

american libraries DIRECT

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | June 3, 2009

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U.S. & World News

[Milwaukee group seeks fiery alternative to materials challenge](#)

Life grows more interesting by the day for officials of the West Bend (Wis.) Community Memorial Library. After four months of grappling with an evolving challenge to YA materials deemed sexually explicit by area residents Ginny and Jim Maziarka, library trustees voted 9–0 June 2 to maintain the collection as is, “without removing, relocating, labeling, or otherwise restricting access” to any titles. However, Robert C. Braun and three others are seeking the right to publicly burn or destroy the library’s copy of *Baby Be-Bop*. They are also demanding \$120,000 in compensatory damages for being exposed to the book in a library display....

American Libraries Online, June 3



[Chicago unveils historic black newspaper archive](#)

The Chicago Public Library unveiled an archive May 27 that chronicles the history of the *Chicago Defender*, one of the nation’s most important African-American newspapers. The Abbott-Sengstacke Family Papers encompass the extensive personal correspondence of the newspaper’s founder, Robert S. Abbott, dating from the 1880s to the 1940s, and his nephew and publishing heir John Sengstacke (above, center), from the 1920s to the 1990s. It also contains rare early issues of the 104-year-old newspaper, business records, and some 4,000 photographs....

American Libraries Online, May 29



[A fiscal tsunami for libraries](#)

American Libraries Senior Editor Beverly Goldberg writes: “There was a time when *American Libraries* would cover just about every threatened library service cutback or closure that the editors got wind of. For the time being in libraryland, however, what used to be unimaginable has become all too commonplace. Several times a week, the editors see headlines and postings about yet another local governing authority looking to make ends meet by slashing library

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service hours, laying off staff—or even closing one or more branches. Well, the ante has risen again on what constitutes a newsworthy library crisis.”...

AL Inside Scoop, June 2

ALA News

[Nominating Committee seeks 2010 candidates](#)

The Nominating Committee is looking for people to run on the 2010 spring ballot for the offices of ALA president-elect, treasurer, and councilor-at-large. The committee will select two candidates to run for president-elect, two candidates for treasurer, and no fewer than 51 candidates for the 33 at-large Council seats. All potential nominees must complete the [Potential Candidate Biographical Form](#) and submit their nominations by August 15 to any member of the committee....

[ALA Island: A Second Life information center](#)

ALA Library Reference Specialist Valerie Hawkins writes: “[ALA Island](#) is the Second Life virtual-world [presence](#) of the American Library Association. ALA Island doesn’t have traditional library resources on a variety of topics as a public library would have, but is more of a special library focused on dispensing information about ALA. It’s also a community information center that helps people become more familiar with navigating the Second Life virtual world and demonstrating its capabilities to bring together people from all over the world.”...

I Love Libraries



[New member discount from Books-A-Million](#)

ALA unveiled a new member benefit discount May 25 with book retailer Books-A-Million on both in-store and online purchases. Members can use their membership ID numbers to get 10% off [online](#) or 20% off in person at more than 220 store locations around the United States. Organizational members can use a library purchase order by contacting Books-A-Million’s [Business 2 Business Department](#)....



[Help ALA create a better conference event planner](#)

ALA Internet Development Specialist Jenny Levine writes: “At the Midwinter Website Advisory Committee meeting, a subcommittee was formed to help implement a new conference event planner in ALA Connect. This group has put together a [survey](#) to help us learn what members want improved, fixed, added, or changed about the current event planner. If you’ve ever complained about using ALA’s event planner, now’s your chance to do something about it.”...



[ALA Annual Conference.](#)

Chicago, July 9–15.
Attend Annual Conference from your desktop this year with ALA’s new [Virtual Conference](#).



American crime writer and essayist **James Ellroy** will be an [Auditorium Speaker](#) on July 11. His L.A. Quartet novels—*The Black Dahlia*, *The Big Nowhere*, *L.A. Confidential*, and *White Jazz*—are international best-sellers.



Are you stymied by suspense novels? Do thrillers leave you hanging? Are you flustered by fantasy, frustrated with romantic fiction, or buffaloeed by Westerns? Joyce Saricks’s [Readers’ Advisory Guide to Genre Fiction](#) (2nd ed.) will let you

ITTS Update, June 1

[New Virtual Conference sessions](#)

Attend Annual Conference from your desktop this year with ALA's new Virtual Conference. ALA will offer 10 interactive, hour-long web sessions on July 13 and 14. These interactive programs—from ALA's Washington Office, the Office for Intellectual Freedom, and several other divisions and offices—will be the next best thing to being at the conference itself. Topics include accessing stimulus money for broadband deployment, greening your library, and best customer service....

[Krug awarded posthumous honorary membership](#)

In a rare vote outside of Midwinter and Annual Conference, the ALA Council voted last month to award posthumous honorary membership to Judith F. Krug for her work in the field of intellectual freedom. Krug was the director of the Office for Intellectual Freedom and executive director of the Freedom to Read Foundation for more than 40 years. She died on April 11 after a long illness....

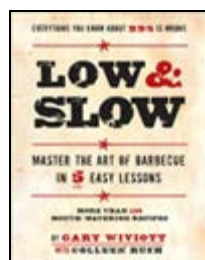


[Using new and traditional media](#)

Experts will be on hand at the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago to talk about how libraries can use new and traditional media. A panel on July 12 will address how to reach multicultural audiences, reaching audiences through social media, delivering library messages through radio, and using letters to the editor and op-eds. Speakers include Tom McNamee, Dave Baum, Eric Friedenwald-Fishman, Kevin Kirkpatrick, George Eberhart, and Megan Humphrey....

[Cooking Pavilion to heat up conference exhibits](#)

New this year at Annual Conference, the Cooking Pavilion will feature a variety of chefs preparing recipes and signing autographs on the exhibit floor July 11 and 13. Barbecue experts, a pair of kid-sister chefs, a master mixologist, and a gourmet pizza executive will highlight the pavilion. Visit the exhibit hall for displays of the latest cookbooks and live cooking presentations on the demonstration stage. Learn the art of slow-cooking from barbecue experts Gary Wiviott and Colleen Rush, authors of *Low & Slow: Mastering the Art of Barbecue in Five Easy Lessons*....



[CPLA graduates three, adds 11 candidates](#)

The Certified Public Library Administrator Program Certification Review Committee granted certification to three CPLA candidates who are now officially certified public library administrators. In addition, the committee approved 11 new candidates in its spring review. CPLA now has 12 graduates and 122 candidates representing public libraries of all sizes across the nation....



[Emerging Leaders poster session](#)

The ALA 2009 class of Emerging Leaders will showcase its final projects at a [poster session](#) July 10 during the ALA Annual

become an expert at figuring out what your readers are seeking and show you how to match books with their interests. **NEW! From ALA Editions.**

In this issue

June/July 2009



Summertime in Chicago

Prescription for Financial Recovery

Librarians As Writers

Licenses and Legalities

Career Leads from

ALA JobLIST

[User Engagement Librarian and Assessment Coordinator](#), Georgia

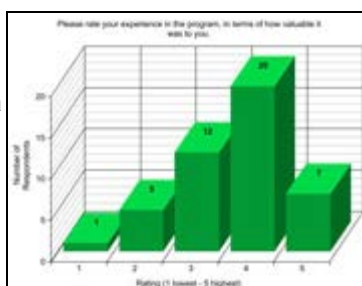
Institute of Technology, Atlanta. Working closely with library personnel across departmental lines, this position will maintain and creatively enhance a user engagement and assessment program that informs decision making, services, and learning spaces. Collect

Conference in Chicago. Since the Midwinter Meeting, the Emerging Leader groups have been working on projects related to ALA or a professional concern, supported by ALA staff and member mentors from the profession....

A survey of ALA Emerging Leaders

Kim Leeder writes: "If you want to start a passionate conversation, ask past Emerging Leaders about their experience in the ALA Emerging Leaders program. If you talk to any of the roughly 300 participants so far, you are likely to find that they have a powerful opinion on the subject. Some loved it, some hated it, and some express profoundly mixed feelings. Very few are neutral. In this post I will be exploring those differing responses from past Emerging Leaders as part of a critique of the high-profile program."...

In the Library with the Lead Pipe, May 27



Feedback wanted on Library Education Task Force report

The Committee on Accreditation invites you to respond to the Final Report of the Presidential Task Force on Library Education ([PDF file](#)) issued January 13 to the ALA Executive Board. COA will present its response to the Executive Board at the 2009 ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. Comments are also invited on the 2008 [Standards for Accreditation](#)....

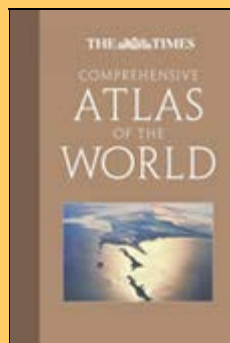
COA Standards Review, May 15

Booklist ONLINE

Featured review: Reference

The Times Comprehensive Atlas of the World, 12th ed. Nov. 2008. 544p. HarperCollins, hardcover (978-0-06-146450-8).

Geographical information published by Bartholomew has a long history, beginning in 1797, when George Bartholomew apprenticed as an engraver in Edinburgh, Scotland. His son John Bartholomew was also an apprentice in the same business and established his own company in 1826. For more than 175 years, Bartholomew has been at the pinnacle for producing quality maps and atlases. Until 2008, when the fifth John Bartholomew died, there was always a Bartholomew as cartographic director of the company (which became part of HarperCollins in 1989). It was this John Bartholomew who began publishing the classic *Times Comprehensive Atlas of the World* in 1967. The 12th edition of the atlas first appeared in 2007 and was reprinted in the United States in 2008, with some changes....



Focus on the Pop Culture Universe database

qualitative and quantitative data and produce interpretive reports based on them. Identify and coordinate assessment efforts.



@ [More jobs...](#)

Digital Library of the Week



The Smithsonian Institution Libraries' [Galaxy of Images](#) collection includes thousands of images representing a small portion of the more than 1.5-million printed books and manuscripts in their collections. Images are browsable or searchable by keyword or topics that include the animal world, art and design, bones and fossils, history and material culture, literature, the natural world, plants and flowers, portraits, science and invention, scientific instruments and apparatus, society and culture, technology and

Mary Ellen Quinn writes: "The announcement of the winner of the 2009 Dartmouth Medal marked a milestone in the medal's 35-year history. For the first time (and some might say it's about time), the prestigious medal, bestowed each year on 'a reference work of outstanding quality and significance,' was awarded to an electronic database, *Pop Culture Universe*. PCU was a Greenwood database when it launched but an ABC-CLIO database by the time the Dartmouth award was announced. In October 2008, ABC-CLIO acquired a perpetual license to all Greenwood imprints and publications. The *Reference Books Bulletin* review of PCU noted its 'fun vibe'—and according to Scott Wich, editorial manager for popular culture at ABC-CLIO, 'It couldn't have been more fun to work on.'"



T. A. Barron: Not insane

Daniel Kraus writes: "In my interview (4:13) with fantasy scribe T. A. Barron, he tells how, when he quit his venture-capital job to write books, a partner tried to refer him to a therapist. Many striving writers face similar reactions when they make the plunge, and no wonder: It can be a quixotic quest, and all too often the would-be author ends up gristle in the windmill. But, woo boy, not Barron. He's finishing up Book Three in the *Merlin's Dragon* trilogy, the last in a staggering 12-volume cycle of Merlin books."

Likely Stories, May 27



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

transportation, and trade literature. The libraries encourage the use of images and other content from this website for not-for-profit [educational and classroom](#) use.

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

"Sanctuary might be an overly serious word, but a library projects an unmistakable sense of civility and calm. Young and old come together peaceably here, rich and poor, readers of mysteries and lovers of ancient philosophy. A library is a bastion of non-judgmentalism and one of society's great equalizers.

"This atmosphere is in no way accidental. Librarians are almost eerily aware of what goes on inside your head. They know your tastes better than you do, being trained to cut through your vague references to plot or author and put their hands on what you need."

—Krista Ramsey, in an editorial, "[What Libraries Are Worth to Us.](#)" *Cincinnati*

Chicago Update

Get a Google Earth view of Chicago

The John Hancock Observatory offers one of the best aerial views of the city from the sixth tallest skyscraper in the United States and the fourth tallest in Chicago (the Sears/Willis Tower, Trump Tower, and the Aon Center are bigger). Open daily from 9 a.m. to 11 p.m., it also features an open-air skywalk, a history wall, and the Café Espression coffee bar....

John Hancock Observatory



The Oriental Institute Museum

The University of Chicago's Oriental Institute Museum is a world-renowned showcase for the history, art, and archaeology of the ancient Near East. The museum displays objects recovered by Oriental Institute excavations in permanent galleries devoted to ancient Egypt, Nubia, Persia, Mesopotamia, Syria, Anatolia, and the ancient site of Megiddo, as well as rotating special



exhibits. Currently on exhibit is "[The Life of Meresamun: A Temple Singer in Ancient Egypt](#)," which focuses on the life of a priestess-musician in Egypt in about the year 800 B.C....
Oriental Institute

Division News

[Exploratorium showcases school library best practices](#)

AASL is making available its lineup for the annual Exploratorium at its 14th National Conference and Exhibition, with more than 90 individual [learning stations](#). The Exploratorium will be held November 5 and is open to all conference registrants. This two-hour educational session will showcase best practices from the school library media community. Discounted [early bird registration](#) is now open....

[LITA National Forum registration opens](#)

[Registration](#) is open for the 2009 LITA National Forum "Open & Mobile," to be held October 1–4 at the Hilton City Center, Salt Lake City. Keynote sessions include speakers Joan Lippincott, David Weinberger, and Liz Lawley. Lippincott will discuss what roles libraries can and should play in delivering content for mobile devices, developing services for mobile device users, and configuring physical spaces to respond to their needs....



Awards

[19 new Great Web Sites for Kids](#)

ALSC has placed 19 new websites on its [Great Web Sites for Kids](#) list. Great Web Sites for Kids are those considered the best for ages birth to 14, outstanding in both content and conception. As applied to websites for young people, "great" should be thought to include sites of especially commendable quality that reflect and encourage young people's interests in exemplary ways....

ALSC Blog, June 3



[LITA scholarship winners](#)

LITA has announced the winners of annual scholarships it sponsors jointly with three organizations—Informata.com, LSSI, and OCLC. The winners are Nicholas Taylor (University of Maryland), Diane Kay Doctor (University of Washington), and Victoria Chu (University of British Columbia). Criteria for the scholarships include previous academic excellence, evidence of leadership potential, and a commitment to a career in library automation and information technology....

Enquirer, June 1.



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

Ask the ALA Librarian



Q. I have been approached by some older patrons about volunteering in the library. Do you have any resources that address setting up and managing a library volunteer program?

A. Volunteers of all ages can be a valuable resource for a library. Some libraries have volunteers run story hour, work the circulation desk, do fundraising activities, shelve books, provide computer assistance, and other basic tasks. There are many resources available that can assist your library with

San Antonio trustee named ULC Urban Player

San Antonio (Tex.) Public Library Board Chair Jean Brady is the first trustee ever to receive the Urban Libraries Council's Urban Player Award. She will be honored at the ULC annual meeting in Chicago July 10 for her role in earning greater recognition for the library in San Antonio and the resulting consolidated effort to create a sustainable funding base. The Urban Player Award is presented each year to the individual who most profoundly demonstrates library and community leadership....

Urban Libraries Council, May 5



2009 Miriam Braverman Memorial Prize

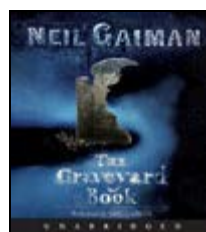
The Progressive Librarians Guild has awarded Sarah Clark the Miriam Braverman Memorial Prize for her essay "Marketing the Library? Why Librarians Should Focus on Stewardship and Advocacy." Clark is enrolled in the Department of Information Studies at the University of California, Los Angeles. The prize is awarded annually for the best essay written by an LIS student on an aspect of the social responsibilities of libraries and librarians....

Progressive Librarians Guild, June 1

2009 Audie Awards (PDF file)

The Audio Publishers Association announced the winners of the 2009 Audies at a formal Gala at the New-York Historical Society on May 29 in New York City. The Audies are the only awards program in the United States honoring spoken-word entertainment. Newbery Medal winner *The Graveyard Book*, written and read by Neil Gaiman, won the coveted Audiobook of the Year award. The title earned this recognition for its combination of original musical composition, superb production, and effective social media marketing. Reviews of all the winners and finalists are [here](#)....

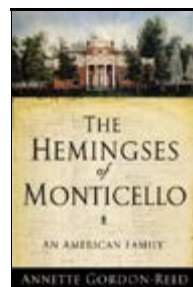
Audio Publishers Association, May 29



Another prize for *The Hemingses*

Historian and author Annette Gordon-Reed has won a literary Triple Crown with her remarkable *The Hemingses of Monticello: An American Family*, her 798-page exploration of Thomas Jefferson and the family of slaves with whom he became intimately involved. The book has won the National Book Award, the Pulitzer Prize, and, on May 28, the \$50,000 George Washington Book Prize, given annually to the "most important new book about America's founding era."...

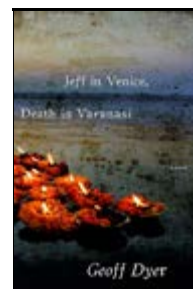
Washington Post, May 29



Geoff Dyer wins P. G. Wodehouse Prize

Geoff Dyer has won the P. G. Wodehouse Prize for comic fiction for *Jeff in Venice, Death in Varanasi*, a raucous novel full of profanities that was hailed by the judges as summoning up the "spirit of Wodehouse." A pair of twinned novellas, the book tells of two 40-something men, both looking for love and existential meaning—one at the Venice Art Biennale, one on the banks of the Ganges in Varanasi....

The Guardian (U.K.), May 29



establishing and managing a [library volunteer program](#). From the [ALA Professional Tips wiki](#).

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



[@ your library](#), ALA's website for library users, offers suggestions on [sustainable living at home](#), [how to master interview follow-ups](#), [hip hop history](#), and [flags around the world](#).

Calendar

July 8–10:
[Second International Public Knowledge Project Scholarly Publishing Conference](#), Harbour Centre, Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, B.C.

July 9–12:
[Early Book Society](#), 11th Biennial Conference, University of Exeter, U.K. "Accipe et Devora: Packaging, Presentation, and Consumption of MSS and Printed Books, 1350–1550."

July 10–13:
[Systemics, Cybernetics, and Informatics](#), Rosen Centre Hotel, Orlando, Florida.

July 25–28:

[11th Annual International Latino Book Awards](#)

The 2009 Latino Book Awards were presented during BookExpo America on May 28, at the Javits Center in New York City. The awards honor literary excellence in a variety of categories. This year four new categories were added, including Best Young Adult Sports or Recreation, Best Gift Book, a general fiction category, Best Popular Fiction, and Best Graphic Novel....

Latino Book and Family Festival, May 28



[Leeds and Lincolnshire YAs choose their favorite books](#)

Students aged 9–16 in Leeds, England, voted for their favorite reads and came up with Jenny Downham's *Before I Die*, Sophie McKenzie's *Blood Ties*, and Matt Haig's *Shadow Forest*. Lads and lasses in [Lincolnshire](#) similarly selected Cathy Cassidy's *Sundae Girl* and Chris Riddell's *Ottoline and the Yellow Cat*....

Leeds Book Awards, May 19; Lincolnshire County Council, May 13



Seen Online

[Obama orders secrecy review](#)

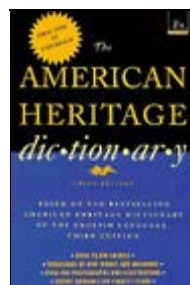
President Obama directed National Security Adviser James L. Jones and senior cabinet officials May 27 to examine whether the government keeps too much information secret. Officials representing a broad swath of government agencies will review procedures for labeling and sharing sensitive information. Obama also [proposed](#) a National Declassification Center to streamline procedures for releasing classified information, when appropriate, under the guidance of the Archivist of the United States....

Washington Post, May 28

[Book challenges on the rise](#)

The box of books that media specialist Diane Chen stumbled onto in her library at the John F. Kennedy Middle School in Antioch, Tennessee, was simply labeled, "Inappropriate to Shelf." She wondered, "Are they worn out? Is there something wrong with them? Are they potentially hazardous chemical journals for would-be-terrorists?" None of the above. Scared that the books—such as *The American Heritage Dictionary*, *The Pit and the Pendulum* by Edgar Allen Poe, and *The Catcher in the Rye* by J. D. Salinger—could trigger a book challenge, a former employee had pulled them off the shelves....

Nashville *Tennessean*, May 31



[Peoria branch expansion stymied by cemetery](#)

If discovering 150-year-old corpses isn't creepy enough, the potential price tag for digging them up is causing a fright among members of the Peoria (Ill.) Public Library board. A potential \$400,000-plus cost to dig up and remove bodies and artifacts near the Lincoln branch now has



[American Association of Law Libraries](#)

Annual Meeting, Walter E. Washington Convention Center, Washington, D.C.

[Aug. 5–7: Pacific Northwest Library Association](#)

Annual Conference, Missoula, Montana. "A Century of Cooperation, a Legacy of Leadership."

[Aug. 23–27: International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions](#)

Annual Conference, Milan. "Libraries Create Futures: Building on Cultural Heritage."

[Sept. 8–11: International Conference for Digital Libraries and the Semantic Web](#)

University of Trento, Italy.

[Sept. 30–Oct. 2: West Virginia Library Association](#)

Annual Conference, Snowshoe Mountain Resort.

[Sept. 30–Oct. 2: Idaho Library Association](#)

Annual Conference, Burley.

[Oct. 2–4: 8th International Board on Books for Young People](#)

Regional Conference, Q Center, St. Charles, Illinois. "Children's Books: Where Worlds Meet."

[Oct. 4–8: National Media](#)

some wondering if the entire \$4.5-million expansion project is affordable. Apparently some graves were never removed from the site, which served as the [city cemetery](#) from 1842 to 1875; bones turned up in 1910 when the branch was built. Midwest Archaeological Research Services will begin excavations June 8....

Peoria (Ill.) Journal Star, May 28; Peoria Public Library

[Nine-year-old girl begs Bloomberg to stop library cuts](#)

A 9-year-old Brooklyn girl has penned an impassioned plea to New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg to save the Brooklyn Public Library as the latest round of budget cuts threatens to reduce service to just 25 hours a week—the lowest level since the city's fiscal crisis in the 1970s. The mayor's proposal would slash the library budget by \$17.5 million (21%) and give borough residents the fewest library hours in the city. When Aliah Gilkes Richardson heard that, she decided to take action....

New York Daily News, May 29

[Another library abandons DDC](#)

As part of its customers-first philosophy, the Rangeview Library District in Northglenn, Colorado, is replacing the Dewey Decimal Classification with its own WordThink system. The new method was generated from a book-industry standard for organizing materials. Materials are arranged by simple categories like history and science instead of a numeric system. The district's new Bennett branch opened May 30 with the new organization in place, and by the end of the year all Rangeview branches will use WordThink....

Business Wire, June 2



[Pennsylvania library funding threatened](#)

As Pennsylvania grapples with a struggling national economy, Education Secretary Gerald L. Zahorchak said the state senate's proposed appropriations bill (S.B. 850), crafted by the Republican majority, would shortchange children. The education provisions call for a 50% reduction (\$37 million) in public library funding for fiscal year 2009–2010, [compared with](#) Gov. Edward Rendell's proposed 5.1% cut (H.B. 1419). Meanwhile, library access programs—including the Access PA Power Library, the statewide card, and interlibrary loan—were also [targets](#) of both proposals....

Pennsylvania Dept. of Education, May 28; *Pottsville (Pa.) Republican and Herald*, May 21; Pennsylvania Library Association, May 5

[Boston Public Library faces layoffs](#)

Facing looming budget cuts, the president of Boston Public Library expects to eliminate 13 full-time staffers, with most of the cuts to affect the main library. BPL President Amy Ryan said in late May she is expecting about \$1.2 million less from the city in fiscal 2010, and she expects a bigger cut to come from the state....

Allston/Brighton (Mass.) TAB, May 28

[Seattle revises its library rules](#)

Seattle Public Library officials clarified ([video](#), 2:07) several rules of conduct ([PDF file](#)) and beefed up others May 27 in a reasonable attempt to improve the customer experience. They range from simple alterations—like redefining the



[Market](#), Griffin Gate Marriott Resort, Lexington, Kentucky.

Nov. 5–8:

[American Association of School Librarians National Conference](#),

Charlotte, North Carolina. "Rev Up Learning @ your library."

Nov. 6:

[Brick and Click Libraries](#), Northwest Missouri State University, Maryville.

@ [More...](#)

Contact Us

American Libraries Direct

ALA American Library Association

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

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aldirect@ala.org

AL Direct FAQ:
www.ala.org/aldirect/

violation for "sleeping" to "appear to be sleeping"—to more serious matters, like kicking out repeat offenders for up to two years. Patrons have seen many examples of bad behavior, especially at the Central Library. A local reporter found that security guards have already [ejected](#) 432 patrons in the first four months of 2009 for offenses like assault, drug dealing, intoxication, and lewd conduct.... *Seattle Times*, June 1; KING-TV, Seattle, May 27; Seattle Public Library; KIRO-TV, May 27

[**Skilled, blue collar, and suddenly destitute**](#)

This is what Todd Yoder knew about homeless people: They are mentally ill, dope fiends, drunks. Then in February, Yoder found himself without work, and he has since learned much more. The Clearwater (Fla.) Public Library saved him. There, he found a clean bathroom, shelter, and internet service that allowed him to communicate with potential employers, his son, and his parents. He discovered Clearwater's Homeless Emergency Project on the library's internet....

St. Petersburg (Fla.) Times, May 31

[**Library staff adopts baby elephant**](#)

Employees at the the Thomas Ford Memorial Library in Western Springs, Illinois, recently pooled some of their personal finances and donated \$100 to the [David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust](#), dedicated to saving orphaned elephants in Kenya. With their donation, the library has adopted Tassia, an 11-month-old African elephant that was rescued by trust volunteers after his family was killed by ivory poachers in March....

Western Springs (Ill.) The Doings, May 18



[**Former Lynn library trustee's tenure defended**](#)

An attorney for a former Lynn (Mass.) Public Library board member with a spotty attendance record argued May 26 that his client had no obligation to attend board meetings in order to earn pension credit. The attorney made the argument to the Lynn retirement board, which is attempting to rescind the pension of 60-year-old Linda Bassett and recover about \$20,000 in payments she has received. Bassett last attended a meeting in March 1984, even though she claimed credit through September 1986....

Boston Globe, May 27

[**Wells library reopens one year after fire**](#)

The Athens County Public Library's Wells branch in Albany, Ohio, held a grand reopening May 9 in its remodeled building nearly one year after it was badly damaged in a fire set by vandals. It now has a new, more inviting interior—though its collection of books, magazines, and visual media remains a little sparse compared to pre-fire days. The library interior was damaged to the tune of more than \$700,000 on June 14, 2008, when four Albany boys threw a firecracker into the book drop, which started a fire inside the building....

Athens (Ohio) News, June 1



[**Iowa court approves verdict in Des Moines library abduction**](#)

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

American Libraries

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

ISSN 1559-369X.

A divided Iowa Supreme Court on May 29 upheld the conviction of a man who in 2005 kidnapped and sexually abused a 2-year-old girl at the old central library in downtown Des Moines. James Effler Jr. will continue serving a life sentence at the state penitentiary. But the court's decision raised questions about how police handled the case....

Des Moines (Iowa) Register, May 30

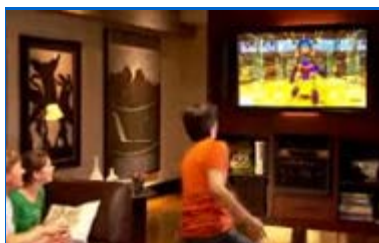
[Go back to the Top](#)

Tech Talk

[Motion-sensitive gaming controllers](#)

Forget the console wars. We're in the motion-sensitive controller wars. That much became clear June 2 when, following an earlier announcement by Microsoft that it was working on [Project Natal](#) (right)—an impressive and complex full-body, hands-free motion-sensitive control system—both Nintendo and Sony revealed plans for new, advanced systems of their own. It's abundantly clear that what's really going on here is an aggressive play by each of the three companies to make their offerings more palatable to mainstream audiences....

Gaming and Culture, June 2-3



[How to buy a cell phone](#)

Sascha Segan writes: "These days, smartphones get all the buzz, but the vast majority of handsets sold in the United States are actually feature phones: camera phones, music phones, rugged phones, messaging phones, or just plain voice phones. Unlike smartphones, feature phones are a matter of 'what you see is what you get.' They are typically less expensive than smartphones, are available in a much wider range of shapes and sizes, and work on a broader range of plans, including prepaid options. Ready to find your phone? Here's what you should consider before you start shopping."...

PC Magazine, May 29



[Facebook Groups and Pages](#)

Howard Greenstein writes: "Should I

create a Group or launch a Page? It's the eternal question that gets asked as often as 'What is Twitter?' at introductory social media training classes. Ever since Facebook launched its Pages product as part of a larger advertising strategy (along with the ill-fated Beacon) in November 2007, there has been confusion over which to use. Because Groups and Pages have an overlapping feature set, even senior social media marketing consultants are sometimes stumped as to what to tell their clients."...

Mashable, May 27

Create a Group Step 1: Group Info Group Name: (required) Network:	Create New Facebook Page Category: <input checked="" type="radio"/> Local <input type="radio"/> Other Business
--	--

[Lifehacker's essential free Windows downloads](#)



Kevin Purdy writes: "Today we are bundling all the best free downloads for new computer owners, reinstallers, would-be geeks, or anyone who wants to save time installing the best stuff out there. This is our 2009 Lifehacker Pack for Windows computers—a single, handy list that we think improves the lives of Windows users. We're also providing a utility to download some or all of these applications at once."...

Lifehacker, June 1

Linux "desktop" version still too geeky?

Matt Asay writes: "Companies like Intel, Canonical, and Novell are desperately trying to make Linux-based PCs easier to use. Unfortunately, as Ubuntu fan Steven Rosenberg [points out](#), there are often far too many decisions a lay user must make to just to get Linux to work. Rosenberg was struggling to play music on his Ubuntu machine, and struggled because of Canonical's efforts to balance ease of use with free-software purists' desire to have no proprietary codecs. The result is a mess."...

The Open Road, May 27; Click, May 26

Preview shortened URLs in Firefox

Tom Merritt writes: "Shortened URLs are often used in email, Twitter, and other places to shorten a long URL into a much more convenient version. But there's a security risk there: You don't know where that URL is going. It could be a malicious website that hijacks your computer and installs a Trojan and keylogger, and you never even know. You just think the site's broken. But with a Firefox plug-in called [bit.ly preview](#), you can see the whole URL without having to go there."...

Cnet TV Blog, May 26



Publishing

10 best digital resources for 2009

Shonda Brisco writes: "School Library Journal's second annual 'best of' list looks at products reviewed between June 2008 and the present. The past year saw many excellent and innovative projects—and narrowing them down to a top-10 list wasn't easy. As we prepare for the next school year—or as public libraries develop the budget for a new fiscal year—these are the products for children and teens you should be advocating to add to your digital collection."...

School Library Journal, June 1



Top 100 picture books poll results

Betsy Bird writes: "And now, in order and with linkety goodness intact, I bring to you the results of the Top 100 Picture Book Poll of 2009. Each link should go to the blog post where it was featured (even if the numbers don't always perfectly correspond). At the end of the post is the bibliography of sources I used in the course of this poll's posting." At the top of the list is Maurice Sendak's *Where the Wild Things Are* (1963)....



A Fuse #8 Production, May 16

BEA 2009: A few positive words

Edward Champion writes: "It has been suggested by more than a few parties that my BookExpo coverage betrays a sourpuss disposition. It has also been insinuated that I was predisposed to find negativity within this three-ring exposition. Not at all. My suspicions about BEA have more to do with whether this massive conference is presently in the right form with which to bring together multiple viewpoints. Perhaps the manner in which we unite publishers, booksellers, authors, and assorted parties needs to match the drastic manner in which the industry is changing."...

Edward Champion's Reluctant Habits, May 30



Google sets sights on e-books

In discussions with publishers at the annual BookExpo convention in New York, Google signaled its intent to introduce a program that would enable publishers to sell digital versions of their newest books direct to consumers through Google. The move would pit Google against Amazon.com, which is seeking to control the e-book market with the versions it sells for its Kindle reading device....

New York Times, May 31

The future of reading in a digital world

Clive Thompson writes: "Books are the last bastion of the old business model—the only major medium that still hasn't embraced the digital age. Publishers and author advocates have generally refused to put books online for fear the content will be Napsterized. And you can understand their terror, because the publishing industry is in big financial trouble, rife with layoffs and restructurings. Literary pundits are fretting: Can books survive in this Facebooked, ADD, multichannel universe? To which I reply: Sure they can."...

Wired, May 22



Actions & Answers

San Francisco's new ecocard

Known for its renewable and reusable resources, San Francisco Public Library is taking its ecofriendly credentials a step further with a new environmentally conscious library card. The new ecocard is made from corn. Not only is corn a sustainable and renewable resource as opposed to traditional petroleum-based plastics, but it can also be composted in the city's composting system....

San Francisco Public Library, May 27



Catch the Google Wave

Ben Parr writes: "Today has been dominated by news and excitement surrounding Google Wave, Google's new real-time communication platform



that will launch to the public later this year. To make sense of it all, we have compiled key information, definitions, and links related to the launch. This in-depth guide provides an overview of Google Wave, discusses the terminology associated with it, details information on applications (such as the Twitter Wave app [Twave](#)), and goes over ways to keep yourself informed."...

Mashable, May 28

[Bing vs. Google: A search results comparison](#)

Greg Sterling writes: "Let's just get it out of the way: No, [Bing](#) is not a Google killer. It's also safe to say that Microsoft doesn't see it that way either. My understanding of what Microsoft believes it has in Bing is a much more competitive product than Live Search. To provide a more concrete sense of Bing in advance of its launch, I conducted a range of basic searches that one might do in a given week and captured screens from both Google and Bing to offer a visual side-by-side comparison." Phil Bradley has [another view](#); more [comments](#) by Gary Price....

Search Engine Land, May 28; Phil Bradley's Weblog, June 1; Resource Shelf, June 1



[A new information science channel](#)

WE'RE OPENING UP THE CONVERSATION
THE INFORMATION SCIENCE CHANNEL

John Dupuis writes: "ScienceBlogs is making a concerted effort to engage a broad range of the information science community. One step is the launch of a new [Information Science channel](#). So far, it is a channel like any other—it features recent blog postings assigned to the category by the bloggers themselves. However, we have plans. The plans involve adding value and content to the channel beyond just the blog posts."...

Confessions of a Science Librarian, June 2

[Programming for kids with autism](#)

Kiera Parrott writes: "Perhaps you are wondering how to do a program for children with autism. You start with some research, talk to parents and caregivers, listen to the kids, have a good sense of humor, and try, fail, and try again. Generally, the difference is in the attention to detail and the high degree of flexibility you build into the program. Mostly what counts is making a safe and fun space for both the kids and the adults to interact and lend support to each other."...

ALSC Blog, May 31

[Arts programming in a public library](#)

Jude Schanzer writes: "We all know that libraries are no longer confined to brick and mortar. No longer can the library be looked at as only an informational and educational center. Some call us 'community centers' now. I say we are 'cultural centers,' with all that those words conjure up in our minds. Performance, visual arts, literature, history, discussion, innovative thought, and more are part and parcel of what can be found in a cultural center. Sounds like a library to me."...

Programming Librarian, May 19, 26, June 2

10 ways to tell if you are a solo librarian

John Clark of the Hartland (Maine) Public Library wrote this for the initial issue of *MLA to Z: The News-to-use-letter of the Maine Library Association*, April 2007, pp. 3–4 ([PDF file](#)). You can identify with it even if you don't work in a public library. "10. You have done story hour while simultaneously checking out books and answering a reference question over the phone."...

OPL Plus, June 2

Help me help you: The teacher edition

Abby writes: "By popular demand: What do librarians wish teachers knew about the public library? If you've been tuning in lately, you know that I've done several posts about what librarians wish people knew about the library. Teachers and librarians working together can accomplish great things, and we have a lot of the same goals. How can teachers' interactions with the library go even more smoothly? Here's what we want you to know."...

Abby (the) Librarian, June 1

Library thief turns friend

Kerri Price writes: "Recently, Larry—an artist, musician, and highway sign maker from Barberton, Ohio—shared with us a story from his childhood, when one encounter with a kind and understanding librarian opened up a whole new world for him. To this day, Larry remains a faithful and enthusiastic patron of his local public library, and every summer he volunteers to teach a free, four-session guitar workshop at the Barberton Public Library. Here is Larry's story."...

I Love Libraries



Webinar: Navigating through job loss

If many people, 45 and older, who have lost jobs recently are coming to your library to seek help, this free AARP webinar could provide some assistance. "Navigating Your Way through Job Loss," June 11, 2–3 p.m. Eastern time, will help them create an effective job-search strategy, manage finances, and connect with others. The registration form is [online](#)....

AARP

EFF launches Teaching Copyright

As the entertainment industry promotes its new anticopying educational program to the nation's teachers, the Electronic Frontier Foundation launched its own Teaching Copyright curriculum and [website](#) May 27 to help educators give students the real story about their digital rights and responsibilities on the internet and elsewhere. A balanced curriculum, Teaching Copyright encourages students to make full and fair use of technology that is revolutionizing learning and the exchange of information....

Electronic Frontier Foundation, May 27

Book group location

Neil Hollands writes: "In the book groups I attend, we've developed such a routine that our members sit in the same chair at every meeting. Woe to the newbie who parks her carcass in a spot that's taken! If that drab public meeting room is getting you down, perhaps it's time for a change. Take a one-meeting vacation from your usual space before some of your members take a permanent vacation



from the group. Here are some ideas.”...

Book Group Buzz, May 28

[Reference librarian haiku](#)

Megan Brooks writes: “Every semester during reading period and finals, there is a protracted online discussion in which students bemoan their current state of affairs in haiku format. Yesterday, I was working at the reference desk and thought I’d jump into the foray in an attempt to drum up some business. What follows is a series of haikus I sent out over the course of the four hours I was working.”...

Librarygrrrl.net, May 17

[National Library of Wales joins Flickr Commons](#)

The National Library of Wales posted its first collection of photographs June 2 on Flickr Commons, becoming the first UK library to join the initiative. It has uploaded 100 photographs from the P. B. Aberly collection, a rich selection of photographs taken between 1890 and 1940 in Radnorshire, the border area of Wales and England. Flickr Commons was launched in January 2008 to show hidden treasures from the world’s public photography archives....

National Library of Wales, June 2



[U.S. national libraries to test RDA](#)

In response to concerns about Resource Description and Access (RDA) raised by the Library of Congress Working Group on the Future of Bibliographic Control, the three U.S. national libraries—the Library of Congress, the National Library of Medicine, and the National Agricultural Library—made a commitment to the further development and completion of RDA. The libraries agreed to make a joint decision on whether or not to implement RDA, based on the results of a test of both RDA and the web product. Testers will also include the broader library community....

Library of Congress

[UPCs, EANs, and ISBNs: A field guide](#)

Jonathan Rochkind writes: “I think I’ve figured it out, and it’s actually quite simple. A UPC is just an EAN beginning with zero, with the initial 0 left off. An ISBN-13 is an EAN. So an ISBN-10, to be converted to an EAN, just needs to be converted to an ISBN-13 (including recalculating the check-digit). On top of all that, it looks like an EAN-13 is now officially called a GTIN-13. Phew. So many names for essentially the same thing.”...

Bibliographic Wilderness, May 28

[Lenawee’s teen wall](#)

The Lenawee County (Mich.) Library recently remodeled its Teen Space. To spice up the area, seven Teen Advisory Board members worked together to paint a mural on the teen wall. They started working on the project at the end of March and finished up on May 7. Lindsey Spooner, an Onsted High School student (shown on the ladder), designed the mural, and everyone worked together to transfer the drawing to the wall and paint it. The entire mural is 19 feet wide and five feet tall....



Adrian (Mich.) Daily Telegram, May 9

[Top 10 pet peeves about patrons](#)

Brian Herzog writes: "Usually I'm a pretty happy-go-lucky guy, and I really do enjoy my job. But I thought I'd share a list of the top 10 things that patrons do that can really irk me. Not that I expect every patron interaction to be perfect and wonderful, of course; these are a just few things that make bad days worse. I tried to limit this list to things unique to library patrons, and this list (which ended up being longer than I expected) is in no particular order."...

Swiss Army Librarian, June 2



[Eight library cats](#)

Libraries are wonderful places for people who love books, and wonderful places for cats to meet book lovers. According to Gary Roma's [Library Cats Map](#), there are an estimated 808 documented library cats, including 301 cats who currently reside in libraries around the world. Here are profiles of seven, in addition to the world-renowned Dewey Readmore Books....

Mental Floss, June 2; YouTube, Oct. 30, 2007



[Wonder Woman, the math librarian](#)

Diana Prince (secretly Wonder Woman) appears to be a Mathematics Library administrative assistant in this December 2, 1972, episode (9:47) of *The Brady Kids*. She fails to help Jen Brady (voiced by Eve Plumb) find reference sources on Euclid because she has to go rescue the crew of a foundering ship, but makes up for it by somehow taking the entire Brady crew back in time....

YouTube, Apr. 21



[Branford Marsalis promotes summer reading](#)

"I express my creativity through music, both performing and composing," states Branford Marsalis, composer and jazz saxophonist. In a public service announcement (0:30) for the State Library and North Carolina's summer reading program, Marsalis encourages children and teens to express themselves through reading clubs, performances, and story times at their public library's summer reading program....

Carolina Newswire, June 3; YouTube, May 29



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AL Direct, June 3, 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 | June 3, 2009

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

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U.S. & World News

=====

Milwaukee group seeks fiery alternative to materials challenge

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2009/june2009/westbendbabybebop060309.cfm>]

Life grows more interesting by the day for officials of the West Bend (Wis.) Community Memorial Library. After four months of grappling with an evolving challenge to YA materials deemed sexually explicit by area residents Ginny and Jim Maziarka, library trustees voted 9–0 June 2 to maintain the collection as is, “without removing, relocating, labeling, or otherwise restricting access” to any titles. However, Robert C. Braun and three others are seeking the right to publicly burn or destroy the library’s copy of Baby Be-Bop. They are also demanding \$120,000 in compensatory damages for being exposed to the book in a library display....

American Libraries Online, June 3

Chicago unveils historic black newspaper archive

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2009/may2009/defen>

dercollection052909.cfm]

The Chicago Public Library unveiled an archive May 27 that chronicles the history of the Chicago Defender, one of the nation's most important African-American newspapers. The Abbott-Sengstacke Family Papers encompass the extensive personal correspondence of the newspaper's founder, Robert S. Abbott, dating from the 1880s to the 1940s, and his nephew and publishing heir John Sengstacke (above, center), from the 1920s to the 1990s. It also contains rare early issues of the 104-year-old newspaper, business records, and some 4,000 photographs.... American Libraries Online, May 29

A fiscal tsunami for libraries

[<http://www.al.ala.org/insidescoop/2009/06/02/this-just-in-again/>]

American Libraries Senior Editor Beverly Goldberg writes: "There was a time when American Libraries would cover just about every threatened library service cutback or closure that the editors got wind of. For the time being in libraryland, however, what used to be unimaginable has become all too commonplace. Several times a week, the editors see headlines and postings about yet another local governing authority looking to make ends meet by slashing library service hours, laying off staff—or even closing one or more branches. Well, the ante has risen again on what constitutes a newsworthy library crisis."...

AL Inside Scoop, June 2

ALA News

Nominating Committee seeks 2010 candidates

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/may2009/govnominations.cfm>]

The Nominating Committee is looking for people to run on the 2010 spring ballot for the offices of ALA president-elect, treasurer, and councilor-at-large. The committee will select two candidates to run for president-elect, two candidates for treasurer, and no fewer than 51 candidates for the 33 at-large Council seats. All potential nominees must complete the Potential Candidate Biographical Form [<https://cs.ala.org/potentialcandidates/>] and submit their nominations by August 15 to any member of the committee....

ALA Island: A Second Life information center

[<http://www.ilovelibraries.org/news/libraryshowcase/index.cfm>]

ALA Library Reference Specialist Valerie Hawkins writes: "ALA Island

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/alaislandinsecondlife/index.cfm>] is the Second Life virtual-world presence

[<http://www.virtual.ala.org/virtualpresence/>] of the American Library Association. ALA Island doesn't have traditional library resources on a variety of topics as a public library would have, but is more of a special library focused on dispensing information about ALA. It's also a community information center that helps people become more familiar with navigating the Second Life virtual world and demonstrating its capabilities to bring together people from all over the world."...

I Love Libraries

New member discount from Books-a-Million

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/bam_discount_membership.cfm]

ALA unveiled a new member benefit discount May 25 with book retailer Books-A-Million on both in-store and online purchases. Members can use their membership ID numbers to get 10% off online [<http://www.booksamillion.com/ala>] or 20% off in person at more than 220 store locations around the United States. Organizational members can use a library purchase order by contacting Books-A-Million's Business 2 Business Department [<mailto:business@booksamillion.com>]....

Help ALA create a better conference event planner

[<http://itts.ala.org/update/2009/06/01/help-us-create-a-better-event-planner/>]

ALA Internet Development Specialist Jenny Levine writes: "At the Midwinter Website Advisory Committee meeting, a subcommittee was formed to help implement a new conference event planner in ALA Connect. This group has put together a survey [http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=BKwX6lN3dlw6EFOCEcLplA_3d_3d] to help us learn what members want improved, fixed, added, or changed about the current event planner. If you've ever complained about using ALA's event planner, now's your chance to do something about it."...

ITTS Update, June 1

New Virtual Conference sessions

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/virtualconference_confsvcs.cfm]

Attend Annual Conference from your desktop this year with ALA's new Virtual Conference. ALA will offer 10 interactive, hour-long web sessions on July 13 and 14. These interactive programs—from ALA's Washington Office, the Office for Intellectual Freedom, and several other divisions and offices—will be the next best thing to being at the conference itself. Topics include accessing stimulus money for broadband deployment, greening your library, and best customer service....

Krug awarded posthumous honorary membership

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/krughonorary_gov.cfm]

In a rare vote outside of Midwinter and Annual Conference, the ALA Council voted last month to award posthumous honorary membership to Judith F. Krug for her work in the field of intellectual freedom. Krug was the director of the Office for Intellectual Freedom and executive director of the Freedom to Read Foundation for more than 40 years. She died on April 11 after a long illness....

Using new and traditional media

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/commsprograms_campaign.cfm]

Experts will be on hand at the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago to talk about how libraries can use new and traditional media. A panel on July 12 will address how to reach multicultural audiences, reaching audiences through social media, delivering library messages through radio, and using letters to the editor and op-eds. Speakers include Tom McNamee,

Dave Baum, Eric Friedenwald-Fishman, Kevin Kirkpatrick, George Eberhart, and Megan Humphrey....

Cooking Pavilion to heat up conference exhibits

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/cookingpavilion_confsvcs.cfm]

New this year at Annual Conference, the Cooking Pavilion will feature a variety of chefs preparing recipes and signing autographs on the exhibit floor July 11 and 13. Barbecue experts, a pair of kid-sister chefs, a master mixologist, and a gourmet pizza executive will highlight the pavilion. Visit the exhibit hall for displays of the latest cookbooks and live cooking presentations on the demonstration stage. Learn the art of slow-cooking from barbecue experts Gary Wiviott and Colleen Rush, authors of *Low & Slow: Mastering the Art of Barbecue in Five Easy Lessons*....

CPLA graduates three, adds 11 candidates

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/cplagraduates_apacfm]

The Certified Public Library Administrator Program Certification Review Committee granted certification to three CPLA candidates who are now officially certified public library administrators. In addition, the committee approved 11 new candidates in its spring review. CPLA now has 12 graduates and 122 candidates representing public libraries of all sizes across the nation....

Emerging Leaders poster session

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/emergingleaders_hrdr.cfm]

The ALA 2009 class of Emerging Leaders will showcase its final projects at a poster session

[http://wikis.ala.org/emergingleaders/index.php/Poster_Sessions] July 10 during the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. Since the Midwinter Meeting, the Emerging Leader groups have been working on projects related to ALA or a professional concern, supported by ALA staff and member mentors from the profession....

A survey of ALA Emerging Leaders

[<http://inthelibrarywiththeleadpipe.org/2009/all-dressed-up/>]

Kim Leeder writes: "If you want to start a passionate conversation, ask past Emerging Leaders about their experience in the ALA Emerging Leaders program. If you talk to any of the roughly 300 participants so far, you are likely to find that they have a powerful opinion on the subject. Some loved it, some hated it, and some express profoundly mixed feelings. Very few are neutral. In this post I will be exploring those differing responses from past Emerging Leaders as part of a critique of the high-profile program."...

In the Library with the Lead Pipe, May 27

Feedback wanted on Library Education Task Force report

[http://www.oa.ala.org/accreditation/?page_id=44]

The Committee on Accreditation invites you to respond to the Final Report of the Presidential Task Force on Library Education (PDF file

[http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/governance/officers/ebdocuments/20082009ebdocuments/ebd12_30.pdf]) issued January 13 to the ALA Executive Board.

COA will present its response to the Executive Board at the 2009 ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. Comments are also invited on the 2008 Standards for Accreditation
[http://www.oa.ala.org/accreditation/?page_id=40]....
COA Standards Review, May 15

Featured review: Reference

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=3486574]

The Times Comprehensive Atlas of the World, 12th ed. Nov. 2008. 544p.
HarperCollins, hardcover (978-0-06-146450-8).

Geographical information published by Bartholomew has a long history, beginning in 1797, when George Bartholomew apprenticed as an engraver in Edinburgh, Scotland. His son John Bartholomew was also an apprentice in the same business and established his own company in 1826. For more than 175 years, Bartholomew has been at the pinnacle for producing quality maps and atlases. Until 2008, when the fifth John Bartholomew died, there was always a Bartholomew as cartographic director of the company (which became part of HarperCollins in 1989). It was this John Bartholomew who began publishing the classic Times Comprehensive Atlas of the World in 1967. The 12th edition of the atlas first appeared in 2007 and was reprinted in the United States in 2008, with some changes....

database

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=3480439]

Mary Ellen Quinn writes: "The announcement of the winner of the 2009 Dartmouth Medal marked a milestone in the medal's 35-year history. For the first time (and some might say it's about time), the prestigious medal, bestowed each year on 'a reference work of outstanding quality and significance,' was awarded to an electronic database, Pop Culture Universe. PCU was a Greenwood database when it launched but an ABC-CLIO database by the time the Dartmouth award was announced. In October 2008, ABC-CLIO acquired a perpetual license to all Greenwood imprints and publications. The Reference Books Bulletin review of PCU noted its 'fun vibe'—and according to Scott Wich, editorial manager for popular culture at ABC-CLIO, 'It couldn't have been more fun to work on.'"

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Co_qAe40bIM]T. A. Barron: Not insane

[<http://blog.booklistonline.com/2009/05/27/ta-barron-not-insane/>]

Daniel Kraus writes: "In my interview (4:13) with fantasy scribe T. A. Barron, he tells how, when he quit his venture-capital job to write books, a partner tried to refer him to a therapist. Many striving writers face similar reactions when they make the plunge, and no wonder: It can be a quixotic quest, and all too often the would-be author ends up gristle in the windmill. But, woo boy, not Barron. He's finishing up Book Three in the Merlin's Dragon trilogy, the last in a staggering 12-volume cycle of Merlin books."...

Likely Stories, May 27

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

Chicago Update

Get a Google Earth view of Chicago

[<http://www.hancock-observatory.com/en/index.html>]

The John Hancock Observatory offers one of the best aerial views of the city from the sixth tallest skyscraper in the United States and the fourth tallest in Chicago (the Sears/Willis Tower, Trump Tower, and the Aon Center are bigger). Open daily from 9 a.m. to 11 p.m., it also features an open-air skywalk, a history wall, and the Café Espression coffee bar....

John Hancock Observatory

The Oriental Institute Museum [<http://oi.uchicago.edu/museum/>]

The University of Chicago's Oriental Institute Museum is a world-renowned showcase for the history, art, and archaeology of the ancient Near East.

The museum displays objects recovered by Oriental Institute excavations in permanent galleries devoted to ancient Egypt, Nubia, Persia, Mesopotamia, Syria, Anatolia, and the ancient site of Megiddo, as well as rotating special exhibits. Currently on exhibit is "The Life of Meresamun: A Temple Singer in Ancient Egypt,

[<http://oi.uchicago.edu/museum/special/meresamun/>]" which focuses on the life of a priestess-musician in Egypt in about the year 800 B.C....

Oriental Institute

Division News

Exploratorium showcases school library best practices

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/exploratorium_aasl.cfm]

AASL is making available its lineup for the annual Exploratorium at its 14th National Conference and Exhibition, with more than 90 individual learning stations

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/aasl/conferencesandevents/national/charlotte2009/forattendees/events/exploratorium2009.cfm>]. The Exploratorium will be held November 5 and is open to all conference registrants. This two-hour educational session will showcase best practices from the school library media community. Discounted early bird registration

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/aasl/conferencesandevents/national/charlotte2009/forattendees/attendeereg/national2009reg.cfm>] is now open....

LITA National Forum registration opens

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/forumregistration_lita.cfm]

Registration

[<http://www.lita.org/ala/mgrps/divs/lita/litaevents/forum2009/registration.cfm>] is open for the 2009 LITA National Forum “Open & Mobile,” to be held October 1–4 at the Hilton City Center,

Salt Lake City. Keynote sessions include speakers Joan Lippincott, David Weinberger, and Liz Lawley. Lippincott will discuss what roles libraries can and should play in delivering content for mobile devices, developing services for mobile device users, and configuring physical spaces to respond to their needs....

Awards

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[<http://lorax.conservation.org/>]19 new Great Web Sites for Kids
[<http://www.alsc.ala.org/blog/?p=789>]
ALSC has placed 19 new websites on its Great Web Sites for Kids
[<http://www.ala.org/gwstemplate.cfm?section=greatwebsites&template=/cfapps/gws/default.cfm>] list. Great Web Sites for Kids are those considered the best for ages birth to 14, outstanding in both content and conception. As applied to websites for young people, “great” should be thought to include sites of especially commendable quality that reflect and encourage young people’s interests in exemplary ways....
ALSC Blog, June 3

LITA scholarship winners
[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/scholarshipwinners_lita.cfm]
LITA has announced the winners of annual scholarships it sponsors jointly with three organizations—Informata.com, LSSI, and OCLC. The winners are Nicholas Taylor (University of Maryland), Diane Kay Doctor (University of Washington), and Victoria Chu (University of British Columbia). Criteria for the scholarships include previous academic excellence, evidence of leadership potential, and a commitment to a career in library automation and information technology....

San Antonio trustee named ULC Urban Player
[<http://ulc.affiniscape.com/displaycommon.cfm?an=1&subarticlenbr=60>]
San Antonio (Tex.) Public Library Board Chair Jean Brady is the first trustee ever to receive the Urban Libraries Council's Urban Player Award. She will be honored at the ULC annual meeting in Chicago July 10 for her role in earning greater recognition for the library in San Antonio and the resulting consolidated effort to create a sustainable funding base. The Urban Player Award is presented each year to the individual who most profoundly demonstrates library and community leadership....
Urban Libraries Council, May 5

2009 Miriam Braverman Memorial Prize
[<http://libr.org/plg/2009bravermanaward.php>]
The Progressive Librarians Guild has awarded Sarah Clark the Miriam Braverman Memorial Prize for her essay “Marketing the Library? Why Librarians Should Focus on Stewardship and Advocacy.” Clark is enrolled in the Department of Information Studies at the University of California, Los Angeles. The prize is awarded annually for the best essay written by an LIS student on an aspect of the social responsibilities of libraries and librarians....
Progressive Librarians Guild, June 1

2009 Audie Awards

[<http://www.audiopub.org/2009%20Audies%20Winners%20PR%20FINAL.pdf>] (PDF file)

The Audio Publishers Association announced the winners of the 2009 Audies at a formal Gala at the New-York Historical Society on May 29 in New York City. The Audies are the only awards program in the United States honoring spoken-word entertainment. Newbery Medal winner *The Graveyard Book*, written and read by Neil Gaiman, won the coveted Audiobook of the Year award. The title earned this recognition for its combination of original musical composition, superb production, and effective social media marketing. Reviews of all the winners and finalists are here [<http://theaudies.com/>]....

Audio Publishers Association, May 29

The Hemingses

[<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/05/28/AR2009052803559.html>]

Historian and author Annette Gordon-Reed has won a literary Triple Crown with her remarkable *The Hemingses of Monticello: An American Family*, her 798-page exploration of Thomas Jefferson and the family of slaves with whom he became intimately involved. The book has won the National Book Award, the Pulitzer Prize, and, on May 28, the \$50,000 George Washington Book Prize, given annually to the “most important new book about America’s founding era.”...

Washington Post, May 29

Geoff Dyer wins P. G. Wodehouse Prize

[<http://www.guardian.co.uk/books/2009/may/29/geoff-dyer-wodehouse-prize-comic-fiction>]

Geoff Dyer has won the P. G. Wodehouse Prize for comic fiction for *Jeff in Venice, Death in Varanasi*, a raucous novel full of profanities that was hailed by the judges as summoning up the “spirit of Wodehouse.” A pair of twinned novellas, the book tells of two 40-something men, both looking for love and existential meaning—one at the Venice Art Biennale, one on the banks of the Ganges in Varanasi....

The Guardian (U.K.), May 29

11th Annual International Latino Book Awards

[<http://lbff.us/latino-book-awards>]

The 2009 Latino Book Awards were presented during BookExpo America on May 28, at the Javits Center in New York City. The awards honor literary excellence in a variety of categories. This year four new categories were added, including Best Young Adult Sports or Recreation, Best Gift Book, a general fiction category, Best Popular Fiction, and Best Graphic Novel....

Latino Book and Family Festival, May 28

Leeds and Lincolnshire YAs choose their favorite books

[<http://www.leedsbookawards.co.uk/pastevents.php>]

Students aged 9–16 in Leeds, England, voted for their favorite reads and came up with Jenny Downham’s *Before I Die*, Sophie McKenzie’s *Blood Ties*, and Matt Haig’s *Shadow Forest*. Lads and lasses in Lincolnshire

[<http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/section.asp?catid=10395&docid=74774>]

similarly selected Cathy Cassidy’s *Sundae Girl* and Chris Riddell’s *Ottoline and the Yellow Cat*....

Seen Online

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Obama orders secrecy review

[<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/05/27/AR2009052702924.html>]

President Obama directed National Security Adviser James L. Jones and senior cabinet officials May 27 to examine whether the government keeps too much information secret. Officials representing a broad swath of government agencies will review procedures for labeling and sharing sensitive information. Obama also proposed

[<http://www.fas.org/sgp/obama/wh052709.html>] a National Declassification Center to streamline procedures for releasing classified information, when appropriate, under the guidance of the Archivist of the United States....

Washington Post, May 28

Book challenges on the rise

[<http://www.tennessean.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2009905310305>]

The box of books that media specialist Diane Chen stumbled onto in her library at the John F. Kennedy Middle School in Antioch, Tennessee, was simply labeled, "Inappropriate to Shelf." She wondered, "Are they worn out? Is there something wrong with them? Are they potentially hazardous chemical journals for would-be-terrorists?" None of the above. Scared that the books—such as The American Heritage Dictionary, The Pit and the Pendulum by Edgar Allen Poe, and The Catcher in the Rye by J. D. Salinger—could trigger a book challenge, a former employee had pulled them off the shelves....

Nashville Tennessean, May 31

Peoria branch expansion stymied by cemetery

[<http://www.pjstar.com/news/x1594716021/Body-count-shocks-library-panel>]

If discovering 150-year-old corpses isn't creepy enough, the potential price tag for digging them up is causing a fright among members of the Peoria (Ill.) Public Library board. A potential \$400,000-plus cost to dig up and remove bodies and artifacts near the Lincoln branch now has some wondering if the entire \$4.5-million expansion project is affordable. Apparently some graves were never removed from the site, which served as the city cemetery

[<http://www.peoriapubliclibrary.org/index.php?action=view&id=125&module=newsmodule&src=@random491db2ad8f602>] from 1842 to 1875; bones turned up in 1910 when the branch was built. Midwest Archaeological Research Services will begin excavations June 8....

Peoria (Ill.) Journal Star, May 28; Peoria Public Library

Nine-year-old girl begs Bloomberg to stop library cuts

[http://www.nydailynews.com/ny_local/brooklyn/2009/05/29/2009-05-29_save_my_library_bloomberg_canarsie_girls_letter_begs_mayor_to_stop_cuts.html]

A 9-year-old Brooklyn girl has penned an impassioned plea to New York

Mayor Michael Bloomberg to save the Brooklyn Public Library as the latest round of budget cuts threatens to reduce service to just 25 hours a week—the lowest level since the city’s fiscal crisis in the 1970s. The mayor’s proposal would slash the library budget by \$17.5 million (21%) and give borough residents the fewest library hours in the city. When Aliah Gilkes Richardson heard that, she decided to take action....
New York Daily News, May 29

Another library abandons DDC

[http://www.businesswire.com/portal/site/home/permalink/?ndmViewId=news_view&newsId=20090602005291&newsLang=en]

As part of its customers-first philosophy, the Rangeview Library District in Northglenn, Colorado, is replacing the Dewey Decimal Classification with its own WordThink system. The new method was generated from a book-industry standard for organizing materials. Materials are arranged by simple categories like history and science instead of a numeric system. The district’s new Bennett branch opened May 30 with the new organization in place, and by the end of the year all Rangeview branches will use WordThink....

Business Wire, June 2

Pennsylvania library funding threatened

[<http://news.prnewswire.com/DisplayReleaseContent.aspx?ACCT=104&STORY=/www/story/05-28-2009/0005034071&EDATE=>]

As Pennsylvania grapples with a struggling national economy, Education Secretary Gerald L. Zahorchak said the state senate’s proposed appropriations bill (S.B. 850), crafted by the Republican majority, would shortchange children. The education provisions call for a 50% reduction (\$37 million) in public library funding for fiscal year 2009–2010, compared with

[http://www.republicanherald.com/articles/2009/05/21/news/local_news/pr_republican.20090521.a.pg3.pr21library_s1.2535910_loc.txt] Gov. Edward

Rendell’s proposed 5.1% cut (H.B. 1419). Meanwhile, library access programs—including the Access PA Power Library, the statewide card, and interlibrary loan—were also targets

[<http://www.palibraries.org/displaycommon.cfm?an=1&subarticlenbr=106>] of both proposals....

Pennsylvania Dept. of Education, May 28; Pottsville (Pa.) Republican and Herald, May 21; Pennsylvania Library Association, May 5

Boston Public Library faces layoffs

[<http://www.wickedlocal.com/allston/news/x313660851/Boston-Public-Libraries-facing-layoffs>]

Facing looming budget cuts, the president of Boston Public Library expects to eliminate 13 full-time staffers, with most of the cuts to affect the main library. BPL President Amy Ryan said in late May she is expecting about \$1.2 million less from the city in fiscal 2010, and she expects a bigger cut to come from the state....

Allston/Brighton (Mass.) TAB, May 28

Seattle revises its library rules

[http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/editorials/2009284198_edita01library.html]

Seattle Public Library officials clarified (video,

[<http://cosmos.bcst.yahoo.com/up/player/popup/?rn=4226712&cl=13693093&src=news>] 2:07) several rules of conduct (PDF file [<http://www.spl.org/pdfs/Proposed%20Rules%20of%20Conduct%20May%202009.pdf>]) and beefed up others May 27 in a reasonable attempt to improve the customer experience. They range from simple alterations—like redefining the violation for “sleeping” to “appear to be sleeping”—to more serious matters, like kicking out repeat offenders for up to two years. Patrons have seen many examples of bad behavior, especially at the Central Library. A local reporter found that security guards have already ejected [<http://www.kirotv.com/news/19581377/detail.html>] 432 patrons in the first four months of 2009 for offenses like assault, drug dealing, intoxication, and lewd conduct....
Seattle Times, June 1; KING-TV, Seattle, May 27; Seattle Public Library; KIRO-TV, May 27

Skilled, blue collar, and suddenly destitute
[<http://www.tampabay.com/news/humaninterest/article1005882.ece>]
This is what Todd Yoder knew about homeless people: They are mentally ill, dope fiends, drunks. Then in February, Yoder found himself without work, and he has since learned much more. The Clearwater (Fla.) Public Library saved him. There, he found a clean bathroom, shelter, and internet service that allowed him to communicate with potential employers, his son, and his parents. He discovered Clearwater’s Homeless Emergency Project on the library’s internet....
St. Petersburg (Fla.) Times, May 31

Library staff adopts baby elephant
[<http://www.pioneerlocal.com/westernsprings/news/1579672,western-springs-elf-phant-051809-s1.article>]
Employees at the the Thomas Ford Memorial Library in Western Springs, Illinois, recently pooled some of their personal finances and donated \$100 to the David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust, [<http://www.sheldrickwildlifetrust.org/index.asp>] dedicated to saving orphaned elephants in Kenya. With their donation, the library has adopted Tassia, an 11-month-old African elephant that was rescued by trust volunteers after his family was killed by ivory poachers in March....
Western Springs (Ill.) The Doings, May 18

Former Lynn library trustee’s tenure defended
[http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2009/05/27/ex_library_trustees_tenure_defended/]
An attorney for a former Lynn (Mass.) Public Library board member with a spotty attendance record argued May 26 that his client had no obligation to attend board meetings in order to earn pension credit. The attorney made the argument to the Lynn retirement board, which is attempting to rescind the pension of 60-year-old Linda Bassett and recover about \$20,000 in payments she has received. Bassett last attended a meeting in March 1984, even though she claimed credit through September 1986....
Boston Globe, May 27

[<http://www.flickr.com/photos/myacpl/3489753910/in/set-72157607885294803/>] Wells library reopens one year after fire
[http://www.athensnews.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=28187:wells-public-library-back-up-and-running-one-year-after-vandalism-fire&c

atid=1:local-news&Itemid=4]

The Athens County Public Library's Wells branch in Albany, Ohio, held a grand reopening May 9 in its remodeled building nearly one year after it was badly damaged in a fire set by vandals. It now has a new, more inviting interior—though its collection of books, magazines, and visual media remains a little sparse compared to pre-fire days. The library interior was damaged to the tune of more than \$700,000 on June 14, 2008, when four Albany boys threw a firecracker into the book drop, which started a fire inside the building....

Athens (Ohio) News, June 1

Iowa court approves verdict in Des Moines library abduction

[<http://www.desmoinesregister.com/article/20090530/NEWS/905300330/1001>]

A divided Iowa Supreme Court on May 29 upheld the conviction of a man who in 2005 kidnapped and sexually abused a 2-year-old girl at the old central library in downtown Des Moines. James Effler Jr. will continue serving a life sentence at the state penitentiary. But the court's decision raised questions about how police handled the case....

Des Moines (Iowa) Register, May 30

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Tech Talk

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[http://news.cnet.com/8301-10797_3-10255403-235.html]Motion-sensitive gaming controllers [http://news.cnet.com/8301-10797_3-10255497-235.html]

Forget the console wars. We're in the motion-sensitive controller wars.

That much became clear June 2 when, following an earlier announcement by Microsoft that it was working on Project Natal

[http://news.cnet.com/8301-10797_3-10255403-235.html] (right)—an impressive and complex full-body, hands-free motion-sensitive control system—both Nintendo and Sony revealed plans for new, advanced systems of their own. It's abundantly clear that what's really going on here is an aggressive play by each of the three companies to make their offerings more palatable to mainstream audiences....

Gaming and Culture, June 2–3

[<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2341688,00.asp>]How to buy a cell phone [<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2347798,00.asp>]

Sascha Segan writes: "These days, smartphones get all the buzz, but the vast majority of handsets sold in the United States are actually feature phones: camera phones, music phones, rugged phones, messaging phones, or just plain voice phones. Unlike smartphones, feature phones are a matter of 'what you see is what you get.' They are typically less expensive than smartphones, are available in a much wider range of shapes and sizes, and work on a broader range of plans, including prepaid options. Ready to find your phone? Here's what you should consider before you start shopping."...

PC Magazine, May 29

Facebook Groups and Pages

[<http://mashable.com/2009/05/27/facebook-page-vs-group/>]

Howard Greenstein writes: “Should I create a Group or launch a Page? It’s the eternal question that gets asked as often as ‘What is Twitter?’ at introductory social media training classes. Ever since Facebook launched its Pages product as part of a larger advertising strategy (along with the ill-fated Beacon) in November 2007, there has been confusion over which to use. Because Groups and Pages have an overlapping feature set, even senior social media marketing consultants are sometimes stumped as to what to tell their clients.”...

Mashable, May 27

[<http://www.safer-networking.org/en/spybotsd/index.html>]Lifehacker’s essential free Windows downloads

[<http://lifehacker.com/5271828/lifehacker-pack-2009-our-list-of-essential-free-windows-downloads>]

Kevin Purdy writes: “Today we are bundling all the best free downloads for new computer owners, reinstallers, would-be geeks, or anyone who wants to save time installing the best stuff out there. This is our 2009 Lifehacker Pack for Windows computers—a single, handy list that we think improves the lives of Windows users. We’re also providing a utility to download some or all of these applications at once.”...

Lifehacker, June 1

Linux “desktop” version still too geeky?

[http://news.cnet.com/8301-13505_3-10249987-16.html]

Matt Asay writes: “Companies like Intel, Canonical, and Novell are desperately trying to make Linux-based PCs easier to use. Unfortunately, as Ubuntu fan Steven Rosenberg points out,

[<http://www.insidesocal.com/click/2009/05/ubuntu-804-rant-i-actually-had.html>] there are often far too many decisions a lay user must make to just to get Linux to work. Rosenberg was struggling to play music on his Ubuntu machine, and struggled because of Canonical’s efforts to balance ease of use with free-software purists’ desire to have no proprietary codecs. The result is a mess.”...

The Open Road, May 27; Click, May 26

Preview shortened URLs in Firefox

[http://cnettv.cnet.com/8301-13415_53-10249597-11.html?part=rss&subj=news&tag=2547-1_3-0-20]

Tom Merritt writes: “Shortened URLs are often used in email, Twitter, and other places to shorten a long URL into a much more convenient version. But there’s a security risk there: You don’t know where that URL is going. It could be a malicious website that hijacks your computer and installs a Trojan and keylogger, and you never even know. You just think the site’s broken. But with a Firefox plug-in called bit.ly preview, [<https://addons.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/addon/10297>] you can see the whole URL without having to go there.”...

Cnet TV Blog, May 26

Publishing

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[<http://www.gale.cengage.com/globalissues/explore.htm>]10 best digital resources for 2009

[<http://www.schoollibraryjournal.com/article/CA6660872.html>]

Shonda Brisco writes: "School Library Journal's second annual 'best of' list looks at products reviewed between June 2008 and the present. The past year saw many excellent and innovative projects—and narrowing them down to a top-10 list wasn't easy. As we prepare for the next school year—or as public libraries develop the budget for a new fiscal year—these are the products for children and teens you should be advocating to add to your digital collection."...

School Library Journal, June 1

[<http://www.schoollibraryjournal.com/blog/1790000379/post/1200044520.html>]Top 100 picture books poll results

[<http://www.schoollibraryjournal.com/blog/1790000379/post/540044254.html?nid=3713>]

Betsy Bird writes: "And now, in order and with linkety goodness intact, I bring to you the results of the Top 100 Picture Book Poll of 2009. Each link should go to the blog post where it was featured (even if the numbers don't always perfectly correspond). At the end of the post is the bibliography of sources I used in the course of this poll's posting." At the top of the list is Maurice Sendak's *Where the Wild Things Are* (1963)....

A Fuse #8 Production, May 16

[http://www.bookexpoamerica.com/RNA/RNA_BookExpoUS/Images/librarian_lounge.JPG]BEA 2009: A few positive words

[<http://www.edrants.com/bea-2009-a-few-positive-words/>]

Edward Champion writes: "It has been suggested by more than a few parties that my BookExpo coverage betrays a sourpuss disposition. It has also been insinuated that I was predisposed to find negativity within this three-ring exposition. Not at all. My suspicions about BEA have more to do with whether this massive conference is presently in the right form with which to bring together multiple viewpoints. Perhaps the manner in which we unite publishers, booksellers, authors, and assorted parties needs to match the drastic manner in which the industry is changing."...

Edward Champion's *Reluctant Habits*, May 30

Google sets sights on e-books

[<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/06/01/technology/internet/01google.html>]

In discussions with publishers at the annual BookExpo convention in New York, Google signaled its intent to introduce a program that would enable publishers to sell digital versions of their newest books direct to consumers through Google. The move would pit Google against Amazon.com, which is seeking to control the e-book market with the versions it sells for its Kindle reading device....

New York Times, May 31

The future of reading in a digital world

[http://www.wired.com/techbiz/people/magazine/17-06/st_thompson]

Clive Thompson writes: "Books are the last bastion of the old business model—the only major medium that still hasn't embraced the digital age. Publishers and author advocates have generally refused to put books online for fear the content will be Napsterized. And you can

understand their terror, because the publishing industry is in big financial trouble, rife with layoffs and restructurings. Literary pundits are fretting: Can books survive in this Facebooked, ADD, multichannel universe? To which I reply: Sure they can.”...
Wired, May 22

[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

Actions & Answers

San Francisco's new ecocard
[<http://sfpl.org/news/releases/ecocard.htm>]

Known for its renewable and reusable resources, San Francisco Public Library is taking its ecofriendly credentials a step further with a new environmentally conscious library card. The new ecocard is made from corn. Not only is corn a sustainable and renewable resource as opposed to traditional petroleum-based plastics, but it can also be composted in the city's composting system....
San Francisco Public Library, May 27

Catch the Google Wave [<http://mashable.com/2009/05/28/google-wave-guide/>]
Ben Parr writes: "Today has been dominated by news and excitement surrounding Google Wave, Google's new real-time communication platform that will launch to the public later this year. To make sense of it all, we have compiled key information, definitions, and links related to the launch. This in-depth guide provides an overview of Google Wave, discusses the terminology associated with it, details information on applications (such as the Twitter Wave app Twave [<http://mashable.com/2009/05/28/twave/>]), and goes over ways to keep yourself informed."...
Mashable, May 28

Bing vs. Google: A search results comparison
[<http://searchengineland.com/microsofts-bing-vs-google-head-to-head-search-results-20006>]
Greg Sterling writes: "Let's just get it out of the way: No, Bing [<http://www.bing.com/>] is not a Google killer. It's also safe to say that Microsoft doesn't see it that way either. My understanding of what Microsoft believes it has in Bing is a much more competitive product than Live Search. To provide a more concrete sense of Bing in advance of its launch, I conducted a range of basic searches that one might do in a given week and captured screens from both Google and Bing to offer a visual side-by-side comparison." Phil Bradley has another view [http://philbradley.typepad.com/phil_bradleys_weblog/2009/06/bing-launches-its-awful.html]; more comments [<http://www.resourceshelf.com/2009/06/01/microsofts-new-and-enhanced-search-engine-named-bing-debuts-on-web/>] by Gary Price....
Search Engine Land, May 28; Phil Bradley's Weblog, June 1; Resource

Shelf, June 1

A new information science channel

[http://scienceblogs.com/confessions/2009/06/looking_for_ideas_for_the_info.php]

John Dupuis writes: “ScienceBlogs is making a concerted effort to engage a broad range of the information science community. One step is the launch of a new Information Science channel

[<http://www.scienceblogs.com/channel/information-science/>]. So far, it is a channel like any other—it features recent blog postings assigned to the category by the bloggers themselves. However, we have plans. The plans involve adding value and content to the channel beyond just the blog posts.”...

Confessions of a Science Librarian, June 2

Programming for kids with autism [<http://www.alsc.ala.org/blog/?p=785>]

Kiera Parrott writes: “Perhaps you are wondering how to do a program for children with autism. You start with some research, talk to parents and caregivers, listen to the kids, have a good sense of humor, and try, fail, and try again. Generally, the difference is in the attention to detail and the high degree of flexibility you build into the program. Mostly what counts is making a safe and fun space for both the kids and the adults to interact and lend support to each other.”...

ALSC Blog, May 31

Arts programming in a public library

[<http://programminglibrarian.org/blog/20091/may-2009/arts-programming-in-a-public-library-part-i.html>]

Jude Schanzer writes: “We all know that libraries are no longer confined to brick and mortar. No longer can the library be looked at as only an informational and educational center. Some call us ‘community centers’ now. I say we are ‘cultural centers,’ with all that those words conjure up in our minds. Performance, visual arts, literature, history, discussion, innovative thought, and more are part and parcel of what can be found in a cultural center. Sounds like a library to me.”...

Programming Librarian, May 19, 26, June 2

10 ways to tell if you are a solo librarian

[<http://opls.blogspot.com/2009/06/ten-ways-to-tell-if-you-are-solo.html>]

John Clark of the Hartland (Maine) Public Library wrote this for the initial issue of MLA to Z: The News-to-use-letter of the Maine Library Association, April 2007, pp. 3–4 (PDF file

[http://mainelibraries.org/_documents/newsletter/200704newsletter.pdf]).

You can identify with it even if you don’t work in a public library. “10. You have done story hour while simultaneously checking out books and answering a reference question over the phone.”...

OPL Plus, June 2

Help me help you: The teacher edition

[<http://abbylibrarian.blogspot.com/2009/06/help-me-help-you-teacher-edition.html>]

Abby writes: “By popular demand: What do librarians wish teachers knew about the public library? If you’ve been tuning in lately, you know that I’ve done several posts about what librarians wish people knew about the

library. Teachers and librarians working together can accomplish great things, and we have a lot of the same goals. How can teachers' interactions with the library go even more smoothly? Here's what we want you to know."...

Abby (the) Librarian, June 1

Library thief turns friend

[<http://www.ilovelibraries.org/news/topstories/thief2advocate.cfm>]

Kerri Price writes: "Recently, Larry—an artist, musician, and highway sign maker from Barberton, Ohio—shared with us a story from his childhood, when one encounter with a kind and understanding librarian opened up a whole new world for him. To this day, Larry remains a faithful and enthusiastic patron of his local public library, and every summer he volunteers to teach a free, four-session guitar workshop at the Barberton Public Library. Here is Larry's story."...

I Love Libraries

Webinar: Navigating through job loss

[http://www.aarp.org/money/work/articles/webinar_navigating_job_loss.html]

If many people, 45 and older, who have lost jobs recently are coming to your library to seek help, this free AARP webinar could provide some assistance. "Navigating Your Way through Job Loss," June 11, 2–3 p.m. Eastern time, will help them create an effective job-search strategy, manage finances, and connect with others. The registration form is online [<https://ww2.eventrebels.com/er/Registration/RegistrationForm.jsp?ActivityID=3919&ItemID=14123>]....

AARP

EFF launches Teaching Copyright

[<http://www.eff.org/press/archives/2009/05/27>]

As the entertainment industry promotes its new anticopying educational program to the nation's teachers, the Electronic Frontier Foundation launched its own Teaching Copyright curriculum and website [<http://www.teachingcopyright.org/>] May 27 to help educators give students the real story about their digital rights and responsibilities on the internet and elsewhere. A balanced curriculum, Teaching Copyright encourages students to make full and fair use of technology that is revolutionizing learning and the exchange of information....

Electronic Frontier Foundation, May 27

Book group location

[<http://bookgroupbuzz.booklistonline.com/2009/05/28/location-location-location/>]

Neil Hollands writes: "In the book groups I attend, we've developed such a routine that our members sit in the same chair at every meeting. Woe to the newbie who parks her carcass in a spot that's taken! If that drab public meeting room is getting you down, perhaps it's time for a change. Take a one-meeting vacation from your usual space before some of your members take a permanent vacation from the group. Here are some ideas."...

Book Group Buzz, May 28

Reference librarian haiku [<http://www.librarygrrrl.net/2009/05/17/631/>]

Megan Brooks writes: "Every semester during reading period and finals,

there is a protracted online discussion in which students bemoan their current state of affairs in haiku format. Yesterday, I was working at the reference desk and thought I'd jump into the fray in an attempt to drum up some business. What follows is a series of haikus I sent out over the course of the four hours I was working."...

Librarygrrrl.net, May 17

[<http://www.flickr.com/photos/lhgc/3451010213/>]National Library of Wales joins Flickr Commons [<http://www.flickr.com/people/lhgc/>]

The National Library of Wales posted its first collection of photographs June 2 on Flickr Commons, becoming the first UK library to join the initiative. It has uploaded 100 photographs from the P. B. Aberly collection, a rich selection of photographs taken between 1890 and 1940 in Radnorshire, the border area of Wales and England. Flickr Commons was launched in January 2008 to show hidden treasures from the world's public photography archives....

National Library of Wales, June 2

U.S. national libraries to test RDA

[<http://www.loc.gov/bibliographic-future/rda/about.html>]

In response to concerns about Resource Description and Access (RDA) raised by the Library of Congress Working Group on the Future of Bibliographic Control, the three U.S. national libraries—the Library of Congress, the National Library of Medicine, and the National Agricultural Library—made a commitment to the further development and completion of RDA. The libraries agreed to make a joint decision on whether or not to implement RDA, based on the results of a test of both RDA and the web product. Testers will also include the broader library community....

Library of Congress

UPCs, EANs, and ISBNs: A field guide

[<http://bibwild.wordpress.com/2009/05/28/upcs-eans-and-isbns-the-verdict/>]

Jonathan Rochkind writes: "I think I've figured it out, and it's actually quite simple. A UPC is just an EAN beginning with zero, with the initial 0 left off. An ISBN-13 is an EAN. So an ISBN-10, to be converted to an EAN, just needs to be converted to an ISBN-13 (including recalculating the check-digit). On top of all that, it looks like an EAN-13 is now officially called a GTIN-13. Phew. So many names for essentially the same thing."...

Bibliographic Wilderness, May 28

Lenawee's teen wall

[<http://www.lenconnect.com/archive/x1993049455/PHOTO-Library-mural>]

The Lenawee County (Mich.) Library recently remodeled its Teen Space. To spice up the area, seven Teen Advisory Board members worked together to paint a mural on the teen wall. They started working on the project at the end of March and finished up on May 7. Lindsey Spooner, an Onsted High School student (shown on the ladder), designed the mural, and everyone worked together to transfer the drawing to the wall and paint it. The entire mural is 19 feet wide and five feet tall....

Adrian (Mich.) Daily Telegram, May 9

[<http://www.unshelved.com/archive.aspx?strip=20031025>]Top 10 pet peeves about patrons

[<http://www.swissarmylibrarian.net/2009/06/02/top-10-patron-pet-peeves>]
Brian Herzog writes: “Usually I’m a pretty happy-go-lucky guy, and I really do enjoy my job. But I thought I’d share a list of the top 10 things that patrons do that can really irk me. Not that I expect every patron interaction to be perfect and wonderful, of course; these are a just few things that make bad days worse. I tried to limit this list to things unique to library patrons, and this list (which ended up being longer than I expected) is in no particular order.”...
Swiss Army Librarian, June 2

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_0mI7HKD6CQ]Eight library cats
[<http://www.mentalfloss.com/blogs/archives/26082>]
Libraries are wonderful places for people who love books, and wonderful places for cats to meet book lovers. According to Gary Roma’s Library Cats Map, [<http://www.ironfrog.com/catsmap.html>] there are an estimated 808 documented library cats, including 301 cats who currently reside in libraries around the world. Here are profiles of seven, in addition to the world-renowned Dewey Readmore Books....
Mental Floss, June 2; YouTube, Oct. 30, 2007

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LpZbcM2eufI>]Wonder Woman, the math librarian [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LpZbcM2eufI>]
Diana Prince (secretly Wonder Woman) appears to be a Mathematics Library administrative assistant in this December 2, 1972, episode (9:47) of The Brady Kids. She fails to help Jen Brady (voiced by Eve Plumb) find reference sources on Euclid because she has to go rescue the crew of a foundering ship, but makes up for it by somehow taking the entire Brady crew back in time....
YouTube, Apr. 21

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i7w3ejpwios>]Branford Marsalis promotes summer reading
[<http://carolinanewswire.com/news/News.cgi?database=0001news.db&command=viewone&id=3841&op=t>]
“I express my creativity through music, both performing and composing,” states Branford Marsalis, composer and jazz saxophonist. In a public service announcement (0:30) for the State Library and North Carolina’s summer reading program, Marsalis encourages children and teens to express themselves through reading clubs, performances, and story times at their public library’s summer reading program....
Carolina Newswire, June 3; YouTube, May 29

Go back to the Top [[#top](#)]

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

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[<http://www.r2library.com/public/default.aspx>]

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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. Attend Annual Conference from your desktop this year with ALA's new Virtual Conference

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

American crime writer and essayist James Ellroy will be an Auditorium Speaker

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/2009/specialevents.cfm#auditorium>] on July 11. His L.A. Quartet novels—The Black Dahlia, The Big Nowhere, L.A. Confidential, and White Jazz—are international best-sellers.

[<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2645>]

Are you stymied by suspense novels? Do thrillers leave you hanging? Are you flustered by fantasy, frustrated with romantic fiction, or buffaloed by Westerns? Joyce Saricks's Readers' Advisory Guide to Genre Fiction [<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2645>] (2nd ed.) will let you become an expert at figuring out what your readers are seeking and show you how to match books with their interests. NEW! From ALA Editions.

In this issue
June/July 2009

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

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

User Engagement Librarian and Assessment Coordinator,
[<http://joblist.ala.org/modules/jobseeker/controller.cfm?scr=jobdetail&jobid=13219>] Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta. Working closely with library personnel across departmental lines, this position will maintain and creatively enhance a user engagement and assessment program that informs decision making, services, and learning spaces. Collect qualitative and quantitative data and produce interpretive reports based on them. Identify and coordinate assessment efforts.

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

[http://twitter.com/ALA_JobLIST]

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

Digital Library of the Week

[http://www.sil.si.edu/imagegalaxy/imageGalaxy_enlarge.cfm?id_image=10852]

The Smithsonian Institution Libraries' Galaxy of Images
[<http://www.sil.si.edu/imagegalaxy/index.cfm>] collection includes thousands of images representing a small portion of the more than 1.5-million printed books and manuscripts in their collections. Images are browsable or searchable by keyword or topics that include the animal world, art and design, bones and fossils, history and material culture, literature, the natural world, plants and flowers, portraits, science and invention, scientific instruments and apparatus, society and culture, technology and transportation, and trade literature. The libraries encourage the use of images and other content from this website for not-for-profit educational and classroom
[http://www.sil.si.edu/imagegalaxy/imageGalaxy_Education.cfm] use.

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

“Sanctuary might be an overly serious word, but a library projects an unmistakable sense of civility and calm. Young and old come together peaceably here, rich and poor, readers of mysteries and lovers of ancient

philosophy. A library is a bastion of non-judgmentalism and one of society's great equalizers.

"This atmosphere is in no way accidental. Librarians are almost eerily aware of what goes on inside your head. They know your tastes better than you do, being trained to cut through your vague references to plot or author and put their hands on what you need."

—Krista Ramsey, in an editorial, "What Libraries Are Worth to Us, [<http://news.cincinnati.com/article/20090601/COL01/906010329/What+libraries+are+worth+to+us>]" Cincinnati Enquirer, June 1.

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

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

Ask the ALA Librarian

Q. I have been approached by some older patrons about volunteering in the library. Do you have any resources that address setting up and managing a library volunteer program?

A. Volunteers of all ages can be a valuable resource for a library. Some libraries have volunteers run story hour, work the circulation desk, do fundraising activities, shelve books, provide computer assistance, and other basic tasks. There are many resources available that can assist your library with establishing and managing a library volunteer program. [<http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Volunteers>] From the ALA Professional Tips wiki [http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Managing_Volunteers].

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

[<http://www.atyourlibrary.org/>]

@ your library, [<http://www.atyourlibrary.org/>] ALA's website for library users, offers suggestions on sustainable living at home, [<http://www.atyourlibrary.org/environmentally-friendly-family>] how to master interview follow-ups, [<http://www.atyourlibrary.org/master-job-follow-up>] hip hop history, [<http://www.atyourlibrary.org/hip-hop-history>] and flags around the world. [<http://www.atyourlibrary.org/world-flags>]

Calendar

July 8–10:
Second International Public Knowledge Project Scholarly Publishing

Conference, [<http://pkp.sfu.ca/ocs/pkp/index.php/pkp2009/pkp2009>] Harbour Centre, Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, B.C.

July 9–12:

Early Book Society, [<http://www.nyu.edu/projects/EBS/ExeterCFP.html>] 11th Biennial Conference, University of Exeter, U.K. “Accipe et Devora: Packaging, Presentation, and Consumption of MSS and Printed Books, 1350–1550.”

July 10–13:

Systemics, Cybernetics, and Informatics, [<http://www.iiis2009.org/wmsci/website/?vc=1>] Rosen Centre Hotel, Orlando, Florida.

July 25–28:

American Association of Law Libraries, [<http://www.aallnet.org/events/>] Annual Meeting, Walter E. Washington Convention Center, Washington, D.C.

Aug. 5–7:

Pacific Northwest Library Association, [<http://www.pnla.org/events/conference09/index1.html>] Annual Conference, Missoula, Montana. “A Century of Cooperation, a Legacy of Leadership.”

Aug. 23–27:

International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions, [<http://www.ifla.org/en/annual-conference>] Annual Conference, Milan. “Libraries Create Futures: Building on Cultural Heritage.”

Sept. 8–11:

International Conference for Digital Libraries and the Semantic Web, [<http://www.icsd-conference.org/>] University of Trento, Italy.

Sept. 30–

Oct. 2:

West Virginia Library Association, [<http://wvla2009.blogspot.com/2009/05/vendors-invitation-to-exhibit-at-2008.html>] Annual Conference, Snowshoe Mountain Resort.

Sept. 30–

Oct. 2:

Idaho Library Association, [<http://www.2009ila.blogspot.com/>] Annual Conference, Burley.

Oct. 2–4:

8th International Board on Books for Young People, [http://www.usbby.org/conf_home.htm] Regional Conference, Q Center, St. Charles, Illinois. “Children’s Books: Where Worlds Meet.”

Oct. 4–8:

National Media Market, [<http://nmm.net/>] Griffin Gate Marriott Resort, Lexington, Kentucky.

Nov. 5–8:

American Association of School Librarians National Conference,
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aasl/conferencesandevents/national/charlotte2009.cfm>] Charlotte, North Carolina. “Rev Up Learning @ your library.”

Nov. 6:
Brick and Click Libraries, [<http://brickandclick.org/>] Northwest Missouri State University, Maryville.

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

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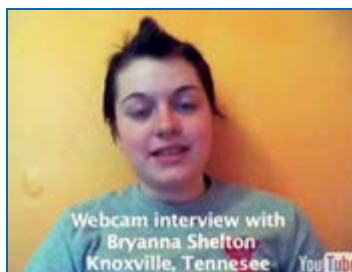


U.S. & World News

[Tennessee schools unblock LGBT websites](#)

Just two weeks after the ACLU of Tennessee filed suit against the Knox County and Metro Nashville school districts for filtering access to digital information about gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered issues, the schools have stopped blocking the websites of such gay-friendly advocacy groups as the Gay Lesbian and Straight Education Network and Parents, Families, and Friends of Lesbians and Gays. Because the two school systems share the filter with 80% of the other districts in Tennessee, the action has resulted in providing access to gay-interest information for more than 100 school systems throughout the state....

American Libraries Online, June 9; YouTube, May 18



ALA News

[Steve Lopez will be closing speaker](#)

Steve Lopez, *Los Angeles Times* columnist and author of *The Soloist*, will highlight the 2009 ALA Annual Conference in Chicago as the Closing Session speaker July 14. *The Soloist* is the true story of Lopez's extraordinary encounters with a homeless violinist named Nathaniel Anthony Ayers. Lopez first came across Ayers, dressed in rags and playing Beethoven on a battered two-string violin, on a busy street corner in Los Angeles....



[Scholarship Bash at the Art Institute](#)


Show your support for future librarians during a fun, interactive evening of art, music, and food. The 10th annual Scholarship Bash, sponsored by ALA and ProQuest, will be held at the Art Institute of



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Chicago July 11. The building will only be open for ticketed Bash attendees, so you can discover new works of art and visit favorites without fighting the crowds. The Art Institute of Chicago houses several astounding exhibits, including the most acclaimed French Impressionist collection in the United States....

[Learn about the African-American baseball experience](#)

At this year's ALA Annual Conference, the spotlight will shine on the contributions of African Americans to the national pastime. Librarians interested in learning more about their achievements can attend "Pride and Passion: The African-American Baseball Experience," hosted by the ALA Campaign for America's Libraries and Public Programs Office on the morning of July 11....



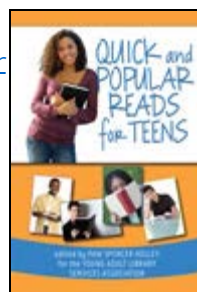
[12 libraries to host "Harry Potter's World"](#)

Twelve libraries will host "Harry Potter's World: Renaissance Science, Magic, and Medicine," a new small-format traveling exhibition. The ALA Public Programs Office, in cooperation with the National Library of Medicine, announced that the selected libraries will host the exhibit for a four-week period between September 2009 and November 2010 and present at least two public programs on the exhibition themes....



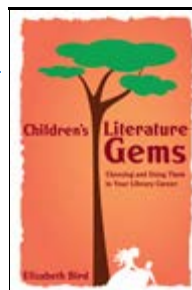
[Reach reluctant teen readers](#)

ALA Editions has released [Quick and Popular Reads for Teens](#) by Pam Spencer Holley. For more than 10 years, YALSA has produced two annual lists, "Popular Paperbacks for Young Adults" and "Quick Picks for Reluctant Readers," recommending reading targeted at young adults who are not avid readers. Compiling bibliographic information about the books on these two selected lists, this resource also includes essays and annotations....



[Gems of children's literature](#)

ALA Editions has published [Children's Literature Gems: Choosing and Using Them in Your Library Career](#) by Elizabeth Bird. With her strong passion for children's books and the profession, Bird will help readers build and manage their children's collection; strike a balance between award winners and classics; arrange the children's section to best showcase and display books; and review the basics of storytime, storytelling, and booktalking....



[ALA files comments on national broadband plan](#)

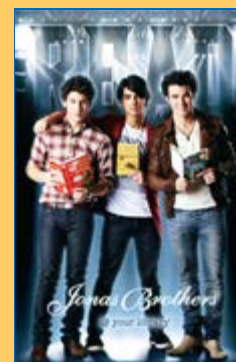


[ALA Annual Conference.](#)

Chicago, July 9–15.

[Closing Session](#)

speaker: Steve Lopez, *Los Angeles Times* columnist and author of *The Soloist*, will speak July 14, 8–9 a.m.



New Jersey-born siblings Kevin, Joe, and Nick Jonas are stars of both stage and screen. The Grammy-nominated [Jonas Brothers](#) have released four albums and won an American Music Award for Breakthrough Artist. Now they are featured on this new ALA celebrity READ poster. **NEW! From ALA Graphics.**

In this issue
June/July 2009

On June 8, ALA filed comments ([PDF file](#)) before the FCC in response to a Notice of Inquiry on the development of a national broadband plan (as required by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009). In its comments, ALA argued that America's libraries are uniquely situated to deliver on the commission's goals for the plan....

District Dispatch, June 8

[Library toolkits from OLOS](#)

The Office for Literacy and Outreach Services has created a number of useful toolkits, which are accessible from its [OLOS Toolkit Directory](#). They address a wide range of topics, from how to assist non-English speakers and older adults, to how to support and advocate for rural and small libraries and tribal libraries, to gaming in libraries....

ALA Student Member Blog, June 4

[New TechSource website](#)

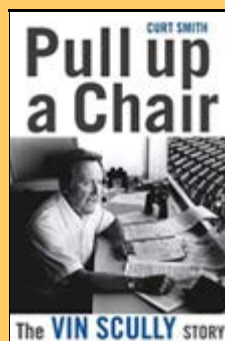
ALA TechSource has launched a new electronic archive and delivery platform for *Library Technology Reports* and *Smart Libraries Newsletter* using MetaPress, the world's largest scholarly content host. In addition to the MetaPress archive, ALA TechSource has rebuilt its core [website](#) using Drupal, an open-source content management system popular with other library websites....

Booklist ONLINE

[Featured review: Adult books](#)

Smith, Curt. *Pull Up a Chair: The Vin Scully Story*. June 2009. 272p. Potomac, hardcover (978-1-59797-424-0).

With apologies and respect to Harry Caray, Red Barber, Mel Allen, Bob Prince, and Ernie Harwell, Vin Scully is generally regarded as the king of baseball announcers—and certainly the most literate. He's been announcing Dodger games—first in Brooklyn, later in Los Angeles—since 1950, with various network jobs thrown into the mix. When he does the Dodger games, he works without an analyst, preferring to present the game in his own inimitable style, replete with literary references, cultural touchstones, and spur-of-the-moment metaphors; “he pitches like he's double-parked” to indicate a pitcher's rapid pace. Smith, author of 12 books—at least three on baseball announcers—makes the perfect Scully biographer....



[Magnificent bastards](#)

David Wright writes: “I can think of only two really good reasons to read biographies. One is to learn interesting things about history and



Summertime in Chicago

Prescription for Financial Recovery

Librarians As Writers

Licenses and Legalities

Career Leads from



[Executive Director.](#)

Fayetteville (Ark.) Public Library. This single-facility library system is located in the stunningly beautiful and LEED–Silver certified Blair Library, a 90,000-square-foot facility that opened in 2004. The Board of Trustees seeks applicants who have a passion for leading a truly customer-centered public organization; a commitment to maintaining a desired and supportive work environment that values the input and expertise of the library's very talented staff; and experience with policy development, planning, accounting and budgeting, fundraising, facilities management, library advocacy, media

the world, which for many guys really means becoming the indisputable master of some narrow field of knowledge. (Did you know it is possible to construct a busy reading life without ever straying from books about Abraham Lincoln?) The other good reason is to get the dirt. Reading about heroes can only take you so far. I'd rather read about people who are at least as despicable as me, or worse than I will ever dare to be."...



[There is nothing like a dame](#)

Kaite Stover writes: "All the women I admire share at least one quality—they're what my grandfather would have called 'dames.' I've never thought of that moniker in a pejorative sense. He used it to mean that a woman had good sense, a sense of humor, a courageous heart, and, usually, a nice pair of 'stems' to round out the package."...



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

relations, marketing, supervision, quality improvement, and public relations....



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Chicago Update

[Chicago's great public library: A digital exhibit](#)

Larry Nix writes: "ALA will meet in Chicago July 9–15. This year will also mark the [100th anniversary](#) of the location of ALA's headquarters in Chicago. I have put together this digital tribute to Chicago's great public library in honor of these occasions. Attendees of the conference will have the opportunity to visit the current and former central libraries of the Chicago Public Library. The former central library is now the [Chicago Cultural Center](#), an appropriate repurposing of a historic architectural treasure."...

Library History Buff, June 8



[The Membership Pavilion](#)

Plan to come by the ALA Membership Pavilion at Annual Conference, Booth #3034, to learn more about ways that membership can enhance your career, connect you with colleagues from around the world, and improve library services to your community. Volunteers from the New Members Round Table will be on hand throughout. The pavilion also includes offerings from each division, round table, and office of ALA. Check the schedule of events, July 11–14....

[Where do I eat?](#)

If you can't make a decision on which excellent Chicago restaurant to patronize, you can get some

Digital Library of the Week



The [Wyoming Memory Portal](#) brings the histories of Wyoming to life through a virtual gateway to the state's rich collections of manuscripts, books, photographs, documents, newspapers, maps, audio, video, and other resources. These sources document Wyoming's past from prehistory through the present. Collections and exhibits are provided by archives, libraries, historical societies, museums, governments, organizations, and individuals from throughout Wyoming. the site is hosted by

advice from Yelp, a popular website that offers reviews of [eateries](#), [bars](#), [nightlife](#), and other amenities in the Windy City. You can select by neighborhood ([Near Southside](#) is near McCormick Place) or cuisine (such as [Brazilian](#) or [hot dogs](#)). Reviews include maps, transit info, price ranges, accessibility, and websites....



Division News

[AASL chooses *Born Digital*](#)

AASL has chosen *Born Digital: Understanding the First Generation of Digital Natives* by John Palfrey and Urs Gasser as the One Book One Conference selection for its 14th National Conference and Exhibition. A discussion will be held November 6, in Charlotte, North Carolina. AASL's One Book One Conference is an early-morning book-discussion session and a popular part of the conference....



[Will Weaver to judge WrestleMania Reading Challenge](#)

Will Weaver, author of *Saturday Night Dirt* and *Super Stock Rookie*, will judge the [2010 WrestleMania Reading Challenge](#) championship in Phoenix, Arizona. The WrestleMania Reading Challenge, sponsored by YALSA and World Wrestling Entertainment, encourages teens and tweens to read one item a week, beginning during Teen Read Week and ending in January. Registration for the 2010 challenge ends July 31....



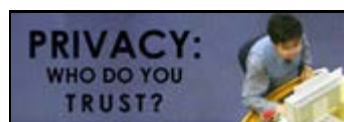
[Seats filling fast for RUSA preconferences](#)

There is still time to snag a few of the remaining seats for preconferences and ticketed events addressing reference, library services to older adults, business reference, and literature hosted by RUSA at the upcoming ALA Annual Conference. The 2009 preconferences are half- or full-day workshops presenting skills and knowledge vital to success in the professions RUSA represents....

Round Table News

[IFRT preconference on privacy](#)

Join the Intellectual Freedom Round Table and the Fostering Civic Engagement Member Initiative Group in Chicago on July 9 for an afternoon conversation on privacy titled "Privacy: Who Do You Trust?" The preconference will be structured with an issue map and will introduce the methods of deliberation so that participants will become more comfortable as they explore privacy values and concerns. Contact [Jen Hammond](#) with any questions or concerns....



[Mentors needed](#)

The New Members Round Table Mentoring Committee is accepting applications for their Conference Mentoring Program for the ALA

the University of Wyoming Libraries. One collection includes images from the 1920s and 1930s of Charles J. Belden's Pitchfork Ranch near Meeteetse, Wyoming. Photographs include depictions of everyday life on the ranch, raising antelopes, dude ranching, and Belden's family members.

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 thought that leads me to contemplate with dread the erasure of other voices, of unwritten novels, poems whispered or swallowed for fear of being overheard by the wrong people, outlawed languages flourishing underground, essayists' questions challenging authority never being posed, unstaged plays, cancelled films—that thought is a nightmare. As though a whole universe is being described in invisible ink."

—Author Toni Morrison, speaking at an [event](#) in New York to launch the National

Annual Conference. The program is open to all ALA members and is designed to connect a first-time conference attendee with a seasoned professional who can help them navigate the conference. The [deadline](#) for both mentors and mentees to apply is June 15....

Awards

[Target Brands to be honored with Crystal Apple](#)

AASL President Ann M. Martin has selected Target Brands as the recipient of the 2009 Crystal Apple. The honor is given at the discretion of the AASL president to an individual or group that has had a significant impact on school library media programs and students. Martin cites Target Brands for its leadership in transforming elementary school libraries across the country with its School Library Makeovers program....



[Michael Halperin wins business reference award](#)

Michael Halperin, director of the Lippincott Library at the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School, has been selected as the 2009 recipient of the Gale Cengage Learning Award for Excellence in Business Librarianship, an honor sponsored by Gale Cengage Learning and administered by RUSA. Halperin was selected for his more than three decades of work as an innovator, teacher, and mentor in the profession....



[Great Ideas contest winner](#)

YALSA has named Laurie Cavanaugh, assistant head of adult services at the Brockton (Mass.) Public Library, as the winner of its Great Ideas contest. Cavanaugh suggested that YALSA create a downloadable widget, with code for embedding, containing recommended books for teens that is updated regularly through an RSS or Atom feed. Librarians could add the widget to their library websites, offering book suggestions tested by librarians without needing to know complicated code....

[Gordon M. Conable Conference Scholarship](#)

Amanda Sharpe, a graduate student in the University of California at Los Angeles's Department of Information Studies, has been named the second recipient of the Freedom to Read Foundation's Gordon M. Conable Scholarship. The scholarship will provide for the conference registration, transportation, and accommodations for Sharpe to attend the 2009 ALA Annual Conference in Chicago....

[Kentucky hybrid library wins innovation award](#)

The Gateway Community and Technical College in Covington, Kentucky, has been recognized by the League for Innovation as a 2009 Innovation of the Year Award winner for its pioneering "hybrid library" that provides students with print and electronic resources through onsite, virtual, and regional partner libraries. The award recognizes faculty and staff at member colleges who have developed significant innovations reflecting the spirit of experimentation at the nation's community colleges....

Gateway Community and Technical College, June 3

Coalition Against Censorship's new initiative, the Free Speech Leadership Council. *The Guardian* (U.K.), June 5.



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

Ask the ALA Librarian



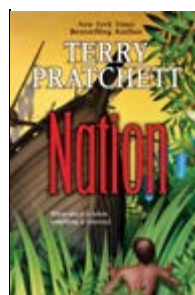
Q. Is the Newbery Medal really the oldest award that ALA gives? What about selected lists of books for different ages?

A. The [Newbery Medal](#) was first awarded in 1922, making it the oldest continuously given award of ALA. The second-oldest award is the [Oberly Award](#), first presented in 1924 as the "Oberly Memorial Prize." The [Best Books for Young Adults](#) list has been published nearly regularly on an annual basis since July 1931. The list of [Notable Children's Books](#) has been around since 1940; and RUSA's list of [Notable Books for Adults](#) has been going strong since 1944.

[2009 Boston Globe–Horn Book Awards](#)

A best-selling British novelist, an innovative American biographer, and New Zealand's most prodigious storyteller took the top prizes when the 2009 *Boston Globe–Horn Book Awards* were announced June 2. Presented annually since 1967, the awards reward excellence in children's and young adult literature and are given in three categories: fiction and poetry, nonfiction, and picture book....

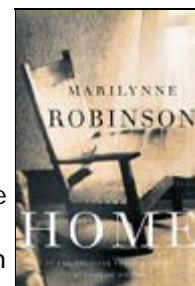
Horn Book, June 2



[Marilynne Robinson wins Orange Prize for fiction](#)

American writer Marilynne Robinson has won the 2009 Orange Prize for Fiction for her third novel *Home*. Robinson, a previous nominee for the Pulitzer prize, was presented with the annual Orange award at a June 3 ceremony at London's Royal Festival Hall. The £30,000 (\$48,190 U.S.) Orange Prize recognizes fiction written by women around the world....

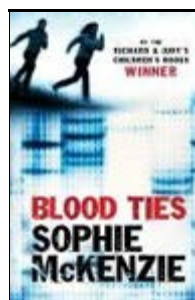
Financial Times, June 4



[Red House Children's Book Awards](#)

The winners of the UK Red House Children's Book Awards for 2009 were announced June 6. The awards, sponsored by the Federation of Children's Book Groups across the country, have been running for 29 years and are regarded as the most significant awards for children's literature in Britain, as the voting is entirely by children. The winner in the category for older readers was Sophie McKenzie's *Blood Ties*....

Red House Children's Book Award, June 6



[Winners in ABC-CLIO's 2009 history research competition](#)

Eight teams of secondary students and their teacher or librarian coaches from around the country are the grand-prize winners of ABC-CLIO's 2009 research competition, "History Uncovered." The five high-school and three middle-grade teams were honored from among hundreds of entries for exemplary research defending their choice of the top 10 people, events, and places that shaped history. Each team and its school will receive more than \$60,000 in cash and prizes....

ABC-CLIO, June 9

[2009 Access to Learning Awards](#)

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation's Access to Learning Award honors innovative organizations that are opening a world of online information to people in need. The foundation's Global Libraries initiative invites applications from libraries and similar organizations outside the United States that have created new ways to offer these key services: free public access to computers, technology training for staff and the public, and outreach to underserved communities. The deadline to apply is October 31....

Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

[2009 SLA Diversity Leadership Development Program awards](#)

Five up-and-coming information professionals have been named

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

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



North Carolina State University Head of Access and Delivery Service Mary Carmen Chimato explains [how an economic crisis can improve your management skills](#) in the June 2009 [issue](#) of *College and Research Libraries News*.

[Calendar](#)

July 10:
[Google Analytics Workshop](#), Hyatt Regency, Chicago. Sponsored by the Association of Research Libraries.

July 20–24:
[Educause Institute Learning Technology Leadership Program](#), Hilton Burlington, Vermont.

July 31–Aug. 2:
[PulpFest 2009](#), Ramada Plaza Hotel and Convention Center, Columbus, Ohio.

Aug. 4–7:

recipients of the Special Libraries Association Diversity Leadership Development Program Award. The award, sponsored by EBSCO, includes a \$1,000 cash prize and complimentary registration to attend the 2009 SLA Annual Conference, June 14–17, in Washington, D.C....

Special Libraries Association, June 5

Seen Online

[Connecticut budget cuts could be severe](#)

In a move that would conclusively close the door on the Information Age in Connecticut, Gov. M. Jodi Rell proposed cuts May 28 that would shut off access to the internet through the Connecticut Education Network—a fiber-optic network designed to serve public schools and libraries in Connecticut—and drastically reduce the availability of information resources in other agencies. Defunding would eliminate all internet circuits in kindergarten through 12th-grade schools and all libraries and deprive the state of \$1 million or more in federal e-rate support....

Hartford (Conn.) *Courant*, May 31

[Burials uncovered at Peoria branch](#)

Excavation began June 9 at the site of the new Lincoln branch of the Peoria (Ill.) Public Library as a team of archaeologists looked for signs of burial vaults and human remains in what was the city cemetery in the mid-1800s. They almost immediately found what they were looking for; an hour later, archaeologists had outlined the top of 13 distinct burial spots. State law requires the removal of all human remains discovered in a construction zone and that there be a subsequent attempt at identifying them. Meanwhile, the old Lincoln branch was [declared](#) a historic landmark....

Peoria (Ill.) *Journal Star*, June 9–10

["Son of Stinky" prepares to bloom at the Huntington](#)

Already dubbed "Son of Stinky," an offspring of the giant flower whose rotting-flesh odor drew more than 76,000 people to the [Huntington Library](#) in San Marino, California, a decade ago, is getting ready to bloom June 10–15. Growing at the rate of 3–4 inches a day, the giant Corpse flower (*Amorphophallus titanum*) has reached about 4 feet and the watch is on. In 1999, the rare bloom of the world's largest, smelliest flower drew international attention to the Huntington. It was one of only 10 blooms recorded in the United States in the 20th century....

Pasadena (Calif.) *Star-News*, June 7; Huntington Library



[California schools skeptical of digital-textbook push](#)

California is reviewing digital versions of textbooks that could be used in high-school math and science classes next year. When Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger addressed the state legislature June 2, he said going digital could [save schools](#) hundreds of millions of dollars a year. School administrators realize this could be the future of instruction, but they say it won't save them money anytime soon....

Sacramento (Calif.) *Bee*, June 5; San Jose (Calif.) *Mercury News*, June 6

[New Jersey boy gives \\$10,000 prize to library](#)

A New Jersey high school student who won \$10,000 in a national essay contest is giving it to a library where his late mother used to

[The Annual Conference on Distance Learning and Teaching](#)

Monona Terrace Convention Center, Madison, Wisconsin.

Aug. 6:

[Granite State Book and Ephemera Fair](#)

Event Center at C.R. Sparks, Bedford, New Hampshire.

Aug. 6–7:

[Serving Diverse Populations](#)

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

Aug. 8–9:

[Arkansas Book and Paper Show](#)

Jacksonville.

Aug. 23–25:

[Salford Data Mining Conference](#)

Hard Rock Hotel, San Diego.

Sept. 8–11:

[International Conference for Digital Libraries and the Semantic Web](#)

University of Trento, Italy.

Sept. 9:

[Annual National Conference on Citizenship](#)

Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. "Sustainable Impact: A Civic Return on Investment."

Sept. 11–13:

[Association for Rural and Small Libraries](#)

Annual Conference, Park Vista Hotel, Gatlinburg, Tennessee. "Keeping Your Head While Serving the

volunteer. Joshua Tiprigan is a junior at Northern Valley Regional High School in Old Tappan. His essay on Rudyard Kipling in the Library of Congress Center for the Book's Letters About Literature contest won him the right to pick a library to receive a \$10,000 award. He picked the Northvale Public Library in memory of his mother, who died of cancer a year ago....

Associated Press, June 9

[Paul Wasserman, a man of many words](#)

For more than four decades, Paul Wasserman was a major figure in library studies and education. In 1965, the year he established the University of Maryland's School of Library and Information Services, he published an influential book, *The Librarian and the Machine*, that foretold the growing importance of computers and automation in libraries. Yet he never learned how to use a computer. Wasserman was 85 when he died May 8 of pneumonia and an infection....

Washington Post, June 7



[LC agents want their guns back](#)

Investigators with the Library of Congress Office of the Inspector General have raised objections after Congress stripped them of their ability to carry firearms. Though its agents have worn firearms for the past 15 years and IG agents elsewhere do the same, lawmakers inserted language into the FY2009 omnibus spending bill that prohibited the officers from using federal funds to "purchase, maintain, or carry" firearms. Library officials [supported](#) the move, stating that the library OIG did not need armed agents and could instead rely on LC Police or Capitol Police....

Fox News, June 9; *Washington Post*, June 4

[The wrong Vibe for Randolph High](#)

A magazine may be pulled from the Randolph (Wis.) High School library for its "sexual content, explicit language, and gang symbols." Principal Tom Erdmann brought a complaint against *Vibe* magazine after a school board member raised concerns. The school district's library materials review committee met June 3 to discuss the complaint. Erdmann offered teen magazine *Gumbo* as an alternative to *Vibe*....

Beaver Dam (Wis.) *Daily Citizen*, June 4



[Montana wants librarians](#)

Librarians with master's degrees are an important asset for libraries, but can be hard to come by in Montana. The Montana State Library in Helena is running a [media campaign](#) promoting librarianship as a career. In past years, the library has also offered scholarships for Montanans pursuing library graduate degrees. Part of the shortage stems from the lack of an MLS degree program in the state....

Great Falls (Mont.) *Tribune*, June 8



[Add social work to your résumé](#)

Harsh reality has turned librarians into real, if largely unsung, heroes of the recession. Take mild-mannered David Stoner. Trained to help adults discover the trial of Socrates and 6th-graders track the Oregon Trail, he now spends half his time in the trenches of a battered economy. As director of adult services for the Clearwater

Community."

Sept. 16–17:

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

Sept. 20:

[Maine Book and Paper Show](#), Wyndham Portland Airport Hotel, Portland.

Sept. 21–26:

[West Texas Book and Music Festival](#), Abilene.

Oct. 2–3:

[Santa Fe Antiquarian Book Show](#), El Museo Cultural, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Oct. 7–10:

[Internet Research 10.0](#), Hilton Milwaukee City Center, Wisconsin. "Internet: Critical."

Oct. 10–11:

[Seattle Antiquarian Book Fair and Book Arts Show](#), Seattle Center Exhibition Hall.

Oct. 19–20:

[Marketing](#), Cleveland, Ohio. Certified Public Library Administrator course sponsored by PLA.

Oct. 19–22:

[National Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums Conference](#), Portland, Oregon.

Oct. 27–28:

[Fundraising](#), Kansas City, Missouri. Certified Public Library Administrator course

(Fla.) Public Library System, his job is far more urgent—helping people who need jobs, food stamps, or Medicaid....

St. Petersburg (Fla.) Times, June 8

[How Twitter will change the way we live](#)

Robin Twomey writes: "As millions of devotees have discovered, Twitter turns out to have unsuspected depth. In part this is because hearing about what your friends had for breakfast is actually more interesting than it sounds. The technology writer Clive Thompson calls this 'ambient awareness.' But the most fascinating thing about Twitter is not what it's doing to us. It's what we're doing to it."...

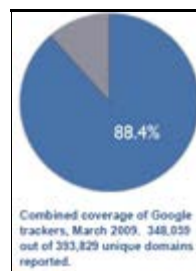
Time, June 5



[Google's eyes are everywhere](#)

A June 1 University of California, Berkeley, report ([PDF file](#)) shows that most internet users don't understand website privacy policies and that major online businesses like Google freely gather data and share it with affiliated businesses via loopholes in those policies. Sites with the most web bugs were for blogging—Blogspot and Typepad were numbers 1 and 2 on the list in March, and Blogger was number 4. Google itself was number 3....

San Francisco Business Times, June 2



[Pitt director helps to shape academic libraries' future](#)

Rush Miller (right), director of the University of Pittsburgh library system, has transformed not only his school's library but also the future of research libraries. Miller and his colleagues have digitized tens of thousands of images, forged relationships with about 25 libraries in Asia and Africa that include document and staff exchanges, and worked to develop similar programs with six Latin American countries by partnering with the University of Texas Libraries....

Pittsburgh (Pa.) Tribune-Review, June 8



[Rapid City hospital library closes](#)

Medical librarian Pat Hamilton is out of a job as Rapid City (S.D.) Regional Hospital transitions to a self-help electronic medical library for internal use only. For the past 24 years, Hamilton and her staff of volunteers offered medical library resources to doctors, hospital employees, and medical students. The library's consumer health section also was available to the general public to do research on their medical conditions. Those materials have been donated to the Rapid City Public Library....

Rapid City (S.D.) Journal, June 9



[Rocky Mountain News archives to go to Denver Public Library](#)

Less than four months after the *Rocky Mountain News* published its final edition, its parent company is negotiating agreements to ensure responsible stewardship of the newspaper's archives and artifacts. The E.W. Scripps Company is finalizing an

sponsored by PLA.

Nov. 6–11: [American Society for Information Science and Technology](#)

Annual Meeting,
Vancouver, British Columbia.

Nov. 12–13: [Management of Technology](#)

Mountlake Terrace,
Washington. Certified
Public Library
Administrator course
sponsored by PLA.

@ [More...](#)

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arrangement with the Denver Public Library, which would assume ownership of the newspaper's clipping files, microfilm reels, and archives. A similar agreement is underway with the Colorado Historical Society, which would acquire other artifacts and artwork....

Denver Post, June 9

[Go back to the Top](#)

Tech Talk

[The Palm Pre is here](#)

Sascha Segan writes: "Palm is back—and with the coolest handheld device we've seen in a long time. The Palm Pre has the same exhilarating sense of possibility as the iPhone—and it's even worth switching to Sprint for. The Pre is the start of something genuinely new: Palm's webOS, an innovative operating system that has benefited by what the company has learned from Apple's smartphone successes. More webOS phones are coming this year, so if the Pre doesn't quite do it for you, hang in there." Watch David Pogue's [video review](#) (3:08)....

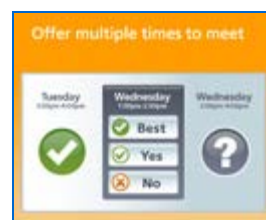
PC Magazine, June 4; *New York Times*, June 4



[Online alternatives to Google Calendar](#)

Don Reisinger writes: "I'm a Google Calendar user. It's easy to use. And for the most part, it helps keep the schedules of individual users organized. But one of its shortcomings is in scheduling meetings. In my experience, it just isn't nearly as advanced as it should be when it comes to things like arranging meetings among a group of people in various time slots. So I've decided to venture out in search of online applications for scheduling. Some are better than others, but many are worth trying out."...

Webware, June 4



[Top 10 wallpaper tools and tweaks](#)

Kevin Purdy writes: "A good wallpaper provides a pleasant backdrop to productivity. A great wallpaper changes your whole computer experience. See some of the best image sources, software, and usability tweaks we've come across and rolled up for your downloading pleasure."...

Lifehacker, June 6



[The destination web is morphing](#)

David Lee King writes: "Blogs, YouTube, Flickr, Twitter, SlideShare—those sites are created so you don't have to visit the actual destination page. Instead, through RSS and embedding tools, it's

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

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really pretty easy to subscribe to the content you're interested in. Your destination isn't the organization's website—your destination is your feed reader."...

David Lee King, June 6

[Ten ways to provoke a geek argument](#)

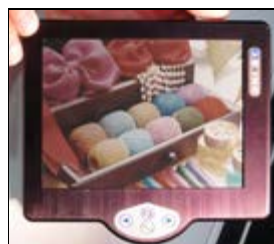
Matt Blum writes: "Geeks, as a general rule, are pretty easy-going. We like to think things through, so passionate confrontations aren't commonplace for us. When we get well and properly provoked, though, watch out! We won't stop talking until every last point that we can think of has been made at least twice. So, what do you say to provoke a geek? Glad you asked!"...

GeekDad, June 9

[Why there are no color e-books yet](#)

Almost every e-book reader on the market has a black-and-white display. Most can't display more than a handful of different shades of gray. The hitch is that color e-ink technologies aren't anywhere near ready for prime time. Amazon chief Jeff Bezos recently told shareholders that a Kindle with a color screen is "multiple years" away. At a recent DisplayWeek conference in San Antonio, Texas, electronic-display manufacturer E Ink showed off prototypes of its color screen (above)....

Gadget Lab, June 9



[How to buy a Blu-ray player](#)

Robert Heron writes: "Video from traditional DVDs is made up of fewer than 350,000 pixels, while 1080p HD video is composed of over two million. So if you want sublime, high-resolution detail from your disc-based movies and TV shows, you have to go Blu-ray. The latest crop of players offer much faster disc-handling speeds and more robust multimedia features than previous models, and the players cost only about \$300. But there are still a lot of choices out there. Here's what you need to consider when shopping for a Blu-ray player."...

PC Magazine, May 7



Publishing

[Romance novels thrive in tough times](#)

With an out-of-work husband and two children to support, Christine Mead needs a cheap—and uplifting—break from life. So lately she's been escaping into sweet and heartening stories of love and passion, where heroines overcome insurmountable obstacles to find their happiness. Romance novels, she said, are "a distraction from not knowing what's going to happen next."...

Associated Press, June 5



[18 reasons why modern literature is struggling](#)

Author Bruce Sterling lists 18 challenges to contemporary literature's survival, from the failure of intellectual-property systems and the destabilization of book distribution to the rise of algorithms and social media....

Beyond the Beyond, May 30

[The newspaper suicide pact](#)

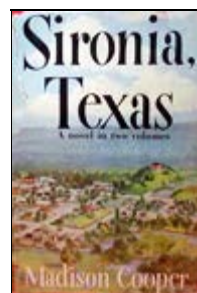
Dan Conover writes: "I think I'll remember last week as the moment when I finally knew, with a certainty approaching fatigue, that the newspaper industry—the business and passion that both shaped and warped me over the past 20 years—had chosen ritual suicide. The choice appears grimly reached and irrevocable. The issue is 'paid content.' That's the generic term. I consider it a euphemism for an entire suite of frustrations and furies that have been boiling out of my former profession since its once-invincible business model began its final slide to the deep in 2008."...

Xark, June 3

[Top 10 longest novels in the English language](#)

msulli22 writes: "Compiling this list ended up being much more complex than one would think a list of longest books ever should be. Here are the various parameters I decided on: I included only published, not self-published, works; I used word count, not number of pages, as the measure of length; and I included only books originally written in English, since it is easier to achieve a higher word count in some languages than others."...

List Universe, June 6



Actions & Answers

[Should libraries charge for services?](#)

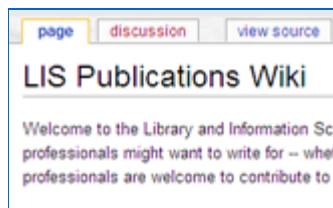
Karen Klapperstuck writes: "Who doesn't like to get something for free? Whether we are talking about giveaways at a restaurant opening or free information on the internet, everyone loves the idea of getting something for free. A marketing strategy and business model that relates to this idea is the concept of 'freemium.' How does the freemium model apply to libraries?"...

Library Garden, June 2

[Resources for librarians who write](#)

Looking for the best place to publish your next paper? Wondering where you can find a community of writers to chat with? Self-help is online, and so are the communities. Online resources from a "Publishing for the Profession" class that lecturer Laurie Putnam has taught at the San Jose State University SLIS since 2004 are now available to all. Resources include a [wiki](#) of potential places to publish and a set of internet [bookmarks](#) on writing, editing, and publishing topics....

SJSU SLIS Alumni Association Newsletter, Spring



[Seattle group transforms boys into lifelong readers](#)

Boys Read.org is an organization of parents,



educators, librarians, mentors, authors, and booksellers dedicated to making boys lifelong readers. Periodically, they feature an extraordinary author on their home page. Currently, they have selected Watt Key's *Alabama Moon* and Fran Cannon Slayton's *When the Whistle Blows* as summer reading picks....

BoysRead.org

[25 ways for libraries to support book groups](#)

Neil Hollands writes: "Libraries need to recognize book group readers as one of their core audiences, a population that deserves 'extra-mile' service. Here's my list of 25 ways that a library can support book groups. If you're a librarian, consider adding one or two of the practices from this list to your repertoire."...

Book Group Buzz, June 5

[Ten university-press directors back free access](#)

In a move that puts them at odds with the official stance of the Association of American University Presses, a group of university-press directors issued a position statement June 4 that endorses "the free access to scientific, technical, and medical journal articles no later than 12 months after publication." Public access has come under threat from a bill, the Fair Use in Research Works Act, sponsored by Rep. John Conyers Jr. (D-Mich.)....

Chronicle of Higher Education, June 5

[DTV Transition Day on Friday](#)

The national switch from analog to digital broadcast will take place Friday, June 12. You may get questions from people wondering how to prepare or whether they are ready. For questions and assistance, individuals may call 1-888-225-5322....

District Dispatch, June 9



[100 tips for office-friendly workouts](#)

The benefits of exercise go beyond maintaining a trim physique. A fit lifestyle that also incorporates healthy eating clears your focus, boosts energy, and helps you deal with stress in a more balanced, positive way. And if you can sneak in extra exercises while you're at work, you'll be much better equipped to deal with all the negativity and chaos that's thrown your way. Here are 100 tips and tricks to stay fit at work....

Masters of Healthcare, June 8



[ARL: Don't sign nondisclosure clauses](#)

The Association of Research Libraries board of directors voted May 22 in support of a resolution that strongly encourages its member libraries to refrain from signing agreements with publishers or vendors, either individually or through consortia, that include nondisclosure or confidentiality clauses. In addition, the board encourages its members to share, upon request from other libraries, information contained in these agreements for licensing content, licensing software, or other tools, and for digitization contracts with third-party vendors....

Association of Research Libraries, June 5

[OCLC policy: What is the question?](#)

Karen Coyle writes: "I have a difficult time understanding the discussion around the [OCLC WorldCat Record Use Policy](#). At least one

reason for my confusion is that I have yet to see an explanation of the problem that the policy is attempting to address. The recent talk by Jennifer Younger, on the initial recommendations of the WorldCat record-use policy review board, left me with the same uncertainty: If this is the answer, then what is the question?"...

Coyle's InFormation, June 9

[Translation resources on the web](#)



Rebecca A. Martin and Sarah McHone-Chase write: "Both professional translators and competent amateurs need first-rate resources to select the exact word or phrase in context. There are many free websites that allow educated nonprofessionals to produce quality translations, if they are willing to dig into the wealth of the internet and create their own set of tools. The following sites, listed here in English, serve as gateways to precise multilingual dictionaries and glossaries, as well as directories with access to professional tools."...

College and Research Libraries News 70, no. 6 (June)

[Seventh annual National Recording Registry additions](#)

Librarian of Congress James H. Billington named June 9 the 25 new additions to the National Recording Registry as part of LC's efforts to ensure that the nation's aural history is not lost or forgotten. Among the selections are Marian Anderson's recital at the



Lincoln Memorial in 1939 (right); the sounds of the ivory-billed woodpecker in a Louisiana swamp forest; Winston Churchill's "Sinews of Peace" speech at Westminster College in Fulton, Missouri; and the original cast recording of *West Side Story*....

Library of Congress, June 9

[U.S. Copyright Office adjusts fees](#)

The U.S. Copyright Office in the Library of Congress is amending its fees for copyright services. Thanks to cost-savings achieved through increased office automation, some fees will remain the same or decrease. Other fees—mostly for services requiring manual labor—will rise. The proposed fee for filing a copyright application online remains \$35, but the new fee for paper applications will be \$65, an increase of \$20, effective August 1....

Library of Congress, June 3

[23 elements of sharable blog posts](#)

Chris Brogan writes: "What makes a blog post something worthy of links? What makes a blog post something that people will send around to their friends? If you're looking to find some kind of value and impact in your blog as a communication tool, it might be useful to know what makes a post shareable, versus those posts that people read and forget. Here are my ideas on what might work."...

Chris Brogan, June 8

[FSU aids public libraries with hurricane preparedness](#)

With the arrival of hurricane season on June 1, Florida's public libraries have a vital role to play in helping their communities prepare for and recover from hurricanes and other severe storms.



Florida State University's Information Use Management and Policy

Institute at the College of Information has unveiled a new [website](#) that will help libraries meet the challenge. The project brings together emergency response agencies, the Florida State Library and Archives, the Lyrasis library network, and Florida's libraries to share resources and hard-won wisdom....

Florida State University, May 29

[**ABC closes its News Research Center**](#)

ABC News is shuttering its News Research Center and converting it into a digital research center. The move will mean the loss of eight jobs. In a June 4 email to staff, news president David Westin wrote, "Today, many of the research tools we use are available online. Our extensive, hard-copy library filled with periodicals and other materials is no longer necessary in the digital age." ABC has hired the consulting firm Library Associates to develop a digital research center....

WebNewser, June 4

[**A library-themed Ben & Jerry's flavor?**](#)

Andy Woodworth, a librarian at the Bordentown branch of the Burlington County (N.J.) Library System, set up a Facebook page June 7

advocating the creation of a library-themed Ben & Jerry's ice cream flavor. The logic? Libraries are awesome. Ben & Jerry's ice cream is tasty. Therefore, a library-flavored Ben & Jerry's would be tasty awesome. Suggested flavors include Goey Decimal System, Sh-sh-sh-Sherbet, and Cookie Bookie. Some 333 people have joined so far....

People for a library-themed Ben & Jerry's flavor!



[**More on the Tyldesley Diary damage**](#)

Peter Tyldesley writes: "It's now June 2009 and more information is available than when *The Times* first reported in 2007 that the manuscript of the Tyldesley Diary had been extensively damaged while in the custody of the British Library. At some point between 2005 and 2007 an employee of the British Library, whom I shall refer to as P, seriously damaged the Tyldesley Diary, a Jacobite manuscript belonging to me but lodged for safekeeping with the library."...

Tyldesley Family History



[**British Library raises restrictive copyright fears**](#)

The British Library has launched a campaign to ensure copyright issues in research and education are reflected in any legislation or rules resulting from recent government initiatives. Chief Executive Lynne Brindley said that just as technology was giving greater access to books and other creative works, new restrictions threatened to lock away digital content in a way that would never be countenanced for printed material....

Information World Review, June 9

[**First 979 ISBNs assigned to France**](#)

The first 979-prefixed ISBN registration group element, 979-10, has been assigned to the Paris-based French National ISBN Agency, AFNIL, according to the International ISBN Agency. The global book industry is encouraged to pay attention to this news: It will lead to the appearance of the first 979-prefix ISBNs in the international book

supply chain....

Book Industry Study Group, June 2

[Celebrities step up for New York Public Library](#)

Facing funding cutbacks that would drastically reduce its services, the New York Public Library is in the midst of a fierce [campaign](#) to articulate its value to the community. That effort now gets a serious shot in the arm from video testimonials by celebs including Amy Tan, Barbara Walters, Malcolm Gladwell, Bette Midler, Nora Ephron, Bill Irwin, Mike Nichols, Ellen Burstyn, Colson Whitehead, Tim Gunn, and Jeff Daniels. It's unlikely that many other libraries could round up a similar roster....

Critical Difference, June 3; YouTube, June 3



[Libraries: An integral part of the community](#)

Nancy Dowd writes: "This fantastic [video](#) (2:50) from Minnesota talks about the impact of cutting LGA (local community funding) and places libraries right there with firefighters. This is what OCLC's report meant when they said we needed to demonstrate how libraries are an integral part of the community infrastructure and a tough but essential tax cost."...

The M Word: Marketing for Libraries, June 9; Thank LGA, Apr. 9



[Saddleback Valley protest](#)

Library staff, kids, and supporters protest the job cuts (3:20) outside a June 9 board of directors meeting at Saddleback Valley Unified School District in southern Orange County, California. After statewide voters rejected ballot measures in May that would have restored funding for schools, the district board met to consider shuttering its libraries and computer labs, laying off 100 teachers, and eliminating nearly half its high-school guidance counselors....

YouTube, June 10



[Go back to the Top](#)

AL Direct, June 10, 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 | June 10, 2009

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

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U.S. & World News

=====

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=95Ppz93cAb4>]Tennessee schools unblock LGBT websites

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2009/june2009/tennlgbtunblocked060909.cfm>]

Just two weeks after the ACLU of Tennessee filed suit against the Knox County and Metro Nashville school districts for filtering access to digital information about gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered issues, the schools have stopped blocking the websites of such gay-friendly advocacy groups as the Gay Lesbian and Straight Education Network and Parents, Families, and Friends of Lesbians and Gays. Because the two school systems share the filter with 80% of the other districts in Tennessee, the action has resulted in providing access to gay-interest information for more than 100 school systems throughout the state....
American Libraries Online, June 9; YouTube, May 18

ALA News

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Steve Lopez will be closing speaker

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/closing_session_confsvcs.cfm]

Steve Lopez, Los Angeles Times columnist and author of *The Soloist*, will highlight the 2009 ALA Annual Conference in Chicago as the Closing Session speaker July 14. *The Soloist* is the true story of Lopez's extraordinary encounters with a homeless violinist named Nathaniel Anthony Ayers. Lopez first came across Ayers, dressed in rags and playing Beethoven on a battered two-string violin, on a busy street corner in Los Angeles....

Scholarship Bash at the Art Institute

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/scholarshipbash_confsvcs.cfm]

Show your support for future librarians during a fun, interactive evening of art, music, and food. The 10th annual Scholarship Bash, sponsored by ALA and ProQuest, will be held at the Art Institute of Chicago July 11. The building will only be open for ticketed Bash attendees, so you can discover new works of art and visit favorites without fighting the crowds. The Art Institute of Chicago houses several astounding exhibits, including the most acclaimed French Impressionist collection in the United States....

Learn about the African-American baseball experience

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/pride_passion_campaign.cfm]

At this year's ALA Annual Conference, the spotlight will shine on the contributions of African Americans to the national pastime. Librarians interested in learning more about their achievements can attend "Pride and Passion: The African-American Baseball Experience," hosted by the ALA Campaign for America's Libraries and Public Programs Office on the morning of July 11....

12 libraries to host "Harry Potter's World: Renaissance

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/harrypotter_ppo.cfm]

Science, Magic, and Medicine," a new small-format traveling exhibition. The ALA Public Programs Office, in cooperation with the National Library of Medicine, announced that the selected libraries will host the exhibit for a four-week period between September 2009 and November 2010 and present at least two public programs on the exhibition themes....

Reach reluctant teen readers

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/reliantteenreaders_editions.cfm]

ALA Editions has released Quick and Popular Reads for Teens

[<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2498>] by Pam Spencer Holley.

For more than 10 years, YALSA has produced two annual lists, "Popular Paperbacks for Young Adults" and "Quick Picks

for Reluctant Readers,” recommending reading targeted at young adults who are not avid readers. Compiling bibliographic information about the books on these two selected lists, this resource also includes essays and annotations....

Gems of children’s literature

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/childrenslitgems_editions.cfm]

ALA Editions has published Children’s Literature Gems: Choosing and Using Them in Your Library Career

[<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2633>] by Elizabeth Bird. With her strong passion for children’s books and the profession, Bird will help readers build and manage their children’s collection; strike a balance between award winners and classics; arrange the children’s section to best showcase and display books; and review the basics of storytime, storytelling, and booktalking....

ALA files comments on national broadband plan

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=3003>]

On June 8, ALA filed comments (PDF file

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/wp-content/uploads/2009/06/alanoi6-8.pdf>]) before the FCC in response to a Notice of Inquiry on the development of a national broadband plan (as required by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009). In its comments, ALA argued that America’s libraries are uniquely situated to deliver on the commission’s goals for the plan....

District Dispatch, June 8

Library toolkits from OLOS

[<http://www.students.ala.org/studentmemberblog/?p=259>]

The Office for Literacy and Outreach Services has created a number of useful toolkits, which are accessible from its OLOS Toolkit Directory.

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/olos/toolkits.cfm>] They address a wide range of topics, from how to assist non-English speakers and older adults, to how to support and advocate for rural and small libraries and tribal libraries, to gaming in libraries....

ALA Student Member Blog, June 4

New TechSource website

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/newsite_techsource.cfm]

ALA TechSource has launched a new electronic archive and delivery platform for Library Technology Reports and Smart Libraries Newsletter using MetaPress, the world’s largest scholarly content host. In addition to the MetaPress archive, ALA TechSource has rebuilt its core website [<http://www.alatechsource.org/>] using Drupal, an open-source content management system popular with other library websites....

Featured review: Adult books

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=3483216]

Smith, Curt. Pull Up a Chair: The Vin Scully Story. June 2009. 272p.

Potomac, hardcover (978-1-59797-424-0).

With apologies and respect to Harry Caray, Red Barber, Mel Allen, Bob Prince, and Ernie Harwell, Vin Scully is generally regarded as the king of baseball announcers—and certainly the most literate. He’s been announcing Dodger games—first in Brooklyn, later in Los Angeles—since 1950, with various network jobs thrown into the mix. When he does the Dodger games, he works without an analyst, preferring to present the game in his own inimitable style, replete with literary references, cultural touchstones, and spur-of-the-moment metaphors; “he pitches like he’s double-parked” to indicate a pitcher’s rapid pace. Smith, author of 12 books—at least three on baseball announcers—makes the perfect Scully biographer....

Magnificent bastards

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=3558549]

David Wright writes: “I can think of only two really good reasons to read biographies. One is to learn interesting things about history and the world, which for many guys really means becoming the indisputable master of some narrow field of knowledge. (Did you know it is possible to construct a busy reading life without ever straying from books about Abraham Lincoln?) The other good reason is to get the dirt. Reading about heroes can only take you so far. I’d rather read about people who are at least as despicable as me, or worse than I will ever dare to be.”...

There is nothing like a dame

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=3553758]

Kaite Stover writes: “All the women I admire share at least one quality—they’re what my grandfather would have called ‘dames.’ I’ve never thought of that moniker in a pejorative sense. He used it to mean that a woman had good sense, a sense of humor, a courageous heart, and, usually, a nice pair of ‘stems’ to round out the package.”...

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

Chicago Update

Chicago’s great public library: A digital exhibit

[<http://www.libraryhistorybuff.com/chicago-libraries.htm>]

Larry Nix writes: “ALA will meet in Chicago July 9–15. This year will also mark the 100th anniversary

[[http://libraryhistorybuff.blogspot.com/2009/02/ala-and-chicago-100-years.h](http://libraryhistorybuff.blogspot.com/2009/02/ala-and-chicago-100-years.html)

tml] of the location of ALA’s headquarters in Chicago. I have put together this digital tribute to Chicago’s great public library in honor of these occasions. Attendees of the conference will have the opportunity to visit the current and former central libraries of the Chicago Public Library. The former central library is now the Chicago Cultural Center

[<http://egov.cityofchicago.org/city/webportal/portalEntityHomeAction.do?ent>

ityName=Cultural+Center&entityNameEnumValue=128], an appropriate repurposing of a historic architectural treasure.”...
Library History Buff, June 8

The Membership Pavilion

[http://wikis.ala.org/annual2009/index.php/Membership_Pavilion]

Plan to come by the ALA Membership Pavilion at Annual Conference, Booth #3034, to learn more about ways that membership can enhance your career, connect you with colleagues from around the world, and improve library services to your community. Volunteers from the New Members Round Table will be on hand throughout. The pavilion also includes offerings from each division, round table, and office of ALA. Check the schedule of events, July 11–14....

[<http://www.yelp.com/biz/the-chicago-firehouse-restaurant-chicago>]Where do I eat? [<http://www.yelp.com/chicago>]

If you can’t make a decision on which excellent Chicago restaurant to patronize, you can get some advice from Yelp, a popular website that offers reviews of eateries, [<http://www.yelp.com/c/chicago/restaurants>] bars, [<http://www.yelp.com/c/chicago/bars>] nightlife, [<http://www.yelp.com/c/chicago/nightlife>] and other amenities in the Windy City. You can select by neighborhood (Near Southside [http://www.yelp.com/search?find_loc=Near+Southside%2C+Chicago%2C+IL&cflt=r estaurants] is near McCormick Place) or cuisine (such as Brazilian [<http://www.yelp.com/c/chicago/brazilian>] or hot dogs [<http://www.yelp.com/c/chicago/hotdog>]). Reviews include maps, transit info, price ranges, accessibility, and websites....

Division News

Born Digital

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/one_book_aasl.cfm]

AASL has chosen Born Digital: Understanding the First Generation of Digital Natives by John Palfrey and Urs Gasser as the One Book One Conference selection for its 14th National Conference and Exhibition. A discussion will be held November 6, in Charlotte, North Carolina. AASL’s One Book One Conference is an early-morning book-discussion session and a popular part of the conference....

Will Weaver to judge Wrestlemania Reading Challenge

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/judge_weaver_ww_alsa.cfm]

Will Weaver, author of Saturday Night Dirt and Super Stock Rookie, will judge the 2010 WrestleMania Reading Challenge

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/alsa/teenreading/wrmc/wrmc.cfm>] championship in Phoenix, Arizona. The WrestleMania Reading Challenge, sponsored by YALSA and World Wrestling Entertainment, encourages teens and tweens to read one item a week, beginning during Teen Read Week and ending in January. Registration for the 2010 challenge ends July 31....

Seats filling fast for RUSA preconferences

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/preconfillingfast_rusa.cfm]

There is still time to snag a few of the remaining seats for preconferences and ticketed events addressing reference, library services to older adults, business reference, and literature hosted by RUSA at the upcoming ALA Annual Conference. The 2009 preconferences are half- or full-day workshops presenting skills and knowledge vital to success in the professions RUSA represents....

Round Table News

IFRT preconference on privacy

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/rts/ifrt/ifrtinaction/programb/2009preconference.cfm>]

Join the Intellectual Freedom Round Table and the Fostering Civic Engagement Member Initiative Group in Chicago on July 9 for an afternoon conversation on privacy titled "Privacy: Who Do You Trust?" The preconference will be structured with an issue map and will introduce the methods of deliberation so that participants will become more comfortable as they explore privacy values and concerns. Contact Jen Hammond [<mailto:jhammond@ala.org>] with any questions or concerns....

Mentors needed

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/rts/nmrt/oversightgroups/comm/mentor/mentoringcommittee.cfm>]

The New Members Round Table Mentoring Committee is accepting applications for their Conference Mentoring Program for the ALA Annual Conference. The program is open to all ALA members and is designed to connect a first-time conference attendee with a seasoned professional who can help them navigate the conference. The deadline

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/rts/nmrt/oversightgroups/comm/mentor/conferenceMentorApp.cfm>] for both mentors and mentees to apply is June 15....

Awards

Target Brands to be honored with Crystal Apple

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/crystalapple_aasl.cfm]

AASL President Ann M. Martin has selected Target Brands as the recipient of the 2009 Crystal Apple. The honor is given at the discretion of the AASL president to an individual or group that has had a significant impact on school library media programs and students. Martin cites Target Brands for its leadership in transforming elementary school libraries across the country with its School Library Makeovers program....

Michael Halperin wins business reference award

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/galacengage_rusa.cfm]

Michael Halperin, director of the Lippincott Library at the University of

Pennsylvania's Wharton School, has been selected as the 2009 recipient of the Gale Cengage Learning Award for Excellence in Business Librarianship, an honor sponsored by Gale Cengage Learning and administered by RUSA. Halperin was selected for his more than three decades of work as an innovator, teacher, and mentor in the profession....

Great Ideas contest winner

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/greatideas_yalsa.cfm]

YALSA has named Laurie Cavanaugh, assistant head of adult services at the Brockton (Mass.) Public Library, as the winner of its Great Ideas contest. Cavanaugh suggested that YALSA create a downloadable widget, with code for embedding, containing recommended books for teens that is updated regularly through an RSS or Atom feed. Librarians could add the widget to their library websites, offering book suggestions tested by librarians without needing to know complicated code....

Gordon M. Conable Conference Scholarship

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/conablesharpe_oif.cfm]

Amanda Sharpe, a graduate student in the University of California at Los Angeles's Department of Information Studies, has been named the second recipient of the Freedom to Read Foundation's Gordon M. Conable Scholarship. The scholarship will provide for the conference registration, transportation, and accommodations for Sharpe to attend the 2009 ALA Annual Conference in Chicago....

Kentucky hybrid library wins innovation award

[<http://www.gateway.kctcs.edu/viewnews1.html?current=432>]

The Gateway Community and Technical College in Covington, Kentucky, has been recognized by the League for Innovation as a 2009 Innovation of the Year Award winner for its pioneering "hybrid library" that provides students with print and electronic resources through onsite, virtual, and regional partner libraries. The award recognizes faculty and staff at member colleges who have developed significant innovations reflecting the spirit of experimentation at the nation's community colleges....

Gateway Community and Technical College, June 3

Awards [<http://www.hbook.com/bghb/current.asp>]

A best-selling British novelist, an innovative American biographer, and New Zealand's most prodigious storyteller took the top prizes when the 2009 Boston Globe-Horn Book Awards were announced June 2. Presented annually since 1967, the awards reward excellence in children's and young adult literature and are given in three categories: fiction and poetry, nonfiction, and picture book....

Horn Book, June 2

Marilynne Robinson wins Orange Prize for fiction

[<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/2356cc98-50a0-11de-9530-00144feabdc0.html>]

American writer Marilynne Robinson has won the 2009 Orange Prize for Fiction for her third novel Home. Robinson, a previous nominee for the Pulitzer prize, was presented with the annual Orange award at a June 3 ceremony at London's Royal Festival Hall. The £30,000 (\$48,190 U.S.)

Orange Prize recognizes fiction written by women around the world....
Financial Times, June 4

Red House Children's Book Awards

[<http://www.redhousechildrensbookaward.co.uk/winners-for-2009.html>]
The winners of the UK Red House Children's Book Awards for 2009 were announced June 6. The awards, sponsored by the Federation of Children's Book Groups across the country, have been running for 29 years and are regarded as the most significant awards for children's literature in Britain, as the voting is entirely by children. The winner in the category for older readers was Sophie McKenzie's Blood Ties....
Red House Children's Book Award, June 6

Winners in ABC-CLIO's 2009 history research competition

[<http://www.abc-clio.com/publishing/pressview.aspx?contentid=100447>]
Eight teams of secondary students and their teacher or librarian coaches from around the country are the grand-prize winners of ABC-CLIO's 2009 research competition, "History Uncovered." The five high-school and three middle-grade teams were honored from among hundreds of entries for exemplary research defending their choice of the top 10 people, events, and places that shaped history. Each team and its school will receive more than \$60,000 in cash and prizes....
ABC-CLIO, June 9

2009 Access to Learning Awards

[<http://www.gatesfoundation.org/atla/Pages/access-to-learning-award-how-to-apply.aspx>]
The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation's Access to Learning Award honors innovative organizations that are opening a world of online information to people in need. The foundation's Global Libraries initiative invites applications from libraries and similar organizations outside the United States that have created new ways to offer these key services: free public access to computers, technology training for staff and the public, and outreach to underserved communities. The deadline to apply is October 31....
Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

2009 SLA Diversity Leadership Development Program awards

[<http://www.sla.org/content/SLA/pressroom/pressrelease/09pr/pr2911.cfm>]
Five up-and-coming information professionals have been named recipients of the Special Libraries Association Diversity Leadership Development Program Award. The award, sponsored by EBSCO, includes a \$1,000 cash prize and complimentary registration to attend the 2009 SLA Annual Conference, June 14-17, in Washington, D.C....
Special Libraries Association, June 5

Seen Online

Connecticut budget cuts could be severe

[<http://www.courant.com/news/opinion/editorials/hc-cibes-governor-budget.ar.tmay31,0,2484990.story>]
In a move that would conclusively close the door on the Information Age

in Connecticut, Gov. M. Jodi Rell proposed cuts May 28 that would shut off access to the internet through the Connecticut Education Network—a fiber-optic network designed to serve public schools and libraries in Connecticut—and drastically reduce the availability of information resources in other agencies. Defunding would eliminate all internet circuits in kindergarten through 12th-grade schools and all libraries and deprive the state of \$1 million or more in federal e-rate support.... Hartford (Conn.) Courant, May 31

Burials uncovered at Peoria branch

[<http://www.pjstar.com/news/x2085753674/Lincoln-Library-dig-begins>] Excavation began June 9 at the site of the new Lincoln branch of the Peoria (Ill.) Public Library as a team of archaeologists looked for signs of burial vaults and human remains in what was the city cemetery in the mid-1800s. They almost immediately found what they were looking for; an hour later, archaeologists had outlined the top of 13 distinct burial spots. State law requires the removal of all human remains discovered in a construction zone and that there be a subsequent attempt at identifying them. Meanwhile, the old Lincoln branch was declared [<http://www.pjstar.com/news/x1874122469/Lincoln-library-now-historic-landmark>] a historic landmark.... Peoria (Ill.) Journal Star, June 9–10

“Son of Stinky” prepares to bloom at the Huntington

[http://www.pasadenastarnews.com/news/ci_12540402] Already dubbed “Son of Stinky,” an offspring of the giant flower whose rotting-flesh odor drew more than 76,000 people to the Huntington Library [http://huntington.org/thehuntington_full.aspx?id=4132] in San Marino, California, a decade ago, is getting ready to bloom June 10–15. Growing at the rate of 3–4 inches a day, the giant Corpse flower (*Amorphophallus titanum*) has reached about 4 feet and the watch is on. In 1999, the rare bloom of the world’s largest, smelliest flower drew international attention to the Huntington. It was one of only 10 blooms recorded in the United States in the 20th century.... Pasadena (Calif.) Star-News, June 7; Huntington Library

California schools skeptical of digital-textbook push

[<http://www.sacbee.com/topstories/story/1920872.html>] California is reviewing digital versions of textbooks that could be used in high-school math and science classes next year. When Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger addressed the state legislature June 2, he said going digital could save schools [http://www.mercurynews.com/opinion/ci_12536333] hundreds of millions of dollars a year. School administrators realize this could be the future of instruction, but they say it won’t save them money anytime soon.... Sacramento (Calif.) Bee, June 5; San Jose (Calif.) Mercury News, June 6

New Jersey boy gives \$10,000 prize to library

[<http://wcbstv.com/wireapnewsnj/NJ.boy.who.2.1036853.html>] A New Jersey high school student who won \$10,000 in a national essay contest is giving it to a library where his late mother used to volunteer. Joshua Tiprigan is a junior at Northern Valley Regional High School in Old Tappan. His essay on Rudyard Kipling in the Library of Congress Center for the Book’s Letters About Literature contest won him

the right to pick a library to receive a \$10,000 award. He picked the Northvale Public Library in memory of his mother, who died of cancer a year ago....

Associated Press, June 9

Paul Wasserman, a man of many words

[<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/06/06/AR2009060602017.html>]

For more than four decades, Paul Wasserman was a major figure in library studies and education. In 1965, the year he established the University of Maryland's School of Library and Information Services, he published an influential book, *The Librarian and the Machine*, that foretold the growing importance of computers and automation in libraries. Yet he never learned how to use a computer. Wasserman was 85 when he died May 8 of pneumonia and an infection....

Washington Post, June 7

LC agents want their guns back

[<http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2009/06/09/library-congress-agents-object-congress-takes-away-guns/>]

Investigators with the Library of Congress Office of the Inspector General have raised objections after Congress stripped them of their ability to carry firearms. Though its agents have worn firearms for the past 15 years and IG agents elsewhere do the same, lawmakers inserted language into the FY2009 omnibus spending bill that prohibited the officers from using federal funds to "purchase, maintain, or carry" firearms. Library officials supported

[http://voices.washingtonpost.com/federal-eye/2009/06/library_of_congress_officials.html] the move, stating that the library OIG did not need armed agents and could instead rely on LC Police or Capitol Police....

Fox News, June 9; Washington Post, June 4

for Randolph High [<http://www.wiscnews.com/bdc/news/453667>]

A magazine may be pulled from the Randolph (Wis.) High School library for its "sexual content, explicit language, and gang symbols." Principal Tom Erdmann brought a complaint against Vibe magazine after a school board member raised concerns. The school district's library materials review committee met June 3 to discuss the complaint. Erdmann offered teen magazine Gumbo as an alternative to Vibe....

Beaver Dam (Wis.) Daily Citizen, June 4

Montana wants librarians

[<http://www.greatfallstribune.com/article/20090608/BUSINESS/906080304>]

Librarians with master's degrees are an important asset for libraries, but can be hard to come by in Montana. The Montana State Library in Helena is running a media campaign [<http://msl.mt.gov/greatcareer/>] promoting librarianship as a career. In past years, the library has also offered scholarships for Montanans pursuing library graduate degrees. Part of the shortage stems from the lack of an MLS degree program in the state....

Great Falls (Mont.) Tribune, June 8

Add social work to your résumé;

[<http://www.tampabay.com/news/humaninterest/article1008244.ece>]

Harsh reality has turned librarians into real, if largely unsung, heroes of the recession. Take mild-mannered David Stoner. Trained to help adults discover the trial of Socrates and 6th-graders track the Oregon Trail, he now spends half his time in the trenches of a battered economy. As director of adult services for the Clearwater (Fla.) Public Library System, his job is far more urgent—helping people who need jobs, food stamps, or Medicaid....

St. Petersburg (Fla.) Times, June 8

How Twitter will change the way we live

[<http://www.time.com/time/business/article/0,8599,1902604-1,00.html>]

Robin Twomey writes: “As millions of devotees have discovered, Twitter turns out to have unsuspected depth. In part this is because hearing about what your friends had for breakfast is actually more interesting than it sounds. The technology writer Clive Thompson calls this ‘ambient awareness.’ But the most fascinating thing about Twitter is not what it’s doing to us. It’s what we’re doing to it.”...

Time, June 5

Google’s eyes are everywhere

[<http://sanfrancisco.bizjournals.com/sanfrancisco/stories/2009/06/01/daily22.html>]

A June 1 University of California, Berkeley, report (PDF file

[http://www.knowprivacy.org/report/KnowPrivacy_Final_Report.pdf]) shows that most internet users don’t understand website privacy policies and that major online businesses like Google freely gather data and share it with affiliated businesses via loopholes in those policies. Sites with the most web bugs were for blogging—Blogspot and Typepad were numbers 1 and 2 on the list in March, and Blogger was number 4. Google itself was number 3....

San Francisco Business Times, June 2

Pitt director helps to shape academic libraries’ future

[http://www.pittsburghlive.com/x/pittsburghtrib/news/pittsburgh/s_628571.html]

Rush Miller (right), director of the University of Pittsburgh library system, has transformed not only his school’s library but also the future of research libraries. Miller and his colleagues have digitized tens of thousands of images, forged relationships with about 25 libraries in Asia and Africa that include document and staff exchanges, and worked to develop similar programs with six Latin American countries by partnering with the University of Texas Libraries....

Pittsburgh (Pa.) Tribune-Review, June 8

Rapid City hospital library closes

[<http://www.rapidcityjournal.com/articles/2009/06/09/news/local/doc4a2dc49ab8929495705495.txt>]

Medical librarian Pat Hamilton is out of a job as Rapid City (S.D.)

Regional Hospital transitions to a self-help electronic medical library for internal use only. For the past 24 years, Hamilton and her staff of volunteers offered medical library resources to doctors, hospital employees, and medical students. The library’s consumer health section also was available to the general public to do research on their medical conditions. Those materials have been donated to the Rapid City Public

Library....

Rapid City (S.D.) Journal, June 9

archives to go to Denver Public Library

[http://www.denverpost.com/search/ci_12549351]

Less than four months after the Rocky Mountain News published its final edition, its parent company is negotiating agreements to ensure responsible stewardship of the newspaper's archives and artifacts. The E.W. Scripps Company is finalizing an arrangement with the Denver Public Library, which would assume ownership of the newspaper's clipping files, microfilm reels, and archives. A similar agreement is underway with the Colorado Historical Society, which would acquire other artifacts and artwork....

Denver Post, June 9

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Tech Talk

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The Palm Pre is here [<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2338901,00.asp>]

Sascha Segan writes: “ —and it's even worth switching to Sprint for. The Pre is the start of something genuinely new: Palm's webOS, an innovative operating system that has benefited by what the company has learned from Apple's smartphone successes. More webOS phones are coming this year, so if the Pre doesn't quite do it for you, hang in there.”

Watch David Pogue's video review

[<http://video.nytimes.com/video/2009/06/04/technology/personaltech/1194840704535/palm-pre-obsession.html>] (3:08)....

PC Magazine, June 4; New York Times, June 4

[<http://www.timebridge.com/home.php>]Online alternatives to Google

Calendar [http://news.cnet.com/8301-17939_109-10255636-2.html]

Don Reisinger writes: “I'm a Google Calendar user. It's easy to use. And for the most part, it helps keep the schedules of individual users organized. But one of its shortcomings is in scheduling meetings. In my experience, it just isn't nearly as advanced as it should be when it comes to things like arranging meetings among a group of people in various time slots. So I've decided to venture out in search of online applications for scheduling. Some are better than others, but many are worth trying out.”...

Webware, June 4

[<http://bighugelabs.com/flickr/wallpaper.php>]Top 10 wallpaper tools and tweaks [<http://lifehacker.com/5281179/top-10-wallpaper-tools--tweaks>]

Kevin Purdy writes: “A good wallpaper provides a pleasant backdrop to productivity. A great wallpaper changes your whole computer experience. See some of the best image sources, software, and usability tweaks we've come across and rolled up for your downloading pleasure.”...

Lifehacker, June 6

The destination web is morphing

[<http://www.davidleeking.com/2009/06/06/the-destination-web-is-morphing-pay>]

-attention/]

David Lee King writes: “Blogs, YouTube, Flickr, Twitter, SlideShare—those sites are created so you don’t have to visit the actual destination page. Instead, through RSS and embedding tools, it’s really pretty easy to subscribe to the content you’re interested in. Your destination isn’t the organization’s website—your destination is your feed reader.”...

David Lee King, June 6

Ten ways to provoke a geek argument

[<http://www.wired.com/geekdad/2009/06/top-10-ways-to-provoke-a-geek-argument/>]

Matt Blum writes: “Geeks, as a general rule, are pretty easy-going. We like to think things through, so passionate confrontations aren’t commonplace for us. When we get well and properly provoked, though, watch out! We won’t stop talking until every last point that we can think of has been made at least twice. So, what do you say to provoke a geek? Glad you asked!”...

GeekDad, June 9

Why there are no color e-books yet

[http://www.wired.com/gadgetlab/2009/06/blackandwhite_ebooks/]

Almost every e-book reader on the market has a black-and-white display. Most can’t display more than a handful of different shades of gray. The hitch is that color e-ink technologies aren’t anywhere near ready for prime time. Amazon chief Jeff Bezos recently told shareholders that a Kindle with a color screen is “multiple years” away. At a recent DisplayWeek conference in San Antonio, Texas, electronic-display manufacturer E Ink showed off prototypes of its color screen (above)....

Gadget Lab, June 9

How to buy a Blu-ray player

[<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2346615,00.asp>]

Robert Heron writes: “Video from traditional DVDs is made up of fewer than 350,000 pixels, while 1080p HD video is composed of over two million. So if you want sublime, high-resolution detail from your disc-based movies and TV shows, you have to go Blu-ray. The latest crop of players offer much faster disc-handling speeds and more robust multimedia features than previous models, and the players cost only about \$300. But there are still a lot of choices out there. Here’s what you need to consider when shopping for a Blu-ray player.”...

PC Magazine, May 7

Publishing

Romance novels thrive in tough times

[<http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5iXbaifSYkXBs6dunRGLBJeIgKnFQD98FDNJO0>]

With an out-of-work husband and two children to support, Christine Mead needs a cheap—and uplifting—break from life. So lately she’s been escaping into sweet and heartening stories of love and passion,

where heroines overcome insurmountable obstacles to find their happiness.
Romance novels, she said, are “a distraction from not knowing what’s
going to happen next.”...
Associated Press, June 5

18 reasons why modern literature is struggling
[http://www.wired.com/beyond_the_beyond/2009/05/eighteen-challenges-in-contemporary-literature]
Author Bruce Sterling lists 18 challenges to contemporary literature’s
survival, from the failure of intellectual-property systems and the
destabilization of book distribution to the rise of algorithms and social
media....
Beyond the Beyond, May 30

The newspaper suicide pact
[http://xark.typepad.com/my_weblog/2009/06/the-newspaper-suicide-pact.html]
Dan Conover writes: “I think I’ll remember last week as the moment when I
finally knew, with a certainty approaching fatigue, that the newspaper
industry—the business and passion that both shaped and warped me over the
past 20 years—had chosen ritual suicide. The choice appears grimly
reached and irrevocable. The issue is ‘paid content.’ That’s the generic
term. I consider it a euphemism for an entire suite of frustrations and
furies that have been boiling out of my former profession since its
once-invincible business model began its final slide to the deep in
2008.”...
Xark, June 3

Top 10 longest novels in the English language
[<http://listverse.com/2009/06/06/top-10-longest-novels-in-the-english-language/>]
msulli22 writes: “Compiling this list ended up being much more complex
than one would think a list of longest books ever should be. Here are the
various parameters I decided on: I included only published, not
self-published, works; I used word count, not number of pages, as the
measure of length; and I included only books originally written in
English, since it is easier to achieve a higher word count in some
languages than others.”...
List Universe, June 6

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[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

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Actions & Answers

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Should libraries charge for services?
[<http://librarygarden.blogspot.com/2009/06/freemium-or-should-libraries-charge-for.html>]
Karen Klapperstuck writes: “Who doesn’t like to get something for free?
Whether we are talking about giveaways at a restaurant opening or free

information on the internet, everyone loves the idea of getting something for free. A marketing strategy and business model that relates to this idea is the concept of 'freemium.' How does the freemium model apply to libraries?"...

Library Garden, June 2

[http://slisapps.sjsu.edu/wikis/faculty/putnam/index.php/LIS_Publications_Wiki]Resources for librarians who write

[<http://slisgroups.sjsu.edu/alumni/newsletter/09Spring/alumnewsspring09.htm#article5>]

Looking for the best place to publish your next paper? Wondering where you can find a community of writers to chat with? Self-help is online, and so are the communities. Online resources from a "Publishing for the Profession" class that lecturer Laurie Putnam has taught at the San Jose State University SLIS since 2004 are now available to all.

Resources include a wiki

[http://slisapps.sjsu.edu/wikis/faculty/putnam/index.php/LIS_Publications_Wiki] of potential places to publish and a set of internet bookmarks

[<http://delicious.com/LibraryWriting>] on writing, editing, and publishing topics....

SJSU SLIS Alumni Association Newsletter, Spring

Seattle group transforms boys into lifelong readers

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

Boys Read.org is an organization of parents, educators, librarians, mentors, authors, and booksellers dedicated to making boys lifelong readers. Periodically, they feature an extraordinary author on their home page. Currently, they have selected Watt Key's Alabama Moon and Fran Cannon Slayton's When the Whistle Blows as summer reading picks....

BoysRead.org

25 ways for libraries to support book groups

[<http://bookgroupbuzz.booklistonline.com/2009/06/05/25-ways-for-libraries-to-support-book-groups/>]

Neil Hollands writes: "Libraries need to recognize book group readers as one of their core audiences, a population that deserves 'extra-mile' service. Here's my list of 25 ways that a library can support book groups. If you're a librarian, consider adding one or two of the practices from this list to your repertoire."...

Book Group Buzz, June 5

Ten university-press directors back free access

[http://chronicle.com/wiredcampus/index.php?id=3811&utm_source=wc&utm_medium=en]

In a move that puts them at odds with the official stance of the Association of American University Presses, a group of university-press directors issued a position statement June 4 that endorses "the free access to scientific, technical, and medical journal articles no later than 12 months after publication." Public access has come under threat from a bill, the Fair Use in Research Works Act, sponsored by Rep. John Conyers Jr. (D-Mich.)....

Chronicle of Higher Education, June 5

DTV Transition Day on Friday

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=3012>]

The national switch from analog to digital broadcast will take place Friday, June 12. You may get questions from people wondering how to prepare or whether they are ready. For questions and assistance, individuals may call 1-888-225-5322....

District Dispatch, June 9

100 tips for office-friendly workouts

[<http://www.mastersofhealthcare.com/blog/2009/100-tips-and-tricks-to-sneak-in-a-work-out-at-work/>]

The benefits of exercise go beyond maintaining a trim physique. A fit lifestyle that also incorporates healthy eating clears your focus, boosts energy, and helps you deal with stress in a more balanced, positive way. And if you can sneak in extra exercises while you're at work, you'll be much better equipped to deal with all the negativity and chaos that's thrown your way. Here are 100 tips and tricks to stay fit at work....

Masters of Healthcare, June 8

ARL: Don't sign nondisclosure clauses

[<http://www.arl.org/news/pr/nondisclosure-5june09.shtml>]

The Association of Research Libraries board of directors voted May 22 in support of a resolution that strongly encourages its member libraries to refrain from signing agreements with publishers or vendors, either individually or through consortia, that include nondisclosure or confidentiality clauses. In addition, the board encourages its members to share, upon request from other libraries, information contained in these agreements for licensing content, licensing software, or other tools, and for digitization contracts with third-party vendors....

Association of Research Libraries, June 5

OCLC policy: What is the question?

[<http://kcoyle.blogspot.com/2009/06/oclc-policy.html>]

Karen Coyle writes: "I have a difficult time understanding the discussion around the OCLC WorldCat Record Use Policy

[<http://www.oclc.org/worldcat/catalog/policy/policy.htm>]. At least one reason for my confusion is that I have yet to see an explanation of the problem that the policy is attempting to address. The recent talk by Jennifer Younger, on the initial recommendations of the WorldCat record-use policy review board, left me with the same uncertainty: If this is the answer, then what is the question?"...

Coyle's InFormation, June 9

[http://www.logosdictionary.org/pls/dictionary/new_dictionary.index_p]Translation resources on the web

[<http://www.acrl.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/publications/crlnews/2009/jun/translation.cfm>]

Rebecca A. Martin and Sarah McHone-Chase write: "Both professional translators and competent amateurs need first-rate resources to select the exact word or phrase in context. There are many free websites that allow educated nonprofessionals to produce quality translations, if they are willing to dig into the wealth of the internet and create their own set of tools. The following sites, listed here in English, serve as

gateways to precise multilingual dictionaries and glossaries, as well as directories with access to professional tools.”...

College and Research Libraries News 70, no. 6 (June)

Seventh annual National Recording Registry additions

[<http://www.loc.gov/today/pr/2009/09-108.html>]

Librarian of Congress James H. Billington named June 9 the 25 new additions to the National Recording Registry as part of LC’s efforts to ensure that the nation’s aural history is not lost or forgotten. Among the selections are Marian Anderson’s recital at the Lincoln Memorial in 1939 (right); the sounds of the ivory-billed woodpecker in a Louisiana swamp forest; Winston Churchill’s “Sinews of Peace” speech at Westminster College in Fulton, Missouri; and the original cast recording of West Side Story....

Library of Congress, June 9

U.S. Copyright Office adjusts fees

[<http://www.loc.gov/today/pr/2009/09-111.html>]

The U.S. Copyright Office in the Library of Congress is amending its fees for copyright services. Thanks to cost-savings achieved through increased office automation, some fees will remain the same or decrease. Other fees—mostly for services requiring manual labor—will rise. The proposed fee for filing a copyright application online remains \$35, but the new fee for paper applications will be \$65, an increase of \$20, effective August 1....

Library of Congress, June 3

23 elements of sharable blog posts

[<http://www.chrisbrogan.com/23-essential-elements-of-sharable-blog-posts/>]

Chris Brogan writes: “What makes a blog post something worthy of links? What makes a blog post something that people will send around to their friends? If you’re looking to find some kind of value and impact in your blog as a communication tool, it might be useful to know what makes a post shareable, versus those posts that people read and forget. Here are my ideas on what might work.”...

Chris Brogan, June 8

FSU aids public libraries with hurricane preparedness

[http://www.fsu.com/pages/2009/05/29/hurricane_preparedness_for_libraries.html]

With the arrival of hurricane season on June 1, Florida’s public libraries have a vital role to play in helping their communities prepare for and recover from hurricanes and other severe storms. Florida State University’s Information Use Management and Policy Institute at the College of Information has unveiled a new website [<http://www.ii.fsu.edu/hurricanes/>] that will help libraries meet the challenge. The project brings together emergency response agencies, the Florida State Library and Archives, the Lyrasis library network, and Florida’s libraries to share resources and hard-won wisdom....

Florida State University, May 29

ABC closes its News Research Center

[http://www.mediabistro.com/webnewser/connected/abc_news_launches_digital_research_center_eight_jobs_cut_118192.asp]

ABC News is shuttering its News Research Center and converting it into a digital research center. The move will mean the loss of eight jobs. In a June 4 email to staff, news president David Westin wrote, "Today, many of the research tools we use are available online. Our extensive, hard-copy library filled with periodicals and other materials is no longer necessary in the digital age." ABC has hired the consulting firm Library Associates to develop a digital research center....

WebNewser, June 4

A library-themed Ben & Jerry's flavor?

[<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=88574048291>]

Andy Woodworth, a librarian at the Bordentown branch of the Burlington County (N.J.) Library System, set up a Facebook page June 7 advocating the creation of a library-themed Ben & Jerry's ice cream flavor. The logic? Libraries are awesome. Ben & Jerry's ice cream is tasty. Therefore, a library-flavored Ben & Jerry's would be tasty awesome. Suggested flavors include Gooney Decimal System, Sh-sh-sh-Sherbet, and Cookie Bookie. Some 333 people have joined so far....
People for a library-themed Ben & Jerry's flavor!

More on the Tyldesley Diary damage

[<http://www.tyldesley.co.uk/TyldesleyDiary.html>]

Peter Tyldesley writes: "It's now June 2009 and more information is available than when The Times first reported in 2007 that the manuscript of the Tyldesley Diary had been extensively damaged while in the custody of the British Library. At some point between 2005 and 2007 an employee of the British Library, whom I shall refer to as P, seriously damaged the Tyldesley Diary, a Jacobite manuscript belonging to me but lodged for safekeeping with the library."...

Tyldesley Family History

British Library raises restrictive copyright fears

[<http://www.iwr.co.uk/information-world-review/news/2243771/british-library-raises>]

The British Library has launched a campaign to ensure copyright issues in research and education are reflected in any legislation or rules resulting from recent government initiatives. Chief Executive Lynne Brindley said that just as technology was giving greater access to books and other creative works, new restrictions threatened to lock away digital content in a way that would never be countenanced for printed material....

Information World Review, June 9

First 979 ISBNs assigned to France

[http://www.bisg.org/isbn-13/979_announcement.html]

The first 979-prefixed ISBN registration group element, 979-10, has been assigned to the Paris-based French National ISBN Agency, AFNIL, according to the International ISBN Agency. The global book industry is encouraged to pay attention to this news: It will lead to the appearance of the first 979-prefix ISBNs in the international book supply chain....

Book Industry Study Group, June 2

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zc3wMrnQCZU>] Celebrities step up for New York Public Library

[<http://www.artsjournal.com/criticaldifference/2009/06/celebs-step-up-for-the-nyp.html>]

Facing funding cutbacks that would drastically reduce its services, the New York Public Library is in the midst of a fierce campaign [<http://www.nypl.org/donate/>] to articulate its value to the community. That effort now gets a serious shot in the arm from video testimonials by celebs including Amy Tan, Barbara Walters, Malcolm Gladwell, Bette Midler, Nora Ephron, Bill Irwin, Mike Nichols, Ellen Burstyn, Colson Whitehead, Tim Gunn, and Jeff Daniels. It's unlikely that many other libraries could round up a similar roster....

Critical Difference, June 3; YouTube, June 3

[<http://www.thanklga.org/video-cutting-lga/>]Libraries: An integral part of the community
[<http://themwordblog.blogspot.com/2009/06/libraries-are-integral-part-of.html>]

Nancy Dowd writes: "This fantastic video [<http://www.thanklga.org/video-cutting-lga/>] (2:50) from Minnesota talks about the impact of cutting LGA (local community funding) and places libraries right there with firefighters. This is what OCLC's report meant when they said we needed to demonstrate how libraries are an integral part of the community infrastructure and a tough but essential tax cost."...

The M Word: Marketing for Libraries, June 9; Thank LGA, Apr. 9

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9CFZcTUTXbg>]Saddleback Valley protest
[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9CFZcTUTXbg>]
Library staff, kids, and supporters protest the job cuts (3:20) outside a June 9 board of directors meeting at Saddleback Valley Unified School District in southern Orange County, California. After statewide voters rejected ballot measures in May that would have restored funding for schools, the district board met to consider shuttering its libraries and computer labs, laying off 100 teachers, and eliminating nearly half its high-school guidance counselors....
YouTube, June 10

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

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[<http://www.r2library.com/public/default.aspx>]

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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. Closing Session speaker:

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/2009/specialevents.cfm#opening>] Steve Lopez, Los Angeles Times columnist and author of *The Soloist*, will speak July 14, 8–9 a.m.

[<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2715>]

New Jersey-born siblings Kevin, Joe, and Nick Jonas are stars of both stage and screen. The Grammy-nominated Jonas Brothers

[<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2715>] have released four albums and won an American Music Award for Breakthrough Artist. Now they are featured on this new ALA celebrity READ poster. NEW! From ALA Graphics.

In this issue

June/July 2009

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

Summertime in Chicago

Prescription for Financial Recovery

Librarians As Writers

Licenses and Legalities

Career Leads from

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

Executive Director,

[<http://joblist.ala.org/modules/jobseeker/controller.cfm?scr=jobdetail&jobid=13240>] Fayetteville (Ark.) Public Library. This single-facility library system is located in the stunningly beautiful and LEED–Silver certified Blair Library, a 90,000-square-foot facility that opened in 2004. The Board of Trustees seeks applicants who have a passion for leading a truly customer-centered public organization; a commitment to maintaining a desired and supportive work environment that values the input and expertise of the library’s very talented staff; and experience with policy development, planning, accounting and budgeting, fundraising, facilities management, library advocacy, media relations, marketing, supervision, quality improvement, and public relations....

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

[http://twitter.com/ALA_JobLIST]

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

Digital Library of the Week

[http://digital.uwyo.edu/thumbs.cfm?size=access&img=ah004379.jpg&collection=ah_project]

The Wyoming Memory Portal [<http://www.wyomingmemory.org/>] brings the histories of Wyoming to life through a virtual gateway to the state's rich collections of manuscripts, books, photographs, documents, newspapers, maps, audio, video, and other resources. These sources document Wyoming's past from prehistory through the present. Collections and exhibits are provided by archives, libraries, historical societies, museums, governments, organizations, and individuals from throughout Wyoming. the site is hosted by the University of Wyoming Libraries. One collection includes images from the 1920s and 1930s of Charles J. Belden's Pitchfork Ranch near Meeteetse, Wyoming. Photographs include depictions of everyday life on the ranch, raising antelopes, dude ranching, and Belden's family members.

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 thought that leads me to contemplate with dread the erasure of other voices, of unwritten novels, poems whispered or swallowed for fear of being overheard by the wrong people, outlawed languages flourishing underground, essayists' questions challenging authority never being posed, unstaged plays, cancelled films—that thought is a nightmare. As though a whole universe is being described in invisible ink.”

—Author Toni Morrison, speaking at an event [<http://www.guardian.co.uk/books/2009/jun/05/toni-morrison-sacredness-censorship>] in New York to launch the National Coalition Against Censorship's new initiative, the Free Speech Leadership Council. The Guardian (U.K.), June 5.

[<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. Is the Newbery Medal really the oldest award that ALA gives? What about selected lists of books for different ages?

A. The Newbery Medal

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/alsc/awardsgrants/bookmedia/newberymedal/aboutnewbery/aboutnewbery.cfm>] was first awarded in 1922, making it the oldest continuously given award of ALA. The second-oldest award is the Oberly Award,

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/awards/oberlyaward.cfm>] first presented in 1924 as the “Oberly Memorial Prize.” The Best Books for Young Adults

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/yalsa/booklistsawards/bestbooksya/bbyahome.cfm>] list has been published nearly regularly on an annual basis since July 1931. The list of Notable Children’s Books

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/alsc/awardsgrants/childrensnotable/notablechibooks/index.cfm>] has been around since 1940; and RUSA’s list of Notable Books for Adults

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/rusa/awards/notablebooks/index.cfm>] has been going strong since 1944. From the ALA Professional Tips wiki [http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Historical_ALA_Awards].

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

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/publications/crlnews/2009/jun/index.cfm>]

North Carolina State University Head of Access and Delivery Service Mary Carmen Chimato explains how an economic crisis can improve your management skills

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/publications/crlnews/2009/jun/economiccrisis.cfm>] in the June 2009 issue

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/publications/crlnews/2009/jun/index.cfm>] of College and Research Libraries News.

Calendar

July 10:
Google Analytics Workshop,

[<http://www.arl.org/news/pr/google-analytics-6may09.shtml>] Hyatt Regency, Chicago. Sponsored by the Association of Research Libraries.

July 20–24:

Educause Institute Learning Technology Leadership Program,
[http://net.educause.edu/content.asp?SECTION_ID=430] Hilton Burlington, Vermont.

July 31–

Aug. 2:

PulpFest 2009, [<http://www.pulpfest.com/>] Ramada Plaza Hotel and Convention Center, Columbus, Ohio.

Aug. 4–7:

The Annual Conference on Distance Learning and Teaching,
[<http://www.uwex.edu/disted/conference/index.cfm>] Monona Terrace Convention Center, Madison, Wisconsin.

Aug. 6:

Granite State Book and Ephemera Fair, [<http://www.flamingoeventz.com/>] Event Center at C.R. Sparks, Bedford, New Hampshire.

Aug. 6–7:

Serving Diverse Populations,
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/pla/plaevents/cplacourses/diversepopulations.cfm>] Houston, Texas. Certified Public Library Administrator course sponsored by PLA.

Aug. 8–9:

Arkansas Book and Paper Show, [<http://www.arkansasbooks.com/>] Jacksonville.

Aug. 23–25:

Salford Data Mining Conference, [<http://salforddatamining.com/>] Hard Rock Hotel, San Diego.

Sept. 8–11:

International Conference for Digital Libraries and the Semantic Web,
[<http://www.icsd-conference.org/>] University of Trento, Italy.

Sept. 9:

Annual National Conference on Citizenship,
[http://www.ncoc.net/index.php?tray=content_blog&tid=top52&cid=358]
Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. “Sustainable Impact: A Civic Return on Investment.”

Sept. 11–13:

Association for Rural and Small Libraries,
[<http://arsl.pbworks.com/f/2009+Conference+-+Jan09+Invitation.pdf>] Annual Conference, Park Vista Hotel, Gatlinburg, Tennessee. “Keeping Your Head While Serving the Community.”

Sept. 16–17:

Planning and Management of Buildings,

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

Sept. 20:
Maine Book and Paper Show, [<http://www.flamingoeventz.com/>] Wyndham
Portland Airport Hotel, Portland.

Sept. 21–26:
West Texas Book and Music Festival,
[http://www.abilenetx.com/apl/book_music_fest.html] Abilene.

Oct. 2–3:
Santa Fe Antiquarian Book Show, [<http://www.santafebookshow.com/>] El
Museo Cultural, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Oct. 7–10:
Internet Research 10.0, [<http://ir10.aoir.org/>] Hilton Milwaukee City
Center, Wisconsin. "Internet: Critical;"

Oct. 10–11:
Seattle Antiquarian Book Fair and Book Arts Show,
[<http://www.seattlebookfair.com/>] Seattle Center Exhibition Hall.

Oct. 19–20:
Marketing,
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/pla/plaevents/cplacourses/marketing.cfm>]
Cleveland, Ohio. Certified Public Library Administrator course sponsored
by PLA.

Oct. 19–22:
National Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums Conference,
[<http://tribalconference.org/>] Portland, Oregon.

Oct. 27–28:
Fundraising,
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/pla/plaevents/cplacourses/fundraising.cfm>]
m] Kansas City, Missouri. Certified Public Library Administrator course
sponsored by PLA.

Nov. 6–11:
American Society for Information Science and Technology,
[<http://www.asis.org/Conferences/AM09/am09cfp.html>] Annual Meeting,
Vancouver, British Columbia.

Nov. 12–13: Management of Technology,
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/pla/plaevents/cplacourses/technology.cfm>]
] Mountlake Terrace, Washington. Certified Public Library Administrator
course sponsored by PLA.

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

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American Libraries Direct

AL Direct is a free electronic newsletter emailed every Wednesday to personal members of the American Library Association [<http://www.ala.org>] and subscribers.

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The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | June 17, 2009

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

american
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BUYERS GUIDE

U.S. & World News

[Pages stolen from rare books at University of Kansas](#)

Six rare books have been vandalized in recent weeks at the University of Kansas Watson Library in Lawrence; the library estimates the cost of the loss at \$5,000. Plates, maps, and other artwork were removed from the volumes, which date back as far as the early 1800s. An 1887 book on Julius Caesar and a volume from the East Asian collection were found in a third-floor rest room May 28 with pages missing....



American Libraries Online, June 17; *Lawrence (Kans.) Journal-World*, June 12

[Peoria expansion complicated by 19th-century cemetery](#)

Discovery of human remains at the site of an 18,000-square-foot expansion at Peoria (Ill.) Public Library's Lincoln branch may add as much as \$500,000 to the \$5.5-million construction cost. The branch was built on the site of a city cemetery that closed in 1875. Midwest Archaeological Research Services has uncovered 93 suspected human burial sites, and estimates that as many as 120 graves could be within the construction zone....

American Libraries Online, June 17

ALA News

[ALA to partner in White House volunteer effort](#)

ALA, along with a host of other nonprofit organizations, will participate in United We Serve, a national effort launched by President Obama to engage more Americans in serving their communities this summer. Libraries will play a major role in this initiative, which was [announced](#) (3:04) by the President June 17. ALA and the White House are encouraging libraries to post volunteer opportunities on the [United We Serve website](#). As the



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initiative develops, ALA will make available [resources](#) to assist libraries in conducting volunteer efforts. United We Serve kicks off on June 22 and runs through September 11. The initiative focuses on four key areas: education, health, energy and the environment, and community renewal....

[Christie Hefner will be the Opening Speaker](#)

A passionate advocate of freedom of expression, social justice, and equal rights and opportunities for women, Christie Hefner will speak at the ALA Annual Conference's Opening General Session, July 11. Hefner is a director of the Center for American Progress, a policy research and advocacy organization. Until earlier this year, she served as chairman and CEO of Playboy Enterprises. As an advocate for First Amendment rights, she created the Hugh M. Hefner First Amendment Awards in 1979 to honor individuals who have contributed to free speech in America....



[Library Book Cart Drill Team championships](#)

The fifth annual Library Book Cart Drill Team championship, showcasing library workers performing inspired dance routines with costumes and creatively decorated book carts, will be held July 12 at the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago.



Sponsored by Demco, this year's event features teams from Oak Park (Ill.) Public Library, the entire state of Delaware (above), Baraboo (Wis.) Public Library, University of Pittsburgh, and Des Plaines (Ill.) Public Library....

[A parade of bookmobiles in Chicago](#)

The Office for Literacy and Outreach Services will hold its third annual "Bookmobile Sunday" on July 12 during the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. The event will feature programs, book signings by author Sara Paretsky and others, and a parade of 12 bookmobiles. Authors Peter Laufer and Tom Corwin will launch "Behind the Wheel of a Bookmobile," their three-month-long journey across the United States in a bookmobile filled with donated materials....



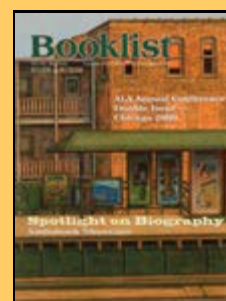
[Media training at Annual Conference](#)

Veteran Chicago broadcaster and media trainer Dave Baum will be hosting a media relations training session during the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago on July 12. Baum will provide tips on how librarians can effectively deliver their key messages and garner favorable media coverage....



[ALA Annual Conference.](#)

Chicago, July 9–15. It's not too late to [register](#) online! New this year is a [Cooking Pavilion](#) that will feature author-chefs performing cooking demonstrations and signing books on the exhibit floor.



Booklist Books for Youth Forum: Celebrating Lincoln.

Celebrate 200 years of Lincoln's legacy at the *Booklist* Books for Youth Forum at Annual Conference, July 10, 8-10 p.m., at the Westin River North, Grand Ballroom. Candace Fleming, Deborah Hopkinson, Jean Feiwel, and Russell Freedman will discuss the stories behind their Lincoln titles, as well as the challenges of creating captivating biographies for children and young adults. *Booklist* YA Editor Gillian Engberg will moderate. **NEW!** **From *Booklist*.**

[Gaming in Libraries online course](#)

ALA has partnered with the Syracuse University School of Information Studies in an experiment to teach a course that is open to both students and the public via YouTube. Throughout June, iSchool Professor Scott Nicholson will teach the IST 600 Gaming in Libraries course in three online spaces: the [Syracuse University website](#), [ALA Connect](#), and the iSchool's online learning management system. Nicholson decided to offer the course to reach public librarians who are interested in incorporating gaming into their libraries....



[Schools, Health, and Libraries Broadband Coalition](#)

ALA joined with representatives of schools, libraries, health care providers, and others June 11 in announcing the launch of the Schools, Health, and Libraries Broadband Coalition, an alliance to promote the deployment of high-capacity broadband facilities to these anchor institutions. The coalition was formed to highlight ([PDF file](#)) the urgent need these organizations have for affordable broadband connections for the 21st century....

[Joseph Janes to discuss future connections](#)

The final installment in ALA President Jim Rettig's [ALA Connections Salons](#) series will be an online discussion with Joseph Janes, associate professor at the information school of the University of Washington and *American Libraries* "Internet Librarian" columnist. Janes will be joined by his students to discuss the future of ALA, libraries, and librarianship. The discussion will take place from 1–2 p.m. Eastern Time, June 19. A tip sheet for OPAL is [online](#)....



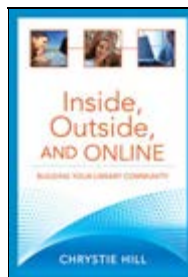
[How to get the best results from a library catalog](#)

ALA Editions has just released [Magic Search: Getting the Best Results from Your Catalog and Beyond](#) by Rebecca S. Kornegay, Heidi E. Buchanan, and Hildegard B. Morgan. Presenting the 467 best-performing Library of Congress Subject Heading subdivisions, this reference answers many of the research questions librarians handle every day. In addition, it provides chapters on discipline-specific subdivisions to hone effective search terms....



[Building your library community](#)

ALA Editions has published [Inside, Outside, and Online: Building Your Library Community](#) by Chrystie Hill. Based on a scan of the community and technology environments within which libraries operate, related literature, and the practical experiences of hundreds of library staff actively building communities through their work, this book provides insights into the essential elements of community building....



[Emerging Leaders solicit career](#)

In this issue

June/July 2009



Summertime in Chicago

Prescription for Financial Recovery

Librarians As Writers

Licenses and Legalities

Career Leads from

ALA JobLIST

[Head of Reference and Instruction](#)

United States Military Academy, West Point, New York. The West Point Library, serving an exceptional undergraduate institution recently rated #14 in *U.S. News and World Report's* list of national liberal arts colleges, seeks a creative, resourceful, and imaginative leader to strengthen the library's reference services and develop a systematic program of research instruction. Applicants should radiate passion for students and the liberal arts, understand and appreciate the scholarship conducted

success stories

ALA Emerging Leaders [Project G](#) (right) is soliciting real stories of how the Office for Human Resource Development and Recruitment has impacted job seekers—new graduates and transitioning career seekers alike—over the past 35 years. If you found the perfect job thorough the ALA Placement Center, located the perfect candidate at a conference, or successfully revamped your résumé with the review service in the Placement Center, [email](#) the group or submit a YouTube video tagged “jumpstartlibrarian.”...



ALA Connect update and schedule

Jenny Levine writes: “If you’re an ALA member, you should have received an email about [ALA Connect](#) on June 16. This is the first time we’ve contacted members directly about this. Initial responses have been positive, and according to Google Analytics, we had more than 2,200 people visit the site that day alone.” Here are some statistics for the first 10 weeks after the official launch and some plans for the next big phase....

ALA Marginalia, June 17

Visiting the NYC Great Stories CLUB

Author Paul Griffin writes: “On June 8, the ALA’s Great Stories CLUB sent me to Crossroads Juvenile Center (right) in Brownsville, Brooklyn. The boys, ranging in age from 11 to 16, are poets, R&B singers, rap artists, memoirists. They dream big. To maintain that kind of hope in confinement is no easy trick. Librarians Anne Lotito and Jessica Fenster-Sparber go all out to introduce the kids to books and authors.”...

Programming Librarian, June 16

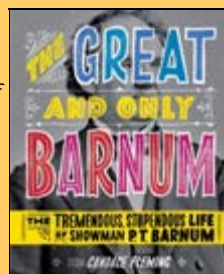


Booklist ONLINE

Featured review: Books for youth

Fleming, Candace. *The Great and Only Barnum: The Tremendous, Stupendous Life of Showman P. T. Barnum*. Sept. 2009. 160p. Random/Schwartz & Wade, hardcover (978-0-375-84197-2).

In this sweeping yet cohesive biography, Fleming so finely tunes Barnum’s legendary ballyhoo that you can practically hear the hucksterism and smell the sawdust. It’s a quintessentially American tale: born poor in 1810, Phineas Taylor Barnum stormed through the 19th century as a small-time pitchman, museum founder, traveling exhibitionist, and finally, circus owner. Along the way he improvised (kick-starting his career with the impulsive purchase of a “161-year-old” slave), misled (a “mermaid” that was no more than creative taxidermy), and persevered through the kind of fiery calamities that would’ve squashed most men....



[Booklist author Daniel Kraus](#)

by our diverse students and faculty, and frame all their work within the goal of cultivating lifelong learners and critical thinkers. As such, we welcome applications from those with a record of inspired teaching, a command of academic reference tools and literature, a solid record of scholarship, and dynamic leadership characterized by the ability to embolden, teach, and empower colleagues....



@ [More jobs...](#)

Digital Library of the Week



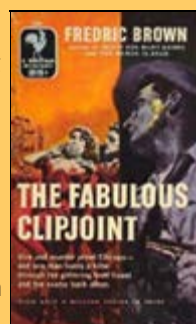
[Summit Memory](#) is an online scrapbook capturing the history of Summit County, Ohio. Administered by the Akron–Summit County Public Library, the site is a county-wide collaborative project with gateways to such collections as Akron Remembers 1968 (above), the Trucking History

Gillian Engberg writes: "Books for Youth Associate Editor Daniel Kraus must need to take a deep breath before answering that ubiquitous icebreaker, 'So, what do you do?' A former librarian and freelance writer, Kraus is also a filmmaker whose six features include several award winners, and *AL Direct* readers will recognize his talents in the web-based author videos and AL Focus videos he has produced. And now, with Delacorte's August release of his debut novel, *The Monster Variations*, Kraus will add 'young adult author' to his long list of professional roles."...



[Literary Chicago quiz](#)

Bill Ott writes: "Here, at long last, is a quiz—not just any quiz, but one that celebrates literary Chicago, a topic that should be of interest to many of the 20,000 librarians who will be here next month to attend ALA's Annual Conference. Chicagoans, of course, enjoy a long and illustrious literary tradition, one that reaches from Theodore Dreiser and Frank Norris through Richard Wright and Ernest Hemingway and on to Saul Bellow and Nelson Algren and on still further to Sandra Cisneros, Sara Paretsky, and many, many others. It's hardly a challenge to match these authors with their titles set in Chicago, but it may prove just a bit harder to combine those pairings with a neighborhood, a landmark, or an event in Chicago history that plays a significant role in each book."...



Booklist, June 1

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

Collection, the Summit County Civil War Collection, the Akron Banknotes Collection, the Firestone and B. F. Goodrich Tire and Rubber Collections, the Doodlebug Train Disaster Collection, and the David P. Campbell Postcard Collection. The project is funded by a grant from the Robert W. Little Foundation. Little (1917–2000) served as a librarian at the Akron-Summit County Public Library for nearly 30 years.

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 library is a focal gathering place for those of us who love books, as well as a point of entry for those who want to get better acquainted with them. It is hard to imagine how scattered computer users can even approximate the library's celebration and promotion of the world of print—it would be akin to tearing down the cathedral and holding the service online."

—Freelance journalist Tim Holt, in an editorial, "Browsing Virtual Libraries?"

Chicago Update

[Five tips for a better ALA conference experience](#)

Steven Bell writes: "It's now mid-June and the ALA Annual Conference will be upon us in no time at all. I'd like to share five ideas for having a better conference experience. I'm certainly [not the first](#) blogger to offer their tips for having a better ALA conference experience, but these tips are based on an experience I had for the first time at the 2008 ALA in Anaheim (no, it didn't involve any Disney characters)."...

*ACRL*og, June 16

[Arts activities in Chicago](#) (PDF file)

ACRL's Art Section has compiled a guide to arts activities taking place during the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. Some of the venues and hosting organizations are well known, while others are more off the beaten path. The guide includes sections on visual arts and museums, gallery districts, architecture and design, music, film, theatre, dance, and arts centers around town....

ACRL Art Section



[The Jazz Showcase](#)

The Jazz Showcase is a famous Chicago jazz club that retains an influential following. Founded in 1947 by Joe Segal, who still owns and runs the venue, it is probably the city's most prestigious jazz club. Now located in Dearborn Station at 806 S. Plymouth Court, the Jazz Showcase will be featuring the Julian Lage Quartet, Typhanie Monique, Zvonimir Tot, and the Mulgrew Miller Trio during Annual Conference....

Jazz Showcase



Used and specialty books in Chicago

Chicago offers some wonderful places for book lovers who want to fill some gaps in their collection. A few of the best are [The Bookworks](#) (3444 N. Clark St.), [Powell's Bookstores](#) (three locations at 1501 E. 57th St., 828 S. Wabash Ave., and 2850 N. Lincoln Ave.), [O'Gara and Wilson](#) (1448 E. 57th St.), [Myopic Books](#) (1564 N. Milwaukee Ave.), the [Abraham Lincoln Book Shop](#) (357 W. Chicago Ave.), [Unabridged Bookstore](#) (3251 N. Broadway), and [India Book House](#) (2541 W. Devon)....



[Rooftop dining](#)

There are at least a half-dozen upper-floor dining perches in Chicago that did not exist a year ago. What makes an ideal outdoor rooftop? A great view is very important, but the space should be attractive in its own right. There must be serious food options; it's not alfresco dining if you can't dine. And it needs to be available. What's not important is whether it's an actual rooftop....

Chicago Tribune, June 11



[Little Brother: The play](#)

Cory Doctorow's best-selling YA novel of techno-geek rebellion, *Little Brother*, has been adapted for the theater by William Massolia and is playing through July 19 at the Athenaeum Theatre, 2936 North Southport Ave., in Chicago. The Griffin Theatre Company is performing. Doctorow himself will be [in the audience](#) for the July 9 performance....

Griffin Theatre Company; Boing Boing, June 17



[International Museum of Surgical Science](#)

The mission of this museum, a division of the International College of Surgeons located at 1524 N. Lake Shore Drive, is to enrich people's lives by enhancing their appreciation and understanding of the history, development, and advances of surgery and related subjects in health and medicine. The museum's four floors are filled with more than 7,000 extraordinary artifacts, as well as paintings and sculptures that interpret primitive and modern healing practices throughout the world....

International Museum of Surgical Science



[The truth about "The Windy City"](#)

Thanks But No Thanks,"
Redding (Calif.) Record Searchlight, June 14.

"Congratulations to the Maumee (Ohio) school system. As a denizen of the 21st century, I was most pleased to learn that it is doing away with school librarians. These antiquated creatures have no place in the modern world. . . .

"Another advantage to losing the librarians is that these remnants of a less enlightened age sometimes tempt students to spend valuable time with recreational reading. This is insane when any book worth its salt has been made into a movie.

"The problem is you have not gone far enough. If the libraries remain, some recalcitrant troublemakers may be tempted to use the books without the aid of librarians."

—Sarcastic letter to the editor by Ann Kisin, "Who Needs Librarians Anyway?" *Toledo (Ohio) Blade*, May 16.



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

Ask the ALA Librarian

Theresa Carter writes: "The Windy City is one of Chicago's most popular and enduring nicknames. But where does the moniker actually come from? Locals and guidebooks are quick to say it's not from the actual wind. Instead, they claim it's from New York complaining about our blustering efforts to bring the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition to Chicago (which we did); more detailed reports specifically reference an editorial by Charles Dana in the *New York Sun* around 1890. Truth is, it's a bit more complex than that." See also [Barry Popik's research](#) on the topic....

The Local Tourist, June 8; The Big Apple, Oct. 11, 2004



Q. Several patrons have come in wanting to donate books and magazines to our library. We cannot accept all of these donations, and they are not all appropriate for our Friends group to sell. Do you have any other resources we can direct them to?

A. The ALA Library has compiled a [list of resources](#) for finding the various groups and organizations that accept book donations for distribution in the United States as well as in countries overseas. For *National Geographic* or other magazines, see these resources: [Donation Programs For Books, Journals and Media](#), a list compiled by the University at Buffalo Health Sciences Library; [United States Book Exchange](#), which, despite its name, accepts and distributes periodicals; and the [Darien Book Aid Plan](#), for the last five years only of *National Geographic*. From the [ALA Professional Tips wiki](#).

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

Division News

[Susan Hornung named ASCLA/RUSA executive director](#)

Susan Hornung will take over as the new executive director of the ASCLA and RUSA divisions. She will attend the Annual Conference in Chicago then officially join ALA on July 27. Hornung is currently the director of knowledge management and the Severson Center at the Alliance for Children and Families in Milwaukee, a position she has held since 1986....



[RUSA preconference on older adults](#)

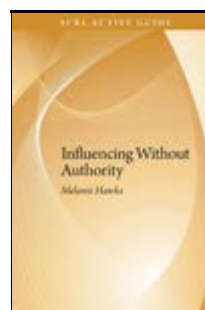
RUSA has released the speaker roster for its upcoming preconference, "A Dialogue With the Aging Network and the Library Community: The New Guidelines on Library and Information Services to Older Adults," at ALA Annual Conference July 10. This one-day event will highlight how libraries are collaborating with national and local organizations that serve older adults and the division's recently revised [Guidelines on Library and Information Services to Older Adults](#)....

[Two ASCLA preconferences](#)

Anyone looking to improve customer service delivery or find sustainable funding options for collaborative digitization projects should act now and register for the fast-filling preconferences offered by ASCLA on July 10 at ALA Annual Conference. The preconferences are half- or full-day workshops presenting skills and knowledge relevant to success in various areas of librarianship....

[ACRL shows how to be influential](#)

ACRL has published a new title, [Influencing Without Authority](#) by Melanie Hawks. The second entry in the ACRL Active Guides series, this book provides guidance for those seeking to gain support for their ideas, developing collaborative relationships, and becoming recognized leaders—regardless of their positions or titles. The ability to influence others is a required workplace skill, yet it is one in which very few people receive education....



[Scholarly Communication 101](#)

ACRL is extending the reach of its "Scholarly Communication 101:

Starting with the Basics" workshop by adding related materials to its popular [toolkit](#). The materials—including short videos, presentation templates, and handouts—were developed for the half-day workshop offered at the ACRL National Conference in Seattle and traveling to five locations around the country this summer....

[Second phase of Kids! @ your library](#)

The Kids! @ your library campaign officially kicks off its second phase July 12 during a program showcasing children's authors at the 2009 ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. Authors Avi, Brian Selznick, Pam Muñoz Ryan, and Sarah Weeks will demonstrate how librarians can successfully present readers' theater in their libraries. New tools are available on ALSC's [Kids! @ your library](#) website....

[Teens' Top Ten downloadable bookmarks](#)

YALSA now offers downloadable bookmarks ([PDF file](#)) featuring the 2009 Teens' Top Ten nominees for librarians to distribute to teens at their libraries. The bookmarks feature the 25 titles nominated for this year's list of favorite books. Teen readers are encouraged to read the nominees throughout the summer, then [vote](#) for their favorite titles starting August 24. The online poll closes on September 18, and winners will be announced in a webcast during Teen Read Week, October 18–24....



[Meet YALSA President Debraski and author Holley](#)

YALSA will host two special events at its booth in the Membership Pavilion at ALA Annual Conference: a meet and greet with President Sarah Cornish Debraski and a book signing with Pam Spencer Holley, editor of the new *Quick and Popular Reads for Teens*. Holley, a YALSA past president and former chair of the Printz Award, will sign copies of her book on July 11....

[Submit your school/public library partnership story](#)

The AASL/ALSC/YALSA Interdivisional Committee on School/Public Library Cooperation is updating its [clearinghouse](#) of information about school/public library cooperative activities. Submit a story using [this form](#), and it will be added to the clearinghouse and possibly shared at upcoming ALA conferences....

ALSC Blog, June 15

Round Table News

[Local-government information preconference](#)

The Government Documents and Maps and Geography round tables are offering a panel discussion about the history and future of local government information resources and services in libraries prior to the ALA Annual Conference. Urban studies experts will suggest ways to cooperate with local governments to disseminate public information and set up engaged citizen forums. The preconference will be held July 10 at the Elizabeth F. Cheney Mansion, followed by an exclusive walking tour of Oak Park sponsored by the Frank Lloyd Wright Home and Studio....

Awards

Calendar

July 19–24:

[International Conference on Human-Computer Interaction](#), Town and Country Resort and Convention Center, San Diego.

July 22:

[RSS for Libraries](#), live online course sponsored by Lyrasis.

July 25–28:

[American Association of Law Libraries](#), Annual Meeting, Walter E. Washington Convention Center, Washington, D.C.

Aug. 5–7:

[Pacific Northwest Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Missoula, Montana. "A Century of Cooperation, a Legacy of Leadership."

Aug. 7:

[Indiana Library Federation](#), Reference Unconference, Bracken Library, Ball State University.

Aug. 9–11:

[Joint Annual Meeting of the Society of American Archivists and the Council of State Archivists](#), Hilton Austin, Texas. "Sustainable Archives."

Sept. 2–9:

[International Conference on Knowledge Management and Knowledge Technologies](#), Graz, Austria.

[Pura Belpré Celebración at Annual Conference](#)

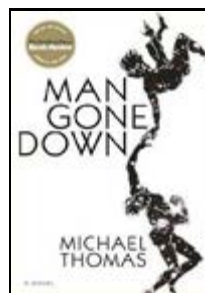
Hundreds will gather this summer for an event celebrating the most influential Latino authors and illustrators of children's literature. The Pura Belpré Celebración will serve as a national backdrop for the presentation of the coveted Pura Belpré Medal, an award that recognizes Latino authors and illustrators of children's literature. The event, to be held at ALA Annual Conference July 12, will include a musical performance by students from Our Lady of Guadalupe Ballet Folklórico (above)....



[First-time novelist wins IMPAC Dublin Literary Award](#)

A debut novelist who says he's never really had a proper job has won the world's richest literary award. American writer Michael Thomas beat authors Philip Roth, Doris Lessing, and Joyce Carol Oates to take the €100,000 (\$138,415 U.S.) IMPAC Dublin prize with his debut novel, *Man Gone Down*. Described by the judging panel as an "extraordinary novel . . . from a writer of enthralling voice and startling insight," Thomas said he'd written it at a time when he was "feeling a little desperate" himself....

The Guardian (U.K.), June 11



[2009 Wales Book of the Year](#)

Deborah Kay Davies won the Wales Book of the Year 2009 award with her debut collection of short stories, *Grace, Tamar, and Laszlo the Beautiful*, beating poet Samantha Wynne-Rhydderch and writer Gee Williams to the £10,000 (\$16,430 U.S.) prize. William Owen Roberts won the Welsh-language prize for his novel *Petrograd*. The winners were announced at a ceremony at St. David's Hotel and Spa in Cardiff Bay on June 15....

BBC Wales, June 15



[Bournemouth University has the most outstanding library team](#)

Bournemouth University won the inaugural *Times Higher Education* Leadership and Management Award for Outstanding Library Team during a June 9 award ceremony in London. The prestigious award recognizes the team's dedication and achievement in providing high-quality service in support of all areas of university activity, including the popular Techno Booths (above). Sarah Bartlett [interviewed](#) the team prior to their win....

Bournemouth University, June 10; Panlibus, June 4



Seen Online

[Libraries lend a hand in the recession](#)

In this *Today Show* segment (4:26), NBC News Correspondent Peter

[Sept. 11–13: Association for Small and Rural Libraries,](#)

Annual Conference, Park Vista Hotel, Gatlinburg, Tennessee. "Keeping Your Head While Serving the Community."

[Sept. 16–17: OCLC Digital Forum West,](#)

Getty Research Institute, Los Angeles. "Convergence: Where Metadata and Access Meet for Digital Discovery and Delivery."

[Sept. 23–26: North Dakota Library Association,](#)

Annual Conference, Days Hotel–Grand Dakota Lodge and Conference Center, Dickinson. "Evolution of the Library."

[Oct. 6–9: Illinois Library Association,](#)

Annual Conference, Peoria.

[Oct. 20–22: Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums,](#)

Red Lion Hotel on the River, Portland, Oregon. "Streams of Language, Memory, and Lifeways."

[Oct. 26–28: Internet Librarian,](#)

Monterey Convention Center, California. "Net Initiatives for Tough Times: Digital Publishing, Preservation, and Practice."

@ [More...](#)

Alexander examines the dichotomy between public libraries' increasing role as a lifeline in economic hard times and decreased funding for libraries. Featured are Nancy Savas, manager of the Germantown branch of the Montgomery County (Md.) Public Libraries, and President Paul LeClerc of the New York Public Library. The ALA Public Information Office suggests [several ways](#) that libraries can help extend the reach of this positive story....

Today Show, June 11; *Visibility @ your library*, June 12



[Attendance up 92% in library career classes](#)

As Baltimore's unemployment rate rose, many people headed to the library. Since the onset of the recession, attendance at the Enoch Pratt Free Library's [career center](#) classes has jumped 92%. The rise in attendance is nearly in sync with the city's rise in unemployment, which came close to doubling between April 2008 and March 2009....

Baltimore Sun, June 14



[Librarians fighting Google's book deal](#)

Critics of Google's book-searching agreement with publishers and authors were cheered last week when antitrust regulators in the Justice Department set their sights on the search giant's publishing deal, demanding more information. "The increased scrutiny on the part of the DOJ tells us that our concerns are resonating far beyond the library community," said Corey Williams, associate director of the ALA Office of Government Relations....

Time, June 16

[New York retains six-day library service](#)

New York City Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg and the city council reached a deal June 15 on a \$59.4-billion budget that would [increase the sales tax](#) by half a percentage point while reducing the city's work force by roughly 2,000 jobs. But the agreement preserves essential core services, including maintaining city-wide, six-day library service—a long-standing council priority. The \$46.5-million restoration of library funding will avoid layoffs, ensure that New Yorkers have access to critically important job-training services, and preserve access to literacy programs and computers....

New York City Council, June 15; *New York Times*, June 15

[Martín Gomez appointed Los Angeles city librarian](#)

Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa appointed Martín Gomez to the top post of city librarian of the Los Angeles Public Library June 11. Gomez will oversee the department's \$129-million budget, 1,100 employees, and the administration of the city's library system. Most recently, Gomez was director of the San Mateo County (Calif.) Library and has served on the ALA Executive Board....

Los Angeles Public Library, June 11



[NARA names Miriam Nisbet as FOIA](#)

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[overseer](#)

Advocates for open government welcomed the appointment June 10 of the first director of a new office at the National Archives and Records Administration that will provide policy guidance to agencies for handling of Freedom of Information Act requests and mediate disagreements about decisions not to grant requests. Miriam Nisbet, who currently works for UNESCO in Paris and served as legislative counsel for the ALA Washington Office from 1999 to 2007, will head the new [Office of Government Information Services](#)....

Federal Computer Week, June 11; *OMB Watch*, June 10



[More school librarians return to Jefferson Parish](#)

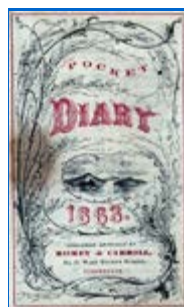
The Jefferson Parish (La.) School Board has restored librarians to seven elementary schools, following through on a promise it made two years ago. In the past 20 years, librarians and arts programs in Jefferson public schools have come and gone, depending on the state of school system finances. But in 2007, Superintendent Diane Roussel and the board began the process of restoring librarians to elementary schools, saying the position was a vital component in student achievement....

New Orleans Times-Picayune, June 11

[Tennessee library digitizes Civil War diary](#)

The University of Tennessee's Special Collections Department has recently completed scanning, digitizing, and [posting online](#) the handwritten Civil War diary of Henry Pippitt, a Union soldier who fought in the 104th Ohio Infantry. The three journals comprise about 320 pages and cover Pippitt's thoughts and activities from September 1862 to June 1865. The entries read like 19th-century Twitter messages, as the comments are usually brief and to the point—and also contain quite a few misspellings....

Knoxville (Tenn.) News, June 10



[Church History Library opens in Salt Lake City](#)

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints unveiled its state-of-the-art Church History Library in downtown Salt Lake City June 11, showing off its climate-controlled storage units, computerized conservation techniques, and priceless artifacts. Church Historian Marlin Jensen showcased some historic items that included an 1835 hymnal, Church President Ezra Taft Benson's post-World War II humanitarian efforts in Europe, and a one-of-a-kind 1852 Book of Mormon translated into French on one side of the page and German on the other....

Salt Lake Tribune, June 12



[Tantalizing traces at Taunton](#)

Representatives from the New England Society of Paranormal Investigators say that while they did pick up some interesting sights and sounds with their equipment after their [investigation](#) (2:33) at the Taunton



(Mass.) Public Library on March 17, there was not enough scientific evidence to say for sure that the building has paranormal activity. The building has housed the library since 1904. The [NESPI team](#) of almost a dozen people set up recording devices around the front desk, stairways, and the former children's area....

Taunton (Mass.) Daily Gazette, June 13; YouTube, May 14

[Bodleian Library storage plan approved](#)

A proposal to build a storage facility in South Marston, Wiltshire, for more than 4 million books from Oxford University's world-famous Bodleian Library was warmly welcomed by councilors at a June 9 planning committee meeting. The new proposal arose after a previous plan to store the books on floodplains surrounding Oxford came under fire for potentially endangering the books and ruining the city's cherished view. Work on the facility will begin in the fall....

Swindon (U.K.) Advertiser, June 10



[Go back to the Top](#)

Tech Talk

[Eight ways to create paperless business cards](#)

Josh Catone writes: "Are you still printing your business card on paper? That is so last year. These days, business cards are going all virtual and that's a good thing. Not only are paperless business cards good for the environment and easier to carry, they're also unlimited—you'll never run out when you're networking at an event or conference. Here are eight ways to build a virtual business card that you can use to send your information."...

Mashable, June 11



[Turn headlines into bar charts](#)

[Backbars](#) is a freely downloadable GreaseMonkey script for your browser that turns the headlines and comments of social network sites into unobtrusive bar charts. For instance, Backbars is able to visually illustrate the votes, digs, views, or users on online services like Reddit, Delicious, Digg, and MetaFilter on their respective webpages. The idea is to provide subtle visual clues to improve the perception of quantitative data....

Information Aesthetics, June 15



[Create highly customized widgets](#)

Ben Parr writes: "[Produle](#) is a flash-based widget-building tool for creating customized embeddable content. Widgets can spread information virally and are easy to add. Though services like



[Widgetbox](#) exist to build them yourself, few allow for as much freedom and customization. The editor is meant for complex and customized use; if you're looking just to stick an RSS feed in a blog, this tool isn't for you. But if you're seeking to create the grand idea in your head, Produle can probably support it."...

Mashable, June 15

[Popular URL shortener Cli.gs hacked](#)



URL-shortening services are ubiquitous these days, so we tend to forget how these systems can be exploited if not properly secured. Cli.gs, the fourth most popular URL-shortening service on Twitter, was hacked. Sometime late June 14 or early June 15, a hacker exploited a security hole that allowed the attacker to redirect around 2.2-million cli.gs URLs to a single domain name, freedomblogging.com....

TheNextWeb, June 16

[Acrobat.com challenges Google Docs](#)

Chris Foresman writes: "Adobe has finally (well, sort of) taken the beta tag off of [Acrobat.com](#), shedding more light on Adobe's software as a service strategy first revealed with Photoshop Express. Along with online PDF creation tools, file sharing, online meeting, and collaboration, Acrobat.com also includes Adobe's Buzzword word processor for online and collaborative document creation. Adobe is also giving a first peek at the less-cleverly-named Tables spreadsheet and Presentation apps. The move seems like a shot across Google's bow."...

Ars Technica, June 15



Publishing

[Is Amazon taking over the book business?](#)

Lev Grossman and Andrea Sachs write: "Amazon has diversified itself so comprehensively over the past five years that it's hard to say exactly what it is anymore. Amazon has a presence in almost every niche of the book industry. It runs a print-on-demand service (BookSurge) and a self-publishing service (CreateSpace). It sells e-books and an e-device to read them on (the Kindle). And now there's Amazon Encore, which makes Amazon a print publisher too."...

Time, June 22



[Six lessons one campus learned about e-books](#)

Jeffrey R. Young writes: "Northwest Missouri State University nearly became the first public university last year to deliver all of its textbooks electronically. Then the university ran a pilot study with the Sony Reader, a device much like the Kindle, and officials learned some sobering lessons about electronic books. Based on my talks with professors, students, and administrators at Northwest Missouri,

here are six lessons for any university considering assigning digital textbooks.”...

Chronicle of Higher Education, June 12

[Seth Godin's textbook rant](#)

Seth Godin writes: “I’ve spent the last few months looking at marketing textbooks. I’m assuming that they are fairly representative of textbooks in general, and since this is a topic I’m interested in, it seemed like a good area to focus on. As far as I can tell, assigning a textbook to your college class is academic malpractice. This industry deserves to die. It has extracted too much time and too much money and wasted too much potential. We can do better. A lot better.”...

Seth Godin's Blog, June 14

[Alexander Street's 50-state history giveaway](#)

Alexander Street Press is giving away 50 subscriptions to its [American History in Video](#) database—one in every state. In return, they are asking for thoughtful and specific feedback three times during the year from the 50 libraries as an advisory board, in order to find out how libraries and publishers can best collaborate to build patron awareness of American history and other topics. Forms submitted by librarians and library staff through the July 4 will be considered....

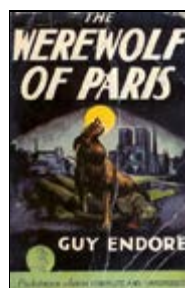
Alexander Street Press



[What people were reading in the Great Depression](#)

Various incarnations of the publishing industry trade magazine *Publishers Weekly* have been around since 1852, and old issues are a marvel to skim through because they preserve the reading worlds of yesterday in amber. The July 1933 issue declares that “the reading of books has increased throughout the Depression as shown by library circulation records.” At a quick glance, the popular books Americans were reading in the early 1930s look a lot like the mass market offerings of 2009....

Fresh Air, NPR, June 15



Actions & Answers

[The seven most impressive libraries of all time](#)

The library has played a key role in the dissemination of information and knowledge throughout history. Long before the days of Google Book Search and the Amazon Kindle was the library, a place of learning and advancement. Here are seven of the most impressive libraries in history, places of intrigue and inspiration....

The News in Print, June 4



[Calculator for valuing health library resources](#)

How much would it cost to replace your library services on the retail market? Calculate what it would cost to buy library services—at a bookstore, through pay-per-view for articles, from an information broker—if you and your library weren't there. The National Network of Libraries of Medicine MidContinental Region has put together a calculator that allows health libraries to establish their value. The site also has a [cost-benefit and return-on-investment](#) calculator....

National Network of Libraries of Medicine MidContinental Region

Cost of Resource or Service	Value of Resources or Services
125	\$ 0.00
35	\$ 0.00
35	\$ 0.00
15	\$ 0.00
45	\$ 0.00
75	\$ 0.00
30	\$ 0.00

[A guide to the Google Book Search amended agreement](#)

ALA, ACRL, and the Association of Research Libraries have released "A Guide for the Perplexed Part II: The Amended Google-Michigan Agreement" ([PDF file](#)). The University of Michigan, one of the original participating libraries, recently entered into an [amended agreement](#) to govern its relationship with Google if the proposed settlement is approved by the judge. This guide provides an overview to help librarians better understand the revised terms....

District Dispatch, June 17

[The Librarian: A Twitter story](#)

This is Scott Douglas's 32nd "Dispatch from a Public Librarian," published in McSweeney's. It is composed in Tweets, from eight hours ago to one minute ago, like this one: "When people ask what I do at work, I can tell them I help mentally challenged people stalk celebrities. How can I not like this job?"...

McSweeney's Internet Tendency, June 12

[A day in the cloud](#)

On June 24, Google Apps and Virgin America invite the brave and the willing, the airborne and the earthbound, to embark on a "Day in the Cloud Challenge," the first online scavenger hunt played simultaneously in the air and everywhere else. Wherever you are, simply sign up, arm yourself with a powerful array of Google Apps, and you can point and click your way towards glory—and an enticing [prize pack](#). A [tutorial](#) and [practice game](#) are available....

The Day in the Cloud Challenge



[Linnaeus invented the index card](#)

The Swedish naturalist and physician Carl Linnaeus (1707–1778)—the father of modern taxonomy—has been described as a "pioneer of information retrieval." But only recently did Staffan Mueller-Wille from the Centre for Medical History at the University of Exeter discover that Linnaeus was responsible for inventing [index cards](#) to keep his data organized....

Science Daily, June 16; University of Exeter Centre for Medical History



[The DMCA is endangering American security](#)

Angela Gunn writes: "Since the rise of the Information Age, America has convinced itself that safety is a better choice than knowledge, and that anyone who doesn't make safety a priority over knowledge is Dangerous And Up To No Good. The 1998 Digital Millennium

Copyright Act, which is entering its 12th year of chilling security research, acts in direct opposition to the government's alleged goal of improving American cybersecurity by criminalizing the research and inquiry that make security products, and thus security, stronger. Putting it simply: We made ourselves stupid and now we must pay."...

Betanews, June 11

[Lee surrender letter donated to Auburn University](#)

Auburn (Ala.) University Library recently acquired a letter documenting one of the more dramatic moments in American history—Robert E. Lee's surrender of the Army of Northern Virginia at Appomattox Court House on April 9, 1865. The following day, Gen. Ulysses S. Grant made a copy ([PDF file](#)) of the letter giving Lee his terms of surrender. The copy was donated to Auburn by 1971 graduate James L. Starr....

Auburn University, June 12



[Stanford University Library lays off 32 employees](#)

Stanford University Libraries announced June 10 that it has laid off 32 employees. It also offered nine other staff members the option of being laid off and receiving severance benefits instead of staying in revamped positions at reduced pay or reduced hours. The libraries have also eliminated 26 vacant positions and announced plans to permanently close the Physics Library in the summer of 2010 and transfer its holdings to other locations....

Stanford University, June 10

[Being a reader in rare book libraries](#)

Sarah Werner writes: "I've been thinking recently about what it means to be a reader in a rare books library, a place like the Folger, or the British Library, or the Beinecke, for instance. I think about this topic often while I am teaching my undergraduate course on book history. Because it is a wonderful thing that the Folger lets my students have full access to the collections, I am especially careful to train them on how to be good library citizens."...

Wynken de Worde, June 11



[French National Library to add WorldCat records](#)

OCLC and the Bibliothèque nationale de France signed an agreement June 12 to work cooperatively to add records from the French national library to WorldCat. The agreement sets in motion plans for OCLC to process an estimated 13.2-million bibliographic records from the library. Overall, 34 national libraries have begun adding digital images, national files, and bibliographies to WorldCat....

OCLC, June 12

[New Center for the Book in the Virgin Islands](#)

The Library of Congress and the government of the U.S. Virgin Islands have announced the creation of the Virgin Islands Center for the Book, the first center affiliate in the U.S. territories. Gov. John P. deJongh Jr. and Center for the Book Director John Y. Cole (far left) made



the announcement during a National Library Week reception. The principal organizer of the new center, which will be located at the main public library in St. Croix, is Ingrid Bough (second from left), territorial director of libraries, archives, and museums....

Library of Congress, June 11

[SLA conference is the largest in six years](#)

The Special Libraries Association met in Washington, D.C., for its Annual Conference, June 14–17. The number of attendees was 5,856 (up 16% from last year's conference in Seattle), making this the largest SLA Annual in six years. One attendee was Hoovy the Robot (right), who danced and flirted with SLAers on behalf of business information provider Hoover's....

SLA Blog



[New Jersey school librarians push for strengthened law](#)

The New Jersey Association of School Librarians is advocating for action to strengthen a [state requirement](#) for all school library media programs to be staffed by certified media specialists. Bosiljka Mijaljevic, an elementary school librarian at School #17 in Paterson, put together this open video letter (6:26) to Gov. Jon Corzine that explains how library professionals make all the difference in creating 21st-century learners....

YouTube, June 14; New Jersey Association of School Librarians



[MSU Billings welcomes you to the library](#)

It's 1986 all over again as Montana State University Billings welcomes students and faculty to its campus library collections and services. See, research can be fun, especially when there are chair races and a disco beat. Starring Olivia Vacca (right), Tyler Harris, and others....

YouTube, May 27



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AL Direct, June 17, 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 | June 17, 2009

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

[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

U.S. & World News

=====

[<http://www2.ljworld.com/news/2009/jun/12/library-searches-stolen-pages/>]Pages stolen from rare books at University of Kansas
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2009/june2009/ukansas061709.cfm>]

Six rare books have been vandalized in recent weeks at the University of Kansas Watson Library in Lawrence; the library estimates the cost of the loss at \$5,000. Plates, maps, and other artwork were removed from the volumes, which date back as far as the early 1800s. An 1887 book on Julius Caesar and a volume from the East Asian collection were found in a third-floor rest room May 28 with pages missing....
American Libraries Online, June 17; Lawrence (Kans.) Journal-World, June 12

Peoria expansion complicated by 19th-century cemetery
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2009/june2009/peoria061709.cfm>]

Discovery of human remains at the site of an 18,000-square-foot expansion at Peoria (Ill.) Public Library's Lincoln branch may add as much as \$500,000 to the \$5.5-million construction cost. The branch was built on the site of a city cemetery that closed in 1875. Midwest Archaeological Research Services has uncovered 93 suspected human burial sites, and estimates that as many as 120 graves could be within the construction zone....

American Libraries Online, June 17

ALA News

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jGkUoBDYnrg>]ALA to partner in White House volunteer effort

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/calitoservice_ola.cfm]

ALA, along with a host of other nonprofit organizations, will participate in United We Serve, a national effort launched by President Obama to engage more Americans in serving their communities this summer. Libraries will play a major role in this initiative, which was announced

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jGkUoBDYnrg>] (3:04) by the President June

17. ALA and the White House are encouraging libraries to post volunteer opportunities on the United We Serve website. [<http://www.serve.gov/>] As the initiative develops, ALA will make available resources

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/issuesadvocacy/advocacy/unitedweserve/index.cfm>]

to assist libraries in conducting volunteer efforts. United We Serve

kicks off on June 22 and runs through September 11. The initiative

focuses on four key areas: education, health, energy and the environment,

and community renewal....

Christie Hefner will be the Opening Speaker

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

A passionate advocate of freedom of expression, social justice, and equal rights and opportunities for women, Christie Hefner will speak at the ALA Annual Conference's Opening General Session, July 11. Hefner is a director of the Center for American Progress, a policy research and advocacy organization. Until earlier this year, she served as chairman and CEO of Playboy Enterprises. As an advocate for First Amendment rights, she created the Hugh M. Hefner First Amendment Awards in 1979 to honor individuals who have contributed to free speech in America....

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ft6VwLJzUzc>]Library Book Cart Drill Team championships

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/bookcartdrillteam_pio.cfm]

The fifth annual Library Book Cart Drill Team championship, showcasing library workers performing inspired dance routines with costumes and creatively decorated book carts, will be held July 12 at the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. Sponsored by Demco, this year's event features teams from Oak Park (Ill.) Public Library, the entire state of Delaware (above), Baraboo (Wis.) Public Library, University of Pittsburgh, and Des

Plaines (Ill.) Public Library....

A parade of bookmobiles in Chicago

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/bookmobilesunday_olos.cfm]

The Office for Literacy and Outreach Services will hold its third annual "Bookmobile Sunday" on July 12 during the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. The event will feature programs, book signings by author Sara Paretsky and others, and a parade of 12 bookmobiles. Authors Peter Laufer and Tom Corwin will launch "Behind the Wheel of a Bookmobile," their three-month-long journey across the United States in a bookmobile filled with donated materials....

Media training at Annual Conference

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/davebaum_pio.cfm]

Veteran Chicago broadcaster and media trainer Dave Baum will be hosting a media relations training session during the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago on July 12. Baum will provide tips on how librarians can effectively deliver their key messages and garner favorable media coverage....

Gaming in Libraries online course

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/onlineyoutube_course_itts.cfm]

ALA has partnered with the Syracuse University School of Information Studies in an experiment to teach a course that is open to both students and the public via YouTube. Throughout June, iSchool Professor Scott Nicholson will teach the IST 600 Gaming in Libraries course in three online spaces: the Syracuse University website, [<http://www.gamesinlibraries.org/course/>] ALA Connect, [<http://connect.ala.org/node/74116>] and the iSchool's online learning management system. Nicholson decided to offer the course to reach public librarians who are interested in incorporating gaming into their libraries....

Schools, Health, and Libraries Broadband Coalition

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/broadband_wo.cfm]

ALA joined with representatives of schools, libraries, health care providers, and others June 11 in announcing the launch of the Schools, Health, and Libraries Broadband Coalition, an alliance to promote the deployment of high-capacity broadband facilities to these anchor institutions. The coalition was formed to highlight (PDF file [<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/wp-content/uploads/2009/06/shlb-mission-statement-6-11-09-final.pdf>]) the urgent need these organizations have for affordable broadband connections for the 21st century....

Joseph Janes to discuss future connections

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/futureconnections_gov.cfm]

The final installment in ALA President Jim Rettig's ALA Connections Salons

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

series will be an online discussion with Joseph Janes, associate professor at the information school of the University of Washington and American Libraries "Internet Librarian" columnist. Janes will be joined by his students to discuss the future of ALA, libraries, and librarianship. The discussion will take place from 1–2 p.m. Eastern Time, June 19. A tip sheet for OPAL is online [<http://www.opal-online.org/firsttimetips.htm>]....

How to get the best results from a library catalog
[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/catalogresults_editions.cfm]

ALA Editions has just released Magic Search: Getting the Best Results from Your Catalog and Beyond [<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2600>] by Rebecca S. Kornegay, Heidi E. Buchanan, and Hildegard B. Morgan. Presenting the 467 best-performing Library of Congress Subject Heading subdivisions, this reference answers many of the research questions librarians handle every day. In addition, it provides chapters on discipline-specific subdivisions to hone effective search terms....

Building your library community
[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/buildlibcommunity_editions.cfm]

ALA Editions has published Inside, Outside, and Online: Building Your Library Community [<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2636>] by Chrystie Hill. Based on a scan of the community and technology environments within which libraries operate, related literature, and the practical experiences of hundreds of library staff actively building communities through their work, this book provides insights into the essential elements of community building....

Emerging Leaders solicit career success stories
[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/emergingsuccessstories_hdr.cfm]

ALA Emerging Leaders Project G [http://wikis.ala.org/emergingleaders/index.php/Project_G_%282009%29] (right) is soliciting real stories of how the Office for Human Resource Development and Recruitment has impacted job seekers—new graduates and transitioning career seekers alike—over the past 35 years. If you found the perfect job thorough the ALA Placement Center, located the perfect candidate at a conference, or successfully revamped your résumé with the review service in the Placement Center, email [<mailto:library.careerstories@gmail.com>] the group or submit a YouTube video tagged "jumpstartlibrarian."...

ALA Connect update and schedule
[<http://discuss.ala.org/marginalia/2009/06/17/ala-connect-update-and-schedule/>]

Jenny Levine writes: "If you're an ALA member, you should have received an email about ALA Connect [<http://connect.ala.org>] on June 16. This is the first time we've contacted members directly about this. Initial responses have been positive, and according to Google Analytics, we had more than 2,200 people visit the site that day alone." Here are some statistics for the first 10 weeks after the official launch and some

plans for the next big phase....
ALA Marginalia, June 17

Visiting the NYC Great Stories CLUB

[<http://programminglibrarian.org/blog/20091/june-2009/visiting-the-nyc-great-stories-club.html>]

Author Paul Griffin writes: "On June 8, the ALA's Great Stories CLUB sent me to Crossroads Juvenile Center (right) in Brownsville, Brooklyn. The boys, ranging in age from 11 to 16, are poets, R&B singers, rap artists, memoirists. They dream big. To maintain that kind of hope in confinement is no easy trick. Librarians Anne Lotito and Jessica Fenster-Sparber go all out to introduce the kids to books and authors."...
Programming Librarian, June 16

Featured review: Books for youth

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=3528026]

Fleming, Candace. *The Great and Only Barnum: The Tremendous, Stupendous Life of Showman P. T. Barnum*. Sept. 2009. 160p. Random/Schwartz & Wade, hardcover (978-0-375-84197-2).

In this sweeping yet cohesive biography, Fleming so finely tunes Barnum's legendary ballyhoo that you can practically hear the hucksterism and smell the sawdust. It's a quintessentially American tale: born poor in 1810, Phineas Taylor Barnum stormed through the 19th century as a small-time pitchman, museum founder, traveling exhibitionist, and finally, circus owner. Along the way he improvised (kick-starting his career with the impulsive purchase of a "161-year-old" slave), misled (a "mermaid" that was no more than creative taxidermy), and persevered through the kind of fiery calamities that would've squashed most men....

author Daniel Kraus

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=3560113]

Gillian Engberg writes: "Books for Youth Associate Editor Daniel Kraus must need to take a deep breath before answering that ubiquitous icebreaker, 'So, what do you do?' A former librarian and freelance writer, Kraus is also a filmmaker whose six features include several award winners, and AL Direct readers will recognize his talents in the web-based author videos and AL Focus videos he has produced. And now, with Delacorte's August release of his debut novel, *The Monster Variations*, Kraus will add 'young adult author' to his long list of professional roles."...

Literary Chicago quiz

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=3588981]

Bill Ott writes: "Here, at long last, is a quiz—not just any quiz, but one that celebrates literary Chicago, a topic that should be of interest to many of the 20,000 librarians who will be here next month to attend ALA's Annual Conference. Chicagoans, of course, enjoy a long and illustrious literary tradition, one that reaches from Theodore Dreiser and Frank Norris through Richard Wright and Ernest Hemingway and on to Saul Bellow and Nelson Algren and on still further to Sandra

Cisneros, Sara Paretsky, and many, many others. It's hardly a challenge to match these authors with their titles set in Chicago, but it may prove just a bit harder to combine those pairings with a neighborhood, a landmark, or an event in Chicago history that plays a significant role in each book.”...

Booklist, June 1

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

Chicago Update

Five tips for a better ALA conference experience

[<http://acrlog.org/2009/06/16/five-tips-for-a-better-ala-conference-experience/>]

Steven Bell writes: “It's now mid-June and the ALA Annual Conference will be upon us in no time at all. I'd like to share five ideas for having a better conference experience. I'm certainly not the first

[http://meredith.wolfwater.com/wiki/index.php?title=Conference_Tips_for_Newbies] blogger to offer their tips for having a better ALA conference experience, but these tips are based on an experience I had for the first time at the 2008 ALA in Anaheim (no, it didn't involve any Disney characters).”...

ACRLog, June 16

[<http://www.millenniumpark.org/parkevents/gpmf.aspx>] Arts activities in Chicago

[http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/about/sections/arts/artsguide/ArtsGuide_Chicago_An.pdf] (PDF file)

ACRL's Art Section has compiled a guide to arts activities taking place during the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. Some of the venues and hosting organizations are well-known, while others are more off the beaten path. The guide includes sections on visual arts and museums, gallery districts, architecture and design, music, film, theatre, dance, and arts centers around town....

ACRL Art Section

The Jazz Showcase [<http://www.jazzshowcase.com/>]

The Jazz Showcase is a famous Chicago jazz club that retains an influential following. Founded in 1947 by Joe Segal, who still owns and runs the venue, it is probably the city's most prestigious jazz club. Now located in Dearborn Station at 806 S. Plymouth Court, the Jazz Showcase will be featuring the Julian Lage Quartet, Typhanie Monique, Zvonimir Tot, and the Mulgrew Miller Trio during Annual Conference....

Jazz Showcase

Used and specialty books in Chicago

Chicago offers some wonderful places for book lovers who want to fill some gaps in their collection. A few of the best are The Bookworks

[<http://www.thebookworks.com/>] (3444 N. Clark St.), Powell's Bookstores [<http://www.powellschicago.com/>] (three locations at 1501 E. 57th St., 828 S. Wabash Ave., and 2850 N. Lincoln Ave.), O'Garra and Wilson [<http://ogarawilsonbooksellers.blogspot.com/>] (1448 E. 57th St.), Myopic Books [<http://www.myopicbookstore.com/>] (1564 N. Milwaukee Ave.), the Abraham Lincoln Book Shop [<http://www.alincolnbookshop.com/>] (357 W. Chicago Ave.), Unabridged Bookstore [<http://www.unabridgedbookstore.com/>] (3251 N. Broadway), and India Book House [<http://www.yelp.com/biz/india-book-house-chicago>] (2541 W. Devon)....

Rooftop dining

[<http://www.chicagotribune.com/features/lifestyle/chi-0611-dining-rooftopjun11,0,4786765.story>]

There are at least a half-dozen upper-floor dining perches in Chicago that did not exist a year ago. What makes an ideal outdoor rooftop? A great view is very important, but the space should be attractive in its own right. There must be serious food options; it's not alfresco dining if you can't dine. And it needs to be available. What's not important is whether it's an actual rooftop....

Chicago Tribune, June 11

The play [<http://griffintheatre.com/NewLittleBrotherPage1.html>]

Cory Doctorow's best-selling YA novel of techno-geek rebellion, Little Brother, has been adapted for the theater by William Massolia and is playing through July 19 at the Athenaeum Theatre, 2936 North Southport Ave., in Chicago. The Griffin Theatre Company is performing. Doctorow himself will be in the audience

[<http://www.boingboing.net/2009/06/17/little-brother-the-p.html>] for the July 9 performance....

Griffin Theatre Company; Boing Boing, June 17

International Museum of Surgical Science [<https://www.imss.org/>]

The mission of this museum, a division of the International College of Surgeons located at 1524 N. Lake Shore Drive, is to enrich people's lives by enhancing their appreciation and understanding of the history, development, and advances of surgery and related subjects in health and medicine. The museum's four floors are filled with more than 7,000 extraordinary artifacts, as well as paintings and sculptures that interpret primitive and modern healing practices throughout the world....

International Museum of Surgical Science

The truth about 'The Windy City'

[<http://www.chicagonow.com/blogs/local-tourist/2009/06/the-basics-breezes-blowhards.html>]

Theresa Carter writes: "The Windy City is one of Chicago's most popular and enduring nicknames. But where does the moniker actually come from? Locals and guidebooks are quick to say it's not from the actual wind.

Instead, they claim it's from New York complaining about our blustering efforts to bring the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition to Chicago (which we did); more detailed reports specifically reference an editorial by Charles Dana in the New York Sun around 1890. Truth is, it's a bit more complex than that." See also Barry Popik's research

[http://www.barrypopik.com/index.php/new_york_city/entry/summary/] on the topic....

Division News

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Susan Hornung named ASCLA/RUSA executive director

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/hornung_asclarusa.cfm]

Susan Hornung will take over as the new executive director of the ASCLA and RUSA divisions. She will attend the Annual Conference in Chicago then officially join ALA on July 27. Hornung is currently the director of knowledge management and the Severson Center at the Alliance for Children and Families in Milwaukee, a position she has held since 1986....

RUSA preconference on older adults

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/olderadultsvcs_rusa.cfm]

RUSA has released the speaker roster for its upcoming preconference, "A Dialogue With the Aging Network and the Library Community: The New Guidelines on Library and Information Services to Older Adults," at ALA Annual Conference July 10. This one-day event will highlight how libraries are collaborating with national and local organizations that serve older adults and the division's recently revised Guidelines on Library and Information Services to Older Adults

[<http://ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/rusa/resources/guidelines/libraryservices.cfm>]....

Two ASCLA preconferences

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/preconfreminder_ascla.cfm]

Anyone looking to improve customer service delivery or find sustainable funding options for collaborative digitization projects should act now and register for the fast-filling preconferences offered by ASCLA on July 10 at ALA Annual Conference. The preconferences are half- or full-day workshops presenting skills and knowledge relevant to success in various areas of librarianship....

ACRL shows how to be influential

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/influencingpub_acrl.cfm]

ACRL has published a new title, *Influencing Without Authority* [<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2714>] by Melanie Hawks. The second entry in the ACRL Active Guides series, this book provides guidance for those seeking to gain support for their ideas, developing collaborative relationships, and becoming recognized leaders—regardless of their positions or titles. The ability to influence others is a required workplace skill, yet it is one in which very few people receive education....

Scholarly Communication 101

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/scholarlycomms101_acrl.cfm]

ACRL is extending the reach of its "Scholarly Communication 101: Starting with the Basics" workshop by adding related materials to its popular toolkit. [<http://www.acrl.ala.org/scholcomm/>] The materials—including short videos, presentation templates, and handouts—were developed for the half-day workshop offered at the ACRL National Conference in Seattle and traveling to five locations around the country this summer....

Second phase of Kids! @ your library

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/kidsphase2_alsc.cfm]

The Kids! @ your library campaign officially kicks off its second phase July 12 during a program showcasing children's authors at the 2009 ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. Authors Avi, Brian Selznick, Pam Muñoz Ryan, and Sarah Weeks will demonstrate how librarians can successfully present readers' theater in their libraries. New tools are available on ALSC's Kids! @ your library [<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/alsc/initiatives/kidscampaign/index.cfm>] website....

Teens' Top Ten downloadable bookmarks

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/bookmarksteentopten_yalsa.cfm]

YALSA now offers downloadable bookmarks (PDF file

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/yalsa/teenreading/teentopten/forallbookmark.pdf>]) featuring the 2009 Teens' Top Ten nominees for librarians to distribute to teens at their libraries. The bookmarks feature the 25 titles nominated for this year's list of favorite books. Teen readers are encouraged to read the nominees throughout the summer, then vote [<http://www.ala.org/teentopten>] for their favorite titles starting August 24. The online poll closes on September 18, and winners will be announced in a webcast during Teen Read Week, October 18–24....

Meet YALSA President Debraski and author Holley

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/pavilion_yalsa.cfm]

YALSA will host two special events at its booth in the Membership Pavilion at ALA Annual Conference: a meet and greet with President Sarah Cornish Debraski and a book signing with Pam Spencer Holley, editor of the new Quick and Popular Reads for Teens. Holley, a YALSA past president and former chair of the Printz Award, will sign copies of her book on July 11....

Submit your school/public library partnership story

[<http://www.alsc.ala.org/blog/?p=796>]

The AASL/ALSC/YALSA Interdivisional Committee on School/Public Library Cooperation is updating its clearinghouse

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/alsc/initiatives/partnerships/coopacts/schoolplcoopprogs.cfm>] of information about school/public library cooperative activities. Submit a story using this form,

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/alsc/initiatives/partnerships/coopacts/coopactivityessubform.cfm>] and it will be added to the clearinghouse and possibly shared at upcoming ALA conferences....

Round Table News

Local-government information preconference

[http://wikis.ala.org/godort/index.php/Preconferences_and_programs#Pre-conferences]

The Government Documents and Maps and Geography round tables are offering a panel discussion about the history and future of local government information resources and services in libraries prior to the ALA Annual Conference. Urban studies experts will suggest ways to cooperate with local governments to disseminate public information and set up engaged citizen forums. The preconference will be held July 10 at the Elizabeth F. Cheney Mansion, followed by an exclusive walking tour of Oak Park sponsored by the Frank Lloyd Wright Home and Studio....

Awards

Pura Belpré; Celebración at Annual Conference

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/celbracionbelpre_aasl.cfm]

Hundreds will gather this summer for an event celebrating the most influential Latino authors and illustrators of children's literature. The Pura Belpré Celebración will serve as a national backdrop for the presentation of the coveted Pura Belpré Medal, an award that recognizes Latino authors and illustrators of children's literature. The event, to be held at ALA Annual Conference July 12, will include a musical performance by students from Our Lady of Guadalupe Ballet Folklórico (above)....

First-time novelist wins IMPAC Dublin Literary Award

[<http://www.guardian.co.uk/books/2009/jun/11/debut-novelist-impac-dublin-prize>]

A debut novelist who says he's never really had a proper job has won the world's richest literary award. American writer Michael Thomas beat authors Philip Roth, Doris Lessing, and Joyce Carol Oates to take the €100,000 (\$138,415 U.S.) IMPAC Dublin prize with his debut novel, *Man Gone Down*. Described by the judging panel as an "extraordinary novel . . . from a writer of enthralling voice and startling insight," Thomas said he'd written it at a time when he was "feeling a little desperate" himself....

The Guardian (U.K.), June 11

2009 Wales Book of the Year

[http://www.bbc.co.uk/wales/arts/sites/themes/books/wales_book_of_the_year_2009.shtml]

Deborah Kay Davies won the Wales Book of the Year 2009 award with her debut collection of short stories, *Grace, Tamar, and Laszlo the Beautiful*, beating poet Samantha Wynne-Rhydderch and writer Gee Williams to the £10,000 (\$16,430 U.S.) prize. Wiliam Owen Roberts won the

Welsh-language prize for his novel Petrograd. The winners were announced at a ceremony at St. David's Hotel and Spa in Cardiff Bay on June 15....
BBC Wales, June 15

Bournemouth University has the most outstanding library team
[http://www.bournemouth.ac.uk/newsandevents/News/2009/jun/ne003_library_team.html]

Bournemouth University won the inaugural Times Higher Education Leadership and Management Award for Outstanding Library Team during a June 9 award ceremony in London. The prestigious award recognizes the team's dedication and achievement in providing high-quality service in support of all areas of university activity, including the popular Techno Booths (above). Sarah Bartlett interviewed
[<http://blogs.talis.com/panlibus/archives/2009/06/bournemouth-university-library-talks-with-talis-about-its-outstanding-library-team-shortlisting.php>]
the team prior to their win....
Bournemouth University, June 10; Panlibus, June 4

Seen Online

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[<http://today.msnbc.msn.com/id/26184891/vp/31237988#31237988>]Libraries lend a hand in the recession
[<http://today.msnbc.msn.com/id/26184891/vp/31237988#31237988>]
In this Today Show segment (4:26), NBC News Correspondent Peter Alexander examines the dichotomy between public libraries' increasing role as a lifeline in economic hard times and decreased funding for libraries. Featured are Nancy Savas, manager of the Germantown branch of the Montgomery County (Md.) Public Libraries, and President Paul LeClerc of the New York Public Library. The ALA Public Information Office suggests several ways [<http://www.pio.ala.org/visibility/?p=758>] that libraries can help extend the reach of this positive story....
Today Show, June 11; Visibility @ your library, June 12

Attendance up 92% in library career classes
[<http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/maryland/bal-md.library14jun14,0,7581684.story>]
As Baltimore's unemployment rate rose, many people headed to the library. Since the onset of the recession, attendance at the Enoch Pratt Free Library's career center
[<http://www.prattlibrary.org/locations/jobcenter/index.aspx?id=1174>]
classes has jumped 92%. The rise in attendance is nearly in sync with the city's rise in unemployment, which came close to doubling between April 2008 and March 2009....
Baltimore Sun, June 14

Librarians fighting Google's book deal
[<http://www.time.com/time/business/article/0,8599,1904495,00.html>]
Critics of Google's book-searching agreement with publishers and authors were cheered last week when antitrust regulators in the Justice Department set their sights on the search giant's publishing deal, demanding more information. "The increased scrutiny on the part of the DOJ tells us that our concerns are resonating far beyond the library

community,” said Corey Williams, associate director of the ALA Office of Government Relations....

Time, June 16

New York retains six-day library service

[http://council.nyc.gov/html/releases/fy_2010_budget_agreement_6_15_09.shtml]

New York City Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg and the city council reached a deal June 15 on a \$59.4-billion budget that would increase the sales tax [<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/06/16/nyregion/16budget.html>] by half a percentage point while reducing the city’s work force by roughly 2,000 jobs. But the agreement preserves essential core services, including maintaining city-wide, six-day library service—a long-standing council priority. The \$46.5-million restoration of library funding will avoid layoffs, ensure that New Yorkers have access to critically important job-training services, and preserve access to literacy programs and computers....

New York City Council, June 15; New York Times, June 15

Martín Gomez appointed Los Angeles city librarian

[http://www.lapl.org/newsroom/releases/Martin_Gomez_City_Librarian.html]

Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa appointed Martín Gomez to the top post of city librarian of the Los Angeles Public Library June 11. Gomez will oversee the department’s \$129-million budget, 1,100 employees, and the administration of the city’s library system. Most recently, Gomez was director of the San Mateo County (Calif.) Library and has served on the ALA Executive Board....

Los Angeles Public Library, June 11

NARA names Miriam Nisbet as FOIA overseer

[<http://fcw.com/articles/2009/06/11/web-nara-foia-ombudsman.aspx>]

Advocates for open government welcomed the appointment June 10 of the first director of a new office at the National Archives and Records Administration that will provide policy guidance to agencies for handling of Freedom of Information Act requests and mediate disagreements about decisions not to grant requests. Miriam Nisbet, who currently works for UNESCO in Paris and served as legislative counsel for the ALA Washington Office from 1999 to 2007, will head the new Office of Government Information Services [<http://www.ombwatch.org/node/10098>]....

Federal Computer Week, June 11; OMB Watch, June 10

More school librarians return to Jefferson Parish

[http://www.nola.com/news/index.ssf/2009/06/more_librarians_returning_to_j.html]

The Jefferson Parish (La.) School Board has restored librarians to seven elementary schools, following through on a promise it made two years ago. In the past 20 years, librarians and arts programs in Jefferson public schools have come and gone, depending on the state of school system finances. But in 2007, Superintendent Diane Roussel and the board began the process of restoring librarians to elementary schools, saying the position was a vital component in student achievement....

New Orleans Times-Picayune, June 11

[<http://dlc.lib.utk.edu/pippitt/pippitt.html>]Tennessee library digitizes

Civil War diary

[<http://www.knoxnews.com/news/2009/jun/10/once-stolen-civil-war-diary-sheds-light-time/>]

The University of Tennessee's Special Collections Department has recently completed scanning, digitizing, and posting online

[<http://dlc.lib.utk.edu/pippitt/pippitt.html>] the handwritten Civil War diary of Henry Pippitt, a Union soldier who fought in the 104th Ohio Infantry. The three journals comprise about 320 pages and cover Pippitt's thoughts and activities from September 1862 to June 1865. The entries read like 19th-century Twitter messages, as the comments are usually brief and to the point—and also contain quite a few misspellings....

Knoxville (Tenn.) News, June 10

Church History Library opens in Salt Lake City

[http://www.sltrib.com/faith/ci_12573143]

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints unveiled its state-of-the-art Church History Library in downtown Salt Lake City June 11, showing off its climate-controlled storage units, computerized conservation techniques, and priceless artifacts. Church Historian Marlin Jensen showcased some historic items that included an 1835 hymnal, Church President Ezra Taft Benson's post-World War II humanitarian efforts in Europe, and a one-of-a-kind 1852 Book of Mormon translated into French on one side of the page and German on the other....

Salt Lake Tribune, June 12

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XIJMXPE9_ZA]

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XIJMXPE9_ZA]Tantalizing traces at Taunton

[<http://www.tauntongazette.com/news/x2122535363/No-spooky-sightings-at-library>]

Representatives from the New England Society of Paranormal Investigators say that while they did pick up some interesting sights and sounds with their equipment after their investigation

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XIJMXPE9_ZA] (2:33) at the Taunton (Mass.) Public Library on March 17, there was not enough scientific evidence to say for sure that the building has paranormal activity. The building has housed the library since 1904. The NESPI team

[<http://www.nespi.net/>] of almost a dozen people set up recording devices around the front desk, stairways, and the former children's area....

Taunton (Mass.) Daily Gazette, June 13; YouTube, May 14

Bodleian Library storage plan approved

[http://www.swindonadvertiser.co.uk/news/4428754.Bodleian_Library_storage_scheme_delights_council/]

A proposal to build a storage facility in South Marston, Wiltshire, for more than 4 million books from Oxford University's world-famous Bodleian Library was warmly welcomed by councilors at a June 9 planning committee meeting. The new proposal arose after a previous plan to store the books on floodplains surrounding Oxford came under fire for potentially endangering the books and ruining the city's cherished view. Work on the facility will begin in the fall....

Swindon (U.K.) Advertiser, June 10

Go back to the Top [#top]

Eight ways to create paperless business cards

[<http://mashable.com/2009/06/11/virtual-business-card/>]

Josh Catone writes: "Are you still printing your business card on paper? That is so last year. These days, business cards are going all virtual and that's a good thing. Not only are paperless business cards good for the environment and easier to carry, they're also unlimited—you'll never run out when you're networking at an event or conference. Here are eight ways to build a virtual business card that you can use to send your information..."
Mashable, June 11

Turn headlines into bar charts

[http://infosthetics.com/archives/2009/06/backbars_turn_headlines_of_social_link-sites_into_ambient_bar_charts.html]

Backbars [<http://elzr.com/posts/backbars-on-social-link-sites>] is a freely downloadable GreaseMonkey script for your browser that turns the headlines and comments of social network sites into unobtrusive bar charts. For instance, Backbars is able to visually illustrate the votes, diggs, views, or users on online services like Reddit, Delicious, Digg, and MetaFilter on their respective webpages. The idea is to provide subtle visual clues to improve the perception of quantitative data....
Information Aesthetics, June 15

Create highly customized widgets [<http://mashable.com/2009/06/15/produle/>]

Ben Parr writes: "Produle [<http://www.produle.com/>] is a flash-based widget-building tool for creating customized embeddable content. Widgets can spread information virally and are easy to add. Though services like Widgetbox [<http://widgetbox.com>] exist to build them yourself, few allow for as much freedom and customization. The editor is meant for complex and customized use; if you're looking just to stick an RSS feed in a blog, this tool isn't for you. But if you're seeking to create the grand idea in your head, Produle can probably support it..."
Mashable, June 15

Popular URL shortener Cli.gs hacked

[<http://thenextweb.com/2009/06/16/popular-url-shortener-cligs-hacked/>]
URL-shortening services are ubiquitous these days, so we tend to forget how these systems can be exploited if not properly secured. Cli.gs, the fourth most popular URL-shortening service on Twitter, was hacked. Sometime late June 14 or early June 15, a hacker exploited a security hole that allowed the attacker to redirect around 2.2-million cli.gs URLs to a single domain name, freedomblogging.com....
TheNextWeb, June 16

Acrobat.com challenges Google Docs

[<http://arstechnica.com/web/news/2009/06/adobe-challenges-google-microsoft-with-launch-of-acrobatcom.ars>]

Chris Foresman writes: "Adobe has finally (well, sort of) taken the beta tag off of Acrobat.com, [<http://www.adobe.com/acom/>] shedding more

light on Adobe's software as a service strategy first revealed with Photoshop Express. Along with online PDF creation tools, file sharing, online meeting, and collaboration, Acrobat.com also includes Adobe's Buzzword word processor for online and collaborative document creation. Adobe is also giving a first peek at the less-cleverly-named Tables spreadsheet and Presentation apps. The move seems like a shot across Google's bow.”...
Ars Technica, June 15

Publishing

Is Amazon taking over the book business?

[<http://www.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,1904142,00.html>]

Lev Grossman and Andrea Sachs write: "Amazon has diversified itself so comprehensively over the past five years that it's hard to say exactly what it is anymore. Amazon has a presence in almost every niche of the book industry. It runs a print-on-demand service (BookSurge) and a self-publishing service (CreateSpace). It sells e-books and an e-device to read them on (the Kindle). And now there's Amazon Encore, which makes Amazon a print publisher too."...

Time, June 22

Six lessons one campus learned about e-books

[<http://chronicle.com/free/v55/i39/39a01801.htm>]

Jeffrey R. Young writes: "Northwest Missouri State University nearly became the first public university last year to deliver all of its textbooks electronically. Then the university ran a pilot study with the Sony Reader, a device much like the Kindle, and officials learned some sobering lessons about electronic books. Based on my talks with professors, students, and administrators at Northwest Missouri, here are six lessons for any university considering assigning digital textbooks."...

Chronicle of Higher Education, June 12

Seth Godin's textbook rant

[http://sethgodin.typepad.com/seths_blog/2009/06/textbook-rant.html]

Seth Godin writes: "I've spent the last few months looking at marketing textbooks. I'm assuming that they are fairly representative of textbooks in general, and since this is a topic I'm interested in, it seemed like a good area to focus on. As far as I can tell, assigning a textbook to your college class is academic malpractice. This industry deserves to die. It has extracted too much time and too much money and wasted too much potential. We can do better. A lot better."...

Seth Godin's Blog, June 14

Alexander Street's 50-state history giveaway

[<http://alexanderstreet.com/50states.htm>]

Alexander Street Press is giving away 50 subscriptions to its American History in Video [<http://ahiv.alexanderstreet.com/>] database—one in every state. In return, they are asking for thoughtful and specific feedback three times during the year from the 50 libraries as an advisory

board, in order to find out how libraries and publishers can best collaborate to build patron awareness of American history and other topics. Forms submitted by librarians and library staff through the July 4 will be considered....
Alexander Street Press

What people were reading in the Great Depression
[<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=105350224>]
Various incarnations of the publishing industry trade magazine Publishers Weekly have been around since 1852, and old issues are a marvel to skim through because they preserve the reading worlds of yesterday in amber. The July 1933 issue declares that “the reading of books has increased throughout the Depression as shown by library circulation records.” At a quick glance, the popular books Americans were reading in the early 1930s look a lot like the mass market offerings of 2009....
Fresh Air, NPR, June 15

[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

Actions & Answers

The seven most impressive libraries of all time
[<http://www.cartridgesave.co.uk/news/the-7-most-impressive-libraries-from-throughout-history/>]
The library has played a key role in the dissemination of information and knowledge throughout history. Long before the days of Google Book Search and the Amazon Kindle was the library, a place of learning and advancement. Here are seven of the most impressive libraries in history, places of intrigue and inspiration....
The News in Print, June 4

Calculator for valuing health library resources
[<http://nnlm.gov/mcr/evaluation/calculator.html>]
How much would it cost to replace your library services on the retail market? Calculate what it would cost to buy library services—at a bookstore, through pay-per-view for articles, from an information broker—if you and your library weren’t there. The National Network of Libraries of Medicine MidContinental Region has put together a calculator that allows health libraries to establish their value. The site also has a cost-benefit and return-on-investment
[<http://nnlm.gov/mcr/evaluation/roi.html>] calculator....
National Network of Libraries of Medicine MidContinental Region

A guide to the Google Book Search amended agreement
[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=3040>]
ALA, ACRL, and the Association of Research Libraries have released “A Guide for the Perplexed Part II: The Amended Google-Michigan Agreement” (PDF file

[<http://wo.ala.org/gbs/wp-content/uploads/2009/06/google-michigan-amended.pdf>]). The University of Michigan, one of the original participating libraries, recently entered into an amended agreement [<http://www.lib.umich.edu/mdp/amendment.html>] to govern its relationship with Google if the proposed settlement is approved by the judge. This guide provides an overview to help librarians better understand the revised terms....

District Dispatch, June 17

The Librarian: A Twitter story

[<http://www.mcsweeney.net/links/librarian/12twitter.html>]

This is Scott Douglas's 32nd "Dispatch from a Public Librarian," published in McSweeney's. It is composed in Tweets, from eight hours ago to one minute ago, like this one: "When people ask what I do at work, I can tell them I help mentally challenged people stalk celebrities. How can I not like this job?"...

McSweeney's Internet Tendency, June 12

A day in the cloud [<http://www.dayinthecloud.com/>]

On June 24, Google Apps and Virgin America invite the brave and the willing, the airborne and the earthbound, to embark on a "Day in the Cloud Challenge," the first online scavenger hunt played simultaneously in the air and everywhere else. Wherever you are, simply sign up, arm yourself with a powerful array of Google Apps, and you can point and click your way towards glory—and an enticing prize pack

[<http://www.dayinthecloud.com/challenge/>]. A tutorial

[<http://www.dayinthecloud.com/tutorial/>] and practice game

[<http://www.dayinthecloud.com/game/>] are available....

The Day in the Cloud Challenge

Linnaeus invented the index card

[<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2009/06/090616080137.htm>]

The Swedish naturalist and physician Carl Linnaeus (1707–1778)—the father of modern taxonomy—has been described as a "pioneer of information retrieval." But only recently did Staffan Mueller-Wille from the Centre for Medical History at the University of Exeter discover that Linnaeus was responsible for inventing index cards

[<http://centres.exeter.ac.uk/medhist/projects/Linnaeus/index.shtml>] to keep his data organized....

Science Daily, June 16; University of Exeter Centre for Medical History

The DMCA is endangering American security

[<http://www.betanews.com/article/The-DMCA-is-endangering-American-security/1244758683>]

Angela Gunn writes: "Since the rise of the Information Age, America has convinced itself that safety is a better choice than knowledge, and that anyone who doesn't make safety a priority over knowledge is Dangerous And Up To No Good. The 1998 Digital Millennium Copyright Act, which is entering its 12th year of chilling security research, acts in direct opposition to the government's alleged goal of improving American cybersecurity by criminalizing the research and inquiry that make security products, and thus security, stronger. Putting it simply: We made ourselves stupid and now we must pay."...

Betanews, June 11

Lee surrender letter donated to Auburn University

[<http://wireeagle.auburn.edu/news/992>]

Auburn (Ala.) University Library recently acquired a letter documenting one of the more dramatic moments in American history—Robert E. Lee’s surrender of the Army of Northern Virginia at Appomattox Court House on April 9, 1865. The following day, Gen. Ulysses S. Grant made a copy (PDF file [<http://www.ocm.auburn.edu/grantletter.pdf>]) of the letter giving Lee his terms of surrender. The copy was donated to Auburn by 1971 graduate James L. Starr....
Auburn University, June 12

Stanford University Library lays off 32 employees

[<http://news.stanford.edu/news/2009/june17/layoffs-061709.html>]

Stanford University Libraries announced June 10 that it has laid off 32 employees. It also offered nine other staff members the option of being laid off and receiving severance benefits instead of staying in revamped positions at reduced pay or reduced hours. The libraries have also eliminated 26 vacant positions and announced plans to permanently close the Physics Library in the summer of 2010 and transfer its holdings to other locations....

Stanford University, June 10

Being a reader in rare book libraries

[<http://wynkendeworde.blogspot.com/2009/06/being-reader-in-rare-book-libraries.html>]

Sarah Werner writes: “I’ve been thinking recently about what it means to be a reader in a rare books library, a place like the Folger, or the British Library, or the Beinecke, for instance. I think about this topic often while I am teaching my undergraduate course on book history. Because it is a wonderful thing that the Folger lets my students have full access to the collections, I am especially careful to train them on how to be good library citizens.”...

Wynken de Worde, June 11

French National Library to add WorldCat records

[<http://www.oclc.org/us/en/news/releases/200936.htm>]

OCLC and the Bibliothèque nationale de France signed an agreement June 12 to work cooperatively to add records from the French national library to WorldCat. The agreement sets in motion plans for OCLC to process an estimated 13.2-million bibliographic records from the library. Overall, 34 national libraries have begun adding digital images, national files, and bibliographies to WorldCat....

OCLC, June 12

New Center for the Book in the Virgin Islands

[<http://www.loc.gov/today/pr/2009/09-118.html>]

The Library of Congress and the government of the U.S. Virgin Islands have announced the creation of the Virgin Islands Center for the Book, the first center affiliate in the U.S. territories. Gov. John P. deJongh Jr. and Center for the Book Director John Y. Cole (far left) made the announcement during a National Library Week reception. The principal organizer of the new center, which will be located at the main public library in St. Croix, is Ingrid Bough (second from left), territorial

director of libraries, archives, and museums....
Library of Congress, June 11

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X4TpnVmlfbU>]SLA conference is the largest in six years [http://slablogger.typepad.com/sla_blog/]
The Special Libraries Association met in Washington, D.C., for its Annual Conference, June 14–17. The number of attendees was 5,856 (up 16% from last year's conference in Seattle), making this the largest SLA Annual in six years. One attendee was Hoovy the Robot (right), who danced and flirted with SLAers on behalf of business information provider Hoover's....
SLA Blog

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iKuQBpstos8>]New Jersey school librarians push for strengthened law [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iKuQBpstos8>]
The New Jersey Association of School Librarians is advocating for action to strengthen a state requirement [<http://njasladvocacy.pbworks.com/Take-Action-Now>] for all school library media programs to be staffed by certified media specialists. Bosiljka Mijaljevic, an elementary school librarian at School #17 in Paterson, put together this open video letter (6:26) to Gov. Jon Corzine that explains how library professionals make all the difference in creating 21st-century learners....
YouTube, June 14; New Jersey Association of School Librarians

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RYWVr5e68Rk>]MSU Billings welcomes you to the library [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RYWVr5e68Rk>]
It's 1986 all over again as Montana State University Billings welcomes students and faculty to its campus library collections and services. See, research can be fun, especially when there are chair races and a disco beat. Starring Olivia Vacca (right), Tyler Harris, and others....
YouTube, May 27

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

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[<http://www.r2library.com/public/default.aspx>]

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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. It's not too late to register
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/2009/registration.cfm>]
online! New this year is a Cooking Pavilion
[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/cookingpavilion_pio.cfm]
that will feature author-chefs performing cooking demonstrations and signing books on the exhibit floor.

Booklist Books for Youth Forum: Celebrating Lincoln. Celebrate 200 years of Lincoln's legacy at the Booklist Books for Youth Forum at Annual Conference, July 10, 8-10 p.m., at the Westin River North, Grand Ballroom. Candace Fleming, Deborah Hopkinson, Jean Feiwel, and Russell Freedman will discuss the stories behind their Lincoln titles, as well as the challenges of creating captivating biographies for children and young adults. Booklist YA Editor Gillian Engberg will moderate. NEW! From Booklist.

In this issue
June/July 2009

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

Summertime in Chicago

Prescription for Financial Recovery

Librarians As Writers

Licenses and Legalities

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

Head of Reference and Instruction,
[<http://joblist.ala.org/modules/jobseeker/controller.cfm?scr=jobdetail&jobid=13264>]
United States Military Academy, West Point, New York. The West Point Library, serving an exceptional undergraduate institution recently rated #14 in U.S. News and World Report's list of national liberal arts colleges, seeks a creative, resourceful, and imaginative leader to strengthen the library's reference services and develop a systematic program of research instruction. Applicants should radiate passion for students and the liberal arts, understand and appreciate the scholarship conducted by our diverse students and faculty, and frame all their work within the goal of cultivating lifelong learners and critical thinkers. As such, we welcome applications from those with a record of

inspired teaching, a command of academic reference tools and literature, a solid record of scholarship, and dynamic leadership characterized by the ability to embolden, teach, and empower colleagues....

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

[http://twitter.com/ALA_JobLIST]

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

Digital Library of the Week

[http://www.summitmemory.org/cdm4/item_viewer.php?CISOROOT=/1968&CISOPTR=42&CISOBX=1&REC=1]

Summit Memory [<http://www.summitmemory.org/>] is an online scrapbook capturing the history of Summit County, Ohio. Administered by the Akron–Summit County Public Library, the site is a county-wide collaborative project with gateways to such collections as Akron Remembers 1968 (above), the Trucking History Collection, the Summit County Civil War Collection, the Akron Banknotes Collection, the Firestone and B. F. Goodrich Tire and Rubber Collections, the Doodlebug Train Disaster Collection, and the David P. Campbell Postcard Collection. The project is funded by a grant from the Robert W. Little Foundation. Little (1917–2000) served as a librarian at the Akron-Summit County Public Library for nearly 30 years.

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 library is a focal gathering place for those of us who love books, as well as a point of entry for those who want to get better acquainted with them. It is hard to imagine how scattered computer users can even approximate the library’s celebration and promotion of the world of print—it would be akin to tearing down the cathedral and holding the service online.”

—Freelance journalist Tim Holt, in an editorial, “Browsing Virtual Libraries? Thanks But No Thanks,” Redding (Calif.) Record Searchlight, June 14.

“Congratulations to the Maumee (Ohio) school system. As a denizen of the

21st century, I was most pleased to learn that it is doing away with school librarians. These antiquated creatures have no place in the modern world. . . .

“Another advantage to losing the librarians is that these remnants of a less enlightened age sometimes tempt students to spend valuable time with recreational reading. This is insane when any book worth its salt has been made into a movie.

“The problem is you have not gone far enough. If the libraries remain, some recalcitrant troublemakers may be tempted to use the books without the aid of librarians.”

—Sarcastic letter to the editor by Ann Kisin, “Who Needs Librarians Anyway?” Toledo (Ohio) Blade, May 16.

[<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. Several patrons have come in wanting to donate books and magazines to our library. We cannot accept all of these donations, and they are not all appropriate for our Friends group to sell. Do you have any other resources we can direct them to?

A. The ALA Library has compiled a list of resources

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/library/libraryfactsheet/alalibraryfactsheet12.cfm>] for finding the various groups and organizations that accept book donations for distribution in the United States as well as in countries overseas. For National Geographic or other magazines, see these resources: Donation Programs For Books, Journals and Media, [http://libweb.lib.buffalo.edu/dokuwiki/hslwiki/doku.php?id=book_donations] a list compiled by the University at Buffalo Health Sciences Library; United States Book Exchange, [<http://www.usbe.com>] which, despite its name, accepts and distributes periodicals; and the Darien Book Aid Plan, [<http://dba.darien.org>] for the last five years only of National Geographic. From the ALA Professional Tips wiki [http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Book_and_Magazine_Donations].

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

Calendar

July 19–24:

International Conference on Human-Computer Interaction,
[<http://www.hcii2009.org/>] Town and Country Resort and Convention Center,
San Diego.

July 22:
RSS for Libraries,
[<http://www.lyrasis.org/Classes%20and%20Events/Catalog/R/RSS%20for%20Libraries%20Live%20Online.aspx>] live online course sponsored by Lyrasis.

July 25–28:
American Association of Law Libraries, [<http://www.aallnet.org/events/>]
Annual Meeting, Walter E. Washington Convention Center, Washington, D.C.

Aug. 5–7:
Pacific Northwest Library Association,
[<http://www.pnla.org/events/conference09/index1.html>] Annual Conference,
Missoula, Montana. “A Century of Cooperation, a Legacy of
Leadership.”

Aug. 7:
Indiana Library Federation, [<http://ilreference2009.pbworks.com/>]
Reference Unconference, Bracken Library, Ball State University.

Aug. 9–11:
Joint Annual Meeting of the Society of American Archivists and the
Council of State Archivists,
[http://saa.archivists.org/Scripts/4Disapi.dll/4DCGI/events/145.html?Action=Conference_Detail&ConfID_W=145] Hilton Austin, Texas. “Sustainable
Archives.”

Sept. 2–9:
International Conference on Knowledge Management and Knowledge
Technologies, [<http://i-know.tugraz.at/>] Graz, Austria.

Sept. 11–13:
Association for Small and Rural Libraries,
[<https://www.bcr.org/ARSL/conf09/index.html>] Annual Conference, Park Vista
Hotel, Gatlinburg, Tennessee. “Keeping Your Head While Serving the
Community.”

Sept. 16–17:
OCLC Digital Forum West,
[<http://www.oclc.org/western/digitalforum/default.htm>] Getty Research
Institute, Los Angeles. “Convergence: Where Metadata and Access
Meet for Digital Discovery and Delivery.”

Sept. 23–26:
North Dakota Library Association,
[<http://www.ndla.info/Conference/09conf.htm>] Annual Conference, Days
Hotel–Grand Dakota Lodge and Conference Center, Dickinson.
“Evolution of the Library.”

Oct. 6–9:
Illinois Library Association, [<http://www.ila.org/events/conference.htm>]

Annual Conference, Peoria.

Oct. 20–22:

Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums,

[<http://www.tribalconference.org/conf09/about.html>] Red Lion Hotel on the River, Portland, Oregon. “Streams of Language, Memory, and Lifeways.”

Oct. 26–28:

Internet Librarian, [<http://www.infoday.com/il2009/>] Monterey Convention Center, California. “Net Initiatives for Tough Times: Digital Publishing, Preservation, and Practice.”

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

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American Libraries Direct

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U.S. & World News

[Ohio governor's budget would slash library funding](#)

Public libraries throughout Ohio have altered their landing pages (see [Dayton](#), [Cleveland](#), [Columbus](#), and [Toledo](#)) to alert patrons about Gov. Ted Strickland's draconian June 19 proposal to slash a total of \$227.3 million over the next two years from the state's Public Library Fund. The messages emphasized the urgency of contacting state lawmakers on the conference committee before June 30 when they must finalize the FY2010–11 budget. The [Ohio Library Council](#)'s Lynda Murray said enacting the budget would effectively cut library support in half for some 70% of the 251 public libraries that are funded solely by the state. Follow the news in the Save Ohio Libraries [blog](#) and [Facebook page](#)....

American Libraries Online, June 23



[Court strikes down Contra Costa worship ban](#)

A federal district court barred Contra Costa County (Calif.) Library from enforcing its ban on religious services in its meeting room June 19, overturning a 2006 decision by the Ninth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals that allowed the library to bar the Faith Center Church Evangelistic Ministries from holding services there. Judge Jeffrey White, who granted the 2005 injunction against the library's ban on religious services, ruled this time that the county could not legally prohibit prayer services while allowing religious discussion because it did not have a way to distinguish between the two....

American Libraries Online, June 24

ALA News


[Jim Rettig on the proposed Ohio library cuts](#)

Since January 2009, Ohio public libraries have lost approximately 20% of their state funding. Currently Gov. Ted Strickland has proposed an additional 30% reduction. ALA President Jim Rettig released a statement in response to the proposed library [budget cuts](#): "What will happen to the people of Ohio if their right to free access to information is taken away?" Rettig asked. "The governor's

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drastic proposed library budget cuts are the largest in history and will impact more than 8 million registered library card holders.”...

[Arne Duncan and Jon Corzine visit Fanwood Library](#)

Summer reading programs like the one offered at the Fanwood (N.J.) Memorial Library play a critical role in a child's educational development, according to U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan. On June 22, Duncan joined New Jersey Gov. Jon Corzine at the library to launch a national campaign called [United We Serve](#), promoting volunteerism and community involvement....

Newark (N.J.) Star-Ledger, June 22



[Chatting with Arne Duncan](#)

American Libraries Editor-in-Chief Leonard Kniffel writes: “Fresh from the launch of [United We Serve](#) at the [Fanwood \(N.J.\) Memorial Library](#), U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan took time to do a Newsmaker interview for *American Libraries* June 22. I chatted with him for about 20 minutes, and he talked with conviction about the value of libraries and the threats to funding they are facing. He noted ironically that budget cuts are in inverse proportion to the rising demand for their services, which are essential to solving America's financial and social problems.”...

AL Inside Scoop, June 23



[Public libraries and e-government](#)

In the fourth of a series of reports regarding technology access in U.S. public libraries, the Office for Research and Statistics is highlighting how public library technology supports the use of e-government information and resources. *U.S. Public Libraries and E-Government Services* ([PDF file](#)) describes the increased use of online government information and services, the critical role of public libraries in helping provide access and assistance using them, and the challenges that must be addressed to improve e-government at the local, state, and federal level....



[Many Voices, One Nation](#)

The ALA Office for Diversity will showcase the diverse voices of our world at the “Many Voices, One Nation” program, an evening of literature and performance July 10 during Annual Conference in Chicago. This year's theme is “Changing Communities through Literature and Activism.” The program will feature novelist Nami Mun, spoken word artist George Watsky, children's author Janice Harrington, writer Ed Bok Lee, and poet Rachel Zucker....

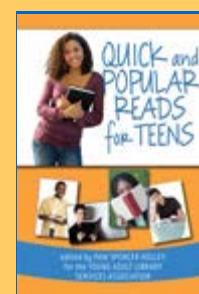
[Annual Conference exhibitor coupons](#)



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



Locate **Literature Programs and Author Events** at conference with this handy brochure ([PDF file](#)) prepared by the Public Programs Office.



For more than 10 years, YALSA has produced two annual lists, “Popular Paperbacks for Young Adults” and “Quick Picks for Reluctant Readers,” which recommend reading targeted at young adults who are not avid readers. Compiling bibliographic information about the books on these two selected lists, [Quick and Popular Reads for Teens](#) by Pam

Print out these PDF coupons and bring them to Chicago to get a head start on drawings, gifts, discounts, previews, and hot tips from exhibitors at Annual Conference. The coupons will also be in the ActionAd Easy-To-Use Guide to the Exhibits in your conference bag....

ALA and *Library Journal*

[Grassroots Programs at Annual Conference](#)

This year's ALA Annual Conference in Chicago will feature 10 "Grassroots Programs" selected by a jury of library school students and practitioners from 118 proposals. The programs are part of ALA President Jim Rettig's presidential initiative to increase opportunities for members to participate in, contribute to, and benefit from their Association. They will be identified in the conference program book with a distinctive grassroots logo....

[Discover poetry in Chicago](#)

Poetry-minded attendees of the 2009 ALA Annual Conference in Chicago will be pleased to discover a series of conference offerings to delight and inspire the lyrical librarian. The ALA Public Programs Office, with support from the National Endowment for the Arts, will present a slate of poetry programming July 9–15....

[Be an Emerging Leader](#)

ALA is now accepting [applications](#) for the 2010 class of Emerging Leaders. The program is designed to enable approximately 100 library workers to get on the fast track to ALA and professional leadership. Participants are given the opportunity to work on a variety of projects, network with peers and get an inside look into the ALA structure and activities. The deadline to apply is July 31....



[Emerging Leaders poster session](#)

The ALA 2009 class of Emerging Leaders will showcase their final projects at a poster session July 10 during ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. Since the Midwinter Meeting, the groups have been working virtually on projects related to ALA or a professional concern that they will showcase in the session....

[Go green with the Conference](#)

[Materials Archive](#)

Last year we inaugurated the [ALA Conference Materials Archive](#) wiki. It includes links to materials from earlier conferences, along with links to similar material from some of ALA's units. The goal is for all collateral conference material to be linked in some way from this wiki. So, if you are a speaker at the ALA 2009 Annual Conference in Chicago, this is the place for you to upload your handouts, or to publish links to your material, if it is resident on another site....

ALA Marginalia, June 24



[Usability testers needed at conference](#)

A number of usability tests of division websites are scheduled at Annual Conference in Chicago. Interested members should contact their division web content managers to volunteer. Members are also needed to help with ALA Connect testing....

ITTS Blog, June 17

Spencer Holley also includes essays and annotations. **NEW!**
From ALA Editions.

In this issue

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JobLIST



[Information Technology Director.](#)

Seattle Public Library. Reports to the City Librarian and plays a lead role in developing and maintaining a leading-edge technology infrastructure to ensure the success of the library's vision and

Booklist

ONLINE

Featured review: Media

Crips and Bloods: Made in America. Mar. 2009. 83 min. Bullfrog, DVD (978-1-59458-853-2).

Immediately disarming viewers, this film opens with aerial views of an inverted Los Angeles skyline before plunging to the streets of South Central L.A. to expose the warfare between the Crips and Bloods, the largest and most notorious African American gangs in the country. According to this program, contemporary violence over gang turf and affiliation is the symptom of a society that has never fully understood poverty and slavery. The documentary examines the 1965 Watts riots, the introduction of crack cocaine in 1981, and the eruption of civil unrest in the 1992 Rodney King police-brutality trial. A dynamic and subtle soundtrack bolsters Forest Whitaker's poignant narration....



Booklist presents: Lincoln and blogs and reference

Booklist is offering programs at ALA Annual Conference in Chicago with something for everyone involved in youth and adult collection development and/or readers advisory. The standing-room-only *Booklist* Books for Youth Forum on Friday evening is always a conference highlight; this year, join the crowd to celebrate 200 years of Lincoln's legacy. *Booklist* is also holding a premiere—the first annual Booklist Online Forum, "Books and Blogs: Made for Each Other?" On Monday, *Reference Books Bulletin* will bring together a panel to address "Rethinking the Reference Collection."...

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

strategies; leads and participates in short-term and long-range strategic planning with the Library Leadership Team to address current and emerging service needs and develops, recommends, and implements effective technological responses to those needs; and directs, supervises, and evaluates the activities and performance of Information Technology Division staff and vendor, project, or consultant staff assigned to information technology projects or activities....



@ [More jobs...](#)

Chicago Update

Chicago festivals

A street fair or festival is usually going on somewhere in the city throughout the summer. During Annual Conference, there will be a [free outdoor showing](#) of *Sunset Boulevard* in Grant Park on July 14, a [Thai Festival](#) in Daley Plaza July 8–10, an [Irish-American Heritage Festival](#) in North Park July 10–12, the *Chicago Tribune* [Magnificent Mile Art Festival](#) July 10–12, the [Chicago Folk and Roots Festival](#) in Lincoln Square July 11–12, and much more....

Metromix Chicago



CCF fundraiser at the Steppenwolf Theatre

There's still time to purchase tickets for an evening

Digital Library of the Week



Nebraska Memories

is a cooperative project to digitize Nebraska-related historical and cultural heritage materials and make them freely available to researchers of all

in support of the ALA Cultural Communities Fund on July 10. The ticket includes a cocktail reception, a performance of [500 Clown and the Elephant Deal](#) at Chicago's renowned Steppenwolf Theatre, and talk-back with cast and creatives following the show. Purchase tickets through an order form ([PDF File](#)) or by contacting [Amanda Rychener](#) at (800) 545-2433, ext. 5287....



[New TSA Secure Flight program](#)

Since May 15, when purchasing tickets, airline passengers are required to provide their name as it appears on the government-issued ID that they plan to use when traveling. This is the first phase of a new TSA program called [Secure Flight](#). Make sure the name on your ticket matches your name as it appears on your driver's license or passport. For the near future, small differences between ID and reservation information (such as the use of a middle initial, instead of a full middle name or no middle name or initial at all) should not cause a problem for the passenger....

TSA Blog, May 15; Transportation Security Administration



Division News

[Paula Poundstone to toast ALTAFF](#)

Author and comedian Paula Poundstone (right) will help ALTAFF celebrate its first official ALA Annual Conference with a champagne toast at the ALA Membership Pavilion, July 12, at 4:00 p.m. ALTAFF was formed in early 2009 when Friends of Libraries U.S.A. and the Association for Library Trustees and Advocates joined to become the new voice for America's libraries. The celebration is free and open to all. Listen to ALTAFF Executive Director Sally Gardner Reed discuss ALTAFF in this [podcast](#)....



[ALTAFF program](#)

Attend the ALTAFF program July 11 at ALA Annual Conference in Chicago and meet two speakers who have been a force for advocating change statewide—Illinois Rep. Emily McAsey (District 85) and Illinois Sen. Arthur Wilhelmi (District 43). In addition, meet and listen to Pierette Simpson (right), author of *Alive on the Andrea Doria*, who will have you riveted as she shares her amazing story of being part of the greatest sea rescue in history and her pursuit to find the truth of what happened that night....



[Nick Taylor rounds out RUSA Literary Breakfast](#)

Nick Taylor, author of *American-Made: The Enduring Legacy of the WPA*, will join Mark Harris (*Pictures at a Revolution*), Toby Barlow (*Sharp Teeth*), and Peter Manseau (*Songs for the Butcher's Daughter*) as presenters at the RUSA Literary Tastes Breakfast July

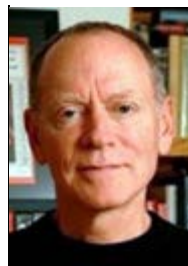
ages. The site uses CONTENTdm software to house digital collections created by Nebraska libraries. The Keene Memorial Library in Fremont, the Polley Music Library in Lincoln City, Alegent Health Immanuel Hospital, the Bess Streeter Aldrich House and Museum, the Lincoln Police Department, Omaha Community Playhouse, and the Durham Museum are some of the contributors. The database currently contains approximately 3,500+ digitized items and continues to grow each month. At this time searchers can find material from the 1890s to the 1970s. The Nebraska Memories website is owned by the Nebraska Library Commission.

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

"Libraries raised me. I don't believe in colleges and universities. I believe in libraries because most students don't have any money. When I graduated from high



12 at ALA Annual Conference. The authors will read from their work, ruminate on writing, and sign books while attendees enjoy a scrumptious breakfast....

[LITA's electronic participation task force](#)

A new toolkit is available to help ALA members who want to bring remote participants into a meeting or who want to stream a session's audio or video to a remote audience. The LITA Electronic Participation Implementation Task Force has been working for the last few months by email and on the [LITA wiki](#) to create the [EParticipation Task Force Recommendations](#)....

ALA TechSource Blog, June 17

[Patricia Martin to speak at LLAMA President's Program](#)

Author and consultant Patricia Martin (right) will speak at the LLAMA President's Program on July 12 at ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. Martin is one of the nation's foremost authorities on the emerging marketplace created by the convergence of art, entertainment, education, and technology....



[ALCTS events at Annual Conference](#)

The ALCTS President's Program on July 13 will feature James Cuno, president and director of the Art Institute of Chicago, discussing his book, *Who Owns Antiquity? Museums and the Battle over Our Ancient Heritage*....

[ALSC programs at Annual Conference](#)

ALSC is hosting a number of great programs and events at ALA Annual Conference this year, including ALSC 101, the ALSC Charlemae Rollins President's Program, the Newbery Caldecott Wilder Banquet, and the ALSC Happy Hour. Other things to keep your eyes out for at Annual Conference include ALSC's new Born to Read materials and the launch of phase two of the Kids! @ your library public awareness campaign....

[ACRL's summer e-learning schedule](#)

ACRL is offering a variety of timely live webcasts addressing hot topics in academic librarianship this summer. Webcasts last from an hour and a half to two hours and take place in an interactive online classroom. Group discounts are available. Full details and registration information are available on the ACRL [website](#)....

Round Table News

[What makes Tango so scary?](#)

The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgendered Round Table is sponsoring a program July 12 during the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago that will focus on the issues of intellectual

school, it was during the Depression and we had no money. I couldn't go to college, so I went to the library three days a week for 10 years."

—Science fiction author Ray Bradbury, writing in support of the Ventura County (Calif.) Library, *New York Times*, June 19.



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

Ask the ALA Librarian



Q. Our summer reading program is bringing kids to library in droves! Are there any awards for a successful summer reading program?

A. Not specifically. However, libraries do enter their successful [summer reading program](#) public



freedom, child development, and censorship of children's books with LGBT themes, called "What Makes *Tango* so Scary?" The program will feature the authors of *And Tango Makes Three*, Justin Richardson and Peter Parnell (above)....

[NMRT résumé review service](#)

Have your resume reviewed and updated during the 2009 ALA Annual Conference. On July 11–12, in the Grand Ballroom of McCormick Place-South, the New Members Round Table [Résumé Review Service](#) will offer an opportunity for you to have your résumé reviewed by knowledgeable fellow professionals. Volunteer greeters will answer any questions you may have....

ALA Student Member Blog, June 24

[CLENE events at Annual Conference](#)

The Continuing Library Education and Networking Exchange Round Table has a lot of wonderful stuff going on at ALA: programs, sold-out preconferences, a discussion group, and more. They hope to see you at one of their programs and you are invited to join them at their board meetings....

CE Buzz, June 20

Awards

[Doyle receives Freedom to Read Foundation Roll of Honor award](#)

Robert P. Doyle, executive director of the Illinois Library Association, is the recipient of the 2009 Freedom to Read Foundation Roll of Honor Award. Doyle is also editor of the *Banned Books Resource Guide*, a compendium of thousands of books that have been subject to censorship challenges. Prior to joining ILA, he served as director of ALA's International Relations Office and before that as deputy director of the ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom. The Roll of Honor was established in 1987 to recognize and honor those individuals who have contributed substantially to FTRF....



[Stonewall awards presentation](#)

The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgendered Round Table will honor the 2009 winners and honorees of the Stonewall Book Awards on July 13 during the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. Evan Fallenberg, winner of the Gittings Literature Award, will be present to receive the award for *Light Fell* (Soho Press). William N. Eskridge Jr., winner of the Israel Fishman Non-fiction Award for *Dishonorable Passions: Sodomy Laws in America, 1861–2003* (Viking) will make a video presentation....



[EBSCO ALA Conference Sponsorship Award winners](#)

ALA and EBSCO Information Services have announced 10 winners of the 2009 EBSCO ALA Conference Sponsorship awards. The awards, each in the amount of \$1,000, are presented annually to 10 ALA members to enable them to attend the ALA Annual Conference....

relations efforts in the [John Cotton Dana Library Public Relations Contest](#).

cosponsored by LLAMA and the H.W. Wilson Company. Now over 50 years old, this award recognizes the best in library public relations. Recognition is given to well-planned [public relations](#) programs.

The contest is not just about summer reading programs, but also centennials, bond issues, new buildings, author readings, new acquisitions—any activity you undertake to highlight the activities of your library. If you are looking for funds to do something special for next year, consider applying for the [ALSC/BWI Reading Program Grant](#), which is designed to encourage reading programs for children in a public library by providing financial assistance of \$3,000, while recognizing ALSC members for outstanding program development. It is sponsored by BWI and administered by ALSC. From the [ALA Professional Tips wiki](#).

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

Calendar

July 13–16:

[Apply for the 2010 National Library Week grant](#)

Libraries are invited to apply for the \$3,000 Scholastic Library Publishing National Library Week Grant, which will be awarded to a single library for the best public-awareness campaign incorporating the 2010 National Library Week theme, "Communities thrive @ your library." The grant is sponsored by Scholastic Library Publishing and administered by the ALA Public Awareness Committee. The [application](#) deadline is October 16. National Library Week is April 11–17, 2010....

[Susan Luevano is 2009 Trejo Librarian of the Year](#) (PDF file)

The first woman elected to the presidency of Reforma has been selected by the organization to receive its 2009 Arnulfo Trejo Librarian of the Year Award. Susan Luevano, an anthropology, ethnic, and women's studies librarian at California State University, Long Beach, will accept the award at the Reforma National Conference this July in Chicago....

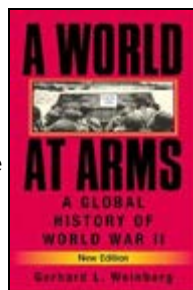
Reforma, June 18



[2009 Pritzker Military Library Literature Award](#)

Historian Gerhard L. Weinberg has been selected to receive the 2009 Pritzker Military Library Literature Award for Lifetime Achievement in Military Writing. The \$100,000 honorarium, sponsored by the Chicago-based Tawani Foundation, will be presented at the library's annual Liberty Gala on October 24 at Chicago's Palmer House Hilton Hotel. The award recognizes a living author for a body of work that has profoundly enriched the public understanding of American military history....

Pritzker Military Library, June 22



[Two libraries receive NLS awards](#)

The National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped at the Library of Congress presented awards June 19 to the Perkins Braille and Talking Book Library of Watertown, Massachusetts, and to the Miami-Dade (Fla.) Public Library System's Talking Books Library Service of Florida. The Watertown library received the Network Library of the Year Award for outstanding accomplishments in 2008, and the Miami library received the third annual Network Subregional Library of the Year Award....

Library of Congress, June 19



[21st Century Librarian Program grants](#)

The Institute of Museum and Library Services June 17 awarded [33 institutions](#) Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program grants totaling \$20.4 million. With these grants, library students and staff will assist very young children in achieving early literacy, support libraries in rural communities, increase the number of school library media specialists, and enable other recruitment and education programs....

Institute of Museum and Library Services, June 17

[Big Read grants total \\$3.7 million](#)

The Institute of Museum and Library Service, in

[World Congress in Computer Science, Computer Engineering, and Applied Computing](#)

Annual Conference, Las Vegas, Nevada. 22 joint conferences.

July 26–28:

[Church and Synagogue Library Association](#), Annual Conference, McKinley Grand Hotel, Canton, Ohio. "Historical Paths to the Future."

July 27–31:

[Electronic Records Summer Camp](#), Chapel Hill, North Carolina. Course sponsored by the Society of American Archivists.

July 30:

[Handheld Librarian Online Conference](#), sponsored by Alliance Library System, Learning Times, and Infoquest.

Aug. 10:

[International Symposium on Processing XML Efficiently](#), Hotel Europa, Montréal, Quebec. "Overcoming Limits on Space, Time, or Bandwidth."

Aug. 15–31:

[Edinburgh Book Festival](#), Scotland. Margaret Atwood will launch her new novel, *The Year of the Flood*, with a unique performance of music and song.

Sept. 16–17:

[Planning and Management of Buildings](#), Saratoga

partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts, awarded [Big Read grants](#) to 269 arts, culture, and science organizations, libraries, and municipalities on June 23. The communities and institutions will use the grants, totaling \$3.7 million, to host Big Read celebrations that bring communities together to read, discuss, and celebrate one of 30 selections from U.S. and world literature....

Institute of Museum and Library Services, June 23



[Final installment of IMLS Bookshelf program ends](#)

907 [museums, libraries, and archives](#) have been selected to receive the Institute of Museum and Library Services *Connecting to Collections Bookshelf*. This is the third and final installment of the *Bookshelf* program, which has distributed 2,751 sets of books, online resources, and a user's guide to institutions in every part of the country....

Institute of Museum and Library Services, June 17

[2009 Library Technology Excellence Award](#)

Publishing company IGI Global has awarded its first Library Technology Excellence Award to Chia-Wen Tsai, assistant professor of information management at Ming Chuan University in Taiwan, for his work on enhancing the computing skills of low-achieving students through online learning. The award honors an individual for an extraordinary commitment to using and understanding technological resources within the academic and research community....

IGI Global, June 23



[David Gemmell Legend Prize for fantasy](#)

The David Gemmell Legend Prize, established to lend dignity to the fantasy genre, is awarded to Andrzej Sapkowski's bestselling tale of dwarves, elves, gnomes, and humans, *Blood of Elves*. Over 10,000 fans from 75 countries voted in the prize, with Sapkowski eventually emerging triumphant from a shortlist of five authors. He wins a battle axe—named Snaga—that featured in David Gemmell's fiction....

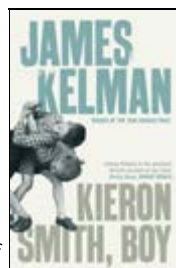
The Guardian (U.K.), June 19



[Scottish Book of the Year](#)

Acclaimed writer James Kelman has won Book of the Year 2009 in the Scottish Mortgage Investment Trust Book Awards for his novel *Kieron Smith, Boy*. Managed by the Scottish Arts Council, the award nets the author a prize of £30,000 (\$49,133 U.S.). Kelman was presented his award June 19 at the Borders Book Festival in Melrose, Scotland. His novel charts the life of a young boy in postwar Glasgow as his family moves from a traditional tenement to a new housing facility on the outskirts of the city....

Scottish Arts Council



[2009 Dundee Picture Book Award](#)

At a June 9 ceremony, 500 of the children in Dundee, Scotland, who participated in the process of voting

Springs. Certified Public Library Administrator course sponsored by PLA.

Sept. 23–26: [North Dakota Library Association](#)

Annual Conference, Days Hotel–Grand Dakota Lodge and Conference Center, Dickinson. "Evolution of the Library."

Sept. 30– Oct. 3:

[Kentucky Library Association /
Kentucky School Media Association](#)

Annual Conference, Galt House Hotel and Suites, Louisville.

Oct. 2–4:

[International Board on Books for Young People](#)

Regional Conference, Q Center, St. Charles, Illinois. "Children's Books: Where Worlds Meet."

Oct. 4–8:

[National Media Market](#), Griffin Gate Marriott Resort, Lexington, Kentucky.

Nov. 6–11:

[American Society for Information Science and Technology](#)

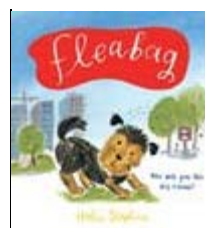
Annual Meeting, Vancouver, British Columbia.

Nov. 12–13:

[Management of Technology](#)

Mountlake Terrace, Washington. Certified Public Library Administrator course sponsored by PLA.

for the winning picture book had an opportunity to see the authors and illustrators who have given them so much enjoyment. This year's winner is *Fleabag*, written and illustrated by Helen Stephens. The award, which carries a £1,000 (\$1,638 U.S.) prize, recognizes excellence in storytelling for children and encourages youngsters to read....
Dundee Library and Information Services



Seen Online

[Rallies for Ohio libraries](#)

A large crowd gathered outside the Cleveland Public Library July 24 in one of the first of [many public rallies](#) protesting Gov. Strickland's massive proposed [budget cuts](#) to libraries. *Cleveland Plain Dealer* columnist Regina Brett's [editorial](#) reflects the sentiments of many Ohioans as library services, hours, and staff are about to be lost unless the legislature rejects this measure on June 30. According to [reports](#), the governor's office has fielded nearly 14,000 emails from angry constituents over the proposed cuts. His phone line seized operation on June 22 because of the influx of calls. If you are tweeting on the situation in Ohio, add the #saveohiolibraries hash tag to help make this a Twitter Trending Topic...



WKYC-TV, Cleveland, June 23; TwitPic; Save Ohio Libraries; *Cleveland Plain Dealer*, June 23; *Cleveland Leader*, June 24

[Pittsburgh's money woes](#)

As the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh continues to serve more people and renovate its aging branches, it anticipates a sharp decline in government support, including a \$1.6-million cut in 2010 with more to follow, library leaders warned June 22. Speaking beneath the "Free to the People" inscription at the library's Oakland headquarters, Llibrary Board Chairwoman Jacqui Fiske Lazo and Library President Barbara Mistick warned of tough financial times over the next four years....

Pittsburgh (Pa.) Post-Gazette, June 23

[Arch dedicated to first black librarian in Montana](#)

The life and accomplishments of civil rights pioneer and library advocate Alma Jacobs were celebrated outside the Great Falls (Mont.) Public Library June 20 during a dedication of a new plaza fountain in her memory. Jacobs was the first black librarian in Montana and later served as head librarian in Great Falls from 1954 to 1973. One of Montana's most prominent black leaders, she also served as the state librarian from 1973 to 1982. Watch the [news video](#) (2:20)....



Great Falls (Mont.) Tribune, June 21; KFBB-TV, Great Falls, June 20

[Detroit library money diverted to city employee fund](#)

The city of Detroit has been spending property tax money intended for Detroit Public Library employees' benefits on city operations

Feb. 13–20, 2010:

[19th Annual Havana International Book Fair](#), Havana, Cuba.

University and public librarians in the United States can legally attend as professionals.

[LegalCubaTravel.com](#) provides an easy step-by-step license/visa application kit. [Cuba Educational Tours](#) has an all-inclusive travel program for the fair. Early registration to ensure participation is encouraged.

@ [More...](#)

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instead, according to Library Commissioner Jonathan Kinloch. Library staff learned in mid-June that the city spent \$6.2 million in property tax money that was supposed to go to the library, dating back to July 1. The city still owes the library the money....

Detroit Free Press, June 20

[Chinese internet strike on July 1](#)

On July 1, the Chinese government will be rolling out censorship software on every new computer sold in the country. The software, called [Green Dam Youth Escort](#), is intended to block pornography and possibly filter politically disruptive material, all while quietly gathering private user data. Beijing artist and prominent political critic [Ai Weiwei](#) (right) is calling for everyone in China to abandon the internet on the day the new rule takes effect....



ReadWriteWeb, June 23; Global Post, June 23

[Washington court hears library filtering case](#)

The Washington State Supreme Court heard arguments June 23 over whether an internet filter at the North Central Regional Library System in Wenatchee violates freedom of speech. The American Civil Liberties Union sued the regional library system in 2006 on behalf of three residents and a pro-gun organization who say the library's internet filter policy violated their state and federal freedom of speech rights....

Wenatchee (Wash.) World, June 24

[A literary legend fights for the Ventura County library](#)

Science-fiction author Ray Bradbury, 88, ventured to the Ventura College Theatre June 20 for a benefit for the H. P. Wright branch of the Ventura County (Calif.) Library, which like many others in the state's public system is in danger of shutting its doors because of budget cuts. Property tax dollars have fallen precipitously, putting the library system roughly \$650,000 in the hole. Almost half of that amount is attributed to the H. P. Wright Library, which serves roughly two-thirds of Ventura....

New York Times, June 19

[Son of Stinky erupts, briefly](#)

The build-up was impressive, but the actual event felt as if it was over in a flash. The Huntington Library's corpse flower (*Amorphophallus titanum*) bloomed June 17 in an event that people have been talking, texting, and tweeting about for weeks in giddy anticipation. The plant, famous for emitting a powerful stench as it reaches prime pollination hour, has been tracked on the Huntington's [website](#) around the clock. No sooner had the unpredictable "Son of Stinky" bloomed than it began to wilt less than two days later. Watch the [timelapse video](#) (0:26) from the last bloom in 1999....



Los Angeles Times, June 19; Huntington Library; YouTube, June 15

[Legal concerns force BYU to shelve Kindles](#)

Brigham Young University's Harold B. Lee Library is suspending a short-lived pilot program using Amazon.com's electronic book, the Kindle, as a substitute for interlibrary loans. The program, which has been available to faculty members for about a month, created some buzz on library-related blogs for breaking ground in the uncertain

Send feedback:

aldirect@ala.org

AL Direct FAQ:

www.ala.org/aldirect/

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

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www.ala.org/alonline/

800-545-2433,

ext. 4216

ISSN 1559-369X.

area of lending books on the Kindle. Although BYU had verbal permission to proceed with the program, Roger Layton, library communications manager, said the program is on hold until the university has a clearer picture of Amazon's legal concerns....

Salt Lake City *Deseret News*, June 20

[Nazareth library error rectified](#)

A 7-year-old boy from Tatamy, Pennsylvania, who was told last week that his Nazareth library card was invalid now can use the card until the end of the year. Lynn Snodgrass-Pilla, director of the Memorial Library of Nazareth and Vicinity, said June 22 that Dominick Philip would be permitted to use the card through year's end. Melissa Philip, the boy's mother, mistakenly received a Nazareth library card for her son about a year ago—an error that was revealed after Dominick's photo was published in the *Allentown Morning Call* June 18....

Easton (Pa.) *Express-Times*, June 22

[Historic library reopens as Literary Landmark](#)

Nearly 11 months after being closed for repairs from an electrical fire, the Eudora Welty Library in Jackson, Mississippi, reopened June 22 with fanfare—readings, refreshments, and a declaration as a Literary Landmark. A July 25, 2008, fire caused nearly \$1 million in damages to the library's mechanical and electrical systems. Pulitzer Prize-winning author Welty was a daily visitor to the library, which was named after her when the building was replaced in 1986....

Jackson (Miss.) *Clarion-Ledger*, June 22



[Wauconda unveils memorial to woman killed in Iraq](#)

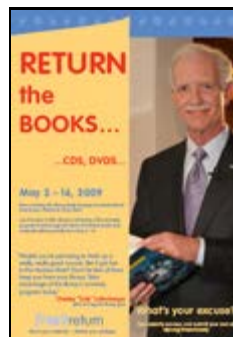
It has been nearly a year since Nicole Suveges died in Iraq while working as a political-science adviser for defense contractor BAE Systems, but her memory lives on outside the Wauconda (Ill.) Area Public Library. A 200-square-foot memorial garden featuring rose bushes, begonias, day lilies, a cobblestone walk, and sitting area now honors Suveges's life and work. She had been [supporting](#) the 3rd Brigade Combat Team in Sadr City in "political, cultural, and tribal engagements."...

Arlington Heights (Ill.) *Daily Herald*, June 22; CNN, June 26, 2008

[Fee waiver lures the lax back to the stacks](#)

People from all over the San Francisco Bay area came up with some decent, or at least inventive, explanations for their tardy tomes under a recent San Francisco Public Library amnesty program for overdue books. Posters and video promos by local celebrities including airline pilot Chesley B. Sullenberger (right) were used to raise awareness of the program and add some fun to the process. In all, 29,000 overdue books were returned during the two-week May amnesty program, including about 3,100 that were more than 60 days late and assumed lost....

Associated Press, June 18



[Bat removal at University of Central Florida](#)

A contractor hired to remove bats from the University of Central

Florida Library in Orlando believes they got into the building to escape the rainy weather. The bats, 75 in all, were transferred to the university arboretum. A spokesman for the university said the bats were in administrative offices in the library and not in the public areas....

United Press International, June 18

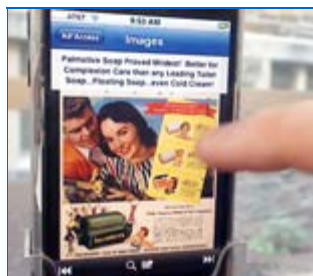
[Go back to the Top](#)

Tech Talk

[Digital collections on DukeMobile iPhone app](#)

Duke University Libraries now offer the most comprehensive university digital-image collection specifically formatted for an iPhone or iTouch device. DukeMobile 1.1 includes thousands of photos and other artifacts that range from early beer advertisements to materials on San Francisco's Haight-Ashbury scene in the 1960s. Although a growing number of scholarly institutions provide images and other material online, Duke is the first to offer collections that take advantage of the iPhone's design, navigation, and other features. Watch the [video](#) (3:06)....

Duke Today, June 16



[Should you upgrade to the Palm Pre...](#)

Jenny Levine writes: "While it's quite clearly a first-generation device, I love it. This post will explain why, but it won't be a comparison of the iPhone versus the Pre. I've only played with an iPhone a couple of times, so it wouldn't be fair. So instead, this will be a review of the Pre from the perspective of a Treo/Centro owner wondering if she should upgrade, because that's the question I'm getting asked the most."...

The Shifted Librarian, June 17



[...or the Apple iPhone 3G S?](#)

Sascha Segan writes: "If you like apps or the internet, go buy the iPhone 3G S right now. The new model's improved processor and graphics chipset significantly boost the speed of everything from web browsing to games, cementing the iPhone's role as the nation's most flexible handheld computer. No, it still isn't the world's best phone. But that's never been the true goal of the iPhone line: Apple is devoted to bringing handheld computing to the masses. And it's succeeding brilliantly."...

PC Magazine, June 22



[Top 10 Firefox 3.5 features](#)

Kevin Purdy writes: "Firefox 3.5 is a pretty substantial update to the popular open-source browser, and it's just around the corner. See what features, fixes, and clever new tools are worth getting excited about in the next big release."...

Lifehacker, June 20

[Book-reading robot](#)

Japanese researchers have developed a literate, child-sized robot capable of reading old-fashioned

paper-printed books. Ninomiya-kun, a one-meter-tall, 25-kilogram, aluminum-framed robot developed at Waseda University's Information, Production, and Systems Research Center, was [unveiled](#) June 11 at a robot trade fair in Kitakyushu, where it entertained onlookers by reading fairy tales from a book.

Character recognition software installed on a computer in the robot's backpack translates the text into spoken words, which are produced by a voice synthesizer. Hear the robot talk [here](#) (0:26)....

Pink Tentacle, June 12; *Daily Yomiuri*, June 12; YouTube, June 12

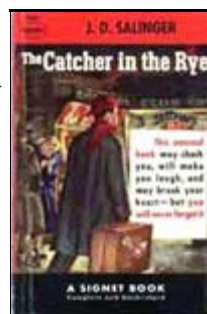


Publishing

[The private life of J. D. Salinger](#)

Poor J. D. Salinger—literature's most famous oddball recluse. What exactly was his crime? He wrote one of the most influential novels of the 20th century, then decided he hated publishing. People always want more—another book like *The Catcher in the Rye* please—but Salinger wants less. He just wants to write and be left alone in Cornish, New Hampshire. He's a solitary soul but no oddball. Here are some of the many faces of *The Catcher in the Rye*....

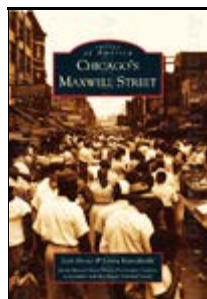
Abebooks



[An exclusive look at local and regional history](#)

Electronic publisher Alexander Street Press and local-history book publisher Arcadia Publishing have released [Local and Regional History Online: A History of American Life in Images and Texts](#). The collection includes hundreds of thousands of images and corresponding texts from every region and state in the U.S. and from many areas of Canada. Alexander Street is offering *AL Direct* readers a free, exclusive preview of the collection at [this URL](#) through July 31 (name and email address required for sign-up)....

Alexander Street Press, June 23



[Change or die?](#)

At the annual meeting of the Association of American University Presses in Philadelphia June 20, press directors received an overview of why they can't count on book orders anymore from Beth Jacoby, collection development librarian at York College of Pennsylvania. She opened by talking about formats of communication that are dead (the 8-track), on life support (print), and those that are thriving (e-journals, e-reference books, databases). Students, she said, "don't know how to use a print phone book."...

Inside Higher Ed, June 22

[Literary archives of the future](#)

Robert McCrum writes: "What, I wonder, will the literary histories and biographies of the future look like? Will the great libraries store and catalog computer disks? Archives are already logging entries for film and video; where once it was essential to be able to read the chancery script of Elizabethan and Jacobean manuscripts, will it now

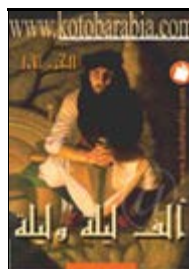
be necessary to have a master's degree in the decoding of Microsoft Word? A Ph.D in email correspondence techniques?"...

The Guardian (U.K.), June 22

[Arabic e-books extend borders](#)

Chip Rossetti writes: "Most of the difficulties faced by Arabic-language book publishing stem from two basic problems: government censorship and very limited distribution. But with e-books, Ramy Habeeb, founder of the Egypt-based publisher [Kotob Arabia](#), has managed to bypass both seemingly intractable problems. As the first e-publisher devoted exclusively to Arabic-language titles, Kotob Arabia now offers more than 8,500 books in 31 subject categories."...

Publishing Perspectives, June 18



[Surprising facts about 15 bestselling authors](#)

Ethan Trex writes: "Heading to the beach this summer? You can't lounge around on the sand without a book, so it's time to hit the bestseller list for a paperback that can get a little wet and sandy. How well do you know the authors of your favorite bestselling beach fare, though? We did some digging and came up with a few surprising facts on some of the literary world's biggest cash cows."...

Mental Floss, June 23



Actions & Answers

[NYPL's successful online campaign](#)

The New York Public Library successfully used an online fundraising and advocacy [campaign](#) to fight the city's plan to slash its municipal support by \$28 million this year—and now it has won back \$23 million in subsidies. Key to the library's success was an urgent alert message that the institution used to replace what viewers typically see when they visit its main website....

Chronicle of Philanthropy, June 22; New York Public Library



[Geek the Library campaign goes live in Iowa, Georgia](#)

Although aimed at consumers, librarians will also have fun looking through OCLC's [Geek the Library](#) campaign site and then adding in what you geek. The campaign, made possible by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, highlights what people are passionate about and how libraries can support them, in an effort to heighten awareness about the critical funding issues public libraries face. Kick-off events took place in [Savannah, Georgia](#), and [Des Moines, Iowa](#)....



It's All Good, June 23

[June 16 was Anne-Imelda Radice Day in Buffalo](#)

Buffalo, New York, Mayor Byron Brown recognized the contributions of IMLS Director Anne-Imelda Radice for her leadership to the nation in support of cultural heritage collections and for her representation of her home town. A proclamation naming June 16, 2009, Anne-Imelda Radice Day was read during the opening session of a conference held in Buffalo, "Stewardship of America's Legacy: Answering the Call to Action," attended by 300 museum and library professionals....



Institute of Museum and Library Services, June 23

[100+ alternative search engines](#)

When it comes to searching for something specific, Google may churn out results that are too general. For instance, a search for a song in Google may return the singer, the lyrics, and even fan sites—depending on the keywords you entered. Niche-specific search engines are more focused and their results tend to be more accurate. This massive list offers links to search engines focusing on e-books and PDF files, audio and music, video, and the Rapidshare file-hosting site....

Hongkiat, June 16



[New features on Google Books](#)

Google Books rolled out a handful of new features in June. A new toolbar option allows you to embed a preview in any of your websites or blogs—all with a simple HTML snippet. For public domain and partner books, Google Books shows more context around search terms, including an image from the part of the page on which it appears. A new thumbnail view button in the toolbar provides an overview (above) of all the pages in a public-domain book or in a magazine. Other features include a contents drop-down menu and plain-text mode....

Inside Google Book Search, June 18



[Google translates Persian](#)

Google has added Persian (Farsi) to [Google Translate](#). This means you can now translate any text from Persian into English and from English into Persian—whether it's a news story, a website, a blog, an email, a tweet, or a Facebook message. The service is free. Understanding Persian is particularly important now, given ongoing events in Iran. Mark Liberman [reviews](#) the tool....

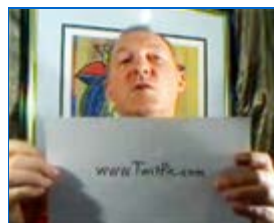
The Official Google Blog, June 18; Language Log, June 21



[How to upload photos to Twitter](#)

Mike Wesely shows you how to add pix to your tweets using [TwitPic](#) in this YouTube twit-torial (4:11). You can post pictures to Twitter from your phone, the TwitPic API, or through the site itself. If you have a Twitter account then you already have a TwitPic account....

YouTube, May 10



[Are you a Twitter quitter?](#)

Amy J. Kearns writes: "Even to those who already use other social networking sites like Facebook, Twitter can be a really tough sell. Recently a lot of the attention has [focused](#) on the large number of Twitter quitters—those who join Twitter and never go back. I am not saying that everyone absolutely has to twitter. However, I do suggest that you download Tweet Deck (if you use Windows) or Tweetie (if you use a Mac), selectively add some people, and try it regularly for longer than a month and see if you're actually a Twitter quitter or not."...

Library Garden, June 19; *Computerworld*, April 29



[25 ways to sabotage your job search](#)

Granted, we are in tough times and there are many factors out of your control that can keep you from getting hired. But that's all the more reason to do everything within your power to be the best job seeker you can. With that in mind, look over these 25 ways you might be unknowingly sabotaging your job search....

CNN, June 15

[A compilation of competencies](#)

A Competency Index for the Library Field has been published by WebJunction. It is a compilation of competency statements that address a broad spectrum of library practice and service.

WebJunction aggregated 12 leading competency sets from the field and subjected them to a vigorous review by subject-matter expert practitioners. The resulting publication can be [downloaded](#) for free, remixed, and reinvented in whatever way best serves your library's size, structure, and personnel development needs....

WebJunction, June 23



[21st-century skills movement grows](#)

Illinois, Louisiana, and Nevada became the latest states to join the Partnership for 21st Century Skills (P21), a national effort to integrate 21st-century skills into teaching and learning to prepare students for a global, information-based economy. P21 made the announcement at the end of a recent Cyber Summit, which ran online June 1–9. The summit featured a series of nine webinars that gave educators a chance to collaborate and learn from colleagues who have implemented 21st-century skills programs....

eSchool News, June 22

[Paper vs. plastic](#)

Do you give out paper, plastic, or reusable bags at your library book sale? Nothing is simple in the push to protect the planet. There is growing evidence that the production, use, and disposal of plastic bags put less burden on natural resources than paper bags. Meanwhile, a knock against plastic bags—that they can't be conveniently recycled—is becoming less persuasive as more cities start accepting plastic bags in curbside recycling programs....

Wall Street Journal, June 12



[Getting boys to read](#)

Holly Jennings writes: "[Getting Boys to Read](#) is a website dedicated to supporting parents, teachers, and librarians who want to help boys learn to love

reading. The site was founded by Mike McQueen, a teacher-librarian at McLain Community High School in Lakewood, Colorado. The site provides informative articles, interviews, and a forum for discussion about all topics related to boys, reading, writing, and other literacy-related topics. It tackles national issues, like the serious [literacy gap](#) between boys and girls in the United States, [strategies](#) to help get boys reading, information about Jon Scieszka's [Guys Read Group](#), and informative [book reviews](#)."...

Rochester (N.Y.) Examiner, June 21



[Programming for children with special needs](#)

Tricia Bohanon Twarogowski writes: "Efforts to provide special-needs programming are an important aspect of library service that results in numerous rewards for families, communities, and libraries. Here are some tips for those providing storytimes for children with special needs and their families for the first time."...

ALSC Blog, June 23

[Museums of children's literature](#)

Betsy Bird writes: "The other day I cooed, gurgled, and generally fell into fits of unmoderated bliss when I read about [Seven Stories](#) (right), 'the first museum in the UK wholly dedicated to the art of British Children's Books.' I said I wanted to go to there. Then someone pointed out that there are plenty of lovely museums dedicated to the same darn thing right here in America. Why not take a quickie tour with me around and about the states?"...

A Fuse #8 Production, June 23



[The 15th-century Apocalypse *Sancti Johannis*](#)

In this first episode of the Chicago Newberry Library's [podcast](#) series, Curator Paul Gehl tells us about an early example of a graphic novel from the 15th century, the *Apocalypse Sancti Johannis*, a visual retelling of St. John's apocalyptic visions from the Book of Revelations. This rare book tries to make St. John's vision accessible to those who can't read and poses interesting questions about print and media that resonate today. Special guest appearance by comic artist Jeffrey Brown. Watch a related [video](#) (2:00)....

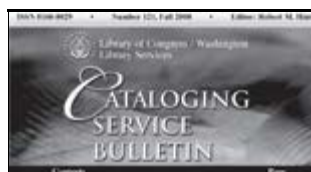
Newberry Library; YouTube, June 6



[Cataloging Service Bulletins online for free](#)

All 123 issues of *Cataloging Service Bulletin* (Summer 1978 through the current issue) are now available [online](#) at no cost. *CSB* is a quarterly bulletin that includes current, new, and revised information about Library of Congress cataloging and classification practices and policies. The entire 31 years of *CSB* are made available by LC as a free service to the worldwide library community....

Library of Congress, June 15



[Download free audiobooks to your iPod](#)

Mary Burkey writes: "Public libraries using OverDrive as their download service for audiobooks, e-books, music, and video just expanded their offerings—and made quite a few patrons much happier. In the past, iPod users were frustrated with the Windows MP3 device-only compatibility with OverDrive's file format. But the release of OverDrive's no-cost [Media Console](#) version 3.2 for Windows or version 1.0 for Mac solves many of those issues."...

Audiobooker, June 23

[Wikipedia gets ready for a video upgrade](#)

David Talbot writes: "The organization behind Wikipedia is close to launching an editable online video encyclopedia. The hope is to goad content providers—from public broadcasters to the music industry—into allowing more video to enter the public domain. Within two to three months, a person editing a Wikipedia article will find a new button labeled 'Add Media.' Clicking it will bring up an interface allowing her to search for video—initially from three repositories containing copyright-free material—and drag chosen portions into the article."...

Technology Review, June 19



[Phoenixville Library ghost investigation](#)

The [Scared!](#) paranormal investigators look into the haunting activity at the Phoenixville (Pa.) Public Library, a recently renovated 1902 building, in this teaser trailer (1:00). Books have been seen flying off the shelf, and the attic plays host to a female apparition in old-fashioned clothing. The [Chester County Paranormal Research Society](#) also conducted an investigation there in 2006 and took photos of orbs and discolorations....

YouTube, June 22



[What is a browser?](#)

This video (2:33) shows why people still need librarians, whether they know it or not. Scott from Google asked more than 50 passersby, all different ages and backgrounds, the question "What is a browser?" in Times Square in New York. Part of the reason was to identify market penetration of the Google browser Chrome. Here are the results....

YouTube, April 30



[Go back to the Top](#)

AL Direct, June 24, 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 | June 24, 2009

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

[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

U.S. & World News

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Ohio governor's budget would slash library funding
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2009/june2009/ohio-libsthreatened062309.cfm>]
Public libraries throughout Ohio have altered their landing pages (see Dayton, [<http://www.dayton.lib.oh.us/>] Cleveland, [<http://www.cuyahogalibrary.org/>] Columbus, [http://www.columbuslibrary.org/save_our_library] and Toledo [<http://toledolibrary.org>]) to alert patrons about Gov. Ted Strickland's draconian June 19 proposal to slash a total of \$227.3 million over the next two years from the state's Public Library Fund. The messages emphasized the urgency of contacting state lawmakers on the conference committee before June 30 when they must finalize the FY2010–11 budget. The Ohio Library Council [<http://www.olc.org/SaveOhioLibraries.asp>]'s Lynda Murray said enacting the budget would effectively cut library support in half for some 70% of the 251 public libraries that are funded solely by the state. Follow the

news in the Save Ohio Libraries blog [<http://saveohiolibraries.com/>] and Facebook page [<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=112430631411>].... American Libraries Online, June 23

Court strikes down Contra Costa worship ban

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2009/june2009/contracostaloses062409.cfm>]

A federal district court barred Contra Costa County (Calif.) Library from enforcing its ban on religious services in its meeting room June 19, overturning a 2006 decision by the Ninth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals that allowed the library to bar the Faith Center Church Evangelistic Ministries from holding services there. Judge Jeffrey White, who granted the 2005 injunction against the library's ban on religious services, ruled this time that the county could not legally prohibit prayer services while allowing religious discussion because it did not have a way to distinguish between the two....

American Libraries Online, June 24

ALA News

Jim Rettig on the proposed Ohio library cuts

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/ohiostatement_pio.cfm]

Since January 2009, Ohio public libraries have lost approximately 20% of their state funding. Currently Gov. Ted Strickland has proposed an additional 30% reduction. ALA President Jim Rettig released a statement in response to the proposed library budget cuts

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2009/june2009/ohiolibsthreatened062309.cfm>]: "What will happen to the people of Ohio if their right to free access to information is taken away?" Rettig asked. "The governor's drastic proposed library budget cuts are the largest in history and will impact more than 8 million registered library card holders."...

Arne Duncan and Jon Corzine visit Fanwood Library

[http://www.nj.com/news/local/index.ssf/2009/06/us_education_secretary_and_gov.html]

Summer reading programs like the one offered at the Fanwood (N.J.) Memorial Library play a critical role in a child's educational development, according to U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan. On June 22, Duncan joined New Jersey Gov. Jon Corzine at the library to launch a national campaign called United We Serve,

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/issuesadvocacy/advocacy/unitedweserve/index.cfm>] promoting volunteerism and community involvement....

Newark (N.J.) Star-Ledger, June 22

Chatting with Arne Duncan

[<http://www.al.ala.org/insidescoop/2009/06/23/chatting-with-arne-duncan/>]

American Libraries Editor-in-Chief Leonard Kniffel writes: "Fresh from the launch of United We Serve

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/cal>]

ltoservice_ola.cfm] at the Fanwood (N.J.) Memorial Library, [http://www.nj.com/news/local/index.ssf/2009/06/us_education_secretary_and_gov.html] U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan took time to do a Newsmaker interview for American Libraries June 22. I chatted with him for about 20 minutes, and he talked with conviction about the value of libraries and the threats to funding they are facing. He noted ironically that budget cuts are in inverse proportion to the rising demand for their services, which are essential to solving America's financial and social problems.”...

AL Inside Scoop, June 23

Public libraries and e-government

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/egovbrief_ors.cfm]

In the fourth of a series of reports regarding technology access in U.S. public libraries, the Office for Research and Statistics is highlighting how public library technology supports the use of e-government information and resources. U.S. Public Libraries and E-Government Services (PDF file

[http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/ors/plftas/IssuesBrief-Egov.pdf]) describes the increased use of online government information and services, the critical role of public libraries in helping provide access and assistance using them, and the challenges that must be addressed to improve e-government at the local, state, and federal level....

Many Voices, One Nation

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/mvon_ofd.cfm]

The ALA Office for Diversity will showcase the diverse voices of our world at the “Many Voices, One Nation” program, an evening of literature and performance July 10 during Annual Conference in Chicago. This year's theme is “Changing Communities through Literature and Activism.” The program will feature novelist Nami Mun, spoken word artist George Watsky, children's author Janice Harrington, writer Ed Bok Lee, and poet Rachel Zucker....

Annual Conference exhibitor coupons

[http://www.libraryjournal.com/article/ca6665989.html]

Print out these PDF coupons and bring them to Chicago to get a head start on drawings, gifts, discounts, previews, and hot tips from exhibitors at Annual Conference. The coupons will also be in the ActionAd Easy-To-Use Guide to the Exhibits in your conference bag....

ALA and Library Journal

Grassroots Programs at Annual Conference

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/annualgrassrootspgms_gov.cfm]

This year's ALA Annual Conference in Chicago will feature 10 “Grassroots Programs” selected by a jury of library school students and practitioners from 118 proposals. The programs are part of ALA President Jim Rettig's presidential initiative to increase opportunities for members to participate in, contribute to, and benefit from their Association. They will be identified in the conference program book with a distinctive grassroots logo....

Discover poetry in Chicago

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/ac09discoverpoetry_ppo.cfm]

Poetry-minded attendees of the 2009 ALA Annual Conference in Chicago will be pleased to discover a series of conference offerings to delight and inspire the lyrical librarian. The ALA Public Programs Office, with support from the National Endowment for the Arts, will present a slate of poetry programming July 9–15....

Be an Emerging Leader

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/elaapplicationsopen_hrdr.cfm]

ALA is now accepting applications

[<http://www.ala.org/cfapps/emergingleaders/>] for the 2010 class of Emerging Leaders. The program is designed to enable approximately 100 library workers to get on the fast track to ALA and professional leadership. Participants are given the opportunity to work on a variety of projects, network with peers and get an inside look into the ALA structure and activities. The deadline to apply is July 31....

Emerging Leaders poster session

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/elpostersession_hrdr.cfm]

The ALA 2009 class of Emerging Leaders will showcase their final projects at a poster session July 10 during ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. Since the Midwinter Meeting, the groups have been working virtually on projects related to ALA or a professional concern that they will showcase in the session....

Go green with the Conference Materials Archive

[<http://discuss.ala.org/marginalia/2009/06/24/use-the-conference-materials-archive/>]

Last year we inaugurated the ALA Conference Materials Archive

[<http://presentations.ala.org/>] wiki. It includes links to materials from earlier conferences, along with links to similar material from some of ALA’s units. The goal is for all collateral conference material to be linked in some way from this wiki. So, if you are a speaker at the ALA 2009 Annual Conference in Chicago, this is the place for you to upload your handouts, or to publish links to your material, if it is resident on another site....

ALA Marginalia, June 24

Usability testers needed at conference

[<http://itts.ala.org/update/2009/06/17/usability-testers-needed-at-annual-conference/>]

A number of usability tests of division websites are scheduled at Annual Conference in Chicago. Interested members should contact their division web content managers to volunteer. Members are also needed to help with ALA Connect testing....

ITTS Blog, June 17

Featured review: Media

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=3461550]

Crips and Bloods: Made in America. Mar. 2009. 83 min. Bullfrog, DVD (978-1-59458-853-2).

Immediately disarming viewers, this film opens with aerial views of an inverted Los Angeles skyline before plunging to the streets of South Central L.A. to expose the warfare between the Crips and Bloods, the largest and most notorious African American gangs in the country. According to this program, contemporary violence over gang turf and affiliation is the symptom of a society that has never fully understood poverty and slavery. The documentary examines the 1965 Watts riots, the introduction of crack cocaine in 1981, and the eruption of civil unrest in the 1992 Rodney King police-brutality trial. A dynamic and subtle soundtrack bolsters Forest Whitaker's poignant narration....

presents: Lincoln and blogs and reference

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/lincolntoblogs_booklist.cfm]

Booklist is offering programs at ALA Annual Conference in Chicago with something for everyone involved in youth and adult collection development and/or readers advisory. The standing-room-only Booklist Books for Youth Forum on Friday evening is always a conference highlight; this year, join the crowd to celebrate 200 years of Lincoln's legacy. Booklist is also holding a premiere—the first annual Booklist Online Forum, “Books and Blogs: Made for Each Other?” On Monday, Reference Books Bulletin will bring together a panel to address “Rethinking the Reference Collection.”...

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

Chicago Update

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Chicago festivals

[<http://chicago.metromix.com/events/article/chicago-festival-guide/339943/content>]

A street fair or festival is usually going on somewhere in the city throughout the summer. During Annual Conference, there will be a free outdoor showing

[http://chicago.metromix.com/events/fair_festival/chicago-outdoor-film-festival/794259/content] of Sunset Boulevard in Grant Park on July 14, a Thai Festival

[http://chicago.metromix.com/events/fair_festival/thai-festival-chicago-2009-loop/1080952/content] in Daley Plaza July 8–10, an Irish-American Heritage Festival

[http://chicago.metromix.com/events/fair_festival/24th-annual-irish-american-north-park/1044298/content] in North Park July 10–12, the Chicago Tribune Magnificent Mile Art Festival

[http://chicago.metromix.com/events/fair_festival/chicago-tribune-magnifice

nt-mile-river-north/1064556/content] July 10–12, the Chicago Folk and Roots Festival
[http://chicago.metromix.com/events/fair_festival/12th-annual-chicago-folk-lincoln-square/941255/content] in Lincoln Square July 11–12, and much more....
Metromix Chicago

CCF fundraiser at the Steppenwolf Theatre
[http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/ppo/about/ac2009/ac2009.cfm]
There's still time to purchase tickets for an evening in support of the ALA Cultural Communities Fund on July 10. The ticket includes a cocktail reception, a performance of 500 Clown and the Elephant Deal
[http://www.steppenwolf.org/boxoffice/productions/index.aspx?id=483] at Chicago's renowned Steppenwolf Theatre, and talk-back with cast and creatives following the show. Purchase tickets through an order form (PDF File
[http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/ppo/about/ac2009/files/AC09-500-Clown-form.pdf]) or by contacting Amanda Rychener
[mailto:arychener@ala.org] at (800) 545-2433, ext. 5287....

New TSA Secure Flight program
[http://www.tsa.gov/blog/2009/05/whats-in-name.html]
Since May 15, when purchasing tickets, airline passengers are required to provide their name as it appears on the government-issued ID that they plan to use when traveling. This is the first phase of a new TSA program called Secure Flight.
[http://www.tsa.gov/what_we_do/layers/secureflight/index.shtm] Make sure the name on your ticket matches your name as it appears on your driver's license or passport. For the near future, small differences between ID and reservation information (such as the use of a middle initial, instead of a full middle name or no middle name or initial at all) should not cause a problem for the passenger....
TSA Blog, May 15; Transportation Security Administration

Division News

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Paula Poundstone to toast ALTAFF
[http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/altaff/conferences/annual/programs/champagne.cfm]
Author and comedian Paula Poundstone (right) will help ALTAFF celebrate its first official ALA Annual Conference with a champagne toast at the ALA Membership Pavilion, July 12, at 4:00 p.m. ALTAFF was formed in early 2009 when Friends of Libraries U.S.A. and the Association for Library Trustees and Advocates joined to become the new voice for America's libraries. The celebration is free and open to all. Listen to ALTAFF Executive Director Sally Gardner Reed discuss ALTAFF in this podcast
[http://www.pio.ala.org/visibility/?p=769]....

ALTAFF program
[http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/altaff/conferences/annual/programs/openinggeneral.cfm]

Attend the ALTAFF program July 11 at ALA Annual Conference in Chicago and meet two speakers who have been a force for advocating change statewide—Illinois Rep. Emily McAsey (District 85) and Illinois Sen. Arthur Wilhelmi (District 43). In addition, meet and listen to Pierette Simpson (right), author of *Alive on the Andrea Doria*, who will have you riveted as she shares her amazing story of being part of the greatest sea rescue in history and her pursuit to find the truth of what happened that night....

Nick Taylor rounds out RUSA Literary Breakfast

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/americanmadetaylor_rusa.cfm]

Nick Taylor, author of *American-Made: The Enduring Legacy of the WPA*, will join Mark Harris (*Pictures at a Revolution*), Toby Barlow (*Sharp Teeth*), and Peter Manseau (*Songs for the Butcher's Daughter*) as presenters at the RUSA Literary Tastes Breakfast July 12 at ALA Annual Conference. The authors will read from their work, ruminate on writing, and sign books while attendees enjoy a scrumptious breakfast....

LITA's electronic participation task force

[<http://www.alatechsource.org/blog/2009/06/ala-working-to-make-big-strides-in-electronic-member-participation.html>]

A new toolkit is available to help ALA members who want to bring remote participants into a meeting or who want to stream a session's audio or video to a remote audience. The LITA Electronic Participation Implementation Task Force has been working for the last few months by email and on the LITA wiki [<http://wikis.ala.org/lita/index.php>] to create the EParticipation Task Force Recommendations [http://wikis.ala.org/lita/index.php/EParticipation_Task_Force_Recommendations]....

ALA TechSource Blog, June 17

Patricia Martin to speak at LLAMA President's Program

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/patmartin_llama.cfm]

Author and consultant Patricia Martin (right) will speak at the LLAMA President's Program on July 12 at ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. Martin is one of the nation's foremost authorities on the emerging marketplace created by the convergence of art, entertainment, education, and technology....

ALCTS events at Annual Conference

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/annualalevents_alcts.cfm]

The ALCTS President's Program on July 13 will feature James Cuno, president and director of the Art Institute of Chicago, discussing his book, *Who Owns Antiquity? Museums and the Battle over Our Ancient Heritage*....

ALSC programs at Annual Conference

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/annualprograms_alsc.cfm]

ALSC is hosting a number of great programs and events at ALA Annual Conference this year, including ALSC 101, the ALSC Charlemae Rollins

President's Program, the Newbery Caldecott Wilder Banquet, and the ALSC Happy Hour. Other things to keep your eyes out for at Annual Conference include ALSC's new Born to Read materials and the launch of phase two of the Kids! @ your library public awareness campaign....

ACRL's summer e-learning schedule

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/2009summerelearning_acrl.cfm]

ACRL is offering a variety of timely live webcasts addressing hot topics in academic librarianship this summer. Webcasts last from an hour and a half to two hours and take place in an interactive online classroom.

Group discounts are available. Full details and registration information are available on the ACRL website

[<http://www.acrl.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/events/elearning/index.cfm>]....

Round Table News

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so scary?

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/glbttango_olos.cfm]

The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgendered Round Table is sponsoring a program July 12 during the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago that will focus on the issues of intellectual freedom, child development, and censorship of children's books with LGBT themes, called "What Makes Tango so Scary?" The program will feature the authors of And Tango Makes Three, Justin Richardson and Peter Parnell (above)....

NMRT's resume review service

[<http://www.students.ala.org/studentmemberblog/?p=316>]

Have your resume reviewed and updated during the 2009 ALA Annual Conference. On July 11-12, in the Grand Ballroom of McCormick Place-South, the New Members Round Table's Resume Review Service [<http://nmrttrr.wikispaces.com/>] will offer an opportunity for you to have your résumé reviewed by knowledgeable fellow professionals. Volunteer greeters will answer any questions you may have....

ALA Student Member Blog, June 24

CLENE events at Annual Conference

[<http://cebuzz.wordpress.com/2009/06/20/ala09/>]

The Continuing Library Education and Networking Exchange Round Table has a lot of wonderful stuff going on at ALA: programs, sold-out preconferences, a discussion group, and more. They hope to see you at one of their programs and you are invited to join them at their board meetings....

CE Buzz, June 20

Awards

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Doyle receives Freedom to Read Foundation Roll of Honor award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/bob>]

doyle_oif.cfm]

Robert P. Doyle, executive director of the Illinois Library Association, is the recipient of the 2009 Freedom to Read Foundation Roll of Honor Award. Doyle is also editor of the Banned Books Resource Guide, a compendium of thousands of books that have been subject to censorship challenges. Prior to joining ILA, he served as director of ALA's International Relations Office and before that as deputy director of the ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom. The Roll of Honor was established in 1987 to recognize and honor those individuals who have contributed substantially to FTRF....

Stonewall awards presentation

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/ala_glbstonewall_olos.cfm]

The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgendered Round Table will honor the 2009 winners and honorees of the Stonewall Book Awards on July 13 during the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. Evan Fallenberg, winner of the Gittings Literature Award, will be present to receive the award for Light Fell (Soho Press). William N. Eskridge Jr., winner of the Israel Fishman Non-fiction Award for Dishonorable Passions: Sodomy Laws in America, 1861–2003 (Viking) will make a video presentation....

EBSCO ALA Conference Sponsorship Award winners

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/ebscoconfsponsorshipaward_gov.cfm]

ALA and EBSCO Information Services have announced 10 winners of the 2009 EBSCO ALA Conference Sponsorship awards. The awards, each in the amount of \$1,000, are presented annually to 10 ALA members to enable them to attend the ALA Annual Conference....

Apply for the 2010 National Library Week grant

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/june2009/2010nlwgrant_pio.cfm]

Libraries are invited to apply for the \$3,000 Scholastic Library Publishing National Library Week Grant, which will be awarded to a single library for the best public-awareness campaign incorporating the 2010 National Library Week theme, "Communities thrive @ your library." The grant is sponsored by Scholastic Library Publishing and administered by the ALA Public Awareness Committee. The application [<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/pio/natlibraryweek/nlwgrant.cfm>] deadline is October 16. National Library Week is April 11–17, 2010....

Susan Luevano is 2009 Trejo Librarian of the Year

[<http://www.reforma.org/2009LOTYAwardAnnouncement.pdf>] (PDF file)

The first woman elected to the presidency of Reforma has been selected by the organization to receive its 2009 Arnulfo Trejo Librarian of the Year Award. Susan Luevano, an anthropology, ethnic, and women's studies librarian at California State University, Long Beach, will accept the award at the Reforma National Conference this July in Chicago....

Reforma, June 18

2009 Pritzker Military Library Literature Award

[<http://www.pritzkermilitarylibrary.org/events/2009/06-22-LTA-announcement.jsp>]

Historian Gerhard L. Weinberg has been selected to receive the 2009 Pritzker Military Library Literature Award for Lifetime Achievement in Military Writing. The \$100,000 honorarium, sponsored by the Chicago-based Tawani Foundation, will be presented at the library's annual Liberty Gala on October 24 at Chicago's Palmer House Hilton Hotel. The award recognizes a living author for a body of work that has profoundly enriched the public understanding of American military history....
Pritzker Military Library, June 22

Two libraries receive NLS awards
[<http://www.loc.gov/today/pr/2009/09-124.html>]
The National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped at the Library of Congress presented awards June 19 to the Perkins Braille and Talking Book Library of Watertown, Massachusetts, and to the Miami-Dade (Fla.) Public Library System's Talking Books Library Service of Florida. The Watertown library received the Network Library of the Year Award for outstanding accomplishments in 2008, and the Miami library received the third annual Network Subregional Library of the Year Award....
Library of Congress, June 19

21st Century Librarian Program grants
[<http://www.ims.gov/news/2009/061709b.shtm>]
The Institute of Museum and Library Services June 17 awarded 33 institutions [http://www.ims.gov/news/2009/061709b_list.shtm] Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program grants totaling \$20.4 million. With these grants, library students and staff will assist very young children in achieving early literacy, support libraries in rural communities, increase the number of school library media specialists, and enable other recruitment and education programs....
Institute of Museum and Library Services, June 17

Big Read grants total \$3.7 million
[<http://www.ims.gov/news/2009/062309.shtm>]
The Institute of Museum and Library Service, in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts, awarded Big Read grants [http://www.arts.gov/national/bigread/press/bigread2010list.php?sortby=alpha] to 269 arts, culture, and science organizations, libraries, and municipalities on June 23. The communities and institutions will use the grants, totaling \$3.7 million, to host Big Read celebrations that bring communities together to read, discuss, and celebrate one of 30 selections from U.S. and world literature....
Institute of Museum and Library Services, June 23

program ends [http://www.ims.gov/news/2009/061709.shtm]
907 museums, libraries, and archives
[http://www.ims.gov/news/2009/061709_list.shtm] have been selected to receive the Institute of Museum and Library Services Connecting to Collections Bookshelf. This is the third and final installment of the Bookshelf program, which has distributed 2,751 sets of books, online resources, and a user's guide to institutions in every part of the country....
Institute of Museum and Library Services, June 17

2009 Library Technology Excellence Award

[<http://www.igi-global.com/campaign/award.asp>]

Publishing company IGI Global has awarded its first Library Technology Excellence Award to Chia-Wen Tsai, assistant professor of information management at Ming Chuan University in Taiwan, for his work on enhancing the computing skills of low-achieving students through online learning. The award honors an individual for an extraordinary commitment to using and understanding technological resources within the academic and research community....

IGI Global, June 23

David Gemmell Legend Prize for fantasy

[<http://www.guardian.co.uk/books/2009/jun/19/1>]

The David Gemmell Legend Prize, established to lend dignity to the fantasy genre, is awarded to Andrzej Sapkowski's bestselling tale of dwarves, elves, gnomes, and humans, Blood of Elves. Over 10,000 fans from 75 countries voted in the prize, with Sapkowski eventually emerging triumphant from a shortlist of five authors. He wins a battle axe—named Snaga—that featured in David Gemmell's fiction....

The Guardian (U.K.), June 19

Scottish Book of the Year

[<http://www.scottisharts.org.uk/1/artsinscotland/literature/projects/bookawards2009.aspx>]

Acclaimed writer James Kelman has won Book of the Year 2009 in the Scottish Mortgage Investment Trust Book Awards for his novel Kieron Smith, Boy. Managed by the Scottish Arts Council, the award nets the author a prize of £30,000 (\$49,133 U.S.). Kelman was presented his award June 19 at the Borders Book Festival in Melrose, Scotland. His novel charts the life of a young boy in postwar Glasgow as his family moves from a traditional tenement to a new housing facility on the outskirts of the city....

Scottish Arts Council

2009 Dundee Picture Book Award

[<http://www.dundeeecity.gov.uk/library/picturebooks08>]

At a June 9 ceremony, 500 of the children in Dundee, Scotland, who participated in the process of voting for the winning picture book had an opportunity to see the authors and illustrators who have given them so much enjoyment. This year's winner is Fleabag, written and illustrated by Helen Stephens. The award, which carries a £1,000 (\$1,638 U.S.) prize, recognizes excellence in storytelling for children and encourages youngsters to read....

Dundee Library and Information Services

Seen Online

[<http://twitpic.com/photos/WestlakePorter>]Rallies for Ohio libraries

[http://www.wkyc.com/news/news_article.aspx?storyid=116477]

A large crowd gathered outside the Cleveland Public Library July 24 in one of the first of many public rallies

[<http://saveohiolibraries.com/?p=233>] protesting Gov. Strickland's

massive proposed budget cuts

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2009/june2009/ohio-libsthreatened062309.cfm>] to libraries. Cleveland Plain Dealer columnist

Regina Brett's editorial

[http://www.cleveland.com/brett/blog/index.ssf/2009/06/tell_gov_ted_strickl_and_public_1.html] reflects the sentiments of many Ohioans as library services, hours, and staff are about to be lost unless the legislature rejects this measure on June 30. According to reports,

[<http://www.clevelandleader.com/node/10429>] the governor's office has fielded nearly 14,000 emails from angry constituents over the proposed cuts. His phone line seized operation on June 22 because of the influx of calls. If you are tweeting on the situation in Ohio, add the #saveohiolibraries hash tag to help make this a Twitter Trending Topic... WKYC-TV, Cleveland, June 23; TwitPic; Save Ohio Libraries; Cleveland Plain Dealer, June 23; Cleveland Leader, June 24

Pittsburgh's money woes

[<http://www.post-gazette.com/pg/09174/979254-53.stm>]

As the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh continues to serve more people and renovate its aging branches, it anticipates a sharp decline in government support, including a \$1.6-million cut in 2010 with more to follow, library leaders warned June 22. Speaking beneath the "Free to the People" inscription at the library's Oakland headquarters, Library Board Chairwoman Jacqui Fiske Lazo and Library President Barbara Mistick warned of tough financial times over the next four years....

Pittsburgh (Pa.) Post-Gazette, June 23

Arch dedicated to first black librarian in Montana

[<http://www.greatfalls Tribune.com/article/20090621/NEWS01/906210302>]

The life and accomplishments of civil rights pioneer and library advocate Alma Jacobs were celebrated outside the Great Falls (Mont.) Public Library June 20 during a dedication of a new plaza fountain in her memory. Jacobs was the first black librarian in Montana and later served as head librarian in Great Falls from 1954 to 1973. One of Montana's most prominent black leaders, she also served as the state librarian from 1973 to 1982. Watch the news video

[<http://www.kfbb.com/news/local/48686722.html?video=YHI&t=a>] (2:20)....

Great Falls (Mont.) Tribune, June 21; KFBB-TV, Great Falls, June 20

Detroit library money diverted to city employee fund

[<http://www.freep.com/article/20090620/NEWS01/906200313/1003/Money+meant+for+library+benefits+paying+Detroit+s+bills>]

The city of Detroit has been spending property tax money intended for Detroit Public Library employees' benefits on city operations instead, according to Library Commissioner Jonathan Kinloch. Library staff learned in mid-June that the city spent \$6.2 million in property tax money that was supposed to go to the library, dating back to July 1. The city still owes the library the money....

Detroit Free Press, June 20

Chinese internet strike on July 1

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

On July 1, the Chinese government will be rolling out censorship software

on every new computer sold in the country. The software, called Green Dam Youth Escort, [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Green_Dam_Youth_Escort] is intended to block pornography and possibly filter politically disruptive material, all while quietly gathering private user data. Beijing artist and prominent political critic Ai Weiwei [<http://www.globalpost.com/dispatch/china-and-its-neighbors/090623/meet-the-man-who-wants-shut-down-the-internet-china>] (right) is calling for everyone in China to abandon the internet on the day the new rule takes effect....

ReadWriteWeb, June 23; Global Post, June 23

Washington court hears library filtering case

[<http://wenatcheeworld.com/article/20090624/NEWS04/706249926>]

The Washington State Supreme Court heard arguments June 23 over whether an internet filter at the North Central Regional Library System in Wenatchee violates freedom of speech. The American Civil Liberties Union sued the regional library system in 2006 on behalf of three residents and a pro-gun organization who say the library's internet filter policy violated their state and federal freedom of speech rights....

Wenatchee (Wash.) World, June 24

A literary legend fights for the Ventura County library

[<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/06/20/us/20ventura.html>]

Science-fiction author Ray Bradbury, 88, ventured to the Ventura College Theatre June 20 for a benefit for the H. P. Wright branch of the Ventura County (Calif.) Library, which like many others in the state's public system is in danger of shutting its doors because of budget cuts. Property tax dollars have fallen precipitously, putting the library system roughly \$650,000 in the hole. Almost half of that amount is attributed to the H. P. Wright Library, which serves roughly two-thirds of Ventura....

New York Times, June 19

Son of Stinky erupts, briefly

[<http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/culturemonster/2009/06/an-anticlimactic-end-for-stinkys-big-bloom.html>]

The build-up was impressive, but the actual event felt as if it was over in a flash. The Huntington Library's corpse flower (*Amorphophallus titanum*) bloomed June 17 in an event that people have been talking, texting, and tweeting about for weeks in giddy anticipation. The plant, famous for emitting a powerful stench as it reaches prime pollination hour, has been tracked on the Huntington's website [http://huntington.org/thehuntington_full.aspx?id=4132] around the clock. No sooner had the unpredictable "Son of Stinky" bloomed than it began to wilt less than two days later. Watch the timelapse video [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YWTLtazrLAc>] (0:26) from the last bloom in 1999....

Los Angeles Times, June 19; Huntington Library; YouTube, June 15

Legal concerns force BYU to shelve Kindles

[<http://www.deseretnews.com/article/1,5143,705310939,00.html>]

Brigham Young University's Harold B. Lee Library is suspending a short-lived pilot program using Amazon.com's electronic book, the Kindle, as a substitute for interlibrary loans. The program, which has been

available to faculty members for about a month, created some buzz on library-related blogs for breaking ground in the uncertain area of lending books on the Kindle. Although BYU had verbal permission to proceed with the program, Roger Layton, library communications manager, said the program is on hold until the university has a clearer picture of Amazon's legal concerns....

Salt Lake City Deseret News, June 20

Nazareth library error rectified

[http://www.lehighvalleylive.com/nazareth/index.ssf/2009/06/tatamy_boy_can_use_nazareth_li.html]

A 7-year-old boy from Tatamy, Pennsylvania, who was told last week that his Nazareth library card was invalid now can use the card until the end of the year. Lynn Snodgrass-Pilla, director of the Memorial Library of Nazareth and Vicinity, said June 22 that Dominick Philip would be permitted to use the card through year's end. Melissa Philip, the boy's mother, mistakenly received a Nazareth library card for her son about a year ago—an error that was revealed after Dominick's photo was published in the Allentown Morning Call June 18....

Easton (Pa.) Express-Times, June 22

Historic library reopens as Literary Landmark

[<http://www.clarionledger.com/article/20090622/NEWS/906220327/Fire-related+repairs+complete+at+Welty+Library>]

Nearly 11 months after being closed for repairs from an electrical fire, the Eudora Welty Library in Jackson, Mississippi, reopened June 22 with fanfare—readings, refreshments, and a declaration as a Literary Landmark. A July 25, 2008, fire caused nearly \$1 million in damages to the library's mechanical and electrical systems. Pulitzer Prize-winning author Welty was a daily visitor to the library, which was named after her when the building was replaced in 1986....

Jackson (Miss.) Clarion-Ledger, June 22

Wauconda unveils memorial to woman killed in Iraq

[<http://www.dailyherald.com/story/?id=301964&src=3>]

It has been nearly a year since Nicole Suveges died in Iraq while working as a political-science adviser for defense contractor BAE Systems, but her memory lives on outside the Wauconda (Ill.) Area Public Library. A 200-square-foot memorial garden featuring rose bushes, begonias, day lilies, a cobblestone walk, and sitting area now honors Suveges's life and work. She had been supporting

[<http://www.cnn.com/2008/WORLD/meast/06/26/iraq.american.death/>] the 3rd Brigade Combat Team in Sadr City in "political, cultural, and tribal engagements."...

Arlington Heights (Ill.) Daily Herald, June 22; CNN, June 26, 2008

Fee waiver lures the lax back to the stacks

[<http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/n/a/2009/06/18/state/n120137D57.DTL>]

People from all over the San Francisco Bay area came up with some decent, or at least inventive, explanations for their tardy tomes under a recent San Francisco Public Library amnesty program for overdue books. Posters and video promos by local celebrities including airline pilot Chesley B. Sullenberger (right) were used to raise awareness of the program and add

some fun to the process. In all, 29,000 overdue books were returned during the two-week May amnesty program, including about 3,100 that were more than 60 days late and assumed lost....

Associated Press, June 18

Bat removal at University of Central Florida

[http://www.upi.com/Odd_News/2009/06/18/Bats-removed-from-campus-library/UP-I-10001245359582/]

A contractor hired to remove bats from the University of Central Florida Library in Orlando believes they got into the building to escape the rainy weather. The bats, 75 in all, were transferred to the university arboretum. A spokesman for the university said the bats were in administrative offices in the library and not in the public areas....

United Press International, June 18

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Tech Talk

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[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iHK3E4N7w6o>] Digital collections on

DukeMobile iPhone app [<http://news.duke.edu/2009/06/iphone.html>]

Duke University Libraries now offer the most comprehensive university digital-image collection specifically formatted for an iPhone or iPod touch device. DukeMobile 1.1 includes thousands of photos and other artifacts that range from early beer advertisements to materials on San Francisco's Haight-Ashbury scene in the 1960s. Although a growing number of scholarly institutions provide images and other material online, Duke is the first to offer collections that take advantage of the iPhone's design, navigation, and other features. Watch the video [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iHK3E4N7w6o>] (3:06)....

Duke Today, June 16

Should you upgrade to the Palm Pre...

[<http://theshiftedlibrarian.com/archives/2009/06/17/should-you-upgrade-to-the-pre.html>]

Jenny Levine writes: "While it's quite clearly a first-generation device, I love it. This post will explain why, but it won't be a comparison of the iPhone versus the Pre. I've only played with an iPhone a couple of times, so it wouldn't be fair. So instead, this will be a review of the Pre from the perspective of a Treo/Centro owner wondering if she should upgrade, because that's the question I'm getting asked the most."...

The Shifted Librarian, June 17

...or the Apple iPhone 3G S?

[<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2348400,00.asp>]

Sascha Segal writes: "If you like apps or the internet, go buy the iPhone 3G S right now. The new model's improved processor and graphics chipset significantly boost the speed of everything from web browsing to games, cementing the iPhone's role as the nation's most flexible handheld computer. No, it still isn't the world's best phone. But that's never been the true goal of the iPhone line: Apple is devoted to bringing

handheld computing to the masses. And it's succeeding brilliantly."...
PC Magazine, June 22

Top 10 Firefox 3.5 features

[<http://lifehacker.com/5295655/top-10-firefox-35-features>]

Kevin Purdy writes: "Firefox 3.5 is a pretty substantial update to the popular open-source browser, and it's just around the corner. See what features, fixes, and clever new tools are worth getting excited about in the next big release."...

Lifehacker, June 20

Book-reading robot

[<http://www.pinktentacle.com/2009/06/ninomiya-kun-book-reading-robot/>]

Japanese researchers have developed a literate, child-sized robot capable of reading old-fashioned paper-printed books. Ninomiya-kun, a one-meter-tall, 25-kilogram, aluminum-framed robot developed at Waseda University's Information, Production, and Systems Research Center, was unveiled

[<http://kyushu.yomiuri.co.jp/local/fukuoka/20090612-OYS1T00256.htm>] June 11 at a robot trade fair in Kitakyushu, where it entertained onlookers by reading fairy tales from a book. Character recognition software installed on a computer in the robot's backpack translates the text into spoken words, which are produced by a voice synthesizer. Hear the robot talk here [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h2oLiJXWpjM>] (0:26)....

Pink Tentacle, June 12; Daily Yomiuri, June 12; YouTube, June 12

Publishing

The private life of J. D. Salinger

[<http://www.abebooks.com/books/author-recluse-catcher-rye-sequel/JD-Salinger.shtml>]

Poor J. D. Salinger—literature's most famous oddball recluse. What exactly was his crime? He wrote one of the most influential novels of the 20th century, then decided he hated publishing. People always want more—another book like *The Catcher in the Rye* please—but Salinger wants less. He just wants to write and be left alone in Cornish, New Hampshire. He's a solitary soul but no oddball. Here are some of the many faces of *The Catcher in the Rye*....

Abebooks

An exclusive look at local and regional history

[<http://alexanderstreet.com/pressroom/releases/09.0623.LRHORElease.htm>]

Electronic publisher Alexander Street Press and local-history book publisher Arcadia Publishing have released *Local and Regional History Online: A History of American Life in Images and Texts*.

[<http://alexanderstreet.com/products/lrho.htm>] The collection includes hundreds of thousands of images and corresponding texts from every region and state in the U.S. and from many areas of Canada. Alexander Street is offering AL Direct readers a free, exclusive preview of the collection at this URL [<http://alexanderstreet.com/AmLibLocal.htm>] through July 31 (name and email address required for sign-up)....

Change or die? [<http://www.insidehighered.com/news/2009/06/22/aaup>]
At the annual meeting of the Association of American University Presses in Philadelphia June 20, press directors received an overview of why they can't count on book orders anymore from Beth Jacoby, collection development librarian at York College of Pennsylvania. She opened by talking about formats of communication that are dead (the 8-track), on life support (print), and those that are thriving (e-journals, e-reference books, databases). Students, she said, "don't know how to use a print phone book." ...
Inside Higher Ed, June 22

Literary archives of the future
[<http://www.guardian.co.uk/books/booksblog/2009/jun/22/literary-archives>]
Robert McCrum writes: "What, I wonder, will the literary histories and biographies of the future look like? Will the great libraries store and catalog computer disks? Archives are already logging entries for film and video; where once it was essential to be able to read the chancery script of Elizabethan and Jacobean manuscripts, will it now be necessary to have a master's degree in the decoding of Microsoft Word? A Ph.D in email correspondence techniques?" ...
The Guardian (U.K.), June 22

Arabic e-books extend borders [<http://publishingperspectives.com/?p=1420>]
Chip Rossetti writes: "Most of the difficulties faced by Arabic-language book publishing stem from two basic problems: government censorship and very limited distribution. But with e-books, Ramy Habeeb, founder of the Egypt-based publisher Kotob Arabia, [<http://www.kotobarabia.com>] has managed to bypass both seemingly intractable problems. As the first e-publisher devoted exclusively to Arabic-language titles, Kotob Arabia now offers more than 8,500 books in 31 subject categories." ...
Publishing Perspectives, June 18

Surprising facts about 15 bestselling authors
[<http://www.mentalfloss.com/blogs/archives/26881>]
Ethan Trex writes: "Heading to the beach this summer? You can't lounge around on the sand without a book, so it's time to hit the bestseller list for a paperback that can get a little wet and sandy. How well do you know the authors of your favorite bestselling beach fare, though? We did some digging and came up with a few surprising facts on some of the literary world's biggest cash cows." ...
Mental Floss, June 23

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[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

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Actions & Answers

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[<http://www.nypl.org/news/video/thankyou.cfm>]NYPL's successful online campaign

[<http://philanthropy.com/news/prospecting/index.php?id=8602>]

The New York Public Library successfully used an online fundraising and advocacy campaign [<http://www.nypl.org/donate/>] to fight the city's plan to slash its municipal support by \$28 million this year—and now it has won back \$23 million in subsidies. Key to the library's success was an urgent alert message that the institution used to replace what viewers typically see when they visit its main website....

Chronicle of Philanthropy, June 22; New York Public Library

Geek the Library campaign goes live in Iowa, Georgia

[<http://scanblog.blogspot.com/2009/06/geek-library-campaign-is-live.html>]

Although aimed at consumers, librarians will also have fun looking through OCLC's Geek the Library [<http://www.geekthelibrary.org>] campaign site and then adding in what you geek. The campaign, made possible by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, highlights what people are passionate about and how libraries can support them, in an effort to heighten awareness about the critical funding issues public libraries face.

Kick-off events took place in Savannah, Georgia,

[<http://geekthelibrary.org/archives/2009/06/press-kit-georgians-get-their-geek-on.html>] and Des Moines, Iowa

[<http://geekthelibrary.org/archives/2009/06/iowans-get-their-geek-on.html>].

...

It's All Good, June 23

June 16 was Anne-Imelda Radice Day in Buffalo

[<http://www.imls.gov/news/2009/062309c.shtm>]

Buffalo, New York, Mayor Byron Brown recognized the contributions of IMLS Director Anne-Imelda Radice for her leadership to the nation in support of cultural heritage collections and for her representation of her home town. A proclamation naming June 16, 2009, Anne-Imelda Radice Day was read during the opening session of a conference held in Buffalo, "Stewardship of America's Legacy: Answering the Call to Action," attended by 300 museum and library professionals....

Institute of Museum and Library Services, June 23

[<http://www.shareminer.com/>]100+ alternative search engines

[<http://www.hongkiat.com/blog/100-alternative-search-engines-you-should-know/>]

When it comes to searching for something specific, Google may churn out results that are too general. For instance, a search for a song in Google may return the singer, the lyrics, and even fan sites—depending on the keywords you entered. Niche-specific search engines are more focused and their results tend to be more accurate. This massive list offers links to search engines focusing on e-books and PDF files, audio and music, video, and the Rapidshare file-hosting site....

Hongkiat, June 16

[http://books.google.com/books?id=1iYDAAAAMBAJ&printsec=frontcover&source=gs_v2_summary_r&cad=0]New features on Google Books

[<http://booksearch.blogspot.com/2009/06/new-features-on-google-books.html>]

Google Books rolled out a handful of new features in June. A new toolbar option allows you to embed a preview in any of your websites or blogs—all

with a simple HTML snippet. For public domain and partner books, Google Books shows more context around search terms, including an image from the part of the page on which it appears. A new thumbnail view button in the toolbar provides an overview (above) of all the pages in a public-domain book or in a magazine. Other features include a contents drop-down menu and plain-text mode....

Inside Google Book Search, June 18

[<http://mohammad-news.blogfa.com/post-2874.aspx>]Google translates Persian

[<http://googleblog.blogspot.com/2009/06/google-translates-persian.html>]

Google has added Persian (Farsi) to Google Translate

[<http://translate.google.com/?sl=fa&tl=en#>]. This means you can now

translate any text from Persian into English and from English into

Persian—whether it's a news story, a website, a blog, an email, a

tweet, or a Facebook message. The service is free. Understanding Persian

is particularly important now, given ongoing events in Iran. Mark

Liberman reviews [<http://languagelog.ldc.upenn.edu/nll/?p=1521>] the

tool....

The Official Google Blog, June 18; Language Log, June 21

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T9d0bDGsUyc>]How to upload photos to

Twitter [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T9d0bDGsUyc>]

Mike Wesely shows you how to add pix to your tweets using TwitPic

[<http://www.twitpic.com/>] in this YouTube twit-torial (4:11). You can

post pictures to Twitter from your phone, the TwitPic API, or through the

site itself. If you have a Twitter account then you already have a

TwitPic account....

YouTube, May 10

Are you a Twitter quitter?

[<http://librarygarden.blogspot.com/2009/06/4-out-of-5-library-gardeners-recommend.html>]

Amy J. Kearns writes: "Even to those who already use other social networking sites like Facebook, Twitter can be a really tough sell.

Recently a lot of the attention has focused

[<http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&articleId=9132305>] on the large number of Twitter quitters—those who join

Twitter and never go back. I am not saying that everyone absolutely has

to twitter. However, I do suggest that you download Tweet Deck (if you

use Windows) or Tweetie (if you use a Mac), selectively add some people,

and try it regularly for longer than a month and see if you're

actually a Twitter quitter or not."...

Library Garden, June 19; Computerworld, April 29

25 ways to sabotage your job search

[<http://www.cnn.com/2009/LIVING/worklife/06/15/job.search.sabotage/>]

Granted, we are in tough times and there are many factors out of your

control that can keep you from getting hired. But that's all the more

reason to do everything within your power to be the best job seeker you

can. With that in mind, look over these 25 ways you might be unknowingly

sabotaging your job search....

CNN, June 15

A compilation of competencies [<http://www.webjunction.org/competencies>]

A Competency Index for the Library Field has been published by WebJunction. It is a compilation of competency statements that address a broad spectrum of library practice and service. WebJunction aggregated 12 leading competency sets from the field and subjected them to a vigorous review by subject-matter expert practitioners. The resulting publication can be downloaded

[<http://www.webjunction.org/competencies/-/articles/content/67024491>] for free, remixed, and reinvented in whatever way best serves your library's size, structure, and personnel development needs....

WebJunction, June 23

21st-century skills movement grows

[<http://www.eschoolnews.com/news/top-news/index.cfm?i=59338>]

Illinois, Louisiana, and Nevada became the latest states to join the Partnership for 21st Century Skills (P21), a national effort to integrate 21st-century skills into teaching and learning to prepare students for a global, information-based economy. P21 made the announcement at the end of a recent Cyber Summit, which ran online June 1–9. The summit featured a series of nine webinars that gave educators a chance to collaborate and learn from colleagues who have implemented 21st-century skills programs....

eSchool News, June 22

Paper vs. plastic

[http://online.wsj.com/article/SB124473522987806581.html#mod%3Dtoday_us_page_one%26articleTabs%3Darticle]

Do you give out paper, plastic, or reusable bags at your library book sale? Nothing is simple in the push to protect the planet. There is growing evidence that the production, use, and disposal of plastic bags put less burden on natural resources than paper bags. Meanwhile, a knock against plastic bags—that they can't be conveniently recycled—is becoming less persuasive as more cities start accepting plastic bags in curbside recycling programs....

Wall Street Journal, June 12

Getting boys to read

[<http://www.examiner.com/x-5177-Rochester-Parenting-Examiner~y2009m6d21-Getting-Boys-to-Read>]

Holly Jennings writes: "Getting Boys to Read

[<http://www.gettingboystoread.com/>] is a website dedicated to supporting parents, teachers, and librarians who want to help boys learn to love reading. The site was founded by Mike McQueen, a teacher-librarian at McLain Community High School in Lakewood, Colorado. The site provides informative articles, interviews, and a forum for discussion about all topics related to boys, reading, writing, and other literacy-related topics. It tackles national issues, like the serious literacy gap

[<http://www.gettingboystoread.com/content/where-national-concern-about-literacy-gender-gap>] between boys and girls in the United States, strategies

[<http://www.gettingboystoread.com/content/classroom-strategies-get-boys-reading>] to help get boys reading, information about Jon Scieszka's Guys

Read Group,

[<http://www.gettingboystoread.com/content/jon-scieszka-guys-read-group>]

and informative book reviews

[<http://www.gettingboystoread.com/content/book-review-nonfiction-matters-st>

ephanie-harvey].”...

Rochester (N.Y.) Examiner, June 21

Programming for children with special needs

[<http://www.alsc.ala.org/blog/?p=800>]

Tricia Bohanon Twarogowski writes: “Efforts to provide special-needs programming are an important aspect of library service that results in numerous rewards for families, communities, and libraries. Here are some tips for those providing storytimes for children with special needs and their families for the first time.”...

ALSC Blog, June 23

Museums of children’s literature

[<http://www.schoollibraryjournal.com/blog/1790000379/post/200045820.html>]

Betsy Bird writes: “The other day I cooed, gurgled, and generally fell into fits of unmoderated bliss when I read about Seven Stories

[<http://www.sevenstories.org.uk/home/>] (right), ‘the first museum in the UK wholly dedicated to the art of British Children’s Books.’ I said I wanted to go to there. Then someone pointed out that there are plenty of lovely museums dedicated to the same darn thing right here in America. Why not take a quickie tour with me around and about the states?”...

A Fuse #8 Production, June 23

Apocalypsis Sancti Johannis

[<http://www.newberry.org/general/newmedia/newmedia.html>]

In this first episode of the Chicago Newberry Library’s podcast

[<http://www.newberry.org/general/newmedia/media/NewberryPodcastGehl.mp3>]

series, Curator Paul Gehl tells us about an early example of a graphic novel from the 15th century, the Apocalypsis Sancti Johannis, a visual retelling of St. John’s apocalyptic visions from the Book of Revelations.

This rare book tries to make St. John’s vision accessible to those who can’t read and poses interesting questions about print and media that resonate today. Special guest appearance by comic artist Jeffrey Brown.

Watch a related video [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jSLJ9aj8W9U>] (2:00)....

Newberry Library; YouTube, June 6

online for free [<http://www.loc.gov/cds/PDFdownloads/csb/>]

All 123 issues of Cataloging Service Bulletin (Summer 1978 through the current issue) are now available online

[<http://www.loc.gov/cds/PDFdownloads/csb/>] at no cost. CSB is a quarterly bulletin that includes current, new, and revised information about Library of Congress cataloging and classification practices and policies.

The entire 31 years of CSB are made available by LC as a free service to the worldwide library community....

Library of Congress, June 15

Download free audiobooks to your iPod

[<http://audiobooker.booklistonline.com/2009/06/23/download-free-audiobooks-to-your-ipod/>]

Mary Burkey writes: “Public libraries using OverDrive as their download service for audiobooks, e-books, music, and video just expanded their offerings—and made quite a few patrons much happier. In the past, iPod users were frustrated with the Windows MP3 device—only compatibility with

OverDrive's file format. But the release of OverDrive's no-cost Media Console [<http://overdrive.com/software/omc/>] version 3.2 for Windows or version 1.0 for Mac solves many of those issues.”...

Audiobooker, June 23

Wikipedia gets ready for a video upgrade

[<http://beta.technologyreview.com/web/22900/page1/>]

David Talbot writes: “The organization behind Wikipedia is close to launching an editable online video encyclopedia. The hope is to goad content providers—from public broadcasters to the music industry—into allowing more video to enter the public domain. Within two to three months, a person editing a Wikipedia article will find a new button labeled ‘Add Media.’ Clicking it will bring up an interface allowing her to search for video—initially from three repositories containing copyright-free material—and drag chosen portions into the article.”...

Technology Review, June 19

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=seKumspFeYM>]Phoenixville Library ghost investigation [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=seKumspFeYM>]

The Scared! [<http://www.scaredonline.com/>] paranormal investigators look into the haunting activity at the Phoenixville (Pa.) Public Library, a recently renovated 1902 building, in this teaser trailer (1:00). Books have been seen flying off the shelf, and the attic plays host to a female apparition in old-fashioned clothing. The Chester County Paranormal Research Society [<http://www.chestercountyprs.com/phxlibrary.htm>] also conducted an investigation there in 2006 and took photos of orbs and discolorations....

YouTube, June 22

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o4MwTvtYrUQ>]What is a browser?

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o4MwTvtYrUQ>]

This video (2:33) shows why people still need librarians, whether they know it or not. Scott from Google asked more than 50 passersby, all different ages and backgrounds, the question “What is a browser?” in Times Square in New York. Part of the reason was to identify market penetration of the Google browser Chrome. Here are the results....

YouTube, April 30

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

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[<http://www.r2library.com/public/default.aspx>]

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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.

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/ppo/about/ac2009/files/AC09program-web.pdf>]

Locate Literature Programs and Author Events at conference with this handy brochure (PDF file

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/ppo/about/ac2009/files/AC09program-web.pdf>]) prepared by the Public Programs Office.

[<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2498>]

For more than 10 years, YALSA has produced two annual lists, “Popular Paperbacks for Young Adults” and “Quick Picks for Reluctant Readers,” which recommend reading targeted at young adults who are not avid readers. Compiling bibliographic information about the books on these two selected lists, Quick and Popular Reads for Teens [<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2498>] by Pam Spencer Holley also includes essays and annotations. NEW! From ALA Editions.

In this issue
June/July 2009

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

Summertime in Chicago

Prescription for Financial Recovery

Librarians As Writers

Licenses and Legalities

Career Leads from

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

Information Technology Director,

[<http://joblist.ala.org/modules/jobseeker/controller.cfm?scr=jobdetail&jobid=13293>] Seattle Public Library. Reports to the City Librarian and plays

a lead role in developing and maintaining a leading-edge technology infrastructure to ensure the success of the library's vision and strategies; leads and participates in short-term and long-range strategic planning with the Library Leadership Team to address current and emerging service needs and develops, recommends, and implements effective technological responses to those needs; and directs, supervises, and evaluates the activities and performance of Information Technology Division staff and vendor, project, or consultant staff assigned to information technology projects or activities....

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

[http://twitter.com/ALA_JobLIST]

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

Digital Library of the Week

[http://www.memories.ne.gov/cdm4/item_viewer.php?CISOROOT=%2Fdwhm&CISOPTR=146&DMSCALE=100&DMWIDTH=600&DMHEIGHT=600&DMMODE=viewer&DMFULL=1&DMX=0&DMY=0&DMTEXT=&DMTHUMB=0&REC=2&DMROTATE=0&x=368&y=234]

Nebraska Memories [<http://www.memories.ne.gov/index.php>] is a cooperative project to digitize Nebraska-related historical and cultural heritage materials and make them freely available to researchers of all ages. The site uses CONTENTdm software to house digital collections created by Nebraska libraries. The Keene Memorial Library in Fremont, the Polley Music Library in Lincoln City, Alegent Health Immanuel Hospital, the Bess Streeter Aldrich House and Museum, the Lincoln Police Department, Omaha Community Playhouse, and the Durham Museum are some of the contributors. The database currently contains approximately 3,500+ digitized items and continues to grow each month. At this time searchers can find material from the 1890s to the 1970s. The Nebraska Memories website is owned by the Nebraska Library Commission.

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

“Libraries raised me. I don’t believe in colleges and universities. I believe in libraries because most students don’t have any money. When I graduated from high school, it was during the Depression and we had no money. I couldn’t go to college, so I went to the library three days a

week for 10 years.”

—Science fiction author Ray Bradbury, writing in support of the Ventura County (Calif.) Library, New York Times, June 19.

[<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. Our summer reading program is bringing kids to library in droves! Are there any awards for a successful summer reading program?

A. Not specifically. However, libraries do enter their successful summer reading program
[http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Summer_Reading_Programs]
public relations efforts in the John Cotton Dana Library Public Relations Contest, [http://www.hwwilson.com/jcdawards/nw_jcd.htm] cosponsored by LLAMA and the H.W. Wilson Company. Now over 50 years old, this award recognizes the best in library public relations. Recognition is given to well-planned public relations
[http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Public_Relations]
programs. The contest is not just about summer reading programs, but also centennials, bond issues, new buildings, author readings, new acquisitions—any activity you undertake to highlight the activities of your library. If you are looking for funds to do something special for next year, consider applying for the ALSC/BWI Reading Program Grant, [<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/alsc/awardsgrants/profawards/bookwholesalers/index.cfm>] which is designed to encourage reading programs for children in a public library by providing financial assistance of \$3,000, while recognizing ALSC members for outstanding program development. It is sponsored by BWI and administered by ALSC. From the ALA Professional Tips wiki
[http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Summer_Reading_Promotions]
.

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

Calendar

July 13–16:
[<http://www.world-academy-of-science.org/worldcomp09/ws>] Annual Conference, Las Vegas, Nevada. 22 joint conferences.

July 26–28:

Church and Synagogue Library Association,

[<http://cslainfo.org/page.php?pagecode=conf>] Annual Conference, McKinley Grand Hotel, Canton, Ohio. “Historical Paths to the Future.”

July 27–31:

Electronic Records Summer Camp,

[http://saa.archivists.org/Scripts/4Disapi.dll/4DCGI/events/158.html?Action=Conference_Detail&ConfID_W=158&Time=768279374&SessionID=4651018951hwi2h24q4610bh9eg19mthyc339q9se4a87uw4ec561i6rc8q7p43j] Chapel Hill, North Carolina. Course sponsored by the Society of American Archivists.

July 30:

Handheld Librarian Online Conference, [<http://www.handheldlibrarian.org/>] sponsored by Alliance Library System, Learning Times, and Infoquest.

Aug. 10:

International Symposium on Processing XML Efficiently,

[<http://www.balisage.net/Processing/>] Hotel Europa, Montréal, Quebec. “Overcoming Limits on Space, Time, or Bandwidth.”

Aug. 15–31:

Edinburgh Book Festival, [<http://www.edbookfest.co.uk/>] Scotland.

Margaret Atwood will launch her new novel, *The Year of the Flood*, with a unique performance of music and song.

Sept. 16–17:

Planning and Management of Buildings,

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

Sept. 23–26:

North Dakota Library Association,

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

Sept. 30–

Oct. 3:

Kentucky Library Association / Kentucky School Media Association,

[<http://www.kylibasn.org/events.cfm?eid=64>] Annual Conference, Galt House Hotel and Suites, Louisville.

Oct. 2–4:

International Board on Books for Young People,

[http://www.usbby.org/conf_home.htm] Regional Conference, Q Center, St. Charles, Illinois. “Children’s Books: Where Worlds Meet.”

Oct. 4–8:

National Media Market, [<http://nmm.net/>] Griffin Gate Marriott Resort, Lexington, Kentucky.

Nov. 6–11:

American Society for Information Science and Technology,
[<http://www.asis.org/Conferences/AM09/am09cfp.html>] Annual Meeting,
Vancouver, British Columbia.

Nov. 12–13: Management of Technology,

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/pla/plaevents/cplacourses/technology.cfm>
] Mountlake Terrace, Washington. Certified Public Library Administrator
course sponsored by PLA.

Feb. 13–20, 2010:

19th Annual Havana International Book Fair,
[<http://www.bookpatrol.net/2009/06/2010-havana-book-fair-open-to-us.html>]
Havana, Cuba. University and public librarians in the United States can
legally attend as professionals. LegalCubaTravel.com
[<http://legalcubatransel.com/>] provides an easy step-by-step license/visa
application kit. Cuba Educational Tours [<http://cubanadventures.org/>] has
an all-inclusive travel program for the fair. Early registration to
ensure participation is encouraged.

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

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