's not backing down....



encyclopedias commonly found in today's households. We cannot assume that public school students have home computers, much less internet access. With both parents working, a ride to the nearest public library probably is not an option for lots of students."

—Pamella Binder, responding to news that the Bay City, Michigan, board of education is proposing to close libraries in its three secondary schools, Letter to the Editor, *Bay City Times*, Dec. 12.

Ask the ALA Librarian



Q. I work for a small library in Illinois. We are interested in possibly lending (checking out for two weeks, then the book "disappears") out e-books. We have no information at all. Can you help us, or know of anyone who can? Funds are severely limited.

A. The ALA Library has collected some information about [e-books](#) and [electronic collection development](#) that may be of assistance as you

WPBF-TV, West Palm Beach, Fla., Dec. 15

[Patrons owe Pittsburgh library \\$1 million in late fees](#)

Thousands of Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh patrons who owe late fees are nickel-and-diming the library system to the tune of more than \$1 million. The library system collected \$350,000 in fines last year, but, at any given time, patrons owe the Carnegie about three times that, said Sheila Jackson, assistant director for main library services. As of December 11, the library system was owed \$1.5 million in fines for overdue or lost books, DVDs, and other materials. The library board [approved](#) raising late fees on books to 30 cents, from 25 cents, beginning January 1....

Pittsburgh (Pa.) Tribune-Review, Dec. 15-16

[Norwell selectmen face angry library supporters](#)

Norwell selectmen faced an angry crowd of more than 60 library supporters December 14 who feared that the Norwell (Mass.) Public Library could close, and were upset about how they learned the news. Under an idea that was discussed recently by Hanover officials, Norwell's library would close and the town would pay Hanover to use its new library. Norwell library trustees heard about this through Hanover, and not from Norwell selectmen, who claimed they were not planning to close the library, but because the town is facing a budget deficit of at least \$2 million next year, all avenues of savings are being considered....

Boston Globe, Dec. 15

[Chicago's St. Mark Gospel is a forgery](#)

Scholars and scientists have peered closely at the blotchy parchment pages of the University of Chicago's Gospel of St. Mark and declared the tiny, hand-written, hand-illustrated book a fake. The findings are to be published early next year in *Novum Testamentum*. The manuscript, written in Greek and purchased by the university in the 1930s, originally was believed to have been written as early as the 14th century. But strong suspicions that it might not be nearly so old surfaced in 1989. Carbon dating, advanced microscope technology, and good sleuthing uncovered a faker's crafty handiwork....

Chicago Sun-Times, Dec. 16



[Gourmet's famine is NYU's feast](#)

Nancy Mattoon writes: "When publisher Condé Nast sliced *Gourmet* magazine from its lineup in October, foodies nationwide mourned the passing of a culinary standby. But at least one librarian saw the magazine's starvation as a chance to pluck a prize plum. Marvin J. Taylor, director of New York University's Fales Library, [told](#) the *New York Times* he 'got on the horn immediately.' Even if the magazine was toast, the remaining crumbs could beef up his mushrooming Food and Cookery Collection (on the third floor of Bobst Library)."...

Seattle Post-Intelligencer: Book Patrol, Dec. 16; *New York Times*, Dec. 15



[Music collecting in an age of downloading](#)

Jeremy Eichler writes: "As I haul boxes of CDs down to a basement room, I've been thinking not only about the virtues of high-tech listening but also about what's been lost in our headlong sprint into

pursue this service. While there are many dedicated e-book readers available, there are also vendors who offer libraries of e-books which can be downloaded to your patrons' computers. From the [ALA Professional Tips wiki](#).

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



For one year only, [Library Advocacy Day](#) will replace National Library Legislative Day. On June 29, 2010, library advocates from all 50 states and Washington, D.C., will meet at Upper Senate Park on the U.S. Capitol grounds. The event, which will begin at 11 a.m., will feature guest speakers, photo ops, and a chance to cheer on libraries. After the rally, participants will meet with their elected officials and their staffs.

Calendar

Jan. 16-17:
[Association of Research Libraries](#).
Annual Leadership Symposium, Boston.

the digital future. This is not a Luddite's lament, or a *cri de coeur* about the significantly reduced audio quality of those compressed MP3 files. I love having more music at arm's reach than ever before, I love taking it with me wherever I go. But I do find myself wondering why, exactly, collecting music now means so much less."...

Boston Globe, Dec. 13

Boulder library circulates energy meters

Residents can check out one of the city's 18 new Kill-A-Watt energy meters from the Boulder (Colo.) Public Library to monitor the electricity demands of such home appliances as refrigerators, cell phone chargers, and televisions. Users can keep it for up to three weeks. The Kill-A-Watt meters can measure electricity use over time and come up with an average rate of use, or they can measure the instant increase in demand. The Denver Public Library has a similar program....

Boulder (Colo.) Daily Camera, Dec. 14



A trip to Bountiful library's used bookstore

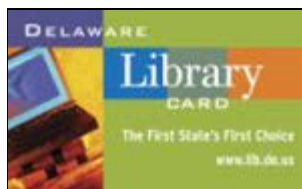
Bountiful (Utah) Elementary School Librarian Sheri Thompson would love to keep her shelves stocked with new books. But she is on a shoestring budget, so she discovered a creative way to generate a few extra bucks: She opened a used bookstore inside the school's library. The store offers titles for children and adults, as well as an eclectic array of treasures, which Thompson found in the basement, affectionately known by the Bountiful Elementary community as "our dungeon."...

Salt Lake Tribune, Dec. 9

Delaware develops joint catalog

Most of Delaware's libraries are linking their catalogs into a database that now totals one million items and will top 2 million when the unification project is finished. The Delaware Library Catalog will allow residents with library cards to easily get material sent to their local libraries from elsewhere in the state. State Librarian Annie Norman said that the merger takes advantage of economies of scale to develop deep and varied collections....

New Castle (Del.) News Journal, Dec. 10



The Conshohocken Gingerbread Library

For its December 13 Winter Solstice Celebration, Conshohocken (Pa.) Free Library Friends member Jen Borovicka designed and baked a striking gingerbread replica of the 152-year-old Victorian Gothic Revival building that will be raffled off as a fundraiser. Borovicka estimates it took 30 to 40 hours to make the edible library—finished in rolled fondant and decorator's frosting and embellished with sweet strings of faux Christmas lights and a red-bowed wreath....

Fort Washington (Pa.) *Montgomery News*, Dec. 9

Broken Bow settles spat over cat

A cat fight over the longtime feline resident of the Broken Bow (Nebr.) Public Library has been averted. The fur began flying after a November 24 city council meeting when

Feb. 1–12:

Google Book Search in Depth, online workshop hosted by the University of Maryland's University College Center for Intellectual Property.

Feb. 1–28:

The Open Movement and Libraries, online workshop hosted by Simmons Graduate School of Library and Information Science.

Feb. 16–18:

Introduction to Dublin Core Metadata, online course hosted by BCR.

Feb. 25–26:

Encoded Archival Description, Tulane University, New Orleans. Workshop hosted by the Society of American Archivists.

Feb. 28–

Mar. 2: **National Federation of Advanced Information Services**, Annual Conference, Hyatt at the Bellevue, Philadelphia.

Mar. 3–5:

WebWise Conference on Libraries and Museums in the Digital World, Denver Art Museum. "Imagining the Digital Future."

Mar. 4–7:

Association of Architecture School Librarians, Annual Conference, New Orleans.

Mar. 21–24:

Music Library

Councilman Doug Smith said two constituents could not visit the library because of the cat. But City Administrator Tony Tolstedt said that after learning about the role that TLC (Top Library Cat) has played at the library over the past decade and of his widespread support, he's all for the cat. Library Director Joan Birnie said she would try to accommodate anyone with allergies by moving the cat into a back room....

Omaha (Nebr.) World-Herald, Dec. 3



[Heirloom dollhouse donated to branch library](#)

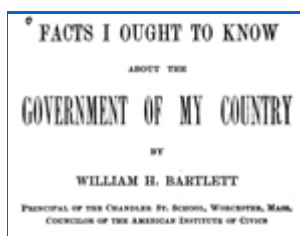
Parker Armstrong led a busy life as a U.S. Navy vice admiral in 1977 when he began building a large three-story dollhouse in his spare time. After his death six years ago, his widow Jean decided to donate it to the Ponte Vedra Beach branch of the St. Johns County (Fla.) Public Library. Some 60 people attended the dedication December 9. The library Friends group custom-built a Plexiglas case for the dollhouse, and installed a circuit to light its electrified rooms....

Jacksonville (Fla.) Times-Union, Dec. 13

[Another overdue book: 99 years](#)

There was no spring in his step as Stanley Dudek approached the entrance to the New Bedford (Mass.) Public Library December 14 with a book tucked under his arm. Dudek was returning it on behalf of his deceased mother, and he was feeling a tad nervous because the book was 99 years, seven months, and 12 days overdue. *Facts I Ought to Know about the Government of My Country* by William H. Bartlett should have been returned to the library on May 2, 1910....

New Bedford (Mass.) Standard-Times, Dec. 15



[Medway Public Library recertified](#)

After nearly three years without it, Medway (Mass.) Public Library regained its certification in early December from the state Board of Library Commissioners. Budget woes forced the library to lay off workers and cut hours to make ends meet, but it lost its certification in February 2007. A state grant in 2008, a municipal budget increase in 2009, and donations secured by the Friends group allowed the library to stay open for the required 32 hours per week and obtain the minimum amount of books and materials....

Milford (Mass.) Daily News, Dec. 9

[BBC and British Library to build digital archive](#)

The BBC and the British Library are collaborating on a digital technology project to open up their archives and give the public greater online access to a vast cultural treasure trove. Under a memorandum of understanding signed December 11, the two institutions will provide greater digital access to both the British Library's archive of more than 150 million items collected over the past 250 years and nearly one million hours of TV and radio output from the BBC, which has been broadcasting since 1922....



[Association.](#)
[Southern California Chapter.](#) Annual Conference, Paradise Point Resort and Spa, San Diego, California.

Apr. 19–21:
[DrupalCon San Francisco.](#) Moscone Center South.

Apr. 26–30:
[World Wide Web 2010.](#) Raleigh Convention Center, North Carolina.

Apr. 28–30:
[Massachusetts Library Association.](#) Annual Conference, Hyannis Resort and Conference Center.

May 6–9:
[Asian Festival of Children's Content.](#) The Arts House, Singapore. Its goals are to develop, promote, and facilitate writing, illustrating, and publishing Asian children's books.

May 13–14:
[Delaware Library Association.](#) Annual Conference, Rollins Center at Dover Downs Hotel, Dover.

May 13–15:
[American Society for Indexing.](#) Annual Conference, Minneapolis Marriott City Center Hotel.

June 24–29:
[American Library Association.](#) Annual

The Guardian (U.K.), Dec. 11

[Medical library unveiled on Saipan](#)

The first hospital library equipped with new computers and medical books opened December 1 at the Commonwealth Health Center in Saipan, capital of the U.S. Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The facility was built using a portion of a grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, which awarded the Ayuda Foundation \$390,000, split among eight recipients in the Pacific region....

Saipan Tribune, Dec. 2

[Go back to the Top](#)

Tech Talk

[Google's augmented reality stickers](#)

Michael Clarke writes: "The *New York Times* [reported](#) earlier this week that Google is shipping out stickers with QR Codes (sophisticated bar codes that are easily recognized by cameras) that can be affixed to physical objects like storefront windows. A cell phone with a camera, a web browser, and the right software can then read the sticker and link, via the mobile web, to a new [places page](#) in Google Maps that aggregates information about that location. The idea of connecting physical objects to online data about those objects is a very good one with many applications. However, the technology already exists to accomplish much the same thing without the need for stickers."...

Scholarly Kitchen, Dec. 11; *New York Times*, Dec. 7



[How to restore your privacy on Facebook](#)

Ryan Tate writes: "Facebook's [privacy rollback](#) is especially terrible because it's so hard to reverse. Settings are so bewildering that even Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg has fiddled with his two or three times this month. The social network is [defaulting most people](#) to share their private content widely with strangers, in an obvious [bid](#) to grow traffic and to compete more directly with Twitter. Then there's the content the company is trying to take from you and make [entirely public](#). So here's a guide to reprivatizing your profile."...

Gawker, Dec. 15



[Viruses that leave victims red in the Facebook](#)

Malicious programs are rampaging through websites like Facebook and Twitter, spreading themselves by taking over people's accounts and sending out messages to all of their friends and followers. The result is that people are inadvertently telling their coworkers and loved ones how to raise their IQs or make money instantly, or urging them to watch an awesome new video in which they star....

New York Times, Dec. 13



[Decentralizing your web services](#)

David Lee King writes: "People aren't visiting our websites (well, not in droves, anyway). They are going to other places, like Facebook. If

Conference,
Washington, D.C.

Aug. 10–15:

[World Library and Information](#)

[Congress](#), 76th IFLA

General Conference

and Assembly,

Gothenburg, Sweden.

"Libraries Promoting
Reading in a
Multicultural,
Multilingual Society."

@ [More...](#)

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you have a Facebook page, check out your page demographics. (Facebook provides some basic stats on Facebook page visitors.) Who's your main audience in Facebook? Doing anything for that group of patrons already? If so, you might think of taking it one step further, and pointing them directly to the Facebook page."...

David Lee King, Dec. 9

[PC Magazine Editors' Choice printers](#)

M. David Stone writes: "The key division between categories for general-purpose printers is between office printers, home printers, and printers that can serve as home printers or SoHo (small office or home office) printers or both. For each of these, we have separate categories for single-function and multifunction printers, and for office printers, we have separate categories for monochrome and color. Here's a list of printers that earned an Editors' Choice designation in 2009, with their categories identified."...

PC Magazine, Dec. 16



[Five higher ed tech trends to watch](#)

Bridget McCrea writes: "Nearly all aspects of college are being handled in some way by the applications, hardware, and gadgets that help institutions work more efficiently. Don't expect much of that to change in 2010 as more technology is developed and introduced to the higher education market. To make your trend-spotting activities easier, we spoke with some higher education technology experts and came up with these five top tech trends to watch in the new year."...

Campus Technology, Dec. 9

Publishing

[Kirkus Reviews folds](#)

The book industry got another taste of the apocalypse with the news that *Kirkus Reviews*, the venerable prepublication book review journal, was closing. Founded in 1933, *Kirkus* churned out nearly 5,000 reviews a year, often used by librarians and booksellers when deciding how to stock their shelves. Nielsen Business Media [told employees](#) at a December 10 meeting that they, along with sister magazine *Editor & Publisher*, would not be included in the sale of the company's publications. (According to preliminary numbers from MediaFinder.com, 367 U.S. periodicals [shut down](#) in 2009, fewer than the 526 that disappeared in 2008.) Booklist Online Editor Keir Graff [comments](#) on the effect of the loss on *Booklist*....

New York Times, Dec. 11; *School Library Journal*, Dec. 11; *Crain's New York Business*, Dec. 11; Edward Champion's *Reluctant Habits*, Dec. 11



[The endless first chapter](#)

Michelle Slatalla writes: "I used to read books all the time. But now? The last book I read was John Galsworthy's *Forsyte Saga*, which I finished more than a month ago. I don't really believe that one day reading will disappear entirely or that my children will never learn to think analytically. But I do believe this: I need books. Then I thought of the advice that YALSA President Linda Braun had given me a few days earlier, and I remembered why I like the 21st century so much."...

of any external site should be addressed to the administrator of that site.

American Libraries

50 E. Huron St.
Chicago, IL 60611
www.ala.org/alonline/
800-545-2433,
ext. 4216

ISSN 1559-369X.

New York Times, Dec. 7

Best comics for kids, 2009

Katherine Dacey writes: "Best-of lists can be fiercely difficult to compose, as even the most voracious reader can miss a great title or favor certain genres over others. That's why we at Good Comics for Kids assembled a crack team of reviewers to ensure that our list reflected the depth and breadth of 2009's best kid-friendly offerings. We divided the list into three broad categories of best comics for young readers, tweens, and teens."...

Good Comics for Kids, Dec. 8



20 best SF books of the decade

Annalee Newitz writes: "After much mulling and culling, we've come up with our list of the 20 best books of the decade. The list is weighted towards science fiction, but does have healthy doses of fantasy and horror. And a few surprises. In deciding which would make the list and which wouldn't, we weighed not only our opinions, but also those of the critical community at large—looking at how each book was received by reviewers for mainstream publications as well as science fiction magazines."...

io9, Dec. 11



Should publishers delay e-book releases?

Nathan Bransford writes: "More big news in the ever-evolving e-book landscape as two publishers (Hachette and Simon & Schuster) told the *Wall Street Journal* that they would be [delaying](#) the e-book release of some of their important upcoming titles, HarperCollins told the *New York Times* that they would [delay](#) 5–10 titles a month, and Macmillan said they would delay on a case-by-case basis. Why are publishers doing this?"...

Nathan Bransford: Literary Agent, Dec. 10; *Wall Street Journal*, Dec. 9; *New York Times*, Dec. 9

10 biggest challenges e-books face

Abhi writes: "As we enter the golden age of e-readers we may very well see an unthinkable transition—in the next 5–10 years e-books might end up selling more units than physical books. The Kindle has already led to a situation where Amazon sells 48 e-books for every 100 physical books (when both are available). But e-books are a giant mess. There's a wide gulf between how readers, publishers, e-reader companies, and e-book sellers see them. Here are the biggest challenges."...

Kindle Review, Dec. 13

Open-access encyclopedias

Steve Kolowich writes: "Can an information source that is free also be reliable? Or does the price of content always reflect its value? *Encyclopedia Britannica*, the genre's sturdiest brand, has been marginalized in the Internet

Age by Wikipedia and Google—tools it dismisses as untrustworthy. Quality, Britannica says, comes at a price. Meanwhile, a number of academic institutions are quietly trying to do what Britannica and others say can't be done: build online encyclopedias that are rigorous, scholarly, and free to access."...

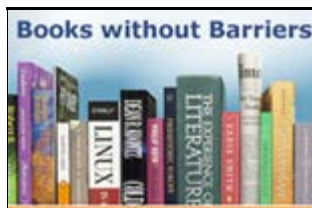
Inside Higher Ed, Dec. 14



Bookshare adds digital textbooks for print-challenged students

Students who are blind, have low vision, or have a learning disability that requires computer-generated speech and highlighted text soon will have more resources after publisher Flat World Knowledge announced December 14 that it will make its content available to Bookshare, the largest web-based library for people with print disabilities. Bookshare will add 11 new digital textbooks to its online library, which has been bolstered in the past year by contributions from colleges and universities hoping to bring reading material to students who can't see standard print or can't turn a page....

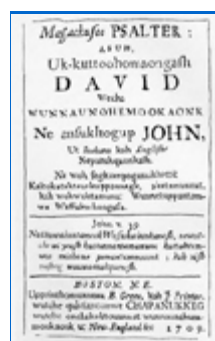
eSchool News, Dec. 15



Top 10 books of 1709

Jill Lapore writes: "Something north of 150,000 books were published in 2009. That number daunted me, so I got to thinking of a year, three centuries ago, when, in all of the British mainland colonies, only 31 books were printed (if you discount a handful of broadsheets, proclamations, and volumes of laws). The pickings are slim—and grim—but here are my Top Ten Books of 1709." Number 9 is the *Massachusetts Psalter* (right), a book of psalms translated into Algonquian and set into type by a Nipmuc Indian named James Printer, whose fonts were discovered in 2008 during an archaeological dig in Harvard Yard....

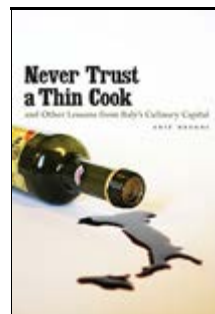
New Yorker: The Book Bench, Dec. 7



Best book covers of 2009, part 3

Joseph Sullivan writes: "This third and final list of favorite covers from independent booksellers was selected by hometown favorite [The Book Table](#) in Oak Park, Illinois. They've chosen some wonderful covers from small, university, and foreign publishers, so help me out with the credits if you can. Again, as in past weeks, there's a poll at the bottom. Vote for your favorite." See also parts [one](#) and [two](#)....

Book Design Review, Dec. 13



Actions & Answers

Gates Foundation: Libraries need more cash for broadband

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation told the Federal Communications Commission December 9 ([PDF file](#)) that the government should spend more money on high-speed internet upgrades for public libraries and schools. The FCC should make it easier to apply, too. The main conduit for upgrade support comes from the FCC's Universal Service Fund E-Rate program, but there are concerns that the application process is too complicated and the cap

is set far too low....

Ars Technica, Dec. 14

SLA name will stay

Voting in record numbers, SLA members failed to approve a proposal to change the organization's name to the Association for Strategic Knowledge Professionals. Half of those members eligible to vote participated in the referendum, with 2,071 voting yes and 3,225 voting no. The name-change proposal stemmed from the findings of the Alignment Project, a two-year research effort aimed at understanding the value of the information and knowledge professional in today's marketplace....

SLA Blog, Dec. 10



Google's new personalized search results

Danny Sullivan writes: "On December 4, Google made the biggest change that has ever happened in search engines, and the world largely yawned. Maybe Google timed its announcement that it was personalizing everyone's search results just right, so few would notice. Maybe no one really understood how significant the change was. Whatever the reason, it deserves much more attention than it has received so far. The days of normal search results that everyone sees are now over. Personalized results are the 'new normal,' and the change is going to shift the search world and society in general in unpredictable ways."...

Search Engine Land, Dec. 7

Buffalo library school helps set up patient library

The University at Buffalo Department of Library and Information Studies has joined forces with staff volunteers from the Western New York Children's Psychiatric Center to open a new patient library at the hospital's West Seneca facility. The new library, aided by a \$5,000 grant from the Laura Bush Foundation, provides services to seriously emotionally disturbed children and adolescents from the eight counties of Western New York....

University at Buffalo, Dec. 11

UNC library school Prague Summer Seminar

The University of North Carolina School of Information and Library Science is offering a seminar on libraries and librarianship in the Czech Republic, May 23-June 5. International programs are open to all students and professionals, not just students at UNC Chapel Hill. Cosponsored by Charles University in Prague, the seminar is available for academic credit. Register by March 1....

University of North Carolina SILS



Brand Perception 2.0

Meredith Farkas writes: "Many librarians have tried to play a role in educating young adults about developing a presence on social networking sites. They have warned teens that nothing online ever really disappears and that compromising photographs or derogatory posts can impact their future job prospects. Online identity is built upon all of the things we have put online and the things people have posted about us. Online identity isn't something we should only be concerned about as individuals. Organizations are now looking at how their brands are perceived online."...

Ryerson University Library in Toronto ran a survey in November to help them make informed decisions about providing library services via mobile device and to see how the mobile landscape was evolving. The results showed what types of devices were in use, what they were being used for, what services students might want on their next device, and what mobile library services users were interested in seeing. Some 66% of undergrads had a smartphone, 79% said free Wi-Fi was very important, but more than half were unaware of the mobile services the library offered....

Importance of free WiFi to Undergrads

Importance Level	Percentage
Really not important	79.65%
Not important	12.87%
No opinion	4.09%
Important	3.34%
Very important	2.04%

According to a University of Illinois expert in media literacy, not only are critics who argue that texting is synonymous with literary degradation wrong, they also often overlook the bigger role that both texting and tweeting could play in education and research. Library and Information Science Professor Carol L. Tilley says that schools and libraries should consider embracing texting and tweeting as a means of engagement rather than simply outlawing it. For example, students could text reference questions to school librarians without having to ask for a hall pass or having to wait until lunch. Another study shows that social media is also beneficial for [community college students](#)....

Cornell University Library is sharing tens of thousands of digitized books with the Internet Archive. The new collaboration repurposes nearly 80,000 books that the Library has already digitized in-house or through its partnership with Microsoft and Kirtas Technologies. [All the books](#) are in the public domain, printed before 1923 mainly in the United States. They cover a host of subject areas, including American history, English literature, astronomy, food and wine, general engineering, and the history of science....

Diann Benti writes: "The American Antiquarian Society's [*The Children's Friend: A New Year's Present*](#) is one of just two known copies of this 1821 pamphlet. Fifteen centimeters tall and eight pages deep, the paper-covered volume stood little chance of survival in the hands of generations of American children. In 1897, the society received it as the childhood book of one of its presidents, Stephen Salisbury III. What makes this little book so important? Put simply, it is believed to be the first American Christmas picture book."...



Past Is Present, Dec. 7, 14

[Summary of objections to the Google Books Settlement](#) (PDF file)

The New York Law School's Public-Interest Book Search Initiative has released this summary of the objections raised to the original proposed settlement in the *Authors Guild v. Google* litigation: "We identified 76 distinct issues, which we grouped into 11 categories. This report briefly summarizes each issue, provides an illustrative quotation from a filing with the court, and indicates any related changes in the amended settlement."...

Public-Interest Book Search Initiative, Dec.

[A freebie from ebrary](#)

Gary Price writes: "One of the most impressive freebies on the internet comes from ebrary. We've mentioned it before. It's officially called [ebrary Discover](#). Users (you don't need to have a subscription) can search and read more than 20,000 full-text books online (recent titles) in a wide array of disciplines from a variety of publishers. The financial aspect only comes in to play if you want to print or save a page. Ebrary also offers 140 full-text searchable (and free) e-books and other 'authoritative materials' for information professionals in its [Library and KM Center](#)."...

ResourceShelf, Dec. 14



[Information literacy gets mobile](#) (PDF file)

Peter Godwin writes: "How does the mobile revolution fit in with information literacy? With the development of the iPhone and other smartphones there is now less need for websites to have special mobile versions. But before we become too enthusiastic about mobile use, we should recognize that the variety of devices poses a serious challenge. The cost of access can also be a barrier. The following discussion explores both the delivery of information via mobile devices and new tools that could be used in the delivery of IL."...

Journal of Information Literacy 3, no. 2 (Dec.): 91-95

[22 great photos found in presidential libraries](#)

Jason English writes: "A few weeks ago, after stumbling across a photo of John Travolta and Princess Diana dancing at the White House, I sent our readers on a presidential library scavenger hunt. You found some fantastic photos—here are 22 of our favorites, including this one (right) of Harry Truman playing the piano for Lauren Bacall."...

Mental Floss, Dec. 12



[Scotland's oldest book goes on display](#)

The oldest book in Scotland is going on public display for the first time in its history. The Celtic Psalter dates from the 11th century and contains hand-written psalms in Latin, with Celtic and Pictish illustrations. It has been kept under lock and key at the University of Edinburgh and has been available to only a few scholars. Through March 14 the public will have the chance to view the book at the



university library....

Medieval News, Dec. 10

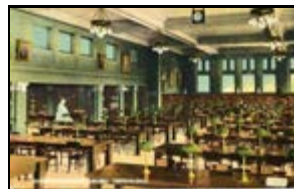
IBM helps out National Archives of Egypt

Egyptian Prime Minister Ahmed Nazif inaugurated a national project December 14 for the digital documentation of the National Archives of Egypt based on a sophisticated solution from IBM. The project has created one of the largest digital archives in the world, with over 25 million records, representing over 90 million documents. IBM has also helped to create an [official website](#) for the archives designed to be an educational resource for historians and researchers....

IBM, Dec. 14

Azariah's Library

Larry Nix writes: "There is an eating place in the Oberlin (Ohio) College Academic Commons called Azariah's Café. It is named for Azariah Smith Root (1862–1927), college librarian from 1887 to 1927. Root was responsible for transforming the library at Oberlin into one of the best college libraries in the nation. Root's original involvement with the Oberlin College Library began with a [project](#) to catalog the library's collection in 1885 using the Dewey Decimal Classification."...



Library History Buff, Dec. 15

Ode to a librarian

Primary-school teacher Christopher Craft writes: "Earlier today I saw a tweet that asked, 'Can anyone name the top five industries in SC based on economic impact?' I responded by trying to find the answer myself, but I simply could not find a ranking based on just our state. I hit up the Ask a Librarian page at the Richland County (S.C.) Public Library and fired off an email asking the question. A few short hours later, to my pleasant surprise, I received an email with not only the information, but detailed instructions on how to find it. I was floored. This goes to show me that libraries are still as crucial as ever."...

Crucial Thought, Dec. 15

Staying professionally active

Sarah Debraski writes: "It's no news to anyone that when library budgets get tight and cuts need to be made, one of the first things to go is the travel budget. Follow that with any continuing education budgets, then staff cuts that make even using personal time to take a day to go to a workshop difficult, and before you know it librarians can find themselves feeling isolated, cut off, and downright grouchy about it. So how can you remain involved when you're stuck at home?"...

YALSA Blog, Dec. 11

The 10 best console and handheld games of 2009

Brandon Boyer writes: "This list focuses

on the console and handheld games that left their own strong mark on the year, but one that in most cases went mostly overlooked. This is the best collection of preadolescent royalty, retro revivalism, at least two kinds of rhythm, stretchers, scribblers, and succulents the year had to offer, and one bona-fide blockbuster that managed to rise above the rest."...

Boing Boing, Dec. 10



[Librarian in Black's gift guide for librarians](#)

Sarah Houghton-Jan writes: "I love Etsy, the online craft and vintage store where individual artists get to proffer their wares. Amazingly, there are thousands of library, librarian, book, and reading-themed gift options available. And you might still have time to get them before the holidays this year. So here are a few suggestions for gifts for coworkers, spouses, and those book-loving folks in your life."...

Librarian in Black, Dec. 14



[National Library of Australia Christmas Party, 2009](#)

It would be hard to top their [2008 Thriller extravaganza](#) (5:26), but staffers at the National Library of Australia did their best with the versatile "[Can Can't](#)" dancers (right), marred only by poor lighting (3:33). This [overview of the party](#) (3:52) offers a glimpse of the zany costumes and activities, put on by "people who are not afraid to look ridiculous."...

YouTube, Dec. 15



[What makes a library a library?](#)

Buffy Hamilton, librarian at the Creekview High School in Canton, Georgia, writes: "I was moved by Sarah Houghton-Jan's [post](#) in which she asked, 'What makes a library a library?' I am in the process of collecting responses from librarians near and far, but I also felt it was important to throw this question out to my teens and hear their thoughts. In this first volume of [responses](#) (2:09), I found it fascinating that these 11 students primarily focused on relationships, experiences, atmosphere, and library as place."...

The Unquiet Librarian, Dec. 10; Librarian in Black, Dec. 8



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AL Direct, December 16, 2009

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The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | December 16, 2009

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

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

U.S. & World News

New Colorado facility becomes first carbon-positive library

[<http://www.americanlibrariesmagazine.org/news/12122009/new-colorado-facility-becomes-first-carbon-positive-library>]

Thanks to solar panels, a geothermal heating and cooling system, and a gift of carbon-offset credits, Rangeview Library District's new Anythink Brighton, Colorado, branch

[<http://www.anythinklibraries.org/location/anythink-brighton>] is believed to be the first carbon-positive library in the United States. The building, which opened in September, offsets 167,620 pounds of carbon dioxide—16% more than it is anticipated to use annually....

American Libraries Online, Dec. 12

Staff shortages stymie service stability in Philly

[<http://www.americanlibrariesmagazine.org/news/12152009/staff-shortages-stymie-service-stability-philly>]

Attrition, layoffs, and budget cuts have been plaguing the Free Library of Philadelphia's 54 branches since the fall, making it difficult

for the system's reduced workforce to maintain five-day-a-week service in the neighborhoods. "The library is critically short-staffed," Friends Director Amy Dougherty said in the December 14 Philadelphia Daily News. "Librarians [are] completely stressed out. They wake up not knowing what branches they're going to that day."...

American Libraries Online, Dec. 15

Dupree in Afghanistan

[<http://www.americanlibrariesmagazine.org/features/12092009/able-afghanistan>]

Blue-eyed octogenarian and information advocate Nancy Hatch Dupree (right) is a rare bright spot in Afghanistan today. But the impact of her work can only be fully appreciated in its brutally unglamorous context. The National Archive of Afghanistan is plagued by preservation challenges, with no heat, electricity, or climate control, and an infestation of insects that are destroying the collections. And there is almost no publishing industry. But despite all odds, Dupree has dedicated a lifetime to documenting and preserving Afghanistan's cultural heritage, spearheading an effort to develop the Afghan Center at Kabul University....

American Libraries, Jan./Feb.

ALA News

ALA asks for library positions in jobs bill

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=4129>]

The ALA Washington Office has prepared a proposal (PDF file [<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/wo/libraryjobs.pdf>]) to include jobs for librarians in the Jobs for Main Street Act, which was taken up on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives December 16. The bill, which bypassed the standard procedure of introduction and passage in committee, calls for immediate action by library supporters. See the background (PDF file

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/wp-content/uploads/2009/12/Jobs-Bill.pdf>]) on the bill....

District Dispatch, Dec. 16

Midwinter Meeting Event Planner

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/midwinter/2010/planner.cfm>]

The 2010 Midwinter Meeting schedule (PDF file [http://connect.ala.org/files/2/alamw10_schedule_pdf_24778.pdf]) with room assignments is now available. The Event Planner [<http://ala.cistems.net/Index3.php>] is also open to fully registered attendees, who will be able to create a personalized agenda and search for meetings, programs, and events. To log in, use the email address you provided when you registered and the generic password "ala." If you are having any problems with the Event Planner or with logging in, contact Karee Williams [mailto:kwilliams@ala.org]....

U.S. copyright statement at WIPO

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=4144>]

The Library Copyright Alliance strongly supports the statement (PDF file [<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/wp-content/uploads/2009/12/WIPO-Statement.pdf>]) made December 15 by Justin Hughes (right), head of the U.S. delegation at the session of the World Intellectual Property Organization Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights in Geneva, Switzerland. Hughes expressed support for library-endorsed international copyright policies during his speech on copyright exceptions and limitations for persons with print disabilities. Carrie Russell, Director of the ALA Program on Public Access to Information, said Hughes's statement demonstrates that leadership in the White House is maintaining its emphasis on the importance of ensuring access for all....
District Dispatch, Dec. 16

Featured review: Online reference

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=3870723]

Grzimek's Animal Life. Oct. Gale.

Grzimek's has long been a standout on the reference shelves. Bernhard Grzimek (1909–1987) served as director of the Frankfurt Zoo for more than 30 years, and when the original 13-volume Grzimek's Animal Life Encyclopedia was published in the U.S. in the 1970s, it distinguished itself from older animal encyclopedias by dealing with behavior and conservation rather than just appearance and habitat. In 1989 McGraw-Hill published a substantial revision of the four volumes of Grzimek's that dealt with mammals, and many librarians fondly remember Grzimek's Encyclopedia of Mammals for its illustrations as much as for its content. Gale undertook a revision of the complete set, and the new Grzimek's Animal Life Encyclopedia was published in 17 volumes beginning in 2002. Now, Gale has taken Grzimek's online and added videos, audio clips, interactive tools, and links to periodicals ranging from Field and Stream to the Journal of Orthoptera Research, real-time news, and websites....

Readers' advisory

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=3981093]

Merle Jacob writes: "Libraries Unlimited has added a new and very needed book to its Real Stories Series for nonfiction readers' advisory. This one organizes and analyzes the biography genre, the most popular nonfiction subject in libraries. Only third-person biographies are covered; another entry in the series will be covering autobiographies, memoirs, and letters. Author Rick Roche found titles by looking at small and medium-sized public library collections, reference books, review journals, and book-review blogs and internet sites, but a title's inclusion in Real Lives Revealed is based on interest, readability, publishing date (2000–2008), length, and availability in libraries. Because of these criteria, many older biographies and classic titles are not included."...

Gold in the stacks

[<http://www.americanlibrariesmagazine.org/columns/gold-stacks>]

Booklist Editor Bill Ott writes: "It's best-books-of-the-year

time, but I have a problem. Many of my favorite titles of 2009—Dara Horn's All Other Days, Michael Malone's The Four Corners of the Sky, Mark Frost's Game Six, and Wil Haygood's Sweet Thunder, for example—have already been celebrated in my American Libraries column. So that leaves me looking beyond the borders of 2009. It's easy to focus only on what's new. Every librarian knows, on the other hand, that the stacks are full of gold—books that need only a reader's advisor to give them new life. I'm especially fond of The Woman and the Ape (1996, above), an audacious mix of fantasy, fable, myth, and love story. ...
American Libraries Online, Dec. 15

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

Boston Update

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Where to eat in Boston

[<http://www.americanlibrariesmagazine.org/features/12152009/where-eat-boston>]

Betsy Clarke and Jessica Snow write: "Welcome to Boston, ALA attendees! The city has a world of mouth-watering restaurants to sate every palate. Boston is made up of distinct neighborhoods that each offer a view into the life of Bostonians, and this guide is arranged that way as well. The city is compact and walkable, and it has a good public transportation system of subways and bus lines to get you to whichever neighborhood you choose to dine in. Bon appétit!"...
American Libraries, Jan./Feb.

ARTS guide to Boston

[http://www.acrl.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/about/sections/arts/artsguide/artsguide_boston_mw10.pdf] (PDF file)

The ACRL Art Section has put together a selective guide to cultural attractions and events in the Boston area for the benefit of Midwinter attendees. It covers the areas of Downtown/Old West End, The Fenway/Kenmore Square, Cambridge, South Boston, Columbia Point, and Back Bay, and offers suggestions on art museums, galleries, architecture, film, theatre, music, dance, and arts centers....
ArtsGuide, Boston

Boston Public Library's Author Talk series

[http://www.bpl.org/news/author_series.htm]

Join the Boston Public Library in welcoming a talented group of authors to its 2010 Author Talk series taking place during the Midwinter Meeting. Toby Lester (right, The Fourth Part of the World) will tell the story of the Waldseemüller map of 1507 at 6 p.m. on January 14. National Book Award-winning author Ha Jin (A Good Fall) and George Saunders (The Braindead Megaphone) will read selections from their books at 1:30 p.m. on January 17....
Boston Public Library

Amtrak discount for Midwinter

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/midwinter/2010/travel.cfm#train>]

Amtrak offers a 10% discount off the lowest available rail fare to Boston January 12–22. The package includes travel up to three days prior to the meeting start date and three days following the last day. To book your reservation call Amtrak at (800) 872-7245 or contact your travel agent. Refer to Convention Fare Code X98Y-968 when making your reservation; a 10% discount has been approved. When calling, you need to say “operator” or “agent” during the automated calling to be referred to a live agent....

Division News

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[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3D-uHsZoLYk>] AASL 14th National Conference video recap [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3D-uHsZoLYk>]
AASL’s closing session in Charlotte in November featured a video (3:34) capturing the fun and excitement of the four days of conference. See your colleagues and get a glimpse of what lies in store for AASL attendees in Minneapolis in 2011....
YouTube, Dec. 15

Register for RUSA preconferences

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/december2009/registration_rusa.cfm]

Registration for RUSA’s 2010 preconferences, held prior to the Annual Conference in Washington, D.C., will open January 4. Events will address topics such as genealogy reference, the present state and future path of reference services, and how to use interlibrary loan statistics to make business decisions. Advance registration [<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/index.cfm>] is \$140 for RUSA members, \$155 for ALA members, \$175 for nonmembers, and \$120 for student and retired members....

Issues facing sci-tech librarians

[<http://people.virginia.edu/~cl9eb/STSHotTopics.pdf>] (PDF file)

Join the ACRL Science and Technology Section Hot Topics Discussion Group for a lively discussion of issues facing academic science and technology librarians, January 16, at the Midwinter Meeting in Boston. To spark the conversation they will start with a presentation by William Mischo and Mary Schlembach from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign’s Grainger Engineering Library Information Center....

Midwinter social for reference and user services librarians

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/december2009/midwinter_rusa.cfm]

Kick off the Midwinter Meeting in style with the RUSA Membership Social, an opportunity to eat, drink, network, and learn more about RUSA. The social, held January 15 in the Rooftop Ballroom at the Omni Parker House, is open to all current RUSA members, friends of RUSA, and those attendees interested in learning more. RUSA leadership and longtime members will be on hand to answer questions about ways to get involved with the division,

which serves a broad range of library professionals....

Registration open for ALSC winter courses

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/december2009/winter_alsc.cfm]

Registration is now open for ALSC winter online courses,

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/alsc/edcareers/profdevelopment/alscweb/index.cfm>] which begin February 1 and last four to six weeks. Space is

limited. The course selections are: Connecting with Tween Readers;

Information Literacy—From Preschool to High School; The Newbery

Medal: Past, Present and Future; Reading Instruction and Children’s

Books; and Series Programming for Elementary School Age. Discounted rates are available for ALSC members....

Awards

Photoessay: I Love My Librarian Awards 2009

[<http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/content/i-love-my-librarian-awards-2009>]

Ten librarians were recognized for their outstanding service December 3 as the 2009 winners of the Carnegie Corporation of New York/New York Times I Love My Librarian award. The winners were selected by more than 3,200 library users from academic, public, and school libraries nationwide. The award—now a collaborative program of the Carnegie Corporation of New York, the New York Times, and ALA—will continue through 2012....

American Libraries Online, Dec. 16

2010 YALSA Nonfiction Award finalists

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/december2009/YALSA_names_first_2010_Nonfict.cfm]

YALSA has selected five books as finalists for the 2010 Excellence in Nonfiction for Young Adults, which honors the best nonfiction books written for young adults between November 1, 2008, and October 31, 2009. This is the first time the awards have been announced. YALSA will name the 2010 winner at the Youth Media Awards on January 18, during the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Boston....

YALSA nominated for Edublog Award

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/december2009/edublog_yalsa.cfm]

The Edublog Awards nominated the YALSA Blog for Best Group Edublog of 2009. Anyone can vote, [<http://www.edublogawards.com/>] until midnight Eastern Time December 16. YALSA’s blog could win a one-year subscription to Edublogs Campus software and a 10-seat Elluminate web-video conference room for one year....

Cincinnati library wins Ohio Auditor’s Award

[<http://rodeo.cincinnati.com/getlocal/gpstory.aspx?id=100109&sid=159392>]

The Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County received an Ohio Auditor's 2008 Making Your Tax Dollars Count Award. Ohio Auditor Mary Taylor bestowed the award to the top 5% of finance directors in the

State. Recipients were honored for their careful spending, accurate fiscal recording, and efficiency....
Cincinnati Enquirer, Dec. 11

Contra Costa wins grant for "Snap & Go" technology
[http://ccclib.org/press_releases/snap.html]
The Contra Costa County (Calif.) Library has been awarded a \$60,000 Bay Area Library and Information Systems innovation grant to create a mobile platform that will push new and existing library content and services into the hands of cell phone users. The "Snap & Go" project will allow county residents with mobile phones and a library card to access library materials, enhanced content, and manage their accounts without having to visit a library building or gain access to a computer....
Contra Costa County (Calif.) Library, Dec. 14

2009 Educational Writers Award
[<http://www.euroinvestor.co.uk/news/story.aspx?id=10772063>]
The combined talents of illustrator Nick Sharratt, writer Steve Alton, and Designer Sally Symes have won the 2009 Educational Writers Award for their Gooney, Chewy, Rumble, Plop Book (published in the U.S. by Dial, 2007). The award was presented December 3 at the All Party Writers Group Christmas Reception hosted by Member of Parliament Janet Anderson of the U.K. House of Commons. The award celebrates educational writing that encourages students to read widely and build up their understanding of a subject beyond the requirements of exam specifications....
PRNewswire, Dec. 4

Seen Online

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Congress clears the way to fund LSTA
[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=4138>]
The U.S. Senate passed omnibus legislation December 13 that included the Labor, HHS, and Education appropriations, clearing the bill for the President's signature. The final version, which passed the House a few days before, included a slight increase for Library Services and Technology Act funding. LSTA was appropriated \$213.5 million for FY2010, a 0.63% increase over FY2009....
District Dispatch, Dec. 16

Warnings mount as Ohio budget clock ticks
[http://www.dispatchpolitics.com/live/content/local_news/stories/2009/12/16/copy/budget16.html?adsec=politics&sid=101]
Ohio Gov. Ted Strickland says he will call the state legislature back to Columbus on Christmas day if necessary if it recesses for the holidays without reaching agreement on how to resolve the budget deadlock. The administration released a new analysis December 15 of how failing to shore up the budget could cost higher education more than \$600 million over the next 18 months. Ohio colleges and universities could expect a 15% cut in state aid in the fiscal year ending June 30 and up to 17% the following year. The Ohio Library Council urges action
[<http://saveohiolibraries.com/action-needed-on-hb-318-%E2%80%93-contact-sen>]

ators-now/]....

Columbus (Ohio) Dispatch, Dec. 16; Ohio Library Council

France to digitize its literary works

[<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/12/15/world/europe/15france.html>]

French President Nicolas Sarkozy pledged nearly \$1.1 billion December 14 toward the computer scanning of French literary works, audiovisual archives, and historical documents, an announcement that underscored his government's desire to maintain control over the country's cultural heritage. Sarkozy said the money pledged will finance a public-private partnership that will digitize the nation's cultural works. The money is expected

[<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/technology/google/6811462/Sarkozy-fights-Google-over-classic-books.html>] to go to boosting Gallica, France's own book-scanning project linked to Europeana, the EU's digital library.

Others suspect that the partnership could also involve Google....

New York Times, Dec. 14; The Telegraph (U.K.), Dec. 14

Laurie Halse Anderson reflects on book challenges

[http://blog.syracuse.com/entertainment/2009/12/laurie_halse_anderson_reflects.html]

For Laurie Halse Anderson, another season of book-ban attempts has come and gone. The author of many books for children and young adults, Anderson is moving into a writer's cottage, built by her husband, in the woods in Oswego County, New York. But the start of this school year saw six banning challenges of her books *Twisted* and *Speak* in schools in Pennsylvania, Indiana, Kentucky, and California....

Syracuse (N.Y.) Post-Standard, Dec. 13

Anaheim city schools cut library positions

[<http://www.ocregister.com/news/school-224190-budget-district.html>]

Anaheim, California, school trustees voted unanimously December 14 to cut about \$9.7 million from their 2010–11 spending plan, mostly by eliminating 136 jobs—including 12 librarian positions. District officials said they need to trim \$9.6 million more in coming weeks. Librarian Kathy Heard told the school board that students would suffer by not having libraries adequately staffed....

Orange County (Calif.) Register, Dec. 14

Boca Raton pastor demands library nativity scene

[<http://www.wpbf.com/mostpopular/21976071/detail.html>]

Pastor and talk-show host Rev. Mark Boykin is upset about what he saw at the Boca Raton (Fla.) Public Library: The holiday display has a menorah (right) and other decorations, but no nativity scene. The library lobby has a gorgeous Christmas tree, but Boykin said that has nothing to do with his faith. He said he will be donating a nativity scene to the display, and he's not backing down....

WPBF-TV, West Palm Beach, Fla., Dec. 15

Patrons owe Pittsburgh library \$1 million in late fees

[http://www.pittsburghlive.com/x/pittsburghtrib/news/tribpm/s_657843.html]

Thousands of Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh patrons who owe late fees are nickel-and-dimeing the library system to the tune of more than \$1 million. The library system collected \$350,000 in fines last year, but, at any

given time, patrons owe the Carnegie about three times that, said Sheila Jackson, assistant director for main library services. As of December 11, the library system was owed \$1.5 million in fines for overdue or lost books, DVDs, and other materials. The library board approved [http://www.pittsburghlive.com/x/pittsburghtrib/news/pittsburgh/s_657944.html] raising late fees on books to 30 cents, from 25 cents, beginning January 1....

Pittsburgh (Pa.) Tribune-Review, Dec. 15–16

Norwell selectmen face angry library supporters

[http://www.boston.com/yourtown/news/norwell/2009/12/norwell_selectmen_face_angry_1.html]

Norwell selectmen faced an angry crowd of more than 60 library supporters December 14 who feared that the Norwell (Mass.) Public Library could close, and were upset about how they learned the news. Under an idea that was discussed recently by Hanover officials, Norwell's library would close and the town would pay Hanover to use its new library. Norwell library trustees heard about this through Hanover, and not from Norwell selectmen, who claimed they were not planning to close the library, but because the town is facing a budget deficit of at least \$2 million next year, all avenues of savings are being considered....

Boston Globe, Dec. 15

Chicago's St. Mark Gospel is a forgery

[http://www.suntimes.com/news/education/1942136,CST-NWS-fake16.article]

Scholars and scientists have peered closely at the blotchy parchment pages of the University of Chicago's Gospel of St. Mark and declared the tiny, hand-written, hand-illustrated book a fake. The findings are to be published early next year in *Novum Testamentum*. The manuscript, written in Greek and purchased by the university in the 1930s, originally was believed to have been written as early as the 14th century. But strong suspicions that it might not be nearly so old surfaced in 1989. Carbon dating, advanced microscope technology, and good sleuthing uncovered a faker's crafty handiwork....

Chicago Sun-Times, Dec. 16

NYU's famine is NYU's feast

[http://blog.seattlepi.com/bookpatrol/archives/188371.asp]

Nancy Mattoon writes: "When publisher Condé Nast sliced *Gourmet* magazine from its lineup in October, foodies nationwide mourned the passing of a culinary standby. But at least one librarian saw the magazine's starvation as a chance to pluck a prize plum. Marvin J. Taylor, director of New York University's Fales Library, told

[http://dinersjournal.blogs.nytimes.com/2009/12/15/nyu-gets-gourmets-cookbook-library/] the New York Times he 'got on the horn immediately.' Even if the magazine was toast, the remaining crumbs could beef up his mushrooming Food and Cookery Collection (on the third floor of Bobst Library)."

Seattle Post-Intelligencer: Book Patrol, Dec. 16; New York Times, Dec. 15

Music collecting in an age of downloading

[http://www.boston.com/ae/music/articles/2009/12/13/what_a_collector_loses_and_gains_in_the_age_of_music_downloading/?page=full]

Jeremy Eichler writes: "As I haul boxes of CDs down to a basement room,

I've been thinking not only about the virtues of high-tech listening but also about what's been lost in our headlong sprint into the digital future. This is not a Luddite's lament, or a cri de coeur about the significantly reduced audio quality of those compressed MP3 files. I love having more music at arm's reach than ever before, I love taking it with me wherever I go. But I do find myself wondering why, exactly, collecting music now means so much less."...
Boston Globe, Dec. 13

Boulder library circulates energy meters
[http://www.dailycamera.com/boulder-county-news/ci_13997988]
Residents can check out one of the city's 18 new Kill-A-Watt energy meters from the Boulder (Colo.) Public Library to monitor the electricity demands of such home appliances as refrigerators, cell phone chargers, and televisions. Users can keep it for up to three weeks. The Kill-A-Watt meters can measure electricity use over time and come up with an average rate of use, or they can measure the instant increase in demand. The Denver Public Library has a similar program....
Boulder (Colo.) Daily Camera, Dec. 14

A trip to Bountiful library's used bookstore
[http://www.sltrib.com/davis/ci_13931930]
Bountiful (Utah) Elementary School Librarian Sheri Thompson would love to keep her shelves stocked with new books. But she is on a shoestring budget, so she discovered a creative way to generate a few extra bucks: She opened a used bookstore inside the school's library. The store offers titles for children and adults, as well as an eclectic array of treasures, which Thompson found in the basement, affectionately known by the Bountiful Elementary community as "our dungeon."...
Salt Lake Tribune, Dec. 9

Delaware develops joint catalog
[<http://www.delawareonline.com/article/20091210/NEWS02/912100305/Delaware+libraries+link+catalogs+using+central+Web+site>]
Most of Delaware's libraries are linking their catalogs into a database that now totals one million items and will top 2 million when the unification project is finished. The Delaware Library Catalog will allow residents with library cards to easily get material sent to their local libraries from elsewhere in the state. State Librarian Annie Norman said that the merger takes advantage of economies of scale to develop deep and varied collections....
New Castle (Del.) News Journal, Dec. 10

The Conshohocken Gingerbread Library
[http://www.montgomerynews.com/articles/2009/12/09/colonial_news/news/doc4b20699463fa6144397341.txt]
For its December 13 Winter Solstice Celebration, Conshohocken (Pa.) Free Library Friends member Jen Borovicka designed and baked a striking gingerbread replica of the 152-year-old Victorian Gothic Revival building that will be raffled off as a fundraiser. Borovicka estimates it took 30 to 40 hours to make the edible library—finished in rolled fondant and decorator's frosting and embellished with sweet strings of faux Christmas lights and a red-bowed wreath....
Fort Washington (Pa.) Montgomery News, Dec. 9

Broken Bow settles spat over cat

[<http://www.omaha.com/article/20091203/NEWS01/712039899>]

A cat fight over the longtime feline resident of the Broken Bow (Nebr.) Public Library has been averted. The fur began flying after a November 24 city council meeting when Councilman Doug Smith said two constituents could not visit the library because of the cat. But City Administrator Tony Tolstedt said that after learning about the role that TLC (Top Library Cat) has played at the library over the past decade and of his widespread support, he's all for the cat. Library Director Joan Birnie said she would try to accommodate anyone with allergies by moving the cat into a back room....

Omaha (Nebr.) World-Herald, Dec. 3

Heirloom dollhouse donated to branch library

[http://jacksonville.com/community/shorelines/2009-12-12/story/family_donates_heirloom_dollhouse_to_ponte_vedra_beach_branch_]

Parker Armstrong led a busy life as a U.S. Navy vice admiral in 1977 when he began building a large three-story dollhouse in his spare time. After his death six years ago, his widow Jean decided to donate it to the Ponte Vedra Beach branch of the St. Johns County (Fla.) Public Library. Some 60 people attended the dedication December 9. The library Friends group custom-built a Plexiglas case for the dollhouse, and installed a circuit to light its electrified rooms....

Jacksonville (Fla.) Times-Union, Dec. 13

[<http://books.google.com/books?id=G7w9AAAAAYAAJ&printsec=frontcover&dq=%22Facts+I+Ought+to+Know+about+the+Government+of+My+Country%22&cd=1#v=onepage&q=&f=false>]

Another overdue book: 99 years

[<http://www.southcoasttoday.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20091215/NEWS/912150338>]

There was no spring in his step as Stanley Dudek approached the entrance to the New Bedford (Mass.) Public Library December 14 with a book tucked under his arm. Dudek was returning it on behalf of his deceased mother, and he was feeling a tad nervous because the book was 99 years, seven months, and 12 days overdue. Facts I Ought to Know about the Government of My Country by William H. Bartlett should have been returned to the library on May 2, 1910....

New Bedford (Mass.) Standard-Times, Dec. 15

Medway Public Library recertified

[<http://www.wickedlocal.com/medway/news/x1682957275/Medway-library-recertified>]

After nearly three years without it, Medway (Mass.) Public Library regained its certification in early December from the state Board of Library Commissioners. Budget woes forced the library to lay off workers and cut hours to make ends meet, but it lost its certification in February 2007. A state grant in 2008, a municipal budget increase in 2009, and donations secured by the Friends group allowed the library to stay open for the required 32 hours per week and obtain the minimum amount of books and materials....

Milford (Mass.) Daily News, Dec. 9

BBC and British Library to build digital archive

[<http://www.guardian.co.uk/media/2009/dec/11/bbc-british-library-digital-archives>]

The BBC and the British Library are collaborating on a digital technology project to open up their archives and give the public greater online access to a vast cultural treasure trove. Under a memorandum of understanding signed December 11, the two institutions will provide greater digital access to both the British Library's archive of more than 150 million items collected over the past 250 years and nearly one million hours of TV and radio output from the BBC, which has been broadcasting since 1922....

The Guardian (U.K.), Dec. 11

Medical library unveiled on Saipan

[<http://www.saipantribune.com/newsstory.aspx?newsID=95511>]

The first hospital library equipped with new computers and medical books opened December 1 at the Commonwealth Health Center in Saipan, capital of the U.S. Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The facility was built using a portion of a grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, which awarded the Ayuda Foundation \$390,000, split among eight recipients in the Pacific region....

Saipan Tribune, Dec. 2

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Tech Talk

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Google's augmented reality stickers

[<http://scholarlykitchen.sspnet.org/2009/12/11/get-a-whiff-of-googles-augmented-reality-stickers/>]

Michael Clarke writes: "The New York Times reported

[<http://bits.blogs.nytimes.com/2009/12/07/putting-a-bar-code-on-places-not-just-products/>] earlier this week that Google is shipping out stickers with QR Codes (sophisticated bar codes that are easily recognized by cameras) that can be affixed to physical objects like storefront windows.

A cell phone with a camera, a web browser, and the right software can then read the sticker and link, via the mobile web, to a new places page [<http://googleblog.blogspot.com/2009/09/place-pages-for-google-maps-there-a-re.html>] in Google Maps that aggregates information about that location.

The idea of connecting physical objects to online data about those objects is a very good one with many applications. However, the technology already exists to accomplish much the same thing without the need for stickers."...

Scholarly Kitchen, Dec. 11; New York Times, Dec. 7

How to restore your privacy on Facebook

[<http://gawker.com/5427077/the-valleywag-guide-to-restoring-your-privacy-on-facebook>]

Ryan Tate writes: "Facebook's privacy rollback

[<http://gawker.com/tag/pst/facebook-privacy-changes-2009/>] is especially terrible because it's so hard to reverse. Settings are so bewildering that even Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg has fiddled with his two or three times this month. The social network is defaulting most people

[<http://gawker.com/5422805/facebook-begins-privacy-con>] to share their private content widely with strangers, in an obvious bid [<http://gawker.com/5417145/facebooks-new-privacy-scheme-smells-like-an-anti-privacy-plot>] to grow traffic and to compete more directly with Twitter. Then there's the content the company is trying to take from you and make entirely public. [<http://gawker.com/5423421/facebook-wants-to-steal-your-friends>] So here's a guide to reprivatizing your profile."...
Gawker, Dec. 15

Viruses that leave victims red in the Facebook
[<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/12/14/technology/internet/14virus.html>]
Malicious programs are rampaging through websites like Facebook and Twitter, spreading themselves by taking over people's accounts and sending out messages to all of their friends and followers. The result is that people are inadvertently telling their coworkers and loved ones how to raise their IQs or make money instantly, or urging them to watch an awesome new video in which they star....
New York Times, Dec. 13

Decentralizing your web services
[<http://www.davidleeking.com/2009/12/09/widening-your-nets-decentralizing-your-web-services/>]
David Lee King writes: "People aren't visiting our websites (well, not in droves, anyway). They are going to other places, like Facebook. If you have a Facebook page, check out your page demographics. (Facebook provides some basic stats on Facebook page visitors.) Who's your main audience in Facebook? Doing anything for that group of patrons already? If so, you might think of taking it one step further, and pointing them directly to the Facebook page."...
David Lee King, Dec. 9

[<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2353841,00.asp>] Editors' Choice printers [<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2357143,00.asp>]
M. David Stone writes: "The key division between categories for general-purpose printers is between office printers, home printers, and printers that can serve as home printers or SoHo (small office or home office) printers or both. For each of these, we have separate categories for single-function and multifunction printers, and for office printers, we have separate categories for monochrome and color. Here's a list of printers that earned an Editors' Choice designation in 2009, with their categories identified."...
PC Magazine, Dec. 16

Five higher ed tech trends to watch
[<http://campustechnology.com/articles/2009/12/09/5-higher-ed-tech-trends-to-watch-in-2010.aspx>]
Bridget McCrea writes: "Nearly all aspects of college are being handled in some way by the applications, hardware, and gadgets that help institutions work more efficiently. Don't expect much of that to change in 2010 as more technology is developed and introduced to the higher education market. To make your trend-spotting activities easier, we spoke with some higher education technology experts and came up with these five top tech trends to watch in the new year."...

folds [<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/12/12/books/12kirkus.html>]

The book industry got another taste of the apocalypse with the news that Kirkus Reviews, the venerable prepublication book review journal, was closing. Founded in 1933, Kirkus churned out nearly 5,000 reviews a year, often used by librarians and booksellers when deciding how to stock their shelves. Nielsen Business Media told employees [<http://www.schoollibraryjournal.com/article/CA6711237.html>] at a December 10 meeting that they, along with sister magazine Editor & Publisher, would not be included in the sale of the company's publications. (According to preliminary numbers from MediaFinder.com, 367 U.S. periodicals shut down

[<http://www.crainsnewyork.com/article/20091211/FREE/912119988>] in 2009, fewer than the 526 that disappeared in 2008.) Booklist Online Editor Keir Graff comments [<http://www.edrants.com/interview-with-keir-graff/>] on the effect of the loss on Booklist....

New York Times, Dec. 11; School Library Journal, Dec. 11; Crain's New York Business, Dec. 11; Edward Champion's Reluctant Habits, Dec. 11

The endless first chapter

[<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/12/10/fashion/10SPY.html>]

Michelle Slatalla writes: "I used to read books all the time. But now?

The last book I read was John Galsworthy's Forsyte Saga, which I finished more than a month ago. I don't really believe that one day reading will disappear entirely or that my children will never learn to think analytically. But I do believe this: I need books. Then I thought of the advice that YALSA President Linda Braun had given me a few days earlier, and I remembered why I like the 21st century so much."...

New York Times, Dec. 7

Best comics for kids, 2009

[<http://www.schoollibraryjournal.com/blog/540000654/post/1340051134.html>]

Katherine Dacey writes: "Best-of lists can be fiercely difficult to compose, as even the most voracious reader can miss a great title or favor certain genres over others. That's why we at Good Comics for Kids assembled a crack team of reviewers to ensure that our list reflected the depth and breadth of 2009's best kid-friendly offerings. We divided the list into three broad categories of best comics for young readers, tweens, and teens."...

Good Comics for Kids, Dec. 8

20 best SF books of the decade

[<http://io9.com/5423847/20-best-science-fiction-books-of-the-decade>]

Annalee Newitz writes: "After much mulling and culling, we've come up with our list of the 20 best books of the decade. The list is weighted towards science fiction, but does have healthy doses of fantasy and horror. And a few surprises. In deciding which would make the list and which wouldn't, we weighed not only our opinions, but also those of the critical community at large—looking at how each book was received by

reviewers for mainstream publications as well as science fiction magazines.”...
io9, Dec. 11

Should publishers delay e-book releases?

[<http://blog.nathanbransford.com/2009/12/should-publishers-delay-e-book-releases.html>]

Nathan Bransford writes: “More big news in the ever-evolving e-book landscape as two publishers (Hachette and Simon & Schuster) told the Wall Street Journal that they would be delaying
[<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748704825504574584372263227740.html>] the e-book release of some of their important upcoming titles, HarperCollins told the New York Times that they would delay
[<http://artsbeat.blogs.nytimes.com/2009/12/09/publishers-delay-e-book-releases/>] 5–10 titles a month, and Macmillan said they would delay on a case-by-case basis. Why are publishers doing this?”...
Nathan Bransford: Literary Agent, Dec. 10; Wall Street Journal, Dec. 9; New York Times, Dec. 9

10 biggest challenges e-books face

[<http://ireaderreview.com/2009/12/13/10-biggest-challenges-ebooks-face/>]
Abhi writes: “As we enter the golden age of e-readers we may very well see an unthinkable transition—in the next 5–10 years e-books might end up selling more units than physical books. The Kindle has already led to a situation where Amazon sells 48 e-books for every 100 physical books (when both are available). But e-books are a giant mess. There’s a wide gulf between how readers, publishers, e-reader companies, and e-book sellers see them. Here are the biggest challenges.”...
Kindle Review, Dec. 13

[http://en.citizendium.org/wiki/Welcome_to_Citizendium]Open-access encyclopedias

[<http://www.insidehighered.com/news/2009/12/14/encyclopedias>]
Steve Kolowich writes: “Can an information source that is free also be reliable? Or does the price of content always reflect its value? Encyclopedia Britannica, the genre’s sturdiest brand, has been marginalized in the Internet Age by Wikipedia and Google—tools it dismisses as untrustworthy. Quality, Britannica says, comes at a price. Meanwhile, a number of academic institutions are quietly trying to do what Britannica and others say can’t be done: build online encyclopedias that are rigorous, scholarly, and free to access.”...
Inside Higher Ed, Dec. 14

Bookshare adds digital textbooks for print-challenged students

[<http://www.eschoolnews.com/news/top-news/index.cfm?i=62244>]
Students who are blind, have low vision, or have a learning disability that requires computer-generated speech and highlighted text soon will have more resources after publisher Flat World Knowledge announced December 14 that it will make its content available to Bookshare, the largest web-based library for people with print disabilities. Bookshare will add 11 new digital textbooks to its online library, which has been bolstered in the past year by contributions from colleges and universities hoping to bring reading material to students who can’t see standard print or can’t turn a page....

[http://cdm.reed.edu/cdm4/item_viewer.php?CISOROOT=/colhist&CISOPTR=154&CISOBOX=1&REC=8]Top 10 books of 1709

[<http://www.newyorker.com/online/blogs/books/2009/12/the-top-ten-books-of-1709.html>]

Jill Lapore writes: “Something north of 150,000 books were published in 2009. That number daunted me, so I got to thinking of a year, three centuries ago, when, in all of the British mainland colonies, only 31 books were printed (if you discount a handful of broadsheets, proclamations, and volumes of laws). The pickings are slim—and grim—but here are my Top Ten Books of 1709.” Number 9 is the Massachusetts Psalter (right), a book of psalms translated into Algonquian and set into type by a Nipmuc Indian named James Printer, whose fonts were discovered in 2008 during an archaeological dig in Harvard Yard....

New Yorker: The Book Bench, Dec. 7

Best book covers of 2009, part 3

[<http://nytimesbooks.blogspot.com/2009/12/favorite-book-covers-of-2009-part-three.html>]

Joseph Sullivan writes: “This third and final list of favorite covers from independent booksellers was selected by hometown favorite The Book Table [<http://www.booktable.net/>] in Oak Park, Illinois. They’ve chosen some wonderful covers from small, university, and foreign publishers, so help me out with the credits if you can. Again, as in past weeks, there’s a poll at the bottom. Vote for your favorite.” See also parts one [<http://nytimesbooks.blogspot.com/2009/11/favorite-book-covers-of-2009-part-one.html>] and two

[<http://nytimesbooks.blogspot.com/2009/12/favorite-book-covers-of-2009-part-two.html>]....

Book Design Review, Dec. 13

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

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Actions & Answers

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Gates Foundation: Libraries need more cash for broadband

[http://arstechnica.com/tech-policy/news/2009/12/bill-gates-fund-libraries-need-more-cash-for-broadband.ars?utm_source=rss&utm_medium=rss&utm_campaign=rss]

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation told the Federal Communications Commission December 9 (PDF file

[<http://fjallfoss.fcc.gov/ecfs/document/view?id=7020352266>]) that the government should spend more money on high-speed internet upgrades for public libraries and schools. The FCC should make it easier to apply, too. The main conduit for upgrade support comes from the FCC’s Universal Service Fund E-Rate program, but there are concerns that the application

process is too complicated and the cap is set far too low....

Ars Technica, Dec. 14

SLA name will stay

[http://slablogger.typepad.com/sla_blog/2009/12/sla-name-will-stay-alignment-of-association-to-continue.html]

Voting in record numbers, SLA members failed to approve a proposal to change the organization's name to the Association for Strategic Knowledge Professionals. Half of those members eligible to vote participated in the referendum, with 2,071 voting yes and 3,225 voting no. The name-change proposal stemmed from the findings of the Alignment Project, a two-year research effort aimed at understanding the value of the information and knowledge professional in today's marketplace....

SLA Blog, Dec. 10

Google's new personalized search results

[<http://searchengineland.com/googles-personalized-results-the-new-normal-31290>]

Danny Sullivan writes: "On December 4, Google made the biggest change that has ever happened in search engines, and the world largely yawned. Maybe Google timed its announcement that it was personalizing everyone's search results just right, so few would notice. Maybe no one really understood how significant the change was. Whatever the reason, it deserves much more attention than it has received so far. The days of normal search results that everyone sees are now over. Personalized results are the 'new normal,' and the change is going to shift the search world and society in general in unpredictable ways."...

Search Engine Land, Dec. 7

Buffalo library school helps set up patient library

[<http://www.buffalo.edu/news/10732>]

The University at Buffalo Department of Library and Informational Studies has joined forces with staff volunteers from the Western New York Children's Psychiatric Center to open a new patient library at the hospital's West Seneca facility. The new library, aided by a \$5,000 grant from the Laura Bush Foundation, provides services to seriously emotionally disturbed children and adolescents from the eight counties of Western New York....

University at Buffalo, Dec. 11

UNC library school Prague Summer Seminar

[<http://sils.unc.edu/programs/international/prague.html>]

The University of North Carolina School of Information and Library Science is offering a seminar on libraries and librarianship in the Czech Republic, May 23–June 5. International programs are open to all students and professionals, not just students at UNC Chapel Hill. Cosponsored by Charles University in Prague, the seminar is available for academic credit. Register by March 1....

University of North Carolina SILS

Brand Perception 2.0

[<http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/columns/brand-perception-20-0>]

Meredith Farkas writes: "Many librarians have tried to play a role

in educating young adults about developing a presence on social networking sites. They have warned teens that nothing online ever really disappears and that compromising photographs or derogatory posts can impact their future job prospects. Online identity is built upon all of the things we have put online and the things people have posted about us. Online identity isn't something we should only be concerned about as individuals. Organizations are now looking at how their brands are perceived online.”...

American Libraries, Jan./Feb.

Ryerson University mobile device survey

[<http://www.ryerson.ca/library/msurvey2009/index.html>]

Ryerson University Library in Toronto ran a survey in November to help them make informed decisions about providing library services via mobile device and to see how the mobile landscape was evolving. The results showed what types of devices were in use, what they were being used for, what services students might want on their next device, and what mobile library services users were interested in seeing. Some 66% of undergrads had a smartphone, 79% said free Wi-Fi was very important, but more than half were unaware of the mobile services the library offered....

Ryerson University Library

Texting, tweeting are GR8 teaching tools

[<http://www.lis.illinois.edu/oc/news/displaynews.html?source=MaTfi15gl3FW8TIBNOcIpUEaGmy.SVghqxd8oKy.M4=&year=tOG8lFItJFv5z3pYQu94mw==>]

According to a University of Illinois expert in media literacy, not only are critics who argue that texting is synonymous with literary degradation wrong, they also often overlook the bigger role that both texting and tweeting could play in education and research. Library and Information Science Professor Carol L. Tilley says that schools and libraries should consider embracing texting and tweeting as a means of engagement rather than simply outlawing it. For example, students could text reference questions to school librarians without having to ask for a hall pass or having to wait until lunch. Another study shows that social media is also beneficial for community college students

[<http://www.lancastereaglegazette.com/article/20091206/NEWS01/912060324/1002>]....

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign GSLIS, Dec. 10; Lancaster (Pa.) Eagle-Gazette, Dec. 6

[<http://www.archive.org/stream/cu31924023514288#page/n7/mode/2up>]Cornell partners with Internet Archive

[<http://communications.library.cornell.edu/com/news/PressReleases/Cornell-University-Library-Partners-with-the-Internet-Archive.cfm>]

Cornell University Library is sharing tens of thousands of digitized books with the Internet Archive. The new collaboration repurposes nearly 80,000 books that the Library has already digitized in-house or through its partnership with Microsoft and Kirtas Technologies. All the books [<http://www.archive.org/details.php?identifier=cornell>] are in the public domain, printed before 1923 mainly in the United States. They cover a host of subject areas, including American history, English literature, astronomy, food and wine, general engineering, and the history of science....

Cornell University Library, Dec. 15

The first American Christmas picture book

[<http://pastispresent.org/2009/good-sources/santa-claus-exposed/>]

Diann Benti writes: “The American Antiquarian Society’s The Children’s Friend: A New Year’s Present

[<http://pastispresent.org/2009/good-sources/christmas-treasures-flip-through-the-pages-of-the-children’s-friend/>] is one of just two known copies of

this 1821 pamphlet. Fifteen centimeters tall and eight pages deep, the paper-covered volume stood little chance of survival in the hands of generations of American children. In 1897, the society received it as the childhood book of one of its presidents, Stephen Salisbury III. What makes this little book so important? Put simply, it is believed to be the first American Christmas picture book.”...

Past Is Present, Dec. 7, 14

Summary of objections to the Google Books Settlement

[<http://thepublicindex.org/docs/commentary/objections-responses.pdf>] (PDF file)

The New York Law School’s Public-Interest Book Search Initiative has released this summary of the objections raised to the original proposed settlement in the Authors Guild v. Google litigation: “We identified 76 distinct issues, which we grouped into 11 categories. This report briefly summarizes each issue, provides an illustrative quotation from a filing with the court, and indicates any related changes in the amended settlement.”...

Public-Interest Book Search Initiative, Dec.

A freebie from ebrary

[<http://www.resourceshelf.com/2009/12/14/a-freebie-for-info-pros-from-ebrary/>]

Gary Price writes: “One of the most impressive freebies on the internet comes from ebrary. We’ve mentioned it before. It’s officially called ebrary Discover. [<http://shop.ebrary.com/>] Users (you don’t need to have a subscription) can search and read more than 20,000 full-text books online (recent titles) in a wide array of disciplines from a variety of publishers. The financial aspect only comes in to play if you want to print or save a page. Ebrary also offers 140 full-text searchable (and free) e-books and other ‘authoritative materials’ for information professionals in its Library and KM Center [<http://site.ebrary.com/lib/librarycenter/home.action>].”...

ResourceShelf, Dec. 14

Information literacy gets mobile

[<http://ojs.lboro.ac.uk/ojs/index.php/JIL/article/view/CC-V3-I2-2009/1425>] (PDF file)

Peter Godwin writes: “How does the mobile revolution fit in with information literacy? With the development of the iPhone and other smartphones there is now less need for websites to have special mobile versions. But before we become too enthusiastic about mobile use, we should recognize that the variety of devices poses a serious challenge. The cost of access can also be a barrier. The following discussion explores both the delivery of information via mobile devices and new tools that could be used in the delivery of IL.”...

Journal of Information Literacy 3, no. 2 (Dec.): 91–95

22 great photos found in presidential libraries

[<http://www.mentalfloss.com/blogs/archives/42829>]

Jason English writes: “A few weeks ago, after stumbling across a photo of John Travolta and Princess Diana dancing at the White House, I sent our readers on a presidential library scavenger hunt. You found some fantastic photos—here are 22 of our favorites, including this one (right) of Harry Truman playing the piano for Lauren Bacall.”...

Mental Floss, Dec. 12

Scotland's oldest book goes on display

[<http://medievalnews.blogspot.com/2009/12/celtic-psalter-scotlands-oldest-book.html>]

The oldest book in Scotland is going on public display for the first time in its history. The Celtic Psalter dates from the 11th century and contains hand-written psalms in Latin, with Celtic and Pictish illustrations. It has been kept under lock and key at the University of Edinburgh and has been available to only a few scholars. Through March 14 the public will have the chance to view the book at the university library....

Medieval News, Dec. 10

IBM helps out National Archives of Egypt

[<http://www-03.ibm.com/press/us/en/pressrelease/29026.wss>]

Egyptian Prime Minister Ahmed Nazif inaugurated a national project December 14 for the digital documentation of the National Archives of Egypt based on a sophisticated solution from IBM. The project has created one of the largest digital archives in the world, with over 25 million records, representing over 90 million documents. IBM has also helped to create an official website

[<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.eg/nae/home.jsp>] for the archives designed to be an educational resource for historians and researchers....

IBM, Dec. 14

Azariah's Library

[<http://libraryhistorybuff.blogspot.com/2009/12/azariahs-library.html>]

Larry Nix writes: “There is an eating place in the Oberlin (Ohio) College Academic Commons called Azariah's Café. It is named for Azariah Smith Root (1862–1927), college librarian from 1887 to 1927. Root was responsible for transforming the library at Oberlin into one of the best college libraries in the nation. Root's original involvement with the Oberlin College Library began with a project

[<http://www.oberlin.edu/library/special/oberlin/deweycatalog/>] to catalog the library's collection in 1885 using the Dewey Decimal Classification.”...

Library History Buff, Dec. 15

Ode to a librarian

[<http://www.crucialthought.com/2009/12/15/ode-to-a-librarian/>]

Primary-school teacher Christopher Craft writes: “Earlier today I saw a tweet that asked, ‘Can anyone name the top five industries in SC based on economic impact?’ I responded by trying to find the answer myself, but I simply could not find a ranking based on just our state. I hit up the Ask a Librarian page at the Richland County (S.C.) Public Library and fired

off an email asking the question. A few short hours later, to my pleasant surprise, I received an email with not only the information, but detailed instructions on how to find it. I was floored. This goes to show me that libraries are still as crucial as ever.”...

Crucial Thought, Dec. 15

Staying professionally active

[<http://yalsa.ala.org/blog/2009/12/11/dollars-and-sense-11-staying-professionally-active/>]

Sarah Debraski writes: “It’s no news to anyone that when library budgets get tight and cuts need to be made, one of the first things to go is the travel budget. Follow that with any continuing education budgets, then staff cuts that make even using personal time to take a day to go to a workshop difficult, and before you know it librarians can find themselves feeling isolated, cut off, and downright grouchy about it. So how can you remain involved when you’re stuck at home?”...

YALSA Blog, Dec. 11

The 10 best console and handheld games of 2009

[<http://www.boingboing.net/2009/12/10/the-boing-boing-20-p.html>]

Brandon Boyer writes: “This list focuses on the console and handheld games that left their own strong mark on the year, but one that in most cases went mostly overlooked. This is the best collection of preadolescent royalty, retro revivalism, at least two kinds of rhythm, stretchers, scribblers, and succulents the year had to offer, and one bona-fide blockbuster that managed to rise above the rest.”...

Boing Boing, Dec. 10

Librarian in Black’s gift guide for librarians

[<http://librarianinblack.net/librarianinblack/2009/12/gifts.html>]

Sarah Houghton-Jan writes: “I love Etsy, the online craft and vintage store where individual artists get to proffer their wares. Amazingly, there are thousands of library, librarian, book, and reading-themed gift options available. And you might still have time to get them before the holidays this year. So here are a few suggestions for gifts for coworkers, spouses, and those book-loving folks in your life.”...

Librarian in Black, Dec. 14

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UzjYccj65Tk>]National Library of Australia Christmas Party, 2009 [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zW9SCeAICjc>]

It would be hard to top their 2008 Thriller extravaganza

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DPhM7JbsgxU>] (5:26), but staffers at the

National Library of Australia did their best with the versatile “Can

Can’s;t [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UzjYccj65Tk>]” dancers

(right), marred only by poor lighting (3:33). This overview of the party

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zW9SCeAICjc>] (3:52) offers a glimpse of

the zany costumes and activities, put on by “people who are not afraid to

look ridiculous.”...

YouTube, Dec. 15

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l9oLj8mcnUQ>]What makes a library a library?

[<http://theunquietlibrarian.wordpress.com/2009/12/10/what-makes-a-library-a-library-teens-share-their-musings/>]

Buffy Hamilton, librarian at the Creekview High School in Canton, Georgia, writes: “I was moved by Sarah Houghton-Janus’s post [<http://librarianinblack.net/librarianinblack/2009/12/stafflesslibrary.html>] in which she asked, ‘What makes a library a library?’ I am in the process of collecting responses from librarians near and far, but I also felt it was important to throw this question out to my teens and hear their thoughts. In this first volume of responses [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I9oLj8mcnUQ>] (2:09), I found it fascinating that these 11 students primarily focused on relationships, experiences, atmosphere, and library as place.”...
The Unquiet Librarian, Dec. 10; Librarian in Black, Dec. 8

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[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/midwinter/2010/index.cfm>]

ALA Midwinter Meeting,
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/midwinter/2010/information.cfm>] Boston, January 15–19. Make the connections you want at the new Networking Uncommons
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/midwinter/2010/information.cfm#uncommons>] space in the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center. It’s a dedicated area where you can gather in small groups to have a quick meeting, polish your presentation, or just recharge your batteries. Tables, chairs, power strips, and a projector for general use (first come, first served) will be available, as well as some 2.0 gadgets. Meet and greet, or bring something to eat. Look for signs in Lobby B near the entrance to the Exhibit Hall and the ALA Store.

[<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2808>]

In a dynamic new portrayal of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle’s most famous characters, Sherlock Holmes
[<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2808>] sends the intrepid Holmes and his stalwart partner Watson to bring down a new nemesis and unravel a deadly plot. This poster will inspire patrons to rediscover Doyle’s classic tales in anticipation of the film’s release December 25. NEW! From ALA Graphics.

In this issue
Dec. 2009

[<http://site.ebrary.com/lib/ala>]

Building Bridges between Students and Faculty

Buena Casa, Buena Brasa

Deployed to Iraq

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

Atyourlibrary.org [<http://www.atyourlibrary.org/>] is the website for ALA's public awareness campaign—the Campaign for America's Libraries, which promotes the value of libraries and librarians. The mission of the site is to be a catalyst that drives people to their local libraries and to encourage a long-term, vibrant relationship between communities and their libraries.

Career Leads from

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

Dean of University Libraries and Archives,

[<http://joblist.ala.org/modules/jobseeker/controller.cfm?scr=jobdetail&jobid=14093>] Emporia State University, Emporia, Kansas. Responsible for all areas of library and archive management including strategic planning, fiscal management, personnel supervision, policy and program development, collection development, public and technical services, and facilities planning. Serving as the executive director of the William Allen White Children's Book Award is also an expected duty....

[<http://www.facebook.com/pages/ALA-JobLIST/47377008761>]

[http://twitter.com/ALA_JobLIST]

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

Digital Library of the Week

[http://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~2514~310026:Johnson-s-Missouri-And-Kansas-By-Jo?sort=Pub_List_No_InitialSort%252CPub_Date%252CPub_List_No%252CSeries_No&qvq=q:Kansas+1860;sort:Pub_List_No_InitialSort%252CPub_Date%252CPub_List_No%252CSeries_No;lc:RUMSEY~8~1&mi=0&trs=1]

The David Rumsey Map Collection Database [<http://www.davidrumsey.com/>] has over 21,000 maps and images online. The collection focuses on rare 18th- and 19th-century North American and South American maps and other cartographic materials. Historic maps of the World, Europe, Asia, and

Africa are also represented. Popular collection categories include antique atlas, [<http://www.davidrumsey.com/view/atlas>] globe, [http://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/view/search?q=Pub_Type%3D%22Globe%22+OR+%22Globe+gores%22+LIMIT%3ARUMSEY%7E8%7E1%2C&sort=Pub_Date,Pub_List_No_InitialSort] school geography, [http://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/view/search?q=Subject%3D%22School%22+LIMIT%3ARUMSEY%7E8%7E1%2C&sort=Pub_Date,Pub_List_No_InitialSort] maritime chart, [http://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/view/search?q=Type%3D%22Chart+Atlas%22+OR+%22Chart+Map%22+LIMIT%3ARUMSEY%7E8%7E1%2C&sort=Pub_Date,Pub_List_No_InitialSort] state, [http://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/view/search?q=Pub_Type%3D%22County+Atlas%22+LIMIT%3ARUMSEY%7E8%7E1%2C&sort=Pub_Date,Pub_List_No_InitialSort] county, [http://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/view/search?q=Pub_Type%3D%22City+Atlas%22+LIMIT%3ARUMSEY%7E8%7E1%2C&sort=Pub_Date,Pub_List_No_InitialSort] city, [http://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/view/search?q=Pub_Type%3D%22Pocket+Map%22+LIMIT%3ARUMSEY%7E8%7E1%2C&sort=Pub_Date,Pub_List_No_InitialSort] pocket, [http://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/view/search?q=Pub_Type%3D%22Wall+Map%22+LIMIT%3ARUMSEY%7E8%7E1%2C&sort=Pub_Date,Pub_List_No_InitialSort] wall, [http://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/view/search?q=Subject%3D%22Children's+Maps%22+LIMIT%3ARUMSEY%7E8%7E1%2C&sort=Pub_Date,Pub_List_No_InitialSort] children's, [<http://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/view/search?q=Subject%3D%22Childre> n%27s+Maps%22+LIMIT%3ARUMSEY%7E8%7E1%2C&sort=Pub_Date,Pub_List_No_InitialSort] and manuscript [http://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/view/search?q=Pub_Type%3D%22Manuscript+Map%22+OR++Type%3D%22Manuscript+Map%22+LIMIT%3ARUMSEY%7E8%7E1%2C&sort=Pub_Date,Pub_List_No_InitialSort] maps. With Luna Imaging's Insight software, multiple maps from different time periods can be viewed side-by-side. Viewers can also create their own collections of maps that hold particular interest by saving groups of images. Complete cataloging data accompany each image, enabling in-depth searches of the collection. Digitization of the collection began in 1996. For the first time since its launch in 1999, the website was completely redesigned and updated in 2009. A blog [<http://www.davidrumsey.com/blog>] has been added to the site that includes entries for recent additions, news, featured maps, related sites, and videos. Over 200 historic maps from the collection can be viewed in a new browser-based version [<http://www.davidrumsey.com/view/google-earth-browser>] of Google Earth, and users can enter the Second Life version of the map collection directly from a dedicated Second Life portal page [http://www.davidrumsey.com/view/second_life] on the site. The collection ticker at the bottom of the home page shows the entire online map library in random order over about 10 hours. All maps can be downloaded for free directly from the site at full resolution. The larger maps generate files frequently approaching 2 GB in size; the average file size of images in the collection is 200 MB. David Rumsey is president of Cartography Associates, a digital publishing company based in San Francisco, and is chairman of Luna Imaging, a provider of enterprise software for online image collections.

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

AL Direct feature? Tell us about it. [mailto:aldirect@ala.org] Browse previous Digital Libraries of the Week at the I Love Libraries [http://www.ilovelibraries.ala.org/diglibweekly/] site.

[http://www.flickr.com/photos/lmulibrary/4174909199/in/set-72157622977026002/]

Staff at Loyola Marymount University’s [http://www.flickr.com/photos/lmulibrary/sets/72157622977026002/] William H. Hannon Library got creative for the holidays with their National Union Catalogue Pre-56 volumes.

Public Perception How the World Sees Us

“Too often a response to closing school libraries is a description of how the digital age is here and libraries are obsolete. This could not be further from the truth. We will always need the printed page. The internet provides no easy solution to the hard work of research. Librarians will tell you true research includes printed copy of standardized material, often not available on the internet.

“Taking into account the current state of the economy, many families in this area can afford neither internet access, nor the computers to give them that access. Nor are encyclopedias commonly found in today’s households. We cannot assume that public school students have home computers, much less internet access. With both parents working, a ride to the nearest public library probably is not an option for lots of students.”

—Pamella Binder, responding to news that the Bay City, Michigan, board of education is proposing to close libraries in its three secondary schools, Letter to the Editor, Bay City Times, Dec. 12.

Ask the ALA Librarian

Q. I work for a small library in Illinois. We are interested in possibly lending (checking out for two weeks, then the book “disappears”) out e-books. We have no information at all. Can you help us, or know of anyone who can? Funds are severely limited.

A. The ALA Library has collected some information about e-books [http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/E-Books] and electronic collection development [http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Electronic_Collection_Development] that may be of assistance as you pursue this service. While there are many dedicated e-book readers available, there are also vendors

who offer libraries of e-books which can be downloaded to your patrons' computers. From the ALA Professional Tips wiki
[http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/EBooks_in_Libraries].

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

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/issuesadvocacy/advocacy/libraryadvocacyday/index.cfm>]

For one year only, Library Advocacy Day
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/issuesadvocacy/advocacy/libraryadvocacyday/index.cfm>] will replace National Library Legislative Day. On June 29, 2010, library advocates from all 50 states and Washington, D.C., will meet at Upper Senate Park on the U.S. Capitol grounds. The event, which will begin at 11 a.m., will feature guest speakers, photo ops, and a chance to cheer on libraries. After the rally, participants will meet with their elected officials and their staffs.

Calendar

Jan. 16–17:
Association of Research Libraries,
[<http://www.arl.org/diversity/leadinst/>]Annual Leadership Symposium,
Boston.

Feb. 1–12:
Google Book Search in Depth,
[<http://www.umuc.edu/distance/odell/cip/ipa/workshops.shtml#google>]
online workshop hosted by the University of Maryland's University College
Center for Intellectual Property.

Feb. 1–28:
The Open Movement and Libraries,
[<http://www.simmons.edu/gslis/careers/continuing-education/workshops/online.php#openness>] online workshop hosted by Simmons Graduate School of
Library and Information Science.

Feb. 16–18:
Introduction to Dublin Core Metadata,
[<http://www.bcr.org/training/schedule/programdetail.php?programid=301>]
online course hosted by BCR.

Feb. 25–26:
Encoded Archival Description,
[http://saa.archivists.org/Scripts/4Disapi.dll/4DCGI/events/166.html?Action=Conference_Detail&ConfID_W=166&Time=236717787&SessionID=645316183una72a1b5nhjg1ufdzilipmnqe242n993hd68waj12i1023z76y343h] Tulane University, New

Orleans. Workshop hosted by the Society of American Archivists.

Feb. 28–

Mar. 2:

National Federation of Advanced Information Services,
[<http://www.nfaais.org/page/23-2010-annual-conference>] Annual Conference,
Hyatt at the Bellevue, Philadelphia.

Mar. 3–5:

WebWise Conference on Libraries and Museums in the Digital World,
[<http://www.imls.gov/news/2009/120909b.shtm>] Denver Art Museum.
“Imagining the Digital Future.”

Mar. 4–7:

Association of Architecture School Librarians,
[<http://www.architecturelibrarians.org/>] Annual Conference, New Orleans.

Mar. 21–24:

Music Library Association, Southern California Chapter,
[<http://www.mlascc.org/sandiego.html>] Annual Conference, Paradise Point
Resort and Spa, San Diego, California.

Apr. 19–21:

DrupalCon San Francisco, [<http://sf2010.drupal.org/>] Moscone Center South.

Apr. 26–30:

World Wide Web 2010, [<http://www2010.org/www/>] Raleigh Convention Center,
North Carolina.

Apr. 28–30:

Massachusetts Library Association,
[<http://www.masslib.org/catalog/page.asp?pn=vir990>] Annual Conference,
Hyannis Resort and Conference Center.

May 6–9:

Asian Festival of Children’s Content,
[<http://www.bookcouncil.sg/newsletters/afcc/eflyer.html>] The Arts House,
Singapore. Its goals are to develop, promote, and facilitate writing,
illustrating, and publishing Asian children’s books.

May 13–14:

Delaware Library Association,
[<http://www2.lib.udel.edu/dla/conf/index.htm>] Annual Conference, Rollins
Center at Dover Downs Hotel, Dover.

May 13–15:

American Society for Indexing,
[<http://www.asindexing.org/site/conferences/conf2010/call.shtml>] Annual
Conference, Minneapolis Marriott City Center Hotel.

June 24–29:

American Library Association,
[<http://ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/index.cfm>] Annual
Conference, Washington, D.C.

Aug. 10–15:

World Library and Information Congress, [<http://www.ifla.org/en/ifla76>]
76th IFLA General Conference and Assembly, Gothenburg, Sweden.
“Libraries Promoting Reading in a Multicultural, Multilingual
Society.”

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

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addressed to the administrator of that site.

American Libraries

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The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | December 23, 2009

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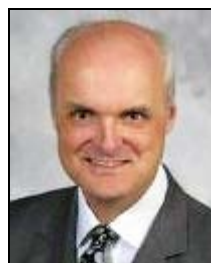


U.S. & World News

[Stephen Abram to leave SirsiDynix](#)

SirsiDynix announced December 18 that Stephen Abram, who has been vice president of innovation since 2004, will leave the company December 31 but will "continue to be a resource for the SirsiDynix Institute and for SirsiDynix User Groups, among other programs in the future." In a phone interview, Abram told *American Libraries* that he was leaving SirsiDynix to take a position at Gale Cengage Learning as vice president for strategic partnerships and markets....

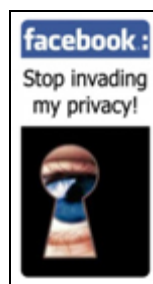
American Libraries Online, Dec. 18



[Privacy groups complain to FTC about Facebook](#)

Concerned about protecting the privacy of library patrons and other individuals who have Facebook accounts, ALA has joined nine other organizations in filing a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission regarding Facebook's recent changes to its policies. The December 17 complaint ([PDF file](#)) written by the Electronic Privacy Information Center contends that changes to users' privacy settings in actuality "disclose personal information to the public [and] violate user expectations, diminish user privacy, and contradict Facebook's own representations."...

American Libraries Online, Dec. 23



[Libraries get broadband stimulus grants](#)

Libraries in six states are among the beneficiaries of the first round of awards from the \$7.2-billion American Recovery and Reinvestment Act broadband grant and loan programs. The initial \$183 million in awards, going to 18 broadband projects in 17 states, was announced by Vice President Joseph Biden December 17 and detailed in a National Economic Council report ([PDF file](#)) issued the same day. Altogether, \$2 billion will be released by early March, according to a White House [press release](#)....

American Libraries Online, Dec. 21; White House, Dec. 17



[What the demise of Kirkus Reviews portends for](#)



[ALA Midwinter Meeting.](#)

Boston, January 15–19. For [self parking](#) at the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center, turn into the east side entrance off Summer Street and continue to the end of the building, turn right, and go down the ramp. At the bottom, turn left and you will see the entrance to the South Parking Lot. Shuttle buses run continuously between the lot and building entrance. Self parking is \$10 all day.

Booklist now
presents



Free webinar from
Booklist Online: [21st](#)

[Libraries](#)

American Libraries Editor in Chief Leonard Kniffel writes: "It's my understanding that *Kirkus Reviews* had fewer than 2,000 subscribers when it [folded](#) this month, but the venerable publication was still influential and a credible source of information about the quality of writing being peddled by the book industry in America. Publishers still used *Kirkus* blurbs on their dust jackets and some librarians still used the reviews as a selection tool. But let's face it, many of us were more than a little amused by literary agent Ira Silverberg's remark when the news broke: 'Hearing about their closing reminded me that they were still publishing.'"...

AL Inside Scoop, Dec. 18; *Kirkus Reviews*, Dec. 15

ALA News

[Ethiopia Reads founder to keynote President's Program](#)

Yohannes Gebregeorgis (right), founder and executive director of Ethiopia Reads, will serve as keynote speaker for the President's Program at the ALA Midwinter Meeting, January 17, at the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center. Ethiopia Reads encourages a love of reading by establishing children's and youth libraries in Ethiopia, free distribution of books to children, and multilingual publishing. Gebregeorgis was selected as one of CNN's Top 10 Heroes in 2008....



[Library groups raise Google Book Search pricing concerns](#)

ALA, ACRL, and the Association of Research Libraries sent a letter ([PDF file](#)) to the U.S. Department of Justice December 15 asking for ongoing judicial oversight of the Google Book Search settlement, if approved. The library associations urge the DOJ to request the court to review the pricing of the institutional subscriptions to ensure that the economic objectives set forth in the settlement agreement are met....

District Dispatch, Dec. 17

[ALA Annual Conference registration opens January 4](#)

Registration for the 2010 ALA Annual Conference will open January 4. The conference will be held in Washington, D.C., June 24–29. Participants can register online through the ALA website, by fax, or by mail. Hotel reservations can also be made at this time. Attendees must be registered for the annual conference before they can make a hotel reservation....



[Toni Morrison to headline Annual Conference Opening Session](#)

ALA will kick off its 2010 Annual Conference in Washington, D.C., with acclaimed author Toni Morrison (right) speaking at the Opening General Session June 26, sponsored by Simon and Schuster. Her titles include *The Bluest Eye*, *Song of Solomon*, and *Beloved*, which won the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction in 1988. She won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1993....



[Century Reference Collections](#)

Tuesday, January 12, 4:00 Eastern Time. Join *Booklist's* Mary Ellen Quinn, editor of *Reference Books Bulletin*, and a group of library and publishing experts as they talk about how the traditional reference collection is being transformed. Reserve a seat today. **NEW! From *Booklist*.**

In this issue

Dec. 2009



**Building Bridges
between Students
and Faculty**

**Buena Casa, Buena
Brasa**

Deployed to Iraq



[Present a poster session at Annual Conference](#)

Proposals for poster sessions at the 2010 ALA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C., will be accepted until January 1. An [application form](#) is available online. The poster sessions will be held June 26–28 at the Washington Convention Center. Contact [Candace Benefiel](#) for further information. Applicants will be notified by March 2....

[Connect with National Library Week](#)

Looking for new ideas for promoting your library during National Library Week? ALA has the tools to help you connect with your library. The Campaign for America's Libraries is now hosting a National Library Week [community](#) in ALA Connect. Its mission is to create an open discussion space for ALA members to communicate their ideas and develop new ways to celebrate and promote National Library Week in all types of libraries....



[ALA membership stats: A positive trend](#)

Associate Executive Director for Communications Cathleen Bourdon sent ALA staff a welcome seasonal greeting December 23—namely a report on membership statistics that helps mitigate some of the doom and gloom. Year-to-date membership transactions for FY2010 are ahead of the same quarter in FY2009 by +9.1%, she said. This positive trend is largely due to a record-setting AASL National Conference and the opening of registration for both Midwinter 2010 and the 2010 PLA National Conference....

AL Inside Scoop, Dec. 23

[Continuing membership](#)

ALA offers all members who have been active, paid members for at least 25 uninterrupted years the opportunity to receive ongoing free membership upon retirement as Continuing Members. This special membership is ALA's way of thanking members for their years of dedication and service to the library community. ALA is proud to serve those who have served the longest. Once you become a Continuing Member, that status will never be taken away....

[Major membership database update planned](#)

ALA has been experiencing slowness with its iMIS Membership System over the past several weeks due to increased use. iMIS is the Association's membership management system and database, and is central to functions such as renewal. Over the next two weeks, ALA will be installing new hardware, an upgraded operating system, and new SQL versions to improve performance. If you experience slowness logging into the website, registering for an event, renewing your membership, or making a donation, please try again later....

ITTS Update, Dec. 22

[ALA members save with DollarDays](#)

ALA and DollarDays International are announcing a new member-benefits program. ALA members now have the added benefit of free shipping and no minimum order on more than 55,000 wholesale and closeout products from the low-cost provider. ALA organizational members also have the opportunity to participate in the DollarDays Wish List Program. Visit the ALA DollarDays [website](#) to register your library....



Career Leads from



[Director of the Center for Inquiry and Exploration](#)

Maret School, an independent K-12 school in Washington, D.C., seeks a dynamic leader to assume leadership of an innovative programmatic initiative, the Center for Inquiry and Exploration. This newly created center seeks to infuse current research methodology into all aspects of our curriculum, concentrating especially on Grades 7 through 12. We seek an administrator with a strong understanding of the changing and evolving roles of libraries and information systems in the 21st century and a clear and compelling vision for how Maret's facilities and faculty can more effectively train students in current research and inquiry practices....



Digital Library of the Week

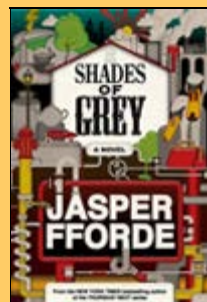
Booklist

ONLINE

Featured review: Adult fiction

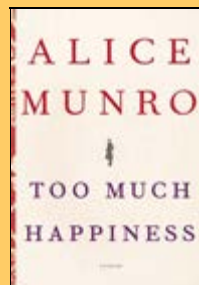
Fforde, Jasper. *Shades of Grey: The Road to High Saffron*. Jan. 2010. 400p. Viking, hardcover (978-0-670-01963-2).

In Eddie Russett's world, color is destiny. People's perceptions of color, once tested, determine their rank in the Colortocracy, with primes ruling "bastard" colors and everyone lording it over the prole-like grays. No one can see more than their own color, and no one knows why—but there are many unknowns ever since Something Happened, followed by the deFacting and successive Great Leaps Backward. Due to an infraction against the Collective's rule-bound bureaucracy, Eddie is sent to East Carmine, in the Outer Fringes, where manners are shockingly poor, to conduct a month-long chair census. In short order, he falls in love, runs afoul of the local prefects, learns a terrible secret, and is eaten by a carnivorous tree. This series starter combines the dire warnings of *Brave New World* and *1984* with the devolutionary visions of *A Canticle for Leibowitz* and *Riddley Walker*....



2009 Top of the List selections

Booklist has announced its 20th annual Top of the List winners. The eight winning titles were chosen from the annual Editors' Choice selections as the best books and media of 2009. Two short story masters are included in this year's list: Alice Munro for her collection *Too Much Happiness*, and John Cheever as the subject of Blake Bailey's landmark biography *Cheever*. Other winners reflect both hot genres and artistic innovation. The Top of the List picks are featured in the special combined January 1 and 15 issue of *Booklist*, which includes the complete annotated Editors' Choice lists for adult books, adult books for young adults, books for youth, reference sources, and media....



Gifts for the non-reading man

David Wright writes: "Ladies, you want to get your man a book for the holidays because you'd like him to read more, which is to say you'd like him to read more like *you*."

Buying books for anyone is tricky business, but don't make it worse by trying to improve us, OK? We've already told you the precise titles we need to fill gaps in our personal library of contemporary architecture or the Marvel universe, but if you insist on surprising us, here are some titles to consider."...



Seeds of Change: The Daily Reflector Image Collection

is one of the newest digital collections at East Carolina University's J. Y. Joyner Library. The collection contains more than 7,000 images digitized from the photographic negatives of *The Daily Reflector*, the Greenville newspaper. The online collection represents only a portion of the 85,000 negatives donated by D. Jordan Whichard III, the paper's former publisher. The majority of the photos date from 1949 to 1967 and document advances in industry, upheavals in race relations, and an increasing awareness of public health concerns. The website also has an illustrated timeline that examines the national and international events that shaped the era.

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.



[Books for bandit queens](#)

Kaite Mediatore Stover writes: "I can never afford to give the kinds of gifts I want to bestow on friends, which is why they all get books. But this year I thought I'd give my favorite bandit queens books that represent what I'd like to give if I had the cash. Only with books can I begin to show the love, admiration, and appreciation I have for these treasured females. Thoughts do count, between and outside the covers."...



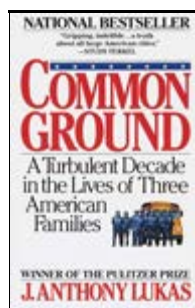
@ Visit [Booklist Online](#) for other reviews and much more....

Boston Update

[A reader's guide to literary Boston](#)

For more than 350 years, dozens of authors have written about Boston. John Winthrop, the first governor of Massachusetts Bay Colony, envisioned it in 1630 as a shining "city on a hill." Oliver Wendell Holmes called the State House in 1858 the "hub of the Solar System" (which Bostonians adapted to "hub of the universe"). The city's rich written heritage still flourishes, with fictional characters riding the Red Line, scouting the Big Dig, and plotting murder at the old Boston Garden. Use this map as a starting point....

Boston Globe



[Hotels and the ADA: Information for deaf and hard of hearing travelers](#)

If you are traveling this holiday season, you may want to be aware of what services hotels are required to provide you under the Americans with Disabilities Act. A hotel must provide a TTY on request for use in guest rooms. Visual-notification devices for alerting deaf and hard-of-hearing guests to incoming telephone calls and door knocks/doorbells are required for a certain number of guest rooms, so be sure to ask for one when placing a reservation....

Speak Up Librarian, Dec. 20

[Child care at Midwinter](#)

ALA will reimburse the charges expended on childcare in the amount of \$25 per day per child to a maximum of \$50 per day per family to any fully registered parent for each day of the Midwinter Meeting week, January 15–19. This covers only childcare in the parent's hotel room or other residence in Boston and does not include charges for children's food and transportation or gratuities and transportation for the sitter. Reimbursement forms will be available at the ALA Registration Desk....

Division News

[Operation Teen Book Drop 2010](#)

Stephanie Kuenn writes: "YALSA will again

[Teen Tech Week 2010](#)

will take place March 7–13. It is a national initiative meant to encourage teens to take advantage of libraries' nonprint resources. The theme—Learn Create Share @ your library—fosters teen creativity and positions the library as a place for safe exploration of many types of technology.

Public Perception

How the World Sees Us

"I worry that libraries, even the newest ones, risk becoming fortresses buttressed by books, protecting Gutenberg's technology for reasons of principle rather than pragmatism. Librarians need to educate themselves, and us, about the possibilities and limitations of digital books."

—Columnist Alex Beam, hoping that libraries will loan out more e-books for users to test drive so that the hype about digital publishing will be tempered by experience, "[Unbound Is Not Unbeatable](#)," *Boston Globe*, Dec. 22.

Ask the ALA Librarian



work with Readergirlz and Guys Lit Wire in 2010 for another iteration of [Operation Teen Book Drop](#). The initiative will take place on Support Teen Literature Day, April 15. Over the past two years, Operation TBD has put 20,000 books for teens into pediatric hospitals in the United States and Canada. This year, Operation TBD will coordinate donations to tribal libraries and schools by joining forces with [If I Can Read, I Can Do Anything](#), a national book club for Native American children, a project directed by former ALA President Lorie Roy. Watch the Readergirlz [video](#) (2:29)....

YALSA Blog, Dec. 16; YouTube, Dec. 10

[Applications due for YA Literature Symposium stipends](#)

Librarians and SLIS students could win a stipend for up to \$1,000 to cover travel to the next Young Adult Literature Symposium in Albuquerque, New Mexico, November 5–7, 2010, sponsored by YALSA. Applications can be [downloaded](#) and [sent electronically](#) by midnight Central Time, January 4....

[Texas archives building named Literary Landmark](#)

Laura Bush, a former librarian and an advocate for literature and reading, helped celebrate ALTAFF's designation of the Lorenzo de Zavala State Archives and Library Building as a national Literary Landmark in a December 3 ceremony in front of the library across from the east wing of the Texas State Capitol. In the 100th anniversary year of the creation of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission, the former first lady applauded the honor granted to the archives and library....

Austin (Tex.) American-Statesman, Dec. 4



[OIF and ALTAFF offer webinars for trustees](#)

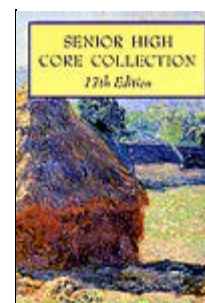
The Office for Intellectual Freedom is partnering with ALTAFF to present [three one-hour webinars](#) in February for library trustees on the topic of controversial materials in library collections. The webinars, entitled "Controversial Materials in the Library: Supporting Intellectual Freedom in Your Community," are intended to help trustees understand the basics of intellectual freedom in libraries....

OIF Blog, Dec. 21

Awards

[2009 I Love My Librarian Awards ceremony](#)

The 2009 I Love My Librarian Awards recognized 10 librarians who are making a difference in their communities in a December



Q. A long, long time ago, like BC (before computers), my high school librarian once showed me a professional tool she used in selecting books for the school library. It was an annotated listing of books recommended for small to medium library collections. I can't remember what it was called, but it came out periodically, and was a large and heavy hardback book. We are trying to put together a library in my son's school, but I can't remember the exact title of that book. I have tried looking on eBay and places like AbeBooks to try to find old editions, but can't seem to think of the most effective search terms that won't net me tens of thousands of results.

A. Your high school teacher was likely using the longtime H. W. Wilson publication—whose name has changed a few times over the years—[Standard Catalog for High School Libraries](#), which was first published in 1926. As of 2007, the title is

3 ceremony (1:44). The award is sponsored by Carnegie Corporation of New York and the *New York Times*....

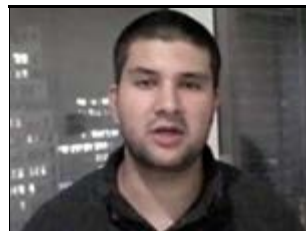
AL Focus, Dec. 21



[The I Love my Librarian Award winners speak](#)

What should users expect in a great library? The 10 winners of the 2009 I Love My Librarian award share their perspectives (3:12) on what users deserve, and how they've worked to achieve it....

AL Focus, Dec. 21



[Morris/Nonfiction book trailer contest](#)

YALSA seeks entrants for its Morris/Nonfiction Award Book Trailer Contest. Teens ages 13–18 can win a box of books plus a \$100 gift card to a bookstore, and librarians can win \$200 worth of books and materials for their library. Entrants can read the official rules and download the entry form ([PDF file](#)). All video entries must be an original work made between now and January 17, and must feature any or all of the five titles nominated for the [Morris Award](#) or the five nominees for the [Nonfiction Award](#)....

[Great Interactive Software for Kids](#)

ALSC has selected its fall 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. The selected products are ItzaBitza (right), Left Brain/Right Brain 2, Professor Layton and the Curious Village, and Zula World. For the annotated list, visit the [ALSC website](#)....



[Some ALA awards and grants deadlines extended](#)

The deadline has been extended to February 1 for a number of ALA awards and grants, among them the ALA Information Today Library of the Future Award, the Beta Phi Mu Award, the Equality Award, the Gale Cengage Learning Financial Development Award, the Ken Haycock Award for Promoting Librarianship, the Lippincott Award, and the Sullivan Award for Public Library Administrators Supporting Services to Children....

[Best library blog: Edublog Awards 2009](#)

Joyce Valenza's [Never Ending Search](#) blog is the winner in the Best Librarian/Library Blog category of the 2009 Edublog Awards. Runners-up are [Bright Ideas](#) and [Library Tech Musings](#). Winners in all categories were announced December 17. View the [vote tallies](#) on the Awards pages. A total of 532 votes were cast in this category....

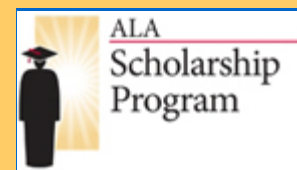
Edublog Awards



[Irish librarian scoops national short](#)

Senior High Core Collection. This book selection professional tool, as well as several other such books published by Wilson, Libraries Unlimited, and our own ALA Editions, appears in a list, separated out by age group, at [Readers' Advisory for Children and Young Adults](#). You can find out if any of these books are at a public or community college library near you by using OCLC's [WorldCat](#), a free online database in which you can search for a book title, and then find the book's closest library location using your own ZIP code. From the [ALA Professional Tips wiki](#).

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



ALA and its units provide more than \$300,000 in [scholarships](#) annually for study in a master's degree in library and information studies from an ALA-accredited program, or for a master's degree in a school library media program that meets the ALA curriculum guidelines

[story award](#)

Eimear McGuinness, who works in the Longford County (Ireland) Library, received a third-prize award in a recently held national short story competition. Titled "Seeing is Believing" by Gloria Hunter (McGuinness's pen name), the story tells the tale of two sisters who set out on a journey to prove an injustice, only to find that one of them is on the receiving end of the plot. Eimear's story was submitted for the Varilux Short Story Competition, which invited writers to create a story about seeing something for the first time—with the eye, the mind, the imagination, or the spirit....

Longford (Ireland) Leader, Dec. 17



[StoryTubes 2010 contest](#)

StoryTubes is the public-library-sponsored, two-minute-or-shorter, my-favorite-book online contest. Kids across the United States and in Nova Scotia are invited to participate. Partner libraries provide the staff time and expertise to administer the contest. Top prizes will be awarded by a panel of judges, who will consider performance, script, creativity, and other factors. Entries will be accepted from January 20 to February 28....



[Native American Library Services grants](#)

The Institute of Museum and Library Services is accepting applications for the 2010 Native American Library Services Basic Grants program. Federally recognized tribes and Alaska Native villages and corporations may [apply](#) for these grants by March 1 in either the Basic or the Basic with Education/Assessment Option categories....

Institute of Museum and Library Services, Dec. 17

Seen Online

[French court rules against Google Books project](#)

Google suffered a blow December 18 when a French court ordered the search engine company to stop digitizing copyrighted French books. The Paris court ruled that the Google Books project violates the country's copyright laws. The decision came after a three-year battle between Google and a group of powerful French publishers, including the prestigious Le Seuil publishing house. Google France will appeal the ruling....

Los Angeles Times, Dec. 18



[Patriot Act renewal delayed](#)

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) has rejected a Senate plan to include amendments to the Patriot Act in a larger Pentagon funding bill. The decision, announced at a closed-door leadership meeting December 14, has forced Democrats to go with a backup plan of extending the Patriot Act until February 28. When Congress resumes in January for the second session of the 111th Congress, the ALA



for an NCATE-accredited unit. You can apply for a variety of scholarships through the single [online application](#). Three references must also be supplied with the online form. The scholarship application and reference forms are available until March 1.

Calendar

Jan. 16–17:

[Austin Book, Paper, and Photo Show](#).

Norris Conference Center, Austin, Texas.

Jan. 26–27:

[Web 3.0 Conference](#).

Mediabistro, Hyatt Regency Santa Clara, California.

Feb. 6–7:

[San Francisco Antiquarian Book, Print, and Paper Fair](#).

San Francisco Concourse.

Mar. 3–5:

[Customers of SirsiDynix User Group](#), 2010

Conference, Disney's Coronado Springs Resort, Lake Buena Vista, Florida. "From Intersections to Lasting ConXions."

Mar. 3–5:

[WebWise 2010](#), Hyatt Regency at the Colorado Convention Center, Denver. "Imagining the Digital Future."

Mar. 4–7:

[Alaska Library](#)

Washington Office will [continue its efforts](#) to seek reform to this legislation. Stephen Colbert offered a [whimsical alternative](#) in his December 16 report....

Politico, Dec. 16; District Dispatch, Dec. 18; Colbert Nation, Dec. 16

[Pasadena schools to downsize libraries](#)

Facing a projected budget deficit of about \$20 million over the next two school years and what officials say are likely layoffs of teachers, administrators, librarians, and other employees, Pasadena (Calif.) United School District leaders are portraying a future with less of nearly everything. School board members this past week approved a preliminary plan of cuts, including closing school libraries to save about \$1.4 million....

Pasadena (Calif.) Star-News, Dec. 19

[Houston librarian recovering after beating by patron](#)

A librarian at the Robinson-Westchase branch of the Houston Public Library is recovering after being attacked December 16 by an angry patron. Police say 23-year-old Nigel Mandela Harper was acting unruly so the librarian asked him to be quiet and gave him a polite warning. According to an eyewitness, Harper punched the woman, threw her to the ground, and stomped on her. News sources did not name the librarian, who is in her 50s....

KHOU-TV, Houston, Dec. 18



[Ex-library treasurer pleads not guilty to embezzling](#)

Prosecutors still are looking into whether a former treasurer at the Erwin Library and Institute in Boonville, New York, may have stolen money from anyone else while allegedly embezzling more than \$280,000 from the library. Lawrence Recor pleaded not guilty December 21 in Oneida County Court to charges of second-degree grand larceny and 27 counts of first-degree falsifying of business records. He was first arrested in July after he allegedly wrote dozens of unauthorized checks from the library account to his former accounting business from June 2005 to January 2008....

Utica (N.Y.) Observer-Dispatch, Dec. 21

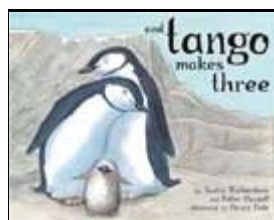
[Studying young minds](#)

For much of the last century, educators and many scientists believed that children could not learn math at all before the age of 5, that their brains simply were not ready. But recent research has turned that assumption on its head—that, and a host of other conventional wisdom about geometry, reading, language, and self-control in class. The findings, mostly from a branch of research called cognitive neuroscience, are helping to clarify when young brains are best able to grasp fundamental concepts....

New York Times, Dec. 20

[North Kansas City keeps *Tango*](#)

The North Kansas City (Mo.) School Board voted December 21 to keep a children's book in school libraries despite the concerns of a parent. Board members decided to retain the book *And Tango Makes Three* by Justin Richardson and Peter Parnell in a 3–2 decision after more than an hour of discussion. However, they also agreed to place the



[Association](#). Annual Conference. Hotel Captain Cook, Anchorage. "Breaking New Trails."

Mar. 5–6:

[Virtual Worlds and Libraries Online](#)

[Conference](#). The conference will be held online using OPAL web conferencing software, with demonstrations and tours in virtual worlds such as Second Life. Deadline for proposals is January 15.

Apr. 29–

May 2:

[Greater St. Louis Book Fair](#), West County Center, St. Louis.

@ [More...](#)

Contact Us

American Libraries
Direct

ALA American
Library
Association

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

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elementary library card catalog online so that parents can view which materials are in their child's library and decide whether they would like to request any individual restrictions for their child....

Kansas City (Mo.) Star, Dec. 22

[Hate-speech tag irks Mount Prospect patron](#)

Mike Alaimo thinks Ann Coulter should know what's going on with her books at the Mount Prospect (Ill.) Public Library. Early in December, Alaimo was scrolling through his library's online catalog when he came across a list of books by Ann Coulter; someone had tagged "hate speech" on virtually every listing. In July, the library started a new cataloging system that allows readers to tag books with terms they think other readers might find useful, said Library Director Marilyn Genther....

Arlington Heights (Ill.) Daily Herald, Dec. 18



[Behind the scenes at the Bush Library](#)

Eight years of American history is meticulously cataloged, wrapped, stored, and guarded in a climate-controlled warehouse in Lewisville, Texas. Welcome to the Bush White House, where there's even wood flooring from the Oval Office and chairs from the press room. It will all eventually move to the \$300-million George W. Bush Presidential Library opening at Southern Methodist University in 2013. For now, archivists are cataloging the massive collection of documents and museum pieces stored in the 60,000-square-foot facility managed by the National Archives and Records Administration....

Fort Worth (Tex.) Star-Telegram, Dec. 16



[Security breach at NC community college libraries](#)

(PDF file)

The North Carolina Community College System office began notifying nearly 51,000 library users from 25 community colleges that a security breach occurred August 23 on a computer server containing their personal information, including Social Security or driver's license numbers. The breach was discovered the following day. All reviews and investigations indicate that no personal information was accessed by the intruder, but the Social Security numbers of 38,500 library patrons were stored on the server at the time....

NC Community Colleges, Dec. 17

[Beaverton volunteer spends 90th birthday at the library](#)

Phyllis Davis spent her 90th birthday at the library where she has worked or volunteered for the past 65 years. "I can't think of any place else, really, what else I would be doing," Davis said December 14, taking a break from her job putting the finishing touches on books before they hit the Beaverton (Oreg.) City Library shelves. "It just seems to suit my abilities, my interests."...

Portland Oregonian, Dec. 16

[Fairfax County ends Ask a Librarian](#)

The Fairfax County (Va.) Public Library will end its popular online [Ask a Librarian](#) program to help offset a \$4-million budget gap, officials said, making them the first library system in the Washington region

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ISSN 1559-369X.

to stop such a service. Librarians at Fairfax's 23 branches answered about 9,300 questions last year, said Director of Internet Services Lydia Patrick....

Washington Post, Dec. 16

[Matteo Ricci map coming to Minnesota](#)

One of the world's rarest maps—a massive print from 1602 showing the world with China as its center—will soon be on permanent display at the University of Minnesota. The James Ford Bell Trust announced that it has acquired Matteo Ricci's "Impossible Black Tulip," the first map in Chinese to show the Americas, from a London books and maps dealer for \$1 million. Only six copies of the map remain. The Library of Congress will display the map for the first time in North America on January 12....

Minnesota Public Radio, Dec. 16



[San Diego's Wangenheim Room](#)

Those who stumble into the Wangenheim Room on the third floor of the San Diego (Calif.) Central Library are often momentarily dazed and then can't help but be enchanted, feeling as though they are being transported back in time to a well-appointed private library from the 19th century. Architect Rob Quigley intends to recreate the wood-paneled room in the proposed new downtown library, a \$185-million domed edifice that the City Council put out for construction bids in October....

San Diego (Calif.) Union-Tribune, Dec. 21



[Baltimore branch to get Frank Zappa bust](#)

After more than a year of deliberation, city officials have decided to place a bust of the late Baltimore-born musician Frank Zappa at the Southeast Anchor branch of the Enoch Pratt Free Library in Highlandtown. The commission considered several sites for the statue, but Zappa's mother, Rose Marie Colimore, was a librarian, and his wife Gail lobbied to have the bust placed near a city library. Baltimore Mayor Sheila Dixon [proclaimed](#) December 21 (Zappa's birthday) as Frank Zappa Day....

Baltimore Sun, Dec. 17; *Associated Press*, Dec. 21

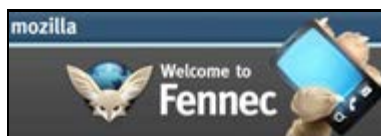


[Go back to the Top](#)

Tech Talk

[Will the mobile web kill off app stores?](#)

Brian X. Chen writes: "Mozilla, creator of Firefox, claims that its new browser for smartphones will contribute to the death of smartphone app stores. Scheduled to begin appearing on devices at the end of this year, the Firefox mobile browser, code-named Fennec, will be packed with features to make it the closest thing yet to a real, desktop-class browser. Mozilla claims it will have the fastest JavaScript engine of any mobile browser, allowing developers to produce HTML- and JavaScript-coded apps for Fennec rather than for multiple



smartphone platforms.”...

Wired: Gadget Lab, Dec. 18

Security in the cloud

David Talbot writes: “In 2006, when Amazon introduced the Elastic Compute Cloud, it was a watershed event in the quest to transform computing into a ubiquitous utility, like electricity. But it also posed a potential threat. What Amazon hasn’t solved—what nobody has yet solved—is the security problem inherent in the size and structure of clouds. Cloud computing is rapidly changing the way we use computers. Even slow-moving government agencies are getting into the act.”...

Technology Review, Jan./Feb.



WorldCat in RedLaser iPhone app

Bob Robertson-Boyd writes: “Thanks to some quick footwork by a few of OCLC’s staff and the guys at [Occipital](#), the company behind the iPhone app [RedLaser](#), WorldCat.org libraries now appear within the mobile apps item search pages. RedLaser users can scan a book and see the libraries near them that have that book. Then they can click to one of those libraries and get hours, phone numbers, and driving directions.”...

WorldCat Blog, Dec. 22



How to produce video interviews for your blog using Skype

Francisco Rosales writes: “Bloggers are taking video interviews to the next level. Why not? It’s a great way to engage your visitors and make them stay a little longer. Are you asking yourself whether this is hard to put together? Here’s what you need: webcam, screen capture software, Skype, basic video editing software, and a video sharing website.”...

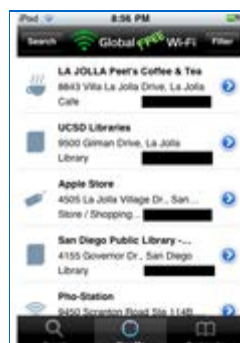
Socialmouths, Dec. 21



Finding free Wi-Fi

Gina Trapani writes: “You’re out and about for the holidays with your laptop and you’re in need of some fast internet connectivity. Here are some tried and true ways to find and get free Wi-Fi. You can find some free Wi-Fi love at the local public library, Barnes and Noble, McDonald’s, the airport (sometimes), a university campus, independent coffee shop, or hotel lobby (sometimes). Your Wi-Fi enabled smartphone can scan for nearby networks using its built-in antenna, but a few apps let you search near your location or another location, too.”...

Lifehacker, Aug. 19



How to get and install an SSL/TLS certificate

Glenn Fleishman writes: “Anyone operating a server on any scale should want a digital certificate to encrypt data between clients and services, whether for



personal, office, or public use. With so many people accessing networks over Wi-Fi or other untrusted networks for an increasing number of different kinds of services, encryption is a must. While I recommend VPNs, they aren't always the practical, affordable, or correct solution. For remote email access, SSL/TLS is simpler and more straightforward, and you don't have to compromise on protection in the process."...

Ars Technica, Dec. 20

[Can you enhance that?](#)

Duncan Robson has compiled this homage (1:43) to computer enhancement in TV dramas that demonstrates the ubiquity of this plot device, despite the fact that such techniques have limited functionality, especially in low-resolution images and videos....

YouTube, Dec. 13



Publishing

[The e-book, the e-reader, and the future of reading](#)

Jeremy Manore, an 18-year-old from central New Jersey, subscribes to several magazines and reads books constantly—John Steinbeck and F. Scott Fitzgerald are among his favorite writers. When he came home from the elite Cushing Academy in Massachusetts for Thanksgiving, Jeremy brought three books to read. But he wasn't carting heavy volumes in a backpack. Instead, he'd checked out a Kindle from the Cushing school library and downloaded the books he wanted to read....

Christian Science Monitor, Dec. 21

[An e-book buyer's guide to privacy](#)

Ed Bayley writes: "E-readers possess the ability to report back substantial information about their users' reading habits and locations to the corporations that sell them. And yet none of the major e-reader manufacturers have explained to consumers in clear, unequivocal language what data is being collected about them and why. As a first step towards addressing these problems, the Electronic Frontier Foundation has created a first draft of a buyer's guide to e-book privacy."...

Electronic Frontier Foundation Deeplinks Blog, Dec. 21

[OverDrive releases Android audiobook app](#)

OverDrive, a distributor of audiobooks and e-books to libraries and retailers,



announced the beta release December 21 of an audiobook app that enables Android smartphone and device owners to wirelessly download digital audiobooks. OverDrive's audiobook app for Android is compatible with MP3 audiobooks from more than 10,000 libraries and major online retailers, including Barnes & Noble, BooksOnBoard,

and Borders. To download, visit the [OverDrive website](#)....

OverDrive, Dec. 21

[2009 children's lit: The year in miscellanea](#)

Travis Jonker writes: "It's time to take a trip back and look at the year that was in children's lit miscellanea." He covers such events as the best children's lit

April Fools joke (right), the picture-book cover trend of the year, the marketing technique of the year, the most explosive combination of things librarians love, and the most off-putting cookbook of 2009....

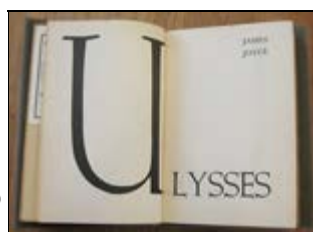
100 Scope Notes, Dec. 22



[Ulysses: Fast track to 1934 bestseller](#)

Martha Scotford writes: "Imagine you're a big American publisher, and there's a book infamous for its subject and language that you want to publish. But first, you have to go up against the U.S. government to prove it should no longer be banned. And, given the publicity of the court case, you want the book in bookstores as soon as it's legal. This describes the situation facing Random House in 1933 as they waited to publish James Joyce's *Ulysses*, which had not been allowed into the U.S. for 12 years. How they got the ban dropped and delivered the book at just the right moment is a short tale of legal, design, and production choreography."...

Observatory: Design Observer, Dec. 21



[Bookstore Night in Buenos Aires](#)

On December 19–21, Buenos Aires held its annual Noche de las Librerías—Bookstore Night—blocking off some of its biggest thoroughfares for a special evening devoted to the city's many book lovers. Brian Byrnes has this story from a big bash in honor of books....

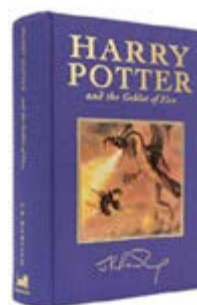
NPR *Morning Edition*, Dec. 21; *El Clarín* (Buenos Aires), Dec. 19



[35 most collectible books of the decade](#)

Richard Davies writes: "AbeBooks has compiled a list of the most collectible books published between 2000 and 2009. Classify these books as hypermodern first editions. It usually takes a long time, sometimes decades, for a book's value to be determined, but these treasures became collectible in a hurry. Some became desirable on a wave of popularity, others were propelled toward greatness after winning awards, some were acclaimed by literary critics, others were initially self-published, and several emerged from the rough and tumble of politics."...

AbeBooks



[First issues of popular magazines](#)

Steven Lomazow writes: "When I started collecting magazines nearly 40 years ago, my goal was to get the first issue of every major American magazine ever published, especially ones that you find on your newsstand today. Spending a ridiculous but



highly enjoyable amount of time towards accomplishing that task, I've been fairly successful. So, by the miracle of the modern hard drive, I am bringing a hearty sampling to you today."...

Magazine History, Dec. 19

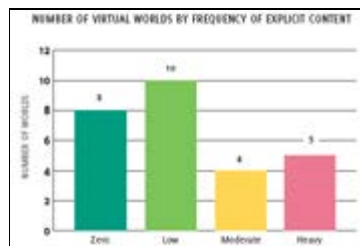


Actions & Answers

[FTC: Explicit content in virtual worlds leaves minors at risk](#)

The Federal Trade Commission issued a report December 10 that examines the incidence of sexually and violently explicit content in online virtual worlds. The congressionally mandated report, *Virtual Worlds and Kids: Mapping the Risks* ([PDF file](#)), urges operators of virtual worlds to take a number of steps to keep explicit content away from children and teens, and recommends that parents familiarize themselves with the virtual worlds their kids visit....

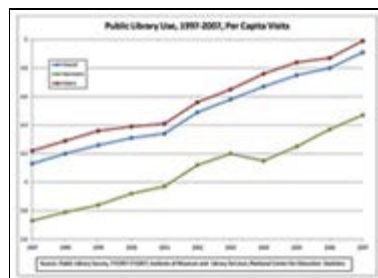
Federal Trade Commission, Dec. 10



[Service trends in public libraries, 1997–2007](#)

The Institute of Museum and Library Services has released a new research brief, *Service Trends in U.S. Public Libraries, 1997–2007* ([PDF file](#)). The brief identifies important changes libraries have made to address patron needs in an increasingly internet-centric environment and explores service differences in urban and rural communities. A comparison of more than 11 years of Public Library Survey data suggests that service changes in U.S. public libraries are having an impact on visitation and circulation, as record numbers of people now use public libraries nationwide....

Institute of Museum and Library Services, Dec. 22



[CIBER Global Library Survey results](#)

The CIBER research group at University College London released the final report for its global library survey that concerns challenges, trends, and best practices during tough economic times. Cosponsored by the Charleston Conference, Baker & Taylor's YBP Library Services, and ebrary, the survey was completed by 835 institutions around the world. Anyone may receive a complimentary copy of the final report by registering on the [ebrary website](#). Allen McKiel, dean of library and media services at Western Oregon University, will lead an

interactive presentation of the final results at the ALA Midwinter Meeting on January 16....

Business Wire, Dec. 21

[Report on the Federal Depository Library Program](#)

A report released December 17 from Ithaka S+R, *Documents for a Digital Democracy: A Model for the Federal Depository Library Program in the 21st Century* ([PDF file](#)),

examines the essential role of the Federal Library Depository Program and how the transition of government information from print to digital impacts the program's long-term approach and sustainability. Commissioned by the Association of Research Libraries and the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies, the changes articulated in the report are urgently needed as FDLP and other libraries strive to ensure long-term, no-fee public access to government information....

Ithaka S+R, Dec. 17



[Google explosion](#)

Jason Griffey writes: "The last quarter of 2009 has seen an absolute explosion of Google features, acquisitions, and apps. Here's a summary of the developments that I think have the most significance for libraries and librarians."...

ALA TechSource blog, Dec. 21

[St. Paul to launch Mobile Workplace Computer Lab](#)

The Saint Paul (Minn.) Public Library will launch a Mobile Workplace project with a \$300,000 grant from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation. The project features two components—a mobile service delivery van that will regularly visit community partner locations to offer job search assistance and computer training; and multilingual cultural liaisons who will ensure that services are offered in high-priority languages, including Spanish, Hmong, and Somali, with outreach to specific cultural communities....

Friends of the St. Paul (Minn.) Public Library, Dec. 21

[Add pizzazz to online presentations](#)

Jay Turner writes: "Designing e-learning is my creative passion. I've taken scores of self-paced e-learning courses over the years, and I'm often astonished by how static and dull most of these presentations are. However, smart uses of multimedia in online courses can help capture attention, which is fundamental to facilitating the learning process. Here you'll find some of my favorite hacks for adding pizzazz to online presentations."...

ALA Learning, Dec. 21



[Longshots reaches 200th podcast](#)

One of the library world's longest-running podcasts, Longshots, is celebrating the broadcast of its 200th episode, an [interview](#) with Peter Lor (right), former National Librarian of South Africa, who talks about how libraries have played a part in post-apartheid culture. The weekly podcast explores the world of libraries through brief interviews with key library figures and library supporters from all walks of life. Longshots is



census available, and not every state census year is available online yet.”...

AnceStories: The Stories of My Ancestors, Dec. 13

[Seven arguments for building new libraries](#)

James LaRue writes: “Recently, one of our employees moved to the Midwest to become the director of a library whose main building was destroyed by a thousand-year flood. On the one hand, many members of the community are working to restore that library. On the other, this former employee tells me he’s hearing more and more often the refrain that building libraries just isn’t necessary. Not in the 21st century. Not in the age of the internet. I disagree.”...

Douglas County (Colo.) Libraries, Dec. 17

[New Council Tree branch is certified LEED Platinum](#)

The Poudre River Public Library District in Fort Collins, Colorado, announced December 9 that its new Council Tree branch has been awarded LEED Platinum certification by the U.S. Green Building Council. The branch is the first LEED commercial interior library in the United States to receive platinum status and the second library in the nation to receive platinum. The certification was awarded for excellence in energy, lighting, water, and material efficiency as well as incorporating a variety of other sustainable strategies....

Poudre River (Colo.) Public Library District, Dec. 9



[Interview with Special Collections Librarian Richard Landon](#)

Richard Landon is director of the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library at the University of Toronto. He has taught courses on the history of the book and bibliography for many years in the university's Graduate Department of English and the Faculty of Information. Bibliophile Nigel Beale talked with him (38:29) about his career, the role of a rare books librarian, Diderot's *Encyclopédie*, collecting as scholarship, Darwin, Galileo, Copernicus, the future of the Thomas Fisher collection, e-books, books about books, and unpublished medieval texts....

Nigel Beale Nota Bene Books, Dec. 16



[Victorian infographics](#)

P. K. has gathered together some intriguing informational charts from the 19th century that are housed in the David Rumsey Map Collection. On the right is a “fold-out print depicting all of human history from the time of creation (4693 B.C., Adam and Eve) up to the date of publication (1858). Vignettes of historically significant people, places, and buildings are arranged along the borders. The designer has employed a metaphorical display choice: Civilizations are presented as a series of rivers—the widths likely imply the comparative population level of each group versus the world’s population—which ‘flow’ down through history.”...

BibliOdyssey, Dec. 21



[Early modern paleography](#)

Early Modern Paleography is a daily gallery of early modern British handwriting from the Osborn

Collection of Yale University's Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library. Beginning on January 1 and continuing each day throughout the year, Early Modern Paleography will post photographs from an early modern British manuscript, for the delight and delectation of its readers. Each week will focus on a particular manuscript or type of manuscript, ranging over the course of the year from letters to commonplace books, inventories, poetry, diaries, and account books....

Early Modern Paleography



[Survey on the future of the book](#)

The Colorado State Library's Library Research Service has launched a [60-second survey](#) on the "Future of the Book." The survey asks your opinions on e-readers and how you think they will transform reading. Will e-readers be the demise of the paper book? What will libraries circulate? What is the future of the book? Tell the LRS....

Library Research Service blog, Dec. 10

[Heather Ross's amazing library skirt](#)

Artist Heather Ross writes: "December 12 was the Modern Women of Sewing event at the New York Public Library, held as a part of its Crafternoon series. The idea behind the event was to bring attention to all of the amazing rare books that NYPL has in its cavernous, multilevel archives (known also as the stacks), specifically the books that an artist or craftsperson would find especially inspiring." For the event, Ross made a skirt from fabric printed with a 1911 [sectional illustration](#) of the library stacks....

heatherross journal, Dec. 13



[Songs for the season: Library carols](#)

The Merry Librarian writes: "Have you ever had a bad day at the library and wished it could be brightened by song? Well, Merry happens to know a gifted lyricist who has turned three bad-day-at-the-library stories into hilarious songs set to the tunes of popular holiday music. We encourage you to sing along with us as we celebrate the season with these fun new library carols by Jennifer Stafford."...

The Merry Librarian, Dec. 20

[Pittsburgh flash mob features Lady Gaga impersonator](#)

When "Lady Gaga" began dancing on a table in the University of Pittsburgh's Hillman Library December 17, dozens of students joined in, while others complained and moved their books. The pink-wig-donning, lingerie-clad Pitt student impersonating the pop diva strutted into the main room on the first floor of the library shortly after 10 p.m. She was one member of a small group of students who organized a flash mob in the library, two nights before finals officially end....

Pitt News, Dec. 18



[Salinas Public Library wins video contest with The](#)

[Librarian Zone](#)

The Salinas (Calif.) Public Library won \$10,000 in a contest sponsored by the California State Library that challenged participants to make a video explaining why fast internet service is important at the library. Submissions were judged on clarity of message, creativity, and video quality. The Librarian Zone video (2:00) was made by Bjorn Jones and Garland Thompson Jr., with appearances by Benjamin MacBean, Anthony Lacono, and Jayne Wilsey....

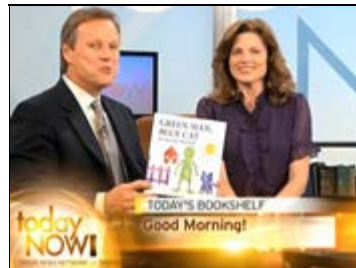
YouTube, Nov. 16



[Green Man, Blue Cat](#) (satire)

Adults go wild over the latest release in the children's picture book series, *Green Man, Blue Cat*, by Barclay Mitchell. Readers of all ages are hooked on the colorful illustrations and large font size. The news anchors on The Onion News Network's *Today Now!* show are infected with enthusiasm (2:15) as they interview John Basil, CEO of Sunflower Books, the publisher of the series....

The Onion, Dec. 11



No *AL Direct* next week

AL Direct is taking a week off for the holidays. Look for a new edition on Wednesday, January 6. Have a Happy New Year!

[Go back to the Top](#)

AL Direct, December 23, 2009

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here [[<%= util.viewHtmlLink %>](#)].

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | December 23, 2009

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

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

U.S. & World News

Stephen Abram to leave SirsiDynix

[<http://www.americanlibrariesmagazine.org/news/12182009/stephen-abram-leave-sirsiDynix>]

SirsiDynix announced December 18 that Stephen Abram, who has been vice president of innovation since 2004, will leave the company December 31 but will “continue to be a resource for the SirsiDynix Institute and for SirsiDynix User Groups, among other programs in the future.” In a phone interview, Abram told American Libraries that he was leaving SirsiDynix to take a position at Gale Cengage Learning as vice president for strategic partnerships and markets....

American Libraries Online, Dec. 18

Privacy groups complain to FTC about Facebook

[<http://www.americanlibrariesmagazine.org/news/12232009/privacy-groups-go-public-federal-complaint-about-facebook>]

Concerned about protecting the privacy of library patrons and other individuals who have Facebook accounts, ALA has joined nine other

organizations in filing a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission regarding Facebook's recent changes to its policies. The December 17 complaint (PDF file [<http://epic.org/privacy/inrefacebook/EPIC-FacebookComplaint.pdf>]) written by the Electronic Privacy Information Center contends that changes to users' privacy settings in actuality "disclose personal information to the public [and] violate user expectations, diminish user privacy, and contradict Facebook's own representations..."

American Libraries Online, Dec. 23

Libraries get broadband stimulus grants

[<http://www.americanlibrariesmagazine.org/news/12212009/libraries-get-broadband-stimulus-grants>]

Libraries in six states are among the beneficiaries of the first round of awards from the \$7.2-billion American Recovery and Reinvestment Act broadband grant and loan programs. The initial \$183 million in awards, going to 18 broadband projects in 17 states, was announced by Vice President Joseph Biden December 17 and detailed in a National Economic Council report (PDF file

[<http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/20091217-recovery-act-investments-broadband.pdf>]) issued the same day. Altogether, \$2 billion will be released by early March, according to a White House press release

[<http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/vice-president-biden-kicks-72-billion-recovery-act-broadband-program>]....

American Libraries Online, Dec. 21; White House, Dec. 17

portends for libraries

[<http://www.ala.org/insidescoop/2009/12/18/what-the-demise-of-kirkus-reviews-portends-for-libraries/>]

American Libraries Editor in Chief Leonard Kniffel writes: "It's my understanding that Kirkus Reviews had fewer than 2,000 subscribers when it folded

[http://www.kirkusreviews.com/kirkusreviews/reports_analysis/looking_displays.jsp?vnu_content_id=1004054346] this month, but the venerable publication was still influential and a credible source of information about the quality of writing being peddled by the book industry in America. Publishers still used Kirkus blurbs on their dust jackets and some librarians still used the reviews as a selection tool. But let's face it, many of us were more than a little amused by literary agent Ira Silverberg's remark when the news broke: 'Hearing about their closing reminded me that they were still publishing.'"...

AL Inside Scoop, Dec. 18; Kirkus Reviews, Dec. 15

ALA News

Ethiopia Reads founder to keynote President's Program

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/december2009/mwpresidentsprogram.cfm>]

Yohannes Gebregeorgis (right), founder and executive director of Ethiopia Reads, will serve as keynote speaker for the President's Program at

the ALA Midwinter Meeting, January 17, at the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center. Ethiopia Reads encourages a love of reading by establishing children's and youth libraries in Ethiopia, free distribution of books to children, and multilingual publishing. Gebregeorgis was selected as one of CNN's Top 10 Heroes in 2008....

Library groups raise Google Book Search pricing concerns

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=4156>]

ALA, ACRL, and the Association of Research Libraries sent a letter (PDF file

[http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/wp-content/uploads/2009/12/Antitrust_tdivASA-FINAL1.pdf]) to the U.S. Department of Justice December 15 asking for ongoing judicial oversight of the Google Book Search settlement, if approved. The library associations urge the DOJ to request the court to review the pricing of the institutional subscriptions to ensure that the economic objectives set forth in the settlement agreement are met....

District Dispatch, Dec. 17

ALA Annual Conference registration opens January 4

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/december2009/reg_mbrshp.cfm]

Registration for the 2010 ALA Annual Conference will open January 4. The conference will be held in Washington, D.C., June 24–29. Participants can register online through the ALA website, by fax, or by mail. Hotel reservations can also be made at this time. Attendees must be registered for the annual conference before they can make a hotel reservation....

Toni Morrison to headline Annual Conference Opening Session

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/december2009/opening_mbrshp.cfm]

ALA will kick off its 2010 Annual Conference in Washington, D.C., with acclaimed author Toni Morrison (right) speaking at the Opening General Session June 26, sponsored by Simon and Schuster. Her titles include *The Bluest Eye*, *Song of Solomon*, and *Beloved*, which won the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction in 1988. She won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1993....

Present a poster session at Annual Conference

[<http://www.lib.jmu.edu/org/ala/>]

Proposals for poster sessions at the 2010 ALA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C., will be accepted until January 1. An application form [<http://www.lib.jmu.edu/org/ala/form.asp>] is available online. The poster sessions will be held June 26–28 at the Washington Convention Center. Contact Candace Benefiel [<mailto:cbenefiel@lib-gw.tamu.edu>] for further information. Applicants will be notified by March 2....

Connect with National Library Week

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/december2009/nlwtools09_pio.cfm]

Looking for new ideas for promoting your library during National Library Week? ALA has the tools to help you connect with your library. The Campaign for America's Libraries is now hosting a National Library Week community [<http://connect.ala.org/node/85425>] in ALA Connect. Its mission is to create an open discussion space for ALA members to communicate their ideas and develop new ways to celebrate and promote

National Library Week in all types of libraries....

ALA membership stats: A positive trend

[<http://www.ala.org/insidescoop/2009/12/23/membership-stats-first-quarter-of-fy2010-shows-positive-trend/>]

Associate Executive Director for Communications Cathleen Bourdon sent ALA staff a welcome seasonal greeting December 23—namely a report on membership statistics that helps mitigate some of the doom and gloom. Year-to-date membership transactions for FY2010 are ahead of the same quarter in FY2009 by +9.1%, she said. This positive trend is largely due to a record-setting AASL National Conference and the opening of registration for both Midwinter 2010 and the 2010 PLA National Conference....

AL Inside Scoop, Dec. 23

Continuing membership

[<http://ala.org/ala/membership/typesmembership/personalmembership/continuing/index.cfm>]

ALA offers all members who have been active, paid members for at least 25 uninterrupted years the opportunity to receive ongoing free membership upon retirement as Continuing Members. This special membership is ALA's way of thanking members for their years of dedication and service to the library community. ALA is proud to serve those who have served the longest. Once you become a Continuing Member, that status will never be taken away....

Major membership database update planned

[<http://itts.ala.org/update/?p=421>]

ALA has been experiencing slowness with its iMIS Membership System over the past several weeks due to increased use. iMIS is the Association's membership management system and database, and is central to functions such as renewal. Over the next two weeks, ALA will be installing new hardware, an upgraded operating system, and new SQL versions to improve performance. If you experience slowness logging into the website, registering for an event, renewing your membership, or making a donation, please try again later....

ITTS Update, Dec. 22

ALA members save with DollarDays

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/december2009/dollar_mbrshp.cfm]

ALA and DollarDays International are announcing a new member-benefits program. ALA members now have the added benefit of free shipping and no minimum order on more than 55,000 wholesale and closeout products from the low-cost provider. ALA organizational members also have the opportunity to participate in the DollarDays Wish List Program. Visit the ALA DollarDays website [<http://www.ala.dollardays.com/>] to register your library....

Featured review: Adult fiction

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=3806325]

Fforde, Jasper. *Shades of Grey: The Road to High Saffron*. Jan. 2010. 400p. Viking, hardcover (978-0-670-01963-2).

In Eddie Russett's world, color is destiny. People's perceptions of color, once tested, determine their rank in the Colortocracy, with primes ruling 'bastard' colors and everyone lording it over the prole-like grays. No one can see more than their own color, and no one knows why—but there are many unknowns ever since *Something Happened*, followed by the defacting and successive *Great Leaps Backward*. Due to an infraction against the Collective's rule-bound bureaucracy, Eddie is sent to East Carmine, in the Outer Fringes, where manners are shockingly poor, to conduct a month-long chair census. In short order, he falls in love, runs afoul of the local prefects, learns a terrible secret, and is eaten by a carnivorous tree. This series starter combines the dire warnings of *Brave New World* and 1984 with the devolutionary visions of *A Canticle for Leibowitz* and *Riddley Walker*....

2009 Top of the List selections

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/december2009/toplist_pub.cfm]

Booklist has announced its 20th annual Top of the List winners. The eight winning titles were chosen from the annual Editors' Choice selections as the best books and media of 2009. Two short story masters are included in this year's list: Alice Munro for her collection *Too Much Happiness*, and John Cheever as the subject of Blake Bailey's landmark biography *Cheever*. Other winners reflect both hot genres and artistic innovation. The Top of the List picks are featured in the special combined January 1 and 15 issue of *Booklist*, which includes the complete annotated Editors' Choice lists for adult books, adult books for young adults, books for youth, reference sources, and media....

Gifts for the non-reading man

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=3884406]

David Wright writes: "Ladies, you want to get your man a book for the holidays because you'd like him to read more, which is to say you'd like him to read more like you. Buying books for anyone is tricky business, but don't make it worse by trying to improve us, OK? We've already told you the precise titles we need to fill gaps in our personal library of contemporary architecture or the Marvel universe, but if you insist on surprising us, here are some titles to consider."...

Books for bandit queens

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=3876131]

Kaite Mediatore Stover writes: "I can never afford to give the kinds of gifts I want to bestow on friends, which is why they all get books. But this year I thought I'd give my favorite bandit queens books that represent what I'd like to give if I had the cash. Only with books can I begin to show the love, admiration, and appreciation I have for these treasured females. Thoughts do count, between and outside the covers."...

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

Boston Update

A reader's guide to literary Boston

[http://www.boston.com/travel/boston/special/literary_tour/]

For more than 350 years, dozens of authors have written about Boston.

John Winthrop, the first governor of Massachusetts Bay Colony, envisioned it in 1630 as a shining "city on a hill." Oliver Wendell Holmes called the State House in 1858 the "hub of the Solar System" (which Bostonians adapted to "hub of the universe"). The city's rich written heritage still flourishes, with fictional characters riding the Red Line, scouting the Big Dig, and plotting murder at the old Boston Garden. Use this map as a starting point....

Boston Globe

Hotels and the ADA: Information for deaf and hard of hearing travelers

[<http://speakuplibrarian.blogspot.com/2009/12/hotels-and-ada-information-for-deaf-and.html>]

If you are traveling this holiday season, you may want to be aware of what services hotels are required to provide you under the Americans with Disabilities Act. A hotel must provide a TTY on request for use in guest rooms. Visual-notification devices for alerting deaf and hard-of-hearing guests to incoming telephone calls and door knocks/doorbells are required for a certain number of guest rooms, so be sure to ask for one when placing a reservation....

Speak Up Librarian, Dec. 20

Child care at Midwinter

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/midwinter/2010/information.cfm#child>]

ALA will reimburse the charges expended on childcare in the amount of \$25 per day per child to a maximum of \$50 per day per family to any fully registered parent for each day of the Midwinter Meeting week, January 15–19. This covers only childcare in the parent's hotel room or other residence in Boston and does not include charges for children's food and transportation or gratuities and transportation for the sitter.

Reimbursement forms will be available at the ALA Registration Desk....

Division News

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r3nxeDnHmwU>]Operation Teen Book Drop 2010

[<http://yalsa.ala.org/blog/2009/12/16/get-ready-for-operation-tbd-2010/>]

Stephanie Kuenn writes: "YALSA will again work with Readergirlz and Guys

Lit Wire in 2010 for another iteration of Operation Teen Book Drop

[<http://sentra.ischool.utexas.edu/%7Eifican/otbd/index.php>]. The

initiative will take place on Support Teen Literature Day, April 15. Over the past two years, Operation TBD has put 20,000 books for teens into

pediatric hospitals in the United States and Canada. This year, Operation TBD will coordinate donations to tribal libraries and schools by joining forces with If I Can Read, I Can Do Anything, [<http://sentra.ischool.utexas.edu/~ifican/index.php>] a national book club for Native American children, a project directed by former ALA President Lorie Roy." Watch the Readergirlz video [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r3nxeDnHmwU>] (2:29).... YALSA Blog, Dec. 16; YouTube, Dec. 10

Applications due for YA Literature Symposium stipends [http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/december2009/stipend_yalsa.cfm]
Librarians and SLIS students could win a stipend for up to \$1,000 to cover travel to the next Young Adult Literature Symposium in Albuquerque, New Mexico, November 5–7, 2010, sponsored by YALSA. Applications can be downloaded [<http://www.ala.org/yalitsymposium>] and sent electronically [<mailto:yalsa@ala.org>] by midnight Central Time, January 4....

Texas archives building named Literary Landmark [<http://www.statesman.com/services/content/news/stories/local/2009/12/04/1204archives.html>]
Laura Bush, a former librarian and an advocate for literature and reading, helped celebrate ALTAFF's designation of the Lorenzo de Zavala State Archives and Library Building as a national Literary Landmark in a December 3 ceremony in front of the library across from the east wing of the Texas State Capitol. In the 100th anniversary year of the creation of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission, the former first lady applauded the honor granted to the archives and library.... Austin (Tex.) American-Statesman, Dec. 4

OIF and ALTAFF offer webinars for trustees [<http://www.oif.ala.org/oif/?p=799>]
The Office for Intellectual Freedom is partnering with ALTAFF to present three one-hour webinars [<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/oif/oifprograms/webinars/index.cfm>] in February for library trustees on the topic of controversial materials in library collections. The webinars, entitled "Controversial Materials in the Library: Supporting Intellectual Freedom in Your Community," are intended to help trustees understand the basics of intellectual freedom in libraries.... OIF Blog, Dec. 21

Awards

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2009 I Love My Librarian Awards ceremony [<http://alfocus.ala.org/videos/2009-i-love-my-librarian-award-ceremony>]
The 2009 I Love My Librarian Awards recognized 10 librarians who are making a difference in their communities in a December 3 ceremony (1:44). The award is sponsored by Carnegie Corporation of New York and the New York Times.... AL Focus, Dec. 21

The I Love my Librarian Award winners speak
[<http://alfocus.ala.org/videos/winners-speak-2009-i-love-my-librarian-awards>]

What should users expect in a great library? The 10 winners of the 2009 I Love My Librarian award share their perspectives (3:12) on what users deserve, and how they've worked to achieve it....

AL Focus, Dec. 21

Morris/Nonfiction book trailer contest

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/december2009/morris_yalsa.cfm]

YALSA seeks entrants for its Morris/Nonfiction Award Book Trailer Contest. Teens ages 13–18 can win a box of books plus a \$100 gift card to a bookstore, and librarians can win \$200 worth of books and materials for their library. Entrants can read the official rules and download the entry form (PDF file [<http://yalsa.ala.org/BookTrailerContest.pdf>]). All video entries must be an original work made between now and January 17, and must feature any or all of the five titles nominated for the Morris Award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/yalsa/booklistsawards/morris/morrisaward.cfm>] or the five nominees for the Nonfiction Award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/yalsa/booklistsawards/nonfiction/nonfiction.cfm>]....

Great Interactive Software for Kids

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/december2009/interactive_alsc.cfm]

ALSC has selected its fall 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. The selected products are ItzaBitza (right), Left Brain/Right Brain 2, Professor Layton and the Curious Village, and Zula World. For the annotated list, visit the ALSC website

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/alsc/awardsgrants/childrensnoteable/gisk/index.cfm>]....

Some ALA awards and grants deadlines extended

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/december2009/extend_gov.cfm]

The deadline has been extended to February 1 for a number of ALA awards and grants, among them the ALA Information Today Library of the Future Award, the Beta Phi Mu Award, the Equality Award, the Gale Cengage Learning Financial Development Award, the Ken Haycock Award for Promoting Librarianship, the Lippincott Award, and the Sullivan Award for Public Library Administrators Supporting Services to Children....

Best library blog: Edublog Awards 2009 [<http://edublogawards.com/>]

Joyce Valenza's Never Ending Search

[<http://www.schoollibraryjournal.com/blog/1340000334.html?nid=3714>] blog is the winner in the Best Librarian/Library Blog category of the 2009

Edublog Awards. Runners-up are Bright Ideas

[<http://slav.globalteacher.org.au/>] and Library Tech Musings.

[<http://librarytechmusings.blogspot.com/>] Winners in all categories were announced December 17. View the vote tallies

[<http://edublogawards.com/2009/best-librarian-library-edublog-2009/>] on the Awards pages. A total of 532 votes were cast in this category....
Edublog Awards

Irish librarian scoops national short story award
[<http://www.longfordleader.ie/news/Librarian-scoops-prestigious-national-short.5912751.jp>]

Eimear McGuinness, who works in the Longford County (Ireland) Library, received a third-prize award in a recently held national short story competition. Titled “Seeing is Believing” by Gloria Hunter (McGuinness’s pen name), the story tells the tale of two sisters who set out on a journey to prove an injustice, only to find that one of them is on the receiving end of the plot. Eimear’s story was submitted for the Varilux Short Story Competition, which invited writers to create a story about seeing something for the first time—with the eye, the mind, the imagination, or the spirit....

Longford (Ireland) Leader, Dec. 17

StoryTubes 2010 contest [<http://www.storytubes.info/drupal/node/1>]
StoryTubes is the public-library-sponsored, two-minute-or-shorter, my-favorite-book online contest. Kids across the United States and in Nova Scotia are invited to participate. Partner libraries provide the staff time and expertise to administer the contest. Top prizes will be awarded by a panel of judges, who will consider performance, script, creativity, and other factors. Entries will be accepted from January 20 to February 28....

StoryTubes

Native American Library Services grants
[<http://www.imls.gov/news/2009/121709.shtm>]
The Institute of Museum and Library Services is accepting applications for the 2010 Native American Library Services Basic Grants program. Federally recognized tribes and Alaska Native villages and corporations may apply [<http://www.imls.gov/applicants/grants/nativeAmerican.shtm>] for these grants by March 1 in either the Basic or the Basic with Education/Assessment Option categories....

Institute of Museum and Library Services, Dec. 17

Seen Online

French court rules against Google Books project
[<http://www.latimes.com/news/nation-and-world/la-fg-france-google19-2009dec19,0,548537.story>]

Google suffered a blow December 18 when a French court ordered the search engine company to stop digitizing copyrighted French books. The Paris court ruled that the Google Books project violates the country’s copyright laws. The decision came after a three-year battle between Google and a group of powerful French publishers, including the prestigious Le Seuil publishing house. Google France will appeal the ruling....

Los Angeles Times, Dec. 18

[<http://www.colbertnation.com/the-colbert-report-videos/258582/december-16-2009/the-word---spyvate-sector>]Patriot Act renewal delayed
[<http://www.politico.com/news/stories/1209/30649.html>]
House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) has rejected a Senate plan to include amendments to the Patriot Act in a larger Pentagon funding bill. The decision, announced at a closed-door leadership meeting December 14, has forced Democrats to go with a backup plan of extending the Patriot Act until February 28. When Congress resumes in January for the second session of the 111th Congress, the ALA Washington Office will continue its efforts [<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=4183>] to seek reform to this legislation. Stephen Colbert offered a whimsical alternative
[<http://www.colbertnation.com/the-colbert-report-videos/258582/december-16-2009/the-word---spyvate-sector>] in his December 16 report....
Politico, Dec. 16; District Dispatch, Dec. 18; Colbert Nation, Dec. 16

Pasadena schools to downsize libraries
[http://www.pasadenastarnews.com/ci_14032601]
Facing a projected budget deficit of about \$20 million over the next two school years and what officials say are likely layoffs of teachers, administrators, librarians, and other employees, Pasadena (Calif.) United School District leaders are portraying a future with less of nearly everything. School board members this past week approved a preliminary plan of cuts, including closing school libraries to save about \$1.4 million....
Pasadena (Calif.) Star-News, Dec. 19

Houston librarian recovering after beating by patron
[<http://www.khou.com/home/Houston-librarian-beaten-after-asking-patron-to-quiet-down-79675377.html>]
A librarian at the Robinson-Westchase branch of the Houston Public Library is recovering after being attacked December 16 by an angry patron. Police say 23-year-old Nigel Mandela Harper was acting unruly so the librarian asked him to be quiet and gave him a polite warning. According to an eyewitness, Harper punched the woman, threw her to the ground, and stomped on her. News sources did not name the librarian, who is in her 50s....
KHOU-TV, Houston, Dec. 18

Ex-library treasurer pleads not guilty to embezzling
[<http://www.uticaod.com/news/x1679096844/Former-library-treasurer-who-stole-280-000-pleas-not-guilty>]
Prosecutors still are looking into whether a former treasurer at the Erwin Library and Institute in Boonville, New York, may have stolen money from anyone else while allegedly embezzling more than \$280,000 from the library. Lawrence Recor pleaded not guilty December 21 in Oneida County Court to charges of second-degree grand larceny and 27 counts of first-degree falsifying of business records. He was first arrested in July after he allegedly wrote dozens of unauthorized checks from the library account to his former accounting business from June 2005 to January 2008....
Utica (N.Y.) Observer-Dispatch, Dec. 21

Studying young minds

[<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/12/21/health/research/21brain.html>]

For much of the last century, educators and many scientists believed that children could not learn math at all before the age of 5, that their brains simply were not ready. But recent research has turned that assumption on its head—that, and a host of other conventional wisdom about geometry, reading, language, and self-control in class. The findings, mostly from a branch of research called cognitive neuroscience, are helping to clarify when young brains are best able to grasp fundamental concepts....

New York Times, Dec. 20

Tango [<http://www.kansascity.com/679/story/1644970.html>]

The North Kansas City (Mo.) School Board voted December 21 to keep a children's book in school libraries despite the concerns of a parent. Board members decided to retain the book *And Tango Makes Three* by Justin Richardson and Peter Parnell in a 3–2 decision after more than an hour of discussion. However, they also agreed to place the elementary library card catalog online so that parents can view which materials are in their child's library and decide whether they would like to request any individual restrictions for their child....

Kansas City (Mo.) Star, Dec. 22

Hate-speech tag irks Mount Prospect patron

[<http://www.dailyherald.com/story/?id=344991>]

Mike Alaimo thinks Ann Coulter should know what's going on with her books at the Mount Prospect (Ill.) Public Library. Early in December, Alaimo was scrolling through his library's online catalog when he came across a list of books by Ann Coulter; someone had tagged "hate speech" on virtually every listing. In July, the library started a new cataloging system that allows readers to tag books with terms they think other readers might find useful, said Library Director Marilyn Genther....

Arlington Heights (Ill.) Daily Herald, Dec. 18

Behind the scenes at the Bush Library

[<http://www.star-telegram.com/news/story/1836555.html>]

Eight years of American history is meticulously cataloged, wrapped, stored, and guarded in a climate-controlled warehouse in Lewisville, Texas. Welcome to the Bush White House, where there's even wood flooring from the Oval Office and chairs from the press room. It will all eventually move to the \$300-million George W. Bush Presidential Library opening at Southern Methodist University in 2013. For now, archivists are cataloging the massive collection of documents and museum pieces stored in the 60,000-square-foot facility managed by the National Archives and Records Administration....

Fort Worth (Tex.) Star-Telegram, Dec. 16

Security breach at NC community college libraries

[http://www.ncccs.cc.nc.us/news_releases/Library%20Server%20Press%20Release%20121709.pdf]

(PDF file)

The North Carolina Community College System office began notifying nearly 51,000 library users from 25 community colleges that a security breach occurred August 23 on a computer server containing their personal information, including Social Security or driver's license numbers.

The breach was discovered the following day. All reviews and investigations indicate that no personal information was accessed by the intruder, but the Social Security numbers of 38,500 library patrons were stored on the server at the time....
NC Community Colleges, Dec. 17

Beaverton volunteer spends 90th birthday at the library
[http://www.oregonlive.com/washingtoncounty/index.ssf/2009/12/beaverton_library_volunteer_sp.html]

Phyllis Davis spent her 90th birthday at the library where she has worked or volunteered for the past 65 years. "I can't think of any place else, really, what else I would be doing," Davis said December 14, taking a break from her job putting the finishing touches on books before they hit the Beaverton (Oreg.) City Library shelves. "It just seems to suit my abilities, my interests."...
Portland Oregonian, Dec. 16

Fairfax County ends Ask a Librarian
[<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/12/16/AR2009121603260.html>]

The Fairfax County (Va.) Public Library will end its popular online Ask a Librarian [<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/Library/asklibchoices.htm>] program to help offset a \$4-million budget gap, officials said, making them the first library system in the Washington region to stop such a service. Librarians at Fairfax's 23 branches answered about 9,300 questions last year, said Director of Internet Services Lydia Patrick....
Washington Post, Dec. 16

Matteo Ricci map coming to Minnesota
[<http://minnesota.publicradio.org/display/web/2009/12/16/tulip-map/>]
One of the world's rarest maps—a massive print from 1602 showing the world with China as its center—will soon be on permanent display at the University of Minnesota. The James Ford Bell Trust announced that it has acquired Matteo Ricci's "Impossible Black Tulip," the first map in Chinese to show the Americas, from a London books and maps dealer for \$1 million. Only six copies of the map remain. The Library of Congress will display the map for the first time in North America on January 12....
Minnesota Public Radio, Dec. 16

San Diego's Wangenheim Room
[<http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/2009/dec/21/librarys-secret-treasure-wangenheim-room/>]

Those who stumble into the Wangenheim Room on the third floor of the San Diego (Calif.) Central Library are often momentarily dazed and then can't help but be enchanted, feeling as though they are being transported back in time to a well-appointed private library from the 19th century. Architect Rob Quigley intends to recreate the wood-paneled room in the proposed new downtown library, a \$185-million domed edifice that the City Council put out for construction bids in October....
San Diego (Calif.) Union-Tribune, Dec. 21

Baltimore branch to get Frank Zappa bust
[<http://www.baltimoresun.com/entertainment/music/bal-zappa-statue1217,0,4265933.story>]

After more than a year of deliberation, city officials have decided to place a bust of the late Baltimore-born musician Frank Zappa at the Southeast Anchor branch of the Enoch Pratt Free Library in Highlandtown. The commission considered several sites for the statue, but Zappa's mother, Rose Marie Colimore, was a librarian, and his wife Gail lobbied to have the bust placed near a city library. Baltimore Mayor Sheila Dixon proclaimed
[<http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/maryland/bal-zappa1221,0,2983588.story>]
December 21 (Zappa's birthday) as Frank Zappa Day....
Baltimore Sun, Dec. 17; Associated Press, Dec. 21

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Tech Talk

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Will the mobile web kill off app stores?

[<http://www.wired.com/gadgetlab/2009/12/firefox-mobile-vs-app-stores/>]
Brian X. Chen writes: "Mozilla, creator of Firefox, claims that its new browser for smartphones will contribute to the death of smartphone app stores. Scheduled to begin appearing on devices at the end of this year, the Firefox mobile browser, code-named Fennec, will be packed with features to make it the closest thing yet to a real, desktop-class browser. Mozilla claims it will have the fastest JavaScript engine of any mobile browser, allowing developers to produce HTML- and JavaScript-coded apps for Fennec rather than for multiple smartphone platforms."...
Wired: Gadget Lab, Dec. 18

Security in the cloud [<http://www.technologyreview.com/web/24166/>]
David Talbot writes: "In 2006, when Amazon introduced the Elastic Compute Cloud, it was a watershed event in the quest to transform computing into a ubiquitous utility, like electricity. But it also posed a potential threat. What Amazon hasn't solved—what nobody has yet solved—is the security problem inherent in the size and structure of clouds. Cloud computing is rapidly changing the way we use computers. Even slow-moving government agencies are getting into the act."...
Technology Review, Jan./Feb.

WorldCat in RedLaser iPhone app

[<http://worldcat.org/blogs/archives/2009/12/worldcat-in-redlaser-iphone-ap.htm>]
Bob Robertson-Boyd writes: "Thanks to some quick footwork by a few of OCLC's staff and the guys at Occipital [<http://occipital.com/blog/>], the company behind the iPhone app RedLaser [<http://redlaser.com/>], WorldCat.org libraries now appear within the mobile apps item search pages. RedLaser users can scan a book and see the libraries near them that have that book. Then they can click to one of those libraries and get hours, phone numbers, and driving directions."...
WorldCat Blog, Dec. 22

How to produce video interviews for your blog using Skype

[<http://socialmouths.com/blog/2009/12/21/how-to-produce-video-interviews-for-your-blog-using-skype/>]

Francisco Rosales writes: “Bloggers are taking video interviews to the next level. Why not? It’s a great way to engage your visitors and make them stay a little longer. Are you asking yourself whether this is hard to put together? Here’s what you need: webcam, screen capture software, Skype, basic video editing software, and a video sharing website.”...

Socialmouths, Dec. 21

[<http://v4.jiwire.com/search-hotspot-locations.htm>]Finding free Wi-Fi
[<http://lifehacker.com/5340435/the-definitive-guide-to-finding-free-wi-fi>]

Gina Trapani writes: “You’re out and about for the holidays with your laptop and you’re in need of some fast internet connectivity. Here are some tried and true ways to find and get free Wi-Fi. You can find some free Wi-Fi love at the local public library, Barnes and Noble, McDonald’s, the airport (sometimes), a university campus, independent coffee shop, or hotel lobby (sometimes). Your Wi-Fi enabled smartphone can scan for nearby networks using its built-in antenna, but a few apps let you search near your location or another location, too.”...

Lifehacker, Aug. 19

How to get and install an SSL/TLS certificate

[<http://arstechnica.com/security/news/2009/12/how-to-get-set-with-a-secure-certificate-for-free.ars>]

Glenn Fleishman writes: “Anyone operating a server on any scale should want a digital certificate to encrypt data between clients and services, whether for personal, office, or public use. With so many people accessing networks over Wi-Fi or other untrusted networks for an increasing number of different kinds of services, encryption is a must. While I recommend VPNs, they aren’t always the practical, affordable, or correct solution. For remote email access, SSL/TLS is simpler and more straightforward, and you don’t have to compromise on protection in the process.”...

Ars Technica, Dec. 20

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vxq9yj2pVWk>]Can you enhance that?

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vxq9yj2pVWk>]

Duncan Robson has compiled this homage (1:43) to computer enhancement in TV dramas that demonstrates the ubiquity of this plot device, despite the fact that such techniques have limited functionality, especially in low-resolution images and videos....

YouTube, Dec. 13

Publishing

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The e-book, the e-reader, and the future of reading

[<http://www.csmonitor.com/Books/2009/1221/The-e-book-the-e-reader-and-the-future-of-reading>]

Jeremy Manore, an 18-year-old from central New Jersey, subscribes to several magazines and reads books constantly—John Steinbeck and F. Scott Fitzgerald are among his favorite writers. When he came home from the elite Cushing Academy in Massachusetts for Thanksgiving, Jeremy brought three books to read. But he wasn’t carting heavy volumes in a

backpack. Instead, he’d checked out a Kindle from the Cushing school library and downloaded the books he wanted to read....

Christian Science Monitor, Dec. 21

An e-book buyer’s guide to privacy

[<http://www.eff.org/deeplinks/2009/12/e-book-privacy>]

Ed Bayley writes: “E-readers possess the ability to report back substantial information about their users’ reading habits and locations to the corporations that sell them. And yet none of the major e-reader manufacturers have explained to consumers in clear, unequivocal language what data is being collected about them and why. As a first step towards addressing these problems, the Electronic Frontier Foundation has created a first draft of a buyer’s guide to e-book privacy.”...

Electronic Frontier Foundation Deeplinks Blog, Dec. 21

OverDrive releases Android audiobook app

[<http://www.overdrive.com/aboutus/getArticle.aspx?newsArticleID=20091221>]

OverDrive, a distributor of audiobooks and e-books to libraries and retailers, announced the beta release December 21 of an audiobook app that enables Android smartphone and device owners to wirelessly download digital audiobooks. OverDrive’s audiobook app for Android is compatible with MP3 audiobooks from more than 10,000 libraries and major online retailers, including Barnes & Noble, BooksOnBoard, and Borders. To download, visit the OverDrive website

[<http://www.overdrive.com/software/omc/>]....

OverDrive, Dec. 21

[<http://collectingchildrensbooks.blogspot.com/2009/04/graveyard-book-to-be-stripped-of.html>]

2009 children’s lit: The year in miscellanea

[<http://100scopenotes.wordpress.com/2009/12/22/2009-childrens-lit-the-year-in-miscellanea/>]

Travis Jonker writes: “It’s time to take a trip back and look at the year that was in children’s lit miscellanea.” He covers such events as the best children’s lit April Fools joke (right), the picture-book cover trend of the year, the marketing technique of the year, the most explosive combination of things librarians love, and the most off-putting cookbook of 2009....

100 Scope Notes, Dec. 22

Fast track to 1934 bestseller

[<http://observatory.designobserver.com/entry.html?entry=12067>]

Martha Scotford writes: “Imagine you’re a big American publisher, and there’s a book infamous for its subject and language that you want to publish. But first, you have to go up against the U.S. government to prove it should no longer be banned. And, given the publicity of the court case, you want the book in bookstores as soon as it’s legal.

This describes the situation facing Random House in 1933 as they waited to publish James Joyce’s Ulysses, which had not been allowed into the U.S. for 12 years. How they got the ban dropped and delivered the book at just the right moment is a short tale of legal, design, and production choreography.”...

Observatory: Design Observer, Dec. 21

[<http://www.clarin.com/diario/2009/12/19/um/m-02104821.htm>]Bookstore

Night in Buenos Aires

[<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=121701799>]

On December 19–21, Buenos Aires held its annual Noche de las Librerías—Bookstore Night—blocking off some of its biggest thoroughfares for a special evening devoted to the city’s many book lovers. Brian Byrnes has this story from a big bash in honor of books....
NPR Morning Edition, Dec. 21; El Clarín (Buenos Aires), Dec. 19

35 most collectible books of the decade

[<http://www.abebooks.com/books/2000-2009-noughty-reviews-fiction-nonfiction/collectible-noughties.shtml>]

Richard Davies writes: “AbeBooks has compiled a list of the most collectible books published between 2000 and 2009. Classify these books as hypermodern first editions. It usually takes a long time, sometimes decades, for a book’s value to be determined, but these treasures became collectible in a hurry. Some became desirable on a wave of popularity, others were propelled toward greatness after winning awards, some were acclaimed by literary critics, others were initially self-published, and several emerged from the rough and tumble of politics.”...

AbeBooks

First issues of popular magazines

[<http://magazinehistory.blogspot.com/2009/12/snowy-day-eye-candy-first-issues.html>]

Steven Lomazow writes: “When I started collecting magazines nearly 40 years ago, my goal was to get the first issue of every major American magazine ever published, especially ones that you find on your newsstand today. Spending a ridiculous but highly enjoyable amount of time towards accomplishing that task, I’ve been fairly successful. So, by the miracle of the modern hard drive, I am bringing a hearty sampling to you today.”...

Magazine History, Dec. 19

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

Actions & Answers

FTC: Explicit content in virtual worlds leaves minors at risk

[<http://www.ftc.gov/opa/2009/12/virtualworlds.shtm>]

The Federal Trade Commission issued a report December 10 that examines the incidence of sexually and violently explicit content in online virtual worlds. The congressionally mandated report, Virtual Worlds and Kids: Mapping the Risks (PDF file

[<http://www.ftc.gov/os/2009/12/oecd-vwrpt.pdf>]), urges operators of virtual worlds to take a number of steps to keep explicit content away from children and teens, and recommends that parents familiarize themselves with the virtual worlds their kids visit....

Federal Trade Commission, Dec. 10

Service trends in public libraries, 1997–2007

[<http://www.ims.gov/news/2009/122209.shtm>]

The Institute of Museum and Library Services has released a new research brief, Service Trends in U.S. Public Libraries, 1997–2007 (PDF file [http://www.ims.gov/pdf/Brief2010_01.pdf]). The brief identifies important changes libraries have made to address patron needs in an increasingly internet-centric environment and explores service differences in urban and rural communities. A comparison of more than 11 years of Public Library Survey data suggests that service changes in U.S. public libraries are having an impact on visitation and circulation, as record numbers of people now use public libraries nationwide....

Institute of Museum and Library Services, Dec. 22

CIBER Global Library Survey results

[<http://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20091221005273/en>]

The CIBER research group at University College London released the final report for its global library survey that concerns challenges, trends, and best practices during tough economic times. Cosponsored by the Charleston Conference, Baker & Taylor's YBP Library Services, and ebrary, the survey was completed by 835 institutions around the world.

Anyone may receive a complimentary copy of the final report by registering on the ebrary website

[http://cts.businesswire.com/ct/CT?id=smartlink&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.ebrary.com%2Fcorp%2Finforequest%2Fsurvey2009.jsp&sheet=6124993&lan=en_US&anchor=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.ebrary.com%2Fcorp%2Finforequest%2Fsurvey2009.jsp&index=1&md5=97871660e6ffd6179e24227e3ee6267d]. Allen McKiel, dean of library and media services at Western Oregon University, will lead an interactive presentation of the final results at the ALA Midwinter Meeting on January 16....

Business Wire, Dec. 21

Report on the Federal Depository Library Program

[<http://www.ithaka.org/about-ithaka/announcements/new-report-presents-vision-for-sustainable-access-to-government-information-for-the-21st-century>]

A report released December 17 from Ithaka S+R, Documents for a Digital Democracy: A Model for the Federal Depository Library Program in the 21st Century (PDF file

[<http://www.ithaka.org/ithaka-s-r/research/documents-for-a-digital-democracy/Documents%20for%20a%20Digital%20Democracy.pdf>]), examines the essential role of the Federal Library Depository Program and how the transition of government information from print to digital impacts the program's long-term approach and sustainability. Commissioned by the Association of Research Libraries and the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies, the changes articulated in the report are urgently needed as FDLP and other libraries strive to ensure long-term, no-fee public access to government information....

Ithaka S+R, Dec. 17

Google explosion

[<http://www.alatechsource.org/blog/2009/12/google-explosion.html>]

Jason Griffey writes: "The last quarter of 2009 has seen an absolute explosion of Google features, acquisitions, and apps. Here's a summary of

the developments that I think have the most significance for libraries and librarians.”...

ALA TechSource blog, Dec. 21

St. Paul to launch Mobile Workplace Computer Lab

[<http://www.thefriends.org/news.htm#knight>]

The Saint Paul (Minn.) Public Library will launch a Mobile Workplace project with a \$300,000 grant from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation. The project features two components—a mobile service delivery van that will regularly visit community partner locations to offer job search assistance and computer training; and multilingual cultural liaisons who will ensure that services are offered in high-priority languages, including Spanish, Hmong, and Somali, with outreach to specific cultural communities....

Friends of the St. Paul (Minn.) Public Library, Dec. 21

Add pizzazz to online presentations

[<http://alalearning.org/2009/12/21/fighting-for-attention-engaging-e-learning-hacks/>]

Jay Turner writes: “Designing e-learning is my creative passion.

I’ve taken scores of self-paced e-learning courses over the years, and I’m often astonished by how static and dull most of these presentations are. However, smart uses of multimedia in online courses can help capture attention, which is fundamental to facilitating the learning process. Here you’ll find some of my favorite hacks for adding pizzazz to online presentations.”...

ALA Learning, Dec. 21

Longshots reaches 200th podcast

[<http://www.nsls.info/about/press/20091222Longshots200.aspx>]

One of the library world’s longest-running podcasts, Longshots, is celebrating the broadcast of its 200th episode, an interview

[<http://www.librarybeat.org/longshots/play/200>] with Peter Lor (right), former National Librarian of South Africa, who talks about how libraries have played a part in post-apartheid culture. The weekly podcast explores the world of libraries through brief interviews with key library figures and library supporters from all walks of life. Longshots is hosted by Sarah Long, executive director of the North Suburban Library System, and past president of ALA....

North Suburban Library System, Dec. 22

Sweet 16 things I learned in librarianship in 2009

[<http://theunquietlibrarian.wordpress.com/2009/12/22/my-sweet-sixteen-list-of-things-i-learned-in-librarianship-in-2009/>]

Buffy Hamilton writes: “In response to Aaron Tay’s December 21 tweet, here is my top sweet 16 list of things I have learned, in no particular ranking or order, in 2009 (and am continuing to learn into 2010). While I am sure there are other ideas that may be escaping me right now, this list is representative of the ‘big ideas’ that have profoundly influenced my practice this year.”...

The Unquiet Librarian, Dec. 22

How do you say no?

[<http://inthelibrarywiththeleadpipe.org/2009/how-do-you-say-no/>]

Emily Ford writes: “The ability to say no to taking on a new project at work or another committee appointment is directly related to mental wellness and a healthy work/life balance. Many of us have a hard time saying no and can accumulate too much work and responsibility. The quandary remains that if you’re good at what you do you’ll be asked to take on projects and commitments. In order to maintain balance, we need to learn how to say no. And that takes a tremendous amount of emotional intelligence, leadership, and let’s face it, guts.”...

In the Library with the Lead Pipe, Dec. 16

Put up your antennae

[<http://db.lichost.org/blog/2009/12/18/want-to-be-an-innovator-put-up-your-antennae/>]

Steven Bell writes: “Continuous improvement is an often sought-after goal in libraries. We may be doing good things for our community, but resting on our laurels is no formula for future success. It’s important to keep exploring for new ways to enhance the library experience for the end user. A simple way to do that is by making sure we are skilled practitioners of listening and observing.”...

Designing Better Libraries, Dec. 18

Librarian job prospects “favorable”

[<http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos068.htm>]

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics released the 2010–2011 edition of its Occupational Outlook Handbook December 17. The entry for librarians is optimistic about future employment trends, remarking that “Employment of librarians is expected to grow by 8% between 2008 and 2018, which is as fast as the average for all occupations.” It also noted that the “Median annual wages of librarians in May 2008 were \$52,530.”...

U.S. Department of Labor Statistics

State census records online

[<http://ancestries1.blogspot.com/2009/12/state-census-records-online.html>]

Miriam Midkiff writes: “There is a plethora of state census records now available online, something that wasn’t in existence even five years ago. How are state censuses helpful in genealogy? They were often held in the years between the decennial federal censuses, and they often contain answers to questions that aren’t normally asked in federal censuses. I decided to compile a list of state census records available at Ancestry.com [<http://www.ancestry.com/>] and FamilySearch. [<http://pilot.familysearch.org/recordsearch/start.html>] On both websites, not every county is represented for each state census available, and not every state census year is available online yet.”...

AnceStories: The Stories of My Ancestors, Dec. 13

Seven arguments for building new libraries

[<http://douglascountylibraries.org/AboutUs/Publications/LaRuesViews/121709>]

James LaRue writes: “Recently, one of our employees moved to the Midwest to become the director of a library whose main building was destroyed by a thousand-year flood. On the one hand, many members of the community are working to restore that library. On the other, this former employee tells me he’s hearing more and more often the refrain that building libraries just isn’t necessary. Not in the 21st century. Not in the age of the internet. I disagree.”...

Douglas County (Colo.) Libraries, Dec. 17

New Council Tree branch is certified LEED Platinum

[<http://www.poudrelibraries.org/news/index.html#leeds>]

The Poudre River Public Library District in Fort Collins, Colorado, announced December 9 that its new Council Tree branch has been awarded LEED Platinum certification by the U.S. Green Building Council. The branch is the first LEED commercial interior library in the United States to receive platinum status and the second library in the nation to receive platinum. The certification was awarded for excellence in energy, lighting, water, and material efficiency as well as incorporating a variety of other sustainable strategies....

Poudre River (Colo.) Public Library District, Dec. 9

Interview with Special Collections Librarian Richard Landon

[<http://nigelbeale.com/2009/12/audio-interview-with-rare-books-librarian-richard-landon-conducted-by-nigel-beale/>]

Richard Landon is director of the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library at the University of Toronto. He has taught courses on the history of the book and bibliography for many years in the university's Graduate Department of English and the Faculty of Information. Bibliophile Nigel Beale talked with him (38:29) about his career, the role of a rare books librarian, Diderot's Encyclopédie, collecting as scholarship, Darwin, Galileo, Copernicus, the future of the Thomas Fisher collection, e-books, books about books, and unpublished medieval texts....

Nigel Beale Nota Bene Books, Dec. 16

[<http://www.flickr.com/photos/bibliodysey/4199976029/sizes/l/>]Victorian infographics

[<http://bibliodysey.blogspot.com/2009/12/victorian-infographics.html>]

P. K. has gathered together some intriguing informational charts from the 19th century that are housed in the David Rumsey Map Collection. On the right is a "fold-out print depicting all of human history from the time of creation (4693 B.C., Adam and Eve) up to the date of publication (1858). Vignettes of historically significant people, places, and buildings are arranged along the borders. The designer has employed a metaphorical display choice: Civilizations are presented as a series of rivers—the widths likely imply the comparative population level of each group versus the world's population—which 'flow' down through history."...

BibliOdyssey, Dec. 21

[<http://earlymodernpaleography.files.wordpress.com/2009/12/chancery.jpg>]Early

modern paleography [<http://earlymodernpaleography.wordpress.com/>]

Early Modern Paleography is a daily gallery of early modern British handwriting from the Osborn Collection of Yale University's Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library. Beginning on January 1 and continuing each day throughout the year, Early Modern Paleography will post photographs from an early modern British manuscript, for the delight and delectation of its readers. Each week will focus on a particular manuscript or type of manuscript, ranging over the course of the year from letters to commonplace books, inventories, poetry, diaries, and account books....

Early Modern Paleography

Survey on the future of the book

[<http://www.lrs.org/blog/viewitem.php?post=311>]

The Colorado State Library's Library Research Service has launched a 60-second survey [<http://surveys.lrs.org/respond.php?sid=70>] on the "Future of the Book." The survey asks your opinions on e-readers and how you think they will transform reading. Will e-readers be the demise of the paper book? What will libraries circulate? What is the future of the book? Tell the LRS....

Library Research Service blog, Dec. 10

Heather Ross's amazing library skirt

[<http://heatherross.squarespace.com/journal/2009/12/13/the-library-skirt.html>]

Artist Heather Ross writes: "December 12 was the Modern Women of Sewing event at the New York Public Library, held as a part of its Crafternoon series. The idea behind the event was to bring attention to all of the amazing rare books that NYPL has in its cavernous, multilevel archives (known also as the stacks), specifically the books that an artist or craftsperson would find especially inspiring." For the event, Ross made a skirt from fabric printed with a 1911 sectional illustration

[<http://digitalgallery.nypl.org/nypldigital/dgkeysearchdetail.cfm?trg=1&strucID=693870&imageID=805999&word=stacks&s=1¬word=&d=&c=&f=&k=0&lWord=&lField=&sScope=&sLevel=&sLabel=&total=28&num=20&imgs=20&pNum=&pos=28>] of the library stacks....

heatherross journal, Dec. 13

Songs for the season: Library carols

[<http://www.merrylibrarian.com/?p=514>]

The Merry Librarian writes: "Have you ever had a bad day at the library and wished it could be brightened by song? Well, Merry happens to know a gifted lyricist who has turned three bad-day-at-the-library stories into hilarious songs set to the tunes of popular holiday music. We encourage you to sing along with us as we celebrate the season with these fun new library carols by Jennifer Stafford."...

The Merry Librarian, Dec. 20

Pittsburgh flash mob features Lady Gaga impersonator

[<http://www.pittnews.com/article/2009/12/17/lady-gaga-visits-hillman-library>]

When "Lady Gaga" began dancing on a table in the University of Pittsburgh's Hillman Library December 17, dozens of students joined in, while others complained and moved their books. The pink-wig-donning, lingerie-clad Pitt student impersonating the pop diva strutted into the main room on the first floor of the library shortly after 10 p.m. She was one member of a small group of students who organized a flash mob in the library, two nights before finals officially end....

Pitt News, Dec. 18

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fkT1sfNh580>] Salinas Public Library wins video contest with The Librarian Zone

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fkT1sfNh580>]

The Salinas (Calif.) Public Library won \$10,000 in a contest sponsored by the California State Library that challenged participants to make a video explaining why fast internet service is important at the library.

Submissions were judged on clarity of message, creativity, and video quality. The Librarian Zone video (2:00) was made by Bjorn Jones and Garland Thompson Jr., with appearances by Benjamin MacBean, Anthony Lacono, and Jayne Wilsey....
YouTube, Nov. 16

Green Man, Blue Cat

[http://www.theonion.com/content/video/adults_go_wild_over_latest_in]
(satire)

Adults go wild over the latest release in the children's picture book series, Green Man, Blue Cat, by Barclay Mitchell. Readers of all ages are hooked on the colorful illustrations and large font size. The news anchors on The Onion News Network's Today Now! show are infected with enthusiasm (2:15) as they interview John Basil, CEO of Sunflower Books, the publisher of the series....

The Onion, Dec. 11

No AL Direct next week

AL Direct is taking a week off for the holidays. Look for a new edition on Wednesday, January 6. Have a Happy New Year!

Go back to the Top [#top]

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edition.unsubscribeLink %>](#)]

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[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/midwinter/2010/index.cfm>]
]

ALA Midwinter Meeting,

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/midwinter/2010/information.cfm>] Boston, January 15–19. For self parking

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/midwinter/2010/travel.cfm#parking>] at the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center, turn into the east side entrance off Summer Street and continue to the end of the building, turn right, and go down the ramp. At the bottom, turn left and you will see the entrance to the South Parking Lot. Shuttle buses run continuously between the lot and building entrance. Self parking is \$10 all day.

[<https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/695319699>]

Free webinar from Booklist Online: 21st Century Reference Collections, [<https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/695319699>] Tuesday, January 12, 4:00 Eastern Time. Join Booklist's Mary Ellen Quinn, editor of Reference Books Bulletin, and a group of library and publishing experts as they talk about how the traditional reference collection is being transformed. Reserve a seat today. NEW! From Booklist.

In this issue
Dec. 2009

[<http://site.ebrary.com/lib/ala>]

Building Bridges between Students and Faculty

Buena Casa, Buena Brasa

Deployed to Iraq

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=general_info&id=67]

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

Director of the Center for Inquiry and Exploration.
[<http://joblist.ala.org/modules/jobseeker/controller.cfm?scr=jobdetail&jobid=14113>] Maret School, an independent K-12 school in Washington, D.C., seeks a dynamic leader to assume leadership of an innovative programmatic initiative, the Center for Inquiry and Exploration. This newly created center seeks to infuse current research methodology into all aspects of our curriculum, concentrating especially on Grades 7 through 12. We seek an administrator with a strong understanding of the changing and evolving roles of libraries and information systems in the 21st century and a clear and compelling vision for how Maret's facilities and faculty can more effectively train students in current research and inquiry practices....

[<http://www.facebook.com/pages/ALA-JobLIST/47377008761>]

[http://twitter.com/ALA_JobLIST]

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

Digital Library of the Week

[<http://digital.lib.ecu.edu/reflector/3182>]

Image Collection [<http://digital.lib.ecu.edu/reflector/>] is one of the newest digital collections at East Carolina University's J. Y. Joyner Library. The collection contains more than 7,000 images digitized from the photographic negatives of The Daily Reflector, the Greenville newspaper. The online collection represents only a portion of the 85,000 negatives donated by D. Jordan Whichard III, the paper's former

publisher. The majority of the photos date from 1949 to 1967 and document advances in industry, upheavals in race relations, and an increasing awareness of public health concerns. The website also has an illustrated timeline that examines the national and international events that shaped the era.

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/mgrps/divs/yalsa/teentechweek/ttw10/home10.cfm]

Teen Tech Week 2010

[http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/yalsa/teentechweek/ttw10/home10.cfm]

will take place March 7–13. It is a national initiative meant to encourage teens to take advantage of libraries' nonprint resources. The theme—Learn Create Share @ your library—fosters teen creativity and positions the library as a place for safe exploration of many types of technology.

Public Perception How the World Sees Us

“I worry that libraries, even the newest ones, risk becoming fortresses buttressed by books, protecting Gutenberg’s technology for reasons of principle rather than pragmatism. Librarians need to educate themselves, and us, about the possibilities and limitations of digital books.”

—Columnist Alex Beam, hoping that libraries will loan out more e-books for users to test drive so that the hype about digital publishing will be tempered by experience, “Unbound Is Not Unbeatable, [http://www.boston.com/ae/books/articles/2009/12/22/e_book_in_hand_not_necessarily_the_book_you_want_to_read/]” Boston Globe, Dec. 22.

Ask the ALA Librarian

Q. A long, long time ago, like BC (before computers), my high school librarian once showed me a professional tool she used in selecting books for the school library. It was an annotated listing of books recommended for small to medium library collections. I can’t remember what it was called, but it came out periodically, and was a large and heavy hardback book. We are trying to put together a library in my son’s school, but I can’t remember the exact title of that book. I have tried looking on eBay and places like AbeBooks to try to find old editions, but can’t seem to

think of the most effective search terms that won't net me tens of thousands of results.

A. Your high school teacher was likely using the longtime H. W. Wilson publication—whose name has changed a few times over the years—Standard Catalog for High School Libraries

[http://www.hwwilson.com/Print/srhslibcat_history.htm],

[http://www.hwwilson.com/Print/srhslibcat_history.htm] which was first published in 1926. As of 2007, the title is Senior High Core Collection.

This book selection professional tool, as well as several other such books published by Wilson, Libraries Unlimited, and our own ALA Editions, appears in a list, separated out by age group, at Readers' Advisory for Children and Young Adults.

[http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Readers'_Advisory_for_Children_and_Young_Adults] You can find out if any of these books are at a

public or community college library near you by using OCLC's WorldCat,

[<http://www.worldcat.org>] a free online database in which you can search for a book title, and then find the book's closest library location using

your own ZIP code. From the ALA Professional Tips wiki

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

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

[<http://ala.org/ala/educationcareers/scholarships/>]

ALA and its units provide more than \$300,000 in scholarships

[<http://ala.org/ala/educationcareers/scholarships/>] annually for study in a master's degree in library and information studies from an

ALA-accredited program, or for a master's degree in a school library

media program that meets the ALA curriculum guidelines for an

NCATE-accredited unit. You can apply for a variety of scholarships

through the single online application.

[<http://www.ala.org/cfapps/scholarships>] Three references must also be

supplied with the online form. The scholarship application and reference

forms are available until March 1.

Calendar

Jan. 16–17:

Austin Book, Paper, and Photo Show,

[<http://www.texasbooksellers.org/austin-book-paper-photo-show>] Norris Conference Center, Austin, Texas.

Jan. 26–27:

Web 3.0 Conference, [<http://www.mediabistro.com/web3/?c=mbevnt>]

Mediabistro, Hyatt Regency Santa Clara, California.

Feb. 6–7:
San Francisco Antiquarian Book, Print, and Paper Fair,
[<http://www.sfbookandpaperfair.com/>] San Francisco Concourse.

Mar. 3–5:
Customers of SirsiDynix User Group,
[http://www.cosugi.org/COSUGI_CONFERENCE/index.html] 2010 Conference,
Disney’s Coronado Springs Resort, Lake Buena Vista, Florida. “From
Intersections to Lasting ConXions.”

Mar. 3–5:
WebWise 2010, [<http://www.bcr.org/webwise2010/>] Hyatt Regency at the
Colorado Convention Center, Denver. “Imagining the Digital Future.”

Mar. 4–7:
Alaska Library Association,
[<http://www.akla.org/anchorage2010/index.html>] Annual Conference. Hotel
Captain Cook, Anchorage. “Breaking New Trails.”

Mar. 5–6:
Virtual Worlds and Libraries Online Conference.
[<http://www.virtual.ala.org/virtualpresence/?p=399>] The conference will
be held online using OPAL web conferencing software, with demonstrations
and tours in virtual worlds such as Second Life. Deadline for proposals
is January 15.

Apr. 29–

May 2:
Greater St. Louis Book Fair,
[<http://www.stlouisbookfair.org/index.php/schedule>] West County Center,
St. Louis.

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

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