

# american libraries DIRECT

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | September 1, 2010

## Contents

- [American Libraries Online](#)
- [ALA News](#)
- [Booklist Online](#)
- [Division News](#)
- [Awards](#)
- [Seen Online](#)
- [Tech Talk](#)
- [Publishing](#)
- [Actions & Answers](#)
- [New This Week](#)
- [Calendar](#)

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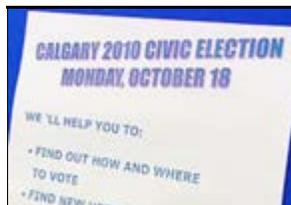
american libraries  
**BUYERS GUIDE**

## American Libraries Online

### [Calgary library squelches rumor of "Don't Be an Idiot" campaign](#)

With the fall election season gearing up, it seemed that the staff of the Calgary (Alberta) Public Library was doing its part to get out the vote when the Canadian Broadcasting Company reported August 25 that the library had launched a "[Don't Be an Idiot](#)" PR campaign to promote its upcoming candidate forums and political resources. Acknowledging that the slogan "caught a lot of people's attention," including some who took offense, CPL spokesperson Gerry Burger-Martindale invoked a classical Greek definition of the term....

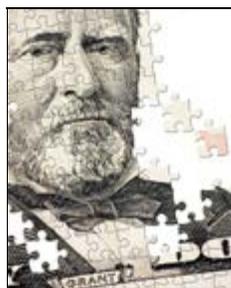
*American Libraries news, Sept. 1; Slice of Calgary, Aug. 17*



### [Winning grants: A game plan](#)

Herbert Landau writes: "Grant seeking is a marketing process. Simply stated, you define your library's need and sell it to one who can fund your project. Librarians are their own best grant-proposal writers. No outsider can write a proposal as effectively as a library insider. In any game it helps to have rules. Here are four common-sense ones that govern my grant-writing game plan."...

*American Libraries feature, Aug. 24*



### [Will's World: Why librarianship endures](#)

Will Manley writes: "Once when I was working the reference desk, a seemingly normal community college student (no exposed underwear, multiple tongue piercings, neck tattoos, or a message shaven into his hair) asked why so many Civil War battles were fought in national parks: 'They are environmental treasures that should always be kept clean and safe. Plus, cannon shots might start forest fires.'"...

*American Libraries column, Sept.*



### [A library opens in Ethiopia](#)

At the grand opening of the Ethiopia Reads

APA eBooks

Flexible Options  
for Your Library

AMERICAN  
PSYCHOLOGICAL  
ASSOCIATION

library in Mekele, Ethiopia, on August 20, Ethiopia Reads Founder Yohannes Gebregeorgis talked (3:34) with *American Libraries* Editor Leonard Kniffel about the need for libraries in Ethiopia, the difficulties of opening libraries there, and how librarians around the world can help with the mission....



AL Focus, Aug. 31

### [Haitian librarians describe destruction](#)

At the 2010 IFLA World Library and Information Congress in Gothenburg, Sweden, Françoise Beaulieu-Thybulle, director of the National Library of Haiti, and Elizabeth Pierre-Louis, program director for FOKAL, described (3:39) the damage caused by the January 12 earthquake, the work they have been doing to recover, and how librarians around the world can help....



AL Focus, Aug. 31

### [IFLA President Ellen Tise](#)

At the 2010 IFLA World Library and Information Congress in Gothenburg, Sweden, IFLA President Ellen Tise (right) of South Africa shared (3:19) what she's learned from her first year as IFLA president, discusses what value international work offers to new librarians, and offers an invitation to next year's IFLA World Congress in Puerto Rico....



AL Focus, Aug. 31

### [Desktops be gone?](#)

Laura Bruzas writes: "Has your library been operating on autopilot with regards to your purchasing decisions by sticking with desktops versus the now often just-as-powerful laptop? We can all benefit by turning off our autopilot, especially in the area of purchasing. With the purchasing and disposal choices they make, libraries play a key role in shaping not only the footprint of individual computers but also industry output as a whole."...



AL: Green Your Library, Aug. 26

### [VHS to DVD](#)

Q. *Is it a copyright violation to convert VHS tapes to DVD and discontinue their use?* A. In most cases, yes, it would be a copyright violation. Reproducing a VHS tape on a DVD without the prior permission of the rightsholder is an infringement of copyright. This kind of reproduction is not exempt because it is not "fair use" and does not qualify as a lawful reproduction under Section 108 of the Copyright Code....



AL: Ask the ALA Librarian, Aug. 26



**[ALA Midwinter Meeting](#)** in San Diego, California, January 7-11, 2011. **[Bundled registration](#)** is now open.



In the August-September issue of **[Library Technology Reports](#)**, "The Concept of Electronic Resource Usage in Libraries," Rachel Fleming-May and Jill E. Grogg offer methodology and tools for measuring and understanding the usage of your library's electronic resources. **NEW! From ALA TechSource.**



"Like" **[American Libraries](#)** on Facebook.

**New this week**  
in *American Libraries*

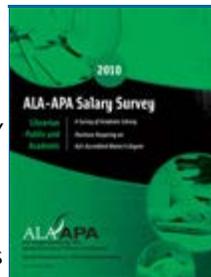


## ALA News

### [Report: Librarians' salaries jumped 3% in 2010](#)

In the midst of tough economic times, job shortages and cutbacks, the 2010 edition of the *ALA-APA Salary Survey: Librarian—Public and Academic* reveals increases in librarian salaries. In contrast to the decreases reported in 2009, analysis of 2010 data for librarians with ALA-accredited master's degrees shows a 3% mean increase from \$58,860 to \$60,734 and a 2% median rise from \$54,500 to \$55,883. The data is available immediately for subscribers to the [ALA-APA Library Salary Database](#) and in print from the [ALA store](#)....

ALA Allied Professional Association, Aug. 26



### [Free customized promos for Library Card Sign-up Month](#)

Launched in September 1987, Library Card Sign-up Month is a time when public and school libraries across the country join together to remind parents that a library card is the most important school supply of all. Libraries looking for materials to help promote Library Card Sign-up Month locally can [download](#) print and audio public service announcements featuring NBA star and Honorary Chair Dwyane Wade (right). ALA will customize the print PSA with a library's logo for free....

Campaign for America's Libraries, Aug. 26



### [A state association by any other name](#)

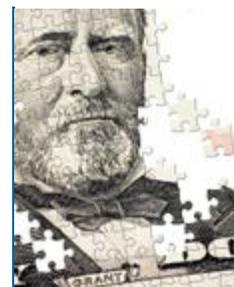
If you are not already a member of your state library association, also known as an ALA chapter, please join yours. There are many reasons to do so, including discounts for attending conferences, networking, mentoring, and all kinds of other opportunities and services. Most importantly, you can contribute to your state association's efforts to support libraries and the library profession....

ALA Student Membership Blog, Aug. 30



### [ALA seeks Endowment Fund trustee](#)

Applications are now being accepted for the position of Endowment Fund trustee. A candidate will be selected by the ALA Executive Board at the next Midwinter Meeting. The trustee will serve a three-year term starting at the end of the 2011 ALA Annual Conference. Applications ([Word file](#)) must be received by November 15....  
Office of ALA Governance



### [Winning Grants](#)

### [Will's World](#)

### [Perpetual Beta](#)

### [Inside Scoop](#)

### [Green Your Library](#)

### [Ask the ALA Librarian](#)

### [Librarian's Library](#)

### [AL Focus](#)

## Career Leads from **ALA JobLIST**

[Head of Library Technology and Systems](#), Coastal Carolina University, Conway, South Carolina. The Kimbel Library seeks an enthusiastic colleague to provide vision and leadership that reflects current needs and anticipates future trends in the evolving library and information environment. The successful candidate will have experience in the management of library systems that support the essential functions of the library, including its integrated system and resource sharing software and systems. Knowledge of emerging technologies

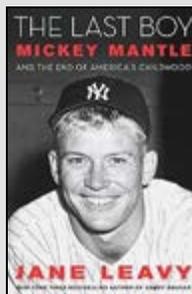


# Booklist ONLINE

## Featured review: Adult sports

Leavy, Jane. *The Last Boy: Mickey Mantle and the End of America's Childhood*. Illustrated. Oct. 2010. 464p. Harper, hardcover (978-0-06-088352-2).

Another Mantle biography? Yes, but Leavy takes a new tack, approaching the New York Yankee center fielder from the mixed perspectives of fan, journalist, and personal acquaintance, striving, as she says, to portray the man she loved as a child but whose actions were unlovable. She conducted more than 500 interviews with family, friends, teammates, managers, and medical professionals—the latter group, sadly, surprisingly large. Ruining his knee on an uncovered Yankee Stadium drain in his rookie year, Mantle essentially played hurt the remaining 17 years of his career, a condition that helped fuel his ultimately fatal alcoholism, which propelled him into a satyr's life of infidelity, despite a devoted wife and four sons. This is unlike any biography on the sports shelf....



## Top 10 sports books

Bill Ott writes: "Sports biography rules the day in this year's top 10, with landmark biographies of Sugar Ray Robinson, Willie Mays, and Hank Aaron. But it isn't all mainstream: There's also a book in which a failed rock musician describes his stint as a failed sailor (*Three Ways to Capsize a Boat: An Optimist Afloat*, by Genesis drummer Chris Stewart)."...



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

## Division News

### Vision Tour to tout exemplary school libraries

AASL President Nancy Everhart is taking the division's [Learning 4 Life](#) initiative on the road with the [Vision Tour](#), in which she hopes to visit a school library in every state in the U.S. The schools Everhart will visit were selected by AASL affiliate organizations as visual models to the general public of how good school libraries empower every student



and trends in the provision of library resources is essential as this person will lead a small team consisting of electronic resources and systems together with emerging technologies and web design in developing new and exciting ways to meet the needs of campus faculty, students, and staff. He/she will be responsible for design and development of a dynamic web presence that integrates resources and technology to achieve a user-friendly environment and efficient access....



@ [More jobs...](#)

## Digital Library of the Week



The [Fisher Digital Collections](#) showcase the treasures of the Thomas Fisher Rare

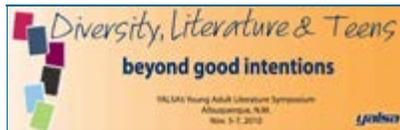
with the skills needed to be a Learner4Life. Her first stop will be at the Kailua (Hawaii) Elementary School library, and she will be [blogging](#) about her visits. The Friends of AASL is [accepting donations](#) to fund the tour....

AASL, Aug. 27

### [Early bird deadline extended for YA Literature Symposium](#)

Take advantage of the lowest registration rates for YALSA's Young Adult Literature Symposium, November 5-7, in Albuquerque, New Mexico. YALSA members and New Mexico Library Association members will save 20% over onsite registration fees by [signing up](#) by September 17. This year's theme is "Diversity, Literature, and Teens: Beyond Good Intentions."...

YALSA



### [AASL lauds six groups for supporting school libraries](#)

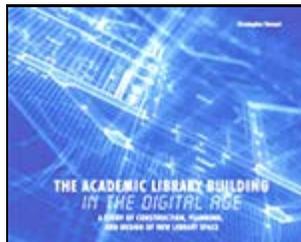
The AASL Affiliate Assembly has formally commended six organizations for their support of school library programs and their alignment with the learning standards, program guidelines, and principles expressed in AASL's mission and value statements. Honorees include American Girl Place Chicago for its support of Chicago Public Schools, and Old Dominion University's Librarianship Upgrades for Children and Youth Services for its opportunities for youth services librarians....

AASL, Aug. 27

### [How to build academic libraries for the digital age](#)

The first comprehensive study of planning and construction of academic library buildings completed entirely in the 21st century, [The Academic Library Building in the Digital Age](#) answers the question of how, not whether, academic libraries will survive. Author Christopher Stewart includes survey results on planning processes and such building characteristics as user space in each building, usage, and new roles for library buildings in this ACRL publication....

ACRL, Aug. 31



## Awards

### [ALA awards roundup](#)

Welcome to a showcase of the dynamic doers—a snapshot of those who have dedicated themselves to the profession, who have gone above and beyond, and whose contributions have been so significant and so varied.

*American Libraries* is proud to highlight the Association's best of the best. Here is a snapshot of the 200+ awards presented annually by ALA, its divisions, round tables, offices, and other units....

*American Libraries* feature



### [Find out what it feels like to be loved](#)

Book Library at the University of Toronto. All of the digital collections provide page images, enhanced indexing features, and the ability to conduct full-text searching on the contents of the documents themselves. The special digital collections include human anatomy, the Barren Lands, Canadian pamphlets and broadsides, paintings of flora by Agnes Chamberlin, etchings of Wenceslaus Hollar, the early development of insulin, and ancient Egyptian papyri.

**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



**"Quite accidentally Mr. F. Martin Duncan, librarian to the Zoological Society, discovered that he could hypnotise lobsters.**

**"Before some officials of the society, he gave a most amusing**

Library users can [nominate](#) their favorite school, public, or academic librarians in the third Carnegie Corporation of New York/*New York Times* I Love My Librarian Award. The deadline for submissions is September 20. Read the profiles of two of the 2009 winners, [Dwight McInvaill](#) and [Oceana Wilson](#), and feel the love. Up to 10 winners will be selected this year and receive a \$5,000 cash award, a plaque, and \$500 travel stipend to attend an awards reception in New York....

Public Information Office

*I Love My Librarian!*  
2009 Award

### [2010 John Cotton Dana award winners pix](#)

Kathy Dempsey writes: "It's time to look back at this year's John Cotton Dana Library Public Relations Awards, which were given out at ALA in June in Washington, D.C. We have already posted the 2010 winners' [announcement](#), an [announcement](#) of the ceremony, and a quick pic of New Jersey State Librarian [Nancy Dowd](#) with her award. Now, however, I've managed to get the professional photos of all the winners, thanks to the award's sponsors: LLAMA, the H. W. Wilson Company, and the H. W. Wilson Foundation."...



The 'M' Word—Marketing Libraries, Aug. 30

### [ACRL welcomes 2011 award nominations](#)

ACRL urges division members to nominate colleagues whose work has influenced their thinking and growth as an academic librarian and whose contributions merit recognition by the profession. Member nominations will ensure that the pool of candidates for each award remains both competitive and distinguished. The deadline for most award nominations is December 3 and guidelines are [posted online](#)....

ACRL, Aug. 31

### [New ACRL website wins design award](#)

ACRL Conference Supervisor Tory Ondrla and the ACRL staff recently received a 2010 Communicator Award (right) in the category of branding and website design from the International Academy of the Visual Arts for its [new ACRL 2011 Conference brand and website](#). ACRL partnered with AssociaDirect, Inc. to develop the new brand and design....



ACRL Insider, Aug. 17

### [Submit titles for the Sibert Informational Book Award](#)

The 2011 ALSC Robert F. Sibert Informational Book Award Committee is seeking titles for consideration. The Sibert Award is presented annually to the author, author/illustrator, coauthors, or author and illustrator of the most distinguished informational book for children published during the preceeding year. Only informational books from the 2010 publishing year are under consideration. Submit suggestions to [Barbara Brand](#)....

ALSC Blog, Aug. 25

### [Time to pimp your bookcart](#)

Pimp My Bookcart is an annual contest run by the library-themed comic strip *Unshelved* to see who can best pimp, trick out, or improve a standard book cart. Libraries and schools often stage kids and/or

demonstration on his office desk in Regent's Park, London.

"A wild, uneducated female lobster was selected at random from a fishmonger's slab for the purposes of the experiment. There could therefore be no question of a trained confederate or of collusion. She was a big fish of 3lb. 4oz., and the hypnotist elected not to cut the string binding her claws as she exhibited considerable liveliness. . . .

"Then came the crowning moment. Mr. Duncan lifted the hypnotised shellfish and stood her on her head."

—"A Lobster Hypnotized,"  
*Ashburton (N.Z.) Guardian*,  
Mar. 11, 1921.

@ [More quotes...](#)



**TweetWatch**

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11th European Conference on Knowledge Management, Famalicao, Portugal, Sept. 2-3, at: [#eckm10](#)

European Conference

teen programs to generate entries. *Unshelved* cocreators Bill Barnes and Gene Ambaum are the sole judges. Submission deadline is November 15. Be inspired by [last year's winners](#)....

2010 Pimp My Bookcart

### [Apply for State Farm Good Neighbor Service-Learning grants](#)

State Farm is teaming up with Youth Service America to offer grants of up to \$1,000 to youth-led service-learning initiatives in all 50 states, D.C., and Alberta, Ontario, and New Brunswick. Eligible programs will engage youth in service learning, an effective teaching and learning strategy that promotes student learning, academic achievement, workplace readiness, and healthy communities. [Applications](#) are due by October 15....

PLA Blog, Aug. 31; Youth Service America

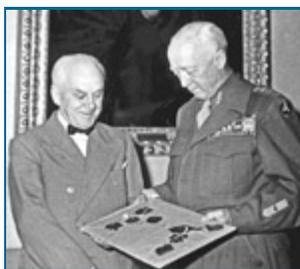


## Seen Online

### [National Archives acquires Nuremberg Laws](#)

On August 25, Archivist of the United States David S. Ferriero received the two original sets of the Nuremberg Laws ([PDF file](#) of English translation), the anti-Semitic manifesto signed by Adolf Hitler in 1935 that led to the extermination of 6 million Jews during World War II. Huntington Library President Steven S. Koblik gave the documents to Ferriero at the San Marino, California, library, where they have been kept since June 1945. Gen. George S. Patton Jr. left them there for safekeeping during his post-war leave and died that December before arranging their final disposition. This NARA [video](#) (3:47) tells the story....

National Archives and Records Administration, Aug. 25; YouTube, Aug. 23



### [Hurricane Katrina, five years later](#)

Former First Lady Laura Bush congratulated educators and residents of St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana, on August 27 for the remarkable job they have done to rebuild their schools and community in the wake of the disastrous flooding after Hurricane Katrina in 2005. Bush created the Laura Bush Foundation for America's Libraries, which helped restock much of the parish school district's library collections and distributed more than \$5 million in books and other library resources to hundreds of damaged schools....

*New Orleans Times-Picayune*, Aug. 27

### [Confucius descendant to donate family tree to LC](#)

A descendant of the ancient Chinese philosopher Confucius will donate a copy of the fifth edition of the [Confucius Genealogy](#), a collection of books that delineates Confucius's family tree, to the Library of Congress. Kong Deyong (right), a 77th-generation descendant of the revered Chinese philosopher, will donate the books to the library on September 11, when he attends an international workshop on Confucianism. Said to be the longest family tree in the world, the 80 books have a total of 43,000 pages and record some 1.3 million living descendants who are scattered around the world



on Research and Advanced Technology for Digital Libraries, Glasgow, Scotland, Sept. 6–10, at: [#ecdl2010](#)

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

## Calendar

**Sept. 14–15:**

[Preparing Your Library for RDA](#),

ALCTS e-Forum, presented by Mary Beth Weber and Christopher Cronin.

**Sept. 15:**

[Libraries and the Elections: How You Can Be Involved and Make a Difference](#),

ALA Washington Office webinar.

**Sept. 15–18:**

[Kentucky Library Association / Kentucky School Media Association](#),

Annual Conference, Galt House Hotel and Suites, Louisville. "In These Extraordinary Times—Libraries Now More than Ever."

**Sept. 20–**

**Oct. 5:**

[Cyber Summit on 21st Century Readiness](#), free series of webinars sponsored by the Partnership for 21st Century Skills.

**Sept. 23–24:**

[Boston WorldCat Mashathon](#), Microsoft New England Research and Development

today....

Xinhua, Aug. 31; China Internet Information Center

### [N.C. poet laureate is library card spokesperson](#)

North Carolina's poet laureate Cathy Smith Bowers (right) joins public libraries in the state to promote [Library Card Sign-up Month](#) in September. The goal is to make the library card the most valued and used card for North Carolina citizens. Appointed by Gov. Bev Perdue in January, Bowers serves as an ambassador of North Carolina literature by affirming the transformative value of poetry in people's lives....

*Southern Pines (N.C.) Pilot, Aug. 29*



### [Academic librarian: I sent death threats to Obama](#)

Jay DeVaughn (right), former director of library services at the Community College of Aurora, Colorado, pleaded guilty August 26 to 13 federal counts of mailing threatening communications. He was [arrested](#) in March for sending letters containing white powder he claimed was anthrax to President Obama, members of Congress from Colorado and Alabama, and Argentine consulates in Los Angeles and New York in 2009 and early 2010, as well as implicating enemies with the return addresses he used. DeVaughn is scheduled for sentencing November 19....

*Denver Post, March 1, Aug. 27*



### [Multnomah County regains its website](#)

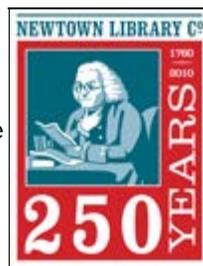
Signing onto the Multnomah County (Oreg.) Library [website](#) on August 30 sent users instead to a site that had been taken over by a generic portal. Library officials mistakenly let the [registration expire](#) for the library's domain name, library spokesman Jeremy Graybill said. Email notices that the domain name was expiring, sent by the company Register.com, had been sent to people who no longer work for the library or had moved to other positions in the county....

*Portland Oregonian, Aug. 31; Multnomah County (Oreg.) Library, Aug. 31*

### [Newtown Library Company celebrates 250th birthday](#)

The Newtown (Pa.) Library Company will throw a 250th Birthday Bash on September 12 that will feature actors playing William Penn and Ben Franklin. History narrators will give tours, and a dixieland band will play. Founded in 1760 by local farmers who combined their finances to order books, the library has been in its current building since 1912....

*Bucks (Pa.) Local News, Aug. 31*



### [FEMA delay stalls new Cedar Rapids library](#)

A much-anticipated agreement that would set in motion a two-year sequence of events to bring Cedar Rapids (Iowa) Public Library's main facility back remains on hold several weeks after city officials had hoped to get a green light from the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The arrangement involves the firm TrueNorth selling its current building to the city, thus freeing up the company's location several blocks west of the flood plain for a new \$45.5-million library....

*Cedar Rapids (Iowa) Gazette, Aug. 24*

Center, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Cosponsors: OCLC Developer Network, Brandeis University.

**Sept. 25:**  
[Anderson's Bookshop 7th Annual Young Adult Literature Conference](#), Hotel Arista, Naperville, Illinois.

**Sept. 25-28:**  
[Arkansas/Southeastern library associations](#), Joint Conference, Statehouse Convention Center, Little Rock. "Arkansas and SELA: Getting Back to Natural Things: Learning, Libraries, and Literacy."

**Sept. 28-30:**  
[Illinois Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Navy Pier, Chicago. "Libraries Out Loud."

**Sept. 29:**  
[eBooks: Libraries at the Tipping Point](#), online conference sponsored by *Library Journal* and *School Library Journal*.

**Sept. 30- Oct. 1:**  
[Northwoods Children's Book Conference](#), Lakewoods Resort, Cable, Wisconsin. Cosponsored by the Telemark Education Foundation, Northern Waters Library Service, Redbery Books, and the Children's Literature Network.

**Oct. 6-7:**

## [Man leaves Illinois library \\$1.7 million](#)

A donation of \$1.7 million from the estate of Genoa, Illinois, resident Robert Weiss may help triple the size of the 3,500-square-foot Genoa Public Library (right), which officials describe as bursting at the seams. Weiss was 86 when he died October 21, 2009. He never married, did not own a car, was frugal, and, according to Library Director Susan Walker who has worked at the library since 1998, was not a regular patron. Walker does not remember ever seeing Weiss inside the library. Weiss made out his will in 1995....



*Elgin (Ill.) Courier-News, Aug. 26*

## [Most people still decline to be located](#)

Internet companies have appropriated the real estate business's mantra—it's all about location. But while a home on the beach will always be an easy sell, it may be more difficult to persuade people to start using location-based web services. Online companies like Google, Foursquare, Gowalla, Shopkick, and Facebook have poured \$115 million into location start-ups since last year, but for all the attention and money these apps and websites are getting, adoption has so far been largely confined to the pockets of young, technically adept urbanites....

*New York Times, Aug. 29*

## [Quik Stop lockers replace new branch plans](#)

The overwhelming rejection in 2007 of a tax increase to build two new library branches for the Daniel Boone Regional Library in Columbia, Missouri, led to the August 30 launch of the system's pilot Library-To-Go program, whose first location is Ed's Quik Stop in Hallsville. Library-To-Go is a secure system of lockers where patrons can pick up books for which they placed online holds. They use their library cards to access the lockers....



*Columbia (Mo.) Daily Tribune, Aug. 28*

## [Orland Park reference librarians wander the stacks](#)

Freed from their desks, reference librarians at the Orland Park (Ill.) Public Library have taken to the aisles to help patrons find the answers they need. The program began in the spring to enhance customer service for library patrons. Armed with laptop computers and sporting "Ask Me" buttons, the librarians are fielding about 200 questions a month from the floor, Assistant Head of Adult Services Diane Srebro said. All told, the reference desk averages about 3,000 reference questions a month....



*Chicago Southtown Star, Aug. 29*

## [Need downtime? Turn off the electronics](#)

Cell phones, iPods, and HDTV can make the tiniest windows of time entertaining and potentially productive. But scientists point to an unanticipated side effect: When people keep their brains busy with digital input, they are forfeiting downtime that could allow them to better learn and remember information, or come up with new ideas. You might be clearer-headed if you go for a run outside, instead of on

[Digital Music Forum West](#), Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel, Los Angeles.

**Oct. 22:**  
[Go Green @ your Illinois Library workshop](#), Field Museum, Chicago. Sponsored by the Illinois Library Association.

**Oct. 23:**  
[KidLit Con 2010](#), Open Book, Minneapolis.

**Oct. 27–30:**  
[Museum Computer Network](#), conference, Sheraton Austin at the Capitol, Austin, Texas. "I/O: The Museum Inside-Out/Outside-In."

**Oct. 29–30:**  
[Montana Festival of the Book](#), Missoula.

**Nov. 2–4:**  
[7th Annual Open Education Conference](#), CosmoCaixa Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain. "Open Educational Resources: Impact and Sustainability." Cosponsored by Brigham Young University, the Open University of Catalunya, and the Open University of the Netherlands.

**Nov. 3–5:**  
[V Congreso Nacional de Bibliotecas Públicas](#), Gijón, Spain.

@ [More...](#)

**Contact Us**  
American Libraries

a treadmill listening to music and checking email....

*New York Times*, Aug. 24

### [Auctioned Blagojevich boxes contain client files](#)

Amid photos and handwritten letters in auction boxes connected to former Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich are confidential client-attorney papers from his lawyer days and opposition research on his 2006 gubernatorial race rival Judy Baar Topinka. Northwestern University's Associate University Librarian for Special Libraries Jeffrey Garrett bought 18 boxes of files, photos, and videotapes at a storage company auction August 19 on behalf of the libraries, which document the careers of significant alumni. The boxes were auctioned because rent had not been paid for more than a year....

Associated Press, Aug. 25

### [Amsterdam opens a library in Schiphol Airport](#)

Princess Laurentien of the Netherlands (right) was on hand August 25 at the official opening of the [Airport Library](#) at Amsterdam's Schiphol Airport, a browsing library of 1,250 Dutch-culture books targeted primarily for international passengers awaiting connecting flights. The library was initiated by library-services provider ProBiblio and the Netherlands Public Library Association in cooperation with the city libraries of Amsterdam, Delft, and Harlemmermeer. But it turns out that Nashville (Tenn.) Public Library had an [airport branch](#) 48 years ago....



The Moodie Report, Aug. 26; Jaunted, Aug. 26

### [Economics student starts a library in South Africa](#)

Erin Raab (right) went to Durban, South Africa, on a Rotary Club scholarship, intending to bring home a master's degree in economic development studies. She left behind a legacy: a library. The Apple Valley, Minnesota, native started the KwaNdengezi Library and Education Centre as her master's project, but the job kept her in South Africa for five years. The area surrounding KwaNdengezi has nine schools and more than 8,000 students, almost all of whom had never been to a library. So Raab set out to create one. Watch the [video](#) (9:26)....



*Minneapolis Star Tribune*, Aug. 28; YouTube, July 22

### [U.S. group plans North African digital library](#)

To expand North Africa's research capabilities, a project financed by the United States plans to connect the region's universities and science institutes to a digital library that could eventually stretch from Morocco to Libya. The [U.S. Civilian Research and Development Foundation](#) is leading the effort and is initially working with Algeria, Morocco, and Tunisia to increase their access to the latest international research, give scientists greater opportunities to collaborate, and hopefully bolster their scientific work and scholarly publishing....



*Chronicle of Higher Education*, Aug. 25

[Go back to the Top](#)

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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All links outside the ALA website are provided for

## Tech Talk

### Asking why

Kate Sheehan writes: "‘Why?’ is a question library techies sometimes dread. ‘Why did it work before but not this time?’ ‘Why is it broken?’ ‘Why am I getting this error message?’ Often the answer is straightforward, but sometimes getting to why would require an electrical engineering background and a path of inquiry beyond simply fixing the problem. Nothing is quite so frustrating as resolving a persistent error only to have your techjoy smashed to bits by a coworker disappointed because you’re not quite sure *why* the computer stopped recognizing the printer, you only know that they’re now friends again."...

ALA TechSource Blog, Aug. 27



### The Tech Nazi

Doug Johnson writes: "I was visiting a small school district not long ago and had a chance to visit with its curriculum director. In passing, she referred to their technology director as the Tech Nazi. This is not the first time I’ve heard people in other districts who have a position like mine described in less than endearing terms. Tech directors have two strikes against them coming out of the box. But I think it’s possible to have both good working relations with people and computers in good working order."...

Blue Skunk Blog, Aug. 28



### The 12 best ways to customize Facebook fan pages

Orli Yakuel writes: "When a service such as Facebook limits users’ creative freedom, it is inevitable that other add-on services will overcome this limitation. This is why then, we see more and more Facebook tab apps that give us more control and freedom when it comes to customizing a fan page or a personal profile. If you own a page on Facebook as of August 23, you now need to customize it under your tab to a width of 520 pixels. Here are the 12 best services for making Facebook page tabs."...

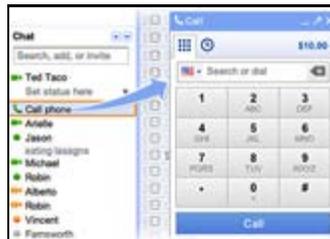
TechCrunch, Aug. 23



### Google offers phone calls via Gmail

Google entered a new business on August 25 with [a service within Gmail](#) to make phone calls over the web to landlines or cell phones. The service will put the company into direct competition with Skype and telecommunications providers. It could also make Google a more ubiquitous part of people’s social interactions by uniting the service for phone calls with email, text messages, and video chats. Jason Griffey [adds](#): "To my knowledge, this is the only way that you can both send and receive phone calls in the U.S. with no connection at all to a phone carrier for free."...

New York Times, Aug. 25; AL: Perpetual Beta, Aug. 25



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## [Turn your blog into a PDF book](#)

# BlogBooker

Richard Byrne writes: "Last month I wrote about [Anthologize](#), which turns WordPress blogs into PDF books or e-books. Today I have good news for Blogger users who want to turn the contents of their blogs into e-books. [BlogBooker](#) is a free service that allows you to turn the contents of your Blogger blog into a PDF."...

Free Technology for Teachers, Aug. 30

## [Free professional WordPress themes](#)

Nancy Messieh writes: "There are countless resources for finding free WordPress themes, from WordPress' very own repository to professional designers who release themes for download on their sites.



A handful of these designers have been generous enough to contribute their time and talent to bring us new, free, premium-like WordPress themes, alongside their paid themes. The following list features some of the best."...

MakeUseOf, Aug. 28

## [Reducing operating costs](#)

King County (Wash.) Library System has the second-highest circulation of any public library system in the United States. Serving a population of 1.2 million in 44 branches, annual circulation for the library system is 21 million. The library system needed a better way to manage the more than 85,000 items coming into and going out of its Preston Sort Center every day. In 2005, KCLS installed an automated materials handling system....



AL: Solutions and Services, Aug. 31

## [How to choose a cell phone carrier](#)

Jamie Lendino writes: "Choosing a cell phone carrier is tougher than ever. Should you go with AT&T or Verizon, or a smaller player like MetroPCS? There has been much progress in the past several years. On the other hand, we had thought pricing schemes were obtuse a few years ago. Now, they're downright shady. Sometimes, it's all we can do to keep track of the weekly changes in handset and plan pricing. Let us help you through the thicket of distortions."...

PC Magazine, Aug. 26

## [Five best text-recognition tools](#)

Jason Fitzpatrick writes: "Optical Character Recognition (OCR) has been around for decades but only recently has become both economical and easy enough to use that it is within the reach of the average consumer.



Today we're looking at Lifehacker readers' five favorite applications for turning physical text into machine-readable virtual text."...

Lifehacker, Aug. 29

## [Devices that help plug electrical leaks](#)

Jonathan S. Paul writes: "Hand-held gadgets with batteries are great about communicating their energy needs, but what about the bigger machines—the ones that lazily slurp up power all day long even, in some cases, when you think they are turned off? The things

you turn off, like televisions, DVD players, cable boxes—they are not really off. Many devices must maintain a trickle of electricity (indicated by those little red LEDs that glow) to receive a signal from a remote control or display a digital clock.”...

*New York Times*: Home Tech, Aug. 26



### [Kindle 3 text-to-speech versus audiobooks](#)

Mary Burkey writes: “Amazon is rightfully [lauded](#) by the National Federation for the Blind for incorporating demands for accessibility features in the newest Kindle, with voice menus that allow those with print disabilities to easily access the text-to-speech functions provided in some—not all—e-books on the e-reader. I experimented with the male and female voice, switched from the default reading speed to fast and slow, and had the text-to-speech read me a bit of *Mockingjay* by Suzanne Collins—the same bit that I had just listened to in the audiobook.”...

Booklist Online: Audiobooker, Aug. 28



### [EBSCO adds text-to-speech](#) (PDF file)

EBSCO Publishing has added text-to-speech support to its EBSCOhost databases, including its major school and public library databases, by embedding Texthelp Systems' SpeechStream toolbar—a benefit provided at no additional cost. Users will be able to take advantage of this new feature with any full-text articles available in HTML. Text-to-speech support allows users to read along while a human-sounding voice speaks the text on the screen....

EBSCO Publishing, Aug. 26

## Publishing

### [Markets and missions](#)

Barbara Fister writes: “Why did universities decide that their presses should be profit centers, or should at the very least make enough revenue to cover their expenses? Libraries aren't asked to make enough money to pay for themselves. Libraries and university presses both exist to further knowledge, so why the difference? Part of the answer lies in the fact that libraries serve their students and faculty, but university presses aren't so local.”...

Inside Higher Ed: Library Babel Fish, Aug. 31

### [Lovecraft goes missing](#)

Lauren Davis writes: “For fans of H. P. Lovecraft, Larry Latham's webcomic [Lovecraft Is Missing](#) provides a gleeful scavenger hunt. His disappearance brings together an unlikely crew, including Nan Mercy, a Brown University librarian whose obsessive hatred of the occult stems from a traumatic childhood incident. Nan Mercy is a great addition to the ranks of ass-



kicking librarians, always quick with a sharp remark or a shot from her pistol. However, the comic may well send you rooting back through Lovecraft's catalog to pick out all of Latham's references."...

io9, Aug. 28

### [When Batman solved the Dewey Decimal murders](#)

Brian Cronin writes: "Today we look at the last issue of Peter Milligan's original run on *Detective Comics* #643 (April 1992), the great 'Library of Souls,' with art by the late, great Jim Aparo. The issue opens with an old woman finding a skeleton in her bathroom, which coincides with a flurry of similar skeletons popping up around Gotham City. It turns out that the killer is using the Dewey Decimal System to choose his victims. Batman must team up with a librarian to solve the case."...

Comics Should Be Good!, Aug. 19



### [Fantastic sci-fi graphic novels that will get you hooked](#)

Cyriaque Lamar writes: "In picking these books, I tried to avoid choosing the über-obvious (*Watchmen*) and those books about familiar superheroes (*Dark Knight Returns*). We love capes here at io9, but the medium goes beyond up, up, and away. Also, I wanted to keep the selection affordable, self-contained, and accessible—you should be able to find all of these books at a fair price online. And with these stand-alone stories, all you need is one hit. Here are some of the best four-color gateway drugs."...

io9, Aug. 29



### [The women of pulp](#)

Beth Carswell writes: "Some can't be tamed. Some can't be trusted. In they stroll with a sob story as familiar as the day is long, and yet, we fall for it every time. Silk stockings and perfect pouts, these broads attract trouble like a flame attracts moths. And us? We can't resist 'em. We love a damsel in distress. Heiresses and nurses, secretaries and seductresses—it makes no difference. Some may be collectible, some may be contemptible, but one thing is certain. They are the women of pulp." And here are AbeBooks's favorite examples....

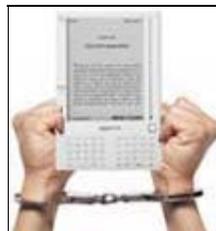
AbeBooks, Aug. 30



### [E-books go to prison](#)

Judith Jordet writes: "As a prison library coordinator, I came to see the advantage of e-books in the prison setting. If each inmate could have a library of over 1,000 titles in one e-book reader, it would cut down on hiding contraband among the books, remove the unsanitary habit of reading books in the rest room, cut down on book repair, free up space by limiting bookshelves, encourage struggling readers to listen to a book while reading the text on the screen, and allow anyone to increase the size of the font so large print will never be limited to a few titles."...

Corrections.com, Aug. 30



## [Does new Kindle leave rivals farther behind?](#)

David Pogue writes: "Amazon has unveiled what everyone (except Amazon) is calling the Kindle 3. You might call it Amazon's iPad response: The Kindle 3 is small, light, and inexpensive. Then there is the \$140 price. Yes, of course it's a little silly to compare the Kindle with the iPad, a full-blown computer with infinitely greater powers. The Kindle's real competition is the gaggle of extremely similar, rival e-book readers, all of which use the same E Ink screen technology." Several days later, Borders [announced](#) it would cut prices on some of its e-readers beginning September 1....



*New York Times*: Personal Tech, Aug. 25; Mashable: Tech, Aug. 31

## [Why Kindle doesn't work with library e-books](#)

Jason Griffey writes: "There are two different things going on when someone tries to open an eBook file on an eReader. One is filetype—how the file itself is organized internally and how the information contained within is encoded. The other is Digital Rights Management, which you can think of as a lock, with your e-reader having the key to open the lock and display the file. Amazon, in addition to using a proprietary filetype, also uses a proprietary DRM mechanism."...

The Proverbial Lone Wolf Librarian's Weblog, Aug. 30

## [What will edge e-books into higher ed?](#)

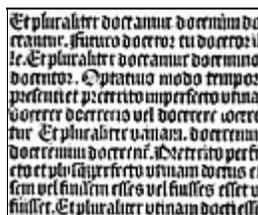
Once college students own e-readers they will be more likely to buy e-books, suggests Eric Weil, managing director of the market research firm Student Monitor, noting that half the students he surveyed this spring either owned an e-reader or wanted to buy one. NYU Adjunct Professor Nick Bilton [believes](#) that apps like [Inkling](#), which enables students to share digital comments about e-texts, will tip the scales. Nonsense, says Nicole Allen, an advocate for the Student Public Interest Research Groups: Price, not format, is still the top driver...



Inside Higher Education, Aug. 31; *New York Times*: Bits, Aug. 23

## [It's 1455: Will printed books ever replace manuscripts?](#)

Inventing the printing press was not the same thing as inventing the publishing business. Technologically, craftsmen were ready to follow Gutenberg's example, opening presses across Europe. But they could only guess at what to print, and the public saw no particular need to buy books. Nor was print clearly destined to replace manuscript. A few fussy color-printing experiments aside, the new books were monochrome, and dull in comparison to illuminated manuscripts....



*Boston Globe*, Aug. 29

## [Elsevier introduces SciVerse](#)

Michael Cairns writes: "I've mentioned that information and academic publishers are starting to open up their data to third-party applications providers and, in the process, enable greater utility for their subscribers and users. [SciVerse](#), [announced](#) August 30 by Elsevier, is a platform for doing just that. For a publisher of this size and importance to academics, this



initiative should be considered quite important as it represents a significant (and logical) step in the evolution of information database publishing.”...

Personanondata, Aug. 31; Elsevier, Aug. 30

### [Cakes and cupcakes inspired by children’s books](#)

Carrie McBride writes: “Lyndsay Sung of Vancouver-based Coco Cake can seemingly make a cake inspired by *anything*, and we wanted to show you some of her literary-based creations. You may not be able to execute these ideas with the same skill and talent as Lindsay, but her wonderful confectionery creations may give you some ideas about how to pay tribute to your favorite children’s books through baking.”...

Ohdeehh, Aug. 25



## Actions & Answers

### [Have a logo, courtesy of Cecil County](#)

The Cecil County (Md.) Public Library has launched a campaign called “My Library, My Lifeline” to alert the public to possible effects of the economic downturn on library budgets. The library is making its high-resolution campaign logo—which it used for campaign postcards and stickers—[freely available](#) to libraries and library advocacy groups to help spread the word about the value of libraries. Several libraries are already using it on their websites or for other promotions....

Cecil County (Md.) Public Library



### [So you want to be a librarian?](#)

Bobbi L. Newman writes: “I get a lot of email asking for advice either on getting an MLS, the job search, or the skills needed. So I’ve pulled together a list of the best of the best advice for potential MLS students, current students, and job seekers. In cases where the titles are not self explanatory, I’ve grabbed a sentence or two from the post to give context.”...

Librarian by Day, Sept. 1

### [Thought leaders in school libraryland](#)

Doug Johnson writes: “I often get asked to suggest good writers and presenters about library-related topics. This would be a great resource that any of us could just point to when asked such a question. Whether through books, articles, editorials, blogs, or organizational leadership, the following folks have made sustained, public contributions directly addressing school libraries, and influenced my thinking about the field.”...

Blue Skunk Blog, Aug. 28

### [Gearing up for Harry Potter](#)

Angela Germany writes: “The final two Harry Potter movies will be released November and next July. (You can watch the trailer for *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 1* [online](#).) The pressure is on to create two fabulous, final “Harry Potter Movie Release Programs” for teens at the library. If you have never hosted a



Harry Potter program, now is the time. Harness the Potter excitement as the phenomenon draws to a close and start planning now." Here are some ideas....

YALSA Blog, Aug. 28

### [Peace is every step](#)

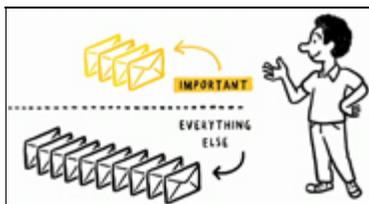
Leigh Anne Vrabel writes: "Librarians sometimes jump to one of two conclusions about patrons who read religious or spiritual nonfiction. One stereotype is that patrons who choose these materials are inherently kind, peaceful, loving people, and, thus, naturally drawn to the material. Another stereotype is that such persons are stuck-up, self-righteous prigs who want to inflict their views on everyone else. As for me, I read them because I am frequently angry, impatient, and poorly behaved, and need all the help I can get. Oh, quit that laughing. It's true."...

Library Alchemy, Sept. 1

### [Email overload? Try Priority Inbox](#)

Doug Aberdeen writes: "People tell us all the time that they're getting more and more email and feel overwhelmed by it all. We know what you mean—at Google we run on email. Our inboxes are slammed with thousands of messages a day. It's time-consuming to figure out what needs to be read and what needs a reply. We are happy to introduce [Priority Inbox](#) (in beta)—an experimental new way of taking on information overload in Gmail. Watch the [video](#) (1:54)."...

Official Gmail Blog, Aug. 30; YouTube, July 19



### [Twitter hashtags 101](#)

Phil Bradley writes: "Twitter hashtags are the strange little oddities that you find on lots of tweets, and they use the hash symbol # followed by something else, so an example would be #ala10. The first thing to know about hashtags is that they are entirely informal. They're not something that Twitter has instituted, and there are no rules at all. You don't have to ask any permission to use them, there's no central authority, and you can use them pretty much however you'd like to."...

Phil Bradley's Weblog, Aug. 27

### [How to tell if UR doing social media wrong](#)

Sarah Lacy writes: "My husband is a graphic designer and has long been a fan of Chank Fonts. He tweeted a picture of a retro-looking podiatrist's office with the word 'Font-o-licious.' It didn't go viral or get him 1,000 new followers. But it was noticed by Chank Diesel of Chank Fonts, who tweeted it and started following my husband. What made social media a phenomenon were moments like these. What makes it mercenary and soulless is racking up fans, friends, followers, and RTs you can get in a day, seeing it as evidence of how cool or smart or influential you are."...

TechCrunch, Aug. 30



### [Secret rooms in libraries](#)

Jessamyn West writes: "There is a secret room in the ceiling of Vermont Technical College's Hartness Library. You turn a key in a keyhole in a brick wall

and a staircase descends from the ceiling with a great rumbling. Climbing the stairs gets you into a disused room that used to be the bindery area but is now just used for storing shelves and old Eames lounge chairs. I'll add this freaky little room to my list of library attics and basements that I've been compiling."...

librarian.net, Aug. 28



### [\*\*A question on libraries and elitism\*\*](#)

Rory Litwin writes: "If one in five Americans [believes](#) that Obama is a Muslim, are we obliged to stock one book that claims he is a Muslim for every four that say he is a Christian? Or, to bring geography into the mix, swing the proportion higher or lower according to the community in which we work? Obviously not, but then the real question: On what basis do we claim to know more than our communities?"...

Library Juice, Aug. 19; Pew Research Center, Aug. 19

### [\*\*How to turn an old pay phone into a library\*\*](#)

Kyla Fullenwider writes: "Is there an old phone booth in your neighborhood sitting empty? Fill it with books! Book booths are an easy way to acquire new books (for free), bring your community together, and transform a neighborhood eyesore into a neighborhood gem. We talked to Amy Inouye of the Future Studio about how she started one in the Highland Park neighborhood of Los Angeles."...

Make magazine, Aug. 7



### [\*\*The circulating library in Regency resorts\*\*](#)

Vic Sanborn writes: "Circulating libraries in the 18th and 19th centuries were associated with leisure, and were found in cities and towns with a population of 2,000 and upward. They were as much of an attraction in wealthy resorts, where people came to relax and look after their health, as in cities and small towns, like Basingstoke, where Jane Austen subscribed to Mrs. Martin's circulating library. In 1801, it was said that there were 1,000 circulating libraries in Britain."...

Jane Austen's World, Aug. 30



### [\*\*500 new African libraries in the past five years\*\*](#)

Chris Bradshaw of Portola Valley, California, founded the [African Library Project](#) in 2005, with the goal of increasing literacy in Africa. Since then, with the help of literacy activist volunteers and organized book drives, ALP has created more than 500 small, free-lending libraries in various countries of Africa, such as [Botswana](#) (above), Lesotho, Swaziland, and Malawi. Bradshaw describes his project in this interview....

Paper Tigers Blog, Aug. 27; YouTube, Dec. 6, 2007



## [Rules of library conduct](#)

Scott Douglas writes: "It's common in the library for me to approach a person doing something that most human beings would consider inappropriate library behavior (such as spitting sunflower seeds on the floor) and ask them to stop. The response is frequently not 'Okay, sorry,' but rather, 'Where does it say that?' It is for this reason that the rules of conduct at most public libraries around the country are some of the strangest you'll ever see. Here are some of the stranger rules from libraries around the country."...

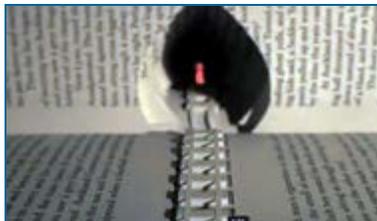
Dispatches from a Public Librarian, Aug. 27



## [Going West animated book art](#)

The New Zealand Book Council produced this short film (2:10) animated by the Andersen M. Studios in London 2009. The video features an excerpt from Maurice Gee's classic New Zealand novel *Going West* coming to life through hand-cut pop-up scenery springing up from the pages. It won an international prize for paper-cut animation by New York's Museum of Art and Design. It also won the Museum's Choice grand prize at Moving Paper, an international film festival of cut-paper animation held at the museum in March 2010....

YouTube, Nov. 18, 2009



## [Another Hubbub at University of Kentucky](#)

Stacey Greenwell writes: "For the fourth year in a row, the University of Kentucky Libraries and IT department welcomed new students to the Young Library's information commons Hub with a Hubbub Party August 23. Our activities went off without a hitch: The Amazing Palm Reading Librarian, [the photo booth](#), video games, board games, and coloring pages were back again. This year, we added a game involving throwing as many floppy disks as possible across the computer lab into a trash can." Watch the [video](#) (1:22) ...

The Uncommon Commons, Aug. 28



## [New Spice: The outtakes](#)

New Spice (Stephen Jones) shares some humorous outtakes (2:44) during the filming of the "[Study Like a Scholar. Scholar](#)" promotional video (0:55) at Brigham Young University's Harold B. Lee Library, which now has over 2 million YouTube views. Also, check out the [still photos](#) and the credits for the library Multimedia Production Crew....

YouTube, July 15, 20; New Spice, July 19



[Go back to the Top](#)

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The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | September 8, 2010

## Contents

[American Libraries Online](#)  
[ALA News](#)  
[Booklist Online](#)  
[Division News](#)  
[Awards](#)  
[Seen Online](#)  
[Tech Talk](#)  
[Publishing](#)  
[Actions & Answers](#)  
[New This Week](#)  
[Calendar](#)

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## American Libraries Online

### [ALA to protest Qur'an burning with 9/11 reading](#)

Just as ALA is preparing to celebrate the freedom to read during [Banned Books Week](#), along comes one Rev. Terry Jones (right) of the 50-member Dove World Outreach Center in Gainesville, Florida. The good reverend's idea of world outreach is to commemorate the 9/11 terrorist attacks of 2001 with a public burning of the Qur'an. Whether or not Jones proceeds with his plan, librarians and library advocates will assemble on the steps of the ALA headquarters building in Chicago September 11 for a public reading from the Qur'an to counteract the burning in Florida....

AL: Inside Scoop, Sept. 8



### [Islamic library exhibit outshines national rancor](#)

The Midwest City (Okla.) Library and a Muslim pre-K-10 school in this Oklahoma City-area community have collaborated on an exhibit in the library's lobby of student paintings that interpret the Islamic tradition of the 99 Muslim names of God. Debuting August 15, the exhibit created by the Muslim Mercy School is scheduled to run through September 12. Art teacher Tehmina Cheema, who created the school assignment that resulted in the display, said library patrons have expressed appreciation for the English-language explanations of the Arabic calligraphy and Islamic symbolism....

American Libraries news, Sept. 8



### [Green inspiration on a dime](#)

Laura Bruzas writes: "Libraries looking to inspire and engage their patrons and staff on the environment might want to consider using the power and timeless wisdom of quotes. I've compiled a short list of eco-friendly ones that inspire me and remind me of the role that I play in the well-being of our planet. Some places to put them include free wall space, book marks, on bulletin boards, above your library's copy machine, or over hand dryers in washrooms."...

AL: Green Your Library, Sept. 7

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**eBooks**

Flexible Options  
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PSYCHOLOGICAL  
ASSOCIATION



## ALA News

### [ALA is not selling its trade shows to Reed](#)

Despite articles in *Publishers Weekly* and *Library Journal* suggesting otherwise, ALA has no plans to sell its Annual Conference and Midwinter Meeting trade shows to Reed Exhibitions and combine the Annual Conference with BookExpo America. Executive Director Keith Michael Fiels said that he had received an inquiry from Jim Milliot at *PW* on September 3 saying that there were "many rumors" circulating about discussions, but "ALA is most definitely not selling its trade show to Reed."...

AL: Inside Scoop, Sept. 7; *Publishers Weekly*, Sept. 7; *Library Journal*, Sept. 7

### [A gaggle of ALA Connect enhancements](#)

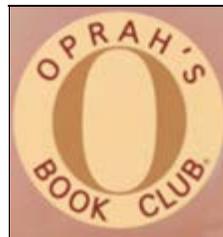
Jenny Levine writes: "In the fall we will be working on some major projects (file repositories, the conference scheduler), so we took some time in August to make some minor improvements across the site. You've been requesting some of these for several months, so we hope they enhance your Connect experience."...

ALA Connect, Sept. 3

### [Next free Oprah Book Club selection](#)

Oprah's next Book Club selection is tentatively scheduled for September 17. Depending on the size of the library, all organizational members of ALA—middle and high school, public, community college, and prison libraries—receive 2–10 copies each, compliments of the publisher. We will announce it here and give former or new members a chance to join or rejoin to take advantage of this great, free benefit....

ALA Membership Blog, Sept. 3



### [Presenting a poster session at ALA Annual Conference](#)

David Kupas writes: "Poster sessions at ALA Annual Conference or a similar venue are a great opportunity for new librarians to gain presentation experience by presenting on a research topic or an innovative library program. Because poster sessions largely speak for themselves, they are less stressful than the more formal 45-minute solo presentations and panel sessions. Here are a few things to consider when you are preparing a poster session."...

NMRT Footnotes, Aug.

### [ALA political activities](#)

*Q. I am a high-school senior working on a school project in which we must write an extensive paper on a special interest group of our choice. I chose ALA. But I don't see any information on the ALA interaction (or impact) on recent congressional or*



[ALA Midwinter Meeting](#) in San Diego, California, January 7–11, 2011. Check out the [Special Events](#).



Providing tips, suggestions, and guidelines on critical issues, [Designing Space for Children and Teens](#) by Sandra Feinberg and James R. Keller will help you create a space that they will never want to leave. **NEW! From ALA Editions.**



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presidential elections. A. Because of our 501(c)3 status as a not-for-profit educational organization, we are strictly prohibited from participating in partisan politics of any kind. That said, however, know that we do work to influence legislation at many levels of government, both directly and indirectly....

AL: Ask the ALA Librarian, Sept. 7



[Perpetual Beta](#)

[Inside Scoop](#)

[Green Your Library](#)

[Ask the ALA Librarian](#)

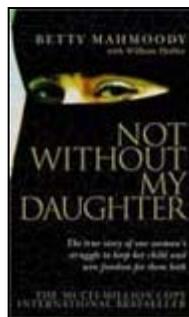
[Librarian's Library](#)

[AL Focus](#)

### [The Banned Books U.K. Library Tour](#)

London Libraries is sponsoring a promotional event on reading and censorship to take place September 25 in 28 library systems across the United Kingdom, including 16 in London. "[Banned Books](#)" will coincide with the ALA Banned Books Week campaign in the United States. Participating libraries will display sets of 50 books that have been banned or challenged in Britain or overseas, historically or currently. ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom Director Barbara Jones offers a [video greeting](#) (2:01) to U.K. Banned Books Week supporters. Take the [Banned Books quiz](#)....

Information World Review, Sept. 3; YouTube, Aug. 24



### [Denise Davis to leave ALA for Sacramento](#)

Denise M. Davis, the director of the ALA Office for Research and Statistics since 2004, has announced her resignation, effective October 1. She has accepted a position as deputy director of the Sacramento (Calif.) Public Library. In her new position, Denise will be responsible for assisting in the development and management of strategic initiatives for the library, including long-range budget planning....

AL: Inside Scoop, Sept. 7



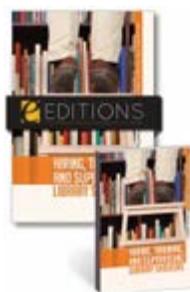
### [International Literacy Day is September 8](#)

Created by UNESCO, [International Literacy Day](#) is a time to focus attention on worldwide literacy needs. Among libraries promoting International Literacy Day on September 8 are Berwyn (Ill.) Public Library, El Paso (Tex.) Public Library, and Kill Devil Hills (N.C.) Public Library. Each of the libraries are recipients of ALA and Dollar General Literacy Foundation's American Dream Starts @ your library grants.... Public Information Office, Sept. 7

### [Special offer on print/e-book bundles](#)

ALA Editions is offering print/e-book bundles of several of its popular titles. Each specially priced set includes a print copy of the book for desk reference along with the e-book version, representing a savings of up to 45% off the individual prices. All ALA e-books contain bookmarked tables of contents and indexes for easy navigation within the book and are readable using a variety of software and devices....

ALA Editions, Sept. 3



## Great Libraries of the World



### [Athenaeum Music and Arts Library](#)

La Jolla, California. A nonprofit membership library, the athenaeum was founded in 1899 and is devoted exclusively to music and art. It has an extensive collection of artists' books, art periodicals, popular sheet music, and music scores, and it holds frequent exhibitions and concerts.

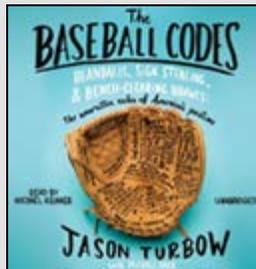


# Booklist ONLINE

## Featured review: Sports audiobooks

Turbow, Jason. *The Baseball Codes: Beanballs, Sign Stealing, and Bench-Clearing Brawls*. Read by Michael Kramer. June 2010. 9hr. Blackstone, CD (978-1-4417-6300-6).

Kramer's reading crackles with excitement as he projects a wry sense of humor when recounting the ongoing foibles of ballplayers, coaches, and umpires attempting to uphold a set of unwritten, occasionally conflicting rules of deportment that govern baseball and constitute the codes in the title of this entertaining book. That Kramer pronounces the participants' names correctly—even such tough ones as Napoleon Lajoie—is a rare treat. The text references players from the late nineteenth century to the present, meaning Kramer is faced with a whole bunch of names. Prompting memories of baseball broadcaster Mel Allen's voice at his best, Kramer describes priceless specifics of baseball history, including advice from former Baltimore Orioles manager Earl Weaver on when to cheat, tales of pitchers cultivating reputations as ruthless headhunters, and details on how the St. Louis Browns conspired to deny Ty Cobb the American League batting title on the last game of the 1910 season....



## Baseball audiobooks

Mike Tribby writes: "Much like *The Baseball Codes*, in which Michael Kramer's reading projects familiarity with the game and the players, these baseball titles feature readers whose performances enhance fans' enjoyment. Whether recounting humorous anecdotes, on-the-field antics, or baseball history, the narrators are soundtracks to the game, both pastoral and fierce, bringing forth the emotions and motivations of the players and others through an array of vocal styles."...



## New Booklist e-newsletter

The new bimonthly e-newsletter *Booklist Online Video Review* offers free and easy access to new reviews



[Doe Memorial Library](#), University of California, Berkeley. Named after its benefactor Charles Franklin Doe and completed in 1911 in Beaux-Arts neoclassical style by John Galen Howard, the Doe serves as the university's reference, periodicals, and administrative center. The north façade includes a monumental Corinthian colonnade, while the east and west façades display giant Roman-arched windows. The great Main Reading Room, 210 feet long and 45 feet high, features a coffered, elliptical, barrel-vault ceiling.

This new *AL Direct* feature will showcase 250 libraries around the world that are notable for their exquisite architecture, historic collections, and innovative services. If you find yourself on vacation near one of them, be sure to stop by for a visit. The entire list will be available in [The Whole Library Handbook 5](#), edited by George M. Eberhart, which is scheduled for publication in 2011 by ALA Editions.

Career Leads  
from  
**JobLIST**

[Digital User Experience Librarian](#),  
Indiana University,  
Kokomo. Provide  
leadership for the

of videos for adults and youth, as well as special features including Top 10 lists and View-alikes. *Booklist's* video coverage has been an essential resource for public and school library video buyers for years. Sue-Ellen Beauregard, media editor, looks forward to this new and expanded format for offering the concise, knowledgeable and informative evaluations that have long helped media librarians make informed buying decisions. Anyone can [sign up](#) for *Video Review* for free to get the recommendations they need right at their fingertips...



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

## Division News

### [FLIP out over family reading](#)

ALSC is offering its members the opportunity to apply for an all-expense-paid family literacy training workshop, funded through a National Leadership Grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services awarded to the Children's Museum of Houston. Members are encouraged to partner with their local children's museum and apply as a team for the Family Literacy Involvement Program (FLIP) workshop to be held at the CMH on May 18, 2011. The [deadline](#) is October 15....

ALSC, Sept. 7



### [YALSA chooses 2010–2012 Teens' Top 10 book groups](#)

YALSA has selected 16 public and school libraries from across the country to serve as official book groups for its [Teens' Top Ten](#). The 16 libraries will choose the nominees for the Teens' Top Ten, in which teens nationwide voice their choice for their favorite books each year. This year's vote is open now through September 17. The 2010–2012 official book groups begin their terms in November 2010....

YALSA, Sept. 1

### [Julie Walker elected P21 strategic council chair](#)

On September 1, AASL Executive Director Julie Walker assumed the role of strategic council chair for the [Partnership for 21st-Century Skills](#), a national organization that advocates for 21st-century readiness for every student. She will serve for the 2010–2011 academic year. Her main objectives are to lead the organization through a transition to the Council of Chief State School Officers and hire a new executive director for P21....

AASL, Sept. 3

### [Fall e-Learning from ACRL](#)

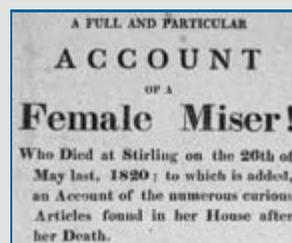
ACRL is offering a wide variety of online learning opportunities in the fall. Full details and registration information are available on the [ACRL](#)

acquisition, evaluation, management, and promotion of a wide range of continuing and electronic resources including databases, journals, and reference sources and the library's web presence in order to provide support for the teaching, learning, and research needs of our users. The position also includes some reference desk work. The candidate will have an understanding of the digital library environment especially as it pertains to electronic resources, and of information literacy principles and reference services.....



@ [More jobs...](#)

## Digital Library of the Week



[The Word on the Street](#) digital collection (subtitled "How Ordinary Scots in Bygone Days Found Out What Was Happening") is the

[website](#). Registration for all online seminars and webcasts qualifies for the ACRL [Frequent Learner Program](#). Register for three ACRL e-Learning events and receive one free registration....

ACRL, Sept. 7

### [Join the cloud and the crowd at the LITA Forum](#)

Come to Atlanta, September 30–October 3, for the LITA National Forum, which will include preconferences, general sessions, and more than 30 concurrent sessions. Now in its 13th year, the forum is a highly regarded annual event for those involved in new and leading-edge technologies. Listen to keynote speaker [Amy Bruckman](#) (right) talk about “How Wikipedia Really Works.” And take advantage of the informal Friday reception and Saturday networking dinners to get to know leaders, speakers, and peers....



LITA

### [ASCLA online professional development proposals](#)

The submission deadline has been extended to September 20 for proposals for the ASCLA 2011 Virtual Convergence—a series of professional development webinars that will be held January 18–21, immediately following the ALA 2011 Midwinter Meeting. Proposals must be submitted using the online [submission form](#)....

ASCLA, Sept. 7

## Awards

### [St. Louis County to host Arbuthnot Lecture](#)

The St. Louis County Library has been chosen to host the 2011 May Hill Arbuthnot Lecture, which will be delivered by Lois Lowry (right), two-time winner of the Newbery Medal. The lecture, administered by ALSC, will be held on April 15. The library plans to develop a series of programs celebrating Lowry’s books from January to April....



ALSC, Apr. 3

### [AASL Thinkfinity Zmuda Challenge winners](#)

During the AASL President’s Program at the ALA 2010 Annual Conference, representatives from Verizon Foundation’s digital learning platform, [Thinkfinity](#), set a spur-of-the-moment challenge to attendees. In response to program speaker Allison Zmuda’s call to action, Thinkfinity invited attendees to share their ideas on how school librarians can help students acquire 21st-century skills. Two winning ideas, submitted by Susan Ballard and Sophie Brookover, will each receive a \$5,000 incentive from Verizon....

AASL, Sept. 3

### [Nominations for the Sara Jaffarian Award](#)

The ALA Public Programs Office is accepting nominations for the 2011 Sara Jaffarian School Library Program Award for Exemplary Humanities Programming. School libraries, public or private, that serve children in any combination of grades K–8 and conducted humanities programs during the 2009–2010 school year are eligible. [Nominations](#) must be received by December 15....

Public Programs Office, Sept. 7

National Library of Scotland’s online archive of nearly 1,800 broadsides. It lets you see for yourself how people in Scotland read street literature to find out what was going on between 1650 and 1910. Broad­sides were the tabloids of their day. Sometimes pinned up on walls in houses and alehouses, these single sheets carried public notices, news, speeches, and songs that could be read (or sung) aloud. Each broadside comes with a detailed commentary and most also have a full transcription of the text, plus a downloadable PDF facsimile. You can search by keyword, browse by title, or browse by subject.

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

## Public Perception

How the World Sees Us

**“I’m starting to understand what my grandmother must feel when she heads to the library once a week to dutifully check the email account my uncle created for her. . . . I never thought my lack of interest in e-readers made me particularly unique—until recently, when *Consumer Reports***

## ALCTS seeks awards nominations

Nominations are now being accepted for the 2011 ALCTS awards for [innovation and collaboration](#), [lifetime achievement](#), [continuing resources](#), [outstanding publications](#), [professional recognition](#), and [preservation](#). The deadlines for applying for all of them are December 1. See the specific releases for details...

ALCTS, Sept. 3, 7

## Apply for 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 nonprofit organizations for purchasing Books for Babies kits from the division. Books for Babies is a national literacy program that acquaints parents of newborns with the important role they play in the development of their children. The deadline for [applications](#) is September 15....

ALTAFF, Sept. 2

BOOKS FOR BABIES



## AASL sponsors two Spectrum Scholars

AASL will sponsor the travel, lodging, and attendance of two Spectrum Scholars, Orisanmi Burton and Latanya Ingraham, at the AASL 2010 Fall Forum, November 5-6, in Portland, Oregon. While attending, Burton and Ingraham will be paired with a mentor from the AASL leadership team for the duration of the two-day institute....

AASL, Sept. 3

## Illinois librarian cited as champion of patrons with disabilities

Mokena (Ill.) Public Library Director Phyllis Jacobek (right) is the recipient of the Alexander Skrzypek Award from the Illinois Library Association for enhancing library services for people who are blind and physically disabled. Jacobek has created an assistive technology workstation believed to be the only one in a library in the county. It includes a scanner that recognizes and reads aloud all kinds of printed material, an enlarged keyboard and other print-magnification machines and software, and an electronically adjustable table and ergonomic chair to reduce fatigue and discomfort....

Chicago *Southtown Star*, Sept. 5



## New scholarship in honor of Lincoln Library director

The Graduate School of Library and Information Science at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign has created a scholarship in honor of Carl Volkmann (right), director of the Lincoln Library in Springfield, Illinois, from 1981 to 1993. The Carl Volkmann Scholarship will be given to students pursuing careers in public libraries....

Springfield (Ill.) *State Journal-Register*, Sept. 6



## Scholastic's world record challenge

A group of students at Freedom Elementary School in Keller, Texas, helped set a new world record recently. About 65 students participated in Scholastic's [Read for the World Record Summer Challenge](#), with the help of librarian Gaye Lynn



and national headlines started implying I was actually in a freakish minority. . . . Their bottom line was the same: Of course you need to buy an e-reader. What are you, a Mennonite?"

—Writer Emma Silvers on her preference for print books, ["E-Reader Revolt: I'm Leaving Youth Culture Behind."](#) Salon.com, Sept. 2.

@ [More quotes...](#)



### At Your Library ad



[Louis Armstrong showed the world how to swing](#)

Louis Armstrong



[September is Library Card Sign-up Month](#)

["How the library helped me during tough economic times"](#)

[Meet Paul McIntosh, 2008 winner of the I Love My Librarian Award](#)

[A library for your health](#)

Kuhn. Students around the world logged more than 52 million minutes of reading between May 1 and August 31. Freedom kids read more than 25,000 minutes. Kuhn decided to encourage her students to participate so they would be inspired to improve their reading skills....

*Keller (Tex.) Citizen*, Sept. 7

### [Bronx bookworm bags a big win](#)

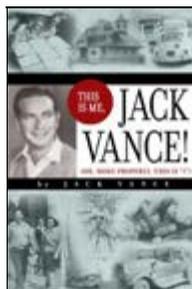
A Bronx teenager has been named New York's bookworm of the year for plowing through a staggering 325 novels and comics in just three months. From June to August, 14-year-old Brittany Lopez spent most of her waking hours with her head in a book—and was proudly crowned the winner of the New York Public Library's Summer Reading 2010 contest at Yankee Stadium on September 2. Brittany's favorite book was Ellen Schreiber's *Vampire Kisses*, but she also devoured the Harry Potter series and dozens of Japanese manga comics....

*New York Daily News*, Sept. 3

### [2010 Hugo Awards](#)

The 2010 Hugo Award Winners were presented September 5 at Aussiecon 4 in Melbourne, Australia. Tied for Best Novel of the year were China Miéville's *The City & The City* (Del Rey) and Paolo Bacigalupi's *The Windup Girl* (Night Shade). The award for Best Related Work went to Jack Vance's *This Is Me, Jack Vance!* (Subterranean). The awards are given every year for excellence in the field of science fiction or fantasy....

io9, Sept. 5



### [Penguin Prize for African Writing](#)

Penguin Books South Africa has announced the nonfiction and fiction winners of its inaugural Penguin Prize for African Writing. This award seeks to highlight the diverse writing talent on the African continent and make new African fiction and nonfiction available to a wider readership. Winner in the nonfiction category is Pius Adesanmi for *You're Not a Country, Africa!*; in the fiction category the winner is Ellen Banda-Aaku for *Patchwork*....

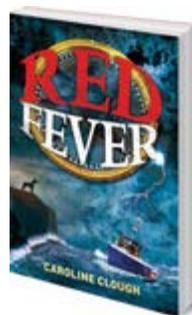
Penguin Books SA, Sept. 6



### [2010 Kelpies Prize](#)

The 2010 Kelpies Prize was awarded to Aberdeenshire writer Caroline Clough for her novel *Red Fever*, due for release in October, an exciting post-apocalyptic adventure set on Scotland's northeast coast in a world devastated by disease and overrun by wild dogs. The Kelpies Prize is awarded by Edinburgh-based publisher Floris Books, with support from the Scottish Arts Council, to encourage and reward Scottish writing for children....

Floris Books, Aug. 20



## Seen Online

### [Knoxville resignation controversy](#)

A Knox County (Tenn.) Public Library official who resigned August 27 and received a controversial severance package—only to have it

[Tips for the first-time home seller](#)

[Video interview with Greg Maguire, author of "Wicked"](#)

[Classic movie night: "The Treasure of Sierra Madre"](#)

[Donna Seaman interviews author Stuart Dybek](#)



### TweetWatch

#### Follow:

Association of Learned and Professional Society Publishers, Wyboston, United Kingdom, Sept. 8–10, at:

[#alpsp](#)

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

[amlibraries](#)

## Calendar

### Sept. 19:

[International Talk Like a Pirate Day.](#) Some library ideas [here.](#)

### Sept. 21–24:

[World Standards Week.](#) American National Standards Institute, Crowne Plaza Washington National Airport, Arlington, Virginia.

revoked—said he was told that newly elected Mayor Tim Burchett was going to fire him. Former Senior Director of Library Services Larry Frank said that he wants to know what's going on, and he questions whether his resignation is revoked. Shortly after he was sworn into office, Burchett put a stop payment on the severance package....

*Knoxville (Tenn.) News Sentinel, Sept. 5*

### [Read-in for Newark libraries](#)

Youngsters in Newark, New Jersey, started school August 31 with a library system crippled by city budgets. This has the grownups really upset, so they staged a protest denouncing the cutbacks that have closed two library branches and reduced hours at all other facilities to three days a week. The grassroots effort to restore full service to the Newark Public Library hit the streets with a 24-hour reading vigil at city hall....

*Newark (N.J.) Star-Ledger, Sept. 2*



### [Camden branch closes](#)

The Fairview branch of the Camden (N.J.) Free Public Library shut its doors for good September 7, the victim of budget cuts brought on by a \$28-million city budget deficit that could eventually shut down Camden's library system altogether. Set in a former residence on Collings Avenue, the Fairview branch had been in operation since 1925, a cornerstone of the neighborhood that was built as a planned community for workers from the nearby shipyard after World War I. Today, Fairview is a predominantly low-income neighborhood....

*Philadelphia Inquirer, Sept. 7*

### [Farmers Branch eyes library outsourcing](#)

City officials serving Farmers Branch, Texas, are asserting that talk of privatizing the Manske Library (right) is no more than a preliminary budget discussion at this stage. But book lovers are taking a different reading of financial priorities. "I'm very disappointed



that they are even considering it. This is one of the facilities that gets the most usage," said library trustee Bruce Crozier. "When you make this shift, when management moves to the private sector, there is concern about oversight to the community," ALA Immediate Past President Camila Alire explained....

*Dallas Morning News, Sept. 6*

### [Queens Library lays off 40+ workers](#)

More than 40 employees of the Queens (N.Y.) Library were laid off September 3 after last-ditch negotiations to save their jobs fell through. Library officials originally expected to slash about 400 positions because of a proposed cut in city funding. A large chunk of that was restored in the city budget, allowing it to rescind many of the pink slips handed out in June. But the library said it still had a \$2.4-million deficit, and union officials rejected an offer to halt layoffs if employees would give up carryover vacation time....

*New York Daily News, Sept. 3*

### [Louisiana presses "pause" on creating audiobooks](#)

One of the things to go at the State Library of Louisiana,

### **Sept. 22–25:**

#### [American Association for State and Local History / Oklahoma Museums](#)

[Association](#), Annual Meeting, Oklahoma City. "Winds of Opportunity."

### **Oct. 6–9:**

#### [Library Research Seminar V](#)

[Marriott Inn and Conference Center](#), Hyattsville, Maryland. "Integrating Practice and Research."

### **Oct. 13–14:**

#### [Association of Research Libraries](#)

[Membership Meeting](#), Mayflower Renaissance Hotel, Washington, D.C.

### **Oct. 15–16:**

#### [American Printing History Association](#)

[Conference](#), Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C. "Learning to Print, Teaching to Print."

### **Oct. 15–17:**

#### [Picture Archive Council of America](#)

[15th International Conference](#), New York Marriott Downtown, New York City. "Future Focus: Today's Tools for Tomorrow's Business."

### **Oct. 18–24:**

#### [Open Access Week](#)

organized by SPARC.

### **Oct. 22–27:**

#### [American Society for Information Science and Technology](#)

[Annual Meeting](#), Pittsburgh (Pa.) Hilton. "Navigating Streams in an Information

at least for now, is the basement-level recording studio that benefits 7,000 blind patrons. Roughly a dozen regular volunteers used the studio to tape Louisiana books—everything from children’s stories to classic works. Deputy State Librarian Diane Brown said the state library has sustained a more than 25% budget cut in the last two years, and that the suspension of the eight-year-old “Louisiana Voices” program will save the library \$48,000 a year....

*Baton Rouge (La.) Advocate, Sept. 6*



### [José Aponte is driven to do more](#)

That guy thrumming a zydeco washboard in Rancho Santa Fe? Belting out a chain gang song in an Anaheim ballroom? Setting a wicked pace on Fiesta Island’s running path? That’s José Aponte, director of the San Diego County (Calif.) Library—and good luck slowing him down or shutting him up. The Aponte solution to declining tax dollars? Run harder, sing louder....

*San Diego (Calif.) Union-Tribune, Sept. 4*



### [Toddlers scramble for storytime tickets](#)

Forget Broadway, the hardest ticket to score in town is for toddler storytime at the New York Public Library. The matinee storytime every Wednesday at the Webster branch is so popular that organizers had to switch to a color-coded ticket system because desperate moms had started counterfeiting the numbered tickets. To stop a possible stampede, library workers hand out tickets 30 minutes before the two show times. Each of the two sessions hosts a mere 20 toddlers, so there’s many a miserable mom who has to break the bad news....

*New York Post, Sept. 7*

### [Lawsuit claims library is a hostile place to work](#)

A library employee claims in a federal lawsuit that the Birmingham (Ala.) Public Library’s Central facility is a sexually hostile place to work, with some patrons openly viewing pornography on computers, groping her, and performing lewd acts in front of staff or other patrons, including children. Library Assistant III Barbara Ann Wilson claims in the lawsuit filed September 2 against the BPL Foundation and the city that the library has not done enough to protect her from a hostile work environment....

*Birmingham (Ala.) News, Sept. 2*

### [Fired Waterloo director wants old performance reviews](#)

The saga over the controversial firing of Waterloo (Ontario) Public Library Director Cathy Matyas (right) continues. This time it is over copies of her job performance reviews, which Matyas said the library board refuses to give her. She is now attempting to get the documents through the Municipal Freedom of Information Act. Matyas was fired by the board in January without a reason being given....

*Waterloo Region (Ont.) Record, Sept. 4*



### [From architect to Friends founder](#)

More than 40 years ago, former county commissioner

Ecosystem.”

### **Oct. 26–30:** [Association for Educational Communications and Technology,](#)

International Convention, Hyatt Regency Orange County, Anaheim, California. “Cyber Change: Learning in Our Connected World.”

### **Nov. 3:** [Going Green @ your library 2,](#) online conference sponsored by Amigos Library Services.

### **Nov. 7–9:** [Washington Institute,](#) American Association of Community Colleges, Washington Court Hotel, D.C.

### **Nov. 7–10:** [ARMA International,](#) Annual Conference and Expo, Moscone Center West, San Francisco.

### **Nov. 12–14:** [Boston International Antiquarian Book Fair,](#) Hynes Convention Center.

### **Nov. 18–19:** [Translating and the Computer Conference,](#) ASLIB: The Association for Information Management, De Vere West One, London, U.K.

### **Dec. 6–7:** [12th International Conference on Grey Literature,](#) National

Joe Chillura (right), fresh out of college, was the architect who designed a red brick building that became the Charles J. Fendig branch of the Hillsborough County (Fla.) Public Library. Chillura has come full circle from architect to founder of the Friends of the Charles J. Fendig Branch Library—a first for the facility, which in nearly five decades never has had a Friends group. The library originated in a storefront a block from its existing location....



*Tampa (Fla.) Tribune, Sept. 7*

### [Suit seeks to block Alaska harmful-to-minors law](#)

A coalition of Alaska booksellers and other organizations, including the Alaska Library Association, filed suit on August 31 to block a broad censorship law that bans constitutionally protected speech on the internet. The law, which went into effect on July 1, imposes severe restrictions on the distribution of constitutionally protected speech on topics such as contraception and pregnancy, sexual health, literature, and art on the internet and in book and video stores and libraries....

*Bookselling This Week, Aug. 31*

### [Alleged terrorist used Ottawa library computers](#)

An alleged jihadi plot to bomb Ottawa, Ontario, was quietly orchestrated from within a tranquil suburban library in the Nepean neighborhood. One of three men charged in what the RCMP says was a "real and serious" terrorist threat to Ottawa and national security relied on public computers at the Centrepointhe branch of the Ottawa Public Library to secretly communicate with the alleged cell in 2009–2010. Communications to and from the library computer triggered alarms at the Ottawa-based Communications Security Establishment....

*Ottawa (Ont.) Citizen, Sept. 4*

### [Hidden in plain sight](#)

Reference Librarian Susan Geiger stands before a long, enclosed bookcase in the G. R. Little Library on the Elizabeth City (N.C.) State University campus, holding a copy of a children's book dating back to 1944. It is part of a set of vintage children's books from 1890 to the 1940s that were sitting in plain sight in the reference room, all of them used at one time by the school's education majors. Geiger says when she discovered the books, she understood that they were special and should be separated for cataloging and conservation....



*Elizabeth City (N.C.) Daily Advance, Sept. 2*

### [Finnish library sets aside Ramadan prayer space](#)

A library in Espoo, Finland, has set up a provisional prayer space for Muslims during Ramadan, the Muslim month of fasting. The idea for a prayer space for Muslims in the library branch (right) at the Entresse shopping mall came after reports that a gym operating in the same mall had banned prayers in its locker rooms. Regional Library Director Terhi Nikulainen said that more than half of the regular customers of the Entresse library are of Somali background....



*Helsingin Sanomat (Helsinki), Sept. 8*

Technical Library, Prague, Czech Republic.

**Jan. 4–7:**  
[Association for Library and Information Science Education](#), Annual Conference, Hilton San Diego Resort and Spa, California. "Competitiveness and Innovation."

**Jan. 7–11:**  
[American Library Association](#), Midwinter Meeting, San Diego Convention Center, California.

**Jan. 26–29:**  
[Association of American Colleges and Universities](#), Annual Meeting, Hyatt Regency Hotel, San Francisco. "Global Positioning."

**Feb. 11–13:**  
[44th California International Antiquarian Book Fair](#), Concourse Exhibition Center, San Francisco.

**Mar. 5–8:**  
[American Council on Education](#), Annual Meeting, Washington Hilton Hotel, D.C. "Reaching Higher."

**Mar. 24–28:**  
[Art Libraries Society of North America / Visual Resources Association](#), Joint Conference, Hilton Minneapolis. "Collaboration: Building Bridges in the 21st Century."

### [Time capsule contents a bust](#)

History revealed itself at the Royal Canadian Military Institute in Toronto on September 1 as a century-old time capsule, found in the historic building's cornerstone, was opened. The 1907 cornerstone was removed to make way for a new condo development that will also house the RCMI offices, library, and museum. Unfortunately, the time capsule contained only a heavily oxidized and unidentifiable coin or token and a bunch of tightly wrapped brown paper on the verge of disintegrating....



*Toronto Globe and Mail, Sept. 1*

### [World's oldest movable type discovered?](#)

A Korean academic said September 1 he has found the world's oldest movable metal type, predating what is believed to be the world's oldest book printed using movable type, a Korean Buddhist document titled *Jikji* typeset in 1377. The 12 characters, found in a private collection, are possibly 138 years older. Philology Professor Nam Kwon-heui of Kyungpook National University in Daegu said he confirmed the type dates from the 12th century....



*Chosun Ilbo (Seoul), Sept. 2*

[Go back to the Top](#)

## Tech Talk

### [The future of screens, 2014](#)

Kyle VanHemert writes: "The ever-impressive Swedish interface gurus The Astonishing Tribe just posted a new [video](#) (2:18) envisioning what kinds of screens we'll be using in the year 2014. They stretch fluidly and share seamlessly, and I want to use them *right now*. The group thinks we're on the verge of a screen Renaissance. This video doesn't show any interfaces or products that are actually slated to come to market; rather, it's TAT's vision of where the industry is heading."...



*Gizmodo, Sept. 1; YouTube, Sept. 1*

### [The web's most annoying apps](#)

Mark Sullivan writes: "They install icons, they get up in your face with trivial alerts, they demand that you update and then restart—three times a week. We've all experienced annoying apps. In fact, some of them come [preinstalled](#) on new PCs. I did some informal polling of PC users and came up with a list of the seven worst offenders, in no particular order."...



*PC World, Sept. 1*

### [How to buy a netbook](#)

Cisco Cheng writes: "As a category, netbooks are such a diverse group that it's hard to come up with a single, all-encompassing definition. The best

**Mar. 31:**  
**[First International Scientific Conference on Bibliophilia and Private Collections](#)**,  
Russian State Library, Moscow.

@ [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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indicators that you're dealing with a netbook are a low price, light weight, and low-powered components. Likely the system will have a screen on the smaller side and a basic feature set. Still, netbooks vary in screen size, typing experience, and specialty features. This netbook buying guide will help you sort them out."...

*PC Magazine, Sept. 2*



### [24 WordPress plugins to consider](#)

Denise Wakeman writes: "What you get when you set up a WordPress blog can be pretty basic depending on the theme you choose. To make your new blog sing and *work for you*, it's a good idea to install some key plugins. Popular plugins fall into a couple of categories: those that enhance your readers' experience, and those behind the scenes that help you with blog management and optimization. Here are 24 you might consider."...

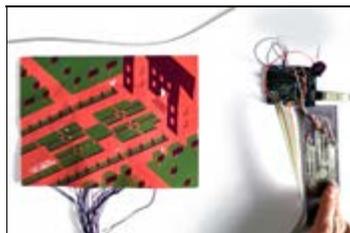
*Social Media Examiner, Sept. 1*



### [A video game made of paper](#)

As we continue to push forward into a digital world, the role of traditional forms of media are constantly changing. E-books are challenging the printed word, while board games are being reimagined on electronic platforms like the iPad. But few creators have taken as imaginative an approach to these ideas as [Les éditions volumiques](#). The French publishing house has developed numerous interesting creations, ranging from a paper video game to a board game that uses your phone as the playing piece....

*Ars Technica, Sept. 1*



## Publishing

### [JSTOR's platform upgrade: An update](#)

On August 21, JSTOR released a new interface. One feature, the ability for any user to submit a search against all JSTOR content, drew strong reactions from many in the library community. The key concern expressed was that JSTOR users with access to only a subset of JSTOR collections could get search results pointing to content they could not access. JSTOR released the new interface on September 2, but changed the default to search licensed content only, eliminating potential frustration....

*JSTOR, Sept. 1*



### [Justin rates the e-book readers](#)

Justin Hoenke writes: "What it all really comes down to is personal preference. I could sit here all day and tell you about the ins and outs of each device, how DRM isn't a great thing, and the little quirks that each offers and how they could be improved. But here's the deal: Just try each one out for yourself, and over time you'll find which one works best for you. Meanwhile, here is what I liked and didn't like about the Sony



Katie Bane  
[kbane@ala.org](mailto:kbane@ala.org)

Send feedback:  
[aldirect@ala.org](mailto:aldirect@ala.org)

AL Direct FAQ:  
[www.ala.org/aldirect/](http://www.ala.org/aldirect/)

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ext. 4216

ISSN 1559-369X

Reader Touch, the Apple iPad, the Kindle, and the Nook.”...

Justin the Librarian, Aug. 31

### [ACLS survey on e-book readers](#)

The American Council of Learned Societies wanted to know how users liked reading its books on their handheld devices. So it selected three of its titles and [asked users](#) what it was like to read them on a Kindle, a Sony Reader, or another e-reader. Of the 142 respondents (the majority of them librarians), 88% expressed overall satisfaction. However, half found the search function frustrating, and only a quarter “felt they would have an easy time citing and referencing these editions.”...

The Wired Campus, Sept. 7; American Council of Learned Societies, Aug. 18

### [Another way to look at the iPad vs. Kindle debate](#)

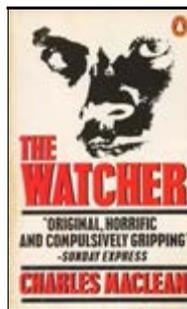
David Pogue writes: “Last week I [reviewed](#) Amazon’s Kindle 3. It’s head and shoulders the best e-book reader on the market—at least among the ones that use an E Ink screen. In comparing the Kindle with the Apple iPad, I noted that Amazon’s e-book catalog has 630,000 books available, compared with only 60,000 for Apple. However, because both Amazon and Barnes & Noble offer excellent e-book reading apps for the iPad (for their own proprietary e-books), the size of Apple’s e-book library is essentially irrelevant.”....



New York Times: Pogue’s Posts, Aug. 30; Personal Tech, Aug. 25

### [Charlie Higson’s top 10 horror books](#)

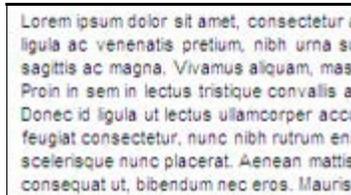
English comedian and author Charlie Higson writes: “I’m not the world’s biggest fan of pure horror novels—ghosts and demons and man-eating slugs leave me slightly unmoved. With no belief in the supernatural, supernatural stories usually have little effect on me. Of the big horror names, only Stephen King, with his concentration on character, really works for me. I’ve enjoyed other horror writers but wouldn’t put them in any top 10 lists. H. P. Lovecraft, for instance, is fun but his books aren’t exactly scary.” Here Higson singles out 10 stories that live up to their genre and genuinely do give readers sleepless nights....



The Guardian (U.K.), Sept. 8

### [What in heck is Lorem Ipsum?](#)

Lorem Ipsum is dummy text of the printing and typesetting industry. It has been the industry’s standard dummy text ever since the 1500s when an unknown printer took a galley of Latin type and scrambled it to make a type specimen book. It has survived not only five centuries, but also the leap into electronic typesetting. The text actually comes from a garbled version of sections 1.10.32 and 1.10.33 of *De finibus bonorum et malorum* (*On the Ends of Good and Evil*) by Cicero, written in 45 B.C....



Lorem Ipsum Generator

### [Hand-colored plates](#)

L. D. Mitchell writes: “What many people do not realize is that most hand-colored plates were in fact not colored by the illustrators

who drew or engraved the printed images, but rather were usually the work of an anonymous watercolorist who, more often than not, was a woman or child working in what was an early assembly-line process.



Moreover, hand-colored plates did not cease to be produced just because processes arose that could mechanically add color to printed plates. Hand-colored plates appear in books as early as the 15th century."...

The Private Library, Sept. 7

### Who decided on medieval book sizes?

Carl S. Pырdum III writes: "Medieval books were the size they were because medieval sheep were the size *they* were. Remember, paper wasn't the original medium for page creation. Medieval books were constructed of parchment, which is a fancy word for sheep or goat skin (and primarily sheep skin, because there were a lot more of them around). So take your average sheep, skin her and trim off the curvy parts, and you get one gigantic sheet of parchment, way too big for most bookmaking purposes."...



Got Medieval, Aug. 10

## Actions & Answers

### Google launches Google Instant search

Vlad Savov writes: "We're reporting live from the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, where Google's just taken the wraps off its latest software product, Google Instant search. Basically, the Goog no longer waits for you to hit enter while searching and starts updating its results page *instantly* as you type. Google describes it as a fundamental shift in search and you can watch its warm and fuzzy [video](#) (1:41). Google Instant isn't yet available for mobile, but the plan is to release it soon." The desktop version is operational....



Engadget, Sept. 8; YouTube, Sept. 8

### Public libraries, daring to be different

Molly Donelan and Liz Miller write: "City and county budget discussions often label public library services as discretionary despite their benefits to quality of life, literacy, and access to technology. New research is finding that libraries are making significant contributions beyond their traditional roles. Here are the stories of nine jurisdictions that engaged their libraries in creative solutions to community challenges involving public safety, emergency management, the environment, economic development, early childhood literacy, teen services, and cultural engagement."...



Public Management magazine 92, no. 8 (Sept.)

## [What every new media specialist needs to know](#)

Donna Corbo and Candace Sample write: "It's not easy being a media specialist, especially if you're new to the profession or you've switched schools and you're suddenly the new kid on the block. How can you become the dynamic leader you're meant to be? And even more to the point, how can you survive your first year on the job? Take a deep breath, because relief is on the way. Here are 10 road-tested tips that will help you not only survive, but also *thrive*."...

*School Library Journal*, Sept. 1

## [Preparing for library instruction](#)

Sarah Faye Cohen writes: "There are many ways that each of us prepares to walk into the classroom: speaking with a professor about the students or about the assignment, making sure the technology in the room is working, making copies of handouts. But those are logistical considerations. Getting ready for instruction is not just about putting things together. It's about putting *yourself* together to go out and introduce students to new ways of thinking and new tools. Here are some ways I prepare myself."...

*ACRLog*, Sept. 8

## [Music in libraries: We're doing it wrong](#)

Sarah Houghton-Jan writes: "I worry about libraries and the future of music. Our users simply don't use music in the formats or the ways that we provide it. We're blind to what they want, then complain when they try to make what we do have fit their paradigm. You've seen people come in, grab a pile of CDs, burn them right there in the library sometimes, then return them and check out more. Libraries are a source of piracy for sure, but the way we provide music to our users in general has proven to be less than useful as the years go on."...

*Librarian in Black*, Sept. 6



## [Get in the wagon](#)

Peter Brantley writes: "The current leadership of many research libraries belongs to a cohort that has held senior management positions for several decades; they have exceeded, or are near, retirement age. It's time for the youngest generation of librarians to gather among themselves to discuss change in libraries. This definitely needs to happen in real life, but it can also happen online. There should be no directors or associate directors present. This is not about them. It is about those who will truly redefine the future of libraries. There will be libraries in the future. And they will kick ass."...

*Shimenawa*, Sept. 1

## [So you want to be a director?](#)

Bill Manson writes: "I'm not sure that I can tell you how to be a good chief librarian. I could certainly tell you some things that you could do to ensure that you're a bad one. But what I want to do is outline some skills and attitudes that you need to have to get the job in the first place. Going back to Philosophy 101, this is about the necessary conditions for getting the corner office. They're probably not sufficient conditions. Requirement #1: An iron butt."...

*Will Unwound*, Sept. 7

## [The myth of the librarian grays](#)

Colleen Harris writes: "The economy is in the toilet. Any librarian

looking for a job is up against hundreds of his or her peers. Those recently out of school are competing against folks with decades of experience under their belt and probably wider networks (though social media is closing this gap quickly). There is a serious abdication of personal responsibility when we blame the schools for continuing to graduate MLS folks, and I'm growing weary of hearing it. The profession may be graying, but gray doesn't mean dead or retiring."...  
Guardienne of the Tomes, Sept. 3

### **Nestlé shares the joy of reading**

Nestlé USA's Confection and Snacks Division announced a new charitable initiative, "[The Nestlé Share the Joy of Reading Program](#)," which will donate up to \$250,000 to Reading Is Fundamental, the nation's oldest and largest nonprofit children's literacy organization. Actress, filmmaker, and *Access Hollywood* special correspondent Maria Menounos (right) read to children September 1 at the Los Angeles Public Library's Robertson branch to kick off the program and celebrate September as National Literacy Month....  
Nestlé USA, Sept. 1



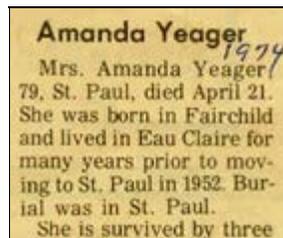
### **The September Project**

Angela Hanshaw writes: "According to the [September Project website](#), 'Since 2004, libraries across the world have organized events about freedom and issues that matter to their communities during the month of September. This grassroots project favors free over fee, public over private, and voices over silence.' The site is an excellent resource for programming ideas, with libraries of all types from around the world sharing their plans for September."...  
Programming Librarian, Sept. 7



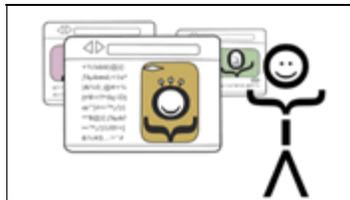
### **The death of newspaper obituaries**

Brian Herzog writes: "One function of public libraries is to be a repository for community history, and they have holdings of the local newspaper, which patrons can use to look up obituaries of local residents. But our local paper recently started charging families to list obituaries, instead of providing that service for free. So we began [improving access](#) to the obituaries we do have in our newspaper microfilm records, using an online index created with [Yahoo Pipes](#)."...  
Swiss Army Librarian, Sept. 2, 7



### **Google's Digital Literacy Tour**

From Google for Educators: "At Google, we support the education of families on how to stay safe online. We've teamed up with online safety organization iKeepSafe to develop curriculum that educators can use in the classroom to teach what it means to be a responsible online citizen. It is designed to be interactive, discussion filled, and an opportunity for students to learn through hands-on and scenario activities. You'll find a downloadable resource booklet for both educators and students, presentations to accompany the lesson, and animated videos to frame the conversation."...  
Google for Educators



### [Wikipedia for credit](#)

Some professors believe Wikipedia has no place in the footnotes of a college paper. But could it have a place on the syllabus? The Wikimedia Foundation, the nonprofit organization that does fundraising and back-end support for the popular open source encyclopedia, says yes. So do the nine professors at prominent colleges who have agreed to make creating, augmenting, and editing Wikipedia entries part of their students' coursework....

Inside Higher Ed, Sept. 7

### [Library Research Seminar V deadline extended](#)

Early bird registration for the University of Maryland iSchool's Library Research Seminar V has been extended one week to September 13. The seminar, held October 6–9, 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....

University of Maryland College of Information Sciences

### [A personal librarian for every Drexel freshman](#)

Drexel University in Philadelphia is aiming to personalize the freshman experience by establishing a "Personal Librarian Program." Through this program, each of the 2,750 entering freshmen is assigned to a librarian. Students can go to their personal librarian to learn about the information resources and people they need to succeed not just during their freshman year, but also throughout their college career at Drexel. More than 20 librarians are each responsible for looking out for a group of at least 100 students....

Drexel University, Sept. 3

### [A tour of the new National Library of Iran](#)

The National Library of Iran opened its new facility in the northern suburbs of Tehran in March 2005. The six-story building has the capacity to hold 7 million volumes. In this news video (5:38) from Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting, an Iranian journalist



goes with a friend to check out a book and view the library's services. (*American Libraries* Editor Leonard Kniffel had been invited to attend the opening ceremony in 2005, but ran into some [obstacles](#).)...

Press TV, June 6; *American Libraries* special report, Apr. 2005

### [1001 Inventions and the Library of Secrets](#)

Actor Ben Kingsley stars in a short feature film (13:31) about the scientific heritage of Muslim civilization. *1001 Inventions and the Library of Secrets* accompanied a [global touring exhibition](#) that completed its record-breaking run at



London's Science Museum on June 30, during which time it attracted 400,000 visitors. Kingsley plays the role of a mysterious and cantankerous librarian who takes a group of school children on an enlightening journey to meet pioneering scientists and engineers from the history of Muslim civilization. The librarian is then revealed to be 12th-century engineering genius Al-Jazari....

Foundation for Science Technology and Civilisation, Sept. 8

[Go back to the Top](#)

# american libraries DIRECT

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | September 15, 2010

## Contents

[American Libraries Online](#)  
[ALA News](#)  
[Booklist Online](#)  
[Division News](#)  
[Awards](#)  
[Seen Online](#)  
[Tech Talk](#)  
[Publishing](#)  
[Actions & Answers](#)  
[New This Week](#)  
[Calendar](#)

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## American Libraries Online

### [ALA Qur'an read-out commemorates 9/11](#)

Barbara Jones, director of the ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom, opened a 9/11 commemoration at ALA headquarters in Chicago September 11 that started taking shape earlier in the week as a protest and ended up as a statement to the world that librarians value reading, learning, and tolerance over book-burning, fear, and ignorance. Jones made her statement to about 50 people who showed up for the [event](#), which featured readings from the Qur'an by *American Libraries* Editor Leonard Kniffel, Gerald Hankerson of the Council on American-Islamic Relations, and Kiran Ansari of the Council of Islamic Organizations of Greater Chicago. It was [covered](#) by local media. Watch a [video](#) (13:34) of the presentation....

AL: Inside Scoop, Sept. 11; *Chicago Tribune*, Sept. 11; PIO, Sept. 13; AL Focus, Sept. 12



### [Web-scale discovery products gain user ground](#)

"The proof that our approach is working is clear, based on customer response," Serials Solutions' Vice President of Product Management and Marketing Stan Sorensen said, telling *American Libraries* of his firm's web-scale discovery product Summon, which has reached the 100-customer mark. Also making a big splash in this area is EBSCO's Discovery Service product, which has garnered a sizeable handful of users already, including Northeastern University, Indiana University in Bloomington, and the University of Liverpool, since late summer....

*American Libraries* news, Sept. 15



### [20 years of assistive technologies](#)

Barbara T. Mates writes: "On July 26, thousands of people applauded the 20th anniversary of the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act, which mandated that disabled individuals be accorded the same rights as persons without

APA Handbook of  
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disabilities. The celebration stimulated reflection and debate on the effectiveness of the law. No consensus about success has been reached, but most people agree that despite slow and steady progress, much still remains to be done—especially if we are to achieve true parity in the workplace.”...

*American Libraries*, feature

### [Libraries host September Project programming](#)

Libraries around the country and the world are hosting events this month as part of the [September Project](#), a grassroots effort to encourage library programming about freedom during the month of September. The project was founded in 2004 by Sarah Washburn, library program manager at TechSoup, and David Silver, associate professor of media studies at the University of San Francisco. In the early years, programs centered around the September 11 attacks, but now many have taken on a local focus....

*AL*: Inside Scoop, Sept. 10



### [International digital supplement](#)

The Fall 2010 *American Libraries* digital supplement is now online, featuring highlights from the IFLA conference in Sweden, reminiscences of previous IFLA conferences, relief efforts in Haiti and Chile, the Campaign for the World's Libraries, a celebration of Ethiopia Reads, an online learning clearinghouse, the launch of RDA, and how to become a Sister Library....

*American Libraries*, Sept. 14



[ALA Midwinter Meeting](#) in San Diego, California, January 7–11, 2011.

### [Newsmaker: Ellen Tise](#)

South African librarian Ellen Tise (right) is 2009–2011 president of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions. *American Libraries* caught up with her during the 76th IFLA World Library and Information Congress, August 10–15, in Gothenburg, Sweden, where she talked about international relations, energizing the profession, and open access to knowledge....

*American Libraries* column, Oct.

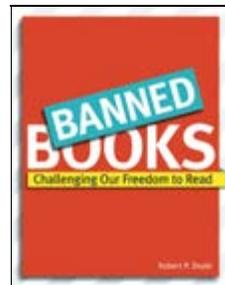


Pulitzer Prize–winner **Richard Rhodes**, author of *Dark Sun: The Making of the Hydrogen Bomb*, will present the 12th annual [Arthur Curley Memorial Lecture](#), January 8, 4–5 p.m.

### [Why was this book banned?](#)

Q. *It's the question most often heard from students during [Banned Books Week](#): "Why was this book banned?" More accurately, the question is who challenged this book being in the school or library and wanted it removed, and why, and when and where did this happen, and how did things turn out?*

A. The ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom maintains information on which books are challenged and why and regularly publishes this information every three years, most recently in the [2010 Banned Books Week Resource Guide](#) by Robert P. Doyle....

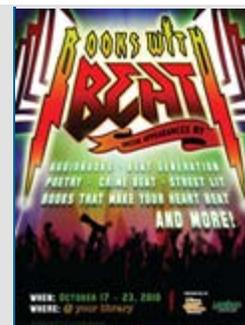


AL: Ask the ALA Librarian, Mar. 2

### All things corn

Laura Bruzas writes: "As I scan the library newsletters from surrounding communities near my home, I see lots of libraries hosting films for their patron's viewing pleasure. I also see the mention of popcorn being served. Thus, I thought I'd pose a question. Would your library consider switching to USDA certified organic-popcorn in light of the fact that nonorganic popcorn is on the FDA's list of the top 10 foods most contaminated with toxic pesticides and chemicals?"...

AL: Green Your Library, Sept. 10



For more than a decade, librarians and educators nationwide have come together in October to encourage teens to "Read for the Fun of It!" during YALSA's annual [Teen Read Week](#) celebration. This year's theme—Books with Beat @ your library—serves as a creative starting point for developing dynamic events in schools, public libraries, and bookstores, that will inspire young adults to discover new genres, check out poetry, and listen to audiobooks. **NEW! From ALA Graphics.**



## ALA News

### Card your library users in September

During the month of September, ask your library users to show off the most valuable card in their wallets—their library card. In celebration of Library Card Sign-up Month, the [atyourlibrary.org](#) website is looking for photos of library users with the "smartest card." To upload photos, visit [atyourlibrary.org's Flickr page](#). Photos will be shown on the [atyourlibrary.org](#) home page throughout the month of September....

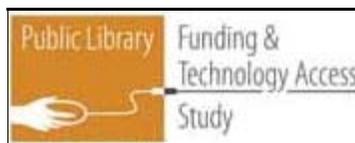
Public Information Office, Sept. 13



### National study of internet use in libraries

ALA encourages public libraries to participate in the 2010–2011 Public Library Funding and Technology Access Study [online survey](#). The survey provides an important opportunity for libraries to share information on computer and internet resources and infrastructure, as well as funding, technology training, and such other uses of public libraries as providing public access technology centers in their communities. The survey is open through November 5....

Office for Research and Statistics, Sept. 13



"Like" [American Libraries](#) on Facebook.



### New blog on national public library study

The Office for Research and Statistics has launched a new blog that shares real-time news, findings, and customizable resources from the Public Library Funding and Technology Access Study. [Libraries Connect Communities](#) features updates on new tools that provide state and local libraries with data; details on study data points in the news; effective practices gleaned from study focus groups, site visits, and interviews; and frequently asked questions....

Office for Research and Statistics, Sept. 13

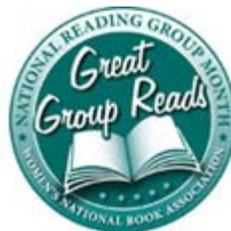
### New this week in American Libraries



## [Booklist chosen as National Reading Group Month partner](#)

*Booklist* has been selected again as a partner in the Women's National Book Association's [National Reading Group Month](#) in October. The popular *Booklist* blog [Book Group Buzz](#), offering helpful and entertaining information to reading groups both in and outside libraries, is the official partner blog. This year, [13 Great Group Reads](#) have been selected on the basis of their appeal to reading groups....

ALA Publishing, Sept. 13



## [Haiti Relief Fund reaches \\$25,000; more needed](#)

Thanks to recent donations from individuals and groups such as the Cub Scout Pack 77 of Ridgewood, New Jersey, the Staff Organization of the Bloomfield Township (Mich.) Public Library, and the Library Association of the City University of New York, ALA has raised more than \$25,000 to help rebuild libraries in Haiti. More is needed, as the estimated cost for the construction of the Petit Goave Public Library (right) is \$350,000. [Donate here](#)....

International Relations Office, Sept. 14



## [Banned Books Week Second Life trivia game show](#)

Do you like books? Do you know everything there is to know about Harry Potter and Holden Caulfield? Then you just may be the perfect candidate to match wits in the very first Banned Books Week Trivia Game Show. ALA Island is looking for contestants for the show, which will be held September 30, from 12 noon to 2 p.m. in Second Life. If you'd like to sign up to be a contestant, Instant Message [ALA Island](#) manager [Kay Tairov](#) in SL by September 21. Check out the other [SL BBW events](#). September 26–October 2....

OIF Blog, Sept. 14

## [1,200+ libraries on the National Gaming Day map](#)

Jenny Levine writes: "I just finished the first iteration of the 2010 National Gaming Day @ your library [map of participating libraries](#) and, wow, are there a lot of libraries already. The southeast region of the U.S. is clearly in the lead, but it's pretty amazing to see libraries from Hawaii and Alaska all the way to Presque Isle, Maine, not to mention a few international participants. If you haven't registered yet for this November 13 event, what are you waiting for? There are only a few hundred free games left, so [sign up today](#)."...

National Gaming Day @ your library



## [International Literacy Day at Berwyn Public Library](#)

To mark International Literacy Day on September 8, the Berwyn (Ill.) Public Library held a ceremony to dedicate its new literacy collection. During the ceremony, the library renewed its lasting commitment to literacy by honoring retiring South Berwyn School District 100 ESL teacher Lucy Barahona (above), naming its growing literacy collection after her. The collection is



[ADA anniversary](#)

[Newsmaker](#)

[Perpetual Beta](#)

[Inside Scoop](#)

[Green Your Library](#)

[Ask the ALA Librarian](#)

[Librarian's Library](#)

[AL Focus](#)

## [Great Libraries of the World](#)



### [Geisel Library.](#)

University of California, San Diego. Designed by architect William Pereira in the late 1960s as an eight-story concrete structure sited at the head of a canyon near the center of the campus, the library was renamed in honor of Audrey and Theodor Seuss Geisel (Dr. Seuss) in 1995 for their contributions. Its tower is a prime example of brutalist architecture, rising to a height of 110 feet. The entryway is the site of an art installation by conceptual artist John Baldessari titled [Read / Write / Think / Dream](#). An addition by Gunnar Birkerts in the early 1990s was designed to be subordinated to the

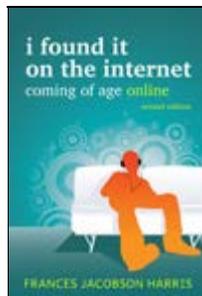
supported in part by grant from the American Dream Starts @ your library literacy initiative. Watch the [video](#) (5:57)....

The American Dream Starts @ your library, Sept. 10; YouTube, Sept. 10

### [Become an effective technology mentor for teens](#)

ALA Editions has released a second edition of *I Found It on the Internet: Coming of Age Online* by Frances Jacobson Harris. Today's teens immerse themselves in the world of technology as never before. But texting, tweeting, chatting, blogging, and other social networking largely occur in a free-for-all environment of unbridled access; quality takes a backseat to quantity. To help librarians, educators, and parents step in to guide teens' decision making, Harris offers a thoroughly updated edition of her classic book....

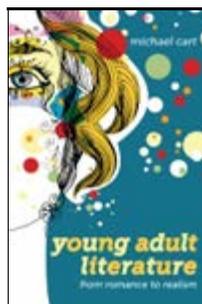
ALA Editions, Sept. 10



### [An updated historical survey of YA literature](#)

ALA Editions has released *Young Adult Literature: From Romance to Realism* by Michael Cart. In this much expanded revision of his 1996 book, veteran author Cart shows how the best of contemporary YA lit has evolved to tackle such daunting subjects as homosexuality, mental illness, AIDS, and drug abuse without resorting to sensationalism. He also covers its explosive growth in the past decade and advocates that librarians and teachers look beyond romance and horror when advising young adults....

ALA Editions, Sept. 8



strong, geometrical form of the existing library.



### [Huntington Library,](#)

San Marino, California. In 1919, retired railroad magnate and book collector Henry E. Huntington and his wife Arabella transferred their ranch property, artworks, and rare book collection into a nonprofit educational trust. The art museum, gardens, and library opened to the public in 1928. The library's collection of books, manuscripts, photographs, and maps specializes in British and American history and literature. Among its treasures are the [Ellesmere manuscript](#) of Geoffrey Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*, a [Gutenberg Bible](#) on vellum, the double elephant folio of John James Audubon's *Birds of America*, and a major collection of materials on the [American West](#). Its [botanical gardens](#) cover 120 acres, and the theme gardens contain rare plants from around the world.

**This new AL Direct feature** will showcase 250 libraries around the world that are notable for their exquisite architecture, historic collections, and innovative services. If you find yourself on vacation near one of them, be sure to stop by for a visit. The entire list will be available in [The Whole](#)



## Booklist ONLINE

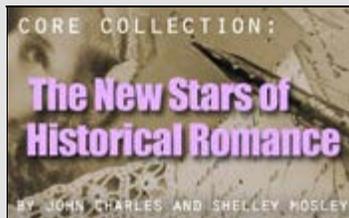
### [Featured review: Historical romance](#)

Milan, Courtney. *Trial by Desire*. Nov. 2010. 352p. HQN, paperback (978-0-373-77485-2). Readers will be blown away by Milan's second historical romance, following her excellent debut, *Proof by Seduction* (2010). At the outset, Lady Kate Carhart's marriage is perfect in every way except one: Her husband, Ned, doesn't love her. Just as Kate is about to set her plan to seduce Ned into motion, however, he announces that he is leaving the country on business. Three years later, Kate is certain that she has successfully gotten Ned out of her system—until he unexpectedly returns home. Milan deftly incorporates realistic historical grit in her coverage of the Opium Wars, social candor in her treatment of domestic violence, and stunning emotional depth in the mesmerizing plot....



### [Core collection: The new stars of historical romance](#)

John Charles and Shelley Mosley write: "It seems that lately the romance genre is all about vampires, werewolves, and shape-shifters, oh my! Does this mean that historical romances are now, well, history? Hardly. Not only is the number of new historical romances rising, and not only are fans reading them in quantity, the subgenre is also experiencing a renaissance. Fortunately, the historical romance subgenre has seen the debut of a wealth of terrific new writers in the last few years. Here are our choices for the new stars of historical romance."...



### [Booklist on Facebook](#)

Keir Graff writes: "Our [Facebook](#) presence is a work in progress, so feel free to share your suggestions of ways to make it better. But it's already a great way to keep track of our blogs, our Review of the Day, recent newsletters, and various other special links. I've uploaded pictures of *Booklisters* (right) and old *Booklist* covers, with many more to come. And I plan to dig into the archives and pull out older articles that may still hold current interest."...



Booklist Online: Likely Stories, Sept. 9

### [Booklist Author Forum](#)

Best-selling authors will gather in San Diego this winter at the Exhibits Round Table / *Booklist* Author Forum to participate in an exciting literary fiction panel. David Levithan, Stewart O'Nan, Armistead Maupin, and Susan Vreeland will meet together at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in San Diego, California, on January 7 to discuss the art of fiction writing and what it takes to become a best-selling book....

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

## Division News

### [Books on Islam for children and teens](#)

The ALSC Quicklists Consulting Committee has created a booklist to assist members who may be receiving requests for book titles on Islam, Muslims, and the Qur'an in the wake of the threatened burning of a Qur'an by a Florida minister. The list is a mixture of fiction and nonfiction, and is divided into sections for preschoolers, elementary school students, and teenagers. The committee expects to refine the list in the weeks to come....

ALSC, Sept.



### [The value of academic libraries](#)

ACRL has released *The Value of Academic Libraries: A Comprehensive Research Review and*

[Library Handbook 5](#), edited by George M. Eberhart, which is scheduled for publication in 2011 by ALA Editions.

### Career Leads from

ALA JobLIST



America's Sports University

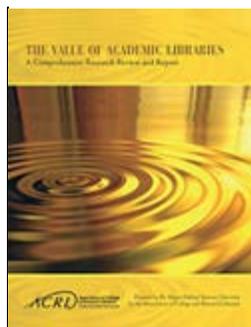
### [Director of Library/Archivist](#),

United States Sports Academy, Daphne, Alabama. The successful candidate will be responsible for planning and implementing Library activities.

Responsibilities: Provide student assistance regarding computer usage, literature location, database usage, and reference material; maintain functioning equipment in library, and assist students with equipment usage; book check-ins and check-outs, overdue books, collection of overdue books, proper signature and information of students regarding books; collect fines as necessary from students who have overdue books; handle calls from distance learning students inquiring about online library access and reference material....



*Report.* Developed for ACRL by Megan Oakleaf of the iSchool at Syracuse University, this valuable resource reviews the quantitative and qualitative literature, methodologies, and best practices currently in place for demonstrating the value of academic libraries. The full report, along with supplemental materials, is available [online](#) in PDF format. Listen to a [podcast](#) (25:13) with the author....  
ACRL, Sept. 9; ACRL Insider, Sept. 14



### [Teens' Top Ten polls close September 17](#)

Through September 17, teens can vote for their favorite books from the last year in YALSA's annual [Teens' Top Ten poll](#). The final list will be announced online during Teen Read Week, October 17–23....  
YALSA, Sept. 10

### [Teen Read Week registration closes September 20](#)

[Registration](#) for Teen Read Week, October 17–23, YALSA's annual celebration of teen literacy, ends on September 20. Teen Read Week will be celebrated in thousands of libraries, schools, and bookstores throughout the country. Librarians, educators, and booksellers who plan to participate can use resources at the [Teen Read Week](#) website....  
YALSA, Sept. 10

### [ALTAFF's new Trustee Academy](#)

Beginning in October, ALTAFF will be offering a Trustee Academy, a series of online courses to help trustees become exceptionally proficient in their roles on behalf of their libraries. All of the online courses will be taught by a professional in the field and will be priced both a la carte so attendees can pick and choose what courses are important to them, and as a full curriculum that will reflect discounted pricing per course. Entire boards of trustees can sign up for further discounts....  
ALTAFF



### [YALSA passive programming webinar](#)

Shrinking budgets and staff reductions create a number of challenges for librarians, not least of which is offering engaging programs with less staff and money. School and public librarians can learn how to stretch their resources through passive programming in YALSA's October webinar, "Do More with Less: Passive Programs," hosted by Gregory Lum and Sarah Ludwig. The webinar will take place at 2 p.m. Eastern time on October 21. [Registration](#) is now open....  
YALSA, Sept. 10

### [Team of Three discount for AASL Fall Forum](#)

School librarians are encouraged to register their "team of three" for only \$599 for the AASL 2010 Fall Forum. "IN FOCUS: The Essentials for 21st-Century Learning" will be held November 5–6 in Portland, Oregon. School librarians are encouraged to bring their teacher collaborators or peers within their district to take advantage of this discount. Online registration is not available for this pricing option....  
AASL, Sept. 10

### [Registration still a bargain for the YA Literature](#)

follow us on  
**twitter**

@ [More jobs...](#)

**Did you know** that you can **text ALA with a question?** Text AskALA to 66746. We answer member service questions and library reference questions.

### Digital Library of the Week



#### The [Birmingham \(Ala.\) Public Library Digital Collections](#)

were created to preserve and make available the local history of Birmingham and the surrounding area. The collections include maps, city newspapers of the late 19th century, coal mining in the region, movie theatres, the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church bombing of 1963, engravings of North American Indians by Theodore De Bry, women artists, Alabama inventors, old homes, school yearbooks, street railroads, and Birmingham businesses. The library has a [blog](#) that

## [Symposium](#)

Librarians, educators, authors and fans of young adult literature won't want to miss the biennial Young Adult Literature Symposium, November 5–7, hosted by YALSA at the Albuquerque, New Mexico, Marriott. Take advantage of low Early Bird rates, a savings of 25%, and [register](#) by September 17....

YALSA, Sept. 10

## [RUSA fall courses](#)

Registration is now open for the fall 2010 offerings of RUSA's popular classes Genealogy 101, Business Reference 101, and Readers' Advisory 101. All courses will be administered using Moodle, an online course management tool. Visit RUSA's professional development information page for [detailed course information](#), or go straight to the online [registration page](#) for these courses....

RUSA, Sept. 14

## [ALCTS fall e-forums](#)

ALCTS will offer two e-forums this fall, providing opportunities for librarians to discuss matters of interest, led by a moderator, through the e-forum discussion list. The topics are metadata policies and floating collections. The e-forum discussion list works like an email discussion list. Register your email address with the list and then you will receive messages and communicate with other participants through an email discussion. [Registration](#) is free....

ALCTS, Sept. 10

## [ALCTS Fundamentals web courses](#)

[Register](#) now for the popular ALCTS "Fundamentals" web courses beginning in October. The courses include Fundamentals of Acquisitions, Fundamentals of Collection Development and Management, Fundamentals of Preservation (new), and Fundamentals of Electronic Resources Acquisitions (new)....

ALCTS, Sept. 10

## [ALCTS fall webinars](#)

ALCTS webinars bring to your desktop a wide range of topics that include RDA, institutional repositories, Sears Subject Headings, and digital preservation. Priced for affordability, the webinars are suitable for beginners as well as more experienced library staff. [Registration](#) is now open....

ALCTS, Sept. 9

## [Registration open for ACRL Women's Leadership Institute](#)

ACRL is again collaborating with other higher education associations on the [2010 Women's Leadership Institute](#) to be held December 5–8, in Amelia Island, Florida. Be part of a special program for women seeking to become leaders in higher education administration and student affairs. [Register](#) by October 31 and receive a special Early Bird discount....

ACRL Insider, Sept. 13



## [AASL pre-Midwinter Institute](#)

School librarians looking to strengthen their leadership skills are encouraged to attend the AASL pre-Midwinter Institute, [Collaborative Leadership](#). The full-day institute will be facilitated by Steven Baule, superintendent of North Boone School District in Poplar Grove, Illinois. [Online registration](#) for this institute is now open....

AASL, Sept. 10

updates information about the digital collections.

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

## Public Perception

How the World Sees Us

**"We need to shift our national view of libraries not as luxuries, but as necessities. When tragedy strikes in other nations, Americans are generous, but our libraries are being hit with a tsunami and there has been no call to action. Staffs are being fired. Hours are being cut. Doors are being closed. Buildings are being razed. Kids are being left behind. Futures are being destroyed.**

**"Libraries are the backbone of our educational infrastructure, and they are being slowly broken by bankrupt municipalities and apathetic politicians. As voters and taxpayers, we have to demand that our local governments properly prioritize libraries."**

—Atlanta crime writer Karin Slaughter, "[Fight for Libraries As You Do Freedom.](#)" *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, Sept. 10.

@ [More quotes...](#)

## [LLAMA reveals the mysteries of mentoring](#)

Are mentors all they're cracked up to be? Can you find professional success and growth without one? Do you have what it takes to be an effective mentor? Julie Todaro will help you answer these questions and many more during "The Mysteries of Mentoring: The Perfect Mentor and Perfect Mentee" on January 7 during the ALA Midwinter Meeting in San Diego, California. [Registration](#) opens October 1....

LLAMA, Sept. 13

## [PLA seeks proposals for 2012 National Conference](#)

PLA is now accepting preconference and program proposals for the PLA 2012 National Conference, March 13-17, 2012, in Philadelphia. Proposals may be submitted and updated through the [PLA online form](#) until November 30. Faxed, emailed, or mailed proposals will not be accepted. At PLA 2012, the majority of concurrent session programs will be 75 minutes long; however, there will also be several 60-minute programs....

PLA, Sept. 14



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## Awards

### [Seven Judith Krug Fund grants awarded](#)

The Freedom to Read Foundation, via its Judith F. Krug Memorial Fund, has awarded grants to seven organizations in support of read-out events during [Banned Books Week](#), September 25-October 2. The Iowa City Public Library received the largest grant, of \$2,500, which will support a "Rolling Read-Out" during the University of Iowa's homecoming parade, in addition to a "Read-Out" on September 30 and other events during the [Carol Spaziani Intellectual Freedom Festival](#)....

Office for Intellectual Freedom, Sept. 9



### [ALSC adds exceptional websites for kids](#)

ALSC has added 27 recommended websites to [Great Web Sites for Kids](#), its online resource containing hundreds of links to outstanding websites for children. The site features links of interest to children 14 years of age and younger, organized into diverse subject headings, from astronomy and space to zoos and aquariums, from games and entertainment to geography and maps. There is also a section with sites for parents, caregivers, and teachers....

ALSC, Sept. 8



### [Last chance for love](#)

Library users can [nominate](#) their favorite school, public, or academic librarians in the third Carnegie Corporation of New York/*New York Times* I Love My Librarian Award. The deadline for submissions is September 20. Up to 10 winners will be selected this year and receive a \$5,000 cash award, a plaque, and \$500 travel stipend to attend an awards reception in New York....

Public Information Office



## ENJOY OUR LATEST CONTENT

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[Meet Dr. Margaret "Gigi" Lincoln, a 2008 winner of the I Love My Librarian contest](#)

[Tips for the first-time home seller](#)

[Louis Armstrong showed the world how to swing](#)

[Classic movie night: The Treasure of Sierra Madre](#)

[September is Library Card Sign-up Month](#)

### [Apply for nine PLA awards](#)

PLA is now accepting applications for the 2011 PLA Awards. Members can nominate their colleagues and libraries through December 1. This year PLA is offering nine awards and grants designed to highlight the best in public library service and to honor those bringing innovation, creativity, and dedication to public libraries. Many of the awards include an honorarium. Visit the [website](#) for details on each award....  
PLA, Sept. 14

### [Apply for IFLA's International Marketing Award](#)

The IFLA International Marketing Award honors organizations that have implemented creative, results-oriented, marketing projects or campaigns. Libraries and institutions are encouraged to describe the imaginative and inventive aspects of the projects. The winner will be announced officially during the press conference at the World Library and Information Congress in San Juan, Puerto Rico, in August 2011. Applications must be submitted before November 30....  
International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions

### [EBSCO offers five travel grants to Midwinter](#)

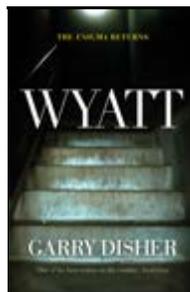
ALA and EBSCO are partnering to offer five scholarships for librarians to attend the 2011 ALA Midwinter Meeting in San Diego, January 7–11, 2011. Each EBSCO scholarship offers \$1,500, and one of the five will be awarded to a first-time conference attendee. The deadline to [apply](#) is November 15....  
Office of ALA Governance, Sept. 13

### [Sparks! Ignition Grants](#)

The Institute of Museum and Library Services has released application guidelines for its [Sparks! Ignition Grants](#) for libraries and museums. This new grant program will provide one-year grants of \$10,000 to \$25,000 for innovative projects that respond to the challenges and opportunities facing cultural heritage institutions in a rapidly changing information environment. The submission deadline is November 15....  
Institute of Museum and Library Services, Sept. 9

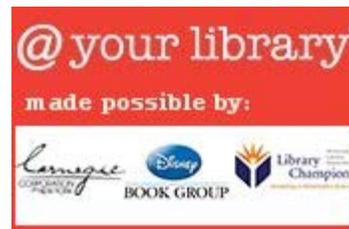
### [2010 Ned Kelly Awards](#)

The 15th annual Ned Kelly Awards for crime writing were announced September 3 in Melbourne. Considered the most prestigious crime writing prize in Australia, the awards reflect the significance and popularity of the crime genre in Australian literature. Kathy Marks's *Pitcairn: Paradise Lost* (HarperCollins) won the Best True Crime award, while the Best Fiction award went to Victoria author Garry Disher for *Wyatt* (Text)....  
Ned Kelly Awards



### [Queen of Teen 2010](#)

Cathy Cassidy (right), the author of *GingerSnaps*, *Angel Cake*, and *Indigo Blue*, was named Queen of Teen 2010, described as the most glamorous and glitzy award in the world of teen books, at an ultra-glam ceremony in England on September 9. The award was established in 2008 to celebrate the teen and tween authors who write about real-life issues in a way that is



### **TweetWatch**

#### **Follow:**

Seventh International Conference on Preservation of Digital Objects, Vienna, Austria, Sept. 19–24, at: [#ipres2010](#)

3rd Future Internet Symposium, Berlin, Germany, Sept. 20–22, at: [#fis2010](#)

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

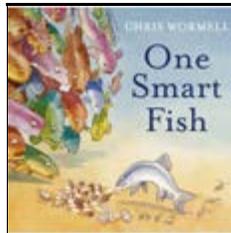
honest, entertaining, and fun. The award is voted on by teens themselves....

Queen of Teen

### [2010 Booktrust Early Years Awards](#)

The winners of the 2010 Booktrust Early Years Awards were announced at a special ceremony in London on September 2. The winning books all exemplify the remarkable creativity in words, design, and illustration that encourage young children to read. The winner in the category of Best Picture Book for children up to 5 years old was *One Smart Fish* by Chris Wormell (Jonathan Cape), while the winner of Best Emerging Illustrator was Levi Pinfold for *The Django* (Templar)....

Booktrust, Sept. 2

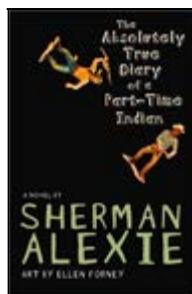


## Seen Online

### [Stockton book ban upheld](#)

The Stockton, Missouri, school board voted unanimously September 8 to uphold its April decision to ban a book from the school curriculum. The 7–0 vote came after a public forum about the novel, *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian* by Sherman Alexie. The board also voted 7–2 against a proposal to return the book to the high school library with restrictions. Board member Rod Tucker said his main concern was the book's language....

*Springfield (Mo.) News-Leader*, Sept. 9



### [Letter thanks librarians for fighting censorship](#)

Craig Herud writes: "In advance of Banned Books Week (September 25–October 2) I want to thank the often unheralded defenders of my First Amendment rights—librarians—who have quietly fought and continue to fight censorship. This is true, quiet patriotism—standing up for the rights guaranteed by the Constitution, often at the risk of their jobs. They are walking the walk, not just talking the talk. Librarians are high on my list of American heroines and heroes."...

*Baltimore Sun*, Sept. 9

### [Libraries in four states awarded stimulus funding](#)

U.S. Commerce Secretary Gary Locke on September 13 announced 35 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act investments to "fund projects that pave the way to bring enhanced high-speed internet access to millions of households and businesses and link thousands of schools, hospitals, libraries, and public safety offices to the information superhighway." Libraries in Alabama, Alaska, Kentucky, and Ohio were mentioned specifically....

U.S. Department of Commerce, Sept. 13

### [Google Instant blocks sexy searches](#)

Google's Instant search feature hopes to speed up search by displaying results as you type—so long as your queries are PG, that is. Whereas querying for neutral terms like "weather" or "restaurant" offers up a dropdown menu with suggested terms and presents a page of relevant search results, the streaming search tool does not work with NSFW search terms, which cause the page to go blank. But many anatomical terms are also being censored by the search engine, although not consistently....

## Calendar

**Sept. 25:**  
[Second Annual Children's Literature Festival](#), Nicholson Library, Anderson University, Anderson, Indiana. "Celebrating the Imagination of Children's Literature."

**Oct. 1–2:**  
[Open Video Conference](#), Fashion Institute of Technology, New York City. Sponsor: Open Video Alliance.

**Oct. 2–3:**  
[PodCamp Philly Unconference](#), Temple University, Philadelphia.

**Oct. 3:**  
[Social Media Camp](#), Victoria Conference Center, Victoria, British Columbia.

**Oct. 12–15:**  
[Educause Annual Conference](#), Anaheim (Calif.) Convention Center.

**Oct. 14–15:**  
[Achieving Strategic Change in Research Libraries](#), Forum, Mayflower Renaissance Hotel, Washington, D.C. Cosponsors: Association of Research Libraries; Coalition for Networked Information.

**Oct. 22:**  
[Fall Festival of Children's Books](#), Lecture Hall Oakland, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Sponsor:

Huffington Post, Sept. 9

### [The irreplaceable Friends bookstore](#)

In this place, the Friends of the Library Bookstore, there have been enough books and other publications, almost all donated by patrons, to raise more than \$2 million for the Huntsville–Madison County (Ala.) Public Library since 1990. A used James Lee Burke or first edition of Hemingway becomes even more important after Mayor Tommy Battle announced proposed budget cuts of 10% in early September—cuts that likely mean the annual donations from the bookstore will be the main source for the purchase of new materials....

Huntsville (Ala.) Times, Sept. 12



### [Georgia librarian headed to Australia with Oprah](#)

A librarian is headed to Australia with Oprah Winfrey and John Travolta. Pauline Abbide (right), technical services manager with the Dougherty County Public Library in Albany, Georgia, was in the Chicago audience of the *Oprah Winfrey Show* that aired September 13. Oprah announced she was taking the entire audience to Sydney, Australia, December 5–15. Actor John Travolta, a licensed pilot, will fly them there. A big fan, Abidde tapes Oprah’s show every day....

WALB-TV, Albany, Ga., Sept. 14



### [The long reach of the library law](#)

An arrest warrant has been issued for a man now believed to be living in his native Taiwan for failing to return or pay for \$2,499 worth of DVDs, videocassettes, and music books he borrowed in 2008 from the Randolph Township (N.J.) Free Public Library. Hsian Kao never returned the items, nor did he respond to a certified letter from the library. The library director contacted police after she spotted Kao in the facility with a young child August 4....

Morristown (N.J.) Daily Record, Sept. 13

### [Police: Ex-director stole thousands](#)

The former director of Pontiac (Ill.) Public Library was in jail September 14, accused of using his leadership role to steal more than \$10,000 from the library. Prosecutors contend that between April 3 and June 2, Eric Colclasure misdirected checks written to the library by Heartland Community College for leased space. Colclasure is accused of taking those payments and redirecting them to a separate Odell (Ill.) Public Library fund. At the time, he also was head librarian at the Odell....

Bloomington (Ill.) Pantagraph, Sept. 15



### [Bedbugs close Fort Myers library](#)

The downtown Fort Myers branch of the Lee County (Fla.) Public Library closed September 14 because of bedbugs. A routine morning check had revealed bedbugs on some of the chairs near the public computers, so officials decided not to open the building and called in county crews who removed and destroyed 40 chairs and began to fumigate. Director Sheldon Kaye (above) said he expected the library to [reopen](#) September 15. The furniture was



Pittsburgh Association for the Education of Young Children.

**Oct. 25–27:**  
[Internet Librarian Conference](#), Monterey Conference Center, Monterey, California. Sponsored by *Information Today*. “Insights, Imagination, and Info Pros: Adding Value.”

**Oct. 27:**  
[World Day for Audio Visual Heritage](#).

**Nov. 1–3:**  
[Digital Library Federation](#), Fall Forum, Crowne Plaza Cabaña, Palo Alto, California.

**Nov. 5:**  
[10th Annual Brick and Click Symposium](#), Northwest Missouri State University, Maryville. Sponsor: Owens Library, Northwest Missouri State University.

**Nov. 10–12:**  
[Council of Adult and Experiential Learning](#), International Conference, Hyatt Regency Mission Bay Spa and Marina, San Diego, California. “Create the Wave: Workforce, Education, and Change.”

**Nov. 30–Dec. 2:**  
[Online Information Conference](#), Grand Hall, Olympia, London, United Kingdom. Sponsor: Incisive Media. Features a [library management](#)

replaced temporarily with hard chairs....

WBBH-TV, Fort Myers, Fla., Sept. 14; WINK-TV, Fort Myers, Sept. 14-15

### [Bridgewater school librarians get the ax](#)

Middle school librarians in Bridgewater and Raynham, Massachusetts, won't be getting their jobs back, but the schools' libraries will stay open. That was the word from school officials at the Bridgewater-Raynham Regional School Committee meeting on August 25. The committee's decision to use proctors instead of librarians does not require approval by the school board....

*Bridgewater (Mass.) Independent, Aug. 31*

### [School librarians test student use of Kindles, iPads](#)

Marian Parker, librarian at Seneca (Ill.) Grade School, decided to test electronic books with students in a pilot program to see how they would respond to reading on a hand-held device. Each member of the 8th grade was offered one to use in language arts class, with parent and student contracts acknowledging the replacement value if they were lost or damaged. Parker said 106 Kindles are available, with six more on order. Carolyn Foote at Westlake High School in Austin, Texas, is [piloting the use](#) of six iPads that are housed in and issued from the library....

*Morris (Ill.) Daily Herald, Sept. 10; Not So Distant Future, Sept. 5*

### [Medieval bible finds a home in South Carolina](#)

University of South Carolina English Professor Scott Gwara (right) has peeked inside thousands of beautiful medieval books. But when he examined a leather-bound pocket bible at a London auction house in the summer, he knew this was one that would go into the university library's special collection. Written in Latin around 1240 and decorated in rich blue and red letters to mark chapter prefaces, the 1,000-page volume features handwritten marginalia throughout. The only English pocket bible in the Southeast, it likely was composed by a professional scribe in Oxford. Watch the [video](#) (1:34)....

*Myrtle Beach (S.C.) Sun News, Sept. 10; YouTube, Sept. 9*

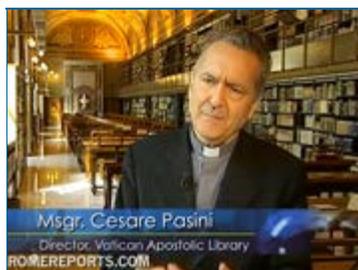


### [Vatican Library prepares to reopen](#)

The [Vatican Apostolic Library](#) will officially reopen September 20 after a three-year, \$11.5-million restoration. Each one of the library's 70,000 books, which are stored in a bombproof bunker, has been fitted with an RFID chip capable of emitting radio signals in order to prevent loss and theft.

The undertaking was in part motivated by an attempted theft in 1987 by an American art history professor, who smuggled pages torn from a 14th-century manuscript that once belonged to Petrarch. The [restoration](#) also includes the installation of a modern air-conditioning system, electronic readers, and the consolidation of load-bearing walls. Interesting videos [here](#) (2:22), [here](#) (1:51), and [here](#) (1:06)....

*The Telegraph (U.K.), Sept. 13; BBC News, Sept. 13; Agence France Presse, Sept. 13; Rome Reports, Sept. 7; Associated Press, Sept. 13; CTV, Sept. 13*



### [Michelangelo, library architect](#)

Cammy Brothers writes: "On any given day it is possible to stroll into Michelangelo's architectural masterpiece, the Laurentian Library in Florence,

[component.](#)

@ [More...](#)

## Contact Us

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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Katie Bane  
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Italy, and experience it without dealing with crowds like those lined up to see his sculpture of David. Library was built between 1524 and 1559 in the cloister of the church of San Lorenzo for Pope Clement VII to house the Medici family collection of manuscripts and printed books. Why are audiences today so much less receptive to Michelangelo's architecture?"...  
*Wall Street Journal*, Sept. 11



### [East Indian librarian abducted](#)

The chief librarian of the Manipur State Central Library in Imphal, India, was kidnapped along with another staff member September 7 when she was driving through Nambol on business related to a library conference at Manipur University. Soram Tampakleima was allegedly taken by insurgents who later demanded a large ransom. The librarian also made the news in August when she [accepted](#) a gift for the library of 76 books from political activist Irom Chanu Sharmila, who has been on a hunger strike since 2000 demanding the repeal of the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act that allows Indian army officers to shoot anyone suspected of being an insurgent....

E-Pao, Sept. 9; Hueiyen News Service, Aug. 16

[Go back to the Top](#)

## Tech Talk

### [Twitter unveils faster, dual-pane site](#)

On September 14, Twitter [unveiled](#) a major redesign of its home page, one its executives say will give users a better, easier, and faster experience. The new Twitter.com is tantamount to a fundamental relaunch of the popular microblogging service's web-based interface, mainly because it introduces a new interface built around a second viewing pane in which users will be able to see all kinds of content—from photos and videos to user profiles and geolocation information. The site will roll out to users in stages. Watch the introductory [video](#) (2:02). Jennifer Van Grove says the new Twitter is an [assault on desktop clients](#); Liz Gannes reveals [10 things you didn't know about it](#); Peter Kafka thinks it's meant to get you to [see more ads](#); and Adam Pash reminds us about the [new keyboard shortcuts](#)....



CNET News: Geek Gestalt, Sept. 14; Twitter, Sept. 14; Mashable, Sept. 14; GigaOM, Sept. 14; MediaMemo, Sept. 14

### [Top 10 things to do with a new Windows 7 system](#)

Kevin Purdy writes: "Whether you've just bought a new PC, upgraded to Windows 7, or reinstalled your OS, a just-installed system is a great opportunity to make some helpful changes and fixes. Here are the things we recommend anyone tackle on a minty fresh Windows, in particular what you can do to fix up the system from the get-go, no separate app required."...



Lifehacker, Sept. 11

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## [Creating a library database search using Drupal](#)

When Florida Gulf Coast University Library was faced with having to replace its database locator, the staff needed to find a low-cost, non-labor intensive replacement for their 350+ database search tool. This article by Danielle Rosenthal and Mario Bernardo details the development of a library database locator, based on the methods described in Leo Klein's "Creating a Library Database Page Using Drupal" [online presentation](#). The library used Drupal along with several modules, such as CCK, Views, and FCKeditor....

Code4Lib Journal, June 22

## [Skype adds 10-way video calling](#)

Dan Froelich writes: "Just when I can't get enough of Skype's amazingly high-quality video conferencing, they add another new feature. After some testing and feedback from users, the [latest beta release](#) now offers 10-way calling. Take a look at the sample screen shot (right) to see what this would look like. You'll notice one user doesn't have a webcam, but they can still participate in the audio conversation. To test out this new feature, download the [Skype 5.0 beta update](#)..."

Instructify, Sept. 10



## [The rise of apps culture](#)

According to a new Pew Internet [survey](#), some 35% of U.S. adults have software applications on their phones, yet only 24% use those apps. Many adults who have apps on their phones (particularly older adults) do not use them, and 11% of cell owners are not sure if their phone is equipped with apps. Among cell phone owners, 29% have downloaded apps to their phone. "This is a pretty remarkable tech-adoption story, if you consider that there was no apps culture until two years ago," said Roger Entner, coauthor of the report....

Pew Research Center, Sept. 14

## [Best tips for using iBooks as a PDF reader on iPhone and iPad](#)

Bakari Chavanu writes: "There are plenty of apps for reading PDFs and e-books on portable Apple devices, but if you're looking to streamline applications on your iPad or iPhone, the latest version of Apple's free [iBooks](#) app serves as both an e-book and PDF reader. It doesn't outshine many of the popular PDF readers, but what it lacks in features it makes up by its visual appeal and ease of use."...

MakeUseOf, Sept. 13



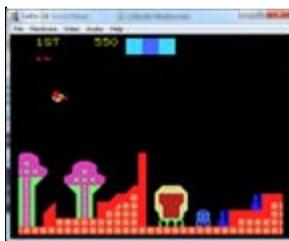
## [How solid is your clouded data?](#)

As more colleges and universities turn to cloud-computing options as alternatives to traditional purchase-and-install software, a growing number of challenges are cropping up. The relationships between vendors of internet-based computing, resources, software, and information and their subscribers has become a hot topic, with data security and ownership rights for that data being two of the biggest concerns. To help, analyst firm Gartner of Stamford, Connecticut, released in July the [Rights and Responsibilities for Consumers of Cloud Computing Services](#), a bill of rights that may ease tensions....

Campus Technology, Sept. 9

## [Play retro games on your PC](#)

Jamie Lendino writes: "There has never been a better time for vintage gaming. That's not an insignificant thing, especially when you consider the now [well-known issues](#) surrounding historical video game preservation. It's true that most veteran gamers have long since moved on. But for many of us, only the originals can satisfy. To that end, using just a Windows PC, here's how to emulate vintage machines of all the major types: 8-bit and 16-bit home computers, 8-bit and 16-bit video game consoles, arcade games, and older DOS and Windows 95-compatible PC titles."...



Extreme Tech, Sept. 3; Technology Review: Mim's Bits, July 28

## Publishing

### [Squeaks discovers type](#)

(PDF file)

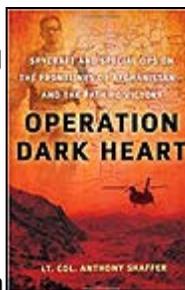
The U.S. Government Printing Office published its first comic book this year to help celebrate its 150th anniversary. GPO employees created *Squeaks Discovers Type!* to educate children of all ages on the important role printing has played from the beginnings of civilization to today's digital world. Jim Cameron wrote the story and Creative Services' Graphic Designer Nick Crawford provided the illustrations. Watch the [video](#) (3:52)....



U.S. Government Printing Office, Sept. 13; YouTube, Sept. 10

### [Pentagon buys books to keep secrets](#)

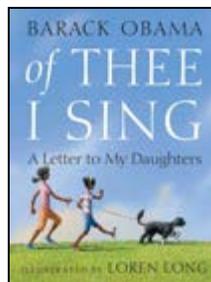
Defense Department officials are negotiating to buy and destroy all 10,000 copies of the first printing of a memoir on the War in Afghanistan they say contains intelligence secrets. The publication of *Operation Dark Heart* by Anthony A. Shaffer, a former Defense Intelligence Agency officer, has highlighted the uncertainty about what information poses a genuine threat to security. Sales of the book on eBay have been booming, with [one copy selling](#) for \$2,025....



*New York Times*, Sept. 9

### [President Obama's new children's book](#)

As part of a book deal then-Sen. Barack Obama (D-III.) inked in 2004, Random House announced ([PDF file](#)) September 14 the publication of a children's book by the president, titled *Of Thee I Sing: A Letter to My Daughters*. The book will be released on November 16, roughly two weeks after the midterm elections. The book, which President Obama finished writing in 2008, describes 13 "groundbreaking Americans and the ideals that have shaped our nation," among them Georgia O'Keeffe, Jackie Robinson, and George Washington....

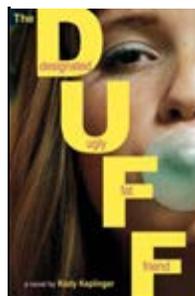


ABC News: Political Punch, Sept. 14; Random House, Sept. 14

### [Top 10 favorite back-to-high-school books](#)

Lindsay Serrano writes: "Listen, I know you have a lot to read right now. Maybe you are finishing up your

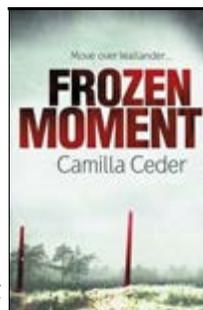
summer reading, maybe you got your first assignments for English class. But I just can't help but ask you to consider some of my favorite books about going to high school. Some are funny, some are really dark, but they are all great reads." At the top of the list is Kodi Keplinger's *The DUFF*: "This is the steamiest book I've read in a long long time!"...



New York Public Library Blog, Sept. 10

### [A new generation of Scandinavian detectives](#)

Vanessa Thorpe writes: "Among the growing band of the faithful—the millions of readers drawn to the bleak tradition of Swedish crime fiction—the litany can be recited with ease: Inspector Martin Beck, created by Sjöwall and Wahlöö in the 1960s, begat Henning Mankell's Wallander, and then Wallander begat Stieg Larsson's Salander, the girl with the dragon tattoo. Yet well before Mankell and Larsson's crime-solving antiheroes reached our cinema screens, true aficionados of this Scandinavian genre understood that the family tree was more complex."...



*The Guardian* (U.K.), Sept. 12

### [Adele Mundy, badass space librarian](#)

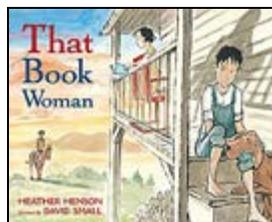
Stephen J. Gertz writes: "It was just the other day when I rued the exclusion of librarians from science-fiction literature only to learn that yes, in addition to [Space Lawyer](#), there actually is a librarian plying her skills in the cosmos beyond Earth. I was so taken by the revelation, provided by Vic Zoschak of Tavistock Books, that I pursued it directly to the source, David Drake, author of the highly respected series featuring Adele Mundy, master of information technology and spycraft. She likes weapons and knows how to use them."...



BookTryst, Sept. 13, 15

### [Five children's books that salute librarians](#)

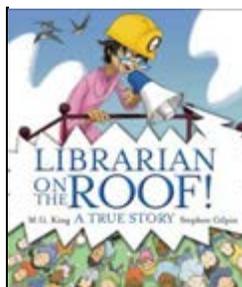
Jill Swanson writes: "Today's blog is a fond tribute to the Keepers of the Books! You can keep your Kindle; I'm celebrating books that you hold in your hands and turn the pages and those wonderful people who let me have them for free—librarians. For example, *That Book Woman*, by Heather Henson, was inspired by the Pack Horse Librarians in the Appalachian Mountains of Kentucky, a group founded in the 1930s as part of Roosevelt's New Deal."...



Orange Marmalade, Sept. 13

### [Podcast: Librarian on the Roof! author](#)

Kyla Hunt writes: "Want to find out what would make a librarian go up to the roof of her library for a few days? Or how you would go about putting such a story to the page? Listen to our podcast



interview ([mp3 file](#)) with RoseAleta Laurell, head librarian at the Ingleside (Tex.) Public Library, and author M. G. King, who spoke with us about the creation of the children's book *Librarian on the Roof!* (Albert Whitman, 2010)."

Texas State Library: Library Developments, Sept. 13

## Actions & Answers

### [The trouble with Google Books](#)

Laura Miller writes: "Everyone seems to agree that Google Book Search represents a revolutionary boon to scholars. But is it? As UC Berkeley professor Geoffrey Nunberg has pointed out, there are some serious problems with the bibliographic information attached to many of the digital texts in Google Books. Nunberg noticed endemic errors in Google Books, especially when it comes to publication dates, misattributed authors, and subject misclassifications. I gave Nunberg a call to find out how flawed metadata affects historians and other scholars."...

Salon, Sept. 9

### [First bookless academic library branch?](#)

The University of Texas at San Antonio opened in May what it claims is the nation's first completely bookless library on a college or university campus. The Applied Engineering and Technology Library has a seating capacity for 80 people and is a [satellite](#) of the larger John Peace Library on the main campus. The library offers students a rapidly growing collection of electronic resources that includes 425,000 e-books and 18,000 e-journal subscriptions....

UTSA Today, Sept. 9; UTSA College of Sciences News, May



### [Delft's recycled-book library desk](#)

The new architecture library at Delft University of Technology in the Netherlands opened in September featuring a spectacular front desk built out of recycled books (right). After a devastating 2008 fire in the architecture building that took a portion of the library's holdings, the school established a new collection consisting of the unburned books and a bounty of others newly purchased to replace the destroyed volumes. The colorful and carefully arranged desk is a testament to the school's love for design and books....

Inhabitat, Sept. 13



### [Using Netflix at an academic library](#)

Rebecca Fitzgerald writes: "The Scheele Memorial Library at Concordia College in Bronxville, New York, started a Netflix subscription last fall. We started out with one account allowing for the maximum number of



DVDs, eight at a time. By the middle of spring semester, we had two accounts. The New Media professor took over the first, and we made the new one for all other courses. Netflix has saved us an enormous amount of money (around \$3,000) by allowing the physical rentals as well as instant play.”...

Tame the Web, Sept. 9

### [You don't own that software you bought](#)

A federal appeals court said September 10 that software makers can use shrink-wrap and click-wrap licenses to forbid the transfer or resale of their wares, an apparent gutting of the so-called first-sale doctrine, which allows legitimate owners of copies of copyrighted works to resell those copies. That defense, the court said, is “unavailable to those who are only licensed to use their copies of copyrighted works” ([PDF file](#)). The 3–0 decision by the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, if it stands, means copyright owners can prohibit the resale of their wares by inserting clauses in their sales agreements....

Wired: Threat Level, Sept. 10

### [Is Google Instant Search better than Bing's type ahead?](#)

Lance Ulanoff writes: “I wanted to compare Google's new Instant Search magic to Microsoft Bing's relatively old type-ahead keyword magic. Google Instant, for now, only works when you're signed in and may be using some search history to intuit results. It combines type ahead with live results, while Bing only offers you a list of probable word matches. Still, the word matches in Bing are pretty solid, and if Google Instant is showing you a page you weren't interested in anyway, then what's the value in it?”...

PC Magazine, Sept. 8

### [Religious search engines yield tailored results](#)

Some Jews, Muslims, and Christians are abandoning Yahoo and Google and turning to search engines with results that meet their religious standards. Shea Houdmann runs [SeekFind](#), a Colorado Springs–based Christian search engine that only returns results from websites that are consistent with the bible. But SeekFind isn't the only search engine carving out a niche market. There is also [Jewogle](#) for Jews and [I'mHalal](#), a Muslim search engine that started in the Netherlands....

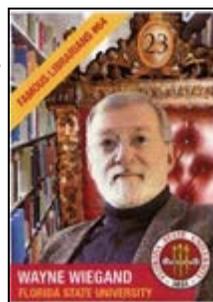
NPR: All Things Considered, Sept. 13



### [Wayne Wiegand's library trading card](#)

Larry Nix writes: “After Wayne Wiegand completed his presentation at the recent [Library History Seminar XII](#), September 10–12, in Madison, Wisconsin, he was presented with his own library trading card by his colleagues as a token of their admiration. Wiegand, F. William Summers professor of library and information studies at Florida State University, is considered to be the current dean of library historians in the United States. The trading card (right) is supposedly #64 in a set of 100 famous librarian trading cards.”...

Library History Buff Blog, Sept. 14



### [Color photos of the Russian Empire, 1909–1915](#)

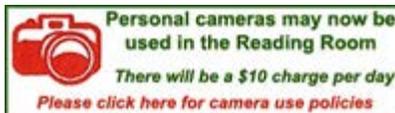
Ben Breen writes: “Sergei Mikhailovich

Prokudin-Gorskii was a photographer commissioned by the Russian Tsar Nicholas II to document the vast dominions of the Russian Empire using the novel technique of color photography. Between 1909 and 1915, he traveled across Russia and central Asia with a special permit and a custom-made railroad car that he had rigged into a mobile dark room." The Library of Congress acquired the photos in 1948 and recently made high-resolution copies available as an [online exhibition](#)....



Res Obscura, Sept. 9; Library of Congress, July 26

### [The Bancroft tries out a new camera policy](#)



The Bancroft Library at the University of California, Berkeley, opened its doors this semester to the use of personal cameras in the reading room. The trial program, implemented at other academic institutions, allows students to photograph any of the items in the library's vast collection for personal use for a fee of \$10 per day. The policy allows a more cost-effective approach to getting copies of materials, as well as increased access to rare and fragile items that cannot be photocopied due to the risk of damage....

UC Berkeley News, Sept. 2

### [Raising A Reader competes in GlobalGiving challenge](#)



[Raising A Reader](#), the national early literacy and parent engagement program, joined GlobalGiving's [Open Challenge](#), a fundraising challenge for nonprofits. Open Challenge participants are raising funds on the GlobalGiving website through September 30. It is eligible to earn a permanent spot on the website if it successfully mobilizes supporters to raise \$4,000 from at least 50 unique donors....

Raising A Reader, Sept. 7

### [Librarians for Emerging Adults](#)

Emily Brown writes: "I can imagine saying 'Yes, I'm an EA Librarian' to people in about 20 years. EA stands for Emerging Adult, because according to a [recent article](#) in the *New York Times Magazine*, what used to be 'your 20s' is now a discrete neurological stage in the development of human life. If Emerging Adulthood is a stage with its own psychological profile, it follows that it must have its own literature. Think Scott Pilgrim. I'm sure there are many more books for post-YA readers."...

That Blog Belongs to Emily Brown!, Sept. 10; *New York Times Magazine*, Aug. 18

### [7 sites to help students choose and apply to college](#)



Richard Byrne writes: "This year my advisory group at school is comprised of 11th-grade students who will be exploring their postsecondary options and applying to colleges. Over the last few years, I've gathered some internet resources that could be helpful for students and their parents as they work through the college application process. Here are seven resources to help students and their parents select, apply, and

prepare for college.”...

Free Technology for Teachers, Sept. 14

### [Creating and maintaining your CV](#)

Natalie Houston writes: “In the United States and Canada, *curriculum vitae* (Latin for ‘the course of a life’) or CV in common parlance, refers to a document that describes an academic’s educational background and professional experience. It’s often thought of as something like an academic’s résumé, with the important difference that the CV is typically comprehensive (and therefore long) and a résumé is selective (and short). If you don’t have an institutional format to use, the following suggestions and links should help.”...

*Chronicle of Higher Education*: ProfHacker, Sept. 14

### [Programming so good it’s criminal](#)

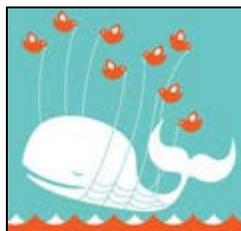
Angela Hanshaw writes: “I’ll best remember this summer for two things: the heat, and my steady diet of crime novels. As usual, my new interest in the genre led me to wonder how libraries were incorporating crime into their programming. Also as usual, I wasn’t disappointed. Crime scene investigation is alive and well in our libraries.”...

Programming Librarian, Sept. 9

### [One week without social media](#)

Provost Eric Darr of Harrisburg (Pa.) University of Science and Technology is enforcing a campus-wide social media blackout for one week—no Facebook, no Twitter, no instant messaging. Access to these popular social media tools is entirely blocked from campus computers. This is not a disciplinary exercise, Darr says, but an academic one. At the end of the week, students will write reflective essays about their time in social media exile. But what is the [dirty truth](#) about digital fasts?...

NPR: *All Things Considered*, Sept. 12; *Harvard Business Review*, Sept. 2



### [Facebook and Twitter have killed Bloglines](#)

Michelle Kraft writes: “I logged on to my Bloglines account over the weekend and was greeted with the message that Bloglines will shut down October 1. According to a news update from [Ask.com](#), information is ‘gained through conversations, and consuming this information has become a social experience. As Steve Gillmor pointed out in [TechCrunch](#) last year, being locked in an RSS reader makes less and less sense to people, as Twitter and Facebook dominate real-time information flow.”...

The Krafty Librarian, Sept. 13; Ask.com, Sept. 10; TechCrunch, May 5, 2009

### [I procrastinate because I care](#)

Ryan Waggoner writes: “In my discussions with non-procrastinators, I’ve often heard the advice that procrastination reflects a lack of care about the task in question, and the antidote for procrastination is to only do things that you’re passionate about. I disagree. In fact, just about the opposite seems true for some people. One of the things I’ve discovered about myself is that my procrastination is closely linked with my perfectionism. The things I really care about are things that I want to be perfect, so I put off doing them. Here’s a few of the tips I’ve collected to help me overcome the curse of procrastinating.”...

Lifehacker, Sept. 13



## [Things I wish I'd known as a new librarian](#)

Doug Johnson writes: "Leigh Ann Jones at Shelf Consumed offers [10 things](#) she wished she'd known as a new librarian. It's a great list. Go read it right now. I love these sorts of lists, so I'll add my own wish-I'd-known items to Leigh Ann's."...

Blue Skunk Blog, Sept. 10; Shelf Consumed, Sept. 7

## [Seattle's CakeSpy offers treats in the library](#)

A boutique shop in Seattle that sells kitchen kitsch and sweet-tooth swag has at least two items that could appeal to bakery bibliophiles. The CakeSpy Shop, run by freelance writer and illustrator Jessie Oleson, has mugs and notecards for sale that depict cupcakes, ice cream, and cake in a library setting that is said to be one of Oleson's most popular drawings....

CakeSpy



## [Library of Congress discovers lost British TV gems](#)

A treasure trove of more than 68 rare TV recordings from 1957 to 1969 are being repatriated to the British Film Institute by the Library of Congress. Considered lost for more than 40 years, the programs were discovered in LC's collection of more than 20,000 recordings from National Educational Television, the forerunner of PBS. LC is making preservation copies of the programs, which feature artists such as Sean Connery, Maggie Smith, John Gielgud, Robert Shaw, David Hemmings, and Susannah York....

Library of Congress, Sept. 15

## [The YouTube Time Machine](#)

Select a year from 1860 to 2010, and this site pulls up YouTube videos dating from that year. A search on 1950 came up with this [George Burns clip](#) (right). You can filter out or select for video games, television, commercials, current events, sports, movies, or music. Site designers Justin Johnson and Delbert Shoopman III let you suggest additional videos for inclusion....

YouTube Time Machine



## [Reference librarianship in Star Wars](#)

JennyWildcat writes: "I created this video (4:09) for a project in my class on Reference Librarianship. Part of my group's project was to envision what reference work would be like in the future and I thought of these two scenes from *Star Wars Episode II: Attack of the Clones*. Commentary in the video is used to be illustrative of the good (and not-so-good) examples of reference work in the scenes (plus one or two inside jokes that only my class would get)."...

YouTube, June 17



## [Libraries will survive](#)

Inspired by the 1978 disco hit "I Will Survive," the Central Rappahannock Regional Library in Fredericksburg,



Virginia, rewrote the lyrics to proclaim support for libraries, particularly under the stress of tight budgets. Written, directed, and edited by Sean Bonney, the [video](#) (4:44) features staff from the central library and seven branches. A [longer version](#) (10:54) begins with a send-up of a typically hectic day in the life of a professional librarian....

YouTube, Sept. 11

[Go back to the Top](#)

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## Contents

[American Libraries Online](#)  
[ALA News](#)  
[Booklist Online](#)  
[Division News](#)  
[Awards](#)  
[Seen Online](#)  
[Tech Talk](#)  
[Publishing](#)  
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## American Libraries Online

### [Acceptable-use policies go mobile in Delaware](#)

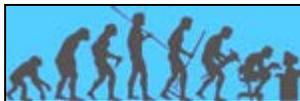
A new Delaware law is enabling public libraries to get their internet use policies ready for the inevitable influx into their facilities of patrons wielding wireless devices. HB 340 extends public libraries' acceptable-use policies to any mobile devices that individuals bring onto library premises, and specifies that, while in the library, what patrons access on their personally owned devices is subject to the [Delaware Children's Internet Protection Act](#)....

*American Libraries news, Sept. 21*

### [Fit libraries are future-proof](#)

Steven J. Bell writes: "Even though libraries have survived for thousands of years in one form or another, the past year has demonstrated that none of us should take the future for granted. I've come to think that managing our uncertain future is about achieving library fitness: a combination of strategies that, like personal fitness, involve consistent behaviors, discipline, commitment to change, and having fun while shaping up. What follows are a dozen actions librarians can take that can lead to fitter, future-proofed libraries."...

*American Libraries, feature*



### [Relax, AARP Bulletin readers](#)

Leonard Kniffel writes: "I was tickled to death when I opened my September issue of *AARP Bulletin* and saw a [full-page article](#) about Banned Books Week. That was before the emails and calls flooded into the Office for Intellectual Freedom, demanding to know what business the ALA had banning books. Turns out the article, titled 'Banned!,' says 'the list of books banned by American schools and libraries includes many of the classics.' Here's my idea of the upside of this unfortunate misunderstanding."...

*AL: Inside Scoop, Sept. 15; AARP Bulletin, Sept. 1*



### [Technology in Practice: Nurturing innovation](#)

Meredith Farkas writes: "I've heard countless stories about innovative new services that failed. I always ask people why they think the initiative didn't work and the answer has always been about the

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culture—whether it was because of controlling IT staff, managers who wouldn't give staff time to experiment with new technologies, or administrators who were deathly risk-averse. Here are some things managers can do to support staff in building successful and innovative services."...

*American Libraries* column, Oct.

### Solve the pen puzzle

Laura Bruzas writes: "Everywhere I turn, whether at home or at work, there are disposable pens stuffed in drawers and lying on desks, tables, and countertops. And while the subject may seem trivial, it's not: Bic [sold](#) its 100-billionth disposable ballpoint in 2005. That averages out to 57 pens every second since the product was launched in 1950—enough pens to stretch 40 times the distance from the earth to the moon if laid end to end."...

AL: Green Your Library, Sept. 16



### Libraries and photos of patrons

Q. My library board would like to know if ALA has a policy in relation to taking pictures of children or adults in the library and then using them for promotional purposes, including posting them to Flickr. A. The short answer is that ALA does not have a policy in this area, though our [Communication Handbook for Libraries](#) does suggest using photographs to increase the visual impact of a news story. [Using photographs](#) requires adherence to procedures to protect the rights of the photographer as well as the privacy of the subject of the photographs, particularly if you are photographing children....

AL: Ask the ALA Librarian, Sept. 22



### ALA Midwinter Meeting

in San Diego, California, January 7–11, 2011. The San Diego Convention Center [welcomes ALA](#). Find out some timely tips on what to do and how to get around.



## ALA News

### Confront censorship during Banned Books Week

From coast to coast, libraries and bookstores will battle censorship and celebrate the freedom to read during Banned Books Week, September 25–October 2. Thousands of participants will read from banned or challenged books and will discuss the impact censorship has on civil liberties. This year's 29th annual observance will [kick off](#) in Chicago on September 25, as best-selling banned authors participate in a "Read Out!" event. If you are tweeting, use the [#bannedbooksweek](#) hashtag....

Office for Intellectual Freedom, Sept. 21; OIF Blog, Sept. 21



### 2010 Banned Books Week in Second Life schedule

Sunday, September 26, on the ALA Island Main Stage, Banned Books



Don't miss [free Booklist webinars](#) including the upcoming "Defending the Right to Read: Celebrating Banned Books Week," featuring Judy Blume, September 28. **NEW!** From *Booklist*.

Week kicks off with SL Saxophonist Trowzer Boa. Known as Dave Renz in real life, he has been playing professionally since the 1990s. Backed up by an interesting array of robot buddies, you will find this performance innovative and exciting. On Monday, there is a Book Challenges Panel Discussion. And don't forget the Banned Book [exhibits](#)....

Virtual Presence, Sept. 19

### [Banned books in Texas](#)

The American Civil Liberties Union of Texas has compiled a report on books challenged and banned across the state. Twenty books were banned and 87 challenged in Texas public schools during 2009–2010. The list of banned books ranges from older titles, including *Forever* and *Then Again, Maybe I Won't* by Judy Blume, to newer books, such as Cecily von Ziegesar's *Would I Lie to You: A Gossip Girl Novel*. Among the notable literature challenged: *Flowers for Algernon*, *The Catcher in the Rye*, and *The Kite Runner*....

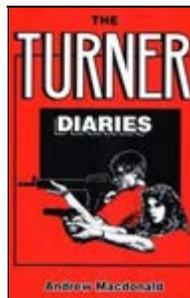
Houston Chronicle, Sept. 21



### [12 books guaranteed to turn \(almost\) anyone into a censor](#)

Nancy Mattoon writes: "ALA's Banned Books Week has a new ally this year. Public libraries in the city of London have produced a traveling exhibit of [50 books](#) that are 'Mad, Bad, and Dangerous to Read.' All have been challenged at, or removed from, public or school libraries in at least one country. For British journalist Boyd Tonkin, literary editor of *The Independent*, the London list plays it way too safe. He responded by creating his own list of [10 additional titles](#). The list is reprinted here, with annotations, two additions, and some historical context added by Booktryst."...

Booktryst, Sept. 20; Banned Books; *The Independent* (U.K.), Sept. 17



### [Library Card Sign-Up Month around the country](#)

The State Library of North Carolina is following the lead of libraries all across the country in September by reminding parents and children that a library card is the smartest school supply of all. This year's campaign features North Carolina poet laureate Cathy Smith Bowers. Public libraries in Mount Prospect, Illinois; Winfield, Kansas; Bismarck, North Dakota; and Norfolk, Virginia, are also holding promotions. Take your photo with your library card and [add it to the Flickr pool](#)....

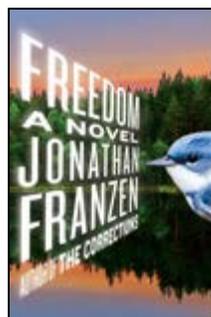
Public Information Office, Sept. 20



### [ALA institutional member libraries will get Freedom](#)

As a benefit of membership, ALA institutional members—including public libraries, middle and high schools, community colleges, and prison libraries—as of September 30 will receive 2–10 free copies of *Freedom* by Jonathan Franzen, the Fall 2010 selection from the Oprah Book Club. See more about the book and learn how the Oprah Book Club will be experiencing it....

ALA Membership Blog, Sept. 17



"Like" [American Libraries](#) on Facebook.

### [New this week in American Libraries](#)



#### [Fit Libraries](#)

#### [Technology in Practice](#)

#### [Perpetual Beta](#)

#### [Inside Scoop](#)

#### [Green Your Library](#)

#### [Ask the ALA Librarian](#)

#### [Librarian's Library](#)

#### [AL Focus](#)

### [Great Libraries of the World](#)



#### [Mechanics' Institute Library](#), San Francisco.

This historic membership library, cultural event center, and chess club was founded in 1854 to serve the vocational

## [Will there be contemplation in future libraries?](#)

OITP Director Alan Inouye writes: "When I'm not occupied with urgent matters (aka firefighting), my preoccupation is the future of libraries. Here, this topic is known as 'America's Libraries for the 21st Century,' a formal OITP program. The digital revolution currently taking place challenges the services, content, organization, staffing, funding, and every facet of libraries. Indeed, the investigation of these topics is addressed in recent OITP policy briefs: [Fiber to the Library \(PDF file\)](#), [Checking Out the Future \(PDF file\)](#), and [There's an App for That! \(PDF file\)](#)"...

District Dispatch, Sept. 22



## [Nominations for IFLA section committees](#)

The U.S. associations of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions are calling for those interested in seeking the endorsement of the associations for either president-elect or at-large member of the Governing Board for 2011–2013. If you are interested in seeking the endorsement of the U.S. associations, please send a nomination request letter noting your qualifications, along with your resume or CV, to [Michael Dowling](#) by October 15....

International Relations Office

## [Volunteering in the West Bank](#)

Ashley Sands writes: "A second way that I combine my love of archaeology and libraries is as chair of the [World Archaeological Congress' Global Libraries Program](#). The program works to enhance the literary collections of archaeological and cultural heritage research institutions around the globe. During the summer of 2009, I attended an archaeological conference in the Palestinian town of Ramallah in the West Bank. There, we began collaborating between the Global Libraries Program and the Institute of Archaeology at Birzeit University."...

ALA-UCLA Student Chapter blog, Sept. 14



## [What they don't teach you in library school](#)

ALA Editions has released [What They Don't Teach You in Library School](#) by Elisabeth Doucett. MLS programs do a good job of teaching the basic skills of being a librarian—how to catalog books, how to clarify a reference request, how to run a story hour. But as any working librarian can attest, that's not the half of it. For MLS graduates just entering the job market, Doucett offers the inside scoop on what else a librarian really needs to know....

ALA Editions, Sept. 20



## [New ALA Editions online magazine](#)

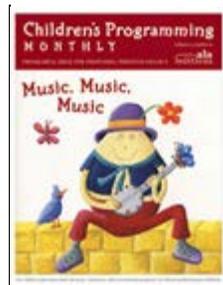
Stephanie Zvirin writes: "Finding a good story is easy; building a successful storytime isn't. Whatever your situation, *Children's Programming Monthly*, a new online magazine from ALA Editions, will put you a step ahead. Each themed issue, available in easy-to-download PDFs, is packed with creative art and craft projects, music and book lists, and ready-to-

needs of out-of-work gold miners. Its collection today covers all subjects with special strengths in literature, fine and performing arts, history, philosophy, business, finance, and periodicals that are difficult to find in electronic format. It also houses the oldest continuously running [chess club](#) in U.S. history. The current building, with its marvelous iron-and-marble spiral staircase, was completed by Beaux-Arts architect Albert Pissis in 1910.



[William Andrews Clark Memorial Library](#), University of California, Los Angeles. The library and its collections were established by William Andrews Clark Jr. as a memorial to his father, William Andrews Clark, U.S. senator from Montana. The current facility, designed by architect Robert D. Farquhar, was built in 1924–1926 and willed to the university upon his death in 1934. The library has extensive holdings in [17th- and 18th-century English literature and history](#), pre-1750 music, [Oscar Wilde](#), and British and American [fine printing](#).

**This new AL Direct feature** showcases 250 libraries around the world that are notable for their exquisite architecture, historic collections, and innovative



use storytimes to fit your programming needs. You can find out more about the magazine and download a free issue [here](#).”...

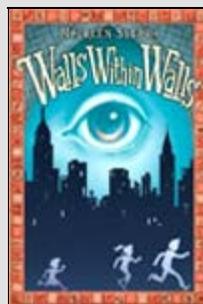
ALA Editions blog, Sept. 13

## Booklist ONLINE

### Featured review: Youth mystery

Sherry, Maureen. *Walls Within Walls*. Sept. 2010. 368p. Grades 4–7. HarperCollins / Katherine Tegen, hardcover (978-0-06-176700-5).

The Smithfork children, at least the older ones, CJ, Brid, and Patrick—12, 9, and 6, respectively—are unhappy about leaving Brooklyn for Manhattan. Their father’s video-game business is so lucrative that they’re moving to a fabulous Fifth Avenue apartment. Turns out the apartment is a giant puzzle filled with codes, clues, and carvings that seem to point toward a secret fortune. This can be dense, but like Blue Balliett’s *Chasing Vermeer* (2004), it packs all sorts of interesting information about topics like history and architecture into a mystery that kids can (almost) solve....



### Read-alikes: Mystery mind-benders

Ilene Cooper writes: “In recent years, there has been a spate of mysteries that go way beyond Nancy Drew and the Hardy Boys. As much mind-benders as mysteries, these book ask kids to use their noggins to decipher clues, make connections, and think outside the box (sometimes a literal one). For readers up to the challenge, these titles will stretch their brains and subtly impart information on subjects ranging from art to architecture, religion to math.”...



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

## Division News

### YALSA’s competencies in action

ALA Editions has released [Young Adults Deserve the](#)

services. If you find yourself on vacation near one of them, be sure to stop by for a visit. The entire list will be available in [The Whole Library Handbook 5](#), edited by George M. Eberhart, which is scheduled for publication in 2011 by ALA Editions.

### Career Leads from

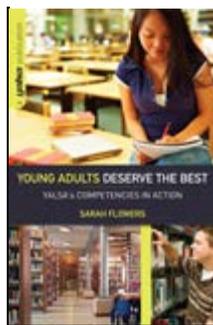
ALA JobLIST

### Head, Cataloging Division

Technical Services Department, Indiana University Libraries, Bloomington. Provides strategic and effective management of overall Cataloging Division’s activities, including non-MARC metadata creation, provision of access to significant electronic collections, and traditional cataloging of information resources in all formats and languages; manages and develops staff (seven librarians, three professional staff, and 32 support staff) during critical period for technical services brought about by the changing composition of research library collections; provides leadership and management for initiatives and projects in the application of metadata; stays abreast of new technology, national developments, and best

[Best: YALSA's Competencies in Action](#) by Sarah Flowers. It is the first book to thoroughly expand on "[Young Adults Deserve the Best: Competencies for Librarians Serving Youth](#)," a document developed by YALSA that outlines areas of focus for providing quality library service in collaboration with teenagers. Included are guidelines that can be used to create evaluation instruments, determine staffing needs, and develop job descriptions....

ALA Editions, Sept. 15



practices in order to integrate these into the libraries as appropriate....



follow us on  
**twitter**

@ [More jobs...](#)

### [Apply for ACRL e-Learning scholarships](#)

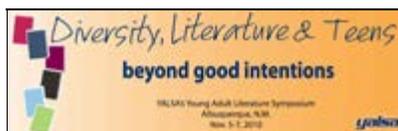
Submit an application for an ACRL e-Learning scholarship. Twenty scholarships, each covering the registration cost of one ACRL e-Learning webcast, will be awarded. Applicants must be ACRL members. Complete the online scholarship [application form](#) and submit a 300-word written statement that describes how participation in an ACRL e-Learning webcast meets your professional needs and goals. The deadline is October 22....

ACRL Insider, Sept. 21

### [Advanced registration for YA Literature Symposium](#)

Librarians, educators, authors, and fans of young adult literature won't want to miss YALSA's biennial Young Adult Literature Symposium, November 5–7, in Albuquerque, New Mexico. To take advantage of the advanced registration rate—a \$25 savings over onsite registration for ALA members—[register](#) by October 8....

YALSA, Sept. 21



**Did you know** that you can **text ALA with a question?** Text AskALA to 66746. We answer member service questions and library reference questions.

### [Earn graduate credit for attending AASL Fall Forum](#)

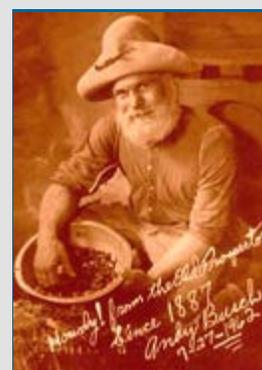
[AASL 2010 Fall Forum](#) attendees can now receive graduate credit through Portland State University. "In Focus: The Essentials for 21st-Century Learning" will be held November 5–6 in Portland, Oregon. Individuals will receive one graduate credit hour if they attend the Fall Forum in its entirety and submit a short paper to be graded.

Registration will only be available in person....

AASL, Sept. 20



### Digital Library of the Week



#### [Digital Horizons: A Plains Media Resource](#) is a

consortium of seven public and private partners that was created in 2007 to provide, maintain, and preserve a wide range of historical and significant content related to North Dakota and Minnesota. Its goals include: developing the digital asset management capabilities of members such as

### [AASL launches online planning and advocacy tool](#)

AASL, in collaboration with Britannica Digital Learning, has launched an online, interactive school library program planning module that will change school library program development and implementation. [A Planning Guide for Empowering Learners](#) will ensure that program planners go beyond the basics to provide goals, priorities, criteria, and general principles for establishing effective library programs. The guide includes a revised "School Library Program Rubric," a tool that allows school librarians to assess their program on 16 different sets of criteria....

AASL, Sept. 21



### [Stretch your dollars with YALSA's budgeting class](#)

Join YALSA for "[Growing, Managing, and Defending the YA Budget](#)," a new online course held October 4–November 1, aimed at helping you stretch your budget dollars, apply for grants, and make the case for funding to your management and your community. Registration closes September 27....

YALSA, Sept. 16

### [Collaborate with teens for better library services](#)

Incorporating teen input into library services offers challenges, but you can reap many rewards, including a collection that flies off the shelves, an active teen advisory board, and packed programs that engage teens week after week. Find out how in "[Tapping Youth Participation to Strengthen Library Services](#)," a new online course from YALSA held October 4–November 1. Registration closes September 27....

YALSA, Sept. 16

### [Two ALCTS symposia at Midwinter](#)

Dynamite topics and great speakers will come together before the ALA Midwinter Meeting in San Diego for two outstanding symposia from ALCTS. On January 6, you will hear about RDA, its impact on libraries, and how it might affect the future catalog. January 7 brings together building architects and digital architects to talk about the impact of digital infrastructure on libraries....

ALCTS, Sept. 17

### [Learn how to make the ultimate teen-friendly library](#)

How do you build a library experience that appeals to teens and turns them into regular library users? And how do we, as teen services librarians, get the entire library to help us do that? The answers to these important questions can be found at YALSA's pre-Midwinter workshop, "Teens and the Whole Library Experience," on January 7, prior to the ALA Midwinter Meeting, in San Diego....

YALSA, Sept. 17

### [YALSA opens Table Talk applications for Annual Conference](#)

YALSA will host a Table Talk session at the 2011 Annual Conference in New Orleans, June 23–28, and is now accepting applications from presenters ([Word file](#)). YALSA's [Table Talk session](#) consists of a series of mini-sessions that cover new, engaging, and timely topics of interest on teen library services. Applicants should propose a 15–20-minute session that they will repeat approximately two to four times during the table talk. Proposals are due to [Nichole Gilbert](#) by October 29....

YALSA, Sept. 16

## Awards

### [Apply for a Carnegie-Whitney grant](#)

The ALA Publishing Committee provides a grant of up to \$5,000 for the preparation of print or electronic reading lists, indexes, or other guides to library resources that promote reading or the use of library resources at any type of library. [Applications](#) must be received by November 5....

ALA Publishing, Sept. 17

### [Apply for a Great Stories CLUB](#)

Fargo Public Library, Prairie Public Broadcasting, and the North Dakota State University Institute for Regional Studies and University Archives; and encouraging the public to share historical resources from their personal collections.

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

### Public Perception How the World Sees Us

**"Maumelle (Ark.) Middle and other schools that I represent need books in the classroom right now, and we don't have books to give them. You know what they were told? If you have internet at home, you don't need a book. Now, just because I have internet at home doesn't mean my child should go without a book. That is ridiculous. Anyone who uses that excuse should be fired."**

—Pulaski County (Ark.) Special School District Board of Education President Tim Clark, quoted in "For Schools' Board, Bosses, 20 New iPads," *Little Rock Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*, Sept. 16.

@ [More quotes...](#)



## grant

The ALA Public Programs Office and YALSA are now accepting applications for the next round of [Great Stories CLUB grants](#). Electronic applications for the reading and discussion series will be accepted through November 19. The Great Stories CLUB (Connecting Libraries, Underserved teens and Books) is a book club program designed to reach underserved, troubled, teen populations through books that are relevant to their lives....

Public Programs Office, Sept. 15

## Medical Library Association awards and grants

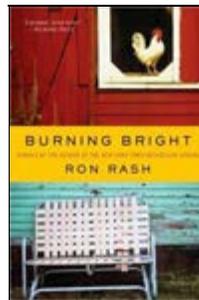
Michelle Kraft writes: "'Tis the season to be nominating your deserving colleagues for the various MLA Awards and applying for the grants. Some of these awards and grants have had no winners in the past. I know there are great people out there, so start nominating people or applying for them. They can't award it if they have no submissions." Visit the MLA website for details on their [awards](#) (deadline November 1) and [grants](#) (deadline December 1)....

The Krafty Librarian, Sept. 21

## Frank O'Connor Award

Ron Rash's "bleak" collection of short stories set in Appalachia, *Burning Bright*, has won the American author the world's richest prize for the short story form, the Frank O'Connor Award. The collection was named winner of the €35,000 (\$46,750 U.S.) award in Cork, Ireland, September 19. He beat a lineup of five other authors to take the prize, which honors renowned short story writer Frank O'Connor....

*The Guardian* (U.K.), Sept. 20

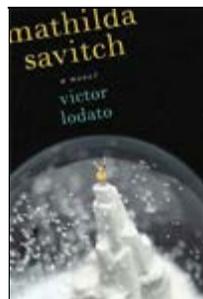


## 2010 PEN USA Literary Award winners

(PDF file)

PEN USA, the West Coast center for the renowned writers' organization International PEN, has announced the winners of its 2010 Literary Awards competition. The awards honor outstanding work by writers in 11 separate genres, including a new award for Graphic Literature, which was given to Matt Fraction for his outstanding body of work. The winner in the Fiction category was Victor Lodato for *Mathilda Savitch* (Farrar, Straus, and Giroux)....

PEN USA, Sept. 8



## Seen Online

### The tenuous state of Los Angeles public libraries

Carolyn Kellogg writes: "On July 19, the Los Angeles Public Library system kept its doors locked because of city budget cuts. It was the first day of a reduction to an indefinite five-days-per-week schedule. This week, the *L.A. Weekly's* [cover story](#) is a long report on the tenuous state of the public library system in Los Angeles. It's a must-read for anyone concerned about the viability of big-city libraries in an economic downturn, and in the literary life of Los Angeles. Admittedly, the story is tainted by hyperbole. It also glosses over the severity of our city's budget crisis."...

*Los Angeles Times*: Jacket Copy, Sept. 17; *L.A. Weekly*, Sept. 16

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[Author Yuyi Morales on public libraries](#)

[Remembrance, Freedom, and Discussion](#)

[Donna Seaman interviews Ann Patchett](#)

[Scam Alert: Protect yourself against telemarketing and e-mail fraud](#)

[Renovating an historic home: 'How the library helped me during tough economic times'](#)

[Meet Dr. Margaret "Gigi" Lincoln, a 2008 winner of the I Love My Librarian contest](#)

## [Chicagoans want field house saved for a school library](#)

A group of about 30 parents and community members staged a sit-in at the Whittier Elementary School field house in Chicago's Pilsen neighborhood on September 15–22 to protest plans to demolish the dilapidated structure. The parents, who said they have been asking local officials for a school library for years, refused to move when police forced the doors open. They said the school's classroom libraries are too small and lack substantial book collections. One of the parents, Araceli Gonzalez, explains her viewpoint in this [blog post](#). The sit-in has continued as plans [move closer](#) for a meeting between the parents and Chicago Public Schools CEO Ron Huberman....

*Chicago Tribune*, Sept. 20; WBBM-TV, Chicago, Sept. 17; Revision Street: America, Sept. 19; Chicagoist, Sept. 21



## [Donor gives Seattle Public Library \\$500,000 in matching funds](#)

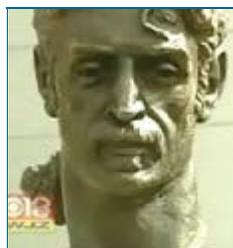
An anonymous donor has given \$500,000 to the Seattle Public Library Foundation if it can raise a matching amount. On September 22, the foundation kicked off its "Help Us Make \$1 Million for the Library" campaign and is confident the match will be made. Foundation Director Jonna Ward said the donation came in a mysterious phone call this spring. Someone had been reading about the financial problems facing the library and decided to make the anonymous donation....

*Seattle Times*, Sept. 22

## [Frank Zappa fans rock Enoch Pratt tribute](#)

There was a lot of hero worship going on in the Highlandtown neighborhood of Baltimore September 19, where a crowd massed at the corner of Eastern Avenue and Conkling Street to cheer the unveiling of a bust of legendary musician and free-speech activist Frank Zappa. The bust will rest forevermore atop an imposing pedestal outside the Southeast Anchor branch of the Enoch Pratt, Zappa's hometown library, and is a gift from the people of Lithuania, who replicated the Zappa bust installed in Vilnius in 1995. "Welcome back to Baltimore, Frank," shouted Carla Hayden, Enoch Pratt Free Library CEO. Watch the [video](#) (1:55)....

*Baltimore Sun*, Sept. 19; WJZ-TV, Baltimore, Sept. 19



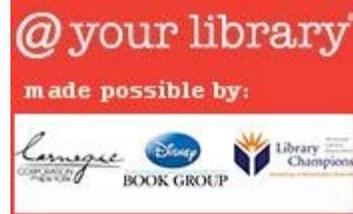
## [Free expression victory in Oregon](#)

On September 20, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit held that two Oregon statutes that criminalize the distribution of sex education and other non-obscene materials to minors are unconstitutional in violation of the First Amendment. The court found that the statutes also applied to titles commonly sold at general bookstores, such as *The Joy of Sex*, Judy Blume's *Forever*, and Margaret Atwood's *A Handmaid's Tale*. A similar [statute in Alaska](#) is being challenged by the Alaska Library Association, booksellers, and the ACLU....

Bookselling This Week, Sept. 20; Alaska Dispatch, Sept. 15

## [Teen banned for proselytizing](#)

A 16-year-old boy has been banned from all branches



**TweetWatch**

**Follow:**

Seventh International Conference on Preservation of Digital Objects, Vienna, Austria, Sept. 19–24, at:

[#ipres2010](#)

American Association for State and Local History, Annual Meeting, Oklahoma City, Sept. 22–25, at:

[#aaslh10](#)

Banned Books Week, Sept. 25–Oct. 2, at:

[#bannedbooksweek](#)

Illinois Library Association, Annual Conference, Chicago, Sept. 28–30, at:

[#ila2010](#)

*Library Journal* / *School Library Journal* eBook Summit, online conference, Sept. 29, at:

[LJSLJebookSummit](#)

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

[amlibraries](#)

of the Chattahoochee Valley Regional Library System in Columbus, Georgia, for six months for proselytizing. According to a [letter](#) from Kirsten Edwards, acting manager of the North Columbus branch, Caleb Hanson (right) repeatedly asked patrons "about their religious faith and to offer biblical advice." Hanson said he was given several warnings since June. He began talking to people outside the library, but patrons continued to complain. Library System Director Claudya Muller said he "prevented people from simply using the library."...

*Columbus (Ga.) Ledger-Enquirer*, Sept. 21



### [Missouri State professor decries "filthy books" in schools](#)

Wesley Scroggins (right), an associate professor in the Missouri State University College of Business Administration, wrote in an [editorial](#) that certain books in the libraries and curricula of the Republic (Mo.) School District should be "classified as soft pornography." He singled out Laurie Halse Anderson's *Speak*, Kurt Vonnegut's *Slaughterhouse-Five*, and Sarah Ockler's *Twenty Boy Summer*. Anderson responded with a [countering editorial](#). Scroggins had submitted a complaint ([PDF file](#)) to the school board on June 21 that listed much more, including books that teach evolution. A Twitter hashtag, [#speakloudly](#), has been set up for discussion....

*Springfield (Mo.) News-Leader*, Sept. 18, 22; KSPR-TV, Springfield, Sept. 20



### [USF library bustling, but not with books](#)

University of South Florida Libraries Dean William Garrison hears a lot about how much students need. "Anywhere, anytime, any-device access," he says. That's why the library is now open 24 hours a day, from noon Sunday to 6 p.m. Friday, and why it recently doubled the number of computers in the first-floor Learning Commons and got rid of 100,000 volumes of printed journals to create more study space....

*Tampa (Fla.) Tribune*, Sept. 13

### [Jackie Kennedy's 1960 campaign tweets](#)

The John F. Kennedy Presidential Library is using Twitter to recreate Jacqueline Kennedy's weekly glimpses into the life of a presidential candidate's spouse. The first tweets, expressing her dismay at not being able to campaign in person, were posted September 17—50 years to the day that her first syndicated newspaper column, "Campaign Wife," was published. [Jackie's Twitter feed](#) is a companion to the JFK Library's ongoing [JFK Twitter feed](#)....

Associated Press, Sept. 17



### [More controversy around Redding school librarian](#)

A Redding (Calif.) School District union official says a school librarian received rehire preferences in May while allegations she had embezzled money from a parent club and stolen from the school district were being investigated. Wanell Stolz's husband, who was president of the district's board of trustees, also voted in June to rehire his wife and lay off four other librarians at the same meeting, according to board minutes....

*Redding (Calif.) Record-Searchlight*, Sept. 18

## Calendar

**Sept. 24–26:**  
[Baltimore Book Festival](#), Mount Vernon Place.

**Oct. 1–2:**  
[Santa Fe Antiquarian Book Show](#), Santa Fe Railyard District.

**Oct. 1–3:**  
[Oak Knoll Fest](#), Oak Knoll Books, New Castle, Delaware.

**Oct. 2:**  
[Great Eastern U.S. Antique Book, Paper, and Advertising Show](#), Fairgrounds, Allentown, Pennsylvania.

**Oct. 2–3:**  
[North Texas Book and Paper Show](#), The Roundup Inn, Fort Worth, Texas.

**Oct. 3:**  
[Michigan Antiquarian Book and Paper Show](#), Curious Book Shop, Lansing Center.

**Oct. 3:**  
[Orange County Children's Book Festival](#), Orange Coast College, Costa Mesa, California.

**Oct. 7:**  
[E-Resource Management: From Start to Finish \(and Back Again\)](#), Forum, Holiday Inn Chicago Mart Plaza. Sponsored by the National Information Standards Organization.

**Oct. 8–10:**

## [Illinois library toes the line on shoe policy](#)

The Reddick Library in Ottawa, Illinois, gave the boot September 14 to a local man's request to allow people to go barefoot in the library. Matthew McNatt (right) had asked the board at its August 9 meeting to change its policy prohibiting bare feet. Library Director Kathy Clair said she had called the library's insurance carrier and was told allowing patrons to go barefoot would lead to "heightened liability exposure." However, Bob Neinast, who unsuccessfully sued the Columbus (Ohio) Metropolitan Library over its no-bare-feet policy in 2001, pointed out some [discrepancies](#) in the policy....



*Ottawa (Ill.) Times*, Sept. 14; *Society for Barefoot Living*, Sept. 18

## [City can't afford to pay for Reading library roof repairs](#)

A city administrator told the Reading (Pa.) Public Library's board of directors September 20 that it will cost more than \$400,000 to correct problems associated with roof leaks and damaged ornate plaster work at the Main Library. Mayor Tom McMahon's Chief of Staff Frank Denbowski said that although such a project could be financed through 2011 community development funds, the deadline for applying had passed. "We never realized the magnitude of this project," he said....



*Reading (Pa.) Eagle*, Sept. 21

## [Northwestern library death blamed on drug overdose](#)

A Northwestern University student who was found dead in the library on May 30 died of an accidental opiate overdose, according to results of an autopsy released in mid-September. The body of Northfield, Illinois, native Brian Tsay, a 25-year-old School of Continuing Studies student, was discovered by a library employee in a men's bathroom. Meanwhile, a student death in the Ridgewater College library in Hutchinson, Minnesota, on June 9 has been [attributed](#) to a family history of sudden death....

*Daily Northwestern*, Sept. 20; *Minneapolis Star Tribune*, Sept. 15

## [Evanston library board sets zero-tax guideline](#)

Members of the Evanston (Ill.) Public Library Friends group stormed out of a library board meeting September 15, charging that the board's action to adopt a zero-tax-increase guideline would in effect undermine months of work the group put in trying to save the city's two branch libraries. Group members showed their disgust with the action, leaving the downtown library's community room as the board finished its 5-3 vote in support of the proposal....

*Evanston (Ill.) Review*, Sept. 16

## [Director's retirement follows ouster threat](#)

The director of the Marathon County (Wis.) Public Library told the library board September 20 that she will retire in January 2011, amid apparent calls by employees for her resignation. Phyllis Christensen's announcement came three days after local media received an email that unionized library workers "will try and oust" Christensen. Union President Christine Luebbe denounced the anonymous



[Southern Festival of Books](#), War Memorial Plaza, Nashville, Tennessee.

**Oct. 9-10:**  
[Seattle Antiquarian Book Fair](#), Seattle Center Exhibition Hall.

**Oct. 10-16:**  
[Earth Science Week](#), "Exploring Energy."

**Oct. 14-15:**  
[Europeana Open Culture 2010 Conference](#), Westergasfabriek, Amsterdam, Netherlands.

**Oct. 14-17:**  
[10th Triennial Festival of Cartoon Art](#), Wexner Center for the Arts, Ohio State University, Columbus.

**Oct. 17-23:**  
[Ontario Public Library Week](#).

**Oct. 18-24:**  
[Open Access Week](#).

**Oct. 20:**  
[World Statistics Day](#).

**Oct. 23-24:**  
[Houston Vintage Book, Postcard, and Paper Festival](#), Stafford Center, Stafford, Texas.

**Oct. 24:**  
[Golden Gate Park Book Fair](#), Hall of Flowers, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco.

**Oct. 29-31:**  
[Toronto Antiquarian Book Fair](#), Metro Toronto Convention Centre.

message, but [noted](#) employee concerns about two layoffs. "Mutual understanding ultimately benefits our customers," Luebbe said....  
*Wausau (Wis.) Daily Herald*, Sept. 21; WSAU-AM, Wausau, Sept. 20

### [Vermont's Digital Newspaper Project](#)

The Vermont Digital Newspaper Project, funded through a \$391,552 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, will make available online a wealth of historical and genealogical resources contained in microfilmed archives. A collaboration of the Ilsley Library in Middlebury, the University of Vermont Libraries, the Vermont Department of Libraries, and the Vermont Historical Society, the project will focus on the period 1836 to 1922 and plans to have 100,000 pages completed by July 2012....

*Addison County (Vt.) Independent*, Sept. 16

### [Bank steps in to support high school library](#)

At the Moorhead (Minn.) High School, Gate City Bank is underwriting the cost of keeping the library open after school until dinner time. It costs more than \$1,000 daily to staff and keep the doors open. The last time the high school library added extra hours, more than 1,200 students took advantage of it....

WDAY-TV, Fargo, N. Dak., Sept. 16

### [Music videos trigger a literacy boom in India](#)

Every Sunday in villages across India, groups of people gather around old television sets to watch their favorite Bollywood film stars sing and dance in song videos culled from movies. Nine years ago, India's national television network decided to introduce karaoke-style subtitles to these programs—not in a foreign language, but in Hindi, the same language the stars were singing in. People began paying attention to the moving strip of lyrics at the bottom of the screen, and reading levels began to improve remarkably....

*Boston Globe*, Sept. 19



### [Stamford library reaches deal with union](#)

The Ferguson Library in Stamford, Connecticut, has reached an agreement with its union that will reduce costs by \$400,000, but library officials said they will still need to shorten hours to close a yawning budget gap. In a tentative deal reached September 13, the union agreed to give up a 3.25% pay increase that went in effect in July, take two-week furloughs, and increase the work week to 40 hours in exchange for eliminating nine planned layoffs....

*Stamford (Conn.) Advocate*, Sept. 16

### [Schiphol Airport, an unlikely sanctuary for books](#)

The traveler's serendipitous discovery of the new Schiphol Airport Library near Amsterdam in the Netherlands is precisely the experience that Dick van Tol, the project's coordinator, said he hoped to engender. Opened with little fanfare over the summer, the library—the first ever at a major international airport—has 1,200 books in more than two dozen languages, all by Dutch authors or on subjects relating to the country's history and culture. ALA President Roberta Stevens praised the Dutch initiative and said she hoped one day to see the idea replicated in the United States....



### **Nov. 5–6:**

[AASL Fall Forum](#), Red Lion on the River—Jantzen Beach, Portland, Oregon.

### **Nov. 5–7:**

[YALSA Young Adult Literature Symposium](#), Albuquerque Marriott, New Mexico.

### **Nov. 7–18:**

[St. Louis Jewish Book Festival](#), St. Louis Jewish Community Center, Staenberg Family Complex, Creve Coeur, Missouri.

### **Dec. 5–8:**

[Women's Leadership Institute](#), Ritz-Carlton, Amelia Island, Florida. Cosponsored by ACRL.

### **Dec. 6–8:**

[6th International Digital Curation Conference](#), Chicago Mart Plaza, Chicago. "Participation and Practice: Growing the Curation Community through the Data Decade." Cosponsors: Digital Curation Centre (U.K.), University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign GSLIS.

### **Dec. 15:**

[Mediabistro eBook Summit](#), New Yorker Hotel, New York City.

### **Mar. 10–11, 2011:**

[Conference for Entrepreneurial Librarians](#), Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

### **June 27–30, 2011:**



to share some level seven Energizing Lotion in FarmVille!' How many times have you seen a similar sentence in your Facebook news feed? Now Facebook has devised a plan to make games less annoying to non-users and more engaging to gamers at the same time. The first part is relatively easy: Facebook will simply be showing application stories only to users who are already engaging with the application."... Mashable, Sept. 22

### [Top 10 ways to organize and streamline your workspace](#)

Whitson Gordon writes: "The most important thing you can do to your office is optimize it for productivity. Whether your workspace needs a [complete overhaul](#) or you just need to [make the most with what you have](#), these are some of the best workplace upgrades to help you organize and streamline your workspace." Tip number 5: Make your own PVC storage system....

Lifehacker, Sept. 18



### [How to recover broken MP3 files](#)

Simon Slangen writes: "There are a lot of audio applications that are essentially flawed. Luckily, many of these errors stay below the radar, and these files will continue to play as if nothing were wrong. Most applications don't rely too heavily on a particular MP3 tag. But if a file suddenly has choppy sound or doesn't play at all, and if a collection of songs can't be added to iTunes, then you know what's happening. Here are some apps that will help you detect the fault."...

MakeUseOf, Sept. 21



### [10 usability tips based on research studies](#)

Cameron Chapman writes: "We hear plenty of website usability tips and techniques from an incalculable number of sources. This article discusses usability findings of research results such as eye-tracking studies, reports, analytics, and usability surveys. You'll discover that many of these tips are common sense but are further supported with numbers; however, some might surprise you and change your outlook on your current design processes." Tip number one: Forget the Three-Click Rule....

Six Revisions, Sept. 15

Brian Searles,  
[bsearles@ala.org](mailto:bsearles@ala.org)



Katie Bane  
[kbane@ala.org](mailto:kbane@ala.org)

Send feedback:  
[aldirect@ala.org](mailto:aldirect@ala.org)

AL Direct FAQ:  
[www.ala.org/aldirect/](http://www.ala.org/aldirect/)

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ext. 4216

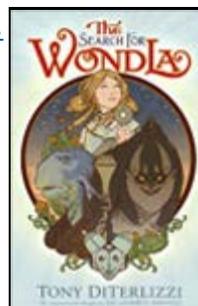
ISSN 1559-369X

## Publishing

### [Printed books with digital enhancements](#)

Now even print books are getting into the digital act. *The Search for WondLa* by Tony DiTerlizzi, the beginning of a fantasy trilogy for kids starring a 12-year-old girl raised by a robot on an alien planet, includes three symbols that link to digital maps of the girl's quest for other humans. Readers with a webcam can see 3-D interactive maps of the girl's search. Readers without a webcam but access to the internet can link to a regular map and a video....

USA Today, Sept. 20



## **IDEO's future of the book**

Jason Griffey writes: "Take a look at design firm IDEO's [video examination](#) (4:54) of the future of the book. Which would you rather have: Nelson, Coupland, or Alice? What new experiences might be created by linking diverse discussions, what additional value could be created by connecting readers to one another, and what innovative ways we might use to tell our favorite stories and build community around books?"...

AL: Perpetual Beta, Sept. 21



## **Harris Poll: E-readers are on the rise**

Right now, less than one in 10 Americans (8%) uses an electronic reader device of some kind, but that may soon change. Here are some of the results of a Harris Poll of 2,775 adults surveyed online between August 9 and 16. First, those who have e-readers do, in fact, read more, and they are also more likely to buy books. Among those adults who do not currently have an e-reader, 12% say they are likely to get one in the next six months....

Harris Interactive, Sept. 22

## **Why read books if you can't remember them?**

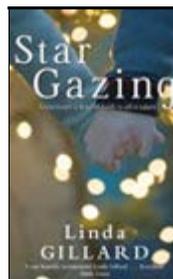
James Collins writes: "I have just realized something terrible about myself: I don't remember the books I read. There are books on my shelf that I loved, but all I associate with them now is an atmosphere and a stray image or two, like memories of trips I took as a child. Nor do I think I am the only one with this problem. Anecdotal evidence suggests that most people cannot recall the title or author or even the existence of a book they read a month ago, much less its contents."...

New York Times, Sept. 17

## **Best romantic novel of the past 50 years?**

To celebrate 50 years of the Romantic Novelists' Association in the U.K., readers of *Woman's Weekly* were asked to vote for the best romantic novel of the last 50 years. After coming up with a shortlist of three—Barbara Taylor Bradford's *A Woman of Substance* (1979), Trisha Ashley's *Every Woman for Herself* (2002), and Linda Gillard's *Star Gazing* (2008)—on September 16 they voted for Gillard as their winner....

The Guardian (U.K.), Sept. 16



## **EBSCO and John Carter Brown Library offer new history database**

EBSCO Publishing and the John Carter Brown Library in Providence, Rhode Island, have collaborated to bring a new bibliographic database to libraries, scholars, and individuals interested in European works that relate to the Americas. [European Views of the Americas: 1493–1750](#) is based on the authoritative bibliography *European Americana: A Chronological Guide to Works Printed in Europe Relating to The Americas, 1493–1750* and is [freely available online](#)....

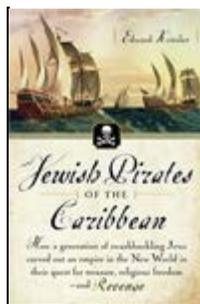
EBSCO Publishing, Sept. 16



## **The romance of pirate literature**

L. D. Mitchell writes: "Because the field of piratical literature is far larger than most folks realize, a simple

division between nonfiction and fictional titles does not even begin to do this literature justice. Accordingly, it will be necessary to examine piratical literature over the course of several consecutive posts. We begin with a definition: Piracy usually refers to criminal acts (robbery, violence) that are directed by private parties on vessels at sea against private parties aboard other vessels at sea." Read subsequent installments [2](#), [3](#), [4](#), [5](#), [6](#), and [7](#)....  
The Private Library, Sept. 14–22



## Actions & Answers

### [Netflix in libraries and hypocrisy](#)

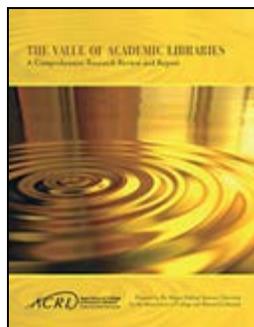
Meredith Farkas writes: "According to Netflix, 'The use of the Netflix service, including DVDs rented to you by us and the Netflix instant streaming discs is solely for your personal and noncommercial use.' They are not saying that you can give this to others. They are not saying that you can use this in the classroom. They are saying that this is for your personal use and you can't make any money off it. Netflix does not have institutional subscriptions. Therefore, what some libraries are doing is in violation of Netflix's terms of services and opens them up to legal repercussions. And it's not just one or two libraries doing this." Peter Hirtle [adds](#): "I think this has to go into the 'easy, but not legal' category."...

Information Wants to Be Free, Sept. 18; LibraryLaw Blog, Sept. 18

### [Point-counterpoint: The value of academic libraries](#)

On September 14, ACRL released [Value of Academic Libraries: A Comprehensive Research Review and Report](#) by Megan Oakleaf. The report lays out the current landscape of academic library assessment and seeks to provide strategies for libraries to demonstrate and quantify their value within the context of institutional missions and goals. Amy Fry and Steven Bell debate the uses and strategies of library assessment and the various efforts to demonstrate the academic library's value to its own institution and higher education....

ACRLlog, Sept. 17



### [Résumés are on the way out](#)

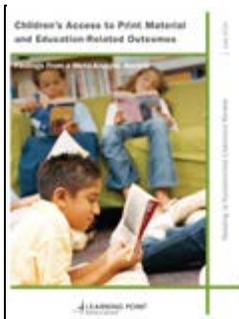
Lukas Biewald writes: "Technology is making the résumé obsolete faster than we think. Some candidates send [LinkedIn](#) profiles in lieu of résumés. They're better, in that they give extra pieces of information: recommendations, which often give some insight into the candidate's personality, as well as the people we know in common professionally. The website [Unvarnished](#) takes LinkedIn recommendations to another level by making the reviewer anonymous. But sites like [oDesk](#) and [Elance](#) more closely reflect the future of résumés and how companies hire."...

GigaOM, Sept. 19

### [Study: Access to print materials improves children's reading](#)

A new study commissioned by Reading Is Fundamental shows that children's book lending and ownership programs produce positive behavioral, educational, and psychological outcomes. The study, *Children's Access to Print Materials and Education-Related Outcomes* ([PDF file](#)), was conducted by Learning Point Associates, which rigorously analyzed 108 relevant reports to examine the link between access to print materials and a child's educational development....

Reading Is Fundamental, Sept. 21



### [SMU theology library showcases banned heretical books](#)

In time for Banned Books Week, the Perkins School of Theology's Bridwell Library at Southern Methodist University in Dallas has launched "Heresy and Error: The Ecclesiastical Censorship of Books, 1400–1800," an exhibition that will be on display through December 17 and online permanently. Of the 62 books and broadsides in the exhibition, 37 were prohibited, enduring either physical expurgation or the threat of destruction. The remainder are publications that assisted the Catholic Church in its battle against heresy and error....

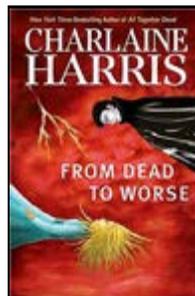
Bridwell Library, Sept. 14



### [Challenged books in Canadian libraries, 2009](#)

The most challenged author reported in the annual survey of Canadian libraries in 2009 was Charlaine Harris for her Southern Vampire Mysteries (Sookie Stackhouse) series of 10 adult novels. The entire series was reported on four separate occasions within the same library system. Two other series were each challenged once: Negima! Magister Negi Magi, by Ken Akamatsu, a manga series of 29 titles; and Cecily von Ziegesar's Gossip Girl series, 15 titles that became the 2007 inspiration for the TV teen drama series. The full list is [here](#)....

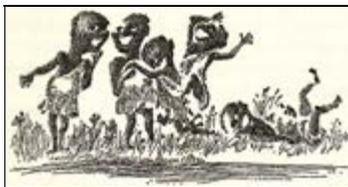
Canadian Library Association, Sept. 16



### [Can censoring a children's book remove its prejudices?](#)

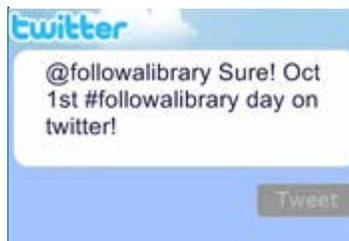
Philip Nel writes: "My 'Censoring Children's Literature' course at Kansas State University has been examining two versions of Hugh Lofting's *Doctor Dolittle* (1920, 1988) and three versions of Roald Dahl's *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* (1964, 1973, 1998) and addressing this question: Do bowdlerized texts alter the ideological assumptions of the original? The answer is more complicated than you might think."...

Nine Kinds of Pie, Sept. 19



### [October 1 is Follow a Library on Twitter Day](#)

What would happen if each person on Twitter would mention his or her favorite library there? [Six Dutch librarians](#) (2:05)



have declared October 1 Follow a Library on Twitter Day. Michael Stephens and David Lee King are helping to promote the event. Read the [#followalibrary blog](#), then on October 1, tweet what your favorite twittering libraries are. Use the hashtag [#followalibrary](#)....

#followalibrary blog; YouTube, Aug. 4

### [Downing named Diversity Research Center visiting scholar](#)

Karen Downing, a researcher and advocate for diversity issues in libraries and higher education, has accepted an invitation to be the first visiting scholar in 2010–2011 for the new Diversity Research Center at Rutgers University. Downing is currently the university learning communities liaison and foundation and grants librarian at University of Michigan....

Rutgers University



### [Billy Ireland of the Columbus Dispatch](#)

In 2009, the Elizabeth Ireland Graves Foundation gave \$7 million to the Ohio State University in honor of Billy Ireland, cartoonist for the *Columbus Dispatch* from 1898 to 1935. In recognition of this generous gift, OSU established the Billy Ireland Cartoon Library and Museum, expanding the mission of the facility created in 1977 when Milton Caniff donated his papers to create a research library devoted to cartoon art. The library is celebrating its collection and its [10th Festival of Cartoon Art](#), October 14–17, with a special Billy Ireland exhibition through January 2. Watch a [video](#) (4:34) about the library....



Billy Ireland Cartoon Library and Museum; WOSU-TV, Mar. 19, 2009

### [The wallet model of academic librarianship](#)

Dorothea Salo writes: "Why should academic libraries divert staff and budgetary resources to open access if our mandate is to serve our local patrons? A lot of us academic librarians know that our faculty basically see us as wallets. We pay for the stuff they use. That's pretty much all they know about us. If we just hang back contentedly being wallets, what will happen to us when the wallet function breaks, as we all know it's breaking?"...

Book of Trogoon, Sept. 16

### [Brutalist architecture and libraries](#)

Lorcan Dempsey writes: "I was talking to Carole Moore, chief librarian of the University of Toronto Libraries, recently about Robarts Library, described by Wikipedia as one of 'the most significant examples of brutalist architecture in North America.' Curious, I followed the Wikipedia link to [brutalist architecture](#) and found several libraries mentioned there alongside Robarts. I suggested that there might be interest in a calendar of



libraries in the brutalist style. There certainly seem to be enough to handsomely fill out all 12 months and more."...

Lorcan Dempsey's Weblog, Sept. 19

### [Upward mobility in librarianship](#)

The In the Library with the Lead Pipe blog asked its readers what they would like to see covered in future issues: "Two commenters asked us to talk about upward mobility. Some of us took a literal approach to the topic and had knee-jerk negative reactions born from a strong aversion to management, some of us jumped in with practical advice, and others twisted the topic a little to discuss personal and professional growth without a focus on promotion. We figured since we had such strong and differing opinions, you might too."...

In the Library with the Lead Pipe, Sept. 15

### [The shift towards online exhibition catalogues](#)

Judith H. Dobrzynski writes: "Times are changing for the traditional exhibition catalogue, those weighty tomes with four-color images of the works, newly commissioned scholarly essays, a list of lenders, and all the other usual components. In the last few years, a confluence of several factors—including budget cuts necessitated by the recession, the high cost of producing catalogues, low demand for them, advances in technology, and the shaky publishing environment—has caused many U.S. museums to rethink their catalogue programs and forego some altogether."...

Art Newspaper, Sept.

### [D.C. Public Library's adaptive services](#)

Steve Lilienthal writes: "Kathy Gosselin, who is completely blind, sits at one of the computers at downtown D.C.'s Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library. Suddenly, the JAWS' screen reader's metallic-sounding voice reads the text of a page about singer Tracy Chapman. A volunteer in the Adaptive Services Division of the DCPL system, Gosselin often helps the newly blind learn how to use software programs such as the JAWS screen reader."...

Hill Rag, Sept.



### [Kids.gov "How Do I Become President?" Challenge](#)

The U.S. General Services Administration is sponsoring a contest to teach kids about the electoral process. The Kids.gov "How Do I Become President?" Challenge asks children and adults to submit an infographic explaining the process. The best overall entry will be featured on Kids.gov, receive \$2,500, and will be printed as posters for distribution to schools and libraries across the country. The deadline is November 3....

Kids.gov



### [Google fights censorship with Transparency Report](#)

Stan Schroeder writes: "Google has launched [Transparency Report](#), a set of tools—including an interactive map—that shows which governments have asked for



information about users or requested Google to censor or take down content over a six-month time frame. From January to June 2010, the U.S. asked Google about user info on 4,287 occasions, and asked 128 times for Google to remove content. Other countries that have put in more than 1,000 similar requests during this time frame are Brazil, France, India, and the United Kingdom.”...

Mashable: Tech, Sept. 21

### [Teens online lack sense of global citizenship](#)

Borrowing from the wisdom of Spider-Man’s Uncle Ben (“With great power comes great responsibility”), Carrie James, research director of the [GoodPlay Project](#) at Harvard, advocated at Mashable’s Social Good Summit September 20 for adults to mentor young people about their online decision making and their role as global citizens. James described young people’s online choices as an untapped opportunity and suggested a number of actionable steps to change how they approach and use social technologies. Watch the [video](#) (12:04)....



Mashable: Social Good, Sept. 21

### [What does the Facebook “not now” button really do?](#)



M. G. Siegler writes: “A few days ago, Facebook made what seemed to be a small tweak to its Friend Requests area. Previously, you could either ‘Confirm’ or ‘Ignore’ (deny) a request. Now, ‘Ignore’ has been replaced by ‘Not Now.’ This new option takes some of the pressure off you having to reject people as it instead moves them into a state of limbo, where they’re neither accepted nor rejected. But it actually does a lot more as well.”...

TechCrunch, Sept. 20

### [In praise of the free webinar](#)

Marianne Lenox writes: “Though sometimes derided, many of us have been involved, one way or another, in a webinar. Webinars are live, online educational presentations during which attendees can submit questions and comments, as opposed to a webcast that doesn’t offer chat or polls. Sessions are usually archived and registrants may view a recording of the event at another time. Whether we are presenting, producing, or attending, this professional, educational environment has given rise to a powerful collaborative, knowledge-sharing resource.”...

ALA Learning Round Table, Sept. 16

### [30 new youth learning labs](#)

The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation and the Institute of Museum and Library Services announced plans September 16 to create 30 new youth learning labs in libraries and museums across the country. Inspired in part by an innovative new teen space at the Chicago Public Library called



[YOUmedia](#) (right), these labs will help young people become makers and creators of content, rather than just consumers of it....

Institute of Museum and Library Services, Sept. 16

### [40 places to find vital records information](#)

Gena Philibert Ortega writes: "Genealogy is everywhere, but sometimes we get in ruts and don't enlarge our scope of thinking about places to search for that piece of evidence that would point to the date of our ancestor's birth, marriage, or death. Some of the documents listed here may not give you an actual date of the event, but they may give you a clue. Don't forget to use the National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections (NUCMC) and the Periodical Source Index (PERSI) as you research." Part two is [here](#)....



*WorldVitalRecords Newsletter*, Sept. 13, 16

### [The world of library signage](#)

In August, the Smashing Magazine website held a contest for designers, artists, and photographers to go out with their cameras and shoot attractive typography and public signage. Many photos of library signs were submitted, but a winner was found in another category. Nonetheless, the site posted the library submissions that "with their tasteful but by no means understated designs remind one of the contemplation that takes place in those locations and their serene atmosphere."...



*Smashing Magazine*, Sept. 16

### [Vatican Library commemorative stamps](#)

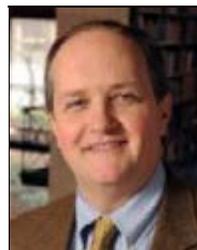
Vatican Post issued two postage stamps to commemorate the September 20 reopening of the Vatican Apostolic Library after three years of renovations. The images are of a Crucified Christ (65 cents) and Sts. Cosmas and Damian (85 cents), from Latin and Greek manuscripts held by the library. The origins of the Vatican Apostolic Library go back to the fourth century, a time when there was evidence of the Scrinium of the Roman Church, which was both a library and an archive....



*Philately News*, Sept. 21

### [Columbia and Cornell collaborate on Slavic collections](#)

Columbia and Cornell University Libraries announce an agreement to collaboratively support the Slavic and East European collection development activities of both institutions. The agreement promises to limit collecting overlap, allowing the two libraries to acquire significantly more material across the two campuses. East European Studies Specialist Robert Davis (right) will support East European Studies research activities at both universities....



*Cornell University Library*, Sept. 16

### [Library-scented perfume](#)

Brooklyn perfumery [I Hate Perfume](#) has a scent called "In the Library," a "warm blend of English novel, Russian and Moroccan leather bindings,

worn cloth and a hint of wood polish." Perfumer Christopher Brosius says, "To an avid reader and collector like myself, these smells are as magical as the bouquet of a great wine is to a connoisseur—a sort of literary terroir. These scents mean excitement, adventure, discovery, enlightenment, and knowledge."...

I Hate Perfume



### [Librarians reinstate book burning](#) (satire)

This week, the International Association of College Librarians voted unanimously to reinstate the long-denounced practice of book burning after Lauren Conrad announced the release of her third L.A. Candy Novel, *Sugar and Spice*. "Banning the books wasn't enough," said Carter College Librarian Anna Wellington. "People will just find other ways to read them. They must be burned."...

Cronk of Higher Education, Sept. 21



[Go back to the Top](#)

# american libraries DIRECT

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | September 29, 2010

## Contents

[American Libraries Online](#)  
[ALA News](#)  
[Booklist Online](#)  
[Division News](#)  
[Awards](#)  
[Seen Online](#)  
[Tech Talk](#)  
[Publishing](#)  
[Actions & Answers](#)  
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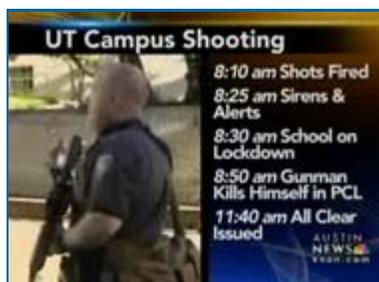
american libraries  
**BUYERS GUIDE**

## American Libraries Online

### [UT Austin shooting rampage ends tragically at the library](#)

A man armed with an AK-47 rifle committed suicide on the sixth floor of the University of Texas at Austin's Perry-Castañeda Library around 8:50 a.m. Central time September 28. No one else was reported hurt by gunfire; the library was shut down for the rest of the day and the sixth floor [remains closed](#). Witnesses who were being sheltered in the library basement were moved to police headquarters for questioning. A mid-afternoon story by KXAN-TV in Austin [identified](#) the gunman as 19-year-old Colton Joshua Tooley, a UT sophomore majoring in math. The university [used texting](#), Twitter, and loudspeakers to let its students, faculty, and staff know that a gunman was on campus and that they should stay indoors....

*American Libraries news, Sept. 28; KXAN-TV, Austin, Sept. 28; Austin American-Statesman, Sept. 28-29*



### [Librarians laud National Book Festival](#)

There were many librarians among the 150,000 people who gathered on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., for the 10th Annual National Book Festival, September 25. Reporting for *American Libraries*, Rocco Staino of the New York Library Association talked with some of them about the festival in the Pavilion of the States. For Adele Eskin (right), middle school librarian at Mary Ellen Henderson School in Falls Church City, Virginia, it is her "favorite day of the year."...

*American Libraries news, Sept. 28*



### [Advocacy gets a payday](#)

Beverly Goldberg writes: "It's always an occasion for celebration when a funding authority sees fit to provide additional support to libraries. These days, it's also a rare occasion. That's why it was particularly heartening to receive press releases announcing budget increases for the Calcasieu Parish Public Library in Lake Charles, Louisiana, and the San Antonio (Tex.) Public Library, and to learn of more Recovery Act

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Psychology



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AMERICAN  
PSYCHOLOGICAL  
ASSOCIATION

funding for libraries—this time through the Department of Agriculture.”...

AL: Inside Scoop, Sept. 29

### [Internet Librarian: As the web fades away](#)

Joe Janes writes: “Wired’s September cover story ‘The Web Is Dead,’ informs us that as of 2010 the web only constitutes 23% of U.S. internet traffic. Scary little sound bites notwithstanding, what this means is that people are voting with their thumbs. It follows that successful information services must be mobile-friendly or native, focused, fast, reliable, seamless, and easy.”...

American Libraries column, Oct.



### [Next Steps: Transforming a hodgepodge](#)

Brian Mathews writes: “In Stevens County, Washington, public libraries are a fairly new concept. Residents voted to form a library district in 1996, transforming a hodgepodge of donation-based collections run by volunteers into a modern system. Over the past decade library staff have worked hard—not only at providing service but also on shaping perceptions of what exactly a library can be. Their message has a great distance to travel.”...

American Libraries column, Oct.



### [Plenty of green tracks for green trekkers](#)

Laura Bruzas writes: “No matter where a library is on the green continuum, thankfully there are many valuable resources and connections already in play available for any library staff member interested in learning more about this important issue. Here is a list of some library websites and blogs that I unearthed recently that you may want to check out.”...

AL: Green Your Library blog, Sept. 24



**[ALA Midwinter Meeting](#)**  
in San Diego, California,  
January 7–11, 2011.  
**[Advance registration](#)**  
opens October 1.

### [Why library cards?](#)

We’re almost at the end of [Library Card Sign-Up Month](#), so we thought we’d do a wrap up of some of the questions we hear about library cards. Why do we have them? Early on all libraries were noncirculating libraries, and cards identifying users were unnecessary. With the public library movement in the 19th century, though, it became necessary to register users who were permitted to borrow books. Initially, libraries used cumbersome ledger systems, with each page representing a borrower and the books borrowed (and returned) listed....

AL: Ask the ALA Librarian, Sept. 28



Updated for the first time since 2005, the 8th edition of the **[Intellectual Freedom Manual](#)**, edited by the ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom, includes revised interpretations of the Library Bill of Rights along with key intellectual freedom guidelines and policies, including a new chapter, “Interactivity

### [Becoming information literate](#)

Chadron (Nebr.) State College was looking to provide students with a search system that offers the convenience they are accustomed to while delivering the



rich resources they need to complete their assignments. The college chose [EBSCO Discovery Service](#) from EBSCO Publishing as part of an overall information literacy campaign. EDS was selected to reduce the intimidation factor students have with OPACs....

AL: Solutions and Services, Sept. 23

## ALA News

### [Stroyan, Sullivan seek 2012–2013 ALA presidency](#)

Susan Stroyan and Maureen Sullivan are the candidates for the 2012–2013 presidency of ALA. Stroyan is the information services librarian at the Ames Library at Illinois Wesleyan University in Bloomington, and Sullivan serves as a consultant to numerous libraries of all types as well as a professor of practice at the Simmons College Graduate School of Library and Information Science.....

Office of ALA Governance, Sept. 24



### [Banned Books Week Read-Out in Chicago](#)

ALA's Office for Intellectual Freedom, the McCormick Foundation's Civics Program, and the Newberry Library hosted a Read-Out September 25 in a park outside the Newberry Library to kick off [Banned Books Week 2010](#) that drew some 150 people. Critically acclaimed and much-censored author Chris Crutcher (right) was the emcee. Guest authors read from the 10 most frequently challenged books of 2009 and from their own work. View photos of the event from [American Libraries](#) and [OIF](#). AL Focus has videos of ALA President [Roberta Stevens](#) (2:16) and author [Chris Crutcher](#) (7:54), and the Public Information Office has a [video](#) (8:28) of the City Lit Theater performance....

AL: Inside Scoop, Sept. 27; OIF; AL Focus, Sept. 26–27; YouTube, Sept. 27



### [Banned Books Week in full swing](#)

Banned Books Week, September 25–October 2, is in full swing. [I Love Libraries](#) will have articles all week on Banned Books Week, opening with an article by Office for Intellectual Freedom Director Barbara Jones, "[Banned Books Week: It's Local, It's Global!](#)" The [OIF Blog](#) is featuring Banned Book exhibit pictures and other news, and OIF has released a [video](#) (3:47) showing the top 10 challenged books for 2009; librarian Andy Woodworth has produced a similar [video](#) (0:41) that's a takeoff of an iPad ad. *Booklist's* Book Group Buzz Blog has "[If you ban it, they will read and talk about it.](#)" Angela Maycock has a post on [Programming Librarian](#). And don't forget to [tweet about it](#)....

OIF Blog, Sept. 27; I Love Libraries; YouTube, Sept. 24; Book Group Buzz Blog, Sept. 27;



and the Internet," and other fresh material on intellectual freedom and privacy in online social networks. **NEW!** From ALA Editions.



"Like" [American Libraries](#) on Facebook.

### New this week in *American Libraries*



[Internet Librarian](#)

[Next Steps](#)

[Perpetual Beta](#)

[Inside Scoop](#)

[Green Your Library](#)

[Ask the ALA Librarian](#)

[Librarian's Library](#)

[AL Focus](#)

Great Libraries  
of the World

Programming Librarian, Sept. 28; *New York Times*: Paper Cuts, Sept. 28

## [10 ways to celebrate Banned Books Week](#)

Held annually during the last week of September, [Banned Books Week](#) highlights the benefits of intellectual freedom and draws attention to the harms of censorship by spotlighting actual or attempted banning of books across the United States, including books commonly taught in secondary schools. The Montana Library Association [created](#) its own poster (right). Here are some suggestions from the *New York Times* on how to participate....



*New York Times*: City Room, Sept. 23; MLA Intellectual Freedom Committee, Apr. 16

## [Interview with Judy Blume](#)

StorySnoops, a blog and book-recommendation database for parents, interviewed author Judy Blume in honor of Banned Books Week: "Judy Blume (right) is one of the most frequently banned writers in America, having found herself in the middle of an organized book banning campaign in the 1980s. Since then she has championed intellectual freedom, working with the National Coalition Against Censorship to protect the freedom to read." Interviews with other literary figures, like book blogger [Abby Johnson](#), are appearing throughout the week....



StorySnoops Blog, Sept. 26, 27

## [15 iconic movies based on banned books](#)

Banned Books Week is a chance for all of us to celebrate our freedom to read and to bring attention to the harms of censorship. This past spring, the *Huffington Post* publishing a list of the "[11 Most Surprising Banned Books](#)."

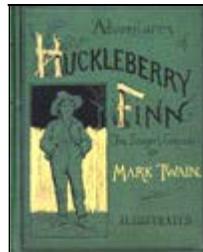


Here's another list: 15 of the most iconic, popular, and/or celebrated movies of all time—all of which are based on books that have been banned, formally challenged, or burned....

*Huffington Post*, Sept. 27

## [Mark Twain on how to sell a banned book](#)

When Mark Twain heard that the Concord (Mass.) Public Library had banned *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* just weeks after it was published, he shrewdly saw it as a great advertising opportunity. On March 18, 1885, the *New York Herald* reported, perhaps a bit cheekily, that the library committee offered reasons "weighty and to the point" for its decision. On April 4, the *Hartford Courant* published Twain's reaction: "A committee of the public library of your town have condemned and excommunicated my last book and doubled its sale. This generous action of theirs must necessarily benefit me." Banned Book Week continues the spirit of



## [Anythink Brighton.](#)

Rangeview Library District, Brighton, Colorado. A new Brighton branch opened in September 2009 as part of the Brighton Cultural Center and took on the library system's Anythink brand. In 2010, it became the first carbon-positive library in the U.S., due to a combination of its 108-kilowatt photovoltaic system, geothermal heating and cooling, sustainable building features, the purchase of carbon credits, and the collaborative spirit of the project.



## [Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.](#)

Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut. The library, designed by architect Gordon Bunshaft and completed in 1963, is the largest building in the world reserved exclusively for the

Twain's response....

Library of America: Reader's Almanac, Sept. 29

### [Take the Banned Book quiz](#)

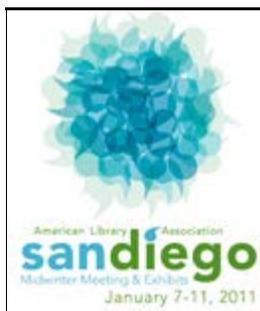
In honor of Banned Books Week, Mental Floss's well-read research editor Sandy put together the following 12-question cultural-literacy test. The correct answers are after the questions: How book-challenged are you? 1. True or False: Two 1960s children's books written by Dr. Seuss were later removed from print (and stricken from his bibliography) for questionable moral content....

Mental Floss, Sept. 25

### [Midwinter Meeting advance registration opens October 1](#)

Advance registration for the 2011 ALA Midwinter Meeting, to be held January 7-11 in San Diego, California, will open at 9 a.m. Central time, October 1. Participants can register online through the ALA website, by fax or by mail. Hotel reservations and registration for institutes and optional events can also be made at this time. Advance registration, available until November 29, 2010, will ensure the lowest rates....

Conference Services, Sept. 28



### [Washington Office receives IMLS grant](#)

The Institute of Museum and Library Services has awarded a \$581,609 National Leadership Grant to ALA and the Center for Library and Information Innovation of the University of Maryland's iSchool to develop a web resource to help libraries and governments better assist users with successfully engaging in e-government activities. Project partners also include the University of Illinois at Chicago and the Information Institute at Florida State University. The Office of Government Relations will work with CLII to develop the resource....

District Dispatch, Sept. 29

### [FCC plans to modernize E-rate program](#)

An [order passed](#) by the Federal Communications Commission following public hearings on September 23 is a significant first step toward truly simplifying and streamlining the E-rate program, which is critical to libraries across the country. The reforms outlined by the FCC would adjust the annual funding cap to inflation, reinstate leased dark fiber as eligible for discounts, and simplify the application process—a reform ALA has long sought and believes will lead to more successful library applications....

District Dispatch, Sept. 23, 28

### [House a bird, fund Cultural Communities](#)

A portion of the proceeds from the sale of a functional birdhouse modeled after a classic Carnegie public library in Osage, Iowa, will support the ALA Cultural Communities Fund. Priced at \$150, the birdhouse is available to ALA members for a special price of \$99. To obtain the ALA member discount, enter the discount code "PLB1" upon checkout. For more information or to purchase the birdhouse, visit the [Home Bazaar website](#). The birdhouse is the brainchild of American library historian Wayne Wiegand....

Public Programs Office, Sept. 28



preservation of rare books and manuscripts. Six stories of book stacks are surrounded by a windowless, rectangular building with walls made of a translucent Danby white marble, which provides protection from direct light. Three floors of stacks extend below ground level. Since its opening in 1963, the Beinecke has become a repository for books printed anywhere before 1601, books printed in Latin America before 1751, books printed in North America before 1821, newspapers and broadsides printed in the United States before 1851, European tracts and pamphlets printed before 1801, East European and Asian books through the 18th century, and many other special collections.

**This new AL Direct feature** showcases 250 libraries around the world that are notable for their exquisite architecture, historic collections, and innovative services. If you find yourself on vacation near one of them, be sure to stop by for a visit. The entire list will be available in [The Whole Library Handbook 5](#), edited by George M. Eberhart, which is scheduled for publication in 2011 by ALA Editions.

**Career Leads from**



[Instruction Program Coordinator](#), Sonoma State University Library, Rohnert Park,

## [Jack Gilford's ALA reading promo](#)

Sometime around 1962 or 1963, ALA and the National Book Committee commissioned a one-minute television PSA on the value of reading. It featured stage, TV, and screen actor (and Cracker Jack spokesperson) Jack Gilford (right), who holds a "rectangular whatchamacallit" called a book and does a rapid-fire, sometimes unintelligible yet enthusiastic monologue about the benefits of reading....

YouTube, Sept. 20, 2009



## [ALA membership holding strong at over 61,000](#)

John Chrastka writes: "August is the close of our fiscal year, and we report our official membership numbers as of the 31st. We've just completed compiling our rosters and are proud to report that ALA membership stands at 61,198 members. This is inclusive of all personal, organizational, and corporate members and is only a 0.88% decrease since this time last year."...

ALA Membership Blog, Sept. 22



## [ALA is not your mom](#)

Abby Johnson writes: "Okay, I was pointed to this post, '[Seven Things I Hate About Librarianship](#),' written by an academic librarian. Maybe I'm just in a crotchety mood, but I felt the need to respond to #2: 'The main professional organization, ALA. Then again, it is called American Library Association, which may make some wonder whose interests they are really watching. Name aside, it just seems more like an expensive subscription to some journals. At my level, I don't think it does a whole lot.' Now, I'm not here to get up on my soapbox and shout to the world that ALA rules, but ALA is what we make of it."...

Abby the Librarian, Sept. 23; Dances with Books, Sept. 17

## [Connect chat upgraded](#)

Jenny Levine writes: "We soft-launched the upgraded chat module in ALA Connect a few weeks ago and wanted to see how it did after testing proved it was more stable than previous updates. I'm happy to report, 'so far, so good.' So this is the official announcement that we think we've improved chat overall in Connect. Here are some reasons why."...

ITTS News, Sept. 27

## [Volunteer for student chapter speaker pool](#)

The Student and Student Chapter Outreach Committee wants you to volunteer for its Student Chapter Speaker Pool, comprised of New Members Round Table members available to visit and speak to [ALA student chapters](#). What's required? You must be passionate about the value of NMRT for new librarians, eager to share your expertise in speaking engagements, and able to get to or live near a LIS degree-granting institution. If you are interested, contact SASCO Chair [Heidi Steiner](#)....

Student Membership Blog, Sept. 23

## [Fitting e-books into today's library](#)

ALA Editions has released [No Shelf Required: E-Books](#)

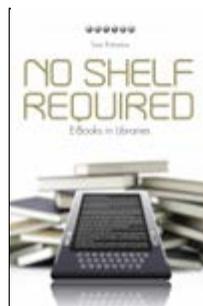
California. This professional will be integral in maintaining and forwarding the library's mission of student retention, graduation, and life-long learning. The ideal candidate will relish the challenge of engaging first-year students while promoting new programs and experimenting with new pedagogical approaches. An individual with an entrepreneurial spirit who can thrive in an always "beta" world is highly desired. Likewise, supervisory skills, the ability to work in a shared decision-making environment, and a sense of humor and fun are key. As a faculty member, librarians are expected to take a leading role in campus activities and governance. Scholarship plus service to the campus and community are expected....



**Digital Library  
of the Week**

[in Libraries](#), edited by Sue Polanka. With the introduction of e-book readers, the e-book has become mainstream, with recent triple-digit annual increases in sales. But what place do they have in the library? In this volume, Polanka brings together a variety of professionals to share their e-book expertise and provide forward-thinking ideas while remaining grounded in practical information that can be implemented in all kinds of libraries....

ALA Editions, Sept. 24



### The [National Library of Medicine Digital Collections](#)

complement the PubMed Central digital [archive of electronic journal articles](#). The newly launched repository allows rich searching, browsing, and retrieval of monographs and films from NLM's History of Medicine Division. Additional content and other format types will be added over time. Users can perform full-text and keyword searching within each collection or across the entire repository. This first release of Digital Collections includes a newly expanded set of Cholera Online monographs, a portion of which NLM first published online in PDF format in 2007. The version of Cholera Online now available via Digital Collections includes 518 books (dating from 1817 to 1900) about cholera pandemics of that period. More information about the selection of the books and the subject of cholera may be found on the original [Cholera Online](#) site. Each book was scanned into high-quality TIFF images, which underwent optical character recognition to generate corresponding text

## Booklist ONLINE

### [Featured review: Cookery](#)

Reardon, Joan, ed. *As Always, Julia: The Letters of Julia Child and Avis DeVoto*. Dec. 2010. 448p. Houghton, hardcover (978-0-547-41771-4).

Many Julia Child followers already know the story of her extensive letter writing to "pen pal" Avis DeVoto, which began when DeVoto replied to a fan letter Child had sent to her husband, Bernard. But this volume marks the first appearance of their complete correspondence. Painstakingly compiled by editor Reardon (thanks to new archival access), the letters tell the incredible story of the rocky development of Child's chef d'oeuvre, *Mastering the Art of French Cooking* (1961). Child and DeVoto's relationship-on-paper began as a cooking one; living in Paris, Child enlisted DeVoto's help in determining what ingredients were available to housewives in the States, her target audience. Their talk of solely "cookery-bookery," cutely named by Child, quickly turned to friendly discussions of much more: family, social circles, and the politically taut McCarthy era....



### [He Reads: Grilling gods](#)

David Wright writes: "I'm not going too far out on a limb here to say that guys love food. We love porn, too, so you wouldn't think the concept of Food Porn would be a tough sell. Still, we'd much rather eat it than read about it. Cookbooks aimed at guys fall roughly into three camps. First are books about grilling. It may sound corny, but there is a kind of elemental joy in the juxtaposition of man, meat, and flame that must date back to *Homo erectus*. To master a grill, be it ever so humble, confers a little



Promethean swagger, and guys who'd never open a cookbook will memorize a grilling guide. Next are recipes for bottom feeders, the sort of guides that explain how to safely make a grilled Monte Cristo sandwich with an iron or poach trout with Velveeta under the hood of a moving vehicle. *Larousse Gastronomique* meets 7-Eleven."...

### [She Reads: Food](#)

Kaite Mediatore Stover writes:

"Women have mixed feelings about food. I don't mean indifferent, as in 'stay in or dine out, whatever.' I mean mixed, as in a combination Cobb-Caesar-Waldorf salad of tossed emotions. We use food in so many ways to express ourselves, from a lavish Thanksgiving dinner served with love and pride to the opening of a Snickers bar with lust and revulsion. Guilt, seduction, and competition can all be summoned with the faintest of aromas and, like revenge, are sometimes best served cold. No one understands the power of food to manipulate emotions better than Tita in *Like Water for Chocolate*. Denied the chance to marry her love, Pedro, Tita watches him marry her older sister and must bake their wedding cake. Thereafter, everything that comes out of Tita's kitchen is a recipe for disaster, desire, and anguish."...



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

files. Finally, a JPEG2000 derivative was created for each page for presentation through the integrated book viewer, which includes a Flash-based zooming feature for resizing and rotating a page on demand.

**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

"My mother was a librarian (she's now retired). And not just any librarian, my high school librarian (cue scary music). What cracks me up is that librarians in popular culture are stereotyped as grey-haired women with glasses on a chain who 'shh!' people. Now my mother did 'shh!' a lot (and even once almost kicked me out of the library for asking someone a question about a chapter we were supposed to read, which was so not fair), but she was not the shy, quiet librarian featured in most movies. Nope. She was overenthusiastic about books, especially banned books. Every year she'd do a display during Banned Books Week, and one year she even wore a

## Division News

### [Teens turn to libraries for books with beat](#)

As the popularity of young adult literature continues to soar and teen musical artists dominate the airwaves, thousands of teens will participate in Teen Read Week, October 17–23, celebrated this year with a theme of "Books with Beat @ your library." Teen Read Week, sponsored by YALSA, is an annual literacy initiative celebrated in libraries and bookstores that provides parents, caregivers, and teens with resources to encourage recreational reading habits. Many [online tools](#) are available to help publicize Teen Read Week activities....

YALSA, Sept. 27



### [Hopkins, Myracle to close YA Literature Symposium](#)

Ellen Hopkins (left), the young adult author who recently became the target of censors in Texas, and Lauren Myracle, whose *ttyl* series was the most frequently challenged set of books in 2009, will be the keynote speakers for the general closing session of YALSA's [2010 Young Adult Literature Symposium](#) in Albuquerque, New Mexico, November 7. Both Hopkins and Myracle are noted advocates for intellectual freedom whose books have appeared on YALSA's



selected booklists....  
YALSA, Sept. 28

### [Teen librarian wins hotel discount at YA Lit Symposium](#)

Pham Condello, teen services librarian at the Brick branch of the Ocean County (N.J.) Library, won half off her hotel room at the 2010 Young Adult Literature Symposium, sponsored by YALSA, in Albuquerque, November 5–7. The symposium’s theme is “Diversity, Literature, and Teens: Beyond Good Intentions.”...  
YALSA, Sept. 23

### [PLA: Public libraries survive and thrive](#)

Preceding the ALA 2011 Midwinter Meeting in San Diego, California, PLA will host a day-long institute, “[Public Libraries Survive and Thrive in the 21st Century](#).” The institute, scheduled for January 7, offers attendees the opportunity to learn from experts and connect with public library professionals across the country. Registration for the [PLA Institute](#) and the [ALA Midwinter Meeting](#) opens on October 1....  
PLA, Sept. 28

### [National Friends of Libraries Week 2010](#)

Friends of Libraries groups now have their very own national week of celebration. ALTAFF will coordinate the fifth annual National Friends of Libraries Week, October 17–23. The celebration offers a twofold opportunity to celebrate Friends. Use the time to creatively promote your group in the community, to raise awareness, and to promote membership. This is also an excellent opportunity for your library and board of trustees to recognize the Friends for their help and support of the library....  
ALTAFF



### [Register for ALTAFF’s Trustee Academy](#)

On October 18, ALTAFF will launch its Trustee Academy, a series of online courses to help trustees become exceptionally proficient in their roles on behalf of their libraries. Taught by professionals in the field, the courses are available for individual registration or as a full curriculum with discounted pricing per course. In addition, a board of trustees can sign up for further discounts. Register on the [ALTAFF website](#)....  
ALTAFF, Sept. 23



### [Call for YA research papers](#)

YALSA’s *Journal of Research on Libraries and Young Adults* is an online open-access, peer-reviewed journal that will launch in November. Its purpose is to enhance the development of theory, research, and practices to support young adult library services. Contact editor [Jessica Moyer](#) to discuss submissions or author guidelines. Manuscripts are currently being accepted for the Winter 2011 and Spring 2011 issues....  
YALSA

## Awards

### [Apply for a John Cotton Dana award](#)

### Captain Underpants t-shirt I had given her.”

—Elizabeth Eulberg, “[My Mother, the Banned-Book-Loving Librarian](#).” guest blogging in Eve’s Fan Garden, Sept. 22.

**“I’ve learned that different [interview] questions work for different jobs. The manager of my picture-framing business, for example, hires people to do ‘pick-ups’—they retrieve finished framed pictures from a room full of racks for customers. She routinely asks interviewees if they have ever thought about becoming a librarian; those who say they have thought about it tend to do the job best and to stay around the longest.”**

—Jay Goltz, “What’s Your Favorite Job Interview Question?” *New York Times*: You’re the Boss blog, Sept. 27.

@ [More quotes...](#)



You have done the creative work—the brainstorming, the text writing, the graphic design, the printing. The material you produced to promote that special library program, event, or series of events was successful, and your library was delighted with your work. You were recognized at a library board or commission meeting. Everybody loves you. But how much more would they love you if your campaign won the most prestigious award in the world of library public relations, as well as a check for \$5,000? The deadline to [apply](#) for a John Cotton Dana award is December 4....

LLAMA, Sept. 22



### [AASL opens 2011 NSLPY awards season](#)

AASL is now accepting applications for its 2011 National School Library Program of the Year Award. The deadline for applications is January 3. The NSLPY award, established in 1963, recognizes school library programs that meet the needs of the changing school and library environment and ensure that the students and staff are effective users of ideas and information. New this year, applicants should use the [online database](#) to submit their application....

AASL, Sept. 27



### [LITA Library Hi Tech Award nominations](#)

Nominations are being accepted for the 2011 LITA *Library Hi Tech* Award, given each year to an individual or institution for outstanding achievement in communication for continuing education in library and information technology. Sponsored by LITA and *Library Hi Tech*, the award includes a citation of merit and a \$1,000 stipend provided by Emerald Press. The deadline for nominations is December 1....

LITA, Sept. 23

### [ASCLA accepting awards nominations](#)

ASCLA is now accepting nominations for its 2011 service, leadership, and achievement awards, including the Leadership and Professional Achievement Award, the Exceptional Service Award, the Cathleen Bourdon Service Award, the ASCLA/KLAS/NOD Award, and the Francis Joseph Campbell Medal. [Nominations](#) for all awards must be received by December 15....

ASCLA, Sept. 28

### [Deadline extended for National Library Week grant](#)

Celebrate your library's role in helping patrons begin the next chapter in their lives every day. By applying now for the 2011 Scholastic Library Publishing National Library Week grant, your library could win \$3,000 to do just that. The deadline for 2011 grant has been extended to October 22. U.S. libraries of all types are invited to apply for a \$3,000 grant that will be awarded to the best public awareness campaign that promotes the theme "Create your own story @ your library."...

Campaign for America's Libraries, Sept. 28

### [LITA scholarships](#)

LITA is accepting applications for the following three scholarships: the Christian Larew Memorial Scholarship, the LSSI Minority Scholarship, and the OCLC Minority Scholarship. The scholarships are designed to encourage the entry of qualified persons into the library technology field. All applications, references, transcripts, and other documents

## ENJOY OUR LATEST CONTENT

[Engaging Teens at Chicago Public Libraries](#)



[Shoddy Home Repairs](#)

[Celebrate the career of Fats Domino: If you found your thrill on blueberry hill...](#)

[Get Your Game Face On - At the Library!](#)

[Chris Crutcher at the Banned Books Read-Out \(video\)](#)

[Top ten far-fetched reasons to challenge a book \(slideshow\)](#)

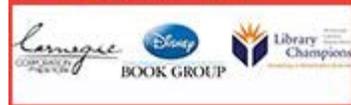
[Donna Seaman interviews Ann Patchett](#)

[The Man Who Sold America](#)

[Filming Flipped: An interview with director Rob Reiner](#)

@ your library

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TweetWatch

Follow:

Banned Books Week, Sept. 25–Oct. 2, at:

must be postmarked no later than March 1....

LITA, Sept. 23

### [Win a trip to New Orleans, courtesy of YALSA](#)

YALSA members who have never attended an ALA Annual Conference are invited to apply for YALSA's Baker & Taylor Conference Grant. The two grants of \$1,000 each are awarded to librarians who work directly with young adults in a school or public setting to enable them to attend the Annual Conference for the first time. Fill out the application ([Word file](#)) and email it to [Nicole Gilbert](#) by December 1....

YALSA, Sept. 23

### [PLA supports Spectrum Presidential Initiative](#)

PLA has reaffirmed its commitment to diversity in the library profession through a gift of \$4,000 to ALA's Spectrum Scholarship Program. ALA President Roberta Stevens, Immediate Past President Camila Alire, ALA President-Elect Molly Raphael, and ALA Past President Betty J. Turock, chair of the initiative, continue the Spectrum Presidential Initiative as a special campaign to raise \$1 million for the Spectrum Scholarship Program....

Office for Diversity, Sept. 28

### [IMLS awards 34 National Leadership Grants](#)

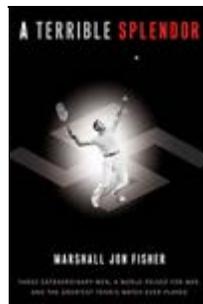
On September 27, the Institute of Museum and Library Services announced a new list of 34 institutions that are receiving National Leadership Grants totaling \$17.3 million. The projects funded by these grants will have national impact and generate results that can be widely replicated, extending the benefit of this federal support. See the [complete list](#) of September recipients....

Institute of Museum and Library Services, Sept. 27

### [PEN American Center Literary Award winners](#)

The PEN American Center, the East Coast branch of the renowned writer's organization International PEN, announced the winners of the 2010 PEN Literary Awards on September 22. Each year, PEN confers more than \$100,000 in awards to writers, editors, and translators. Don DeLillo was the winner of the PEN/Saul Bellow Award for Achievement in American Fiction. A new prize, the PEN/ESPN Award for Literary Sports Writing, went to Marshall Jon Fisher for *A Terrible Splendor: Three Extraordinary Men, a World Poised for War, and the Greatest Tennis Match Ever Played* (Crown)....

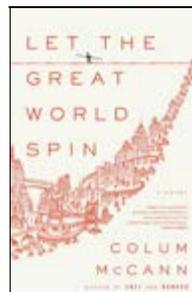
PEN American Center, Sept. 22



### [First annual Medici Book Club Prize](#)

Colum McCann was awarded the first annual Medici Book Club Prize for his novel *Let the Great World Spin* for a "distinguished work of fiction that has inspired thoughtful conversation and contributed to a deeper understanding of the human experience." The book is set in New York City on August 7, 1974—the day that French high-wire artist Philippe Petit walked on a wire stretched between the World Trade Center towers. McCann will receive \$5,000 for the award, which is intended to "acknowledge the tremendous impact that book club selections have on readers."...

*Christian Science Monitor*, Sept. 23



## [#bannedbooksweek](#)

Illinois Library Association, Annual Conference, Chicago, Sept. 28–30, at:

[#ila10](#)

eBooks: Libraries at the Tipping Point, online summit, Sept. 29, at:

[#ebooksummit](#)

Liber, International Book Fair, Barcelona, Spain, Sept. 29–Oct. 1, at:

[#liber](#)

LITA National Forum, Atlanta, Sept. 30–Oct. 3, at:

[#litaforum](#)

Open Video Conference, New York City, Oct. 1–2, at:

[#ovc10](#)

PodCamp Philly Unconference, Philadelphia, Oct. 2–3, at:

[#pcphilly2010](#)

Social Media Camp, Victoria, British Columbia, Oct. 3, at:

[#smcv10](#)

Frankfurt Book Fair, Germany, Oct. 6–10, at:

[#fbf10](#)

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

[amlibraries](#)

## Calendar

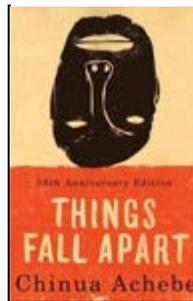
Oct. 8–9:

[A is for Anansi: Literature for Children of African](#)

### [Nigerian novelist wins Gish Prize](#)

The Nigerian novelist Chinua Achebe has won the \$300,000 Dorothy and Lillian Gish Prize, which recognizes artists who have had an extraordinary impact in their field. The award, named after the silent film stars, will be delivered at a ceremony on October 27 in New York. Achebe's books are among the most widely read in African literature. His 1958 novel, *Things Fall Apart*, has sold more than 10 million copies....

*New York Times*: Arts Beat, Sept. 24



## Seen Online

### [U.S. wants internet wiretapping powers](#)

Federal law enforcement and national security officials will seek sweeping new regulations for the internet, arguing that their ability to wiretap criminal and terrorism suspects is "going dark" as people increasingly communicate online instead of by telephone. The bill, which the Obama administration plans to submit to lawmakers in 2011, would require all services that enable communications (including encrypted email transmitters like BlackBerry, social networking websites like Facebook, and software that allows direct peer-to-peer messaging like Skype) to be technically capable of complying if served with a wiretap order....

*New York Times*, Sept. 27

### [Former CIA chief: U.S. should be able to shut down the internet](#)

Cyberterrorism is such a threat that the U.S. president should have the authority to shut down the internet in the event of an attack, former CIA Director Michael Hayden said at a cybersecurity meeting in San Antonio. For some facts ([PDF file](#)) about S. 3480, Protecting Cyberspace as a National Asset Act, see the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs [website](#). The U.S. military has a new Cyber Command that is to begin operations on October 1. Security concerns have been raised by the [Stuxnet worm](#), the first of a new breed of cyber-superweapon seemingly designed to destroy a specific target, which in this case could be an [Iranian nuclear plant](#)....

Reuters, Sept. 26; U.S. Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs; *Christian Science Monitor*, Sept. 21; *Computerworld*, Sept. 27

### [LSSI library takeover stirs up outsourcing outcry](#)

A private company in Maryland has taken over public libraries in ailing cities in California, Oregon, Tennessee, and Texas, growing into the country's fifth-largest library system. Now Library Systems and Services Inc. has been hired for the first time to run a system in a relatively healthy city, Santa Clarita, California, setting off an intense and often acrimonious debate about the role of outsourcing in a ravaged economy....

*New York Times*, Sept. 26



### [Philadelphia police officer shoots suspect in Free Library branch](#)

A man armed with a knife was shot and

[Descent](#), New York University Kimmel Center, New York City.

**Oct. 17–19:** [New England Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Holiday Inn Boxborough, Massachusetts. "Outside the Box: Results, Support, Sustainability."

**Oct. 17–23:** [National Friends of Libraries Week](#).

**Oct. 18–24:** [Open Access Week](#), organized by SPARC.

**Oct. 20–22:** [International Conference on Dublin Core and Metadata Applications](#), Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

**Oct. 22:** [Fall Festival of Children's Books](#), Lecture Hall Oakland, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

**Oct. 22–27:** [American Society for Information Science and Technology](#), Annual Meeting, Pittsburgh (Pa.) Hilton. "Navigating Streams in an Information Ecosystem."

**Oct. 25–27:** [Internet Librarian Conference](#), Monterey Conference Center, Monterey, California. Sponsored by *Information Today*. "Insights, Imagination, and Info Pros: Adding Value."

critically wounded by police during a confrontation September 27 inside the Greater Olney branch of the Free Library of Philadelphia. Mark Cottman, 31, was shot about 2:40 p.m. after he lunged at an officer with the knife inside the library. The violent encounter began a few minutes earlier with police responding to a robbery call at a nearby shoe store. Witnesses directed the officers to the library, where they found the suspect in the children's section....

*Philadelphia Inquirer*, Sept. 28; WCAU-TV, Sept. 27



### [Jersey City to close three branches](#)

The Jersey City (N.J.) Free Public Library is closing its three neighborhood libraries by the end of the year, beginning with the West Bergen branch on October 1. The library announced the closing on [Twitter](#) September 28, posted a link to its [website](#), and later issued a press release saying layoffs are also pending. Residents are unhappy with the news, but Library Director Priscilla Gardner said she had no choice but to close the neighborhood libraries....

*Jersey City Jersey Journal*, Sept. 28



### [Libraries launch apps to sync with iPod generation](#)

Jeannie Nuss writes: "Libraries are tweeting, texting, and launching smartphone apps as they try to keep up with the bibliotechs—a computer-savvy class of people—and they seem to be pulling it off. Since libraries started rebranding themselves for the iPod generation, thousands of music geeks have downloaded free songs from library websites. And with many more bookworms waiting months to check out wireless reading devices, libraries are shrugging off the notion that the internet shelved them alongside dusty books."...

*Associated Press*, Sept. 29

### [FEMA supports Cedar Rapids library plans](#)

A September 22 meeting of city, state, and Federal Emergency Management Agency officials ended with FEMA agreeing to support plans for building a new Cedar Rapids (Iowa) Public Library on a new site. FEMA will provide the city with \$19.5 million for the construction, an amount the city had expected when it picked the site in February. The agreement reverses FEMA's initial recommendation that the city tear down the old library, damaged in the 2008 flood, and rebuild on higher ground on the same site....

*Cedar Rapids (Iowa) Gazette*, Sept. 22

### [Bethel library celebrates P. T. Barnum](#)

Bethel, Connecticut, residents marked the 200th birthday of the town's most famous native son, unveiling a 6-foot, 3-inch bronze statue of legendary showman P. T. Barnum on September 26, then sending one of the most colorful processions anyone can remember parading past it. Close to 1,000 people attended the dedication of the sculpture, created by sculptor David Gesualdi, outside the Bethel Public Library....

*Danbury (Conn.) News-Times*, Sept. 26



### [Library director found guilty of battery](#)

### **Oct. 26–30:** [Association for Educational Communications and Technology](#),

International Convention, Hyatt Regency Orange County, Anaheim, California. "Cyber Change: Learning in Our Connected World."

### **Oct. 27:** [World Day for Audio Visual Heritage](#).

**Nov. 1–3:**  
[Digital Library Federation](#), Fall Forum, Crowne Plaza Cabaña, Palo Alto, California.

**Nov. 3–6:**  
[New York Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Saratoga Springs, New York. "The Library: Your Story Starts Here."

**Nov. 5:**  
[10th Annual Brick and Click Symposium](#), Northwest Missouri State University, Maryville. Sponsor: Owens Library, Northwest Missouri State University.

**Nov. 6–8:**  
[International Conference on the Book](#), University of St. Gallen, Switzerland.

**Nov. 8–9:**  
[Fair Use and Balance in Copyright: The Best Practices Model](#), online course.

Cook County, Illinois, Judge David Skryd found both East Chicago (Ind.) Public Library Director Manuel Montalvo and his wife guilty of all charges they faced for a May 27 incident at Chicago's Millennium Park commuter train station. Montalvo was charged with two counts of battery for his alleged chest bumps of two commuter train police officers, a disorderly conduct charge for his shouting and use of obscenity with police, and a criminal trespass to state property charge for refusing to leave the train platform. He was sentenced to one year of court supervision and 40 hours of community service...

Munster *Times of Northwest Indiana*, Sept. 23

### [Dems question Beaufort County meeting room policy](#)

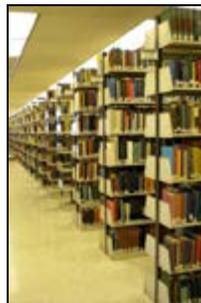
Democratic Party officials have questioned a decision to allow a local Tea Party group to hold an open meeting September 28 at the Hilton Head branch of the Beaufort County (S.C.) Library. David Rice, president of the Democratic Club South of the Broad, said the library denied his request last winter for "informational meetings." Library Director Wlodek Zaryczny said he didn't recall any requests from the Democratic Club, adding that according to library policy, political groups cannot present a candidate at the meeting, the event must be open to the public, and it has to be informational only....

Bluffton (S.C.) *Beaufort Gazette*, Sept. 24

### [How Kent State is creating space for people](#)

The average book in an academic research library is only checked out once every 50 years. That is why Kent State University Library Dean James Bracken is looking to reduce the library's in-house collection by 50%. The university plans to reduce the 2.9-million-volume collection at a rate of 5% per year over the next decade, which gives students more study space on the upper floors. The books will be sent to OhioLINK, the state's book consortium that shares 48 million books with 88 university and college libraries....

Kentwired.com, Sept. 22



### [Virginia librarians create a YouTube hit](#)

Youth Services Coordinator Caroline Parr (right) and dozens of her coworkers from all eight branches of the Rappahannock Regional Library in Fredericksburg, Virginia, put together an [over-the-top remake](#) (4:44) of Gloria Gaynor's "I Will Survive," to make light of library budget cuts. Sean Bonney is the mastermind behind the video, shooting, writing, and editing the script for this librarian manifesto. He says it was intended to be a morale booster for an upcoming staff-training event. It was such a success he posted in on YouTube, and it has gotten 51,000 views since September 11....

WRC-TV, Washington, D.C., Sept. 22; YouTube, Sept. 11



### [Library love from the Chicago Tribune](#)

Jen Weigel writes: "Have you been to the library lately? It's more than just a place to grab a book—and these days, they're more popular than ever. In this economy, more people are taking advantage of services to save money without compromising their lifestyle. Jason Kuhl, Arlington Heights (Ill.) Memorial Library's

Sponsored by the University of Maryland University College's Center for Intellectual Property.

@ [More...](#)

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operations director, says more libraries are offering Kindles for check-out that come preloaded with a selection of titles purchased by the library."...

*Chicago Tribune, Sept. 28*

### [New joint-use facility in central North Carolina](#)

A crowd of more than 600 county residents and college officials gathered at the Central Carolina Community College's Chatham County campus in Pittsboro September 20 for the ribbon cutting of the new joint county-college Chatham Community Library. The new Chatham Community Library, which cost \$8 million to complete, is almost four times bigger than the old Pittsboro Memorial Library, which had been overcrowded for years....

*Pittsboro (N.C.) Chatham Journal, Sept. 26*



### [Texas Tech's Roving Reference Cart](#)

The Roving Reference Cart is a concept that three personal librarians, Cynthia Henry (right), Carrye Syma, and Kimberly Vardeman, are testing this year in order to assist students around the Texas Tech University campus. "We put our laptops on the cart and go around campus and answer any questions students may have," Henry said. The cart proved to be vital during the first few weeks of classes. Though the cart is available to assist with directional information, its main purpose is to provide students with answers to research-related questions and promote the different services available at the library....

*Texas Tech Daily Treador, Sept. 27*



### [Portland's hotel library is one of a kind](#)

Guests who wander up to the mezzanine in the Heathman Hotel in Portland, Oregon, discover one of the most exclusive libraries in the country: 4,000 volumes, all signed by the author and most of them first editions. But there is only one way to get a book in the collection: The author must spend a night in the hotel—no exceptions. Enough authors stay at the Heathman that the [collection](#) includes some impressive signatures, including Jimmy Carter, Bill Clinton, John Updike, Stephen King, Art Spiegelman, Annie Dillard, James Patterson, and Ian Rankin....

*Portland Oregonian, Sept. 21*



### [Pac-Man comes to Calgary](#)

The University of Calgary is compiling a video-game collection that will encompass titles for consoles ranging from Atari to PCs and Wii. Librarian Jerremie Clyde predicts the collection will be invaluable to a wide range of disciplines, from history and procedural rhetoric to human-computer interaction and feminist studies. "Any time a medium comes to play a major role in entertainment and leisure, it teaches something about our culture," [said](#) Calgary Communication and Culture professor Dawn Johnston. The collection is slated to open in March 2011 in the [Taylor](#)



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AL Direct FAQ:  
[www.ala.org/aldirect/](http://www.ala.org/aldirect/)

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ISSN 1559-369X

[Family Digital Library....](#)

*Calgary (Alberta) Herald, Sept. 22; University of Calgary Gauntlet, Sept. 16*

**[European Congress on digital libraries](#)**

Some 200 delegates from more than 27 countries taking part in a September 20–21 meeting in Brussels, Belgium, came to the conclusion that the role of the librarian in Europe will be as a guide to internet resources. The [European Congress on E-Inclusion](#) also suggested that public libraries communicate to the public more about the added value they can offer....

*Euroalert.net, Sept. 23*

[Go back to the Top](#)

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## Tech Talk

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**[The future of web surfing](#)**

Michael Muchmore writes: "With Microsoft's unveiling in late September of Internet Explorer 9 beta and Mozilla coming out with several Firefox 4 betas over the past few weeks, we thought it was time to go through just what all this activity in browser betas means for internet users. What are the differences among all the new beta browsers from Microsoft, Mozilla, Google, and Opera, and should you run one? It's a fun time to be testing web browsers, and I suggest you take a few out for a spin to see which fits your style best."...

*PC Magazine, Sept. 23*



**[Stop using Windows XP, please](#)**

Lance Ulanoff writes: "I have a confession to make: I'm writing this story on a Windows XP laptop. My company is still standardized on the near-decade-old operating system, and only recently has entertained the idea of buying new systems and not ghosting them back from Windows 7 to some version of Windows XP. I am always shocked at how many people are still running Windows XP (74% of businesses by one measure). But the recent release of Microsoft's Internet Explorer 9 beta changes things. When it is released later this year, it will run on Windows 7 and Windows Vista, but not XP or previous operating systems."...

*PC Magazine, Sept. 23*

**[Five library sources for quick computer training](#)**

Sarah Houghton-Jan writes: "It's hard to find good online technology tutorials, especially those for quick and basic computer skills. Harder still to find some that meet our high expectations as information professionals. So why not turn to the library world itself? Here is a collection of my top five favorite sites for these quick computer-training materials."...

*ALA Learning, Sept. 25*



**[Take the tech out of technology](#)**

Michelle Boule writes: "Using technology does not always have to be about gadgets and tools. Sometimes the concept of a tool can be just as useful as the tool itself. Utilizing some common office supplies and some wall space in your staff or public area, your library can create some fun, participatory displays that will build community between

your staff and with your users. Here are four ways to take the tech out of technology.”...

ALA TechSource Blog, Sept. 28

### [The best weather apps](#)

John Herrman writes: “I don’t watch TV weather forecasts for the same reason that I don’t own a wristwatch: I have a smartphone, a tablet, and a computer. Here are the best apps for knowing what it’s like outside, without actually *going* outside.

Weatherbug for iPhone is relatively clear of the bloat that characterized the company’s desktop software, and most importantly, focused on the stuff that we most want from our weather apps: forecasts, local maps, and local video.”...

Gizmodo, Sept. 29



### [The internet needs a Dewey Decimal system](#)

Paul Shapiro writes: “Someone in Brazil right now wants to find all web videos teaching [Inkscape](#) in Portuguese. There is no Dewey Decimal code for that, but there ought to be. The more precisely we can describe things, the more precisely people will be able to find what they need. In commerce, in education, in healthcare, the possible benefits are enormous if we had some centralized system for assigning numerical values to products, concepts, ideas, and topics. Who is going to be the entity that creates such a centralized system?”...

PC World, Sept. 27

### [A look at vintage technology](#)

Kevin Hodgson writes: “Much of the technology that has become the center of how we communicate, game, and find information has developed over time, although it seems as if the advancements have accelerated in the field of technology. [Vintage Technology](#) is a site that seeks to showcase the evolution of devices in our lives through the archiving of old advertisements from the 1950s.”...

Instructify, Sept. 24



## Publishing

### [Amazon launches Kindle for the Web](#)

Amazon.com introduced a beta version of its [Kindle for the Web](#), which makes it easy for customers to discover new books and authors by sampling Kindle books directly through web browsers—no installation or downloading required. Amazon is also inviting bloggers and website owners who are participants in the Amazon Associates Program to be part of Kindle for the Web by embedding samples of Kindle books on their websites. These website owners will earn referral fees from Amazon when customers complete book purchases using the links on their websites....

Amazon.com, Sept. 28



## **Why there's no Kindle freedom in libraries**

Barbara Fister writes: "Joshua Kim reads so much he puts this librarian to shame, but I love the fact that he shares his enthusiasm for books and regularly asks what we're reading—and my to-be-read list keeps growing as a result. But his recent blog post on the [joys of reading Freedom](#) on his Kindle prompts me to offer a counterpoint (and how perfect is that title for this purpose)."...

*Inside Higher Ed: Library Babel Fish, Sept. 24; Inside Higher Ed: Learn, Sept. 22*

## **How many books are there in your library?**

Stephen Abram writes: "How many books are there in your library that are still in print—that is to say, that can still be ordered or acquired online through a bookstore? The Amazon Kindle store now has over 700,000 books. Barnes and Noble claims to have 1 million e-titles for purchase. Google Editions is rumored to be about to launch with more than either of these. If the price of e-books starts to go below the cost of gas, parking, or bus tickets to propel your vehicle to the library, what will most users choose?"...

Stephen's Lighthouse, Sept. 28

## **How to raise boys who read**

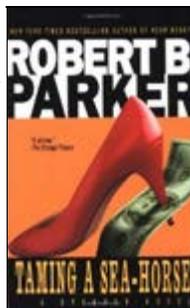
Thomas Spence writes: "Everyone agrees that if boys don't read well, it's because they don't read enough. So why won't boys read? The appearance of the boy-girl literacy gap happens to coincide with the proliferation of video games and other electronic forms of entertainment over the last decade or two. Boys spend far more time plugged in than girls do. Could the reading gap have more to do with competition for boys' attention than with their supposed inability to focus on anything other than outhouse humor?"...

*Wall Street Journal, Sept. 24*

## **How to keep track of book series**

Jason Boog writes: "The website [FictFact](#) has created an enormous database of serial fiction, keeping track of the order and release dates of your favorite series so you don't have to. Readers often complain that the proper reading order is never marked on their favorite fantasy, detective, or romance series. Now FictFact will do all the work. For instance, if you wanted to read the entire 40-book Spenser private detective series by the late, great Robert B. Parker, you could [follow this link](#) to see the entire series laid out in order."...

MediaBistro: GalleyCat, Sept. 28



## **In defense of dead or absent parents in children's lit**

Nathan Bransford writes: "There has been some [discussion](#) in the book world lately about the prevalence of absent and/or dead parents in children's literature, and how that can sometimes be symptomatic of lazy writing. I'm not a psychologist, anthropologist, or cultural historian, but I *am* a former 12-year-old, and I can remember how thrilling it was to read books where the kids were off on their own, fighting and outsmarting adults, dealing with harsh landscapes, facing their deepest fears, making unforgettable friendships, and, while I didn't know it at the time, learning how to be adults."...

*Huffington Post, Sept. 22; Publisher's Weekly, Sept. 20*



## Actions & Answers

### [The librarian behind Boardwalk Empire](#)

Heather Halpin Perez (right), archivist for the Atlantic City (N.J.) Free Public Library since 2006, played an important role in gathering information on old-time Atlantic City for the producers of the current HBO series *Boardwalk Empire*, the story of the city's bootleggers and gangsters in the early 1920s. She was interviewed both in an [HBO promotional documentary](#) (29:34) for which she provided many historical photos, as well as in a [documentary](#) (44:59) by the *Press of Atlantic City* on gangster Nucky Johnson (fictionalized in *Boardwalk Empire* as Nucky Thompson). Perez is also listed in the series credits as one of two historical consultants....



YouTube, Sept. 21; *Press of Atlantic City*: Boardwalk Empire Blog, Sept. 15

### [Harrisburg students: Social media blackout annoying, eye-opening](#)

Students at Harrisburg University of Science and Technology, where technology officials recently deprived students of social media access for one week, said the restriction was a minor inconvenience for many on campus, and showed some students just how tethered to popular social sites they had become. IT decision makers banned access to Facebook, Twitter, AOL Instant Messenger, and MySpace through the school's network during the week of Sept. 13 as a way of showing students how ingrained the technology has become....

eCampus News, Sept. 23

### [Local library, meet the world wide interwebs](#)

Emily Williams writes: "In the book world it's easy to get stuck in your own little corner talking about what digital is doing to—take your pick—readers, or authors, or publishers, or booksellers. It's easy to see libraries as the odd man out, since they're not typically viewed as participating in the commercial value chain (even though their collective spending on books and journals tops \$1 billion) and for now it's hard to see where they fit into the shiny new world of transmedia and enhanced content."...

Digital Book World, Sept. 27

### [How to conquer your feed reader](#)

Bobbi L. Newman writes: "I've heard many of my friends comment that they are overwhelmed by their Google Reader, so much so that not only are they regularly declaring Reader bankruptcy but that they are avoiding it altogether. My information professional friends, Google Reader is a *tool*, do not allow it to inspire fear and loathing, it's there to meet your needs. Here are some suggestions for mastering it."...

Librarian by Day, Sept. 28



### [Is blogging too normal now?](#)

Stephen Abrams writes: "There have been a few comments lately about blogging being dead or maybe it's been replaced with Facebook walls and Twitter. The so-called death of RSS or at least RSS readers is said to be affecting blogs too. I don't think so. I do think that we are confronted with a plethora of ways to get our opinions out there

and to share neat things. The real issue is to determine what mix of tools work for you personally and, horror of horrors, is there a different mix of tools for your work environment?"...

Stephen's Lighthouse, Sept. 28

### [Networking made easy for introverts](#)

Devora Zack writes: "In my experience, people who claim to hate networking also believe they are not good at it. The reverse is true. People who hate networking fail at traditional networking by following advice never intended for them in the first place. You have the raw materials to be a stellar networker, but you are just following the wrong rules. Standard networking advice fails you, so you assume you fail at networking. Plus you hate it. What is networking?"...

The Work Buzz, Aug. 30

### [A killer exhibit from the National Library of Medicine](#)

Nancy Mattoon writes: "The NLM's remarkable online exhibit, [Most Horrible And Shocking Murders: 'True Crime' Murder Pamphlets in the Collection of the National Library of Medicine](#), presents a selection of historical pamphlets that depict humans on their worst possible behavior. The toll and consequences of murder and savagery, and various other crimes, are gut-wrenchingly detailed in a chronological array of pamphlets, published from 1692 to 1881. The pamphlet covers are gorgeously reproduced, as well as selected pages of the actual text."...

Booktryst, Sept. 24



### [Digital Book Report Video Contest](#)

Recorded Books and three-time Teacher of the Year award-winner Alan Sitomer are challenging middle and high-school teachers to collaborate with students and create a book report using modern technology for a chance to win one of the two grand prizes: a 21st-century library worth \$20,000. [Entries](#) for the first BookJam Digital Book Report Video Contest will be accepted through October 28....

Recorded Books, Aug. 31

### [Cleveland's Rice branch earns silver LEED certification](#)

After months of extensive review and a lengthy application process, Cleveland Public Library's new Rice branch has achieved silver LEED certification, making it the first freestanding library in Ohio to earn the designation. A key [sustainable attribute](#) of the branch is its raised, modular floor, which sits 24 inches above another floor to allow for the installation of the air conditioning, heating, and electrical units....

Cleveland Public Library, Aug. 30; AL: Green Your Library, Sept. 29



### [Library labs turn to patrons for project ideas](#)

Travis Kaya writes: "University librarians are turning to their patrons for ideas on how to improve library services. This fall, the new [Harvard University Library Lab](#) invited students and faculty and staff members to help enhance the facility's offerings by proposing projects of their own. The lab will pool the proposals—submitted through an online portal—for review by a board of library officials. Once selections are made, the lab will develop the most promising projects with grant money from Arcadia, a London-based charitable

fund."...

*Chronicle of Higher Education: Wired Campus, Sept. 24*

## [Pride and Passion at the Highland Park library](#)

Beth Keller writes: "Highland Park (Ill.) Public Library recently unveiled 'Pride and Passion: The African-American Baseball Experience,' an exhibit organized by ALA and the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum and funded



by the National Endowment for the Humanities, to a standing-room-only crowd. It was opening day at the library, and crowds were waiting outside for the doors to open. Sharon Robinson, the daughter of baseball legend Jackie Robinson, was the featured speaker, but the day's lineup included much more."...

*Programming Librarian, Sept. 23*

## [A cataloger's perspective on coding](#)

Kelley McGrath writes: "I sometimes feel myself a bit of an odd duck on the *Code4Lib Journal* editorial committee as I am not a coder. I am a cataloger. However, when I think about this a little more, it no longer seems so odd for a cataloger to be on the editorial committee. The future of library cataloging and metadata is inextricably bound up with technology. Although many predict doom and obsolescence for library metadata, I do believe that bibliographic data still has a role to play in the universe of information."...

*Code4Lib Journal, no. 11 (Sept. 21)*

## [World Day for Audiovisual Heritage](#)

October 27 has been declared by UNESCO as the World Day for AV Heritage. The audiovisual heritage comprises all forms of moving images and recorded sounds, as well as associated information, documents, objects, artifacts and technology, and graphical material. In 2005, the UNESCO General Assembly established the World Day for AV Heritage to raise awareness of the importance of AV documents as an integral part of national identities and draw attention to the urgent need to protect them....

UNESCO



## [British Library digitizes Greek manuscripts](#)

The British Library has digitized over a quarter of its Greek manuscripts (284 volumes) for the first time and made them freely available [online](#). The website provides researchers with access to high-quality digital images of a major part of its Greek manuscripts collection, supported by enhanced metadata that enables users to search using keywords. The Greek manuscripts contain unique and outstandingly rich information for researchers working on the literature, history, science, religion, philosophy, and art of the whole of the Eastern Mediterranean in the Classical and Byzantine periods. Watch the [video](#) (2:52)....



*British Library, Sept. 27*

## [Candyman in the library](#)

Kinkstress is studying in the library

when she spots a sexy stud studying right across from her. She instantly becomes infatuated and tries to get his attention while the librarian gets livid.



Join the ypdub crew in their second music video (3:14), this one to the tune of Christina Aguilera's "Candyman" (not Lady Gaga's "Alejandro" as the video proclaims) filled with laughs, surprises, and lots of sugar....

YouTube, May 29, 2009

[Go back to the Top](#)