

american libraries DIRECT

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | May 6, 2009

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U.S. & World News

[Guantanamo records to be preserved](#)

New York University's Tamiment Library and Seton Hall University's Center for Policy and Research have announced a project to document, preserve, and provide access to legal records and other documents of the Guantanamo Bay Detention Camp. The materials will include lawyers' files, oral histories of the attorneys and detainees, Department of Defense websites, photographs and videotapes, and electronic records, as well as records relating to the rules governing enemy combatants, prisoner interrogation, and the government's representation of battlefield capture....

American Libraries Online, May 6



[Dismissal of Wisconsin board members draws national censure](#)

ALA has joined publishing and free-speech groups in condemning the West Bend, Wisconsin, common council for not reappointing four library board members after they failed to act on a citizens group's call to restrict the availability of sexually explicit books. At its April 21 meeting, the council voted 5-3 to reject Mayor Kristine Deiss's recommendation to reappoint the four library board members whose terms were concluding: Mary Reilly-Kliss, Tom Fitz, James Poulos, and Alderman Nick Dobberstein....

American Libraries Online, May 4

[Lexington Director Imhoff: Scrutiny of finances inaccurate](#)

"There is a situation going on in Lexington [Kentucky]," said Kathleen Imhoff, CEO of the city's public library, characterizing an inflammatory article published April 26 in the *Lexington Herald-Leader* as inaccurate, slanted, and damaging to the library and to her reputation. The article links Imhoff's credit-card history to a credit-card scandal at Lexington's Blue Grass Airport that led to the resignation of top managers and a criminal investigation. "Many things are mischaracterized" in the article, Imhoff said, much of it provided by Edward Maley, whom she said is a disgruntled former

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[ALA Annual Conference.](#)

Chicago, July 9-15. The 2009 ALA Annual [Poster Sessions](#) will be held July 11-13 at McCormick Place West. [Abstracts](#) are now available.



employee....

American Libraries Online, May 4

[San José city council defers filter mandate](#)

A debate over the mandating of blocking software for children's area computers at San José (Calif.) Public Library reached a watershed moment April 21 when the city council voted 7–3 against appropriating \$90,000 to purchase filters systemwide. "We can use this money to keep our library hours longer," council member Tina Morrill argued before the vote. Library Director Jane Light said that the council instead chose to have the library display the acceptable-use policy on every public internet workstation's login page....

American Libraries Online, May 1



[Academic libraries become all the rave](#)

University students headed to their campus libraries en masse the week before exams at the end of April, but not just to study: At the [University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill](#), the [University of Kentucky](#) in Lexington, the [College of Charleston](#), South Carolina (above), and the [University of Tennessee in Chattanooga](#), students used blogs, Facebook, text messaging, and Twitter to coordinate "impromptu" flash raves....

American Libraries Online, May 1



[Calcasieu Parish overwhelmingly renews library tax](#)

Voters of Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana, approved a 10-year renewal of a 5.99-mill property tax that provides 93% of the Calcasieu Parish Public Library's \$7.3-million annual budget. The renewal passed with more than 91% approval—a yes vote that CPPL Director Michael Sawyer said "is unheard of in my world."...

American Libraries Online, May 4

ALA News

[Roberta Stevens elected ALA president](#)

Roberta Stevens, outreach projects and partnerships officer at the Library of Congress and project manager for the National Book Festival, has been elected president of ALA for the 2010–2011 term, defeating Kenton L. Oliver, executive director of the Stark County District Library in Canton, Ohio. She will become president-elect in July 2009, and will assume the ALA presidency in July 2010. Stevens is currently completing her three-year term on the ALA Executive Board and as a member of its Finance and Audit Committee....



[Councilors elected](#)



In the April issue of [Library Technology Reports](#), open source software expert John Houser explores the potential benefits of open source workstations for libraries. Houser explores open source implementations in several public libraries, tracking their success and exploring the implications for the profession as a whole. This *LTR* will help library decision makers who want to find out about alternatives to Windows-based PCs running MS Office, not only as a means of cutting costs or reducing a carbon footprint, but also as a means of providing a better experience for library customers.

NEW! From ALA TechSource.

In this issue May 2009



Judith Krug: The

Thirty-three members have been elected ALA councilors-at-large for three-year terms. The terms begin at the conclusion of the 2009 ALA Annual Conference in Chicago and extend through the end of the 2012 Annual Conference in Anaheim, California....

[ALA urges vigorous oversight of Google Book Search settlement](#)

ALA, ACRL, and the Association of Research Libraries filed comments May 4 with the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York for the judge to consider in his ruling on the proposed Google Book Search settlement. The groups asked the judge to exercise vigorous oversight of the interpretation and implementation of the settlement to ensure the broadest possible benefit from the services the settlement enables. Although the settlement has the potential to provide public access to millions of books, many of its features could compromise fundamental library values. Ars Technica has [more details](#)....



[Public libraries challenged to meet patron needs for internet](#)

With growing demand for public internet services and Wi-Fi access, nearly 60% of U.S. public libraries report internet connection speeds are insufficient to meet patron demand at some point in the day, according to the 2008–2009 [Public Library Funding and Technology Access Study](#). Nationally one in five libraries reports connection speeds less than 1.5 mbps (T1), and the disparity between urban libraries and their rural counterparts is pronounced....



[Win a trip to Annual, courtesy of ProQuest](#)

In response to shrinking library budgets that have reduced or even eliminated conference travel, ProQuest is conducting a random drawing sponsoring a professional librarian's travel to the 2009 ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. Registration, airfare, lodging, a \$500 gift card, and a ticket to the Scholarship Bash are all included. To enter, eligible applicants should complete the brief online [entry form](#) before midnight on May 10....



[Take part in Legislative Day without leaving home](#)

With less than one week to go until [National Library Legislative Day](#), May 11–12, it's important to know that you don't have to be in Washington, D.C., to make a difference. For those of you who are unable to travel to Washington, there are several ways to participate in the activities. For the first time, you will be able to follow the meetings on the Hill via Twitter and call your legislators as the meetings progress. Follow Twitter updates from [@ala_ogr](#) so you can get in on the action....

District Dispatch, May 4

[ALA commends Senators Lieberman, McCain](#)

ALA sent letters May 4 to Sen. Joe Lieberman (D-Conn.) and Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.), thanking them for introducing S. Res. 118, legislation to allow no-fee public access to taxpayer-funded Congressional Research Service reports. The CRS produces well-researched and balanced reports on a wide variety of current issues affecting our citizens and country. Unfortunately, CRS reports are not

Freedom to Read

Family Storytime

Book Groups the Way Boys Like 'Em

ALA Book and Media Award Winners



[@your library](#), ALA's website for library users, offers suggestions on [getting children to read](#), [tips for young job seekers](#), [teen reading](#), and fun [outdoor games](#).

Career Leads from



[Librarian \(Geographic Information Systems\)](#)

University of Maryland, College Park. Designs, implements, coordinates, and teaches workshops using ESRI's ArcGIS; this includes developing instructional materials and collecting statistics. Provides in-depth reference for GIS as well as general reference services. Maintains GIS workstations by troubleshooting software and coordinating technical support. Recommends software purchases and upgrades. Promotes GIS services by collaborating with campus partners to expand GIS services.

systematically made freely available to the public through the Federal Depository Library Program....

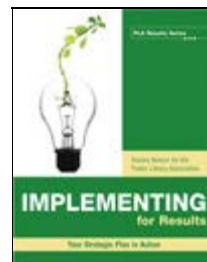
Candace Parker, chair of Library Card Sign-up Month

Olympic Gold Medalist and 2008 WNBA Rookie of the Year Candace Parker will let Americans know that a library card is the "smartest card" in every wallet. As Honorary Chair of Library Card Sign-up Month in September, Parker will be featured in print and radio public service announcements. ALA will place the PSAs in magazines and on radio stations across the country. They are available for free [download](#) to libraries looking to promote Library Card Sign-up Month locally....



Implementing a library strategic plan

ALA Editions has just released [Implementing for Results](#) by Sandra Nelson. For nearly two decades, the PLA Results Series has been the definitive resource for practical everyday management. This latest addition is a follow-up to [Strategic Planning for Results](#) and offers tips to help determine which activities effectively support goals and objectives, tools for staff to prepare and effectively communicate change, and necessary steps for reviewing current and potential library activities....



AL Focus

What people like about Annual Conference

Produced by ALA Conference Services, this video (1:55) features many ALA members discussing the value of Annual Conference—and the benefits of holding it in Chicago. Annual Conference this year is July 9–15....

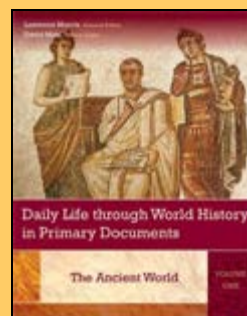


Booklist ONLINE

Featured review: Reference

Morris, Lawrence, ed. *Daily Life through World History in Primary Documents*. Dec. 2008. 1,083p. Greenwood, hardcover (978-0-313-33898-4).

This thematically arranged, expansive reference work seeks to cover the much-treaded ground of primary resource collections. What sets this attempt apart in a crowded field, however, is its subject matter: daily life. Understanding what everyday life was like for the masses of humanity provides us with a level of context and perspective not possible with a narrow focus on political elites. The current set attempts to rectify this by presenting readers with a balanced social and cultural cross section of



Teaches classes for the Libraries' general instruction program, as well as classes requested by course faculty. Responsible for collection development, management, and access to geospatial resources from the Federal Depository Library Program, state/local governments, and commercial vendors....



@ [More jobs...](#)

Digital Library of the Week



The [Arhoolie Foundation's Strachwitz Frontera Collection of Mexican and Mexican-American Recordings](#) (the Frontera Collection) is the largest repository of Mexican and Mexican-American vernacular recordings in existence. With funding from Los Tigres del Norte Foundation, the UCLA Chicano Studies Research Center has sponsored the

authors and subjects from the ancient Sumerians to the intellectual and social world of the present. Although documents from the greats—such as Hammurabi and Benjamin Franklin—still make the cut, the inclusion of a wide variety of sources and authors from around the world merits attention. Examples include a letter from one Egyptian official to another about travel arrangements for a Roman politician, an inventory of the household goods and agricultural produce of one of Charlemagne's estates, and a poem written by a Japanese soldier in 1944. Each of the three volumes (*The Ancient World*, *The Middle Ages and Renaissance*, and *The Modern World*) begins with a chronology of the era covered as well as a clear, concise historical overview....

[We read everything](#)

Keir Graff writes: "I've often written about what we do at *Booklist* and how we do it, about our recommend-only policy, the staggering volume of books we review, and the people we're reviewing for. But, until now, I never had a visual aid.



Fortunately, Books for Youth Associate Editor Daniel Kraus, who in his spare time [writes novels](#) and makes [documentary films](#), was able to play Cecil B. DeMille to my Charlie Kaufman. It was fun to take a day off from reading to make a commercial about reading (1:08). Can you name any of these Booklisters?"...

Likely Stories, May 6

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

digitization of the first section of the collection by the Arhoolie Foundation. These performances were recorded primarily in the United States and Mexico and issued on 78 rpm phonograph recordings during the first half of the 20th century. This vast digitized collection of approximately 30,000 recordings is now available to researchers and the general public. In 2006, the Arhoolie Foundation received a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to digitize an additional 20,000 performances from the collection of 45 rpm phonograph recordings.

Approximately half of these additional recordings are available (as of April 2009) with the remainder to be added to the website in the next few months. This represents less than half of the 45 rpm discs in the collection and further funding will be required to complete the project. Full access to the archive is only available to UCLA patrons, but the rest of us can listen to 50 seconds of each song, look at the record labels, and read the background information. Music is browsable by genre, subject, label, and name.

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

Chicago Update

[Tips for getting around](#)

Chicago offers the [Chicago Transit Authority](#) (CTA), convenient and easy-to-use bus and elevated/subway train lines. Cash fares are \$2.25 per person, and discount visitor passes are sold at various sales outlets throughout the city. Taxis are numerous and easy to use. Free trolleys travel between Navy Pier and State Street along Grand and Illinois. Free shuttle buses, sponsored by Gale Cengage Learning, will operate between all participating hotels and McCormick Place West during Annual Conference. Service will also be provided for attendees with disabilities....



[National Vietnam Veterans Art Museum](#)

Not far from McCormick Place is the National Vietnam Veterans Art Museum at 1801 S. Indiana Avenue. The museum collects, preserves, and exhibits art inspired by combat and created by veterans. A rare art collection assembled by a group of



Vietnam veterans in 1981 has blossomed into the world's only museum with a permanent collection focusing on the subject of war from an artistic perspective....

National Vietnam Veterans Art Museum

[Dine in a former Chicago Public Library branch](#)

M. Kathleen Pratt writes: "Possibility lives in libraries, so it's fitting that Cary Michael and Howard Natinsky, owners of the [Branch 27](#) restaurant at 1371 W. Chicago Avenue, saw something in the corner West Town building that was once home to the city's 27th Ward library. They transformed a brick and terra-cotta shell from the turn of last century into a rustic, comfortable eatery for the turn of this century. Branch 27 is a neighborhood place, and the goal is to please all who come this way."...

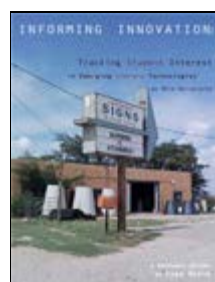
Metromix Chicago, Apr. 8



Division News

[Informing Innovation](#)

ACRL has published a new title, [Informing Innovation: Tracking Student Interest in Emerging Library Technologies at Ohio University](#), by Char Booth. The volume examines one institution's efforts to move away from "technolust" and toward a culture of assessment in developing and implementing technology initiatives. Booth presents findings from a study investigating the convergence of students and libraries with emerging information, communication, and academic tools. This title is also available as a [free download](#)....



[AASL seeks presenters for 2010](#)

AASL is seeking presenter proposals for the 2010 Annual Conference. The conference will be held June 24–30 in Washington, D.C. The deadline is May 31. Proposal submissions will be accepted for concurrent sessions or half- to full-day preconference professional development programs. Program content must address at least one of three areas of responsibility: learning and teaching, information access, or program administration, as identified in *Information Power: Building Partnerships for Learning*....

[AASL survey on economic impact](#)

The current state of the economy has caused a spike in media inquiries on the impact of the recession on children, and AASL would like to offer reporters overall data on U.S. school library media programs, as well as some local community examples. AASL is asking all school library media specialists to take a few minutes to complete a [survey](#) on your district's school library media programs....

AASL Blog, May 1

[Audra Caplan elected PLA president](#)

Audra Caplan, director of the Harford County (Md.) Public Library, has been elected president of PLA. Caplan has been a member of PLA for more than 24 years, serving on numerous PLA, YALSA, and ALA committees, including the PLA board of directors, the YALSA board of directors, and as an ALA councilor. In



Libraries of the Week at the [Love Libraries](#) site.

Public Perception

How the World Sees Us

"I should almost as soon think of giving away part of the library as to part with Comanche. He's almost an alumnus of the institution!"

—University of Kansas Chancellor Deane W. Malott, commenting on his refusal to relinquish Comanche, the 7th Cavalry horse that survived the Battle of the Little Bighorn and which has been housed in a university museum since its death in 1891, in a letter to Smithsonian Institution Secretary Alexander Wetmore, Nov. 7, 1947.



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

Ask the ALA Librarian



Q. How can I find out the recommended number of books per pupil in my middle school library? And are there recommended

addition, Caplan served as YALSA president in 2003–2004....

[Lisa Hinchliffe elected ACRL president](#)

Lisa Janicke Hinchliffe, coordinator for information literacy services at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, has been elected president of ACRL. Lisabeth Chabot, college librarian at Ithaca College, and Ann Campion Riley, assistant director for technical services at the University of Missouri, were elected to the ACRL board of directors and will each serve a four-year term as director-at-large....



[Kim Patton elected YALSA president](#)

YALSA members chose Kim Patton as the division's next president. Patton has been an active YALSA member for several years, serving on the YALSA board of directors and the Quick Picks for Reluctant Young Adult Readers Committee. She is the central youth services teen librarian at the Kansas City (Mo.) Public Library. She is also the coauthor with Amy Alessio of *A Year of Programming for Teens*....



[Young Adult Literature Symposium stipends](#)

YALSA is accepting applications for stipends to attend the 2010 Young Adult Literature Symposium, to be held November 5–7, 2010, in Albuquerque, New Mexico. One stipend will be awarded to a library worker who has worked directly with teens for 1–10 years; the other will be awarded to a student in an accredited library school program. Each stipend provides up to \$1,000 to fund attendance at the symposium. Send complete [applications](#) to [YALSA](#) by January 4, 2010....

[Teens celebrate technology in libraries](#)

Thousands of school and public libraries throughout the country joined YALSA in celebrating Teen Tech Week 2009, March 8–14, encouraging teens to take advantage of the many technologies available to them at their libraries. More than 1,700 libraries embraced the 2009 theme, "Press Play @ your library," by hosting an array of events and programs that encouraged teens to get connected with gaming, video, and music at the library....



[Connect with small publishers at Annual Conference](#)

YALSA recognizes that often small presses or independent publishers cannot afford to exhibit during ALA Annual Conference. This year, YALSA will be holding a program July 12 that will feature small presses and diverse publishers that normally do not exhibit. The goal of this program is to provide information to YALSA members about how to purchase books for their libraries from small presses or independent publishers....

YALSA Blog, Apr. 30

[Authors at Literary Tastes Breakfast](#)

Author Peter Manseau (right) will bring his award-winning tale *Songs for the Butcher's Daughter* to life at the 2009 RUSA Literary Tastes Breakfast at ALA Annual Conference. The event will be held July 12 at

percentages for the different subject areas?

A. Over the years, ALA has moved away from prescriptive standards to output measures. For school libraries, AASL maintains the [current standards](#). How your library supports the curriculum will affect how you build your collection and select materials for it. You'll want to look at some of the resources on [budgeting](#), [collection development](#), and [standards](#). When it comes to the distribution of the subject content of the collection, the current standards will also not be prescriptive, except to emphasize the importance of supporting the curriculum of the school and the learning objectives therein. Be sure to see [Add It Up](#), our advocacy tool kit with research and statistics to help you make the case for libraries at every stage of youth development and education—there's a section just for kindergarten through middle school. See more at the [ALA Professional Tips wiki](#).

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

Calendar

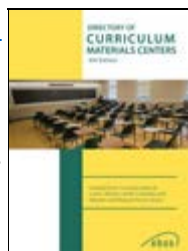
May 7:
[How Social is Your](#)

the Palmer House Hilton in Chicago and features authors from the Notable Books List and the Reading List, and winners of the Sophie Brody Medal. Also appearing will be author and journalist Mark Harris, who will [recount](#) the birth of the cinematic revolution....



[Directory of curriculum materials centers](#)

ACRL's Education and Behavioral Sciences Section has released a sixth edition of its [Directory of Curriculum Materials Centers](#). The directory updates the fifth edition, released as a digital publication in 2001. It lists and describes curriculum materials centers or collections at institutions that responded to an electronic questionnaire sent out in the spring of 2007....



Awards

[2009 Frances Henne Award](#)

Jill Mantel, school library media specialist at Darby Creek Elementary School in Hilliard, Ohio, is the recipient of the 2009 Frances Henne Award. Mantel serves 570 students, kindergarten to 5th grade, as well as 55 staff members. Her primary goal is to increase student understanding of the state standards. With her award, Mantel hopes to attend the AASL National Conference in Charlotte, North Carolina....

[Honorary member nominations open](#)

Nominations are being accepted for ALA honorary membership, the Association's highest honor, which is bestowed on living citizens of any country whose contributions to librarianship or a closely related field are of significant and lasting importance to the whole field of library service. Honorary members are elected for life by vote of the ALA Council upon recommendation of the ALA Executive Board. Members who wish to forward nominations must complete the online ALA honorary member nomination form ([Word file](#)) by September 1....

[AASL Innovative Reading Grant](#)

Cathleen Friedmann, school library media specialist at Metairie (La.) Park Country Day School, has received the 2009 Innovative Reading Grant, sponsored by AASL and Capstone Publishers for her project, "Reading 2.0: Attracting Middle School Readers in the 21st Century." Friedmann said library statistics at MPCDS reflect a sharp drop in reading between 5th grade and middle school. Her project will motivate and reward 6th graders to read....

[Diversity Office extends deadline for research grant proposals](#)

The Office for Diversity has extended its deadline for proposals for its 2009 Diversity Research Grants from April 30 to May 17. Applicants must be current ALA members, and 2009 proposals must address one of three identified topics: meeting diversity goals in the context

[Web Site](#), webinar, Special Libraries Association.

May 13:

[Usage Issues](#), webinar, National Information Standards Organization.

May 18–

June 5:
[International Copyright Law Principles](#), webinar, Special Libraries Association.

May 20:

[MarcEdit, a Cataloger's Best Friend](#), workshop, Ohio Library Council, Columbus.

May 25–30:

[Libraries in the Digital Age](#), Inter-University Centre, Dubrovnik and Zadar, Croatia.

May 31–

June 5:
[North American Chapter, Association for Computational Linguistics–Human Language Technologies](#), Annual Conference, University of Colorado, Boulder.

June 6:

[Proposal Writing](#), workshop, Simmons College, Boston.

June 15–19:

[Joint Conference on Digital Libraries](#), AT&T Executive Education and Conference Center,

of economic challenges, librarianship in multicultural/multigenerational community building, or libraries' multicultural involvement in social networking. Electronic [submissions](#) are preferred and should be sent as a Word document attachment....

[Target's Early Childhood Reading grants](#)

Target is offering reading grants to schools, libraries, and nonprofit organizations in support of weekend book clubs and after-school reading programs that foster a love of reading and encourage children, from birth through age 9, to read together with their families. Applications will be accepted through May 31 for programs taking place between October 1, 2009, and September 30, 2010. Most grants average between \$1,000 and \$3,000....
Target



[Maricopa branch wins Innovations in Reading Prize](#) (PDF file)

The National Book Foundation has awarded its first Innovations in Reading Prizes to one individual and four organizations who are demonstrating passion, creativity, dedication, and leadership in the service of creating and sustaining a lifelong love of reading. The Perry branch (right) of the Maricopa County (Ariz.) Library District dropped the Dewey system two years ago to make their library more user-friendly. Based on customer surveys, Maricopa decided that organizing the collection into "neighborhoods," the way bookstores are organized, was a better way to meet patron needs. As a result, circulation has doubled....

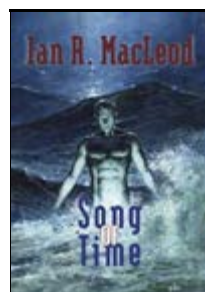
National Book Foundation, May 5



[2009 Arthur C. Clarke Award](#)

A literary science fiction novel set in the near future in which an old woman, close to death, contemplates her life, has won this year's [Arthur C. Clarke Award](#) for science fiction. *Song of Time* by Ian R. MacLeod (PS Publishing) takes place near the end of the 21st century, as an aged concert violinist, about to pass into a virtual afterlife, discovers a half-drowned man on a Cornish beach. The annual award is selected from a list of novels whose UK first edition was published in the previous calendar year....

The Guardian (U.K.), Apr. 30; Arthur C. Clarke Award



[2009 Edgar Award winners](#)

The Mystery Writers of America announced the Edgar Award winners April 30. The annual prize is named after Edgar Allan Poe and awarded to the best authors in the mystery genre since 1945. The Best Novel category went to C. J. Box for *Blue Heaven*; John Green won in the Best YA Novel category for *Paper Towns*; and Meg Gardiner won with *China Lake* for Best Paperback Original....

GalleyCat, May 1



[2008 Agatha Awards](#)

Louise Penny's *The Cruellest Month* (Minotaur) has won the Agatha Award for Best Mystery Novel published in 2008. Named for writer Agatha Christie, the Agatha Awards honor mystery and crime writers who write

Austin, Texas.

June 22–26:
[World Conference on Educational Multimedia, Hypermedia, and Telecommunications](#), Sheraton Waikiki, Hawaii.

June 25–26:
[Collections Management and Practices](#), Jackson, Mississippi. An American Association of State and Local History workshop, hosted by the Mississippi Department of History.

July 9–15:
[American Library Association](#), Annual Conference, McCormick Place, Chicago.

July 13–16:
[World Congress in Computer Science, Computer Engineering, and Applied Computing](#), Las Vegas, Nevada.

July 29–30:
[A Race Against Time: Preserving Our Audiovisual Media](#), Denver Public Library.

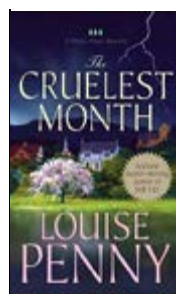
Aug. 9–16:
[Society of American Archivists / Council of State Archivists](#), Annual Meeting, Hilton Austin, Texas.

@ [More...](#)

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Direct

mystery novels in the traditional method exemplified by her style. Entries must contain no explicit sex and no excessive gore or gratuitous violence, and must take place in a confined setting and contain characters who know one another....

Malice Domestic Convention



[Jane Addams Children's Book Awards](#)

The Jane Addams Peace Association announced the winners of the 2009 Jane Addams Children's Book Awards. The awards are given annually to children's books published the preceding year that effectively promote the cause of peace, social justice, world community, and the equality of the sexes and all races. *Planting the Trees of Kenya: The Story of Wangari Maathai*, written and illustrated by Claire A. Nivola (Frances Foster Books) is the winner in the Books for Younger Children Category. *The Surrender Tree: Poems of Cuba's Struggle for Freedom* by Margarita Engle (Henry Holt) is the winner in the Books for Older Children Category....

Jane Addams Peace Association, Apr. 28



Seen Online

[Florida library funding saved](#)

Librarians and patrons in Florida celebrated May 3 after word came that a joint legislative budget committee put back into the budget approximately \$21 million for public libraries. "You did it! The people of Florida roared—and the state's leaders listened!" declared the Florida Library Association website ([PDF file](#)). It was good news for the St. Johns County Public Library in St. Augustine, which was looking at cutbacks to electronic resources, including databases, if the state withdrew its funding....

St. Augustine (Fla.) Record, May 4; Florida Library Association, May 4

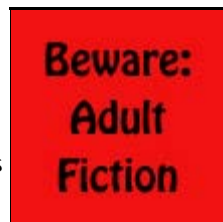
[Ann Arbor library's millage rate may be rolled back](#)

Two years ago, the Ann Arbor (Mich.) District Library director envisioned a day when the tax that supports the library system could be rolled back to a lower rate. That day is near: With the decision to shelve major construction at the downtown library, there's no reason to keep the tax at its current rate, said Josie Parker, who's led the library system since 2002. In May, the library board of directors will vote on a 2009–10 budget that would lower the tax rate from 1.92 mills to 1.55....

Ann Arbor (Mich.) News, Apr. 29

[Tremonton steps away from "cowpie" library ordinance](#)

A red-faced Tremonton, Utah, city council has repealed a library ordinance that could have brought infamy to the city. The ordinance, passed two weeks ago, required anyone under the age of 18 to have



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ext. 4216

ISSN 1559-369X.

written consent from their parents before checking out any books listed as "adult fiction." Councilman Lyle Holmgren compared the experience to walking out in a pasture and stepping on a cowpie: "You know you've done something wrong the minute you did it." Head Librarian Kim Griffiths said, "In today's world, pornography is sold in a store that is labeled an adult book store, but in the library, the books are labeled adult fiction."...

Ogden (Utah) Standard-Examiner, May 6

New Zealand library revamp scaled back

The New Zealand government is scaling back the renovation of the National Library in Wellington by cutting almost \$40 million (\$23.2 million U.S.) from the budget. The proposed redevelopment is not affordable in the midst of a recession, Internal Affairs Minister Richard Worth said. But doing nothing is not an option, as water leaks and failing equipment put invaluable collections at risk. The renovation will instead focus on increasing storage, fixing leaks, upgrading equipment, and replacing critical infrastructure....

Scoop (N.Z.), Apr. 29



Reduced Philadelphia branch hours

Philadelphia's neighborhood and regional library branches are set to downsize their schedules to five days a week in July, Free Library Director Siobhan Reardon told city council during a May 5 budget hearing. Reardon said that the new schedule at 53 of the city's 54 branches would be more stable, given reduced library staff and funding. After 100 positions were cut in January, the library has been moving staffers around daily to keep as many branches as open each day as possible. But there have been numerous closures due to staff shortages. Reardon said that the new schedule is the best option....

Philadelphia Daily News, May 6

Spokane libraries consider new cuts

Spokane is well behind most Washington cities in the hours of operation at its libraries. That service level will fall even further if the Spokane Public Library is forced to ax 4% of its budget, a proposal under consideration by city leaders. Library Director Pat Partovi said 4% of the budget amounts to about \$320,000, which could mean the closure of one of the system's three smaller branches....

Spokane (Wash.) Spokesman-Review, Apr. 27



Stimulus aims to help close the digital divide

With more than \$7 billion of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act set aside for increasing broadband access in the United States, the stimulus presents a huge opportunity for schools and communities to help close the digital divide. The stimulus package authorizes the National Telecommunications and Information Administration to implement the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program, a \$4.7-billion, one-time, competitive matching-grants program. The funds are intended to expand broadband services to underserved areas, improve broadband access for public safety agencies, stimulate the economy, and create jobs....

eSchool News, May 6



[Parents, kids worry about safety at Santa Cruz library](#)

As Santa Cruz (Calif.) Public Library leaders consider shifting the extensive young adult collection at the Garfield Park branch (right) to the downtown flagship library to help close a \$1-million deficit, patrons are wondering if downtown is safe enough for kids and families. On May 11, members of the city-county library system's Joint Powers Board will consider the move. Acting Library Director Susan Elgin defended the safety of the Central Branch and added that moving the collection would open it to students from around the county....

Santa Cruz (Calif.) Sentinel, Apr. 28



[National Library of China's book doctor](#)

Sixty-year-old Du Weisheng likes to call himself a doctor whose time-ravaged patients are frail, often crumble at a touch, and sometimes get chewed by rats. Du preserves and restores books and scripts that are hundreds of years old at the National Library in Beijing, performing a job that is fast becoming as rare as the tomes he rescues. Only three universities in Beijing offer degrees in book restoration, and there are fewer than 150 people in China that still do this for a living. Watch the [video](#) (1:55)....

Reuters, May 4



[Libraries profit from German stimulus plan](#)

Germany's museums, theaters, and libraries are benefiting from Chancellor Angela Merkel's economic stimulus plan, using unexpected windfalls to fix leaky roofs, crumbling façades, and drafty windows. Merkel's 82-billion euro (\$107 billion U.S.) rescue package includes 13.3-billion euros, paid out through 2011, for renovating local infrastructure. Some of it will go to cultural institutions, including the Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz Bibliothek (right) in Hanover....

Bloomberg, Apr. 29



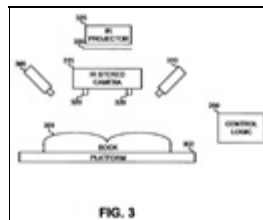
[Go back to the Top](#)

Tech Talk

[The secret of Google's book scanner](#)

Maureen Clements writes: "Before Google came on the scene, book scanning was a tedious process that sometimes resulted in the death of a book. The software used to scan books required each page of the book to be flat. Anyone who has ever opened a book knows it's next to impossible for a book to lie flat without some sort of device. It was a problem that vexed book scanners for years until Google came up with this solution."...

As a Matter of Fact, Apr. 30



Why text messages are limited to 160 characters

In 1985, alone in his home in Bonn, Germany, Friedhelm Hillebrand sat at his typewriter, tapping out random sentences and questions on a sheet of paper. As he went along, Hillebrand counted the number of letters, numbers, punctuation marks, and spaces on the page. Each blurb ran on for a line or two and nearly always clocked in under 160 characters. That became Hillebrand's magic number—and set the standard for one of today's most popular forms of digital communication: text messaging....

Los Angeles Times, May 3

U.S. Senate votes available in XML

The Senate voting record is finally available in machine-readable XML format. Mashups, vote tracking, and comparison applications will now be welcomed in the front door of Congress as first-class technologies. On May 1, Sen. Jim DeMint (R-S.C.) officially asked the Senate Rules Committee to make the data available, and just four days later the feed is [here](#). Not everyone is happy about the information being made publicly available like this, however....

ReadWriteWeb, May 5

Anonymity technology can make free speech safe

When you get to the point of putting your information on the internet, you need protection from the possibility that your computer's digital address will be traced back to you. Maybe, at that point, you could use Tor, an open source internet anonymity system—one of several systems that encrypt data or hide the accompanying internet address, and route the data to its final destination through intermediate computers called proxies....

Technology Review, May/June



Software rates images aesthetically

An online photo-rating system developed at Penn State is the first publicly available tool for automatically determining the aesthetic value of an image, according to a Penn State researcher involved with the project. James Z. Wang, associate professor of information sciences and technology, is one of the principal researchers on the [Aesthetic Quality Inference Engine](#), a system that judges the aesthetic quality of digital images. Wang said the tool is a significant first step in recognizing human emotional reaction to visual stimuli....

Penn State University, May 5



Publishing

New Kindle aimed at periodicals

Amazon.com unveiled a new version of its Kindle reading device May 6 geared toward magazines, newspapers, and textbooks. The new version, called the Kindle DX, has a 9.7-inch screen, much larger than the current generation of the wireless book reader, and is priced at \$489. Amazon and a few of the company's partners are hoping that the device will appeal to students who will be able to download textbooks, and newspaper readers craving a larger screen



on which to read articles. The *New York Times* has a [review](#)....
Washington Post, May 6; *New York Times*, May 6

[E-books: Are they at a tipping point?](#)

At the London Book Fair in mid-April, the publishing industry gathered to discuss the future of the business. Among the vast stands carrying the latest paperbacks was a digital zone where academics and executives explored ways in which the book industry could embrace the electronic age. The Association of American Publishers has singled out e-book sales as the fastest growing segment in the industry, with sales of traditional books declining across all major markets. The problem is that there are around 25 e-book formats in existence, and not all e-book readers are compatible with all of them....

Daily Telegraph (U.K.), Apr. 30

[70% of Kindle owners over 40?](#)

David Carnoy writes: "Back in March, I cited a thread in Amazon.com's forums discussing [Kindle owners' ages](#). Well, I have a little follow-up on the whole issue. Apparently, someone went ahead and tabulated 700 of the responses in that Amazon thread and broke out the numbers. We can't call this the most scientific poll ever taken, but it's probably a good indicator of the Kindle's age demographic. If you add it all up, more than half the owners are over 50 and 70% are over 40."...

Crave, Apr. 30

[Greener typesetting](#)

Rick Jelliffe writes: "Consider that there may be 100 million word-processing documents printed every day. At least 1% of all documents have an extra page printed using systems that err on the side of adding space. That means a million extra pages per day generated because of default settings or algorithms. Perhaps it would be better for our typesetting software, including word processors, to default to tighter typesetting. Can we green typesetting?"...

O'Reilly Broadcast, May 2



[Books for students with disabilities](#) (subscription required)

Students with disabilities often wait weeks or months for their textbooks to be specially formatted, but now a new higher-education partnership could make these books more widely available to students by scanning them into an online library. Nonprofit company Bookshare announced April 29 that 11 colleges and universities would contribute thousands of books to students who are blind, have low vision, or are unable to turn pages, reducing duplication and proofreading costs....

eCampus News, Apr. 30



Actions & Answers

[Should your library have a social media policy?](#)

Sharlyn Lauby writes: "Social media is quickly moving from an

emerging form of communication to the mainstream. So, just like in the old days when organizations had to figure out how to deal with email, now they have to figure out how to deal with Facebook and all other new media venues. Let's talk about the Five W's to adopting a social media policy."...

Mashable, Apr. 27

[30 places to find Creative Commons media](#)



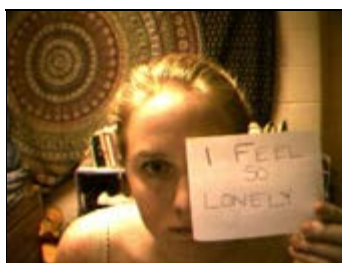
Sean P. Aune writes: "In this day and age, it seems everything online has a price associated with it. Luckily, there is still a large and healthy movement online for media files listed under the [Creative Commons](#) licenses. SitePoint has gathered up over 30 of the best resources online for audio, video, text, and images for finding the perfect Creative Commons–licensed item for use in your next project."...

SitePoint, Apr. 30

[Top 15 defunct websites](#)

The internet has become such a part of modern life that it's almost hard to remember life before it. The web has led to some gigantic success stories: Amazon, Yahoo, iTunes, eBay, Listverse. But, as in real life, not everything has flourished online. Here are 15 defunct websites. Some failed because of the dot-com bust, others were ahead of their time, some simply disappeared, and one turned out to be a scam....

Listverse, Apr. 28



[LC Authorities and Vocabularies](#)

Jonathan Rochkind writes: "This [service](#) is awesome. Not only is it the first online free search and browse of the Library of Congress Subject Headings (with in fact a better interface than the proprietary, for-pay, online alternative I'm aware of), but it also gives you access to the data itself via both a bulk download and some limited machine-readable APIs. One of my favorite features is LCSH to LC Classification mappings. Thank you, Library of Congress."...

Bibliographic Wilderness, Apr. 30

[Survival of the fittest tag](#)

Alexis Wichowski writes: "If information required anything to ensure its immediate survival, it would likely be these two things: First, it must be considered useful. Second, it must be findable. In the rapidly growing information environment, unidentified and unorganized content, however useful it may be, is at risk of being rendered unfindable and thus obsolete. Facing extinction, a new evolutionary adaptation in information organization has appeared—folksonomies."...

First Monday 14, no. 5 (May 4)

[BookGlutton widget: Embeddable book club](#)



Jolie O'Dell writes: "[BookGlutton](#), a site launched in January 2008 to allow socially enhanced online book reading, has just launched a nifty little widget. Blog and website owners can embed what amounts to a book club just about anywhere. I tried it out on my own website, and it's pretty tight."...

ReadWriteWeb, May 1

[The new Invisible Web](#)

Joyce Valenza writes: "We are faced with a new Invisible Web. These days, when we search we miss so much of the stuff that appears in new web formats. Wikis are now an increasingly serious part our webspace, and happily we have new tools to search this wikispace exclusively. My students are just beginning to tap Twitter to identify experts and explore the dialogue in their areas of interest. A variety of search tools now allow them to search Tweets."...

NeverEndingSearch, May 4



[GovFresh feed](#)

[GovFresh](#) is a live feed of official news from U.S. government Twitter, YouTube, RSS, Facebook, and Flickr accounts, all in one place, launched May 3. It provides live feeds from the White House, the Supreme Court, the House and Senate, seven departments, six agencies, and the Democratic and Republican National Committees, with more to come. Luke Fretwell, a San Francisco-based web designer and developer, created GovFresh on his own....

Sunlight Foundation Blog, May 5



[Face\(book\) the book club](#)

Kaite Stover writes: "Last month, I lost two dear friends from my Saturday morning book club. Briana and Christa did not want to lose touch with their other book group buddies and asked if there was some way I could keep us connected and talking about reading. Facebook made it easier for all of us. A new application called [Book Clubs](#) (what else?) was created late last year."...

Book Group Buzz, May 5



[From better to verse: Poetry for book groups](#)

Neil Hollands writes: "A meeting about poetry is a great variation for any book group. It's easy to prepare, an excellent last-minute substitute when the book you planned to use proves difficult to obtain, or when the reader whose turn it was to select a topic fails to appear. It's a great choice when you need something short to read."...

Book Group Buzz, May 1

[Twitter for libraries](#)

Sarah Milstein writes: "Information professionals know that Twitter is a fast-growing, free messaging service for people, and it's one that libraries can make good use of without spending much time or effort. For example, a library could share all kinds of news that patrons want. Short messages can tell people about events such as readings, lectures, and book sales; newly available resources; or changes in the building hours. When appropriate, the posts can link to a library's own website and blog for more in-depth information."...

Computers in Libraries 29, no. 5 (May)

[Explaining Twitterspeak to others](#)

Jeremy Toeman writes: "Never before in the history of mankind has the concept of extremely short format person-to-world shouting been possible, and we have a long way to go to until we truly understand the impact. But in the meantime, with all the new users coming to Tweetersville, I figured I'd put together a handy-dandy guide to help explain some of the Twits you might see out there."...

LiveDigitally, Apr. 23

[I can't imagine living without...](#)

Linda Braun writes: "I think there is a disparity between the number of children's librarians and teen librarians in libraries. And I do think that teens, and our communities, would be better served if there were more full-time librarians dedicated to serving teens—right alongside full-time librarians dedicated to serving children. I have used this provocative statement before, and it has engendered some interesting conversations with people about why teen librarians are not nearly as common in libraries as children's librarians."...

YALSA Blog, Apr. 30

[Obama license plates available for everyone](#)

The official Barack Obama Illinois license plate is now available for purchase to everyone. These special-event license plates, which read "Illinois Salutes President Barack Obama," are unique commemorative plates and until April 17 had been only available to owners of Illinois vehicles. The proceeds will help support the Illinois Library Association's activities including iREAD, the summer reading program for Illinois youth....

Illinois Library Association, May 5



[Obama looks to open source government](#)

The dream of an effective and open e-government rides on the ability of government officials to emulate the Web 2.0 model in the private sector, where success stories have been built through a decentralized, crowd-sourced mode. At a conference hosted by the National Association of State CIOs, Beth Noveck, an adviser in the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, appealed to her audience of government IT workers and business partners to embrace technology so that government might follow in the footsteps of Mozilla and Wikipedia to create a more collaborative relationship between citizen and government....

InternetNews, Apr. 30

[National Postcard Week](#)

Larry Nix writes: "May 3–9 is National Postcard Week. Diana Dretske, collections coordinator for the Lake County Discovery Museum in Wauconda, Illinois, provides some [background information](#) on National Postcard Week on her blog. I have previously posted about [collecting library postcards](#). Librarians have exchanged library postcards in the past and continue to do so today. This French postcard (right) was mailed to Ithaca, New York, through the Army Post Office near the end of World War II. One wonders what the two clerics find so funny in the library book."...

Library History Buff Blog, May 6



[Digital preservation and nuclear disaster](#)

[Digital Preservation Europe](#) has released a new series of short animations introducing and explaining digital preservation problems and solutions for the general public. The first (3:19) dramatizes the importance of preserving digital information by



showing Team Digital Preservation saving the world from nuclear disaster caused by the work of Team Chaos....

YouTube, May 1

[A closer look at NYPL](#)

Jen Carlson writes: "On May 1 we were lucky enough to spend some time in the New York Public Library's main branch, which opened up in 1911 before the doors were unlocked to the public. Librarian David Smith and some of the other staff took us on a tour of the massive structure, from the remains of the Croton Reservoir to the Allen Room (reserved for writers with book contracts) to the room where Charles Dickens's dead cat's paw resides" (above, mounted on a letter opener)....

Gothamist, May 5



[Persia's story preserved digitally](#)

The Oriental Institute at the University of Chicago is digitally recording thousands of tablets that, as they are pieced together, tell an unusually detailed story of the Persian Empire. These ancient tablets from the palaces of Persepolis include pieces of language and art from the center of the Persian Empire, all made when it extended from India and Central Asia to Egypt and the Mediterranean. Most have texts in impressed cuneiform characters, many of them have inked texts in Aramaic writing, and almost all of the tablets have seal impressions....

University of Chicago, Apr. 28



[Oklahoma books on the move](#)

Jenks (Okla.) High School students Alexia Dickey and Kenzie Clark filmed and edited this short documentary about the Tulsa City-County Library bookmobile service. Featured are Outreach Services Manager Brad Thomas, Library Associates Shawna Smith and Pam Watson, Bookmobile Driver Javier Valdes, and many happy patrons. The video is part of the library's [online exhibit](#) about its bookmobile history....

Tulsa (Okla.) City-County Library



[GPO takes to the streets](#)

Government Printing Office staffers took to the streets of Washington, D.C., to interview the public and find out how much they know about the Federal Depository Library Program. In a series of three videos, they asked passers-by, "What is a federal depository library?"

"Can you name a federal government publication?" and "What comes to mind when you hear the word 'library'?" As evidenced by the videos, promoting the FDLP to the public is essential and necessary....

FDLP Desktop, May 1



[Mindspot: The library as a universe](#)

Mindspot ([PDF file](#)) is a library service

for young people in Aarhus, Denmark, that offers concerts, gaming events, film marathons, instruction, and many other innovative programs. This video (5:14) explains the project. Half of the group that developed it are Aarhus Public Library employees called "mindkeepers," who talk to youth to find out what they think the library should be. The other half are staffers called "mindspotters" in charge of discovering trends and ideas....

YouTube, Apr. 20



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AL Direct, May 6, 2009

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

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

[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

U.S. & World News

Guantanamo records to be preserved

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2009/may2009/guantanamo/preserved5609.cfm>]

New York University's Tamiment Library and Seton Hall University's Center for Policy and Research have announced a project to document, preserve, and provide access to legal records and other documents of the Guantanamo Bay Detention Camp. The materials will include lawyers' files, oral histories of the attorneys and detainees, Department of Defense websites, photographs and videotapes, and electronic records, as well as records relating to the rules governing enemy combatants, prisoner interrogation, and the government's representation of battlefield capture....

American Libraries Online, May 6

Dismissal of Wisconsin board members draws national censure

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

endbdslammed5409.cfm]

ALA has joined publishing and free-speech groups in condemning the West Bend, Wisconsin, common council for not reappointing four library board members after they failed to act on a citizens group's call to restrict the availability of sexually explicit books. At its April 21 meeting, the council voted 5–3 to reject Mayor Kristine Deiss's recommendation to reappoint the four library board members whose terms were concluding: Mary Reilly-Kliss, Tom Fitz, James Poulos, and Alderman Nick Dobberstein....

American Libraries Online, May 4

Lexington Director Imhoff: Scrutiny of finances inaccurate

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2009/may2009/imhoffreplies50409.cfm>]

“There is a situation going on in Lexington [Kentucky],” said Kathleen Imhoff, CEO of the city's public library, characterizing an inflammatory article published April 26 in the Lexington Herald-Leader as inaccurate, slanted, and damaging to the library and to her reputation. The article links Imhoff's credit-card history to a credit-card scandal at Lexington's Blue Grass Airport that led to the resignation of top managers and a criminal investigation. “Many things are mischaracterized” in the article, Imhoff said, much of it provided by Edward Maley, whom she said is a disgruntled former employee....

American Libraries Online, May 4

San Jos'e; city council defers filter mandate

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2009/may2009/sanjosedefersfilters50109.cfm>]

A debate over the mandating of blocking software for children's area computers at San Jos  (Calif.) Public Library reached a watershed moment April 21 when the city council voted 7–3 against appropriating \$90,000 to purchase filters systemwide. “We can use this money to keep our library hours longer,” council member Tina Morrill argued before the vote. Library Director Jane Light said that the council instead chose to have the library display the acceptable-use policy on every public internet workstation's login page....

American Libraries Online, May 1

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=obMuSWH9kq8>]Academic libraries become all the rave

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2009/may2009/librariyaves50109.cfm>]

University students headed to their campus libraries en masse the week before exams at the end of April, but not just to study: At the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill,

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FsHpUUrHdSw>] the University of Kentucky

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fZq-1AKRrbk>] in Lexington, the College of

Charleston, [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=obMuSWH9kq8>] South Carolina (above), and the University of Tennessee in Chattanooga,

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UtYqLPQcppE>] students used blogs,

Facebook, text messaging, and Twitter to coordinate

“impromptu” flash raves....

American Libraries Online, May 1

Calcasieu Parish overwhelmingly renews library tax

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2009/may2009/calcasieu91percentok5409.cfm>]

Voters of Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana, approved a 10-year renewal of a 5.99-mill property tax that provides 93% of the Calcasieu Parish Public Library's \$7.3-million annual budget. The renewal passed with more than 91% approval—a yes vote that CPPL Director Michael Sawyer said “is unheard of in my world.”...

American Libraries Online, May 4

ALA News

Roberta Stevens elected ALA president

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/may2009/govalla2009election.cfm>]

Roberta Stevens, outreach projects and partnerships officer at the Library of Congress and project manager for the National Book Festival, has been elected president of ALA for the 2010–2011 term, defeating Kenton L. Oliver, executive director of the Stark County District Library in Canton, Ohio. She will become president-elect in July 2009, and will assume the ALA presidency in July 2010. Stevens is currently completing her three-year term on the ALA Executive Board and as a member of its Finance and Audit Committee....

Councilors elected

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/may2009/govalla2009electioncouncil.cfm>]

Thirty-three members have been elected ALA councilors-at-large for three-year terms. The terms begin at the conclusion of the 2009 ALA Annual Conference in Chicago and extend through the end of the 2012 Annual Conference in Anaheim, California....

ALA urges vigorous oversight of Google Book Search settlement

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

ALA, ACRL, and the Association of Research Libraries filed comments May 4 with the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York for the judge to consider in his ruling on the proposed Google Book Search settlement. The groups asked the judge to exercise vigorous oversight of the interpretation and implementation of the settlement to ensure the broadest possible benefit from the services the settlement enables. Although the settlement has the potential to provide public access to millions of books, many of its features could compromise fundamental library values. Ars Technica has more details.

[<http://arstechnica.com/tech-policy/news/2009/05/libraries-weigh-in-with-worries-on-googles-book-settlement.ars>]...

Public libraries challenged to meet patron needs for internet

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

With growing demand for public internet services and Wi-Fi access, nearly

60% of U.S. public libraries report internet connection speeds are insufficient to meet patron demand at some point in the day, according to the 2008–2009 Public Library Funding and Technology Access Study. [<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/ors/plftas/0809report.cfm>]
Nationally one in five libraries reports connection speeds less than 1.5 mbps (T1), and the disparity between urban libraries and their rural counterparts is pronounced....

Win a trip to Annual, courtesy of ProQuest

[http://www.proquest.com/en-US/promos/feature03_ts.shtml]

In response to shrinking library budgets that have reduced or even eliminated conference travel, ProQuest is conducting a random drawing sponsoring a professional librarian's travel to the 2009 ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. Registration, airfare, lodging, a \$500 gift card, and a ticket to the Scholarship Bash are all included. To enter, eligible applicants should complete the brief online entry form

[<http://www.proquest.com/en-US/site/forms/alatravl.shtml>] before midnight on May 10....

ProQuest

Take part in Legislative Day without leaving home

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=2674>]

With less than one week to go until National Library Legislative Day, [<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/wo/washevents/nlld/nlld2009.cfm>] May 11–12, it's important to know that you don't have to be in Washington, D.C., to make a difference. For those of you who are unable to travel to Washington, there are several ways to participate in the activities. For the first time, you will be able to follow the meetings on the Hill via Twitter and call your legislators as the meetings progress. Follow Twitter updates from @ala_ogr [http://twitter.com/ala_ogr] so you can get in on the action....

District Dispatch, May 4

ALA commends Senators Lieberman, McCain

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

ALA sent letters May 4 to Sen. Joe Lieberman (D-Conn.) and Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.), thanking them for introducing S. Res. 118, legislation to allow no-fee public access to taxpayer-funded Congressional Research Service reports. The CRS produces well-researched and balanced reports on a wide variety of current issues affecting our citizens and country. Unfortunately, CRS reports are not systematically made freely available to the public through the Federal Depository Library Program....

Candace Parker, chair of Library Card Sign-up Month

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

Olympic Gold Medalist and 2008 WNBA Rookie of the Year Candace Parker will let Americans know that a library card is the "smartest card" in every wallet. As Honorary Chair of Library Card Sign-up Month in September, Parker will be featured in print and radio public service announcements. ALA will place the PSAs in magazines and on radio stations across the country. They are available for free download

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/issuesadvocacy/advocacy/publicawareness/alainitiati>

ves/otherinitiatives/card/librarycard.cfm] to libraries looking to promote Library Card Sign-up Month locally....

Implementing a library strategic plan

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

ALA Editions has just released *Implementing for Results*

[<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2489>] by Sandra Nelson. For nearly two decades, the PLA Results Series has been the definitive resource for practical everyday management. This latest addition is a follow-up to *Strategic Planning for Results*

[<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=1583>] and offers tips to help determine which activities effectively support goals and objectives, tools for staff to prepare and effectively communicate change, and necessary steps for reviewing current and potential library activities....

AL Focus

=====

What people like about Annual Conference

[<http://alfocus.ala.org/videos/2009-chicago-annual-conference-promo>]

Produced by ALA Conference Services, this video (1:55) features many ALA members discussing the value of Annual Conference—and the benefits of holding it in Chicago. Annual Conference this year is July 9–15....

Featured review: Reference

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=3290326]

Morris, Lawrence, ed. *Daily Life through World History in Primary Documents*. Dec. 2008. 1,083p. Greenwood, hardcover (978-0-313-33898-4).

This thematically arranged, expansive reference work seeks to cover the much-treaded ground of primary resource collections. What sets this attempt apart in a crowded field, however, is its subject matter: daily life. Understanding what everyday life was like for the masses of humanity provides us with a level of context and perspective not possible with a narrow focus on political elites. The current set attempts to rectify this by presenting readers with a balanced social and cultural cross section of authors and subjects from the ancient Sumerians to the intellectual and social world of the present. Although documents from the greats—such as Hammurabi and Benjamin Franklin—still make the cut, the inclusion of a wide variety of sources and authors from around the world merits attention. Examples include a letter from one Egyptian official to another about travel arrangements for a Roman politician, an inventory of the household goods and agricultural produce of one of Charlemagne's estates, and a poem written by a Japanese soldier in 1944. Each of the three volumes (*The Ancient World*, *The Middle Ages and Renaissance*, and *The Modern World*) begins with a chronology of the era covered as well as a clear, concise historical overview....

[<http://blip.tv/file/2079046>] We read everything

[<http://blog.booklistonline.com/2009/05/06/we-read-everything/>]

Keir Graff writes: “I’ve often written about what we do at Booklist and how we do it, about our recommend-only policy, the staggering volume of books we review, and the people we’re reviewing for. But, until now, I never had a visual aid. Fortunately, Books for Youth Associate Editor Daniel Kraus, who in his spare time writes novels [<http://www.themonstervariations.com/>] and makes documentary films [<http://www.workseries.com/home.php>], was able to play Cecil B. DeMille to my Charlie Kaufman. It was fun to take a day off from reading to make a commercial about reading (1:08). Can you name any of these Booklisters?”...

Likely Stories, May 6

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

Chicago Update

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Tips for getting around

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

Chicago offers the Chicago Transit Authority

[<http://www.transitchicago.com/>] (CTA), convenient and easy-to-use bus and elevated/subway train lines. Cash fares are \$2.25 per person, and discount visitor passes are sold at various sales outlets throughout the city. Taxis are numerous and easy to use. Free trolleys travel between Navy Pier and State Street along Grand and Illinois. Free shuttle buses, sponsored by Gale Cengage Learning, will operate between all participating hotels and McCormick Place West during Annual Conference. Service will also be provided for attendees with disabilities....

National Vietnam Veterans Art Museum [<http://www.nvvam.org/>]

Not far from McCormick Place is the National Vietnam Veterans Art Museum at 1801 S. Indiana Avenue. The museum collects, preserves, and exhibits art inspired by combat and created by veterans. A rare art collection assembled by a group of Vietnam veterans in 1981 has blossomed into the world’s only museum with a permanent collection focusing on the subject of war from an artistic perspective....

National Vietnam Veterans Art Museum

[<http://www.branch27.com/>]
Dine in a former Chicago Public Library branch [http://chicago.metromix.com/restaurants/restaurant_review/first-look-branch-27/1083805/content]

M. Kathleen Pratt writes: “Possibility lives in libraries, so it’s fitting that Cary Michael and Howard Natinsky, owners of the Branch 27 [<http://www.branch27.com/>] restaurant at 1371 W. Chicago Avenue, saw something in the corner West Town building that was once home to the city’s 27th Ward library. They transformed a brick and terra-cotta shell from the turn of last century into a rustic, comfortable eatery for the turn of this century. Branch 27 is a neighborhood place, and the goal is to please all who come this way.”...

Metromix Chicago, Apr. 8

Division News

Informing Innovation

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

ACRL has published a new title, *Informing Innovation: Tracking Student Interest in Emerging Library Technologies at Ohio University* [<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2704>], by Char Booth. The volume examines one institution's efforts to move away from "technolust" and toward a culture of assessment in developing and implementing technology initiatives. Booth presents findings from a study investigating the convergence of students and libraries with emerging information, communication, and academic tools. This title is also available as a free download [<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/publications/digital>]....

AASL seeks presenters for 2010

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/april2009/aasl2010presenters.cfm>]

AASL is seeking presenter proposals for the 2010 Annual Conference. The conference will be held June 24–30 in Washington, D.C. The deadline is May 31. Proposal submissions will be accepted for concurrent sessions or half- to full-day preconference professional development programs. Program content must address at least one of three areas of responsibility: learning and teaching, information access, or program administration, as identified in *Information Power: Building Partnerships for Learning*....

AASL survey on economic impact [<http://www.aasl.ala.org/aaslblog/?p=486>]

The current state of the economy has caused a spike in media inquiries on the impact of the recession on children, and AASL would like to offer reporters overall data on U.S. school library media programs, as well as some local community examples. AASL is asking all school library media specialists to take a few minutes to complete a survey [https://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=ESNa8L5rv_2bkK1c0EiKR_2fUA_3d_3d] on your district's school library media programs....

AASL Blog, May 1

Audra Caplan elected PLA president

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

Audra Caplan, director of the Harford County (Md.) Public Library, has been elected president of PLA. Caplan has been a member of PLA for more than 24 years, serving on numerous PLA, YALSA, and ALA committees, including the PLA board of directors, the YALSA board of directors, and as an ALA councilor. In addition, Caplan served as YALSA president in 2003–2004....

Lisa Hinchliffe elected ACRL president

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

vp.cfm]

Lisa Janicke Hinchliffe, coordinator for information literacy services at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, has been elected president of ACRL. Lisabeth Chabot, college librarian at Ithaca College, and Ann Campion Riley, assistant director for technical services at the University of Missouri, were elected to the ACRL board of directors and will each serve a four-year term as director-at-large....

Kim Patton elected YALSA president

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

YALSA members chose Kim Patton as the division's next president. Patton has been an active YALSA member for several years, serving on the YALSA board of directors and the Quick Picks for Reluctant Young Adult Readers Committee. She is the central youth services teen librarian at the Kansas City (Mo.) Public Library. She is also the coauthor with Amy Alessio of *A Year of Programming for Teens*....

Young Adult Literature Symposium stipends

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

YALSA is accepting applications for stipends to attend the 2010 Young Adult Literature Symposium, to be held November 5–7, 2010, in Albuquerque, New Mexico. One stipend will be awarded to a library worker who has worked directly with teens for 1–10 years; the other will be awarded to a student in an accredited library school program. Each stipend provides up to \$1,000 to fund attendance at the symposium. Send complete applications [<http://www.ala.org/yalitsymposium>] to YALSA [<mailto:yalsa@ala.org>] by January 4, 2010....

Teens celebrate technology in libraries

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

Thousands of school and public libraries throughout the country joined YALSA in celebrating Teen Tech Week 2009, March 8–14, encouraging teens to take advantage of the many technologies available to them at their libraries. More than 1,700 libraries embraced the 2009 theme, “Press Play @ your library,” by hosting an array of events and programs that encouraged teens to get connected with gaming, video, and music at the library....

Connect with small publishers at Annual Conference

[<http://yalsa.ala.org/blog/2009/04/30/connect-with-small-publishers-at-ala-annual/>]

YALSA recognizes that often small presses or independent publishers cannot afford to exhibit during ALA Annual Conference. This year, YALSA will be holding a program July 12 that will feature small presses and diverse publishers that normally do not exhibit. The goal of this program is to provide information to YALSA members about how to purchase books for their libraries from small presses or independent publishers....

YALSA Blog, Apr. 30

Authors at Literary Tastes Breakfast

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

manseau.cfm]

Author Peter Manseau (right) will bring his award-winning tale *Songs for the Butcher's Daughter* to life at the 2009 RUSA Literary Tastes Breakfast at ALA Annual Conference. The event will be held July 12 at the Palmer House Hilton in Chicago and features authors from the Notable Books List and the Reading List, and winners of the Sophie Brody Medal. Also appearing will be author and journalist Mark Harris, who will recount [http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/may2009/rusaharris.cfm] the birth of the cinematic revolution....

Directory of curriculum materials centers

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/may2009/acrl directory.cfm]

ACRL's Education and Behavioral Sciences Section has released a sixth edition of its *Directory of Curriculum Materials Centers*.

[http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2703] The directory updates the fifth edition, released as a digital publication in 2001. It lists and describes curriculum materials centers or collections at institutions that responded to an electronic questionnaire sent out in the spring of 2007....

Awards

2009 Frances Henne Award

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/may2009/aasl hennes.cfm]

Jill Mantel, school library media specialist at Darby Creek Elementary School in Hilliard, Ohio, is the recipient of the 2009 Frances Henne Award. Mantel serves 570 students, kindergarten to 5th grade, as well as 55 staff members. Her primary goal is to increase student understanding of the state standards. With her award, Mantel hopes to attend the AASL National Conference in Charlotte, North Carolina....

Honorary member nominations open

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/may2009/govh onorarymember.cfm]

Nominations are being accepted for ALA honorary membership, the Association's highest honor, which is bestowed on living citizens of any country whose contributions to librarianship or a closely related field are of significant and lasting importance to the whole field of library service. Honorary members are elected for life by vote of the ALA Council upon recommendation of the ALA Executive Board. Members who wish to forward nominations must complete the online ALA honorary member nomination form (Word file

[http://www.ala.org/ala/awardsgrants/awardsrecords/honorarymembersh/NominationForm3-07.doc]) by September 1....

AASL Innovative Reading Grant

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/may2009/aasl innovativereading.cfm]

Cathleen Friedmann, school library media specialist at Metairie (La.) Park Country Day School, has received the 2009 Innovative Reading Grant,

sponsored by AASL and Capstone Publishers for her project, "Reading 2.0: Attracting Middle School Readers in the 21st Century." Friedmann said library statistics at MPCDS reflect a sharp drop in reading between 5th grade and middle school. Her project will motivate and reward 6th graders to read....

Diversity Office extends deadline for research grant proposals

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

The Office for Diversity has extended its deadline for proposals for its 2009 Diversity Research Grants from April 30 to May 17. Applicants must be current ALA members, and 2009 proposals must address one of three identified topics: meeting diversity goals in the context of economic challenges, librarianship in multicultural/multigenerational community building, or libraries' multicultural involvement in social networking. Electronic submissions [<mailto:diversity@ala.org>] are preferred and should be sent as a Word document attachment....

Target's Early Childhood Reading grants

[<http://sites.target.com/site/en/company/page.jsp?contentId=WCMP04-031821>]

Target is offering reading grants to schools, libraries, and nonprofit organizations in support of weekend book clubs and after-school reading programs that foster a love of reading and encourage children, from birth through age 9, to read together with their families. Applications will be accepted through May 31 for programs taking place between October 1, 2009, and September 30, 2010. Most grants average between \$1,000 and \$3,000....

Target

Maricopa branch wins Innovations in Reading Prize

[http://www.nationalbook.org/innovations_reading_winners_2009.pdf] (PDF file)

The National Book Foundation has awarded its first Innovations in Reading Prizes to one individual and four organizations who are demonstrating passion, creativity, dedication, and leadership in the service of creating and sustaining a lifelong love of reading. The Perry branch (right) of the Maricopa County (Ariz.) Library District dropped the Dewey system two years ago to make their library more user-friendly. Based on customer surveys, Maricopa decided that organizing the collection into "neighborhoods," the way bookstores are organized, was a better way to meet patron needs. As a result, circulation has doubled....
National Book Foundation, May 5

2009 Arthur C. Clarke Award

[<http://www.guardian.co.uk/books/2009/apr/30/arthur-c-clarke-award-macleod>]

A literary science fiction novel set in the near future in which an old woman, close to death, contemplates her life, has won this year's Arthur C. Clarke Award

[http://www.clarkeaward.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=category&layout=blog&id=1&Itemid=50] for science fiction. Song of Time by Ian R. MacLeod (PS Publishing) takes place near the end of the 21st century, as an aged concert violinist, about to pass into a virtual afterlife, discovers a half-drowned man on a Cornish beach. The annual award is selected from a list of novels whose UK first edition was published in

the previous calendar year....

The Guardian (U.K.), Apr. 30; Arthur C. Clarke Award

2009 Edgar Award winners

[http://www.mediabistro.com/galleycat/awards/edgar_award_winners_announced_115470.asp]

The Mystery Writers of America announced the Edgar Award winners April 30. The annual prize is named after Edgar Allan Poe and awarded to the best authors in the mystery genre since 1945. The Best Novel category went to C. J. Box for *Blue Heaven*; John Green won in the Best YA Novel category for *Paper Towns*; and Meg Gardiner won with *China Lake* for Best Paperback Original....

GalleyCat, May 1

2008 Agatha Awards [<http://www.malicedomestic.org/agathaawards.html>]

Louise Penny's *The Cruellest Month* (Minotaur) has won the Agatha Award for Best Mystery Novel published in 2008. Named for writer Agatha Christie, the Agatha Awards honor mystery and crime writers who write mystery novels in the traditional method exemplified by her style. Entries must contain no explicit sex and no excessive gore or gratuitous violence, and must take place in a confined setting and contain characters who know one another....

Malice Domestic Convention

Jane Addams Children's Book Awards

[http://home.igc.org/~japa/jacba/2009/pr_2009.htm]

The Jane Addams Peace Association announced the winners of the 2009 Jane Addams Children's Book Awards. The awards are given annually to children's books published the preceding year that effectively promote the cause of peace, social justice, world community, and the equality of the sexes and all races. *Planting the Trees of Kenya: The Story of Wangari Maathai*, written and illustrated by Claire A. Nivola (Frances Foster Books) is the winner in the Books for Younger Children Category. *The Surrender Tree: Poems of Cuba's Struggle for Freedom* by Margarita Engle (Henry Holt) is the winner in the Books for Older Children Category....

Jane Addams Peace Association, Apr. 28

Seen Online

Florida library funding saved

[http://www.staugustine.com/stories/050409/news_050409_002.shtml]

Librarians and patrons in Florida celebrated May 3 after word came that a joint legislative budget committee put back into the budget approximately \$21 million for public libraries. "You did it! The people of Florida roared—and the state's leaders listened!" declared the Florida Library Association website (PDF file [http://www.flalib.org/advocacy_documents/You%20did%20it-2.pdf]). It was good news for the St. Johns County Public Library in St. Augustine, which was looking at cutbacks to electronic resources, including databases, if the state withdrew its funding....

St. Augustine (Fla.) Record, May 4; Florida Library Association, May 4

Ann Arbor library's millage rate may be rolled back

[http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2009/04/ann_arbor_librarys_millage_rat.html]

Two years ago, the Ann Arbor (Mich.) District Library director envisioned a day when the tax that supports the library system could be rolled back to a lower rate. That day is near: With the decision to shelve major construction at the downtown library, there's no reason to keep the tax at its current rate, said Josie Parker, who's led the library system since 2002. In May, the library board of directors will vote on a 2009–10 budget that would lower the tax rate from 1.92 mills to 1.55....
Ann Arbor (Mich.) News, Apr. 29

Tremonton steps away from 'cowpie' library ordinance

[<http://www.standard.net/live/news/171772>]

A red-faced Tremonton, Utah, city council has repealed a library ordinance that could have brought infamy to the city. The ordinance, passed two weeks ago, required anyone under the age of 18 to have written consent from their parents before checking out any books listed as "adult fiction." Councilman Lyle Holmgren compared the experience to walking out in a pasture and stepping on a cowpie: "You know you've done something wrong the minute you did it." Head Librarian Kim Griffiths said, "In today's world, pornography is sold in a store that is labeled an adult book store, but in the library, the books are labeled adult fiction."...
Ogden (Utah) Standard-Examiner, May 6

New Zealand library revamp scaled back

[<http://www.scoop.co.nz/stories/PA0904/S00360.htm>]

The New Zealand government is scaling back the renovation of the National Library in Wellington by cutting almost \$40 million (\$23.2 million U.S.) from the budget. The proposed redevelopment is not affordable in the midst of a recession, Internal Affairs Minister Richard Worth said. But doing nothing is not an option, as water leaks and failing equipment put invaluable collections at risk. The renovation will instead focus on increasing storage, fixing leaks, upgrading equipment, and replacing critical infrastructure....
Scoop (N.Z.), Apr. 29

Reduced Philadelphia branch hours

[http://www.philly.com/dailynews/local/20090506_Come_July__branch_libraries_open_just_5_days_a_week.html]

Philadelphia's neighborhood and regional library branches are set to downsize their schedules to five days a week in July, Free Library Director Siobhan Reardon told city council during a May 5 budget hearing. Reardon said that the new schedule at 53 of the city's 54 branches would be more stable, given reduced library staff and funding. After 100 positions were cut in January, the library has been moving staffers around daily to keep as many branches as open each day as possible. But there have been numerous closures due to staff shortages. Reardon said that the new schedule is the best option....
Philadelphia Daily News, May 6

Spokane libraries consider new cuts

[<http://www.spokesman.com/stories/2009/apr/27/balancing-the-books/>]
Spokane is well behind most Washington cities in the hours of operation at its libraries. That service level will fall even further if the Spokane Public Library is forced to ax 4% of its budget, a proposal under consideration by city leaders. Library Director Pat Partovi said 4% of the budget amounts to about \$320,000, which could mean the closure of one of the system's three smaller branches....
Spokane (Wash.) Spokesman-Review, Apr. 27

Stimulus aims to help close the digital divide
[<http://www.eschoolnews.com/resources/stimulating-achievement/stimulating-achievement-articles/index.cfm?i=58636>]
With more than \$7 billion of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act set aside for increasing broadband access in the United States, the stimulus presents a huge opportunity for schools and communities to help close the digital divide. The stimulus package authorizes the National Telecommunications and Information Administration to implement the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program, a \$4.7-billion, one-time, competitive matching-grants program. The funds are intended to expand broadband services to underserved areas, improve broadband access for public safety agencies, stimulate the economy, and create jobs....
eSchool News, May 6

Parents, kids worry about safety at Santa Cruz library
[http://www.santacruzsentinel.com/localnews/ci_12242485]
As Santa Cruz (Calif.) Public Library leaders consider shifting the extensive young adult collection at the Garfield Park branch (right) to the downtown flagship library to help close a \$1-million deficit, patrons are wondering if downtown is safe enough for kids and families. On May 11, members of the city-county library system's Joint Powers Board will consider the move. Acting Library Director Susan Elgin defended the safety of the Central Branch and added that moving the collection would open it to students from around the county....
Santa Cruz (Calif.) Sentinel, Apr. 28

[<http://in.reuters.com/news/video?videoId=103096&newsChannel=lifestyleMolt>]
National Library of China's book doctor
[<http://in.reuters.com/article/lifestyleMolt/idINTRE54316R20090504>]
Sixty-year-old Du Weisheng likes to call himself a doctor whose time-ravaged patients are frail, often crumble at a touch, and sometimes get chewed by rats. Du preserves and restores books and scripts that are hundreds of years old at the National Library in Beijing, performing a job that is fast becoming as rare as the tomes he rescues. Only three universities in Beijing offer degrees in book restoration, and there are fewer than 150 people in China that still do this for a living. Watch the video
[<http://in.reuters.com/news/video?videoId=103096&newsChannel=lifestyleMolt>]
(1:55)....
Reuters, May 4

Libraries profit from German stimulus plan
[<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601088&sid=aYwLGFhRVJj0>]
Germany's museums, theaters, and libraries are benefiting from Chancellor Angela Merkel's economic stimulus plan, using unexpected

windfalls to fix leaky roofs, crumbling façades, and drafty windows.
Merkel's 82-billion euro (\$107 billion U.S.) rescue package includes 13.3-billion euros, paid out through 2011, for renovating local infrastructure. Some of it will go to cultural institutions, including the Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz Bibliothek (right) in Hanover....
Bloomberg, Apr. 29

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Tech Talk

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The secret of Google's book scanner
[http://www.npr.org/blogs/library/2009/04/the_granting_of_patent_7508978.html?ft=1&f=96651030]
Maureen Clements writes: "Before Google came on the scene, book scanning was a tedious process that sometimes resulted in the death of a book. The software used to scan books required each page of the book to be flat. Anyone who has ever opened a book knows it's next to impossible for a book to lie flat without some sort of device. It was a problem that vexed book scanners for years until Google came up with this solution."...
As a Matter of Fact, Apr. 30

Why text messages are limited to 160 characters
[<http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/technology/2009/05/invented-text-messaging.html>]
In 1985, alone in his home in Bonn, Germany, Friedhelm Hillebrand sat at his typewriter, tapping out random sentences and questions on a sheet of paper. As he went along, Hillebrand counted the number of letters, numbers, punctuation marks, and spaces on the page. Each blurb ran on for a line or two and nearly always clocked in under 160 characters. That became Hillebrand's magic number—and set the standard for one of today's most popular forms of digital communication: text messaging....
Los Angeles Times, May 3

U.S. Senate votes available in XML
[http://www.readwriteweb.com/archives/us_senate_votes_now_available_in_xml_-_bring_on_th.php]
The Senate voting record is finally available in machine-readable XML format. Mashups, vote tracking, and comparison applications will now be welcomed in the front door of Congress as first-class technologies. On May 1, Sen. Jim DeMint (R-S.C.) officially asked the Senate Rules Committee to make the data available, and just four days later the feed is here.
[http://demint.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?FuseAction=PressReleases.Detail&PressRelease_id=116192bd-05d7-b5b0-ca14-917ca428f8fa&Month=5&Year=2009]
Not everyone is happy about the information being made publicly available like this, however....
ReadWriteWeb, May 5

Anonymity technology can make free speech safe
[<http://www.technologyreview.com/computing/22427/>]

When you get to the point of putting your information on the internet, you need protection from the possibility that your computer's digital address will be traced back to you. Maybe, at that point, you could use Tor, an open source internet anonymity system—one of several systems that encrypt data or hide the accompanying internet address, and route the data to its final destination through intermediate computers called proxies....

Technology Review, May/June

Software rates images aesthetically

[<http://live.psu.edu/story/39575/rss30>]

An online photo-rating system developed at Penn State is the first publicly available tool for automatically determining the aesthetic value of an image, according to a Penn State researcher involved with the project. James Z. Wang, associate professor of information sciences and technology, is one of the principal researchers on the Aesthetic Quality Inference Engine, [<http://acquine.alipr.com/>] a system that judges the aesthetic quality of digital images. Wang said the tool is a significant first step in recognizing human emotional reaction to visual stimuli....

Penn State University, May 5

Publishing

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New Kindle aimed at periodicals

[<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/05/06/AR2009050600813.html>]

Amazon.com unveiled a new version of its Kindle reading device May 6 geared toward magazines, newspapers, and textbooks. The new version, called the Kindle DX, has a 9.7-inch screen, much larger than the current generation of the wireless book reader, and is priced at \$489. Amazon and a few of the company's partners are hoping that the device will appeal to students who will be able to download textbooks, and newspaper readers craving a larger screen on which to read articles. The New York Times has a review

[<http://gadgetwise.blogs.nytimes.com/2009/05/06/first-impressions-of-the-new-kindle-dx/>]....

Washington Post, May 6; New York Times, May 6

E-books: Are they at a tipping point?

[<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/scienceandtechnology/technology/5252033/E-books-is-the-writing-on-the-wall-for-books.html>]

At the London Book Fair in mid-April, the publishing industry gathered to discuss the future of the business. Among the vast stands carrying the latest paperbacks was a digital zone where academics and executives explored ways in which the book industry could embrace the electronic age. The Association of American Publishers has singled out e-book sales as the fastest growing segment in the industry, with sales of traditional books declining across all major markets. The problem is that there are around 25 e-book formats in existence, and not all e-book readers are compatible with all of them....

Daily Telegraph (U.K.), Apr. 30

70% of Kindle owners over 40?

[http://news.cnet.com/8301-17938_105-10230969-1.html]

David Carnoy writes: “Back in March, I cited a thread in Amazon.com’s forums discussing Kindle owners’ ages

[<http://www.amazon.com/tag/kindle/forum/?cdThread=Tx2XVL9ANH0GDxD>]. Well, I have a little follow-up on the whole issue. Apparently, someone went ahead and tabulated 700 of the responses in that Amazon thread and broke out the numbers. We can’t call this the most scientific poll ever taken, but it’s probably a good indicator of the Kindle’s age demographic. If you add it all up, more than half the owners are over 50 and 70% are over 40.”...

Crave, Apr. 30

Greener typesetting

[<http://broadcast.oreilly.com/2009/05/greener-typesetting.html>]

Rick Jelliffe writes: “Consider that there may be 100 million word-processing documents printed every day. At least 1% of all documents have an extra page printed using systems that err on the side of adding space. That means a million extra pages per day generated because of default settings or algorithms. Perhaps it would be better for our typesetting software, including word processors, to default to tighter typesetting. Can we green typesetting?”...

O’Reilly Broadcast, May 2

Books for students with disabilities

[http://www.ecampusnews.com/news/top-news/?i=58534;_hbguid=615ac819-53bc-4532-9869-604d4225ad43] (subscription required)

Students with disabilities often wait weeks or months for their textbooks to be specially formatted, but now a new higher-education partnership could make these books more widely available to students by scanning them into an online library. Nonprofit company Bookshare announced April 29 that 11 colleges and universities would contribute thousands of books to students who are blind, have low vision, or are unable to turn pages, reducing duplication and proofreading costs....

eCampus News, Apr. 30

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[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

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Actions & Answers

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Should your library have a social media policy?

[<http://mashable.com/2009/04/27/social-media-policy/>]

Sharlyn Lauby writes: “Social media is quickly moving from an emerging form of communication to the mainstream. So, just like in the old days when organizations had to figure out how to deal with email, now they have to figure out how to deal with Facebook and all other new media venues. Let’s talk about the Five W’s to adopting a social media policy.”...

Mashable, Apr. 27

30 places to find Creative Commons media

[<http://www.sitepoint.com/blogs/2009/04/30/30-creative-commons-sources/>]

Sean P. Aune writes: “In this day and age, it seems everything online has a price associated with it. Luckily, there is still a large and healthy movement online for media files listed under the Creative Commons [<http://creativecommons.org/about/licenses>] licenses. SitePoint has gathered up over 30 of the best resources online for audio, video, text, and images for finding the perfect Creative Commons–licensed item for use in your next project.”...

SitePoint, Apr. 30

Top 15 defunct websites

[<http://listverse.com/miscellaneous/top-15-defunct-websites/>]

The internet has become such a part of modern life that it’s almost hard to remember life before it. The web has led to some gigantic success stories: Amazon, Yahoo, iTunes, eBay, Listverse. But, as in real life, not everything has flourished online. Here are 15 defunct websites. Some failed because of the dot-com bust, others were ahead of their time, some simply disappeared, and one turned out to be a scam....

Listverse, Apr. 28

LC Authorities and Vocabularies

[<http://bibwild.wordpress.com/2009/04/30/idlocgov/>]

Jonathan Rochkind writes: “This service

[<http://id.loc.gov/authorities/about.html>] is awesome. Not only is it the first online free search and browse of the Library of Congress Subject Headings (with in fact a better interface than the proprietary, for-pay, online alternative I’m aware of), but it also gives you access to the data itself via both a bulk download and some limited machine-readable APIs. One of my favorite features is LCSH to LC Classification mappings. Thank you, Library of Congress.”...

Bibliographic Wilderness, Apr. 30

Survival of the fittest tag

[<http://www.uic.edu/htbin/cgiwrap/bin/ojs/index.php/fm/article/view/2447/2175>]

Alexis Wichowski writes: “If information required anything to ensure its immediate survival, it would likely be these two things: First, it must be considered useful. Second, it must be findable. In the rapidly growing information environment, unidentified and unorganized content, however useful it may be, is at risk of being rendered unfindable and thus obsolete. Facing extinction, a new evolutionary adaptation in information organization has appeared—folksonomies.”...

First Monday 14, no. 5 (May 4)

[<http://www.bookglutton.com/>]BookGlutton widget: Embeddable book club

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

Jolie O’Dell writes: “BookGlutton

[<http://www.bookglutton.com/>], a site launched in January 2008 to allow socially enhanced online book reading, has just launched a nifty little widget. Blog and website owners can embed what amounts to a book club

just about anywhere. I tried it out on my own website, and it's pretty tight....
ReadWriteWeb, May 1

[<http://www.wiki.com/>]The new Invisible Web
[<http://www.schoollibraryjournal.com/blog/1340000334/post/900044090.html>]
Joyce Valenza writes: "We are faced with a new Invisible Web. These days, when we search we miss so much of the stuff that appears in new web formats. Wikis are now an increasingly serious part of our webspace, and happily we have new tools to search this wikispace exclusively. My students are just beginning to tap Twitter to identify experts and explore the dialogue in their areas of interest. A variety of search tools now allow them to search Tweets."...
NeverEndingSearch, May 4

[<http://govfresh.com/>]GovFresh feed
[<http://blog.sunlightfoundation.com/2009/05/04/govfresh/>]
GovFresh [<http://govfresh.com/>] is a live feed of official news from U.S. government Twitter, YouTube, RSS, Facebook, and Flickr accounts, all in one place, launched May 3. It provides live feeds from the White House, the Supreme Court, the House and Senate, seven departments, six agencies, and the Democratic and Republican National Committees, with more to come. Luke Fretwell, a San Francisco-based web designer and developer, created GovFresh on his own....
Sunlight Foundation Blog, May 5

Face(book) the book club
[<http://bookgroupbuzz.booklistonline.com/2009/05/05/face-the-book-club/>]
Kaite Stover writes: "Last month, I lost two dear friends from my Saturday morning book club. Briana and Christa did not want to lose touch with their other book group buddies and asked if there was some way I could keep us connected and talking about reading. Facebook made it easier for all of us. A new application called Book Clubs [<http://apps.facebook.com/bookclubz/>] (what else?) was created late last year...."
Book Group Buzz, May 5

From better to verse: Poetry for book groups
[<http://bookgroupbuzz.booklistonline.com/2009/05/01/from-better-to-verse-poetry-for-book-groups/>]
Neil Hollands writes: "A meeting about poetry is a great variation for any book group. It's easy to prepare, an excellent last-minute substitute when the book you planned to use proves difficult to obtain, or when the reader whose turn it was to select a topic fails to appear. It's a great choice when you need something short to read...."
Book Group Buzz, May 1

Twitter for libraries
[<http://www.infotoday.com/cilmag/may09/Milstein.shtml>]
Sarah Milstein writes: "Information professionals know that Twitter is a fast-growing, free messaging service for people, and it's one that libraries can make good use of without spending much time or effort. For example, a library could share all kinds of news that patrons want. Short messages can tell people about events such as readings, lectures, and

book sales; newly available resources; or changes in the building hours. When appropriate, the posts can link to a library's own website and blog for more in-depth information.”...
Computers in Libraries 29, no. 5 (May)

Explaining Twitterspeak to others

[<http://www.livedigitally.com/2009/04/23/explaining-twitterspeak-to-others/>]

Jeremy Toeman writes: “Never before in the history of mankind has the concept of extremely short format person-to-world shouting been possible, and we have a long way to go to until we truly understand the impact. But in the meantime, with all the new users coming to Tweetersville, I figured I’d put together a handy-dandy guide to help explain some of the Twits you might see out there.”...
LiveDigitally, Apr. 23

I can’t imagine living without...

[<http://yalsa.ala.org/blog/2009/04/30/i-cant-imagine-living-without/>]

Linda Braun writes: “I think there is a disparity between the number of children’s librarians and teen librarians in libraries. And I do think that teens, and our communities, would be better served if there were more full-time librarians dedicated to serving teens—right alongside full-time librarians dedicated to serving children. I have used this provocative statement before, and it has engendered some interesting conversations with people about why teen librarians are not nearly as common in libraries as children’s librarians.”...
YALSA Blog, Apr. 30

Obama license plates available for everyone [<http://www.ila.org/obama/>]

The official Barack Obama Illinois license plate is now available for purchase to everyone. These special-event license plates, which read “Illinois Salutes President Barack Obama,” are unique commemorative plates and until April 17 had been only available to owners of Illinois vehicles. The proceeds will help support the Illinois Library Association’s activities including iREAD, the summer reading program for Illinois youth....
Illinois Library Association, May 5

Obama looks to open source government

[<http://www.internetnews.com/government/article.php/3818146/Obama+Aide+Look+to+Open+Source+Government.htm>]

The dream of an effective and open e-government rides on the ability of government officials to emulate the Web 2.0 model in the private sector, where success stories have been built through a decentralized, crowd-sourced mode. At a conference hosted by the National Association of State CIOs, Beth Noveck, an adviser in the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, appealed to her audience of government IT workers and business partners to embrace technology so that government might follow in the footsteps of Mozilla and Wikipedia to create a more collaborative relationship between citizen and government....
InternetNews, Apr. 30

National Postcard Week

[<http://libraryhistorybuff.blogspot.com/2009/05/national-postcard-week.html>]

]

Larry Nix writes: "May 3–9 is National Postcard Week. Diana Dretske, collections coordinator for the Lake County Discovery Museum in Wauconda, Illinois, provides some background information

[<http://lakecountyhistory.blogspot.com/2009/05/national-postcard-week.html>]

on National Postcard Week on her blog. I have previously posted about collecting library postcards

[<http://libraryhistorybuff.blogspot.com/2009/01/library-postcards.html>].

Librarians have exchanged library postcards in the past and continue to do so today. This French postcard (right) was mailed to Ithaca, New York, through the Army Post Office near the end of World War II. One wonders what the two clerics find so funny in the library book."...

Library History Buff Blog, May 6

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pbBa6Oam7-w>]Digital preservation and

nuclear disaster [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pbBa6Oam7-w>]

Digital Preservation Europe [<http://www.digitalpreservationeurope.eu/>]

has released a new series of short animations introducing and explaining digital preservation problems and solutions for the general public. The first (3:19) dramatizes the importance of preserving digital information by showing Team Digital Preservation saving the world from nuclear disaster caused by the work of Team Chaos....

YouTube, May 1

A closer look at NYPL [<http://gothamist.com/2009/05/05/nypl.php>]

Jen Carlson writes: "On May 1 we were lucky enough to spend some time in the New York Public Library's main branch, which opened up in 1911 before the doors were unlocked to the public. Librarian David Smith and some of the other staff took us on a tour of the massive structure, from the remains of the Croton Reservoir to the Allen Room (reserved for writers with book contracts) to the room where Charles Dickens's dead cat's paw resides" (above, mounted on a letter opener)....

Gothamist, May 5

Persia's story preserved digitally

[<http://www.newswise.com/articles/view/551742>]

The Oriental Institute at the University of Chicago is digitally recording thousands of tablets that, as they are pieced together, tell an unusually detailed story of the Persian Empire. These ancient tablets from the palaces of Persepolis include pieces of language and art from the center of the Persian Empire, all made when it extended from India and Central Asia to Egypt and the Mediterranean. Most have texts in impressed cuneiform characters, many of them have inked texts in Aramaic writing, and almost all of the tablets have seal impressions....

University of Chicago, Apr. 28

[<http://www.tulsalibrary.org/outreach/exhibit/on-the-move.php>]Oklahoma books on the move

[<http://www.tulsalibrary.org/outreach/exhibit/on-the-move.php>]

Jenks (Okla.) High School students Alexia Dickey and Kenzie Clark filmed and edited this short documentary about the Tulsa City-County Library bookmobile service. Featured are Outreach Services Manager Brad Thomas, Library Associates Shawna Smith and Pam Watson, Bookmobile Driver Javier Valdes, and many happy patrons. The video is part of the library's online

exhibit [<http://www.tulsalibrary.org/outreach/bookmobile-exhibit.php>]
about its bookmobile history....
Tulsa (Okla.) City-County Library

GPO takes to the streets
[<http://fdlp.gov/outreach/promotionalresources/381>]
Government Printing Office staffers took to the streets of Washington, D.C., to interview the public and find out how much they know about the Federal Depository Library Program. In a series of three videos, they asked passers-by, “What is a federal depository library?” “Can you name a federal government publication?” and “What comes to mind when you hear the word ‘library’?” As evidenced by the videos, promoting the FDLP to the public is essential and necessary....
FDLP Desktop, May 1

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ixsOLvLSARg>] Mindspot: The library as a universe [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ixsOLvLSARg>]
Mindspot (PDF file
[http://www.aakb.dk/graphics/portal/young/Refleksionsrapporter/mindspot_report_eng_web.pdf]) is a library service for young people in Aarhus, Denmark, that offers concerts, gaming events, film marathons, instruction, and many other innovative programs. This video (5:14) explains the project. Half of the group that developed it are Aarhus Public Library employees called “mindkeepers,” who talk to youth to find out what they think the library should be. The other half are staffers called “mindspotters” in charge of discovering trends and ideas....
YouTube, Apr. 20

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

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

ALA Annual Conference,
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/2009/faq.cfm>]
Chicago, July 9–15. The 2009 ALA Annual Poster Sessions
[<http://www.lib.jmu.edu/org/ala/>] will be held July 11–13 at McCormick Place West. Abstracts [<http://www.lib.jmu.edu/org/ala/abstracts/>] are now available.

[<http://www.techsource.ala.org/ltr/open-source-public-workstations-in-libraries.html>]

In the April issue of Library Technology Reports [<http://www.techsource.ala.org/ltr/open-source-public-workstations-in-libraries.html>], open source software expert John Houser explores the potential benefits of open source workstations for libraries. Houser explores open source implementations in several public libraries, tracking their success and exploring the implications for the profession as a whole. This LTR will help library decision makers who want to find out about alternatives to Windows-based PCs running MS Office, not only as a means of cutting costs or reducing a carbon footprint, but also as a means of providing a better experience for library customers. NEW! From ALA TechSource.

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

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Family Storytime

Book Groups the Way Boys Like 'Em

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

@ your library, [<http://www.atyourlibrary.org/>] ALA's website for library users, offers suggestions on getting children to read, [http://www.atyourlibrary.org/Interactive_Ways_to_Encourage_Your_Children_to_Read] tips for young job seekers, [http://www.atyourlibrary.org/10_Must-Knows+for_Job_Seekers_Fresh_Out_of_School] teen reading, [http://www.atyourlibrary.org/The_Teens_Top_Ten_Where_Teens_Choose_the_Winners] and fun outdoor games. [http://www.atyourlibrary.org/Fun_Outdoor_Games_and_Ways_to_Create_Your_Own]

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

Librarian (Geographic Information Systems), [<http://joblist.ala.org/modules/jobseeker/controller.cfm?scr=jobdetail&jobid=13102>] University of Maryland, College Park. Designs, implements, coordinates, and teaches workshops using ESRI's ArcGIS; this includes developing instructional materials and collecting statistics. Provides in-depth reference for GIS as well as general reference services. Maintains GIS workstations by troubleshooting software and

coordinating technical support. Recommends software purchases and upgrades. Promotes GIS services by collaborating with campus partners to expand GIS services. Teaches classes for the Libraries' general instruction program, as well as classes requested by course faculty. Responsible for collection development, management, and access to geospatial resources from the Federal Depository Library Program, state/local governments, and commercial vendors....

[<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://frontera.library.ucla.edu/viewRelationItem.do?ark=21198/zz00150rmq>]

The Arhoolie Foundation's Strachwitz Frontera Collection of Mexican and Mexican-American Recordings [<http://frontera.library.ucla.edu/>] (the Frontera Collection) is the largest repository of Mexican and Mexican-American vernacular recordings in existence. With funding from Los Tigres del Norte Foundation, the UCLA Chicano Studies Research Center has sponsored the digitization of the first section of the collection by the Arhoolie Foundation. These performances were recorded primarily in the United States and Mexico and issued on 78 rpm phonograph recordings during the first half of the 20th century. This vast digitized collection of approximately 30,000 recordings is now available to researchers and the general public. In 2006, the Arhoolie Foundation received a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to digitize an additional 20,000 performances from the collection of 45 rpm phonograph recordings. Approximately half of these additional recordings are available (as of April 2009) with the remainder to be added to the website in the next few months. This represents less than half of the 45 rpm discs in the collection and further funding will be required to complete the project. Full access to the archive is only available to UCLA patrons, but the rest of us can listen to 50 seconds of each song, look at the record labels, and read the background information. Music is browsable by genre, subject, label, and name.

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

Public Perception
How the World
Sees Us

“I should almost as soon think of giving away part of the library as to part with Comanche. He’s almost an alumnus of the institution!”

—University of Kansas Chancellor Deane W. Malott, commenting on his refusal to relinquish Comanche, the 7th Cavalry horse that survived the Battle of the Little Bighorn and which has been housed in a university museum since its death in 1891, in a letter to Smithsonian Institution Secretary Alexander Wetmore, Nov. 7, 1947.

[<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. How can I find out the recommended number of books per pupil in my middle school library? And are there recommended percentages for the different subject areas?

A. Over the years, ALA has moved away from prescriptive standards to output measures. For school libraries, AASL maintains the current standards.

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/aasl/guidelinesandstandards/guidelinesandstandards.cfm>] How your library supports the curriculum will affect how you build your collection and select materials for it. You’ll want to look at some of the resources on budgeting,

[http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Budgeting_for_School_Libraries] collection development,

[http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Collection_Building] and standards

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

When it comes to the distribution of the subject content of the collection, the current standards will also not be prescriptive, except to emphasize the importance of supporting the curriculum of the school and the learning objectives therein. Be sure to see Add It Up,

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/issuesadvocacy/advocacy/advocacyuniversity/additup/index.cfm>] our advocacy tool kit with research and statistics to help you make the case for libraries at every stage of youth development and education—there’s a section just for kindergarten through middle school.

See more at the ALA Professional Tips wiki

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

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

Calendar

May 7:

How Social is Your Web Site,

[<http://www.sla.org/content/learn/members/webinars/clickulive050709.cfm>]

webinar, Special Libraries Association.

May 13:

Usage Issues [<http://www.regonline.com/Checkin.asp?EventId=675990>],

[<http://www.regonline.com/Checkin.asp?EventId=675990>] webinar, National Information Standards Organization.

May 18–

June 5:

International Copyright Law Principles,

[<http://sla.learn.com/learncenter.asp?page=258>] webinar, Special Libraries Association.

May 20:

MarcEdit, a Cataloger’s Best Friend,

[<http://www.olc.org/WorkshopDescription.asp?ID=440>] workshop, Ohio Library Council, Columbus.

May 25–30:

Libraries in the Digital Age, [<http://www.ffos.hr/lida/>] Inter-University Centre, Dubrovnik and Zadar, Croatia.

May 31–

June 5:

North American Chapter, Association for Computational Linguistics–Human Language Technologies,

[<http://clear.colorado.edu/NAACLHLT2009/>] Annual Conference, University of Colorado, Boulder.

June 6:

Proposal Writing,

[<http://www.simmons.edu/gslis/continuinged/workshops/simmons.shtml#proposalwriting>] workshop, Simmons College, Boston.

June 15–19:

Joint Conference on Digital Libraries, [<http://www.jcdl2009.org/>] AT&T Executive Education and Conference Center, Austin, Texas.

June 22–26:

World Conference on Educational Multimedia, Hypermedia, and

Telecommunications, [<http://www.aace.org/conf/edmedia/>] Sheraton Waikiki, Hawaii.

June 25–26:

Collections Management and Practices, [<http://www.aaslh.org/collwork.htm>]

Jackson, Mississippi. An American Association of State and Local History workshop, hosted by the Mississippi Department of History.

July 9–15:

American Library Association,

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

Annual Conference, McCormick Place, Chicago.

July 13–16:

World Congress in Computer Science, Computer Engineering, and Applied

Computing, [<http://www.world-academy-of-science.org/worldcomp09/ws>] Las

Vegas, Nevada.

July 29–30:

A Race Against Time: Preserving Our Audiovisual Media,

[[http://guest.cvent.com/EVENTS/Info/Summary.aspx?e=1f784d82-9a05-4d14-bca5-](http://guest.cvent.com/EVENTS/Info/Summary.aspx?e=1f784d82-9a05-4d14-bca5-9da86545c149)

[9da86545c149](http://guest.cvent.com/EVENTS/Info/Summary.aspx?e=1f784d82-9a05-4d14-bca5-9da86545c149)] Denver Public Library.

Aug. 9–16:

Society of American Archivists / Council of State Archivists

[[http://saa.archivists.org/Scripts/4Disapi.dll/4DCGI/events/145.html?Action](http://saa.archivists.org/Scripts/4Disapi.dll/4DCGI/events/145.html?Action=Conference_Detail&ConfID_W=145)

[=Conference_Detail&ConfID_W=145](http://saa.archivists.org/Scripts/4Disapi.dll/4DCGI/events/145.html?Action=Conference_Detail&ConfID_W=145)],

[[http://saa.archivists.org/Scripts/4Disapi.dll/4DCGI/events/145.html?Action](http://saa.archivists.org/Scripts/4Disapi.dll/4DCGI/events/145.html?Action=Conference_Detail&ConfID_W=145)

[=Conference_Detail&ConfID_W=145](http://saa.archivists.org/Scripts/4Disapi.dll/4DCGI/events/145.html?Action=Conference_Detail&ConfID_W=145)] Annual Meeting, Hilton Austin, Texas.

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

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SCHOOLROOMS
A new learning portal for K-12

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



U.S. & World News

[Cuts, freezes widespread in academic libraries](#)

Many academic libraries are facing major planned or potential budget cuts as the nation's economic meltdown plays itself out. Online reports and announcements from major U.S. universities show that significant budget cuts may be widespread among members of the Association of Research Libraries and other college and university libraries across the country....

American Libraries Online, May 13



[DOJ looks into Google scanning settlement](#)

The Department of Justice, as well as a group of state attorneys-general, is looking into whether Google's proposed settlement of lawsuits challenging its Book Search project violates antitrust laws. The settlement, reached in October 2008, allows Google to scan copyrighted books and display up to 20% of the text to users at no charge. Google will sell online access to individual books; and libraries, universities, and other institutions can purchase online subscriptions to large collections....

American Libraries Online, May 8



DEMCO LIBRARY INTERIORS

- Design & Layout
- Product Development
- Product Procurement
- Project Management
- Installation

demcointeriors.com

ALA News

[Jim Rettig at National Press Club](#)

ALA President Jim Rettig held a [press conference](#) (32:00) at the National Press Club in Washington May 11 as part of National Library Legislative Day. He spoke about key library issues, including the many ways libraries are assisting a growing number of individuals during this time of economic downturn and the importance of funding libraries so that they can continue to meet the needs of the American public....

District Dispatch, May 12; C-SPAN, May 11



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

Chicago, July 9–15. If you have a special [physical or communication need](#) that may affect your participation in this meeting, please contact Anne Weglewski at 800-545-2433, ext. 3220, as soon as possible before **May 22**. ALA will maintain a limited number of wheelchairs and scooters (\$25 per day) on

[Groups testify in support of DMCA exemption](#)

On May 1 in Palo Alto, California, the Copyright Office [began a series of hearings](#) on the proposed DMCA anticircumvention exemptions. The hearings moved to the Library of Congress May 6, where Jonathan Band, testifying on behalf of ALA, ACRL, and the Association of Research Libraries, offered evidence in support of the expansion of the exemption. Be sure to watch the surreal [video](#) (4:18, above) of members of the Motion Picture Association of America showing the Copyright Office how users should not be allowed to circumvent copy protections on DVDs because there is a viable alternative—making a videorecording of a TV set....

District Dispatch, May 7; Vimeo, May 6



[Changes to the ALA website](#)

ALA Librarian Karen Muller writes: "When we launched the current version of the ALA [website](#) in September 2008, we stressed that there would be ongoing usability assessment followed by reworkings to the site, both minor and visible, from time to time. One major change is a revamp of our [Professional Resources page](#), which we have consolidated into a Topics A–Z format that serves somewhat as an index to the website."...

ALA Marginalia, May 13



[Librarians share Step Up to the Plate stories](#)

Librarians interested in promoting Step Up to the Plate @ your library can now view [success stories](#) (login required) from two colleagues. Washington-Centerville (Ohio) Public Library Public Programs Coordinator Debra Dockins discusses how she teamed up with the local youth-baseball league, along with her local minor-league team to march in the local Americana Festival parade, attended by 70,000 spectators. Jeanne Rose of the Maplewood Junior/Senior High School library in Guys Mills, Pennsylvania, explains how promoting Step Up to the Plate alongside the spring Reading Is Fundamental book distribution helped bring in more entries than any other library....



[Sustaining technology access in a tough economy](#)

"Doing more with less" has become something of a mantra in the current economic climate, and libraries are no exception. Researchers will share tips and tools as part of the panel "More Demand, Less Money: Sustaining Technology Access in a Tight Economy," July 11, at ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. Hear about strategies for maximizing a library's limited resources from John Carlo Bertot, Linda Yoder, and Betsy Fowler....

[ALA Connect usage on the rise](#)

ALA Internet Development Specialist Jenny Levine writes: "Last month, I highlighted some early statistics about [ALA Connect](#), and I thought I'd post an update on those numbers. We do hope to see usage increase leading up to, and after, ALA Annual Conference in

a first come, first served basis. See our [accessibility page](#) for more information.



[In *Marketing Today's Academic Library*](#)

Brian Mathews uses his vast experience to speak directly to academic librarians about matching services with user needs. This book proposes new visions and ideas, challenging the traditional way of thinking and providing a framework to target users more precisely. **NEW! From ALA Editions.**

In this issue

May 2009



Judith Krug: The Freedom to Read

Family Storytime

Book Groups the Way Boys Like 'Em

ALA Book and Media Award Winners

July. Until then, here are some aggregate figures for the site's first five weeks."...

ALA Marginalia, May 13

[Panel to discuss education and recruitment](#)

The next installment in the series of ALA President Jim Rettig's [ALA Connections Salons](#) will be an online discussion with Connie Paul, director of the Central Jersey Regional Library Cooperative, and Julie Brewer, coordinator of personnel and staff development at the University of Delaware Library. Paul and Brewer will discuss recruitment and education for librarians. The discussion will take place 2–3 p.m. Eastern time, May 15....

[ALA commends Hinchey and McHugh](#)

ALA sent letters May 5 to U.S. Congressmen Maurice Hinchey (N.Y. - 22) and John M. McHugh (N.Y. - 23), thanking them for introducing the Preserving the American Historical Record Act, which will allow for the preservation of local and state historical documents in an accessible manner for the American public. The letter can be viewed online ([PDF file](#))....

[Cokie Roberts, Michael Connelly, James Van Praagh to speak at Annual](#)

The ALA Auditorium Speaker Series, held throughout Annual Conference, welcomes 10 distinguished speakers who double as authors, activists, and national newsmakers. Speakers include ABC News commentator Cokie Roberts (right), best-selling mystery author Michael Connelly, and survival-evidence medium James Van Praagh. For more information on the series and a complete list of participating speakers, visit the Annual Conference [website](#)....



[Spotlight on poetry at Annual Conference](#)

ALA Public Programs Office Project Manager Mary Davis Fournier writes: "This year's LIVE! @ your library Reading Stage will showcase a truly impressive lineup of poets who cumulatively represent the landscape of American poetry today. Individually they are no less impressive. Check out this list and the links to these poets—most of the links have audio files that provide a preview of their reading."...

Programming Librarian, May 8

[Guadalajara Book Fair free pass program](#)

ALA and the Guadalajara International Book Fair are partnering for the ninth year to provide support for ALA members to attend the 22nd [Guadalajara International Book Fair](#) (FIL) from November 28 to December 6. The city of Los Angeles will be the Guest of Honor at FIL 2009. Free passes will be awarded to 150 librarians who work in the area of Spanish-language acquisitions or are working to build their Spanish-language collections. Applicants must be ALA personal members. The deadline to apply is August 17....



[State library fact sheets](#)

These updated fact sheets for the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) and the Improving Learning Through School Libraries (ILTS) program are helpful when communicating with your members of Congress as they craft the FY2010 budget....

District Dispatch, May 8

Career Leads from

ALA JobLIST



[Director](#), Ohio State University Libraries, Columbus. The director of University Libraries provides administrative and operational leadership for the 16 libraries facilities on the Columbus campus, the six facilities on the university's regional campuses, and their more than 400 staff members. The successful candidate will have demonstrated experience in library administration, resource management in a public university context, and a distinguished record of success in obtaining external funding from grants, contracts, and development initiatives. The successful candidate will be versed in the design and delivery of creative, integrated electronic information access capabilities....



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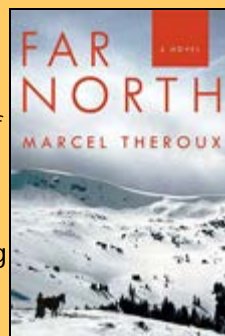
@ [More jobs...](#)

Booklist

ONLINE

Featured review: Adult books

Theroux, Marcel. *Far North*. June 2009. 272p. Farrar, hardcover (978-0-374-15353-3). Makepeace Hatfield patrols the empty town of Evangeline in Siberia, the act a mere ritual in a broken world where civilization is a thing barely remembered. But two events—the rescue of a slave named Ping and the sighting of a plane—prompt Makepeace to leave a sustainable but bleak existence in search of the place where fixing and fueling a plane is still possible. The journey, which lasts years, leads Makepeace through a brutal frontier of suspicion, superstition, and slavery. The popularity of post-apocalyptic books has given expression to fears plaguing our minds, and these books' themes have evolved with the complicated times....



Dystopian fiction for youth

Ian Chipman writes: "Perhaps reflecting the unease in every society that something darker lurks beneath the veneer of civilization, a growing body of dystopian literature has recently dominated the YA science-fiction and fantasy genres. In the same spirit as Lois Lowry's now-classic *The Giver* (1993), these books not only offer teens excellent escapist fare rife with survivalist adventure and grim imaginings of future worlds but also an opportunity to reflect on how the issues in their own lives and societies are mirrored in these worlds gone horribly wrong."...



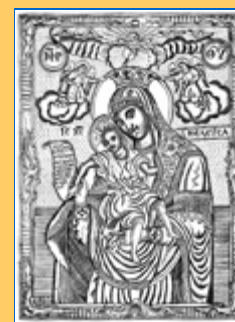
Adventures of a post-apocalyptic book reviewer

Booklist Online Editor Keir Graff has written a short story, "The Read," about what happens to a book reviewer after the apocalypse. It starts out like this: "In the dream he knelt beside a vast and craven crater. The crater filled with bookwrack. Boards. Paper. Words. The words unadorned from the pages and falling to letters. Broken bookshelves. Card catalogs filled with dust. That not burned had been drowned. Stewy char. The shorelaps of the polluted waters a sickly susurrus. The world come unbooked and never to be read again. In the cold sclerotic dawn the book reviewer coughed himself awake. His coughs the sound of pamphlets ripping. Forgetting then remembering where he was. A branch library on the edge of the city. Its metal shelves like autopsy tables. Empty. Looted. The cold like a memory of heat forgotten."...



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

Digital Library of the Week



The Digital National Library of Serbia

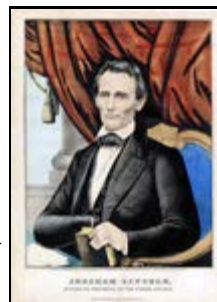
offers thousands of Cyrillic books and manuscripts online through an English interface. Collections are divided into manuscripts, epic national poetry, old printed books, old and rare books, books, newspapers and magazines, cartographic materials, engravings and art material, photographs, posters, printed music and sound recordings, and miscellanea. One interesting collection is the graphics from the Mount Athos Monasteries of Chilandar, Vatoped, Simonopetra, and Kutlumuš. During the 1880s and 1890s, the National Library of Serbia, in cooperation with the monks from the Monastery Chilandar and Chilandar Council in Belgrade, started a project to reproduce the halographic original 18th- and 19th-century carved plates and copperplate engravings from Sveta Gora. All materials are housed in the National Library of Serbia in

Chicago Update

[The Harold Washington Library Center](#)

Chicago's downtown library at 400 S. State Street will feature several exhibits during the ALA Annual Conference. "Tall Man of Destiny: Images of Abraham Lincoln" looks at a variety of images of Lincoln during his lifetime as well as representations of him from his death in 1865 to today. The images are drawn primarily from the library's Grand Army of the Republic and Civil War collections. Other exhibits are on Charles Darwin and former Chicago Mayor Harold Washington....

Chicago Public Library



[Telescopes at the Adler](#)

The Adler Planetarium was the first planetarium built in the Western Hemisphere (in 1930) and is the oldest in existence today. In celebration of the 400th anniversary of the telescope, the Adler Planetarium has opened an exhibition on "Telescopes: Through the Looking Glass." From Galileo's first observations in the 17th century to the leading-edge technology employed by the Hubble Space Telescope, the exhibition shows how these amazing instruments have changed our concepts of the universe and of our place in it....

Adler Planetarium



[Museum of Contemporary Art](#)

The MCA, at 220 E. Chicago Avenue, is hosting an "[Elements of Photography](#)" exhibition that presents photographic and video works from its collections with a focus on elemental materials of nature—light and water. With these elements, artists like Hiroshi Sugimoto, Luisa Lambri, Walead Beshty, and Adam Ekberg create ephemeral works that explore the foundation of the photographic image....

Museum of Contemporary Art



Division News

[Academic librarian salary survey results](#)

ACRL, in collaboration with the College and University Professional Association for Human Resources, recently completed revisions to academic library position descriptions included in surveys covering salaries, benefits, and other benchmarks. Now, CUPA-HR has released the results of its 2009 Administrative Compensation and Mid-Level Salary surveys, with the first surveys conducted using the updated position descriptions. Survey results are available on the ACRL [website](#)....

Median	Minimum	Maximum
126,000	57,784	266,840
91,616	37,500	194,053
72,720	36,575	205,000
61,532	19,865	160,814
58,969	23,566	125,000

[Mosley, Gauvin named to ALTAFF leadership](#)

Belgrade.

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

Public Perception

How the World Sees Us

"I'm going to the library to see my librarian, who'll send me home with 60 things (as if I could carry them, I'll bring my red wagon). Passing out the picture books like my granny hands out food. 'Leggi, leggi, take all of these. And you might like this one too.' And my brain's getting fat on stories and facts, and it feels like love. All the librarians, they say come follow me. They're looking straight at me. They take me seriously."

—Partial lyrics from the song "I Love My Library" by the South Carolina band [Lunch Money](#) (self-described as indie rock for the younger set) on their recent album *Dizzy*. Transcribed by Tony Tallent, Boulder (Colo.) Public Library.



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

Ask the ALA

Rose Mosley, board president of the Maywood (Ill.) Public Library, has been named 2009–2010 president of ALTAFF. Rod Gauvin, a senior vice president of ProQuest, has been named 2009–2010 vice president/president elect. They were named to their positions as part of the combining of the boards of Friends of Libraries U.S.A. and the Association for Library Trustees and Advocates, which merged to form ALTAFF on February 1....



[YALSA chooses new journal editor](#)

YALSA named Sarah Flowers as editor of *Young Adult Library Services*, its quarterly journal, starting fall 2009. Flowers previously served as guest editor in 2007. A longtime YALSA member who has served on ALA Council, the YALSA Board of Directors, and YALSA's Michael L. Printz Award Committee, Flowers is a regular contributor to *School Library Journal* and *VOYA*. She is the author of the forthcoming *Young Adults Deserve the Best: Putting YALSA's Competencies for Librarians Serving Youth in Action*....



[YALSA hosts author coffee, fashion show](#)

Tickets are still available for the YALSA Happy Hour and Fashion Show July 10 and the Morris Award Presentation and YA Author Coffee Klatch July 12, both presented by YALSA at the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. The YALSA Happy Hour and Fashion Show, hosted by Steven Rosengard of *Project Runway* Season 4 fame, begins at 5 p.m. Stylish librarians will walk the runway, giving examples of how to be fashionable without breaking the bank. The fashion show will also feature makeovers and tips that attendees can take home. [Tickets](#) cost \$10 and include a drink ticket, courtesy of event sponsor Disney-Hyperion Books....

[Explore teen reading at YALSA preconference](#)

YALSA will offer a preconference July 10 on connecting teens with reading materials using specific genres. Attendees will learn about new literacy activities and hear about sample programs based on teen books, as well as find out how to create a solid school or public library teen collection, even on a limited budget. Speakers include authors Holly Black (above), Cecil Castellucci, Patrick Jones, James Kennedy, David Lubar, and Dom Testa, as well as many teen literature experts. More details are available online at the [YALSA wiki](#)....



[YALSA to honor literary award winners at Annual](#)

YALSA will celebrate the winners of its literary awards with special events and programs July 9–15 at ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. Advanced [registration](#) ends May 22. Tickets are available for the YALSA Margaret A. Edwards Award Luncheon on July 11, the Morris Award Presentation and YA Authors Coffee Klatch on July 12, and the Michael L. Printz Award Program and Reception on July 13. YALSA will also highlight winners of its annual Alex Awards during a free program on July 12, and the Odyssey Award at a free reception on July 13. Information on all of YALSA's events is available at the [YALSA wiki](#)....

Librarian



Q. My library is looking for ways to save money, and the idea of outsourcing was mentioned. I'm trying to find out if you are aware of any outcomes (positive or negative) evidenced from outsourcing library services.

A. Most libraries [outsource](#) specific services and have been doing so for years. For example, bindery work is commonly outsourced because most libraries do not have the space or expertise to provide this service in-house. Before outsourcing any part of library services, make sure that you understand all of the [costs](#) involved, and review any potential contracts carefully. There are three planned sessions at the 2009 ALA [Annual Conference](#) that will touch upon outsourcing: RUSA CODES (Outsourcing Collection Development); LITA (Digital Library Hardware Showcase); and LRRT (Four Star Research). Please

Julie Corsaro elected ALSC president

Julie Corsaro, children's literature consultant from Chapel Hill, North Carolina, has been elected president of ALSC. Corsaro received an MLS from the University of Chicago in 1985 and has been a member of ALSC for 23 years, serving on numerous committees. Most recently she has held the position of priority group consultant VI (book and media awards). She has also served on the Arbuthnot, Batchelder, Caldecott, Distinguished Service, International Relations, Newbery, and Sibert Committees....



Round Table News

American Masters screening at ALA

The ALA Video Round Table will host a special screening of films from the PBS [American Masters](#) series on July 12 at the Gene Siskel Film Center, 164 N. State Street, Chicago.

Commentators include *American Masters* series filmmakers who will discuss works on American authors Louisa May Alcott and Helen Keller. Tickets ([PDF file](#)) are \$25 for VRT members and students and \$30 for nonmembers....



Awards

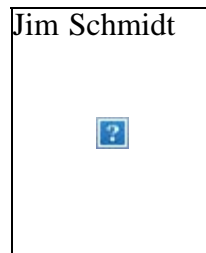
Melvil Dewey Medal Award winner

James Neal, vice president for information services and university librarian at Columbia University, has been chosen to receive ALA's 2009 Melvil Dewey Medal Award, sponsored by OCLC. This prestigious professional honor given in recognition of creative leadership of high order is named after Melvil Dewey who was actively interested in library management, library training, cataloging and classification, and the tools and techniques of librarianship; Neal's career epitomizes these qualities....



Beta Phi Mu Award

Dr. C. James Schmidt, professor in the School of Library and Information Science at San Jose State University, has been selected as the recipient of ALA's 2009 Beta Phi Mu Award. This annual award, donated by the Beta Phi Mu International Library Science Honorary Society, is presented to a library school faculty member or to an individual for distinguished service to education in librarianship....



Sara Jaffarian Award

The library of the Carroll Academy for International Studies in Houston is the winner of the 2009 Sara Jaffarian School Library Program Award for Exemplary Humanities Programming. The award will be presented in July at ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. The library will receive a plaque recognizing the achievement, a cash award of \$4,000, and inclusion of the winning program as a model in a national training session on library humanities programs....



check the final program for dates and times. See more at the [ALA Professional Tips wiki](#).

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

Calendar

May 18:
[4th International Conference on Open Repositories](#), Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta.

May 21–23:
[Symposium on Teaching with Digital Collections in the Liberal Arts Curriculum](#), Reed College, Portland, Oregon.

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

May 31–June 11:
[Frye Leadership Institute](#), Emory University, Atlanta.

June 3–5:
[19th Annual Workshop on Network and Operating Systems Support for Digital Audio and Video](#), Williamsburg Marriott, Virginia.

June 3–7:
[North American Serials Interest Group](#), 24th Annual Conference, Marriott Renaissance, Asheville, North Carolina. "Riding

2009 NSLMPY award winners

Livonia (N.Y.) Central School District, Robert E. Clow Elementary School in Naperville, Illinois, and Blue Valley North High School in Stillwater, Kansas, will be honored with the prestigious 2009 National School Library Media Program of the Year award at the AASL Awards Luncheon during the 2009 ALA Annual Conference....

Educators honored for offering alternatives for urban youth

Baltimore Polytechnic Institute Library Media Specialist Maureen O'Neill and history teacher Dennis Jutras are the recipients of the AASL 2009 Collaborative School Library Media Award. They will be honored for their project, "Beyond National History Day." In 2004, O'Neill and Jutras supported the participation of five BPI students in the Maryland and National History Day competitions. Because of the program's success, the school made the participation in NHD a part of curriculum for all world history and AP history courses....

AASL honors 2009 information pathfinders

Jennifer Gorup, school library media specialist at Quail Run Elementary in Lawrence, Kansas, and Melanie Le Jeune, school library media specialist at St. Louis Catholic High School in Lake Charles, Louisiana, are the recipients of the AASL 2009 Information Technology Pathfinder Award. With a challenging budget, Gorup has managed to integrate technology into each grade level at Quail Run. At St. Louis, Le Jeune recently began a segment at the faculty meetings called "Technology Tidbits."...

Distinguished School Administrators Award

Melanie Goffen Horowitz is the recipient of the 2009 Distinguished School Administrators Award sponsored by ProQuest and AASL. Six years ago, during Horowitz's interview for the position of principal of Central Elementary School, Barbara Ungar, school library media specialist, asked Horowitz what she saw as the primary purpose of the school library media center. She answered, "The library should be the hub and heart of the school." That philosophy has led Central School's library media program to become, as Ungar puts it, "the vanguard of what libraries have the potential to be in all schools."...

SIRS/ProQuest State and Regional Achievement Award

"Celebrate the Freedom to Read" Oregon—a coalition made up of the ACLU of Oregon, the Intellectual Freedom Committee of the Oregon Library Association, and the IFC of the Oregon Association of School Libraries—is the recipient of the SIRS/ProQuest State and Regional Achievement Award. Administered by the Intellectual Freedom Round Table and funded by ProQuest, the award recognizes successful and effective intellectual freedom committees or coalitions....



2009 John Phillip Immroth Award

Karen MacPherson, children and youth services coordinator at Takoma Park Maryland Library, and Alanna Natanson, a middle-school student in Takoma Park, have been named recipients of the John Phillip Immroth Memorial Award, presented by the ALA Intellectual Freedom Round Table. The award honors intellectual freedom fighters in and outside the library profession who have

the Rapids through a Mountain of Change."

June 10–13: 12th International Symposium on Electronic Theses and Dissertations.

University of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. "Bridging the Knowledge Divide."

July 11: The Who, What, and How of 21st-century Skills: Getting the Big Picture.

workshop sponsored by NILRC: Network of Illinois Learning Resources in Community Colleges and National-Louis University Library, Chicago.

June 11–12: Book Blitz III.

workshop, Northeast Florida Library Information Network Headquarters, Orange Park, Florida.

July 13–17: 21st International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence.

Pasadena (Calif.) Convention Center. "The Interdisciplinary Reach of Artificial Intelligence."

July 20–24: Educause Institute Management Program.

Hotel Boulderado, Boulder, Colorado.

July 25–28: American Association of Law Libraries.

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

demonstrated remarkable personal courage in resisting censorship....

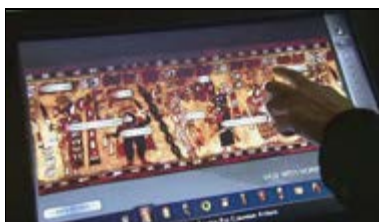
[White House Conference on Library and Information Services Taskforce Award](#)

Stephen Flynn, a student employee at the Mudd Library at Lawrence University in Appleton, Wisconsin, is the winner of the 2009 White House Conference on Library and Information Services Award. The annual award, given to a non-librarian participating in National Library Legislative Day for the first time, is a \$300 stipend granted to help reduce the cost of attending the event....

[LC wins digital media award](#)

The Library of Congress won the Best of Show Award May 6 at the KioskCom Self-Service Expo in Las Vegas, Nevada, for its [Library of Congress Experience](#) exhibition. The honor was one of the Self-Service Excellence Awards cosponsored since 2002 by KioskCom and the Self-Service and Kiosk Association. LC Chief Operating Officer Jo Ann Jenkins was voted Deployer of the Year....

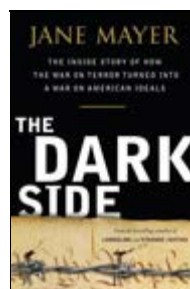
Kiosk Marketplace, May 7



[2009 NYPL Helen Bernstein Award](#)

Journalist and author Jane Mayer received the 2009 New York Public Library Helen Bernstein Award for Excellence in Journalism this week for her recent book, *The Dark Side: The Inside Story of How the War on Terror Turned into a War on American Ideals* (Doubleday/Anchor) which chronicles the secret unconstitutional actions, including torture, taken by the Bush administration in the pursuit of terrorists. The award was presented by Library President Paul LeClerc at a May 6 reception....

New York Public Library, May 8



[Irish Book Awards](#)

The fourth annual Irish Book Awards, administered by the Irish Literary Academy, produced a stellar cast of category winners at its May 6 gala dinner in Dublin, among them novelist Sebastian Barry, whose *Secret Scripture* won both the Listeners' Choice and the Novel of the Year awards. Winners in the children's categories were Derek Landy's *Playing with Fire* (in his "Skulduggery Pleasant" series) and Benji Bennett's *Before You Sleep*....

Irish Book Awards



[2009 Doug Wright Awards](#)

The Doug Wright Awards were established in 2004 to honor the legacy of the late Doug Wright by recognizing the best in Canadian comics and graphic novels. This year's awards were handed out May 9 at a ceremony hosted by Don McKellar at the Art Gallery of Ontario in Toronto. The Best Book award went to *Skim* by Jillian and Mariko Tamaki (Groundwood Books)....

Doug Wright Awards



[Gulf Coast school library recovery grants](#)

The Laura Bush Foundation has announced that it will award Gulf

Aug. 4–7:
[Annual Conference on Distance Teaching and Learning](#), Monona Terrace, Madison, Wisconsin.

Aug. 23–27:
[International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions](#), World Library and Information Congress, Fiera Milano Convention Centre, Milan, Italy. "Libraries Create Futures: Building on Cultural Heritage."

@ [More...](#)

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Coast School Library Recovery Initiative Grants in October. Gulf Coast schools that were damaged in the 2005 storms or schools being built to fill gaps created by the storms are invited to apply. The deadline is September 8....

Laura Bush Foundation for America's Libraries

Seen Online

[Oklahoma governor vetoes bill weakening school standards](#)

Saying it would turn back the clock on decades of education reforms, Gov. Brad Henry May 8 vetoed Senate Bill 834, legislation that would have allowed local school administrators to ignore more rigorous state standards and create their own academic benchmarks and rules. [Granting control](#) to local districts with no strings attached could have led to making the school library, the library media specialist, and library funding optional....

Oklahoma Governor's Office, May 8; Oklahoma Library Association

[Bleak outlook for Butte County](#)

The Butte County (Calif.) Supervisors will decide on May 18 whether to further reduce its public library budget by 50%, from \$3.1 million annually to \$1.5 million, effective in July. Staffing would be reduced from 39 to 13 countywide, giving it the worst ratio in the state, with one staff member per 17,000 residents. Hours would be cut in half, which means the Gridley branch would only open two days a week. All children's programming (except one storytime per week) would be eliminated and no new materials could be purchased. The bookmobile has already stopped running....

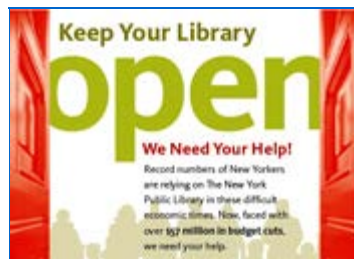
Gridley (Calif.) *Herald*, May 8



[Speaking out for New York Public Library](#)

Facing a potential \$28.2-million funding cut in Mayor Bloomberg's budget, New York Public Library staff are protesting. Branches in Manhattan, Bronx and Staten Island have set up tables—complete with sample letters—for library users to fire off missives to Bloomberg and the City Council, asking them to reconsider. "If we don't get restoration," said NYPL spokeswoman Deanna Lee, "we are looking at severe layoffs [as many as 435 staffers] and at having to cut up to 20 hours per week."...

New York Post, May 11



[No branch closures for Santa Cruz](#)

While library leaders did not pinpoint exactly where they will cut more than \$1 million from their \$12.6-million budget, they did decide where they will not—branch closures. On a 6–3 vote, the Santa Cruz (Calif.) Public Libraries' joint powers board on May 12 asked acting Director Susan Elgin to return with variations on a theme—how to trim about \$1.3 million from the libraries' current budget without closing any of the system's 10 branches....

Santa Cruz (Calif.) *Sentinel*, May 12

[OSU students and faculty protest weeding](#)

Ohio State University can't have a great library if it continues to

AL Direct FAQ:

www.ala.org/aldirect/

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

American Libraries

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

ISSN 1559-369X.

dump hundreds of thousands of books and journals, a group of protesters said May 12. Nearly two dozen students and current and retired faculty members picketed in front of the OSU administration building in Columbus to protest the school's move to more electronic books and journals. "There is more demand for e-books and e-journals than there is for print materials," Library Director Joe Branin said....

Columbus (Ohio) Dispatch, May 13

[Tennessee using LSTA funds for job training centers](#)

A half dozen libraries across Tennessee are receiving grant funds administered through the Secretary of State's office for programs that help job-seekers find work. Libraries in Union City, Ardmore, Rogersville, Johnson City, Decatur, and Franklin will each receive \$7,500 to set up job training centers. These centers will provide materials and professional services to teach new skills to displaced workers, provide information about career choices, and offer résumé writing and job application assistance....

Union City (Tenn.) Messenger, May 7

[The next age of discovery](#)

In a 21st-century version of the age of discovery, teams of computer scientists, conservationists, and scholars are fanning out across the globe in a race to digitize crumbling literary treasures. In the process, they're uncovering unexpected troves of new finds, including never-before-seen versions of the Christian Gospels, fragments of Greek poetry, and commentaries on Aristotle. Improved technology allows researchers to scan ancient texts that were once unreadable....

Wall Street Journal, May 8



[A new wrinkle at library book sales](#)

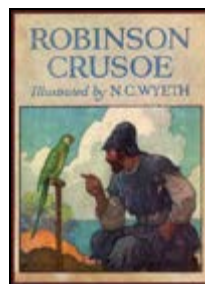
Like prospectors sifting for gold, book dealers using electronic scanners comb through local library book sales for volumes to resell for profit on the internet. Worried that average library patrons are losing out to the high-tech bargain hunters, volunteer groups that run many of the used-book sales have begun debating whether to ban or limit the electronic devices. Minneapolis book scout Peter VonSien pays \$40 a month for an up-to-date list of book resale values, stores the data on a handheld computer, and uses a bar-code scanner to read book bar codes into the computer to display the value....

Minneapolis Star Tribune, May 9

[Wilmington to auction its Wyeths](#)

The Wilmington (Del.) Public Library plans to pay for a new roof, heating, and air conditioning system and other repairs by selling 14 illustrations N. C. Wyeth painted for a 1920 edition of *Robinson Crusoe*. The large collection of Wyeth originals is expected to bring about \$5 million when it's auctioned piece by piece at Christie's in New York on December 2. But some residents are [upset](#) the library didn't try harder to keep the paintings in Delaware....

New Castle (Del.) News Journal, May 7, 9



[Teen gun-law researcher interviewed by police](#)

Someone at the Town of Pelham (N.Y.) Public Library informed on a teen researching gun carry-and-concealment laws, which led to the 11th grader being called into his high-school assistant principal's office May 5 and being interviewed by police. "It is not our procedure to notify somebody" about the books people order, Library Director Patricia Perito said, adding that she would look into it. The boy is nervous about college, Officer Ken Campion said, and has heard about shootings on college campuses and was doing the research....

White Plains (N.Y.) Journal News, May 8

[Recession hits joint U.S.-Canada library](#)

The Haskell Free Library and Opera House is the only library that straddles an international border, built that way by its founder a little more than 100 years ago. The communities of Derby, Vermont, and Stanstead, Quebec, have not had to invest in the Haskell because of the endowment which at one point in 2007 approached \$2.5 million. But the economic downturn has hit the library hard, with a \$900,000 loss as of February 28....

St. Johnsbury (Vt.) Caledonian-Record, May 13



[Bermuda launches early reader program](#)

The Library Association of Bermuda is organizing an "Every Child Ready to Read" program, developed by ALA and aimed at children from birth to 5 years old. Workshops for parents, teachers, and librarians will be led by Susan Bard, an early-literacy consultant from Florida. Bard was in Bermuda in [December 2008](#) to teach a similar ECRR workshop for teachers. This time, her previous students are returning for advanced training....

Royal Gazette (Bermuda), May 13; *Bermuda Sun*, Dec. 10, 2008

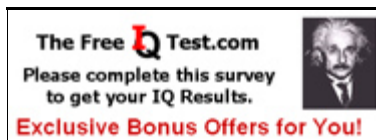
[Go back to the Top](#)

Tech Talk

[The hidden secrets of online quizzes](#)

J. R. Raphael writes: "While web quizzes may be fun to take, they're also a powerful tool for companies to collect your data and even your money—and often in ways you might not notice. We'll get to the spooky stuff in a moment, but let's start with the simplest method of quiz-based marketing: advertising. The very nature of a typical online quiz requires you to divulge all sorts of details about yourself. Those tidbits of info are like nuggets of gold for advertisers craving a way to connect with you."...

PC World, May 12



[A case study of enterprise wiki usage](#)

Matthew C. Clarke writes: "There are a wide variety of uses for wikis and a level of interest in using them that's matched by an extensive range of wiki software. The idea that anyone can contribute reflects an assumption that both content quantity and quality will arise out of the wisdom of the crowd. There are, however, negative effects of this extreme openness. In this article I describe one application of the wiki way to a common corporate process and extract some guidelines for the



effective use of wikis in that context.”...

Boxes and Arrows, May 4

[Install a minimal Ubuntu desktop](#)

Kevin Purdy writes: “If you like the looks and features of Ubuntu, but want a lighter, swifter version, try this minimalist installation, which can knock memory usage down by up to 75%. First, install a core, bare-bones system from either the Ubuntu Server Edition CD or a [Minimal CD](#); then, when you get access to a command prompt and you’re wired to the internet, use two or three commands to install enough features to get a working desktop with very few extra features that won’t be used day to day.” For an overview on using open source software on public terminals for greater efficiency and less energy cost, see the [May issue](#) of *American Libraries*...

Lifehacker, May 13; *American Libraries* 40, no. 5 (May): 35



[Visitor Experience Optimization: Are you doing it?](#)

Jeremy Martin writes: “One aspect of internet marketing that a lot of small and even large businesses fail at is creating a site that is appealing, useable, and interactive yet functional. With the short attention span that internet users have these days, you need to be ready because you never know when the traffic is going to start flooding in. Here are some Visitor Experience Optimization tips that will help take your site to the next level.”...

Search Engine Journal, May 6

[Bargain hunt: Flash drives](#)

Sean Ludwig writes: “Thumb-size flash drives offer many advantages over other portable storage devices. For starters, they’re compact and often weigh less than an ounce, so you can easily take them wherever you travel. They’re capable of storing more data, and they also have improved writing speeds and are durable in design. A reliable flash drive doesn’t have to come with a high price tag, either. You can snag one of the following three for as low as \$27.”...

PC Magazine, May 7



Publishing

[The first bookplate](#)

The Robert D. Farber University Archives and Special Collections at Brandeis University has the distinction of holding an example of the earliest known bookplate, which comes from the collection of Brother Hildebrand (Hilpbrand) Brandenburg of Biberach. Scholars date the bookplate to the 1470s, and it must have been completed by 1480, at which time Hildebrand, a Carthusian monk, donated his collection, accompanied by these bookplates, to his monastery in Buxheim....

Brandeis Special Collections Spotlight, Apr. 30



[Progressive librarians call on Elsevier to stop fake journals](#)

Elsevier, which describes itself as the “world’s leading publisher of scientific and health information,” was partner to the efforts of Merck to



promote a hazardous drug. Recently, Merck paid Excerpta Medica (a division of Elsevier), to publish a compilation of reprinted articles as a fake journal, the *Australasian Journal of Bone and Joint Medicine*, to appear as a legitimate, scholarly, peer-reviewed medical journal. The Progressive Librarians Guild believes it is the responsibility of librarians and their organizations to expose this conspiracy to distort medical research and subvert the peer-review process. Elsevier has now [admitted](#) to publishing six fake research journals....

Progressive Librarians Guild, May 12; Open Access News, May 11

[Internet pirates go after books](#)

Ursula K. Le Guin, the science fiction writer, was perusing the non-pirate website [Scribd](#) in April when she came across digital copies of some books that seemed quite familiar to her. No wonder. She wrote them, including a free-for-the-taking copy of one of her most enduring novels, *The Left Hand of Darkness*. Neither Le Guin nor her publisher had authorized the electronic editions. To Le Guin, it was a rude introduction to the quietly proliferating problem of digital piracy in the literary world. But as Kassia Krozser [comments](#), "If this tells us anything, it's that there is consumer demand for books that aren't available digitally."...

New York Times, May 11; Booksquare, May 12

[Are novels too long for people's brains?](#)

John Keilman writes: "It's a depressing realization for someone who once read the Russian masters for fun. I prided myself on my ability to conquer the longest, densest text—I devoured the 500,000-plus words of *Les Miserables* during two months of subway commutes—but those days are over. Too much surfing, scanning, and tweeting has given me the attention span of a gnat on Red Bull. Today it's all Google, no Gogol. Some research suggests that the brain itself changes with the media it absorbs—becoming, in the case of the internet, more amenable to distraction and less capable of deep, sustained thought."...

Chicago Tribune, May 8



Actions & Answers

[Library service to homeless populations](#)

Vikki C. Terrile writes: "Families with children are one of the fastest growing homeless populations in the United States, but are often left out of public library discussions of services to the homeless. This article looks at the role library programs and services for their parents can play in improving literacy skills within the family and examines model library services to children, teens, and families experiencing homelessness, gathered from librarians engaged in this work."...

Urban Library Journal 15, no. 2 (May)

[My mom, the librarian](#)

Rocco Staino writes: "With Mother's Day upon us, I started to wonder how many other big names had mothers who were librarians. With the help of Google and my colleagues on the school librarian discussion board LM_NET, I've come up with a varied collection of librarian moms with celebrity offspring. For example, Nancy Gunn, who helped establish the CIA library in Washington, D.C., is a big fan of *Project Runway* and her son, Tim Gunn (right)."...



School Library Journal, May 6

[Reference tips for Second Life beginners](#)

If you are new in the Second Life virtual world, you are probably still getting acclimated to your surroundings. Second Life is full of interesting people, groups, educational resources, and library-related projects. Linden Lab's downloadable Quickstart Guide ([PDF file](#)) is designed to help you get the most out of your experience. One handy feature is an appendix of keyboard shortcuts....



Second Life Tips and Tricks blog, Apr. 28

[How to mine Twitter for information](#)

Dawn Foster writes: "Twitter's built-in [search engine](#) is probably my favorite way to find information in Twitter. It's great for quick searches to find specific pieces of information, watching trending topics, and persistent vanity searches for your name or company. While I do use the search engine to type in queries, the real power is in using RSS feeds for searches and running them through [Yahoo Pipes](#) for additional filtering."...

Web Worker Daily, May 11

[Twitter literacy](#)

Howard Rheingold writes: "Twitter is one of a growing breed of part-technological, part-social communication media that require some skills to use productively. Sure, Twitter is banal and trivial, full of self-promotion and outright spam. So is the internet. The difference between seeing Twitter as a waste of time or as a powerful new community amplifier depends entirely on how you look at it—on *knowing how to look at it*."...

City Brights, May 11

[Cornell lifts restrictions on public-domain copying](#)

In a dramatic change of practice, Cornell University Library has announced it will no longer require users to seek permission to publish public-domain items duplicated from its collections. Instead, users may now use reproductions of public-domain works made for them by the library or available via websites, without seeking any further permission. The immediate impetus for the new policy is Cornell's donation of more than 70,000 digitized public domain books to the [Internet Archive](#)....



Cornell University Library, May 11

Copyright and special collections

Jonathan Rochkind writes: "At the May 4–6 Digital Library Federation forum, Melanie Schlosser gave a presentation showing that copyright statements on items in library digital collections were often misleading or outright inaccurate. She gave libraries the benefit of the doubt in suggesting that most of these errant copyright statements were inadvertant or due to lack of resources to assign accurate statements. But there's one category where, in my opinion, libraries are actually fairly intentional about copyright misdirection."...

Bibliographic Wilderness, May 11

Digital Dilemmas symposium

New technologies have quickened the pace of societal change, and Digital Dilemmas—a day-long symposium hosted by the Metropolitan New York Library Council on April 16—addressed some of the ways libraries might benefit from this changing landscape and deal with the challenges. The diverse perspectives of the speakers (including the Coalition for Networked Information's Clifford Lynch, right) reinforced the notion that libraries are part of a larger ecosystem of digital information management. Post-symposium [resources](#) are available on the METRO website....

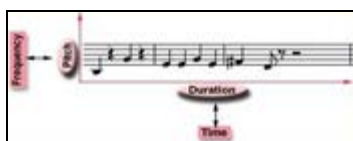
METRO, May 11



Metadata in the music world

Maribel Alvarez writes: "The creation of new musical formats has made it more difficult to represent music for searching and retrieval. The future will probably hold the full development of digitization, fully developed music metadata schemes, new and improved markup languages, fully functional speech-recognition search engines, and many other inconceivable metadata advances. Discoverability, searchability, and the relationship of multimedia and text files are areas for future research."...

PNLA Quarterly 73, no. 3 (Spring)



Obama requests \$265.5 million for IMLS

President Obama has requested \$265.5 million for fiscal year 2010 for the Institute of Museum and Library Services. The request, which was transmitted to Congress today, represents an increase of \$1.45 million over the FY 2009 enacted level for the institute's programs and administration. The proposed budget will support museums and libraries as they provide unparalleled value to the public, fuel knowledge sharing, and energize our economy, creativity, and competitiveness....

Institute of Museum and Library Services, May 7

U.S. libraries on stamps

Larry Nix writes: "Libraries and library people have been infrequent subjects for postage stamps, especially in the United States. When they are depicted, it is often in recognition of something that has little to do with the role of libraries in our society. I have just completed a web page devoted to [U.S. libraries on stamps](#). Collecting postage stamps related to libraries and librarians is one category of [bibliophilately](#)."...

Library History Buff Blog, May 12



[Open Book TV debuts](#)

[Open Book TV](#) is a new weekly program that premiered May 11 on Link TV. Created and hosted by Ina Howard-Parker and directed by Diane Paragas, the series focuses on the writers and storytellers living and working in a different spot on the planet each week. The premiere featured writers and other artists—including actors and musicians—currently living and working in Fort Greene, Brooklyn. The program will rebroadcast on Link TV on May 13 at 11:30 p.m. Eastern time. In addition to the weekly half-hour broadcast, each guest segment will be released as an independent short film online through blogs, websites, and social media....

Open Book TV



[Designing a premier group study experience](#)

Brian Mathews writes: "I just hope you guys don't screw it up.' That is what a concerned student shared with me about an ongoing renovation in the Georgia Tech library. The construction crew is at it right now, tearing apart a very popular floor—an area that has largely been untouched for over 40 years. I hope we got it right too."...

Designing Better Libraries, May 12



[2008 census of library gaming programs](#)

Scott Nicholson and the Library Game Lab of Syracuse are conducting a third annual survey of games in libraries. Nicholson is especially interested in gaming programs run in school libraries, given the strong school library response to the ALA Gaming and Literacy Grant. The survey is open through May 31....

Library Game Lab of Syracuse

[The coolest bookstore on the planet](#)

Michael Lieberman writes: "[Kid's Republic](#) is a book haven for the children of Beijing. It opened in 2005 and was designed by Japanese architect Keiichiro Sako. It's stocked with picture books from all over the world and has an activity room that hosts storytelling events and anime screenings. It also offers one of the coolest settings for both kids and grownups to interact with books."...

Book Patrol, May 9



[The FUNdamentals of book care in five lessons](#)

This video (10:00), created for National Library Week by George Mason University Libraries, features a special guest appearance by Men's Basketball Coach Jim Larranaga and provides informative lessons about preservation and proper book care. Framed in a lighthearted and whimsical manner, it also offers a special behind-the-scenes look at the GMU Preservation Lab and stars



Instructional Design Librarian Jackie Sipes....

YouTube, Apr. 15

[Unleash the users](#)

User-driven innovation is on everyone's mind. It's about participatory design, workshops, questionnaires, social technologies, user-generated content, personas, scenarios, and observations. This video (4:15) shows how the Aarhus Public Library in Denmark unleashed their users in 2007–2009 and tried various methods to increase their involvement in the libraries....

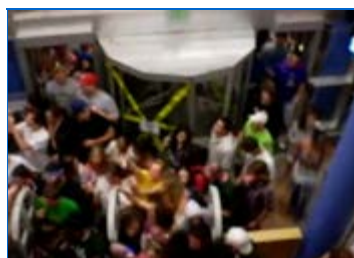
YouTube, May 12



[Another rave, this one at Colorado State](#)

To relieve the stress of finals week, hundreds of students flash raved for 10 minutes May 12 outside and in the lobby of the Morgan Library at Colorado State University in Fort Collins. CSU IT Technician Jennifer Kutzik said, "Our director of administrative services spoke with one student outside as he was leaving and he noted that it has been a long, hard semester; how everyone was affected by the economy and that this was a needed release." Shorter videos are [here](#) and [here](#)....

YouTube, May 12



[Memories of Dewey](#)

Famed Spencer (Iowa) Public Library cat Dewey Readmore Books was interviewed (3:21) in 1998 by Morgan Halgren of Iowa Public Television. Now the subject of a best-selling book by former Spencer Library Director Vicki Myron, Dewey reveals in this news report how special he was to the library....

YouTube, Nov. 21, 2008



[A big UC-Riverside library hug](#)

The University of California American Federation of Teachers Local 1966 sponsored Hug the Library (1:40) on April 30 to show support for the UC Riverside library and its staff. Budget cuts of more than \$1 million over the past two years have left everyone needing a hug. Some 300 faculty, staff, and students [joined together](#) for a big library hug and received educational material on the cuts and how they affect crucial library services....

YouTube, May 4; UCR Highlander, May 5



[Go back to the Top](#)

AL Direct, May 13, 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 | May 13, 2009

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

[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

U.S. & World News

Cuts, freezes widespread in academic libraries

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2009/may2009/academiclibrarywoes051309.cfm>]

Many academic libraries are facing major planned or potential budget cuts as the nation's economic meltdown plays itself out. Online reports and announcements from major U.S. universities show that significant budget cuts may be widespread among members of the Association of Research Libraries and other college and university libraries across the country....

American Libraries Online, May 13

DOJ looks into Google scanning settlement

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2009/may2009/dojlooksatsatgoogle050809.cfm>]

The Department of Justice, as well as a group of state attorneys-general, is looking into whether Google's proposed settlement of lawsuits

challenging its Book Search project violates antitrust laws. The settlement, reached in October 2008, allows Google to scan copyrighted books and display up to 20% of the text to users at no charge. Google will sell online access to individual books; and libraries, universities, and other institutions can purchase online subscriptions to large collections....

American Libraries Online, May 8

ALA News

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[http://www.c-spanarchives.org/library/index.php?main_page=product_video_info&products_id=286260-1] Jim Rettig at National Press Club

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=2868>]

ALA President Jim Rettig held a press conference

[http://www.c-spanarchives.org/library/index.php?main_page=product_video_info&products_id=286260-1] (32:00) at the National Press Club in Washington

May 11 as part of National Library Legislative Day. He spoke about key library issues, including the many ways libraries are assisting a growing number of individuals during this time of economic downturn and the importance of funding libraries so that they can continue to meet the needs of the American public....

District Dispatch, May 12; C-SPAN, May 11

[<http://vimeo.com/4520463>] Groups testify in support of DMCA exemption

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=2712>]

On May 1 in Palo Alto, California, the Copyright Office began a series of hearings [<http://www.copyright.gov/1201/hearings/2009/>] on the proposed DMCA anticircumvention exemptions. The hearings moved to the Library of Congress May 6, where Jonathan Band, testifying on behalf of ALA, ACRL, and the Association of Research Libraries, offered evidence in support of the expansion of the exemption. Be sure to watch the surreal video [<http://vimeo.com/4520463>] (4:18, above) of members of the Motion Picture Association of America showing the Copyright Office how users should not be allowed to circumvent copy protections on DVDs because there is a viable alternative—making a videorecording of a TV set....

District Dispatch, May 7; Vimeo, May 6

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/professionalresources/atoz/index.cfm>] Changes to the ALA website

[<http://discuss.ala.org/marginalia/2009/05/13/changes-to-the-ala-website/>]

ALA Librarian Karen Muller writes: “When we launched the current version of the ALA website [<http://www.ala.org>] in September 2008, we stressed that there would be ongoing usability assessment followed by reworkings to the site, both minor and visible, from time to time. One major change is a revamp of our Professional Resources page, [<http://www.ala.org/ala/professionalresources/atoz/index.cfm>] which we have consolidated into a Topics A–Z format that serves somewhat as an index to the website.”...

ALA Marginalia, May 13

Librarians share Step Up to the Plate stories

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

[aignstepupsuccess.cfm\]](#)

Librarians interested in promoting Step Up to the Plate @ your library can now view success stories [<http://www.ala.org/baseball>] (login required) from two colleagues. Washington-Centerville (Ohio) Public Library Public Programs Coordinator Debra Dockins discusses how she teamed up with the local youth-baseball league, along with her local minor-league team to march in the local Americana Festival parade, attended by 70,000 spectators. Jeanne Rose of the Maplewood Junior/Senior High School library in Guys Mills, Pennsylvania, explains how promoting Step Up to the Plate alongside the spring Reading Is Fundamental book distribution helped bring in more entries than any other library....

Sustaining technology access in a tough economy

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

“Doing more with less” has become something of a mantra in the current economic climate, and libraries are no exception. Researchers will share tips and tools as part of the panel “More Demand, Less Money: Sustaining Technology Access in a Tight Economy,” July 11, at ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. Hear about strategies for maximizing a library’s limited resources from John Carlo Bertot, Linda Yoder, and Betsy Fowler....

ALA Connect usage on the rise

[<http://discuss.ala.org/marginalia/2009/05/13/increasing-usage-of-ala-connect/>]

ALA Internet Development Specialist Jenny Levine writes: “Last month, I highlighted some early statistics about ALA Connect [<http://connect.ala.org>], and I thought I’d post an update on those numbers. We do hope to see usage increase leading up to, and after, ALA Annual Conference in July. Until then, here are some aggregate figures for the site’s first five weeks.”...

ALA Marginalia, May 13

Panel to discuss education and recruitment

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

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

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

will be an online discussion with Connie Paul, director of the Central Jersey Regional Library Cooperative, and Julie Brewer, coordinator of personnel and staff development at the University of Delaware Library. Paul and Brewer will discuss recruitment and education for librarians. The discussion will take place 2–3 p.m. Eastern time, May 15....

ALA commends Hinchey and McHugh

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

ALA sent letters May 5 to U.S. Congressmen Maurice Hinchey (N.Y.-22) and John M. McHugh (N.Y.-23), thanking them for introducing the Preserving the American Historical Record Act, which will allow for the preservation of local and state historical documents in an accessible manner for the American public. The letter can be viewed online (PDF file

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/wp-content/uploads/2009/05/preservation1.pdf>)]....

Cokie Roberts, Michael Connelly, James Van Praagh to speak at Annual
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/may2009/ac2009auditoriumspeakers.cfm>]

The ALA Auditorium Speaker Series, held throughout Annual Conference, welcomes 10 distinguished speakers who double as authors, activists, and national newsmakers. Speakers include ABC News commentator Cokie Roberts (right), best-selling mystery author Michael Connelly, and survival-evidence medium James Van Praagh. For more information on the series and a complete list of participating speakers, visit the Annual Conference website
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/2009/specialevents.cfm#auditorium>]....

Spotlight on poetry at Annual Conference

[<http://programminglibrarian.org/blog/ala-annual-conference-spotlight-on-poetry.html>]

ALA Public Programs Office Project Manager Mary Davis Fournier writes: “This year’s LIVE! @ your library Reading Stage will showcase a truly impressive lineup of poets who cumulatively represent the landscape of American poetry today. Individually they are no less impressive. Check out this list and the links to these poets—most of the links have audio files that provide a preview of their reading.”...
Programming Librarian, May 8

Guadalajara Book Fair free pass program

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/iro/awardsactivities/guadalajarabook.cfm>]

ALA and the Guadalajara International Book Fair are partnering for the ninth year to provide support for ALA members to attend the 22nd Guadalajara International Book Fair
[http://www.fil.com.mx/ingles/i_index.asp] (FIL) from November 28 to December 6. The city of Los Angeles will be the Guest of Honor at FIL 2009. Free passes will be awarded to 150 librarians who work in the area of Spanish-language acquisitions or are working to build their Spanish-language collections. Applicants must be ALA personal members. The deadline to apply is August 17....

State library fact sheets [<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=2736>]

These updated fact sheets for the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) and the Improving Learning Through School Libraries (ILTS) program are helpful when communicating with your members of Congress as they craft the FY2010 budget....
District Dispatch, May 8

Featured review: Adult books

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=3394080]
Theroux, Marcel. Far North. June 2009. 272p. Farrar, hardcover (978-0-374-15353-3).

Makepeace Hatfield patrols the empty town of Evangeline in Siberia, the act a mere ritual in a broken world where civilization is a thing barely remembered. But two events—the rescue of a slave named Ping and the sighting of a plane—prompt Makepeace to leave a sustainable but bleak existence in search of the place where fixing and fueling a plane is still possible. The journey, which lasts years, leads Makepeace through a brutal frontier of suspicion, superstition, and slavery. The popularity of post-apocalyptic books has given expression to fears plaguing our minds, and these books—themes have evolved with the complicated times....

Dystopian fiction for youth

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=3507277]

Ian Chipman writes: “Perhaps reflecting the unease in every society that something darker lurks beneath the veneer of civilization, a growing body of dystopian literature has recently dominated the YA science-fiction and fantasy genres. In the same spirit as Lois Lowry’s now-classic *The Giver* (1993), these books not only offer teens excellent escapist fare rife with survivalist adventure and grim imaginings of future worlds but also an opportunity to reflect on how the issues in their own lives and societies are mirrored in these worlds gone horribly wrong.”...

Adventures of a post-apocalyptic book reviewer

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=3522883]

Booklist Online Editor Keir Graff has written a short story, “The Read,” about what happens to a book reviewer after the apocalypse. It starts out like this: “In the dream he knelt beside a vast and craven crater. The crater filled with bookwrack. Boards. Paper. Words. The words unadorned from the pages and falling to letters. Broken bookshelves. Card catalogs filled with dust. That not burned had been drowned. Stewy char. The shorelaps of the polluted waters a sickly susurrus. The world come unbooked and never to be read again. In the cold sclerotic dawn the book reviewer coughed himself awake. His coughs the sound of pamphlets ripping. Forgetting then remembering where he was. A branch library on the edge of the city. Its metal shelves like autopsy tables. Empty. Looted. The cold like a memory of heat forgotten.”...

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

Chicago Update

The Harold Washington Library Center

[<http://www.chipublib.org/eventsprog/programs/exhibits.php>]

Chicago’s downtown library at 400 S. State Street will feature several exhibits during the ALA Annual Conference. “Tall Man of Destiny: Images of Abraham Lincoln” looks at a variety of images of Lincoln during his lifetime as well as representations of him from his death in 1865 to today. The images are drawn primarily from the library’s Grand Army of the Republic and Civil War collections. Other exhibits are on Charles

Darwin and former Chicago Mayor Harold Washington....
Chicago Public Library

Telescopes at the Adler

[<http://www.adlerplanetarium.org/exhibits/telescopes.shtml>]

The Adler Planetarium was the first planetarium built in the Western Hemisphere (in 1930) and is the oldest in existence today. In celebration of the 400th anniversary of the telescope, the Adler Planetarium has opened an exhibition on “Telescopes: Through the Looking Glass.” From Galileo’s first observations in the 17th century to the leading-edge technology employed by the Hubble Space Telescope, the exhibition shows how these amazing instruments have changed our concepts of the universe and of our place in it....

Adler Planetarium

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:MCA_Chicago_060930.jpg]Museum of Contemporary Art [<http://www.mcachicago.org/>]

The MCA, at 220 E. Chicago Avenue, is hosting an “Elements of Photography” exhibition;

[http://www.mcachicago.org/exhibitions/exh_detail.php?id=228] exhibition that presents photographic and video works from its collections with a focus on elemental materials of nature—light and water. With these elements, artists like Hiroshi Sugimoto, Luisa Lambri, Walead Beshty, and Adam Ekberg create ephemeral works that explore the foundation of the photographic image....

Museum of Contemporary Art

Division News

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Academic librarian salary survey results

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

ACRL, in collaboration with the College and University Professional Association for Human Resources, recently completed revisions to academic library position descriptions included in surveys covering salaries, benefits, and other benchmarks. Now, CUPA-HR has released the results of its 2009 Administrative Compensation and Mid-Level Salary surveys, with the first surveys conducted using the updated position descriptions.

Survey results are available on the ACRL website

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/issues/personnel/index.cfm>]....

Mosley, Gauvin named to ALTAFF leadership

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

Rose Mosley, board president of the Maywood (Ill.) Public Library, has been named 2009–2010 president of ALTAFF. Rod Gauvin, a senior vice president of ProQuest, has been named 2009–2010 vice president/president elect. They were named to their positions as part of the combining of the boards of Friends of Libraries U.S.A. and the Association for Library Trustees and Advocates, which merged to form ALTAFF on February 1....

YALSA chooses new journal editor

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

YALSA named Sarah Flowers as editor of Young Adult Library Services, its quarterly journal, starting fall 2009. Flowers previously served as guest editor in 2007. A longtime YALSA member who has served on ALA Council, the YALSA Board of Directors, and YALSA's Michael L. Printz Award Committee, Flowers is a regular contributor to School Library Journal and VOYA. She is the author of the forthcoming Young Adults Deserve the Best: Putting YALSA's Competencies for Librarians Serving Youth in Action....

YALSA hosts author coffee, fashion show

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

Tickets are still available for the YALSA Happy Hour and Fashion Show July 10 and the Morris Award Presentation and YA Author Coffee Klatch July 12, both presented by YALSA at the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. The YALSA Happy Hour and Fashion Show, hosted by Steven Rosengard of Project Runway Season 4 fame, begins at 5 p.m. Stylish librarians will walk the runway, giving examples of how to be fashionable without breaking the bank. The fashion show will also feature makeovers and tips that attendees can take home. Tickets [<http://www.ala.org/annual>] cost \$10 and include a drink ticket, courtesy of event sponsor Disney-Hyperion Books....

Explore teen reading at YALSA preconference

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

YALSA will offer a preconference July 10 on connecting teens with reading materials using specific genres. Attendees will learn about new literacy activities and hear about sample programs based on teen books, as well as find out how to create a solid school or public library teen collection, even on a limited budget. Speakers include authors Holly Black (above), Cecil Castellucci, Patrick Jones, James Kennedy, David Lubar, and Dom Testa, as well as many teen literature experts. More details are available online at the YALSA wiki.

[http://wikis.ala.org/yalsa/index.php/YALSA_at_the_2009_ALA_Annual_Conference#FRIDAY_July_10]...

YALSA to honor literary award winners at Annual

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

YALSA will celebrate the winners of its literary awards with special events and programs July 9–15 at ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. Advanced registration [<http://www.ala.org/annual>] ends May 22. Tickets are available for the YALSA Margaret A. Edwards Award Luncheon on July 11, the Morris Award Presentation and YA Authors Coffee Klatch on July 12, and the Michael L. Printz Award Program and Reception on July 13. YALSA will also highlight winners of its annual Alex Awards during a free program on July 12, and the Odyssey Award at a free reception on July 13. Information on all of YALSA's events is available at the YALSA wiki. [<http://wikis.ala.org/yalsa>]...

Julie Corsaro elected ALSC president

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

Julie Corsaro, children's literature consultant from Chapel Hill, North Carolina, has been elected president of ALSC. Corsaro received an MLS from the University of Chicago in 1985 and has been a member of ALSC for 23 years, serving on numerous committees. Most recently she has held the position of priority group consultant VI (book and media awards). She has also served on the Arbuthnot, Batchelder, Caldecott, Distinguished Service, International Relations, Newbery, and Sibert Committees....

Round Table News

screening at ALA

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

The ALA Video Round Table will host a special screening of films from the PBS American Masters [<http://www.pbs.org/wnet/americanmasters/>] series on July 12 at the Gene Siskel Film Center, 164 N. State Street, Chicago.

Commentators include American Masters series filmmakers who will discuss works on American authors Louisa May Alcott and Helen Keller. Tickets (PDF file

[<http://ala.org/ala/mgrps/rts/vrt/vrtconferenceinfo/vrtgala2009.pdf>]) are \$25 for VRT members and students and \$30 for nonmembers....

Awards

Melvil Dewey Medal Award winner

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

James Neal, vice president for information services and university librarian at Columbia University, has been chosen to receive ALA's 2009 Melvil Dewey Medal Award, sponsored by OCLC. This prestigious professional honor given in recognition of creative leadership of high order is named after Melvil Dewey who was actively interested in library management, library training, cataloging and classification, and the tools and techniques of librarianship; Neal's career epitomizes these qualities....

Beta Phi Mu Award

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

Dr. C. James Schmidt, professor in the School of Library and Information Science at San Jose State University, has been selected as the recipient of ALA's 2009 Beta Phi Mu Award. This annual award, donated by the Beta Phi Mu International Library Science Honorary Society, is presented to a library school faculty member or to an individual for distinguished service to education in librarianship....

Sara Jaffarian Award

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

affarian.cfm]

The library of the Carroll Academy for International Studies in Houston is the winner of the 2009 Sara Jaffarian School Library Program Award for Exemplary Humanities Programming. The award will be presented in July at ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. The library will receive a plaque recognizing the achievement, a cash award of \$4,000, and inclusion of the winning program as a model in a national training session on library humanities programs....

2009 NSLMPY award winners

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/may2009/aasl_nslmpy.cfm]

Livonia (N.Y.) Central School District, Robert E. Clow Elementary School in Naperville, Illinois, and Blue Valley North High School in Stillwater, Kansas, will be honored with the prestigious 2009 National School Library Media Program of the Year award at the AASL Awards Luncheon during the 2009 ALA Annual Conference....

Educators honored for offering alternatives for urban youth

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/may2009/aasl_collaborative.cfm]

Baltimore Polytechnic Institute Library Media Specialist Maureen O'Neill and history teacher Dennis Jutras are the recipients of the AASL 2009 Collaborative School Library Media Award. They will be honored for their project, "Beyond National History Day." In 2004, O'Neill and Jutras supported the participation of five BPI students in the Maryland and National History Day competitions. Because of the program's success, the school made the participation in NHD a part of curriculum for all world history and AP history courses....

AASL honors 2009 information pathfinders

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/may2009/aasl_itvisionaries.cfm]

Jennifer Gorup, school library media specialist at Quail Run Elementary in Lawrence, Kansas, and Melanie Le Jeune, school library media specialist at St. Louis Catholic High School in Lake Charles, Louisiana, are the recipients of the AASL 2009 Information Technology Pathfinder Award. With a challenging budget, Gorup has managed to integrate technology into each grade level at Quail Run. At St. Louis, Le Jeune recently began a segment at the faculty meetings called "Technology Tidbits..."

Distinguished School Administrators Award

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/may2009/aasl_dsaa.cfm]

Melanie Goffen Horowitz is the recipient of the 2009 Distinguished School Administrators Award sponsored by ProQuest and AASL. Six years ago, during Horowitz's interview for the position of principal of Central Elementary School, Barbara Ungar, school library media specialist, asked Horowitz what she saw as the primary purpose of the school library media center. She answered, "The library should be the hub and heart of the school." That philosophy has led Central School's library media program to become, as Ungar puts it, "the vanguard of what libraries have the potential to be in all

schools.”...

SIRS/ProQuest State and Regional Achievement Award

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

“Celebrate the Freedom to Read” Oregon—a coalition made up of the ACLU of Oregon, the Intellectual Freedom Committee of the Oregon Library Association, and the IFC of the Oregon Association of School Libraries—is the recipient of the SIRS/ProQuest State and Regional Achievement Award. Administered by the Intellectual Freedom Round Table and funded by ProQuest, the award recognizes successful and effective intellectual freedom committees or coalitions....

2009 John Phillip Immroth Award

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

Karen MacPherson, children and youth services coordinator at Takoma Park Maryland Library, and Alanna Natanson, a middle-school student in Takoma Park, have been named recipients of the John Phillip Immroth Memorial Award, presented by the ALA Intellectual Freedom Round Table. The award honors intellectual freedom fighters in and outside the library profession who have demonstrated remarkable personal courage in resisting censorship....

White House Conference on Library and Information Services Award

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

Stephen Flynn, a student employee at the Mudd Library at Lawrence University in Appleton, Wisconsin, is the winner of the 2009 White House Conference on Library and Information Services Award. The annual award, given to a non-librarian participating in National Library Legislative Day for the first time, is a \$300 stipend granted to help reduce the cost of attending the event....

LC wins digital media award

[<http://kioskmarketplace.com/article.php?id=22235>]

The Library of Congress won the Best of Show Award May 6 at the KioskCom Self-Service Expo in Las Vegas, Nevada, for its Library of Congress Experience [<http://www.myloc.gov/demos/LCE.aspx>] exhibition. The honor was one of the Self-Service Excellence Awards cosponsored since 2002 by KioskCom and the Self-Service and Kiosk Association. LC Chief Operating Officer Jo Ann Jenkins was voted Deployer of the Year....
Kiosk Marketplace, May 7

2009 NYPL Helen Bernstein Award

[http://www.nypl.org/press/releases/?article_id=287]

Journalist and author Jane Mayer received the 2009 New York Public Library Helen Bernstein Award for Excellence in Journalism this week for her recent book, *The Dark Side: The Inside Story of How the War on Terror Turned into a War on American Ideals* (Doubleday/Anchor) which chronicles the secret unconstitutional actions, including torture, taken by the Bush administration in the pursuit of terrorists. The award was presented by Library President Paul LeClerc at a May 6 reception....
New York Public Library, May 8

Irish Book Awards [<http://www.irishbookawards.ie/>]

The fourth annual Irish Book Awards, administered by the Irish Literary Academy, produced a stellar cast of category winners at its May 6 gala dinner in Dublin, among them novelist Sebastian Barry, whose *Secret Scripture* won both the Listeners' Choice and the Novel of the Year awards. Winners in the children's categories were Derek Landy's *Playing with Fire* (in his "Skulduggery Pleasant" series) and Benji Bennett's *Before You Sleep*....

Irish Book Awards

2009 Doug Wright Awards [<http://www.wrightawards.ca/>]

The Doug Wright Awards were established in 2004 to honor the legacy of the late Doug Wright by recognizing the best in Canadian comics and graphic novels. This year's awards were handed out May 9 at a ceremony hosted by Don McKellar at the Art Gallery of Ontario in Toronto. The Best Book award went to *Skim* by Jillian and Mariko Tamaki (Groundwood Books)....

Doug Wright Awards

Gulf Coast school library recovery grants

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

The Laura Bush Foundation has announced that it will award Gulf Coast School Library Recovery Initiative Grants in October. Gulf Coast schools that were damaged in the 2005 storms or schools being built to fill gaps created by the storms are invited to apply. The deadline is September 8....

Laura Bush Foundation for America's Libraries

Seen Online

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Oklahoma governor vetoes bill weakening school standards

[http://www.gov.ok.gov/display_article.php?article_id=1251&article_type=1]

Saying it would turn back the clock on decades of education reforms, Gov. Brad Henry May 8 vetoed Senate Bill 834, legislation that would have allowed local school administrators to ignore more rigorous state standards and create their own academic benchmarks and rules. Granting control [<http://www.oklibs.org/>] to local districts with no strings attached could have led to making the school library, the library media specialist, and library funding optional....

Oklahoma Governor's Office, May 8; Oklahoma Library Association

Bleak outlook for Butte County

[<http://www.gridleyherald.com/homepage/x1393568090>]

The Butte County (Calif.) Supervisors will decide on May 18 whether to further reduce its public library budget by 50%, from \$3.1 million annually to \$1.5 million, effective in July. Staffing would be reduced from 39 to 13 countywide, giving it the worst ratio in the state, with one staff member per 17,000 residents. Hours would be cut in half, which means the Gridley branch would only open two days a week. All children's programming (except one storytime per week) would be eliminated and no

new materials could be purchased. The bookmobile has already stopped running....

Gridley (Calif.) Herald, May 8

[<http://e-activist.com/ea-campaign/clientcampaign.do?ea.client.id=127&ea.campaign.id=3412&ea.param.extras=Tracking:website>]Speaking out for New York Public Library

[http://www.nypost.com/seven/05112009/news/regionalnews/libraries__peak_up__168620.htm]

Facing a potential \$28.2-million funding cut in Mayor Bloomberg's budget, New York Public Library staff are protesting. Branches in Manhattan, Bronx and Staten Island have set up tables—complete with sample letters—for library users to fire off missives to Bloomberg and the City Council, asking them to reconsider. "If we don't get restoration," said NYPL spokeswoman Deanna Lee, "we are looking at severe layoffs [as many as 435 staffers] and at having to cut up to 20 hours per week."...

New York Post, May 11

No branch closures for Santa Cruz

[http://www.santacruzsentinel.com/ci_12347935]

While library leaders did not pinpoint exactly where they will cut more than \$1 million from their \$12.6-million budget, they did decide where they will not—branch closures. On a 6–3 vote, the Santa Cruz (Calif.) Public Libraries' joint powers board on May 12 asked acting Director Susan Elgin to return with variations on a theme—how to trim about \$1.3 million from the libraries' current budget without closing any of the system's 10 branches....

Santa Cruz (Calif.) Sentinel, May 12

OSU students and faculty protest weeding

[http://www.columbusdispatch.com/live/content/local_news/stories/2009/05/13/OSU_library.ART_ART_05-13-09_B1_ITDRI8J.html]

Ohio State University can't have a great library if it continues to dump hundreds of thousands of books and journals, a group of protesters said May 12. Nearly two dozen students and current and retired faculty members picketed in front of the OSU administration building in Columbus to protest the school's move to more electronic books and journals. "There is more demand for e-books and e-journals than there is for print materials," Library Director Joe Branin said....

Columbus (Ohio) Dispatch, May 13

Tennessee using LSTA funds for job training centers

[<http://nwtntoday.com/news.php?viewStory=26339>]

A half dozen libraries across Tennessee are receiving grant funds administered through the Secretary of State's office for programs that help job-seekers find work. Libraries in Union City, Ardmore, Rogersville, Johnson City, Decatur, and Franklin will each receive \$7,500 to set up job training centers. These centers will provide materials and professional services to teach new skills to displaced workers, provide information about career choices, and offer résumé writing and job application assistance....

Union City (Tenn.) Messenger, May 7

[<http://www.papyrology.ox.ac.uk/POxy/monster/demo/Page1.html>]The next age

of discovery [<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB124173896716198603.html>]
In a 21st-century version of the age of discovery, teams of computer scientists, conservationists, and scholars are fanning out across the globe in a race to digitize crumbling literary treasures. In the process, they're uncovering unexpected troves of new finds, including never-before-seen versions of the Christian Gospels, fragments of Greek poetry, and commentaries on Aristotle. Improved technology allows researchers to scan ancient texts that were once unreadable....

Wall Street Journal, May 8

A new wrinkle at library book sales

[<http://www.startribune.com/entertainment/books/44644842.html>]

Like prospectors sifting for gold, book dealers using electronic scanners comb through local library book sales for volumes to resell for profit on the internet. Worried that average library patrons are losing out to the high-tech bargain hunters, volunteer groups that run many of the used-book sales have begun debating whether to ban or limit the electronic devices. Minneapolis book scout Peter VonSien pays \$40 a month for an up-to-date list of book resale values, stores the data on a handheld computer, and uses a bar-code scanner to read book bar codes into the computer to display the value....

Minneapolis Star Tribune, May 9

Wilmington to auction its Wyeths

[<http://www.delawareonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2009905070356>]

The Wilmington (Del.) Public Library plans to pay for a new roof, heating, and air conditioning system and other repairs by selling 14 illustrations N. C. Wyeth painted for a 1920 edition of Robinson Crusoe. The large collection of Wyeth originals is expected to bring about \$5 million when it's auctioned piece by piece at Christie's in New York on December 2. But some residents are upset

[<http://www.delawareonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2009905090339>]

the library didn't try harder to keep the paintings in Delaware....

New Castle (Del.) News Journal, May 7, 9

Teen gun-law researcher interviewed by police

[<http://www.lohud.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2009905080347>]

Someone at the Town of Pelham (N.Y.) Public Library informed on a teen researching gun carry-and-concealment laws, which led to the 11th grader being called into his high-school assistant principal's office May 5 and being interviewed by police. "It is not our procedure to notify somebody" about the books people order, Library Director Patricia Perito said, adding that she would look into it. The boy is nervous about college, Officer Ken Campion said, and has heard about shootings on college campuses and was doing the research....

White Plains (N.Y.) Journal News, May 8

[<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:HaskellLibraryBorderLine.jpg>]Recession hits joint U.S.–Canada library

[<http://caledonianrecord.com/main.asp?SectionID=1&SubSectionID=1&ArticleID=45371>]

The Haskell Free Library and Opera House is the only library that straddles an international border, built that way by its founder a little more than 100 years ago. The communities of Derby, Vermont, and

Stanstead, Quebec, have not had to invest in the Haskell because of the endowment which at one point in 2007 approached \$2.5 million. But the economic downturn has hit the library hard, with a \$900,000 loss as of February 28....

St. Johnsbury (Vt.) Caledonian-Record, May 13

Bermuda launches early reader program

[<http://www.royalgazette.com/siftology.royalgazette/Article/article.jsp?articleId=7d94e2730030008§ionId=80>]

The Library Association of Bermuda is organizing an “Every Child Ready to Read” program, developed by ALA and aimed at children from birth to 5 years old. Workshops for parents, teachers, and librarians will be led by Susan Bard, an early-literacy consultant from Florida. Bard was in Bermuda in December 2008

[<http://www.bermudasun.org/print.asp?ArticleID=39832&SectionID=9&SubSectionID=230>] to teach a similar ECRR workshop for teachers. This time, her previous students are returning for advanced training....

Royal Gazette (Bermuda), May 13; Bermuda Sun, Dec. 10, 2008

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Tech Talk

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The hidden secrets of online quizzes

[http://www.pcworld.com/article/164527/the_hidden_secrets_of_online_quizzes.html]

J. R. Raphael writes: “While web quizzes may be fun to take, they’re also a powerful tool for companies to collect your data and even your money—and often in ways you might not notice. We’ll get to the spooky stuff in a moment, but let’s start with the simplest method of quiz-based marketing: advertising. The very nature of a typical online quiz requires you to divulge all sorts of details about yourself. Those tidbits of info are like nuggets of gold for advertisers craving a way to connect with you.”...

PC World, May 12

A case study of enterprise wiki usage

[<http://www.boxesandarrows.com/view/control-and>]

Matthew C. Clarke writes: “There are a wide variety of uses for wikis and a level of interest in using them that’s matched by an extensive range of wiki software. The idea that anyone can contribute reflects an assumption that both content quantity and quality will arise out of the wisdom of the crowd. There are, however, negative effects of this extreme openness. In this article I describe one application of the wiki way to a common corporate process and extract some guidelines for the effective use of wikis in that context.”...

Boxes and Arrows, May 4

Install a minimal Ubuntu desktop

[<http://lifehacker.com/5252073/install-a-minimal-ubuntu-desktop>]

Kevin Purdy writes: “If you like the looks and features of Ubuntu, but want a lighter, swifter version, try this minimalist installation,

which can knock memory usage down by up to 75%. First, install a core, bare-bones system from either the Ubuntu Server Edition CD or a Minimal CD [<https://help.ubuntu.com/community/Installation/MinimalCD>]; then, when you get access to a command prompt and you're wired to the internet, use two or three commands to install enough features to get a working desktop with very few extra features that won't be used day to day." For an overview on using open source software on public terminals for greater efficiency and less energy cost, see the May issue [<http://site.ebrary.com/lib/ala/home.action>] of American Libraries.... Lifehacker, May 13; American Libraries 40, no. 5 (May): 35

Visitor Experience Optimization: Are you doing it? [<http://www.searchenginejournal.com/visitor-experience-optimization/10252/>] Jeremy Martin writes: "One aspect of internet marketing that a lot of small and even large businesses fail at is creating a site that is appealing, useable, and interactive yet functional. With the short attention span that internet users have these days, you need to be ready because you never know when the traffic is going to start flooding in. Here are some Visitor Experience Optimization tips that will help take your site to the next level."... Search Engine Journal, May 6

Bargain hunt: Flash drives [<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2346648,00.asp>] Sean Ludwig writes: "Thumb-size flash drives offer many advantages over other portable storage devices. For starters, they're compact and often weigh less than an ounce, so you can easily take them wherever you travel. They're capable of storing more data, and they also have improved writing speeds and are durable in design. A reliable flash drive doesn't have to come with a high price tag, either. You can snag one of the following three for as low as \$27."... PC Magazine, May 7

Publishing

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The first bookplate [<http://brandeisspecialcollections.blogspot.com/2009/04/first-bookplate.htm>] The Robert D. Farber University Archives and Special Collections at Brandeis University has the distinction of holding an example of the earliest known bookplate, which comes from the collection of Brother Hildebrand (Hilpbrand) Brandenburg of Biberach. Scholars date the bookplate to the 1470s, and it must have been completed by 1480, at which time Hildebrand, a Carthusian monk, donated his collection, accompanied by these bookplates, to his monastery in Buxheim.... Brandeis Special Collections Spotlight, Apr. 30

Progressive librarians call on Elsevier to stop fake journals [<http://libr.org/plg/elsevier.php>] Elsevier, which describes itself as the "world's leading publisher of scientific and health information," was partner to the

efforts of Merck to promote a hazardous drug. Recently, Merck paid Excerpta Medica (a division of Elsevier), to publish a compilation of reprinted articles as a fake journal, the Australasian Journal of Bone and Joint Medicine, to appear as a legitimate, scholarly, peer-reviewed medical journal. The Progressive Librarians Guild believes it is the responsibility of librarians and their organizations to expose this conspiracy to distort medical research and subvert the peer-review process. Elsevier has now admitted
[<http://www.earlham.edu/~peters/fos/2009/05/elsevier-confirms-6-fake-journals-more.html>] to publishing six fake research journals....
Progressive Librarians Guild, May 12; Open Access News, May 11

Internet pirates go after books
[<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/05/12/technology/internet/12digital.html>]
Ursula K. Le Guin, the science fiction writer, was perusing the non-pirate website Scribd [<http://www.scribd.com/>] in April when she came across digital copies of some books that seemed quite familiar to her. No wonder. She wrote them, including a free-for-the-taking copy of one of her most enduring novels, *The Left Hand of Darkness*. Neither Le Guin nor her publisher had authorized the electronic editions. To Le Guin, it was a rude introduction to the quietly proliferating problem of digital piracy in the literary world. But as Kassia Krozser comments, [<http://booksquare.com/digitalpiracyredux/>] “If this tells us anything, it’s that there is consumer demand for books that aren’t available digitally.”...
New York Times, May 11; Booksquare, May 12

Are novels too long for people’s brains?
[<http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/nationworld/chi-talk-keilman-readmay08,0,6325177.story>]
John Keilman writes: “It’s a depressing realization for someone who once read the Russian masters for fun. I prided myself on my ability to conquer the longest, densest text—I devoured the 500,000-plus words of *Les Misérables* during two months of subway commutes—but those days are over. Too much surfing, scanning, and tweeting has given me the attention span of a gnat on Red Bull. Today it’s all Google, no Gogol. Some research suggests that the brain itself changes with the media it absorbs—becoming, in the case of the internet, more amenable to distraction and less capable of deep, sustained thought.”...
Chicago Tribune, May 8

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[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

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Actions & Answers

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Library service to homeless populations
[<http://lacuny.cuny.edu/ulj/1502/tertile.htm>]
Vikki C. Terrile writes: “Families with children are one of the fastest

growing homeless populations in the United States, but are often left out of public library discussions of services to the homeless. This article looks at the role library programs and services for their parents can play in improving literacy skills within the family and examines model library services to children, teens, and families experiencing homelessness, gathered from librarians engaged in this work.”...
Urban Library Journal 15, no. 2 (May)

[<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:TimGunnSmileAAFeb09.jpg>]My mom, the librarian [<http://www.schoollibraryjournal.com/article/CA6656699.html>]
Rocco Staino writes: “With Mother’s Day upon us, I started to wonder how many other big names had mothers who were librarians. With the help of Google and my colleagues on the school librarian discussion board LM_NET, I’ve come up with a varied collection of librarian moms with celebrity offspring. For example, Nancy Gunn, who helped establish the CIA library in Washington, D.C., is a big fan of Project Runway and her son, Tim Gunn (right).”...
School Library Journal, May 6

Reference tips for Second Life beginners

[<https://blogs.secondlife.com/community/community/tnt/blog/2009/04/28/welcome-to-the-second-life-virtual-world-reference-tips-for-beginners>]
If you are new in the Second Life virtual world, you are probably still getting acclimated to your surroundings. Second Life is full of interesting people, groups, educational resources, and library-related projects. Linden Lab’s downloadable Quickstart Guide (PDF file [http://static-secondlife-com.s3.amazonaws.com/downloads/Second_Life_Quickstart.pdf]) is designed to help you get the most out of your experience. One handy feature is an appendix of keyboard shortcuts....
Second Life Tips and Tricks blog, Apr. 28

How to mine Twitter for information

[<http://webworkerdaily.com/2009/05/11/how-to-mine-twitter-for-information/>]
Dawn Foster writes: “Twitter’s built-in search engine [<http://search.twitter.com>] is probably my favorite way to find information in Twitter. It’s great for quick searches to find specific pieces of information, watching trending topics, and persistent vanity searches for your name or company. While I do use the search engine to type in queries, the real power is in using RSS feeds for searches and running them through Yahoo Pipes [<http://pipes.yahoo.com>] for additional filtering.”...
Web Worker Daily, May 11

Twitter literacy

[http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/blogs/rheingold/detail?blogid=108&entry_id=39948]
Howard Rheingold writes: “Twitter is one of a growing breed of part-technological, part-social communication media that require some skills to use productively. Sure, Twitter is banal and trivial, full of self-promotion and outright spam. So is the internet. The difference between seeing Twitter as a waste of time or as a powerful new community amplifier depends entirely on how you look at it—on knowing how to look at it.”...
City Brights, May 11

[<http://www.archive.org/details/cu31924005489558>]Cornell lifts restrictions on public-domain copying
[<http://news.library.cornell.edu/com/news/PressReleases/Cornell-University-Library-Removes-All-Restrictions-on-Use-of-Public-Domain-Reproductions.cfm>]
In a dramatic change of practice, Cornell University Library has announced it will no longer require users to seek permission to publish public-domain items duplicated from its collections. Instead, users may now use reproductions of public-domain works made for them by the library or available via websites, without seeking any further permission. The immediate impetus for the new policy is Cornell's donation of more than 70,000 digitized public domain books to the Internet Archive
[<http://www.archive.org/details/cornell>]....
Cornell University Library, May 11

Copyright and special collections
[<http://bibwild.wordpress.com/2009/05/11/copyright-fraud-special-collections-library-mission/>]
Jonathan Rochkind writes: "At the May 4–6 Digital Library Federation forum, Melanie Schlosser gave a presentation showing that copyright statements on items in library digital collections were often misleading or outright inaccurate. She gave libraries the benefit of the doubt in suggesting that most of these errant copyright statements were inadvertant or due to lack of resources to assign accurate statements. But there's one category where, in my opinion, libraries are actually fairly intentional about copyright misdirection."...
Bibliographic Wilderness, May 11

[<http://www.flickr.com/photos/metronyc/3462675331/>]Digital Dilemmas symposium
[http://www.metro.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=347&Itemid=568]
New technologies have quickened the pace of societal change, and Digital Dilemmas—a day-long symposium hosted by the Metropolitan New York Library Council on April 16—addressed some of the ways libraries might benefit from this changing landscape and deal with the challenges. The diverse perspectives of the speakers (including the Coalition for Networked Information's Clifford Lynch, right) reinforced the notion that libraries are part of a larger ecosystem of digital information management.
Post-symposium resources
[http://www.metro.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=331] are available on the METRO website....
METRO, May 11

Metadata in the music world
[<http://unllib.unl.edu/LPP/PNLA%20Quarterly/alvarez73-3.htm>]
Maribel Alvarez writes: "The creation of new musical formats has made it more difficult to represent music for searching and retrieval. The future will probably hold the full development of digitization, fully developed music metadata schemes, new and improved markup languages, fully functional speech-recognition search engines, and many other inconceivable metadata advances. Discoverability, searchability, and the relationship of multimedia and text files are areas for future research."...

PNLA Quarterly 73, no. 3 (Spring)

Obama requests \$265.5 million for IMLS

[<http://www.imls.gov/news/2009/050709.shtm>]

President Obama has requested \$265.5 million for fiscal year 2010 for the Institute of Museum and Library Services. The request, which was transmitted to Congress today, represents an increase of \$1.45 million over the FY 2009 enacted level for the institute's programs and administration. The proposed budget will support museums and libraries as they provide unparalleled value to the public, fuel knowledge sharing, and energize our economy, creativity, and competitiveness....

Institute of Museum and Library Services, May 7

U.S. libraries on stamps

[<http://libraryhistorybuff.blogspot.com/2009/05/us-libraries-on-stamps.html>]

Larry Nix writes: "Libraries and library people have been infrequent subjects for postage stamps, especially in the United States. When they are depicted, it is often in recognition of something that has little to do with the role of libraries in our society. I have just completed a web page devoted to U.S. libraries on stamps

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

Collecting postage stamps related to libraries and librarians is one category of bibliophilately

[<http://www.libraryhistorybuff.com/bibliophilately.htm>]."...

Library History Buff Blog, May 12

[<http://vimeo.com/4435064>] debuts

[<http://www.pitchengine.com/free-release.php?id=10608>]

Open Book TV [<http://www.openbooktv.org/>] is a new weekly program that premiered May 11 on Link TV. Created and hosted by Ina Howard-Parker and directed by Diane Paragas, the series focuses on the writers and storytellers living and working in a different spot on the planet each week. The premiere featured writers and other artists—including actors and musicians—currently living and working in Fort Greene, Brooklyn. The program will rebroadcast on Link TV on May 13 at 11:30 p.m. Eastern time. In addition to the weekly half-hour broadcast, each guest segment will be released as an independent short film online through blogs, websites, and social media....

Open Book TV

Designing a premier group study experience

[<http://dbl.lishost.org/blog/2009/05/12/designing-the-premier-group-study-experience-on-campus-the-georgia-tech-library-2west-project/>]

Brian Mathews writes: "'I just hope you guys don't screw it up.'

That is what a concerned student shared with me about an ongoing renovation in the Georgia Tech library. The construction crew is at it right now, tearing apart a very popular floor—an area that has largely been untouched for over 40 years. I hope we got it right too."...

Designing Better Libraries, May 12

2008 census of library gaming programs

[http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=_2f7OHgA9CgOiCtqEc_2bjGnug_3d_3d]

Scott Nicholson and the Library Game Lab of Syracuse are conducting a

third annual survey of games in libraries. Nicholson is especially interested in gaming programs run in school libraries, given the strong school library response to the ALA Gaming and Literacy Grant. The survey is open through May 31....
Library Game Lab of Syracuse

[http://3.bp.blogspot.com/_nH5E6mclu3o/SgXDGjQ5s-I/AAAAAAAAACfs/rzcXrFBZzl0/s1600-h/Kids+Republic+Book+Store+Beijing+2.jpg]The coolest bookstore on the planet

[<http://www.bookpatrol.net/2009/05/kids-republic-coolest-bookstore-on.html>]

Michael Lieberman writes: “Kid’s Republic

[<http://www.poplar.com.cn/index.php?lg=en#>] is a book haven for the children of Beijing. It opened in 2005 and was designed by Japanese architect Keiichiro Sako. It’s stocked with picture books from all over the world and has an activity room that hosts storytelling events and anime screenings. It also offers one of the coolest settings for both kids and grownups to interact with books.”...

Book Patrol, May 9

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LpXMX7hnn3k>]The FUNdamentals of book care

in five lessons [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LpXMX7hnn3k>]

This video (10:00), created for National Library Week by George Mason University Libraries, features a special guest appearance by Men’s Basketball Coach Jim Larranaga and provides informative lessons about preservation and proper book care. Framed in a lighthearted and whimsical manner, it also offers a special behind-the-scenes look at the GMU Preservation Lab and stars Instructional Design Librarian Jackie Sipes....

YouTube, Apr. 15

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9KsFrkxjtj8>]Unleash the users

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9KsFrkxjtj8>]

User-driven innovation is on everyone’s mind. It’s about participatory design, workshops, questionnaires, social technologies, user-generated content, personas, scenarios, and observations. This video (4:15) shows how the Aarhus Public Library in Denmark unleashed their users in 2007–2009 and tried various methods to increase their involvement in the libraries....

YouTube, May 12

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yoNu5CJc5qk>]Another rave, this one at

Colorado State [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yoNu5CJc5qk>]

To relieve the stress of finals week, hundreds of students flash raved for 10 minutes May 12 outside and in the lobby of the Morgan Library at Colorado State University in Fort Collins. CSU IT Technician Jennifer Kutzik said, “Our director of administrative services spoke with one student outside as he was leaving and he noted that it has been a long, hard semester; how everyone was affected by the economy and that this was a needed release.” Shorter videos are here

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m__V1spbO2Q] and here

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dRIbDa7SiN0>]....

YouTube, May 12

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0jGpvvLmwbs>]Memories of Dewey

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0jGpvvLmwbs>]

Famed Spencer (Iowa) Public Library cat Dewey Readmore Books was interviewed (3:21) in 1998 by Morgan Halgren of Iowa Public Television. Now the subject of a best-selling book by former Spencer Library Director Vicki Myron, Dewey reveals in this news report how special he was to the library....

YouTube, Nov. 21, 2008

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8cbytumP7HE>]A big UC-Riverside library hug [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8cbytumP7HE>]

The University of California American Federation of Teachers Local 1966 sponsored Hug the Library (1:40) on April 30 to show support for the UC Riverside library and its staff. Budget cuts of more than \$1 million over the past two years have left everyone needing a hug. Some 300 faculty, staff, and students joined together

[<http://media.www.highlandernews.org/media/storage/paper1400/news/2009/05/05/News/Community.Gathers.To.Support.hug.The.Library-3735988.shtml>] for a big library hug and received educational material on the cuts and how they affect crucial library services....

YouTube, May 4; UCR Highlander, May 5

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

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

ALA Annual Conference,

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

Chicago, July 9–15. If you have a special physical or communication need

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/2009/generalinformation.cfm#needs>] that may affect your participation in this meeting, please contact Anne Weglewski at 800-545-2433, ext. 3220, as soon as possible before May 22. ALA will maintain a limited number of wheelchairs and scooters (\$25 per day) on a first come, first served basis. See our accessibility page

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/2009/accessibility.cfm>] for more information.

[<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2596>]

In Marketing Today’s Academic Library

[<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2596>],

[<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2596>] Brian Mathews uses his

vast experience to speak directly to academic librarians about matching services with user needs. This book proposes new visions and ideas, challenging the traditional way of thinking and providing a framework to target users more precisely. NEW! From ALA Editions.

In this issue
May 2009

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

Judith Krug: The Freedom to Read

Family Storytime

Book Groups the Way Boys Like 'Em

ALA Book and Media Award Winners

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

Director,
[<http://joblist.ala.org/modules/jobseeker/controller.cfm?scr=jobdetail&jobid=13131>] Ohio State University Libraries, Columbus. The director of University Libraries provides administrative and operational leadership for the 16 libraries facilities on the Columbus campus, the six facilities on the university's regional campuses, and their more than 400 staff members. The successful candidate will have demonstrated experience in library administration, resource management in a public university context, and a distinguished record of success in obtaining external funding from grants, contracts, and development initiatives. The successful candidate will be versed in the design and delivery of creative, integrated electronic information access capabilities....

[<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.nb.rs/gravire/svetogorska/simonopetra/swf.php?lang=eng>]

The Digital National Library of Serbia

[<http://digital.nb.rs/eng/index.php>] offers thousands of Cyrillic books and manuscripts online through an English interface. Collections are divided into manuscripts, epic national poetry, old printed books, old and rare books, books, newspapers and magazines, cartographic materials, engravings and art material, photographs, posters, printed music and sound recordings, and miscellanea. One interesting collection is the graphics from the Mount Athos Monasteries of Chilandar, Vatoped, Simonopetra, and Kutlumuš. During the 1880s and 1890s, the National Library of Serbia, in cooperation with the monks from the Monastery Chilandar and Chilandar Council in Belgrade, started a project to reproduce the halographic original 18th- and 19th-century carved plates and copperplate engravings from Sveta Gora. All materials are housed in the National Library of Serbia in Belgrade.

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

Public Perception

How the World
Sees Us

“I’m going to the library to see my librarian, who’ll send me home with 60 things (as if I could carry them, I’ll bring my red wagon). Passing out the picture books like my granny hands out food. ‘Leggi, leggi, take all of these. And you might like this one too.’ And my brain’s getting fat on stories and facts, and it feels like love. All the librarians, they say come follow me. They’re looking straight at me. They take me seriously.”

—Partial lyrics from the song “I Love My Library” by the South Carolina band Lunch Money [<http://www.lunchmoneymusic.com/>] (self-described as indie rock for the younger set) on their recent album Dizzy. Transcribed by Tony Tallent, Boulder (Colo.) Public Library.

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

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

Ask the ALA Librarian

[<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=415>]

Q. My library is looking for ways to save money, and the idea of outsourcing was mentioned. I’m trying to find out if you are aware

of any outcomes (positive or negative) evidenced from outsourcing library services.

A. Most libraries outsource

[<http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Outsourcing>] specific services and have been doing so for years. For example, bindery work is commonly outsourced because most libraries do not have the space or expertise to provide this service in-house. Before outsourcing any part of library services, make sure that you understand all of the costs [http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Cost_Analysis] involved, and review any potential contracts carefully. There are three planned sessions at the 2009 ALA Annual Conference [<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/index.cfm>] that will touch upon outsourcing: RUSA CODES (Outsourcing Collection Development); LITA (Digital Library Hardware Showcase); and LRRT (Four Star Research). Please check the final program for dates and times. See more at the ALA Professional Tips wiki [http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Deciding_to_Outsource].

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

Calendar

May 18:
4th International Conference on Open Repositories,
[<https://or09.library.gatech.edu/>] Georgia Institute of Technology,
Atlanta.

May 21–23:
Symposium on Teaching with Digital Collections in the Liberal Arts
Curriculum, [http://web.reed.edu/digital_asset_mgmt/symposium.html] Reed
College, Portland, Oregon.

May 28–31:
BookExpo America, [<http://www.bookexpoamerica.com/>] Jacob K. Javits
Center, New York City.

May 31–
June 11:
Frye Leadership Institute, [<http://www.fryeinstitute.org/>] Emory
University, Atlanta.

June 3–5:
19th Annual Workshop on Network and Operating Systems Support for Digital
Audio and Video, [<http://www.nossdav.org/2009/index.html>] Williamsburg
Marriott, Virginia.

June 3–7:
North American Serials Interest Group,
[http://www.nasig.org/conference_registration.cfm] 24th Annual

Conference, Marriott Renaissance, Asheville, North Carolina.
“Riding the Rapids through a Mountain of Change.”

June 10–13:

12th International Symposium on Electronic Theses and Dissertations,
[<http://www.library.pitt.edu/etd2009/>] University of Pittsburgh,
Pennsylvania. “Bridging the Knowledge Divide.”

July 11:

The Who, What, and How of 21st-century Skills: Getting the Big Picture,
[<http://ce.nl.edu/21stCenturySkills.html>] workshop sponsored by NILRC:
Network of Illinois Learning Resources in Community Colleges and
National-Louis University Library, Chicago.

June 11–12:

Book Blitz III,

[<http://guest.cvent.com/EVENTS/Info/Summary.aspx?e=f485e636-4a57-4eed-8d5c-52764cd21d7c>] workshop, Northeast Florida Library Information Network
Headquarters, Orange Park, Florida.

July 13–17:

21st International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence,
[<http://www.ijcai-09.org/index.html>] Pasadena (Calif.) Convention Center.
“The Interdisciplinary Reach of Artificial Intelligence.”

July 20–24:

Educause Institute Management Program,
[http://net.educause.edu/content.asp?SECTION_ID=429] Hotel Boulderado,
Boulder, Colorado.

July 25–28:

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

Aug. 4–7:

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

Aug. 23–27:

International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions,
[<http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla75/index.htm>] World Library and Information
Congress, Fiera Milano Convention Centre, Milan, Italy. “Libraries
Create Futures: Building on Cultural Heritage.”

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

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American Libraries Direct

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State of the Art Faceted Search

- ✓ Quick single search box
- ✓ Easy-to-configure site profiles
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U.S. & World News

[Tennessee schools sued for blocking gay websites](#)

A Knox County, Tennessee, high school librarian and one of her students, as well as two secondary-school students in the Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools, became the plaintiffs May 19 in a First Amendment lawsuit against the school districts for blocking access to information about gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered issues on school computers while allowing access to anti-gay sites. The suit was filed in U.S. district court by attorneys from the American Civil Liberties Union and the ACLU of Tennessee on behalf of the four, all of whom are involved in their respective schools' Gay-Straight Alliance Club but who cannot access the clubs' parent [website](#) on campus workstations....

American Libraries Online, May 20



**DEMCO** LIBRARY INTERIORS



- Design & Layout
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- Product Procurement
- Project Management
- Installation

[demcointeriors.com](#)

ALA News

[ALA 2007–2008 Annual Report](#)

The 2007–2008 ALA Annual Report is now available [online](#). It features the year in review, news from the Washington Office, new partners and programs, conferences and workshops, developments at ALA Publishing, Association leadership, financials, awards and honors, and divisional highlights....



[Wi-Fi at Annual Conference](#)

ALA Executive Director Keith Michael Fiels made two announcements to staff May 20 regarding the availability of Wi-Fi during the ALA Annual Conference. First the good news: Free Wi-Fi will be available in meeting rooms throughout the McCormick Place West convention center. Now the bad news: A price tag of \$270,000 makes it impossible to provide Wi-Fi in meeting rooms at the conference hotels....

AL Inside Scoop, May 20



[ALA Annual Conference.](#)

Chicago, July 9–15. The [Empowerment Conference](#) for library support staff will be held July 11–12. This year's event, themed "Who's Da Boss: Leadership for Library Support Staff," has been designed specifically to meet the needs of support staff who supervise others, manage departments, and

[New and improved I Love Libraries](#)

I Love Libraries, the ALA website for library supporters, has been [redesigned](#). The site continues to feature news about libraries from around the country, with a focus on particular services and collections from all types of libraries. Improvements include an updated look and information about library issues in an expanded "Get Informed" section. "Share" links will let readers post their favorite stories to Facebook, MySpace, blogs, and other social networking applications....



[How did your Día go?](#)

As hundreds of libraries across the country celebrated El día de los niños/El día de los libros (Children's Day/Book Day) on April 30, a variety of English and Spanish media provided coverage of programs and events. The ALA Public Information Office worked with Día founder Pat Mora and ALSC to gather stories on how libraries enrich lives of new Americans for a segment entitled ["Librarians Are Rockstars"](#) (4:20) on National Public Radio's Latino USA. Many listened as host Maria Hinojosa discussed the value of libraries and the critical roles librarians play in supporting literacy....



[A review and a rumination on ALA Connect](#)

Emily Ford writes: "So ALA has joined the ranks of two point oh. In April, it rolled out [ALA Connect](#); as an online networking junkie, I was intrigued and decided to log in. After my first look around the site I was a bit pessimistic, but after taking a deeper look, I have come to hope that ALA Connect will be able to reach individuals who haven't been able to attend conferences and engage with their colleagues about ALA-centric issues. If ALA Connect can draw this constituency to use it, then the tool might mean some real changes for ALA."...



In the Library with the Lead Pipe, May 13

[Library cards—a great promotional tool](#)

Librarians can use the value of a library card to promote their libraries. During Library Card Sign-up Month in September, ALA and libraries across the country highlight the library card as the "smartest card" in every American's wallet. Library cards offer users a wide variety of free resources: access to computers and the internet, financial literacy skills, assistance with job searches, resources to help small businesses, DVD rentals, storytime sessions, and books....

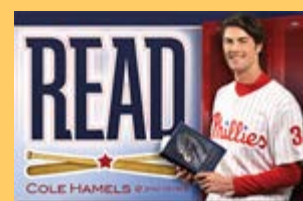
[ALA joins PftPI](#)

ALA and the ALA-Allied Professional Association have joined a coalition of 19 national and global organizations called [Professionals for the Public Interest](#) that formally launched May 20. The organizations include associations and unions representing professionals in science, engineering, health, the arts, and human services. PftPI will engage professionals, the public, and policymakers in discussing ways to defend against external pressures that threaten the integrity of their work....



District Dispatch, May 19

want to be leaders.



Starting pitcher for the Philadelphia Phillies, [Cole Hamels](#) was voted MVP of both the 2008 World Series and National League Championship. Hamels and his wife Heidi are dedicated to the Hamels Foundation, which in the U.S. provides assistance to inner-city schools. An avid reader of fantasy books, in this READ poster he is holding a copy of Christopher Paolini's *Eragon*. **NEW!** From ALA Graphics.

In this issue May 2009



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Book Groups the Way Boys Like 'Em

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Career Leads

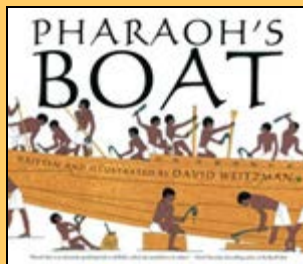
Booklist

ONLINE

Featured review: Books for youth

Weitzman, David. *Pharaoh's Boat*. May 2009. 48p. Houghton, hardcover (978-0-547-05341-7).

Part mystery, part ancient history, this handsome book takes readers back in time, first to 1954, when workmen at the Great Pyramid of Giza notice a wall that seems to hide something. Then it's back to the reign of the pharaoh Cheops, who needs a boat to take him to the afterlife. In precise yet at times almost poetic language, Weitzman explains the whys of building a vessel for the pharaoh and in amazing textual and illustrative detail shows the ways it was accomplished, from the tools used to the placement and lashing of the timbers. After the boat was finished, it was then taken apart and put in carved lime pits, the pieces carefully layered for easy reassembly by Cheops as he embarked upon his journey. It was this careful protection that allowed the preserved boat to be rediscovered in 1954 and, under the direction of the Restoration Department of the Egyptian Antiquities Service, reconstructed....



It's a freakin' Miracle

Daniel Kraus writes: "I really appreciate it when an interview becomes the funnest part of my day. Such was the case with Lauren Miracle, author of *Bliss*, *ttyl*, and the new *Peace, Love, and Baby Ducks*—when our time was up, I would've liked to have busted out the pop and Doritos and invited her to an all-day Lifetime movie marathon. I'm also a fan of her take on book challenges, something which she has become all too familiar with. In this [video](#) (3:32), she details her technique to defuse irate grown-ups, but also doesn't deny that the attacks hurt a little, too."...



Likely Stories, May 14; YouTube, May 6

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

Chicago Update

Chow down in Chi-town

ALA Publishing's Rob Christopher writes: "ALA sure picked a great place for its headquarters when it moved here in 1909. Sure, the winters are terrible, and the sticky heat of a Chicago summer is enough to tax anyone's

from
ALA JobLIST

Head Librarian.

Denver Botanic Gardens. Seeking a dynamic, creative leader for its specialized botanical and horticultural library. This self-motivated individual will act on own initiative and direction to manage all library aspects to ensure the advancement of the Helen Fowler Library and the Gardens. Aspects of this position include: community relations; audience development; staff supervision; materials acquisition; resource management; technical services; reference services and circulation, including ILL; and rare book/special collections care....



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Digital Library of the Week





patience, but when it comes to restaurants, Chicago has the best in the country. Think of a cuisine, any cuisine, and you can find it here; and whether you want to spend a few bucks or drop a C-note, this is your kind of town. If you didn't have that Annual Conference to attend, you could easily spend all week eating!"...

American Libraries 40, no. 6-7 (June/July): 76-80

[The Art Institute of Chicago's new modern wing](#)

The new wing that opened May 16 concludes a \$300-million project that has been 10 years in planning, expanding the [Art Institute of Chicago's](#) exhibition space by 35% and making it the second largest art museum in America after the Metropolitan in New York. It's essentially a three-story pavilion that extends from the rear of the museum's late-19th-century Beaux Arts structure. The galleries are modestly proportioned and well-lit. The arcade that forms the spine of the building is graceful, with lighting fixtures suspended on a succession of steel arms. Visitors walk along corridors above it as if hoisted by sheer sweetness and light....

The Times (U.K.), May 18



[Tales from the Windy City](#)

Aleksandar Hemon was visiting a friend in the Ukrainian Village section of Chicago in 1992 when war broke out in his home town of Sarajevo. He extended his visit, eventually settling into an apartment nearby. It was in Chicago that Hemon learned how to write in English, and he still lives there. His new collection of short stories *Love and Obstacles* centers on an unnamed narrator who moved from Sarajevo to Chicago in 1992. Now you can visit the key places in his adopted city that influenced or inspired his fiction....

Wall Street Journal, May 8



[United to hike baggage fees](#)

Fliers who travel to ALA Annual Conference may have to pay more to check their bags at the airport. United Airlines and US Airways are nudging up baggage fees, and analysts expect other carriers to follow. As of June 10, United Airlines plans to hike its luggage fees by \$5 per bag for customers who pay for the service at the airport, charging \$20 for the first bag checked and \$30 for the second. Customers of United who pay the fees online will be charged the old rate: \$15 for their first bag, \$25 for the second....

Chicago Tribune, May 14



[Placement Center is the place to be](#)

ALA Placement/Recruitment Officer Beatrice Calvin writes: "I know that not everyone can attend the ALA Annual Conference, but for

The [Cooperative Libraries Automated Network](#)

operated by the Nevada State Library and Archives in Carson City, has begun digitizing its collection of state newspapers. One of the collections is the *White Pine News*, published in Ely from 1881 to 1906, which contains much valuable information on the copper, silver, and gold mines of the region, as well as everyday life in the Great Basin. Other papers include the *Wadsworth Dispatch* and the *Reese River Reveille*.

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

"For many people, the public library is also the visible face of the government. I've never been in City Hall, but I am in the library all the time. It is one functioning arm of the government that delivers a service efficiently, usually free of charge, and often with a smile and an offer of more

those who can, this is a great opportunity to network with people who will be your professional peers. It is also the perfect time to get quality one-on-one face time with employers. The employers who have recruitment booths onsite in the [Placement Center](#) have come to the conference specifically to recruit. This opens the doors for you to make real connections.”...

ALA Student Member Blog, May 18

Division News

[Join YALSA's SummerSlam Reading Jam](#)



Put a little muscle into your summer reading program by signing up for the [SummerSlam Reading Jam](#), a pilot project from YALSA and World Wrestling Entertainment. The first 500 libraries to [sign up](#) for the project will receive 25 mini-posters from WWE (each poster is numbered). Pass them out to any patrons between the ages of 10 and 18 who check out at least two books between June 24 and July 16. Two of your patrons could win a trip for two to WWE's SummerSlam pay-per-view event in Los Angeles this August, and your library could win \$1,000 for materials for the teen and tween collection....

YALSA Blog, May 19

[Apply for PLA Results Boot Camp 5](#)

PLA is now accepting applications for its [Results Boot Camp 5](#) on intensive library management training. This popular five-day immersion program will be held October 12–16 at the Olive 8 Hotel in Seattle, and will cover such topics as strategic planning, data-based decision-making, effective resource allocation, and other topics related to management training. [Applications](#) are due in the PLA office by September 11....



[AASL offers graduate credit for national conference](#)

Attendees of the AASL National Conference and Exhibition in Charlotte, North Carolina, November 5–8, can receive up to two hours of graduate credit if they submit a personal reflection and a log of their time before December 1 to the University of Colorado Denver School of Education and Human Development. The fee is \$60 per credit hour. [Registration](#) will be accepted until November 19....



[Increase your knowledge at ALCTS preconferences](#)

ALCTS is offering five preconferences at ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. Topics include cataloging digital media, acquiring and managing emerging media formats, RDA, and FRBR. You can [register](#) on the ALA Annual Conference website. ALCTS members pay only \$199 for one day and \$339 for two days. For more information, contact [Julie Reese](#)....

[Registration opens for ALSC online courses](#)

ALSC is offering three online education courses this summer. The asynchronous, multiweek courses, delivered through Moodle e-learning CMS, begin on July 20. Registration is open now through Monday, July 6. The three summer courses offered are: The Newbery Medal: Past, Present and Future; Reading Instruction and Children's

help. Yes, librarians are NICE! Besides, when was the last time you saw a librarian being led away in handcuffs for taking bribes, fixing contracts, or fudging the books?"

—Author Kenneth C. Davis, in an editorial against New York City Mayor Bloomberg's threatened budget cuts to the New York Public Library, ["Libraries Are America's Lifelines: Leave Them Alone."](#) *Huffington Post*, May 8.

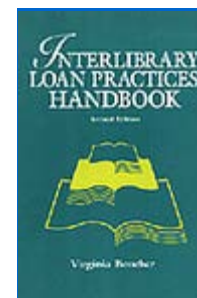
"I believe that librarians are the unacknowledged legislators of the universe. The past three years have only confirmed my view."

—Alex Beam, in the acknowledgments to his *A Great Idea at the Time: The Rise, Fall, and Curious Afterlife of the Great Books* (PublicAffairs, 2008), p. 204.



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

Ask the ALA Librarian



Q. I've never done interlibrary loans

Books; and Sharing Poetry with Children. Registration information can be found on the ALSC [website](#)....

[ASCLA guide to programming and events at Annual](#)

ASCLA has released a comprehensive guide ([PDF file](#)) to the division's activities at ALA Annual Conference in Chicago, including preconferences, programs, discussion groups, and special events. The guide features the two 2009 preconferences hosted by ASCLA: "[Be My Guest—Customer Service from the Best](#)" and "[After the Grant Runs Out: Funding Collaborative Digitization](#)."...

Round Table News

[Interview with an FBI librarian](#)

Federal and Armed Forces Library Round Table member Rebecca Kennedy recently interviewed FBI Laboratory Supervisory Librarian Jane Killian: "The FBI Laboratory Library is a vital component of the lab's Quality Assurance and Training Unit. Library personnel support investigations by furnishing relevant technical information and a collection of reference materials that presently includes more than 8,000 scientific books and 400 periodical subscriptions. Staff members 'provide forensic examinations, technical support, expert witness testimony, and training to federal, state, and local law agencies.'" Look for Killian's [program](#). "Real Life Forensics: Like on Numb3rs, CSI, and NCIS," July 12 at ALA Annual Conference in Chicago....

FAFLRT President blog, May 7



Awards

[2009 John Phillip Immroth Award](#)

Karen MacPherson (right), children and youth services coordinator at Takoma Park Maryland Library, and Alanna Natanson (left), a middle-school student in Takoma Park, have been named recipients of the John Phillip Immroth Memorial Award, presented by the ALA Intellectual Freedom Round Table. The award honors intellectual freedom fighters in and outside the library profession who have demonstrated remarkable personal courage in resisting censorship....



[ALTAFF awards 2009 Public Service Award](#)

ALTAFF awarded its 2009 Public Service Award to Sen. Barbara Boxer (D-Calif.) during National Library Legislative Day activities in Washington, D.C., in May. Boxer was selected for her lead in staving off a proposed closure of the Environmental Protection Agency's libraries. The Public Service Award is given annually to a legislator who has been especially supportive of libraries....



[2009 ALTAFF Trustee Citation](#)

ALTAFF has named Shirley Ann Bruursema (right) and David H. Goldsmith as 2009 Trustee Citation award

before. What resources do you have that can help me?

A. Libraries in the United States should follow the [Interlibrary Loan Code for the United States](#) which was prepared by RUSA. ALA has prepared a [Fact Sheet](#) that gives information on the latest version of the *Interlibrary Loan Code for the United States* and links to where the interlibrary loan form can be downloaded as an Adobe Reader [PDF file](#) as well as a [Microsoft Word file](#) (which can be edited). It also provides guidance and a bibliography on international interlibrary loan. You may also find the [short bibliography](#) of articles and books on interlibrary loan to be of interest. From the [ALA Professional Tips wiki](#).

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



[Rebecca Tolley-Stokes](#) describes how academic libraries can

winners. The Trustee Citation honors the best contributions and efforts of the estimated 60,000 American citizens who serve on library boards. Bruursema is chairperson of the Kent District Library in Comstock Park, Michigan. Goldsmith served on the Prince George's County (Md.) Memorial Library board for 17 years and currently serves on the board of the Baltimore County Public Library....



[Thirty AASL members receive travel grants](#)

Thirty members of AASL will receive a \$750 travel grant to attend their first AASL National Conference. The grants are sponsored by Bound to Stay Bound Books. The AASL 14th National Conference and Exhibition will be held in Charlotte, North Carolina, November 5–8....

[Children's Choice Book Awards](#)

In honor of Children's Book Week, May 11–17, the Children's Book Council announced the winners of the Children's Choice Book Awards after 220,000 online ballots from kids (and some adults) across the country were counted. Lauren Myracle's *Thirteen* (Dutton, 2008) was the pick in the 5th to 6th Grade category, while Stephenie Meyer was chosen Author of the Year....

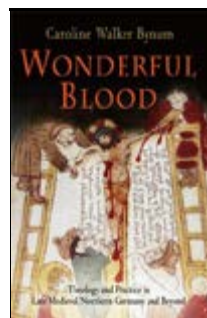
Children's Book Council



[Caroline Bynum wins Grundler Prize](#)

Western Michigan University has awarded the prestigious Grundler Prize to Caroline Walker Bynum, noted academic and theoretical scholar at the Institute for Advanced Study, for her book *Wonderful Blood: Theology and Practice in Late Medieval Northern Germany and Beyond* (University of Pennsylvania, 2007). The prize was awarded during the 44th International Congress on Medieval Studies, May 7–10. Bynum argues in her book that Christ's blood, as both object and symbol, was central to late medieval art, literature, pious practice, and theology....

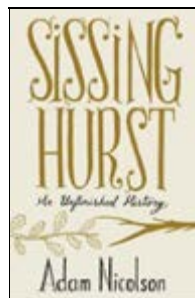
Western Michigan University, May 18



[Adam Nicolson wins Ondaatje Prize](#)

Adam Nicolson's unsentimental study of his family castle Sissinghurst has won the Royal Society of Literature's Ondaatje prize, awarded to a work of literature deemed to have most successfully evoked "the spirit of a place." *Sissinghurst: An Unfinished History* is Nicolson's memoir of his family home, from its origins as a medieval manor, to the creation by his grandparents Vita Sackville-West and Harold Nicolson of its world-famous garden, and Nicolson's own attempts to restore the estate to its glory days....

The Guardian (U.K.), May 19



[Christos Tsiolkas wins the Commonwealth Prize](#)

Australian author Christos Tsiolkas won the 2009 Commonwealth Writers' Prize for his gritty portrayal of Melbourne suburbia, *The Slap*. The \$20,000 prize was

align their customer-service models to that of top-notch online retailer Zappos, the "Amazon of shoes," in the [May 2009 issue](#) of ACRL's *College & Research Libraries News*.

Calendar

June 4–5:
[Managing and Preserving Archival Collections](#), Pittsburgh (Pa.) Athletic Association. Workshop sponsored by Conservation Center for Arts and Historic Art.

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

June 10–12:
[New York State Library Assistants' Association](#), Annual Conference, Sage College, Troy.

June 12:
[New England Library Association](#), [Information Technology Section](#), Spring Event, Portsmouth (N.H.) Public Library. "Building a Better Website with Content Management Systems."

June 14–18:
[Semantic Technology Conference](#), Fairmont Hotel, San Jose,

announced at the Auckland Writers and Readers Festival May 16. Pakistani author Mohammed Hanif won the \$10,000 Best First Book prize for his novel of political intrigue, *A Case of Exploding Mangoes*....
Brisbane (Qld.) Times, May 17



[Host your own Sparky awards](#)

The Sparky Awards is a contest that recognizes the best new short videos on the value of sharing, and aims to broaden the discussion of access to scholarly research by inviting college students to express their views creatively. This year, students may submit their entries to local contests as well as the national one. Set a deadline that works for you, sometime in advance of the national deadline on December 6; name a panel of judges who will help attract attention on your campus; offer your own prizes; and register [here](#)....

Sparky Awards



[Canadian librarian wins architectural honor](#)

Greg Hayton will be the first librarian to ever win an Advocate for Architecture Award from the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada. The chief executive officer of the Cambridge (Ont.) Library and Galleries will receive the award June 20 in Montreal. Hayton was praised for his work in promoting such public buildings as the Hespeler library branch and as cocreator of the Design at Riverside gallery at the University of Waterloo....

Royal Architectural Institute of Canada



[Firm wins construction award for FGCU library](#)

Ajax Building Corporation has received an "Excellence in Construction Award" from an industry group for its 2007 work on the expansion and renovation of the Florida Gulf Coast University Library in Fort Myers—a waterfront complex that already has received separate accolades in design and construction. The Gulf Coast Chapter of Associated Builders and Contractors presented Ajax its award in the Institutional Renovations category....

Tallahassee (Fla.) Democrat, May 18



Seen Online

[Hard drive from Clinton administration missing](#)

The National Archives lost a computer hard drive containing a terabyte of sensitive data from the Clinton administration, including Social Security numbers, addresses, and Secret Service and White House operating procedures, congressional officials said May 19. Other information includes logs of events, social gatherings, and political records. Officials said the drive was removed from a storage area in the College Park facility sometime between October and

California.

June 19:
[Michigan Information Literacy Initiative](#), Oakland Community College—Orchard Ridge Campus, Farmington Hills, Michigan.

June 19–20:
[Open Video Conference](#), Vanderbilt Hall, New York University, New York City.

July 26–28:
[Church and Synagogue Library Association](#), Annual Conference, McKinley Grand Hotel, Canton, Ohio. "Historical Paths to the Future."

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

Aug. 30–Sept. 3:
[First International Conference on eParticipation](#), Linz, Austria. Colocated with EGOV 2009.

Sept. 16–17:
[Planning and Management of Buildings](#), Saratoga Springs, New York. Certified Public Library Administrator course sponsored by PLA.

@ [More...](#)

March to a workspace that was accessible to many archive employees and visitors....

Washington Post, May 20

[Copyright backlog at LC](#)

A serious logjam in the U.S. Copyright Office at the Library of Congress has created a growing mountain of paper applications, more than the staff can process. Like the marching buckets of water in *The Sorcerer's Apprentice*, the envelopes just keep coming, threatening to flood the operation. The problem has tripled the processing time for a copyright from 6 to 18 months, and delays are expected to get worse. The library's inspector general has warned that the backlog threatens the integrity of the U.S. copyright system....

Washington Post, May 19



[Brewster Kahle: Google aims to privatize libraries](#)

Open Content Alliance Director Brewster Kahle writes: "A ruling is expected shortly on a proposed settlement of lawsuits filed against Google in 2005 by groups claiming that Google's book-scanning project violated copyright. If approved, it would produce not one but two court-sanctioned monopolies. Google will have permission to bring under its sole control information that has been accessible through public institutions for centuries. In essence, Google will be privatizing our libraries." Meanwhile, the University of Michigan [signed](#) an expanded agreement ([PDF file](#)) with Google May 19 that allows the library to strengthen its preservation efforts and increase the public's access to books....

Washington Post, May 19; University of Michigan, May 20

[Is Google waging a library PR campaign?](#)

Washington Office Associate Director Corey Williams writes: "Recently, Google representatives have initiated contact with members of the library community to explain, from their perspective, the proposed Google Book Search settlement agreement that was recently reached among Google, the Association of American Publishers, and the Authors Guild. Specifically, Google is reaching out to library leaders, likely in response to an increase in interest in the community and the press about the concerns libraries have raised in response to the proposed private settlement agreement."...

District Dispatch, May 14

[Josephine County libraries reopen](#)

Libraries in Josephine County, Oregon, began reopening May 20 under an outsourcing plan that operates the system at about half the cost—and for about half the previous hours. The county has enough money to keep them open for up to three years, but beyond that there is much uncertainty about funding. Leaving a trail of two failed levies in 2006 and 2007 behind them, library supporters say they've got a tough road ahead as they gear up to persuade voters to keep all 15 branches open into the future....

Medford (Oreg.) Mail Tribune, May 18



[Drive-through circ at Largo](#)

Patrons of the Largo (Fla.) Public Library can order books the same way they do their banking and order their food—from their cars. Library Clerk Shelly Powell (right) can serve patrons who drive up with a book, or



[Membership](#) in ALA starts to pay you back the moment you join. With discounts on products and services, and members-only access to information through our website and journals, you will benefit right away. Included in many of these benefits are resources to advance your career, your library, and the whole profession. Explore the many benefits offered to [personal](#), [organizational](#), and [corporate](#) members.

[Contact Us](#)

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they can leave one with her. They can also check out DVDs, pay fines, and sign up for a library card without ever going inside. Library Director Casey McPhee thought of the idea, and it has become a big success. Watch the [video](#) version (1:44)....

Bay News 9, St. Petersburg, Fla., May 18

University of San Francisco selling rare books to pay the bills

The University of San Francisco administration has undertaken a plan to protect itself from being further affected by the recession, though some faculty members are skeptical. The possibility of selling items from the Donahue Rare Book Room in the Gleeson Library garnered the strongest responses from faculty members. Apparently some [auction sales](#) have already taken place. [Stephen J. Gertz](#), [Nicholas Basbanes](#), and [Jeremy Dibbell](#) weigh in on the controversy....

USF *Foghorn*, Apr. 30; Book Hunter's Holiday, May 13; Book Patrol, May 14; *Fine Books & Collections*, May 16; PhiloBiblos, May 13-14

Butte County libraries safe

Supporters of the Butte County (Calif.) Library are hearing welcome news, even though it isn't all they could hope for. On May 13, the county announced that additional cuts targeting the library system won't be necessary. Sang Kim, deputy Butte County administrative officer, said new revenue coming from a number of sources has sharply reduced the need for additional countywide layoffs. Chico Supervisor Maureen Kirk [said](#) she had never seen lobbying like this on a single issue....

Chico (Calif.) *Enterprise Record*, May 14, 17

Unused e-rate funding totals billions

About \$5 billion of the estimated \$19.5 billion in e-rate funds committed to schools and libraries from 1998 to 2006 were never used, according to a March report ([PDF file](#)) from the GAO. In some cases, funds were not claimed because applicants' needs changed from the time they applied until it was time to file a Form 486, which releases the funding. In other cases, the actual expenses that applicants incurred were less than the amount of funding they had applied for. Often, the sheer complexity of the program caused them to leave money on the table....

eSchool News, May 14

Milwaukee mulls closings

Milwaukee Public Library trustees are studying whether to replace some existing neighborhood libraries with fewer and larger regional libraries, buttressed by a network of computer centers and tiny "express" libraries in supermarkets or coffee shops. They say a new approach would provide the same service at a lower cost. But many library patrons are likely to resist any change to the 13-branch system they have grown to love. In early May, a rumor that library closings were under discussion was enough to lead three aldermen to hold a news conference denouncing the idea....



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Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, May 16

[Muncie branch to close](#)

On May 18, despite pleas from members of the city's black community, the Muncie (Ind.) Public Library board of trustees repeated a vote it had taken in November, to close both the Vivian Conley branch (right) and the Local History and Genealogy Center on June 1. Long-time users of the branch held a protest May 16 to call attention to the potential closing of the branch, named after a late Muncie community activist. The library has already cut 20 full-time positions in 2008 and 2009 to deal with a shrunken budget and has cut hours at all branches. But staff say it is not enough....



Muncie (Ind.) Star Press, May 19

[UCLA settles with Tasered student](#)

The University of California, Los Angeles, said May 15 that it would pay \$220,000 to settle a civil rights lawsuit filed by a student who in November 2006 was repeatedly stunned with a Taser gun by campus police after he refused to show his identification or leave the UCLA library. UCLA's acting chancellor brought in a police accountability expert, who found that the action against Mostafa Tabatabaiejad had violated department rules....

Los Angeles Times, May 15

[Fire in Lorain County Law Library](#)

A fire that broke out at the Lorain County Administration Building in Elyria, Ohio, caused \$200,000–\$300,000 in damage, burning part of the county law library and permeating smoke throughout the five-floor building. A blazing garbage can spread fire to the building May 16 around 10:30 p.m. The 37-year-old building does not have sprinklers because they were not required by the fire code when it was built. Some law books and shelving [burned](#), but most of the internal damage was from smoke. The library could [reopen](#) in July....

Lorain (Ohio) Morning Journal, May 17; *Elyria (Ohio) Chronicle-Telegram*, May 17, 19

[Go back to the Top](#)

Tech Talk

[On call: A summer of cell phones](#)

Kent German writes: "Though summer is always a busy time for new cell phone releases, so far the summer of 2009 is shaping up to be a doozy. We expect a full load of new handsets over the next three months with June being an especially hectic time for high-profile models—including the long-awaited [Palm Pre](#) (right), on sale June 6 for \$200. To help you keep track of the news, here's a handy list."...

Dialed In, May 19; *PC World*, May 19



[The 10 biggest tech failures of the last decade](#)

Douglas A. McIntyre writes: "Several of the best-funded and most-publicized tech launches of the last 10 years have ended in failure. To make the list, a product had to be widely recognized and widely available to customers. It had to be aimed at a large global market. Finally, it had to clearly miss the mark of living up to the potential that its creators expected,



and that the public and press were lead to believe was possible."...
Time, May 15

[New search engines supplement Google](#)



Some sites, like [Twine](#) and [hakia](#), try to personalize searches, separating out results you would find interesting based on your web use. [Searchme](#) offers an iTunes-like interface that lets users shuffle through photos and images. [Kosmix](#) bundles information by type—from Twitter, Facebook, blogs, the government—to make it easier to consume. [Wolfram Alpha](#) is more of an enormous calculator than a search: It crunches data to come up with query answers that may not exist online until you search for them....

CNN, May 12

[The ultimate Twitter toolkit](#)

Kyle Monson writes: "Want to be a Twitter ninja? Hordes of new users are joining and dreaming up new uses for it. As they do so, Twitter is maturing into a viable alternative not just to blog platforms but to RSS readers, news aggregators, media-sharing services, and communication tools. All you have to do to unleash the full power of Twitter is follow the right users and have the right tools handy. Familiarize yourself with these powerful Twitter tools and add the relevant ones to your arsenal to become a Master Tweeter."...

PC Magazine, May 18



[Nine classic games computers have ruined](#)

Michael Marshall writes: "If we ever manage to build a working quantum computer, the first killer app might be online poker. Thanks to the counterintuitive rules of quantum mechanics, players will be able to use mind-boggling strategies like betting and folding simultaneously. Poker wouldn't be the first game to have been revolutionized by computers. Artificial intelligence researchers have taught computers to play a wide range of strategic games well enough to compete with skillful human players—and in a few cases, they've beaten them convincingly."...

New Scientist, May 18



[The top five Bluetooth headsets](#)

Jamie Lendino writes: "Bluetooth headset designs just keep getting better and better. For the past couple of years, new models have been smaller, less obtrusive, and much more fashionable than their predecessors. The only problem: They still sounded tinny and robotic. The latest round of products we've seen has finally changed that. All of the top-rated units now have effective noise cancellation and wind suppression—so walking on the street on a windy day or driving with the window down isn't an issue."...

PC Magazine, May 13

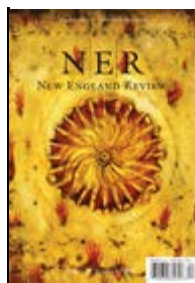


Publishing

[On the chopping block](#)

With some university presses facing budget cuts that could effectively [kill their operations](#), maybe it shouldn't be a surprise. But experts on literary magazines are nonetheless surprised and worried by the announcement out of Middlebury College that it will cease sponsorship of the *New England Review* by 2011 if the publication doesn't become self-supporting. The problem, according to the editor of the *Review* and experts on literary magazines, is that they don't have business models that work, and so must rely on philanthropic support or the sponsorship of a college....

Inside Higher Ed, May 14



[Scholar claims print origin for fairy tales](#)

Ruth B. Bottigheimer, a professor at Stony Brook University in New York, disputes the idea that fairy tales were handed down orally through generations until "19th and 20th-century folklorists hearkened to peasants' words" and they were transformed into literature by the likes of the Brothers Grimm. She points to mid-16th-century Venice as the starting point for a specific kind of fairy tale, the "rise" tale or Cinderella story, invented by Giovanni Francesco Straparola, author of the 1550 collection *Le piacevoli notti* (*Pleasant Nights*). The *Chronicle* has a [review](#) of her book, *Fairy Tales: A New History*....

The Guardian (U.K.), May 19; *Chronicle of Higher Education*, May 22



[Scribd morphs into e-book retailer](#)

Scribd has been called the YouTube of the e-book world, a title earned by its fast-rising popularity and its social networking approach to digital distribution. Realizing that the Amazon Kindle and e-books are becoming a permanent fixture in our reading culture, [Scribd](#) opened May 18 a beta version of the [Scribd Store](#), which allows users to purchase digital copies of texts from a variety of independent publishers and authors. The best part: Authors and publishers keep a hefty 80% of revenue....

PC World, May 18



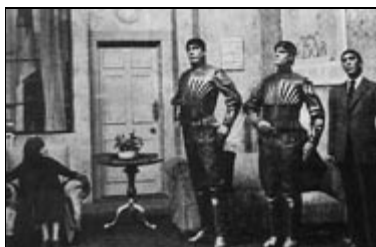
[Print-on-demand takes the lead](#)

Based on preliminary figures from U.S. publishers, Bowker is projecting that traditional book publishing decreased in 2008 by 3.2%, with 275,232 new titles and editions, down from the 284,370 that were published in 2007. But despite this decline, Bowker projects that 285,394 on-demand books were produced in 2008, a staggering 132% increase over last year's final total of 123,276 titles....

Bowker, May 19

[Where do robots come from?](#)

Mark Strauss writes: "The first robots were born on January 25, 1921, the day Karel Čapek's play *R.U.R.* premiered in Prague, more than 80 years before Skynet achieved sentience and declared, 'I think, therefore you're all toast.' *R.U.R.* introduced audiences to the term 'robot' (from the Czech word *robota*, meaning labor or servitude),



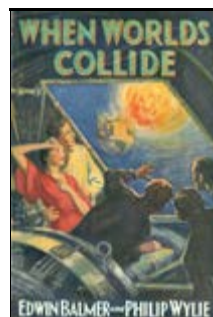
and gave humanity its first glimpse of a world conquered by machines.”...

io9, May 19

[15 influential early works of apocalyptic fiction](#)

Apocalyptic and post-apocalyptic literature involves any of the following: alien invasions, pandemics, severe natural disasters, the fall of civilization, the end of the world (“dying earth”), and massive wars. Most of the following works were influential to some degree, whether they influenced other authors or the wider genre in general, and were published between 1805 and 1945....

Listverse, May 19



Actions & Answers

[White House won't ask for high court review of NSL gag order](#)

The Obama administration will not ask the Supreme Court to review a 2007 district court decision that struck down Patriot Act provisions allowing the government to impose unconstitutional gag orders on recipients of national security letters. The lawsuit at issue, *Doe v. Holder*, was filed by the ACLU and New York Civil Liberties Union in April 2004 on behalf of an internet service provider. Because the FBI imposed a gag order on the ISP, the lawsuit was filed under seal, and even today the ACLU is prohibited from disclosing its client's identity....

American Civil Liberties Union, May 18

[FISA surveillance down, NSL requests up in 2008](#)

During calendar year 2008, the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court approved 2,083 applications (down from 2,370) for authority to conduct electronic surveillance and physical search of suspected foreign intelligence and terrorist targets under the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act, according to a May 14 report to Congress ([PDF file](#)) from the Justice Department. In 2008 the FBI made 24,744 national security letter requests (up from 16,804) for information concerning 7,225 different U.S. persons....

Secrecy News, May 18

[NUC Manuscripts Collections is 50](#)

The [National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections](#), a cooperative cataloging program of the Library of Congress and eligible archival and manuscript repositories located throughout the United States, is celebrating its 50th anniversary in May. The catalog includes not only the MARC-standard cataloging produced by NUCMC since the mid-1980s but also cataloging produced by libraries, archives, historical societies, museums and other holders of archival and manuscript collections around the world....

Library of Congress, May 15



[NARA is up-to-date in Kansas City](#)

Kimberlee N. Ried writes: "The National Archives' Central Plains regional archives is moving into the heart of Kansas City's cultural and historic area. Long situated in a warehouse-style facility far from the major business district of Kansas City, Missouri, the [Central Plains archives](#) is relocating to the Kansas City Crossroads District, near the city's historic Union Station and its popular Crown Center. There, it can become a major part of the cultural life of the city as an easily accessible research center and venue for National Archives exhibits."...

Prologue 41, no. 1 (Spring)



[Answers to questions about teen practices](#)

Danah Boyd writes: "Before I headed to Atlanta to do fieldwork, I asked folks who follow me on Twitter what questions I should ask teens. To all who asked questions about Twitter: Average teens don't use Twitter. They may in the future, but they do not now. Because of Oprah and celebs, some teens are starting to hear about it, but they don't understand it and they aren't using it."...

Apophenia, May 16

[Danville reaches out to ex-offenders](#)

Otis D. Alexander (right) writes: "Many ex-offenders feel that the system has little to offer them except a strong likelihood that they will return to prison. The high rate of recidivism among former offenders would seem to bear this out. However, the Danville (Va.) Public Library is doing all that it can to assist ex-offenders in reconnecting to their communities by spreading literacy, encouraging reading, and offering referrals to the many services that are available to help them with its Institute of Information Literacy."...

Virginia Libraries 54, no. 3-4 (July-Dec. 2008): 25-26



[Eight essential apps for your Facebook page](#)

Alison Driscoll writes: "Not even a year ago, Facebook was still being dismissed as a silly site intended to help college kids slack off. Indeed, that is what helped the social network take hold with a large number of users, but it has proven its worth in business and by now, nearly everyone is on board. An effective Facebook page not only attracts fans, but is sticky so that fans keep coming back and may even share the content on the page. Here are eight essential apps for your library's Facebook page."...

Mashable, May 13



[Common Chemistry for the general public](#)

Chemical Abstracts Service has launched a new, free, web-based resource called [Common Chemistry](#). This database is helpful to non-chemists and others who might know either a chemical name or a CAS Registry Number of a common everyday chemical and want to pair both pieces of information. Common Chemistry contains approximately 7,800 chemicals of widespread and general interest, as well as all 118



elements from the periodic table....

Chemical Abstracts Service, May 12

[Free case law on the web](#)

Robert J. Ambrogi writes: "Free is good. But free is not necessarily equal. Here are 10 sites that provide free access to case law. Each has its peculiar strengths and weaknesses. Which is right for your research project? The answer depends on what you need."...

Legal Technology, May 8



[Who needs MARC?](#)

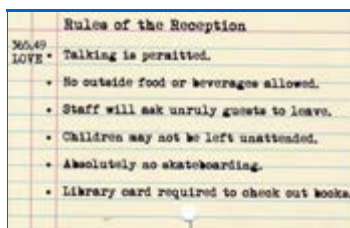
Lukas Koster writes: "This week I had a nice chat with André Keyzer of the University of Groningen Library and Peter van Boheemen of Wageningen University Library (both in the Netherlands), who attended OCLC's Amsterdam Mashathon 2009. As can be expected from library technology geeks, we got talking about bibliographic metadata formats. The question came up: What on earth could be the reason for storing bibliographic metadata in exchange formats like MARC?"...

CommonPlace.net, May 15

[How to have a library-themed wedding](#)

Diana Vizcarra Douglas writes: "Go ahead. Google 'library-themed wedding' and 90% of the context will be my wedding. Scott has had massive emails asking how this came about and I would love to share our story. We married one year ago in March, and this is the perfect way to show you how it was done. This is the post of our invites."...

Our City Lights, Mar. 18



[Five surprises in her first year with an MLIS](#)

Cynthia Lambert writes: "One year ago next week, I received my MLIS from Rutgers University. On the eve of this anniversary, I thought I would share the top five most surprising things I have learned and comment on each. Keep in mind, all of these pertain to public libraries because that is where I work and public librarians are who I tend to socialize with. Also, these observations are not all about MPOW—they come from discussion with many different librarians from many different libraries."...

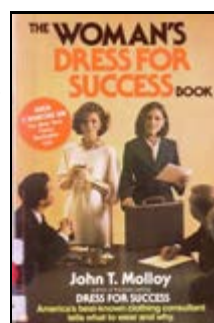
Library Garden, May 15



[Awful library books](#)

Mary Kelly and Holly Hibner are public librarians in Michigan and cannot understand why librarians won't weed the junk from circulating collections. Their Awful Library Books blog is a collection of the worst of public library holdings. The items featured are so old, obsolete, awful, or stupid that they are horrified that people might be actually checking these items out. No specific libraries or librarians are named to protect the guilty....

Awful Library Books



[What is a group of librarians?](#)

Stephen Abram writes: "I asked an idle question on my Facebook

wall and it generated some interesting, fun, and funny responses. What do you call a group of librarians? Some of the quick suggestions were a gaggle of librarians, a collection of librarians, a shush of librarians. Warrior Librarian has [multiple humorous suggestions](#). [Wikipedia](#) and [WikiAnswers](#) had others. How about a network of librarians?"...

Stephen's Lighthouse, May 18; Warrior Librarian

[Canadian libraries also need federal support](#)

The Canadian Library Association announced May 15 an urgent need for further government investment in public libraries in order to build or upgrade their infrastructure. Across Canada, most cities are reporting increased demand for library services and programs. CLA underscored the need for an expanded role for the Canadian government in supporting libraries, including investment in broadband, long-term funding, and library-friendly copyright legislation....

Canadian Library Association, May 15

[Eugene the Librarian reads poetry](#)

A 37-year-old contestant on the UK's popular talent show, *Britain's Got Talent*, Eugene the Librarian performed successfully on the third season's sixth audition May 16 by reciting his poetic ode to the show (3:58), which features singers, dancers, comedians, and variety acts. He received all three yes votes, although Judge Simon Cowell snidely remarked that it's the "first time anyone like you has received a standing ovation."...

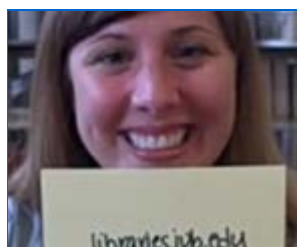
YouTube, May 16



[Just ask the IUB Libraries](#)

The Indiana University Libraries in Bloomington are ready to help students with anything (2:59), including finding books on swearing. Starring IUB Instructional Services Librarian Carrie Donovan, who shifts signage to the tune of "Having Trouble Remembering" by DoKashiteru....

YouTube, Apr. 27



[Go back to the Top](#)

AL Direct, May 20, 2009

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

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | May 20, 2009

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

[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

U.S. & World News

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[<http://www.glsen.org/cgi-bin/iowa/student/student/index.html>]Tennessee schools sued for blocking gay websites
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2009/may2009/lgbtlawsuit052009.cfm>]

A Knox County, Tennessee, high school librarian and one of her students, as well as two secondary-school students in the Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools, became the plaintiffs May 19 in a First Amendment lawsuit against the school districts for blocking access to information about gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered issues on school computers while allowing access to anti-gay sites. The suit was filed in U.S. district court by attorneys from the American Civil Liberties Union and the ACLU of Tennessee on behalf of the four, all of whom are involved in their respective schools' Gay-Straight Alliance Club but who cannot access the clubs' parent website

[<http://www.glsen.org/cgi-bin/iowa/student/student/index.html>] on campus workstations....

American Libraries Online, May 20

ALA News

ALA 2007–2008 Annual Report

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

The 2007–2008 ALA Annual Report is now available online.

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/governance/annualreport/index.cfm>]

It features the year in review, news from the Washington Office, new partners and programs, conferences and workshops, developments at ALA Publishing, Association leadership, financials, awards and honors, and divisional highlights....

Wi-Fi at Annual Conference

[<http://www.al.ala.org/insidescoop/2009/05/20/wifi-at-annual-conference/>]

ALA Executive Director Keith Michael Fiels made two announcements to staff May 20 regarding the availability of Wi-Fi during the ALA Annual Conference. First the good news: Free Wi-Fi will be available in meeting rooms throughout the McCormick Place West convention center. Now the bad news: A price tag of \$270,000 makes it impossible to provide Wi-Fi in meeting rooms at the conference hotels....

AL Inside Scoop, May 20

[<http://www.ilovelibraries.org/>]New and improved I Love Libraries

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

I Love Libraries, the ALA website for library supporters, has been redesigned [<http://www.ilovelibraries.org/>]. The site continues to feature news about libraries from around the country, with a focus on particular services and collections from all types of libraries. Improvements include an updated look and information about library issues in an expanded “Get Informed” section. “Share” links will let readers post their favorite stories to Facebook, MySpace, blogs, and other social networking applications....

How did your Día go?

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

As hundreds of libraries across the country celebrated El día de los niños/El día de los libros (Children’s Day/Book Day) on April 30, a variety of English and Spanish media provided coverage of programs and events. The ALA Public Information Office worked with Día founder Pat Mora and ALSC to gather stories on how libraries enrich lives of new Americans for a segment entitled

“Librarians Are Rockstars”
[<http://latinousa.kut.org/2009/04/24/3864/>] (4:20) on National Public Radio’s Latino USA. Many listened as host Maria Hinojosa discussed the value of libraries and the critical roles librarians play in supporting literacy....

A review and a rumination on ALA Connect
[<http://inthelibrarywiththeleadpipe.org/2009/why-we-should-adopt-alconnect-a-brief-review-and-rumination-on-alas-new-online-community/>]
Emily Ford writes: "So ALA has joined the ranks of two point oh. In April, it rolled out ALA Connect [<http://connect.ala.org>]; as an online networking junkie, I was intrigued and decided to log in. After my first look around the site I was a bit pessimistic, but after taking a deeper look, I have come to hope that ALA Connect will be able to reach individuals who haven’t been able to attend conferences and engage with their colleagues about ALA-centric issues. If ALA Connect can draw this constituency to use it, then the tool might mean some real changes for ALA."...
In the Library with the Lead Pipe, May 13

Library cards—a great promotional tool
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/may2009/campaignsmartestcard.cfm>]
Librarians can use the value of a library card to promote their libraries. During Library Card Sign-up Month in September, ALA and libraries across the country highlight the library card as the “smartest card” in every American’s wallet. Library cards offer users a wide variety of free resources: access to computers and the internet, financial literacy skills, assistance with job searches, resources to help small businesses, DVD rentals, storytime sessions, and books....

ALA joins PftPI [<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=2891>]
ALA and the ALA–Allied Professional Association have joined a coalition of 19 national and global organizations called Professionals for the Public Interest [<http://pftpi.org/>] that formally launched May 20. The organizations include associations and unions representing professionals in science, engineering, health, the arts, and human services. PftPI will engage professionals, the public, and policymakers in discussing ways to defend against external pressures that threaten the integrity of their work....
District Dispatch, May 19

Booklist Online

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Featured review: Books for youth
[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=3202777]
Weitzman, David. Pharaoh's Boat. May 2009. 48p. Houghton, hardcover (978-0-547-05341-7).

Part mystery, part ancient history, this handsome book takes readers back in time, first to 1954, when workmen at the Great Pyramid of Giza notice a wall that seems to hide something. Then it's back to the reign of the pharaoh Cheops, who needs a boat to take him to the afterlife. In precise yet at times almost poetic language, Weitzman explains the whys of building a vessel for the pharaoh and in amazing textual and illustrative detail shows the ways it was accomplished, from the tools used to the placement and lashing of the timbers. After the boat was finished, it was then taken apart and put in carved lime pits, the pieces carefully layered for easy reassembly by Cheops as he embarked upon his journey. It was this careful protection that allowed the preserved boat to be rediscovered in 1954 and, under the direction of the Restoration Department of the Egyptian Antiquities Service, reconstructed....

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kj1YSbsFQgw>]It's a freakin' miracle
[<http://blog.booklistonline.com/2009/05/14/its-a-freakin-miracle/>]
Daniel Kraus writes: "I really appreciate it when an interview becomes the funnest part of my day. Such was the case with Lauren Miracle, author of *Bliss*, *ttyl*, and the new *Peace, Love, and Baby Ducks*—when our time was up, I would've liked to have busted out the pop and Doritos and invited her to an all-day Lifetime movie marathon. I'm also a fan of her take on book challenges, something which she has become all too familiar with. In this video [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kj1YSbsFQgw>] (3:32), she details her technique to defuse irate grown-ups, but also doesn't deny that the attacks hurt a little, too."...
Likely Stories, May 14; YouTube, May 6

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

Chicago Update

[<http://www.exchequerpub.com/>]Chow down in Chi-town
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/resources/selectedarticles/dining09.cfm>]
ALA Publishing's Rob Christopher writes: "ALA sure picked a great place for its headquarters when it moved here in 1909. Sure, the winters are terrible, and the sticky heat of a Chicago summer is enough to tax anyone's patience, but when it comes to restaurants, Chicago has the best in the country. Think of a cuisine, any cuisine, and you can find it here; and whether you want to spend a few bucks or drop a C-note, this is your kind of town. If you didn't have that Annual Conference to attend, you could easily spend all week eating!"...
American Libraries 40, no. 6–7 (June/July): 76–80

The Art Institute of Chicago's new modern wing
[http://entertainment.timesonline.co.uk/tol/arts_and_entertainment/visual_arts/architecture_and_design/article6313086.ece]

The new wing that opened May 16 concludes a \$300-million project that has been 10 years in planning, expanding the Art Institute of Chicago [<http://www.artic.edu/aic/>]'s exhibition space by 35% and making it the second largest art museum in America after the Metropolitan in New York. It's essentially a three-story pavilion that extends from the rear of the museum's late-19th-century Beaux Arts structure. The galleries are modestly proportioned and well-lit. The arcade that forms the spine of the building is graceful, with lighting fixtures suspended on a succession of steel arms. Visitors walk along corridors above it as if hoisted by sheer sweetness and light....

The Times (U.K.), May 18

Tales from the Windy City

[<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB124174279188199027.html>]

Aleksandar Hemon was visiting a friend in the Ukrainian Village section of Chicago in 1992 when war broke out in his home town of Sarajevo. He extended his visit, eventually settling into an apartment nearby. It was in Chicago that Hemon learned how to write in English, and he still lives there. His new collection of short stories Love and Obstacles centers on an unnamed narrator who moved from Sarajevo to Chicago in 1992. Now you can visit the key places in his adopted city that influenced or inspired his fiction....

Wall Street Journal, May 8

United to hike baggage fees

[<http://www.chicagotribune.com/business/chi-united-baggage-fees-may14,0,6706809.story>]

Fliers who travel to ALA Annual Conference may have to pay more to check their bags at the airport. United Airlines and US Airways are nudging up baggage fees, and analysts expect other carriers to follow. As of June 10, United Airlines plans to hike its luggage fees by \$5 per bag for customers who pay for the service at the airport, charging \$20 for the first bag checked and \$30 for the second. Customers of United who pay the fees online will be charged the old rate: \$15 for their first bag, \$25 for the second....

Chicago Tribune, May 14

Placement Center is the place to be

[<http://www.students.ala.org/studentmemberblog/?p=249>]

ALA Placement/Recruitment Officer Beatrice Calvin writes: "I know that not everyone can attend the ALA Annual Conference, but for those who can, this is a great opportunity to network with people who will be your professional peers. It is also the perfect time to get quality one-on-one face time with employers. The employers who have recruitment booths onsite in the Placement Center

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/hrdr/placementservice/currentconference.cfm>] have come to the conference specifically to recruit.

This opens the doors for you to make real connections."...

ALA Student Member Blog, May 18

Division News

Join YALSA's SummerSlam Reading Jam

[<http://yalsa.ala.org/blog/2009/05/19/join-yalsa-and-wwc-for-the-summer-slam-reading-jam/>]

Put a little muscle into your summer reading program by signing up for the SummerSlam Reading Jam,

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/yalsa/summerslam.cfm>] a pilot project from YALSA and World Wrestling Entertainment. The first 500 libraries to sign up

[http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=oMf7rqwQoEKZjLEsS44ukQ_3d_3d] for the project will receive 25 mini-posters from WWE (each poster is numbered). Pass them out to any patrons between the ages of 10 and 18 who check out at least two books between June 24 and July 16.

Two of your patrons could win a trip for two to WWE's SummerSlam pay-per-view event in Los Angeles this August, and your library could win \$1,000 for materials for the teen and tween collection....

YALSA Blog, May 19

Apply for PLA Results Boot Camp 5

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

PLA is now accepting applications for its Results Boot Camp 5

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

on intensive library management training. This popular five-day immersion program will be held October 12–16 at the Olive 8 Hotel in Seattle, and will cover such topics as strategic planning, data-based decision-making, effective resource allocation, and other topics related to management training. Applications

[<https://forms.pla.org/node/add/boot-camp-5-form>] are due in the PLA office by September 11....

AASL offers graduate credit for national conference

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

Attendees of the AASL National Conference and Exhibition in Charlotte, North Carolina, November 5–8, can receive up to two hours of graduate credit if they submit a personal reflection and a log of their time before December 1 to the University of Colorado Denver School of Education and Human Development. The fee is \$60 per credit hour. Registration

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/aasl/conferencesandevents/national/charlotte2009/forattendees/attendeereg/national2009reg.cfm>] will be accepted until November 19....

Increase your knowledge at ALCTS preconferences

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

ALCTS is offering five preconferences at ALA Annual Conference in

Chicago. Topics include cataloging digital media, acquiring and managing emerging media formats, RDA, and FRBR. You can register [<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/2009/registration.cfm>] on the ALA Annual Conference website. ALCTS members pay only \$199 for one day and \$339 for two days. For more information, contact Julie Reese [<mailto:jreese@ala.org>]....

Registration opens for ALSC online courses [<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/may2009/alsconlineed.cfm>]

ALSC is offering three online education courses this summer. The asynchronous, multiweek courses, delivered through Moodle e-learning CMS, begin on July 20. Registration is open now through Monday, July 6. The three summer courses offered are: The Newbery Medal: Past, Present and Future; Reading Instruction and Children's Books; and Sharing Poetry with Children. Registration information can be found on the ALSC website [<http://www.ala.org/alsced>]....

ASCLA guide to programming and events at Annual [<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/may2009/asclaannual.cfm>]

ASCLA has released a comprehensive guide (PDF file [<http://ascla.ala.org/media/asclaac09.pdf>]) to the division's activities at ALA Annual Conference in Chicago, including preconferences, programs, discussion groups, and special events. The guide features the two 2009 preconferences hosted by ASCLA: "Be My Guest—Customer Service from the Best" [<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/asclatopnotch.cfm>] and "After the Grant Runs Out: Funding Collaborative Digitization." [<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/ascladigitizationfunding.cfm>] and...

Round Table News

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Interview with an FBI librarian
[<http://www.faflrt.ala.org/president/?p=261>]
Federal and Armed Forces Library Round Table member Rebecca Kennedy recently interviewed FBI Laboratory Supervisory Librarian Jane Killian: "The FBI Laboratory Library is a vital component of the lab's Quality Assurance and Training Unit. Library personnel support investigations by furnishing relevant technical information and a collection of reference materials that presently includes more than 8,000 scientific books and 400 periodical subscriptions. Staff members provide forensic examinations, technical support, expert witness testimony, and training to federal, state, and local law agencies." Look for Killian's program,
[http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/rts/faflrt/newsletters/2009_Spring/ala_2009.cfm] "Real Life Forensics: Like on Numb3rs, CSI, and

NCIS,” July 12 at ALA Annual Conference in Chicago....
FAFLRT President blog, May 7

Awards

2009 John Phillip Immroth Award

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

Karen MacPherson (right), children and youth services coordinator at Takoma Park Maryland Library, and Alanna Natanson (left), a middle-school student in Takoma Park, have been named recipients of the John Phillip Immroth Memorial Award, presented by the ALA Intellectual Freedom Round Table. The award honors intellectual freedom fighters in and outside the library profession who have demonstrated remarkable personal courage in resisting censorship....

ALTAFF awards 2009 Public Service Award

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

ALTAFF awarded its 2009 Public Service Award to Sen. Barbara Boxer (D-Calif.) during National Library Legislative Day activities in Washington, D.C., in May. Boxer was selected for her lead in staving off a proposed closure of the Environmental Protection Agency's libraries. The Public Service Award is given annually to a legislator who has been especially supportive of libraries....

2009 ALTAFF Trustee Citation

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

ALTAFF has named Shirley Ann Bruursema (right) and David H. Goldsmith as 2009 Trustee Citation award winners. The Trustee Citation honors the best contributions and efforts of the estimated 60,000 American citizens who serve on library boards. Bruursema is chairperson of the Kent District Library in Comstock Park, Michigan. Goldsmith served on the Prince George's County (Md.) Memorial Library board for 17 years and currently serves on the board of the Baltimore County Public Library....

Thirty AASL members receive travel grants

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

Thirty members of AASL will receive a \$750 travel grant to attend their first AASL National Conference. The grants are sponsored by Bound to Stay Bound Books. The AASL 14th National Conference and Exhibition will be held in Charlotte, North Carolina, November 5-8....

Children's Choice Book Awards

[http://www.bookweekonline.com/winners_2009.html]

In honor of Children's Book Week, May 11-17, the Children's

Book Council announced the winners of the Children's Choice Book Awards after 220,000 online ballots from kids (and some adults) across the country were counted. Lauren Myracle's *Thirteen* (Dutton, 2008) was the pick in the 5th to 6th Grade category, while Stephenie Meyer was chosen Author of the Year....
Children's Book Council

Caroline Bynum wins Grundler Prize

[<http://www.wmich.edu/wmu/news/2009/05/032.html>]

Western Michigan University has awarded the prestigious Grundler Prize to Caroline Walker Bynum, noted academic and theoretical scholar at the Institute for Advanced Study, for her book *Wonderful Blood: Theology and Practice in Late Medieval Northern Germany and Beyond* (University of Pennsylvania, 2007). The prize was awarded during the 44th International Congress on Medieval Studies, May 7–10. Bynum argues in her book that Christ's blood, as both object and symbol, was central to late medieval art, literature, pious practice, and theology....

Western Michigan University, May 18

Adam Nicolson wins Ondaatje Prize

[<http://www.guardian.co.uk/books/2009/may/19/family-history-ondaatje-prize>]

Adam Nicolson's unsentimental study of his family castle Sissinghurst has won the Royal Society of Literature's Ondaatje prize, awarded to a work of literature deemed to have most successfully evoked "the spirit of a place." *Sissinghurst: An Unfinished History* is Nicolson's memoir of his family home, from its origins as a medieval manor, to the creation by his grandparents Vita Sackville-West and Harold Nicolson of its world-famous garden, and Nicolson's own attempts to restore the estate to its glory days....

The Guardian (U.K.), May 19

Christos Tsiolkas wins the Commonwealth Prize

[<http://www.brisbanetimes.com.au/entertainment/a-smack-turns-into-a-slap-on-the-back-for-tsiolkas-20090516-b6w5.html>]

Australian author Christos Tsiolkas won the 2009 Commonwealth Writers' Prize for his gritty portrayal of Melbourne suburbia, *The Slap*. The \$20,000 prize was announced at the Auckland Writers and Readers Festival May 16. Pakistani author Mohammed Hanif won the \$10,000 Best First Book prize for his novel of political intrigue, *A Case of Exploding Mangoes*....

Brisbane (Qld.) Times, May 17

Host your own Sparky awards

[<http://www.sparkyawards.org/syndicate/index.shtml>]

The Sparky Awards is a contest that recognizes the best new short videos on the value of sharing, and aims to broaden the discussion of access to scholarly research by inviting college students to express their views creatively. This year, students may submit their entries to local contests as well as the national one. Set a deadline that works for you, sometime in advance of the national deadline on December 6; name a panel of judges who will help attract

attention on your campus; offer your own prizes; and register here
[<http://www.sparkyawards.org/syndicate/register.shtml>]....
Sparky Awards

Canadian librarian wins architectural honor
[http://www.raic.org/honours_and_awards/awards_raic_awards/2009recipients/advocate_e.htm]
Greg Hayton will be the first librarian to ever win an Advocate for Architecture Award from the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada. The chief executive officer of the Cambridge (Ont.) Library and Galleries will receive the award June 20 in Montreal. Hayton was praised for his work in promoting such public buildings as the Hespeler library branch and as cocreator of the Design at Riverside gallery at the University of Waterloo....
Royal Architectural Institute of Canada

Firm wins construction award for FGCU library
[<http://www.tallahassee.com/article/20090518/BUSINESS02/90518014/1003/BUSINESS>]
Ajax Building Corporation has received an "Excellence in Construction Award" from an industry group for its 2007 work on the expansion and renovation of the Florida Gulf Coast University Library in Fort Myers—a waterfront complex that already has received separate accolades in design and construction. The Gulf Coast Chapter of Associated Builders and Contractors presented Ajax its award in the Institutional Renovations category....
Tallahassee (Fla.) Democrat, May 18

Seen Online

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Hard drive from Clinton administration missing
[<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/05/19/AR2009051903598.html>]
The National Archives lost a computer hard drive containing a terabyte of sensitive data from the Clinton administration, including Social Security numbers, addresses, and Secret Service and White House operating procedures, congressional officials said May 19. Other information includes logs of events, social gatherings, and political records. Officials said the drive was removed from a storage area in the College Park facility sometime between October and March to a workspace that was accessible to many archive employees and visitors....
Washington Post, May 20

Copyright backlog at LC
[<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/05/18/AR2009051803171.html>]
A serious logjam in the U.S. Copyright Office at the Library of Congress has created a growing mountain of paper applications, more than the staff can process. Like the marching buckets of water in

The Sorcerer's Apprentice, the envelopes just keep coming, threatening to flood the operation. The problem has tripled the processing time for a copyright from 6 to 18 months, and delays are expected to get worse. The library's inspector general has warned that the backlog threatens the integrity of the U.S. copyright system....

Washington Post, May 19

Brewster Kahle: Google aims to privatize libraries

[<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/05/18/AR2009051802637.html>]

Open Content Alliance Director Brewster Kahle writes: "A ruling is expected shortly on a proposed settlement of lawsuits filed against Google in 2005 by groups claiming that Google's book-scanning project violated copyright. If approved, it would produce not one but two court-sanctioned monopolies. Google will have permission to bring under its sole control information that has been accessible through public institutions for centuries. In essence, Google will be privatizing our libraries." Meanwhile, the University of Michigan signed [<http://www.ns.umich.edu/htdocs/releases/story.php?id=7162>] an expanded agreement (PDF file [<http://www.lib.umich.edu/mdp/Amendment-to-Cooperative-Agreement.pdf>]) with Google May 19 that allows the library to strengthen its preservation efforts and increase the public's access to books.... Washington Post, May 19; University of Michigan, May 20

Is Google waging a library PR campaign?

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=2874>]

Washington Office Associate Director Corey Williams writes:

"Recently, Google representatives have initiated contact with members of the library community to explain, from their perspective, the proposed Google Book Search settlement agreement that was recently reached among Google, the Association of American Publishers, and the Authors Guild. Specifically, Google is reaching out to library leaders, likely in response to an increase in interest in the community and the press about the concerns libraries have raised in response to the proposed private settlement agreement."...

District Dispatch, May 14

Josephine County libraries reopen

[<http://www.mailtribune.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/99999999/NEWS/710160335>]

Libraries in Josephine County, Oregon, began reopening May 20 under an outsourcing plan that operates the system at about half the cost—and for about half the previous hours. The county has enough money to keep them open for up to three years, but beyond that there is much uncertainty about funding. Leaving a trail of two failed levies in 2006 and 2007 behind them, library supporters say they've got a tough road ahead as they gear up to persuade voters to keep all 15 branches open into the future....

Medford (Oreg.) Mail Tribune, May 18

[http://www.baynews9.com/VideoPlayer/?Drive_Thru_Library_518]Drive-thr

ough circ at Largo

[<http://www.baynews9.com/content/36/2009/5/18/474090.html?title=Library+lets+patrons+check+out+books+from+their+cars>]

Patrons of the Largo (Fla.) Public Library can order books the same way they do their banking and order their food—from their cars.

Library Clerk Shelly Powell (right) can serve patrons who drive up with a book, or they can leave one with her. They can also check out DVDs, pay fines, and sign up for a library card without ever going inside. Library Director Casey McPhee thought of the idea, and it has become a big success. Watch the video

[http://www.baynews9.com/VideoPlayer/?Drive_Thru_Library_518] version (1:44)....

Bay News 9, St. Petersburg, Fla., May 18

University of San Francisco selling rare books to pay the bills

[<http://foghorn.usfca.edu/2009/04/rare-books-could-become-financial-safety-net/>]

The University of San Francisco administration has undertaken a plan to protect itself from being further affected by the recession, though some faculty members are skeptical. The possibility of selling items from the Donahue Rare Book Room in the Gleeson Library garnered the strongest responses from faculty members. Apparently some auction sales

[<http://bookhuntersholiday.wordpress.com/2009/05/13/chapter-409-libraries-and-universities-and-economic-realities/>] have already taken place. Stephen J. Gertz,

[<http://www.bookpatrol.net/2009/05/on-selling-off-rare-books-to-pay-bills.html>] Nicholas Basbanes,

[http://www.finebooksmagazine.com/nicholas_basbanes/2009/05/san-francisco-earthquake.phtml] and Jeremy Dibbell

[<http://philobiblos.blogspot.com/2009/05/deaccessioning-redux.html>] weigh in on the controversy....

USF Foghorn, Apr. 30; Book Hunter's Holiday, May 13; Book Patrol, May 14; Fine Books & Collections, May 16; PhiloBiblos, May 13–14

Butte County libraries safe [http://www.chicoer.com/news/ci_12367148]

Supporters of the Butte County (Calif.) Library are hearing welcome news, even though it isn't all they could hope for. On May 13, the county announced that additional cuts targeting the library system won't be necessary. Sang Kim, deputy Butte County administrative officer, said new revenue coming from a number of sources has sharply reduced the need for additional countywide layoffs. Chico Supervisor Maureen Kirk said

[http://www.chicoer.com/advertise/ci_12388959] she had never seen lobbying like this on a single issue....

Chico (Calif.) Enterprise Record, May 14, 17

Unused e-rate funding totals billions

[<http://www.eschoolnews.com/news/top-news/related-top-news/index.cfm?&i=58762>]

About \$5 billion of the estimated \$19.5 billion in e-rate funds committed to schools and libraries from 1998 to 2006 were never used, according to a March report (PDF file

[<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d09253.pdf>]) from the GAO. In some

cases, funds were not claimed because applicants' needs changed from the time they applied until it was time to file a Form 486, which releases the funding. In other cases, the actual expenses that applicants incurred were less than the amount of funding they had applied for. Often, the sheer complexity of the program caused them to leave money on the table....

eSchool News, May 14

Milwaukee mulls closings

[<http://www.jsonline.com/news/milwaukee/45228562.html>]

Milwaukee Public Library trustees are studying whether to replace some existing neighborhood libraries with fewer and larger regional libraries, buttressed by a network of computer centers and tiny "express" libraries in supermarkets or coffee shops. They say a new approach would provide the same service at a lower cost. But many library patrons are likely to resist any change to the 13-branch system they have grown to love. In early May, a rumor that library closings were under discussion was enough to lead three aldermen to hold a news conference denouncing the idea....

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, May 16

Muncie branch to close

[<http://www.thestarpress.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2009905190329>]

On May 18, despite pleas from members of the city's black community, the Muncie (Ind.) Public Library board of trustees repeated a vote it had taken in November, to close both the Vivian Conley branch (right) and the Local History and Genealogy Center on June 1. Long-time users of the branch held a protest May 16 to call attention to the potential closing of the branch, named after a late Muncie community activist. The library has already cut 20 full-time positions in 2008 and 2009 to deal with a shrunken budget and has cut hours at all branches. But staff say it is not enough....

Muncie (Ind.) Star Press, May 19

UCLA settles with Tasered student

[<http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/lanow/2009/05/ucla-settles-lawsuit-with-tasered-student.html>]

The University of California, Los Angeles, said May 15 that it would pay \$220,000 to settle a civil rights lawsuit filed by a student who in November 2006 was repeatedly stunned with a Taser gun by campus police after he refused to show his identification or leave the UCLA library. UCLA's acting chancellor brought in a police accountability expert, who found that the action against Mostafa Tabatabaiejad had violated department rules....

Los Angeles Times, May 15

Fire in Lorain County Law Library

[<http://www.morningjournal.com/articles/2009/05/16/news/mj1056456.txt>]

A fire that broke out at the Lorain County Administration Building in Elyria, Ohio, caused \$200,000–\$300,000 in damage, burning part of the county law library and permeating smoke throughout the five-floor building. A blazing garbage can spread fire to the building May 16 around 10:30 p.m. The 37-year-old building does not have sprinklers because they were not required by the fire code when

it was built. Some law books and shelving burned,
[<http://www.chroniclet.com/2009/05/county-cleans-up-after-fire-at-administration-building/>] but most of the internal damage was from smoke. The library could reopen
[<http://www.chroniclet.com/2009/05/county-building-getting-back-to-normal/>] in July....
Lorain (Ohio) Morning Journal, May 17; Elyria (Ohio) Chronicle-Telegram, May 17, 19

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Tech Talk

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On call: A summer of cell phones
[http://www.cnet.com/8301-17918_1-10244854-85.html]
Kent German writes: “Though summer is always a busy time for new cell phone releases, so far the summer of 2009 is shaping up to be a doozy. We expect a full load of new handsets over the next three months with June being an especially hectic time for high-profile models—including the long-awaited Palm Pre
[http://www.pcworld.com/article/165178/palm_pre_can_it_live_up_to_the_hype_or_will_it_flop.html] (right), on sale June 6 for \$200. To help you keep track of the news, here’s a handy list.”...
Dialed In, May 19; PC World, May 19

The 10 biggest tech failures of the last decade
[<http://www.time.com/time/business/article/0,8599,1898864,00.html>]
Douglas A. McIntyre writes: “Several of the best-funded and most-publicized tech launches of the last 10 years have ended in failure. To make the list, a product had to be widely recognized and widely available to customers. It had to be aimed at a large global market. Finally, it had to clearly miss the mark of living up to the potential that its creators expected, and that the public and press were lead to believe was possible.”...
Time, May 15

[<http://www.wolframalpha.com/index.html>]New search engines supplement Google
[<http://www.cnn.com/2009/TECH/05/12/future.search.engine/index.html>]
Some sites, like Twine [<http://www.twine.com/>] and hokia [<http://hakia.com/>], try to personalize searches, separating out results you would find interesting based on your web use. Searchme [<http://www.searchme.com/>] offers an iTunes-like interface that lets users shuffle through photos and images. Kosmix [<http://www.kosmix.com/>] bundles information by type—from Twitter, Facebook, blogs, the government—to make it easier to consume. Wolfram Alpha [<http://www.wolframalpha.com/index.html>] is more of an enormous calculator than a search: It crunches data to come up with query answers that may not exist online until you search for them....
CNN, May 12

[<http://www.trinketsoftware.com/Twikini/>]The ultimate Twitter toolkit [<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2347185,00.asp>]
Kyle Monson writes: “Want to be a Twitter ninja? Hordes of new users are joining and dreaming up new uses for it. As they do so, Twitter is maturing into a viable alternative not just to blog platforms but to RSS readers, news aggregators, media-sharing services, and communication tools. All you have to do to unleash the full power of Twitter is follow the right users and have the right tools handy. Familiarize yourself with these powerful Twitter tools and add the relevant ones to your arsenal to become a Master Tweeter.”...
PC Magazine, May 18

Nine classic games computers have ruined
[<http://www.newscientist.com/article/dn17145-nine-games-computers-are-ruining-for-humanity.html?full=true>]
Michael Marshall writes: “If we ever manage to build a working quantum computer, the first killer app might be online poker. Thanks to the counterintuitive rules of quantum mechanics, players will be able to use mind-boggling strategies like betting and folding simultaneously. Poker wouldn’t be the first game to have been revolutionized by computers. Artificial intelligence researchers have taught computers to play a wide range of strategic games well enough to compete with skillful human players—and in a few cases, they’ve beaten them convincingly.”...
New Scientist, May 18

[<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2345797,00.asp>]The top five Bluetooth headsets
[<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2346925,00.asp>]
Jamie Lendino writes: “Bluetooth headset designs just keep getting better and better. For the past couple of years, new models have been smaller, less obtrusive, and much more fashionable than their predecessors. The only problem: They still sounded tinny and robotic. The latest round of products we’ve seen has finally changed that. All of the top-rated units now have effective noise cancellation and wind suppression—so walking on the street on a windy day or driving with the window down isn’t an issue.”...
PC Magazine, May 13

Publishing

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On the chopping block
[<http://www.insidehighered.com/news/2009/05/14/ner>]
With some university presses facing budget cuts that could effectively kill their operations,
[<http://www.insidehighered.com/news/2009/01/20/usu>] maybe it shouldn’t be a surprise. But experts on literary magazines are nonetheless surprised and worried by the announcement out of Middlebury College that it will cease sponsorship of the New England

Review by 2011 if the publication doesn't become self-supporting. The problem, according to the editor of the Review and experts on literary magazines, is that they don't have business models that work, and so must rely on philanthropic support or the sponsorship of a college....

Inside Higher Ed, May 14

Scholar claims print origin for fairy tales

[<http://www.guardian.co.uk/books/2009/may/19/oral-roots-fairy-tales>]

Ruth B. Bottigheimer, a professor at Stony Brook University in New York, disputes the idea that fairy tales were handed down orally through generations until "19th and 20th-century folklorists hearkened to peasants' words" and they were transformed into literature by the likes of the Brothers Grimm. She points to mid-16th-century Venice as the starting point for a specific kind of fairy tale, the "rise" tale or Cinderella story, invented by Giovanni Francesco Straparola, author of the 1550 collection *Le piacevoli notti* (Pleasant Nights). The Chronicle has a review [<http://chronicle.com/free/v55/i37/37b00601.htm>] of her book, *Fairy Tales: A New History*....

The Guardian (U.K.), May 19; Chronicle of Higher Education, May 22

Scribd morphs into e-book retailer

[http://www.pcworld.com/article/165049/scribd_morphs_into_ebook_retailer.html]

Scribd has been called the YouTube of the e-book world, a title earned by its fast-rising popularity and its social networking approach to digital distribution. Realizing that the Amazon Kindle and e-books are becoming a permanent fixture in our reading culture, Scribd [<http://www.scribd.com/>] opened May 18 a beta version of the Scribd Store [<http://www.scribd.com/store>], which allows users to purchase digital copies of texts from a variety of independent publishers and authors. The best part: Authors and publishers keep a hefty 80% of revenue....

PC World, May 18

Print-on-demand takes the lead

[<http://bowker.com/index.php/press-releases/563-bowker-reports-us-book-production-declines-3-in-2008-but-qon-demand-publishing-more-than-doubles>]

Based on preliminary figures from U.S. publishers, Bowker is projecting that traditional book publishing decreased in 2008 by 3.2%, with 275,232 new titles and editions, down from the 284,370 that were published in 2007. But despite this decline, Bowker projects that 285,394 on-demand books were produced in 2008, a staggering 132% increase over last year's final total of 123,276 titles....

Bowker, May 19

Where do robots come from?

[<http://io9.com/5260195/where-do-robots-come-from>]

Mark Strauss writes: "The first robots were born on January 25, 1921, the day Karel Capek's play *R.U.R.* premiered in Prague, more than 80 years before Skynet achieved sentience and declared, 'I

think, therefore you're all toast.' R.U.R. introduced audiences to the term 'robot' (from the Czech word robota, meaning labor or servitude), and gave humanity its first glimpse of a world conquered by machines."...

io9, May 19

15 influential early works of apocalyptic fiction
[<http://listverse.com/literature/15-influential-early-works-of-apocalyptic-fiction/>]
Apocalyptic and post-apocalyptic literature involves any of the following: alien invasions, pandemics, severe natural disasters, the fall of civilization, the end of the world ("dying earth"), and massive wars. Most of the following works were influential to some degree, whether they influenced other authors or the wider genre in general, and were published between 1805 and 1945....

Listverse, May 19

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[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

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Actions & Answers

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White House won't ask for high court review of NSL gag order
[<http://www.aclu.org/safefree/nationalsecurityletters/39605prs20090518.html>]
The Obama administration will not ask the Supreme Court to review a 2007 district court decision that struck down Patriot Act provisions allowing the government to impose unconstitutional gag orders on recipients of national security letters. The lawsuit at issue, Doe v. Holder, was filed by the ACLU and New York Civil Liberties Union in April 2004 on behalf of an internet service provider. Because the FBI imposed a gag order on the ISP, the lawsuit was filed under seal, and even today the ACLU is prohibited from disclosing its client's identity....

American Civil Liberties Union, May 18

FISA surveillance down, NSL requests up in 2008
[http://www.fas.org/blog/secretcy/2009/05/fisa_surveillance_in_2008.html]
During calendar year 2008, the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court approved 2,083 applications (down from 2,370) for authority to conduct electronic surveillance and physical search of suspected foreign intelligence and terrorist targets under the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act, according to a May 14 report to Congress (PDF file
[<http://www.fas.org/irp/agency/doj/fisa/2008rept.pdf>]) from the Justice Department. In 2008 the FBI made 24,744 national security letter requests (up from 16,804) for information concerning 7,225

different U.S. persons....
Secrecy News, May 18

NUC Manuscripts Collections is 50
[<http://www.loc.gov/today/pr/2009/09-104.html>]
The National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections,
[<http://www.loc.gov/coll/nucmc/>] a cooperative cataloging program of
the Library of Congress and eligible archival and manuscript
repositories located throughout the United States, is celebrating
its 50th anniversary in May. The catalog includes not only the
MARC-standard cataloging produced by NUCMC since the mid-1980s but
also cataloging produced by libraries, archives, historical
societies, museums and other holders of archival and manuscript
collections around the world....
Library of Congress, May 15

[<http://www.archives.gov/global-pages/larger-image.html?i=/publications/prologue/2009/spring/images/kansas-city-bagdad-1.jpg&c=/publications/prologue/2009/spring/images/kansas-city-bagdad.caption.html>]NARA is
up-to-date in Kansas City
[<http://www.archives.gov/publications/prologue/2009/spring/kansas-city.html>]
Kimberlee N. Ried writes: “The National Archives’ Central
Plains regional archives is moving into the heart of Kansas
City’s cultural and historic area. Long situated in a
warehouse-style facility far from the major business district of
Kansas City, Missouri, the Central Plains archives
[<http://www.archives.gov/central-plains/>] is relocating to the
Kansas City Crossroads District, near the city’s historic
Union Station and its popular Crown Center. There, it can become a
major part of the cultural life of the city as an easily accessible
research center and venue for National Archives exhibits.”...
Prologue 41, no. 1 (Spring)

Answers to questions about teen practices
[http://www.zephoria.org/thoughts/archives/2009/05/16/answers_to_ques.html]
Danah Boyd writes: “Before I headed to Atlanta to do fieldwork, I
asked folks who follow me on Twitter what questions I should ask
teens. To all who asked questions about Twitter: Average teens don’t
use Twitter. They may in the future, but they do not now. Because of
Oprah and celebs, some teens are starting to hear about it, but they
don’t understand it and they aren’t using it.”...
Apophenia, May 16

Danville reaches out to ex-offenders
[<http://www.ilovelibraries.org/news/topstories/danville.cfm>]
Otis D. Alexander (right) writes: “Many ex-offenders feel that the
system has little to offer them except a strong likelihood that they
will return to prison. The high rate of recidivism among former
offenders would seem to bear this out. However, the Danville (Va.)
Public Library is doing all that it can to assist ex-offenders in
reconnecting to their communities by spreading literacy, encouraging
reading, and offering referrals to the many services that are

available to help them with its Institute of Information Literacy.”...

Virginia Libraries 54, no. 3–4 (July–Dec. 2008): 25–26

Eight essential apps for your Facebook page

[<http://mashable.com/2009/05/13/facebook-brand-apps/>]

Alison Driscoll writes: “Not even a year ago, Facebook was still being dismissed as a silly site intended to help college kids slack off. Indeed, that is what helped the social network take hold with a large number of users, but it has proven its worth in business and by now, nearly everyone is on board. An effective Facebook page not only attracts fans, but is sticky so that fans keep coming back and may even share the content on the page. Here are eight essential apps for your library’s Facebook page.”...

Mashable, May 13

Common Chemistry for the general public

[<http://www.cas.org/newsevents/releases/commonchemistry051209.html>]

Chemical Abstracts Service has launched a new, free, web-based resource called Common Chemistry. [<http://www.commonchemistry.org/>] This database is helpful to non-chemists and others who might know either a chemical name or a CAS Registry Number of a common everyday chemical and want to pair both pieces of information. Common Chemistry contains approximately 7,800 chemicals of widespread and general interest, as well as all 118 elements from the periodic table....

Chemical Abstracts Service, May 12

[<http://www.altlaw.org/>]Free case law on the web

[<http://www.law.com/jsp/legaltechnology/pubArticleLT.jsp?id=1202430532688>]

Robert J. Ambrogi writes: “Free is good. But free is not necessarily equal. Here are 10 sites that provide free access to case law. Each has its peculiar strengths and weaknesses. Which is right for your research project? The answer depends on what you need.”...

Legal Technology, May 8

Who needs MARC? [<http://commonplace.net/2009/05/who-needs-marc/>]

Lukas Koster writes: “This week I had a nice chat with André Keyzer of the University of Groningen Library and Peter van Boheemen of Wageningen University Library (both in the Netherlands), who attended OCLC’s Amsterdam Mashathon 2009. As can be expected from library technology geeks, we got talking about bibliographic metadata formats. The question came up: What on earth could be the reason for storing bibliographic metadata in exchange formats like MARC?”...

CommonPlace.net, May 15

[http://2.bp.blogspot.com/_nIacLBAydwc/Sbq7i0fC2yI/AAAAAAAAB1I/EnXYc8hB4Bk/s1600-h/Invite04-1.JPG]

How to have a library-themed wedding
[<http://www.ourcitylights.org/2009/03/how-to-have-library-themed-wedding-part.html>]

Diana Vizcarra Douglas writes: “Go ahead. Google ‘library-themed

wedding' and 90% of the context will be my wedding. Scott has had massive emails asking how this came about and I would love to share our story. We married one year ago in March, and this is the perfect way to show you how it was done. This is the post of our invites."...
Our City Lights, Mar. 18

Five surprises in her first year with an MLIS

[<http://librarygarden.blogspot.com/2009/05/5-surprises-from-first-year-as-mlis.html>]

Cynthia Lambert writes: "One year ago next week, I received my MLIS from Rutgers University. On the eve of this anniversary, I thought I would share the top five most surprising things I have learned and comment on each. Keep in mind, all of these pertain to public libraries because that is where I work and public librarians are who I tend to socialize with. Also, these observations are not all about MPOW—they come from discussion with many different librarians from many different libraries."...

Library Garden, May 15

Awful library books [<http://awfullibrarybooks.wordpress.com/>]

Mary Kelly and Holly Hibner are public librarians in Michigan and cannot understand why librarians won't weed the junk from circulating collections. Their Awful Library Books blog is a collection of the worst of public library holdings. The items featured are so old, obsolete, awful, or stupid that they are horrified that people might be actually checking these items out. No specific libraries or librarians are named to protect the guilty....

Awful Library Books

What is a group of librarians?

[http://stephenslighthouse.sirsidynix.com/archives/2009/05/what_is_a_group.html]

Stephen Abram writes: "I asked an idle question on my Facebook wall and it generated some interesting, fun, and funny responses. What do you call a group of librarians? Some of the quick suggestions were a gaggle of librarians, a collection of librarians, a shush of librarians. Warrior Librarian has multiple

[<http://warriorlibrarian.com/LOL/nouns.html>] humorous suggestions

[<http://warriorlibrarian.com/ROFL/nouns2.html>]. Wikipedia

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_collective_nouns_by_collective_term_A-K] and WikiAnswers

[http://wiki.answers.com/Q/What_is_the_collective_noun_for_librarians] had others. How about a network of librarians?"...

Stephen's Lighthouse, May 18; Warrior Librarian

Canadian libraries also need federal support

[<http://www.newswire.ca/en/releases/archive/May2009/15/c4569.html>]

The Canadian Library Association announced May 15 an urgent need for further government investment in public libraries in order to build or upgrade their infrastructure. Across Canada, most cities are reporting increased demand for library services and programs. CLA underscored the need for an expanded role for the Canadian government in supporting libraries, including investment in broadband, long-term funding, and library-friendly copyright

legislation....

Canadian Library Association, May 15

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O7ijwEwAvdo>] Eugene the Librarian reads poetry [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O7ijwEwAvdo>]

A 37-year-old contestant on the UK's popular talent show, Britain's Got Talent, Eugene the Librarian performed successfully on the third season's sixth audition May 16 by reciting his poetic ode to the show (3:58), which features singers, dancers, comedians, and variety acts. He received all three yes votes, although Judge Simon Cowell snidely remarked that it's the "first time anyone like you has received a standing ovation."...

YouTube, May 16

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LImUagoGkFM>] Just ask the IUB Libraries [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LImUagoGkFM>]

The Indiana University Libraries in Bloomington are ready to help students with anything (2:59), including finding books on swearing. Starring IUB Instructional Services Librarian Carrie Donovan, who shifts signage to the tune of "Having Trouble Remembering" by DoKashiteru....

YouTube, Apr. 27

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Ask the ALA Librarian

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[<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=20>]

Q. I've never done interlibrary loans before. What resources do you have that can help me?

A. Libraries in the United States should follow the Interlibrary Loan Code for the United States

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/rusa/resources/guidelines/interlibrary.cfm>] which was prepared by RUSA. ALA has prepared a Fact Sheet [<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/library/libraryfactsheet/alalibraryfactsheet8.cfm>] that gives information on the latest version of the Interlibrary Loan Code for the United States and links to where the interlibrary loan form can be downloaded as an Adobe Reader PDF file

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/rusa/resources/guidelines/illformprint.pdf>] as well as a Microsoft Word file

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/rusa/resources/guidelines/illformprint.doc>] (which can be edited). It also provides guidance and a bibliography on international interlibrary loan. You may also find the short bibliography

[http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/InterLibrary_Loan] of articles and books on interlibrary loan to be of interest. From the ALA Professional Tips wiki

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

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

Calendar

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June 4–5:
Managing and Preserving Archival Collections,
[<http://guest.cvent.com/EVENTS/Info/Summary.aspx?e=08b626c9-5e91-496b-a5bc-656c25cd23a8>] Pittsburgh (Pa.) Athletic Association. Workshop
sponsored by Conservation Center for Arts and Historic Art.

June 4–5:
Politics and Networking,
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/pla/plaevents/cplacourses/politics.cfm>] Decatur, Georgia. Certified Public Library Administrator course
sponsored by PLA.

June 10–12:
New York State Library Assistants’ Association,
[<http://www.nyslaa.org/conference.html>] Annual Conference, Sage
College, Troy.

June 12:
New England Library Association, Information Technology Section,
[<http://nelib.org/its/conference/2009/index.htm>] Spring Event,
Portsmouth (N.H.) Public Library. "Building a Better Website with
Content Management Systems."

June 14–18:
Semantic Technology Conference,
[<http://www.semantic-conference.com/>] Fairmont Hotel, San Jose,
California.

June 19:
Michigan Information Literacy Initiative,
[<http://www.mla.lib.mi.us/node/951>] Oakland Community
College–Orchard Ridge Campus, Farmington Hills, Michigan.

June 19–20:
Open Video Conference, [<http://openvideoconference.org/>] Vanderbilt
Hall, New York University, New York City.

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."

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. 30–

Sept. 3:

First International Conference on eParticipation,

[<http://www.demo-net.org/epart/>] Linz, Austria. Colocated with EGOV 2009.

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.

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

Membership

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/membership/whyjoinala/memberbenefits/index.cfm>] in ALA starts to pay you back the moment you join. With discounts on products and services, and members-only access to information through our website and journals, you will benefit right away.

Included in many of these benefits are resources to advance your career, your library, and the whole profession. Explore the many benefits offered to personal

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/membership/whyjoinala/memberbenefits/personalbenefits/index.cfm>], organizational

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/membership/whyjoinala/memberbenefits/orgbenefits/index.cfm>], and corporate

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/membership/whyjoinala/memberbenefits/corporatebenefits/index.cfm>] members.

Contact Us

American Libraries Direct

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

George M. Eberhart,

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The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | May 27, 2009

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SCHOOLROOMS
A new learning portal for K-12

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



U.S. & World News

[Education reform won't spare Washington school librarians](#)

Basic education reform came to the state of Washington May 19 with the signing by Gov. Christine Gregoire of a bill ([PDF file](#)) that adds a credentialed, but not necessarily funded, teacher-librarian in every K–12 school to the definition of what constitutes a basic education. The timing was wrought with irony, however: Several weeks earlier lawmakers had responded to the nation's ongoing economic crisis by slashing \$1 billion in state aid to education for FY2010, triggering the reduction in force of several thousand teachers—among them school librarians—in Bellevue and elsewhere in Washington State....

American Libraries Online, May 27



- Design & Layout
- Product Development
- Product Procurement
- Project Management
- Installation

demcointeriors.com

[Providence Central Library loses city funding](#)

The Providence (R.I.) Public Library board approved May 21 an FY2010 operating budget for the Central Library that is devoid of any municipal support. PPL trustees announced the plan nearly a month after the 131-year-old nonprofit Providence Public Library ceded control of its nine branch libraries to the City of Providence, which in turn will [hand over](#) their management to the Providence Community Library July 1....

American Libraries Online, May 22



[ALA Annual Conference.](#)

Chicago, July 9–15. ALA will rock the Art Institute of Chicago for the [10th Anniversary Scholarship Bash](#), July 11, at 7:00 p.m. This is your chance to discover new works of art and visit your favorites without fighting the crowds because the building will only open to those who buy a ticket to the Bash.

ALA News

[Tell us how to Get a Job](#)

In preparing a new web-based toolkit called *Get a Job!*, ALA is looking for stories and advice on what to do and what not to do to find employment, particularly in this economy. Employers and consultants can share words of wisdom about what a candidate has done to impress them. New employees can share their best tactics in landing a job. [Email](#) your best tips and anecdotes for possible

inclusion on the website by June 5....

[Chapters pass resolutions honoring Judith Krug](#)

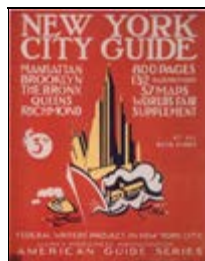
At least 35 ALA state and regional chapters have passed resolutions saluting "the life and legacy" of Judith F. Krug, founding director of the ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom. The resolutions detail her extensive accomplishments and multitude of awards, and make special note of the "practical assistance and unstinting support" Krug provided to librarians facing challenges to intellectual freedom in their communities....

OIF Blog, May 21

[Federal Writers' Project programming](#)

The Public Programs Office is currently coordinating a project with 30 libraries around the United States called "Soul of a People: Writing America's Story" on the writers and researchers of the Federal Writers' Project. In the 1930s, the FWP produced the renowned *American Guides* series (right) for each state, transcribed interviews with ordinary Americans, interviewed former slaves, and collected folktales and regional recipes. PPO has created an online [Soul of a People Site Support Notebook](#), which any library interested in presenting programs on the Writers' Project is welcome to use....

Programming Librarian, May 22

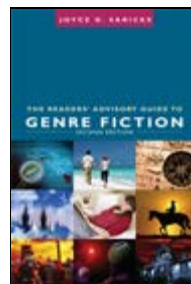


[How do ALA Membership Meetings work?](#)

The ALA Membership Meetings at Annual Conference are an opportunity for members to make things happen. Members can bring issues important to libraries and librarians to the floor and decide how they might be addressed within ALA. Members present can change the proposed agendas at any time, and any member may speak on any topic by standing at a microphone....

[A fresh look at genre fiction](#)

Joyce G. Saricks's [Readers' Advisory Guide to Genre Fiction](#) has just been released in a revised edition by ALA Editions. The guide supplies a way to understand the vast universe of genre fiction in an easy-to-use format. Legendary readers' advisory expert Saricks offers groundbreaking reconsideration of the connections among genres and describes key authors and themes within 15 varied genres....



[Licensing digital content](#)

ALA Editions has released a second edition of [Licensing Digital Content: A Practical Guide for Librarians](#) by Lesley Ellen Harris. The new edition updates the basics of digital licensing for librarians in a plain-language approach that demystifies the process. Written from the librarian's perspective, this guide updates licensing terminology and changes in technology, and explains how to educate organizations that have signed license agreements....



[Poets and authors LIVE! at Annual Conference](#)

The Public Programs Office will present 25 critically-acclaimed and best-selling [authors](#) on the LIVE! @

Don't miss this fun interactive evening with music, food, and the most acclaimed French Impressionist collection in the United States. Tickets are \$40 in advance and \$45 onsite. All proceeds go toward ALA library school scholarships.



ALA TechSource, publisher of *Library Technology Reports* and *Smart Libraries* newsletter, has launched a [new website](#) that gives readers unprecedented access to current and back issues. This new platform, designed and hosted by MetaPress (an EBSCO company), allows readers to purchase and download *Library Technology Reports* in both PDF and full-text HTML format, with all issues fully searchable. **NEW! From ALA Publishing.**

In this issue
May 2009



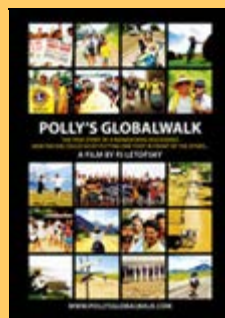
your library Reading Stage, from noon to 4 p.m., July 11–13, in the exhibits hall at ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. Attendees are welcome to take a break from their busy conference schedules and listen to authors and poets read from and autograph their recent works. Located in the back of the 3200 aisle in the exhibits hall, the reading stage is free for all conference attendees....

Booklist ONLINE

Featured review: Media

Polly's GlobalWalk. Dec. 2008. 108 min. Newcastle, DVD.

On August 1, 1999, Polly Letofsky left Colorado on a dual mission to become the first woman to walk around the world and to raise funds for breast cancer research. Five years and 14,124 miles later, she completed her journey and raised more than \$250,000. This very personal, inspiring film records Polly's trek on a road that isn't always smooth. The foundation she formed to support her trip falters; she is in a Muslim country (Malaysia) on 9/11 and learns about the horrific events from biased media; European countries are not as receptive as she expected. Yet support comes from surprising sources....



Book Links to become Booklist supplement

Book Links magazine is on the move; starting in October it will be published as a quarterly print supplement to *Booklist*, at no additional cost to subscribers, rather than as a stand-alone magazine. *Book Links'* editorial focus and original content, popular for nearly 20 years, will continue to fulfill the mission of connecting children with books and related media. *Book Links* content will also appear in *Booklist* Online, further enriching the site and database as a resource for school and youth librarians....



@ Visit [Booklist Online](http://www.booklistonline.org) for other reviews and much more....



Judith Krug: The Freedom to Read

Family Storytime

Book Groups the Way Boys Like 'Em

ALA Book and Media Award Winners

Career Leads from



Education Services

Librarian, Marriott Library, University of Utah, Salt Lake City. Work with the Education Services librarians and others in an ambitious program to expand information, visual, and technology literacies across the disciplines. The librarian will assist in developing and offering new and innovative ways to teach students. Librarians in Education Services have a passion for teaching and provide stimulating experiences for students as they learn to use library resources and software applications. Library instruction is provided through first year courses, course-integrated instruction across the disciplines,

Chicago Update

[27 things to do before a conference](#)

Chris Brogan writes: "If you're attending an event over the next several months, you might give some thought to a quick checklist that might help you better accomplish your goals. I'll list a bunch of ideas, and you can just narrow it down to what you think works best for you. I should note that this post presumes we're talking about more modern conferences and/or events where people might be even vaguely connected to the internet." (Yes, that includes ALA Annual Conference.)...

Chris Brogan, Mar. 13

[Chicago Architecture Foundation tours](#)

The Chicago Architecture Foundation offers some of the best tours in the city that are dedicated to increasing the public's understanding of architecture and design. There are many available around the [Annual Conference dates](#), so plan ahead and book early. The [Devil in the White City Companion Bus Tour](#), based on Erik Larson's bestselling book about the World's Columbian Exposition of 1893, is offered on July 7 and 9, while walking tours and the popular river cruise take place every day....

Chicago Architecture Foundation



[Chicago ghost tours](#)

Folklore and history come alive as native Chicago ghost hunters lead you on an intriguing excursion through haunted Chicago, searching for Resurrection Mary, Al Capone, John Dillinger, and dozens of other Windy City ghosts. The tour is based on the work of lifelong Chicagoan, historian, and paranormal researcher Ursula Bielski—author of six books on ghostly Chicago, including *Chicago Haunts*. Summer tours run Tuesday through Saturday at 7 p.m. and meet at 600 N. Clark Street....

Chicago Hauntings Tours



Division News

[Gail Kennedy elected LLAMA president](#)

Gail A. Kennedy, director of the Lucille Little Fine Arts Library at the University of Kentucky, has been elected vice-president/president-elect of LLAMA. Active in the division's Buildings and Equipment Section, Kennedy currently chairs the Interior Design Awards Committee and was a mentor for new librarians in LLAMA's mentoring program....



[RUSA events at Annual Conference](#)

A comprehensive guide to RUSA programming and events at the upcoming ALA Annual Conference in Chicago is now available for download ([PDF file](#)). The guide lists all RUSA preconferences and programs, including the popular Literary Tastes Breakfast....

[ACRL sets strategic priorities](#)

stand-alone workshops, research labs, in-house faculty and staff workshops, and through online resources and services....



Digital Library of the Week



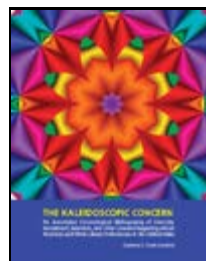
The University of New Mexico Libraries hosts [New Mexico's Digital Collections](#). The collections contain documents, photographs, maps, posters, art, and music. Topics include New Mexico history, water and land issues, and Latin American art and politics. Participating repositories include the Center for Southwest Research, Fray Angélico Chávez History Library, the Palace of the Governors photo archives, the Silver City Museum, and the Tamarind Institute.

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 [1](#)

The ACRL board of directors has adopted a set of six strategic priorities designed to continue the association's forward progress over the next five years. At the recent ACRL 14th National Conference in Seattle, the board reviewed the [Charting Our Future: ACRL Strategic Plan 2020](#) document, taking into consideration progress to date, member needs, and external factors. As a result, the board identified six strategic objectives as priorities for 2009–2013....

[The Kaleidoscopic Concern](#)

ACRL has released a new digital publication, *The Kaleidoscopic Concern* by Kaetrena D. Davis-Kendrick. This annotated bibliography on racial and ethnic diversity in librarianship focuses on such areas of study as gender issues and white privilege with regard to racial minority and ethnic librarians. It can be downloaded for free from the [ACRL website](#)....



[ACRL Springboard Event](#)

ACRL is offering its second annual Springboard Event—a live, interactive webcast free of charge to ACRL members—from 12:00 noon to 1:15 p.m. Central time, June 3. Clifford Lynch, director of the Coalition for Networked Information, will share “some things that keep me awake at night,” including cultural memory in an age of economic instability and the migration of vast amounts of personal history and activity to the digital environment. [Register](#) online by May 29....



[Author events at the AASL conference](#)

One of the most requested things at AASL conferences has been more author events. Taking place November 5–8 in Charlotte, North Carolina, this year's National Conference will feature “The Pit Stop,” with more than 20 regional authors on hand to mingle with participants. Guests will have the opportunity to talk one-on-one with the authors, hear plans for their newest books, and perhaps get some inspiration or advice for penning their own best-sellers....

[ALSC Kids! campaign also targets tweens](#)

Phase two of the ALSC Kids! @ your library public awareness campaign, which officially launches July 12, focuses on tools to help librarians promote library services to kids in Grades 5–8. All campaign resources are free and available for [download](#)....



[YALSA's 2010 symposium theme](#)

YALSA has chosen “Beyond Good Intentions: Diversity, Literature, and Teens” as the theme for its 2010 Young Adult Literature Symposium, sponsored in part by the William C. Morris Endowment. In addition, the division has opened its call for preconference proposals, program proposals, and paper presentations for the symposium, which will take place in Albuquerque, New Mexico, November 5–7, 2010....

[A YALSA online chat on the economy](#)

Join YALSA on June 9 for a discussion about the impact of the recession on library workers who serve teens and how the association might provide support to its members in this economic

[Love Libraries](#) site.

Public Perception

How the World Sees Us

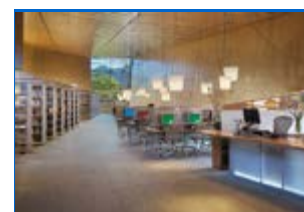
“To ask why we need libraries at all, when there is so much information available elsewhere, is about as sensible as asking if roadmaps are necessary now that there are so very many roads.”

—Jon Bing, law professor at the Norwegian Research Center for Computers and Law, University of Oslo.



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

Ask the ALA Librarian



Q. Although I'm now retired, I've always been interested in library buildings and recall that the ALA gives an award for library buildings. I'd like to plan a cross-country trip so that I could see some of these. Can you help?

climate. YALSA President Sarah Debraski will convene the discussion at 8:00 p.m. Eastern time in YALSA's space on ALA Connect. YALSA members can log in to Connect using their regular ALA website username and password....

YALSA Blog, May 22

[Archived L4L webinars available](#)

AASL's popular L4L webinars are now available for purchase in [archived format](#). The webinars, offered in April during School Library Media Month, are part of Learning4Life, the division's national initiative to implement "Standards for the 21st-Century Learner" and "Empowering Learners: Guidelines for School Library Media Programs." If purchased before July 1, AASL will offer a buy three, get one free deal....



Round Table News

[EMIERT cofounder turns 100](#)

David Cohen, professor emeritus at the Queens College Graduate School of Library and Information Studies and 2007 ALA Honorary Member, turned [100 years old](#) on May 24. He was cofounder of the Ethnic Material and Information Exchange Round Table, founding editor of the *EMIE Bulletin*, and sponsor of the EMIERT David Cohen Multicultural Award....

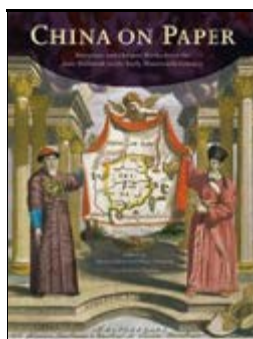
Librarian, May 21; *Queens (N.Y.) Gazette*, Apr. 15



Awards

[2009 RBMS Leab Exhibition Awards](#)

The ACRL Rare Books and Manuscripts Section has selected five winners and one honorable mention for the 2009 Katharine Kyes Leab and Daniel J. Leab *American Book Prices Current* Exhibition Awards. The awards, funded by an endowment established by the Leabs, recognize outstanding exhibition catalogues issued by American or Canadian institutions. The Division One (expensive) winner is *China on Paper: European and Chinese Works from the Late Sixteenth to the Early Nineteenth Century*, submitted by the Getty Research Institute....



[2009 GODORT awards](#)

The Government Documents Round Table presents three major awards to recognize achievements by documents librarians, a research grant designed to encourage participation in professional study or publication, and a scholarship for those pursuing a library science degree. This year's winners are Andrea Sevetson (right), Daniel Cornwall, Eleanor Chase, Aimée Quinn, and Justin Joque....



GODORT wiki

[2009 BRASS Emerald Research Award winner](#)

A. ALA, currently through its [Library Leadership and Management Association](#) division, has collaborated with the American Institute of Architects in presenting the Library Building Awards since the early 1950s. These awards, intended to "encourage excellence in the architectural design and planning of libraries," are given biennially. The next competition will be in 2011. The 2009 winners were listed in the Spring 2009 *American Libraries* [digital supplement](#) and in a LLAMA press release ([PDF file](#)). Previous winners are listed on the [LLAMA website](#). The winners will also be showcased at the upcoming ALA Annual Conference at a program on Monday, July 13. For others who may have to plan a library building, please see the [Buildings](#) page on this wiki and the [ALA Library Fact Sheet Number 11: Building Libraries and Library Additions: A Selected Annotated Bibliography](#). From the [ALA Professional Tips wiki](#).

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

Ann Manning Fiegen, business librarian at California State University, San Marcos, has been selected as a recipient of the 2009 Emerald Research Award. Administered by the RUSA Business Reference and Services Section and sponsored by Emerald Publishing Group, the grant provides \$5,000 in support of proposed research in the field of business reference. Fiegen proposed a systematic literature review of research methods and best practices for business instruction in academic libraries....



Books for Babies grants awarded

In partnership with Nordstrom, ALTAFF has awarded 10 grants for \$500 each to match \$1,000 raised by selected Friends of the Library groups, women's groups, libraries, and other nonprofit organizations for purchasing Books for Babies kits from ALTAFF. A total of 2,025 English kits and 325 Spanish kits will be distributed to parents of newborns through these grants. An additional 10 matching grants will be awarded in October with an application deadline of October 1....

LITA Student Writing Award winner

T. Michael Silver, currently enrolled in the School of Library and Information Studies at the University of Alberta, has been named the winner of the 2009 LITA Ex Libris Student Writing Award. Silver's paper, entitled "Monitoring Network and Service Availability with Open-Source Software," describes a network monitoring system that automatically alerts library systems administrators if a service interruption occurs....

Alice Munro wins 2009 Man Booker Prize

Canadian short-story author Alice Munro has emerged victorious from a clash of the world's literary giants to win the £60,000 (\$94,900 U.S.) Man Booker International prize. The 77-year-old writer was picked from a lineup of towering international talent that included V. S. Naipaul, Mario Vargas Llosa, Peter Carey, and Joyce Carol Oates. The prize is granted once every two years in recognition of a living author who has made an outstanding contribution to world literature. Munro's spare, quiet stories of small-town life have won her a host of literary awards....

The Guardian (U.K.), May 27



2009 Angus Book Award

Author Anne Cassidy has won the 2009 Angus Book Award for *Forget Me Not* (Scholastic, 2008)—a sympathetic and compelling narrative that reveals the hidden secrets behind two abductions. Cassidy was presented with her trophy, a miniature replica of the Aberlemno Serpent Stone (right), and the £500 (\$800 U.S.) prize at a May 19 ceremony in Forfar, Scotland. This annual award for best new paperback YA novel written by a UK author is voted on by third-year students in Angus secondary schools....

Angus Council



This year, libraries help remind fans what makes baseball the great American pastime with [Step Up to the Plate @ your library](#). Step Up to the Plate teams up two American classics, baseball and libraries, to promote the importance of information literacy skills and increase awareness of the library as an essential information resource.

Calendar

June 1–4:

[Computers, Freedom, and Privacy Conference](#), George Washington University, Washington, D.C.
"Creating the Future."

June 12–14:

[Historical Novel Society](#), North American Conference, Hyatt Regency Woodfield, Schaumburg, Illinois.

June 14–17:

[Special Libraries Association](#), Annual Conference, Walter E. Washington Convention Center, Washington, D.C.

June 16–19:

[Georgia Records Association](#), Spring Conference, Sea Palms, St. Simons Island.

Seen Online

[Basic reading skills and adult literacy](#)

A new [report](#) from the National Center for Education Statistics shows that about 30 million people—14% of the U.S. population 16 and older—have trouble with basic reading and writing. Of these, 7 million are considered nonliterate in English because their reading abilities are so low. Correlating factors include poverty, ethnicity, native language background, and disabilities. The findings suggest that a lack of basic reading skills (oral fluency and decoding unfamiliar words) is a key problem....

Christian Science Monitor, May 7



[Bill would fund internet safety education](#)

A New Jersey lawmaker has introduced internet safety legislation that, if passed, would authorize roughly \$175 million—\$35 million a year for five years—for internet safety education and training to help make children, parents, and educators aware of proper online behavior and the dangers the internet poses. The School and Family Education about the Internet (SAFE Internet) Act, sponsored by Sen. Robert Menendez (D-N.J.), would create a grant program to support existing and new internet safety programs....

eSchool News, May 26

[YALSA book list too salacious for Tennessee](#)

An online list of [best books for young adults](#) chosen by ALA's Young Adult Library Services Association has been removed from Williamson County, Tennessee, school websites for being too "salacious" for students. Every year the district puts together a recommended summer reading list, and this year Ravenwood and Brentwood high school websites included a link to the YALSA list. But at least one parent and one school board member found some selections inappropriate....

Nashville Tennessean, May 20



[Binghamton school library gets a big upgrade](#)

Elizabeth Wallace has three words to describe the old library at East Middle School in Binghamton, New York: "kind of boring." But that was before the school used a \$230,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Education to add more than 20,000 books and purchase laptop computers, furnishings, and other equipment. Now the library is a good place to do research, said the 15-year-old 8th grader. Applying for the grant was the idea of Media Specialist Gail Wellman....

Binghamton (N.Y.) Press and Sun-Bulletin, May 25

[Librarian transformed into human popcorn ball](#)

Students at John Hopkins Elementary School in Jackson, Mississippi, got a sweet reward from their librarian May 21. Melissa Strauss said she promised she would "become a human popcorn ball" if students read 10 million words in library books during the school year. They did,



June 20–25:

[Association of Seventh-day Adventist Librarians](#), Annual Conference, Andrews University, Berrien Springs, Michigan.

June 26:

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

Creese Student Center, Drexel University, Philadelphia. "Google, the Web, and the Future Roles of Publishers and Librarians."

July 5–8:

[Association of Jewish Libraries](#),

Annual Convention, Sheraton Chicago Hotel and Towers, Chicago. "Empowering Librarians for the 21st Century."

July 9–15:

[ALA Annual Conference](#),

McCormick Place, Chicago.

Aug. 5–7:

[Pacific Northwest Library Association](#),

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

Sept. 1–5:

[DrupalCon Paris](#),

Maison Internationale, Cité Internationale Universitaire de Paris.

Sept. 23–26:

[North Dakota Library Association](#), Annual

Conference, Days Hotel–Grand Dakota Lodge and Conference

and students poured syrup on Strauss before she rolled in a plastic pool filled with popcorn....

WAPT-TV, Jackson, Miss., May 21

[Green Bay libraries proctor tests](#)

The Brown County Library in Green Bay, Wisconsin, is now helping people take college or employment tests. It's called proctoring when a library employee oversees the testing process, then mails the results to the college or business. The increase in unemployment and online college programs has more people taking work-aptitude tests and college exams....

Green Bay (Wis.) Press-Gazette, May 26

[Towns fill budget gaps with surplus library funds](#)

New Jersey towns scrambling to plug budget holes are dipping into a new well—their libraries' surplus funds. Under a state law passed a year ago, they are asking municipal libraries to sign over part of their surpluses to ease the property-tax burden at a time when library use is burgeoning. But some libraries are reluctant to give up their hard-won savings, saying they need that money for new programs and unexpected expenses, especially as the recession creates greater demand for their services....

Bergen (N.J.) Record, May 22

[Carrboro wants its branch](#)

As county commissioners prepare to open public hearings on a budget that calls for the closing of the Carrboro branch of the Orange County (N.C.) Public Library, town aldermen are joining with library supporters to officially oppose the move. Mayor Mark Chilton said he hopes strong community support will underline the importance of the branch to the town. The county wants to close the Carrboro and Cedar Grove branches and shift employees to a new main library in downtown Hillsborough to avoid \$250,000 in new personnel costs....

Carrboro (N.C.) Citizen, May 21



[Iredell County saves positions, Girl Talk](#)

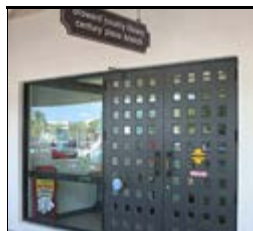
Members of the Girl Talk group gathered in a private room at the Iredell County (N.C.) Public Library for what was supposed to be one of their last meetings. After county officials announced that a revenue shortfall would force budget cuts, some were concerned that the Girl Talk group's days were numbered. The group, which meets once a week, targets girls from 11 to 17 years old. But things have now changed. County officials decided not to eliminate the 16 part-time positions that had been slated to be cut June 1....

Statesville (N.C.) Record and Landmark, May 27

[Broward County branches threatened](#)

Budget cuts in Broward County, Florida, could mean the end of the Century Plaza branch (right) where 3,800 patrons of all ages visit each week. Century Village residents collected 1,400 signatures to protest the possible closure, one of seven branches threatened as county officials weigh a \$160-million spending reduction. The 2,000-member Friends of the Broward County Library is launching a protest campaign of 10,000 postcards to commissioners about the seven threatened branches....

Fort Lauderdale *South Florida Sun-Sentinel*, May 26



Center, Dickinson.
"Evolution of the Library."

Sept. 30–

Oct. 2:

[West Virginia Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Snowshoe Mountain Resort.

Oct. 1–4:

[LITA National Forum](#), Salt Lake City, Utah.
"Open and Mobile."

Oct. 18–24:

[Teen Read Week](#),
"Read Beyond Reality @ your library."

@ [More...](#)

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ALA American
Library Association

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aldirect@ala.org

[Nahant library's machine gun moves to Tennessee](#)

Residents of Nahant, Massachusetts, lined the main thoroughfare May 25 for a Memorial Day parade that featured the farewell appearance of a World War I machine gun that was part of the town's victory parade for returning soldiers in 1919. The gun, which war hero Alvin York seized from the Germans in a legendary raid behind enemy lines, was brought to Nahant by a local Army clerk who had snatched it as a souvenir. Rediscovered in the attic of the Nahant Public Library in 2003, the gun is now getting delivered to the Museum of Appalachia in Clinton, Tennessee, in return for a \$10,000 donation....

Boston Globe, May 26



[Chicago showcases Defender treasures](#)

It's the largest and most significant collection of historical materials on the nation's black press to be acquired by any American library. The Chicago Public Library unveiled May 27 the Abbott-Sengstacke Family Papers—a rare archive providing a sweeping look into the legacy of one of the nation's most prominent black newspapers, the *Chicago Defender*—spanning more than 130 years. Available to the public for the first time are some 4,000 unpublished photographs, 100 home movies, and reams of correspondence with ordinary people, politicians, and U.S. presidents by the newspaper's founders....

Chicago Sun-Times, May 27



[Stolen Andrew Jackson letter found](#)

A stolen letter written by President Andrew Jackson in 1824 has been recovered, thanks to the keen eye of University of Tennessee Assistant Professor Tom Coens. The letter, offered for sale at an auction website, was a familiar one to Coens, who is also assistant editor of UT's Papers of Andrew Jackson project. He had seen a copy recently when he borrowed a microfilm from the New York State Library that included the letter, one of the documents stolen by former state archivist Daniel Lorello, who is serving two to six years in prison for grand larceny....

Knoxville (Tenn.) News Sentinel, May 26

[Librarian resigns over auctioned painting](#)

The director of the Proctor (Vt.) Free Library has resigned after admitting to taking a 95-year-old painting from the library and selling it at auction. Trustees have decided not to press charges against Mary Brough, who sold the Jessie Wilcox Smith painting *Curly Locks*, part of the library's collection since the 1940s, through an auction house for \$96,600. The artwork and the proceeds were both recovered after an investigation by state police....

Rutland (Vt.) Herald, May 22



[Job seekers line up at library computers](#)

When Regina Alilat got laid off in April, it felt like the lights had gone out. Like four in every 10 Americans, Alilat has no computer at home

AL Direct FAQ:

www.ala.org/aldirect/

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

American Libraries

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

ISSN 1559-369X.

in a country where nearly everything happens on the web. Along with thousands in the Portland, Oregon, metro area, the former administrative assistant has turned to the only place she knows where she can easily access computers for free: the Multnomah County Library. Yet the library's computer resources are stretched thin with the rising demand....

Portland Oregonian, May 21

[Fiber-optic internet for public libraries](#)

Extending fiber-optic internet service to public libraries would help increase the demand for super-high-speed internet at home, one broadband expert says. Speaking at a May 21 forum at the Information Technology and Innovation Foundation, Don Means, cofounder of consulting firm Digital Village Associates, outlined his proposal to extend high-speed connectivity to all 16,500 public libraries in the country. Means said the federal e-rate program could provide libraries with start-up funding....

Broadband Census, May 21

[Go back to the Top](#)

Tech Talk

[Google offers Web Elements for easy news feeds](#)

Google has made it easier for novice web publishers to spruce up their sites with feeds of Google's products. [Google Web Elements](#), unveiled May 27 at the Google I/O developer conference in San Francisco, is an easy cut-and-paste way to add a Google News feed, for example, to a web page. Eight feeds are available at first, with more possibly to come over the next several months....

Webware, May 27



[Create cool maps with these apps](#)



Don Riesinger writes: "Google Maps is dynamic. Making [customized maps](#) through the service isn't very difficult. But there are a variety of third-party tools on the web that help you create fully customized Google Maps mashups. From Flickr geotag integration to wedding event mapping to just doodling, you can do it all."...

Webware, May 19

[New Chrome loads JavaScript faster](#)

Seth Rosenblatt writes: "[Chrome version 2.0.172.28](#) was touted by Google as being up to 30% faster for handling JavaScript. After using the update to the stable release extensively for the past day and running it through two JavaScript tests on two computers, it's conclusively faster than the previous stable version of Chrome. Also new in this version of Chrome is the F11 hot key to toggle full screen mode, which drops all hints of the browser frame except for the scroll bars—but only if they're appearing on that site in standard mode. There's also a new form autofill."...



Download Blog, May 22

[How to create custom Twitter](#)

[backgrounds](#)

Ben Parr writes: "Since the early days of Twitter, users have had the ability to upload their own background images. If you're new to Twitter, or just never took the time to create your own Twitter background, this guide is for you. It goes step-by-step into the rationale for creating a personalized Twitter background, takes a look at some amazing Twitter designers, and provides a list of useful Twitter design tools and resources."...

Mashable, May 23



[Geek Chart shows where you share](#)

If you're looking for a novel way to represent and visualize your online persona, [Geek Chart](#) takes your activity on popular sites—Twitter, YouTube, Flickr, any blog with an RSS feed, Digg, StumbleUpon, Delicious, and Last.fm—and turns it into an interactive pie chart. Making a chart is free; embedding the chart in your website requires a sign-up for an account....

Lifehacker, May 23

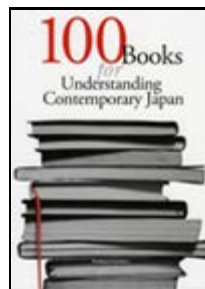


Publishing

[Books on contemporary Japan](#)

The Nippon Foundation is donating "100 Books for Understanding Contemporary Japan" in English to 200–300 libraries throughout North America. The books cover all aspects of Japanese life—politics and international relations, literature, arts, history, society, culture, economics, and business. Academic and public libraries interested in some or all of these books should make a request by June 30....

Nippon Foundation



[E-books are ugly, but it's not the fonts](#)

Joshua Tallent writes: "The real problem with e-book design is not the Kindle or the Mobipocket format, nor is it the lack of beautiful typography and new cover images. The real problem is how e-books on the whole are created today. The majority of publishers are not prepared to create e-books in house, so they send the PDFs off to outsourcing vendors in India. Often the out-of-house formatters will introduce errors into the e-books that were not present in the print books, or scan images with little regard for their size or resolution."...

TeleRead, May 20

[Secrets of the abstracting industry](#)

Matthew B. Crawford writes: "In the early 1990s, I landed a job in the Bay Area writing brief summaries of academic journal articles, which were then sold on CD-ROMs to subscribing libraries. Some of this stuff was simply incomprehensible to anyone but an expert in the particular field covered by the journal. My job was structured on the supposition that in writing an abstract of an article there is a method that merely needs to be applied, and that this can be done without understanding the text. In some of the titles I was assigned, articles began with an abstract written by the author. But even in such cases I was to write my own."...

New York Times, May 21



Actions & Answers

Transparency and open government

Four months have passed since President Obama signed a memo on transparency and open government ([PDF file](#)). On May 21, the Office of Science and Technology Policy began a process to allow the public to participate in creating recommendations that the chief technology officer of the Office of Management and Budget and the General Services Administration will make that will inform an open-government directive. An OSTP [website](#) explains the process where comments can be submitted. More than 60 open-government organizations, including ALA, had called on the administration May 18 ([PDF file](#)) to get the process going....

District Dispatch, May 22

Obamas to chair National Book Festival

President Barack Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama will serve as honorary chairs of the 2009 National Book Festival, organized and sponsored by the Library of Congress. Now in its ninth year, this popular event celebrating the joys of reading and lifelong literacy will be held on September 26 on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., between 7th and 14th Streets (rain or shine). The event is free and open to the public....

Library of Congress, May 26

Help teens get a handle on their health

Joseph Wilk writes: "Whether teens have been chronically ill all their life or are just starting to get that weird tingle in the back of their throat, there are reasons to make sure that they get the kind of health care they need.



Unfortunately, there are some traps that can keep them from visiting a doctor, including lack of health care and lack of inclination. A number of great online resources exist to get teens through cold season, as well as any other health issues they might be battling."...

YALSA Blog, May 22

Ethiopia Reads in Colorado

The Aurora (Colo.) Public Library celebrated Ethiopian Children's Book Week May 9 with a visit from Queen Helina, "queen of all donkeys" and mistress of the Donkey Mobile Library (right). Cosponsored by



[Ethiopia Reads](#), an organization that is planting children's libraries in Ethiopia, the event featured traditional arts and crafts, face painting, a fashion show, and a dance performance representing all regions of the country....

[The wider world and the library ecosystem](#)

Wendy Stephens writes: "It is the time of the school year when high school librarians, like teachers, are simultaneously the most proud and the most anxious. As the band strikes up Elgar, we can't help but wonder. Have we inculcated our college-bound seniors against the temptations of cut-and-paste and other digitally mediated forms of intellectual dishonesty? Have we managed to pass along the requisite media and online information literacy skills our students will need to function in a flat and networked society?"...

AASL Blog, May 22

[A manga library at Animazement](#)

Lindsey Dunn writes: "Animazement is a large anime/manga con that is held each year in the Raleigh area. Last year, the Wake County (N.C.) Libraries had an outreach table where we advertised what the libraries had to offer for anime fans. This year, Animazement contacted us in early spring to ask if we wanted to sponsor their first ever manga library. Of course, we said yes. This was a great opportunity to continue our outreach to this crowd. If you have a local con, find out if you can sponsor a manga library. It's a great outreach, and the fans will appreciate it."...

YALSA Blog, May 25



[What if the Google settlement fails?](#)

Andrew Richard Albanese writes: "The solution to what began in 2005 as a simple copyright question is now a complex blueprint for an entirely new digital book business, a \$125-million legal puzzle that involves a dizzying array of moving parts: thousands of authors, millions of titles and editions, libraries, public interest issues, murky copyright law, orphan works and even the creation of a new, central rights-granting authority in the U.S., the Book Rights Registry. One notable thing the settlement doesn't do, however, is address the original claim in the suits—whether Google's scanning of library books to create an online index is legal."...

Publishers Weekly, May 25

[10 cool niche social networks](#)

Sean Ludwig writes: "Instead of joining yet another Facebook group, why not try a niche social network? There are lots of them out there for just about every interest, and they are constantly being added to. Companies have launched sites for the [LGBT community](#), [bookworms](#), and [dog lovers](#). There are also services such as [Ning](#), which allows individual users to create their own social networks—so far more than a million individual networks have been built with it. Here are 10 niches you might consider joining."...

PC Magazine, May 25



[Digital scholarly communication](#) (PDF file)

Nancy L. Maron and K. Kirby Smith write: "The networked digital environment has enabled the creation of new works that are accessible to end users directly. The decentralized distribution of these new resources can make it difficult to fully appreciate their range and number, even for academic librarians tasked with being familiar with valuable resources across the disciplines. In spring 2008, the Association of Research Libraries engaged Ithaka to help survey the broader landscape of online resources currently in use by

the scholarly community. This report describes some of the ways in which scholarly communication is occurring in a digital world."...

Research Library Issues, no. 263 (Apr.): 10–20

Tenure in a digital era

Even as the use of electronic media has become common across fields for research and teaching, what is taken for granted among young scholars is still foreign to many of those who sit on tenure and promotion committees. So many tenure decisions have been made on the basis of assuming that a university press has a sound peer review system that tenure has been outsourced, some say. Now, new models of scholarship are forcing these committees to closely consider how they know a candidate is producing good work....

Inside Higher Ed, May 26

[Go back to the Top](#)

AL Direct, May 27, 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 | May 27, 2009

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

[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

U.S. & World News

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Education reform won't spare Washington school librarians

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2009/may2009/bellevueslmscuts052709.cfm>]

Basic education reform came to the state of Washington May 19 with the signing by Gov. Christine Gregoire of a bill (PDF file [<http://apps.leg.wa.gov/documents/billdocs/2009-10/Pdf/Bills/House%20Passed%20Legislature/2261-S.PL.pdf>]) that adds a credentialed, but not necessarily funded, teacher-librarian in every K–12 school to the definition of what constitutes a basic education. The timing was wrought with irony, however: Several weeks earlier lawmakers had responded to the nation's ongoing economic crisis by slashing \$1 billion in state aid to education for FY2010, triggering the reduction in force of several thousand teachers—among them school librarians—in Bellevue and elsewhere in Washington State....

American Libraries Online, May 27

[<http://ppllegacy.blogspot.com/2009/04/heart-of-realm.html>] Providence Central Library loses city funding
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2009/may2009/ppldealmade52209.cfm>]
The Providence (R.I.) Public Library board approved May 21 an FY2010 operating budget for the Central Library that is devoid of any municipal support. PPL trustees announced the plan nearly a month after the 131-year-old nonprofit Providence Public Library ceded control of its nine branch libraries to the City of Providence, which in turn will hand over [<http://libraryreformgroup.wordpress.com/2009/05/10/press-release/>] their management to the Providence Community Library July 1....
American Libraries Online, May 22

ALA News

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Tell us how to Get a Job
[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/may2009/getajob_apa.cfm]
In preparing a new web-based toolkit called Get a Job!, ALA is looking for stories and advice on what to do and what not to do to find employment, particularly in this economy. Employers and consultants can share words of wisdom about what a candidate has done to impress them. New employees can share their best tactics in landing a job. Email [<mailto:jgrady@ala.org>] your best tips and anecdotes for possible inclusion on the website by June 5....

Chapters pass resolutions honoring Judith Krug
[<http://www.oif.ala.org/oif/?p=279>]
At least 35 ALA state and regional chapters have passed resolutions saluting “the life and legacy” of Judith F. Krug, founding director of the ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom. The resolutions detail her extensive accomplishments and multitude of awards, and make special note of the “practical assistance and unstinting support” Krug provided to librarians facing challenges to intellectual freedom in their communities....
OIF Blog, May 21

Federal Writers’ Project programming
[<http://programminglibrarian.org/blog/federal-writers-project-programming-resource.html>]
The Public Programs Office is currently coordinating a project with 30 libraries around the United States called “Soul of a People: Writing America’s Story” on the writers and researchers of the Federal Writers’ Project. In the 1930s, the FWP produced the renowned American Guides series (right) for each state, transcribed interviews with ordinary Americans, interviewed former slaves, and collected folktales and regional recipes. PPO has created an online Soul of a People Site Support Notebook, [<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/ppo/programming/soulpeople/soulssn.cfm>] which any library interested in presenting programs on the Writers’ Project is welcome to use....
Programming Librarian, May 22

How do ALA Membership Meetings work?

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

The ALA Membership Meetings at Annual Conference are an opportunity for members to make things happen. Members can bring issues important to libraries and librarians to the floor and decide how they might be addressed within ALA. Members present can change the proposed agendas at any time, and any member may speak on any topic by standing at a microphone....

A fresh look at genre fiction

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/may2009/saricks_editions.cfm]

Joyce G. Saricks's Readers' Advisory Guide to Genre Fiction

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

in a revised edition by ALA Editions. The guide supplies a way to understand the vast universe of genre fiction in an easy-to-use format.

Legendary readers' advisory expert Saricks offers groundbreaking reconsideration of the connections among genres and describes key authors and themes within 15 varied genres....

Licensing digital content

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/may2009/digitalcontent_editions.cfm]

ALA Editions has released a second edition of Licensing Digital Content: A Practical Guide for Librarians

[<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2630>] by Lesley Ellen Harris.

The new edition updates the basics of digital licensing for librarians in a plain-language approach that demystifies the process. Written from the librarian's perspective, this guide updates licensing terminology and changes in technology, and explains how to educate organizations that have signed license agreements....

Poets and authors LIVE! at Annual Conference

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/may2009/poetsandauthorslive_ppo.cfm]

The Public Programs Office will present 25 critically-acclaimed and best-selling authors

[<http://ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/ppo/about/ac2009/ac2009-livestage.cfm>]

on the LIVE! @ your library Reading Stage, from noon to 4 p.m., July 11–13, in the exhibits hall at ALA Annual Conference in Chicago.

Attendees are welcome to take a break from their busy conference schedules and listen to authors and poets read from and autograph their recent works. Located in the back of the 3200 aisle in the exhibits hall, the reading stage is free for all conference attendees....

Featured review: Media

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=3440376]

Polly's GlobalWalk. Dec. 2008. 108 min. Newcastle, DVD.

On August 1, 1999, Polly Letofsky left Colorado on a dual mission to become the first woman to walk around the world and to raise funds for

breast cancer research. Five years and 14,124 miles later, she completed her journey and raised more than \$250,000. This very personal, inspiring film records Polly's trek on a road that isn't always smooth. The foundation she formed to support her trip falters; she is in a Muslim country (Malaysia) on 9/11 and learns about the horrific events from biased media; European countries are not as receptive as she expected. Yet support comes from surprising sources....

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

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/publishing/booklinks/index.cfm>]
supplement

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/may2009/booklinks_publishing.cfm]

Book Links magazine is on the move; starting in October it will be published as a quarterly print supplement to Booklist, at no additional cost to subscribers, rather than as a stand-alone magazine. Book Links' editorial focus and original content, popular for nearly 20 years, will continue to fulfill the mission of connecting children with books and related media. Book Links content will also appear in Booklist Online, further enriching the site and database as a resource for school and youth librarians....

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

Chicago Update

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27 things to do before a conference

[<http://www.chrisbrogan.com/27-things-to-do-before-a-conference/>]

Chris Brogan writes: "If you're attending an event over the next several months, you might give some thought to a quick checklist that might help you better accomplish your goals. I'll list a bunch of ideas, and you can just narrow it down to what you think works best for you. I should note that this post presumes we're talking about more modern conferences and/or events where people might be even vaguely connected to the internet." (Yes, that includes ALA Annual Conference.)...

Chris Brogan, Mar. 13

Chicago Architecture Foundation tours

[<http://www.architecture.org/tours.aspx>]

The Chicago Architecture Foundation offers some of the best tours in the city that are dedicated to increasing the public's understanding of architecture and design. There are many available around the Annual Conference dates,

[http://www.architecture.org/tour_search_results.aspx?TourStartDate=7/1/2009&TourEndDate=7/31/2009] so plan ahead and book early. The

 Companion Bus Tour,

[http://www.architecture.org/tour_view.aspx?TourID=117] based on Erik Larson's bestselling book about the World's Columbian Exposition of 1893, is offered on July 7 and 9, while walking tours and the popular river

cruise take place every day....
Chicago Architecture Foundation

Chicago ghost tours [<http://www.chicagohauntings.com/>]
Folklore and history come alive as native Chicago ghost hunters lead you on an intriguing excursion through haunted Chicago, searching for Resurrection Mary, Al Capone, John Dillinger, and dozens of other Windy City ghosts. The tour is based on the work of lifelong Chicagoan, historian, and paranormal researcher Ursula Bielski—author of six books on ghostly Chicago, including Chicago Haunts. Summer tours run Tuesday through Saturday at 7 p.m. and meet at 600 N. Clark Street....
Chicago Hauntings Tours

Division News

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Gail Kennedy elected LLAMA president
[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/may2009/kennedy_llama.cfm]
Gail A. Kennedy, director of the Lucille Little Fine Arts Library at the University of Kentucky, has been elected vice-president/president-elect of LLAMA. Active in the division's Buildings and Equipment Section, Kennedy currently chairs the Interior Design Awards Committee and was a mentor for new librarians in LLAMA's mentoring program....

RUSA events at Annual Conference
[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/may2009/annualguide_rusa.cfm]
A comprehensive guide to RUSA programming and events at the upcoming ALA Annual Conference in Chicago is now available for download (PDF file [<http://rusa.ala.org/media/rusa09annual.pdf>]). The guide lists all RUSA preconferences and programs, including the popular Literary Tastes Breakfast....

ACRL sets strategic priorities
[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/may2009/strategicpriorities_acrl.cfm]
The ACRL board of directors has adopted a set of six strategic priorities designed to continue the association's forward progress over the next five years. At the recent ACRL 14th National Conference in Seattle, the board reviewed the Charting Our Future: ACRL Strategic Plan 2020 [<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/about/whatisacrl/strategicplan/index.cfm>] document, taking into consideration progress to date, member needs, and external factors. As a result, the board identified six strategic objectives as priorities for 2009–2013....

The Kaleidoscopic Concern
[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/may2009/kaleidoscopic_acrl.cfm]
ACRL has released a new digital publication, The Kaleidoscopic Concern by Kaetrena D. Davis-Kendrick. This annotated bibliography on racial and ethnic diversity in librarianship focuses on such areas of study as gender issues and white privilege with regard to racial minority and

ethnic librarians. It can be downloaded for free from the ACRL website
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/publications/digital/>]....

ACRL Springboard Event

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/may2009/springboard_acrl.cfm]

ACRL is offering its second annual Springboard Event—a live, interactive webcast free of charge to ACRL members—from 12:00 noon to 1:15 p.m. Central time, June 3. Clifford Lynch, director of the Coalition for Networked Information, will share “some things that keep me awake at night,” including cultural memory in an age of economic instability and the migration of vast amounts of personal history and activity to the digital environment. Register
[<http://www.acrl.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/events/springboard.cfm>] online by May 29....

Author events at the AASL conference

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/may2009/pitstop_aasl.cfm]

One of the most requested things at AASL conferences has been more author events. Taking place November 5–8 in Charlotte, North Carolina, this year’s National Conference will feature “The Pit Stop,” with more than 20 regional authors on hand to mingle with participants. Guests will have the opportunity to talk one-on-one with the authors, hear plans for their newest books, and perhaps get some inspiration or advice for penning their own best-sellers....

ALSC Kids! campaign also targets tweens

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/may2009/phase2kidscampaign_alsc.cfm]

Phase two of the ALSC Kids! @ your library public awareness campaign, which officially launches July 12, focuses on tools to help librarians promote library services to kids in Grades 5–8. All campaign resources are free and available for download

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/alsc/initiatives/kidscampaign/index.cfm>]

....

YALSA’s 2010 symposium theme

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/may2009/2010symposiumtheme_yalsa.cfm]

YALSA has chosen “Beyond Good Intentions: Diversity, Literature, and Teens” as the theme for its 2010 Young Adult Literature Symposium, sponsored in part by the William C. Morris Endowment. In addition, the division has opened its call for preconference proposals, program proposals, and paper presentations for the symposium, which will take place in Albuquerque, New Mexico, November 5–7, 2010....

A YALSA online chat on the economy

[<http://yalsa.ala.org/blog/2009/05/22/4515/>]

Join YALSA on June 9 for a discussion about the impact of the recession on library workers who serve teens and how the association might provide support to its members in this economic climate. YALSA President Sarah Debraski will convene the discussion at 8:00 p.m. Eastern time in YALSA’s space on ALA Connect. YALSA members can log in to Connect

using their regular ALA website username and password....
YALSA Blog, May 22

Archived L4L webinars available

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/may2009/14lwebinarsarchive_aasl.cfm]

AASL's popular L4L webinars are now available for purchase in archived format.

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/aasl/conferencesandevents/14lwebinars/14lwebinararchive.cfm>]

The webinars, offered in April during School Library Media Month, are part of Learning4Life, the division's national initiative to implement "Standards for the 21st-Century Learner" and "Empowering Learners: Guidelines for School Library Media Programs." If purchased before July 1, AASL will offer a buy three, get one free deal....

Round Table News

EMIERT cofounder turns 100 [<http://librarian.lishost.org/?p=2434>]
David Cohen, professor emeritus at the Queens College Graduate School of Library and Information Studies and 2007 ALA Honorary Member, turned 100 years old [<http://www.qgazette.com/news/2009/0415/features/009.html>] on May 24. He was cofounder of the Ethnic Material and Information Exchange Round Table, founding editor of the EMIE Bulletin, and sponsor of the EMIERT David Cohen Multicultural Award....
Librarian, May 21; Queens (N.Y.) Gazette, Apr. 15

Awards

2009 RBMS Leab Exhibition Awards

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/may2009/rbmsleab_acrl.cfm]

The ACRL Rare Books and Manuscripts Section has selected five winners and one honorable mention for the 2009 Katharine Kyes Leab and Daniel J. Leab American Book Prices Current Exhibition Awards. The awards, funded by an endowment established by the Leabs, recognize outstanding exhibition catalogues issued by American or Canadian institutions. The Division One (expensive) winner is China on Paper: European and Chinese Works from the Late Sixteenth to the Early Nineteenth Century, submitted by the Getty Research Institute....

2009 GODORT awards

[http://wikis.ala.org/godort/index.php/Announcing_the_2009_GODORT_Awards_Winners]

The Government Documents Round Table presents three major awards to recognize achievements by documents librarians, a research grant designed to encourage participation in professional study or publication, and a scholarship for those pursuing a library science degree. This year's winners are Andrea Severson (right), Daniel Cornwall, Eleanor Chase, Aimée Quinn, and Justin Joque....

2009 BRASS Emerald Research Award winner

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

Ann Manning Fiegen, business librarian at California State University, San Marcos, has been selected as a recipient of the 2009 Emerald Research Award. Administered by the RUSA Business Reference and Services Section and sponsored by Emerald Publishing Group, the grant provides \$5,000 in support of proposed research in the field of business reference. Fiegen proposed a systematic literature review of research methods and best practices for business instruction in academic libraries....

Books for Babies grants awarded

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/may2009/book-sforbabies_altaff.cfm]

In partnership with Nordstrom, ALTAFF has awarded 10 grants for \$500 each to match \$1,000 raised by selected Friends of the Library groups, women's groups, libraries, and other nonprofit organizations for purchasing Books for Babies kits from ALTAFF. A total of 2,025 English kits and 325 Spanish kits will be distributed to parents of newborns through these grants. An additional 10 matching grants will be awarded in October with an application deadline of October 1....

LITA Student Writing Award winner

[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/may2009/exlibrisstudentwinner_lita.cfm]

T. Michael Silver, currently enrolled in the School of Library and Information Studies at the University of Alberta, has been named the winner of the 2009 LITA Ex Libris Student Writing Award. Silver's paper, entitled "Monitoring Network and Service Availability with Open-Source Software," describes a network monitoring system that automatically alerts library systems administrators if a service interruption occurs....

Alice Munro wins 2009 Man Booker Prize

[<http://www.guardian.co.uk/books/2009/may/27/alice-munro-man-booker-international-prize>]

Canadian short-story author Alice Munro has emerged victorious from a clash of the world's literary giants to win the £60,000 (\$94,900 U.S.) Man Booker International prize. The 77-year-old writer was picked from a lineup of towering international talent that included V. S. Naipaul, Mario Vargas Llosa, Peter Carey, and Joyce Carol Oates. The prize is granted once every two years in recognition of a living author who has made an outstanding contribution to world literature. Munro's spare, quiet stories of small-town life have won her a host of literary awards....

The Guardian (U.K.), May 27

2009 Angus Book Award [<http://www.angus.gov.uk/bookaward/winner2009.htm>]

Author Anne Cassidy has won the 2009 Angus Book Award for *Forget Me Not* (Scholastic, 2008)—a sympathetic and compelling narrative that reveals the hidden secrets behind two abductions. Cassidy was presented with her trophy, a miniature replica of the Aberlemno Serpent Stone (right), and the £500 (\$800 U.S.) prize at a May 19 ceremony in Forfar, Scotland. This

annual award for best new paperback YA novel written by a UK author is voted on by third-year students in Angus secondary schools....
Angus Council

Seen Online

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Basic reading skills and adult literacy
[<http://www.csmonitor.com/2009/0507/p02s01-usgn.html>]
A new report [<http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2009481>]
from the National Center for Education Statistics shows that about 30 million people—14% of the U.S. population 16 and older—have trouble with basic reading and writing. Of these, 7 million are considered nonliterate in English because their reading abilities are so low. Correlating factors include poverty, ethnicity, native language background, and disabilities. The findings suggest that a lack of basic reading skills (oral fluency and decoding unfamiliar words) is a key problem....
Christian Science Monitor, May 7

Bill would fund internet safety education
[<http://www.eschoolnews.com/news/top-news/index.cfm?i=58881>]
A New Jersey lawmaker has introduced internet safety legislation that, if passed, would authorize roughly \$175 million—\$35 million a year for five years—for internet safety education and training to help make children, parents, and educators aware of proper online behavior and the dangers the internet poses. The School and Family Education about the Internet (SAFE Internet) Act, sponsored by Sen. Robert Menendez (D-N.J.), would create a grant program to support existing and new internet safety programs....
eSchool News, May 26

YALSA book list too salacious for Tennessee
[<http://www.tennessean.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20090520/1308/COUNTY09/90520032>]
An online list of best books for young adults
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/yalsa/booklistsawards/bestbooksya/09bbya.cfm>] chosen by ALA's Young Adult Library Services Association has been removed from Williamson County, Tennessee, school websites for being too "salacious" for students. Every year the district puts together a recommended summer reading list, and this year Ravenwood and Brentwood high school websites included a link to the YALSA list. But at least one parent and one school board member found some selections inappropriate....
Nashville Tennessean, May 20

Binghamton school library gets a big upgrade
[<http://www.pressconnects.com/article/20090525/NEWS01/905250357/1116/School+library+gets+a++230+000+update>]
Elizabeth Wallace has three words to describe the old library at East Middle School in Binghamton, New York: "kind of boring." But that was before the school used a \$230,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Education to add more than 20,000 books and purchase laptop computers, furnishings, and other equipment. Now the library is a good place to do

research, said the 15-year-old 8th grader. Applying for the grant was the idea of Media Specialist Gail Wellman....

Binghamton (N.Y.) Press and Sun-Bulletin, May 25

Librarian transformed into human popcorn ball

[<http://www.wapt.com/news/19533439/detail.html>]

Students at John Hopkins Elementary School in Jackson, Mississippi, got a sweet reward from their librarian May 21. Melissa Strauss said she promised she would “become a human popcorn ball” if students read 10 million words in library books during the school year. They did, and students poured syrup on Strauss before she rolled in a plastic pool filled with popcorn....

WAPT-TV, Jackson, Miss., May 21

Green Bay libraries proctor tests

[<http://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/article/20090526/GPG0101/905260512/1207/GPG01/Libraries+take+on+new+roles++proctor+exams>]

The Brown County Library in Green Bay, Wisconsin, is now helping people take college or employment tests. It’s called proctoring when a library employee oversees the testing process, then mails the results to the college or business. The increase in unemployment and online college programs has more people taking work-aptitude tests and college exams....

Green Bay (Wis.) Press-Gazette, May 26

Towns fill budget gaps with surplus library funds

[http://www.northjersey.com/entertainment/books/Towns_fill_budget_gaps_with_surplus_library_funds.html]

New Jersey towns scrambling to plug budget holes are dipping into a new well—their libraries’ surplus funds. Under a state law passed a year ago, they are asking municipal libraries to sign over part of their surpluses to ease the property-tax burden at a time when library use is burgeoning. But some libraries are reluctant to give up their hard-won savings, saying they need that money for new programs and unexpected expenses, especially as the recession creates greater demand for their services....

Bergen (N.J.) Record, May 22

Carrboro wants its branch

[<http://www.carrborocitizen.com/main/2009/05/21/town-wants-library-to-stay/>]

As county commissioners prepare to open public hearings on a budget that calls for the closing of the Carrboro branch of the Orange County (N.C.) Public Library, town aldermen are joining with library supporters to officially oppose the move. Mayor Mark Chilton said he hopes strong community support will underline the importance of the branch to the town. The county wants to close the Carrboro and Cedar Grove branches and shift employees to a new main library in downtown Hillsborough to avoid \$250,000 in new personnel costs....

Carrboro (N.C.) Citizen, May 21

Iredell County saves positions, Girl Talk

[<http://www2.statesville.com/content/2009/may/26/library-change-saves-girl-talk-program/>]

Members of the Girl Talk group gathered in a private room at the Iredell

County (N.C.) Public Library for what was supposed to be one of their last meetings. After county officials announced that a revenue shortfall would force budget cuts, some were concerned that the Girl Talk group's days were numbered. The group, which meets once a week, targets girls from 11 to 17 years old. But things have now changed. County officials decided not to eliminate the 16 part-time positions that had been slated to be cut June 1....

Statesville (N.C.) Record and Landmark, May 27

Broward County branches threatened

[http://www.sun-sentinel.com/community/news/deerfield_beach/sfl-library-closure-deerfield-b052sbmay26,0,7247907.story]

Budget cuts in Broward County, Florida, could mean the end of the Century Plaza branch (right) where 3,800 patrons of all ages visit each week.

Century Village residents collected 1,400 signatures to protest the possible closure, one of seven branches threatened as county officials weigh a \$160-million spending reduction. The 2,000-member Friends of the Broward County Library is launching a protest campaign of 10,000 postcards to commissioners about the seven threatened branches....

Fort Lauderdale South Florida Sun-Sentinel, May 26

Nahant library's machine gun moves to Tennessee

[http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2009/05/26/a_last_hurrah_for_a_war_souvenir_with_a_storied_past/]

Residents of Nahant, Massachusetts, lined the main thoroughfare May 25 for a Memorial Day parade that featured the farewell appearance of a World War I machine gun that was part of the town's victory parade for returning soldiers in 1919. The gun, which war hero Alvin York seized from the Germans in a legendary raid behind enemy lines, was brought to Nahant by a local Army clerk who had snatched it as a souvenir.

Rediscovered in the attic of the Nahant Public Library in 2003, the gun is now getting delivered to the Museum of Appalachia in Clinton, Tennessee, in return for a \$10,000 donation....

Boston Globe, May 26

treasures

[<http://www.suntimes.com/news/metro/1593533,CST-NWS-defender27.article>]

It's the largest and most significant collection of historical materials on the nation's black press to be acquired by any American library. The Chicago Public Library unveiled May 27 the Abbott-Sengstacke Family Papers—a rare archive providing a sweeping look into the legacy of one of the nation's most prominent black newspapers, the Chicago Defender—spanning more than 130 years. Available to the public for the first time are some 4,000 unpublished photographs, 100 home movies, and reams of correspondence with ordinary people, politicians, and U.S. presidents by the newspaper's founders....

Chicago Sun-Times, May 27

Stolen Andrew Jackson letter found

[<http://www.knoxnews.com/news/2009/may/26/jacksons-stolen-letter-found/>]

A stolen letter written by President Andrew Jackson in 1824 has been recovered, thanks to the keen eye of University of Tennessee Assistant Professor Tom Coens. The letter, offered for sale at an auction website, was a familiar one to Coens, who is also assistant editor of UT's Papers

of Andrew Jackson project. He had seen a copy recently when he borrowed a microfilm from the New York State Library that included the letter, one of the documents stolen by former state archivist Daniel Lorello, who is serving two to six years in prison for grand larceny....
Knoxville (Tenn.) News Sentinel, May 26

Librarian resigns over auctioned painting

[<http://www.rutlandherald.com/article/20090522/NEWS04/905220377/1002/NEWS01>]

The director of the Proctor (Vt.) Free Library has resigned after admitting to taking a 95-year-old painting from the library and selling it at auction. Trustees have decided not to press charges against Mary Brough, who sold the Jessie Wilcox Smith painting Curly Locks, part of the library's collection since the 1940s, through an auction house for \$96,600. The artwork and the proceeds were both recovered after an investigation by state police....
Rutland (Vt.) Herald, May 22

Job seekers line up at library computers

[http://www.oregonlive.com/portland/index.ssf/2009/05/job_seekers_without_internet_a.html]

When Regina Alilat got laid off in April, it felt like the lights had gone out. Like four in every 10 Americans, Alilat has no computer at home in a country where nearly everything happens on the web. Along with thousands in the Portland, Oregon, metro area, the former administrative assistant has turned to the only place she knows where she can easily access computers for free: the Multnomah County Library. Yet the library's computer resources are stretched thin with the rising demand....
Portland Oregonian, May 21

Fiber-optic internet for public libraries

[<http://broadbandcensus.com/2009/05/fiber-fed-libraries-can-serve-as-agent-of-digital-recovery/>]

Extending fiber-optic internet service to public libraries would help increase the demand for super-high-speed internet at home, one broadband expert says. Speaking at a May 21 forum at the Information Technology and Innovation Foundation, Don Means, cofounder of consulting firm Digital Village Associates, outlined his proposal to extend high-speed connectivity to all 16,500 public libraries in the country. Means said the federal e-rate program could provide libraries with start-up funding....
Broadband Census, May 21

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Tech Talk

Google offers Web Elements for easy news feeds

[http://news.cnet.com/8301-17939_109-10249542-2.html]

Google has made it easier for novice web publishers to spruce up their sites with feeds of Google's products. Google Web Elements [<http://www.google.com/webelements>], unveiled May 27 at the Google I/O

developer conference in San Francisco, is an easy cut-and-paste way to add a Google News feed, for example, to a web page. Eight feeds are available at first, with more possibly to come over the next several months....

Webware, May 27

[<http://www.mapbuilder.net/>] Create cool maps with these apps

[http://news.cnet.com/8301-17939_109-10243139-2.html]

Don Riesinger writes: “Google Maps is dynamic. Making customized maps [<http://news.cnet.com/12-totally-awesome-google-maps/>] through the service isn’t very difficult. But there are a variety of third-party tools on the web that help you create fully customized Google Maps mashups. From Flickr geotag integration to wedding event mapping to just doodling, you can do it all.”...

Webware, May 19

New Chrome loads JavaScript faster

[http://download.cnet.com/8301-2007_4-10247900-12.html?tag=mncol;title]

Seth Rosenblatt writes: “Chrome version 2.0.172.28

[http://download.cnet.com/Google-Chrome/3000-2356_4-10881381.html] was touted by Google as being up to 30% faster for handling JavaScript. After using the update to the stable release extensively for the past day and running it through two JavaScript tests on two computers, it’s conclusively faster than the previous stable version of Chrome. Also new in this version of Chrome is the F11 hot key to toggle full screen mode, which drops all hints of the browser frame except for the scroll bars—but only if they’re appearing on that site in standard mode.

There’s also a new form autofill. ...

Download Blog, May 22

How to create custom Twitter backgrounds

[<http://mashable.com/2009/05/23/twitter-backgrounds/>]

Ben Parr writes: “Since the early days of Twitter, users have had the ability to upload their own background images. If you’re new to Twitter, or just never took the time to create your own Twitter background, this guide is for you. It goes step-by-step into the rationale for creating a personalized Twitter background, takes a look at some amazing Twitter designers, and provides a list of useful Twitter design tools and resources.”...

Mashable, May 23

Geek Chart shows where you share

[<http://lifehacker.com/5262009/geek-chart-graphs-turns-web-activity-into-a-pie-chart>]

If you’re looking for a novel way to represent and visualize your online persona, Geek Chart [<http://www.geekchart.com/>] takes your activity on popular sites—Twitter, YouTube, Flickr, any blog with an RSS feed, Digg, StumbleUpon, Delicious, and Last.fm—and turns it into an interactive pie chart. Making a chart is free; embedding the chart in your website requires a sign-up for an account....

Lifehacker, May 23

Publishing

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Books on contemporary Japan

[<http://www.nippon-foundation.or.jp/eng/news/20090514BookDonationProject.html>]

The Nippon Foundation is donating “100 Books for Understanding Contemporary Japan” in English to 200–300 libraries throughout North America. The books cover all aspects of Japanese life—politics and international relations, literature, arts, history, society, culture, economics, and business. Academic and public libraries interested in some or all of these books should make a request by June 30....

Nippon Foundation

E-books are ugly, but it’s not the fonts

[<http://www.teleread.org/2009/05/20/ebooks-are-ugly-but-its-not-the-fonts/>]

Joshua Tallent writes: “The real problem with e-book design is not the Kindle or the Mobipocket format, nor is it the lack of beautiful typography and new cover images. The real problem is how e-books on the whole are created today. The majority of publishers are not prepared to create e-books in house, so they send the PDFs off to outsourcing vendors in India. Often the out-of-house formatters will introduce errors into the e-books that were not present in the print books, or scan images with little regard for their size or resolution.”...

TeleRead, May 20

Secrets of the abstracting industry

[<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/05/24/magazine/24labor-t.html?pagewanted=5>]

Matthew B. Crawford writes: “In the early 1990s, I landed a job in the Bay Area writing brief summaries of academic journal articles, which were then sold on CD-ROMs to subscribing libraries. Some of this stuff was simply incomprehensible to anyone but an expert in the particular field covered by the journal. My job was structured on the supposition that in writing an abstract of an article there is a method that merely needs to be applied, and that this can be done without understanding the text. In some of the titles I was assigned, articles began with an abstract written by the author. But even in such cases I was to write my own.”...

New York Times, May 21

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[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

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Actions & Answers

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Transparency and open government

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=2959>]

Four months have passed since President Obama signed a memo on transparency and open government (PDF file

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/wp-content/uploads/2009/01/obama-tr>

ansparency-memo.pdf]). On May 21, the Office of Science and Technology Policy began a process to allow the public to participate in creating recommendations that the chief technology officer of the Office of Management and Budget and the General Services Administration will make that will inform an open-government directive. An OSTP website [<http://www.whitehouse.gov/open/>] explains the process where comments can be submitted. More than 60 open-government organizations, including ALA, had called on the administration May 18 (PDF file [<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/wp-content/uploads/2009/05/ogd-open-process-final.pdf>]) to get the process going....
District Dispatch, May 22

Obamas to chair National Book Festival
[<http://www.loc.gov/today/pr/2009/09-107.html>]
President Barack Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama will serve as honorary chairs of the 2009 National Book Festival, organized and sponsored by the Library of Congress. Now in its ninth year, this popular event celebrating the joys of reading and lifelong literacy will be held on September 26 on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., between 7th and 14th Streets (rain or shine). The event is free and open to the public....
Library of Congress, May 26

Help teens get a handle on their health
[<http://yalsa.ala.org/blog/2009/05/22/help-teens-get-a-handle-on-their-health/>]
Joseph Wilk writes: "Whether teens have been chronically ill all their life or are just starting to get that weird tingle in the back of their throat, there are reasons to make sure that they get the kind of health care they need. Unfortunately, there are some traps that can keep them from visiting a doctor, including lack of health care and lack of inclination. A number of great online resources exist to get teens through cold season, as well as any other health issues they might be battling."...
YALSA Blog, May 22

Ethiopia Reads in Colorado [http://www.ethiopiareads.org/bw_landing.htm]
The Aurora (Colo.) Public Library celebrated Ethiopian Children's Book Week May 9 with a visit from Queen Helina, "queen of all donkeys" and mistress of the Donkey Mobile Library (right). Cosponsored by Ethiopia Reads, [<http://www.ethiopiareads.org>] an organization that is planting children's libraries in Ethiopia, the event featured traditional arts and crafts, face painting, a fashion show, and a dance performance representing all regions of the country....

The wider world and the library ecosystem
[<http://www.aasl.ala.org/aaslblog/?p=523>]
Wendy Stephens writes: "It is the time of the school year when high school librarians, like teachers, are simultaneously the most proud and the most anxious. As the band strikes up Elgar, we can't help but wonder. Have we inculcated our college-bound seniors against the temptations of cut-and-paste and other digitally mediated forms of intellectual dishonesty? Have we managed to pass along the requisite media and online information literacy skills our students will need to function in a flat and networked society?"...

AASL Blog, May 22

A manga library at Animazement

[<http://yalsa.ala.org/blog/2009/05/25/how-to-sponsor-a-manga-library-at-an-anime-con/>]

Lindsey Dunn writes: “Animazement is a large anime/manga con that is held each year in the Raleigh area. Last year, the Wake County (N.C.)

Libraries had an outreach table where we advertised what the libraries had to offer for anime fans. This year, Animazement contacted us in early spring to ask if we wanted to sponsor their first ever manga library. Of course, we said yes. This was a great opportunity to continue our outreach to this crowd. If you have a local con, find out if you can sponsor a manga library. It’s a great outreach, and the fans will appreciate it.”...

YALSA Blog, May 25

What if the Google settlement fails?

[<http://www.publishersweekly.com/article/CA6660295.html>]

Andrew Richard Albanese writes: “The solution to what began in 2005 as a simple copyright question is now a complex blueprint for an entirely new digital book business, a \$125-million legal puzzle that involves a dizzying array of moving parts: thousands of authors, millions of titles and editions, libraries, public interest issues, murky copyright law, orphan works and even the creation of a new, central rights-granting authority in the U.S., the Book Rights Registry. One notable thing the settlement doesn’t do, however, is address the original claim in the suits—whether Google’s scanning of library books to create an online index is legal.”...

Publishers Weekly, May 25

[<http://www.mugglespace.com/>] 10 cool niche social networks

[<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2347584,00.asp>]

Sean Ludwig writes: “Instead of joining yet another Facebook group, why not try a niche social network? There are lots of them out there for just about every interest, and they are constantly being added to. Companies have launched sites for the LGBT community, [<http://www.quee.com/>] bookworms, [<http://www.shelfari.com/>] and dog lovers.

[<http://www.mydogspace.com/>] There are also services such as Ning, [<http://www.ning.com/>] which allows individual users to create their own social networks—so far more than a million individual networks have been built with it. Here are 10 niches you might consider joining.”...

PC Magazine, May 25

Digital scholarly communication

[<http://www.arl.org/bm~doc/rli-263-ithaka.pdf>] (PDF file)

Nancy L. Maron and K. Kirby Smith write: “The networked digital environment has enabled the creation of new works that are accessible to end users directly. The decentralized distribution of these new resources can make it difficult to fully appreciate their range and number, even for academic librarians tasked with being familiar with valuable resources across the disciplines. In spring 2008, the Association of Research Libraries engaged Ithaka to help survey the broader landscape of online resources currently in use by the scholarly community. This report describes some of the ways in which scholarly communication is occurring

in a digital world.”...

Research Library Issues, no. 263 (Apr.): 10–20

Tenure in a digital era

[<http://www.insidehighered.com/news/2009/05/26/digital>]

Even as the use of electronic media has become common across fields for research and teaching, what is taken for granted among young scholars is still foreign to many of those who sit on tenure and promotion committees. So many tenure decisions have been made on the basis of assuming that a university press has a sound peer review system that tenure has been outsourced, some say. Now, new models of scholarship are forcing these committees to closely consider how they know a candidate is producing good work....

Inside Higher Ed, May 26

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edition.unsubscribeLink %>](#)]

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

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

ALA Annual Conference,

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

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

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/2009/specialevents.cfm#scholarshipbash>] July 11, at 7:00 p.m. This is your chance to discover new works of art and visit your favorites without fighting the crowds because the building will only open to those who buy a ticket to the Bash. Don’t miss this fun interactive evening with music, food, and the most acclaimed French Impressionist collection in the United States. Tickets are \$40 in advance and \$45 onsite. All proceeds go toward ALA library school scholarships.

[<http://alatechsource.metapress.com/home/main.mpx>]

ALA TechSource, publisher of Library Technology Reports and Smart Libraries newsletter, has launched a new website

[<http://alatechsource.metapress.com/home/main.mpx>] that gives readers unprecedented access to current and back issues. This new platform, designed and hosted by MetaPress (an EBSCO company), allows readers to purchase and download Library Technology Reports in both PDF and full-text HTML format, with all issues fully searchable. NEW! From ALA

Publishing.

In this issue
May 2009

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

Judith Krug: The Freedom to Read

Family Storytime

Book Groups the Way Boys Like 'Em

ALA Book and Media Award Winners

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

Education Services Librarian,
[<http://joblist.ala.org/modules/jobseeker/controller.cfm?scr=jobdetail&jobid=13200>] Marriott Library, University of Utah, Salt Lake City. Work with the Education Services librarians and others in an ambitious program to expand information, visual, and technology literacies across the disciplines. The librarian will assist in developing and offering new and innovative ways to teach students. Librarians in Education Services have a passion for teaching and provide stimulating experiences for students as they learn to use library resources and software applications. Library instruction is provided through first year courses, course-integrated instruction across the disciplines, stand-alone workshops, research labs, in-house faculty and staff workshops, and through online resources and services....

[<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://econtent.unm.edu/cdm4/item_viewer.php?CISOROOT=/pictitems&CISOPTR=152&CISOBX=1&REC=15]

The University of New Mexico Libraries hosts New Mexico's Digital Collections. [<http://econtent.unm.edu/about.php>] The collections contain

documents, photographs, maps, posters, art, and music. Topics include New Mexico history, water and land issues, and Latin American art and politics. Participating repositories include the Center for Southwest Research, Fray Angélico Chávez History Library, the Palace of the Governors photo archives, the Silver City Museum, and the Tamarind Institute.

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

“To ask why we need libraries at all, when there is so much information available elsewhere, is about as sensible as asking if roadmaps are necessary now that there are so very many roads.”

—Jon Bing, law professor at the Norwegian Research Center for Computers and Law, University of Oslo.

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

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

Ask the ALA Librarian

[http://viewer.zmags.com/publication/5a2490e9#/5a2490e9/4]

Q. Although I’m now retired, I’ve always been interested in library buildings and recall that the ALA gives an award for library buildings. I’d like to plan a cross-country trip so that I could see some of these. Can you help?

A. ALA, currently through its Library Leadership and Management Association [http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/llama/llama.cfm] division, has collaborated with the American Institute of Architects in presenting the Library Building Awards since the early 1950s. These awards, intended to “encourage excellence in the architectural design and planning of libraries,” are given biennially. The next competition will be in 2011. The 2009 winners were listed in the Spring 2009 American Libraries digital supplement [http://viewer.zmags.com/publication/5a2490e9#/5a2490e9/4] and in a LLAMA press release (PDF file [http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/llama/2009_ala_aia_awards_.pdf]). Previous winners are listed on the LLAMA website.

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/lama/lamaawards/aiaalalibrarybuildings.cfm>] The winners will also be showcased at the upcoming ALA Annual Conference at a program on Monday, July 13. For others who may have to plan a library building, please see the Buildings [<http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Buildings>] page on this wiki and the ALA Library Fact Sheet Number 11: Building Libraries and Library Additions: A Selected Annotated Bibliography. [<http://www.ala.org/library/fact11.html>] From the ALA Professional Tips wiki [http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Award-winning_Library_Buildings].

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

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/issuesadvocacy/advocacy/publicawareness/campaign@yourlibrary/sponsorship/stepup/stepup.cfm>]

This year, libraries help remind fans what makes baseball the great American pastime with Step Up to the Plate @ your library. [http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/may2009/stepupdiversity_campaign.cfm] Step Up to the Plate teams up two American classics, baseball and libraries, to promote the importance of information literacy skills and increase awareness of the library as an essential information resource.

Calendar

June 1–4:

Computers, Freedom, and Privacy Conference,
[http://www.cfp2009.org/wiki/index.php/Main_Page] George Washington University, Washington, D.C. “Creating the Future.”

June 12–14:

Historical Novel Society,
[<http://www.historicalnovelsociety.org/2009/conference.htm>] North American Conference, Hyatt Regency Woodfield, Schaumburg, Illinois.

June 14–17:

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

June 16–19:

Georgia Records Association,
[<http://www.georgiarecords.org/conferences.php>] Spring Conference, Sea Palms, St. Simons Island.

June 20–25:

Association of Seventh-day Adventist Librarians,
[<http://www.asdal.org/conf/index.html>] Annual Conference, Andrews
University, Berrien Springs, Michigan.

June 26:

National Federation of Advanced Information Services,
[http://www.nfais.org/events/event_details.cfm?id=56] Forum, Creese
Student Center, Drexel University, Philadelphia. “Google, the Web, and
the Future Roles of Publishers and Librarians.”

July 5–8:

Association of Jewish Libraries,
[<http://www.jewishlibraries.org/ajlweb/conventions/convention2009.htm>]
Annual Convention, Sheraton Chicago Hotel and Towers, Chicago.
“Empowering Librarians for the 21st Century.”

July 9–15:

ALA Annual Conference,
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/index.cfm>]
McCormick Place, Chicago.

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.”

Sept. 1–5:

DrupalCon Paris, [<http://paris2009.drupalcon.org/>] Maison Internationale,
Cité Internationale Universitaire de Paris.

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. 2:

West Virginia Library Association, [<http://wvla2009.blogspot.com/>] Annual
Conference, Snowshoe Mountain Resort.

Oct. 1–4:

LITA National Forum,
[<http://www.lita.org/ala/mgrps/divs/lita/litaevents/forum2009/index.cfm>]
Salt Lake City, Utah. “Open and Mobile.”

Oct. 18–24:

[<http://www.ala.org/teenread>]“Read Beyond Reality @ your
library.”

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

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