

american libraries DIRECT

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | March 3, 2010

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



American Libraries Online

[Save the library, urge Los Angeles Public Library workers](#)

The union that represents Los Angeles Public Library workers has mounted a campaign to stave off an anticipated reduction in LAPL's workforce over five years. As of early March, the FY2010 plan to help narrow a municipal deficit of \$212 million hinged on the early retirement of 145 library employees and the elimination of 110 unfilled full-time positions from LAPL's staff of 1,100. Roy Stone, president of the Librarians Guild local of the AFSCME, explained the situation March 3 in a radio interview on KPFK's Uprising show ([MP3 file](#)). Advocacy efforts also include the establishment of a [Save the Library](#) website and a [Facebook page](#) to grow a grassroots pushback against the administration....

American Libraries news, Mar. 3




[Congress extends Patriot Act provisions](#)

The U.S. House of Representatives sent President Obama a bill extending three often-contested provisions of the Patriot Act on the evening of February 26, two days before the sections were due to expire. Approved by a vote of 315–97 the night after the Senate passed the bill by voice vote, H.R. 3961 extends until February 28, 2011, the surveillance sections, which have prompted repeated statements of concern from library organizations and civil-liberties groups. The president is expected to sign the legislation....

American Libraries news, Feb. 26

[LJ, SLJ sold to private equity firm](#)

"Reed Business Information has taken another step in the divestment of its U.S.-based magazines," *Folio* magazine [reported](#) March 1, saying that the publisher has sold *Library Journal* and *School Library Journal* to Plain City, Ohio–based Media Source, an acquisitions platform of Riverside Company, a global private equity firm. *Library Journal* Editor-in-Chief Francine Fialkoff [blogged](#) about the sale on the magazine's website, saying she was "pleased, and relieved, at

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[ALA Annual Conference.](#)
 Washington, D.C., June
 24–29.

the turn of events that has aligned us with a library company."...

AL: Inside Scoop, Mar. 2; Folio, Mar. 1; Library Journal, Mar. 2

[IMAX offers kids seats to Hubble 3D film](#)

Avid library patrons will be able to journey through distant galaxies and accompany space-walking astronauts as they attempt the most difficult tasks in the history of NASA, thanks to a new partnership between IMAX and ALA. Through April 30, ALA's public awareness website, atyourlibrary.org, will host "[Explore the Universe @ your library](#)," a contest held in partnership with IMAX's *Hubble 3D* movie. *Hubble 3D* opens in IMAX and IMAX 3D theaters across the country March 19....

American Libraries news, Mar. 3



[Will's World: My favorite medium](#)

Will Manley writes: "The guy driving the airport shuttle van couldn't get over it. I had arrived at the Philadelphia airport and was to be driven to a speaking engagement at a library conference in New Jersey. I had called the driver from home before I left to give him the details of my flight arrival. Nonchalantly, he said, 'Just call me on your cell phone when you get in.' When I told him that I didn't have a cell phone, I thought the line had gone dead."...

American Libraries column, Apr.



[Styrofoam, paper, ceramic, stainless steel, or corn?](#)

Laura Bruzas writes: "Does your library offer coffee and tea to its patrons and staff? If so, you may want to consider serving them in something other than a polystyrene (aka Styrofoam) cup—if you are not already doing so. Why? In addition to the potential health-related risks, there are environmental concerns."...

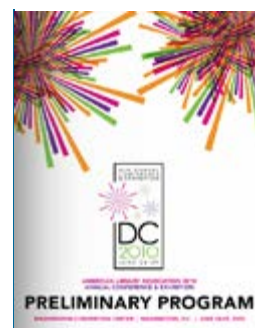
AL: Green Your Library, Mar. 2



["Ask the ALA Librarian" is now an AL blog](#)

American Libraries is partnering on a new blog with the ALA Library to deliver sought-after information based on the current crop of frequently asked questions. ALA Library staff will blog daily on "[Ask the ALA Librarian](#)," offering another way to stay on top of library-related issues that are on people's minds. "We've had great response to the weekly 'Ask the ALA Librarian' feature in *AL Direct*," said ALA Librarian Karen Muller....

American Libraries news, Mar. 3



Check out the Annual Conference [preliminary program](#). It's a page-turner!



Get your registration ([PDF file](#)) in as soon as possible for your [Book Cart Drill Team](#) so you don't miss out on the fun. The deadline is May 14.



Because of technology, the old measures of service quality no longer apply. If libraries are to succeed, they must see themselves in competition with other institutions and sources of information (especially the web) and make customers feel welcome and valued. [Assessing Service Quality: Satisfying the Expectations of](#)



ALA News

[ALA, other groups call on FCC to adopt net neutrality](#)

Eleven library and higher education-related institutions and organizations sent a letter ([PDF file](#)) March 1 to Federal Communications Commission Chairman Julius Genachowski in support of preserving an open internet. The groups asserted that internet service providers have strong incentives to degrade certain internet services, and new technologies increasingly allow them to control internet traffic without end-user knowledge. They urged the adoption of net neutrality principles including nondiscrimination and transparency....

District Dispatch, Mar. 1

[ALA hosts broadband discussion on Capitol Hill](#)

ALA hosted an event in the Rayburn House Office Building on Capitol Hill to unveil the Federal Communications Commission and the Social Science Research Council study findings of the SSRC report *Broadband Adoption in Low-Income Communities* ([PDF file](#)). The FCC commissioned the study to help inform their understanding of barriers to broadband adoption and to shape the National Broadband Plan due to Congress on March 17 under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act....

District Dispatch, Mar. 2



[Broadband filing deadlines extended](#)

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration and Rural Utilities Service will grant a limited extension of time to file infrastructure applications in the second funding round. Specifically, applicants for Broadband Technology Opportunities Program Comprehensive Community Infrastructure projects will have until March 26 to file their applications with NTIA. Applicants for Broadband Initiatives Program infrastructure projects will have until March 29 to file with RUS....

District Dispatch, Mar. 2

[Library career recruitment: A survey](#)

To help improve ALA's efforts to recruit a diverse pool of individuals to the profession of librarianship, you are invited to participate in a web-based [survey](#) that focuses on the usefulness of existing recruitment materials. The survey is being conducted by the ALA 2010 Emerging Leaders Project Team S on behalf of the ALA Recruitment Assembly. The survey should take approximately 5–10 minutes to complete. The deadline is March 12....

Office for Human Resource Development and Recruitment, Feb. 25

[Proposals for ALA Research Series](#)

The Office for Research and Statistics is inviting book and article proposals for the peer-reviewed [ALA Research Series](#). The series expands the knowledge base of library research by publishing quantitative or qualitative research and analysis that addresses topics important to libraries. Research must be completed and have been conducted in the past three years. All submissions must be received electronically by close of business April 30....

Office for Research and Statistics, Mar. 3

[Library Customers](#) is brought fully up to date in this second edition as Peter Hernon and Ellen Altman integrate the use of technology into the customer experience. **NEW!**
From ALA Editions.

New this week in *American Libraries*



[Will's World](#)

[Perpetual Beta](#)

[Inside Scoop](#)

[Green Your Library](#)

[Ask the ALA Librarian](#)

[AL Focus](#)



For one year only, [Library Advocacy Day](#) will replace National Library Legislative Day. On June 29, library advocates from all 50 states and Washington, D.C., will meet at Upper Senate Park on the U.S. Capitol grounds. The

[Apply for "Picturing America" program grants](#)

The Public Programs Office has announced five new reading and discussion themes based on the popular *Let's Talk About It* model and inspired by the National Endowment for the Humanities Picturing America collection. The *Let's Talk About It: Picturing America* series has been developed to support public libraries in their efforts to conduct high-quality humanities programs that highlight the Picturing America collection. All public libraries who received the collection are eligible to apply for 30 programming grants of \$2,000 by March 31....

Public Programs Office, Feb. 25



[Connect with National Library Week](#)

The Campaign for America's Libraries wants to know how communities thrive @ your library. Share your story on the [National Library Week community](#) in ALA Connect. Celebrating the "Communities Thrive @ your library" theme, its mission is to create a community where librarians of all types can communicate their ideas and develop new ways to celebrate and promote National Library Week. The National Library Week community is open to all....

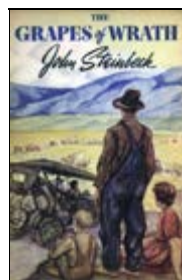
Campaign for America's Libraries, Mar. 2

[The first library bill of rights](#)

Q. When did ALA first adopt the [Library Bill of Rights](#)?

A. The first Library Bill of Rights was approved by the ALA Council at its meeting on June 19, 1939, during the Annual Conference in San Francisco. It was modeled on a similar statement written by Forrest Spaulding, librarian at the Des Moines (Iowa) Public Library. A news item in the *ALA Bulletin* (precursor to *American Libraries*) in the December 1939 issue stated, "Forrest Spaulding of Des Moines has been appointed by the Executive Board as chairman of a special committee on censorship, following the recent banning by a number of libraries of John Steinbeck's *Grapes of Wrath*."...

AL: Ask the ALA Librarian, Mar. 1



[RDA in Cataloger's Desktop](#)

Cataloger's Desktop subscribers will soon be able to access the *RDA Toolkit*, due in June 2010. *Cataloger's Desktop* is the Library of Congress's integrated, online documentation system for cataloging and metadata resources. *RDA Toolkit* is a browser-based, online collection of cataloging-related documents and resources, including *RDA (Resource Description and Access)*. Used together, *Cataloger's Desktop* and *RDA* represent the current state of the art in cataloging and metadata documentation....

ALA Digital Reference, Mar. 3



[Volunteer for JCLC 2012 committees](#)

The 2nd National Joint Conference of Librarians of Color will be held September 19–23, 2012, in Kansas City, Missouri. The theme is "Gathering at the Waters: Celebrating Stories, Embracing Communities." The JCLC 2012 Steering Committee seeks volunteers to contribute to one of the most dynamic conference-planning experiences available—service on one of the JCLC 2012 planning committees. Committees are expected to start working at or before the ALA 2010 Annual Conference in Washington D.C....

event, which will begin at 11 a.m., will feature guest speakers, photo ops, and a chance to cheer on libraries.

After the rally, participants will meet with their elected officials and their staffs. Here's how you **sign up** ([PDF file](#)).

Career Leads from **ALA JobLIST**

[Librarian, Holocaust and Genocide Studies Center](#)

University of South Florida, Tampa. Builds, manages, and assesses the [Center's collections](#). ALA/MLS, post-secondary coursework relevant to Holocaust and Genocide studies, library or museum experience developing subject collections. Preferred experience includes: experience developing digital collections, adequate proficiency in foreign language(s), instruction and subject guides/bibliographies experience, knowledge of genocide in Africa or Asia....



@ [More jobs...](#)

Digital Library of the Week

Office for Diversity

Association of Jewish Libraries affiliates with ALA

The [Association of Jewish Libraries](#) has become an affiliate of ALA, effective in January. Affiliates enjoy representation at ALA conferences and in ALA print and online publications. AJL, established in 1966, promotes Jewish literacy through enhancement of libraries and library resources and through leadership for the profession and practitioners of Judaica librarianship....

People of the Book, Feb. 24



The British Library has launched a [U.K. Web Archive](#) designed to preserve pages from U.K. web domains, much as the library preserves a physical archive of books. The system uses the open source Hadoop software and was built by IBM. Here you can see how sites have changed over time, locate information no longer available on the live web, and observe the unfolding history of a spectrum of U.K. activities represented online. Sites that no longer exist elsewhere are found here and those yet to be archived can be saved for the future by nominating them. Searches are by title of website, full text or URL; the site is also browsable by subject, special collection, or alphabetical list. The [special collections](#) are groups of websites brought together on a particular theme by librarians, curators, and other specialists, often working in collaboration with key organizations in the field. They can be events-based (the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games), topical (the Credit Crunch Collection) or subject-oriented (the British Countryside Collections).

Booklist ONLINE

Featured review: Horror fiction

Austen, Jane, and Steve Hockensmith. *Dawn of the Dreadfuls: Pride and Prejudice and Zombies*. Mar. 2010. 288p. Quirk, paperback (978-1-59474-454-9).

Edgar finalist Hockensmith turns to zombie lit in this prequel to *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies* (2009). Ever wondered how the Bennett sisters got to be such great zombie killers? Hockensmith explains all in the story of the return of the zombie plague and Mr. Bennett's secret history. When a neighbor rises up out of his coffin in the middle of a funeral, Mr. Bennett shrugs off the lifestyle of a Regency England gentleman and returns to his old calling as a warrior dedicated to eradicating the Unmentionables. Turning the greenhouse into a dojo, he trains all five Bennett girls, with the help of fellow warrior Master Hawksworth, to take up his quest—just in time, too, as a deadly incursion is under way. Hockensmith does not abandon Austen's original characters....

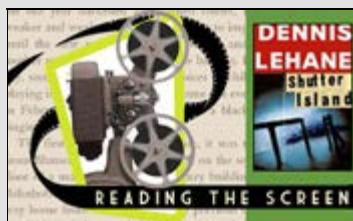


Stay connected to reviews by mobile device

Booklist is offering a whole new way to stay on top of recommended-only book reviews with a free app featuring the popular Review of the Day. The app can be downloaded free from the Apple iStore using any iPhone or iPod Touch....

Dennis Lehane: Directed by Scorsese, Eastwood, and Affleck

David Pitt writes: "Dennis Lehane has to be one of the most fortunate novelists of the modern era. Three movies have been made out of his books, and all three are excellent—*Shutter Island* (currently in theaters) is only the most recent. Carefully adapted by Laeta Kalogridis and directed by Martin Scorsese, the film faithfully reproduces the 2003 novel's foreboding atmosphere and shocking plot twists." The original novels for the movies *Mystic*



River and Gone Baby Gone are also examined....

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

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

Division News

Teen Tech Week publicity tools

School and public libraries can promote Teen Tech Week, March 7–13, with [online resources](#) offered by YALSA: logos, a sample press release, letter to the editor, as well as customizable PSA scripts, and downloadable audio PSAs featuring Tom Kenny, the voice of SpongeBob SquarePants. The 2010 Teen Tech Week theme is “Learn Create Share @ your library”...

YALSA, Feb. 23



25th anniversary of School Library Month

In April, AASL will observe the 25th Anniversary of [School Library Month](#), celebrated in conjunction with National Library Week, April 12–18. Every April, school librarians are encouraged to create activities to help their school and local community celebrate the essential role that strong school library programs play in a student's educational career. The 2010 theme is “Communities Thrive @ your library.”...

AASL, Mar. 2



Tickets available for 2010 ALSC Arbuthnot Lecture

Tickets to attend the 2010 May Hill Arbuthnot Honor Lecture, featuring Kathleen T. Horning, director of the Cooperative Children's Book Center at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, are now [available](#). The lecture is administered by ALSC and will be hosted this year by the Riverside County Library System, in collaboration with the University of California, Riverside. The lecture, “Can Children's Books Save the World?” is scheduled for May 13 at the UCR Extension Center....

ALSC, Mar. 2

Apply for the 2010 ACRL Immersion Program

ACRL invites academic librarians to apply for its [Immersion '10](#) program. The Immersion Program Intentional Teacher and Assessment Tracks will be offered simultaneously November 10–14, in Nashville, Tennessee. Applications for both tracks are being accepted through May 7. This program will approach assessment from a learning-centered perspective....

ACRL, Mar. 2



How picturebooks work

ALSC will present its 2010 Annual Conference Preconference, “Drawn to Delight: How Picturebooks Work (and Play) Today,” June 25 at the Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington,

Public Perception

How the World Sees Us

“The library for grown-ups is upstairs, beyond a dauntingly wide and high-ceilinged doorway; the library for children is more accessible, downstairs and to the right. Inside this cheery, brightly lit space there is an inexpressible smell of floor polish, library paste, books—that particular library smell that conflates, in my memory, with the classroom smell of floor polish, chalk dust, books so deeply imprinted in my memory. For even as a young child I was a lover of books and of the spaces in which, as indeed in a sacred temple, books might safely reside.”

—Author Joyce Carol Oates reminisces about the library of her youth, the Lockport (N.Y.) Public Library, in [“Joyce Carol Oates Goes Home Again.”](#) *Smithsonian*, March 2010.

D.C. The preconference will provide a one-of-a-kind look into the world of picturebooks, as art directors, museum educators, and award-winning illustrators (including Jerry Pinkney, author and illustrator of *The Lion and the Mouse*, above) take attendees through the creative and collaborative journey of picture book development. Advance registration ends May 15....

ALSC, Mar. 2



[RUSA preconference on the future of reference](#)

Reference and user services professionals won't want to miss the upcoming workshop, "Reference Evolution: Envisioning the Future, Remembering the Past," hosted by RUSA prior to the ALA 2010 Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. The event is an opportunity to participate in a lively discussion of the current state of the profession, to see beyond the hype, and identify where things are actually headed. Advance registration ends May 14....

RUSA, Mar. 2

Round Table News

[Learning Round Table adopts new logo](#)

The ALA Learning Round Table unveiled a new logo on its [blog](#) February 25. The new logo contains a vibrant palette of colors including purple, blue, orange and green. The abstract design has many different meanings and the public is encouraged to comment on the ALA Learning site and describe what the design represents to them....

Learning Round Table, Feb. 25



Awards

[Kathleen McCook to present 2010 Coleman Lecture](#)

Kathleen de la Peña McCook, distinguished university professor at the University of South Florida SLIS in Tampa, will present the 2010 Dr. Jean E. Coleman Outreach Lecture for the ALA Office for Literacy and Outreach Services at the 2010 ALA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C., on June 28. This year's lecture, "Librarians and Human Rights," will present a historical and cultural analysis of the librarian's role in human rights, as defined by the 1948 *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*....

Office for Literacy and Outreach Services, Mar. 2



[Olivia Madison selected for Margaret Mann Citation](#)

Iowa State University Library Dean Olivia Madison has received the 2010 Margaret Mann Citation presented by the ALCTS Cataloging and Classification Section.



TweetWatch

Follow:

WebWise Conference on Libraries and Museums in the Digital World, Denver, Mar. 3–5, at:

[#webwise](#)

Customers of SirsiDynix User Groups, 2010 Conference, Lake Buena Vista, Florida, Mar. 3–5, at:

[#cosugi10](#)

World Book Day UK, Mar. 4, at:

[WorldBookDayUK](#)

Alaska Library Association, Annual Conference, Anchorage, Mar. 4–7, at:

[#akla2010](#)

The Future is Now: Libraries and Museums in Virtual Worlds Conference, Second Life and OPAL, Mar. 5–6, at:

[#fin10](#)

American Libraries news stories, videos, tweets, and blog posts at:

[amlibraries](#)

Calendar

Mar. 12–13:

[American Ruins and Antiquities in the Long 19th Century.](#)

The citation, recognizing outstanding professional achievement in cataloging or classification, includes a \$2,000 scholarship donated in the recipient's honor by OCLC to the library school of the winner's choice. Madison selected the University of Missouri graduate MLS program....

ALCTS, Mar. 2



Cloonan wins 2010 Banks/Harris Preservation Award

Michèle V. Cloonan, dean and professor of the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at Simmons College, is the recipient of the 2010 Paul Banks and Carolyn Harris Preservation Award. The award recognizes the contribution of a professional preservation specialist who has been active in the field of preservation or conservation for library or archival materials....

ALCTS, Mar. 2



2010 ALCTS Ulrich's Serials Librarianship Award

ALCTS has named Steven C. Shadle, serials access librarian at the University of Washington Libraries, the 2010 recipient of the Ulrich's Serials Librarianship Award. Shadle has become "the voice of e-serials" cataloging based on his expert knowledge of e-serials and cataloging, his ready answers to serials questions on discussion lists, and the multitude of catalogers and trainers he has trained and mentored....

ALCTS, Feb. 25

2010 ALCTS Coutts Award

The ALCTS Collection Management and Development Section has declared Galadriel Chilton, electronic resources librarian, and William Doering, systems, catalog, and digital initiatives librarian at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, winners of the Coutts Award for Innovation in Electronic Resources Management. The pair developed ERMes, an open source electronic resource management system that allows for effective management of electronic resources....

ALCTS, Mar. 2

2010 ACRL Instruction Section Innovation Award

University of Alberta Augustana Campus Head Librarian Nancy Goebel and Web Applications Specialist Dylan Anderson have been selected to receive the 2010 ACRL Instruction Section's Innovation Award for developing WASSAIL, an information literacy assessment project. Sponsored by Lexis-Nexis, the annual award recognizes a project that demonstrates creative, innovative, or unique approaches to information literacy instruction or programming....

ACRL, Mar. 2

2010 ACRL ProQuest Innovation in College Librarianship Award

Sigrid Kelsey and Angela K. VandenBroek, both of Louisiana State University, have been named recipients of the ACRL College Libraries Section ProQuest Innovation in College Librarianship Award. This award honors an ALA member who has demonstrated a capacity for innovation in their work with undergraduates, instructors, or the

Huntington Library,
San Marino, California.

Mar. 24–26:

2010 ILLiad International Conference.

sponsored by Atlas Systems and OCLC, Hilton Hotel Oceanfront, Virginia Beach, Virginia.

"Exploring Trends in Resource Sharing."

Apr. 9–11:

Information Architecture Summit.

Hyatt Regency, Phoenix, Arizona.

Apr. 23–26:

Art Libraries Society of North America.

Annual Conference, Seaport Hotel, Boston.

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

May 1:

Graduate Research Conference on Children's Literature and Cultural Texts.

Irving K. Barber Learning Centre, University of British Columbia, Vancouver.

June 10–12:

LOEX of the West.

Mount Royal University, Calgary, Alberta.

June 27–30:

International Society for Technology in Education.

Colorado Convention Center, Denver. "Exploring Excellence."

library community. The award cites their development of a Subject Guide Toolbox....

ACRL, Mar. 2

Promote YALSA's Youth Media Award winners

In January, YALSA and ALA announced the winners of the [2010 Youth Media Awards](#). As you begin highlighting the award winners at your library, be sure to take advantage of promotional tools from YALSA: downloadable bookmarks ([PDF file](#)) that list the winners and the honor books, and customizable press releases....

YALSA Blog, Feb. 25



YALSA's Morris/Nonfiction Book Trailer contest

YALSA has declared Emily Fitch of Fort Wayne, Indiana, the winner of the 2010 Morris/Nonfiction Book Trailer contest. Fitch created a [book trailer](#) (2:16) based on *The Everafter*, a 2010 William C. Morris finalist. She won a \$100 gift card to Powell's Bookstore, as well as \$100 in books and materials from YALSA. Her librarian, Mari Hardacre, won \$200 in materials from YALSA for sponsoring Emily....

YALSA, Mar. 2; YouTube, Jan. 12

Bogle-Pratt travel grant winner

Susan Matveyeva is the 2010 recipient of the ALA International Relations Committee's Bogle-Pratt International Library Travel Fund grant. The Bogle Memorial Fund and the Pratt Institute School of Information and Library Science will provide a \$1,000 cash award for Matveyeva to attend her first international conference in Madrid, Spain. Matveyeva is cataloging and institutional repository librarian at Wichita State University....

International Relations Office, Mar. 2



Travel scholarships for the Emerging Leaders Institute

The Office for Diversity is offering an opportunity for library school students and recent graduates to attend the upcoming Spectrum Leadership Institute, June 23–25, in Washington, D.C. Twenty travel scholarships for the institute are available through the "REACH 21: Preparing the Next Generation of Librarians for Leadership" project funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services. Preference will be given to those applications received by April 15....

Office for Diversity, Feb. 26

Nominate a school librarian–teacher team

The Technology Innovation Award, administered by the Media Specialists SIG of the International Society for Technology in Education, is presented to a school librarian and collaborating teacher who have conducted an exemplary technology program extending beyond the library to meet the needs of classroom students and teachers. The purpose of this award is to identify, promote, and sustain excellence in collaborative and innovative technology-based projects driven by the school library media center. The deadline is March 31....

International Society for Technology in Education

2010 OCLC/ALISE research grants

OCLC Research and the Association for Library and Information

@ [More...](#)

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Send feedback:

Science Education have awarded 2010 Library and Information Science Research Grants to Louise Spiteri of Dalhousie University and Laurel Tarulli of Halifax Public Libraries; Hsin-liang Chen and Barbara Albee of Indiana University; and Besiki Stvilia and Corinne Jörgensen of Florida State University. The grants support research that advances librarianship and information science....

OCLC, Feb. 25

[2010 Golden Kite Awards](#)

The Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators has announced the winners and honorees of the 2010 Golden Kite Awards (for books published in the 2009 calendar year.) The Golden Kite Award is the only award presented to children's book authors and artists by their peers. The categories are fiction, nonfiction, picture book text, and picture book illustration. *Sea of the Dead* by Julia Durango won in the fiction category....

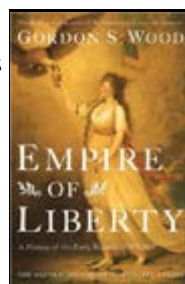
Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators, Mar. 1



[American History Book Prize](#)

Brown University History Professor Gordon S. Wood has won the American History Book Prize for *Empire of Liberty: A History of the Early Republic, 1789-1815*, an account of how America's leaders created the country's democratic institutions. The award, presented by the New-York Historical Society, comes with a \$50,000 prize, an engraved medal and the title of American Historian Laureate....

New York Times, Feb. 28



Seen Online

[National Library, museums damaged in Chilean earthquake](#)

The National Library of Chile in Santiago has closed to the public after suffering damage in the February 27 earthquake. A crack in the dome, cracks in the walls that run from the first to the fourth floors, and cracks in the ceilings in several sections are being assessed by structural engineers. Other damaged buildings include the National Archives, the Recoleta Dominica (housing offices of the Library, Archives, and Museums headquarters), the Museum of Fine Arts, the National Historical Museum, and the Museum of Education Gabriela Mistral....

El Mercurio (Santiago), Feb. 28, Mar. 2



[UCSD library noose incident ignites protests](#)

A University of California, San Diego student has admitted hanging a rope tied into a noose February 25 on a bookshelf on the seventh floor of the Geisel Library. The discovery triggered protests at a school plagued by racially charged incidents and resulted in an occupation of Chancellor Marye Anne Fox's office for six hours. The anonymous female student issued an [apology](#) March 1, claiming it was left accidentally and was not intended as a racial insult. Students have [reclaimed the spot](#) where the noose was found by



aldirect@ala.org

AL Direct FAQ:

www.ala.org/aldirect/

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

American Libraries

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www.ala.org/online/
800-545-2433,
ext. 4216

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posting a positive and uplifting statement and strewing the tables and floor with roses of different colors (above). The library [cancelled](#) its annual March 2 Dr. Seuss birthday celebration at the request of his widow Audrey Geisel. Another incident occurred March 1 when a crudely fashioned, KKK-style hood made out of a pillowcase was [found](#) covering the head of the Theodore Geisel statue adjacent to the library....

Los Angeles Times, Feb. 27; UC Regent Live(blog), Mar. 1; KGTV, San Diego, Feb. 28; UC San Diego Libraries; *San Diego Union-Tribune*, Mar. 3

Supreme Court reinstates settlement with writers

The Supreme Court on March 2 resurrected a possible settlement in a 2001 class-action lawsuit, *New York Times Company v. Tasini*, brought by freelance writers who said that newspapers and magazines had committed copyright infringement by making their contributions available on electronic databases. The settlement was delayed in November 2007 when a divided three-judge appeals court panel refused to approve it on grounds that it had not been advanced by any party. The Supreme Court unanimously reversed that decision....

New York Times, Mar. 2

Community college librarian charged with mail threats

The director of library services at the Community College of Aurora, Colorado, for years had sent death threats and insults to politicians, diplomats, and former acquaintances, school and federal officials said. Jay DeVaughn, was charged in federal court March 1 with one count of sending a threatening letter to a couple he knew in 2008. DeVaughn could also face charges of sending white powder and threatening letters to the offices of U.S. Sens. Mark Udall and Michael Bennet and U.S. Reps. Diana DeGette and Mike Coffman, according to federal prosecutors....

Denver Post, Mar. 2

Naked library thief at Ypsilanti library

A local man is accused of getting naked and stealing children's books from the Michigan Avenue branch of the Ypsilanti (Mich.) District Library. Police said 52-year-old Terrence Miles emerged from the children's section in the nude on February 25 and thrust his hips toward a library worker before putting his clothes back on and stealing a handful of children's books. In addition to criminal charges, library officials said they are in the process of revoking Miles's library privileges....

WDIV-TV, Detroit, Mar. 2



Luis Soriano's Biblioburro: CNN's hero of the week

To the unaccustomed eye, a man toting 120 books while riding a stubborn donkey would seem nothing short of a circus spectacle. But for hundreds of children in the rural villages of Colombia, Luis Soriano, 38, is far from a clown. Soriano is a primary school teacher who spends his free time operating a "biblioburro," a mobile library on donkeys that offers reading education for hundreds of children living in what he describes as "abandoned regions" in the



Colombian state of Magdalena....

CNN, Feb. 26

[UMich library retires its card catalog](#)

The University of Michigan Library's card catalogs will be removed from their home in the Harlan Hatcher Graduate Library on March 8. The card catalog has been in disuse for more than 20 years, ever since the university established the MIRLYN electronic catalog in 1988. Dean of Libraries Paul Courant said the space is needed for study tables and additional seating....

AnnArbor.com, Feb. 28



[Rock around the archives](#)

The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum's library and archives will open to the public late in 2010 at the new Center for Creative Arts on Cuyahoga Community College's Metropolitan Campus, two miles away from the Cleveland museum. Through a

capital campaign, the nonprofit hall raised \$12 million for its stake in CCC's \$35-million building. The college footed the remainder of the bill with state funds. "We want this to be the world's preeminent research center for rock 'n' roll," said Andy Leach, director of the library and archives....

Cleveland Plain Dealer, Feb. 28



[Law firm librarian makes a legal fashion statement](#)

Law Librarian Kathy Kelly is seeking a patent for her unique recycling method: She makes purses and laptop computer cases from the covers of outdated law books and other volumes. The firm where she works, Knox, McLaughlin, Gornall, and Sennett in Erie, Pennsylvania, disposes of hundreds of books each year. Each of her products, called BookBags, takes around eight hours to assemble....

Pittsburgh (Pa.) Tribune-Review, Feb. 28

[Collecting aerospace history](#)

The National Science Foundation has awarded the Huntington Library in San Marino, California, a two-year grant of \$367,000 to archive the history of the aerospace industry in Southern California. University of Southern California historian Peter Westwick, director of the [project](#), said most of the region's rich history was lost after the corporate consolidation of aerospace firms in the 1990s. The library will collect documents, photos, and oral histories of key players in the industry....

Whittier (Calif.) Daily News, Feb. 28; Huntington Library, Feb. 2



[Book dealer denies stealing Durham First Folio](#)

A British book dealer has denied stealing a Shakespeare First Folio taken from Durham University in 1998. Raymond Scott claims that he found the 1623 book—one of only 228 copies known—while visiting his fiancée Heidy Rios, a 21-year-old dancer at the Tropicana Club in Havana. He [appeared](#) at Newcastle Crown Court February 26 to deny three charges of theft, handling stolen goods, and removing criminal property....

The Times (U.K.), Feb. 27; BBC News, Feb. 26

[British libraries protest government Wi-Fi plans](#)

Libraries and universities in the U.K. are protesting plans to make them police users of wireless networks. The government's Digital Economy Bill includes plans to make them responsible for what is done over free Wi-Fi. The plans imply that libraries, universities, and cafés offering free wireless will be responsible if people use it to pirate movies and music....

BBC News, Mar. 1

[Manchester sends its books to the salt mines](#)

One million books from the Central Library (right) in Manchester, England, including rare volumes dating back to the 15th century, will be put into temporary storage in the Cheshire salt mines. Experts say the mine's caverns—the size of 700 soccer fields—provide the perfect environment for preserving the books, which will remain underground for three years while the library goes through a major renovation....

Manchester (U.K.) *Evening News*, Jan. 29



[Restored Tamil library in Sri Lanka signals hope](#)

The most potent symbol of the Sri Lankan Civil War, and the uneasy peace since fighting ended in May 2009, is Jaffna's public library, which was torched in 1981 by an anti-Tamil mob. Nearly 100,000 books and manuscripts, including irreplaceable palm-leaf Tamil texts, went up in smoke. The library reopened in 2003, but restoring its spirit presents a far greater challenge, said Chief Librarian S. Thanabaaalasinham....

Christian Science Monitor, Feb. 24



[Go back to the Top](#)

Tech Talk

[Planning for a mobile website](#)

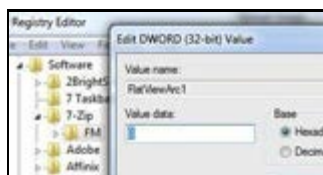
Cindi Trainor writes: "How do you create a mobile website for your library? There are many resources available for those who want to dig in and get it done. Creating a mobile version of our website is a goal for this year in my library, so I've been focusing professional-development efforts on this lately. Here is a summary of an ACRL preconference on the topic held before the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Boston."...

ALA TechSource Blog, Mar. 2

[What is the Windows registry and should I clean it?](#)

The How-to Geek writes: "There's nothing more mysterious on a Windows PC than the registry, and today we'll explain exactly what it is, how it works, and whether you should bother cleaning it. We'll also go about debunking a few widespread registry myths along the way. The Windows registry is a hierarchical database that stores settings for virtually everything on a Windows PC."...

Lifehacker, Mar. 1



[Google Analytics for Facebook pages](#)

One of the limitations of Facebook fan pages is that you can only run limited Javascript on them; Google Analytics needs Javascript code included to correctly track visitors. London web development company Webdigi has successfully managed to get all functions of Google Analytics working on its Facebook page (including visitor statistics, traffic sources, visitor country, and keyword searches). The workaround is to include Google Analytics as an image instead of setting the standard Javascript....

PHP, Web, and IT Stuff, Feb. 22

[QR Codes for libraries](#)

Aaron Tay writes: "QR Codes are basically two-dimensional barcodes that can be used to store URLs or text. They can be used to quickly pull data from the physical world into mobile phones that are equipped with free QR Code readers (like BeeTagg). Simply scan the QR Code with the phone camera, and the reader will pull the information. Here is some information that pulls together all the ideas I have seen on the use of QR Codes in libraries."...

Musings about Librarianship, Feb. 27



Publishing

[10 takeaways from the O'Reilly Tools of Change conference](#)

Sue Polanka writes: "On February 22–24, I attended the [O'Reilly Tools of Change Conference](#) for the first time. More than 1,250 attendees gathered in New York City to discuss and network about issues and trends in publishing, in particular, digital publishing. While much of the information presented was for the publishing industry, I did manage to find several great ideas and concepts that relate to libraries. I'd like to share these with you."...

No Shelf Required, Feb. 26



[The e-book network effect](#)

Joe Wikert writes: "A presentation by Bob Pritchett at the Tools of Change conference is causing me to stop looking at individual e-books and start thinking much bigger. I downloaded the [Logos iPhone](#) app during Bob's talk so that I could have a better feel for what he was describing. It comes with a number of books built in, including a few Bibles. This is the network effect: You start reading the Bible in the Logos app but before you know it you've hopped to several other resources, clicking from one link to the next, learning more and more along the way."...

TeleRead: Bring the E-books Home, Mar. 1



[Oregon State library sees demand for Kindles soar](#)

For students looking to temper sober textbook readings with a literary escape into the world of vampires and zombies, Oregon State University is loaning out Amazon Kindle electronic readers stocked with the latest in popular books. In November, the university began lending Kindle e-readers to students and faculty willing to part from traditional page flipping and embrace a technology being tested on campuses nationwide....

eCampus News, Mar. 1

The mathematics of e-book pricing

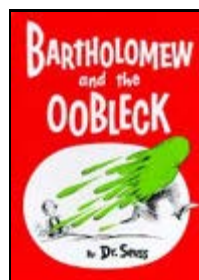
Just how much does it actually cost to produce a printed book versus a digital one? Publishers differ on how they account for various costs, but a composite, and necessarily simplified, picture might look like this, according to interviews with executives at several major houses....

New York Times, Mar. 1

The Dr. Seuss books that scared me

Abby Johnson writes: "March 2 was Dr. Seuss's birthday. Now, I loved Dr. Seuss as much as the next kid. But today, I want to talk about two of his books that scared the crap out of me when I was a kid. (I mean, c'mon, *everyone* is talking about the Seuss books they *liked*.) The first book really needs no explanation, I think: *Bartholomew and the Oobleck*. [shudders]."...

Abby (the) Librarian, Mar. 2



The 75 books you should own for DC Comics' 75th anniversary

Graeme McMillan writes: "2010 is the 75th anniversary of DC Comics, which launched in February 1935 with the first issue of *New Fun*. Since then, it's gone on to publish some of the greatest comics ever. Here are 75 you really should have read by now." One example: Kyle Baker's second graphic novel *Why I Hate Saturn* (2004), a comic for adults that doesn't feel self-conscious about that fact. It's also another rare thing: A genuinely hilarious comedy comic....

io9, Feb. 28



Beautiful bookbindings

P. K. writes: "The [Memory of the Netherlands](#) website has digitized a representative sampling of 1,000 bookbindings from the holdings of the Koninklijke Bibliotheek (the Royal National Library of the Netherlands). The collection includes luxurious hand-made binding examples from the past 800 years." The binding shown on the right is Felix Schloemp's [Das Unheimliche Buch](#) (München, Germany: George Müller, 1914), with morocco leather binding by Karl Ebert....

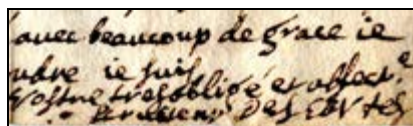
BibliOdyssey, Feb. 27; Geheugen van Nederland



Actions & Answers

Haverford College to return stolen Descartes letter

A Dutch researcher has identified a document in Haverford (Pa.) College Special Collections as a long-lost letter written in 1641 by mathematician René Descartes, one of many stolen from the Institut de France in Paris by book thief Guglielmo Libri Carucci dalla



Sommaja (1803–1869). This particular letter sheds light on certain key elements of Descartes's philosophy and shows that in its original form his *Meditations on Metaphysics* was organized differently. Haverford, which is returning the letter to the Institut, acquired the letter from an alumnus more than 100 years ago....

Haverford College, Feb. 25

[How Americans get news](#)

The overwhelming majority of Americans (92%) use multiple platforms to get their daily news, according to a new [survey](#) conducted jointly by the Pew Research Center's Internet and American Life Project and the Project for Excellence in Journalism. The internet and mobile technologies are at the center of the story: 33% of cell phone owners now access news on their cell phones; and 37% of internet users have created, commented on, or disseminated news on social media sites. So how does this affect libraries? Sarah Houghton-Jan has [some thoughts](#)....

Pew Research Center, Mar. 1; Librarian in Black, Mar. 1

[The dangers of grey literature](#)

Dorothea Salo writes: "The importance and acceptance of certain genres of grey literature varies considerably by discipline. For example, quite a few social-science disciplines have a flourishing working-papers culture. From my admittedly anecdotal experience, one factor that seems to create a grey-literature-friendly culture is a desire for influence beyond the academy: influence on practitioners, policymakers, nonprofits, or the public generally. Climate science strikes me as grey-literature-unfriendly for cogent reasons."...

The Book of Trogoool, Mar. 1

[Call for juried proposals](#)

The fifth Library Research Seminar, October 6–9, in College Park, Maryland, will bring together a diverse community of scholars from academia and practitioners from libraries and archives who are interested in research that informs policy-making, decision-making, and best practices. The LRS-V Program Committee invites proposals for various types of contributions on topics related to libraries and archives. Submit a proposal by March 15....

Library Research Seminar V



[The art of the electronic message display](#)

Wil Hutton writes: "So, you want to put up some video display screens in your library to announce coming events and advertise services. Or perhaps you've been tasked with making this happen. Two questions arise: How do you create an attractive, effective display system without the expense of a turnkey, proprietary electronic signage solution? And how do you manage the system once installed? Here are some recommendations."...

ACRLog, Mar. 2



[From high school to green public library](#)

Eric Wills writes: "Joseph Montalbano still remembers the day nearly five years ago when he first visited the old Huerfano County High School (right) in Walsenburg, a



once-thriving coal mining town in southern Colorado. Residents had hatched an ambitious plan to save it. The town's Spanish Peaks Library District needed more space: The cramped 1950s house that had served as the local branch was no longer adequate. Why not transform the old school into the new library?"...

Preservation, Mar./Apr.

New libraries revitalize cities

Jonathan Lerner writes: "A new library is being planned for the center of Aarhus (right), Denmark's main port city. It is referred to not as a library but an 'urban mediaspace.' The



building will include flexible conference and project rooms, multimedia learning labs, performance venues, studios for artists and business startups, a shop, a café, a tram station, and government-service offices where patrons can, for example, apply for social security. Its design competition envisioned 'a layered structure that can be navigated like a home page.'"...

Miller-McCune magazine, Mar./Apr.

12 major trends in library building design

Thomas Sens writes: "Today's college students have heightened expectations and demands for academic libraries based on new approaches to learning. Though the internet can provide 24/7 access to information, it can also isolate learners. In contrast, the new academic library model provides a forum for students to collaborate, enjoy fellowship, engage in healthy debate, create and challenge ideas, and experience learning and discovery in a multitude of meaningful ways. The following 12 trends define how the library has evolved to maintain its essential position within the academic landscape."...

Building Design and Construction, Dec. 1

Family Tree Magazine's 40 best genealogy blogs

Maureen A. Taylor writes: "What started as a trickle of genealogy bloggers a few years ago is now a flood. Which is why, when we wanted



to do an article about the best family history blogs, we needed your help. Last fall, we had a round of nominations, then voting, and we ended up with eight categories and 40 genealogy blogs our editors and readers highly recommend for your family history edification."...

Family Tree Magazine, Mar. 1

Old-school librarian embroidery patterns

Jenny Hart of Sublime Stitching in Austin, Texas, created this sheet of iron-on "Sexy Librarians" patterns for embroidery or other crafting. Just stitch, trace, burn, or paint along the lines after transferring to fabric, wood, or cardstock. It was featured on Boing Boing February 26 as one of the products available through its Boing Boing Bazaar....

Sublime Stitching



Dealing with comments on your website

Michael Porter and David Lee King write: "In the last 10 years or so, there's been a bit of a revolution on the web. This time we are

talking about the sometimes loved, occasionally dreaded comment box. Thankfully, Web 2.0 services—especially the comment box—have made commenting on websites both easy and public. But what happens when comments get out of hand?"...

Public Libraries: Internet Spotlight

StoryTubes contest extended

Because of extensive snow-day closures on the East Coast, StoryTubes has extended its deadline for its contest from February 28 to March 7. StoryTubes is the public-library-sponsored, two-minute-or-shorter, my-favorite-book online contest. Kids across the United States and in Nova Scotia are invited to participate. Partner libraries provide the staff time and expertise to administer the contest....

StoryTubes, Feb. 26



What would you do if you weren't a librarian?

Emily J. asks: "Given the changes in the economy and the re-organization or downsizing of many public library systems these days, public librarian jobs are few and far between. So, if you could no longer work as a librarian, what work would you do? How are our skills applicable/marketable in other industries?"...

Unshelved Answers, Feb. 23

The Future of Museums and Libraries wiki



The Institute of Museum and Library Services invites you to help invent the future of museums and libraries through participation in [UpNext: The Future of Museums and Libraries Wiki](#). The wiki is a platform where individuals both inside and outside of museums, libraries, and related fields can discuss, dissect, expand, and inform the issues outlined in the *Future of Museums and Libraries: A Discussion Guide* ([PDF file](#)). IMLS will use the knowledge to help shape the agency's strategic plan, research directions, and grants....

Institute of Museum and Library Services, Feb. 24

The Future Is Now conference

Everyone is invited to participate in "[The Future Is Now: Libraries and Museums in Virtual Worlds](#)," an online conference to be held March 5–6, in OPAL, the webconferencing collaborative service, on ALA Island in Second Life, and in other three-dimensional virtual worlds. Attendees can pick up a free T-shirt (right) for their avatars. The event was initially named the "Virtual Worlds and Libraries Online Conference." You need not be proficient in virtual worlds to participate in this conference....

The Future Is Now Facebook page



Registration is open for IFLA 2010

The IFLA World Library and Information Congress 2010 will take place in the Swedish Exhibition and Congress Centre in Gothenburg, Sweden. Early registration fees (in euros or Swedish krona) apply until May 7. Registrations may be completed online or by sending in a downloadable form....

International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions



New Rolex library will run like clockwork

Nancy Mattoon writes: "Viewed from above it looks like a flat, wavy rectangle full of randomly placed holes—and it's Swiss. A cheesy description perhaps, but one that fits a glorious modernist library, the [Rolex Learning Center](#) for the École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, that opened on February 22 in the city of Lausanne. The Japanese architectural firm known as SANAA has created a single-story, slice-like structure so sublimely constructed it seems to float above the ground."...

Book Patrol, Mar. 1



[Chinese rare books to be digitized](#)

The University of Washington's East Asia Library and the National Central Library of Taiwan are collaborating on a project, slated to begin this summer, to digitize Chinese rare books held by the University of Washington Libraries. The EAL rare book collection includes approximately 600 titles. The Taiwan library will contribute \$91,000 U.S., two or three staff members, and the digitizing equipment. Once digitized, the collection will be part of the National Central Library's bibliographic database....

University of Washington Libraries, Mar. 1

[The Quiet Zone](#)

In response to student requests for a quiet place to study on campus, the staff at Aurora (Ill.) University's Phillips Library created a Quiet Zone on the second floor. For help in promoting the new space, they turned to a student group called The Actors and Playwrites Society, which wrote and produced this spoof (8:05) of *The Twilight Zone*....

YouTube, Feb. 24



[Protecting your stuff in the library](#)

The Arizona State University Libraries series of Library Minute PSAs featuring Assistant Librarian in Collections and Scholarly Communication Anali Perry (right) recently released a video on thefts (1:01). "Unfortunately there are unscrupulous people out there who take things who don't belong to them, even in libraries. Please keep an eye on your belongings at all times."...

Arizona State University, Mar. 2



[The Dr. Seuss Rap: Wubble down](#)

In honor of Dr. Seuss's 106th birthday, the Los Angeles-based media production group Half Day Today created this rap video (3:22) based on the rhyme scheme of Dr. Seuss's books, featuring hot ladies, flashy environment-friendly cars, and literacy. *Warning:* Due to its mature theme and language, this video may not be safe for all work situations. (But it *is* humorous and zany.)...

YouTube, Feb. 28



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american libraries DIRECT

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | March 10, 2010

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American Libraries Online

Take our survey: *American Libraries* digital editions

Starting this month, each new print edition of *American Libraries* will be accompanied by a digital edition. You can read the entire [March issue](#) in the easy-to-use flipbook format, or download it as a PDF for offline reading.

Afterwards, please take our [brief survey](#).

Your input will help us move toward delivering the magazine in the format you prefer. Soon, we will be offering several years of magazine archives on our website....

AL: Inside Scoop, Mar. 9



Quake shatters Chile's public library services

Carol Erickson writes: "Nearly two weeks after a devastating 8.8-magnitude earthquake struck Chile, library officials in the Department of Public Libraries are still trying to determine the extent of the damage to the nation's nearly 400 public libraries. Much of the effort to assess the damage to the country's public library system comprehensively has been hindered by the difficulty with travel, not only because of the damaged infrastructure to roadways and communications systems, but also because many cities and towns are under a state of emergency, with curfews imposed." Donate to ALA's [Chile Relief Fund](#)....

American Libraries news, Mar. 10



Obama's "Safe Schools Czar" targeted in New Jersey challenge

A reconsideration request regarding three anthologies in the collection of the Rancocas Valley Regional High School library in Mount Holly, New Jersey, may be part of a national campaign supported by a Burlington County group connected to Fox-TV personality Glenn Beck to get Kevin Jennings, director of DOE's Office of Safe and Drug Free Schools, ousted from the Obama administration. And learning how to evaluate the validity of such an



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Next session
begins in April.

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shapingoutcomes.org



[ALA Annual Conference](#)

Washington, D.C., June 24-29. [Advance registration](#) is available through May 14. Accent on Children's Arrangements has planned a great [children's activity center](#) (Camp ALA) for

assertion has become a teachable moment for students and faculty, thanks to Media Specialist Dee Venuto....

American Libraries news, Mar. 10

Managing digital projects

Ira Revels writes: "My experience in academic libraries for the past 10 years had been confined to digitization efforts or instructional design activities. However, I have come to learn that digital projects encompass myriad activities designed to address the preservation, access, and dissemination of information resources in an online environment. Managing digital projects requires the use of information and communications technologies and the application of basic project management skills and techniques. All projects share three common characteristics."...

American Libraries feature



In Practice: Finding your voice

Meredith Farkas writes: "Having a professional online portfolio is a great way to show off your technology skills and provide additional information to potential employers that doesn't fit into your résumé and cover letter. However, this alone won't give them a strong sense of who you are, nor will it help you develop a professional network. Adding a blog to your professional presence provides you with a great way to network and distinguish yourself from the crowd."...

American Libraries column, Mar. 8



Next Steps: Risk, failure, and yield

Brian Mathews writes: "Elisabeth Doucett is an entrepreneur. She has to be. As director of the Curtis Memorial Library in Brunswick, Maine, one of her chief responsibilities is to raise funds for the collection. If she doesn't, nothing new will be added to the shelves. What is most striking about this library is how it is helping a community in transition."...

American Libraries column, Mar. 8



Youth Matters: The pixelated campus

Jennifer Burek Pierce writes: "Librarians are making use of the online information opportunities that abound in ever-greater numbers for their continuing education. Individuals, academic units, and associations are now in the business of offering an array of online learning opportunities. These sessions refresh old concepts and air new ideas for practitioners who cannot leave their libraries to commune with researchers and other experts. A few people who create web-based learning activities shared their perceptions of online continuing education with me."...

American Libraries column, Mar. 9

When is a book a bag?

Laura Bruzas writes: "When It's a [BookBag](#), designed by law librarian Kathy Kelly. She has a 9-to-5 view that includes law books—lots of them. One day the contents of these massive volumes will be available exclusively in ecofriendly digital format. But



conference attendees' kids. The [ALA JobLIST Placement Center](#) will offer direct communication between job seekers and employers, as well as placement workshops.



Pass it on! Pass on [great preservation tips](#) to your patrons with this poster that features easy-to-follow guidelines for protecting personal treasures, family heirlooms, collectibles, and more. Celebrate Preservation Week, May 9–15, or year-round. Developed with ALCTS. **NEW! From ALA Graphics.**

New this week in *American Libraries*



[Managing Digital Projects](#)

[In Practice](#)

[Next Steps](#)

[Youth Matters](#)

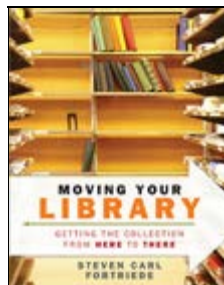
for now, this law librarian makes the gently used covers of these books whole again in the form of unique BookBags."...

AL: Green Your Library, Mar. 9

[Moving a library](#)

Q. My library will be moving into a new building next year. Does ALA have any resources that might help? A. You're wise to begin planning early, as there may be some things you can do to prepare the collection in advance. ALA Editions published [Moving Your Library: Getting the Collection from Here to There](#), by Steven Carl Fortriede, earlier this year. We've listed that book and [additional resources](#) from the library literature on our wiki, as well as [ALA Library Fact Sheet 14: Moving Libraries](#)....

AL: Ask the ALA Librarian, Mar. 8



ALA News

[Polls open March 16 for ALA election](#)

ALA urges its members to vote in the upcoming election for Association president and treasurer. The polls open March 16. As with last year's election, the upcoming election will be held online, with one exception. Members with disabilities may obtain a paper ballot by contacting ALA customer service at (800) 545-2433, ext. 5. Watch AL Focus [videos](#) featuring candidates answering questions at this year's Midwinter Meeting....

Public Information Office, Mar. 9

Critical action alerts

The Washington Office and AASL are asking librarians to call their legislators, media, and community organizations and advocate for upcoming legislation that is critical for school and public libraries: reauthorization of the [Elementary and Secondary Education Act](#), \$100 million in appropriations for [Improving Literacy through Schools](#), and funding for the [Library Services and Technology Act](#). See the links for further details....

AASL, Mar. 9; District Dispatch, Mar. 5, 9



[ALA becomes a Center for Public Life](#)

ALA and the Kettering Foundation have signed a research agreement to establish a Center for Public Life. The center will train librarians from different types of libraries to convene and moderate deliberative forums and frame issues of local and national concern, using National Issues Forums materials and processes. Unlike other such centers, ALA will provide training to members of a single profession: librarianship, in different locations around the country. During the first year, ALA will form an advisory committee and begin training moderators to convene and conduct local deliberative forums....

ALA Executive Office, Mar. 10



[Perpetual Beta](#)

[Inside Scoop](#)

[Green Your Library](#)

[Librarian's Library](#)

[Ask the ALA Librarian](#)

[AL Focus](#)

**Career Leads
from**

ALA JobLIST

[Director of Information Services/Librarian.](#)

American Philatelic Society, Bellefonte, Pennsylvania. The director's primary responsibility is to develop and implement a plan to improve access to and use of its unparalleled resources by members and stamp collectors throughout the world, most of whom use the library remotely. A successful plan includes enhancement of the online union catalog, development of finding aids, digitization of materials, recruitment and management of volunteers, and development of grant proposals/fundraising....



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ALA's Chile Relief Fund

On February 27, one of the most powerful earthquakes in history devastated a large part of Chile. The earthquake was centered 240 miles southwest of the capital of Santiago; the 150 aftershocks extended over six regions, affecting more than 2 million people and killing nearly 300. Many [libraries](#) have been damaged or destroyed. ALA's International Relations Office has set up a Chile Relief Fund through its Development Office; libraries may make donations by credit card or by mail....

International Relations Office, Mar. 10; *American Libraries* news, Mar. 10



Check out the future

The Office for Information Technology Policy has released the first of several policy briefs to be published in 2010 on the revolution in information technology and its implications for the future of libraries. *Checking Out the Future: Perspectives from the Library Community on Information Technology and 21st-Century Libraries* ([PDF file](#)) explores how many library professionals are driving adaptations designed to ensure that libraries remain an integral part of our society's commitment to education, equity, and access to information....

District Dispatch, Mar. 10



ALA files comments on FCC's Future of the Media project

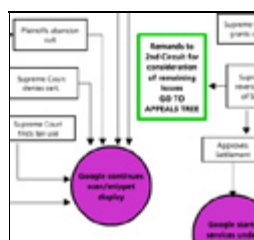
ALA filed comments ([PDF file](#)) with the Federal Communications Commission in response to a public notice on the future of media and information needs of communities in a digital age. In late January 2010, the FCC launched an examination on the ability of the public to have access to vibrant, diverse sources of news and information. ALA's comments bring attention the rapidly changing news environment and its impact on library collection practices....

District Dispatch, Mar. 9

Google Books March Madness diagram

ALA, ACRL, and the Association of Research Libraries have released "GBS March Madness: Paths Forward for the Google Books Settlement" ([PDF file](#)). This diagram, developed by Jonathan Band, explores the many possible routes and outcomes of the Google Books Settlement, including avenues into the litigation and appeals process. The diagram shows that Judge Chin's upcoming decision is only the next step in a very complex legal proceeding that could take a dozen more turns before reaching resolution....

District Dispatch, Mar. 4



Time to Step Up to the Plate

Season five of [Step Up to the Plate @ your library](#) is now open for registration. ALA and the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum's Step Up to the Plate program teams up two American classics—libraries and baseball—to promote information literacy and the library as an essential information resource. Start the spring



Digital Library of the Week



The [Ulysses S. Grant Digital Collection](#) at the Mississippi State University Libraries consists of 31 volumes of *The Papers of Ulysses S. Grant*, political cartoons, and sheet music from the larger collection. Other materials will be added to the digital collection as processing continues. The physical collection contains some 15,000 linear feet of correspondence, research notes, artifacts, photographs, scrapbooks, and memorabilia and includes information on Grant's life and times. From this collection, the series of volumes edited by John Y. Simon, entitled *The Papers of Ulysses S. Grant* were chosen and published by the Southern Illinois University Press.

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

training season by visiting the program's website to register for free promotional tools. Step Up to the Plate launches on April 5....

Campaign for America's Libraries, Mar. 9

[Interns focus on ALA website's human interface](#)

Three interns from the University of Michigan recently completed a one-week stint at ALA, where they wowed the staff Web Editorial Board with presentations of their [projects](#) related to improving the "human-computer interface" of the ALA website—"in other words, improving its usability and making its riches more accessible," as Karen Muller, ALA Librarian and cochair of the WEB put it....

AL: Inside Scoop, Mar. 9



[National Bookmobile Day is April 14](#)

The Office for Literacy and Outreach Services is calling all libraries participating in National Bookmobile Day to share the ways they are celebrating the event. Participants are encouraged to contribute to the National Bookmobile Day [wiki](#), join in on the conversation on the ALA Connect community, or [email](#) ideas and stories. The inaugural National Bookmobile Day on April 14 celebrates the contributions of our nation's bookmobiles and the staff members who operate them....

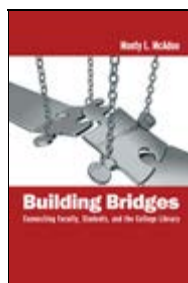
Office for Literacy and Outreach Services, Mar. 3



[Connecting to the college library](#)

ALA Editions has released [Building Bridges: Connecting Faculty, Students, and the College Library](#) by Monty L. McAdoo. A guide to managing the often complicated relationships between faculty and students when the library is in the middle, the book provides advice on working with both groups. It offers tips on developing successful assignments that integrate the college library's resources and helping in establishing productive liaisons....

ALA Editions, Mar. 2



[Decoding the mysteries of digital licensing](#)

ALA Editions is offering its first eCourse: [Digital Licensing Online](#), by Lesley Ellen Harris—an entirely self-directed, self-paced, continuing education course that uses an online interface. Harris has adapted her popular ALA Editions book, [Licensing Digital Content: A Practical Guide for Librarians](#), into this eCourse, designed to teach librarians how to read and understand a contract as well as how to negotiate with vendors....

ALA Editions, Mar. 9



The one time you want your kids doodling.
Sign up to give your students a chance to see
their art on the Google homepage.



Perception

How the World
Sees Us

"I may have robbed a bank, but I have never burned a book. And that's what you do when you close a library branch, because they are never going to reopen."

—John McGrath, ex-convict and former prison library assistant at the Cedar Junction Correctional Institution in Walpole, Massachusetts, on plans to close branches of the Boston Public Library, *Boston Globe*, Mar. 10.

"I've always told people they're not the bun-toting shushers that we used to think of them as. They're almost social workers in this place that has a cross-section of our community, and they navigate it all very well."

—Comedian and ALTAFF National Spokesperson Paula Poundstone, on librarians, *Macomb (Ill.) Daily*, Mar. 5.



TweetWatch

Follow:

Louisiana Library Association, Annual Conference, Baton Rouge, Mar. 10–12, at:

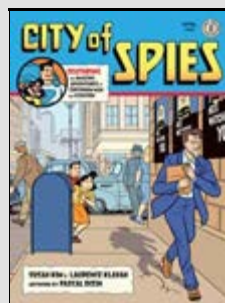
[LLA2010](#)

Booklist ONLINE

Featured review: Graphic novel

Kim, Susan, and Laurence Klaven. *City of Spies*. Illustrated by Pascal Dizin. May 2010. 172p. Roaring Brook/First Second, paperback (978-1-59643-262-8).

With her mother gone and a father who has better things to do than be bothered raising a daughter, Evelyn is sent to live with her unconventional Aunt Lia in the bohemian art world of 1942 New York City. Lia isn't shaping up to be much of a caretaker, but Evelyn spends much of her time in the company of imaginary superheroes, fouling up the plans of Nazi spies. Before long she finds an unlikely friend in the building superintendent's son, Tony. Together, they negotiate the complexities of their different social strata and, always sniffing around for trouble, stumble upon an *actual* Nazi plot. With stupefying precision, Dizin's art channels Hergé's *Tintin* in tone, palette, and with the remarkable expressiveness of the clean, flexible figures....



2010 top 10 graphic novels for youth

Ian Chipman writes: "As the comics format evolves and matures at an increasingly rapid rate, the opportunity for innovation grows apace. Nowhere is this more evident than in these remarkable graphic novels, all reviewed in *Booklist* over the past 12 months." Titles include *Bayou*, *The Color of Earth*, *Meanwhile*, *Mercury*, and *The Secret Science Alliance and the Copycat Crook*....



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

Division News

Join the PLA 2010 Virtual Conference

The final slate of programs for the PLA 2010 Virtual Conference is now confirmed. On March 25–26, PLA will share a condensed live and online 13th National Conference with public librarians and public library workers who can't make the trip to Portland. The complete schedule as well as detailed program information can be found [online](#)....

PLA, Mar. 8



The visiting librarian's guide to Portland

Local library school students offer a taste of things to do around Portland

National Council on Public History, Annual Meeting, Portland, Oregon, Mar. 10–14, at:

[#ncph2010](#)

Sunshine Week, Mar. 14–20, at:

[SunshineWeek](#)

American Libraries news stories, videos, tweets, and blog posts at:

[amlibraries](#)

Calendar

Mar. 14–20:

[Sunshine Week](#),

supporting the public's right to know what its government is doing, and why.

Mar. 20–27:

[Noche de Cuentos / A Night of Stories](#).

Apr. 28–30:

[14th Off-Campus Library Services Conference](#),

Cleveland Marriott Downtown at Key Center, Cleveland, Ohio.

May 7:

[Oregon Virtual Reference Summit](#).

McMenamin's Edgefield, Troutdale, Oregon.

May 9–15:

[Preservation Week](#).

May 25–26:

[The Tectonics of Digital Curation: A Symposium on the Shifting Preservation and Access Landscape](#),

sponsored by the Northeast

during the PLA National Conference in this video (6:36). For example, the Multnomah County Library, foodcarts on 5th and Alder, downtown Stumptown, Voodoo Doughnut, Floating World Comics, Powell's, Reading Frenzy, Cupcake Jones (above), Bridgeport Ale House, and underground mini-golf....

YouTube, Mar. 4



[**AASL "School Libraries Count!" longitudinal study**](#)

AASL launched the fourth year of its longitudinal study on March 5. "School Libraries Count!" gathers basic data about the status of school library programs across the country. AASL will use this information to develop advocacy tools to support school library programs at the local, state, and national levels. All K–12 schools, public and private, are invited to participate on a voluntary basis. The last day to complete the [survey](#) is April 30....

AASL, Mar. 9

[**Get social during School Library Month**](#)

During April, school librarians are encouraged to participate in AASL's social media channels, where library professionals will be sharing information about School Library Month activities happening in their school libraries. To become part of this thriving community, join the AASL networks on the AASL Blog, ALA Connect, Facebook, Twitter, Flickr, and YouTube. Use the tag slm2010 on blogs and community media areas and the hash tag #slm2010 on Twitter....

AASL, Mar. 9

[**School Library Month video contest deadline extended**](#)

The deadline for submitting videos to AASL's School Library Month video contest is extended through March 18. School librarians are encouraged to [submit videos](#) supporting the School Library Month theme "Communities thrive @ your library" and detailing how they help their school community thrive....

AASL, Mar. 9

[**New AASL L4L webinar series**](#)

During School Library Month, AASL will offer a new series of webinars for school librarians to learn more about the implementation of the AASL program guidelines. The webinars are part of the national Learning4Life initiative to implement *Standards for the 21st-Century Learner* and *Empowering Learners: Guidelines for School Library Media Programs*. The webinars will be held at 4:30 p.m. Central Time on Wednesdays during the month of April....

AASL, Mar. 9



[**Updated competencies for youth librarians**](#)

YALSA has revised "Young Adults Deserve the Best: Competencies for Serving Youth," a set of guidelines first published in 2004. The competencies were streamlined and updated to reflect changes in youth services over the past five years. They are available [online](#)....

YALSA, Mar. 4

Document
Conservation Center,
Ray and Maria Stata
Center, MIT,
Cambridge,
Massachusetts.

June 2–4:
[**Society for Scholarly Publishing**](#), Annual Meeting, Hilton San Francisco.

June 22–24:
[**CIP Symposium**](#),
Walter E. Washington
Convention Center,
Washington, D.C.
"Sustaining Culture in
Copyright."

@ [More...](#)

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American Libraries
Direct



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



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Get involved with YALSA on March 31

Registration is now open for YALSA's first webinar. YALSA President Linda W. Braun will lead a discussion on participating—from publishing to starting interest groups or joining a monthly online chat—in this free, hour-long webinar that will take place March 31 at 2 p.m. Eastern Time....

YALSA, Mar. 4

Teen Tech Week video

The 2010 Teen Tech Week (March 7–13) theme of “Learn Create Share @ your library” fosters teen creativity and positions the library as a physical and virtual place for safe exploration of the many types of technology available at libraries. Watch YALSA Communications Specialist Stephanie Kuenn explain the details of this popular initiative in this [video](#) (3:27)....

Visibility @ your library, Mar. 8



Scholarly Communication 101 Road Show hosts selected

The ACRL Scholarly Communications Committee has selected five sites from 40 applications to host the “Scholarly Communication 101: Starting with the Basics” workshop this spring and summer. Led by two expert presenters, this structured interactive overview of the scholarly communication system supports individual or institutional strategic planning and action....

ACRL, Mar. 9

Awards

Gorman wins 2010 Haycock Award

ALA Past President Michael Gorman is the 2010 winner of the Ken Haycock Award for Promoting Librarianship. Gorman, university librarian emeritus at California State University, Fresno, has been promoting the profession for decades as an educator, activist, and writer. He is the 10th winner of this award, funded by Ken Haycock....

Office of ALA Governance, Mar. 10



2010 Elizabeth Futas Catalyst for Change Award

Loida García-Febo, assistant coordinator of the New Americans Program and Special Services at the Queens (N.Y.) Library, is the 2010 recipient of the Elizabeth Futas Catalyst for Change Award. This award is given biennially to an individual for making positive changes in the profession of librarianship. In her current work at Queens and her past work in Puerto Rico, García-Febo develops programs and services for older adults, persons with disabilities, immigrants and other underserved populations....

Office of ALA Governance, Mar. 9



2010 Scholastic Library Publishing Award

ALA has named Joni Richards Bodart the recipient of the 2010 Scholastic Library Publishing Award. The

Greg Landgraf,
Associate Editor:
glandgraf@ala.org



Leonard Kniffel,
Editor and Publisher,
American Libraries:
lkniffel@ala.org

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honor is bestowed on a librarian whose extraordinary contributions to promoting access to books and encouraging a love of reading for lifelong learning exemplifies outstanding achievement in the profession. Bodart is an assistant professor at the San Jose State University SLIS....

Office of ALA Governance, Mar. 9



ALSC seeks host site for 2011 Arbuthnot Lecture

Applications to host the 2011 May Hill Arbuthnot Honor Lecture are now available. The selected site will host Lois Lowry (right), internationally acclaimed author and two-time winner of the Newbery Medal, who will present a paper that will be considered a significant contribution to children's literature. A library school, department of education in a college or university, or a children's library system may be considered. Completed [applications](#) are due May 1....

ALSC, Mar. 2



2010 Excellence in Business Librarianship award

Jennifer Boettcher, business reference librarian at Georgetown University, has been selected as the 2010 recipient of the Gale Cengage Learning Award for Excellence in Business Librarianship. The award is administered by the RUSA Business Reference and Services Section and sponsored by Gale Cengage Learning. Boettcher has published extensively in the field, including the widely used reference book, *Industry Research Using the Economic Census: How to Find It, How to Use It*....

RUSA, Mar. 9



2010 Notable Children's Books

ALSC has selected its 2010 list of Notable Children's Books. The list of titles includes fiction, nonfiction, poetry and picture books of special interest, quality, creativity, and value to children 14 years of age and younger. Details about the selected books can be found on the division's [website](#)....

ALSC, Mar. 8



2010 Frederick G. Kilgour Award

John Willinsky, Khosla Family professor of education at Stanford University and founder of the Public Knowledge Project, has been named the 2010 winner of the Frederick G. Kilgour Award for Research in Library and Information Technology. The [Public Knowledge Project](#) is dedicated to improving the scholarly and public quality of academic research....

LITA, Mar. 9



Deadline extended for LITA student writing award

LITA is offering an award for the best unpublished manuscript submitted by a student or students enrolled in an ALA-accredited

graduate program. Sponsored by Ex Libris, the award consists of \$1,000, a certificate, and publication in *Information Technology and Libraries*. The deadline for [submission](#) of the manuscript has been extended to March 24....

LITA, Mar. 2

Baber Research Grant recipient named

Betsy Simpson is the winner of the 2010 Carroll Preston Baber Research Grant for the project, "Shifting Patterns: Examining the Impact of Hiring Non-MLS Librarians." The \$3,000 grant supports innovative research that could lead to an improvement in library services to any specific group of people....

Office for Research and Statistics, Mar. 9

AILA supports Spectrum Presidential Initiative

The American Indian Library Association, an ALA affiliate, has announced its support of the Spectrum Presidential Initiative with a contribution of \$2,500. Through this initiative, ALA aims to meet the critical needs of supporting master's-level scholarships, providing two \$25,000 doctoral scholarships, increasing the Spectrum Endowment to ensure the program's future and developing special programs for recruitment and career development....

Office for Diversity, Mar. 9

Apply for the Gordon M. Conable Conference Scholarship

The Freedom to Read Foundation has opened applications for the 2010 Gordon M. Conable Conference Scholarship, which will enable a library school student or new professional to attend ALA's 2010 Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. The scholarship provides for conference registration, transportation, housing, and a per diem. The recipient is expected to attend various FTRF and other intellectual freedom meetings. The deadline for [applications](#) is April 16....

Freedom to Read Foundation, Mar. 9

The Marian goes to the best at Rolling Prairie

The Marian is a small statuette, painted gold, that was designed by art teacher Heather McKay to serve as the symbol for the staff achievement awards at the Rolling Prairie Library System in Decatur, Illinois. McKay came up with the Marian (named after the librarian in *The Music Man* Broadway hit) when her mother Doris, webmaster at RPLS, asked her to create something substantial for the award winners. The statuette depicts a shushing librarian with her hair in a bun....

Decatur (Ill.) Herald and Review, Mar. 6

2010 Reforma Noche de Cuentos mini-grants

Reforma has announced the winners of the 2010 Noche de Cuentos / A Night of Stories Family Literacy Focus Mini-Grants. The program is part of ALA President Camila Alire's Family Literacy Focus Initiative. The five winning institutions will receive a \$500 mini-grant to implement its family literacy program. Noche de Cuentos will be celebrated on the week of March 20–27 in conjunction with World Storytelling Day....

Reforma, Mar. 9



SLA names five 2010 Fellows

Five leading information professionals—Rebecca Jones,

Dee Magnoni (right), James Manasco, Jill Strand, and Libby Trudell—have been named as the 2010 Class of SLA Fellows. Fellowship in SLA is bestowed annually on no more than five mid-career professionals in recognition of past, present, and future service to the association and the profession....

Special Libraries Association, Mar. 4



NFAIS names Lorcan Dempsey as 2010 Miles Conrad Lecturer

The National Federation of Advanced Information Services has named OCLC Chief Strategist Lorcan Dempsey as its 2010 Miles Duncan Memorial Lecturer. The objective of the lecture, established in 1965 in commemoration of NFAIS founder G. Miles Conrad, is to recognize and honor those members of the information community who have made significant contributions to the field of information science and to NFAIS....

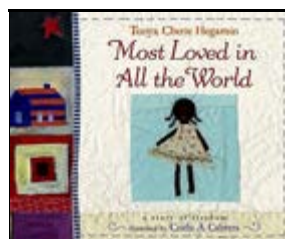
OCLC, Mar. 5



2010 Ezra Jack Keats Awards

Author Tonya Hegamin and illustrator Tae-eun Yoo are the winners of the 2010 Ezra Jack Keats Awards, which celebrate excellence in children's literature by new authors and illustrators, who, in the spirit of the late author/illustrator Ezra Jack Keats, offer new and electrifying views of the multicultural world children inhabit today. Hegamin is the author of *Most Loved in All the World* (Houghton Mifflin) and Yoo is the illustrator for *Only a Witch Can Fly* (Macmillan)....

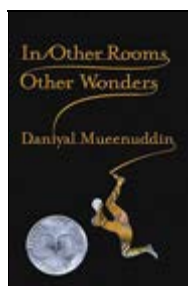
New York Public Library, Feb. 25



Mueenuddin wins the Story Prize

Daniyal Mueenuddin has won the Story Prize for his collection of connected stories, *In Other Rooms, Other Wonders*, which centers around a feudal landowner in southern Pakistan. Founder Julie Lindsey presented him with the \$20,000 award and an engraved silver bowl at an event that took place at the New School in New York City on March 4. The Story Prize is an annual book award for short story collections written in English....

TSP, Mar. 3



Seen Online

Emotions run high during debate over Boston branches

Passions ran high March 9 as nearly 400 people packed a lecture hall at the Boston Public Library in Copley Square for an emotional and at times raucous public meeting about the fate of the constellation of library branches that dot the city. A constant stream of people took turns at the podium, many denouncing a proposal by library officials to close up to 10 neighborhood branches to consolidate resources and change how they provide services in the face of a \$3.6-million

budget shortfall. BPL President Amy Ryan [said](#) the current crisis provides an opportunity to refashion the BPL system for the digital generation....

Boston Globe, Mar. 10; Universal Hub, Mar. 9

[Rally against cuts to Massachusetts regional library services](#)

Hundreds of librarians and supporters waved signs and listened to speakers outside the State House in Boston March 9 in a protest of Gov. Deval Patrick's proposed cuts to public libraries. D. Lynn Kleindiest of Granby, a retired librarian from Springfield Technical Community College, said it makes no sense to cut regional library services. "It's a case of homicide of libraries," she said....

Springfield (Mass.) Republican, Mar. 9

[School's reading video a hit on Oprah](#)

Ocoee (Fla.) Middle School's flash-mob YouTube video [Gotta Keep Reading](#) (5:07) landed a spot on *The Oprah Winfrey Show*. Winfrey said she was so impressed with the production that she interviewed some students via satellite on her March 5 show. Then she told the students she and Target were going to give their library a complete facelift, with 2,000 new books and brand-new computers....

Central Florida News 13, Mar. 6



[Library supporters rally in Albany](#)

Around 1,000 library advocates from around New York state filled the Capitol in Albany March 2 to lobby legislators and the governor's staff against the fifth proposed cut in state funding to the public library system in two years. The successive cuts have totaled \$18 million since April 2008, leaving libraries to operate with the same funding they had in 1998. Gov. David Paterson's budget proposal would take out an additional \$2.4 million at a time when library use is higher than ever....

Albany (N.Y.) Times-Union, Mar. 3

[Location privacy goes to Washington](#)

Deane Rimerman writes: "Testifying before a congressional hearing in late February, Mike Altschul with the Wireless Association was blunt ([PDF file](#)): Federal mobile-phone privacy policy is undefined and the privacy guidelines for location-based services written in 2008 are obsolete. The hearing on consumer privacy was the fifth in a series that seeks to evaluate and eventually legislate location-based privacy issues. It comes none too soon. The recent flood of location-based apps and services has significantly shifted liabilities from mobile carriers to app developers and end-users."...

ReadWriteWeb, Mar. 8

[A touch of wizardry supports the Hull Public Library](#)

Sixth-grader Calliope Pina Parker is an avid user of libraries, so it came as a blow when budget cuts in Hull, Massachusetts, not only sheared the local library's funding and hours but also cost the town its state certification in February. Wanting to do something about it, the 11-year-old organized an all-day Harry Potter readathon and bake sale, with wizardly cupcakes and "magic wand" frosted pretzel rods, to raise funds and awareness



of the library's situation....

Boston Globe, Mar. 7

No texting in the library, except to make donations

If you want to make a donation to the Brooklyn (N.Y.) Public Library, you can do it in a text message. This method of fundraising has helped recently in earthquake-ravaged Haiti, but officials believe it is the first time a library has given it a try. The text message donations are part of the library's second annual [Support Our Shelves](#) campaign. The library hopes the campaign will raise at least \$500,000 by May 31....

New York Times: City Room, Mar. 9



Chicago's YOUMedia is a digital hotspot for teens

Yves Capitaine, 16, can be found daily on YOUMedia's online community, posting his photography and freestyle poetry and delving into haiku battles with his sister. [YOUMedia](#) is the latest teen hangout and it's housed on the main floor of Chicago's Harold Washington Public Library in the Digital Space for Teens. The Digital Space offers eight desktop computers, 96 laptops, two PlayStation 3's with a library of games, musical keyboards, and a [recording studio](#) so teenagers can create music, art, and poetry. Watch the YOUMedia [spotlight video](#) (7:01)....

Chicago Sun-Times, Mar. 6; Vimeo



New York City's oldest library

Christopher Gray writes: "The oldest cultural institution in New York? It appears to be an obscure little organization on East 79th Street called the New York Society Library, established in 1754. The library claims to have been the first library of Congress, as congressmen borrowed its books when New York was the nation's capital in 1789–1790. Anyone who can pay the \$225 yearly household membership fee may climb what the architectural historian Henry Hope Reed described as 'the only stairs in New York fit for a cardinal,' to the main hall."...

New York Times, Mar. 3



200 years of shared knowledge in Salem

The Salem (Mass.) Athenaeum celebrated its 200th anniversary March 6 with a fundraising event that featured food, drink, and dances of 1810. For two centuries, Salem-area residents have paid for subscriptions to the athenaeum—one of only about 16 membership libraries left in the United States—and have welcomed nonmembers to read free of charge. A 50,000-volume collection testifies to the membership's evolving, idiosyncratic passions for topics from theology to botany and world travel....

Boston Globe, Mar. 4



The battle of Britain's libraries

Stuart Jeffries writes: "Last week I spoke to Culture Minister Margaret Hodge. She told me that running a successful public library

in the 21st century is tough. Technological advances and higher expectations of service mean that libraries must, in her glum progressivist phrase, 'move with the times to stay part of the times.' Hodge has spent the past six months in a consultation process that asks some unsettling questions. She declines to confirm what will be in the review, but she wants reforms that will revolutionize the library service without adding to the cost."...

The Guardian (U.K.), Mar. 7

[Go back to the Top](#)

Tech Talk

[Google Apps becomes a platform](#)

Ryan Paul writes: "At the Campfire One event March 9, Google launched the Google Apps Marketplace and demonstrated how external web applications from other vendors can be integrated into Gmail, Google Calendar, Google Docs, and other services that are part of the search giant's web-based productivity suite. With the launch of the new marketplace, Google Apps for domains is opening up and enabling external software to expose its own functionality directly."...

Ars Technica, Mar. 10



[Top 10 free travel apps](#)

Sascha Segan writes: "I travel a lot. And as the mobile-phone guy, I'm never without a smartphone—whether it's my Nokia E72, the latest BlackBerry, a Google Android phone, or an iPhone 3GS. A modern phone is pretty close to the ultimate travel gadget, letting you tap into all sorts of useful information on the road. Here are 10 travel apps that I use regularly when I'm out of town."...

PC Magazine, Mar. 10



[How to buy an external hard drive](#)

Joel Santo Domingo writes: "External hard drives promise almost unlimited storage: For under \$100, you can add a terabyte of data to your PC or Mac, portable or desktop. That's enough for more than 230 DVD-sized movies. Every computer out there, including compact nettops and netbooks, can connect to at least one hard drive. If you're lucky enough to have multiple input/output ports, you can hook up many more. Auxiliary storage allows you to back up your system files, in case your primary system goes kaput."...

PC Magazine, Mar. 3



[How to save and share ridiculously large files](#)

Josh Lowensohn writes: "A few years ago it was a big deal to find a place that would let you share 1 gigabyte of files. Things change, though. Bandwidth keeps growing, and the cost of web storage keeps shrinking. There are now a handful of free and paid services that make it easy to host these gigantic files and send them to a friend, family member, or business associate. The key thing to point out here is the individual file size limit."...

CNET: Web Crawler, Mar. 9



[Google could stop updating Street View in Europe](#)

Greg Sterling writes: "For a non-European traveling to Europe, Google Street View is a great resource. But Street View has been controversial and unpopular with residents in some countries, mostly with the EU and European governments, which want Google to reduce the amount of time it retains Street View images (and other data). Google says it needs to retain an unblurred version of the photography for a year. If the EU continues to press Google on the issue the company may decide against any future updates."...

Search Engine Land, Mar. 8



[LibraryThing delivers mobile access to library catalogs](#)

Marshall Breeding writes: "One of the most interesting mobile applications demonstrated at the ALA Midwinter Meeting came from outside the ILS vendors. LibraryThing, a company that has found a niche in adding value to existing library catalogs, has created a mobile app, LibraryAnywhere, that can be used with almost any of the major automation platforms, allowing a broad range of libraries to create a mobile presence at a very low price."...

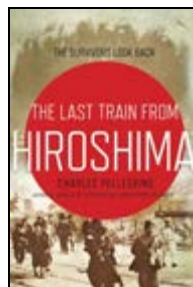
ALA TechSource Blog, Mar. 3

Publishing

[Pondering good faith in publishing](#)

Motoko Rich writes: "In early March, Henry Holt stopped printing and selling *The Last Train from Hiroshima* because its author had relied on a fraudulent source for a portion of the book and possibly fabricated others. Publishers say that responsibility for errors and fabrications ultimately must lie with the author. But in many recent cases publishers did not seem to ask basic questions of authors, accepting their versions on almost blind faith."...

New York Times, Mar. 8



[Free access during Women's History Month](#)

Alexander Street Press has announced that one of its popular online resources, [Women and Social Movements in the United States 1600-2000, Scholar's Edition](#), will be freely accessible during the month of March so that librarians, students, and scholars can explore the site's rich collection of primary materials and teaching tools without passwords or fees. Named an Outstanding Academic Title for the Year by *Choice Academic Reviews*, the database is one of the most heavily visited women's studies sites online....

Alexander Street Press, Mar. 3



[Letters capture grief for President Kennedy](#)

More than a million people wrote to Jacqueline Kennedy in the months after her husband's assassination in 1963. Many of the [letters](#)



were destroyed—there were simply too many to keep—but thousands of others were stored at the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library in Boston, where they were rarely seen; even many of the writers forgot what they had said. Ellen Fitzpatrick, a historian, culled through the archives for her new book, *Letters to Jackie: Condolences From a Grieving Nation* (HarperCollins)....
New York Times, Mar. 8

[HighWire's e-book survey](#) (PDF file)

HighWire Press has released the full results of a fall 2009 survey of librarians (PDF file) on their attitudes and practices related to e-books. The results draw on the input of 138 librarians from 13 countries. The survey data was analyzed by Michael Newman, head librarian at Stanford University's Falconer Biology Library, who found that ease of use seems more important than sophisticated end-user features, and users tend to discover e-books through both the library catalog and search engines....

HighWire Press, Mar. 4



[Do free e-books drive print sales?](#)

Kent Anderson writes: "A common bit of speculation, bolstered by Chris Anderson's book *Free: The Future of a Radical Price* (right), is that providing free copies of books drives awareness and redounds in a commercially beneficial way. Various publishers, some in the scholarly space, have had success with this approach—but arguably always as part of a carefully constructed business model in which 'free' has a clear purpose. Even open access can be characterized as free output to spur paid input."...

The Scholarly Kitchen, Mar. 9



[Six months with an e-book reader](#)

Brad Moon writes: "It's been nearly six months since I first took the plunge and entered the world of e-books and e-book readers in a big way. As an avid reader and book collector (some would say hoarder), has the digital plunge been a game changer, or just another meh experience? My conclusion? Reading is all digital for me from now on. I feel very old-school when publishers send me dead-tree books for review. I read them, but I've come to prefer the e-book experience."...

Wired: GeekDad, Mar. 9



[How to design a book cover](#)

The creative director of Orbit Books, Lauren Panepinto, has invited all to see her process for designing the cover of *Blameless* by Gail Carriger. This time-lapse [video](#) (1:55) takes us through intense Photoshop compositing and retouching, type tweaking in Illustrator, keyword image research, double-checking the cover brief form in Microsoft Word, and the painstaking revisions process....



design : related, Mar. 8



Actions & Answers

[Naming our profession](#)

Gary Hartzell writes: "This thing about what to call school librarians is—from my point of view—counterproductive. Terms like 'school library media specialist' don't exactly dance on your tongue and there is a danger in using a metaphor like 'information manager' or 'chief information officer.' While metaphors help us gain insight into complex realities, they are not representations of the total reality. Metaphors only highlight certain characteristics of the items they describe."...

Blue Skunk Blog, Mar. 3

[Final report on digital preservation](#)

The Blue Ribbon Task Force on Sustainable Digital Preservation and Access has issued its final report ([PDF file](#)) on the critical economic challenges of preserving an ever-increasing amount of information in a world gone digital. *Sustainable Economics for a Digital Planet: Ensuring Long-Term Access to Digital Information* focuses on four distinct

scenarios: scholarly discourse, research data, commercially owned cultural content (such as digital movies and music), and collectively produced web content (such as blogs)....

OCLC, Mar. 4



[March is Women's History Month](#)

Broadcast journalist and television personality Hoda Kotb will deliver the keynote address for the Library of Congress's month-long celebration of Women's History Month in the James Madison Building on March 19. The library has also launched an [online resource page](#) that showcases its extensive holdings on women's history and culture....

Library of Congress, Feb. 25



[Win a visit from Katherine Paterson](#)

LC's new National Ambassador for Young People's Literature for 2010–2011 is Katherine Paterson, author of *The Bridge to Terabithia* and *Jacob Have I Loved*. In 250 words, describe what kind of event your library would have if it were hosting a visit from Paterson and [submit](#) it by March 15. The Center for the Book, the Children's Book Council, and Every Child a Reader—sponsors of the National Ambassador program—will choose one winner....

Library of Congress, Mar. 8



[Texas acquires the David Foster Wallace papers](#)

The University of Texas Harry Ransom Center has



acquired the archive of writer David Foster Wallace (1962–2008), author of *Infinite Jest* (1996), *The Broom of the System* (1987), *Girl with Curious Hair* (1988), and numerous collections of stories and essays. The archive contains manuscript materials for Wallace’s books, stories, and essays; research materials; Wallace’s college and graduate school writings; juvenilia, including poems, stories, and letters; teaching materials; and books. [Read](#) how the Ransom Center came to acquire it....
University of Texas, Mar. 9; Cultural Compass, Mar. 8

Report measures time reading job-related materials

Librarians spend an average 22 minutes a day reading print publications relating to their job and an average 10 minutes a day reading library-themed blogs, a survey has found. [Primary Research Group](#) surveyed 555 full-time academic librarians in the United States and Canada for the report. Librarians who were at least 60 years old spent the most time reading print publications, at 31 minutes a day. Academic librarians 30 or under spent the most time reading library-related blogs, at 19 minutes a day....
Wired Campus, Mar. 5

18 internet firsts

Zaheer Ahmed Khan writes: “In 1971, Ray Tomlinson sent the first email and also made use of the @ symbol in email addresses. Some systems were available before (in the early 1960s) but they were only used to exchange messages on mainframe computers. The current shape of email emerged in the 1970s. The internet didn’t even exist at that time but its ancestor ARPANET did. The first company to register a domain name was computer manufacturer Symbolics.”...
Tech Readers, Mar. 6

Charles Martel’s classification system

Larry Nix writes: “Charles Martel (1860–1945) was the architect of the Library of Congress Classification System. He began his career at the Library of Congress on December 1, 1897, shortly after the opening of the magnificent new building now known as the Thomas Jefferson Building, and worked under J. C. M. Hanson, head of the newly created Catalog Division. Martel and Hanson convinced Librarian of Congress Herbert Putnam that a new subject classification system was needed.”...
Library History Buff Blog, Mar. 5

7000-7200	Workingman's insurance and manual skill.
7000	Collections. Congresses, etc.
7001	General.
7006-7095	Unemployment.
7101-7105	Accident. Sickness.
7106-7195	Invalidity. Old age.
7111	Insurance and home industry.
7116	By trade.
7121-7200	By country.
7200-7295	Labor hygiene. Welfare institutions.
7300	Collections. Congresses.
7301	General.
7302	Dangerous occupations.
7303	Industrial prisons.

16 Facebook apps to boost your fan page

Wong Ching Ya writes: “More than 20 million people join as fans of Facebook fan pages daily. Boost the popularity of your fan page with the right Facebook applications. Quit feeling comfortable with the basic fan page layout. You are gathering supporters to form a community. Make your fans proud with a decent fan page and give first-timers something to talk about.”...
Social @ Blogging Tracker, Mar. 4

The Roseville Library

renovation project

Since it opened in 1993, the Roseville branch of the Ramsey County (Minn.) Library had seen a 70% increase in circulation. In 2008, the county approved a \$15.6-million budget to build a 30,000-square-foot second-story addition. This video (32:35) details the plans, decisions, and challenges that faced the library staff, architects Meyer Scherer and Rockcastle, and the interior designers during this 15-month project. The library is scheduled to reopen July 10....

Vimeo, Feb. 16



Murdered mill girl memorialized at Biddeford library

Nancy Mattoon writes: "A new [online exhibit](#) hosted by the McArthur Public Library in Biddeford, Maine, on the Maine Memory Network reveals the history of an 1850 murder case so sensational it inspired three books in the years immediately following the crime and another book more than 150 years later. The body of Mary Bean (right), a factory worker, was found bound to a board and floating in a stream near Saco, Maine. The exhibit paints a picture of a time when young women began to abandon their traditional roles and left home to become factory girls."...

Book Patrol, Mar. 10



Job talk: Choose your references with care

Rebecca Sullivan writes: "Job applicants have many things to focus on. One thing that tends to fall by the wayside during preparation happens to be one of the most important: your references. While most people agree that what your references say to a potential employer has a significant impact on your being hired, choosing references and ensuring they are prepared to provide useful information about you often comes as an afterthought."...

NMRT Footnotes 39, no. 3 (Feb.)

The National Library of Medicine's contagious exhibit

Nancy Mattoon writes: "The Cultural Programs of the National Academy of Sciences and the National Library of Medicine have teamed up to create an exhibit of 22 posters from around the globe, the creme de contagion culled from a collection of hundreds of compelling public-health commercials created to curtail communicable killers. "An [Iconography of Contagion](#)" proves that every trick in Madison Avenue's persuasive playbook was purloined by medical professionals."...

Book Patrol, Mar. 5



A marketer's guide to the social landscape

From Facebook to YouTube to Digg and beyond, which media outlets will net the most bang for the buck in terms of customer communication, brand exposure,

	GOOD!	OK.
WEBSITE	CUSTOMER COMMUNICATION	BRAND EXPOSURE
<p>Google</p> <p>It's the most visited site in the world, and it's the most visited site in the world.</p>	<p>It's the most visited site in the world, and it's the most visited site in the world.</p>	<p>It's the most visited site in the world, and it's the most visited site in the world.</p>
Facebook	Twitter	YouTube
<p>It's the most visited site in the world, and it's the most visited site in the world.</p>	<p>It's the most visited site in the world, and it's the most visited site in the world.</p>	<p>It's the most visited site in the world, and it's the most visited site in the world.</p>

traffic, and search engine optimization?

For an analysis of which social media tools are your best bet, CMO.com turned to 97th Floor, a social media firm. They came up with this handy guide ([PDF file](#)) to 10 social network choices and how they rate in each area....

CMO.com, Feb. 10

[Act.ly for nonprofits](#)

Heather Mansfield writes: "[Act.ly](#) brings a whole new spin to online activism. Online petitions and email advocacy have been around for almost a decade, and now there is a new tool to add to your nonprofit's arsenal — [Tweet-based petitions](#). Want to use Twitter to petition President @[BarackObama](#) to suspend 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell'? Well get to it!" Lisa Layera of the Spokane Moms has one asking @[WhiteHouse](#) to support certified teacher-librarians trained in technology integration....

Nonprofit Tech 2.0, Feb. 16; [act.ly](#)



[Google Maps unveils bike directions](#)

Google unveiled Bike Directions for Google Maps on March 10. This eagerly anticipated function gives turn-by-turn biking directions (currently in the United States only). To use them, you need to click on the "Get Directions" link in Google Maps and choose the Bicycling option from the drop-down menu. The map view then changes to show roads and paths that are suitable for biking. Bike paths with no cars are shown in dark green and roads with bike lanes are in light green. Watch the [video](#) (1:38)....

Google Maps Mania, Mar. 10



[Best job in the world? Bookmobile driver in the Highlands of Scotland](#)

Writer and editor Kirsten Campbell interviews her father Richard, who has driven a mobile library in northern Scotland for the past 18 years, in this series of podcasts. He tells how he had to get dressed up as a bear once, explains how he conducted a storytime reading of a Scandinavian fairy tale containing a graphic sex scene, and reveals that the most requested title in the Highlands is: *The Prophecies of the Brahan Seer*....

Bureauista, Mar. 7



[New Bodleian Library plan unveiled](#)

Oxford University announced March 4 a £78-million (\$117.6-million U.S.) renovation plan for its world-famous Bodleian Library building. The project, designed by Wilkinson Eyre Architects, has three aims: to create high-quality storage for its special collections, to develop the library's facilities for the support of advanced research, and to expand public access by adding new exhibition galleries and other facilities. The library will reopen in 2015 as the Weston Library....

University of Oxford, Mar. 4



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american libraries DIRECT

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | March 17, 2010

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SCHOOLROOMS
 A new learning portal for K-12

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



American Libraries Online

Bostonians deplore "downloadables"

"Not the computers, not the high-tech, not the downloadables," said Boston resident Maria Rodriguez at a March 9 Boston Public Library board meeting. "Libraries are about books and librarians. I didn't hear anything about that in your vision." Rodriguez was one of nearly 400 people who came for details about the planned closure of as many as 10 of the city's 26 library branches and the layoff of up to 25% of the staff in order to address a \$3.6-million budget shortfall for FY2011....

American Libraries news, Mar. 16



Pink slips and rumors fly in Los Angeles

AL Senior Editor Beverly Goldberg writes: "The state of fiscal emergency in many libraries, school districts, and academic campuses has lent credence to recent media reports that officials of the Los Angeles Unified School District have approved the dismissal of every certificated teacher-librarian systemwide. According to California School Librarians Association President Rosemarie Bernier, however, the truth is far less dire. But ALA President Camila Alire and AASL President Cassandra Barnett sent a [letter](#) March 17 to LAUSD Superintendent Ramon Cortines making the case for strong school libraries staffed by credentialed professionals."...

AL: Inside Scoop, Mar. 17



Library Design Showcase 2010

AL Associate Editor Greg Landgraf writes: "This year's Library Design Showcase will feature 10 distinct sections, each highlighting one specific facet of library architecture or design. They will be posted, one per weekday, from March 15 through 26. Up so far are Building Community, Green Libraries, and Historic Style."...

American Libraries feature



Become a
More Effective
Program
Planner!

Next session
begins in April.

Learn more:
shapingoutcomes.org

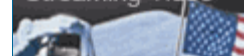
American History in Video

"A solid ten . . . and, at this price, an amazing deal. This is a product I wish every library in the U.S. could make accessible to its researchers, from elementary school children to history scholars."

—Library Journal

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TRY IT NOW!

Newsreels &
Documentaries
Online in
Streaming Video



Designing a space for children and teens

Sandra Feinberg and James R. Keller write: "Envisioning a new youth services space is a joint effort on the part of the architects, design professionals, staff, board, and community. It requires an examination of the mission and roles of the library. Ideally, children's and teen spaces need to reflect the library's philosophy of service and be designed as an integrated entity with a consideration of and an attraction for young patrons."...

American Libraries feature



Storms and surges

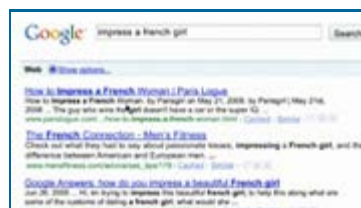
AL Senior Editor Beverly Goldberg writes: "The nor'easter that tore through New England in mid-March wrought havoc in three states. After reading that Connecticut Gov. Jodi Rell had declared Greenwich a disaster area in the storm's aftermath, I asked Greenwich Public Library Director Carol Mahoney how the library had fared. Luckily, all three branches were spared damage and power outages; instead, GPL's three facilities experienced a power surge—of users, that is."...

AL: Inside Scoop, Mar. 16

Internet Librarian: Mirabile visu

Joseph Janes writes: "Something I never thought I'd see: a Google commercial (right). I couldn't quite believe it at first; there it was in the third quarter of the Super Bowl, as it really began to look like New Orleans had a chance to win. At first I thought maybe it was an ad for some other company that was just showing Google as a way to get to its own website; but nope, there it was. If you missed it, it's [available](#) (0:52) on YouTube, and it bears a quick look."...

American Libraries column, April; YouTube, Nov. 19, 2009



One library braves the e-newsletter front

Laura Bruzas writes: "Where do libraries use the most paper? The answer: the library newsletter. I recently caught up with Beth Keller, marketing specialist for the Highland Park (Ill.) Public Library, to ask how her library's transition to a 'paperless' e-newsletter was going. Here's what she had to say."...

AL: Green Your Library, Mar. 16

Bernard Margolis diagnosed with blood cancer

AL Editor and Publisher Leonard Kniffel writes: "Members of the ALA Council learned March 16 from his wife, Amanda, that longtime councilor and Association leader Bernard Margolis has been diagnosed with a severe type of blood cancer. His wife said they were consulting with the famed Dana-Farber/Harvard Cancer Center in Boston. Jim Luke in Michigan has put together a [website](#) so friends can stay in touch."...

AL: Inside Scoop, Mar. 16



ALA Annual Conference.

Washington, D.C., June 24–29. The [2010 Annual Conference wiki](#) is now available. Everyone is invited to exchange information about Conference events, committee work, the exhibit and trade show, and the D.C. area. Be sure to check out the numerous [preconferences, special events, and post-conference events.](#)



Save 50% on [Booklist Online](#) when you sign up for individual access through April 30. It's only \$147.50



The fast, easy and most effective way
to learn to speak a foreign language.

Try Mango!

ALA News

[Under construction: Family literacy models](#)

In January, ALA and President Camila Alire awarded each of the Association's five ethnic affiliates \$4,000 to develop and implement innovative family literacy models. With the support of Alire's Family Focus Initiative, the affiliates are building innovative family-literacy models in libraries serving Native American, Asian American, Pacific American, African American, Chinese American, and Latino communities....

Office for Literacy and Outreach, Mar. 16

[ALA website usability study](#)

Librarians are invited to [participate](#) in a usability study designed to determine the accessibility of the ALA website for individuals using assistive devices. The ideal participant would be a member of ALA who requires an assistive device to access the internet. Emerging Leaders Project Team K has taken on the task of developing this study, which will run through May....

Information Technology and Telecommunication Services, Mar. 11

[Explore the universe @ your library](#)

Through a partnership with IMAX and Warner Bros. Pictures, ALA is helping young library users explore the universe. In conjunction with the March 19 release of the documentary adventure *Hubble 3D*, ALA will host an Explore the universe @ your library [contest](#), giving kids in grades kindergarten through 12 the opportunity to win tickets to the newest IMAX movie *Hubble 3D*, telescopes, and other prizes. The contest runs through April 30....

Campaign for America's Libraries, Mar. 11



[Picturing America deadline extended](#)

The National Endowment for the Humanities and the ALA Public Programs Office have extended the deadline for public libraries to apply to receive a \$2,000 programming grant to support programs that incorporate the Picturing America collection. [Applications](#) will be accepted through April 26. Additionally, the terms of the grant have been expanded so that all public libraries are considered eligible to apply....

Public Programs Office, Mar. 16



[COSWL celebrates National Women's History Month](#)

During the entire month of March, the Committee on the Status of Women in Librarianship will recognize and celebrate women's historic achievements with [National Women's History Month](#). Over the years COSWL has helped develop evaluative tools, guidelines, and programs in cooperation with other ALA units to enhance the opportunities and the image of women in the library profession....

Office for Human Resource Development and Recruitment, Mar. 16

[Developing a core collection](#)

per year. Plus, you'll receive *Booklist* and *Book Links* magazines free for a year. [Sign up today](#) or visit us at PLA Booth 2371.

NEW! From *Booklist*.

New this week in American Libraries



[Designing a Space for Children and Teens](#)

[Library Design Showcase 2010](#)

[Internet Librarian](#)

[Perpetual Beta](#)

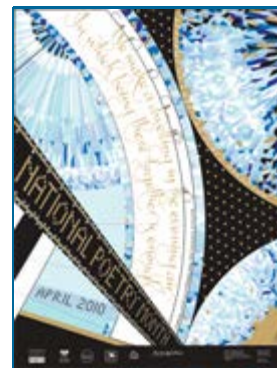
[Inside Scoop](#)

[Green Your Library](#)

[Librarian's Library](#)

[Ask the ALA Librarian](#)

[AL Focus](#)



ALA Editions has released [*Developing an Outstanding Core Collection: A Guide for Libraries, Second Edition*](#) by Carol Alabaster. In this practical and newly updated handbook, Alabaster focuses on developing a collection with high-quality materials while saving time and money. Packed with selection resources and sample core lists in seven subject areas, this soup-to-nuts manual will be useful for librarians starting from scratch or revitalizing an existing collection....

ALA Editions, Mar. 17



[Library shelveers: The e-book](#)

ALA Editions has announced its first e-book bundle, [*Hiring, Training, and Supervising Library Shelveers*](#) by Patricia Tunstall. The e-book is offered in file formats that are readable using a variety of software and devices, including the Amazon Kindle, Sony eReader, iPhone's Stanza eReader, Adobe Digital Editions eReader and the MobiPocket eReader. The e-book can also be read on desktop and laptop computers using [free software](#)....

ALA Editions, Mar. 17



[South Africa scores @ your library](#)

The @ your library brand travels well. The Library and Information Association of South Africa is using the brand to promote South Africa Library Week, March 15–20. This year's theme, "Score @ your library," was inspired by the upcoming FIFA 2010 Soccer World Cup. Posters geared toward adults will feature the slogans "Read the Game," "Score @ your library," and "Eat, Breathe, Read Soccer @ your library." A poster aimed at children will also feature the "Read the Game" slogan....

Campaign for America's Libraries, Mar. 16



The one time you want your kids doodling.
[Sign up](#) to give your students a chance to see their art on the Google homepage.



Booklist ONLINE

[Featured review: Crime fiction](#)

Larsson, Stieg. *The Girl Who Kicked the Hornet's Nest*. May 2010. 576p. Knopf, hardcover (978-0-307-26999-7).

When we last saw Lisbeth Salander, she was teetering between life and death. And who wouldn't be after having been shot by her father and buried alive by her brother?

Salander was rescued, at the end of *The Girl Who Played with Fire* (2009), by journalist



April is [National Poetry Month](#). Look for this poster in the April issue of *American Libraries*.

Career Leads from JobLIST

[Distance Instruction Librarian](#)

Morehead State University, Morehead, Kentucky. Provides instruction to university regional campuses and distance learning students via face-to-face, online, and interactive television settings; plans, delivers, and assesses distance library services; serves as a liaison to regional campuses, local public libraries, and community college libraries in the area; travels throughout MSU's service region; works with Director of Instructional Services and teaching faculty to plan and develop library instruction for on-campus classes....



@ [More jobs...](#)

Digital Library of the Week

Mikael Blomkvist. She's now in a Swedish hospital, slowly mending and awaiting trial for three murders she didn't commit. Meanwhile, her father, a former Soviet spy, is down the hall, recovering from the injuries he sustained when Lisbeth stuck an ax in his head. Blomkvist, Salander's loyal friend, sets out to prove her innocence, but to do so he must expose a decades-old conspiracy within the Swedish secret service that has resulted in, among other travesties, a lifetime of abuse heaped upon Salander, whose very life threatens to expose the deadly charade. The late Larsson (this third novel in his Millennium Trilogy is his final book) can be accused of heaping too much plot between two covers—in addition to the Salander story, there is an elaborate subplot involving Blomkvist's lover, Erica, and her travails as the first female editor of a major Stockholm newspaper—but he is remarkably agile at keeping multiple balls in the air....

Stieg Larsson

Bill Ott writes: "It's been a rough year for crime fiction. The recent deaths of Donald E. Westlake, Robert B. Parker, and Dick Francis have left gaping holes on many mystery fans' A-lists. For more than six decades, those three luminaries gave readers consistently entertaining, often trailblazing stories, and we have followed their various series with devotion. Fortunately, they leave behind a tremendous body of work—more than 100 books between the three of them—for fans and generations of new readers to enjoy again and again. That's not the case with Swedish journalist and crime novelist Stieg Larsson, who died in 2004 at the age of 50, having written only three novels."...



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

Division News

A school librarian call to action

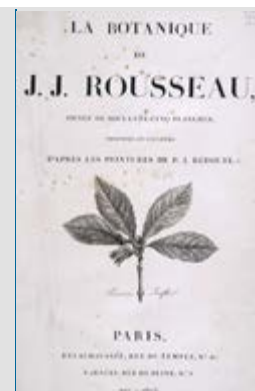
A [statement](#) released by AASL urges school library professionals to examine the grade-level bands released March 10 in the first official public [draft](#) of the K–12 standards, part of the Common Core State Standards Initiative, and provide feedback by April 2 on its [website](#). The initiative is a state-led effort coordinated by the National Governors Association Center for Best Practices and the Council of Chief State School Officers....

AASL, Mar. 11



School Library Month PSAs

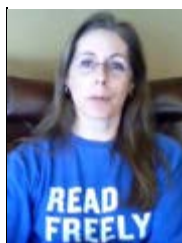
Audio and video public service announcements recorded by School Library Month spokesperson and



The [Biodiversity Heritage Library](#), the digitization component of the [Encyclopedia of Life](#), is a consortium of 12 major natural history museum libraries, botanical libraries, and research institutions organized to digitize, serve, and preserve the legacy literature of biodiversity. Content consists primarily of books and periodicals in the public domain, and is searchable and browsable by title, author, subject, scientific name, location, and year of publication. All images are downloadable and free for noncommercial use under a Creative Commons license. The European Commission's eContentPlus program has recently funded the BHL-Europe project, with 22 institutions, to assemble the European language literature. Negotiations are being pursued with the Chinese Academy of Sciences, the Atlas of Living Australia and contacts in Japan, India, and Russia to join the BHL consortium. Prior to digitization, the resources housed

author Laurie Halse Anderson (right) are now available for [downloading](#). You can add the PSAs to your school's daily broadcast in April or upload them to your school or media center website. Visit the School Library Month site to find tips on how to get your local radio and public television stations to play the PSAs....

AASL, Mar. 16



[Portland-area library information for PLA attendees](#)

Interested in checking out Portland libraries during the PLA National Conference, March 23–27? Here are directions, hours, and contacts....

PLA Blog, Mar. 11

[The ALA Store at PLA Portland](#)

ALA Editions and ALA Graphics will have a wide variety of books and promotional items available at the ALA Store, open March 24–26 during the PLA National Conference in Portland, Oregon. Publications from many ALA divisions will also be available for purchase as well as the official conference t-shirt....

ALA Editions, Mar. 17

[2010 Young Adult Literature Symposium](#)

YALSA has selected its official program slate for the 2010 Young Adult Literature Symposium. The symposium will be held at the Albuquerque Marriott, November 5–7, with a theme of "Beyond Good Intentions: Diversity, Literature and Teens." The event will begin with a full-day preconference on gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and questioning teens, as well as half-day preconferences on readers' advisory, street literature, and "fat lit."...

YALSA, Mar. 11



[2010 Operation Teen Book Drop](#)

On April 15, Operation Teen Book Drop will deliver 10,000 new books to teens on Indian reservations and tribal lands. In addition, more than 100 top YA authors will leave their books in public places for young readers to discover, and members of the public can buy books online and have them shipped to tribal libraries. Publishers donated the books, valued at more than \$175,000....

YALSA, Mar. 15



[YALSA launches mentoring program](#)

YALSA will begin a new mentoring program in April. The program will pair an experienced librarian (six years experience or more) with a new librarian (fewer than six years experience) or graduate student in a library science program. Applications for the mentoring program will open online April 5 and close June 30....

YALSA, Mar. 16

[Wrestlemania Reading Challenge finalists](#)

Twenty-one regional winners in grades 5–12 from across the United States and Canada have won a chance to compete in the

within each BHL institution have existed in isolation, available only to those with physical access to the collections. In November 2009, the collection added more than 21,000 new titles as a result of ingesting open-access texts scanned by the Internet Archive. The collection now includes some 2 million volumes.

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

"Librarians used to monitor [noisy] behavior, reminding people to be quiet and setting good examples themselves. Nowadays, librarians lead people through the stacks as if they were sales people at the grocery store, chatting loudly as they go. And the future doesn't look promising. Just this morning our lead librarian brought two new staff members through, pointing out areas of the library. 'This,' she boomed, 'is the quiet reading area.'"

—Ellen Hansen, guest

WrestleMania Reading Challenge World Finals. The finals will be held at the Burton Barr Central Library in Phoenix, Arizona, on March 27. The WrestleMania Reading Challenge is sponsored by YALSA and World Wrestling Entertainment....

YALSA, Mar. 16

[Connect teens to reading at YALSA preconferences](#)

At ALA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C., YALSA will be giving librarians tools to connect teens to reading using web tools during "Promoting Teen Reading with Web 2.0 Tools," a half-day preconference on June 25. Speakers for the preconference include Kami Garcia, Margaret Stohl, Malinda Lo, John Green, and David Levithan. Another [preconference](#), "It's Perfectly Normal: Dealing with 'Sensitive' Topics in Teen Services," will focus on such topics as sexuality, abuse, and privacy....

YALSA, Mar. 16

[Public Library Data Service deadline](#)

PLA invites your library to participate in the 2010 Public Library Data Service statistical report. The deadline for completing the [survey](#) has been extended to March 31. You will need your library's individual PLDS ID number and password to complete it....

PLA Blog, Mar. 15

[Adriana Trigiani slated for Literary Tastes Breakfast](#)

Adriana Trigiani, author of the bestselling *Very Valentine*, will speak at the upcoming 2010 Literary Tastes Breakfast held June 27 during the ALA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. In addition to Trigiani, the Literary Tastes Breakfast will feature other authors from the 2010 selections for RUSA's book and media awards. The breakfast is a ticketed event—access the online conference [registration form](#) to sign up....

RUSA, Mar. 11



Awards

[2010 James Madison Award winners](#)

The joint winners of the 2010 James Madison Award are Meredith Fuchs (right), general counsel to the National Security Archive, and the Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington. The award honors individuals or groups who have championed public access to government information. On December 14, 2009, after years of litigation, CREW, the NSA, and the White House announced a [settlement](#) in a lawsuit challenging the failure of the Bush White House and the National Archives to recover and archive millions of emails that had gone missing from White House servers....

ALA Washington Office, Mar. 15



[Tom Phelps receives 2010 Lippincott Award](#)

Thomas C. Phelps, director of the Division of Public Programs at the National Endowment for the Humanities, is this year's recipient of ALA's Joseph W. Lippincott Award. The award, founded in 1938, is given

columnist, "The Stump,"
Portland *Oregonian*, Mar. 14.



TweetWatch

Follow:

Public Library Association, National Conference, Portland, Oregon, Mar. 23–27, at:

[#pla10](#)

American Libraries news stories, videos, tweets, and blog posts at:

[amlibraries](#)

Calendar

Mar. 21:

[Paperback Collectors Show and Sale](#), Guest House Inn Conference Center, Mission Hills, California.

Mar. 27:

[Buffalo Small Press Book Fair](#), Karpeles Manuscript Library Museum, Buffalo, New York.

Mar. 29–30:

[Global Pulse 2010](#), sponsored by the U.S. Agency for International Development. An online collaboration event that will bring together individual socially-engaged participants and organizations from

annually to an individual for distinguished service to the profession of librarianship. Phelps essentially invented the idea of awarding grants to libraries all across the country, in collaboration with ALA, to engage in humanities programming for the general public, beginning with the highly popular "Let's Talk About It" reading and discussion program in all 50 states started in 1984....

Office of ALA Governance, Mar. 17



[East Carolina wins award for Seeds of Change](#)

East Carolina University's J. Y. Joyner Library has won the 2010 Gale Cengage Learning Award for Excellence in Reference and Adult Library Services for the online resource "[Seeds of Change: The Daily Reflector Image Collection](#)" (AL Direct's Digital Library of the Week for September 2, 2009). The RUSA award is given for the development of an imaginative and unique resource to meet patrons' reference needs. "Seeds of Change" contains more than 7,500 images taken from 1949 to 1967 and digitized from the photographic negatives of the *Daily Reflector*, Greenville, North Carolina's daily newspaper....

RUSA, Mar. 11



[2010 John Sessions Memorial Award](#)

The Murray-Green Library at Roosevelt University, Chicago, has won the RUSA John Sessions Memorial Award. Through its development of such resources as the "[Oral History Project in Labor History](#)," the library has made an ongoing commitment to preserve and increase the public's accessibility to labor history. The oral history project contains interviews and transcripts with Chicago-area labor movement participants conducted by Elizabeth Balanoff in the 1970s....

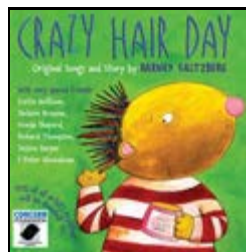
RUSA, Mar. 11



[2010 Notable Children's Videos](#)

ALSC has selected its 2010 list of Notable Children's Videos. The list includes 12 videos for children 14 years of age and younger that exhibit especially commendable quality, show respect for children's intelligence and imagination, and reflect and encourage the interests of children in exemplary ways. See the ALSC website for the full [annotated list](#)....

ALSC, Mar. 11



[2010 Notable Children's Recordings](#)

ALSC has selected its 2010 list of Notable Children's Recordings. The list includes 30 recordings for children 14 years of age and younger of especially commendable quality that demonstrate respect for young people's intelligence

around the world.

Apr. 7-9:

[Fay B. Kaigler Children's Book Festival](#), University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg.

May 12-14:

[Workshop for Instruction in Library Use](#), McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario. "Design, Play, Learn."

June 6-12:

[Association of Caribbean University, Research and Institutional Libraries](#), Annual Conference, Intercontinental V Centenario Hotel, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.

@ [More...](#)

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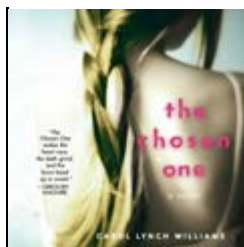
AL Direct is a free electronic newsletter emailed every Wednesday to personal members of the [American Library Association](#) and subscribers.



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

and imagination; exhibit venturesome creativity; and reflect and encourage the interests of children in exemplary ways. See the ALSC website for the full [annotated list](#)...

ALSC, Mar. 11



H. W. Wilson Library Staff Development Grant

The Kelvin Smith Library at Case Western Reserve University has received the 2010 H. W. Wilson Library Staff Development Grant. The award of \$3,500 is presented annually to a library demonstrating the greatest need for a staff development program furthering the goals and objectives of library services. The library will use the award to support professional development for its *Traveling and Training with Technology* toolkit....

Office of ALA Governance, Mar. 15



YALSA wins grant, consulting services

YALSA received multiple accolades in the past month, including a \$5,000 Carnegie-Whitney grant from the ALA Publications Committee and pro-bono consulting from Chicago Net Impact's Service Corps. YALSA will use the grant to publish *The Best of YALS: Teen Read Week and Teen Tech Week*, which will highlight content from *Young Adult Library Services*. Service Corps will work with YALSA to help it attract corporate sponsors and partners for its initiatives and programs....

YALSA, Mar. 16

NMRT sponsors an Emerging Leader

The New Members Round Table has awarded Janel White (right), broadcast librarian at National Public Radio in Washington, D.C., a \$1,000 scholarship to sponsor her participation in the ALA Emerging Leaders Program. The Emerging Leaders program enables newer librarians from across the country to participate in problem-solving work groups, network with peers, and gain an inside look into ALA structure....

Office for Human Resource Development and Recruitment, Mar. 16



Apply for ALTAFF Best Friends Awards

ALTAFF is accepting applications for its fifth annual Best Friends Awards, which recognize Friends groups around the country for outstanding publicity and marketing materials that promote the group, its programs, and projects. The winners will be recognized in ALTAFF's newsletter, *The Voice*. Applications are due April 1....

ALTAFF, Mar. 16

LJ Movers and Shakers 2010

Now in its ninth year, *Library Journal's* Movers and Shakers spotlights librarians from all corners of the library world and several nations. Each year brings numerous nominations of those who work in the library field from colleagues, friends, bosses, and admirers.



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800-545-2433,
ext. 4216

ISSN 1559-369X.

With this year's group of 50, the Movers cohort now numbers some 450....

Library Journal, Mar. 15



OPLA Lifetime Achievement Award

Former Woodstock (Ont.) Public Library Director Stephen Nelson received the Ontario Public Library Association's lifetime achievement award for his 30 years of service to the library and his work with professional organizations. Nelson, who was presented the award in February, said milestones of his 30-year career included library renovations, automation of the card catalog, and surviving cutbacks in the early 1990s....

Oxford (Ont.) Sentinel-Review, Mar. 10

Pittsburgh librarian wins *Thoroughbred Times* fiction contest

Mara Dabrishus, reference librarian at the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh and night and weekend supervisor at the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, put her interest in racing to good use to win the ninth biennial *Thoroughbred Times* Fiction Contest. Her story "Whirlaway" was selected as the best of the 62 stories submitted. The win earned her \$600....

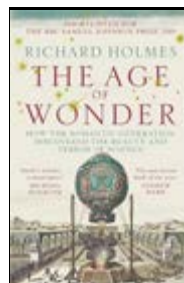
Thoroughbred Times, Mar. 10



2009 National Book Critics Circle awards

The National Book Critics Circle announced its award winners March 11 for the publishing year 2009. Hilary Mantel's *Wolf Hall* (Holt), a Booker Prize winner last year, won the fiction award. The poetry award went to Rae Armantrout's *Versed* (Wesleyan University Press), and the nonfiction award went to Richard Holmes for *The Age of Wonder: How the Romantic Generation Discovered the Beauty and Terror of Science* (Pantheon)....

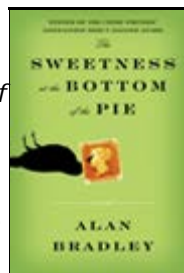
Critical Mass, Mar. 12



Alan Bradley wins 2010 Dilys Award

The Independent Mystery Booksellers Association has awarded Alan Bradley's *The Sweetness at the Bottom of the Pie* its annual Dilys award for 2010. The announcement was made March 13 at an awards presentation at the Left Coast Crime conference in Los Angeles. Bradley will receive a specially-made sculpture in recognition of this achievement....

Independent Mystery Booksellers Association, Mar. 14



Blue Peter Book of the Year award

Frozen in Time by Ali Sparkes, a tale of two cryogenically frozen children from the 1950s who are brought back to life in 2009, has won the Blue Peter Book of the Year award. The award, sponsored by the BBC program *Blue Peter* and voted on by children, honors the best children's books. There are three



categories of awards: most fun story with pictures, best book with facts, and book I couldn't put down. The favorite of the three is voted Blue Peter Book of the Year....

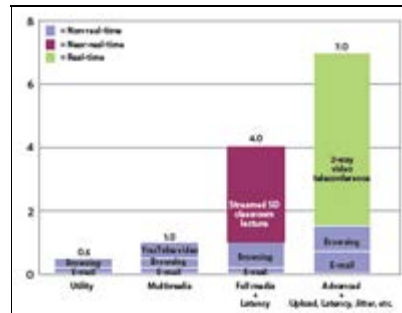
BBC News, Mar. 3

Seen Online

FCC releases National Broadband Plan

The Federal Communications Commission characterized its Congressionally mandated "national broadband plan" as a much-needed step for keeping the United States competitive. Released on March 16, the 376-page plan ([PDF file](#)) reflects the view that broadband internet is becoming the common medium in the United States, gradually displacing the telephone and broadcast television. But many of the recommendations will require Congressional action and take years to put in place. ALA President Camila Alire issued a [statement](#) summarizing a few ways in which libraries will be affected by the plan. The ALA Washington Office has [analyzed](#) the document and supports several initiatives, including the National Digital Literacy Program and the modernization of the e-rate program.....

New York Times, Mar. 16; District Dispatch, Mar. 16–17



Florida moves to eliminate all public library funding

(PDF file)

On March 10, appropriations committees in the Florida House and Senate adopted positions eliminating all funding for Florida's State Aid to Public Libraries program. This action will result in some library branches closing and will seriously cripple libraries' ability to serve their communities. The Florida Library Association is calling on Governor Charlie Crist and legislative leaders to find a way to fund this critical program, which has helped support public library service since 1962....

Florida Library Association, Mar. 11

Charlotte Mecklenburg faces \$2-million cut

On March 16, the Charlotte Mecklenburg (N.C.) Library learned that the county would be reducing the library's funding for FY2010 by 6.3%, or \$2 million, before June 30. To absorb the reduction, CML will need to lay off at least 140 employees, resulting in the closure of at least 12 branches, pending board approval. The new cut follows a \$4-million reduction in county funds since January 2009....

Charlotte Mecklenburg (N.C.) Library, Mar. 17



How privacy vanishes online

Services like Facebook, Twitter, and Flickr are oceans of personal minutiae—birthday greetings sent and received, school and work gossip, photos of family vacations, and movies watched. Computer scientists and policy experts say that such seemingly innocuous bits of self-revelation can increasingly be collected and reassembled by computers to help create a picture of a person's identity, sometimes down to the Social Security number....

New York Times, Mar. 16

Sorting things out in Prescott Valley

The Prescott Valley (Ariz.) Public Library is now handling returned items with an automated sorter that processes each book and DVD one at a time from the book drop, and sorts them into five bins according to their categories. The sorter, custom-built by Tech Logic for about \$267,500, contains RFID technology that reads the tags on each item. Besides reducing staff time, the sorter offers ergonomic benefits as well because employees do not have to bend when they remove items from the bins, Library Director Stuart Mattson said....

Prescott (Ariz.) Daily Courier, Mar. 14



University student accused of stealing historic letters

William John Scott is a freshman at Drew University in Madison, New Jersey. But federal prosecutors say he is a busy archives thief who stole famous letters written by a founder of the United Methodist Church and world leaders, including Abraham Lincoln and Madame Chiang Kai-Shek. Scott allegedly pilfered the letters while working part time at the university archives, sold some for thousands of dollars, and left others sitting in a dresser drawer, where FBI agents found them March 13....

New York Times, Mar. 15

Enoch Pratt's web presence boosts walk-ins

The number of visitors to the Enoch Pratt Free Library in Baltimore increased by 20% over a six-month period, prompting library officials to suggest that the internet is helping boost usage. Pratt Chief Executive Officer Carla Hayden said the library's aggressive online presence and use of social media were helping draw more use. She said her staff uses Facebook, Twitter, Flickr, Foursquare, and MySpace to attract younger, computer-savvy patrons....

Baltimore Sun, Mar. 15



Fending off digital decay, bit by bit

As research libraries and archives are discovering, "born-digital" materials are much more complicated and costly to preserve than anticipated. Archivists are trying to fend off digital extinction at the same time that they are puzzling through questions about what to save, how to save it, and how to make that material accessible. Though computers have been commonly used for more than two decades, archives from writers who used them are just beginning to make their way into collections....

New York Times, Mar. 15

C-SPAN puts its full archives

[on the web](#)

C-SPAN has uploaded virtually every minute of its video archives to its website. Covering 23 years of history and five presidential administrations, the [archives](#) offer free online access to more than 160,000 hours of footage. C-SPAN founder Brian Lamb said in an interview that the archives were an extension of the network's public service commitment....

New York Times, Mar. 15



[Betty White to portray a librarian on *The Middle*](#)

Veteran actress Betty White will lend her comedic flair to the role of a stern school librarian on the season finale of *The Middle* on ABC, the network announced March 12. The 88-year-old White will play a disciplinarian who chastises Brick (Atticus Shaffer) about his failure to return a stack of overdue library books. The episode films in mid-March and will air in May....

People: TV Watch, Mar. 12

[Why Google's deal with Italy is a good thing](#)

The Italian government and the search-engine giant have agreed that Google will digitize up to 1 million books from the national libraries in Florence and Rome. The books to be digitized were all published before 1868 (which means that copyright laws do not apply). Italian libraries will be able to share digital copies of the books with readers on other platforms, including Europeana, the online publishing project of the European Commission....

Christian Science Monitor, Mar. 11

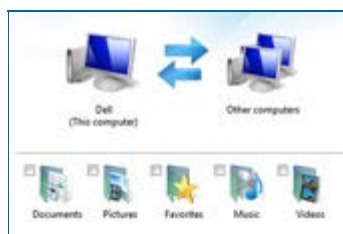
[Go back to the Top](#)

Tech Talk

[Microsoft's free Sync service](#)

David Pogue writes: "[Windows Live Sync](#) is a very good, very free Windows Live service for Mac and Windows that everyone should know about. The problem: You have a work machine and a home machine, and you find yourself having to copy certain important files back and forth. With Windows Live Sync, you designate one folder on Computer A, and another folder on Computer B. Then Sync keeps them synced with each other, magically, over the internet. Add, change, or delete a file on your laptop; you'll find it added, changed, or deleted on your desktop."...

New York Times: Personal Tech, Mar. 11



[Twitter to be available @anywhere](#)

Sarah Jacobsen writes: "Twitter CEO Evan Williams announced March 15 that the company plans to introduce a new platform called @anywhere. The new service will allow Twitter users to connect to their accounts through third-party websites, similar to the way Facebook Connect allows users to sign into other websites using their Facebook accounts. The @anywhere platform will allow Twitter users to tweet and retweet even when they are not signed in to Twitter.com."...

Today @ *PC World*, Mar. 15

[The definitive guide to keeping your PC up to date](#)

Jason Fitzpatrick writes: "Keeping your computer—including its operating system and all the installed third-party software—up to date is extremely important, but it needn't be a hassle or inconvenience. Here's a look at three tools you can use regularly to keep your system current. The following guide will help you set up your computer to automatically update itself when possible, and keep your software current and secure."...

Lifehacker, Mar. 17



[Eww! Using keyboard bacteria to ID users](#)

Casey Johnston writes: "Researchers have found that the bacteria left on keyboards and mice by users' hands are distinct to individual users, and that it is possible to identify a piece of hardware's primary user simply by swabbing the keyboard or mouse for bacteria. The technique proved effective within the constraints of the experiments, but it's a long way from being ready for forensic use."...

Ars Technica, Mar. 17



[20 most popular open source software programs](#)

Tom Walker writes: "These days, you can easily buy a brand-spanking-new computer and install all the software you need for free, using applications offered under the Open Software License. You can get a free image editor, a free sound editor, a free word processor, media player, file archiver, and a PDF creator. While some of these free apps do not offer quite the same level of polished functionality as their commercial rivals, others far exceed the capabilities of everything else on the market."...

Tripwire Magazine, Mar. 10



[The end of the Big Website Era?](#)

Kent Anderson writes: "With the emergence of Facebook, Twitter, RSS, and blogs; the development of the iPhone, iTunes, the Kindle, and the pending iPad; and the continued utility of email, which has only been enhanced by smartphones—well, there's a question haunting the status quo of web development for publishers: Do you really need all that website?"...

The Scholarly Kitchen, Mar. 10

[IBM software tells bloggers what readers want](#)

Erica Naone writes: "Blogging often sounds like a great idea: sharing thoughts and expertise, becoming a part of a community, and taking the first few steps to wider recognition as a writer. But many bloggers quickly get disillusioned. In an effort to fix this problem, IBM researchers have been experimenting with a tool called Blog Muse, which suggests a topic for a blog post with a ready-made audience."...

Technology Review Editors Blog, Mar. 9

[10 useful website analytics tools](#)

Vanessa Davis writes: "When you start a website, no matter if you



have chosen a top business-hosting package or a cheap website-hosting package, you will find various analytical tools in your web-hosting admin panel. Such tools as Awstats are typically included in both business and inexpensive packages, and these are indeed good. However, if you want other options, here are some suggestions.”...
Web Design Ledger, Mar. 10

Google’s translation tool

Miguel Helft writes: “Creating a translation machine has long been seen as one of the toughest challenges in artificial intelligence. For decades, computer scientists tried using a rules-based approach, but in the mid-1990s they began favoring a statistical approach. By feeding the computer millions of passages and their human-generated translations, they found it could learn to make accurate guesses about how to translate new texts. This technique, which requires huge amounts of data and lots of computing horsepower, is right up Google’s alley.”...
New York Times, Mar. 8

Publishing

Long-forgotten Shakespeare play authenticated

In 1727, an enterprising lawyer named Lewis Theobald with ambitions to become a leading figure in the theatre staged his greatest coup: a lost original play by William Shakespeare. However, for most of the three centuries since its debut, *Double Falsehood; or, the Distrest Lovers* has been ridiculed as a hoax. Although written by dramatist John Fletcher, scholars for British Shakespeare publisher Arden now believe the Bard wrote large parts of the play, which is based on a long-lost work called *Cardenio*. But Huw Griffiths, lecturer in early modern literature at Sydney University, says *Double Falsehood* should be treated as an adaptation....
The Times (U.K.), Mar. 16; BBC News, Mar. 15; ABC News, Mar. 16



Free Gale resources during National Library Week

Gale will celebrate National Library Week, April 11–17, by providing free access to four online resources for use by any library throughout the entire week. The offer includes full access to Career Transitions, Global Issues in Context, GREENR (Global Reference on the Environment, Energy, and Natural Resources), and Grzimek’s Animal Life. Librarians can access the databases by downloading a widget from the Gale website after April 10....
Gale, Mar. 11



20 core steampunk titles

John Klima writes: “Steampunk is everywhere, from movies like *Sherlock Holmes* and *Howl’s Moving Castle* to the Victoria’s Secret Fashion Show and an art exhibition at the Museum of the History of Science in Oxford, England. A subgenre of science fiction, it typically (but not always) employs a Victorian setting where steam power and advanced technologies like computers coexist and often features themes, such as



secret societies, found in mystery novels. Here are 10 classic steampunk works and 10 more recent titles for a well-rounded collection.”...

Library Journal, Mar. 4

[American History in Video free through April 16](#)

Alexander Street Press is offering a free trial of its entire American History in Video collection of streaming newsreels and documentaries through April 16. The series features synchronized, scrolling, full-text, searchable transcripts for each video. The newsreels include footage from United News and Universal International News archives, and the documentaries include award-winning productions from PBS, Bullfrog Films, and the History Channel. [Registration](#) does not require a username or password....

Alexander Street Press, Mar. 16



[Book review bingo: Keep a tally of annoying reviewer clichés](#)

Michelle Kerns writes: “What’s the point of identifying the [top 20](#) most annoying book reviewer clichés unless you can have a bit o’ fun with them? As you read through the week’s reviews, book jackets, or gushing publicity sheets, keeping a running tally of the number of times books are referred to as a ‘tour de force’ or ‘compelling’ or ‘readable’ (shudder) is certainly one source of amusement. Playing Bingo with those clichés, however, ups the ante into realms of hitherto untrodden delight.”...

Book Examiner, Mar. 11, 15

B	I	N	G	O
nuanced	itch-perfect	thought-provoking	at once	beautifully written
unputdownable	that said	riveting	in the tradition of...	gritty
powerful	stunning	Cliche-free	unflinching	tour de force
sweeping	readable	fully realized	compelling	rollicking
X meets X	haunting	lyrical	epic	timely

[Two more library magazines sold](#)

Two weeks after *Library Journal* and *School Library Journal* were acquired by Media Source, two other publications serving the library market have been sold. VOYA (*Voice of Youth Advocates*), which is aimed at librarians serving young adults, and *Teacher Librarian*, a journal for school library professionals, have been acquired by E. L. Kurdyla Publishing, a new company formed by publishing and library veteran Edward Kurdyla. The journals formerly belonged to Rowman and Littlefield Publishing Group’s subsidiary Scarecrow Press....

Publishers Weekly, Mar. 16



[EBSCO Publishing to acquire OCLC’s NetLibrary](#)



OCLC and EBSCO Publishing have signed an agreement whereby EBSCO will purchase the assets of the OCLC NetLibrary Division and the rights to license a select number of vendor-owned databases currently available through OCLC FirstSearch. The purchase includes the NetLibrary e-book and e-audiobook platform as well as operations and infrastructure in Boulder, Colorado....

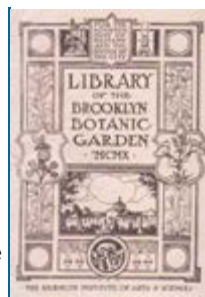
OCLC, Mar. 17

[Psychology of the bookplate](#)

Alex Beam writes: “‘This book belongs to me.’ For over five centuries, that has been the message

conveyed by every bookplate, whether printed and hand-tinted for Hildebrand Brandenburg in 1480 or mass-produced for Barnes & Noble or Amazon. (Yes, they sell bookplates.) Think of a bookplate as a wedding ring binding the reader to the book, and vice versa. The symbolism isn't so far apart: ownership, possession, desire. Electronic bookplates? I don't think so."...

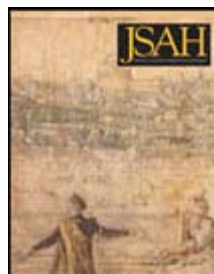
Yale Alumni Magazine, Mar./Apr.



Online journal 2.0

Steve Kolowich writes: "The Society of Architectural Historians has developed a new platform for its online journal that it hopes will close the gap between reading about important architectural examples and experiencing them. The society unveiled March 16 a [new platform](#) for the online version of the *Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians*, which it built through a series of grants from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. The online version, dubbed JSAH Online, will support presentation methods—such as video, virtual modeling, and digital mapping—that academics could show off only in live demonstrations and museum installations."...

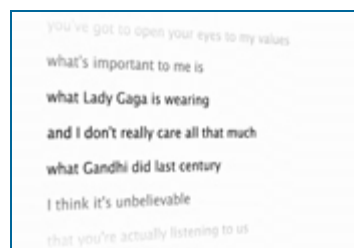
Inside Higher Ed, Mar. 16



The future of publishing, according to DK Books

This video (2:26) was prepared by the UK branch of Dorling Kindersley Books. Originally meant solely for a DK sales conference, the video was such a hit internally that it is now being shared externally. Make sure you watch it up to at least the halfway point, because there is a surprise....

YouTube, Mar. 9



Actions & Answers

Five tips for successful webinars

Peter Bromberg writes: "Good webinars don't just happen. Beyond having a relevant topic and a great presenter, there are a number of factors that affect the end result. Whether you are scheduling and producing webinars or creating and presenting them, these tips will help you deliver a great webinar experience for everyone. Rule no. 1: Write for the medium."...

ALA Learning Round Table blog, Mar. 15



Eleven extra-special collections in academic libraries

Ethan Trex writes: "Usually when we head to the library, we're looking for something relatively mundane. Step into a library's special collections, though, and you'll find all sorts of offbeat offerings. Here is a look at some unusual special collections one can peruse in reading rooms around the country." Included are glass eyeballs at Duke, puppets at UC-Santa Barbara, bloodletting and patent medicines at UCLA, and libertine literature at Princeton....

Mental Floss, Mar. 11



Battle of the opens

Dorothea Salo writes: "I'm committed to a lot of different kinds of 'open'—open source, open access, open standards. Unfortunately, out there in the wild I find a tremendous amount of misunderstanding about various flavors of open, sometimes coming from otherwise perfectly respectable communications outlets. So here—free, gratis, libre, and open—is a brief, simplistic guide to several flavors of open."...

The Book of Troopool, Mar. 15

The first green library in Manhattan

On March 18, the New York Public Library will open its Battery Park City branch, an environmentally friendly library that provides a wide range of services for the community.

Designed by the architecture firm 1100

Architects, the branch was constructed with a focus on environmental sustainability and will be the first green library in Manhattan. It is expected to receive LEED Gold certification from the U. S. Green Building Council....

New York Public Library, Mar. 17



Check out Sneeze Packs at River Forest

Christina Stoll writes: "One personal service offered in the children's department at River Forest (Ill.) Public Library is providing Sneeze Packs for sick kids. When a caregiver calls the library to request one, the library staff asks about the child's age, interests, and preferred materials. This information goes into creating a Sneeze Pack—typically 3–4 books, a DVD, and an activity such as a coloring sheet or word game—which goes into a library bag that is tagged to alert staff to disinfect the items when they return."...

I Love Libraries



Be prepared

mk Eagle writes: "There are days when I'm grateful to just stay in one place behind a desk for a while. Like today, when another teacher pointed out I have a four-inch rip down the back of my pants. My crisis is a small one—the school accountant is having her husband drop off her sewing kit (and a pair of sweats) and I'll survive the minor embarrassment—but the whole thing has me thinking about emergency preparedness. What do I need to have in my library emergency kit?"...

YALSA Blog, Mar. 16

[The answer is Takshila](#)

Q. What is the oldest university library? A.

According to the *Library World Records* by Godfrey Oswald, the earliest university library was probably the Buddhist Takshila (Takshashila or Taxila) University, established around 600 B.C. This university was in the northwestern part of the Indian subcontinent, now a part of Pakistan. Very little is known about its library collection, but there are some notable relics....

Ask the ALA Librarian, Mar. 17



[Balancing privacy and convenience](#)

Nick Ammerman writes: "Several months ago, I noticed that the Chicago Public Library had changed how it made books on hold available for patrons to pick up. Under the new system, the hold books are kept out in the main lobby space, accessible to anyone who comes into the library. As a user, I have to say the new system is much more convenient. However, I began to wonder if the new system violated ALA or state policies on the privacy of patron records. I contacted both CPL and ALA to get their perspectives."...

An Infinite Number of Monkeys, Mar. 15

[National Call Center for Homeless Veterans](#)

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs has set up a hotline to ensure that homeless veterans or veterans at risk for homelessness have free, 24/7 access to trained counselors. The hotline is intended to assist homeless veterans and their families, community agencies, and service providers. Librarians calling on behalf of a homeless veteran will be provided with information regarding the homeless programs and services available. Call 877-424-3838....

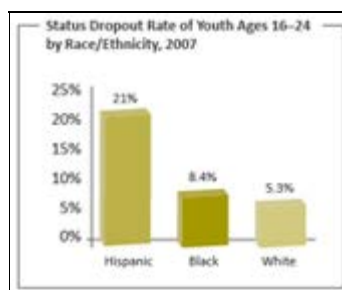
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs



[NCLR: Latino youth face significant challenges](#)

A new report released by the National Council of La Raza examines the status of Hispanic youth in the United States, ages 15 to 24. *America's Tomorrow: A Profile of Latino Youth* ([PDF file](#)) shows that more than one in five (21.4%) Hispanics ages 16–24 has dropped out of high school. The Hispanic population is on the rise nationally and will account for about 30% of the U.S. population by 2050....

National Council of La Raza, Mar. 10



[Nine Maryland counties resist union for librarians](#)

Delegates representing nine Maryland counties have moved to exempt their jurisdictions from a House of Delegates bill ([PDF file](#)) that would make it easier for local librarians to unionize, citing concerns about the costs. The bill's sponsor, Tom Hucker (D-Montgomery), said it would only give librarians the choice to join the United Food and Commercial Workers Local 1994 union. More than 20 library representatives and union officials testified for and against the bill March 9 at a House Appropriations Committee meeting....

Maryland Reporter, Mar. 10

[Some thoughts on King Kong](#)

Robert Armitage writes: "Most adult men are just shells designed to contain 12-year-old boys. Why else would someone who should have better things to do with his time be bothering about the 1933 Hollywood film *King Kong*? What is different about it? Movies can record the customs and habits of a particular time and place more vividly than almost any other art form. Cursed with a librarian's curiosity, I executed a keyword search for King Kong in our catalog and was surprised to come up with a grand total of [361 results](#)."...

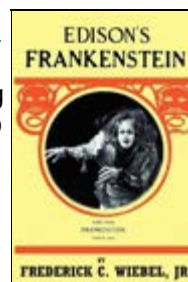
New York Public Library Blog, Mar. 12



[1910 Frankenstein movie coming to DVD](#)

Charlie Jane Anders writes: "March 18 marks the 100th anniversary of Thomas Edison's ground-breaking *Frankenstein* movie, and it's finally coming out on DVD in a restored print. *Frankenstein's* actors were paid \$5 a day and hid the fact that they were slumming in movies. The restored DVD print of this first-ever *Frankenstein* movie is the work of Frederick C. Wiebel Jr., who has also written a book about the making of that film and other early films from 100 years ago."...

io9, Mar. 15



[Librarians who love March Madness](#)

Chris Bourg writes: "I know I am not the only librarian who loves March Madness, so I started two groups on ESPN's Tournament Challenge: [Mad Librarians](#) and [Mad Librarians \(W\)](#) (women's version). Anyone is welcome to fill out a bracket and join—you don't even have to be a librarian, and you don't even have to love March Madness. It's free, and the winner gets bragging rights until next year."...

Feral Librarian, Mar. 16

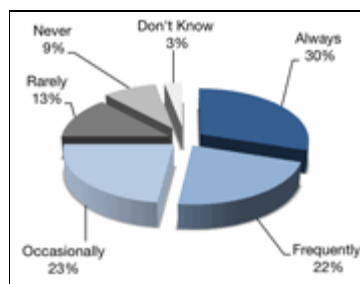


[How college students use Wikipedia](#)

A study by Alison J. Head and Michael B. Eisenberg at the University of Washington Information School showed that college students "frequently used Wikipedia for background information, but less often than they used other common resources, such as course readings and Google.

Architecture, engineering, and science majors were more likely to use Wikipedia for course-related research than respondents in other majors." Wikipedia offers them "a mixture of coverage, currency, convenience, and comprehensibility in a world where credibility is less of a given."...

First Monday 15, no. 3 (Mar. 1)



[Google lets kids design next logo](#)

Google kicked off its third installment of [Doodle 4 Google](#), a yearly nationwide art contest for students in grades K–12. Eligible students can submit their own "Google Doodles," and the winning Doodle will appear on Google's homepage for one day, May 27. The winner will also receive a \$15,000 college scholarship, a



laptop computer, and a \$25,000 technology grant for his or her school. All doodles must be [submitted](#) by March 31....

Official Google Blog, Feb. 3

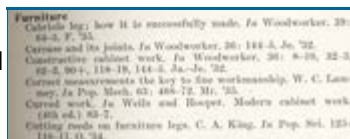
[WorldCat Local to index Gale databases](#)

OCLC and Gale have signed an agreement to index Gale's full-text periodical databases in WorldCat Local to provide single-search access to users who subscribe to both services. The agreement calls for OCLC to centrally index the metadata of Gale's Academic OneFile and General OneFile databases to provide users a direct link to the abstracts and articles....

OCLC, Mar. 12

[Woodworking and libraries](#)

Larry Nix writes: "Recently I was contacted by Ray McInnis who indicated that, like me, he is a retired librarian who is also an 'amateur woodworker and scholar of



woodworking history.' The connection between [Ray's interest](#) and my own relates to the role played by the Minneapolis Public Library in developing the *Index to Handicrafts*, which began as an in-house index file in the 1920s and was later published as a printed index by Faxon beginning in 1936 (above)."

Library History Buff Blog, Mar. 15

[LC Junior Fellows summer internships](#)

The Library of Congress is again offering 10-week paid internships to college students. For a stipend of \$3,000, the 2010 class of [Junior Fellows Summer Interns](#) will work full-time from



June 7 through August 13 with library specialists to inventory, describe, and explore collection holdings and to assist with digital-preservation outreach activities throughout the library. Applications will be accepted online only at [USAJobs.gov](#), keyword 1840256, through March 26....

Library of Congress, Mar. 12

[Go back to the Top](#)

american libraries DIRECT

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | March 24, 2010

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[New This Week](#)
[Calendar](#)



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A gateway to
information discovery
and exploration

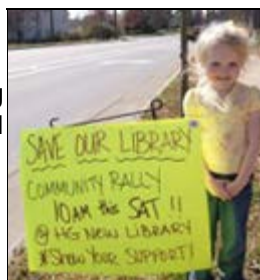


American Libraries Online

Charlotte branches saved

In an emergency meeting on the morning of March 24, the board of the Charlotte Mecklenburg (N.C.) Library rescinded its controversial week-old order to close half the system branches and lay off 148 staff members. Instead, trustees unanimously approved an [alternative plan](#) that will keep all 24 branches in operation at a reduced schedule; lay off up to 84 employees; cut salaries of retained staff members between 5% and 20%; and drastically reduce services such as storytimes, classes on job searching and technology, and book clubs....

American Libraries news, Mar. 24; Charlotte Mecklenburg Library, Mar. 24



Libraries, hospitals join to promote wellness

Ellyn Ruhlmann writes: "Waiting is never easy for a child. For a child in a hospital, though, it's really a tough go. The looming surgery, the unfamiliar setting, even just the break in routine all pile on anxiety and make minutes seem like hours. Now many libraries are partnering with hospitals to help ease that anxiety as well as to hook these young captives on reading. The strategy sometimes offers a way to reach new patrons in literacy-challenged communities."...

American Libraries feature



A library grows in Newburg

Susan McNeese Lynch writes: "In August 2009, a decades-old dream came true for the people of Louisville, Kentucky's Newburg neighborhood. It came in the form of a new library, a branch of the Louisville Free Public Library system. Not surprising to many of the more than 20,000 residents in this traditionally underserved area, the Newburg branch has become an instant success and an immediate center for the community."...

American Libraries feature



Become a
More Effective
Program
Planner!

Next session
begins in April.

Learn more:
shapingoutcomes.org

American History in Video

"A solid ten . . .
and, at this price,
an amazing deal.
This is a product I
wish every library
in the U.S. could
make accessible
to its researchers,
from elementary
school children to
history scholars."

—Library Journal

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TRY IT NOW!

Newsreels &
Documentaries
Online in
Streaming Video



[American Libraries' spring green](#)

American Libraries is springing forward with a batch of green content. The 2010 *American Libraries' Library Design Showcase* extensively covers environmentally sensitive new and renovated library buildings both [online](#) and in the April print issue. The online section on green buildings highlights a host of approaches to reducing waste, energy and water consumption, and pollution....

American Libraries news, Mar. 23

[Invest in yourself](#)

Catherine Hakala-Ausperk writes: "As you plow through the chaos each morning, do you give much thought to your own career? Remember the concept of a career? It's what happens in the 30 years between graduation and retirement, and in the end it's supposed to resemble something that you intended to happen."...

American Libraries feature

[Canadian library serves community as Olympics host](#)

Shelley Civkin writes: "The 2010 Olympic Winter Games are over and the celebration site here in British Columbia is being dismantled, but Richmond Public Library staff are still reflecting on what it means to host the world. We started out being a library, thinking that guests from around the world would rush to the International Living Room we set up. Next thing you know, we've turned into a TV lounge, tattoo parlor, popcorn-serving cinema, face-painting salon, and Ralphie the Rhino photo op."...

American Libraries feature



[Middle Country's Nature Explorium](#)

Laura Bruzas writes: "The Middle Country Public Library in Centereach, New York, will be the first library in the country to offer an outdoor learning environment, in the form of a 5,000-square-foot community classroom. Targeted to preschool- and elementary-school age children and their families, the [Nature Explorium](#) will provide a direct experience with nature for children through hands-on outdoor activities."...

AL: Green Your Library, Mar. 24



[On My Mind: Our conservative ideals](#)

Andy Spackman writes: "I sometimes worry that librarians' language only addresses the left side of the political aisle, leaving the right's opinions to be shaped by people like the regional talk-radio host who refers to libraries as 'welfare bookstores' and calls our users 'freeloaders.' This attitude fails to account for how well libraries align with basic conservative principles—a message we must better communicate."...

American Libraries column, Mar. 17



ALA News



[ALA Annual Conference](#)

Washington, D.C., June 24–29. New [Auditorium Speakers](#) are being added all the time. *Mystic River* author Dennis Lehane will appear on Monday morning.



As part of its continuing efforts to help job seekers retool their skills and prepare for job searches, the [ALA JobLIST Placement Center](#) will host a free Open House on June 27.

[ALA's green election](#)

For the second year in a row, ALA is holding its election exclusively online. "The decision to hold an exclusively online election is good for the Association and the environment, especially when every organization is looking at ways to reduce consumption of energy and adopt greener approaches," said ALA President Camila Alire....

Public Information Office, Mar. 23

[Gale to sponsor Many Voices, One Nation](#)

Gale, part of Cengage Learning, will be a sponsor of Many Voices, One Nation at the ALA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C., June 24–29. Through Gale's sponsorship, the event will be free to conference attendees, although registration is required. Many Voices, One Nation will take place on June 25 and will highlight ALA President Camila Alire's Family Literacy Focus....

Office for Diversity, Mar. 23



[2010 Diversity and Outreach Fair](#)

The Office for Literacy and Outreach Services invites members from all types of libraries to participate in the 13th annual Diversity and Outreach Fair on June 26 during ALA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. The theme will be accessible library services, in recognition of the 20th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Selected applicants will have the opportunity to present posters and converse with conference attendees about their diversity initiatives. [Apply](#) by April 16....

Office for Literacy and Outreach Services, Mar. 18

[How the economy affects library recruiting](#) (PDF file)

ALA–Allied Professional Association Director Jenifer Grady shows how the economic downturn has affected recruitment and professional development spending by libraries, based on responses to the 2009 ALA-APA *Salary Survey*. Surprisingly, 20% of public libraries and 15% of academic libraries have increased their recruitment spending by 1%–10%....

Library Worklife 7, no. 2 (Feb.)

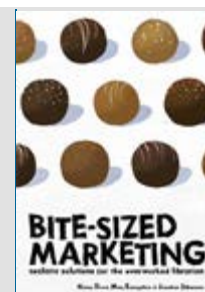
[Online learning survey](#)

The Public Programs Office invites you to participate in a [short survey](#) about online learning, offered by ProgrammingLibrarian.org. Responses are requested by April 9....

Public Programs Office, Mar. 23

[Baseball @ your library](#)

[Baseball @ your library](#) is the Campaign for America's Libraries' newest community in ALA Connect. It is a public forum for librarians who are interested in baseball and want to share their ideas about how the sport can be used to promote literacy and library services. The community currently



Written and designed to reflect the way people read today, [*Bite-Sized Marketing*](#) by Nancy Dowd, Mary Evangeliste, and Jonathan Silberman is structured to quickly impart simple and cost-effective ideas on marketing your library. **NEW! From ALA Editions.**

New this week

in American Libraries



[Promoting Wellness](#)

[A Library in Newburg](#)

[Invest in Yourself](#)

[Library as Olympic Host](#)

[On My Mind](#)

[Perpetual Beta](#)

[Inside Scoop](#)

[Green Your Library](#)

[Ask the ALA Librarian](#)

features a discussion on the fifth season of ALA's and the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum's [Step Up to the Plate @ your library](#) program....

Campaign for America's Libraries, Mar. 23

Archived chats in ALA Connect

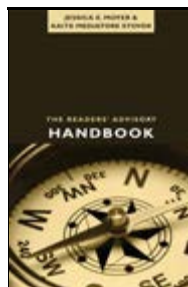
ALA Strategy Guide Jenny Levine writes: "We've been getting reports from users having trouble using ALA Connect's chat feature. We will try to fix this by upgrading the chat module we're currently using. Unfortunately, the new version breaks all links to past chats, including those that are archived. If you have a transcript from a past chat that you want to keep, you'll need to go to it, copy the text, and paste it into an online doc or discussion topic in order to manually archive it before April 21."...

ITTS News, Mar. 24

The best advice for readers' advisers

ALA Editions has released [The Readers' Advisory Handbook](#), edited by Jessica E. Moyer and Kaite Mediatore Stover. Covering everything from getting to know a library's materials to marketing and promoting RA, this practical handbook will help librarians and administrators expand services immediately without adding costs or training time. Readers' advisory now encompasses many different formats and means of communication—working with patrons of all types and ages, in and outside the library....

ALA Editions, Mar. 23



Planning for tomorrow's vacancies

ALA Editions has released [Succession Planning in the Library: Developing Leaders, Managing Change](#), by Paula M. Singer with Gail Griffith. Drawing on their years of expertise as human resource consultants and library administrators, Singer and Griffith address the issue of planning for change—not just at the top but at all levels of an organization. With the help of this book, administrators will be able to evaluate the readiness of their current administrative structure....

ALA Editions, Mar. 23



An essential newsletter for copyright and media law

ALA Editions is partnering with copyright and licensing expert Lesley Ellen Harris to offer [The Copyright and New Media Law Newsletter](#), available both digitally and in print. This quarterly, 12-page newsletter has kept readers informed since 1997 by providing practical solutions for everyday copyright-related activities. Harris is a copyright, licensing, and digital property lawyer who consults on legal, business, policy, and strategic issues...

ALA Editions, Mar. 23



Register for BCALA 7th National Conference

Registration is underway for the 7th National Conference of African American Librarians, hosted by the Black Caucus of the American Library Association, to be held August 4–8, at the Sheraton Conference Center in Birmingham, Alabama. The theme is

AL Focus



ALA members can register for the [IFLA World Library and Information Congress](#) in Gothenburg, Sweden, August 10–15, at a discounted member rate using the ALA IFLA member code of US-0002.

Career Leads from ALA JobLIST

Educator/Librarian.

Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art, Amherst, Massachusetts. The candidate must have a strong knowledge and passion for picture books to provide high-quality services to the Museum's library patrons and to educators seeking book-related professional development. Administrative duties and direct work with the public will support the smooth operation of both the Reading Library and the Barbara Elleman Research Library. Position responsibilities include maintaining library space and collections; leading storytimes; helping to coordinate guest storytime programs; processing new book acquisitions; providing both in-house

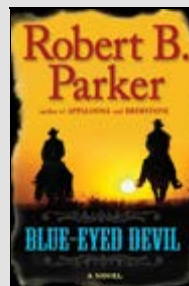


"Bridging the Divide with Information Access, Activism, and Advocacy." Terrence Roberts (right), a member of the Little Rock Nine who desegregated Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas, in 1957, will serve as opening session speaker....
Office for Diversity, Mar. 4

Booklist ONLINE

Featured review: Western

Parker, Robert B. *Blue-Eyed Devil*. May 2010. 288p. Putnam, hardcover (978-0-399-15648-9). Virgil Cole and Everett Hitch, the late Parker's other duo of terse-talking man-buddies, make their way back to the town they cleaned up in their first western, *Appaloosa* (2005), and find a particularly odorous piece of trash now stinking up the place—the new chief of police, Amos Callico. The chief has his sights set on the governor's seat and from there the Senate and even the White House, so the last thing in the world he wants is someone firm standing in his way. Virgil and Everett know one thing, though, and it's standing firm. They set themselves up protecting local businesses that aren't so keen on bending to the official extortion racket and staring down Callico and his swarm of deputies every dozen or so pages. In addition to a typical Parker cast of cleanly defined good guys, bad guys, and meek, no-account guys, two new heavies enter the fray....



Top 10 series nonfiction for 2010

Daniel Kraus writes: "Aside from a slight predilection toward science, it's hard to read the tea leaves of the top crop of new series launched in the past year. From challenging, hard-hitting biographies for high-school students to simple concepts for the youngest, this wide-ranging list helps account for the perennial popularity of series nonfiction."...



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

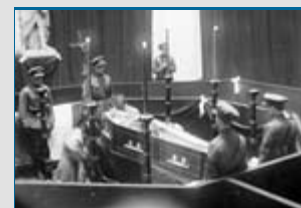
and off-site professional development programs; coordinating library volunteers; and welcoming and assisting visitors to the libraries....



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Digital Library of the Week



The [National Library of Ireland](#) holds the world's largest collection of photographs relating to Ireland. Since 2007, the library has been engaged in a major digitization project to increase online access to its extensive collection of rare and remarkable glass plate negatives. Nearly 34,000 photographs, all relating to the period from 1860 to 1954, have been digitized from core collections, including the Lawrence, Independent, Poole,

Division News

[Apply for YALSA's Library Advocacy Day stipends](#)

YALSA is offering travel stipends of up to \$1,000 each to five YALSA members to participate in ALA's Library Advocacy Day in Washington, D.C., on June 29, in conjunction with ALA Annual Conference. Applications ([PDF file](#) or [Word doc](#)) must be [emailed](#) by April 30....
YALSA Blog, Mar. 24

[District pricing on new L4L webinar series](#)

AASL is now offering district pricing options for the new series of Learning4Life webinars offered during School Library Month. In addition, those who missed the 2009 series can now take advantage of district rates for archived L4L webinars. In April, the division will offer a new series of webinars supporting the L4L initiative to nationally implement the AASL learning standards and program guidelines....

AASL, Mar. 23



[Laney Salisbury added to Literary Tastes lineup](#)

Laney Salisbury, coauthor of *Provenance: How a Con Man and a Forger Rewrote the History of Modern Art*, will speak at the RUSA Literary Tastes Breakfast at the 2010 ALA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. The event features authors from among the 2010 selections for RUSA's book and media awards. Held June 27, the breakfast is a ticketed event....

RUSA, Mar. 23



Awards

[Nancy Pearl wins 2010 Margaret E. Monroe Award](#)

Well-known librarian, educator, and tireless reading advocate Nancy Pearl has been selected the winner of RUSA's 2010 Margaret E. Monroe Library Adult Services Award. The Monroe Award honors an individual who has made a significant contribution to library adult services. Pearl has produced thousands of book reviews and bibliographies and has shared her readers' advisory skills with other librarians through staff education, lectures, and presentations across the country....

RUSA, Mar. 18



[Radford wins 2010 Isadore Gilbert Mudge Award](#)

Marie L. Radford, associate professor at the Rutgers School of Communication and Information, has been selected as the 2010 winner of RUSA's Isadore Gilbert Mudge Award. In addition to her many publications, Radford brings high energy, deep passion, and an interdisciplinary approach to the study of face-to-face and virtual reference....

RUSA, Mar. 18



[Weible named Distinguished ILL Librarian for 2010](#)

Cherié Weible, head of interlibrary loan and document delivery at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, has been selected the winner of RUSA's 2010 Virginia Boucher/OCLC Distinguished ILL

and Eason collections. These images are displayed at low resolution and accompanied by basic information such as title, date, and location (where available). Copies of high-resolution versions of these images can be ordered from the library, and further work is planned to maximize the full potential of the digital images.

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



The [@your library website](#) this week has just posted an article by Wanda Urbanska, host of PBS' *Simple Living*, who offers her thoughts on how to achieve financial independence; new reviews from *Booklist*; an article on tax resources that are available @ your library; and a library story from Sharon Robinson, noted author and daughter of baseball great Jackie Robinson.

Public Perception
How the World Sees Us

"In the face of ongoing recession, Boston, formerly the most literate and literary of cities, is

Librarian Award. Weible's noteworthy accomplishments include her ongoing mentoring activities of interlibrary loan professionals, as well as her presentation and publication activities....

RUSA, Mar. 18

[2010 Library of the Future Award winner](#)

ALA has named the University of Michigan's [Enriching Scholarship program](#) the 2010 winner of the ALA/Information Today Library of the Future Award. This award is presented annually to a library that demonstrates innovative planning and development of patron training programs about information technology in a library setting. The scholarship is a collaborative program between the university library, campus information technology divisions, and campus-wide academic support units that offers dozens of workshops in a week-long curriculum each May....

Office for ALA Governance, Mar. 23

[OITP lauds three libraries for technology use](#)

The ALA Office for Information Technology Policy has recognized Contra Costa County (Calif.) Library, North Carolina State University Libraries in Raleigh, and Jones Library in Amherst, Massachusetts, for their use of cutting-edge technologies in library services. After selecting the winners, OITP produced descriptions of the programs ([PDF file](#)) to provide the library community with some successful models for delivering quality library service in new ways....

District Dispatch, Mar. 23



[The Newbery seal lineup](#)

Travis Jonker writes: "It's book fair time at two of the elementary schools where I work. While perusing the Summer Reading table (Related aside: When did summer reading become synonymous with Newbery winner?), something caught my eye. There were five paperback Newbery winners on the table, and every one of them displayed their medal in a different way. Let's take a look."...

100 Scope Notes, Mar. 19



[New ALSC Spectrum Scholarship created](#)

ALSC has expanded its commitment to the Spectrum Scholarship Program. Beginning with the announcement of the 2010 class of Spectrum Scholars, ALSC will sponsor one Spectrum Scholar each year through funding from the Frederic G. Melcher Endowment. The ALSC Spectrum Scholar will be awarded to a Spectrum applicant who expresses an interest in library service to children....

ALSC, Mar. 23

[ALTAFF supports Spectrum](#)

ALTAFF has expressed its commitment to diversity in the library profession through a gift of \$500 to the ALA Spectrum Scholarship Program. During this year's special Spectrum Presidential Initiative, four ALTAFF Board Members—Sally Gardner Reed, Peggy J. Danhof, Peggy Barber, and Joan Ress Reeves—have combined efforts to match ALTAFF's gift....

ALTAFF, Mar. 23

[UCLA student wins YALSA student stipend](#)

Jessica Levy, a student in the Department of Information Studies at

proposing to cut back on its library system. After all, the city reasons, in this age of telecommuting, who needs walls when pixels will do?

". . . But whatever happens, it's heartening to know that our city officials are brimming with helpful ideas."



—Sage Stossel, children's author and articles editor of *The Atlantic*, in an illustrated lament over the city's branch closings, *Boston Globe*, Mar. 23. Read the [full strip](#).



TweetWatch

Follow:

Public Library Association, National Conference, Portland, Oregon, Mar. 23–27, at:

[#pla10](#)

2010 ILLiad International Conference, Atlas Systems and OCLC, Virginia Beach, Mar. 24–26, at:

[#illiad10](#)

American Libraries news stories, videos, tweets, and blog posts

the University of California, Los Angeles, has won YALSA's 2010 Young Adult Literature Symposium student stipend. Levy applied for the scholarship to gain practical knowledge in young adult librarianship. The Symposium will be held at the Albuquerque Marriott, November 5–7....

YALSA, Mar. 23

[2010 Arnulfo D. Trejo Librarian of the Year winners](#)

Reforma, the National Association to Promote Library and Information Services to Latinos and the Spanish Speaking, has named Oralia Garza de Cortés (right) and Susana Hinojosa as the 2010 Arnulfo D. Trejo Librarians of the Year. The award is named in honor of Dr. Arnulfo D. Trejo, the founder and first president of Reforma. This year, these two distinguished librarians will share the award, which is normally given to only one recipient....

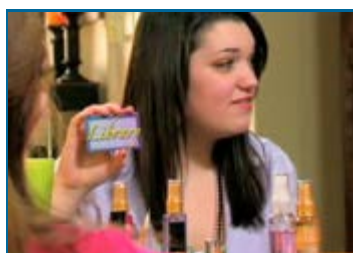
Reforma, Mar. 18



[Lexington Public Library wins Gold Addy](#)

The Lexington (Ky.) Public Library received the Ralph Gabbard Television Excellence Award and a Gold Addy from the Lexington Ad Club for a [commercial](#) promoting library cards (0:30). The ad was written and directed by LPL Media Specialist Thai Emmerich and was produced for about \$150. This is the second time the library has received the Gabbard Award....

Lexington Public Library, Mar. 18



[School librarian wins grand prize in classroom contest](#)

Julie Sloup, media coordinator at the Virginia Williamson Elementary School in Bolivia, North Carolina, was chosen grand prize winner in SchoolCenter's second annual Imaginative Classroom Contest. In August 2009, she designed an interactive [website](#) for the media center that "engages students, promotes classroom interaction, and improves communication." Sloup will receive a Dell laptop computer and a trip to the company's headquarters in Carbondale, Illinois....

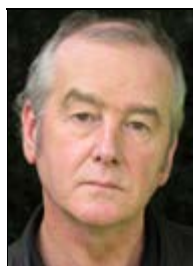
Wilmingon (N.C.) *Star-News*, Mar. 23



[David Almond wins Hans Christian Andersen medal](#)

An international jury of children's literature experts March 23 has awarded the Hans Christian Andersen Award to British author David Almond. Given biennially since 1956 by the International Board on Books for Young People for an author's complete works, the award comes with no prize money but much honor. Almond is the author of *Kit's Wilderness* and *Skellig*. Jutta Bauer from Germany was announced as the winner of a parallel medal for illustrators....

The Guardian (U.K.), Mar. 23



[2010 PEN/Faulkner Award for Fiction](#)

Sherman Alexie's *War Dances* (Grove Press) has been selected as the winner of the 2010 PEN/Faulkner Award

at:

[amlibraries](#)

Calendar

Mar. 27:

[Rainbow Book Fair](#),

Center for Gay and Lesbian Studies, CUNY, New York City.

Apr. 7–9:

[Florida Library](#)

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

Apr. 7–9:

[Kansas Library](#)

[Association](#), Annual Conference, Century II Convention Center and the Hyatt Regency, Wichita.

Apr. 7–9:

[New Mexico Library](#)

[Association](#), Annual Conference, Ruidoso Convention Center.

Apr. 7–10:

[Montana Library](#)

[Association](#), Annual Conference, Holiday Inn and Best Western GranTree Inn, Bozeman.

Apr. 9–11:

[New York](#)

[Antiquarian Book](#)

[Fair](#), Park Avenue Armory at 67th Street, New York City.

Apr. 12–14:

[Computers in](#)

[Libraries](#), Hyatt Regency Crystal City, Arlington, Virginia.

Apr. 13–14:

[REvolution Reference](#)

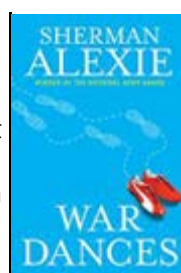
[Service in a](#)

[Constantly Changing](#)

[World](#), Lyrasis, Tulane

for Fiction. The PEN/Faulkner Award is America's largest peer-juried prize for fiction in the United States. As winner, Alexie wins \$15,000. *War Dances* is a collection of structurally inventive pieces on the themes of love, betrayal, familial relationships, race, and class....

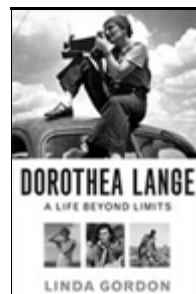
PEN/Faulkner Foundation, Mar. 23



2010 Bancroft Prize winners

The authors of three acclaimed books—a biography of Depression-era photographer Dorothea Lange, a biography of First Lady Abigail Adams, and a study of the indigenous child-removal policies of the United States and Australian governments from 1880 to 1940—will be awarded the Bancroft Prize for 2010. The Bancroft is awarded annually by the trustees of Columbia University to the authors of books of exceptional merit in the fields of American history, biography, and diplomacy....

Columbia University Libraries, Mar. 17



2009 Tiptree Award winners

The James Tiptree Jr. Literary Award Council has awarded the 2009 Tiptree Awards to Greer Gilman, *Cloud and Ashes: Three Winter's Tales* (Small Beer Press, 2009), and Fumi Yoshinaga, *Ooku: The Inner Chambers, volumes 1 and 2* (VIZ Media, 2009). The award, to be presented in May at Wiscon, the feminist-oriented science fiction convention, is awarded for science fiction or fantasy that expands or explores our understanding of gender....

James Tiptree Jr. Literary Award Council, Mar. 20



Seen Online

Saving the Google students

Sara Scribner writes: "The current generation of kindergartners to 12th graders has no memory of a time before Google. These students are far more tech savvy than their parents and are perpetually connected to the iInternet, but they know a lot less than they think. Worse, they don't know what they don't know. Closing libraries is always a bad idea, but for the Google generation, it could be disastrous. Not teaching kids how to search for information is like sending them out into the world without knowing how to read."...

Los Angeles Times, Mar. 21

Young learners need librarians

Mark Moran writes: "As a former executive officer at a company that had 1,200 employees in 29 countries worldwide, I know that without adequate media literacy training, kids will not succeed in a 21st-century workplace. And as the founder of a company whose mission is to teach the effective use of the internet, I have pored through dozens of studies that all came to the same conclusion: Students do not know how to find or evaluate the information they need on the internet. Before parents accept the wisdom of a school board to cut school librarians, they should ask: Will my child graduate with a

University, New Orleans.

Apr. 13–16: [Alabama Library Association](#)

Annual Convention, Embassy Suites Hotel and Von Braun Center, Huntsville.

Apr. 14–17:

[Texas Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center, San Antonio.

Apr. 19–20:

[Connecticut Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Mohegan Sun Casino, Uncasville.

Apr. 19–21:

[Oklahoma Library Association / Mountain Plains Library Association](#),

Joint Conference, Oklahoma City Renaissance Hotel and Cox Convention Center.

Apr. 21–23:

[Maryland Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Clarion Resort, Ocean City.

Apr. 26–28:

[New Jersey Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Ocean Place, Long Branch.

Apr. 28–30:

[Massachusetts Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Hyannis Resort and Conference Center.

May 7:

[Oregon Virtual](#)

21st-century résumé, or a 19th-century transcript?"...

Forbes, Mar. 22

Budget battle over Florida Electronic Library



Florida lawmakers want more students to have greater access to online databases and journals obtained through the Florida Electronic Library, so House and Senate education committees are instructing school and public libraries to coordinate more closely with the state's online gateway. That may prove difficult, because two other budget committees have proposed the elimination of state aid to libraries. Dropping the assistance would disqualify Florida from receiving federal grant dollars on which the electronic library depends....

Tampa (Fla.) Tribune, Mar. 23

Pennsylvania establishes statewide Digital Learning Library

In an effort to give educators and students free access to standards-aligned digital media content, Pennsylvania has launched a Digital Learning Library that aims to bring learning into the 21st century through interactive and customizable digital content. The content will be offered exclusively through local public TV stations and will include video, audio, images, games, and interactive content....

eSchool News, Mar. 24

Google's China move: What does it mean?



Google finally abandoned its Chinese domain (google.cn) March 22 over cyberattacks and web censorship from the Chinese government. The company is redirecting users to its uncensored Hong Kong domain (google.com.hk), after failing to reach an agreement with government officials. What will this battle for internet freedom mean for other companies like Twitter who want a presence in undemocratic countries? Three media experts [discuss](#) (54:08) the ramifications....

Search Engine Land, Mar. 22; *Minnesota Public Radio*, Mar. 22

Hawaii pushes for Obama Presidential Library

President Barack Obama should put his future presidential library in Hawaii, where he was born and raised, according to state lawmakers. The House Tourism, Culture, and International Affairs Committee unanimously passed a resolution March 22 that urges Obama to choose Hawaii as the location for the library, which will be the repository for the documents, records, and artifacts of his presidency....

Honolulu Star-Bulletin, Mar. 23

Finger Lakes receives \$2-million bequest

Bernard Rosen, a leading sociologist, author, and professor emeritus at Cornell University who passed away in November 2009, has bequeathed \$2 million to support youth materials and programming within the 33 libraries of the Finger Lakes Library System in Ithaca, New York. The gift will also generate annual grants in five counties across central New York. The announcement was made March 18 by George Ferrari, executive director of the Community Foundation of Tompkins County, who said it is the largest gift in the nonprofit public charity's 10-year history....

Ithaca (N.Y.) Journal, Mar. 18

Reference Summit

McMenamin's
Edgefield, Troutdale.

May 12–14:

Utah Library Association, Annual Conference, Hilton Garden Inn, St. George.

May 13–14:

New Hampshire Library Association, Spring Conference, Attitash Grand Summit Hotel and Conference Center.

May 25:

Vermont Library Association, Annual Conference, St. Michael's College, Colchester.

May 25–27:

BookExpo America, Jacob K. Javits Center, New York City.

May 27–28:

Rhode Island Library Association, Annual Conference, Bryant Center, Bryant University, Smithfield.

June 13–16:

Special Libraries Association, Annual Conference, Ernest N. Morial Convention Center, New Orleans.

Nov. 13:

National Gaming Day
@ your library.

@ [More...](#)

Contact Us

American Libraries
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[Partnership of museum libraries unites decades of research](#)

Many of New York City's most prestigious museums have extensive collections of books and papers. Four of them—the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Museum of Modern Art, the Brooklyn Museum, and the Frick Collection—have combined forces to share resources, save money, and make their library holdings more accessible to the public. Together these institutions make up the [New York Art Resources Consortium](#), an integrated library system formed in 2007....

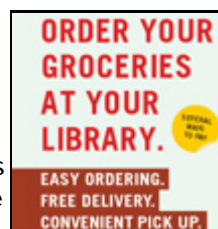
New York Times, Mar. 14



[Baltimore libraries help fill city nutrition gaps](#)

A new Virtual Supermarket Project is letting Baltimore residents order groceries online at the Orleans Street or Washington Village library branches of the Enoch Pratt Free Library and pick them up the next day at the same location. The libraries are in East and West Baltimore's biggest "food deserts," areas targeted by the Health Department for their scarcity of grocery stores and nutritious food options....

Baltimore Sun, Mar. 18



[Public libraries in the wake of the Chile earthquake](#)

BiblioRedes TV describes the damage to public libraries caused by the February 27 earthquake in Chile, which affected the regions of Valparaíso in the north to Araucanía in the south. Libraries in the districts of San Pedro and Curacaví to the west of Santiago sustained serious damage. In these communities, the library was the only place that offered free internet service to students and the public....

YouTube, Mar. 18



[SDSU's Love Library: Earthquake hazard](#)

Malcolm A. Love Library, the main library at San Diego State University, could collapse in the event of a major earthquake and threaten lives, according to an assessment by California Watch, an initiative of the Center for Investigative Reporting. University officials have known about the seismic concerns at Love Library since at least 2006. The library is one of nearly 180 public university buildings in California that are in use even though they have been judged dangerous to occupy during a major earthquake....

Voice of San Diego, Mar. 21



[Yale Law Library collects SCOTUS bobbleheads](#)

Yale's Lillian Goldman Law Library, which probably has the best collection of rare law books in the world after Harvard and the Library of Congress, is now the official

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



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

repository of bobbling likenesses of a dozen Supreme Court justices. Associate Librarian Fred R. Shapiro explained the acquisition: "A hundred years from now, if someone wants to study the bobbleheads, where will they go? There needs to be an archive."...

New York Times, Mar. 17



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.

[Email evidence in theft of historic letters](#)

Federal prosecutors in Newark, New Jersey, charged Drew University student William John Scott on March 15 with abusing his part-time position in the library to steal objects of cultural heritage from public institutions, a felony that carries a penalty of up to 10 years in prison. The *New York Times* has obtained 11 emails from Scott to a Maryland rare book dealer, which allege the historic letters were inherited from his grandfather....

New York Times: City Room, Mar. 19

[Major storm damage at University of Western Australia](#)

A severe thunderstorm that generated widespread, golfball-sized hailstones passed through Perth, Australia, late March 22, causing extensive damage to schools, hospitals, and homes. The University of Western Australia was badly hit, with many buildings suffering flood and structural damage. The Education, Fine Arts, and Architecture Library (right) sustained major flood damage and has been [closed](#) until further notice. This [video](#) (0:31) by Daniel Budd shows water flowing into broken windows on the lower level....

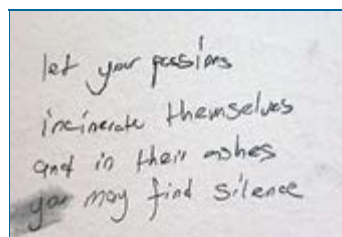
Perth *West Australian*, Mar. 23; University of Western Australia; EDFAA: After the Flood, Mar. 23



[She chronicles University of Chicago library graffiti](#)

For the past two years, University of Chicago graduate student Quinn Dombrowski has made a quiet project of studying graffiti at the Regenstein Library. Many of the 1,700 graffiti examples that she has found (some of them in dead languages like Egyptian) are documented on her [Flickr photostream](#). She recently self-published *Crescat Graffiti, Vita Excolatur: Confessions of the University of Chicago*, a book of her favorite pieces of Regenstein graffiti, and most of the 200 copies have sold....

Chicago Tribune, Mar. 24



[Future uncertain for Queen's University law library](#)

Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario, may lose its Lederman Law Library if cuts to the university's library system continue, Head Law Librarian Nancy McCormack said. Sixteen library



staff positions have been cut since 2004, and McCormack foresees more cuts on the way. One option under discussion is to centralize the functions of staff in the university's six libraries....

Queen's University Journal, Mar. 19

[Free internet and coffee to boost U.K. library use](#)

Free internet access and coffee shops could help reverse a decline in the number of people using libraries in England, according to a 58-page government report released March 22. *The Modernisation Review of Public Libraries: A Policy Statement* ([PDF file](#)) stated that opening on Sundays and offering e-books might also boost library use. CILIP, the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals, [called on](#) the government to show leadership by supporting the recommendations with appropriate funding....

BBC News, Mar. 22; CILIP, Mar. 22



[Quatermass returns to Yorkshire](#)

Whoever took a copy of science-fiction classic *Quatermass and the Pit* from a Yorkshire library left staff stunned when it was finally returned nearly 45 years late. The first-edition copy was taken out of the library in Dinnington, South Yorkshire, U.K., on September 24, 1965. Library Assistant Alison Lawrie recognized the original Penguin edition when it was returned in mid-March and noticed that it had original circulation paperwork and rules for borrowing inside....

Yorkshire Post, Mar. 19



[Go back to the Top](#)

Tech Talk

[How we'll pay for national broadband](#)

Nate Anderson writes: "One key recommendation in the National Broadband Plan was that the U.S. government support a scheme to wire hundreds of thousands of anchor institutions with 1Gbps fiber. The move would mean that schools, libraries, colleges, and community centers in every town in the country could eventually have a fat pipe and a future-proof fiber connection. Both the FCC and the plan's backers envision the system being used to push faster broadband out into the surrounding community. The only question is how to pay for it all."...

Ars Technica, Mar. 23

[How to buy the right headphones](#)

Tim Gideon writes: "Headphones, earbuds, and earphones are generally viewed as the least essential link in the musical chain—the part you can skimp on. In reality, your headphones are the *most* important link in that chain: A quality pair can have an even larger impact than the player itself on how your tunes will sound. If well-cared for, they will long outlive your planned-to-be-obsolete digital audio player. And you don't have to break the bank. For \$400 or less, you can get both a good player and a high-quality pair of earphones."...



PC Magazine, Mar. 17

10 downloads to power up your printer

Preston Gralla writes: "What's the most underused productivity tool in your home or office? Your printer. Confined within that unassuming box, however, is a lot of power—far more than you might imagine. We've assembled 10 printer downloads that can reduce paper and ink consumption, print out CD and DVD labels, create posters, and generate business cards—and that's just a start. Check out these free and affordably priced utilities. They're the best way to unlock your printer's potential."...

PC World, Mar. 23

Six ways to look for emails in Outlook 2007

Saikat Basu writes: "Although most of us have our folders and rules to arrange all incoming emails and some of us are pretty disciplined about email organization, none of us can escape the use of the search feature for emails once in a while. Mastering any search how-to has almost become the thing for surviving in the digital jungle. So I guess it wouldn't do anyone any harm if we took a more searching look at how to get to a lost email in the clutter of our inbox."...

MakeUseOf, Mar. 23

Free texting service from textPlus

Sarah Houghton-Jan writes: "You can get 100% *free* text messaging with [textPlus](#), an application available on the web, iPhone, and Android. It's ad-supported, but the ads aren't that intrusive. It also does group-texting (think of it like a texting version of an email distribution list). I think this could be so, so useful for libraries trying to do more with text but fearful of fees or costs."...

Librarian in Black, Mar. 19



Publishing

Birth of the digital magazine

Jason Griffey writes: "I thought it would be good to show a few examples of the sorts of ways that publishers are approaching the digital magazine these days. With the iPad launching in just two weeks, many major publications are planning digital versions. Here's what a few might look like."...

AL: Perpetual Beta, Mar. 18



The value of old books

Q. One of our regular library visitors is clearing the attic of the family home now that her parents are deceased. Where can I direct her to learn more about the value of these books? A. This has been a frequently asked question over the years, prompting the development of a pamphlet, now a webpage, titled [Your Old Books](#). If it is likely that these books would be donated to your library, remember that the donor is responsible for determining the value of the gift. Got a question? [Ask the ALA Librarian](#)....

AL: Ask the ALA Librarian, Mar. 22

ABC-CLIO joins Gale Virtual Reference Library

ABC-CLIO, along with its imprints Greenwood, Libraries Unlimited, and Praeger, have submitted 250 titles to the Gale e-book platform.

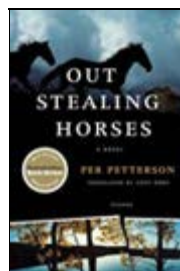
These additions expand Gale's existing collection of e-books from Greenwood and Linworth Publishing. This brings the number of titles on the Gale Virtual Reference Library to around 5,000 and the publishers to 50....

No Shelf Required, Mar. 19

[Top 10 books written by librarians](#)

AbeBooks writes: "AbeBooks loves librarians. Librarians love AbeBooks. (And everyone else loves librarians too, aside from the bean counters who keep cutting their budgets.) This list salutes those great lovers of books, literacy, and reading—the world's librarian community—and we're highlighting some wonderful books written by librarians themselves."...

AbeBooks.com



Actions & Answers

[State library agencies invest in technology](#)

Despite the lack of real growth in their budgets in recent years, state library agencies are working strategically to assist local libraries in meeting patrons' needs, according to *State Library Agency Service Trends: 1999–2008* ([PDF file](#)), a new research brief by the Institute of Museum and Library Services. Over the past 10 years, for example, real-dollar expenditures on statewide database licensing more than doubled (right), reaching a total of \$65.8 million in 2008....

Institute of Museum and Library Services, Mar. 18



[What does a teacher librarian really do?](#)

Cynthia Bianchi writes: "This video (6:40) is a great example of just some of the many hats that teacher librarians wear during the course of a day's work in the Los Angeles Unified School District. It is just a shame that so many highly skilled and double-credentialed teacher librarians have received a pink slip. For those teacher librarians, the library doors will close on June 30, 2010. I am one of these teacher librarians." The video was produced by the United Teachers Los Angeles Library Professionals Committee....

YouTube, Mar. 20



[How to ban books in Hillsborough County schools](#)

Catherine Robinson writes: "Some parents go to great lengths to keep controversial books out of school libraries so that no one can read them. This is the story of one small group of parents who sought to ban



Augusten Burroughs's *Running with Scissors*, and how that determination, combined with knowing the right people, affected nine high schools, and perhaps all of us, throughout Hillsborough County, Florida."...

The Daily Loaf, Mar. 23

[Creating an academic library for the whole student](#)

Sarah Long talks with Brian Mathews, assistant university librarian at the University of California, Santa Barbara, about making academic libraries more user-sensitive in this podcast (17:29). Mathews's work explores the way academic libraries can adapt services to serve the whole student, instead of just their current projects, and discusses the seven categories that describe the spectrum of student needs....

Longshots, Mar. 17

[How does your garden programming grow?](#)

Angela Hanshaw writes: "This year I decided I was going to get serious about my garden. A quick check on my public library's programs didn't turn up anything on gardening. I started to wonder what other libraries were doing. It turns out that a few libraries are indeed focusing on gardening programming. Here is a roundup."...

Programming Librarian, Mar. 23

[Where do K–12 learners get their books?](#)

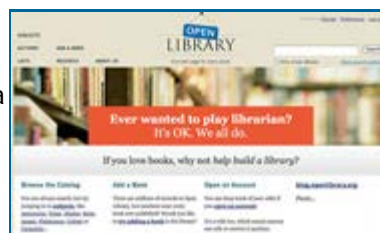
Stephen Abram writes: "I subscribe to a discussion list and newsletter from Stephen Krashen, one of the most eloquent defenders of reading and school libraries and evidence-based decisions with respect to K–12 learning. He points out that buried in an appendix of the March Scholastic report, *Primary Sources: America's Teachers on America's Schools* ([PDF file](#)), is this statistic: 83% of teachers in the survey reported that their K–12 students got books for independent learning from the school library."...

Stephen's Lighthouse, Mar. 18

[The Open Library redesign](#)

The Internet Archive's Open Library has redesigned its site, which aspires to be a comprehensive online bibliographic database. The site has been soft-launched at a [special URL](#) for testing until it is stable enough to replace the [current site](#), which began in 2007. The new features include reduced duplicate editions, subject pages, a revamped search engine, and an improved user interface....

Open Library Blog, Mar. 17



[Libraries and place](#)

Jeffrey Scherer writes: "After a generation of intensive work in building the virtual library, librarians have reawakened to the place-making role of the library building. Libraries are reasserting their role as serious, welcoming, attractive, and fun physical destinations for their patrons by working with architects to design buildings that are both beautiful physical embodiments of, and functional physical spaces for, creating a sense of a *community of learners*. I call this

esprit de place or spirit of place."...

Open Salon, Mar. 17

[How to manage anger on social media sites](#)

Heather Mansfield writes: "I have recently gained a new respect for social media staff that work with nonprofits who tackle controversial issues. In this political climate, they have to develop a very thick skin and just accept that their cause will be attacked by people from all sides of the spectrum. I have been trying to find that thin line between freedom of speech and when it's appropriate to report and permanently block people from your social networking communities. Here are some lessons learned."

Nonprofit Tech 2.0, Mar. 21

[FOIA: The world's worst search engine](#)

Ed Vielmetti writes: "Think of the FOIA process as the worst possible search engine in the world. Every governmental organization and agency can be asked for information, but the process is different for each one of them. Your search has to be precisely worded, and it has to specify who has the information you are searching for and if possible what form it's in, even if you don't know that ahead of time. Response times are measured in weeks, not seconds. Here are some reasons not to file FOIA requests."

AnnArbor.com: FOIA Friday, Mar. 19

[Canterbury Tales manuscript to be digitized](#)

Experts from the University of Manchester's John Rylands Library are spending March 22–25 at a beautiful 17th-century mansion to capture its world-famous *Canterbury Tales* manuscript on camera. The manuscript, housed at the Petworth House in Sussex, was handwritten between 1420 and 1450, just a few years after the tales were first conceived by Geoffrey Chaucer. The 18-month project is funded by JISC....

University of Manchester, Mar. 22



[London Library to get makeover](#)

Nancy Mattoon writes: "The London Library at St. James Square is the largest independent lending library in the world. A monument to its mid-19th-century founders—with iron grille and opaque glass floors, leather armchairs and leather-bound books, and a unique cataloging system devised in the late 1800s, the library is about to move into the 21st century. For the first time, an architect with a complete plan for the entire property is in the process of giving this great Victorian lady a makeover."

Book Patrol, Mar. 24



[Entertainment on a budget](#)

The unemployed Elizabeth writes: "I'm young and single, so spending time with my friends is a huge priority for me. The problem is, spending time with friends often means spending money. I've come up with a list of activities that are meant to take the place of regular entertainment activities (dinner, movies, nights out at bars). I'm not good at sticking to this list, but I am trying, so that has to count for something. (Right?)"

Adventures of an Unemployed Librarian, Mar. 20

[I had a great title for this, but I can't remember it](#)

Will Manley writes: "We've all heard those mossy library jokes about the patron with the short-term memory problem. I used to have an incredibly sharp memory. I could have given you a detailed plot summary of *Crime and Punishment*, but now all I can tell you is that it is about Russia. Just like that, my mind has all the retention of a vegetable strainer. What happened? Two theories: 1) I retired, and 2) I turned 60. Take your pick. I pick both."...

Will Unwound, Mar. 22

[The Carnegie window at Spencer, Iowa](#)

Larry Nix writes: "The Spencer (Iowa) Public Library became famous because of a cat named Dewey. But long before that, there was a Carnegie library building in Spencer.



Like Dewey, the Carnegie is no longer around to please or inspire. It met the wrecking ball in 1970, but its leaded glass window survives."...

Library History Buff, Mar. 22

[Duke moves forward on open access policy](#)

In a unanimous vote, the Duke University Academic Council approved a resolution March 18 supporting a new open access repository for faculty scholarly writings, but asked that organizers return for more discussion when they have details in place about how the repository would be serviced. The policy would place the final draft manuscript of future scholarly articles in a repository that would be available for use by the public....

Duke University, Mar. 21

[Army Europe's Paws and Pals program](#)

The U.S. Army Garrison Kaiserslautern's main library in Landstuhl, Germany, has gone to the dogs, but only on the third Tuesday afternoon of every month. Man's best friend is the star attraction of the garrison's new Paws and Pals reading program. A first for Army Europe libraries, the program pairs young readers with volunteer dogs to build children's confidence in reading, said Shawn Friend-Begin, the garrison's supervisory librarian....



USAG Kaiserslautern, Feb. 4

[This Week in Libraries](#)

Erik Boekesteijn and Jaap van de Geer, both of the DOK Library Concept Center in Delft, Netherlands, have launched an internet TV series called *This Week in Libraries*. The series is in English and features global library news and interviews with individuals involved in library innovation. The first show featured Berenschot Managing Director Bart Drenth, and the second showcased the work of Dutch library architect Aat Vos (and an appearance by Amy Jean Kearns, of the Central Jersey Regional Library Cooperative, on fiscally challenged libraries in New Jersey)....



This Week in Libraries, Mar. 20

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american libraries DIRECT

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | March 31, 2010

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The State of America's Libraries
Tuesday, April 13, 2010 Roberta Stevens


**american
libraries**
BUYERS GUIDE

American Libraries Online

[West Virginia governor slashes library funding](#)

West Virginia library advocates suffered a blow March 26 when Gov. Joe Manchin (right) used his line-item veto power to slash library funding in next year's state budget by 5%. Library supporters had convinced the legislature to maintain funding at current levels despite the weak economy. West Virginia Library Association Legislative Chair Allen Johnson noted that Manchin also wielded his veto against libraries in 2008....

American Libraries news, Mar. 29



[StoryCorps essay contest](#)

American Libraries is offering librarians a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to conduct a personal StoryCorps interview during the 2010 ALA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C., June 24–29. For a chance to win an interview slot, simply explain in 500 words or less whom you would like to interview—a mentor, colleague, or someone who inspired you to join the profession—and why your relationship is important and special. [Submit the essay](#) by the April 15 deadline....

American Libraries, Mar. 30

[Disaster planning](#)

Q. Our library doesn't have a disaster plan. Where can I get help in writing one? A.

There are a number of resources available to you. Start with the [Disaster Recovery](#) resources prepared by ALCTS members as background material for the first-ever Preservation Week, May 9–15. Be sure to work with your local government and your state library, as your plan needs to work in concert with those developed for larger areas. Got a question? [Ask the ALA Librarian](#)....

AL: Ask the ALA Librarian, Mar. 29



[Clean up your trichloroethylene](#)

Laura Bruzas writes: "In the late 1980s, a NASA [research study](#) concluded that some houseplants can work double duty by making

shaping
outcomes

Become a
More Effective
Program
Planner!

Next session
begins in April.

Learn more:
shapingoutcomes.org

American History in Video

"A solid ten . . .
and, at this price,
an amazing deal.
This is a product I
wish every library
in the U.S. could
make accessible
to its researchers,
from elementary
school children to
history scholars."

—Library Journal

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Streaming Video



indoor spaces more beautiful and purifying air contaminated by common chemicals. This is a good thing for libraries as the chemicals studied are also trapped in many library buildings, especially those that are tightly sealed to be more energy efficient or have windows that do not open."...

AL: Green Your Library, Mar. 26



ALA News

Neil Gaiman goes live for National Library Week

Libraries and their communities are invited to a live internet event, "An Evening with Neil Gaiman," 6–8 p.m. on April 12. The event, which kicks off National Library Week (April 11–17), is coordinated by the ALA Campaign for America's Libraries and the Jessamine County (Ky.) Public Library. Gaiman, at the University of Minnesota, will virtually join a live audience at JCIPL using high-definition videoconferencing technology supported by Internet2. OARnet will provide the ability for up to 1,000 locations to access the high-definition stream. Register [here](#)....



ALA supports Digital Due Process

On March 30 ALA joined the [Digital Due Process](#) coalition, which seeks to update the Electronic Communications Privacy Act. DDP includes a diverse group of privacy advocates, major companies, and think tanks, proposing principles to guide the updating of ECPA, the key federal law that defines the rules for government access to email and private files stored in the internet cloud. House Judiciary Committee Chairman John Conyers (D-Mich.) said he would lead efforts to [consider reform](#). Watch this [video](#) (1:29) for a brief explanation....



District Dispatch, Mar. 30; *Wall Street Journal*: Digits, Mar. 30; YouTube, Mar. 29

Fix to health care bill includes community college funding

On March 30, President Obama signed the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010 into law, which included \$2 billion for a new Community College and Career Training Grant Program. This money will be spent at \$500 million a year for FY2011–2014. While ALA welcomes this provision, we are also disappointed. Since last summer, community college librarians and ALA have worked on a different proposal that could have included community college libraries....



ALA Annual Conference.

Washington, D.C., June 24–29. Participate in [Libraries Build Communities](#) on June 25, a day-long service effort to help local libraries and the community. All participants will be notified in advance of the various projects and be able to select one. Your registration fee will be contributed to local library funds. Lunch, transportation, and a participation T-shirt are included.

District Dispatch, Mar. 31

[Celebrated women endorse literacy](#)

ALA Graphics has added three leading women—Her Majesty Queen Rania Al Abdullah of Jordan, Academy Award nominee Taraji P. Henson (right), and teen actress Dakota Fanning—to the Celebrity READ campaign. Each revered in her own realm, they promote reading all over the world. Find each iconic personality on her own Celebrity READ poster at the [ALA Store](#)....

ALA Graphics, Mar. 30

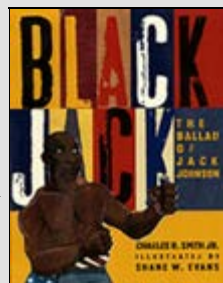


Booklist ONLINE

[Featured review: Sports](#)

Smith, Charles R. *Black Jack: The Ballad of Jack Johnson*. June 2010. 40p. Roaring Brook/Neal Porter, hardcover (978-1-59643-473-8).

The stylish, brash, and provocative boxer Jack Johnson is the subject of this picture-book verse biography. A quick tour of his childhood has the son of former slaves learning to fight by standing up to bullies at the behest of his mother. As a gifted professional boxer, he was consistently refused a shot at the heavyweight crown because of the prevailing racism of early 20th-century America. He repeatedly challenged reigning champ Jim Jeffries, who chose to hang up his gloves rather than fight a black man. Jeffries did finally come out of retirement, and Johnson's win in the "Fight of the Century" punched a massive hole in the pre-civil rights color line....



[2010 travel roundup](#)

Brad Hooper writes: "Ice, snow, and gray skies got you down?

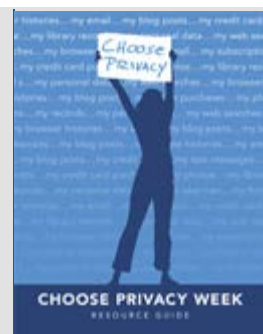
Discretionary income not what it used to be? Oh, come on, you know you can come up with the cash to take a trip somewhere. People

always do—and will continue to do so. And to that end, to help librarians in travel-guide collection development, we once again present our latest roundup of recommended titles that have appeared over the past six months."...



[Read-alikes](#)

Donna Seaman writes: "The hunt for buried treasure is an archetypal theme in literature the



[Choose Privacy Week](#)

May 2–8, is a project of the ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom. Get ready for the event with posters, buttons, bookmarks, and a resource guide that offers suggestions for educating and engaging library users on privacy issues. **NEW!** From ALA Graphics.

New this week in *American Libraries*



[Perpetual Beta](#)

[Inside Scoop](#)

[Green Your Library](#)

[Ask the ALA Librarian](#)

[AL Focus](#)



world over, whether it involves the hidden loot of pirates, an explorer's quest for ancient objects, or an individual looking for family heirlooms. Not only does an arduous and risky search make for a delectable adventure story, the unearthing of a precious object or truth can also have unintended consequences that yield intriguing insights into both history and the human psyche. Each novel of excavated treasures cited below takes a highly imaginative approach to this flexible theme, with one nonfiction title illuminating a shared father-and-son (John and Thomas Steinbeck) passion for the mysteries of one particularly dramatic landscape."...

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

Division News

[PLA National Conference comes to a close in Portland](#)

After five days of workshops, programs, and events devoted to enhancing public library service, best-selling author [Sarah Vowell](#) (right) brought PLA's 13th National Conference to a close. Nearly 8,000 library staff, supporters, [exhibitors](#), [authors](#), and guests gathered at the Oregon Convention Center for various workshops and discussions that focused on such key issues as advocacy, technology, literacy, and serving adults and youth. The conference opened March 25 with a surprise appearance by singer [Natalie Merchant](#), performing songs from a new CD of poems set to music and titled *Leave Your Sleep*. PLA President Sari Feldman fielded a few naïve questions and [annoying shushings](#) (5:51) from a KATU-TV A.M. Northwest host. For more coverage, see the [PLA Blog](#)....

PLA, Mar. 29; AL: Inside Scoop, Mar. 25, 27; KATU-TV (Portland), Mar. 24



[Children's author luncheon with Kadir Nelson](#)

Angie Manfredi writes: "Kadir Nelson, award-winning author and illustrator, had the crowd laughing at pictures he drew at 5 years old and learning from research he spent years on during his interesting and engaging talk at the PLA Children's Author Luncheon on March 26. Visits with his mother to his childhood public library in Atlantic City helped Kadir find art books, which helped mold his style."...

PLA Blog, Mar. 30



[Tweeting at the PLA Conference](#)

Gretchen Kolderup writes: "Everyone's been doing such a lovely job of recapping sessions they attended, so I wanted to get a little meta and talk about how Twitter was used at PLA this year. For a little context, the way I was keeping up with PLA happenings on Twitter was partly through the people I already followed but mostly by monitoring tweets tagged with [#pla10](#), so I missed what people I don't follow said unless it was tagged."...

PLA Blog, Mar. 29

[WrestleMania Reading](#)

Vote for the ALA [candidates of your choice](#) by April 23.

Career Leads
from
JobLIST

[Youth Services](#)

[Librarian](#), Ames (Iowa) Public Library. Will assist Children and Family Specialist develop collections, literacy-centered programs, and services for children and families in a customer-focused environment. This is a public-service position requiring a range of professional skills in reference, readers' advisory, and library programming. Experience with teens and with digital resources, electronic communications, and Web 2.0 preferred. Full time; some evenings and weekends required....



@ [More jobs...](#)

Digital Library
of the Week

Challenge champs named in Phoenix

The world championships for YALSA's [WrestleMania Reading Challenge](#) were held March 27 at the Burton Barr Library in Phoenix. The winners are Gabe Murrell (Grades 5–6), who represented the Oshawa (Ont.) Public Library; Liam Jose (Grades 7–8), who also represented the Oshawa Public Library; and La'Quan Deen (Grades 9–12), who represented the Carnegie Library of Homestead, Pennsylvania....

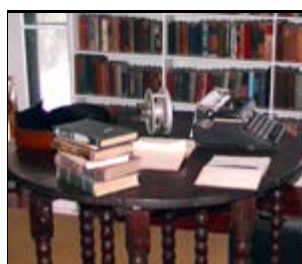
YALSA Blog, Mar. 29; WrestleMania XXVI, Mar. 27



Ernest Hemingway Home a new Literary Landmark

ALTAFF designated the Ernest Hemingway Home and Museum in Key West, Florida, a Literary Landmark on March 14. The dedication of the Literary Landmark was the finale of "One Island, One Book," a program created by the Monroe County Library's Key West branch. The program focused on *To Have and Have Not*, the novel Hemingway wrote in Key West and set on the island—his only novel set in the United States....

ALTAFF, Mar. 23



Dan Chaon joins Literary Tastes Breakfast lineup

Award-winning author Dan Chaon, whose most recent novel *Await Your Reply* (Random House) was a 2010 Notable Books List selection, will speak at the upcoming Literary Tastes Breakfast at the 2010 ALA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. The June 27 breakfast is a ticketed event....

RUSA, Mar. 30



Feedback needed on AASL/NCATE standards

AASL welcomes comments from school librarians, educators, and LIS students on the draft revised Standards for Initial Programs for School Librarian Preparation ([PDF file](#)). Review the draft revised standards and submit comments via [survey](#) by August 1. The National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education has a seven-year review cycle for program standards. As part of the revision process, the AASL/NCATE Coordinating Committee seeks feedback from a wide range of constituents....

AASL, Mar. 30

School Libraries Count! online reports

Personalized online reports are now available to school librarians who submitted responses to the AASL 2009 "School Libraries Count!" survey, an annual survey that is part of AASL's longitudinal study. To access the 2009 reports, participants should login on the report [website](#), enter their school's NCES number, and use the passcode of



The [Swiss Electronic Library](#) ([e-rara.ch](#)) is a collaborative project of several Swiss research libraries to digitize rare historical and scientific works in their collections, especially Swiss imprints. It opened to the public in March 2010, and aims to make more than 10,000 works available by the end of 2011. Major partners are the Bibliothèque de Genève, ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, University of Basel Library, University of Bern Library, and the Zürich Central Library. Other participating libraries are the University of Neuchâtel, Bibliothèque des Pasteurs, and the university libraries of Lausanne and Fribourg. Three collections are currently online: Swiss imprints of the 16th century, which includes important works in the history of the Reformation; the astronomical collection of the ETH-Bibliothek Zürich; and the architecture and urban planning collection of the ETH-Bibliothek Zürich.

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 [L](#)

"sclpass."...

AASL, Mar. 30

Register for RUSA online courses

RUSA is offering a full slate of online professional development opportunities this summer, from April through August. Courses include Genealogy 101, Business Reference 101, the Reference Interview, and Readers' Advisory 101. [Online registration](#) is now open....

RUSA, Mar. 25

AASL seeks presenters for 2011

AASL is now seeking presenter proposals for the 2011 ALA Annual Conference, to be held in New Orleans. The deadline to submit a proposal ([PDF file](#)) is May 21. Proposal submissions will be accepted for 90-minute concurrent sessions or half- to full-day preconference professional development programs....

AASL, Mar. 30

Graduate credit for L4L

AASL is offering graduate credit from the University of Colorado Denver for the new Learning4Life webinar series focusing on "Empowering Learners: Guidelines for School Library Media Programs." The webinars will be held at 4:30 p.m. Central Time on Wednesdays during the month of April. To earn 0.5 grad credits for AASL's L4L webinar series, all four webinars must be attended....

AASL, Mar. 30



The Anywhere Library

ACRL has published [The Anywhere Library: A Primer for the Mobile Web](#) by Courtney Greene, Missy Roser, and Elizabeth Ruane of DePaul University. Mobile computing is rapidly becoming an important part of everyday life. With a user-centered, practical emphasis geared to the nontechnical librarian, the book approaches the creation of a mobile-optimized library website as a process rather than simply as a product....

ACRL, Mar. 30



Awards

Ken Haycock wins 2010 Beta Phi Mu Award

Ken Haycock, professor and director of the School of Library and Information Science at San Jose State University, has received the ALA 2010 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....

Office of ALA Governance, Mar. 29



Parikh wins 2010 Sullivan Award

Neel Parikh, executive director of the Pierce County (Wash.) Library System, is the 2010 winner of the Sullivan Award for the Public Library Administrators Supporting Services to Children Award. Under her

[Love Libraries](#) site.

Public Perception

How the World Sees Us

"With fewer visitors, less books being checked out, and inflation of printing prices, libraries today cannot compete with our 'desktop libraries'; It is a grim realization for those still attached to that industry. Libraries, like *Eureka's Castle*, are another piece of the Generation Y childhood that is disappearing. Library cards are going to end up on Ebay and *Pawn Stars* 50 years from now, and our grandchildren will probably question us about their very existence. It is not a 'story book' ending for such a traditional information outlet."

—College graduate and sports enthusiast Mike Danielczyk, in a guest blog post, "My Library Card Expired, Why I Am Okay with It," *A New Generation*, Mar. 26. Read the [numerous responses](#).



TweetWatch

Follow:

Popular Culture

direction, the library has become a leader in providing early-learning training and support for families, child care providers, and library staff, both locally and across the state....

Office of ALA Governance, Mar. 29



2010 L. Ray Patterson Copyright Award

The Office for Information Technology Policy and its Copyright Advisory Subcommittee have named Fred von Lohmann, a senior staff attorney with the Electronic Frontier Foundation specializing in intellectual property matters, this year's winner of the L. Ray Patterson Copyright Award. In his role at EFF, von Lohmann has represented programmers, technology innovators, and individuals in a variety of copyright and trademark litigation, including *MGM v. Grokster*, decided by the Supreme Court in 2005....

ALA Washington Office, Mar. 30



Gale Cengage Learning Financial Development Award

The Princeton (N.J.) Public Library is the winner of the prestigious Gale Cengage Learning Financial Development Award. The award is presented annually to a library organization for exhibiting meritorious achievement in carrying out a project to secure new funding resources. The award, which includes \$2,500 donated by Gale Cengage, acknowledges the efforts of the Friends group in transforming a small gift shop into a successful bookstore....

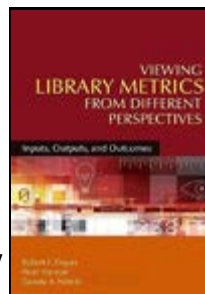
Office of ALA Governance, Mar. 29



2010 Greenwood Publishing Group Award

ALA has selected *Viewing Library Metrics from Different Perspectives: Inputs, Outputs, and Outcomes* as the winner of the 2010 Greenwood Publishing Group Award for the Best Book in Library Literature. The book was written by Robert E. Dugan, Peter Hernon, and Danuta A. Nitecki and published by Libraries Unlimited. The book assists library professionals in the area of assessment by helping them to explore and identify methods of measuring effectiveness and improving performance related to the needs of a variety of constituents....

Office of ALA Governance, Mar. 30



2010 EBSCO/ALA Conference Sponsorship winners

ALA and EBSCO Information Services have announced seven winners of the 2010 EBSCO/ALA Conference Sponsorship awards. The awards, each in the amount of \$1,000, will enable seven ALA members to attend the ALA Annual Conference, June 24–30, in Washington, D.C. Each applicant had to write an essay on how conference attendance would promote their professional development....

Office of ALA Governance, Mar. 30

Association / American Culture Association, Joint Conference, St. Louis, Mar. 31–Apr. 3, at:

[#pcaaca](#)

American Libraries news stories, videos, tweets, and blog posts at:

[amlibraries](#)

Calendar

Apr. 9–10:
Empire State Book Festival. Crowne Plaza, Albany, New York.

Apr. 21:
Louisiana Library Legislative Day. Louisiana Library Association, Baton Rouge.

Apr. 21–25:
Society of Architectural Historians. Annual Meeting, Holiday Inn Chicago Mart Plaza, Chicago.

May 1:
MayDay. Heritage Preservation.

May 2–8:
Choose Privacy Week.

May 9–15:
ALA Preservation Week.

May 11–14:
American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic

[YALSA symposium stipend winner](#)

Emily Dezurick-Badran, an enquiry assistant at the Southend Central Library in Southend-on-Sea, England, won the 2010 Young Adult Literature Symposium worker stipend from YALSA. The stipend provides Dezurick-Badran with up to \$1,000 to attend the 2010 symposium, to be held November 5–7 at the Albuquerque Marriott....
YALSA, Mar. 30

[2010 RUSA/STARS ILL travel grant](#)

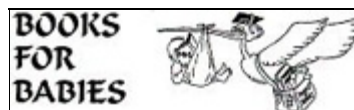
Naomi I. Chow, interlibrary loan and external services program librarian at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, is the 2010 recipient of the RUSA/STARS Atlas Systems Mentoring Award, an ALA conference travel grant designated for those who are new to the field of interlibrary loan. The grant offers \$1,000 to fund travel expenses associated with attending the ALA Annual Conference....
RUSA, Mar. 30

APALA, Arkansas Library Association support Spectrum

The [Asian/Pacific American Librarians Association](#) and the [Arkansas Library Association](#) have both announced their support of the Spectrum Presidential Initiative, APALA with a contribution of \$2,500, and ArLA with \$500. Arkansas is the first ALA chapter to provide support....
ALA Office for Diversity, Mar. 30

[Matching Books for Babies grants](#)

In partnership with Nordstrom, ALTAFF will award 20 grants for \$500 each to match \$1,075 raised by selected Friends of the Library groups, women's groups, libraries, and other nonprofits for purchasing [Books for Babies kits](#) from ALTAFF. Twenty matching grants will be awarded. The deadline for applications ([PDF file](#)) is September 15....
ALTAFF, Mar. 23



[Patty Wong honored by state senator as Woman of the Year](#)

California State Senator Lois Wolk honored Yolo County Librarian Patty Wong as one of the 5th Senate District's 2009 Women of the Year March 23 at a private ceremony at Wolk's office in Vacaville. Wong, who also serves as cochair of the ALA Presidential Initiative Planning Committee, was instrumental in renovating two new branches....
Woodland (Calif.) Daily Democrat, Mar. 24



[College librarian receives Patriotic Employer Award](#)

Grayson County (Tex.) College Librarian Lisa Hebert received a Patriotic Employer Award recently from the National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, a U.S. Department of Defense organization. The award recognizes Hebert for supporting employee participation in the U.S. National Guard and Reserve Force. She organized care packages and correspondence for student workers who were called to active duty....
North Texas e-News, Mar. 28



[Works](#), Annual Meeting, Hyatt Regency Milwaukee.

May 15:
[BookCamp Toronto](#), University of Toronto iSchool.

May 16–19:
[Care and Identification of Photographs workshop](#), Iowa State University Library, Ames.

May 25–26:
[Tectonics of Digital Curation](#), Ray and Maria Stata Center, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge. Presented by the Northeast Document Conservation Center.

May 25–27:
[INFORUM](#) conference on professional information resources, Prague, Czech Republic.

June 13–16:
[Special Libraries Association](#), Annual Conference, Ernest N. Morial Convention Center, New Orleans. Husband-and-wife political commentators James Carville and Mary Matalin will deliver the opening keynote address June 13.

@ [More...](#)

Contact Us
American Libraries Direct

ALA American Library Association

[2009 Free Software Awards](#)

The Free Software Foundation announced the winners of its annual Free Software Awards at a March 20 ceremony at the Harvard Science Center. The Internet Archive won the award for Project of Social Benefit. Brewster Kahle, Internet Archive cofounder and chairman, was at the ceremony to collect the award and spoke about the work of his organization....

Free Software Foundation, Mar. 23



[2010 Bram Stoker Awards](#)

The Horror Writers Association announced the 2010 winners of the Bram Stoker Awards March 27 at the World Horror Convention in Brighton, U.K. *Audrey's Door* by Sarah Langan won for Best Novel, *Damnably* by Hank Schwaeble won for Best First Novel, *The Lucid Dreaming* by Lisa Morton won for Best Long Fiction, and *Writers Workshop of Horror* by Michael Knost won for Best Nonfiction....

Science Fiction Awards Watch, Mar. 27



[Kitty Crowther wins 2010 Astrid Lindgren Award](#)

Belgian illustrator and author Kitty Crowther has won the 2010 Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award, which honors the best in children's writing. The award, named after the Swedish creator of Pippi Longstocking, brings with it prize money of 5 million kronor (\$695,000 U.S.). Crowther has written and contributed to more than 35 children's books and writes in French, most recently *Annie du lac* and *Alors?....*

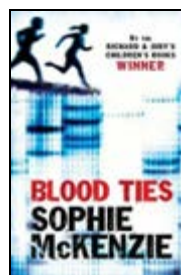
BBC News, Mar. 24



[Warwickshire Secondary Book Award](#)

The Warwickshire Secondary Book Award 2010, organized by Warwickshire County Council's Schools Library Service, has been won by Sophie McKenzie for her novel *Blood Ties*. Twenty secondary schools participated across this Midlands county for this year's award. McKenzie was presented with the award at a special celebratory event in Warwick March 24....

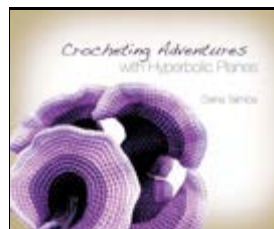
Coventry (U.K.) Telegraph, Mar. 30



[Crochet book knits up oddest title prize](#)

This year's Diagram Prize for oddest book title has gone to *Crocheting Adventures with Hyperbolic Planes* by mathematician Daina Taimina. The 32nd annual prize, which carries no monetary reward, was announced March 26 by *The Bookseller*, a U.K. trade magazine. The second and third-place finishers were: *What Kind of Bean Is This Chihuahua?* and *Collectible Spoons of the Third Reich....*

CBC News, Mar. 27



Seen Online

[Disquiet outside Boston Public](#)

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



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Library

On March 28, just before the Boston Public Library opened, nearly 100 protesters gathered outside the Copley Square building with petition sheets and statistical charts to go along with their "Don't Close the Book on Us!" placards and their chants of "Save our branches!" Advocates have set up a website, [People of Boston Branches](#), showing how the BPL trustees, Mayor Menino, city council, and state officials each play a role in the potential decision to shutter as many as 10 of the city's 26 branches. Library spokeswoman Gina Perille said a final vote will take place April 9....

Boston Globe, Mar. 29; *Universal Hub*, Mar. 28



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ext. 4216

ISSN 1559-369X.

Audit supports Carnegie Library branch closings

An independent audit released March 30 upheld the process the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh used to plan branch closings, but it reduced the system's projected, long-range deficit by nearly \$3.2 million. The library board's October 2009 proposal to close four neighborhood branches has outraged many residents who want them to remain open. The accounting firm found the board's decision-making reasonable, but said the library could reduce its projected deficit of \$4.39 million in 2014 to \$300,074....

Pittsburgh (Pa.) Tribune-Review, Mar. 31

Architecture students to offer plans for Auraria library rehab

A new master plan for University of Colorado Denver's Auraria campus calls for the 184,000-square-foot library to be demolished and replaced even as the state faces severe budget cuts. So Library Director Mary Somerville, wondering where the money for such a project might come from, is calling on architecture students to figure out if a modern library can be salvaged from the aging glass-and-anodized-aluminum building....

Denver Post, Mar. 29



Alec Baldwin buys a bookmobile

Early this year, the Massapequa (N.Y.) Library bookmobile, which had been taken off the road last summer after 48 years of service, was towed away to actor Alec Baldwin's property in Amagansett. Baldwin, who grew up in Massapequa and whose father taught at the local high school, paid \$1,000 for the forsaken vehicle. Library Director Patricia Page said, "I don't know how he heard about it, but he used it when he was younger and he seems to have a feel for this community."...

New York Observer, Feb. 24



New Mexico librarian wants to clean up outer space

Sean Shepherd, Eastern New Mexico University Instructional Research Center coordinator, is developing devices to clean up small manmade space debris in the lower earth orbit—and NASA is taking notice. Last fall, after reading an article about satellite collisions that create even more space debris, an idea



popped into his head for Adhesive Synthetic Trash Recovery Orbital Spheres. The lightweight ASTROS would be launched into space to collide with the trash, which would stick to them and return to burn up in the atmosphere. Watch the [newscast](#) (1:57)....

Portales (N.Mex.) News-Tribune, Mar. 31; KOB-TV, Albuquerque, Mar. 23

[Tennessee State Library in search of Civil War artifacts](#)

More than two decades after a statewide effort to copy and catalog photographs of historical significance, staffers at the Tennessee State Library and Archives are hitting the state's highways and byways again in search of Civil War memorabilia. The materials they find during their travels will be copied, archived, and used to create a digital exhibit commemorating the 150th anniversary of the Civil War....

Chattanooga.com, Mar. 29

[School board member rebuffed over Maya Angelou stance](#)

Huntington Beach, California, School Board member John Briscoe was reprimanded by Superintendent Alan Rasmussen March 19 after he wrote a letter to a local newspaper saying that "there is no need or place" for children to read Maya Angelou's bestseller *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*. Rasmussen said he resented Briscoe misstating the facts and that parents must now provide consent for students to check out the book after a committee reviewed it in October....

Orange County (Calif.) Register, Mar. 25



[Poetry book stays in North Fond du Lac school](#)

A book of poems containing mature subject matter will remain in the combined middle and high school library in the North Fond du Lac (Wis.) School District. A compromise was reached during a March 24 materials reconsideration meeting that would allow the poetry book *Paint Me Like I Am: Teen Poems from WritersCorps* (HarperTeen, 2003) to remain on the shelf, provided it has a label designating it as appropriate for high school students. Younger students could also access the book with prior parental permission....

Fond du Lac (Wis.) Reporter, Mar. 25



[Singing soprano sorts and shelves](#)

The high, bright notes of an operatic aria echo down the travertine-tiled halls of the cavernous Coronado (Calif.) Public Library, bounding off the concrete columns and filtering out through the glass doors in front. In the hour before the library's opening, professional opera singer and part-time library page Diane Alexander belts out the classics as she shelves books. After spending nearly 20 years performing with opera houses and symphonies across the U.S., Alexander decided to get more involved with her adopted home town and landed the library job in 2009....

San Diego (Calif.) Union-Tribune, Mar. 29



[Rehoboth library may be forced to close](#)

The Blanding Free Public Library, an institution in Rehoboth, Massachusetts, for 144 years, may be on the verge of closing. Facing a \$1-million deficit in the town's 2011 budget, officials said they cannot fund the library, which would force it to close at the end of June. The library's operating expenses, which include salaries and materials, cannot be paid without the funding....

Taunton (Mass.) Daily Gazette, Mar. 25



[Librarian claims she was fired for reporting child abuse](#)

A former librarian from Community Academy Charter School in Philadelphia has sued the school, its founder, and a related nonprofit on the ground that she was improperly fired a year ago for reporting a case of suspected child abuse, as is required by law. Georganne Hardin-Fong filed the suit in Common Pleas Court March 19. She said she was fired abruptly in March 2009 after reporting to a social worker that one of the school's students might be a victim of abuse at home....

Philadelphia Inquirer, Mar. 25

[Maple Lake library refused to be shelved](#)

A few years back, budget cuts loomed in Maple Lake, Minnesota (pop. 2,100), and instead of opening a library, city leaders suggested that residents drive seven miles east to Buffalo or seven miles west to Annandale for their book fix. Residents responded with one big not-on-your-life. Thirty-thousand donated books later, the volunteer-run library in the town's quaint business district just celebrated its first anniversary....

Minneapolis Star Tribune, Mar. 27

[Fired director wants his job back](#)

A public library director who was fired March 24 for poor performance argues that the decision was fueled by politics and said he will fight to get his job back. Gian Hasija (right), who has worked as the Bloomfield (N.J.) Public Library's director for more than five years, was dismissed by the library board after a week-long unpaid suspension. His attorney [contends](#) the dismissal was retaliation by the mayor and library board because Hasija would not promote an employee with an alleged criminal background....

Newark (N.J.) Star-Ledger, Mar. 26; Bloomfield (N.J.) Life, Mar. 25



[What to do with the idle assets in closed branches](#)

The closure of four Aurora (Colo.) Public Library branches—shuttered in early 2010 amid shrinking budgets and after voters rejected a tax hike to keep them open—has left library officials with a daunting task. What will become of the slew of books, movies, CDs, and computers that once stocked the shelves? And in the case of two branches, what should the library do with the buildings, which the city owns and which aren't being used?...

Aurora (Colo.) Sentinel, Mar. 26

[Baltimore school to get a Target School Library Makeover](#)

Baltimore's Brehms Lane Elementary School, which has a high percentage of low-income students, has struggled to update its library with books and equipment. But now it has been picked for a

Target School Library Makeover, which will bring thousands of dollars' worth of new books, furniture, and equipment into the school's media center. The makeover is being awarded to 32 schools nationwide....

Baltimore Sun, Mar. 26

[St. Bonaventure's Rare Book Wing](#)

The Rare Book Wing inside St. Bonaventure University's Friedsam Memorial Library in Olean, New York, houses the largest rare book collection in the state outside New York City. It consists of approximately 10,000 items published between 1500 and 1700, some 100 late medieval manuscripts, about 100 more modern manuscripts, and 300 incunabula. The story of how these rare books came to campus is nearly as interesting as the books themselves....

The Bona Venture, Mar. 26



[Haiti's libraries: History at risk](#)

Madison Smartt Bell writes: "The earthquake in Haiti, aside from killing a couple of hundred thousand people in the space of a heartbeat, has put so many survivors' lives in danger that even now, two months after the cataclysm, it is difficult to think about any thing else. It's hard to imagine worrying much about artifacts and archives when so many human lives have yet to be saved. Still, the artifacts and archives mean something to the future of the people still struggling to survive."...

Huffington Post, Mar. 30

[Toronto trying to fund gaming collection, programs](#)

The Toronto Public Library is searching for close to \$300,000 to start a circulating video game collection and set up gaming programs at eight branches across the city. The library has been auditioning gaming programs at two branches for some time, said Chief Librarian Jane Pyper. Younger staffers at the S. Walter Stewart and Bloor/Gladstone branches pitched the idea as a way to draw new people through the doors....

Toronto Star, Mar. 23

[New Zealand to restructure its National Library](#)

New Zealand State Services Minister Tony Ryall confirmed March 25 that the government plans to merge Archives New Zealand and the National Library into the Department of Internal Affairs. Other government agencies will also be merged, resulting in a savings of \$20 million (\$14.2 million U.S.) and a loss of 55 jobs. The Public Service Association trade union, the Professional Historians' Association of New Zealand, and the Library and Information Association of New Zealand say the move would result in less accountability, [reduced access](#) to unique historical resources, and [service reductions](#)....

Otago Daily Times (Dunedin), Mar. 26; LIANZA, Mar. 12



[Go back to the Top](#)

Tech Talk

[The best free software of 2010](#)



Eric Griffith writes: "There's no lack of free software to be found online. Some of it is as powerful, if not more so, than the name-brand packages found on shelves at Best Buy for big bucks. By free, we mean you don't pay a dime except for what it costs to download and install the software. There are even times when you don't have to install anything, since there are a lot of great web-based applications available these days. Every year *PC Magazine* puts together a fresh look at the Best Free Software." Setting up a new system? Bulk-install 82 free open source apps all at once with [ZeuAPP](#), or non-open source apps with [Ninite](#)....

PC Magazine, Mar. 30

[Top 30 library iPhone apps, part 1](#)

Ellyssa Kroski writes: "This is the first installment in a three-part series listing library-oriented iPhone applications—all links go to iTunes where you can download the apps. This first article features libraries that have created iPhone apps for their patrons, part two will cover databases and library vendors with iPhone apps, and part three will feature book-related apps."...

iLibrarian, Mar. 30

[Living in my cloud](#)

Jenny Levine writes: "This weekend, I did something really cool (for me). I got to watch a March Madness game on my TV that CBS wasn't showing in my local market, without paying the cable company. Life is full of short victories, and this is one of mine. More importantly, I realized I'm living in [the heavenly jukebox](#) I used to talk about in my presentations years ago. It started last August when I decided it was time to investigate a centralized backup solution."...

The Shifted Librarian, Mar. 30; *Atlantic*, Sept. 2000



[Lawmakers ask for FTC investigation of Google Buzz](#)



Eleven U.S. lawmakers have asked the Federal Trade Commission to investigate Google's launch of its Buzz social-networking product for breaches of consumer privacy. The representatives—six Democrats and five Republicans from the House Energy and Commerce Committee—noted in their March 25 [letter](#) that Google's roll-out of Buzz exposed private information of users to Google's Gmail service to outsiders....

PC World, Mar. 29

[Google and your social circle](#)

Bobbi L. Newman writes: "Yesterday I noticed something new in my Google search. When I clicked on the link, 'Results from people in your social circle for Google Social Search,' it took me to a page that was just content from my Social Circle, whatever that means. There were a lot of names on that list, and there doesn't seem to be a way to simply add or remove a person either. Frankly, I'm creeped out. I do not remember giving Gmail permission to go through my contacts and correlate them to other sites."...

Librarian by Day, Mar. 30

[21 tech secrets they don't want you to know](#)

Dan Tyman writes: "Who's 'they'? It could be Google or product

manufacturers, your boss or your wireless carrier, Hollywood or Uncle Sam. Don't despair. What don't they want you to know? That your cell phone may be spying on you. That you're probably paying too much for printer ink. That your PC may be coated with toxic flame retardants. For every dirty little secret revealed herein, we describe a fix or a way to work around it (if any exists). You don't have to be a victim, if you know what to do."...

PC World, Mar. 29

Browser fingerprints: A big privacy threat

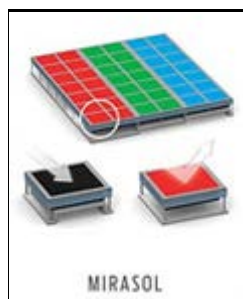


Erik Larkin writes: "A new type of tracking may identify you far more accurately than any cookie—and you may never know it was there. The method pulls together innocuous data about your browser, such as plug-ins, system fonts, and your operating system. Alone, they don't identify you. Together, they're a digital fingerprint. Test your browser for unique identifiers without the risk: The Electronic Frontier Foundation, a privacy advocacy group, has set up an interesting online experiment at Panopticlick.eff.org."...

PC World, Mar. 26; Electronic Frontier Foundation

The electronic display of the future

Jason Heikenfeld writes: "No fewer than half a dozen different technologies are emerging from laboratories to compete to be the e-reader screen of the future—electrophoretic pixels, 3QI multimode, cholesteric LCD, mirasol, electrofluidic pixels, and photonic ink. The stakes are high: Research firm DisplaySearch estimates that the market will near \$10 billion by 2018, powered by a compound annual growth rate of 41%."...



IEEE Spectrum, Mar.

Laptop survey

Jeff Trzeciak writes: "McMaster University Library recently completed a brief and informal survey of users who borrow laptops from our libraries. Laptop circulation now accounts for around 33% of our total circulation, with reserves equaling one-third and traditional monograph circulation making up the other third. While it is quite clear that the service is popular, the library is having some difficulty sustaining the program. Circulating the laptops takes more time for our circulation staff than traditional circulation or reserves."...

McMaster University Library, Mar. 27

Publishing

E-book sellers battle to win iPad customers

Nick Bilton writes: "When it comes to buying and selling books on the iPad, we're about to witness a strange dance between those who make or sell electronic books and those who read them. On April 3, when customers pick up their fancy new Apple iPads and want to purchase an e-book, they will have to decide which online bookstore they want to give their money to. No matter which bookstore application iPad owners choose, they will have to download it first."...



New York Times: Bits, Mar. 24

[The next e-book device is already here](#)

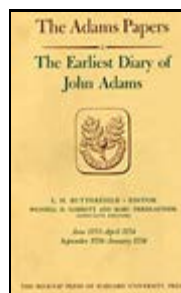
Joseph Esposito writes: "It was with great interest that I learned that the Kindle and Stanza are either ready (Kindle) or being readied (Stanza) for reading on a computer. The next big e-book device is the laptop. A laptop with Stanza running on it is no longer merely a laptop: It is now an e-book device and bookstore. What laptops have mostly lacked thus far are good software for the viewing of books, a large selection of titles to choose from, and a means to sell books efficiently to laptop users."...

The Scholarly Kitchen, Mar. 29

[The oldest work protected by U.S. copyright?](#)

Mary Minow writes: "What is the oldest work still protected by copyright in the United States? And in what work will copyright endure the longest? These turn out to be much harder questions to answer than I thought. After some research, I suspect that the 1753 diary of John Adams is both the oldest work in the U.S. still protected by copyright and also the work whose federal copyright protection will expire the longest after creation; in this case, more than three centuries."...

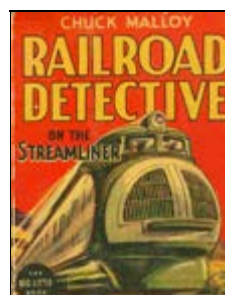
LibraryLaw Blog, Mar. 28



[The joys of train literature](#)

L. D. Mitchell writes: "One of the most popular and collectible types of travel narrative revolves around trains. Books and train travel have, in many respects, grown up together. The long travel times that early train trips required gave passengers leisure to indulge in quite a bit of reading, a fact that was recognized early on by the development of cheap books like the yellowback and Routledge's Railway Library series that were designed specifically for sale at railway bookstalls." The Private Library continues with six more installments on train literature....

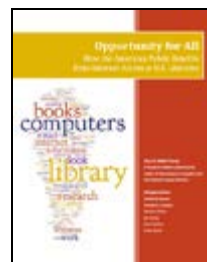
The Private Library, Mar. 21-27



Actions & Answers

[National study: One-third of Americans use library computers](#)

Nearly one-third of Americans age 14 or older—roughly 77 million people—used a public library computer or wireless network to access the internet in the past year, according to a new national report released March 25. The report, *Opportunity for All: How the American Public Benefits from Internet Access at U.S. Libraries* ([PDF file](#)), is the first large-scale study of who uses public computers and internet access in public libraries. It was conducted by the University of Washington Information School and funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the



Institute of Museum and Library Services...
University of Washington Information School, Mar. 25

[Wikipedia redesign coming soon](#)

In April, the Wikimedia Foundation will roll out the first of several significant changes to the Wikipedia user experience. The default look will change to a new theme called "Vector," which will make essential functions easier to find. A new editing toolbar will make it easier to insert links and tables. Site navigation has also been simplified, and the search box has been relocated. Changes will roll out on Wikimedia Commons the week of April 5 and on the English Wikipedia later in the month....

Wikimedia Blog, Mar. 25



[Wikipedia in LCSH](#)

Jonathan Rochkind writes: "I'm probably noticing this later than everyone else, but I just did and found it amusing. Apparently Wikipedia is now an acceptable citation for source of information in an LCSH authority record. Who said librarians don't like Wikipedia or find it an acceptable citation source?"...

Bibliographic Wilderness, Mar. 30

[The teacher librarian enthusiast](#)

Natasha Wanchek writes: "This is an exciting time to be a K–12 school librarian. Five years have passed since the Library 2.0 concept was coined in a [blog](#), but only in the last couple years have school libraries fully started to embrace social networking and other 2.0 tools. For the advocates—many of whom are connected by [learning networks](#)—the enthusiasm for incorporating new technologies is palpable."...

THE Journal, Mar. 25

[Technicolor donates archive to Eastman House](#)

The George Eastman House International Museum of Photography and Film in Rochester, New York, has acquired the historic archive of Technicolor dating from 1915 to 1974. The donation includes rare cameras, documents and drawings, photographs, printers and processing machines, corporate records, and other important materials that represent the history of Technicolor's groundbreaking contributions to motion pictures. Technicolor, a trademark for a series of color film processes, was established with the goal of bringing natural color to motion pictures....

George Eastman House, Mar. 25



[New Rutgers University Diversity Research Center](#)

Rutgers University has opened a new [Diversity Research Center](#) in the John Cotton Dana Library on its Newark campus. The center will conduct research into the relationship between diversity and organizational performance, offer support for cross-disciplinary diversity research, create a special collection of diversity materials, and conduct its own LIS diversity research. Mark Winston will serve



as Director of the Center....
Rutgers University, Mar. 29

[Training fellowships in serving older adults](#)

Justine Shaffner writes: "Here is a [free training opportunity](#) that will teach you how to best serve your over-50 patrons, made available through a grant from the Institute for Museum and Library Services and the Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program. Although the 100 fellowship slots are primarily for librarians in leadership track positions at libraries in California, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington, a limited number of fellowships are available to applicants from other states. The deadline for submissions for applicants from California and the Northwest is April 2, and for applicants elsewhere it's May 3."...
The Librarian is IN, Mar. 28; IMLS Western Regional Fellowship



[Planning great library training sessions](#) (PDF file)

Carol J. Schmitt writes: "Library training is a blessing and curse. While it gives librarians a chance to showcase their knowledge about services, products, and how the library can assist in meeting the organization's needs, training also requires taking time out of everyone's days and routines. It is the first thing everyone asks for and often the first thing that everyone tries to get out of."...
AALL Spectrum 14, no. 6 (Apr.): 6-8

[11 most surprising banned books](#)

Jessie Kunhardt and Amy Hertz write: "Even though it's not [Banned Books Week](#), the issue of censorship is ever-present. While preparing this list, we found many that didn't surprise us (Howard Stern's *Private Parts*, *The New Joy of Gay Sex*, Judy Blume's *Are You There, God? It's Me, Margaret*, and the one that's been banned from the beginning, D. H. Lawrence's *Lady Chatterley's Lover*). But we found many that did, including the dictionary."...
Huffington Post, Mar. 29



[Book spine poems for National Poetry Month](#)

Travis Jonker writes: "April is [National Poetry Month](#) and at 100 Scope Notes, we're celebrating in an appropriately bookish way. If you try book spine poetry with your students, [send](#) me the results and I will post them here for all to see and enjoy."...
100 Scope Notes, Mar. 30



["Winds and Words of War" stir U.S. libraries](#)

Nancy Mattoon writes: "A traveling library exhibit, sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts, spotlights a group of graphic artists and illustrators who used their talents to persuade citizens to stand with the soldiers during World War I and make sacrifices for the cause. The exhibit, '[The Winds and Words of War](#),' showcases images created by the Division of Pictorial Publicity, part of the Committee on Public Information of the U.S. government. More than 300 of America's most famous illustrators, cartoonists, designers, and fine artists



donated their services in 1917–1918.”...
Book Patrol, Mar. 31

The anatomy of library fail

Leigh Anne Vrabel writes: “Failure, in the context of library work, is an amusing intellectual concept because, even on our worst days nobody dies (usually) and nothing gets set on fire (normally). Those of us who work in urban public libraries frequently have more harrowing stories to tell; these, however, have less to do with personal failures or mistakes than they do with gaping holes in the larger social fabric. For the moment, we will concentrate on those individual moments of epic fail that stop us in our tracks and make us wonder if we took a [wrong turn at Albuquerque](#) (1:05).”...



Library Alchemy, Mar. 29; YouTube, June 21, 2008

My parallel universe

Will Manley writes: “Will, are you freaking nuts? That was the reaction of a number of people (librarians and non) when they learned from my [Day in the Life of a Retired Librarian](#) post that I was spending precious retirement time cataloging my own personal books. Will, are you double freaking nuts? That was the reaction when I explained to them that I had already cataloged my personal books, but that now I was doing a retrospective conversion of my catalog records from Dewey to Library of Congress.”...

Will Unwound, Mar. 26

Periodic table of science blogs

Science writer David Bradley has created a colorful [Periodic Table of Science Blogs](#), matching each of 118 chemical elements with a particular blog. Each element is color-coded by topic—green for biology, gray for physics, purple for math, blue for medical, red for chemical, black for astronomy, and bronze for general science....

Indigence 49 In (14,818.2)	Scientific 50 Se (18,700.7)	Sciencebase 51 Sb (121,700.1)
Thelium 81 Ti (70,100)	Phenomeny 82 Pb (207,200)	Science 83 Bi (209,900)
Universe 113 Un (200)	Universe 114 Un (200)	Universe 115 Un (200)

Sciencebase, Mar. 22

JSTOR thanks its Facebook fans

JSTOR, an online system for archiving academic journals, now has more than 50,000 fans of its Facebook page. This video (2:13) shows JSTOR staffers thanking its fans (in multiple languages) and telling a bit about the history of the organization....

JSTOR Facebook video, Mar. 29



The Tacoma Public Library Bookaneers

The book cart drill team from the Tacoma (Wash.) Public Library, the Bookaneers, put in a proud debut performance (2:05) at the Junior Daffodil Parade on March 27. “Hours and hours of practice paid off as the elite team dazzled the crowd with their precision and inventiveness,” as the TPL Facebook page put it....



YouTube, Mar. 30

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