

american libraries DIRECT

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | February 4, 2009

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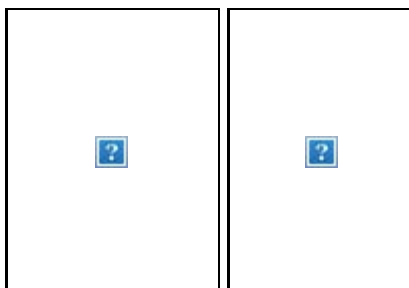


U.S. & World News

[Two librarians killed in Denver car crash](#)

Two librarians on their way home to Greenwich, Connecticut, from the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Denver were killed January 28 when the taxi they were taking to Denver International Airport was struck by a suspected drunk driver. Kathy Krasniewicz (left), 54, director of youth services at the Perrot Memorial Library, and Kate McClelland, 71, who retired in 2007 from the same post Krasniewicz held at Perrot, were thrown from the minivan when it was hit by a pickup truck on Peña Boulevard. ALA and ALSC released a [statement](#) January 29 regarding the tragic accident....

American Libraries Online, Jan. 29



[Children's books get one-year reprieve from anti-lead law](#)

Librarians can breathe a sigh of relief thanks to a one-year stay of enforcement on having to test for lead in books geared to youngsters under the age of 12. The extension until February 10, 2010, puts an end to the nightmare scenario envisioned by some in the library community of having to either ban children from their facilities or cordon off the book collections in youth services areas until federal regulators concede that children's literature complies with the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act....

American Libraries Online, Jan. 31


[Philadelphia branches to stay open until July](#)

Mayor Michael Nutter has retreated—at least for the time being—from his plan to close 11 branches of the Free Library of Philadelphia. Four weeks after a judge ordered a halt to the closings, Deputy Mayor Donald Schwarz announced at a January 28 budget meeting that the branches would remain open at least through June 30....

American Libraries Online, Jan. 30

ALA News

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

[Future of libraries addressed at ALA Midwinter Meeting](#)

The future role of libraries in tough economic times and the influence libraries will exert within the new administration of President Barack Obama were key themes discussed during ALA's 2009 Midwinter Meeting in Denver. The annual planning meeting, held January 23–28 at the Colorado Convention Center, attracted 7,905 librarians and 2,315 exhibitors....

[ALA news on Twitter](#)

Regular updates on news from ALA and its divisions can now be found on Twitter. The [ALA News Twitter feed](#) will have ALA-related video and photos, posts from the PIO Visibility @ your library blog, and news from the Campaign for America's Libraries. *American Libraries* is also featuring its news stories, videos, and blog posts on an [American Libraries Twitter feed](#)....

[Improving Literacy Through School Libraries gets high marks](#)

In January, the U.S. Department of Education released a second evaluation of the Improving Literacy Through School Libraries program. The evaluation indicated that students attending schools participating in the program are performing 2.7% higher on state reading tests than students in schools that do not take part....

[New issues brief on job-seeking in public libraries](#)

The ALA Office for Research and Statistics is drawing attention to the increasingly important role public libraries are playing in supporting job seekers. *Job-seeking in U.S. Public Libraries* ([PDF file](#)) discusses the range of library resources available and the challenges libraries face in maintaining these services. Nine states report increased use of library computers for job-seeking and e-government services, while nearly 73% of libraries are their communities' only source of free computer and internet access....



[Diversity Office calls for grant proposals](#)

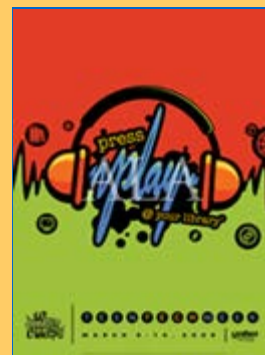
The ALA Office for Diversity seeks proposals for its Diversity Research Grant program. Applicants must be current ALA members, and [2009 proposals](#) must address one of three identified topics: meeting diversity goals in the context of economic challenges, librarianship in multicultural or multigenerational community building, or libraries' multicultural involvement in social networking. Deadline is April 30....

[America @ your library](#)

Since 2005, the embassies of Germany and Finland have been working to provide up-to-date information and resources about the United States to libraries in their communities through the America @ your library program. In Germany, information resource centers in the embassy and consulates work with local libraries to select books and other information materials on the United States. The program also brings authors and experts, including Pulitzer Prize–winner Annie Proulx, abroad to read from their works....



is now open.



[Teen Tech Week](#) is YALSA's national initiative for teens, their parents, educators, and other concerned adults, whose purpose is to encourage teens to use the libraries' nonprint resources for education and recreation. This year's theme is "Press Play." **NEW! From ALA Graphics.**

In this issue January/February 2009



Gaming @ your library

The Minneapolis-Hennepin merger

Testing the Web 2.0 waters

I Love My Librarian awards

Buildings and landscapes

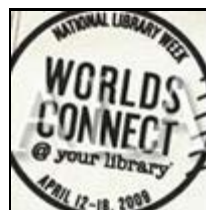
Greg Landgraf writes: "The beginning of February also means the beginning of facilities season at *American Libraries*. The Library Design Showcase in the April issue is one of the largest individual articles of the year, and with the deadline for submissions passing yesterday, the bulk of the work on this end starts now. *AL* editors and designers will meet soon to select the projects and the photos that will be included in the showcase."...

AL Inside Scoop, Feb. 3



New radio PSAs for National Library Week

New radio-quality public service announcements are now available [online](#) to help libraries reach out to their communities during National Library Week (April 12–18) from the ALA Public Information Office and the Campaign for America's Libraries. They are available in both 15- and 30-second formats and focus on libraries as places of opportunity....

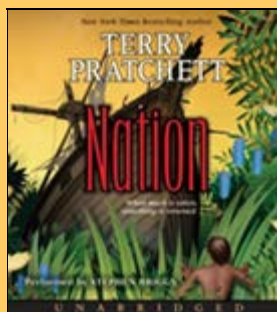


Booklist ONLINE

Featured review: Media

Pratchett, Terry. *Nation*. Read by Stephen Briggs. Oct. 2008. 9.5 hr. Harper, CD (978-0-06-165821-1).

What qualities ensure the continued existence of a nation? This thoughtful survival story examines the concepts that create a civilization's collective consciousness, pitting science against superstition as survivors of a massive tsunami struggle to forge a new culture on a tiny tropical isle. Thirteen-year-old Mau, the sole native survivor of a small island "somewhere in the South Pelagic Ocean," and Daphne, a shipwrecked successor to the British throne, unite in a shared duty to build a community of survivors. Briggs's eloquent reading, with perfectly balanced expression, begins with restrained tones that intensify listeners' engagement....



Videos filled with literary stars

Keir Graff writes: "Among the many exciting things *Booklist* will be doing in 2009 is adding original videos to the Likely Stories blog. Shot by our talented Books for Youth editors, they'll be edited by our singularly multitasking associate editor (and former *American Libraries* associate editor) Daniel Kraus. Actually, I'm going to kick this thing off with one of the [trailers](#) for Dan's forthcoming book, *The Monster Variations* (Delacorte)."...

Likely Stories, Feb. 4



Career Leads from

JobLIST

Genealogy Librarian

II. Allen County Public Library, Fort Wayne, Indiana. Assist department manager and other staff members with public service work, explaining research principles and procedures to patrons. Participate in collection development. Help in planning and implementing departmental programming, particularly educational outreach. Preferred: Previous genealogical research experience strongly desired....

@ [More jobs...](#)

Digital Library of the Week



The [Mountain West Digital Library](#) is an aggregation of digital collections from universities, colleges, public libraries, museums, and historical societies in Utah, Nevada, and Idaho. Hosting

[The Playaway digital audio player](#)

Mary Burkey writes: "The Playaway preloaded digital audio player has become a circulation hit in libraries. Each unit (one half the size of a deck of cards) holds one audiobook title in a durable housing and comes with a battery, lanyard, and earbuds. The controls are easy to use (especially important for seniors and the visually impaired), and the content cannot be erased or duplicated. Playaways complement existing cassette, CD, and download formats in audio collections."...



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

institutions each run servers supporting their own digital collections and support partner institutions by providing scanning and hosting services. The Mountain West defines the region of contributors, but the content extends beyond the Mountain West and into different fields.

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.

Denver Update

[A dozen neat takeaways from the ALA Midwinter Meeting](#)

Karen Schneider writes: "My killer-app moment was with Summon, a new unified-search service from Serial Solutions that does what we really want a product like this to do: natively indexes data from its sources (databases, ebooks, OPACs, etc.) so that retrieval is fast and consistent. Also, following ALA Council proceedings via Twitter. Yup, there are folks twittering key Council votes. Council may not be interested in transparency, but transparency is interested in Council."...

Free Range Librarian, Feb. 2

[The Hyatt Regency's librarian cocktails](#)

Check out some of the drink selections developed by the Denver Hyatt's bartending staff especially for librarians attending the ALA Midwinter Meeting: the Overdue, made with rum, orange and pineapple juices, and raspberry purée; the Boolean Operator, with mango rum, crème de cacao, and cream; and the Happy Librarian, a mix of tequila, triple sec, fresh lime, cucumber, cilantro, and green Tabasco....

Denver Westword, Jan. 28

Public Perception

How the World Sees Us

"The cold has brought them in again. It happens every year. Like swallows to Capistrano, in reverse, they come not to escape the heat but to find it. Bedraggled and grim-faced, weighed down by tattered duffels and beat-up thermoses, they trickle in as temperatures drop."

—News columnist Charity Vogel on winter visitors to the city's central library, *Buffalo (N.Y.) News*, Jan. 12.

Division News

[AASL launches third year of longitudinal study](#)

AASL launched the third year of its School Libraries Count! longitudinal study on January 27. The study gathers basic data about the status of school library media programs across the country. The division will use this information to develop advocacy tools to support school library media programs at the local, state, and national levels. The last day to [complete the survey](#) is March 12....

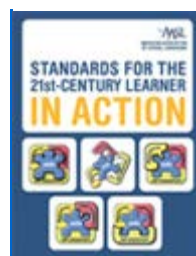
[The 21st-century learner in action](#)

AASL has released a new publication, [Standards for the 21st-Century Learner in Action](#), which expands and supports the division's new learning standards, Standards for the 21st-Century Learner. The publication includes indicators, benchmarks, model



February 9 is the last

examples, and assessments to support school library media specialists and other educators in teaching the essential learning skills defined in the standards....



[Registration opens for ACRL Virtual Conference](#)

ACRL will offer a Virtual Conference during its 14th National Conference in Seattle. The Virtual Conference, held March 13–14, will provide academic and research librarians unable to make the trip to Seattle an affordable opportunity to participate in the conference. For those librarians with reduced support for professional development or travel, the virtual National Conference is a great way to leverage a small investment into large learning opportunities....



[ASCLA's silent auction a success](#)

A silent auction held at the ASCLA/COSLA reception at the ALA Midwinter Meeting raised \$1,145 to benefit the ASCLA Century Scholarship. Reception attendees enjoyed delicious desserts, while bidding on a variety of items generously donated by vendors. Proceeds from the auction directly benefit the scholarship fund and promote its long-term financial viability....

[ALSC Student Sessions in February and March](#)

ALSC is inviting student members to interact, network, and learn virtually through its new online workshop series, ALSC Student Sessions. These one-hour programs, taking place in OPAL (Online Programming for All Libraries), give students the opportunity to learn first-hand about hot library issues from ALSC members around the country....

[PLA offers marketing workshop for public libraries](#)

PLA is offering public librarians an opportunity to learn practical skills and knowledge that will help them better market their libraries' programs and services. The [Marketing workshop](#), taught by Wayne Piper, is scheduled for April 21–22 in Kansas City, Missouri, and features an intensive, small-group environment. Participants will learn how to draft, implement, and measure an effective marketing plan that aligns with their library's strategic goals....

Awards

[Gloriana St. Clair named 2009 Academic/Research Librarian of the Year](#)

Gloriana St. Clair, dean of university libraries at Carnegie Mellon University, is the 2009 ACRL Academic/Research Librarian of the Year. The award, sponsored by YBP Library Services, recognizes an outstanding member of the library profession who has



day to [register](#) for YALSA's [Teen Tech Week](#), March 8–14. The theme is Press Play @ your library, encouraging teens to take advantage of the many technologies available to them, free of charge, at their libraries.

Ask the ALA Librarian



Q. I have just been hired as a librarian at a local company. The library of this organization was headed for many years by someone who was not a trained librarian. The current filing system needs total revamping and I'm looking for some ideas and help to guide me through the process. Can you help?

A. There are two main versions of [filing rules](#): letter-by-letter and word-by-word. These are mostly for more traditional library catalog filing, but there are some more general resources available on the wiki page. If you are interested in

made a significant national or international contribution to academic/research librarianship and library development. St. Clair will receive a \$5,000 award on March 12 at the opening keynote session of the ACRL 14th National Conference in Seattle....

[2009 Excellence in Academic Libraries Award](#)

ACRL has announced the recipients of its 2009 Excellence in Academic Libraries Award: The Moraine Valley Community College Library in Palos Hills, Illinois; the Wyndham Robertson Library (right) at Hollins University in Roanoke, Virginia; and the University of Minnesota Libraries, Twin Cities Libraries. Sponsored by ACRL and Blackwell's Book Services, the award recognizes the staff of a college, university, and community college library for programs that deliver exemplary services and resources to further the educational mission of the institution....



[2009 John Cotton Dana Public Relations Award winners](#)

Six libraries are winners of the John Cotton Dana Library Public Relations Award, which recognizes and honors outstanding achievement in library public relations. The honor has been awarded continuously since 1946 and is sponsored by the H. W. Wilson Company, the H. W. Wilson Foundation, and LLAMA. One of the winners was the St. Paul (Minn.) Public Library for its "St. Paul-itics" campaign, a dynamic program created to inform and engage citizens in the political convention and election season....

Leads from LLAMA, Feb. 2



[Zora Neale Hurston Award inaugural winner](#)

Miriam Rodriguez, assistant director for public services and community integration at the Dallas Public Library, is the recipient of RUSA's first Zora Neale Hurston Award. Rodriguez was selected for her role in Tulisoma, a successful and growing community-based literary festival that features African-American authors and artists and promotes literacy and the arts. The award recognizes an individual RUSA member who has demonstrated leadership in promoting African-American literature....

[2009 Best Books for Young Adults](#)

YALSA has announced its 2009 list of Best Books for Young Adults. The list of 86 books, drawn from 224 official nominations, was presented at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Denver. The list comprises a wide range of genres and styles, including contemporary realistic fiction that reflects the diversity of the teen experience, nonfiction that brings to teens an awareness of the world they live in and its history, and fantastical stories told in both narrative and graphic formats. The fully annotated list is available [online](#)....



[2009 Great Graphic Novels for Teens](#)

YALSA has announced its 2009 Great Graphic Novels for Teens. The list of 53 titles, drawn from 154 official nominations, was presented at the ALA Midwinter

having a consultant assist you, you might want to check with your local [Special Libraries Association](#) chapter. From the [ALA Professional Tips wiki](#).

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

Rutgers researchers **Carol Gordon and Ya-Ling Lu** interviewed 70 low-achieving students who had a low participation rate in a web-based high school summer reading program that replaced traditional reading lists. In ["I Hate to Read—Or Do I?"](#) published in volume 11 (2008) of AASL's online-only [School Library Media Journal](#), they reveal that low achievers have a strong preference for alternative reading materials.

Calendar

**Feb. 16–
Mar. 13:**
[Business Reference 101](#). Online course sponsored by RUSA.

**Feb. 16–
Mar. 21:**
[Genealogy 101](#). Online course sponsored by RUSA.

Meeting in Denver. The books, recommended for those ages 12–18, meet the criteria of both good quality literature and appealing reading for teens. The fully annotated list is available [online](#)....

2009 Quick Picks for Reluctant YA Readers

YALSA has announced its 2009 Quick Picks for Reluctant Young Adult Readers selection list. The list was presented at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Denver. The Quick Picks list suggests books for teens, ages 12–18, to pick up on their own and read for pleasure; it is geared to the teenager who, for whatever reason, does not like to read. The annotated list is available [online](#)....



2009 Fabulous Films for Young Adults

YALSA has announced its 2009 Fabulous Films for Young Adults list. The list identifies a body of films relating to the theme “Coming of Age Around the World” that will appeal to young adults ages 12–18; it was presented at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Denver. It includes films, both fiction and nonfiction, that deal with what it’s like to come of age in different places and diverse cultures. The full list is available [online](#)....



2009 Amazing Audiobooks for Young Adults

YALSA has announced its 2009 Amazing Audiobooks for Young Adults list. The list, for those ages 12–18, is drawn from the previous two years of spoken-word releases and was presented at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Denver. This year’s list includes 20 fiction titles and one nonfiction title representing diverse genres and styles, including historical fiction, fantasy, and realistic fiction. The full list is available [online](#)....



2009 Notable Books

RUSA has announced its selections for the 2009 CODES Notable Books Council Book Award. The Notable Book Award makes available to the nation’s readers a list of 25 very good, very readable, and at times very important fiction, nonfiction, and poetry books for the adult reader. Authors of these selected titles will be invited to speak at the Literary Tastes Breakfast, a ticketed RUSA event at the ALA Annual Conference....



2009 Outstanding Reference Sources

RUSA has announced its selections for the 2009 Outstanding Reference Sources list. Established in 1958, the Outstanding Reference Sources award recognizes the best reference publications for small and medium-sized libraries. An annotated list of these outstanding reference works is published annually in

Feb. 24: **Information Commons 101.**

Webcast sponsored by ACRL.

Feb. 27: **Lawyers for Libraries Training Institute.**

Los Angeles.
Sponsored by the Office for Intellectual Freedom.

Mar. 2: **Teens and Technology.** Wyoming Seminary College Preparatory School, Kingston, Pennsylvania. Sponsored by YALSA.

Mar. 2–28: **Web Design and Construction for Libraries, Part 1: XHTML and CSS.** Online course sponsored by ACRL.

Mar. 12–13: **Organization and Personnel Management.** Decatur, Georgia. Certified Public Library Administrator course sponsored by PLA.

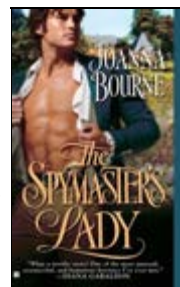
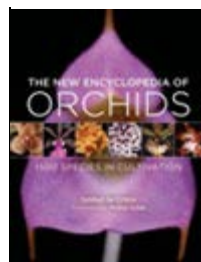
Mar. 23–Apr. 10: **Introduction to Website Usability.** Online course sponsored by ACRL.

Apr. 2–4: **Current Issues.** Nashville, Tennessee. Certified Public Library Administrator course sponsored by PLA.

the May issue of *American Libraries*....

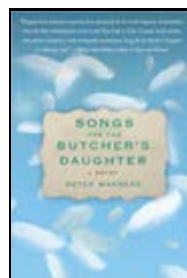
[2009 Best Genre Fiction Titles](#)

RUSA has announced its selection for its 2009 Reading List award. The Reading List annually recognizes the best books in eight genres. This year's list includes novels that will please die-hard fans as well as introduce new readers to the pleasures of genre fiction. Authors of these selected titles will be invited to speak at the Literary Tastes Breakfast, a ticketed RUSA event at the ALA Annual Conference....



[2009 Sophie Brody Medal](#)

RUSA has announced its selections for the 2009 Sophie Brody Medal. The award, which consists of a medal for the winner and citations for honor books, is funded by Arthur Brody and the Brodart Foundation, and is given to encourage, recognize, and commend outstanding achievement in Jewish literature. This year's winner is Peter Manseau for *Songs for the Butcher's Daughter* (Free Press)....



[ALA Youth Media Awards on Today Show](#)

On January 27, the ALA 2009 Caldecott and Newbery Medal winners and the chair of the Coretta Scott King Book Awards Committee appeared on NBC's *Today Show* to discuss the Youth Media Awards. Neil Gaiman, Beth Krommes, and Deborah Taylor were [interviewed](#) by coanchor Al Roker....



[ACRL Distance Learning Librarian award](#)

Jack E. Fritts Jr., director of library services at Benedictine University, has been named the 2009 recipient of the ACRL Distance Learning Section Haworth Press Distance Learning Librarian Conference Sponsorship Award. The award honors an ACRL member working in the field of, or contributing to the success of, distance learning librarianship or related library service in higher education....

[ACRL Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship](#)

Krystyna K. Matusiak, digital collections librarian at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee libraries, has been awarded the 2009 ACRL Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship for her proposal, "Use of Digital Resources in an Academic Environment: A Qualitative Study of Students' Perceptions, Experiences, and Digital Literacy Skills."...

[2009 Best Teen Read Week Celebration contest](#)

Jennifer Velasquez, a young adult librarian at the San Antonio (Tex.) Public Library, and Kim Dillon, teacher-librarian at Washougal (Wash.) High School, won YALSA's 2009 Best Teen Read Week Celebration. Teen Read Week corporate sponsor Mirrorstone Books,

Apr. 2–30:

[Marketing Basics for Libraries.](#) Online course sponsored by RUSA.

Apr. 14–15:

[Serving Diverse Populations.](#)

Spokane, Washington. Certified Public Library Administrator course sponsored by PLA.

Apr. 21–22:

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

Apr. 29–30:

[Organization and Personnel Management.](#)

Saratoga Springs, New York. Certified Public Library Administrator course sponsored by PLA.

May 4–29:

[Business Reference 101.](#) Online course sponsored by RUSA.

May 4–

June 19:

[The Reference Interview.](#) Online course sponsored by RUSA.

May 13–14:

[Budget and Finance.](#) Columbus, Ohio. Certified Public Library Administrator course sponsored by PLA.

June 4–5:

[Politics and](#)

AdLit.org, and YALSA cosponsored the contest....

2009 Baker & Taylor Conference Grant winners

YALSA awarded Kate Toebbe and Laurie Amster-Burton the 2009 Baker & Taylor Conference Grant. Each will receive a \$1,000 grant to attend the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago, July 9–15. The grant is awarded for first-time attendance at an Annual Conference....

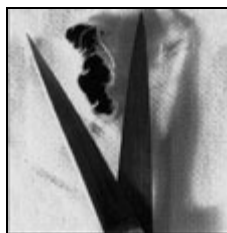
2009 BWI Collection Development Grant winners

Lexie Robinson of the Huntsville–Madison County (Ala.) Public Library and Wini Ashooh of the Porter branch of the Central Rappahannock Regional Library in Stafford, Virginia, won the 2009 BWI Collection Development Grant, administered by YALSA. Each receives a grant of \$1,000, donated by BWI, for collection development. The grant recipient is a YALSA member who represents a public library and works directly with young adults ages 12–18....

Paulette Myers-Rich wins 2009 Minnesota Book Artist award

Paulette Myers-Rich is the winner of the 2009 Book Artist Award, cosponsored by the Friends of the St. Paul Public Library and the Minnesota Center for Book Arts, which recognizes a Minnesota book artist or book-artist collaborative group for excellence throughout a body of work. Myers-Rich works extensively with black-and-white photography, with artists' books being her favored format....

Friends of the St. Paul (Minn.) Public Library, Jan. 31



Scottsdale branch receives Smart Environments Award

Designed by Phoenix-based firm Richard + Bauer, the Arabian branch of the Scottsdale (Ariz.) Public Library utilizes innovative, green building design to encourage people to visit the library. The building is gorgeous, inviting, brightly lit, and a recent winner of the 2008 International Interior Design Association/*Metropolis* [Smart Environments Award](#). Additionally, the librarians have removed themselves from behind the traditional desk and are stationed by computer kiosks to help patrons find the information they need....

Inhabitat, Jan. 28; *Metropolis*, Jan.



Sparky Award winners

Four student productions are winners of the second annual Sparky Awards, a contest organized by SPARC (the Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition) and adopted by campuses nationwide that calls on entrants to creatively illustrate in a short video the value of sharing ideas. The winners were announced January 24 at a public screening held in connection with the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Denver. The Grand Prize winner is [To Infinity and Beyond](#) (0:59), by students at the University of Illinois at Chicago Honors College....

SPARC, Feb. 3



Seen Online

[Networking](#), Decatur, Georgia. Certified Public Library Administrator course sponsored by PLA.

Aug. 6–7:

[Serving Diverse Populations](#), Houston, Texas. Certified Public Library Administrator course sponsored by PLA.

Sept. 16–17:

[Planning and Management of Buildings](#), Saratoga Springs, New York. Certified Public Library Administrator course sponsored by PLA.

@ [More...](#)

Contact Us

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Library
Association

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[Art librarian Judith Hoffberg dies at 74](#)

Judith Hoffberg, an art librarian and curator who was a major influence in the emergence of books as an artist's medium yet winked at the genre by establishing a global festival of edible books, died January 16 at her Santa Monica, California, home. Hoffberg was diagnosed with acute myeloid leukemia in October. Since 1978, Hoffberg had edited and published *Umbrella*, a journal increasingly dedicated to artists' books. She was a cofounder of the Art Libraries Society of North America and served as its first chairman in 1973....

Los Angeles Times, Jan. 27



[Former YA librarian leaves Pratt Library \\$650,000](#)

Officials at Enoch Pratt Free Library in Baltimore happily discovered the esteem one of their retirees held for the place. Upon her death in 2008, Sara Siebert directed that more than \$650,000 of her assets go to the library, a figure that exceeds the total of all the paychecks she took home in her 34 years as Pratt's director of young adult reading. Siebert, an energetic and popular librarian who sought no attention as a donor during her life, left an estate of more than \$2 million after her death at age 88....

Baltimore Sun, Jan. 31



[CSU Fresno waives lost book fee for heroic pilot](#)

Heroic US Airways pilot Chesley "Sully" Sullenberger (right) splash-landed his jetliner in the Hudson River on January 15, and everyone on board escaped safely. But left in the cargo hold was a book on professional ethics that Sullenberger had checked out from California State University, Fresno, through the Danville branch of the Contra Costa County Library. Sullenberger asked for an extension, but Fresno librarians were struck by Sullenberger's sense of responsibility, waived all the fees, and dedicated a replacement book to him....

Fresno (Calif.) Bee, Feb. 2



[Berkeley library given waiver to sign 3M deal](#)

The Berkeley, California, city council voted January 28 to allow its public library to bypass the Nuclear Free Berkeley Act in order to get its checkout machines serviced. After a heated debate that lasted past midnight, the council voted 6–2, with one abstention, to grant a waiver for the library to contract with 3M, even though the firm refused to sign a form promising it does not engage in nuclear research or development....

San Francisco Chronicle, Jan. 29

[San Diego responds to library-school concept](#)

San Diego and its school district have come up with a new twist to save the downtown public library-school concept: Instead of spending more money and time on a feasibility study, perhaps state safety codes for public schools can be waived. In a February 2 letter ([PDF file](#)) to California State Librarian Susan Hildreth, Mayor



aldirect@ala.org

AL Direct FAQ:

www.ala.org/aldirect/

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800-545-2433,

ext. 4216

ISSN 1559-369X.

Jerry Sanders said he "remains cautiously optimistic that such an arrangement can be reached" to save the longstanding plan for an iconic \$185-million central library downtown....

San Diego (Calif.) Union-Tribune, Feb. 3

[The first black public library supervisor in North Carolina](#)

She came from a family of educators and achievers. Fresh out of library school in Atlanta, she arrived in Charlotte in 1947 as director of the city's only library for African Americans. Three years later, Allegra Westbrooks, now 87, was reassigned to the main public library that served only whites; ultimately, she was placed in charge of all branches. That made her the first black public library supervisor in North Carolina....

Charlotte (N.C.) Observer, Feb. 4

[Cedar Rapids' smooth move](#)

Dozens of volunteers helped move books, DVDs, and other materials from the Cedar Rapids (Iowa) Public Library's Westdale branch February 1 to the new Bridge Library in a former drugstore space. The Bridge, the temporary replacement for the flood-wrecked downtown library, may open later this week, and it's certain to be operating before the February 13 grand opening....

Cedar Rapids (Iowa) Gazette, Feb. 2

[Study links TV and depression](#)

Researchers at the University of Pittsburgh and Harvard Medical School looked at the media habits of 4,142 healthy adolescents and calculated that each additional hour of TV watched per day boosted the odds of becoming depressed by 8%. Other forms of media, such as playing computer games and watching videos, did not affect the risk of depression, according to the study published February 3 in the *Archives of General Psychology*. Compared with other forms of media, TV may be particularly damaging because it is so time-consuming, all-absorbing, and laden with ads....

Los Angeles Times, Feb. 3

[Closures loom for University of Arizona](#)

As the University of Arizona tries to accommodate a recent \$142-million statewide cut in higher-education funding, its libraries face the decision of either increasing tuition or eliminating two libraries. Carla Stoffle, dean of libraries and creative photography, said the Fine Arts Library and the Center for Creative Photography library would close this summer if there were no increase in the "information technology/library" student fee. She also said that the Special Collections library would have to reduce its hours to 20 per week....

University of Arizona Daily Wildcat, Feb. 2

[Winthrop Public Library in jeopardy](#)

Deep budget cuts could force the town of Winthrop to close its beloved public library, making it the first in Massachusetts to shut down because of the recession. In late January, Gov. Deval Patrick cut \$511,000 in state aid to Winthrop and some town officials want the Winthrop Public Library to fork over the remainder of its fiscal-year budget, about \$220,000, to help cover the shortfall, said Jim Matarazzo, chairman of the library's board of trustees. "We don't mind helping the town, but to take all of



our budget in effect closes the library," Matarazzo said....

Boston Herald, Jan. 31

Bozeman partially reimbursed for toxic cleanup at library

The Montana Department of Environmental Quality sent the city of Bozeman \$830,000 in late January to cover a portion of the cleanup costs of toxic materials at the public library site. The city had spent more than \$2.4 million to remove thousands of yards of lead-, asbestos-, and petroleum-contaminated soil from the site before it began construction of the new main library that opened in 2006. The city and state have wrangled for years over the reimbursement....

Bozeman (Mont.) Daily Chronicle, Jan. 31

Sex offender pleads guilty to New Bedford library rape

Convicted sex offender Corey Deen Saunders pleaded guilty February 2 to raping a 6-year-old boy in the second-floor magazine room of the New Bedford (Mass.) Public Library in January 2008. Saunders entered a guilty plea to multiple charges including rape of a child, indecent assault and battery, and enticing a child. City-wide outrage after the incident prompted the city to adopt a child safety-zone ordinance, which bans individuals convicted of juvenile sex crimes from being in public places where children are present....

New Bedford (Mass.) Standard-Times, Feb. 3

Library cats are purr-fect for the job

Long before *Dewey* became a best-selling book, the Ocean Shores (Wash.) Public Library board voted to add library staffers with fur. Since then, cats have found a place in the small community's library, creating an atmosphere that patrons say draws the community together, encourages children to settle down and read, brings out the gentler side in even the most difficult teen, and has the side benefit of being one of the most effective marketing strategies around. Watch the [video](#) (1:45)....

Seattle Times, Feb. 3



Philadelphia Housing Authority opens first library

The Philadelphia Housing Authority and city officials came together January 29 with children from the Boys and Girls Club to dedicate their first library. It will serve the families living in North Philadelphia's Richard Allen and Cambridge housing developments. Two other PHA libraries are planned in south and west Philadelphia. With the future of the city's public library branches in question, a new library seems like a luxury....

Philadelphia Inquirer, Jan. 30

Cuba agrees to share Hemingway papers

A 1940 letter from author Sinclair Lewis is one of hundreds of revealing notes, letters, and manuscripts included in more than 3,000 documents copied from file cabinets and a large trunk kept in Ernest Hemingway's home outside Havana, Cuba, that were recently obtained by the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library. The collection, never before available to U.S. researchers, arrived recently in



Boston out of a rare cultural exchange launched by Hemingway family members and friends, with assistance from Rep. James P. McGovern (D-Mass.) and approved by Fidel Castro in 2002....

Worcester (Mass.) Telegram, Jan. 30

[Stolen rare books returned to National Library of Peru](#)

Four rare 16th–19th-century books stolen from the National Library of Peru have been purchased and returned by an anonymous collector in order to prevent their irreplaceable loss. The collector received a visit from a man who offered the valuable books to him, but he rejected the deal and threatened to report him to the police. To his surprise, a few days later another person dropped by and offered to sell him the same books; at that point he decided to acquire them to prevent their loss. One of the books was a 1578 edition of the *Annalium libri quatuor* by French historian Jean Papire Masson (1544–1611). The [El Comercio](#) newspaper in Lima acted as go-between....

Latin American Herald Tribune, Jan. 27; *El Comercio* (Lima), Jan. 26; National Library of Peru



[To plea or not to plea?](#)

A British antiques dealer was charged January 28 with stealing a £3-million first edition of Shakespeare's works from Durham University. Raymond Scott (right) said he would plead "very much not guilty" and would relish his day in court. Durham University's Shakespeare First Folio, published in 1623, was stolen in 1998. Scott posted bail and is slated to appear before North Durham Magistrates on February 10. He said he did not believe he would be jailed, saying he loved his "fair England," but added if he were, he would seek a job in the prison library. Be sure to watch the news video....

Darlington (U.K.) *Northern Echo*, Jan. 29



[Libraries' silence abets tome raiders](#)

Libraries across the world were given a brief respite when William Simon Jacques, a Cambridge graduate with an IQ on the genius rating, was convicted in 2002 and jailed for four years for stealing £1-million worth of rare books from the British Library. Still a master of the alias and disguise, Jacques is out of prison and up to his old tricks once more. Alan Shelley, current president of the Antiquarian Booksellers Association, said the only way to eradicate the trafficking in rare books is to work closely with libraries, auctioneers, and dealers....

The Guardian (U.K.), Feb. 2

[Go back to the Top](#)

Tech Talk

[Is your ISP throttling your internet connection?](#)

Think your Internet Service Provider is messing with your connection performance? Now you can



find out, with Google's new [online tools](#) that will diagnose your network connection. Out of the three available tests, Glasnost will check whether your ISP is slowing down (like Comcast) or blocking Peer2Peer downloads from software such as BitTorrent. Here's a quick walkthrough....

Today @ PC World, Jan. 29

[Google Earth 5.0 goes under the sea and back in time](#)

David Chartier writes: "Google announced February 2 a new version of Google Earth with features that focus on what is under our ocean, in our past, and above our heads. Ars Technica did some vicarious adventuring to check out the new features. One of the most interesting features of this release is the introduction of an interactive ocean; others allow the user to view changes across time, visit Mars, and create a video record of a trip through Google Earth."...

Ars Technica, Feb. 2



[The 100 most popular Twitter applications](#)

Paul Fabretti writes: "Ok, so the title is a little sensationalist, but I had to get you here somehow so you could see the most bookmarked web-based Twitter applications of the moment. This has been compiled on the basis of the number of saved bookmarks on Delicious and clearly not the definitive list based on registered users or traffic."...

Blending the Mix, Jan. 23



[Dynastree maps last names](#)

Web site Dynastree's [surname map](#) lays out how people with your last name are distributed across the United States (along with Canada and Germany). The search tool is a breeze to use. Just enter your last name, hit Search, and Dynastree returns a very simple heatmap displaying the distribution of your last name across the United States....

Lifehacker, Feb. 2



[Embed custom Google News on your website](#)

Another new feature from Google: the ability to create a Google News slideshow that you can embed on your own website. The company has launched the [NewsShow wizard](#) that lets you pick a search expression (such as "public library"), a search topic (like "Top Headlines"), and specify a few design options. From there, the Google NewsShow is just copy-and-paste iframe code....

Mashable, Feb. 3

[How to take your data back from Google](#)

Stan Schroeder writes: "Let's face it: Every web service, Google included, can mess up, and sometimes it means losing your data. So, when was the last time you backed up the data on the various Google services you use? I thought so. Let's look at some easy solutions for extracting and backing up your data on such popular Google apps as Google docs, Gmail, Google Reader, Google Calendar, and more."...

Mashable, Feb. 2

Publishing

[British Library puts Holocaust testimonies online](#)

The moving and often disturbing testimonies of Jewish migrants and refugees to Britain, many of whom survived Nazi concentration and labor camps, are being made freely available [online](#) in their entirety for the first time by the British Library. More than 440 hours of life-story recordings explore 66 personal experiences of persecution across war-torn Europe and the impact of the Holocaust. This Jewish Survivors of the Holocaust resource supports primary and secondary education, supplementing the online [study materials](#) and lesson plans provided by the British Library's Learning team....

British Library, Jan. 28



[An online community for graduate students](#)

Steven Bell writes: "A potential source of help for grad students may be a new online community developed by ProQuest for graduate students called [GradShare](#) (in beta, of course). According to an [interview](#) with a GradShare spokesperson, 'Gradshare will become a way for graduate students to use peer mentoring to get answers to questions that they're either not comfortable asking their advisors or unable to ask their advisors.'"...

ACRLog, Jan. 30; *Chronicle of Higher Education*, Jan. 29



[BookExpo Canada bites the dust](#)

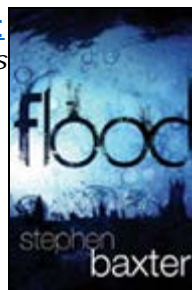
BookExpo Canada is no more, and neither is the planned Toronto Book Fair in October. In an expected move, the trade fair's U.S.-based organizer Reed Exhibitions announced February 2 that it won't hold the Toronto-based BookExpo in June—the first time in more than 50 years that the country has not had an industry-themed spring event for booksellers, publishers, distributors, and authors. There is some question as to whether BookExpo America will survive in the long run, an industry [insider](#) said....

Toronto Globe and Mail, Feb. 2–3

[Locus magazine's best science fiction list](#)

This recommended reading list is a consensus by *Locus* editors and reviewers with input from outside reviewers, other professionals, and other lists. Essays by many of these contributors are published in the February issue. The list is divided into SF novels, fantasy novels, first novels, YA books, collections, anthologies (original, reprints, and best of the year), nonfiction, art books, novellas, novelettes, and short stories....

Locus, Feb.



[A tour of H. W. Wilson in the Bronx](#)

Corey Kilgannon writes: "The 30-foot-tall iron lighthouse atop a building in the Highbridge section of the Bronx is the longtime logo for the [H. W. Wilson Company](#), an outfit that is as old as it sounds (founded



in 1898) and whose offices looked almost as old when I walked into the place January 30. 'The lighthouse is our company logo, you know, shining a light,' said Director of Marketing Frank Daly, and he rebuffed my repeated attempts to persuade him to take me to the roof."...

New York Times, Feb. 3

[O'Reilly Media posts online, editable Wikipedia manual](#)

As of January 26, the entire contents of *Wikipedia: The Missing Manual* (O'Reilly Media) by John Broughton is available for free [online](#) for editing and updating, just like any other Wikipedia entry. The drive to post it online was spearheaded by the author, a registered editor at Wikipedia since 2005, who says he looks forward to seeing what changes and improvements his fellow Wikipedians will make to his book....

O'Reilly Media, Jan. 26



[The once and future e-book](#)

Veteran e-book publisher John Siracusa writes: "The pace of the e-book market over the past decade has been excruciatingly—and yes, unjustly—slow. My frustration is much like that of the Mac users of old. Here's an awesome, obvious, *inevitable* idea, seemingly thwarted at every turn by widespread consumer misunderstanding and an endemic lack of will among the big players. I do have a lot of e-book related things to get off my chest. And so, this will be part editorial, part polemic, part rant, but also, I hope, somewhat educational."...

Ars Technica, Feb. 1

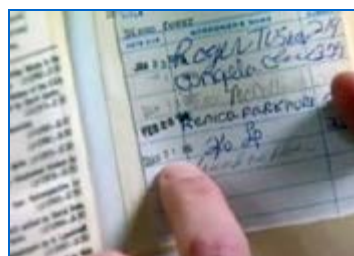


Actions & Answers

[Minnesota's aging school library collections](#)

Doug Johnson writes: "Hard-hitting [investigative reporting](#): 'Books on disco dancing from the 1970s. On computer graphics from the 1980s. Where did we find them? Your local school library.' This short (5:18) clip, an over-generalization of the status of school library print collections, is probably pretty accurate. The automatic assumption is that the reason for aged collections is a lack of funding. It's actually more complicated than that."...

Blue Skunk Blog, Feb. 2; KSTP-TV, St. Paul, Jan. 27



[Research libraries and digital repository services](#)

The Association of Research Libraries Digital Repository Issues Task

Force has released its final report on evaluating trends and contextualizing repository activities among ARL libraries. *The Research Library's Role in Digital Repository Services* ([PDF file](#)) identifies key issues surrounding repository development, explores common strategies that libraries are using, and discusses issues where ARL and its member libraries should focus attention....

Association of Research Libraries, Feb. 3

[Curious George activities](#)

Recently, children's librarians nationwide received a Curious George Earth Science banner (right), which offered easy-to-use activities on its reverse side. Now PBS needs to hear from anyone who has used the activities. A number of librarians who answer a brief [online survey](#) will win 25-book sets of *Curious George Flies a Kite* to distribute to children. Your feedback is essential to PBS's continuing to provide such free resources....

WGBH Educational Foundation



[Google: What's in it for libraries?](#)

Karen Coyle has posted a version of her talk at the ALA Midwinter Meeting on the Google/AAP settlement: "What I have to work with is the settlement document, all 140+ pages and 15 appendixes, which is the same information that is available to you. But in spite of its size, that is just the tip of the iceberg. It doesn't reveal the discussions that took place nor the reasons behind the decisions that were made. This greatly limits what we can and cannot know about the potential effect on libraries. Although I do not have answers, I do have many questions."...

Coyle's InFormation, Jan. 28

[Screencasting as infotainment](#)

Ellyssa Kroski writes: "With just a little practice, an inexpensive headset, and a free or discounted software program, you too can create snazzy, instructional videos for your library. Just follow the eight steps outlined below and start recording helpful screencasts to teach your students and library patrons how to search library databases, find homework help, research colleges, sign up for the summer reading program, and more."...

School Library Journal, Feb. 1



[Using Twitter in libraries](#)

Phil Bradley writes: "It may be useful to provide some justifications for the use of the service by libraries or librarians. Speaking from my own experience I use Twitter for a variety of different things, among them information updating, trending information, asking questions, self-promotion. I could go on, but hopefully I've made my point—on a personal level this has quickly become a tool that is extraordinarily useful. Now, let's briefly look at how libraries can use this tool."...

Phil Bradley's weblog, Jan. 29

[CLIR helps fund the California Ephemera Project](#)

The Council on Library and Information Resources has awarded four San Francisco institutions a Cataloging Hidden Special Collections and Archives grant of \$247,738 to support the California Ephemera Project. The California Historical Society will lead the project, collaborating with the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Historical

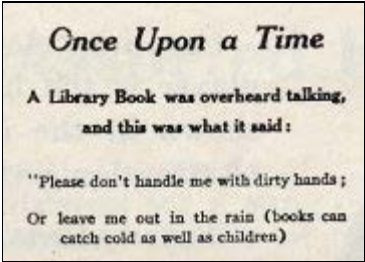
Society; the San Francisco Public Library; and the Society of California Pioneers. The California Ephemera Project will result in a searchable, online catalog linking the ephemera collections of all four institutions....

San Francisco Public Library, Jan. 20

[The Maxon library bookmark](#)

Larry Nix writes: "Henry E. Legler, former Secretary of the Wisconsin Free Library Commission, wrote the following about the Maxon bookmark in his 1918 book *Library Ideals*: 'What is known far and wide as the Maxon bookmark originated in Wisconsin, and was the conception of the Rev. Mr. Maxon, then resident in Dunn County. It has been reprinted on little slips in hundreds of forms, has circulated in every state and territory in the country, and doubtless a full million copies of it have been slipped between the leaves of children's books.'"...

Wisconsin Library Heritage Center, Feb. 3



[Need a Romanization table?](#)

Links (with a handful of exceptions) to the scanned text of the 1997 edition of the *ALA-LC Romanization Tables: Transliteration Schemes for Non-Roman Scripts*, approved by the Library of Congress and the American Library Association, are available on the LC website. They also come in handy when you don't have access to, for example, a Cyrillic font and need to transliterate a Russian title....

Library of Congress Cataloging and Acquisitions

Ш	Sh
ш	Shch
Ъ (see Note 2)	" (hard sign)
Ы	Y
ь (see Note 1)	' (soft sign)
Ѣ (see Note 3)	Ė
Э	Ė
Ю	fū
Я	fā

[ACLU on internet filtering](#)

Chris Hansen, attorney for the ACLU First Amendment Group, discusses the difference between voluntary use of filters as an alternative to a criminal statute and governmentally imposed filters in this video (2:20): "We shouldn't be in the business of having the government make the decision that it's worth it to censor 20% of the internet for all of us, just in the name of protecting children."...

YouTube, Jan. 26



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AL Direct, February 4, 2009

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here [[<%= util.viewHtmlLink %>\].](#)

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | February 4, 2009

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

[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

U.S. & World News

Two librarians killed in Denver car crash

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2009/January2009/childrenslibnskilled.cfm>]

Two librarians on their way home to Greenwich, Connecticut, from the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Denver were killed January 28 when the taxi they were taking to Denver International Airport was struck by a suspected drunk driver. Kathy Krasniewicz (left), 54, director of youth services at the Perrot Memorial Library, and Kate McClelland, 71, who retired in 2007 from the same post Krasniewicz held at Perrot, were thrown from the minivan when it was hit by a pickup truck on Peña Boulevard. ALA and ALSC released a statement

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/january2009/alscdenverstatement.cfm>] January 29 regarding the tragic accident....

American Libraries Online, Jan. 29

Children's books get one-year reprieve from anti-lead law

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2009/January2009/>

eadlawstayed.cfm]

Librarians can breathe a sigh of relief thanks to a one-year stay of enforcement on having to test for lead in books geared to youngsters under the age of 12. The extension until February 10, 2010, puts an end to the nightmare scenario envisioned by some in the library community of having to either ban children from their facilities or cordon off the book collections in youth services areas until federal regulators concede that children's literature complies with the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act....

American Libraries Online, Jan. 31

Philadelphia branches to stay open until July

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2009/January2009/pillybranchessaved.cfm>]

Mayor Michael Nutter has retreated—at least for the time being—from his plan to close 11 branches of the Free Library of Philadelphia. Four weeks after a judge ordered a halt to the closings, Deputy Mayor Donald Schwarz announced at a January 28 budget meeting that the branches would remain open at least through June 30....

American Libraries Online, Jan. 30

ALA News

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Future of libraries addressed at ALA Midwinter Meeting

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/january2009/mwwrap.cfm>]

The future role of libraries in tough economic times and the influence libraries will exert within the new administration of President Barack Obama were key themes discussed during ALA's 2009 Midwinter Meeting in Denver. The annual planning meeting, held January 23–28 at the Colorado Convention Center, attracted 7,905 librarians and 2,315 exhibitors....

ALA news on Twitter

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/january2009/alanewstwitter.cfm>]

Regular updates on news from ALA and its divisions can now be found on Twitter. The ALA News Twitter feed [<http://twitter.com/alanews>] will have ALA-related video and photos, posts from the PIO Visibility @ your library blog, and news from the Campaign for America's Libraries. American Libraries is also featuring its news stories, videos, and blog posts on an Twitter feed [<http://www.twitter.com/amlibraries>]....

Improving Literacy Through School Libraries gets high marks

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/january2009/wodoe.cfm>]

In January, the U.S. Department of Education released a second evaluation of the Improving Literacy Through School Libraries program. The evaluation indicated that students attending schools participating in the program are performing 2.7% higher on state reading tests than students in schools that do not take part....

New issues brief on job-seeking in public libraries

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/orsissuesbrief.cfm>]

The ALA Office for Research and Statistics is drawing attention to the increasingly important role public libraries are playing in supporting job seekers. Job-seeking in U.S. Public Libraries (PDF file [<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/ors/plftas/IssuesBrief-Jobs.pdf>]) discusses the range of library resources available and the challenges libraries face in maintaining these services. Nine states report increased use of library computers for job-seeking and e-government services, while nearly 73% of libraries are their communities' only source of free computer and internet access....

Diversity Office calls for grant proposals

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/ofdrfp.cfm>]

The ALA Office for Diversity seeks proposals for its Diversity Research Grant program. Applicants must be current ALA members, and 2009 proposals [<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/diversity/divresearchgrants/diversityresearch.cfm>] must address one of three identified topics: meeting diversity goals in the context of economic challenges, librarianship in multicultural or multigenerational community building, or libraries' multicultural involvement in social networking. Deadline is April 30....

America @ your library

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/january2009/campaignamerica.cfm>]

Since 2005, the embassies of Germany and Finland have been working to provide up-to-date information and resources about the United States to libraries in their communities through the America @ your library program. In Germany, information resource centers in the embassy and consulates work with local libraries to select books and other information materials on the United States. The program also brings authors and experts, including Pulitzer Prize winner-Annie Proulx, abroad to read from their works....

Buildings and landscapes

[<http://www.al.ala.org/insidescoop/2009/02/03/buildings-and-landscapes/>]

Greg Landgraf writes: "The beginning of February also means the beginning of facilities season at American Libraries. The Library Design Showcase in the April issue is one of the largest individual articles of the year, and with the deadline for submissions passing yesterday, the bulk of the work on this end starts now. AL editors and designers will meet soon to select the projects and the photos that will be included in the showcase."...

AL Inside Scoop, Feb. 3

New radio PSAs for National Library Week

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/january2009/campaignnlwpsas.cfm>]

New radio-quality public service announcements are now available online [<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/hqops/pio/natlibraryweek/nlw.cfm>] to help libraries reach out to their communities during National Library Week (April 12–18) from the ALA Public Information Office and the Campaign for America's Libraries. They are available in both 15-

and 30-second formats and focus on libraries as places of opportunity....

Featured review: Media

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=3178510]

Pratchett, Terry. Nation. Read by Stephen Briggs. Oct. 2008. 9.5 hr.

Harper, CD (978-0-06-165821-1).

What qualities ensure the continued existence of a nation? This thoughtful survival story examines the concepts that create a civilization's collective consciousness, pitting science against superstition as survivors of a massive tsunami struggle to forge a new culture on a tiny tropical isle. Thirteen-year-old Mau, the sole native survivor of a small island "somewhere in the South Pelagic Ocean," and Daphne, a shipwrecked successor to the British throne, unite in a shared duty to build a community of survivors. Briggs's eloquent reading, with perfectly balanced expression, begins with restrained tones that intensify listeners' engagement....

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qrL7NbozYMA>] Videos filled with literary stars

[<http://blog.booklistonline.com/2009/02/04/video-filled-with-literary-stars/>]

Keir Graff writes: "Among the many exciting things Booklist will be doing in 2009 is adding original videos to the Likely Stories blog. Shot by our talented Books for Youth editors, they'll be edited by our singularly multit talented associate editor (and former American Libraries associate editor) Daniel Kraus. Actually, I'm going to kick this thing off with one of the trailers

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qrL7NbozYMA>] for Dan's forthcoming book, The Monster Variations (Delacorte)."...

Likely Stories, Feb. 4

The Playaway digital audio player

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=3233738]

Mary Burkey writes: "The Playaway preloaded digital audio player has become a circulation hit in libraries. Each unit (one half the size of a deck of cards) holds one audiobook title in a durable housing and comes with a battery, lanyard, and earbuds. The controls are easy to use (especially important for seniors and the visually impaired), and the content cannot be erased or duplicated. Playaways complement existing cassette, CD, and download formats in audio collections."...

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

Denver Update

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A dozen neat takeaways from the ALA Midwinter Meeting

[<http://freerangelibrarian.com/2009/02/02/a-dozen-from-ala-midwinter-2009/>]
Karen Schneider writes: "My killer-app moment was with Summon, a new unified-search service from Serial Solutions that does what we really want a product like this to do: natively indexes data from its sources (databases, ebooks, OPACs, etc.) so that retrieval is fast and consistent. Also, following ALA Council proceedings via Twitter. Yup, there are folks twittering key Council votes. Council may not be interested in transparency, but transparency is interested in Council."...
Free Range Librarian, Feb. 2

The Hyatt Regency's librarian cocktails
[<http://www.westword.com/2009-01-29/news/librarians-head-to-denver-for-a-quiet-riot/>]
Check out some of the drink selections developed by the Denver Hyatt's bartending staff especially for librarians attending the ALA Midwinter Meeting: the Overdue, made with rum, orange and pineapple juices, and raspberry purée; the Boolean Operator, with mango rum, crème de cacao, and cream; and the Happy Librarian, a mix of tequila, triple sec, fresh lime, cucumber, cilantro, and green Tabasco....
Denver Westword, Jan. 28

Division News

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AASL launches third year of longitudinal study
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/january2009/aaslstudylaunch1.cfm>]
AASL launched the third year of its School Libraries Count! longitudinal study on January 27. The study gathers basic data about the status of school library media programs across the country. The division will use this information to develop advocacy tools to support school library media programs at the local, state, and national levels. The last day to complete the survey [<http://www.aaslsurvey.org>] is March 12....

[<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2601>]The 21st-century learner in action
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/aasllearningstandards.cfm>]
AASL has released a new publication, Standards for the 21st-Century Learner in Action, [<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2601>] which expands and supports the division's new learning standards, Standards for the 21st-Century Learner. The publication includes indicators, benchmarks, model examples, and assessments to support school library media specialists and other educators in teaching the essential learning skills defined in the standards....

Registration opens for ACRL Virtual Conference
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/acrlvirtualconf.cfm>]
ACRL will offer a Virtual Conference during its 14th National Conference in Seattle. The Virtual Conference, held March 13–14, will provide academic and research librarians unable to make the trip to Seattle an affordable opportunity to participate in the conference. For those

librarians with reduced support for professional development or travel, the virtual National Conference is a great way to leverage a small investment into large learning opportunities....

ASCLA's silent auction a success

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/asclacentury.cfm>]

A silent auction held at the ASCLA/COSLA reception at the ALA Midwinter Meeting raised \$1,145 to benefit the ASCLA Century Scholarship. Reception attendees enjoyed delicious desserts, while bidding on a variety of items generously donated by vendors. Proceeds from the auction directly benefit the scholarship fund and promote its long-term financial viability....

ALSC Student Sessions in February and March

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/alscstudentsessions.cfm>]

ALSC is inviting student members to interact, network, and learn virtually through its new online workshop series, ALSC Student Sessions. These one-hour programs, taking place in OPAL (Online Programming for All Libraries), give students the opportunity to learn first-hand about hot library issues from ALSC members around the country....

PLA offers marketing workshop for public libraries

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/january2009/plamarketingworkshop.cfm>]

PLA is offering public librarians an opportunity to learn practical skills and knowledge that will help them better market their libraries' programs and services. The Marketing workshop, [<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/pla/plaevents/cplacourses/>] taught by Wayne Piper, is scheduled for April 21–22 in Kansas City, Missouri, and features an intensive, small-group environment. Participants will learn how to draft, implement, and measure an effective marketing plan that aligns with their library's strategic goals....

Awards

Gloriana St. Clair named 2009 Academic/Research Librarian of the Year

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/january2009/acrlstclair.cfm>]

Gloriana St. Clair, dean of university libraries at Carnegie Mellon University, is the 2009 ACRL Academic/Research Librarian of the Year. The award, sponsored by YBP Library Services, recognizes an outstanding member of the library profession who has made a significant national or international contribution to academic/research librarianship and library development. St. Clair will receive a \$5,000 award on March 12 at the opening keynote session of the ACRL 14th National Conference in Seattle....

2009 Excellence in Academic Libraries Award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/january2009/acrlexcellence1.cfm>]

ACRL has announced the recipients of its 2009 Excellence in Academic Libraries Award: The Moraine Valley Community College Library in Palos Hills, Illinois; the Wyndham Robertson Library (right) at Hollins University in Roanoke, Virginia; and the University of Minnesota Libraries, Twin Cities Libraries. Sponsored by ACRL and Blackwell's Book Services, the award recognizes the staff of a college, university, and community college library for programs that deliver exemplary services and resources to further the educational mission of the institution....

2009 John Cotton Dana Public Relations Award winners

[<http://www.lama.ala.org/llamaleads/?p=271>]

Six libraries are winners of the John Cotton Dana Library Public Relations Award, which recognizes and honors outstanding achievement in library public relations. The honor has been awarded continuously since 1946 and is sponsored by the H. W. Wilson Company, the H. W. Wilson Foundation, and LLAMA. One of the winners was the St. Paul (Minn.) Public Library for its "St. Paul-itics" campaign, a dynamic program created to inform and engage citizens in the political convention and election season....

Leads from LLAMA, Feb. 2

Zora Neale Hurston Award inaugural winner

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/rusahurston.cfm>]

Miriam Rodriguez, assistant director for public services and community integration at the Dallas Public Library, is the recipient of RUSA's first Zora Neale Hurston Award. Rodriguez was selected for her role in Tulisoma, a successful and growing community-based literary festival that features African-American authors and artists and promotes literacy and the arts. The award recognizes an individual RUSA member who has demonstrated leadership in promoting African-American literature....

2009 Best Books for Young Adults

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/january2009/yalsabbya.cfm>]

YALSA has announced its 2009 list of Best Books for Young Adults. The list of 86 books, drawn from 224 official nominations, was presented at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Denver. The list comprises a wide range of genres and styles, including contemporary realistic fiction that reflects the diversity of the teen experience, nonfiction that brings to teens an awareness of the world they live in and its history, and fantastical stories told in both narrative and graphic formats. The fully annotated list is available online

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/yalsa/booklistsawards/bestbooksya/09bbya.cfm>]....

2009 Great Graphic Novels for Teens

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/january2009/yalsagnft.cfm>]

YALSA has announced its 2009 Great Graphic Novels for Teens. The list of 53 titles, drawn from 154 official nominations, was presented at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Denver. The books, recommended for those ages 12–18, meet the criteria of both good quality literature and appealing reading

for teens. The fully annotated list is available online
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/yalsa/booklistsawards/greatgraphicnovelsforteens/09ggnt.cfm>]....

2009 Quick Picks for Reluctant YA Readers

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/january2009/yalsaquickpicks.cfm>]

YALSA has announced its 2009 Quick Picks for Reluctant Young Adult Readers selection list. The list was presented at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Denver. The Quick Picks list suggests books for teens, ages 12-18, to pick up on their own and read for pleasure; it is geared to the teenager who, for whatever reason, does not like to read. The annotated list is available online
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/yalsa/booklistsawards/quickpicks/09qp.cfm>]....

2009 Fabulous Films for Young Adults

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/january2009/yalsaffya.cfm>]

YALSA has announced its 2009 Fabulous Films for Young Adults list. The list identifies a body of films relating to the theme “Coming of Age Around the World” that will appeal to young adults ages 12–18; it was presented at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Denver. It includes films, both fiction and nonfiction, that deal with what it’s like to come of age in different places and diverse cultures. The full list is available online
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/yalsa/booklistsawards/fabfilms/09fabfilms.cfm>]....

2009 Amazing Audiobooks for Young Adults

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/january2009/yalsaaaya.cfm>]

YALSA has announced its 2009 Amazing Audiobooks for Young Adults list. The list, for those ages 12–18, is drawn from the previous two years of spoken-word releases and was presented at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Denver. This year’s list includes 20 fiction titles and one nonfiction title representing diverse genres and styles, including historical fiction, fantasy, and realistic fiction. The full list is available online [http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/yalsa/booklistsawards/amazingaudiobooks/09aaya.cfm]....

2009 Notable Books

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/rusanotablebooks.cfm>]

RUSA has announced its selections for the 2009 CODES Notable Books Council Book Award. The Notable Book Award makes available to the nation’s readers a list of 25 very good, very readable, and at times very important fiction, nonfiction, and poetry books for the adult reader. Authors of these selected titles will be invited to speak at the Literary Tastes Breakfast, a ticketed RUSA event at the ALA Annual Conference....

2009 Outstanding Reference Sources

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/rusaoutstandingref.cfm>]

RUSA has announced its selections for the 2009 Outstanding Reference Sources list. Established in 1958, the Outstanding Reference Sources award recognizes the best reference publications for small and medium-sized libraries. An annotated list of these outstanding reference works is published annually in the May issue of American Libraries....

2009 Best Genre Fiction Titles

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/rusareadinglist.cfm>]

RUSA has announced its selection for its 2009 Reading List award. The Reading List annually recognizes the best books in eight genres. This year's list includes novels that will please die-hard fans as well as introduce new readers to the pleasures of genre fiction. Authors of these selected titles will be invited to speak at the Literary Tastes Breakfast, a ticketed RUSA event at the ALA Annual Conference....

2009 Sophie Brody Medal

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/rusabrody.cfm>]

RUSA has announced its selections for the 2009 Sophie Brody Medal. The award, which consists of a medal for the winner and citations for honor books, is funded by Arthur Brody and the Brodart Foundation, and is given to encourage, recognize, and commend outstanding achievement in Jewish literature. This year's winner is Peter Manseau for *Songs for the Butcher's Daughter* (Free Press)....

[<http://today.msnbc.msn.com/id/26184891/vp/28873383#28873383>] Today Show
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/ymatoday.cfm>]

On January 27, the ALA 2009 Caldecott and Newbery Medal winners and the chair of the Coretta Scott King Book Awards Committee appeared on NBC's Today Show to discuss the Youth Media Awards. Neil Gaiman, Beth Krommes, and Deborah Taylor were interviewed

[<http://today.msnbc.msn.com/id/26184891/vp/28873383#28873383>] by coanchor Al Roker....

ACRL Distance Learning Librarian award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/acrlhaworth.cfm>]

Jack E. Fritts Jr., director of library services at Benedictine University, has been named the 2009 recipient of the ACRL Distance Learning Section Haworth Press Distance Learning Librarian Conference Sponsorship Award. The award honors an ACRL member working in the field of, or contributing to the success of, distance learning librarianship or related library service in higher education....

ACRL Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/acrldoctoral.cfm>]

Krystyna K. Matusiak, digital collections librarian at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee libraries, has been awarded the 2009 ACRL Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship for her proposal, "Use of Digital Resources in an Academic Environment: A Qualitative Study of Students' Perceptions, Experiences, and Digital Literacy Skills."

2009 Best Teen Read Week Celebration contest

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/yalsatrwwinner.cfm>]

Jennifer Velasquez, a young adult librarian at the San Antonio (Tex.) Public Library, and Kim Dillon, teacher-librarian at Washougal (Wash.) High School, won YALSA's 2009 Best Teen Read Week Celebration. Teen Read Week corporate sponsor Mirrorstone Books, AdLit.org, and YALSA cosponsored the contest....

2009 Baker & Taylor Conference Grant winners

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/yalsabtgrant.cfm>]

YALSA awarded Kate Toebbe and Laurie Amster-Burton the 2009 Baker & Taylor Conference Grant. Each will receive a \$1,000 grant to attend the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago, July 9–15. The grant is awarded for first-time attendance at an Annual Conference....

2009 BWI Collection Development Grant winners

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/yalsabwigrant.cfm>]

Lexie Robinson of the Huntsville-Madison County (Ala.) Public Library and Wini Ashooh of the Porter branch of the Central Rappahannock Regional Library in Stafford, Virginia, won the 2009 BWI Collection Development Grant, administered by YALSA. Each receives a grant of \$1,000, donated by BWI, for collection development. The grant recipient is a YALSA member who represents a public library and works directly with young adults ages 12–18....

Paulette Myers-Rich wins 2009 Minnesota Book Artist award

[http://www.thefriends.org/mba_book_artist_award.html]

Paulette Myers-Rich is the winner of the 2009 Book Artist Award, cosponsored by the Friends of the St. Paul Public Library and the Minnesota Center for Book Arts, which recognizes a Minnesota book artist or book-artist collaborative group for excellence throughout a body of work. Myers-Rich works extensively with black-and-white photography, with artists' books being her favored format....

Friends of the St. Paul (Minn.) Public Library, Jan. 31

Scottsdale branch receives Smart Environments Award

[<http://www.inhabitat.com/2009/01/28/arabian-library-by-richard-and-bauer/>]

Designed by Phoenix-based firm Richard + Bauer, the Arabian branch of the Scottsdale (Ariz.) Public Library utilizes innovative, green building design to encourage people to visit the library. The building is gorgeous, inviting, brightly lit, and a recent winner of the 2008 International Interior Design Association/Metropolis Smart Environments Award. [<http://www.metropolismag.com/story/20090121/arabian-library>] Additionally, the librarians have removed themselves from behind the traditional desk and are stationed by computer kiosks to help patrons find the information they need....

Inhabitat, Jan. 28; Metropolis, Jan.

[<http://urliek.blogspot.com/2009/01/sparky-awards-entry.html>] Sparky Award winners [<http://www.arl.org/sparc/media/09-0203.shtml>]

Four student productions are winners of the second annual Sparky Awards, a contest organized by SPARC (the Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition) and adopted by campuses nationwide that calls on entrants to creatively illustrate in a short video the value of sharing ideas. The winners were announced January 24 at a public screening held in connection with the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Denver. The Grand Prize winner is To Infinity and Beyond

[<http://urliek.blogspot.com/2009/01/sparky-awards-entry.html>] (0:59), by students at the University of Illinois at Chicago Honors College....

SPARC, Feb. 3

Seen Online

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[<http://flickr.com/photos/arlisc/459466581/>] Art librarian Judith Hoffberg dies at 74

[<http://www.latimes.com/news/local/valley/la-me-judithhoffberg28-2009jan28,0,4128937.story>]

Judith Hoffberg, an art librarian and curator who was a major influence in the emergence of books as an artist's medium yet winked at the genre by establishing a global festival of edible books, died January 16 at her Santa Monica, California, home. Hoffberg was diagnosed with acute myeloid leukemia in October. Since 1978, Hoffberg had edited and published Umbrella, a journal increasingly dedicated to artists' books. She was a cofounder of the Art Libraries Society of North America and served as its first chairman in 1973....

Los Angeles Times, Jan. 27

Former YA librarian leaves Pratt Library \$650,000

[http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/local/baltimore_city/bal-md.ci.siebert31jan31,0,7696791.story]

Officials at Enoch Pratt Free Library in Baltimore happily discovered the esteem one of their retirees held for the place. Upon her death in 2008, Sara Siebert directed that more than \$650,000 of her assets go to the library, a figure that exceeds the total of all the paychecks she took home in her 34 years as Pratt's director of young adult reading. Siebert, an energetic and popular librarian who sought no attention as a donor during her life, left an estate of more than \$2 million after her death at age 88....

Baltimore Sun, Jan. 31

CSU Fresno waives lost book fee for heroic pilot

[<http://www.fresnobee.com/local/story/1171504.html>]

Heroic US Airways pilot Chesley "Sully" Sullenberger (right) splash-landed his jetliner in the Hudson River on January 15, and everyone on board escaped safely. But left in the cargo hold was a book on professional ethics that Sullenberger had checked out from California State University, Fresno, through the Danville branch of the Contra Costa County Library. Sullenberger asked for an extension, but Fresno librarians were struck by Sullenberger's sense of responsibility, waived all the fees, and dedicated a replacement book to him....

Fresno (Calif.) Bee, Feb. 2

Berkeley library given waiver to sign 3M deal

[<http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2009/01/29/BA7915IP7U.DTL>]

The Berkeley, California, city council voted January 28 to allow its public library to bypass the Nuclear Free Berkeley Act in order to get its checkout machines serviced. After a heated debate that lasted past midnight, the council voted 6–2, with one abstention, to grant a waiver for the library to contract with 3M, even though the firm refused to sign a form promising it does not engage in nuclear research or development....
San Francisco Chronicle, Jan. 29

San Diego responds to library-school concept

[<http://www3.signonsandiego.com/stories/2009/feb/03/city-responds-state-library-school-idea/>]

San Diego and its school district have come up with a new twist to save the downtown public library–school concept: Instead of spending more money and time on a feasibility study, perhaps state safety codes for public schools can be waived. In a February 2 letter (PDF file [<http://weblog.signonsandiego.com/news/breaking/library020209.pdf>]) to California State Librarian Susan Hildreth, Mayor Jerry Sanders said he “remains cautiously optimistic that such an arrangement can be reached” to save the longstanding plan for an iconic \$185-million central library downtown....

San Diego (Calif.) Union-Tribune, Feb. 3

The first black public library supervisor in North Carolina

[<http://www.charlotteobserver.com/breaking/story/514695.html>]

She came from a family of educators and achievers. Fresh out of library school in Atlanta, she arrived in Charlotte in 1947 as director of the city's only library for African Americans. Three years later, Allegra Westbrook, now 87, was reassigned to the main public library that served only whites; ultimately, she was placed in charge of all branches. That made her the first black public library supervisor in North Carolina....
Charlotte (N.C.) Observer, Feb. 4

Cedar Rapids; smooth move

[<http://www.gazetteonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20090202/NEWS/702029948/1006>]

Dozens of volunteers helped move books, DVDs, and other materials from the Cedar Rapids (Iowa) Public Library's Westdale branch February 1 to the new Bridge Library in a former drugstore space. The Bridge, the temporary replacement for the flood-wrecked downtown library, may open later this week, and it's certain to be operating before the February 13 grand opening....

Cedar Rapids (Iowa) Gazette, Feb. 2

Study links TV and depression

[<http://www.latimes.com/news/science/la-sci-tv3-2009feb03,0,6574171.story>]

Researchers at the University of Pittsburgh and Harvard Medical School looked at the media habits of 4,142 healthy adolescents and calculated that each additional hour of TV watched per day boosted the odds of becoming depressed by 8%. Other forms of media, such as playing computer games and watching videos, did not affect the risk of depression,

according to the study published February 3 in the Archives of General Psychology. Compared with other forms of media, TV may be particularly damaging because it is so time-consuming, all-absorbing, and laden with ads....

Los Angeles Times, Feb. 3

Closures loom for University of Arizona

[<http://media.wildcat.arizona.edu/media/storage/paper997/news/2009/02/02/News/Closures.Loom.For.Ua.Libraries-3607944.shtml>]

As the University of Arizona tries to accommodate a recent \$142-million statewide cut in higher-education funding, its libraries face the decision of either increasing tuition or eliminating two libraries. Carla Stoffle, dean of libraries and creative photography, said the Fine Arts Library and the Center for Creative Photography library would close this summer if there were no increase in the "information technology/library" student fee. She also said that the Special Collections library would have to reduce its hours to 20 per week....

University of Arizona Daily Wildcat, Feb. 2

Winthrop Public Library in jeopardy

[<http://www.bostonherald.com/news/regional/view.bg?articleid=1148970>]

Deep budget cuts could force the town of Winthrop to close its beloved public library, making it the first in Massachusetts to shut down because of the recession. In late January, Gov. Deval Patrick cut \$511,000 in state aid to Winthrop and some town officials want the Winthrop Public Library to fork over the remainder of its fiscal-year budget, about \$220,000, to help cover the shortfall, said Jim Matarazzo, chairman of the library's board of trustees. "We don't mind helping the town, but to take all of our budget in effect closes the library," Matarazzo said....

Boston Herald, Jan. 31

Bozeman partially reimbursed for toxic cleanup at library

[<http://www.bozemandailychronicle.com/articles/2009/01/31/news/000up.txt>]

The Montana Department of Environmental Quality sent the city of Bozeman \$830,000 in late January to cover a portion of the cleanup costs of toxic materials at the public library site. The city had spent more than \$2.4 million to remove thousands of yards of lead-, asbestos-, and petroleum-contaminated soil from the site before it began construction of the new main library that opened in 2006. The city and state have wrangled for years over the reimbursement....

Bozeman (Mont.) Daily Chronicle, Jan. 31

Sex offender pleads guilty to New Bedford library rape

[<http://www.southcoasttoday.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20090203/NEWS/902030357>]

Convicted sex offender Corey Deen Saunders pleaded guilty February 2 to raping a 6-year-old boy in the second-floor magazine room of the New Bedford (Mass.) Public Library in January 2008. Saunders entered a guilty plea to multiple charges including rape of a child, indecent assault and battery, and enticing a child. City-wide outrage after the incident prompted the city to adopt a child safety-zone ordinance, which bans individuals convicted of juvenile sex crimes from being in public places where children are present....

New Bedford (Mass.) Standard-Times, Feb. 3

[<http://link.brightcove.com/services/link/bcpid1509319618/bctid9487573001>]Library cats are purr-fect for the job
[http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/books/2008700789_librarycats03m.html]
]

Long before Dewey became a best-selling book, the Ocean Shores (Wash.) Public Library board voted to add library staffers with fur. Since then, cats have found a place in the small community's library, creating an atmosphere that patrons say draws the community together, encourages children to settle down and read, brings out the gentler side in even the most difficult teen, and has the side benefit of being one of the most effective marketing strategies around. Watch the video

[<http://link.brightcove.com/services/link/bcpid1509319618/bctid9487573001>]
(1:45)....

Seattle Times, Feb. 3

Philadelphia Housing Authority opens first library

[http://www.philly.com/philly/news/local/20090130_Philadelphia_Housing_Authority_opens_library.html]

The Philadelphia Housing Authority and city officials came together January 29 with children from the Boys and Girls Club to dedicate their first library. It will serve the families living in North Philadelphia's Richard Allen and Cambridge housing developments. Two other PHA libraries are planned in south and west Philadelphia. With the future of the city's public library branches in question, a new library seems like a luxury....

Philadelphia Inquirer, Jan. 30

Cuba agrees to share Hemingway papers

[<http://www.telegram.com/article/20090130/NEWS/901300476/1116>]

A 1940 letter from author Sinclair Lewis is one of hundreds of revealing notes, letters, and manuscripts included in more than 3,000 documents copied from file cabinets and a large trunk kept in Ernest Hemingway's home outside Havana, Cuba, that were recently obtained by the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library. The collection, never before available to U.S. researchers, arrived recently in Boston out of a rare cultural exchange launched by Hemingway family members and friends, with assistance from Rep. James P. McGovern (D-Mass.) and approved by Fidel Castro in 2002....

Worcester (Mass.) Telegram, Jan. 30

[http://www.bnp.gob.pe/portalbnp/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=945&Itemid=1]

Stolen rare books returned to National Library of Peru

[<http://www.laht.com/article.asp?ArticleId=326458&CategoryId=14095>]

Four rare 16th–19th-century books stolen from the National Library of Peru have been purchased and returned by an anonymous collector in order to prevent their irreplaceable loss. The collector received a visit from a man who offered the valuable books to him, but he rejected the deal and threatened to report him to the police. To his surprise, a few days later another person dropped by and offered to sell him the same books; at that point he decided to acquire them to prevent their loss. One of the books was a 1578 edition of the *Annalium libri quatuor* by French historian Jean Papire Masson (1544–1611). The El Comercio

[<http://www.elcomercio.com.pe/ediciononline/HTML/2009-01-26/venden-tesoros->

biblioteca-nacional-mercado-negro.html] newspaper in Lima acted as go-between....

Latin American Herald Tribune, Jan. 27; El Comercio (Lima), Jan. 26; National Library of Peru

To plea or not to plea?

[http://www.thenorthernecho.co.uk/news/4084542.____I_didn____t_steal____3m_Shakespeare_folio____/]

A British antiques dealer was charged January 28 with stealing a £3-million first edition of Shakespeare's works from Durham University. Raymond Scott (right) said he would plead "very much not guilty" and would relish his day in court. Durham University's Shakespeare First Folio, published in 1623, was stolen in 1998. Scott posted bail and is slated to appear before North Durham Magistrates on February 10. He said he did not believe he would be jailed, saying he loved his "fair England," but added if he were, he would seek a job in the prison library. Be sure to watch the news video....

Darlington (U.K.) Northern Echo, Jan. 29

Libraries' silence abets tome raiders

[<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2009/feb/02/antiquarian-book-theft-library-crime>]

Libraries across the world were given a brief respite when William Simon Jacques, a Cambridge graduate with an IQ on the genius rating, was convicted in 2002 and jailed for four years for stealing £1-million worth of rare books from the British Library. Still a master of the alias and disguise, Jacques is out of prison and up to his old tricks once more. Alan Shelley, current president of the Antiquarian Booksellers Association, said the only way to eradicate the trafficking in rare books is to work closely with libraries, auctioneers, and dealers....

The Guardian (U.K.), Feb. 2

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Tech Talk

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Is your ISP throttling your internet connection?

[<http://www.pcworld.com/article/158552/>]

Think your Internet Service Provider is messing with your connection performance? Now you can find out, with Google's new online tools [<http://www.measurementlab.net/measurement-lab-tools>] that will diagnose your network connection. Out of the three available tests, Glasnost will check whether your ISP is slowing down (like Comcast) or blocking Peer2Peer downloads from software such as BitTorrent. Here's a quick walkthrough....

Today @ PC World, Jan. 29

Google Earth 5.0 goes under the sea and back in time

[<http://arstechnica.com/software/news/2009/02/hands-on-google-earth-50-goes-unda-da-sea-back-in-time.ars>]

David Chartier writes: "Google announced February 2 a new version of

Google Earth with features that focus on what is under our ocean, in our past, and above our heads. Ars Technica did some vicarious adventuring to check out the new features. One of the most interesting features of this release is the introduction of an interactive ocean; others allow the user to view changes across time, visit Mars, and create a video record of a trip through Google Earth.”...

Ars Technica, Feb. 2

[<http://twitterfeed.com/>]The 100 most popular Twitter applications
[<http://blendingthemix.com/2009/01/23/the-most-popular-100-twitter-applications/>]

Paul Fabretti writes: “Ok, so the title is a little sensationalist, but I had to get you here somehow so you could see the most bookmarked web-based Twitter applications of the moment. This has been compiled on the basis of the number of saved bookmarks on Delicious and clearly not the definitive list based on registered users or traffic.”...

Blending the Mix, Jan. 23

Dynastree maps last names

[<http://lifehacker.com/5144660/dynastree-maps-your-last-name>]

Web site Dynastree’s surname map [<http://www.dynastree.com/maps>] lays out how people with your last name are distributed across the United States (along with Canada and Germany). The search tool is a breeze to use. Just enter your last name, hit Search, and Dynastree returns a very simple heatmap displaying the distribution of your last name across the United States....

Lifehacker, Feb. 2

Embed custom Google News on your website

[<http://mashable.com/2009/02/03/google-newsshow/>]

Another new feature from Google: the ability to create a Google News slideshow that you can embed on your own website. The company has launched the NewsShow wizard

[<http://code.google.com/apis/ajaxsearch/documentation/newsshow/wizard.html>]

that lets you pick a search expression (such as “public library”), a search topic (like “Top Headlines”), and specify a few design options. From there, the Google NewsShow is just copy-and-paste iframe code....

Mashable, Feb. 3

How to take your data back from Google

[<http://mashable.com/2009/02/02/google-backup>]

Stan Schroeder writes: “Let’s face it: Every web service, Google included, can mess up, and sometimes it means losing your data. So, when was the last time you backed up the data on the various Google services you use? I thought so. Let’s look at some easy solutions for extracting and backing up your data on such popular Google apps as Google docs, Gmail, Google Reader, Google Calendar, and more.”...

Mashable, Feb. 2

Publishing

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British Library puts Holocaust testimonies online

[http://media-newswire.com/release_1085167.html]

The moving and often disturbing testimonies of Jewish migrants and refugees to Britain, many of whom survived Nazi concentration and labor camps, are being made freely available online

[<http://sounds.bl.uk/Browse.aspx?collection=Jewish-Holocaust-survivors&browseby=Browse+by+interviewee&choice=A-C>] in their entirety for the first time by the British Library. More than 440 hours of life-story recordings explore 66 personal experiences of persecution across war-torn Europe and the impact of the Holocaust. This Jewish Survivors of the Holocaust resource supports primary and secondary education, supplementing the online study materials

[<http://www.bl.uk/learning/histcitizen/voices/holocaust.html>] and lesson plans provided by the British Library's Learning team....

British Library, Jan. 28

An online community for graduate students

[<http://acrlog.org/2009/01/30/proquest-creates-a-qa-community-for-grad-students/>]

Steven Bell writes: "A potential source of help for grad students may be a new online community developed by ProQuest for graduate students called GradShare [<http://www.gradshare.com/landing.html>] (in beta, of course).

According to an interview

[<http://chronicle.com/wiredcampus/article/3584/question-and-answer-site-for-graduate-students-to-start-next-week>] with a GradShare spokesperson, 'Gradshare will become a way for graduate students to use peer mentoring to get answers to questions that they're either not comfortable asking their advisors or unable to ask their advisors.'...

ACRLog, Jan. 30; Chronicle of Higher Education, Jan. 29

BookExpo Canada bites the dust

[<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/servlet/story/LAC.20090203.BOOKEXPO03/TPStory/Entertainment>]

BookExpo Canada is no more, and neither is the planned Toronto Book Fair in October. In an expected move, the trade fair's U.S.-based organizer Reed Exhibitions announced February 2 that it won't hold the Toronto-based BookExpo in June—the first time in more than 50 years that the country has not had an industry-themed spring event for booksellers, publishers, distributors, and authors. There is some question as to whether BookExpo America will survive in the long run, an industry insider

[<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/servlet/story/RTGAM.20090202.WBBooksblog20090202152554/WBStory/WBBooksblog>] said....

Toronto Globe and Mail, Feb. 2–3

magazine's best science fiction list

[<http://www.locusmag.com/2009/2008RecommendedReading.html>]

This recommended reading list is a consensus by Locus editors and reviewers with input from outside reviewers, other professionals, and other lists. Essays by many of these contributors are published in the February issue. The list is divided into SF novels, fantasy novels, first novels, YA books, collections, anthologies (original, reprints, and best of the year), nonfiction, art books, novellas, novelettes, and short stories....

Locus, Feb.

A tour of H. W. Wilson in the Bronx

[<http://cityroom.blogs.nytimes.com/2009/02/03/to-the-lighthouse-of-periodical-literature/>]

Corey Kilgannon writes: “The 30-foot-tall iron lighthouse atop a building in the Highbridge section of the Bronx is the longtime logo for the H. W. Wilson Company [<http://www.hwwilson.com/>], an outfit that is as old as it sounds (founded in 1898) and whose offices looked almost as old when I walked into the place January 30. ‘The lighthouse is our company logo, you know, shining a light,’ said Director of Marketing Frank Daly, and he rebuffed my repeated attempts to persuade him to take me to the roof.”... New York Times, Feb. 3

O’Reilly Media posts online, editable Wikipedia manual

[<http://press.oreilly.com/pub/pr/2216>]

As of January 26, the entire contents of Wikipedia: The Missing Manual (O’Reilly Media) by John Broughton is available for free online

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Help:Wikipedia:_The_Missing_Manual] for editing and updating, just like any other Wikipedia entry. The drive to post it online was spearheaded by the author, a registered editor at Wikipedia since 2005, who says he looks forward to seeing what changes and improvements his fellow Wikipedians will make to his book....

O’Reilly Media, Jan. 26

The once and future e-book

[<http://arstechnica.com/features/2009/02/the-once-and-future-e-book.ars>]

Veteran e-book publisher John Siracusa writes: “The pace of the e-book market over the past decade has been excruciatingly—and yes, unjustly—slow. My frustration is much like that of the Mac users of old. Here’s an awesome, obvious, inevitable idea, seemingly thwarted at every turn by widespread consumer misunderstanding and an endemic lack of will among the big players. I do have a lot of e-book related things to get off my chest. And so, this will be part editorial, part polemic, part rant, but also, I hope, somewhat educational.”...

Ars Technica, Feb. 1

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[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

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Actions & Answers

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[<http://kstp.com/article/stories/S763319.shtml?cat=1>]Minnesota’s

aging school library collections

[<http://doug-johnson.squarespace.com/blue-skunk-blog/2009/2/2/minnesotas-aging-school-library-collections.html>]

Doug Johnson writes: “Hard-hitting investigative reporting

[<http://kstp.com/article/stories/S763319.shtml?cat=1>]: ‘Books on disco

dancing from the 1970s. On computer graphics from the 1980s. Where did we find them? Your local school library.’

This short (5:18)

clip, an over-generalization of the status of school library print collections, is probably pretty accurate. The automatic assumption is that the reason for aged collections is a lack of funding. It's actually more complicated than that.”...

Blue Skunk Blog, Feb. 2; KSTP-TV, St. Paul, Jan. 27

Research libraries and digital repository services

[<http://www.arl.org/news/pr/repositories-3feb09.shtml>]

The Association of Research Libraries Digital Repository Issues Task Force has released its final report on evaluating trends and contextualizing repository activities among ARL libraries. The Research Library's Role in Digital Repository Services (PDF file [<http://www.arl.org/bm~doc/repository-services-report.pdf>]) identifies key issues surrounding repository development, explores common strategies that libraries are using, and discusses issues where ARL and its member libraries should focus attention....

Association of Research Libraries, Feb. 3

Curious George activities

[http://pbskids.org/curiousgeorge/parentsteachers/activities/resources.html#curiosity_center]

Recently, children's librarians nationwide received a Curious George Earth Science banner (right), which offered easy-to-use activities on its reverse side. Now PBS needs to hear from anyone who has used the activities. A number of librarians who answer a brief online survey [<http://zoomerang.com/Survey/survey-intro.zgi?p=WEB2283Y6S64YW>] will win 25-book sets of Curious George Flies a Kite to distribute to children. Your feedback is essential to PBS's continuing to provide such free resources....

WGBH Educational Foundation

Google: What's in it for libraries?

[<http://kcoyle.blogspot.com/2009/01/google-whats-in-it-for-libraries.html>]

Karen Coyle has posted a version of her talk at the ALA Midwinter Meeting on the Google/AAP settlement: “What I have to work with is the settlement document, all 140+ pages and 15 appendixes, which is the same information that is available to you. But in spite of its size, that is just the tip of the iceberg. It doesn't reveal the discussions that took place nor the reasons behind the decisions that were made. This greatly limits what we can and cannot know about the potential effect on libraries. Although I do not have answers, I do have many questions.”...

Coyle's InFormation, Jan. 28

Screencasting as infotainment

[<http://www.schoollibraryjournal.com/article/CA6632973.html>]

Ellyssa Kroski writes: “With just a little practice, an inexpensive headset, and a free or discounted software program, you too can create snazzy, instructional videos for your library. Just follow the eight steps outlined below and start recording helpful screencasts to teach your students and library patrons how to search library databases, find homework help, research colleges, sign up for the summer reading program, and more.”...

School Library Journal, Feb. 1

Using Twitter in libraries

[http://philbradley.typepad.com/phil_bradleys_weblog/2009/01/using-twitter-in-libraries.html]

Phil Bradley writes: “It may be useful to provide some justifications for the use of the service by libraries or librarians. Speaking from my own experience I use Twitter for a variety of different things, among them information updating, trending information, asking questions, self-promotion. I could go on, but hopefully I’ve made my point—on a personal level this has quickly become a tool that is extraordinarily useful. Now, let’s briefly look at how libraries can use this tool.”...

Phil Bradley’s weblog, Jan. 29

CLIR helps fund the California Ephemera Project

[http://sfpl.lib.ca.us/news/releases/clir_awards.htm]

The Council on Library and Information Resources has awarded four San Francisco institutions a Cataloging Hidden Special Collections and Archives grant of \$247,738 to support the California Ephemera Project. The California Historical Society will lead the project, collaborating with the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Historical Society; the San Francisco Public Library; and the Society of California Pioneers. The California Ephemera Project will result in a searchable, online catalog linking the ephemera collections of all four institutions....

San Francisco Public Library, Jan. 20

The Maxon library bookmark

[<http://heritage.wisconsinlibraries.org/2009/02/maxon-bookmark.html>]

Larry Nix writes: “Henry E. Legler, former Secretary of the Wisconsin Free Library Commission, wrote the following about the Maxon bookmark in his 1918 book Library Ideals: ‘What is known far and wide as the Maxon bookmark originated in Wisconsin, and was the conception of the Rev. Mr. Maxon, then resident in Dunn County. It has been reprinted on little slips in hundreds of forms, has circulated in every state and territory in the country, and doubtless a full million copies of it have been slipped between the leaves of children’s books.’”...

Wisconsin Library Heritage Center, Feb. 3

Need a Romanization table? [<http://www.loc.gov/catdir/cpsd/roman.html>]

Links (with a handful of exceptions) to the scanned text of the 1997 edition of the ALA-LC Romanization Tables: Transliteration Schemes for Non-Roman Scripts, approved by the Library of Congress and the American Library Association, are available on the LC website. They also come in handy when you don’t have access to, for example, a Cyrillic font and need to transliterate a Russian title....

Library of Congress Cataloging and Acquisitions

ACLU on internet filtering [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cIJ63Q69qOs>]

Chris Hansen, attorney for the ACLU First Amendment Group, discusses the difference between voluntary use of filters as an alternative to a criminal statute and governmentally imposed filters in this video (2:20): “We shouldn’t be in the business of having the government make the decision that it’s worth it to censor 20% of the internet for all of us, just in the name of protecting children.”...

YouTube, Jan. 26

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

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[http://www.flickr.com/photos/ala_members/3223473852/]
[<http://www.twitter.com/amlibraries>]

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

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

ALA Annual Conference,
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/2009/faq.cfm>]
Chicago, July 9–15. Registration
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/2009/registration.cfm>] is now open.

[<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2593>]

Teen Tech Week [<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2593>] is YALSA’s national initiative for teens, their parents, educators, and other concerned adults, whose pupose is to encourage teens to use the libraries’ nonprint resources for education and recreation. This year’s theme is “Press Play.” NEW! From ALA Graphics.

In this issue
January/February 2009

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

Gaming @ your library

The Minneapolis-Hennepin merger

Testing the Web 2.0 waters

I Love My Librarian awards

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

Genealogy Librarian II,
[<http://joblist.ala.org/modules/jobseeker/controller.cfm?scr=jobdetail&jobid=12634>] Allen County Public Library, Fort Wayne, Indiana. Assist department manager and other staff members with public service work, explaining research principles and procedures to patrons. Participate in collection development. Help in planning and implementing departmental programming, particularly educational outreach. Preferred: Previous genealogical research experience strongly desired....

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

Digital Library of the Week

[http://content.lib.utah.edu/cdm4/item_viewer.php?CISOROOT=/Bodmer&CISOPTR=26]

The Mountain West Digital Library
[<http://155.97.12.155/mwdl/index.php/index>] is an aggregation of digital collections from universities, colleges, public libraries, museums, and historical societies in Utah, Nevada, and Idaho. Hosting institutions each run servers supporting their own digital collections and support partner institutions by providing scanning and hosting services. The Mountain West defines the region of contributors, but the content extends beyond the Mountain West and into different fields.

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

“The cold has brought them in again. It happens every year. Like swallows to Capistrano, in reverse, they come not to escape the heat but to find it. Bedraggled and grim-faced, weighed down by tattered duffels and beat-up thermoses, they trickle in as temperatures drop.”

—News columnist Charity Vogel on winter visitors to the city’s central library, Buffalo (N.Y.) News, Jan. 12.

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/yalsa/teentechweek/ttw09/home.cfm>]

February 9 is the last day to register

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/yalsa/teentechweek/ttw09/registration/registration.cfm>] for YALSA's Teen Tech Week,

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/yalsa/teentechweek/ttw09/home.cfm>]

March 8–14. The theme is Press Play @ your library, encouraging teens to take advantage of the many technologies available to them, free of charge, at their libraries.

Ask the ALA Librarian

Q. I have just been hired as a librarian at a local company. The library of this organization was headed for many years by someone who was not a trained librarian. The current filing system needs total revamping and I'm looking for some ideas and help to guide me through the process. Can you help?

A. There are two main versions of filing rules

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

letter-by-letter and word-by-word. These are mostly for more traditional library catalog filing, but there are some more general resources available on the wiki page. If you are interested in having a consultant assist you, you might want to check with your local Special Libraries Association [<http://www.sla.org/>] chapter. From the ALA Professional Tips wiki [http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Help_with_Filing].

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

[http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?_sn=catalog2&_pn=product_detail&_op=2579]

Rutgers researchers Carol Gordon and Ya-Ling Lu interviewed 70

low-achieving students who had a low participation rate in a web-based high school summer reading program that replaced traditional reading lists. In "I Hate to Read;Or Do I?";

[http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/aasl/aaslpubsandjournals/slmrb/slmrcontents/volume11/gordon_lu.cfm] published in volume 11 (2008) of AASL's online-only School Library Media Journal,

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/aasl/aaslpubsandjournals/slmrb/slmrcontents/volume11/contents.cfm>] they reveal that low achievers have a strong preference for alternative reading materials.

Calendar

Feb. 16–

Mar. 13:

Business Reference 101.

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/rusa/development/index.cfm>] Online course sponsored by RUSA.

Feb. 16–

Mar. 21:

Genealogy 101.

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/rusa/development/index.cfm>] Online course sponsored by RUSA.

Feb. 24:

Information Commons 101.

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/proftools/elearning.cfm>] Webcast sponsored by ACRL.

Feb. 27:

Lawyers for Libraries Training Institute,

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/oif/oifprograms/lawforlib/lawyerslibraries.cfm>] Los Angeles. Sponsored by the Office for Intellectual Freedom.

Mar. 2:

Teens and Technology,

[http://www.wyomingseminary.org/newsletter/yalsa_institute.php] Wyoming Seminary College Preparatory School, Kingston, Pennsylvania. Sponsored by YALSA.

Mar. 2–28:

Web Design and Construction for Libraries, Part 1: XHTML and CSS.

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/proftools/elearning.cfm>] Online course sponsored by ACRL.

Mar. 12–13:

Organization and Personnel Management,

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/pla/plaevents/cplacourses/index.cfm>] Decatur, Georgia. Certified Public Library Administrator course sponsored by PLA.

Mar. 23–

Apr. 10:

Introduction to Website Usability.

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/proftools/elearning.cfm>] Online course sponsored by ACRL.

Apr. 2–4:

Current Issues,

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/pla/plaevents/cplacourses/index.cfm>] Nashville, Tennessee. Certified Public Library Administrator course sponsored by PLA.

Apr. 2–30:

Marketing Basics for Libraries.

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/rusa/development/index.cfm>] Online course sponsored by RUSA.

Apr. 14–15:

Serving Diverse Populations,

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/pla/plaevents/cplacourses/index.cfm>]

Spokane, Washington. Certified Public Library Administrator course sponsored by PLA.

Apr. 21–22:

Marketing,

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/pla/plaevents/cplacourses/index.cfm>]

Kansas City, Missouri. Certified Public Library Administrator course sponsored by PLA.

Apr. 29–30:

Organization and Personnel Management,

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/pla/plaevents/cplacourses/index.cfm>]

Saratoga Springs, New York. Certified Public Library Administrator course sponsored by PLA.

May 4–29:

Business Reference 101.

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/rusa/development/index.cfm>] Online course sponsored by RUSA.

May 4–

June 19:

The Reference Interview.

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/rusa/development/index.cfm>] Online course sponsored by RUSA.

May 13–14:

Budget and Finance,

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/pla/plaevents/cplacourses/index.cfm>]

Columbus, Ohio. Certified Public Library Administrator course sponsored by PLA.

June 4–5:

Politics and Networking,

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/pla/plaevents/cplacourses/index.cfm>]

Decatur, Georgia. Certified Public Library Administrator course sponsored by PLA.

Aug. 6–7:

Serving Diverse Populations,

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/pla/plaevents/cplacourses/index.cfm>]

Houston, Texas. Certified Public Library Administrator course sponsored by PLA.

Sept. 16–17:

Planning and Management of Buildings,

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/pla/plaevents/cplacourses/index.cfm>]
Saratoga Springs, New York. Certified Public Library Administrator course sponsored by PLA.

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

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The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | February 11, 2009

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SCHOOLROOMS
A new learning portal for K-12

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- ✓ 71 Subjects—Aligned to Curriculum
- ✓ 3 Million High-quality Sites Searchable

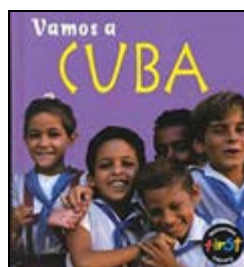
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BUYERS GUIDE

U.S. & World News

[Appeals court says *Vamos* can go](#)

Plaintiffs are examining their legal options after a federal appeals court rejected February 5 their challenge of a 2006 order from the board of the Miami-Dade County Public Schools to remove a children's book about contemporary life in Cuba. The three-judge panel instructed a district court to lift its preliminary injunction on the districtwide removal of *Vamos a Cuba* and its English-language translation *A Visit to Cuba*. The ACLU of Florida plans an appeal....

American Libraries Online, Feb. 11



ALA News

[State funding for many public libraries in decline](#)

Forty-one percent of U.S. states report declining state funding for public libraries in fiscal year 2009, according to a [survey](#) of the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies conducted in December 2008 by ALA. Of these, some 20% anticipate an additional reduction in the current fiscal year. The Southeast has been the hardest hit, with declines as large as 30% in South Carolina and 23.4% in Florida in FY09....

[Celebrate Día 2009](#)


Registration is open to request complimentary brochures featuring an exceptional book list with bilingual, Spanish-only, and English titles for children. "Celebrate! ¡Celebremos!" will be used by members of ALSC and Reforma, as well as by libraries across the country, in celebrating El día de los niños/El día de los libros (Children's Day/Book Day) on April 30. Día celebrates the importance of advocating literacy for every child, regardless of linguistic and cultural background....



[Media interest in libraries the result of PIO's persistence](#)

The recent work of ALA's Public Information Office has generated

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[ALA Annual Conference.](#)

Chicago, July 9–15.

[Auditorium Speakers](#)

will include James Van Praagh, Michael Connelly, Wanda Urbanska, Cokie Roberts, Junot Díaz, and Melba Pattillo Beals.

EXCLUSIVES

Reviews in [Booklist](#)
[Online Exclusives](#)

many stories on the role of libraries in tough economic times. Since August, more than 400 articles on the surge in library use have been published in magazines, newspapers, and on websites. PIO has developed [publicity tools](#) to help librarians tell their stories in their communities....

[Woman's Day seeks library stories](#)

Woman's Day magazine has announced a call for entries on a timely topic: using the library to help save money. From February 17 through May 18, women ages 18 and up are invited to send in stories in 700 words or less for a chance to be profiled in the March 2010 issue. Consult the [official rules](#). Librarians can download free tools to help collect local stories from the Campaign for America's Libraries [website](#).

Continuing an eight-year [partnership](#) with ALA's Campaign for America's Libraries that has generated millions of dollars worth of editorial coverage for libraries, the March 2009 issue of *Woman's Day* profiled four women ([PDF file](#)) who used the library to improve their health....



[ALA/ProQuest Scholarship Bash](#)

ALA will rock the Art Institute of Chicago for the 10th Anniversary Scholarship Bash, at 7:00 p.m., July 11, during ALA Annual Conference. This will be a fun, interactive evening with music, food, and the most acclaimed French Impressionist collection in the United States. Tickets (\$40 in advance) may be purchased at registration or for \$45 onsite. All proceeds go toward ALA scholarships, including the Spectrum Scholarships....

[Free unconference at ALA Annual](#)

Are you interested in attending a conference program where you have a hand in determining the topics discussed? Have you always wondered what really goes on at an unconference? As part of ALA President Jim Rettig's "Creating Connections" initiatives, 75 conference attendees will have the opportunity to participate in a [free unconference](#) July 10 at the 2009 ALA Annual Conference in Chicago....

[Experience cutting-edge theatre and support the CCF](#)

Attendees of the 2009 ALA Annual Conference in Chicago will have the opportunity to attend an evening of spectacular theater while supporting the ALA Cultural Communities Fund. Tickets are available for a dazzling evening July 10 at the renowned Steppenwolf Theatre. The evening includes a cocktail reception, tickets to *500 Clown and the Elephant Deal*, and a talk-back with cast and creative staff following the performance....



[Salary survey invitation](#)

Library directors and human resources staff, check your mail. Nearly 4,000 public and academic libraries are being asked to participate in the 2009 ALA-Allied Professional Association Library Salary Survey. This year, the survey asks for salary data for six librarian titles. The deadline is February 27 for completing the web-based survey....

complement *Booklist's* already extensive print coverage, allowing us to both review some subject areas in greater depth and weigh in more quickly on titles not released for review in advance of publication.

Occasionally, we write new reviews of older books, too, to offer fresh perspective on a familiar work. These titles are recommended, with qualifications as noted, for purchase by public and school libraries; for further information, please consult the *Booklist* [selection policy](#). See the February 9 issue [here](#). **NEW! From *Booklist*.**



[Protect library funding in the Economic Stimulus Package](#)

The ALA Washington Office asks every single library supporter to start sending messages and calling congressional offices so that we can keep important library provisions in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. This week, the Senate and House versions of the economic stimulus package will go to conference to reconcile these pieces of legislation, and your calls and emails will help protect this funding. There are pros and cons of each version of the stimulus, and we need to protect the parts that benefit our communities.

[Accreditation actions](#)

The ALA Committee on Accreditation has announced accreditation actions taken at the 2009 ALA Midwinter Meeting in Denver. Continued accreditation status was granted to LIS programs at the Pratt Institute, University of Hawaii at Manoa, and Syracuse University....

[ALA Connect update](#)

ALA Internet Development Specialist Jenny Levine writes: "The beta test for ALA Connect has ended, and we're now working on the final issues list before soft-launching the site in March. Overall, the comments we received were positive and encouraging. To help lay further groundwork for the official launch, we're releasing an official ALA Connect Roadmap ([PDF file](#)) to provide some context and outline the service's potential future."...

ITTS Update, Feb. 10

[Members and their affiliations](#)

Jenny Levine writes: "In working on our ALA Connect project, we learned that at the end of 2008, ALA members have an average of 2.1 participations, which are essentially affiliations with an official ALA group (committees, discussion groups, divisions, events, etc.). If we narrow down the scope to members who have at least one affiliation, 42,000 members have an average of 3.2 participations."...
ALA Marginalia, Feb. 9

[100 years of ALA in Chicago](#)

Larry Nix writes: "ALA will mark the 100th anniversary of the establishment of its headquarters in the city of Chicago in September 2009. In 2011, it will celebrate the 135th anniversary of its founding. This [online exhibit](#) is my modest attempt to acknowledge those two significant milestones. (It would be wonderful, of course, if a major exhibit on the history of ALA could be assembled for ALA's 135th anniversary.) The exhibit includes postal and other artifacts from my personal collection."...

Library History Buff Blog, Feb. 9



AL Focus

[Youth Media Awards winner calls](#)

Before the Newbery, Caldecott, King, and the other prestigious Youth Media Awards were announced at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Denver, selection committees crowded into tiny private rooms to call the honorees. This year, AL Focus was invited to capture some of those happy calls and reactions (3:43). See the [full list](#) of ALA's Youth Media Award winners....



[Stephanie Vance on advocacy](#)

Stephanie Vance of AdvocacyGuru.com discusses (2:12) the three points ALA members need to keep in mind when advocating for libraries with the Obama administration. Vance talked with AL Focus

In this issue

January/February
2009



Gaming @ your library

The Minneapolis-Hennepin merger

Testing the Web 2.0 waters

I Love My Librarian awards



The [ALA Store](#) is new and improved.

Stop by for a visit to experience the new features and shop for ALA Graphics and ALA Editions products. An attractive new interface, a wishlist feature, and purchase order printing capabilities make the new ALA Store easier to navigate and use. The site [features](#) product descriptions for books with handy links to LibraryThing, WorldCat, and bookmarking sites like Delicious, as well as an RSS feed that alerts you to new products. Please note that accounts from the

after speaking at the Washington Office Update at ALA's 2009 Midwinter Meeting in Denver....



[ALA Council: Who, what, why, and how](#)

Members of ALA Council discuss what the Council actually does and why you should consider getting involved. This video (3:44) features comments from Joseph Egan, Aaron Dobbs, Heidi Dolamore, Courtney Young, John DeSantis, Em Claire Knowles, Amy Harmon, Janet Swan Hill, Terri Kirk, and Nick Buron....



[Steve Vander Ark on Harry Potter](#)

American Libraries caught up with Steve Vander Ark, author of *The Lexicon: An Unauthorized Guide to Harry Potter Fiction and Related Materials*, and his coauthor Lisa Bunker, in the exhibit hall at the 2009 Midwinter Meeting for this video interview (1:52)....



[Abraham Lincoln speaks](#)

At a January 24 Scholastic reception during the Midwinter Meeting, President Abraham Lincoln (portrayed by Scholastic Director of Library and Educational Marketing John Mason) interviewed James L. Swanson, Lincoln assassination researcher and author of *Manhunt* and *Chasing Lincoln's Killer*. In this video (3:23), a somewhat surprised Lincoln introduces himself to the crowd, discusses another famous bicentenarian, and comments on some other impressive presidential achievements....



Booklist ONLINE

[Featured review: Adult books](#)

Humes, Edward. *Eco Barons: The Dreamers, Schemers, and Millionaires Who Are Saving Our Planet*. Mar. 2009. 368p. Ecco, hardcover (978-0-06-135029-0).

An eco baron is the opposite of a robber baron, using talent, gumption, and wealth not for personal gain but for environmental good. Award-winning journalist Humes brings a fluency in complex issues and a love of David-Goliath stories to this illuminating group



old ALA Store site are no longer valid; you will need to create a new user account for the new site.

Career Leads from

ALA JobLIST



[Find a job in a Florida library](#)

with Florida Library Jobs.org. Search for jobs. Upload your résumé for future jobs. [Florida Library Jobs](#), a service of the State Library and Archives of Florida, provides a searchable listing of job openings for library positions in Florida libraries that require a graduate degree from an ALA-accredited program. It also includes a résumé-posting service for persons with a master's degree from an ALA-accredited program seeking positions in Florida's libraries....

@ [More jobs...](#)

Digital Library of the Week

portrait of embattled visionaries who "are showing the world that nature can be nurtured." Douglas Tompkins, a Mayflower blueblood, dropped out of high school, cofounded the Esprit clothing empire, then abandoned corporate life to devote himself to preserving the wilds of Patagonia, in spite of vehement resistance. Roxanne Quimby, the artist who founded the company Burt's Bees, faced vicious opposition to her efforts to preserve the Maine Woods....

[New Bookends blog](#)

Renowned middle-school librarians Cindy Dobrez and Lynn Rutan have chosen Booklist Online as the best permanent home for their popular blog, [Bookends](#). Since the blog started in October 2008, its enthusiastic readers have enjoyed posts offering reviews, best practices, general advice, professional tips, personal notes, and a good dash of humor....



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



The [Postcard Collection of J. Stewart Roberts Associates, Architects](#), of Somerville, Massachusetts, originated with Stewart Roberts, who began collecting cards depicting New England library buildings for which he had provided architectural services. Christian Schaller, an associate with the firm in Chicago, has added his own collection of Midwest library postcards. The collection has recently been expanded to include two more library postcard collections: The Nelle Webb Collection, of the Bloomington (Ill.) Public Library, includes 260 library postcards from 1900 to the 1930s; and the collection of Judith Holliday, a former Cornell University fine arts librarian who collected cards mailed from students during their travels. Parts of the Nelle Webb Collection are missing, and the firm is actively working to reassemble this collection, physically or at least virtually if images can be shared.

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.

Division News

[Award-winning authors at AASL conference](#)

Laurie Halse Anderson, Charles R. Smith Jr., Linda Sue Park, and Richard Peck will appear at the author events planned for the AASL National Conference, "Rev up learning @ your library," November 5–8 in Charlotte, North Carolina....

[YALSA's 28 days of advocacy](#)

Sarah Debraski writes: "We're only 10 days into the [28 Days of Advocacy](#) and already you've read many inspiring posts in the YALSA Blog on how to be an advocate for libraries and teen services. I hope that many readers have emailed, phoned, or [written an elected representative](#) to seek support for libraries. However, I know that it can be intimidating to do those things. Fear not! There are other ways to be an advocate and you might already be doing them."...
YALSA Blog, Feb. 10

[Thom Barthelmess elected ALSC vice-president](#)

Thom Barthelmess, youth services manager at the Austin (Tex.) Public Library, has been elected vice-president/president-elect of ALSC. The vice presidency became vacant in late January with the sudden death of Kate McClelland, who had been elected to the position last spring. ALSC Bylaws call for a vacancy in the office of vice president to be filled by a vote of the Board of Directors, electing from their membership someone in the second or third year of service....

[BRASS preconference offers business know-how](#)

"Mastering Business Acumen (MBA) in a Day," a preconference at the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago, will arm a wide variety of librarians with the know-how needed to address patrons' basic business questions. Sponsored by RUSA's Business Reference and Services Section, the full-day program will be held July 10....

[Overcome reference service challenges](#)

Come to the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago and find solutions to your reference technology, staffing, collaboration, and assessment challenges in RUSA's full-day, interactive preconference "Reinvented Reference V," July 10....

[How to find collaborative digitization funding](#)

Seeking sustainable funding options for collaborative digitization projects? Look no further—you'll get the scoop on where to find them at ASCLA's full-day "After the Grant Runs Out" preconference, July 10, at the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago....

[ASCLA preconference on public service](#)

What do libraries have in common with casinos? To succeed, each must keep their customers happy and keep them coming back. Library directors and management can learn how to cultivate happy customers by attending ASCLA's half-day "Be My Guest: Customer Service from the Best" preconference, July 10, at the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago....

[PLA offers human resources workshop](#)

PLA is offering public librarians an opportunity to learn practical skills and knowledge that will help them better manage their libraries' staffing and human resources needs. [The Strategic HR: Organization and Personnel Management](#) workshop, is scheduled for April 29–30 in Saratoga Springs, New York....

[PLA Spring Symposium offers certificates](#)

PLA will provide Spring Symposium attendees with certificates of attendance. These certificates will include the name of the workshop attended as well as the number of hours the attendee spent in the program. Librarians can use these certificates to track continuing education contact hours....

Awards

[Ray English wins 2009 Hugh C. Atkinson Award](#)

Ray English, Azariah Smith Root director of libraries at Oberlin College, Ohio, has been named the 2009 winner of the Hugh C. Atkinson Memorial Award. The award recognizes an academic librarian who has made significant contributions in the area of library automation or management. English was a primary founder of the ACRL scholarly communication program, serving as chair of the task force that led to the program and also as chair of the Scholarly Communication Committee from its inception until 2006....



[Inaugural ProQuest Innovation in College Librarianship Award](#)

Bruce Connolly and Gail Golderman of the Union College Schaffer Library in Schenectady, New York, have been named the 2009 recipients of the ACRL College Libraries Section's ProQuest Innovation in College Librarianship Award. This annual award, presented for the first time in 2009, honors an ACRL member who has demonstrated a capacity for innovation in working with undergraduates, instructors,

Public Perception

How the World Sees Us

"I choose what I wear each morning by whether it will fuel someone's dirty librarian fantasy."

—From a postcard sent to [PostSecret](#), an ongoing community art project where people mail in their secrets anonymously on one side of a postcard, Feb. 8.



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

Ask the ALA Librarian



Q. My library will be moving into a new building next year. The building design work is completed, but we haven't begun to discuss how we will accomplish moving our collections. Does ALA have any resources that might help?

A. ALA offers [Fact Sheet #14: Moving Libraries](#) and some [additional resources](#)

or the library community....

2009 EBSS Distinguished Librarian

Gary Lare, former head of the curriculum resources center at the University of Cincinnati (and ventriloquist, right), is the recipient of the 2009 ACRL Education and Behavioral Sciences Section's Distinguished Education and Behavioral Sciences Librarian Award. This award honors an academic librarian who has made an outstanding contribution as an education or behavioral sciences librarian....



2009 Marta Lange CQ Press Award

Lynne M. Rudasill, associate professor of library administration and global studies librarian at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, has been named the 2009 recipient of the ACRL Law and Political Science Section's Marta Lange CQ Press Award. The award honors an academic or law librarian who has made distinguished contributions to bibliography and information service in law or political science....

2009 Oberly Award

The International Rice Research Institute's Rice Database has been selected as the 2009 recipient of the ACRL Science and Technology Section Oberly Award for Bibliography in the Agricultural or Natural Sciences. The Rice Database (right) is a comprehensive bibliography of technical rice literature covering all aspects of rice research....

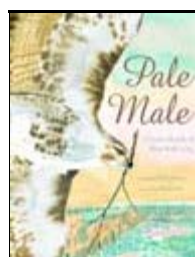


Moline Public Library wins Scholastic NLW Grant

The Moline (Ill.) Public Library is the winner of the 2009 Scholastic Library Publishing National Library Week Grant. The \$3,000 grant, sponsored by Scholastic Library Publishing and administered by ALA's Public Awareness Committee, is awarded annually for the best public awareness campaign in support of National Library Week. MPL's campaign will be a community kaleidoscope of library programs to promote National Library Week, as well as the library's entire year of programming and promotions....

2009 Notable Children's Books

ALSC has selected its 2009 list of Notable Children's Books. The list of titles includes fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and picture books of special interest, quality, creativity, and value to children 14 years of age and younger. An [annotated list](#) of all of the books is on the ALSC website....



2009 Notable Children's Videos

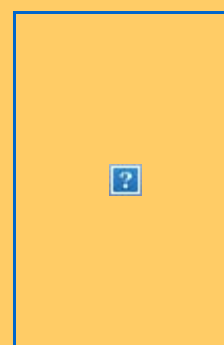
ALSC has selected its 2009 list of Notable Children's Videos. The list includes videos for children 14 years of age and younger that exhibit especially commendable quality, show respect for children's intelligence and imagination, and reflect and encourage the interests of children in exemplary ways. An [annotated list](#) of the videos, including recommended age levels, is on the ALSC website....



2009 Notable Children's Recordings

from the library literature. Also, LLAMA is offering a preconference called [Moving Your Library's Collections](#) (see page 4 of this PDF). This preconference will take place on July 10. From the [ALA Professional Tips wiki](#).

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



[Laura Kohl and Maura Keating](#) describe their adventures implementing a "Text a Librarian" reference service at Bryant University in Smithfield, Rhode Island, in the February 2009 issue of ACRL's *College & Research Libraries News*.

Calendar

**Feb. 27–
Mar. 1:**
[South Carolina Book Festival](#), Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center.

Mar. 6–7:
[Washington Antiquarian Book Fair](#), Holiday Inn

ALSC has selected its 2009 list of Notable Children's Recordings. The list includes recordings for children 14 years of age and younger of especially commendable quality that demonstrate respect for young people's intelligence and imagination; exhibit venturesome creativity; and reflect and encourage the interests of children and young adolescents in exemplary ways. An [annotated list](#) of the recordings is on the ALSC website....



The 2009 Amelia Bloomer List

The Feminist Task Force of the Social Responsibilities Round Table has announced this year's Amelia Bloomer List, featuring books for young readers, ages birth through 18, that contain significant feminist content—not just cardboard “feisty” or “spunky” girls and women, but tales of those who have broken barriers and have fought to change their situations and their environment. These 68 books for children and youth comprise the best feminist books published in the last year and a half....

Amelia Bloomer Project, Feb. 10



The 2009 Rainbow List

Titles in the 2009 Rainbow List, a joint undertaking of ALA's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgendered Round Table and Social Responsibilities Round Table, were announced February 2. Featuring well-written and well-illustrated titles with authentic and significant gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered, queer, or questioning (GLBTQ) content for youth from birth through age 18, this year's bibliography presents 34 outstanding titles, published in the last 18 months and representing a broad range of experience....

The Rainbow List, Feb. 2



2009 MAE Award for Best Literature Program for Teens

Valerie H. Nicholson is the winner of YALSA's 2009 MAE Award for Best Literature Program for Teens. The award provides \$500 to the recipient and \$500 to the recipient's library.

Nicholson is the advisor for the Eva Perry Mock Printz Book Club (above) for Teens at the Eva Perry Regional branch of the Wake County (N.C.) Public Libraries....



2009 ALSC Distinguished Service Award

Jane Botham is the 2009 recipient of the ALSC Distinguished Service Award. A member of ALSC since 1957, she has served on numerous ALSC and ALA committees. Botham served as the ALSC president during a time of transition and helped to strengthen the organization with her strong leadership skills. In her retirement, Botham continues to act as a mentor and friend to younger librarians....

2009 Maureen Hayes Award winner

ALSC has awarded the 2009 Maureen Hayes Award to the Fair Oaks branch of the Redwood City (Calif.) Public Library, partnered with the Garfield Elementary Charter School. The award will provide funds for the library to host a visit from award-winning author Pam Muñoz

Rosslyn at Key Bridge, Arlington, Virginia.

Mar. 8–14:
Teen Tech Week.
“Press Play @ your library.”

Mar. 12–15:
ACRL National Conference. Seattle, Washington. “Pushing the Edge: Explore, Engage, Extend.”

Mar. 13–15:
Florida Antiquarian Book Fair. The Coliseum, St. Petersburg.

Mar. 28–29:
Long Island Book and Ephemera Fair. Garden City Field House, Garden City, New York.

Apr. 1–3:
PLA Spring Symposium. Nashville, Tennessee. “Pushing the Edge: Explore, Engage, Extend.”

Apr. 3–4:
Albuquerque Antiquarian Book Fair. University of New Mexico Conference Center, Albuquerque.

Apr. 3–5:
New York Antiquarian Book Fair. Park Avenue Armory, New York City.

Apr. 10–11:
Akron Antiquarian Book Fair. John S. Knight Center, Akron, Ohio.

Apr. 12–18:
National Library

Ryan....

[2009 Penguin Young Readers Group Award](#)

ALSC has awarded four children's librarians with the 2009 Penguin Young Readers Group Award. The award consists of a \$600 grant, sponsored by Penguin Young Readers Group, for winners to attend their first ALA Annual Conference....

[2009 BWI Summer Reading Grant](#)

ALSC has awarded the Madison (Ohio) Public Library with the 2009 BWI Summer Reading Program Grant. The \$3,000 grant, donated by Book Wholesalers, Inc., provides financial assistance to a public library for developing outstanding summer reading programs for children....

[2009 Bechtel Fellowship winner](#)

ALSC has awarded the 2009 Louise Seaman Bechtel Fellowship to library media specialist Linda Martin from Gainesville, Georgia. The fellowship is designed to allow a qualified children's librarian to spend a month or more reading and studying at the Baldwin Library of Historical Children's Literature, part of the George A. Smathers Libraries at the University of Florida, Gainesville....

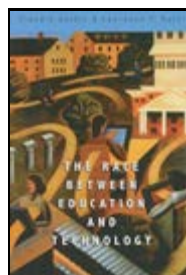
[2009 VOYA Frances Henne Research Grant](#)

Amy Alessio, teen coordinator at the Schaumburg Township (Ill.) District Library, and Marc Aronson, editor and blogger for *School Library Journal*, are the 2009 recipients of YALSA's *Voice of Youth Advocates* Frances Henne Research Grant. The grant provides \$1,000 in seed money for small-scale projects that encourage research responding to the division's research agenda....

[PROSE Award winners](#)

The Association of American Publishers has announced the winners of the 2008 American Publishers Awards for Professional and Scholarly Excellence (the PROSE Awards). More than 35 awards, including the top prize, the R. R. Hawkins Award, were presented February 5 at the organization's annual conference in Washington, D.C. The Hawkins Award went to Harvard University Press for *The Race Between Education and Technology* by Claudia Goldin and Lawrence F. Katz....

Association of American Publishers, Feb. 5



Seen Online

[Plainfield to keep its Homer another three years](#)

The Plainfield (N.J.) Public Library dates to a gilded era when the grand mansions on the neighboring blocks were home to a concentration of wealth—tycoons, industrialists, financiers—almost unmatched in the state, and the walls were hung with the art they bequeathed to it. The library decided to auction an oil painting by artist Winslow Homer donated in 1931, but the bottom fell out of the art market when it went up for sale in 2008, and the painting failed to sell for the minimum price....

New York Times, Feb. 5



[Week.](#)

Apr. 15:

[Sixth Annual Copyright Conference](#), Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana. "Star E-Wars."

Apr. 19:

[Vermont Antiquarian Spring Book Fair](#), Sheraton Hotel, South Burlington, Vermont.

Apr. 30:

[El Día de los Niños/El Día de los Libros](#).

May 7–8:

[LITACamp](#), Dublin, Ohio.

May 11–12:

[National Library Legislative Day](#).

May 18–21:

[4th Annual International Conference on Open Repositories](#), Georgia Institute of Technology Hotel and Conference Center, Atlanta.

@ [More...](#)

Contact Us

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Library Association

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

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

Greg Landgraf,

[Stop me if you've heard this one](#)

Ann Banks writes: "I was raised on Depression stories. Hearing them again and again, I became fascinated by the role that stories play during hard times—the way they seem to strengthen people, offering a bulwark against loneliness and feelings of personal failure. That is how I came to find myself spending a year in a dimly lit storage room in the Library of Congress, sorting through thousands of interviews with ordinary Americans telling of how they survived the Great Depression."...

Newsweek, Feb. 16

[DNA to be tested on Salt Lake library bomb](#)

U.S. District Judge Clark Waddoups has asked lawyers in the case of a man accused of setting off a small bomb at the downtown Salt Lake City library to negotiate how they want testing to be conducted on DNA residue found on the device. Defense lawyers for Thomas James Zajac, who stands accused of setting off the device in September 2006, want an independent laboratory to do the test, while prosecutors want the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives to handle the matter....

Salt Lake Tribune, Feb. 6

[Digital archivists now in demand](#)

The people entrusted to find a place for the wealth of digital information are known as digital asset managers, or sometimes digital archivists and digital preservation officers. Whatever they are called, demand for them is expanding. One of them is Jacob Nadal (right), the preservation officer at the University of California, Los Angeles....

New York Times, Feb. 7



[Abe's portrait in Post-It notes and on a Harley](#)

Self-described "Post-it note artist" Chris Killham is using 16,200 of the 3-by-3-inch squares to create two portraits of Abraham Lincoln to be placed on both sides of the bridge connecting the Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum in Springfield, Illinois. The library has also unveiled a [Harley-Davidson motorcycle](#) that Dave Blanchette, communications manager for the library, had customized. Blanchette thought Lincoln's days traveling on horse as an attorney for the 8th Judicial Circuit could be represented by an "iron horse" to travel the PR route....

Springfield (Ill.) *State Journal-Register*, Feb. 4, 10; WBBM-TV, Feb. 6



[Bookstore and library join forces in Florida](#)

It might seem odd for a private bookstore to team up to help a public library system, but some see it as a match made in heaven. The Barnes & Noble bookstore in Wesley Chapel, Florida, is only a few months old but has already opened its doors to host a February book fair on behalf of the Pasco County Library System. Proceeds raised during the event will benefit the Pasco Library Foundation, and library staff will host special events at the bookstore during the fair....

Tampa (Fla.) Tribune, Feb. 7

[Go back to the Top](#)

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Tech Talk

[Open source open letter to Obama](#)

Ryan Paul writes: "A group of software vendors published an [open letter](#) February 10 to President Obama encouraging the new administration to adopt open source software in the government's IT infrastructure. The letter says that open source software can reduce costs when implementing government technology initiatives in areas like health care and security. The fact that the letter has been authored by commercial open source software vendors, however, makes it seem a bit more like an advertisement than a sincere attempt to guide open source policy."...

Ars Technica, Feb. 10

[Windows 7 versions: What you need to know](#)

Although Microsoft has yet to reveal the ship date of its Windows 7 operating system, the company did release the first beta version in January. On February 3, Microsoft revealed there would be six versions of Windows 7, but consumers will only be able to buy either Windows 7 Home Premium or Windows 7 Professional at retail—and deliberately so; Microsoft wants to limit the confusion by only putting these two versions in front of consumers....

PC Magazine, Feb. 4



[100 web tools to help you get organized](#)

Alisa Miller writes: "Turn to these internet tools to help you with such tasks as note-taking, bookmarking websites, highlighting important text during online research, creating mind maps, tracking time, keeping up with appointments, collaborating with others, and managing projects."...

Online College Blog



[Stupid human tricks: Long URLs and tags](#)

John C. Dvorak writes: "Search engine optimization has turned into a big business, and from what I can tell it's the modern version of snake oil. Let's start with my biggest beef. Long URLs are just crap and stupid. They are impossible to post anywhere or send in an email because they get concatenated. You have to know to snip them with tinyURL or snurl. This stinks. I am going to turn them off and mock anyone using them and anyone who tells me to use them."...

PC Magazine, Feb. 10

[EBSCOhost Integrated Search](#)

This spring, EBSCO Publishing plans to introduce a federated search feature that will allow users to search EBSCO databases as well as other database suppliers, OPACs, and publisher packages.

EBSCOhost Integrated Search will also let librarians set up any database to be included, customize the user experience for external databases, and generate usage reports from all sources....

EBSCO Publishing, Jan. 22



[New York Times opens Best Sellers API](#)

Paul Robbins writes: "The *New York Times* [Best Sellers API](#) gives users quick access to current and past bestseller lists in 11 different categories, such as hardcover nonfiction and paperback mass-market fiction. The initial launch offers every weekly list since June 2008, and in the coming months, we plan to add data going back to the 1930s." The API could be used by librarians in their OPACs or websites. Meanwhile, [Reading Radar](#) is a new mashup using Amazon and the *New York Times* Bestseller Lists....

New York Times, Jan. 27; Reading Radar

[Google Book Search goes mobile](#)

Marshall Kirkpatrick writes: "[Google Book Search Mobile](#) is a very handy new version of the Google site that lets users search through and read 1.5 million books on their phones' browsers. The books are all scanned as images, but for the new mobile version Google has used OCR to grab the text on the pages." This text-only feature will allow users to [download](#) printed material more quickly over wireless networks....

ReadWriteWeb, Feb. 5; *New York Times*, Feb. 5

Publishing

[Kindle 2 slims down, adds muscle, and talks](#)

Amazon released the second iteration of its Kindle e-book reader February 9, a device that will hold up to 1,500 books, boasts 25% better battery life, and includes a "talk to me" feature that reads books aloud. The \$359 Kindle 2 will ship February 24. Amazon has added buttons to make it easier to flip pages, and a new five-way controller facilitates note-taking and highlighting text. Kindle 2 definitions, pulled from the *New Oxford American Dictionary*, appear instantly at the bottom of the page. Amazon [announced](#) its new product in the auditorium of New York City's Morgan Library. [Gizmodo](#) has a hands-on analysis....

PC Magazine, Feb. 9; *Ars Technica*, Feb. 9; *Gizmodo*, Feb. 9



[Librarians at New York Comic Con](#)

Molly Phelan writes: "More public libraries have been adding manga and graphic novels to their collections, and in return those libraries have seen a boost in circulation rates. Every year, [New York Comic Con](#) welcomes librarians with programming geared just for them. Professionals register for free, which means librarians and educators can spend the first day of the Con attending workshops, seeing what's new in the publishing world, picking up free loot on the floor for their library patrons, and gawking at the costumed fans."...

PLA Blog, Feb. 4



[UClick could make paper comics obsolete](#)

Ray Wert writes: "It's a bit of a stretch to say [UClick](#) wants to kill paper comic books, but after taking an in-depth look at their iPhone app, they might actually accomplish that. In a session here at New York Comic Con, we had a chance to hear a little bit more about

this not-so-well-known comic distribution company. UClick works with comic creators to transfer the medium from a page-by-page format to a more iPhone-friendly panel-by-panel format, then creates and distributes the one-issue apps you can buy on iTunes."...

io9, Feb. 8



[BookExpo America moves shows to New York City](#)

On February 10, [BookExpo America](#) announced that the annual book industry trade show will be held at New York City's Jacob K. Javits Convention Center through 2012. The show was previously scheduled to take place in Washington, D.C., in 2010 and Las Vegas in 2011. Beginning in 2010, BEA will also feature a shortened, midweek schedule....

Bookselling This Week, Feb. 10

[2009 Poetry Month poster](#)

Each April, the Academy of American Poets creates and distributes—for free—almost 200,000 copies of the current National Poetry Month posters to U.S. schools, libraries, bookstores, and community centers to help promote the month-long celebration and to increase poetry awareness. This year's poster was created by renowned illustrator and graphic designer Paul Sahre....

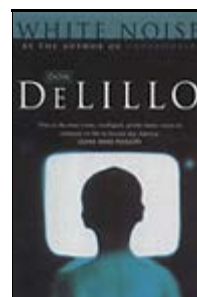
American Academy of Poets, Feb. 4



[Top 10 most overrated novels](#)

Shane Dayton writes: "There are many titles given to great literary works, and many awards to recognize truly great literature. This list concentrates on the other side of the board: those books that are considered classics, but are in fact heavily overrated. At least one book (see #10) is a good one and a fun read, but it's rated way above the actual quality of writing. Here is the list."...

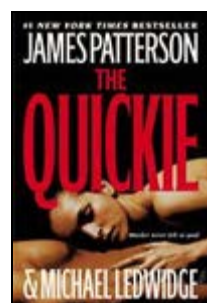
The List Universe, Feb. 10



[James Patterson is the UK's most borrowed author](#)

Prolific American thriller writer James Patterson has retained his position as the UK's most borrowed author for a second year. According to the annual figures on public library lending released by Public Lending Right February 6, titles by Patterson circulated more than 1.5 million times between July 2007 and June 2008. The most popular individual title overall is J. K. Rowling's *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows*....

London *Evening Standard*, Feb. 6



Actions & Answers

[President Obama says it again](#)

American Libraries Editor Leonard Kniffel writes: "You probably heard it for yourself, but President Barack Obama did it again February 9. He said 'libraries.' At his first prime-time [press conference](#) since taking office, he addressed a nervous nation about creating new jobs, adding, 'They'll be jobs creating the 21st-century classrooms, libraries, and labs for millions of children across America.' 'He hears us,' I thought to myself, and he hears ALA."...

AL Inside Scoop, Feb. 10

[Benton Foundation: Broadband a necessity](#)

As Congress debates an economic stimulus package that includes funding to boost the number of people in the United States with broadband internet access, at least one organization says access alone isn't enough—and it's urging the Obama administration to adopt strategies to stimulate broadband demand.

The Benton Foundation issued its urgent call to action—[Action Plan for America: Using Technology and Innovation to Address Our Nation's Critical Challenges](#)—in 2008 before Congress drafted its stimulus legislation....

eSchool News, Feb. 10



[New York libraries serve as job centers](#)

The New York Library Association announced the results February 9 of a recent survey showing that 80% of the libraries in the state have helped someone search for a job in the past three months. The poll also showed that 75% of libraries have helped a patron access a public assistance program during the same time period. However, Gov. David Paterson's 2009–10 executive budget calls for reduced state funding for library services by 18%, which would reduce Library Aid to \$80.5 million, a level not seen since 1993....

New York Library Association, Feb. 9

[StumbleUpon hits 7 million users](#)

Marshall Kirkpatrick writes: "What's got a button to push, knows how to make money while changing the world, and is read all over? [StumbleUpon](#)! The social discovery network just passed 7 million users, according to its site. That's about 50% bigger than Twitter, though Stumble is rarely talked about and never promoted. If you haven't used StumbleUpon before, here's how it works."...

ReadWriteWeb, Feb. 6



[Google and the future of books](#)

Robert Darnton writes: "For the last four years, Google has been digitizing millions of books, including many covered by copyright, from the collections of major research libraries, and making the texts searchable online. After lengthy negotiations, the publishing community and Google agreed on a settlement that will have a profound effect on the way books reach readers for the foreseeable

future. Those of us who are responsible for research libraries have a clear view of a common goal: We want to open up our collections and make them available to readers everywhere."...

New York Review of Books, Feb. 12

[A dirty little secret](#)

Debra Lau Whelan writes: "When Barry Lyga finished writing his second YA novel, he knew there'd be trouble. After all, *Boy Toy* was about a 12-year-old who has sex with a beautiful teacher twice his age. Soon Lyga started hearing stories about librarians who loved the book but refused to recommend or buy it, just in case someone complained. Self-censorship. It's a dirty secret that no one in the profession wants to talk about or admit practicing. Yet everyone knows some librarians bypass good books—those with literary merit or that fill a need in their collections—and it happens in more public and K–12 libraries than you think."...

School Library Journal, Feb. 1



[Blogs: Shiny toys or useful tools?](#) (PDF file)

Walt Crawford writes: "We're out of the shiny new toy phase for blogs (and wikis). I'm guessing most libraries these days will only start blogs after making reasonably certain the blogs will serve real purposes and will be updated regularly. I'm guessing very few library people start blogs in the expectation of becoming rich and famous. With realistic expectations, blogs can serve librarians and libraries well. I don't see that changing rapidly."...

Cites & Insights 9, no. 3 (Feb.): 1–9

[A cataloger's guide to the OCLC website](#)

Rich Stewart offers a brief guided tour of the varied content found on OCLC's website in the [Librarian's Toolbox](#), including such tools as technical bulletins, system alerts, and authority record change requests....

Three Catalogers Walk into a Blog, Feb. 8



[\\$60,000 history competition for students](#)

High-school and middle-grades students have until March 30 to enter ABC-CLIO's "History Uncovered" research competition. The reference publisher will award more than \$60,000 in cash and prizes in this opportunity for teams of students, social studies teachers, and school library media specialists to participate in a meaningful competitive endeavor that emphasizes research skills along with historical and critical thinking. Teams should visit the competition [website](#) to register....

ABC-CLIO

[Civil War relic discovered at Providence Public Library](#)

Rick Ring writes: "In a wooden crate, beneath a pile of books, we found an assortment of papers which have apparently not been touched for nearly a century. The most riveting item was in a small envelope, which bore the following words written in ink: 'Piece of shirt collar worn by Maj. Sullivan Ballou when killed at Bull Run.' Inside the envelope was a strip of cloth—the [shirt collar](#) in question." Ballou was the [letter-writer](#) made famous in Ken Burns's *Civil War* documentary....

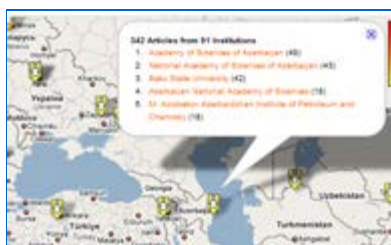


Notes for Bibliophiles, Feb. 4

Springer launches free site to plot research trends

Springer Science+Business has launched [AuthorMapper](#), a free analytical tool for discerning trends, patterns, and subject experts within scientific research. The tool searches over three million articles from Springer journals and delivers a variety of analyses of the search terms, including publication frequency by date, geographic location, and institution. Results are displayed in charts, a timeline graph, and a map powered by Google Maps....

Springer Science+Business, Feb. 2



ARL reviews its strategic plan

The Association of Research Libraries is reviewing its strategic plan in 2009. The process will guide ARL in setting priorities and organizing its activities for the next several years. Recently, ARL senior staff conducted an environmental scanning exercise to identify trends that will affect research libraries. The report, *Transformational Times* ([PDF file](#)), looks at the future of scholarly communication, public policies affecting research libraries, and the library's role in research, teaching, and learning....

Association of Research Libraries, Feb. 5

SOLINET, PALINET merge to form Lyrasis (PDF file)

The voting representatives of SOLINET and PALINET approved a merger of the two organizations with a "yes" vote of more than 95%. The effective date of the merger is April 1. The name Lyrasis was inspired by the constellation of Lyra, host to one of the galaxy's brightest stars (Vega); the suffix -sis can designate a process, often associated with change....

PALINET, Feb. 5

Michael Rosen defends British libraries

Children's author Michael Rosen appeared on the BBC television show *The Daily Politics* January 27 to support public libraries in the United Kingdom. In this clip (2:07), Rosen says: "Libraries support our needs for information and they support our needs for the imagination. They are our treasure houses. We cannot let them go, but we need to do a lot of work to make books central to the way we live because it is through reading that we access higher forms of thought."...

The Daily Politics, Jan. 27



What people in D.C. are searching for

The District of Columbia Public Library staff put together this video (1:34) that displays, word-cloud style, what patrons searched for in the public catalog over a four-day period. Created with Wordle, and with music by Stereolab. Another [video](#) (1:17) demonstrates five days of searching....

Vimeo, Jan. 28-29



[Larry the Loud Librarian: Episode 1](#)

Larry is the assistant librarian and intern supervisor. He cares much about his job and about the library. He works hard at making sure every aspect of the library runs smoothly. However, despite his great desire to run a successful library he has one great flaw. He is too loud.



Episode 1 (1:19) was produced, written, and acted by the Wacky Canoe comedy troupe, with Ben Coles as Larry, and the Halton Hills (Ontario) Public Library as the library. And then, there is [Episode 2](#)....

YouTube, Jan. 28

[Go back to the Top](#)

AL Direct, February 11, 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 | February 11, 2009

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

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U.S. & World News

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can go

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2009/February2009/vamoscango.cfm>]

Plaintiffs are examining their legal options after a federal appeals court rejected February 5 their challenge of a 2006 order from the board of the Miami-Dade County Public Schools to remove a children's book about contemporary life in Cuba. The three-judge panel instructed a district court to lift its preliminary injunction on the districtwide removal of *Vamos a Cuba* and its English-language translation *A Visit to Cuba*. The ACLU of Florida plans an appeal....

American Libraries Online, Feb. 11

ALA News

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State funding for many public libraries in decline

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/orscosla.cfm>]

Forty-one percent of U.S. states report declining state funding for public libraries in fiscal year 2009, according to a survey [<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/ors/plftas/FY09statefunding.cfm>] of the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies conducted in December 2008 by ALA. Of these, some 20% anticipate an additional reduction in the current fiscal year. The Southeast has been the hardest hit, with declines as large as 30% in South Carolina and 23.4% in Florida in FY09....

Celebrate Día 2009

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/alscdia.cfm>]

Registration is open to request complimentary brochures featuring an exceptional book list with bilingual, Spanish-only, and English titles for children. "Celebrate! ¡Celebremos!" will be used by members of ALSC and Reforma, as well as by libraries across the country, in celebrating El día de los niños/El día de los libros (Children's Day/Book Day) on April 30. Día celebrates the importance of advocating literacy for every child, regardless of linguistic and cultural background....

Media interest in libraries the result of PIO's persistence

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/piocbs.cfm>]

The recent work of ALA's Public Information Office has generated many stories on the role of libraries in tough economic times. Since August, more than 400 articles on the surge in library use have been published in magazines, newspapers, and on websites. PIO has developed publicity tools [<http://www.ala.org/ala/issuesadvocacy/advocacy/advocacyuniversity/toolkit/index.cfm>] to help librarians tell their stories in their communities....

seeks library stories

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/campaignwdeconomy.cfm>]

Woman's Day magazine has announced a call for entries on a timely topic: using the library to help save money. From February 17 through May 18, women ages 18 and up are invited to send in stories in 700 words or less for a chance to be profiled in the March 2010 issue. Consult the official rules

[<http://www.womansday.com/Content/Family-Lifestyle/ALA-Contest-Info-Rules>].

Librarians can download free tools to help collect local stories from the Campaign for America's Libraries website

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/issuesadvocacy/advocacy/publicawareness/campaign@yourlibrary/sponsorship/womansdaymagazine/economy.cfm>]. Continuing an eight-year partnership

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/campaignwdhealth.cfm>] with ALA's Campaign for America's

Libraries that has generated millions of dollars worth of editorial coverage for libraries, the March 2009 issue of Woman's Day profiled four women (PDF file

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/issuesadvocacy/advocacy/publicawareness/campaign@yourlibrary/sponsorship/womansdaymagazine/health%20article.pdf>]) who used

the library to improve their health....

ALA/ProQuest Scholarship Bash

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

ALA will rock the Art Institute of Chicago for the 10th Anniversary Scholarship Bash, at 7:00 p.m., July 11, during ALA Annual Conference. This will be a fun, interactive evening with music, food, and the most acclaimed French Impressionist collection in the United States. Tickets (\$40 in advance) may be purchased at registration or for \$45 onsite. All proceeds go toward ALA scholarships, including the Spectrum Scholarships....

Free unconference at ALA Annual

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/rettigunconference.cfm>]

Are you interested in attending a conference program where you have a hand in determining the topics discussed? Have you always wondered what really goes on at an unconference? As part of ALA President Jim Rettig's "Creating Connections" initiatives, 75 conference attendees will have the opportunity to participate in a free unconference [<http://wikis.ala.org/annual2009/index.php/Unconference>] July 10 at the 2009 ALA Annual Conference in Chicago....

Experience cutting-edge theatre and support the CCF

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/ppoconftheater.cfm>]

Attendees of the 2009 ALA Annual Conference in Chicago will have the opportunity to attend an evening of spectacular theater while supporting the ALA Cultural Communities Fund. Tickets are available for a dazzling evening July 10 at the renowned Steppenwolf Theatre. The evening includes a cocktail reception, tickets to 500 Clown and the Elephant Deal, and a talk-back with cast and creative staff following the performance....

Salary survey invitation

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/apasalarysurvey.cfm>]

Library directors and human resources staff, check your mail. Nearly 4,000 public and academic libraries are being asked to participate in the 2009 ALA-Allied Professional Association Library Salary Survey. This year, the survey asks for salary data for six librarian titles. The deadline is February 27 for completing the web-based survey....

Accreditation actions

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/oaactions.cfm>]

The ALA Committee on Accreditation has announced accreditation actions taken at the 2009 ALA Midwinter Meeting in Denver. Continued accreditation status was granted to LIS programs at the Pratt Institute, University of Hawaii at Manoa, and Syracuse University....

ALA Connect update

[<http://itts.ala.org/update/2009/02/10/ala-connect-roadmap/>]

ALA Internet Development Specialist Jenny Levine writes: "The beta test

for ALA Connect has ended, and we're now working on the final issues list before soft-launching the site in March. Overall, the comments we received were positive and encouraging. To help lay further groundwork for the official launch, we're releasing an official ALA Connect Roadmap (PDF file [<http://itts.ala.org/update/wp-content/uploads/2009/02/ala-connect-roadmap.pdf>]) to provide some context and outline the service's potential future."...

ITTS Update, Feb. 10

Members and their affiliations

[<http://discuss.ala.org/marginalia/2009/02/09/numbers-about-you/>]

Jenny Levine writes: "In working on our ALA Connect project, we learned that at the end of 2008, ALA members have an average of 2.1 participations, which are essentially affiliations with an official ALA group (committees, discussion groups, divisions, events, etc.). If we narrow down the scope to members who have at least one affiliation, 42,000 members have an average of 3.2 participations."...

ALA Marginalia, Feb. 9

100 years of ALA in Chicago

[<http://libraryhistorybuff.blogspot.com/2009/02/ala-and-chicago-100-years.html>]

Larry Nix writes: "ALA will mark the 100th anniversary of the establishment of its headquarters in the city of Chicago in September 2009. In 2011, it will celebrate the 135th anniversary of its founding. This online exhibit [<http://www.libraryhistorybuff.com/ala-history.htm>] is my modest attempt to acknowledge those two significant milestones. (It would be wonderful, of course, if a major exhibit on the history of ALA could be assembled for ALA's 135th anniversary.) The exhibit includes postal and other artifacts from my personal collection."...

Library History Buff Blog, Feb. 9

AL Focus

Youth Media Awards winner calls

[<http://alfocus.ala.org/videos/2009-youth-media-awards-winner-calls>]

Before the Newbery, Caldecott, King, and the other prestigious Youth Media Awards were announced at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Denver, selection committees crowded into tiny private rooms to call the honorees. This year, AL Focus was invited to capture some of those happy calls and reactions (3:43). See the full list

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/january2009/ymawrap.cfm>] of ALA's Youth Media Award winners....

Stephanie Vance on advocacy

[<http://alfocus.ala.org/videos/midwinter-2009-vance-advocacy>]

Stephanie Vance of AdvocacyGuru.com discusses (2:12) the three points ALA members need to keep in mind when advocating for libraries with the Obama administration. Vance talked with AL Focus after speaking at the Washington Office Update at ALA's 2009 Midwinter Meeting in Denver....

ALA Council: Who, what, why, and how

[<http://alfocus.ala.org/videos/ala-council-who-what-why-and-how>]

Members of ALA Council discuss what the Council actually does and why you should consider getting involved. This video (3:44) features comments from Joseph Egan, Aaron Dobbs, Heidi Dolamore, Courtney Young, John DeSantis, Em Claire Knowles, Amy Harmon, Janet Swan Hill, Terri Kirk, and Nick Buron....

Steve Vander Ark on Harry Potter

[<http://alfocus.ala.org/videos/midwinter-2009-steve-vander-ark-interview>]

American Libraries caught up with Steve Vander Ark, author of *The Lexicon: An Unauthorized Guide to Harry Potter Fiction and Related Materials*, and his coauthor Lisa Bunker, in the exhibit hall at the 2009 Midwinter Meeting for this video interview (1:52)....

Abraham Lincoln speaks

[<http://alfocus.ala.org/videos/midwinter-2009-abraham-lincoln-speaks>]

At a January 24 Scholastic reception during the Midwinter Meeting, President Abraham Lincoln (portrayed by Scholastic Director of Library and Educational Marketing John Mason) interviewed James L. Swanson, Lincoln assassination researcher and author of *Manhunt* and *Chasing Lincoln's Killer*. In this video (3:23), a somewhat surprised Lincoln introduces himself to the crowd, discusses another famous bicentennial, and comments on some other impressive presidential achievements....

Featured review: Adult books

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=3197397]

Humes, Edward. *Eco Barons: The Dreamers, Schemers, and Millionnaires Who Are Saving Our Planet*. Mar. 2009. 368p. Ecco, hardcover (978-0-06-135029-0).

An eco baron is the opposite of a robber baron, using talent, gumption, and wealth not for personal gain but for environmental good.

Award-winning journalist Humes brings a fluency in complex issues and a love of David-Goliath stories to this illuminating group portrait of embattled visionaries who "are showing the world that nature can be nurtured." Douglas Tompkins, a Mayflower blueblood, dropped out of high school, cofounded the Esprit clothing empire, then abandoned corporate life to devote himself to preserving the wilds of Patagonia, in spite of vehement resistance. Roxanne Quimby, the artist who founded the company Burt's Bees, faced vicious opposition to her efforts to preserve the Maine Woods....

New Bookends blog

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/booklistblog.cfm>]

Renowned middle-school librarians Cindy Dobrez and Lynn Rutan have chosen Booklist Online as the best permanent home for their popular blog, Bookends. [<http://bookends.booklistonline.com/>] Since the blog started in October 2008, its enthusiastic readers have enjoyed posts offering reviews, best practices, general advice, professional tips, personal notes, and a good dash of humor....

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

Division News

Award-winning authors at AASL conference

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/aaslconfauthors.cfm>]

Laurie Halse Anderson, Charles R. Smith Jr., Linda Sue Park, and Richard Peck will appear at the author events planned for the AASL National Conference, "Rev up learning @ your library," November 5–8 in Charlotte, North Carolina....

YALSA's 28 days of advocacy

[<http://yalsa.ala.org/blog/2009/02/10/28-days-of-advocacy-10-everyday-advocacy/>]

Sarah Debraski writes: "We're only 10 days into the 28 Days of Advocacy

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/yalsa28days.cfm>]

and already you've read many inspiring posts in the YALSA Blog on how to be an advocate for libraries and teen services.

I hope that many readers have emailed, phoned, or written an elected representative

[<http://yalsa.ala.org/blog/2009/02/07/28-days-of-advocacy-7-put-it-in-writing/>]

to seek support for libraries. However, I know that it can be intimidating to do those things. Fear not! There are other ways to be an advocate and you might already be doing them."...

YALSA Blog, Feb. 10

Thom Barthelmess elected ALSC vice-president

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/alscvicepresident.cfm>]

Thom Barthelmess, youth services manager at the Austin (Tex.) Public Library, has been elected vice-president/president-elect of ALSC. The vice presidency became vacant in late January with the sudden death of Kate McClelland, who had been elected to the position last spring. ALSC Bylaws call for a vacancy in the office of vice president to be filled by a vote of the Board of Directors, electing from their membership someone in the second or third year of service....

BRASS preconference offers business know-how

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/rusabrass.cfm>]

"Mastering Business Acumen (MBA) in a Day," a preconference at the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago, will arm a wide variety of librarians with the know-how needed to address patrons' basic business questions. Sponsored by RUSA's Business Reference and Services Section, the full-day program will be held July 10....

Overcome reference service challenges

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/rusareinventedref.cfm>]

Come to the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago and find solutions to your reference technology, staffing, collaboration, and assessment challenges in RUSA's full-day, interactive preconference "Reinvented Reference V," July 10....

How to find collaborative digitization funding

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/ascladigitizationfunding.cfm>]

Seeking sustainable funding options for collaborative digitization projects? Look no further—you'll get the scoop on where to find them at ASCLA's full-day "After the Grant Runs Out" preconference, July 10, at the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago....

ASCLA preconference on public service

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/asclatopnotch.cfm>]

What do libraries have in common with casinos? To succeed, each must keep their customers happy and keep them coming back. Library directors and management can learn how to cultivate happy customers by attending ASCLA's half-day "Be My Guest: Customer Service from the Best" preconference, July 10, at the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago....

PLA offers human resources workshop

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/plahrworkshop.cfm>]

PLA is offering public librarians an opportunity to learn practical skills and knowledge that will help them better manage their libraries' staffing and human resources needs. The Strategic HR: Organization and Personnel Management

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/pla/plaevents/cplacourses/strategichr.cfm>] workshop, is scheduled for April 29–30 in Saratoga Springs, New York....

PLA Spring Symposium offers certificates

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/plasscertificates.cfm>]

PLA will provide Spring Symposium attendees with certificates of attendance. These certificates will include the name of the workshop attended as well as the number of hours the attendee spent in the program. Librarians can use these certificates to track continuing education contact hours....

Awards

Ray English wins 2009 Hugh C. Atkinson Award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/acrlatkinson.cfm>]

Ray English, Azariah Smith Root director of libraries at Oberlin College, Ohio, has been named the 2009 winner of the Hugh C. Atkinson Memorial Award. The award recognizes an academic librarian who has made significant contributions in the area of library automation or management. English was a primary founder of the ACRL scholarly communication program, serving as chair of the task force that led to the program and also as chair of the Scholarly Communication Committee from its inception until 2006....

Inaugural ProQuest Innovation in College Librarianship Award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/acrlproquest.cfm>]

Bruce Connolly and Gail Golderman of the Union College Schaffer Library in Schenectady, New York, have been named the 2009 recipients of the ACRL College Libraries Section's ProQuest Innovation in College Librarianship Award. This annual award, presented for the first time in 2009, honors an ACRL member who has demonstrated a capacity for innovation in working with undergraduates, instructors, or the library community....

2009 EBSS Distinguished Librarian

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/acrlbss.cfm>]

Gary Lare, former head of the curriculum resources center at the University of Cincinnati (and ventriloquist, right), is the recipient of the 2009 ACRL Education and Behavioral Sciences Section's Distinguished Education and Behavioral Sciences Librarian Award. This award honors an academic librarian who has made an outstanding contribution as an education or behavioral sciences librarian....

2009 Marta Lange CQ Press Award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/acrllange.cfm>]

Lynne M. Rudasill, associate professor of library administration and global studies librarian at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, has been named the 2009 recipient of the ACRL Law and Political Science Section's Marta Lange CQ Press Award. The award honors an academic or law librarian who has made distinguished contributions to bibliography and information service in law or political science....

[<http://www.flickr.com/photos/ricephotos/2698406532/>]2009 Oberly Award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/acrloberly.cfm>]

The International Rice Research Institute's Rice Database has been selected as the 2009 recipient of the ACRL Science and Technology Section Oberly Award for Bibliography in the Agricultural or Natural Sciences. The Rice Database (right) is a comprehensive bibliography of technical rice literature covering all aspects of rice research....

Moline Public Library wins Scholastic NLW Grant

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/campaignnlwgrant.cfm>]

The Moline (Ill.) Public Library is the winner of the 2009 Scholastic Library Publishing National Library Week Grant. The \$3,000 grant, sponsored by Scholastic Library Publishing and administered by ALA's

Public Awareness Committee, is awarded annually for the best public awareness campaign in support of National Library Week. MPL's campaign will be a community kaleidoscope of library programs to promote National Library Week, as well as the library's entire year of programming and promotions....

2009 Notable Children's Books

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/alscnb.cfm>]

ALSC has selected its 2009 list of Notable Children's Books. The list of titles includes fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and picture books of special interest, quality, creativity, and value to children 14 years of age and younger. An annotated list

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/alsc/awardsgrants/childrensnotable/notablechibooks/index.cfm>] of all of the books is on the ALSC website....

2009 Notable Children's Videos

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/alscnv.cfm>]

ALSC has selected its 2009 list of Notable Children's Videos. The list includes videos for children 14 years of age and younger that exhibit especially commendable quality, show respect for children's intelligence and imagination, and reflect and encourage the interests of children in exemplary ways. An annotated list

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/alsc/awardsgrants/childrensnotable/notablechivideos/index.cfm>] of the videos, including recommended age levels, is on the ALSC website....

2009 Notable Children's Recordings

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/alscnr.cfm>]

ALSC has selected its 2009 list of Notable Children's Recordings. The list includes recordings for children 14 years of age and younger of especially commendable quality that demonstrate respect for young people's intelligence and imagination; exhibit venturesome creativity; and reflect and encourage the interests of children and young adolescents in exemplary ways. An annotated list

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/alsc/awardsgrants/childrensnotable/notablechirecord/index.cfm>] of the recordings is on the ALSC website....

The 2009 Amelia Bloomer List

[<http://ameliabloomer.wordpress.com/2009/02/10/2009-amelia-bloomer-list/>]

The Feminist Task Force of the Social Responsibilities Round Table has announced this year's Amelia Bloomer List, featuring books for young readers, ages birth through 18, that contain significant feminist content—not just cardboard "feisty" or "spunky" girls and women, but tales of those who have broken barriers and have fought to change their situations and their environment. These 68 books for children and youth comprise the best feminist books published in the last year and a half....

Amelia Bloomer Project, Feb. 10

The 2009 Rainbow List [<http://rainbowlist.wordpress.com/rl-2009/>]

Titles in the 2009 Rainbow List, a joint undertaking of ALA's Gay,

Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgendered Round Table and Social Responsibilities Round Table, were announced February 2. Featuring well-written and well-illustrated titles with authentic and significant gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered, queer, or questioning (GLBTQ) content for youth from birth through age 18, this year's bibliography presents 34 outstanding titles, published in the last 18 months and representing a broad range of experience....
The Rainbow List, Feb. 2

2009 MAE Award for Best Literature Program for Teens
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/yalsamae.cfm>]

Valerie H. Nicholson is the winner of YALSA's 2009 MAE Award for Best Literature Program for Teens. The award provides \$500 to the recipient and \$500 to the recipient's library. Nicholson is the advisor for the Eva Perry Mock Printz Book Club (above) for Teens at the Eva Perry Regional branch of the Wake County (N.C.) Public Libraries....

2009 ALSC Distinguished Service Award
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/alscdsa.cfm>]

Jane Botham is the 2009 recipient of the ALSC Distinguished Service Award. A member of ALSC since 1957, she has served on numerous ALSC and ALA committees. Botham served as the ALSC president during a time of transition and helped to strengthen the organization with her strong leadership skills. In her retirement, Botham continues to act as a mentor and friend to younger librarians....

2009 Maureen Hayes Award winner
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/alschayes.cfm>]

ALSC has awarded the 2009 Maureen Hayes Award to the Fair Oaks branch of the Redwood City (Calif.) Public Library, partnered with the Garfield Elementary Charter School. The award will provide funds for the library to host a visit from award-winning author Pam Muñoz Ryan....

2009 Penguin Young Readers Group Award
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/alscpenguin.cfm>]

ALSC has awarded four children's librarians with the 2009 Penguin Young Readers Group Award. The award consists of a \$600 grant, sponsored by Penguin Young Readers Group, for winners to attend their first ALA Annual Conference....

2009 BWI Summer Reading Grant
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/alscbwigrant.cfm>]

ALSC has awarded the Madison (Ohio) Public Library with the 2009 BWI Summer Reading Program Grant. The \$3,000 grant, donated by Book Wholesalers, Inc., provides financial assistance to a public library for developing outstanding summer reading programs for children....

2009 Bechtel Fellowship winner
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009>]

/alscbechtel.cfm]

ALSC has awarded the 2009 Louise Seaman Bechtel Fellowship to library media specialist Linda Martin from Gainesville, Georgia. The fellowship is designed to allow a qualified children's librarian to spend a month or more reading and studying at the Baldwin Library of Historical Children's Literature, part of the George A. Smathers Libraries at the University of Florida, Gainesville....

Frances Henne Research Grant

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/yalsahenne.cfm>]

Amy Alessio, teen coordinator at the Schaumburg Township (Ill.) District Library, and Marc Aronson, editor and blogger for School Library Journal, are the 2009 recipients of YALSA's Voice of Youth Advocates Frances Henne Research Grant. The grant provides \$1,000 in seed money for small-scale projects that encourage research responding to the division's research agenda....

PROSE Award winners [http://www.publishers.org/02_ProseWinners.htm]

The Association of American Publishers has announced the winners of the 2008 American Publishers Awards for Professional and Scholarly Excellence (the PROSE Awards). More than 35 awards, including the top prize, the R. R. Hawkins Award, were presented February 5 at the organization's annual conference in Washington, D.C. The Hawkins Award went to Harvard University Press for *The Race Between Education and Technology* by Claudia Goldin and Lawrence F. Katz....

Association of American Publishers, Feb. 5

Seen Online

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Plainfield to keep its Homer another three years

[<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/02/08/nyregion/new-jersey/08colnj.html>]

The Plainfield (N.J.) Public Library dates to a gilded era when the grand mansions on the neighboring blocks were home to a concentration of wealth—tycoons, industrialists, financiers—almost unmatched in the state, and the walls were hung with the art they bequeathed to it. The library decided to auction an oil painting by artist Winslow Homer donated in 1931, but the bottom fell out of the art market when it went up for sale in 2008, and the painting failed to sell for the minimum price....

New York Times, Feb. 5

Stop me if you've heard this one [<http://www.newsweek.com/id/183675>]

Ann Banks writes: "I was raised on Depression stories. Hearing them again and again, I became fascinated by the role that stories play during hard times—the way they seem to strengthen people, offering a bulwark against loneliness and feelings of personal failure. That is how I came to find myself spending a year in a dimly lit storage room in the Library of Congress, sorting through thousands of interviews with ordinary Americans telling of how they survived the Great Depression."...

Newsweek, Feb. 16

DNA to be tested on Salt Lake library bomb

[http://www.sltrib.com/ci_11648805]

U.S. District Judge Clark Waddoups has asked lawyers in the case of a man accused of setting off a small bomb at the downtown Salt Lake City library to negotiate how they want testing to be conducted on DNA residue found on the device. Defense lawyers for Thomas James Zajac, who stands accused of setting off the device in September 2006, want an independent laboratory to do the test, while prosecutors want the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives to handle the matter....

Salt Lake Tribune, Feb. 6

Digital archivists now in demand

[<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/02/08/jobs/08starts.html>]

The people entrusted to find a place for the wealth of digital information are known as digital asset managers, or sometimes digital archivists and digital preservation officers. Whatever they are called, demand for them is expanding. One of them is Jacob Nadal (right), the preservation officer at the University of California, Los Angeles....

New York Times, Feb. 7

[<http://www.blinkx.com/video/abraham-lincoln-gets-own-motorcycle/r8zyeylYMeH8IcAS4FQV4g>]

Abe's portrait in Post-It notes and on a Harley
[<http://www.sj-r.com/bicentennial/x1452252355/16-200-sticky-notes-for-two-55-foot-Abe-portraits>]

Self-described "Post-it note artist"; Chris Killham is using 16,200 of the 3-by-3-inch squares to create two portraits of Abraham Lincoln to be placed on both sides of the bridge connecting the Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum in Springfield, Illinois. The library has also unveiled a Harley-Davidson motorcycle

[<http://www.sj-r.com/archive/x511411158/Custom-Harley-pays-tribute-to-Lincoln>] that Dave Blanchette, communications manager for the library, had customized. Blanchette thought Lincoln's days traveling on horse as an attorney for the 8th Judicial Circuit could be represented by an "iron horse" to travel the PR route....

Springfield (Ill.) State Journal-Register, Feb. 4, 10; WBBM-TV, Feb. 6

Bookstore and library join forces in Florida

[<http://www2.tbo.com/content/2009/feb/07/pa-barnes-noble-lends-a-hand-to-library-system/news-pasco/>]

It might seem odd for a private bookstore to team up to help a public library system, but some see it as a match made in heaven. The Barnes & Noble bookstore in Wesley Chapel, Florida, is only a few months old but has already opened its doors to host a February book fair on behalf of the Pasco County Library System. Proceeds raised during the event will benefit the Pasco Library Foundation, and library staff will host special events at the bookstore during the fair....

Tampa (Fla.) Tribune, Feb. 7

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Tech Talk

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Open source open letter to Obama

[<http://arstechnica.com/open-source/news/2009/02/software-vendors-encourage-obama-to-adopt-open-source.ars>]

Ryan Paul writes: "A group of software vendors published an open letter [<http://consideropensource.blogspot.com/2009/02/to-president-obama-please-consider-open.html>] February 10 to President Obama encouraging the new administration to adopt open source software in the government's IT infrastructure. The letter says that open source software can reduce costs when implementing government technology initiatives in areas like health care and security. The fact that the letter has been authored by commercial open source software vendors, however, makes it seem a bit more like an advertisement than a sincere attempt to guide open source policy."...

Ars Technica, Feb. 10

Windows 7 versions: What you need to know

[<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2340338,00.asp>]

Although Microsoft has yet to reveal the ship date of its Windows 7 operating system, the company did release Microsoft revealed there would be six versions of Windows 7, but consumers will only be able to buy either Windows 7 Home Premium or Windows 7 Professional at retail—and deliberately so; Microsoft wants to limit the confusion by only putting these two versions in front of consumers....

PC Magazine, Feb. 4

[<http://www.purplebunny.com/bbs/index5.php>] 100 web tools to help you get organized

[<http://www.online-college-blog.com/index.php/uncategorized/100-powerful-web-tools-to-organize-your-thoughts-and-ideas/>]

Alisa Miller writes: "Turn to these internet tools to help you with such tasks as note-taking, bookmarking websites, highlighting important text during online research, creating mind maps, tracking time, keeping up with appointments, collaborating with others, and managing projects."...

Online College Blog

Stupid human tricks: Long URLs and tags

[<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2340694,00.asp>]

John C. Dvorak writes: "Search engine optimization has turned into a big business, and from what I can tell it's the modern version of snake oil. Let's start with my biggest beef. Long URLs are just crap and stupid. They are impossible to post anywhere or send in an email because they get concatenated. You have to know to snip them with tinyURL or snurl. This stinks. I am going to turn them off and mock anyone using them and anyone who tells me to use them."...

PC Magazine, Feb. 10

EBSCOhost Integrated Search

[<http://www.ebscohost.com/thisTopic.php?marketID=1&topicID=1177>]

This spring, EBSCO Publishing plans to introduce a federated search feature that will allow users to search EBSCO databases as well as other database suppliers, OPACs, and publisher packages. EBSCOhost Integrated Search will also let librarians set up any database to be included, customize the user experience for external databases, and generate usage

reports from all sources....
EBSCO Publishing, Jan. 22

opens Best Sellers API

[<http://open.blogs.nytimes.com/2009/01/27/announcing-the-best-sellers-api/>]

Paul Robbins writes: "The New York Times Best Sellers API

[http://developer.nytimes.com/docs/best_sellers_api] gives users quick access to current and past bestseller lists in 11 different categories, such as hardcover nonfiction and paperback mass-market fiction. The initial launch offers every weekly list since June 2008, and in the coming months, we plan to add data going back to the 1930s." The API could be used by librarians in their OPACs or websites. Meanwhile, Reading Radar [<http://readingradar.com/>] is a new mashup using Amazon and the New York Times Bestseller Lists....

New York Times, Jan. 27; Reading Radar

Google Book Search goes mobile

[http://www.readwriteweb.com/archives/google_book_search_goes_mobile.php]

Marshall Kirkpatrick writes: "Google Book Search Mobile

[<http://books.google.com/googlebooks/mobile/>] is a very handy new version of the Google site that lets users search through and read 1.5 million books on their phones' browsers. The books are all scanned as images, but for the new mobile version Google has used OCR to grab the text on the pages." This text-only feature will allow users to download

[<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/02/06/technology/internet/06google.html>]

printed material more quickly over wireless networks....

ReadWriteWeb, Feb. 5; New York Times, Feb. 5

Publishing

Kindle 2 slims down, adds muscle, and talks

[<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2340623,00.asp>]

Amazon released the second iteration of its Kindle e-book reader February 9, a device that will hold up to 1,500 books, boasts 25% better battery life, and includes a "talk to me" feature that reads books aloud. The \$359 Kindle 2 will ship February 24. Amazon has added buttons to make it easier to flip pages, and a new five-way controller facilitates note-taking and highlighting text. Kindle 2 definitions, pulled from the New Oxford American Dictionary, appear instantly at the bottom of the page. Amazon announced

[<http://arstechnica.com/gadgets/news/2009/02/amazon-revamps-kindle-hints-at-bigger-things-to-come.ars>] its new product in the auditorium of New York City's Morgan Library. Gizmodo

[<http://i.gizmodo.com/5149634/kindle-2-first-hands-on>] has a hands-on analysis....

PC Magazine, Feb. 9; Ars Technica, Feb. 9; Gizmodo, Feb. 9

Librarians at New York Comic Con

[<http://plablog.org/2009/02/librarians-at-new-york-comic-con.html>]

Molly Phelan writes: "More public libraries have been adding manga and

graphic novels to their collections, and in return those libraries have seen a boost in circulation rates. Every year, New York Comic Con [<http://www.nycomiccon.com>] welcomes librarians with programming geared just for them. Professionals register for free, which means librarians and educators can spend the first day of the Con attending workshops, seeing what's new in the publishing world, picking up free loot on the floor for their library patrons, and gawking at the costumed fans."...
PLA Blog, Feb. 4

UClick could make paper comics obsolete
[<http://io9.com/5148753/uclick-for-iphone-will-make-comic-books-obsolete>]
Ray Wert writes: "It's a bit of a stretch to say UClick [<http://uclick.com/>] wants to kill paper comic books, but after taking an in-depth look at their iPhone app, they might actually accomplish that. In a session here at New York Comic Con, we had a chance to hear a little bit more about this not-so-well-known comic distribution company. UClick works with comic creators to transfer the medium from a page-by-page format to a more iPhone-friendly panel-by-panel format, then creates and distributes the one-issue apps you can buy on iTunes."...
io9, Feb. 8

BookExpo America moves shows to New York City
[<http://news.bookweb.org/6587.html>]
On February 10, BookExpo America [<http://www.bookexpoamerica.com/>] announced that the annual book industry trade show will be held at New York City's Jacob K. Javits Convention Center through 2012. The show was previously scheduled to take place in Washington, D.C., in 2010 and Las Vegas in 2011. Beginning in 2010, BEA will also feature a shortened, midweek schedule....
Bookselling This Week, Feb. 10

[http://www.poets.org/images/npm_poster_2009_550.gif] 2009 Poetry Month poster [<http://www.poets.org/page.php/prmID/98>]
Each April, the Academy of American Poets creates and distributes—*for free*—almost 200,000 copies of the current National Poetry Month posters to U.S. schools, libraries, bookstores, and community centers to help promote the month-long celebration and to increase poetry awareness. This year's poster was created by renowned illustrator and graphic designer Paul Sahre....
American Academy of Poets, Feb. 4

Top 10 most overrated novels
[<http://listverse.com/literature/top-10-most-overrated-novels/>]
Shane Dayton writes: "There are many titles given to great literary works, and many awards to recognize truly great literature. This list concentrates on the other side of the board: those books that are considered classics, but are in fact heavily overrated. At least one book (see #10) is a good one and a fun read, but it's rated way above the actual quality of writing. Here is the list."...
The List Universe, Feb. 10

James Patterson is the UK's most borrowed author
[<http://www.thisislondon.co.uk/standard/article-23636060-details/Harry+Pott+er+and+the+busy+librarian/article.do>]

Prolific American thriller writer James Patterson has retained his position as the UK's most borrowed author for a second year. According to the annual figures on public library lending released by Public Lending Right February 6, titles by Patterson circulated more than 1.5 million times between July 2007 and June 2008. The most popular individual title overall is J. K. Rowling's Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows....
London Evening Standard, Feb. 6

[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

Actions & Answers

President Obama says it again

[<http://www.ala.org/insidescoop/2009/02/10/president-obama-says-it-again/>]

American Libraries Editor Leonard Kniffel writes: "You probably heard it for yourself, but President Barack Obama did it again February 9. He said 'libraries.' At his first prime-time press conference

[<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/02/09/us/politics/09text-obama.html>] since taking office, he addressed a nervous nation about creating new jobs, adding, 'They'll be jobs creating the 21st-century classrooms, libraries, and labs for millions of children across America.' 'He hears us,' I thought to myself, and he hears ALA."...

AL Inside Scoop, Feb. 10

Benton Foundation: Broadband a necessity

[<http://www.eschoolnews.com/news/top-news/index.cfm?i=57211>]

As Congress debates an economic stimulus package that includes funding to boost the number of people in the United States with broadband internet access, at least one organization says access alone isn't enough—and it's urging the Obama administration to adopt strategies to stimulate broadband demand. The Benton Foundation issued its urgent call to action—Action Plan for America: Using Technology and Innovation to Address Our Nation's Critical Challenges

[http://www.benton.org/initiatives/broadband_benefits/action_plan]
—in 2008 before Congress drafted its stimulus legislation....

eSchool News, Feb. 10

New York libraries serve as job centers

[<http://readme.readmedia.com/news/show/New-York-Libraries-Play-Vital-Role-in-Helping-Patrons-Find-Jobs/394943>]

The New York Library Association announced the results February 9 of a recent survey showing that 80% of the libraries in the state have helped someone search for a job in the past three months. The poll also showed that 75% of libraries have helped a patron access a public assistance program during the same time period. However, Gov. David Paterson's 2009–10 executive budget calls for reduced state funding for library

services by 18%, which would reduce Library Aid to \$80.5 million, a level not seen since 1993....

New York Library Association, Feb. 9

StumbleUpon hits 7 million users

[http://www.readwriteweb.com/archives/stumbleupon_hits_7_million_users.php]

Marshall Kirkpatrick writes: "What's got a button to push, knows how to make money while changing the world, and is read all over? StumbleUpon [<http://stumbleupon.com>]! The social discovery network just passed 7 million users, according to its site. That's about 50% bigger than Twitter, though Stumble is rarely talked about and never promoted. If you haven't used StumbleUpon before, here's how it works."...

ReadWriteWeb, Feb. 6

Google and the future of books [<http://www.nybooks.com/articles/22281>]

Robert Darnton writes: "For the last four years, Google has been digitizing millions of books, including many covered by copyright, from the collections of major research libraries, and making the texts searchable online. After lengthy negotiations, the publishing community and Google agreed on a settlement that will have a profound effect on the way books reach readers for the foreseeable future. Those of us who are responsible for research libraries have a clear view of a common goal: We want to open up our collections and make them available to readers everywhere."...

New York Review of Books, Feb. 12

A dirty little secret

[http://www.schoollibraryjournal.com/index.asp?layout=talkbackCommentsFull&talk_back_header_id=6582438&articleid=CA6632974]

Debra Lau Whelan writes: "When Barry Lyga finished writing his second YA novel, he knew there'd be trouble. After all, Boy Toy was about a 12-year-old who has sex with a beautiful teacher twice his age. Soon Lyga started hearing stories about librarians who loved the book but refused to recommend or buy it, just in case someone complained. Self-censorship. It's a dirty secret that no one in the profession wants to talk about or admit practicing. Yet everyone knows some librarians bypass good books—those with literary merit or that fill a need in their collections—and it happens in more public and K-12 libraries than you think."...

School Library Journal, Feb. 1

Blogs: Shiny toys or useful tools?

[<http://citesandinsights.info/v9i3a.pdf>] (PDF file)

Walt Crawford writes: "We're out of the shiny new toy phase for blogs (and wikis). I'm guessing most libraries these days will only start blogs after making reasonably certain the blogs will serve real purposes and will be updated regularly. I'm guessing very few library people start blogs in the expectation of becoming rich and famous. With realistic expectations, blogs can serve librarians and libraries well. I don't see that changing rapidly."...

Cites & Insights 9, no. 3 (Feb.): 1-9

A cataloger's guide to the OCLC website

[<http://3catalogers.wordpress.com/2009/02/08/librarians-toolbox-and-where-i>

t-takes-us/]

Rich Stewart offers a brief guided tour of the varied content found on OCLC's website in the Librarian's Toolbox, [http://www.oclc.org/toolbox/default.htm] including such tools as technical bulletins, system alerts, and authority record change requests....

Three Catalogers Walk into a Blog, Feb. 8

\$60,000 history competition for students

[http://www.abc-clio.com/publishing/pressview.aspx?contentid=100398] High-school and middle-grades students have until March 30 to enter ABC-CLIO's "History Uncovered" research competition. The reference publisher will award more than \$60,000 in cash and prizes in this opportunity for teams of students, social studies teachers, and school library media specialists to participate in a meaningful competitive endeavor that emphasizes research skills along with historical and critical thinking. Teams should visit the competition website [http://www.abc-clio.com/historyuncovered/] to register.... ABC-CLIO

[http://1.bp.blogspot.com/_w-U2tg9-tC8/SYptPOsQWJI/AAAAAAAAAAmE/Qj_WJufBwGA/s1600-h/Collar2.jpg] Civil War relic discovered at Providence Public Library

[http://pplspeccoll.blogspot.com/2009/02/rhode-island-civil-war-relic-discovered.html]

Rick Ring writes: "In a wooden crate, beneath a pile of books, we found an assortment of papers which have apparently not been touched for nearly a century. The most riveting item was in a small envelope, which bore the following words written in ink: 'Piece of shirt collar worn by Maj. Sullivan Ballou when killed at Bull Run.' Inside the envelope was a strip of cloth—the shirt collar

[http://2.bp.blogspot.com/_w-U2tg9-tC8/SYp1fxMyIVI/AAAAAAAAAAmU/DjNZGQPL6vM/s1600-h/Collar1.jpg] in question." Ballou was the letter-writer

[http://www.pbs.org/civilwar/war/ballou_letter.html] made famous in Ken Burns's Civil War documentary....

Notes for Bibliophiles, Feb. 4

[http://www.authormapper.com/search.aspx?val=subject:Physics&val=subject:Astronomy] Springer launches free site to plot research trends

[http://www.springer-sbm.com/index.php?id=291&backPID=13041&L=0&tx_tnc_news=5447&cHash=67e8821d89]

Springer Science+Business has launched AuthorMapper, [http://www.authormapper.com/] a free analytical tool for discerning trends, patterns, and subject experts within scientific research. The tool searches over three million articles from Springer journals and delivers a variety of analyses of the search terms, including publication frequency by date, geographic location, and institution. Results are displayed in charts, a timeline graph, and a map powered by Google Maps....

Springer Science+Business, Feb. 2

ARL reviews its strategic plan

[http://www.arl.org/arl/governance/plan-review.shtml]

The Association of Research Libraries is reviewing its strategic plan in

2009. The process will guide ARL in setting priorities and organizing its activities for the next several years. Recently, ARL senior staff conducted an environmental scanning exercise to identify trends that will affect research libraries. The report, Transformational Times (PDF file [<http://www.arl.org/bm~doc/transformational-times.pdf>]), looks at the future of scholarly communication, public policies affecting research libraries, and the library's role in research, teaching, and learning.... Association of Research Libraries, Feb. 5

SOLINET, PALINET merge to form Lyrasis

[http://www.mergerupdate.org/~media/Files/Merger%20Talks/Merger%20Vote%20Announcement%20Release_v4.ashx] (PDF file)

The voting representatives of SOLINET and PALINET approved a merger of the two organizations with a "yes" vote of more than 95%. The effective date of the merger is April 1. The name Lyrasis was inspired by the constellation of Lyra, host to one of the galaxy's brightest stars (Vega); the suffix -sis can designate a process, often associated with change....

PALINET, Feb. 5

Michael Rosen defends British libraries

[http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/programmes/the_daily_politics/7853502.stm]

Children's author Michael Rosen appeared on the BBC television show The Daily Politics January 27 to support public libraries in the United Kingdom. In this clip (2:07), Rosen says: "Libraries support our needs for information and they support our needs for the imagination. They are our treasure houses. We cannot let them go, but we need to do a lot of work to make books central to the way we live because it is through reading that we access higher forms of thought."...

The Daily Politics, Jan. 27

[<http://www.vimeo.com/2989554>]What people in D.C. are searching for

[<http://www.vimeo.com/2989554>]

The District of Columbia Public Library staff put together this video (1:34) that displays, word-cloud style, what patrons searched for in the public catalog over a four-day period. Created with Wordle, and with music by Stereolab. Another video [<http://www.vimeo.com/2986508>] (1:17) demonstrates five days of searching....

Vimeo, Jan. 28–29

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5iWbOzNI3Do>]Larry the Loud Librarian: Episode 1 [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5iWbOzNI3Do>]

Larry is the assistant librarian and intern supervisor. He cares much about his job and about the library. He works hard at making sure every aspect of the library runs smoothly. However, despite his great desire to run a successful library he has one great flaw. He is too loud. Episode 1 (1:19) was produced, written, and acted by the Wacky Canoe comedy troupe, with Ben Coles as Larry, and the Halton Hills (Ontario) Public Library as the library. And then, there is Episode 2

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mp3RHiTVVXo>]....

YouTube, Jan. 28

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

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

ALA Annual Conference,

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

Chicago, July 9–15. Auditorium Speakers

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/2009/specialevents.cfm#auditorium>] will include James Van Praagh, Michael Connelly, Wanda Urbanska, Cokie Roberts, Junot Díaz, and Melba Pattillo Beals.

[http://booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=general_info&id=64#exclusives]

Reviews in Booklist Online Exclusives

[http://booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=general_info&id=64#exclusives]

[http://booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=general_info&id=64#exclusives]

complement Booklist's already extensive print coverage, allowing us to both review some subject areas in greater depth and weigh in more quickly on titles not released for review in advance of publication.

Occasionally, we write new reviews of older books, too, to offer fresh perspective on a familiar work. These titles are recommended, with qualifications as noted, for purchase by public and school libraries; for further information, please consult the Booklist selection policy

[<http://link.oxonet.net/s/lt?id=g8686116&si=3239099252&pc=j2004&ei=i302083>].

See the February 9 issue here

[<http://link.oxonet.net/s/ve?ei=s375462&si=h2&cfc=3html>]. NEW! From Booklist.

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=1861>]

Protect library funding in the Economic Stimulus Package.

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=1861>] The ALA Washington Office asks every single library supporter to start sending messages and calling congressional offices so that we can keep important library provisions in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. This week, the Senate and House versions of the economic stimulus package will go to conference to reconcile these pieces of legislation, and your calls and emails will help protect this funding. There are pros and cons of each version of the stimulus, and we need to protect the parts that benefit our communities.

In this issue
January/February 2009

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

Gaming @ your library

The Minneapolis-Hennepin merger

Testing the Web 2.0 waters

I Love My Librarian awards

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

The ALA Store [<http://www.alastore.ala.org>] is new and improved. Stop by for a visit to experience the new features and shop for ALA Graphics and ALA Editions products. An attractive new interface, a wishlist feature, and purchase order printing capabilities make the new ALA Store easier to navigate and use. The site features [<http://www.alastore.ala.org/about-us.aspx>] product descriptions for books with handy links to LibraryThing, WorldCat, and bookmarking sites like Delicious, as well as an RSS feed that alerts you to new products. Please note that accounts from the old ALA Store site are no longer valid; you will need to create a new user account for the new site.

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

[<http://floridalibraryjobs.org/>]

Find a job in a Florida library
[<http://joblist.ala.org/modules/jobseeker/controller.cfm?scr=jobdetail&jobid=12651>] with Florida Library Jobs.org. Search for jobs. Upload your résumé for future jobs. Florida Library Jobs, [<http://floridalibraryjobs.org/>] a service of the State Library and Archives of Florida, provides a searchable listing of job openings for library positions in Florida libraries that require a graduate degree from an ALA-accredited program. It also includes a résumé-posting service for persons with a master's degree from an ALA-accredited program seeking positions in Florida's libraries....

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

Digital Library of the Week

[http://web.me.com/jstewartroberts/Massachusetts/North_Adams_MA.html]

The Postcard Collection of J. Stewart Roberts Associates, Architects, [http://web.me.com/jstewartroberts/JSRA_POSTCARDS/Index_.html] of Somerville, Massachusetts, originated with Stewart Roberts, who began collecting cards depicting New England library buildings for which he had provided architectural services. Christian Schaller, an associate with the firm in Chicago, has added his own collection of Midwest library postcards. The collection has recently been expanded to include two more library postcard collections: The Nelle Webb Collection, of the Bloomington (Ill.) Public Library, includes 260 library postcards from 1900 to the 1930s; and the collection of Judith Holliday, a former Cornell University fine arts librarian who collected cards mailed from students during their travels. Parts of the Nelle Webb Collection are missing, and the firm is actively working to reassemble this collection, physically or at least virtually if images can be shared.

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 choose what I wear each morning by whether it will fuel someone’s dirty librarian fantasy.”

—From a postcard sent to PostSecret, [http://postsecret.blogspot.com/2009/02/sunday-secrets_08.html] an ongoing community art project where people mail in their secrets anonymously on one side of a postcard, Feb. 8.

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

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

Ask the ALA Librarian

Q. My library will be moving into a new building next year. The building design work is completed, but we haven’t begun to discuss how we will accomplish moving our collections. Does ALA have any resources that might help?

A. ALA offers Fact Sheet #14: Moving Libraries

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/hqops/library/libraryfactsheet/alalibraryfactsheet14.cfm>] and some additional resources [http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Moving_Libraries] from the library literature. Also, LLAMA is offering a preconference called Moving Your Library's Collections [<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/2009/Preconferences.pdf>] (see page 4 of this PDF). This preconference will take place on July 10. From the ALA Professional Tips wiki [http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Moving_a_library%27s_collections].

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

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/publications/crlnews/2009/feb/february.cfm>]
Laura Kohl and Maura Keating [<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/publications/crlnews/2009/feb/phoneofonesown.cfm>] describe their adventures implementing a "Text a Librarian" reference service at Bryant University in Smithfield, Rhode Island, in the February 2009 issue of ACRL's College & Research Libraries News.

Calendar

Feb. 27–

Mar. 1:

South Carolina Book Festival, [<http://www.scbookfestival.org/>] Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center.

Mar. 6–7:

Washington Antiquarian Book Fair, [<http://www.wabf.com/>] Holiday Inn Rosslyn at Key Bridge, Arlington, Virginia.

Mar. 8–14:

Teen Tech Week

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/yalsa/teentechweek/ttw09/home.cfm>].
"Press Play @ your library."

Mar. 12–15:

ACRL National Conference,

[<http://www.acrl.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/events/seattle/seattle.cfm>]
Seattle, Washington. "Pushing the Edge: Explore, Engage, Extend."

Mar. 13–15:

Florida Antiquarian Book Fair,

[<http://www.floridabooksellers.com/bookfair.html>] The Coliseum, St. Petersburg.

Mar. 28–29:
Long Island Book and Ephemera Fair,
[<http://www.news-antique.com/?id=785917>] Garden City Field House, Garden
City, New York.

Apr. 1–3:
PLA Spring Symposium,
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/pla/plaevents/plaspringsymposium/index.cfm>]
Nashville, Tennessee. “Pushing the Edge: Explore, Engage,
Extend.”

Apr. 3–4:
Albuquerque Antiquarian Book Fair, [<http://www.unm.edu/~alshal/aabf.htm>]
University of New Mexico Conference Center, Albuquerque.

Apr. 3–5:
New York Antiquarian Book Fair, [<http://sanfordsmith.com/bookfair.html>]
Park Avenue Armory, New York City.

Apr. 10–11:
Akron Antiquarian Book Fair, [<http://www.nobsweb.org/bookfair.html>] John
S. Knight Center, Akron, Ohio.

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

Apr. 15:
Sixth Annual Copyright Conference,
[<http://www.bsu.edu/library/conference/copyright/>] Ball State University,
Muncie, Indiana. “Star E-Wars.”

Apr. 19:
Vermont Antiquarian Spring Book Fair,
[<http://www.vermontisbookcountry.com/events.html>] Sheraton Hotel, South
Burlington, Vermont.

Apr. 30:
El Día de los Niños/El Día de los Libros.
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/alsc/initiatives/diadelosninos/index.cfm>
]

May 7–8:
LITACamp,
[<http://www.lita.org/ala/mgrps/divs/lita/litaevents/litacamp/index.cfm>]
Dublin, Ohio.

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

May 18–21:
4th Annual International Conference on Open Repositories,

[<https://or09.library.gatech.edu/>] Georgia Institute of Technology Hotel and Conference Center, Atlanta.

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

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American Libraries Direct

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ISSN 1559-369X.

american libraries DIRECT

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | February 18, 2009

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State of the Art Faceted Search

- ✓ Quick single search box
- ✓ Easy-to-configure site profiles
- ✓ Industry-first fuzzy search



U.S. & World News

[Stimulus package will fund libraries](#)

The \$787-billion American Recovery and Reinvestment Act ([PDF file](#)) signed by President Obama February 17 includes several economic-stimulus provisions that could directly [benefit libraries](#). ALA Washington Office Executive Director Emily Sheketoff cited librarians' role in shaping the legislation: After an amendment was introduced in the Senate that would have stripped the broadband funding for libraries, an alert from ALA generated over 1,200 phone calls in three hours, helping convince legislators to retain the provision....

American Libraries Online, Feb. 18

[Wall Street Journal to close its research library](#)

The *Wall Street Journal* has announced that it will close its news research library on March 23. Leslie A. Norman, who heads the library, said in a February 5 posting on the NewsLib online discussion group that she and News Assistant Ed Ramos had received their termination notices that day. The library closure is part of a 14-person newsroom job reduction announced by the *Journal*....

American Libraries Online, Feb. 13



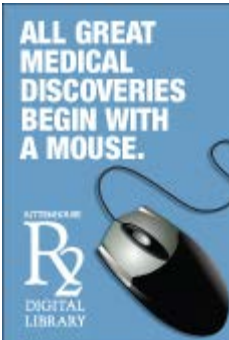
ALA News

[Help shape ALA's strategic plan](#)

Members can help strengthen and improve the programs and services that ALA provides by participating in a [survey](#) from February 23 through March 15. Log in using your seven-digit ALA member number found on your membership card and on the *American Libraries* mailing label. The survey takes approximately 15 minutes to complete. It will help ALA conduct a five-year evaluation of its programs and services as it creates a [strategic plan](#) for the future....

[Hogan, Matthews, and Young elected to Executive Board](#)

Patricia M. Hogan, Stephen L. Matthews, and Courtney L. Young have been elected to serve on the ALA Executive Board. The new board



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[ALA Annual Conference](#)

Chicago, July 9–15.

[Information on Chicago](#)

and things to do in the city is available through the Chicago Convention and Tourism Bureau.

members were elected by the ALA Council in a vote taken at the 2009 ALA Midwinter Meeting in Denver. They will each serve three-year terms beginning in July 2009 and concluding in June 2012....

[Search extended for endowment trustee](#)

In an effort to increase the pool of candidates, the ALA Executive Board has extended the search for the position of trustee for the ALA Endowment Fund. The candidate will be selected at the board's spring meeting, April 24–26. The deadline for applications is April 10....

[A new round of Virtual Poster Sessions](#)

Following the success of his Virtual Poster Sessions [last fall](#), ALA President Jim Rettig has called for a second session this spring. The focus will be "Inquire Within." Submitters are asked to communicate practical research aimed at addressing challenges that face your library. Email a proposal in the form of a summary of your library's efforts by May 1 to [John M. Budd](#)....

[Staff to discuss ALA connections](#)

The next installment in the series of ALA President Jim Rettig's ALA Connections Salons will be an online discussion with John Chrastka, director of membership development, and Kristin Murphy, government relations specialist at the ALA Washington Office. Chrastka and Murphy will discuss how ALA is connecting with members, affiliated and unaffiliated organizations nationally and abroad, government agencies, and the general public. The discussion will take place 2–3 p.m. Eastern time, February 20, in [OPAL](#)....

[Google Book Search settlement discussed](#)

Members of the library community discussed the implications of the Google Book Search settlement in a February 9 meeting hosted in Washington, D.C., by the ALA Washington Office, ACRL, and the Association of Research Libraries. Under the settlement, Google and the American Association of Publishers and Authors Guild resolved their legal dispute over the scanning of millions of books provided by research libraries. The settlement has very real implications for public policy and the way libraries of all types will operate....

Association of Research Libraries, Feb. 12

[Japanese books for U.S. public libraries](#)

Thanks to a generous grant from Toyota, the International Relations Office is offering a set of 50 translated works of Japanese modern fiction and nonfiction as a benefit to 200 public libraries that are ALA organizational members. The books provide a sampling of popular works from Japan in many genres, among them fiction, fantasy, mystery, horror, history, and manga. ALA will provide the sets to libraries on a first come, first served basis, with a final deadline of February 25. Contact [Carmen Mare](#)....



AL Focus



Planning **construction of a new library facility** or renovation of an existing one can be a daunting task. With the new fifth edition of his [Checklist of Library Building Design Considerations](#), veteran library administrator and construction consultant William Sannwald guides librarians and other members of a building design team through the stages of the design process. **NEW! From ALA Editions.**

In this issue January/February 2009



Gaming @ your library

The Minneapolis-Hennepin merger

Testing the Web 2.0 waters

[2009 Midwinter Meeting overview](#)

From Denver comes coverage (2:43) of ALA's 2009 Midwinter Meeting. Included are the announcement of this year's Newbery Medal-winning book, sights from the exhibit hall, the annual "View from the Top" discussion panel, conversations with former ALA President Carol Brey-Casiano and former Colorado State Senator Ken Gordon, and ALA Immediate Past President Lorie Roy discussing the forthcoming PBS series *We Shall Remain*....

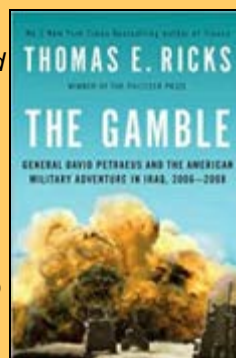


Booklist ONLINE

[Featured review: Adult books](#)

Ricks, Thomas E. *The Gamble: General David Petraeus and the American Military Adventure in Iraq, 2006–2008*. Feb. 2009. 394p. Penguin, hardcover (978-1-59420-197-4).

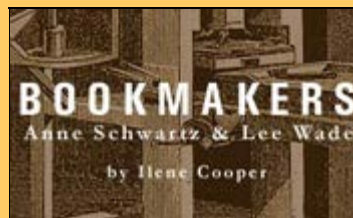
Fiasco (2006), Ricks's best-selling book about the Iraq War, dissected what went wrong. Now he explains how things began to go right. Beginning in late 2005, when the war seemed lost, he offers a compelling overview of the situation as it went forward; thanks to extensive interviews with the military principals, State Department officials, and others, there is copious detail on the rationales behind new strategies. Combining a nonfiction writer's ability to synthesize masses of facts with a storyteller's gift for narrative, Ricks shows that it was three men—retired general Jack Keene, Lieutenant General Ray Odierno, and General David Petraeus—who, in essence, went around the chain of command to put the pieces for the "surge" in place....



[Bookmakers](#)

We review books. We talk to authors. Now *Booklist* is going behind the scenes with "Bookmakers," a

new series profiling the most prominent editors, publishers, art directors, and designers in the field, who will discuss how they take raw manuscripts and illustrations and turn them into published works. To inaugurate this ongoing feature, Children's Books Editor Ilene Cooper spoke with Anne Schwartz and Lee Wade about their eponymous Random House imprint, Schwartz and Wade Books....



[Free webinar: An introduction to Booklist Online](#)

If you haven't yet visited Booklist Online, don't miss your chance for a guided tour, February 25, 3–4 p.m. Central time. This free orientation, led by Senior Editor Keir Graff,

I Love My Librarian awards



[A face for radio.](#)

Booklist Online Editor Keir Graff will appear on internet radio's [Book World News](#) at 7:30–7:45 p.m. Central time, February 18. He writes: "Even though this is the internets, and you can download it after the fact (or subscribe to the podcast on iTunes), I am told that they will actually take live questions at (646) 200-4071."

Career Leads from



[Curator of American Culinary History.](#)

William L. Clements Library, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. Responsibilities include: managing operations of the culinary history archive, including the supervision of one or more full-time and student employees as well as volunteers; selecting materials for acquisition and collection development, as part of a curatorial team; setting priorities for cataloging printed materials; cataloging the full range of materials in the

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

culinary history archive, and performing catalog maintenance of online bibliographic records....

@ [More jobs...](#)

Division News

New ALTAFF division blends two strong voices for advocacy

On February 1, ALTA and Friends of Libraries U.S.A. joined forces to form a new ALA division, the Association of Library Trustees, Advocates, Friends, and Foundations. This new division brings together trustees and Friends into a partnership that promises to extend the Association's advocacy efforts, boost membership, and grow revenues....



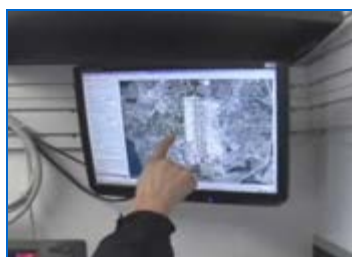
AASL's Exploratorium to explore best practices

Attendees at the AASL National Conference in Charlotte, North Carolina, will once again benefit from one of the conference's most popular events, the Exploratorium, on November 5. The Exploratorium features more than 50 small simultaneous programs that provide a taste of the current research, projects, and best practices in the school library media field....



Seattle airport uses cutting-edge bird deterrence

Librarians flying to Seattle's Sea-Tac Airport for the ACRL National Conference in March will be landing at a facility that uses technology to detect and deter birds that would otherwise get in the way of airplanes. The airport has a wildlife biologist on staff and spends \$250,000 annually on bird-removal operations, including three avian radar terminals (above) that track the birds within six miles and up to 3,000 feet. Watch the [video](#) (1:51)....



CNN, Feb. 11

ALSC preconference to shine light on intellectual freedom

ALSC will host a preconference, "Meeting the Challenge: Practical Tips and Inspiring Tales on Intellectual Freedom," on July 10 during the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. The preconference will emphasize the right to read as an essential foundation of library service to youth and will feature librarians and intellectual freedom advocates, including author Judy Blume....

Family histories uncovered at RUSA preconference

The RUSA History Section invites librarians, library staff, and personal family history researchers to attend a July 10 preconference on "From Lincoln Logs to Linkin' Families" held in conjunction with the

Digital Library of the Week



The [Nazareth \(Pa.\) Veteran's Digital Project](#). The Memorial Library of Nazareth and Vicinity has added the contents of a scrapbook kept during World War II to the Access Pennsylvania Digital Repository. The scrapbook contains more than 1,000 pictures of area servicemen and women who served during the war. In 2005, a photocopy of the scrapbook was given to the library. Because of its fragile nature, the library decided to digitize the collection and make it accessible on its website. A grant sponsored by state Rep. Richard T. Grucela made it possible for the library to have the scrapbook digitized by the OCLC Preservation Service Center in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. Director Lynn Snodgrass-Pilla applied to the Office of

2009 ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. The one-day event highlights newly available Illinois-specific genealogy resources as well as resources for African-American family history research....

[RUSA preconference on older adults](#)

The current economic downturn is prompting more older adults to turn to the library for assistance with job searching and other resource needs. Librarians looking to better serve this growing population segment can plan to attend the July 10 preconference, "A Dialogue with the Aging Network and the Library Community: The New Guidelines on Library and Information Services to Older Adults," at the 2009 ALA Annual Conference in Chicago....

Awards

[PLA award winners represent excellence in public libraries](#)

PLA has announced the winners of eight awards, honoring the best in public library service and innovation. Among the winners are Barbara Clubb of the Ottawa (Ont.) Public Library; Donna Nicely of the Nashville (Tenn.) Public Library; the Scottsdale (Ariz.) Public Library; and the Gail Borden Public Library in Elgin, Illinois....

[2009 Coretta Scott King Review book donation grants](#)

The Coretta Scott King Book Awards Committee has awarded 2009 Coretta Scott King Review book donation grants to East Iberville School (right) in St. Gabriel, Louisiana; the Huntsville-Madison County (Ala.) Public Library; and the Legal Aid Society Juvenile Rights Practice of New York. The grants help to bring books into the lives of children in latchkey programs, preschool programs, faith-based reading projects, homeless shelters, charter schools, and underfunded libraries....



[ACRL Women's Studies Career Achievement Award](#)

Linda Krikos, faculty emerita at the Ohio State University Libraries in Columbus, has been selected as the 2009 winner of the ACRL Women's Studies Section Career Achievement Award. The award, sponsored by Greenwood Publishing Group, honors significant long-standing contributions to women's studies in the field of librarianship over the course of a career....



[Three libraries selected for Bookapalooza](#)

ALSC has announced the winners of its third annual Bookapalooza program. The three libraries selected to receive a collection of children's materials are Fletcher (Okla.) Public School Library, Laguna (N.Mex.) Public Library, and Henry Whittemore Elementary School Library in Waltham, Massachusetts....

[Two schools win Alibris collection grant](#)

Online bookseller Alibris has named the Wapello (Iowa) Junior/Senior High School and the Mark Twain Elementary School and Academy in Detroit, Michigan, as cowinners of the 2009 Alibris Collection Award. The Wapello school will receive \$1,500 for historical fiction books to

Commonwealth Libraries to have the digital scrapbook included in the Access Pennsylvania Digital Repository, which encourages a collaborative partnership among the state's libraries, historical societies, museums, and other institutions.

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

"Public libraries should be sacredly respected by all belligerents, and I am sure General Sherman will, someday, regret that he permitted this library to be destroyed and plundered."

—Attributed to an angry Union officer after federal troops looted and destroyed books in the library of the Georgia State Capitol building in Milledgeville during Sherman's March to the Sea, Nov. 23, 1864, quoted in Noah Andre Trudeau, *Southern Storm: Sherman's March to the Sea* (Harper, 2008), p. 222.



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

replace those damaged in the 2008 flood, and the Mark Twain school will receive the same amount for story books to prepare students for an increasingly global economy....

Literacy News, Feb. 15

Two authors share Lincoln Prize

Two books will share the 2009 Lincoln Prize, bestowed by Gettysburg College for scholarship on the 16th president. The winning works are *Tried by War: Abraham Lincoln as Commander in Chief* by James M. McPherson, and *Lincoln and His Admirals: Abraham Lincoln, the U.S. Navy, and the Civil War* by Craig L. Symonds. Each author will receive \$25,000 and a bronze cast of Lincoln at a ceremony on April 7....

New York Times, Feb. 11



Miriam Braverman Prize: Call for papers

Are you an LIS student interested in activism and the struggle for social justice? Do you stay awake at night thinking about how your politics might inform your professional practice? The Miriam Braverman Memorial Prize, sponsored by the Progressive Librarians Guild, is awarded each year for the best paper about some aspect of the social responsibilities of librarians, libraries, or librarianship. The deadline is May 1....

Progressive Librarians Guild

Seen Online

The 21st-century school librarian

A group of 5th-graders huddled around laptop computers in the school library overseen by Stephanie Rosalia and looked at a website about explorers that was intentionally peppered with misinformation. Rosalia, school librarian at P.S. 225, a combined elementary and middle school in Brighton Beach, Brooklyn, urged caution. Most of the students ignored her, as she knew they would. But Nozimakon Omonullaeva, 11, noticed something odd on a page about Christopher Columbus. Watch the [video](#) (5:32)....

New York Times, Feb. 15



Recession has many running for the library

CNN's Jessica Doyle reports that "many Americans are turning to an 'old friend' to aid in their job search . . . the public library." The news segment (1:16) featured interviews with ALA President Jim Rettig and Arlington (Va.) Public Library Director Diane Kresh (right)....

CNN / KCAL-TV, Los Angeles, Feb. 11



Libraries and Lincoln are natural partners

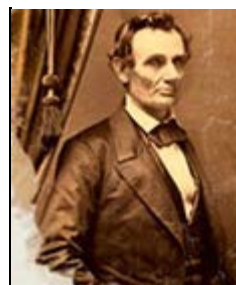
It's all Lincoln, all the time, in [libraries](#) in [Illinois](#) and across the [United States](#). One of the biggest programs is at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential

Ask the ALA Librarian



Q. I was at a meeting yesterday where others were talking about having to remove all older books from their libraries because of some new law. Is this true?

A. Yes, it is true there is a new law, the [Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act](#), that mandates testing for lead in any product marketed for children. Some provisions of the law became effective February 10. However, on January 30 the Consumer Product Safety Commission announced a stay of implementation ([PDF file](#)) of the act until February 10, 2010. So, emphatically *no*, you do not have to pull books off your shelves because of the law. So what should you do? You should continue to monitor activity on this law, by subscribing to [District Dispatch](#), checking the [issue summary](#) from the Washington Office, or watching our [wiki page](#). However, regular [collection review and weeding](#) is always in order. But, please, don't throw



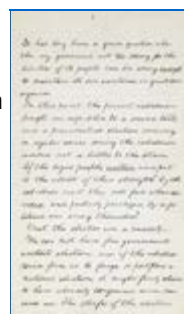
Library and Museum in Springfield, Illinois, which is headquartering the 2008–10 Lincoln Bicentennial celebration. The [Library of Congress](#) is exhibiting the Bible used both by Lincoln and Barack Obama in taking their oaths of office, a letter suggesting Lincoln grow a beard to improve his sullen appearance, and the items found in Lincoln's pockets the night of his murder. The [University of Rochester](#) is posting online digital [facsimiles](#) of Fanny Seward's diary describing the failed attempt on the life of her father (Secretary of State William Seward) the same night as the Lincoln assassination....

Philadelphia Inquirer, Feb. 15; *Rock Island (Ill.) Argus*, Feb. 6; Newberry Library; University of Iowa; *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, Feb. 13; University of Rochester, Feb. 9

Library sells Lincoln notes for record price

The Southworth Library in Dryden, New York, had been holding on to Abraham Lincoln's original notes for his 1864 reelection victory speech for more than 80 years. But on February 12 the library sold the manuscript to an anonymous buyer at an auction at Christie's New York for \$3.44 million—the highest amount paid at auction for a historical American manuscript. The notes were [presented](#) to the library in 1926 by the widow of Rep. John Wilbur Dwight, a Dryden native, who had received them from Lincoln's son in appreciation for his work in support of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C....

Ithaca (N.Y.) Journal, Feb. 13; Southworth Library



Facebook backtracks on terms-of-use update

After outcry from just about every corner of the web over Facebook's [controversial change](#) to its terms of use, the company has hit the rewind button. Facebook has reverted to the previous version of the terms—one that doesn't include the disputed clause that granted the company permission to maintain user data indefinitely, founder Mark Zuckerberg announced on a [post](#) to the company blog February 17. The change came just a day after Zuckerberg's unsatisfying [response](#) to privacy concerns....

Los Angeles Times, Feb. 16, 18; Facebook blog, Feb. 16–17

UCLA Library receives its largest donation ever

This July, the University of California, Los Angeles, library system will receive a check for \$1 million, the first installment of a \$5-million donation. The donation is the largest gift ever for library collections, and comes from the Arcadia trust, a London-based funding group whose mission is the preservation of cultural knowledge and materials. University Librarian Gary E. Strong [said](#) the money could be used to build new collections or expand digitization efforts into new areas of concentration....

UCLA Daily Bruin, Feb. 13; UCLA, Feb. 10

Another librarian on Jeopardy

University of Georgia reference librarian, graphic designer, and cake artist Diane Trap dethroned a *Jeopardy* champion on national television February 13. Sixty of Trap's library colleagues

books on the basis of hearsay! From the [ALA Professional Tips wiki](#).

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

Customer service, the Trump way. "Be My Guest: Customer Service from the Best," a preconference offered July 10 by ASCLA, will address what libraries can do to ensure patrons a welcoming and positive library experience. The content is based on a successful program previously hosted by the New Jersey State Library in partnership with Trump Entertainment Resorts in Atlantic City, New Jersey.

Calendar

Mar. 9–12:

[Association for Computing Machinery](#).

Symposium on Applied Computing, Hilton Hawaiian Village Beach Resort and Spa Waikiki Beach, Honolulu.

Mar. 8–14:

[Teen Tech Week](#).

"Press Play @ your library."

Mar. 12–14:

and friends crammed into the Blind Pig Tavern in Athens to watch her appearance. Trap had to keep her victory a secret until then, since the episode was taped in Los Angeles in December. After winning \$21,400, Trap [competed](#) again on February 16, but came in third place defending her title....

Athens (Ga.) Banner-Herald, Feb. 13, 17



[Branch closures in Terre Haute](#)

The Vigo County (Ind.) Public Library plans to close three of its Terre Haute branches in a budget-cutting move. The library board approved the closures with a 6–1 vote on February 16, with administrators saying the action will save about \$900,000 and result in the layoff of as many as 14 workers. The Meadows branch is under a temporary lease and could close at the end of February, while the North and South branches could close in March....

Terra Haute Tribune Star, Feb. 16

[Light trustee duty doubled former senator's pension](#)

John A. Brennan Jr. won praise when he resigned after 19 years of service as a member of the Malden (Mass.) Public Library board of trustees, a volunteer seat he held despite a busy career as a lobbyist. Brennan, a 63-year-old former state senator who departed the Legislature in 1990, barely attended monthly library board meetings during the last four years. Yet instead of receiving \$19,097 a year in retirement based on 16 years as a full-time legislator in the 1970s and 1980s, he will receive a \$41,088 annual pension for the combination of his legislative and library service....

Boston Globe, Feb. 11

[Storm blows roof off Tennessee library](#)

Residents cleaned up after a scary storm February 11 left a librarian at the Deer Lodge (Tenn.) Library wondering if she'd be alive to see another day. Librarian Sherry Waschevski (right) was temporarily trapped inside when part of the roof blew off the Abner Ross Community Center where the library is located. Waschevski said there was no damage to the library interior, but the flat roof leaks so they will need to get it covered soon....

WVLT-TV, Knoxville, Feb. 12



[Library hosts coupon-cutting club](#)

Advertising coupons are more popular than ever as many shoppers look for ways to save money. The Mint Hill branch of the Public Library of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, hosts a coupon-cutting club to help their patrons save money. "I think some people are intimidated to use coupons. They think it's too complicated or it's going to be too much work," said Mint Hill staffer Jessica Brewer (above)....

News 14 Carolina, Raleigh, Feb. 15



[Louisiana Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Hilton Capitol Center, Baton Rouge.

Mar. 13–16:

[Alaska Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Kodiak High School. "Libraries: Going the Distance."

Mar. 20–22:

[Information Architecture Summit 2009: Expanding Our Horizons](#), The Peabody Memphis Hotel, Tennessee.

Mar. 23–25:

[The Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence](#), Spring 2009 Symposium Series, Stanford University, California.

Mar. 30–

Apr. 1: [Computers in Libraries](#), Hyatt Regency Crystal City, Arlington, Virginia.

Mar. 31–

Apr. 3: [Texas Library Association](#), Annual Conference, George R. Brown Convention Center, Houston. "Libraries: Creating Communities of Ideals and Innovation."

Apr. 2–4:

[PLA Spring Symposium](#), Nashville, Tennessee.

Apr. 8–10:

[**A library is transforming Kenya's largest slum**](#)

A remarkable library, run by the Nicofeli Youth Club, is promoting reading culture and bringing communities together in Kibera, Nairobi's worst neighborhood. The library is the brainchild of Ron Reason, a worldwide expert in design and publishing, who discovered that Kibera residents were readers and returned to Chicago to set the wheels in motion to create a library for this distressed neighborhood....

Nairobi Standard, Feb. 14



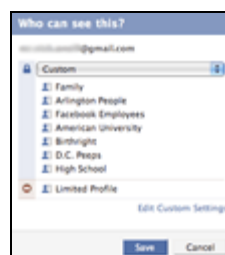
[Go back to the Top](#)

Tech Talk

[**10 privacy settings every Facebook user should know**](#)

Nick O'Neill writes: "Every day I receive an email from somebody about how their account was hacked, how a friend tagged them in the photo and they want a way to avoid it, as well as a number of other complications related to their privacy on Facebook. Here is a step-by-step process for protecting your privacy."...

AllFacebook, Feb. 2



[**Do we need a new internet?**](#)

Security on the internet is bad. Bad enough that there is a growing belief among engineers and security experts that internet security and privacy have become so maddeningly elusive that the only way to fix the problem is to start over. What a new internet might look like is still widely debated, but one alternative would, in effect, create a "gated community" where users would give up their anonymity and certain freedoms in return for safety....

New York Times, Feb. 14

[**Sniffing out illicit BitTorrent files**](#)

Duncan Graham-Rowe writes: "A new technique has been developed for detecting and tracking illegal content transferred using the BitTorrent file-trading protocol. According to its creators, the approach can monitor networks without interrupting the flow of data and provides investigators with hard evidence of illicit file transfers. When the tool detects such a file, it keeps a record of the network addresses involved for later analysis."...

Technology Review, Feb. 12

[**The five best tools for a personal movie collection**](#)

Jason Fitzpatrick writes: "It's easy to lose track of DVDs and downloaded videos in a big collection. To keep better tabs on your visual stuff, check out our top five finalists for best movie cataloging tools. Several of our favorites in this list are paid commercial releases. The price and supported operating system are noted beside each entry."...

Lifehacker, Feb. 15



[**Tennessee Library Association**](#), Annual Conference, Nashville Airport Marriott.

Apr. 15–18:
[**Museums and the Web**](#), Indianapolis.

Apr. 27–29:
[**New Jersey Library Association**](#), Annual Conference, Long Branch. "New Jersey Libraries Rock."

May 11–12:
[**National Library Legislative Day**](#), Liaison Hotel, Washington, D.C.

May 22–23:
[**Ethics of Information Organization**](#), University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

May 26–29:
[**International Conference on Qualitative and Quantitative Methods in Libraries**](#), Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Chania Conference Centre, Chania, Crete, Greece.

May 28:
[**Human-Computer Interaction Lab**](#), Annual Symposium, University of Maryland, College Park.

May 28–30:
[**Canadian Association for Information Science**](#), Annual Conference, Carleton University, Ottawa. "Mapping the 21st Century Information Landscape: Borders, Bridges, and Byways."

[20 WordPress tricks to improve your blog](#)

Steven Snell writes: "One of the reasons WordPress is so popular is because of its flexibility. Designers, developers, and bloggers have plenty of options. In this post we'll look at a combination of tutorials for improving a WordPress-based site, and plugins that can provide added functionality that will bring new possibilities."...

Designm.ag, Feb. 11

[Why there isn't a perfect e-book reader](#)

Matt Buchanan writes: "Amazon's [Kindle 2](#), announced February 9, is probably the best e-book reader you can buy. But [neither it](#), nor any other reader out there, will be converting the masses anytime soon. Here's why: display technology. Readers are, after all, designed for the singular purpose of displaying content that's easy on the eyes. As of now, there are two display camps—electronic paper and LCD—and both have far too many compromises at the moment to be adequate for a reading revolution."...

Gizmodo, Feb. 9, 12



[Top 9 dirty tricks online scammers use](#)

Joan Goodchild writes: "What the average guy might call a con is known in the security world as social engineering. Social engineering is the criminal art of scamming a person into doing something or divulging sensitive information. These days, there are thousands of ways for con artists to pull off their tricks (See [Social Engineering: Eight Common Tactics](#)). Here we look at some of the most common lines these people are using to fool their victims."...

PC World, Feb. 17; CSO, Nov. 6, 2008

Publishing

[Free online resources for *The Tales of Charles Dickens*](#)

The Tales of Charles Dickens began February 15 on the PBS Masterpiece Classic series with a new adaptation of *Oliver Twist*, and will be followed by *David Copperfield*, *Little Dorrit*, and *The Old Curiosity Shop*. For librarians, *The Masterpiece Guide to Teaching Charles Dickens* ([PDF file](#)), featuring provocative discussion questions and interactive activities, can be downloaded from the Masterpiece website....

Public Broadcasting Service



[March is Women's History Month](#)

In recognition of Women's History Month in March, Gale is offering free resources and activities on its Women's History Month website. The site offers such free resources as suggested activities, weekly quizzes, biographies, a timeline, and links to complement classroom topics. New downloadable bookmarks, a calendar, and screensavers are also available....

Gale Cengage Learning, Feb. 17



[Jewish women's history online](#)

@ More...

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Association

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ISSN 1559-369X.

A free, comprehensive, online resource on the history of Jewish women will debut March 1 on the Jewish Women's Archive [website](#). *Jewish Women: A Comprehensive Historical Encyclopedia*, edited by Paula Hyman of Yale University and Dalia Ofer of Hebrew University of Jerusalem, includes more than 1,700 biographies, 300 thematic essays, and 1,400 photographs and illustrations. The 2006 encyclopedia was previously available only on CD-ROM, but the online version will have an improved interface and enhanced features....

Jewish Women's Archive, Feb. 2



Books about universities

Lorcan Dempsey writes: "Many of the pages in WorldCat Identities are for corporate authors. It is interesting in these cases to see what the most widely held items about the institution in question are. The list of most widely held items about [Ohio State University](#) has a strong football flavor. Thinking along these lines, I tried Notre Dame, only to discover that the [list](#) is dominated by mystery novels written by [Ralph McInerny](#)."...

Lorcan Dempsey's Weblog, Feb. 16

A new Read Meme

Kaite Stover writes: "I am always looking for a fun activity to do with any number of book groups. They make great ice breakers for the attendees and also give me an idea of who my readers are. Here is a book meme that could be a great opening activity for a new book group or a refresher for a longstanding one. Once you've answered all the questions, tag 150,000 of your closest friends, relatives, librarians, and various and sundry other book pushers."...

Book Group Buzz, Feb. 16



Actions & Answers

Obama license plates help fund Illinois libraries

The Illinois Library Association is offering official Barack Obama special-event Illinois license plates for \$50 a pair to help fund the group's activities. The plates are available for purchase for \$50 a pair. The proceeds will support the association's summer reading program. The plates can be displayed on Illinois vehicles until April 17, after which they can be purchased nationwide as a collectible. ILA hopes to have them on sale at the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago....

Illinois Library Association

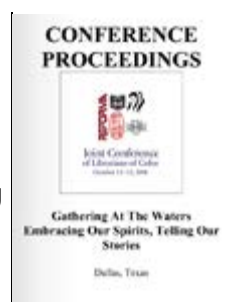


JCLC 2006 Conference Proceedings

Gathering at the Waters: Embracing Our Spirits, Telling Our Stories, the Proceedings of the First National Joint Conference of Librarians of Color, October 11–15, 2006, Dallas, Texas, has been

published online using Nxtbook Media's page-turning technology. Edited by Gladys Smiley Bell, the proceedings includes keynote speakers, hot topics, and contributed papers....

Joint Conference of Librarians of Color



[The LJ Index of Public Library Service 2009](#)

Library Journal's new national rating of public libraries, the *LJ* Index of Public Library Service, identifies the star libraries in the United States. The index, by Ray Lyons and Keith Curry Lance and sponsored by Baker and Taylor's Bibliostat, rates 7,115 public libraries according to four output measures that indicate public service—circulation per capita, visits per capita, program attendance per capita, and public internet usage per capita—based on 2006 data collected by the Institute of Museum and Library Services and published in late 2008....

Library Journal, Feb. 15, pp. 26–33

[Freedom to Read Week in Canada](#)

Freedom to Read Week, February 22–28, encourages Canadians to think about and reaffirm their commitment to intellectual freedom, guaranteed under the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. The event, now in its 25th year, is sponsored by the Canada Council for the Arts and receives support from readers, writers, publishers, librarians, educators, booksellers, and other organizations....

Freedom to Read Week



[FDsys goes live](#)

Miriam A. Drake writes: "The U.S. Government Printing Office hit the switch in early February and brought up its new digital system, [FDsys](#), that will ultimately replace [GPO Access](#). FDsys is an information management system that enables GPO to gather, process, preserve, archive, and make U.S. government information available to the public. It currently provides access to more than 154,000 documents. Document migration from GPO Access is expected to be completed by mid-2009 when the system will provide access to more than 300,000 documents."...

Information Today, Feb. 17



[Show us the data](#)

OpenTheGovernment.org and the Center for Democracy and Technology recently launched a website that allows the public to decide what government information should be available on the internet. [Show Us the Data](#) gives the public the opportunity to share what documents they think should be made available and vote on the documents that others have submitted. The deadline to participate is March 9....

District Dispatch, Feb. 17

[Project Information Literacy progress report](#)

Project Information Literacy is a national study about

early adults and their information-seeking behaviors, competencies, and the challenges they face when conducting research in the digital age. Based in the University of Washington's iSchool, the progress report ([PDF file](#)) investigates how students on seven college campuses conduct research for coursework and how they conduct everyday research for use in their daily lives....

Project Information Literacy, Feb. 4



Open access at risk again

On February 3, Rep. John Conyers (D-Mich.) reintroduced a bill that would reverse the NIH Public Access Policy and make it impossible for other federal agencies to put similar policies into place. The legislation is the Fair Copyright in Research Works Act (H.R. 801)([PDF file](#)). In effect, the bill would severely limit the ability of federal agencies to use works that they have funded to support and fulfill agency missions and to communicate with and educate the public....

Alliance for Taxpayer Access, Feb. 11

It's the collections that are special

Lisa Carter writes: "I'm beginning to think that what's wrong with special collections and archives today is that they are considered special. They are set aside, revered, and left as the last great mystery the library holds. The collections themselves *are* special in that they are rare, unique, fantastic, and archaic and they do need special handling and care. However, our regard for these materials has enabled us to treat them so differently that they are not accessible."...

In the Library with the Lead Pipe, Feb. 11



The library website of the future

Steven Bell writes: "The urge to plunge into the cornucopia of electronic riches that lies waiting in the library's highly organized portal should be irresistible. It should be a scholar's dream, but there's trouble in paradise. The August 2008 Ithaka Report, *Studies of Key Stakeholders in the Digital Transformation of Higher Education* ([PDF file](#)), shows there is a significant disconnect when it comes to faculty use of the library's website as a gateway, or portal, to access that wealth of electronic content. This needs to change."...

Inside Higher Ed, Feb. 17

Pennsylvania's Legislator @ your library campaign

The Pennsylvania School Librarians Association has launched a new effort to educate a whole new student body. The [Legislator @ your library campaign](#) is a way for PSLA members to invite local state legislators to visit school libraries. Visits are designed to showcase the importance of school libraries in student academic achievement, to promote the library as a place of learning, to demonstrate the role of school library media specialists, and to create new partners in library advocacy....

Pennsylvania School Librarians Association



[10 Gmail Labs features you should enable](#)

Adam Pash writes: "Gmail has been slowly but surely rolling out cool new features ever since they started Gmail Labs. If you haven't taken advantage of the fruits of Labs, here's a look at 10 Labs features you should enable, including offline Gmail, multiple inboxes, and tasks."...

Lifehacker, Feb. 6

[Books trump internet in Canadian librarians' debate](#)

Don Mills, director of library services for the Mississauga (Ont.) Library System, stood up in front of 30 people in the Texaco Room of the Port Credit branch February 5 and told his stunned audience that with the advance of the internet, their books were no better than door jams. Cambridge (Ont.) Public Library Director Greg Hayton countered that "the internet encourages distractions." After the public debate (sponsored by the local Rotary Club) was over, the audience voted 21 to 10 in favor of books....

Green Lights, Feb. 7

[ULC expands search for new CEO](#)

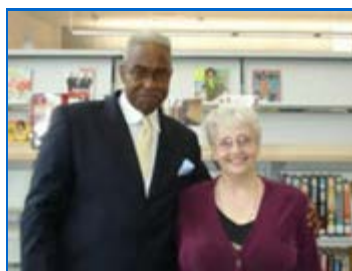
The Urban Libraries Council is continuing its search for a new president and chief executive officer. The ULC launched its search in late 2008 and will continue it through the first quarter of 2009, expanding to a broader audience of potential candidates....

Urban Libraries Council, Feb. 12

[How Markham built its new library](#)

Trustee Treasurer Sue Klaus (right) tells the story (7:18) of how Markham, Illinois, built its new Bradford Anderson Oglesby Public Library, from passing a referendum in 2002, through various stages of construction, to the grand opening in March 2008....

YouTube, Mar. 9, 2008



[Tasty choices @ your library](#)

The McCracken County Public Library in Paducah, Kentucky, produced this PSA (0:32) in 2006 to highlight the "scrumptious selection of choices to feed your mind at a price everyone can afford." The library serves these diners an exquisite menu of bibliothecal delights....

YouTube, Aug. 9, 2006



[New Jersey's new library commercial](#)

This is a 30-second commercial the New Jersey State Library produced for the state Public Television Network that highlights how libraries are helping patrons get jobs in tough economic times. "Nearly 200,000 people use New Jersey library computers every week."...

YouTube, Feb. 12



[The Weigle Information Commons music video](#)

Students are singing about the wonders of the David B. Weigle Information Commons, located in the University of Pennsylvania's Van Pelt Library, in this video (3:03) directed by Ryan A. Leonard. Sung to the tune of Petula Clark's "Downtown": "We can forget all our troubles, forget all our cares, and go Weigle."...

University of Pennsylvania



[The Wizard of Oz: A tale of library circulation](#)

The Draper branch of the Salt Lake County (Utah) Library portrayed itself as an Oz-like fantasyland in this short video (2:10), first presented at the 2007 ALA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. Library Director Jim Cooper was the executive producer. Directed by Ernest Q. Bourne, with actors Telesa Rountree (Dorothy), Beverly Dusserre (librarian), Darlene Dineen (witch), Alexis Alires (Lion), and Karl Gilchrist (Tin Woodman and Scarecrow)....

YouTube, June 25, 2007



[Erik the Librarian: Is this a dream, Lucifer?](#)

In episode 4 (2:36) of this original 60Frames series, Matt Besser accuses Matt Braunger of book theft, while Mindy Kaling (right, star of the NBC-TV sitcom *The Office*) attempts to retrieve her keys out of the library's lost and found without Erik the Librarian noticing her presence. Created by Brent Forrester (consulting producer for *The Office*), the [Erik the Librarian Mysteries](#) are a series of shorts about a reclusive librarian, played by Erik Charles Nielsen, who falls in love with Mindy....

Retrovision Internet TV; 60Frames, Feb. 28, 2008



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AL Direct, February 18, 2009

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here [[<%= util.viewHtmlLink %>\].](#)

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | February 18, 2009

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

[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

U.S. & World News

Stimulus package will fund libraries

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2009/February2009/libsinstimulus.cfm>]

The \$787-billion American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (PDF file [<http://fdsys.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/BILLS-111hr1ENR/pdf/BILLS-111hr1ENR.pdf>]) signed by President Obama February 17 includes several economic-stimulus provisions that could directly benefit libraries.

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/wo/woissues/washfunding/fedfund/arra101.cfm>] ALA Washington Office Executive Director Emily Sheketoff cited librarians' role in shaping the legislation: After an amendment was introduced in the Senate that would have stripped the broadband funding for libraries, an alert from ALA generated over 1,200 phone calls in three hours, helping convince legislators to retain the provision....

American Libraries Online, Feb. 18

to close its research library

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2009/February2009/>

wsjcloselibrary.cfm]

The Wall Street Journal has announced that it will close its news research library on March 23. Leslie A. Norman, who heads the library, said in a February 5 posting on the NewsLib online discussion group that she and News Assistant Ed Ramos had received their termination notices that day. The library closure is part of a 14-person newsroom job reduction announced by the Journal....

American Libraries Online, Feb. 13

ALA News

=====

Help shape ALA's strategic plan

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/alasurvey.cfm>]

Members can help strengthen and improve the programs and services that ALA provides by participating in a survey [<http://www.ala.org/2015survey>] from February 23 through March 15. Log in using your seven-digit ALA member number found on your membership card and on the American Libraries mailing label. The survey takes approximately 15 minutes to complete. It will help ALA conduct a five-year evaluation of its programs and services as it creates a strategic plan

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/missionhistory/plan/aheadto2010bak.cfm>] for the future....

Hogan, Matthews, and Young elected to Executive Board

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/governanceeb.cfm>]

Patricia M. Hogan, Stephen L. Matthews, and Courtney L. Young have been elected to serve on the ALA Executive Board. The new board members were elected by the ALA Council in a vote taken at the 2009 ALA Midwinter Meeting in Denver. They will each serve three-year terms beginning in July 2009 and concluding in June 2012....

Search extended for endowment trustee

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/governance/financialdata/EndowTrusteeAnnouncement08.cfm>]

In an effort to increase the pool of candidates, the ALA Executive Board has extended the search for the position of trustee for the ALA Endowment Fund. The candidate will be selected at the board's spring meeting, April 24-26. The deadline for applications is April 10....

A new round of Virtual Poster Sessions

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/rettigposters2.cfm>]

Following the success of his Virtual Poster Sessions last fall, [http://presentations.ala.org/index.php?title=2009_Virtual_Posters] ALA President Jim Rettig has called for a second session this spring. The focus will be "Inquire Within"; Submitters are asked to communicate practical research aimed at addressing challenges that face your library. Email a proposal in the form of a summary of your library's efforts by May 1 to John M. Budd [<mailto:BuddJ@missouri.edu>]....

Staff to discuss ALA connections

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/rettigconnections.cfm>]

The next installment in the series of ALA President Jim Rettig's ALA Connections Salons will be an online discussion with John Chrastka, director of membership development, and Kristin Murphy, government relations specialist at the ALA Washington Office. Chrastka and Murphy will discuss how ALA is connecting with members, affiliated and unaffiliated organizations nationally and abroad, government agencies, and the general public. The discussion will take place 2–3 p.m. Eastern time, February 20, in OPAL
[<http://www.conference321.com/masteradmin/room.asp?id=rs423c62c43df0>]....

Google Book Search settlement discussed

[<http://www.arl.org/news/pr/google-12feb09.shtml>]

Members of the library community discussed the implications of the Google Book Search settlement in a February 9 meeting hosted in Washington, D.C., by the ALA Washington Office, ACRL, and the Association of Research Libraries. Under the settlement, Google and the American Association of Publishers and Authors Guild resolved their legal dispute over the scanning of millions of books provided by research libraries. The settlement has very real implications for public policy and the way libraries of all types will operate....
Association of Research Libraries, Feb. 12

Japanese books for U.S. public libraries

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/iro/iroactivities/japanesebookdonation.cfm>]

Thanks to a generous grant from Toyota, the International Relations Office is offering a set of 50 translated works of Japanese modern fiction and nonfiction as a benefit to 200 public libraries that are ALA organizational members. The books provide a sampling of popular works from Japan in many genres, among them fiction, fantasy, mystery, horror, history, and manga. ALA will provide the sets to libraries on a first come, first served basis, with a final deadline of February 25. Contact Carmen Mare [<mailto:cmare@ala.org>]....

AL Focus

2009 Midwinter Meeting overview

[<http://alfocus.ala.org/videos/2009-midwinter-meeting-overview>]

From Denver comes coverage (2:43) of ALA's 2009 Midwinter Meeting. Included are the announcement of this year's Newbery Medal-winning book, sights from the exhibit hall, the annual "View from the Top" discussion panel, conversations with former ALA President Carol Brey-Casiano and former Colorado State Senator Ken Gordon, and ALA Immediate Past President Lorie Roy discussing the forthcoming PBS series We Shall Remain....

Featured review: Adult books

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=3388138]

Ricks, Thomas E. *The Gamble: General David Petraeus and the American Military Adventure in Iraq, 2006–2008*. Feb. 2009. 394p. Penguin, hardcover (978-1-59420-197-4).

Fiasco (2006), Ricks's best-selling book about the Iraq War, dissected what went wrong. Now he explains how things began to go right. Beginning in late 2005, when the war seemed lost, he offers a compelling overview of the situation as it went forward; thanks to extensive interviews with the military principals, State Department officials, and others, there is copious detail on the rationales behind new strategies. Combining a nonfiction writer's ability to synthesize masses of facts with a storyteller's gift for narrative, Ricks shows that it was three men—retired general Jack Keene, Lieutenant General Ray Odierno, and General David Petraeus—who, in essence, went around the chain of command to put the pieces for the “surge” in place....

Bookmakers

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=3313337]

We review books. We talk to authors. Now Booklist is going behind the scenes with “Bookmakers,” a new series profiling the most prominent editors, publishers, art directors, and designers in the field, who will discuss how they take raw manuscripts and illustrations and turn them into published works. To inaugurate this ongoing feature, Children's Books Editor Ilene Cooper spoke with Anne Schwartz and Lee Wade about their eponymous Random House imprint, Schwartz and Wade Books....

Free webinar: An introduction to Booklist Online

[<https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/638377917>]

If you haven't yet visited Booklist Online, don't miss your chance for a guided tour, February 25, 3–4 p.m. Central time. This free orientation, led by Senior Editor Keir Graff, demonstrates Booklist Online's value as a selection, collection development, and readers' advisory tool—for both library staff and library patrons....

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

Division News

=====

New ALTAFF division blends two strong voices for advocacy

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/altaffmerger.cfm>]

On February 1, ALTA and Friends of Libraries U.S.A. joined forces to form a new ALA division, the Association of Library Trustees, Advocates, Friends, and Foundations. This new division brings together trustees and Friends into a partnership that promises to extend the Association's advocacy efforts, boost membership, and grow revenues....

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/aasl/conferencesandevents/national/charlotte2009/forattendees/events/specialevents.cfm>]AASL's Exploratorium to explore best practices

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/aaslexploratorium.cfm>]

Attendees at the AASL National Conference in Charlotte, North Carolina, will once again benefit from one of the conference's most popular events, the Exploratorium, on November 5. The Exploratorium features more than 50 small simultaneous programs that provide a taste of the current research, projects, and best practices in the school library media field....

[<http://www.cnn.com/2009/TECH/science/02/11/seattle.bird.radar/index.html#cnSTCVideo>]Seattle airport uses cutting-edge bird deterrence

[<http://www.cnn.com/2009/TECH/science/02/11/seattle.bird.radar/index.html>]

Librarians flying to Seattle's Sea-Tac Airport for the ACRL National Conference in March will be landing at a facility that uses technology to detect and deter birds that would otherwise get in the way of airplanes.

The airport has a wildlife biologist on staff and spends \$250,000 annually on bird-removal operations, including three avian radar terminals (above) that track the birds within six miles and up to 3,000 feet. Watch the video

[<http://www.cnn.com/2009/TECH/science/02/11/seattle.bird.radar/index.html#cnSTCVideo>] (1:51)....

CNN, Feb. 11

ALSC preconference to shine light on intellectual freedom

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/alscif.cfm>]

ALSC will host a preconference, "Meeting the Challenge: Practical Tips and Inspiring Tales on Intellectual Freedom," on July 10 during the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. The preconference will emphasize the right to read as an essential foundation of library service to youth and will feature librarians and intellectual freedom advocates, including author Judy Blume....

Family histories uncovered at RUSA preconference

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/rusahspreconf.cfm>]

The RUSA History Section invites librarians, library staff, and personal family history researchers to attend a July 10 preconference on "From Lincoln Logs to Linkin's Families," held in conjunction with the 2009 ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. The one-day event highlights newly available Illinois-specific genealogy resources as well as resources for African-American family history research....

RUSA preconference on older adults

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/rusarss.cfm>]

The current economic downturn is prompting more older adults to turn to the library for assistance with job searching and other resource needs. Librarians looking to better serve this growing population segment can plan to attend the July 10 preconference, "A Dialogue with the Aging Network and the Library Community: The New Guidelines on Library

and Information Services to Older Adults," at the 2009 ALA Annual Conference in Chicago....

Awards

PLA award winners represent excellence in public libraries

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/plaawards.cfm>]

PLA has announced the winners of eight awards, honoring the best in public library service and innovation. Among the winners are Barbara Clubb of the Ottawa (Ont.) Public Library; Donna Nicely of the Nashville (Tenn.) Public Library; the Scottsdale (Ariz.) Public Library; and the Gail Borden Public Library in Elgin, Illinois....

2009 Coretta Scott King Review book donation grants

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/oloscsk.cfm>]

The Coretta Scott King Book Awards Committee has awarded 2009 Coretta Scott King Review book donation grants to East Iberville School (right) in St. Gabriel, Louisiana; the Huntsville-Madison County (Ala.) Public Library; and the Legal Aid Society Juvenile Rights Practice of New York. The grants help to bring books into the lives of children in latchkey programs, preschool programs, faith-based reading projects, homeless shelters, charter schools, and underfunded libraries....

ACRL Women's Studies Career Achievement Award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/acrlwss.cfm>]

Linda Krikos, faculty emerita at the Ohio State University Libraries in Columbus, has been selected as the 2009 winner of the ACRL Women's Studies Section Career Achievement Award. The award, sponsored by Greenwood Publishing Group, honors significant long-standing contributions to women's studies in the field of librarianship over the course of a career....

Three libraries selected for Bookapalooza

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/alscbookapalooza.cfm>]

ALSC has announced the winners of its third annual Bookapalooza program. The three libraries selected to receive a collection of children's materials are Fletcher (Okla.) Public School Library, Laguna (N.Mex.) Public Library, and Henry Whittemore Elementary School Library in Waltham, Massachusetts....

Two schools win Alibris collection grant

[<http://www.literacynews.com/news/alibris-presents-libraries-with-a-3-000-collection-award.html>]

Online bookseller Alibris has named the Wapello (Iowa) Junior/Senior High School and the Mark Twain Elementary School and Academy in Detroit, Michigan, as cowinners of the 2009 Alibris Collection Award. The Wapello school will receive \$1,500 for historical fiction books to replace those

damaged in the 2008 flood, and the Mark Twain school will receive the same amount for story books to prepare students for an increasingly global economy....

Literacy News, Feb. 15

Two authors share Lincoln Prize

[http://www.nytimes.com/2009/02/12/books/12arts-AUTHORSOF2BO_BRF.html]

Two books will share the 2009 Lincoln Prize, bestowed by Gettysburg College for scholarship on the 16th president. The winning works are *Tried by War: Abraham Lincoln as Commander in Chief* by James M. McPherson, and *Lincoln and His Admirals: Abraham Lincoln, the U.S. Navy, and the Civil War* by Craig L. Symonds. Each author will receive \$25,000 and a bronze cast of Lincoln at a ceremony on April 7....

New York Times, Feb. 11

Miriam Braverman Prize: Call for papers

[<http://libr.org/plg/Braverman.php>]

Are you an LIS student interested in activism and the struggle for social justice? Do you stay awake at night thinking about how your politics might inform your professional practice? The Miriam Braverman Memorial Prize, sponsored by the Progressive Librarians Guild, is awarded each year for the best paper about some aspect of the social responsibilities of librarians, libraries, or librarianship. The deadline is May 1....

Progressive Librarians Guild

Seen Online

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[<http://video.nytimes.com/video/2009/02/15/arts/1194837851726/the-twenty-first-century-librarian.html>]

The 21st-century school librarian

[<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/02/16/books/16libr.html>]

A group of 5th-graders huddled around laptop computers in the school library overseen by Stephanie Rosalia and looked at a website about explorers that was intentionally peppered with misinformation. Rosalia, school librarian at P.S. 225, a combined elementary and middle school in Brighton Beach, Brooklyn, urged caution. Most of the students ignored her, as she knew they would. But Nozimakon Omonullaeva, 11, noticed something odd on a page about Christopher Columbus. Watch the video [<http://video.nytimes.com/video/2009/02/15/arts/1194837851726/the-twenty-first-century-librarian.html>] (5:32)....

New York Times, Feb. 15

[<http://www.blinkx.com/video/recession-has-many-running-for-the-libraries/RkwBTQNIyMONzrV-FhSMRA>]

Recession has many running for the library

[<http://www.blinkx.com/video/recession-has-many-running-for-the-libraries/RkwBTQNIyMONzrV-FhSMRA>]

CNN's Jessica Doyle reports that "many Americans are turning to an 'old friend' to aid in their job search . . . the public library." The news segment (1:16) featured interviews with ALA President Jim Rettig and Arlington (Va.) Public Library Director Diane Kresh (right)....

CNN / KCAL-TV, Los Angeles, Feb. 11

Libraries and Lincoln are natural partners

[http://www.philly.com/philly/travel/20090215_In_Springfield_Ill__19th_and_21st_centuries_merge_in_the_nation_s_most_popular_presidential_library_and_museum_a_dazzler_drawing_millions_.html]

It's all Lincoln, all the time, in libraries

[<http://qconline.com/archives/qco/display.php?id=424549>] in Illinois

[<http://lincolnat200.org/>] and across the United States.

[<http://digital.lib.uiowa.edu/lincoln/>] One of the biggest programs is at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum in Springfield, Illinois, which is headquartering the 2008–10 Lincoln Bicentennial celebration. The Library of Congress

[<http://www.stltoday.com/stltoday/news/stories.nsf/politics/story/34433DD0E750F0B38625755C001A9616?OpenDocument>] is exhibiting the Bible used both by Lincoln and Barack Obama in taking their oaths of office, a letter suggesting Lincoln grow a beard to improve his sullen appearance, and the items found in Lincoln's pockets the night of his murder. The University of Rochester [<http://www.rochester.edu/news/show.php?id=3316>] is posting online digital facsimiles

[<http://www.library.rochester.edu/index.cfm?PAGE=638>] of Fanny Seward's diary describing the failed attempt on the life of her father (Secretary of State William Seward) the same night as the Lincoln assassination....

Philadelphia Inquirer, Feb. 15; Rock Island (Ill.) Argus, Feb. 6;

Newberry Library; University of Iowa; St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Feb. 13;

University of Rochester, Feb. 9

[<http://cmsimg.theithacajournal.com/apps/pbcsi.dll/bilde?Site=AF&Date=20090213&Category=NEWS01&ArtNo=902130320&Ref=V2&MaxW=180&Border=0>]Library sells Lincoln notes for record price

[<http://www.theithacajournal.com/article/20090213/NEWS01/902130320>]

The Southworth Library in Dryden, New York, had been holding on to Abraham Lincoln's original notes for his 1864 reelection victory speech for more than 80 years. But on February 12 the library sold the manuscript to an anonymous buyer at an auction at Christie's New York for \$3.44 million—the highest amount paid at auction for a historical American manuscript. The notes were presented

[<http://southworthlibrary.org/about.htm>] to the library in 1926 by the widow of Rep. John Wilbur Dwight, a Dryden native, who had received them from Lincoln's son in appreciation for his work in support of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C....

Ithaca (N.Y.) Journal, Feb. 13; Southworth Library

Facebook backtracks on terms-of-use update

[<http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/technology/2009/02/facebook-tos.html>]

After outcry from just about every corner of the web over Facebook's controversial change

[<http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/technology/2009/02/facebook-founde.html>]

to its terms of use, the company has hit the rewind button. Facebook has reverted to the previous version of the terms—one that doesn't include the disputed clause that granted the company permission to maintain user data indefinitely, founder Mark Zuckerberg announced on a post

[<http://blog.facebook.com/blog.php?post=54746167130>] to the company blog February 17. The change came just a day after Zuckerberg's unsatisfying response [<http://blog.facebook.com/blog.php?post=54434097130>] to privacy concerns....

Los Angeles Times, Feb. 16, 18; Facebook blog, Feb. 16–17

UCLA Library receives its largest donation ever

[<http://www.dailybruin.ucla.edu/news/2009/feb/13/ucla-library-receive-5-million/>]

This July, the University of California, Los Angeles, library system will receive a check for \$1 million, the first installment of a \$5-million donation. The donation is the largest gift ever for library collections, and comes from the Arcadia trust, a London-based funding group whose mission is the preservation of cultural knowledge and materials.

University Librarian Gary E. Strong said

[<http://newsroom.ucla.edu/portal/ucla/arcadia-gift-to-library-80583.aspx>] the money could be used to build new collections or expand digitization efforts into new areas of concentration....

UCLA Daily Bruin, Feb. 13; UCLA, Feb. 10

Jeopardy [http://www.onlineathens.com/stories/021409/uga_387766420.shtml]

University of Georgia reference librarian, graphic designer, and cake artist Diane Trap dethroned a Jeopardy champion on national television February 13. Sixty of Trap's library colleagues and friends crammed into the Blind Pig Tavern in Athens to watch her appearance. Trap had to keep her victory a secret until then, since the episode was taped in Los Angeles in December. After winning \$21,400, Trap competed [http://www.onlineathens.com/stories/021709/uga_389716259.shtml] again on February 16, but came in third place defending her title....

Athens (Ga.) Banner-Herald, Feb. 13, 17

Branch closures in Terre Haute

[http://www.tribstar.com/local/local_story_047233527.html]

The Vigo County (Ind.) Public Library plans to close three of its Terre Haute branches in a budget-cutting move. The library board approved the closures with a 6–1 vote on February 16, with administrators saying the action will save about \$900,000 and result in the layoff of as many as 14 workers. The Meadows branch is under a temporary lease and could close at the end of February, while the North and South branches could close in March....

Terra Haute Tribune Star, Feb. 16

Light trustee duty doubled former senator's pension

[http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2009/02/11/increasingly_light_library_board_duty_doubled_pension_of_former_senator/?page=1]

John A. Brennan Jr. won praise when he resigned after 19 years of service as a member of the Malden (Mass.) Public Library board of trustees, a volunteer seat he held despite a busy career as a lobbyist. Brennan, a 63-year-old former state senator who departed the Legislature in 1990, barely attended monthly library board meetings during the last four years. Yet instead of receiving \$19,097 a year in retirement based on 16 years as a full-time legislator in the 1970s and 1980s, he will receive a \$41,088 annual pension for the combination of his legislative and library service....

Boston Globe, Feb. 11

Storm blows roof off Tennessee library

[<http://www.volunteertv.com/home/headlines/39524907.html>]

Residents cleaned up after a scary storm February 11 left a librarian at

the Deer Lodge (Tenn.) Library wondering if she'd be alive to see another day. Librarian Sherry Waschevski (right) was temporarily trapped inside when part of the roof blew off the Abner Ross Community Center where the library is located. Waschevski said there was no damage to the library interior, but the flat roof leaks so they will need to get it covered soon....

WVLT-TV, Knoxville, Feb. 12

Library hosts coupon-cutting club

[http://news14.com/content/local_news/coastal/605032/library-features-coupon-cutting-club/Default.aspx]

Advertising coupons are more popular than ever as many shoppers look for ways to save money. The Mint Hill branch of the Public Library of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, hosts a coupon-cutting club to help their patrons save money. "I think some people are intimidated to use coupons. They think it's too complicated or it's going to be too much work," said Mint Hill staffer Jessica Brewer (above)....

News 14 Carolina, Raleigh, Feb. 15

A library is transforming Kenya's largest slum

[<http://www.eastandard.net/InsidePage.php?id=1144006632&cid=499>]

A remarkable library, run by the Nicofeli Youth Club, is promoting reading culture and bringing communities together in Kibera, Nairobi's worst neighborhood. The library is the brainchild of Ron Reason, a worldwide expert in design and publishing, who discovered that Kibera residents were readers and returned to Chicago to set the wheels in motion to create a library for this distressed neighborhood....

Nairobi Standard, Feb. 14

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Tech Talk

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10 privacy settings every Facebook user should know

[<http://www.allfacebook.com/2009/02/facebook-privacy/>]

Nick O'Neill writes: "Every day I receive an email from somebody about how their account was hacked, how a friend tagged them in the photo and they want a way to avoid it, as well as a number of other complications related to their privacy on Facebook. Here is a step-by-step process for protecting your privacy."...

AllFacebook, Feb. 2

Do we need a new internet?

[<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/02/15/weekinreview/15markoff.html>]

Security on the internet is bad. Bad enough that there is a growing belief among engineers and security experts that internet security and privacy have become so maddeningly elusive that the only way to fix the problem is to start over. What a new internet might look like is still widely debated, but one alternative would, in effect, create a "gated community" where users would give up their anonymity and certain freedoms in return for safety....

New York Times, Feb. 14

Sniffing out illicit BitTorrent files

[<http://www.technologyreview.com/computing/22107/?a=f>]

Duncan Graham-Rowe writes: “A new technique has been developed for detecting and tracking illegal content transferred using the BitTorrent file-trading protocol. According to its creators, the approach can monitor networks without interrupting the flow of data and provides investigators with hard evidence of illicit file transfers. When the tool detects such a file, it keeps a record of the network addresses involved for later analysis.”...

Technology Review, Feb. 12

[<http://www.collectorz.com/movie/features.php>]The five best tools for a personal movie collection

[<http://lifehacker.com/5153795/five-best-movie-cataloging-tools>]

Jason Fitzpatrick writes: “It’s easy to lose track of DVDs and downloaded videos in a big collection. To keep better tabs on your visual stuff, check out our top five finalists for best movie cataloging tools. Several of our favorites in this list are paid commercial releases. The price and supported operating system are noted beside each entry.”...

Lifehacker, Feb. 15

20 WordPress tricks to improve your blog

[<http://designm.ag/design/wordpress-tricks/>]

Steven Snell writes: “One of the reasons WordPress is so popular is because of its flexibility. Designers, developers, and bloggers have plenty of options. In this post we’ll look at a combination of tutorials for improving a WordPress-based site, and plugins that can provide added functionality that will bring new possibilities.”...

Designm.ag, Feb. 11

Why there isn’t a perfect e-book reader

[[http://i.gizmodo.com/5152092/giz-explains-why-there-isnt-a-perfect-ebook-r](http://i.gizmodo.com/5152092/giz-explains-why-there-isnt-a-perfect-ebook-reader)
eader]

Matt Buchanan writes: “Amazon’s Kindle 2,

[<http://i.gizmodo.com/5149634/kindle-2-first-hands-on>] announced February 9, is probably the best e-book reader you can buy. But neither it

[<http://i.gizmodo.com/5149814/why-kindle-2-isnt-a-big-step-forward-for-voracious-readers>], nor any other reader out there, will be converting the masses anytime soon. Here’s why: display technology. Readers are, after all, designed for the singular purpose of displaying content that’s easy on the eyes. As of now, there are two display camps—electronic paper and LCD—and both have far too many compromises at the moment to be adequate for a reading revolution.”...

Gizmodo, Feb. 9, 12

Top 9 dirty tricks online scammers use

[http://www.pcworld.com/article/159708/top_9_dirty_tricks_scammers_use.html]
]

Joan Goodchild writes: “What the average guy might call a con is known in the security world as social engineering. Social engineering is the criminal art of scamming a person into doing something or divulging sensitive information. These days, there are thousands of ways for con

artists to pull off their tricks (See Social Engineering: Eight Common Tactics

[http://www.csoononline.com/article/460135/Social_Engineering_Eight_Common_Tactics]). Here we look at some of the most common lines these people are using to fool their victims.”...

PC World, Feb. 17; CSO, Nov. 6, 2008

Publishing

The Tales of Charles Dickens

[<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/masterpiece/dickens/index.html>]

The Tales of Charles Dickens began February 15 on the PBS Masterpiece Classic series with a new adaptation of Oliver Twist, and will be followed by David Copperfield, Little Dorrit, and The Old Curiosity Shop. For librarians, The Masterpiece Guide to Teaching Charles Dickens (PDF file

[http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/masterpiece/dickens/dickens_teachersguide.pdf]), featuring provocative discussion questions and interactive activities, can be downloaded from the Masterpiece website....

Public Broadcasting Service

March is Women's History Month

[http://www.gale.cengage.com/free_resources/whm/]

In recognition of Women's History Month in March, Gale is offering free resources and activities on its Women's History Month website. The site offers such free resources as suggested activities, weekly quizzes, biographies, a timeline, and links to complement classroom topics. New downloadable bookmarks, a calendar, and screensavers are also available....

Gale Cengage Learning, Feb. 17

Jewish women's history online

[<http://jwa.org/press/2009/2009-0202-encyclopedia.html>]

A free, comprehensive, online resource on the history of Jewish women will debut March 1 on the Jewish Women's Archive website.

[<http://jwa.org/encyclopedia>] Jewish Women: A Comprehensive Historical Encyclopedia, edited by Paula Hyman of Yale University and Dalia Ofer of Hebrew University of Jerusalem, includes more than 1,700 biographies, 300 thematic essays, and 1,400 photographs and illustrations. The 2006 encyclopedia was previously available only on CD-ROM, but the online version will have an improved interface and enhanced features....

Jewish Women's Archive, Feb. 2

Books about universities [<http://orweblog.oclc.org/archives/001883.html>]

Lorcan Dempsey writes: “Many of the pages in WorldCat Identities are for corporate authors. It is interesting in these cases to see what the most widely held items about the institution in question are. The list of most widely held items about Ohio State University

[<http://www.worldcat.org/identities/lccn-n79-46205#linkworksabout>] has a strong football flavor. Thinking along these lines, I tried Notre Dame, only to discover that the list

[<http://www.worldcat.org/identities/lccn-n79-22791#linkworksabout>] is dominated by mystery novels written by Ralph McInerny [<http://www.worldcat.org/identities/lccn-n79-18057>].”... Lorcan Dempsey’s Weblog, Feb. 16

A new Read Meme

[<http://bookgroupbuzz.booklistonline.com/2009/02/16/read-meme/>]
Kaite Stover writes: “I am always looking for a fun activity to do with any number of book groups. They make great ice breakers for the attendees and also give me an idea of who my readers are. Here is a book meme that could be a great opening activity for a new book group or a refresher for a longstanding one. Once you’ve answered all the questions, tag 150,000 of your closest friends, relatives, librarians, and various and sundry other book pushers.”...
Book Group Buzz, Feb. 16

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[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

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Actions & Answers

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Obama license plates help fund Illinois libraries
[<https://secure.netsolhost.com/ila.org/obama/>]
The Illinois Library Association is offering official Barack Obama special-event Illinois license plates for \$50 a pair to help fund the group’s activities. The plates are available for purchase for \$50 a pair. The proceeds will support the association’s summer reading program. The plates can be displayed on Illinois vehicles until April 17, after which they can be purchased nationwide as a collectible. ILA hopes to have them on sale at the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago....
Illinois Library Association

JCLC 2006 Conference Proceedings
[http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/hall-erickson/jclc_2006conf/]
Gathering at the Waters: Embracing Our Spirits, Telling Our Stories, the Proceedings of the First National Joint Conference of Librarians of Color, October 11–15, 2006, Dallas, Texas, has been published online using Nxtbook Media’s page-turning technology. Edited by Gladys Smiley Bell, the proceedings includes keynote speakers, hot topics, and contributed papers....
Joint Conference of Librarians of Color

Index of Public Library Service 2009
[<http://www.libraryjournal.com/article/CA6634713.html>]
Library Journal’s new national rating of public libraries, the LJ Index of Public Library Service, identifies the star libraries in the United States. The index, by Ray Lyons and Keith Curry Lance and sponsored by Baker and Taylor’s Bibliostat, rates 7,115 public libraries according to four output measures that indicate public

service—circulation per capita, visits per capita, program attendance per capita, and public internet usage per capita—based on 2006 data collected by the Institute of Museum and Library Services and published in late 2008....
Library Journal, Feb. 15, pp. 26–33

Freedom to Read Week in Canada

[http://www.freedomtoread.ca/freedom_to_read_week/index.asp]

Freedom to Read Week, February 22–28, encourages Canadians to think about and reaffirm their commitment to intellectual freedom, guaranteed under the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. The event, now in its 25th year, is sponsored by the Canada Council for the Arts and receives support from readers, writers, publishers, librarians, educators, booksellers, and other organizations....
Freedom to Read Week

FDsys goes live

[<http://newsbreaks.infotoday.com/nbReader.asp?ArticleId=52660>]

Miriam A. Drake writes: “The U.S. Government Printing Office hit the switch in early February and brought up its new digital system, FDsys, [<http://fdsys.gpo.gov/fdsys/search/home.action>] that will ultimately replace GPO Access. [<http://www.gpoaccess.gov/>] FDsys is an information management system that enables GPO to gather, process, preserve, archive, and make U.S. government information available to the public. It currently provides access to more than 154,000 documents. Document migration from GPO Access is expected to be completed by mid-2009 when the system will provide access to more than 300,000 documents.”...
Information Today, Feb. 17

Show us the data [<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=1954>]

OpenTheGovernment.org and the Center for Democracy and Technology recently launched a website that allows the public to decide what government information should be available on the internet. Show Us the Data [<http://www.showusthedata.org/>] gives the public the opportunity to share what documents they think should be made available and vote on the documents that others have submitted. The deadline to participate is March 9....
District Dispatch, Feb. 17

Project Information Literacy progress report

[<http://projectinfolit.org/about/>]

Project Information Literacy is a national study about early adults and their information-seeking behaviors, competencies, and the challenges they face when conducting research in the digital age. Based in the University of Washington’s iSchool, the progress report (PDF file [http://projectinfolit.org/pdfs/PIL_ProgressReport_2_2009.pdf]) investigates how students on seven college campuses conduct research for coursework and how they conduct everyday research for use in their daily lives....
Project Information Literacy, Feb. 4

Open access at risk again

[<http://www.taxpayeraccess.org/action/HR801-09-0211.html>]

On February 3, Rep. John Conyers (D-Mich.) reintroduced a bill that would

reverse the NIH Public Access Policy and make it impossible for other federal agencies to put similar policies into place. The legislation is the Fair Copyright in Research Works Act (H.R. 801)(PDF file [<http://fdsys.gpo.gov/fdsys/delivery/getcontent.action?filePath=http%3A//www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/BILLS-111hr801IH/pdf/BILLS-111hr801IH.pdf>]). In effect, the bill would severely limit the ability of federal agencies to use works that they have funded to support and fulfill agency missions and to communicate with and educate the public....
Alliance for Taxpayer Access, Feb. 11

It's the collections that are special
[<http://inthelibrarywiththeleadpipe.org/2009/its-the-collections-that-are-special/>]
Lisa Carter writes: "I'm beginning to think that what's wrong with special collections and archives today is that they are considered special. They are set aside, revered, and left as the last great mystery the library holds. The collections themselves are special in that they are rare, unique, fantastic, and archaic and they do need special handling and care. However, our regard for these materials has enabled us to treat them so differently that they are not accessible."...
In the Library with the Lead Pipe, Feb. 11

The library website of the future
[<http://www.insidehighered.com/views/2009/02/17/bell>]
Steven Bell writes: "The urge to plunge into the cornucopia of electronic riches that lies waiting in the library's highly organized portal should be irresistible. It should be a scholar's dream, but there's trouble in paradise. The August 2008 Ithaka Report, Studies of Key Stakeholders in the Digital Transformation of Higher Education (PDF file [[http://www.ithaka.org/research/Ithakas 2006 Studies of Key Stakeholders in the Digital Transformation in Higher Education.pdf](http://www.ithaka.org/research/Ithakas%2006%20Studies%20of%20Key%20Stakeholders%20in%20the%20Digital%20Transformation%20in%20Higher%20Education.pdf)]), shows there is a significant disconnect when it comes to faculty use of the library's website as a gateway, or portal, to access that wealth of electronic content. This needs to change."...
Inside Higher Ed, Feb. 17

Pennsylvania's Legislator @ your library campaign
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/campaignlegislator.cfm>]
The Pennsylvania School Librarians Association has launched a new effort to educate a whole new student body. The Legislator @ your library campaign
[<http://www.psla.org/association/committee/legislation/legislatorlibrary.php4>] is a way for PSLA members to invite local state legislators to visit school libraries. Visits are designed to showcase the importance of school libraries in student academic achievement, to promote the library as a place of learning, to demonstrate the role of school library media specialists, and to create new partners in library advocacy....
Pennsylvania School Librarians Association

10 Gmail Labs features you should enable
[<http://lifehacker.com/5145605/ten-gmail-labs-features-you-should-enable>]
Adam Pash writes: "Gmail has been slowly but surely rolling out cool new features ever since they started Gmail Labs. If you haven't taken

advantage of the fruits of Labs, here's a look at 10 Labs features you should enable, including offline Gmail, multiple inboxes, and tasks."...
Lifehacker, Feb. 6

Books trump internet in Canadian librarians' debate
[<http://blogs.mississauga.com/blogs/phil-green/2009/02/07/%E2%80%9Cuse-book-s-door-jams%E2%80%9D-urges-chief-librarian>]

Don Mills, director of library services for the Mississauga (Ont.) Library System, stood up in front of 30 people in the Texaco Room of the Port Credit branch February 5 and told his stunned audience that with the advance of the internet, their books were no better than door jams. Cambridge (Ont.) Public Library Director Greg Hayton countered that "the internet encourages distractions." After the public debate (sponsored by the local Rotary Club) was over, the audience voted 21 to 10 in favor of books....

Green Lights, Feb. 7

ULC expands search for new CEO
[<http://www.urbanlibraries.org/0209expandsCEO.html>]

The Urban Libraries Council is continuing its search for a new president and chief executive officer. The ULC launched its search in late 2008 and will continue it through the first quarter of 2009, expanding to a broader audience of potential candidates....

Urban Libraries Council, Feb. 12

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UGG0jhNfHGk>]How Markham built its new library [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UGG0jhNfHGk]

Trustee Treasurer Sue Klaus (right) tells the story (7:18) of how Markham, Illinois, built its new Bradford Anderson Oglesby Public Library, from passing a referendum in 2002, through various stages of construction, to the grand opening in March 2008....

YouTube, Mar. 9, 2008

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iMSk5zFVH4s>]Tasty choices @ your library [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iMSk5zFVH4s]

The McCracken County Public Library in Paducah, Kentucky, produced this PSA (0:32) in 2006 to highlight the "scrumptious selection of choices to feed your mind at a price everyone can afford." The library serves these diners an exquisite menu of bibliothecal delights....

YouTube, Aug. 9, 2006

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fhf33R9Zdi0>]New Jersey's new library commercial [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fhf33R9Zdi0]

This is a 30-second commercial the New Jersey State Library produced for the state Public Television Network that highlights how libraries are helping patrons get jobs in tough economic times. "Nearly 200,000 people use New Jersey library computers every week."...

YouTube, Feb. 12

[<http://wic.library.upenn.edu/about/musicvideo.html>]The Weigle Information Commons music video

[<http://wic.library.upenn.edu/about/musicvideo.html>]

Students are singing about the wonders of the David B. Weigle Information Commons, located in the University of Pennsylvania's Van Pelt Library, in

this video (3:03) directed by Ryan A. Leonard. Sung to the tune of Petula Clark’s “Downtown”: “We can forget all our troubles, forget all our cares, and go Weigle.”...
University of Pennsylvania

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3PWq_6s-lJY]The Wizard of Oz: A tale of library circulation [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3PWq_6s-lJY]
The Draper branch of the Salt Lake County (Utah) Library portrayed itself as an Oz-like fantasyland in this short video (2:10), first presented at the 2007 ALA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. Library Director Jim Cooper was the executive producer. Directed by Ernest Q. Bourne, with actors Telesa Rountree (Dorothy), Beverly Dusserre (librarian), Darlene Dineen (witch), Alexis Alires (Lion), and Karl Gilchrist (Tin Woodman and Scarecrow)....
YouTube, June 25, 2007

[<http://retrovision.tv/freevideo/erik-the-librarian-2009/>]Erik the Librarian: Is this a dream, Lucifer?
[<http://retrovision.tv/freevideo/erik-the-librarian-2009/>]
In episode 4 (2:36) of this original 60Frames series, Matt Besser accuses Matt Braunger of book theft, while Mindy Kaling (right, star of the NBC-TV sitcom The Office) attempts to retrieve her keys out of the library’s lost and found without Erik the Librarian noticing her presence. Created by Brent Forrester (consulting producer for The Office), the Erik the Librarian Mysteries [<http://www.60frames.com/series/movie/Nw==/NTU=>] are a series of shorts about a reclusive librarian, played by Erik Charles Nielsen, who falls in love with Mindy....
Retrovision Internet TV; 60Frames, Feb. 28, 2008

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

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

ALA Annual Conference,
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/2009/faq.cfm>]
Chicago, July 9–15. Information on Chicago
[<http://www.choosechicago.com/ALA2009/Pages/default.aspx>] and things to do in the city is available through the Chicago Convention and Tourism Bureau.

[<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2492>]

Planning construction of a new library facility or renovation of an existing one can be a daunting task. With the new fifth edition of his Checklist of Library Building Design Considerations [<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2492>], [<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2492>] veteran library administrator and construction consultant William Sannwald guides librarians and other members of a building design team through the stages of the design process. NEW! From ALA Editions.

In this issue
January/February 2009

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

Gaming @ your library

The Minneapolis-Hennepin merger

Testing the Web 2.0 waters

I Love My Librarian awards

A face for radio.
[<http://blog.booklistonline.com/2009/02/18/a-face-for-radio/>] Booklist Online Editor Keir Graff will appear on internet radio's Book World News [<http://www.blogtalkradio.com/Circle-Of-Seven/2009/02/19/Book-World-News>] at 7:30–7:45 p.m. Central time, February 18. He writes: “Even though this is the internets, and you can download it after the fact (or subscribe to the podcast on iTunes), I am told that they will actually take live questions at (646) 200-4071.”

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

Curator of American Culinary History,
[<http://joblist.ala.org/modules/jobseeker/controller.cfm?scr=jobdetail&jobid=12704>] William L. Clements Library, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. Responsibilities include: managing operations of the culinary history archive, including the supervision of one or more full-time and student employees as well as volunteers; selecting materials for acquisition and collection development, as part of a curatorial team; setting priorities for cataloging printed materials; cataloging the full range of materials in the culinary history archive, and performing catalog maintenance of online bibliographic records....

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

Digital Library of the Week

[<http://205.247.101.31/u/?/nazwwii,246>]

The Nazareth (Pa.) Veteran's Digital Project.

[<http://205.247.101.31/cdm4/browse.php?CISOROOT=/nazwwii>] The Memorial Library of Nazareth and Vicinity has added the contents of a scrapbook kept during World War II to the Access Pennsylvania Digital Repository. The scrapbook contains more than 1,000 pictures of area servicemen and women who served during the war. In 2005, a photocopy of the scrapbook was given to the library. Because of its fragile nature, the library decided to digitize the collection and make it accessible on its website. A grant sponsored by state Rep. Richard T. Grucela made it possible for the library to have the scrapbook digitized by the OCLC Preservation Service Center in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. Director Lynn Snodgrass-Pilla applied to the Office of Commonwealth Libraries to have the digital scrapbook included in the Access Pennsylvania Digital Repository, which encourages a collaborative partnership among the state's libraries, historical societies, museums, and other institutions.

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

“Public libraries should be sacredly respected by all belligerents, and I am sure General Sherman will, someday, regret that he permitted this library to be destroyed and plundered.”

—Attributed to an angry Union officer after federal troops looted and destroyed books in the library of the Georgia State Capitol building in Milledgeville during Sherman's March to the Sea, Nov. 23, 1864, quoted in Noah Andre Trudeau, *Southern Storm: Sherman's March to the Sea* (Harper, 2008), p. 222.

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

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

Ask the ALA Librarian

Q. I was at a meeting yesterday where others were talking about having to remove all older books from their libraries because of some new law. Is this true?

A. Yes, it is true there is a new law, the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act, [[http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Consumer_Product_Safety_Improvement_Act_\(CPSIA\)](http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Consumer_Product_Safety_Improvement_Act_(CPSIA))] that mandates testing for lead in any product marketed for children. Some provisions of the law became effective February 10. However, on January 30 the Consumer Product Safety Commission announced a stay of implementation (PDF file [<http://www.cpsc.gov/library/foia/foia09/brief/stayenforce.pdf>]) of the act until February 10, 2010. So, emphatically no, you do not have to pull books off your shelves because of the law. So what should you do? You should continue to monitor activity on this law, by subscribing to District Dispatch [<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/>], checking the issue summary [<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/wo/woissues/governmentinfo/cpsia/cpsia.cfm>] from the Washington Office, or watching our wiki page [[http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Consumer_Product_Safety_Improvement_Act_\(CPSIA\)](http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Consumer_Product_Safety_Improvement_Act_(CPSIA))]. However, regular collection review and weeding [[http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Collection_Evaluation_--_and_De-Selection_\(Weeding\)](http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Collection_Evaluation_--_and_De-Selection_(Weeding))] is always in order. But, please, don't throw books on the basis of hearsay! From the ALA Professional Tips wiki [http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Lead_in_Books%3F].

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

Customer service, the Trump way.

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/ascla/asclaevents/annual09/index.cfm>] “Be My Guest: Customer Service from the Best,” a preconference offered July 10 by ASCLA, will address what libraries can do to ensure patrons a welcoming and positive library experience. The content is based on a successful program previously hosted by the New Jersey State Library in partnership with Trump Entertainment Resorts in Atlantic City, New Jersey.

Calendar

Mar. 9–12:

Association for Computing Machinery,

[<http://oldwww.acm.org/conferences/sac/sac2009/>] Symposium on Applied Computing, Hilton Hawaiian Village Beach Resort and Spa Waikiki Beach,

Honolulu.

Mar. 8–14:

Teen Tech Week.

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/yalsa/teentechweek/ttw09/home.cfm>]

“Press Play @ your library.”

Mar. 12–14:

Louisiana Library Association, [<http://www.llaonline.org/>] Annual

Conference, Hilton Capitol Center, Baton Rouge.

Mar. 13–16:

Alaska Library Association, [<http://www.akla.org/kodiak2009/>] Annual

Conference, Kodiak High School. “Libraries: Going the Distance.”

Mar. 20–22:

Information Architecture Summit 2009: Expanding Our Horizons,

[<http://iasummit.org/2009/>] The Peabody Memphis Hotel, Tennessee.

Mar. 23–25:

The Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence,

[<http://www.aaai.org/Symposia/Spring/sss09.php>] Spring 2009 Symposium

Series, Stanford University, California.

Mar. 30–

Apr. 1:

Computers in Libraries, [<http://www.infotoday.com/cil2009/default.shtml>]

Hyatt Regency Crystal City, Arlington, Virginia.

Mar. 31–

Apr. 3:

Texas Library Association, [<http://www.txla.org/conference/conf.html>]

Annual Conference, George R. Brown Convention Center, Houston.

“Libraries: Creating Communities of Ideals and Innovation.”

Apr. 2–4:

PLA Spring Symposium,

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/pla/plaevents/plaspringsymposium/index.cfm>] Nashville, Tennessee.

Apr. 8–10:

Tennessee Library Association, [<http://www.tnla.org/cde.cfm?event=155303>]

Annual Conference, Nashville Airport Marriott.

Apr. 15–18:

Museums and the Web, [<http://www.archimuse.com/mw2009/>] Indianapolis.

Apr. 27–29:

New Jersey Library Association, [<http://njla.pbwiki.com/Conference+2009>]

Annual Conference, Long Branch. “New Jersey Libraries Rock.”

May 11–12:

National Library Legislative Day,

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/wo/washevents/nlld/nlld2009.cfm>]

Liaison Hotel, Washington, D.C.

May 22–23:

Ethics of Information Organization,
[<http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/SOIS/cipr/ioethics.html>] University of
Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

May 26–29:

International Conference on Qualitative and Quantitative Methods in
Libraries, [<http://www.isast.org/home.html>] Mediterranean Agronomic
Institute of Chania Conference Centre, Chania, Crete, Greece.

May 28:

Human-Computer Interaction Lab, [<http://www.cs.umd.edu/hcil/soh/>] Annual
Symposium, University of Maryland, College Park.

May 28–30:

Canadian Association for Information Science,
[<http://www.cais-aci.ca/Conference%202009/2009conference.htm>] Annual
Conference, Carleton University, Ottawa. “Mapping the 21st Century
Information Landscape: Borders, Bridges, and Byways.”

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

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American Libraries Direct

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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

[Topeka board votes to restrict four titles](#)

The Topeka and Shawnee County (Kans.) Public Library board voted 5–3 February 19 to restrict minors' access to four books about sex, although the trustees failed to specify just what that restriction would entail. The titles challenged by complainant Kim Borchers in November 2008 are *The Joy of Sex*, *The Lesbian Kama Sutra*, *The Joy of Gay Sex*, and *Sex for Busy People: The Art of the Quickie for Lovers on the Go*. Borchers, who represents a group called Kansans for Common Sense, had contended in her statement of concern that the materials were harmful to minors under state law....

American Libraries Online, Feb. 20



[House rehashes bill blocking free access to research](#)

The Fair Copyright in Research Works Act, which would block free access to research conducted by taxpayer-funded organizations such as the National Institutes of Health, was introduced February 3 in the House by Rep. John Conyers (D-Mich.). [H.R. 801](#) duplicates word-for-word [H.R. 6845](#), which was shelved at the end of 2008. The legislation essentially bars government agencies from requiring authors to transfer their copyright in order to receive public funding for their research....

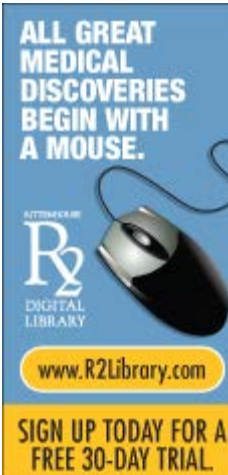
American Libraries Online, Feb. 20

ALA News

[ALA thanks Obama for openness and transparency](#)

ALA President Jim Rettig sent a letter ([PDF file](#)) to President Obama February 23, thanking him for his commitment to openness and transparency in government. Rettig's letter states that librarians believe an informed citizenry is essential for a democratic form of government and access to government information is a public right. Libraries also serve as important local points of access for government information. ALA Council passed a [resolution](#) commending Obama during the Midwinter Meeting in Denver....

District Dispatch, Feb. 24



[ALA Annual Conference.](#)

Chicago, July 9–15.

The [3rd Annual Bookmobile Sunday](#), July 12, 2–4 p.m., outside the South Building, will be one of the largest gatherings of mobile library vehicles to date. The bookmobiles will be on display for attendees to climb aboard, talk to the staff, and learn more about bookmobile outreach services.

[Nine dynamic authors to speak in Chicago](#)

The Auditorium Speaker Series at Annual Conference in Chicago, July 9–15, will feature nine distinguished authors. This year's lineup includes Gregory Maguire (right), James Van Praagh, Michael Connelly, Wanda Urbanska, Junot Díaz, Melba Pattillo Beals, Lisa Scottoline, Jill Bolte Taylor, and Cokie Roberts. Maguire, the bestselling author of *Confessions of an Ugly Stepsister*, *Lost*, and *Wicked*, will kick off the series the morning of July 11....



[Copyright lessons for the digital age](#)

The ALA Office for Information Technology Policy and AASL, along with the National Council of Teachers of English, have announced the rerelease of copyright lesson plans for middle school students, Grades 6–8. New features include models of collaborative teaching between classroom teachers and school library media specialists and connections to AASL's *Standards for the 21st Century Learner*. The lessons are available on the [ReadWriteThink](#) website....
District Dispatch, Feb. 25



[Libraries to be highlighted on CNN Money](#)



The efforts that libraries make to help patrons obtain accurate financial information will be highlighted on CNN Money, February 28, at 9:30 a.m. Eastern time. ALA President Jim Rettig will appear. A longer web video version of the story as well as a CNN web article will be posted following the broadcast....

[Next ALA Connections Salon: Marshall Breeding](#)

The next installment in the series of ALA President Jim Rettig's ALA Connections Salons will be an online discussion with Marshall Breeding, director for innovative technologies and research at Vanderbilt University Libraries. It will take place in [OPAL](#) on March 5....

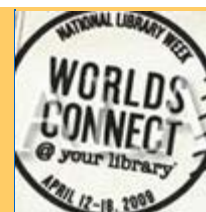
[Core competences defined](#)

At the Midwinter Meeting in Denver, ALA Council passed a resolution ([PDF file](#)) defining the core competences of librarianship. The document defines the basic knowledge to be possessed by all persons graduating from an ALA-accredited master's program in library and information studies....

[Concern over Gaza conflict](#)

ALA has called for the protection of libraries and archives in both the Gaza Strip and Israel. The Association [urged](#) the U.S. government to support the United States Committee of the Blue Shield in upholding the 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict and called on the administration to work for a permanent peace in the region....

Booklist
ONLINE



The ALA Store is featuring a collection of posters, banners, bookmarks, buttons, and more for the purpose of advertising [National Library Week](#), which celebrates the contributions of our nation's libraries and librarians. All types of libraries—school, public, academic, and special—participate. This year's theme is "Worlds connect @ your library," created to promote the connection of all of a library's resources to its patrons. **NEW!**
From ALA Graphics.

In this issue
January/February
2009



Gaming @ your library

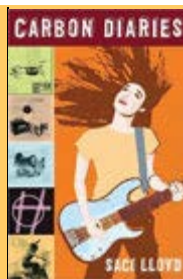
The Minneapolis-Hennepin merger

Testing the Web 2.0 waters

I Love My Librarian awards

Featured review: Books for youth

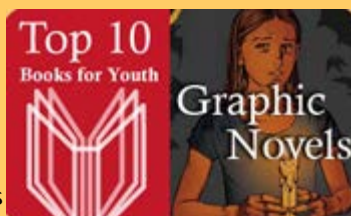
Lloyd, Saci. *The Carbon Diaries 2015*. Apr. 2009. 336p. Holiday, hardcover (978-0-8234-2190-9). Laura Brown, a 16-year-old Londoner and punk rocker, documents a year in the very near future, 2015, in diary form. She refers to recent massive storms brought on by climate change that have ravaged the planet and led Britain to be the first country to try "carbon rationing."



Each person is allotted a prohibitively small measure of carbon points to be used each month, essentially obsoleting such luxuries as air travel or even heating one's home. Laura navigates the increasingly punishing circumstances with a perfectly intoned half-bitter, half-astonished teenager's voice, complete with strains of near-future slang, and punctuates her diary with newspaper clippings and other taped-in bits of cultural detritus. As she weathers staggering uncertainty, kill-me-now family crises, and a timelessly confusing dating scene, she finds a release valve in music and her mates....

Top 10 graphic novels for youth

Ian Chipman writes: "What a difference a year makes! While last year's Top 10 list didn't have a single title recommended for readers under Grade 6, this year's list demonstrates the growing body of work available for emerging readers. Balancing those are some of the most innovative offerings we've seen yet for older readers. This truly all-ages list, representing the best comics reviewed within the past 12 months, has something for everyone."...



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



Call to action. Contact your U.S. House of Representatives Judiciary Committee Members to voice your opinion on H.R. 801—the Fair Copyright in Research Works Act, recently reintroduced by Rep. John Conyers (D-Mich). This [bill](#) would reverse the [NIH Public Access Policy](#) and make it impossible for other federal agencies put similar policies into place. All supporters of public access should take action no later than February 28. A draft letter can be found [here](#).

Division News

AASL Learning4Life training summit

AASL will host an all-day training summit, [Learning4Life: Training4Trainers](#), on July 9 in Chicago prior to the ALA Annual Conference. The summit is designed to train state-level coordinators in the development of customized state-level implementation strategies for AASL's standards and guidelines. The cost will be partially offset by a generous donation by Verizon Foundation/Thinkfinity.org....



AASL launches website redesign

AASL has launched a new [website design](#) to highlight its exceptional tools and resources for school library media specialists. New features of the website include two new sections—Standards and Guidelines, and Research and Statistics—that hold the division's most sought-after tools, *Standards for the 21st-Century Learner* and results from the School Libraries Count! longitudinal study....

Career Leads from

ALA **JobLIST**



Assistant Director, Library Experiences.

Deschutes Public Library, Bend, Oregon. The position leads a system-wide commitment that results in innovative services, resources, partnerships, entertainment, and community engagement. This key leader is collaborative and plays a significant

[Download Teen Tech Week PSAs](#)

Known as the voice of SpongeBob SquarePants, Tom Kenny lends his support to teens, libraries, and YALSA through [downloadable](#) public service announcements announcing Teen Tech Week, March 8–14. The PSAs are courtesy of Galaxy Press, a 2009 Teen Tech Week Promotional Partner....

[ALCTS preconferences in Chicago](#)

Five exciting and informative preconferences are being offered by ALCTS at the 2009 ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. Topics include cataloging digital media, e-book formats, new cataloging concepts, XSLT for librarians, and metadata standards....

[Two LITA workshops in Chicago](#)

LITA is offering two full-day educational workshops July 10 at the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. The topics cover creating mashups for library websites and taking better photos....

[RUSA programs at Annual Conference](#)

Librarians and library staff from all types of libraries will find a program of interest among the RUSA offerings at the 2009 ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. A comprehensive list of program descriptions, sponsoring groups, and speakers is available on the [RUSA website](#)....

[ASCLA programs at Annual Conference](#)

ASCLA programs at the 2009 ALA Annual Conference will address services to special populations, collaboration, and resource sharing. Specific topics include large print, multiple intelligences, hospice services, and the future of LSTA grants....

[Research symposium to be held in Charlotte](#)

The AASL Educators of Library Media Specialists Section will present its first research symposium at the AASL 14th National Conference and Exhibition, November 5–8, in Charlotte, North Carolina. The topic for the symposium will be AASL's *Standards for the 21st-Century Learner*, released in 2007....

Awards

[Libraries, literacy, and gaming grants](#)

ALA will award ten \$5,000 grants to libraries that demonstrate creativity, capacity, sustainability, and a strong commitment to literacy-related gaming services for youth. The winning libraries will receive ongoing support and technical assistance from a team of nationally recognized library gaming experts. Winners will be announced during National Library Week, April 12–18. The grant application is available [online](#). The deadline to apply is March 20....

[Miriam Dudley Instruction Librarian Award winner](#)

Trudi E. Jacobson, head of user education programs at the State University of New York at Albany, is the winner of the ACRL Instruction Section's Miriam Dudley Instruction Librarian Award. The honor recognizes a librarian who has made a significant contribution to the advancement of instruction in a



role in developing and implementing the library's comprehensive vision and strategies for customer-focused public library services....

@ [More jobs...](#)

Digital Library of the Week



The [Mississippi Digital Library](#) is the cooperative digital library program for the state. It provides access to primary-source materials, covering a wide range of subject areas, from Mississippi museums, archives, libraries, and historical societies. These materials, physically located throughout the state, are brought virtually together on the library website. Funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services, the library began in December 2003 as a partnership between the University of Southern Mississippi, Delta State University, the University of Mississippi, Tougaloo College, Jackson State University, and the Mississippi Department of Archives and

college or research library environment....

[Women's Studies Significant Achievement winner](#)

Ken Middleton, user services librarian at Middle Tennessee State University, is the winner of the 2009 ACRL Women's Studies Section Award for Significant Achievement in Woman's Studies Librarianship. The award, sponsored by Routledge/Taylor and Francis Group, honors a significant or one-time contribution to women's studies librarianship....



[Community College Leadership Award winner](#)

ACRL has selected Kenley Neufeld, library director at Santa Barbara (Calif.) City College, as the 2009 winner of the Community and Junior College Libraries Section EBSCO Community College Learning Resources Leadership Award. The award honors significant achievement in advocacy of learning resources, as well as leadership in professional organizations that support the missions of community, junior, and technical colleges....



[Community College Program Award winner](#)

ACRL has chosen Diana Fitzwater, reference librarian at the College of DuPage, in Glen Ellyn, Illinois, to receive the 2009 Community and Junior College Libraries Section EBSCO Community College Learning Resources Program Achievement Award. Fitzwater was praised for single-handedly taking on the role of information literacy expert on campus....



[Leadership in Library Acquisitions Award winner](#)

The ALCTS Acquisitions Section has selected Trisha Davis, head of serials, electronic resources, and rights management at Ohio State University, to receive the 2009 Leadership in Library Acquisitions Award. The award is given to a librarian to recognize contributions and outstanding leadership in the field of acquisitions....



[Banks/Harris Preservation Award winner](#)

Barclay W. Ogden, head of the preservation department at the University of California Berkeley Library, is the recipient of the 2009 Paul Banks and Carolyn Harris Preservation Award. The award recognizes the contribution of a professional preservation specialist who has been active in the field of preservation or conservation for library or archival materials....



[LBI Cunha/Swartzburg Award winner](#)

Ann Russell, recently retired director of the Northeast Document Conservation Center in Andover, Massachusetts, is the winner of the 2009 LBI George Cunha and Susan Swartzburg Preservation Award.

History. The collaboration originally focused on materials associated with the Civil Rights era but now includes items from pre-Civil War to 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

"The amputation of a treasured library system's branches has been called an 'unintended consequence' of the state property tax caps. If so, then legislators failed to properly study the law they passed. They've let down a steady stream of people, from all walks of life, who turned to those libraries for help, enlightenment, and recreation."

—Editorial criticizing the Indiana legislature for passing limits on property taxes that led to the closing of the Meadows branch of the Vigo County (Ind.) Public Library, *Terre Haute Tribune-Star*, Feb. 21.



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

Russell is honored in recognition of her contributions to cooperative preservation during her 30-year tenure in the field of library preservation....



[Ross Atkinson Lifetime Achievement Award winner](#)

Cindy Hepfer, head of the electronic periodicals management department of the University at Buffalo, is the recipient of the 2009 Ross Atkinson Lifetime Achievement Award. The award is sponsored by EBSCO Information Services and honors the recipient with \$3,000....

[Best of LRTS Award winners](#)

Karen Schmidt, Wendy Allen Shelburne, and David Vess have been awarded the 2009 Best of LRTS Award for the article, "Approaches to Selection, Access, and Collection Development in the Web World," published in *Library Resources & Technical Services* 52, no. 3 (2008): 184–191....

[LITA Library Hi Tech Award winner](#)

Meredith Farkas, head of instructional initiatives at Norwich University in Vermont, has been named the winner of the 2009 LITA/Library Hi Tech Award for Outstanding Communication in Library and Information Technology. The award recognizes outstanding achievement in communicating to educate practitioners in library and information technology....



[PLA feature article contest winners](#)

PLA has named Julie Scordato and James Keller the 2009 winners of its annual feature article contest. The contest awards cash prizes to the authors of the best feature articles written by public librarians and published in the previous year's issues of *Public Libraries* magazine....

[Samuel Lazerow Fellowship winner](#)

Sara Marcus, electronic resource and web librarian at Queensborough Community College, has been selected to receive ACRL's Samuel Lazerow Fellowship for Research in Technical Services or Acquisitions. Marcus was selected for her research project on the change of terms and terminology over several editions of the *Sears List of Subject Headings*....

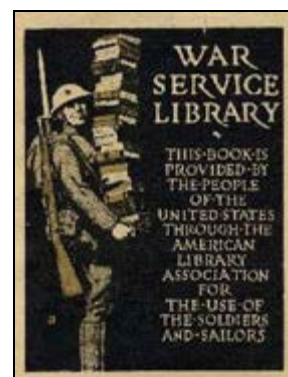
[Coutts Nijhoff International Study Grant winner](#)

Gordon Bruce Anderson, Scandinavian and Slavic studies librarian at the University of Minnesota, has been selected to receive the ACRL Western European Studies Section's Coutts Nijhoff International West European Specialist Study Grant. The grant provides \$3,000 to support a research trip to Europe....

[ALSC seeks host site for 2010 Arbuthnot Lecture](#)

ALSC is making [applications](#) available to institutions interested in hosting the 2010 May Hill Arbuthnot Honor Lecture, to be delivered by Kathleen T. Horning, director of the University of Wisconsin-Madison's Cooperative Children's Book Center. The deadline is May

Ask the ALA Librarian



Q. Recently I had a patron come in asking about a book he had purchased with this library stamp on it: "American Library Association, Soldiers and Sailors Camp Library." Do the words "Soldiers and Sailors Camp Library" give any clue as to where that library might have been? To what does this stamp refer?

A. The bookplate (sometimes a label) is one of several versions affixed to books furnished to sailors and soldiers by the American Library Association during World War I. In 1917, ALA established the Committee on Mobilization and War Service Plans (later the War Service Committee). ALA's wartime program, known as the [Library](#)

1....

[Get a ticket for Walter Dean Myers](#)

Tickets to attend the 2009 May Hill Arbuthnot Honor Lecture, featuring Walter Dean Myers, renowned author of fiction, poetry, and nonfiction for children and young adults, are now [available](#). The lecture, scheduled for April 18, is hosted this year by the Langston Hughes Library of the Children's Defense Fund Haley Farm in Clinton, Tennessee....



[Celebrating the Coretta Scott King awards](#)

To celebrate Black History Month, the ALA Public Information Office and Campaign for America's Libraries blog is highlighting the Coretta Scott King Book Awards and its 40th anniversary celebration. Award-winning author Andrea Davis Pinkney, vice president and executive editor of Scholastic, calls the awards "40 and Fabulous," in the February 1 issue of *Booklist*....

Visibility @ your library, Feb. 24

[Winners of Teen Tech Week Mini Grants](#)

YALSA has announced the winners of its 20 Teen Tech Week Mini Grants. The grants, funded by the Verizon Foundation, give each winning library \$450 cash and \$50 worth of official Teen Tech Week products to offer inventive activities, resources, and services to celebrate Teen Tech Week, March 8–14....

[Great Books Giveaway winners](#)

YALSA has named Lincoln County Public Libraries in Libby, Montana, the winner of its annual Great Books Giveaway. The library will receive one ton of books, audiobooks, and other materials from items publishers and producers donated to YALSA in 2008. There are also two runners-up....

[Outstanding Books for the College Bound and Lifetime Learners](#)

YALSA announced its 2009 Outstanding Books for the College Bound and Lifetime Learners list. Revised every five years, this list is intended as a tool for several audiences: students preparing for college, parents, educators, and librarians. The [2009 list](#) offers titles in five categories: arts and humanities, history and cultures, literature and language arts, science and technology, and social sciences....



[Matching Books for Babies grants](#)

In partnership with department-store chain Nordstrom, ALTAFF will award 20 grants of \$500 each to match \$1,000 raised by selected Friends of the Library groups, women's groups, libraries, and other nonprofit organizations for purchasing Books for Babies kits. Books for Babies is a national literacy program that acquaints parents of newborns with the important role they play in the development of their children. The deadline for the first round of grants is April 1....

[Apply for a Gordon M. Conable Research Scholarship](#)

The Freedom to Read Foundation has opened applications for the 2009 Gordon M. Conable Conference Scholarship, which will enable a

[War Service](#), was directed by Herbert Putnam, Library of Congress, and later by Carl H. Milam. Between 1917 and 1920, ALA mounted two financial campaigns and raised \$5 million from public donations; erected 36 camp libraries with Carnegie Corporation funds; distributed approximately 10 million books and magazines; and provided library collections to 5,000 locations. Continuing byproducts of this effort are the [American Library in Paris](#) and military libraries all over the country and the world. The work is carried on by librarians who are members of the [Federal and Armed Forces Libraries Round Table](#). As libraries were dispersed or weeded over the years, some of these books have come into private hands—even though the label will often say something like "Property of the U.S.S. [name of ship]—Not to Be Taken Off Ship." From the [ALA Professional Tips wiki](#).

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



ALA is seeking

library school student or new professional to attend ALA's 2009 Annual Conference in Chicago. The recipient will attend various FTRF and other intellectual freedom programs at conference and write a report. The deadline for [applications](#) is March 20....

[SirsiDynix ALA-APA Award winners](#)

The ALA-Allied Professional Association has named the winners of the 2009 SirsiDynix ALA-APA Award for Outstanding Achievement in Promoting Salaries and Status for Library Workers. The winners are the Anderson County (Tenn.) Library Board; Lynn Sutton of Wake Forest University Library in Winston-Salem, North Carolina; and Mohamed Ismail of the Integrated Care Society in Cairo, Egypt....

[A library volunteer since 1941](#)

The Friends and trustees of the Williamson County Public Library in Franklin, Tennessee, recognized Marie Hardison Jordan on February 19 for her many years of public service. Jordan, 80, has been a volunteer at the library since she was 12 and Friends president from 1996 to 2008. State Sen. Jack Johnson read a House joint resolution signed by Gov. Phil Bredesen to honor and recognize Jordan's contributions, and County Mayor Rogers Anderson proclaimed February 19, 2009, as "Marie Jordan Day."...

Nashville *Tennessean*, Feb. 20

[ALISE/OCLC Research Grants](#)

OCLC and the Association for Library and Information Science Education have awarded research grants to Kathryn La Barre and Carol Tilley of the University of Illinois, Michael Khoo of Drexel University, and Bill Kules of the Catholic University of America. The grants were presented in January at the ALISE awards reception in Denver. The grants support research that advances librarianship and information science....

OCLC, Feb. 23

Seen Online

[South Carolina teen library user appears at Obama speech](#)

Ty'Sheoma Bethea (right), the teenage girl invited by President Barack Obama to sit beside the first lady during his February 24 speech to Congress, went to the Dillon County (S.C.) Library earlier in the month to use a computer to compose a letter to the U.S.

Congress in order to tell them how students today are committed to their education and determined to change the world. Inspired by a *Chicago Tribune* reporter profiling the deteriorating conditions at the J. V. Martin Junior High School that she attends, Bethea's letter ultimately made its way to the White House. Obama [read a portion](#) of her letter to Congress, including her phrase, "We are not quitters."...

Chicago Tribune, Feb. 25; District Dispatch, Feb. 25



[Does social networking produce cognitive side effects?](#)

British physiologist Susan Greenfield warns that social-network sites risk infantilizing the 21st-century mind, leaving it characterized by short attention spans, sensationalism, inability to empathize, and a

nominees to serve as [ALA representative to the U.S. Committee of the Blue Shield](#) during the period July 1, 2009, to June 30, 2011. The deadline for applications is May 1. The International Committee of the Blue Shield was set up in 1996 to protect the world's cultural heritage threatened by wars and natural disasters. Send nominating documents to the ALA [International Relations Office](#).



IFLA's 75th [World Library and Information Congress](#) will take place in Milan, Italy, August 23–27. The early registration deadline is May 15. ALA members wishing attend can register at a reduced rate through ALA's membership in IFLA. The ALA member number is US-0002.

Calendar

Mar. 2:
[Teens and Technology](#), Wyoming Seminary College Preparatory School, Kingston, Pennsylvania. YALSA Regional Institute.

Mar. 14–15:
[Seattle Zine Librarian Unconference](#), ZAPP at Richard Hugo House, Seattle.

shaky sense of identity. Greenfield, professor of synaptic pharmacology at Lincoln College, told the House of Lords that children's experiences on social-networking sites "are devoid of cohesive narrative and long-term significance."...

The Guardian (U.K.), Feb. 24

Broken sprinkler soaks art library

The University of Iowa's art collection can't catch a break, particularly from water. In 2008, floodwater devastated university buildings in Iowa City and forced the relocation of much of the art facilities and collection. Early on February 19, a frozen sprinkler head burst, soaking a collection of 2,400 art books in the Art Building West (above) for about three hours. The wet books are in the library on the second floor....

Iowa City Press-Citizen, Feb. 21



New law does not require book disposal

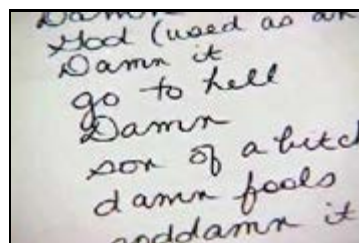
Diane Petryk Bloom writes: "No matter what you've heard, children's books published before 1985 do not have to be destroyed [or [quarantined](#)]. There's buzz all over the web giving this misinformation. Yes, a consumer protection law passed by Congress last summer cracks down on hazardous materials in children's products, particularly lead and phthalates. But there is apparently good reason to fear that just tossing books printed in 1984 or earlier would deprive future generations of some great literature."...

Chicago Examiner, Feb. 23; *Nebraska City News-Press*, Feb. 20

Parent wants war novel removed from school libraries

Shirley Waller has complained that the book her daughter got from the Reese Road Elementary School library in Columbus, Georgia, has too much profanity. She has asked that the book be removed from all school libraries in Muscogee County. In her formal complaint, Waller listed 19 terms she found objectionable (right) in *My Brother Sam Is Dead* by James Lincoln Collier and Christopher Collier, a novel about an Anglican family in colonial Connecticut....

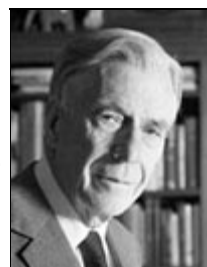
Columbus (Ga.) Ledger-Enquirer, Feb. 20



Galbraith collection donated to Marlboro College

The private library of world-famous economist John Kenneth Galbraith (1908–2006) and his wife, Catherine, has been donated to Marlboro (Vt.) College by their three sons. In addition to many books authored by Galbraith, the 2,000 volumes include a collection of books on India, books on contemporary issues from World War II to the present, 19th-century German and French literature, and many prized art books. Library staff traveled to Cambridge, Massachusetts, to pack up the personal library and bring it back to Vermont....

Rutland (Vt.) Herald, Feb. 23



Dartmouth Public Library doesn't want to outsource

Dartmouth (Mass.) Public Library officials say hiring a private management firm is not in the library's best interests and would

Mar. 17:

[Open Access and Libraries Conference](#)

Kellogg Center, Columbia University, New York City. "The State of the Art of Open Access and Google Books Projects—What It All Means for Libraries, Library Users, and You."

Mar. 28–29:

[Reading the World](#)

School of Education, University of San Francisco. A conference celebrating multicultural literature for children and adults.

Apr. 2–30:

[Marketing Basics for Libraries](#)

Online course sponsored by RUSA.

Apr. 16–18:

[Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives](#)

Spring Conference, Holiday Inn Charleston House, Charleston, West Virginia. "Surveying Archives: Wild and Wonderful."

Apr. 29–

May 1:

[Loleta Fyan Small and Rural Libraries](#)

[Conference](#), Grand Traverse Resort, Traverse City, Michigan.

May 18–21:

[International Conference on Open Repositories](#)

Georgia Tech Hotel and Conference Center, Atlanta.

May 27–29:

[Society for Scholarly](#)

result in the loss of state certification, state aid, and expanded borrowing privileges for residents. Board Chairwoman Kathy Murphy-Aisenberg said February 17 that circumstances do not warrant the libraries being run by Library Systems and Services LLC of Germantown, Maryland, the management company considered by some town officials as a less expensive alternative than town operation of the libraries....

New Bedford (Mass.) Standard-Times, Feb. 18

[Haverhill to keep special collections open](#)

After local historians [complained](#) that Mayor James Fiorentini's cut to the Haverhill (Mass.) Public Library staff will make it difficult to review historic documents, Library Director Carol Verny devised a plan to keep the special collections room open by appointment three hours a week. Budget cuts had eliminated a part-time librarian who staffed the room two days a week. Historians are using the collection to locate and catalog area grave sites....

North Andover (Mass.) Eagle-Tribune, Feb. 19-20



[The library is no place to meditate](#)

The Natrona County Public Library in Casper, Wyoming, [canceled](#) a program by a Buddhist monk scheduled for February 14 because it crossed the line between imparting information and advocating the religious practice of meditation. The talk by Kelsang Rinzin of the Heruka Buddhist Center in Fort Collins, Colorado, was not sponsored by the library. Director Bill Nelson said the county prohibits religious events on its properties....

Casper (Wyo.) Star-Tribune, Feb. 10, 21



[Holy books rise to the top shelf](#)

Muslims in the U.K. have complained that the Koran is often displayed on the lower shelves in libraries, a practice deemed offensive. Now library officials in Leicester have been told by the Museums, Libraries, and Archives Council to keep all holy books, including the Bible, on the top shelves in the interests of equality. See Appendix C of the council's *Guidance on the Management of Controversial Material in Public Libraries* ([PDF file](#)), published February 17. But some Christian charities worry it will put the Bible out of the reach and sight of many users. The same report also [singled out](#) Leicester for unwittingly purchasing jihadist literature from a foreign-language supplier the library had turned to as a cost-cutting measure....

Daily Telegraph (U.K.), Feb. 18; *Leicester Mercury*, Feb. 23



[Fresno State opens largest library in CSU system](#)

The largest library in the 23-campus California State University system has opened for students and faculty at California State University, Fresno. State budget difficulties have delayed the library's availability to the community, purchases of some of the building's furniture, and the opening of one floor for university administrative offices. The new Henry Madden Library



[Publishing](#), Annual Meeting, Marriott Baltimore Waterfront, Baltimore.

May 31-

June 5:

[North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics / Human Language](#)

[Technologies](#), Annual Conference, University of Colorado at Boulder.

June 4-5:

[Politics and Networking](#)

Decatur (Ga.) Public Library. Certified Public Library Administrator course sponsored by PLA.

June 4-7:

[North American Serials Interest Group](#)

Annual Conference, Asheville, North Carolina. "Riding the Rapids Through a Mountain of Change."

June 10-12:

[New York State Library Assistants' Association](#), Annual Conference, Sage College, Troy.

June 14-16:

[Next Library International Unconference](#), Aarhus, Denmark.

Sept. 11-13:

[Association for Rural and Small Libraries](#), Annual Conference, Gatlinburg, Tennessee.

Oct. 27-28:

[Fundraising](#), Kansas City, Missouri. Certified Public Library Administrator course

features an elliptical design entrance that the university says visually represents a Native American basket....

Stockton (Calif.) *Central Valley Business Times*, Feb. 20

[Research librarian eschews personal book purchases for a year](#)

Denver Post Research Librarian Barry Osborne writes: "There are several reasons I stopped buying books in 2008. With a young child at home, a car payment, and student loans, saving money was becoming more important to me than owning *Zazie in the Metro* or *Tamerlane: Sword of Islam*. As a librarian, I also saw a limit on book buying as an opportunity to enrich my professional life by experiencing the library more fully as a patron. Finally, part of me just wanted to see if I could do it. I came close."...

Denver Post, Feb. 22

[Pass Christian branch breaks ground](#)

City and library officials broke ground February 20 on the first library branch rebuilt in Harrison County, Mississippi, since Hurricane Katrina.

The 12,000-square-foot library will be part of a three-building complex housing City Hall and a meeting facility, all around a courtyard, in downtown Pass Christian. Mayor Chipper McDermott thanked the people of Naperville, Illinois, who have helped Pass Christian recover from Katrina by raising more than \$1 million....

Biloxi (Miss.) Sun Herald, Feb. 20



[Henderson mall branch set to open](#)

The Henderson (Nev.) District Public Libraries will open a new branch February 27 inside the Galleria at Sunset mall. Strapped for cash and facing a rapidly growing number of users, the library district had to get creative in its expansion plans. In the mall, the district found a willing partner and was able to strike a deal to place a small branch in the shopping center for a low price....

Las Vegas Sun, Feb. 23

[Library volunteers crack "book safe" case](#)

Sorting through a box of donations recently, Hayward (Calif.) Public Library volunteer Muriel Sampson cracked open a curious-looking Clive Cussler novel and found more than the expected adventure tale. Inside the copy of *Sahara* were compartments cut out to form a stealthy hiding spot for a grip of bracelets, a ring, and a lapel pin. Sampson asked the volunteers who accepted the donation whether they had gotten the name of the donor. Thus began a mystery....

Hayward (Calif.) Daily Review, Feb. 13

[Go back to the Top](#)

Tech Talk

[Why Kindle should embrace open standards](#)

Tim O'Reilly writes: "The Amazon Kindle has sparked huge media interest in e-books and has seemingly jump-started the market. Its instant wireless access to hundreds of thousands of e-books and seamless one-click purchasing process would seem to give it an enormous edge over other dedicated e-book platforms. Yet I have a bold prediction: Unless Amazon embraces open e-book standards like

sponsored by PLA.

@ [More...](#)

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ePub, which allows readers to read books on a variety of devices, the Kindle will be gone within two or three years.”...

Forbes, Feb. 23

[Multimedia in the Windows 7 beta](#)

Dave Mathews writes: “For those with a life outside of computers, a codec is software that provides your computer with the ability to read media files compressed using a particular format.



Popular common codecs include PCM used by audio CDs, the MPEG-2 standard used by DVDs, and H.264 used for downloadable movies. Microsoft has not yet officially announced which will be included with Windows 7 when it ships. Here’s the bad news, though: DVD playback may not work at all, thanks to Microsoft including many DRM limitations.”...

PC Magazine, Feb. 19

[How to master PDFs in Firefox](#)

Matt Asay writes: “Firefox, despite its great functionality, has long been a laggard when it comes to managing PDF content on the web. Safari and Internet Explorer browsers both give users the option of reading PDFs within the browser, while Firefox forces users to navigate to PDFs through its Downloads window—not very convenient. Leave it to Firefox’s online community, however, to remedy this failing. There are a range of Firefox plug-ins to help manage PDF documents. Two stand out for me.”...

WebWare, Feb. 20

[Nine Adobe AIR apps for productivity](#)

Elliott Kosmicki writes: “[Adobe AIR](#) came along and changed the application world overnight. Users all of a sudden had the ability to find desktop apps they loved and use them across all their systems in the exact same way. With this new age of application neutrality, I wanted to take a brief look into some Adobe AIR apps focused on increasing productivity.”...



Mashable, Feb. 23

[Bringing holistic awareness to web design](#)

Joseph Selbie writes: “Gone, thankfully, are the days when user experience and user interface were an afterthought in the website design process. As web design has increasingly gained importance, it also became increasingly specialized: information design, user experience design, interaction design, user research, persona development, ethnographic user research, usability testing—the list goes on and on. Increased specialization, however, doesn’t always translate to increased user satisfaction.”...

Boxes and Arrows, Feb. 18

Publishing

[Chicago librarian writes murder mysteries](#)

Frances McNamara, director of integrated library systems and administrative and desktop systems at the University of Chicago Libraries, is the author of *Death at the Fair* (BookSurge, Sept. 2008), which chronicles a fictitious murder mystery exposing the



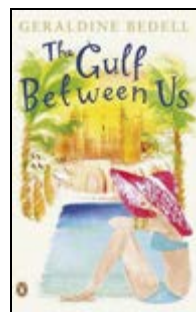
underbelly of the World's Columbian Exposition in 1893. Inspired by Erik Larson's best-selling *Devil in the White City*, McNamara's book is the first in a trilogy of murder mysteries that take place at the turn of the 20th century. *Death at Hull House* debuts this spring....

Chicago Tribune, Feb. 22

["Censorship" confusion in Dubai](#)

Canadian writer Margaret Atwood issued a mea culpa February 21, explaining that she may have been too hasty in canceling her appearance at the inaugural [Emirates Airline International Festival of Literature](#) in Dubai and declaring that a British novelist had been censored before fully understanding all the facts. Atwood had canceled her appearance February 17 after learning that a book by British author Geraldine Bedell, *The Gulf Between Us*, had allegedly been banned in the Emirates because one of its characters was a gay sheik. Apparently that was [not exactly the case](#)....

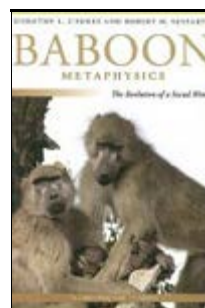
Toronto Globe and Mail, Feb. 23; Emirates Festival



[Baboons and sieves vie for oddest title](#)

The shortlist for the annual Diagram Prize for Oddest Book Title of the Year has been unveiled by *The Bookseller*. Six titles, with subjects ranging from *fromage frais* to strip knitting, make up the shortlist for the hotly contested award, now in its 31st year. Philip Stone, sales analyst at *The Bookseller*, said: "We received a huge number of entries this year and the debate was furious as to which would be included on the shortlist. Six seems such a cruelly low number given that such titles as *Excrement in the Late Middle Ages* and *All Dogs Have ADHD* were rejected."...

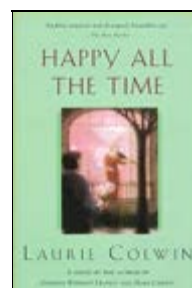
The Bookseller, Feb. 22



[Feel-good fiction](#)

Marianne Goss writes: "I decided there was an audience for a website that would help readers find fiction that's both serious and upbeat. Thus [Positively Good Reads](#) was born. As I read a novel that was labeled upbeat by a reviewer, AllReaders.com, or an acquaintance, I write a short summary for this site. The upbeatness of some of the novels isn't always apparent to me, but to keep the list growing and to let you decide for yourself, I'm not excluding anything for now."...

Positively Good Reads



[Make iTunes and iPod your classical companions](#)

Randy A. Salas writes: "When I recently converted my largely orchestral CD collection to MP3s, several readers warned me that I would regret it. When it comes to classical

music, iTunes misses a beat, they said. But with just a few tweaks and some tips, you can better organize your classical collection, find high-quality downloads online, and get music cheaply or even for free."...

Minneapolis Star Tribune, Feb. 24



Actions & Answers

[Evan Farber, 1922–2009](#)

Evan Ira Farber, library director emeritus of Earlham College in Richmond, Indiana, died peacefully on the morning of February 12. A dominant figure in the academic library world, Farber developed a new concept of college libraries and college librarianship from the 1960s through the 1980s and encouraged hundreds of college students to enter the library profession. At Earlham, he became one of the country's most articulate spokespersons for college librarianship and bibliographic instruction....

Earlham College



[ARL calls on OCLC to revise its WorldCat policy](#)

An Association of Research Libraries task force has issued a report ([PDF file](#)) that calls on OCLC to develop a new policy for the use and transfer of WorldCat records to replace the one it released in November 2008. The task force report includes a brief overview of the policy and the task force's understanding of the policy's intent....

Association of Research Libraries, Feb. 20

[Visualizing world news](#)

Andrew Vande Moere writes: "Is there finally a news outlet that steps into the information design terrain? [TimeSpace](#) from the *Washington Post* is an interactive map that allows users to navigate articles, photos, video, and commentary from around the globe. One can discover news hot-spots where coverage is clustered, use the slider timeline to illustrate peaks in coverage, or customize news searches to a particular day or specific hour."...

Information Aesthetics, Feb. 20



[Boston University approves open-access plan](#)

Boston University took a step towards greater access to academic research February 11 when the university council voted to support an open-access system ([PDF file](#)) that would make scholarly work of the faculty and staff available online to anyone, for free, as long as

the authors are credited and the scholarship is not used for profit. The council vote also approved an initiative to establish an archive of BU faculty research and scholarship....

BU Today, Feb. 17

[Kate Nevins talks about the SOLINET merger](#)

Daniel A. Freeman writes: "Earlier this month, regional library cooperatives SOLINET and PALINET finalized and approved plans to merge to become one of the largest and most influential library cooperatives in the country. SOLINET Executive Director Kate Nevins was kind enough to agree to an email interview with us. She helps explain how this merger came to fruition, and what it will mean in terms of service, technology, and the reach of the new organization."...

ALA TechSource, Feb. 23



[Spotlight on the American Dental Association library](#)

Jeannie Dilger-Hill writes: "The [American Dental Association Library](#) in Chicago was started in 1927 to provide resources and reference service to ADA members. The library has a staff of 14, including five professional librarians and a professional archivist. The staff answers questions on all sorts of topics in dentistry, including the effects of obesity on oral health, the relationship between dementia and tooth loss, and new dental techniques."...

I Love Libraries



[What libraries can learn from Facebook](#)

Peter Bromberg writes: "While looking at one end of the Facebook dustup (big corporation trampling on privacy rights) we might be missing some important lessons on the other end (big corporation letting customers control their own information in exchange for a highly engaging experience). Our choice to disallow customers' control of their own information means that their needs for connection and social networking go unmet. Why aren't libraries creating and offering these experiences?"...

Library Garden, Feb. 19

[Low self-esteem and the Z class](#)

Steven Bell writes: "Aren't we the gals and guys who formulated call number schemes? So how is it that in the LC classification, library science materials got tagged with Z? If librarians were in charge of this operation, wouldn't it have been easy for them to just make librarianship A? It's not like LC is based on a mnemonic scheme. So I have to chalk it up to this profession's pure low self-esteem factor."...

ACRLLog, Feb. 19

[School librarians talk about Second Life](#)

The International Society for Technology in Education's *ISTE Eduverse Talks* takes a look at how librarians are using social media and other tools like Second Life in their daily work. Host Kevin Jarrett talks with Chicago Public Schools Area



Library Coordinator Lisa Perez (Elaine Tulip in SL), Springfield Township (Pa.) High School Librarian Joyce Valenza (Joyce Story in SL), and Johnson and Wales University Head of Reference Rhonda Trueman (Abbey Zenith in SL)....

ISTE Eduverse Talks, Feb. 17

[International cataloging principles](#)

The final version of the *Statement of International Cataloguing Principles* ([English PDF file](#)) and its translations in major languages has been published on the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions website. It is the result of a series of five regional IFLA Meetings of Experts on an International Cataloguing Code that took place from 2003 to 2007....

International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions, Feb. 24

[Flash-mob catalogers at the Audubon Society](#)

Eighteen flash-mob catalogers descended upon the Audubon Society of Rhode Island in Smithfield February 21 and left having cataloged a wonderful 2,500-book [collection](#) for LibraryThing. Tim Spalding writes: "The



Audubon people were grateful, if a little stunned. Katya, who drove five hours to get there, floored them." (She did all the hard cataloging, including two books not in WorldCat.)...

LibraryThing blog, Feb. 23

[Academic archives thesaurus](#)

Thesaurus for Use in College and University Archives, edited by Kate Bowers, is a set of 1,300 terms for use by any college or university archives in the United States for describing its holdings. The topical facets are academic affairs, administration, classes of persons, corporate culture, events, fields of study, history, infrastructure, sports, and student life. The included terms are generic and could apply to any college or university....

Society of American Archivists, Feb.

[Bad news for OpenID](#)

Sarah Perez writes: "Two-thirds of U.S. consumers use the same one or two passwords for all the websites they access, according to a new survey from Gartner Research. *And they like it that way*: Although people claim they're concerned about security, they still tend to use unsafe password management techniques rather than exploring new methods—be that new hardware, software, or new authentication frameworks like [OpenID](#)."...



ReadWriteWeb, Feb. 24

[Watching local library news go viral](#)

David Lee King writes: "We live in a new world, a world in which local decisions made by very small groups can go viral with social media tools and can even reach global and unintended audiences. I watched just this thing unfold last Thursday." King used Twitter to broadcast a Topeka and Shawnee County (Kans.) Public Library board meeting regarding restricting access to four books in its collection. By the end of the evening, the board meeting was the 7th most popular trend on Twitter. The next day, the conversation went global, with news sources all over the world, including [AL Online](#), reporting the decision....

David Lee King, Feb. 23

[The anatomy of a good speech](#)

Chris Brogan writes: "You might have an upcoming presentation, or you might be looking to speak more at events. I have a few ideas for you. I want to share with you my current thinking on presentations, such that I hope you feel equipped to do more with your own work. I've been thinking about the anatomy of presentations, and what we can do to improve how we're doing what we do."...

Chris Brogan, Feb. 23

[Ruth Harrison, reference librarian](#)

Ruth meets with the head of the library board, and does some hands-on research into love poems in this [installment](#) of "The Adventures of Ruth Harrison, Reference Librarian," from *Prairie Home Companion*. The episode (7:03) was recorded live at the Fitzgerald Theater in Saint Paul, Minnesota, on February 14. "Just came by to pick up the January usage report before the Board goes on its weekend retreat." "The Library Board has been retreating for years, Mr. Anderson—why set aside one weekend?"...

Prairie Home Companion, Feb. 14



[Bibliomaniacs in Paris](#)

David Turecamo, known for his "Our Man in Paris" segments on *CBS Sunday Morning*, delivers an outstanding report (6:33) on book collectors and *bouquinistes* in France: "You are not a serious book collector or book dealer unless you've had one herniated disc and unless you've ruined your knees."...

CBS Sunday Morning, Feb. 15



[The Anonymity Project](#)

The students of Kansas State University cultural anthropologist Michael Wesch created research proposals for his Spring 2009 class in digital ethnography. This video (5:54) is a mashup of all their proposals for a project entitled "The Fight for Significance in the Age of the Microcelebrity: Anonymity, Anonymous, Smart Mobs, Mad Mobs, Bot Mobs, and the Great American Poets." (Could this be what [Susan Greenfield](#) is worried about?)...

Digital Ethnography, Feb. 16



[Did you know?](#)

This video (5:16) on the information explosion and technical trends has been around in several versions for a few months. It is said to have been adapted for use at a Sony executive conference in 2008. Created and researched by Karl Fisch, Scott McLeod, and Jeff Brenman....

YouTube, Nov. 7, 2008



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AL Direct, February 25, 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 | February 25, 2009

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

[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

U.S. & World News

Topeka board votes to restrict four titles

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2009/February2009/topekasexbooks.cfm>]

The Topeka and Shawnee County (Kans.) Public Library board voted 5–3 February 19 to restrict minors’ access to four books about sex, although the trustees failed to specify just what that restriction would entail. The titles challenged by complainant Kim Borchers in November 2008 are The Joy of Sex, The Lesbian Kama Sutra, The Joy of Gay Sex, and Sex for Busy People: The Art of the Quickie for Lovers on the Go. Borchers, who represents a group called Kansans for Common Sense, had contended in her statement of concern that the materials were harmful to minors under state law....
American Libraries Online, Feb. 20

House rehashes bill blocking free access to research

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2009/February>

2009/antinihpolicybill.cfm]

The Fair Copyright in Research Works Act, which would block free access to research conducted by taxpayer-funded organizations such as the National Institutes of Health, was introduced February 3 in the House by Rep. John Conyers (D-Mich.). H.R. 801

[<http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/z?c111:H.R.801>]; duplicates word-for-word H.R. 6845

[<http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/z?c110:H.R.6845>], which was shelved at the end of 2008. The legislation essentially bars government agencies from requiring authors to transfer their copyright in order to receive public funding for their research....

American Libraries Online, Feb. 20

ALA News

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ALA thanks Obama for openness and transparency

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=2059>]

ALA President Jim Rettig sent a letter (PDF file

[[http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/wp-content/uploads/2009/02/ala](http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/wp-content/uploads/2009/02/ala-letter-to-obama.pdf)

-letter-to-obama.pdf]) to President Obama February 23, thanking him

for his commitment to openness and transparency in government.

Rettig's letter states that librarians believe an informed

citizenry is essential for a democratic form of government and

access to government information is a public right. Libraries also serve

as important local points of access for government

information. ALA Council passed a resolution

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/obama.cfm>] commending Obama during the Midwinter Meeting in Denver....

District Dispatch, Feb. 24

Nine dynamic authors to speak in Chicago

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/ac09auditoriumspeakers.cfm>]

The Auditorium Speaker Series at Annual Conference in Chicago, July 9–15, will feature nine distinguished authors. This year's

lineup includes Gregory Maguire (right), James Van Praagh, Michael

Connelly, Wanda Urbanska, Junot Díaz, Melba Pattillo Beals, Lisa

Scottoline, Jill Bolte Taylor, and Cokie Roberts. Maguire, the

bestselling author of Confessions of an Ugly Stepsister, Lost, and

Wicked, will kick off the series the morning of July 11....

Copyright lessons for the digital age

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=2084>]

The ALA Office for Information Technology Policy and AASL, along with the National Council of Teachers of English, have announced the

rerelease of copyright lesson plans for middle school students,

Grades 6–8. New features include models of collaborative teaching

between classroom teachers and school library media specialists and

connections to AASL's Standards for the 21st Century Learner.

The lessons are available on the ReadWriteThink
[<http://www.readwritethink.org/>] website....
District Dispatch, Feb. 25

Libraries to be highlighted on CNN Money
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/piocnnmoney.cfm>]
The efforts that libraries make to help patrons obtain accurate financial information will be highlighted on CNN Money, February 28, at 9:30 a.m. Eastern time. ALA President Jim Rettig will appear. A longer web video version of the story as well as a CNN web article will be posted following the broadcast....

Next ALA Connections Salon: Marshall Breeding
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/rettigtechsalon.cfm>]
The next installment in the series of ALA President Jim Rettig's ALA Connections Salons will be an online discussion with Marshall Breeding, director for innovative technologies and research at Vanderbilt University Libraries. It will take place in OPAL
[<http://www.conference321.com/masteradmin/room.asp?id=rs423c62c43df0>]
on March 5....

Core competences defined
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/hrdrcompetences.cfm>]
At the Midwinter Meeting in Denver, ALA Council passed a resolution (PDF file
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/educationcareers/careers/corecomp/finalcorecompstat09.pdf>]) defining the core competences of librarianship. The document defines the basic knowledge to be possessed by all persons graduating from an ALA-accredited master's program in library and information studies....

Concern over Gaza conflict
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/alagaza.cfm>]
ALA has called for the protection of libraries and archives in both the Gaza Strip and Israel. The Association urged
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/iro/awardsactivities/resolutionsongazaconflict.cfm>] the U.S. government to support the United States Committee of the Blue Shield in upholding the 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict and called on the administration to work for a permanent peace in the region....

Booklist Online

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Featured review: Books for youth

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=3247529]

Lloyd, Saci. *The Carbon Diaries* 2015. Apr. 2009. 336p. Holiday, hardcover (978-0-8234-2190-9).

Laura Brown, a 16-year-old Londoner and punk rocker, documents a year in the very near future, 2015, in diary form. She refers to recent massive storms brought on by climate change that have ravaged the planet and led Britain to be the first country to try “carbon rationing.” Each person is allotted a prohibitively small measure of carbon points to be used each month, essentially obsoleting such luxuries as air travel or even heating one’s home. Laura navigates the increasingly punishing circumstances with a perfectly intoned half-bitter, half-astonished teenager’s voice, complete with strains of near-future slang, and punctuates her diary with newspaper clippings and other taped-in bits of cultural detritus. As she weathers staggering uncertainty, kill-me-now family crises, and a timelessly confusing dating scene, she finds a release valve in music and her mates....

Top 10 graphic novels for youth

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=3332762]

Ian Chipman writes: “What a difference a year makes! While last year’s Top 10 list didn’t have a single title recommended for readers under Grade 6, this year’s list demonstrates the growing body of work available for emerging readers. Balancing those are some of the most innovative offerings we’ve seen yet for older readers. This truly all-ages list, representing the best comics reviewed within the past 12 months, has something for everyone.”...

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

Division News

AASL Learning4Life training summit

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/aasl4lsummit.cfm>]

AASL will host an all-day training summit, Learning4Life: Training4Trainers,

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/aasl/guidelinesandstandards/learning4life/index.cfm>] on July 9 in Chicago prior to the ALA Annual Conference. The summit is designed to train state-level coordinators in the development of customized state-level implementation strategies for AASL’s standards and guidelines. The cost will be partially offset by a generous donation by Verizon Foundation/Thinkfinity.org....

AASL launches website redesign

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/aaslwebsite.cfm>]

AASL has launched a new website design [<http://www.aasl.org>] to highlight its exceptional tools and resources for school library media specialists. New features of the website include two new sections—Standards and Guidelines, and Research and Statistics—that hold the division's most sought-after tools, Standards for the 21st-Century Learner and results from the School Libraries Count! longitudinal study....

Download Teen Tech Week PSAs

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/ttwpsas.cfm>]

Known as the voice of SpongeBob SquarePants, Tom Kenny lends his support to teens, libraries, and YALSA through downloadable [<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/yalsa/teentechweek/ttw09/publicity/publicity.cfm#audio>] public service announcements announcing Teen Tech Week, March 8–14. The PSAs are courtesy of Galaxy Press, a 2009 Teen Tech Week Promotional Partner....

ALCTS preconferences in Chicago

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/alctspreconferences.cfm>]

Five exciting and informative preconferences are being offered by ALCTS at the 2009 ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. Topics include cataloging digital media, e-book formats, new cataloging concepts, XSLT for librarians, and metadata standards....

Two LITA workshops in Chicago

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/litachicagoworkshops.cfm>]

LITA is offering two full-day educational workshops July 10 at the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. The topics cover creating mashups for library websites and taking better photos....

RUSA programs at Annual Conference

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/rusaannualprograms.cfm>]

Librarians and library staff from all types of libraries will find a program of interest among the RUSA offerings at the 2009 ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. A comprehensive list of program descriptions, sponsoring groups, and speakers is available on the RUSA website [<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/rusa/events/annual09/index.cfm>]....

ASCLA programs at Annual Conference

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/asclaexpertise.cfm>]

ASCLA programs at the 2009 ALA Annual Conference will address services to special populations, collaboration, and resource sharing. Specific topics include large print, multiple intelligences, hospice services, and the future of LSTA grants....

Research symposium to be held in Charlotte

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february>]

y2009/aasresearch.cfm]

The AASL Educators of Library Media Specialists Section will present its first research symposium at the AASL 14th National Conference and Exhibition, November 5–8, in Charlotte, North Carolina. The topic for the symposium will be AASL’s Standards for the 21st-Century Learner, released in 2007....

Awards

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Libraries, literacy, and gaming grants

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/gaminggrants.cfm>]

ALA will award ten \$5,000 grants to libraries that demonstrate creativity, capacity, sustainability, and a strong commitment to literacy-related gaming services for youth. The winning libraries will receive ongoing support and technical assistance from a team of nationally recognized library gaming experts. Winners will be announced during National Library Week, April 12–18. The grant application is available online.

[<http://librarygamingtoolkit.org/rfp/>] The deadline to apply is March 20....

Miriam Dudley Instruction Librarian Award winner

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/acrlmddudley.cfm>]

Trudi E. Jacobson, head of user education programs at the State University of New York at Albany, is the winner of the ACRL Instruction Section’s Miriam Dudley Instruction Librarian Award. The honor recognizes a librarian who has made a significant contribution to the advancement of instruction in a college or research library environment....

Women’s Studies Significant Achievement winner

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/acrlmiddleton.cfm>]

Ken Middleton, user services librarian at Middle Tennessee State University, is the winner of the 2009 ACRL Women’s Studies Section Award for Significant Achievement in Woman’s Studies Librarianship. The award, sponsored by Routledge/Taylor and Francis Group, honors a significant or one-time contribution to women’s studies librarianship....

Community College Leadership Award winner

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/acrlneufeld.cfm>]

ACRL has selected Kenley Neufeld, library director at Santa Barbara (Calif.) City College, as the 2009 winner of the Community and Junior College Libraries Section EBSCO Community College Learning Resources Leadership Award. The award honors significant achievement in advocacy of learning resources, as well as leadership in

professional organizations that support the missions of community, junior, and technical colleges....

Community College Program Award winner

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/acrlfitzwater.cfm>]

ACRL has chosen Diana Fitzwater, reference librarian at the College of DuPage, in Glen Ellyn, Illinois, to receive the 2009 Community and Junior College Libraries Section EBSCO Community College Learning Resources Program Achievement Award. Fitzwater was praised for single-handedly taking on the role of information literacy expert on campus....

Leadership in Library Acquisitions Award winner

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/alctsleadershipacq.cfm>]

The ALCTS Acquisitions Section has selected Trisha Davis, head of serials, electronic resources, and rights management at Ohio State University, to receive the 2009 Leadership in Library Acquisitions Award. The award is given to a librarian to recognize contributions and outstanding leadership in the field of acquisitions....

Banks/Harris Preservation Award winner

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/alctsbanksharris.cfm>]

Barclay W. Ogden, head of the preservation department at the University of California Berkeley Library, is the recipient of the 2009 Paul Banks and Carolyn Harris Preservation Award. The award recognizes the contribution of a professional preservation specialist who has been active in the field of preservation or conservation for library or archival materials....

LBI Cunha/Swartzburg Award winner

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/alctslbi.cfm>]

Ann Russell, recently retired director of the Northeast Document Conservation Center in Andover, Massachusetts, is the winner of the 2009 LBI George Cunha and Susan Swartzburg Preservation Award. Russell is honored in recognition of her contributions to cooperative preservation during her 30-year tenure in the field of library preservation....

Ross Atkinson Lifetime Achievement Award winner

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/alctsatkinson.cfm>]

Cindy Hepfer, head of the electronic periodicals management department of the University at Buffalo, is the recipient of the 2009 Ross Atkinson Lifetime Achievement Award. The award is sponsored by EBSCO Information Services and honors the recipient with \$3,000....

Award winners

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/alctslrts.cfm>]

Karen Schmidt, Wendy Allen Shelburne, and David Vess have been awarded the 2009 Best of LRTS Award for the article, "Approaches to Selection, Access, and Collection Development in the Web World," published in *Library Resources & Technical Services* 52, no. 3 (2008): 184–191....

Award winner

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/litahitech.cfm>]

Meredith Farkas, head of instructional initiatives at Norwich University in Vermont, has been named the winner of the 2009 LITA/Library Hi Tech Award for Outstanding Communication in Library and Information Technology. The award recognizes outstanding achievement in communicating to educate practitioners in library and information technology....

PLA feature article contest winners

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/plaarticlecontest.cfm>]

PLA has named Julie Scordato and James Keller the 2009 winners of its annual feature article contest. The contest awards cash prizes to the authors of the best feature articles written by public librarians and published in the previous year's issues of *Public Libraries* magazine....

Samuel Lazerow Fellowship winner

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/acrlazerow.cfm>]

Sara Marcus, electronic resource and web librarian at Queensborough Community College, has been selected to receive ACRL's Samuel Lazerow Fellowship for Research in Technical Services or Acquisitions. Marcus was selected for her research project on the change of terms and terminology over several editions of the *Sears List of Subject Headings*....

Coutts Nijhoff International Study Grant winner

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/acrlwess.cfm>]

Gordon Bruce Anderson, Scandinavian and Slavic studies librarian at the University of Minnesota, has been selected to receive the ACRL Western European Studies Section's Coutts Nijhoff International West European Specialist Study Grant. The grant provides \$3,000 to support a research trip to Europe....

ALSC seeks host site for 2010 Arbuthnot Lecture

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/alschorning.cfm>]

ALSC is making applications

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/alsc/awardsgrants/bookmedia/arbuthnotonor/2010arbuthnot.cfm>] available to institutions interested in hosting the 2010 May Hill Arbuthnot Honor Lecture, to be delivered by Kathleen T. Horning, director of the University of Wisconsin-Madison's Cooperative Children's Book Center. The deadline is May 1....

Get a ticket for Walter Dean Myers

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/alscarbuthnottix.cfm>]

Tickets to attend the 2009 May Hill Arbuthnot Honor Lecture, featuring Walter Dean Myers, renowned author of fiction, poetry, and nonfiction for children and young adults, are now available.

[<http://arbuthnotlecture2009.eventbrite.com/>] The lecture, scheduled for April 18, is hosted this year by the Langston Hughes Library of the Children's Defense Fund Haley Farm in Clinton, Tennessee....

Celebrating the Coretta Scott King awards

[<http://www.pio.ala.org/visibility/?p=292>]

To celebrate Black History Month, the ALA Public Information Office and Campaign for America's Libraries blog is highlighting the Coretta Scott King Book Awards and its 40th anniversary celebration.

Award-winning author Andrea Davis Pinkney, vice president and executive editor of Scholastic, calls the awards "40 and Fabulous," in the February 1 issue of Booklist....

Visibility @ your library, Feb. 24

Winners of Teen Tech Week Mini Grants

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/yalsattwminigrants.cfm>]

YALSA has announced the winners of its 20 Teen Tech Week Mini Grants. The grants, funded by the Verizon Foundation, give each winning library \$450 cash and \$50 worth of official Teen Tech Week products to offer inventive activities, resources, and services to celebrate Teen Tech Week, March 8–14....

Great Books Giveaway winners

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/yalsagbg.cfm>]

YALSA has named Lincoln County Public Libraries in Libby, Montana, the winner of its annual Great Books Giveaway. The library will receive one ton of books, audiobooks, and other materials from items publishers and producers donated to YALSA in 2008. There are also two runners-up....

Outstanding Books for the College Bound and Lifetime Learners

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/yalsaobcb.cfm>]

YALSA announced its 2009 Outstanding Books for the College Bound and Lifetime Learners list. Revised every five years, this list is intended as a tool for several audiences: students preparing for college, parents, educators, and librarians. The 2009 list

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/yalsa/booklistsawards/outstandingbooks/outstandingbooks.cfm>] offers titles in five categories: arts and humanities, history and cultures, literature and language arts, science and technology, and social sciences....

Matching Books for Babies grants

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february>]

y2009/altaffnordstrom.cfm]

In partnership with department-store chain Nordstrom, ALTAFF will award 20 grants of \$500 each to match \$1,000 raised by selected Friends of the Library groups, women's groups, libraries, and other nonprofit organizations for purchasing Books for Babies kits. Books for Babies is a national literacy program that acquaints parents of newborns with the important role they play in the development of their children. The deadline for the first round of grants is April 1....

Apply for a Gordon M. Conable Research Scholarship

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/oifconable.cfm>]

The Freedom to Read Foundation has opened applications for the 2009 Gordon M. Conable Conference Scholarship, which will enable a library school student or new professional to attend ALA's 2009 Annual Conference in Chicago. The recipient will attend various FTRF and other intellectual freedom programs at conference and write a report. The deadline for applications

[<http://www.ftrf.org/ala/aboutala/offices/oif/oifprograms/ifawards/conablescholarship/Conablemain.cfm>] is March 20....

SirsiDynix ALA-APA Award winners

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/alaapasirsidynix.cfm>]

The ALA-Allied Professional Association has named the winners of the 2009 SirsiDynix ALA-APA Award for Outstanding Achievement in Promoting Salaries and Status for Library Workers. The winners are the Anderson County (Tenn.) Library Board; Lynn Sutton of Wake Forest University Library in Winston-Salem, North Carolina; and Mohamed Ismail of the Integrated Care Society in Cairo, Egypt....

A library volunteer since 1941

[<http://www.tennessean.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=200990220040>]

The Friends and trustees of the Williamson County Public Library in Franklin, Tennessee, recognized Marie Hardison Jordan on February 19 for her many years of public service. Jordan, 80, has been a volunteer at the library since she was 12 and Friends president from 1996 to 2008. State Sen. Jack Johnson read a House joint resolution signed by Gov. Phil Bredesen to honor and recognize Jordan's contributions, and County Mayor Rogers Anderson proclaimed February 19, 2009, as "Marie Jordan Day."...
Nashville Tennessean, Feb. 20

ALISE/OCLC Research Grants

[<http://www.oclc.org/news/releases/200914.htm>]

OCLC and the Association for Library and Information Science Education have awarded research grants to Kathryn La Barre and Carol Tilley of the University of Illinois, Michael Khoo of Drexel University, and Bill Kules of the Catholic University of America. The grants were presented in January at the ALISE awards reception in Denver. The grants support research that advances librarianship and information science....

OCLC, Feb. 23

Seen Online

South Carolina teen library user appears at Obama speech

[<http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/nationworld/chi-school-girlfeb25,0,7355335.story>]

Ty'Sheoma Bethea (right), the teenage girl invited by President Barack Obama to sit beside the first lady during his February 24 speech to Congress, went to the Dillon County (S.C.) Library earlier in the month to use a computer to compose a letter to the U.S. Congress in order to tell them how students today are committed to their education and determined to change the world. Inspired by a Chicago Tribune reporter profiling the deteriorating conditions at the J. V. Martin Junior High School that she attends, Bethea's letter ultimately made its way to the White House. Obama read a portion [<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=2097>] of her letter to Congress, including her phrase, "We are not quitters."... Chicago Tribune, Feb. 25; District Dispatch, Feb. 25

Does social networking produce cognitive side effects?

[<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2009/feb/24/social-networking-site-changing-childrens-brains>]

British physiologist Susan Greenfield warns that social-network sites risk infantilizing the 21st-century mind, leaving it characterized by short attention spans, sensationalism, inability to empathize, and a shaky sense of identity. Greenfield, professor of synaptic pharmacology at Lincoln College, told the House of Lords that children's experiences on social-networking sites "are devoid of cohesive narrative and long-term significance."... The Guardian (U.K.), Feb. 24

Broken sprinkler soaks art library

[<http://www.press-citizen.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2009902210328>]

The University of Iowa's art collection can't catch a break, particularly from water. In 2008, floodwater devastated university buildings in Iowa City and forced the relocation of much of the art facilities and collection. Early on February 19, a frozen sprinkler head burst, soaking a collection of 2,400 art books in the Art Building West (above) for about three hours. The wet books are in the library on the second floor.... Iowa City Press-Citizen, Feb. 21

New law does not require book disposal

[<http://www.examiner.com/x-591-Childrens-Book-Examiner~y2009m2d23-Stop-New-law-doesnt-require-book-burning>]

Diane Petryk Bloom writes: "No matter what you've heard, children's books published before 1985 do not have to be destroyed [or quarantined

[<http://www.ncnewspress.com/news/education/x1959823637/Librarian-quarantines-books>]]. There's buzz all over the web giving this

misinformation. Yes, a consumer protection law passed by Congress last summer cracks down on hazardous materials in children's products, particularly lead and phthalates. But there is apparently good reason to fear that just tossing books printed in 1984 or earlier would deprive future generations of some great literature."...

Chicago Examiner, Feb. 23; Nebraska City News-Press, Feb. 20

Parent wants war novel removed from school libraries

[<http://www.ledger-enquirer.com/living/education/story/623497.html>]

Shirley Waller has complained that the book her daughter got from the Reese Road Elementary School library in Columbus, Georgia, has too much profanity. She has asked that the book be removed from all school libraries in Muscogee County. In her formal complaint, Waller listed 19 terms she found objectionable (right) in *My Brother Sam Is Dead* by James Lincoln Collier and Christopher Collier, a novel about an Anglican family in colonial Connecticut....

Columbus (Ga.) Ledger-Enquirer, Feb. 20

Galbraith collection donated to Marlboro College

[<http://www.rutlandherald.com/article/20090223/NEWS02/902230361>]

The private library of world-famous economist John Kenneth Galbraith (1908–2006) and his wife, Catherine, has been donated to Marlboro (Vt.) College by their three sons. In addition to many books authored by Galbraith, the 2,000 volumes include a collection of books on India, books on contemporary issues from World War II to the present, 19th-century German and French literature, and many prized art books. Library staff traveled to Cambridge, Massachusetts, to pack up the personal library and bring it back to Vermont....

Rutland (Vt.) Herald, Feb. 23

Dartmouth Public Library doesn't want to outsource

[<http://www.southcoasttoday.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20090218/NEWS/902180348>]

Dartmouth (Mass.) Public Library officials say hiring a private management firm is not in the library's best interests and would result in the loss of state certification, state aid, and expanded borrowing privileges for residents. Board Chairwoman Kathy Murphy-Aisenberg said February 17 that circumstances do not warrant the libraries being run by Library Systems and Services LLC of Germantown, Maryland, the management company considered by some town officials as a less expensive alternative than town operation of the libraries....

New Bedford (Mass.) Standard-Times, Feb. 18

Haverhill to keep special collections open

[http://www.eagletribune.com/punewshh/local_story_050220613.html?keyword=topstory]

After local historians complained

[http://www.eagletribune.com/archivesearch/local_story_050015252.html]

that Mayor James Fiorentini's cut to the Haverhill (Mass.) Public Library staff will make it difficult to review historic documents, Library Director Carol Verny devised a plan to keep the special

collections room open by appointment three hours a week. Budget cuts had eliminated a part-time librarian who staffed the room two days a week. Historians are using the collection to locate and catalog area grave sites....

North Andover (Mass.) Eagle-Tribune, Feb. 19–20

The library is no place to meditate

[<http://www.trib.com/articles/2009/02/21/news/wyoming/46fe1c5065756eb28725756400057438.txt>]

The Natrona County Public Library in Casper, Wyoming, canceled

[<http://www.trib.com/articles/2009/02/10/news/casper/96d24306eeae4258725755a0002b43b.txt>] a program by a Buddhist monk scheduled for

February 14 because it crossed the line between imparting information and advocating the religious practice of meditation. The talk by Kelsang Rinzin of the Heruka Buddhist Center in Fort Collins, Colorado, was not sponsored by the library. Director Bill Nelson said the county prohibits religious events on its properties....

Casper (Wyo.) Star-Tribune, Feb. 10, 21

Holy books rise to the top shelf

[<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/newstopics/religion/4687077/Bible-put-on-top-shelf-in-move-to-appease-Muslims.html>]

Muslims in the U.K. have complained that the Koran is often displayed on the lower shelves in libraries, a practice deemed offensive. Now library officials in Leicester have been told by the Museums, Libraries, and Archives Council to keep all holy books, including the Bible, on the top shelves in the interests of equality. See Appendix C of the council's Guidance on the Management of Controversial Material in Public Libraries (PDF file [<http://www.mla.gov.uk/what/support/guidance/~media/B4414D2012F5437CAF13939D5C904BAE.ashx>]), published February 17. But some Christian charities worry it will put the Bible out of the reach and sight of many users. The same report also singled out

[<http://www.thisisleicestershire.co.uk/news/Jihad-books-library/article-e-718981-detail/article.html>] Leicester for unwittingly purchasing jihadist literature from a foreign-language supplier the library had turned to as a cost-cutting measure....

Daily Telegraph (U.K.), Feb. 18; Leicester Mercury, Feb. 23

Fresno State opens largest library in CSU system

[<http://www.centralvalleybusinesstimes.com/stories/001/?ID=11209>]

The largest library in the 23-campus California State University system has opened for students and faculty at California State University, Fresno. State budget difficulties have delayed the library's availability to the community, purchases of some of the building's furniture, and the opening of one floor for university administrative offices. The new Henry Madden Library features an elliptical design entrance that the university says visually represents a Native American basket....

Stockton (Calif.) Central Valley Business Times, Feb. 20

Research librarian eschews personal book purchases for a year

[http://www.denverpost.com/entertainment_old/ci_11743523]

Denver Post Research Librarian Barry Osborne writes: “There are several reasons I stopped buying books in 2008. With a young child at home, a car payment, and student loans, saving money was becoming more important to me than owning Zazie in the Metro or Tamerlane: Sword of Islam. As a librarian, I also saw a limit on book buying as an opportunity to enrich my professional life by experiencing the library more fully as a patron. Finally, part of me just wanted to see if I could do it. I came close.”...

Denver Post, Feb. 22

Pass Christian branch breaks ground

[<http://www.sunherald.com/passchristian/story/1154341.html>]

City and library officials broke ground February 20 on the first library branch rebuilt in Harrison County, Mississippi, since Hurricane Katrina. The 12,000-square-foot library will be part of a three-building complex housing City Hall and a meeting facility, all around a courtyard, in downtown Pass Christian. Mayor Chipper McDermott thanked the people of Naperville, Illinois, who have helped Pass Christian recover from Katrina by raising more than \$1 million....

Biloxi (Miss.) Sun Herald, Feb. 20

Henderson mall branch set to open

[<http://www.lasvegassun.com/news/2009/feb/23/library-branch-inside-galleria-mall-open-saturday/>]

The Henderson (Nev.) District Public Libraries will open a new branch February 27 inside the Galleria at Sunset mall. Strapped for cash and facing a rapidly growing number of users, the library district had to get creative in its expansion plans. In the mall, the district found a willing partner and was able to strike a deal to place a small branch in the shopping center for a low price....

Las Vegas Sun, Feb. 23

Library volunteers crack “book safe” case

[http://www.insidebayarea.com/search/ci_11701630?IADID=Search-www.insidebayarea.com-www.insidebayarea.com]

Sorting through a box of donations recently, Hayward (Calif.) Public Library volunteer Muriel Sampson cracked open a curious-looking Clive Cussler novel and found more than the expected adventure tale.

Inside the copy of Sahara were compartments cut out to form a stealthy hiding spot for a grip of bracelets, a ring, and a lapel pin. Sampson asked the volunteers who accepted the donation whether they had gotten the name of the donor. Thus began a mystery....

Hayward (Calif.) Daily Review, Feb. 13

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Tech Talk

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Why Kindle should embrace open standards

[<http://www.forbes.com/2009/02/22/kindle-oreilly-ebooks-technology-breake-throughs-oreilly.html>]

Tim O'Reilly writes: "The Amazon Kindle has sparked huge media interest in e-books and has seemingly jump-started the market. Its instant wireless access to hundreds of thousands of e-books and seamless one-click purchasing process would seem to give it an enormous edge over other dedicated e-book platforms. Yet I have a bold prediction: Unless Amazon embraces open e-book standards like ePub, which allows readers to read books on a variety of devices, the Kindle will be gone within two or three years..."
Forbes, Feb. 23

Multimedia in the Windows 7 beta

[<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2341266,00.asp>]

Dave Mathews writes: "For those with a life outside of computers, a codec is software that provides your computer with the ability to read media files compressed using a particular format. Popular common codecs include PCM used by audio CDs, the MPEG-2 standard used by DVDs, and H.264 used for downloadable movies. Microsoft has not yet officially announced which will be included with Windows 7 when it ships. Here's the bad news, though: DVD playback may not work at all, thanks to Microsoft including many DRM limitations..."
PC Magazine, Feb. 19

How to master PDFs in Firefox

[http://news.cnet.com/8301-17939_109-10168245-2.html?part=rss&tag=feed&subj=Webware]

Matt Asay writes: "Firefox, despite its great functionality, has long been a laggard when it comes to managing PDF content on the web. Safari and Internet Explorer browsers both give users the option of reading PDFs within the browser, while Firefox forces users to navigate to PDFs through its Downloads window—not very convenient. Leave it to Firefox's online community, however, to remedy this failing. There are a range of Firefox plug-ins to help manage PDF documents. Two stand out for me..."
WebWare, Feb. 20

[<http://twodecember.com/en/kronos/>]Nine Adobe AIR apps for productivity

[<http://mashable.com/2009/02/23/adobe-air-productivity-apps/>]

Elliott Kosmicki writes: "Adobe AIR

[<http://www.adobe.com/products/air/>] came along and changed the application world overnight. Users all of a sudden had the ability to find desktop apps they loved and use them across all their systems in the exact same way. With this new age of application neutrality, I wanted to take a brief look into some Adobe AIR apps focused on increasing productivity..."
Mashable, Feb. 23

Bringing holistic awareness to web design

[<http://www.bboxesandarrows.com/view/bringing-holistic>]

Joseph Selbie writes: "Gone, thankfully, are the days when user experience and user interface were an afterthought in the website design process. As web design has increasingly gained importance, it also became increasingly specialized: information

design, user experience design, interaction design, user research, persona development, ethnographic user research, usability testing—the list goes on and on. Increased specialization, however, doesn't always translate to increased user satisfaction.”...

Boxes and Arrows, Feb. 18

Publishing

Chicago librarian writes murder mysteries

[<http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/chi-ap-il-chicagofairnovel,0,6507841.story>]

Frances McNamara, director of integrated library systems and administrative and desktop systems at the University of Chicago Libraries, is the author of *Death at the Fair* (BookSurge, Sept. 2008), which chronicles a fictitious murder mystery exposing the underbelly of the World's Columbian Exposition in 1893. Inspired by Erik Larson's best-selling *Devil in the White City*, McNamara's book is the first in a trilogy of murder mysteries that take place at the turn of the 20th century. *Death at Hull House* debuts this spring.... Chicago Tribune, Feb. 22

“Censorship”; confusion in Dubai

[<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/servlet/story/RTGAM.20090223.watwood0223/BNStory/Entertainment/?page=rss&id=RTGAM.20090223.watwood0223>]

Canadian writer Margaret Atwood issued a mea culpa February 21, explaining that she may have been too hasty in canceling her appearance at the inaugural Emirates Airline International Festival of Literature [<http://www.eaifl.com/>] in Dubai and declaring that a British novelist had been censored before fully understanding all the facts. Atwood had canceled her appearance February 17 after learning that a book by British author Geraldine Bedell, *The Gulf Between Us*, had allegedly been banned in the Emirates because one of its characters was a gay sheik. Apparently that was not exactly the case [<http://www.eaifl.com/?q=news>]....

Toronto Globe and Mail, Feb. 23; Emirates Festival

Baboons and sieves vie for oddest title

[<http://www.thebookseller.com/news/78033-baboons-and-sieves-vie-for-odd-title.html>]

The shortlist for the annual Diagram Prize for Oddest Book Title of the Year has been unveiled by The Bookseller. Six titles, with subjects ranging from fromage fraise to strip knitting, make up the shortlist for the hotly contested award, now in its 31st year.

Philip Stone, sales analyst at The Bookseller, said: “We received a huge number of entries this year and the debate was furious as to which would be included on the shortlist. Six seems such a cruelly low number given that such titles as *Excrement in the Late Middle Ages* and *All Dogs Have ADHD* were rejected.”...

The Bookseller, Feb. 22

Feel-good fiction [<http://www.positivelygoodreads.com/>]
Marianne Goss writes: "I decided there was an audience for a website that would help readers find fiction that's both serious and upbeat. Thus Positively Good Reads [http://www.positivelygoodreads.com/my_reviews/my_book_list.html] was born. As I read a novel that was labeled upbeat by a reviewer, AllReaders.com, or an acquaintance, I write a short summary for this site. The upbeatness of some of the novels isn't always apparent to me, but to keep the list growing and to let you decide for yourself, I'm not excluding anything for now."...
Positively Good Reads

[<http://www.theclassicalshop.net/>] Make iTunes and iPod your classical companions
[http://www.startribune.com/lifestyle/40107257.html?elr=KArksLckD8EQDUoaEyqyP4O:DW3ckUiD3aPc:_Yyc:aUUsZ]
Randy A. Salas writes: "When I recently converted my largely orchestral CD collection to MP3s, several readers warned me that I would regret it. When it comes to classical music, iTunes misses a beat, they said. But with just a few tweaks and some tips, you can better organize your classical collection, find high-quality downloads online, and get music cheaply or even for free."...
Minneapolis Star Tribune, Feb. 24

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

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Evan Farber, 1922–2009
[http://www.earlham.edu/aroundtheheart/inmemoriam/evan_farber/obit.htm]
Evan Ira Farber, library director emeritus of Earlham College in Richmond, Indiana, died peacefully on the morning of February 12. A dominant figure in the academic library world, Farber developed a new concept of college libraries and college librarianship from the 1960s through the 1980s and encouraged hundreds of college students to enter the library profession. At Earlham, he became one of the country's most articulate spokespersons for college librarianship and bibliographic instruction....
Earlham College

ARL calls on OCLC to revise its WorldCat policy
[<http://www.arl.org/news/pr/oclc-policy-20feb09.shtml>]
An Association of Research Libraries task force has issued a report (PDF file [<http://www.arl.org/bm~doc/oclc-report-jan09.pdf>]) that calls on OCLC to develop a new policy for the use and transfer of WorldCat records to replace the one it released in November 2008.

The task force report includes a brief overview of the policy and the task force's understanding of the policy's intent....
Association of Research Libraries, Feb. 20

[<http://specials.washingtonpost.com/timespace/world/>] Visualizing world news

[http://infosthetics.com/archives/2009/02/the_washington_post_timespace_locate_news_on_the_world.html]

Andrew Vande Moere writes: "Is there finally a news outlet that steps into the information design terrain? TimeSpace

[<http://specials.washingtonpost.com/timespace/world/>] from the Washington Post is an interactive map that allows users to navigate articles, photos, video, and commentary from around the globe. One can discover news hot-spots where coverage is clustered, use the slider timeline to illustrate peaks in coverage, or customize news searches to a particular day or specific hour."...

Information Aesthetics, Feb. 20

Boston University approves open-access plan

[<http://www.bu.edu/today/campus-life/2009/02/13/university-council-approves-open-access-plan>]

Boston University took a step towards greater access to academic research February 11 when the university council voted to support an open-access system (PDF file

[<http://www.bu.edu/av/today/slideshows-and-audio/images/OpenAccessInitiative.pdf>]) that would make scholarly work of the faculty and staff

available online to anyone, for free, as long as the authors are credited and the scholarship is not used for profit. The council vote also approved an initiative to establish an archive of BU faculty research and scholarship....

BU Today, Feb. 17

Kate Nevins talks about the SOLINET merger

[<http://www.alatechsource.org/blog/2009/02/ala-techsource-exclusive-solinet-executive-discusses-solinet-palinet-merger.html>]

Daniel A. Freeman writes: "Earlier this month, regional library cooperatives SOLINET and PALINET finalized and approved plans to merge to become one of the largest and most influential library cooperatives in the country. SOLINET Executive Director Kate Nevins was kind enough to agree to an email interview with us. She helps explain how this merger came to fruition, and what it will mean in terms of service, technology, and the reach of the new organization."...

ALA TechSource, Feb. 23

Spotlight on the American Dental Association library

[<http://www.ilovelibraries.org/news/libraryshowcase/index.cfm>]

Jeannie Dilger-Hill writes: "The American Dental Association Library

[<http://www.ada.org/prof/resources/library/index.asp>] in Chicago was started in 1927 to provide resources and reference service to ADA members. The library has a staff of 14, including five professional librarians and a professional archivist. The staff answers questions on all sorts of topics in dentistry, including the effects of obesity on oral health, the relationship between dementia and tooth

loss, and new dental techniques.”...

I Love Libraries

What libraries can learn from Facebook

[<http://librarygarden.blogspot.com/2009/02/what-libraries-can-learn-from-facebook.html>]

Peter Bromberg writes: “While looking at one end of the Facebook dustup (big corporation trampling on privacy rights) we might be missing some important lessons on the other end (big corporation letting customers control their own information in exchange for a highly engaging experience). Our choice to disallow customers’ control of their own information means that their needs for connection and social networking go unmet. Why aren’t libraries creating and offering these experiences?”

Library Garden, Feb. 19

Low self-esteem and the Z class

[<http://acrlog.org/2009/02/19/sudden-thoughts-and-second-thoughts-16/>]

Steven Bell writes: “Aren’t we the gals and guys who formulated call number schemes? So how is it that in the LC classification, library science materials got tagged with Z? If librarians were in charge of this operation, wouldn’t it have been easy for them to just make librarianship A? It’s not like LC is based on a mnemonic scheme. So I have to chalk it up to this profession’s pure low self-esteem factor.”

ACRLog, Feb. 19

School librarians talk about Second Life

[<http://www.slcen.tv/node/2693>]

The International Society for Technology in Education’s ISTE Eduverse Talks takes a look at how librarians are using social media and other tools like Second Life in their daily work. Host Kevin Jarrett talks with Chicago Public Schools Area Library Coordinator Lisa Perez (Elaine Tulip in SL), Springfield Township (Pa.) High School Librarian Joyce Valenza (Joyce Story in SL), and Johnson and Wales University Head of Reference Rhonda Trueman (Abbey Zenith in SL)....

ISTE Eduverse Talks, Feb. 17

International cataloging principles

[<http://www.ifla.org/VII/s13/icp/>]

The final version of the Statement of International Cataloging Principles (English PDF file [http://www.ifla.org/VII/s13/icp/ICP-2009_en.pdf]) and its translations in major languages has been published on the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions website. It is the result of a series of five regional IFLA Meetings of Experts on an International Cataloging Code that took place from 2003 to 2007....

International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions, Feb. 24

[<http://www.flickr.com/photos/timspalding/3302932276/in/set-72157614239675565/>]/Flash-mob catalogers at the Audubon Society

[<http://www.librarything.com/blog/2009/02/flash-mob-cataloging-we-did-it.php>]

Eighteen flash-mob catalogers descended upon the Audubon Society of Rhode Island in Smithfield February 21 and left having cataloged a wonderful 2,500-book collection

[<http://www.librarything.com/profile/AudubonRI>] for LibraryThing.

Tim Spalding writes: "The Audubon people were grateful, if a little stunned. Katya, who drove five hours to get there, floored them."

(She did all the hard cataloging, including two books not in WorldCat.)...

LibraryThing blog, Feb. 23

Academic archives thesaurus

[<http://www.archivists.org/publications/epubs/thesaurus.asp>]

Thesaurus for Use in College and University Archives, edited by Kate Bowers, is a set of 1,300 terms for use by any college or university

archives in the United States for describing its holdings. The

topical facets are academic affairs, administration, classes of

persons, corporate culture, events, fields of study, history,

infrastructure, sports, and student life. The included terms are

generic and could apply to any college or university....

Society of American Archivists, Feb.

[<http://openid.net/>]Bad news for OpenID

[http://www.readwriteweb.com/archives/bad_news_for_openid_people_still_using_same_password_everywhere.php]

Sarah Perez writes: "Two-thirds of U.S. consumers use the same one or two passwords for all the websites they access, according to a new survey from Gartner Research. And they like it that way:

Although people claim they're concerned about security, they still tend to use unsafe password management techniques rather than exploring new methods—be that new hardware, software, or new authentication frameworks like OpenID [<http://openid.net/>]."

ReadWriteWeb, Feb. 24

Watching local library news go viral

[<http://www.davidleeking.com/2009/02/23/watching-local-news-go-viral/>]

David Lee King writes: "We live in a new world, a world in which local decisions made by very small groups can go viral with

social media tools and can even reach global and unintended

audiences. I watched just this thing unfold last Thursday."

King used Twitter to broadcast a Topeka and Shawnee County (Kans.)

Public Library board meeting regarding restricting access to four

books in its collection. By the end of the evening, the board

meeting was the 7th most popular trend on Twitter. The next day, the

conversation went global, with news sources all over the world,

including AL Online,

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/alonline/currentnews/newsarchive/2009/February2009/topekasexbooks.cfm>] reporting the decision....

David Lee King, Feb. 23

The anatomy of a good speech

[<http://www.chrisbrogan.com/make-better-presentations-the-anatomy-of-a-good-speech/>]

Chris Brogan writes: “You might have an upcoming presentation, or you might be looking to speak more at events. I have a few ideas for you. I want to share with you my current thinking on presentations, such that I hope you feel equipped to do more with your own work. I’ve been thinking about the anatomy of presentations, and what we can do to improve how we’re doing what we do.”...

Chris Brogan, Feb. 23

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U29ZcN1wzNg>]Ruth Harrison, reference librarian [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U29ZcN1wzNg>]

Ruth meets with the head of the library board, and does some hands-on research into love poems in this installment

[<http://prairiehome.publicradio.org/programs/2009/02/14/scripts/librarian.shtml>] of “The Adventures of Ruth Harrison, Reference Librarian,” from Prairie Home Companion. The episode (7:03) was recorded live at the Fitzgerald Theater in Saint Paul, Minnesota, on February 14. “Just came by to pick up the January usage report before the Board goes on its weekend retreat.” “The Library Board has been retreating for years, Mr. Anderson—why set aside one weekend?”...

Prairie Home Companion, Feb. 14

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T6wtsEl_t3A]Bibliomaniacs in Paris [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T6wtsEl_t3A]

David Turecamo, known for his “Our Man in Paris” segments on CBS Sunday Morning, delivers an outstanding report (6:33) on book collectors and bouquinistes in France: “You are not a serious book collector or book dealer unless you’ve had one herniated disc and unless you’ve ruined your knees.”...

CBS Sunday Morning, Feb. 15

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DKmNvSEJSNI>]The Anonymity Project [<http://mediatedcultures.net/ksudigg/?p=205>]

The students of Kansas State University cultural anthropologist Michael Wesch created research proposals for his Spring 2009 class in digital ethnography. This video (5:54) is a mashup of all their proposals for a project entitled “The Fight for Significance in the Age of the Microcelebrity: Anonymity, Anonymous, Smart Mobs, Mad Mobs, Bot Mobs, and the Great American Poets.” (Could this be what Susan Greenfield

[<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2009/feb/24/social-networking-site-changing-childrens-brains>] is worried about?)...

Digital Ethnography, Feb. 16

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jpEnFwiqdx8>]Did you know?

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jpEnFwiqdx8>]

This video (5:16) on the information explosion and technical trends has been around in several versions for a few months. It is said to have been adapted for use at a Sony executive conference in 2008. Created and researched by Karl Fisch, Scott McLeod, and Jeff Brenman....

YouTube, Nov. 7, 2008

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edition.unsubscribeLink %>](#)]

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

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Ask the ALA Librarian

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Q. Recently I had a patron come in asking about a book he had purchased with this library stamp on it: “American Library Association, Soldiers and Sailors Camp Library.” Do the words “Soldiers and Sailors Camp Library” give any clue as to where that library might have been? To what does this stamp refer?

A. The bookplate (sometimes a label) is one of several versions affixed to books furnished to sailors and soldiers by the American Library Association during World War I. In 1917, ALA established the Committee on Mobilization and War Service Plans (later the War Service Committee). ALA’s wartime program, known as the Library War Service,

[http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Library_War_Service] was directed by Herbert Putnam, Library of Congress, and later by Carl H. Milam. Between 1917 and 1920, ALA mounted two financial campaigns and raised \$5 million from public donations; erected 36 camp libraries with Carnegie Corporation funds; distributed approximately 10 million books and magazines; and provided library collections to 5,000 locations. Continuing byproducts of this effort are the American Library in Paris

[<http://www.americanlibraryinparis.org/>] and military libraries all over the country and the world. The work is carried on by librarians who are members of the Federal and Armed Forces Libraries Round Table [<http://www.ala.org/template.cfm?Section=fafllrt>]. As libraries were dispersed or weeded over the years, some of these books have come into private hands—even though the label will often say something like “Property of the U.S.S. [name of ship] —Not to Be Taken Off Ship.” From the ALA Professional Tips wiki [http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/War_Services_Library_books].

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

Calendar

Mar. 2:

Teens and Technology,

[http://www.wyomingseminary.org/newsletter/yalsa_institute.php]

Wyoming Seminary College Preparatory School, Kingston, Pennsylvania.

YALSA Regional Institute.

Mar. 14–15:

Seattle Zine Librarian Unconference,

[<http://seattle-zine-unconference.wikispaces.com/>] ZAPP at Richard

Hugo House, Seattle.

Mar. 17:

Open Access and Libraries Conference,

[<http://unabashedlibrarian.com/open-access-2009>] Kellogg Center,

Columbia University, New York City. “The State of the Art of

Open Access and Google Books Projects—What It All Means for

Libraries, Library Users, and You.”

Mar. 28–29:

Reading the World,

[http://www.soe.usfca.edu/institutes/reading_world/conference.html]

School of Education, University of San Francisco. A conference

celebrating multicultural literature for children and adults.

Apr. 2–30:

Marketing Basics for Libraries.

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/rusa/development/marketingbasics/index.cfm>] Online course sponsored by RUSA.

Apr. 16–18:

Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives,

[<http://www.lib.umd.edu/MARAC/conferences/2009/spring09/spring09.html>]

Spring Conference, Holiday Inn Charleston House, Charleston, West

Virginia. “Surveying Archives: Wild and Wonderful.”

Apr. 29–

May 1:

Loleta Fyan Small and Rural Libraries Conference

[http://www.michigan.gov/hal/0,1607,7-160-17451_18668-142226--,00.html],

[http://www.michigan.gov/hal/0,1607,7-160-17451_18668-142226--,00.html]
] Grand Traverse Resort, Traverse City, Michigan.

May 18–21:

International Conference on Open Repositories,

[<https://or09.library.gatech.edu/>] Georgia Tech Hotel and Conference Center, Atlanta.

May 27–29:

Society for Scholarly Publishing,
[https://www.sspnet.org/Events/Meetings_and_Seminars/2009_Annual_Meeting_Information/spage.aspx] Annual Meeting, Marriott Baltimore Waterfront, Baltimore.

May 31–

June 5:

North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics / Human Language Technologies,
[<http://clear.colorado.edu/NAACLHLT2009/>] Annual Conference, University of Colorado at Boulder.

June 4–5:

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/pla/plaevents/cplacourses/index.cfm>]

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/pla/plaevents/cplacourses/politics.cfm>]Decatur (Ga.) Public Library. Certified Public Library Administrator course sponsored by PLA.

June 4–7:

North American Serials Interest Group,
[http://www.nasig.org/conference_registration.cfm] Annual Conference, Asheville, North Carolina. “Riding the Rapids Through a Mountain of Change.”

June 10–12:

New York State Library Assistants’ Association,
[<http://www.nyslaa.org/conference.html>] Annual Conference, Sage College, Troy.

June 14–16:

Next Library International Unconference [<http://nextlibrary.net/>], [<http://nextlibrary.net/>] Aarhus, Denmark.

Sept. 11–13:

Association for Rural and Small Libraries,
[<http://www.bcr.org/ARSL/index.html>] Annual Conference, Gatlinburg, Tennessee.

Oct. 27–28:

Fundraising,
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/pla/plaevents/cplacourses/fundraising.cfm>] Kansas City, Missouri. Certified Public Library Administrator course sponsored by PLA.

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

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ISSN 1559-369X.