

american libraries DIRECT

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | November 2, 2011

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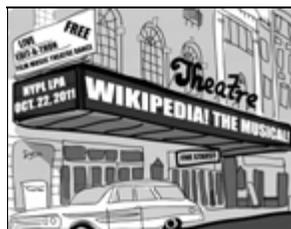
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American Libraries Online

Libraries tap into crowd power

It seemed only natural when one of the most-consulted websites in the world recently posted a ubiquitous banner stating WIKIPEDIA LOVES LIBRARIES. What has resulted is a nationwide "editathon"—editing marathons organized by active Wikipedia users to expand and add depth to the website's content on a wide range of cultural and historical topics. Dozens of them are taking place in cities across the country, including Atlanta, Boulder, Seattle, St. Louis, and Washington, D.C....



American Libraries news, Nov. 1

School filters reach into students' homes

Gordon Flagg writes: "The installation of filtering software on computers continues to create problems for students doing assignments using computers on their school campuses—and even beyond. A survey conducted by the Dartmouth (Mass.) High School's student newspaper, *The Spectrum*, has found that, since the school district installed Fortiguard Web Filtering in January, 89% of students have had difficulty researching school-related topics on campus. It also reported that students and teachers have been banned from all streaming media."...

AL: Censorship Watch, Nov. 2

Next Steps: Building a competitive advantage

Brian Mathews writes: "When Susan Nutter (right) took over the leadership role at North Carolina State University Libraries in Raleigh, it wasn't a very inspiring organization. A study found it to be the academic library least able to meet its mission in the state; as a result, faculty were upset, and then they did something about it. In 1996 the faculty senate voted unanimously to use a portion of tuition increases to improve the libraries rather than to raise their own salaries. This was the spark that Nutter needed."...

American Libraries column, Nov./Dec.



Pop star [Lisa Loeb](#) will bring her wit, wacky humor, and sparkling creativity to the Wrap Up Rev Up Celebration during the Midwinter Exhibits Closing on January 23.

NKU
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ONLINE

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- Professional CEU COURSES

Technology in Practice: Information literacy 2.0

Meredith Farkas writes: "Critical-inquiry skills are among the most important in a world in which the half-life of information is rapidly shrinking. These days, what you know is almost less important than what you can find out. And finding out today requires a set of skills that are very different from what most libraries focus on. In addition to academic sources, a huge wealth of content is being produced by people every day in knowledgebases like Wikipedia, review sites like Trip Advisor, and in blogs. Some of this content is legitimate and valuable—but some of it isn't."...

American Libraries column, Nov./Dec.

ALA News

Schulman, Jordan, Loeb scheduled for Midwinter

Acclaimed authors Helen Schulman (left) and Hillary Jordan (right) are scheduled to kick off the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Dallas on January 20, and Grammy-nominated Lisa Loeb will close out the festivities on January 23. The authors will sign copies of their latest works at their publishers' booths during the Opening Exhibits Reception....

Conference Services, Nov. 1



FCC announces Connect America Fund

The Federal Communications Commission [announced](#) the creation of the [Connect America Fund](#) on October 27 as part of its reform and modernization of the Universal Service Fund. It outlined five goals for this reform, including ensuring universal availability of modern networks capable of providing voice and broadband service to homes, businesses, and community anchor institutions. ALA had filed comments ([PDF file](#)) in April in support of creating the CAF....

District Dispatch, Oct. 31

First set of ALA web pages are live in Drupal

Louise Gruenberg writes: "On October 19, we reached two truly significant milestones in the ALA migration to Drupal project. We soft-launched the first phase of single-sign-on powered by Shibboleth and the [PLA website](#) in Drupal. Although the process hasn't been without a few bumps, on October 27 we launched [ALSC](#), [ALSCConnect](#), [LLAMA](#), and [I Love Libraries](#). Here is what we learned during these test migrations."...

ITTS News, Oct. 28



National Novel Writing Month

The Campaign for America's Libraries is kicking off monthlong activities for [National Novel Writing Month](#). During November, librarians across the country and around the world will be reminding would-be writers of all the great resources they have to offer when it comes to writing their masterpiece. A Library Outreach Guide can be found [here](#). GalleyCat is offering one piece of [NaNoWriMo advice](#) every day for the rest of the month....

ALA Public Information Office, Nov. 1; GalleyCat, Nov. 1



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Publishers**
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fits into
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Let
the
learning



[ALA student chapters survey results](#)

Don Wood writes: "The 2011 ALA Student Chapters Survey was conducted over a three-month period from July to October 2011. The [results are in](#) and can be found posted ([PDF file](#)) at the Student Chapter Leadership group on ALA Connect. One interesting finding is that only just over 51% of the students answering the survey belong to their state library association."...

AL: Student Membership Blog, Nov. 1

[Money Smart Week @ your library, 2012](#)

Interested in helping your community become "money smart," but missed out on the recent webinar? It is now [archived](#) and available for viewing at your convenience. Next April 21–28, you and your library can participate with hundreds of other libraries across the country. Money Smart Week's mission is to promote personal financial literacy....

Chapter Relations Office

[Webinar on comics/manga censorship](#)

Access to comic books, graphic novels, and manga is an increasingly hot topic in the library, creative, and free speech communities. To kick off our "Intellectual Freedom across the Globe" webinar series, OIF and the IFLA Committee on Freedom of Access to Information and Freedom of Expression will present a "[Comics, Graphic Novels, Manga, and Libraries](#)" webinar on November 9, a one-hour look at how censorship affects comics around the world. [Register](#) online....

OIF Blog, Oct. 31

[New series of diversity webinars](#)

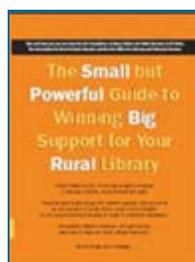
Office for Diversity is introducing the first three installments of its Diversity Leadership Online series, beginning December 1. This ongoing webinar series provides the foundation for a culture of responsible diversity leadership within the profession. To register and learn more about upcoming sessions, visit the [ALA Online Learning](#) website....

Office for Diversity, Oct. 31

[Tips for building support for rural libraries](#)

Start building support for your rural library by attending the "Small but Powerful Webinar for Winning Big Support for Your Rural Library." This free hourlong webinar will take place at 1 p.m. Central time on December 14 and will present tips and strategies from the [toolkit](#), share the experiences of a rural librarian who has successfully built support, and highlight additional advocacy tools and resources available from ALA. [Registration](#) is required....

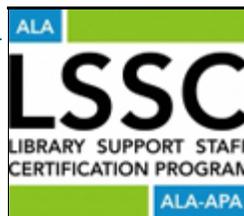
Office for Literacy and Outreach Services, Nov. 1



[LSSC will partner with other programs](#)

The ALA–Allied Professional Association announced November 1 that the Library Support Staff Certification program will partner with 11 Library Assistant Training programs in a project that will allow their graduates to receive the LSSC without having to further demonstrate their skills and knowledge....

ALA–Allied Professional Association, Nov. 1



[An introduction to LSSC](#)

LSSC will offer an hourlong informational [webinar](#) at 2 p.m. Central time on November 15. The presentation will explain the value of this certification to library support staff, employers, and library users. Attendees will also have the opportunity to have their questions answered by program staff members....

ALA–Allied Professional Association, Nov. 1

[Cutting-edge technology nominations extended](#)

The Office for Information Technology Policy and LITA are extending the deadline for [submitting nominations](#) for best library practices using cutting-edge technology to November 8. Members from the OITP Subcommittee on America’s Libraries for the 21st Century and LITA will review all nominations and may conduct selected interviews or site visits to identify those libraries that are truly offering a best practice or most innovative service....

Office for Information Technology Policy, Oct. 31

Booklist Online just got a makeover.
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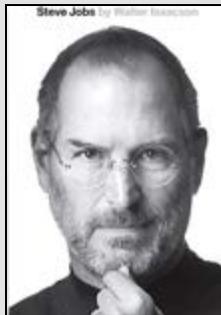


Booklist ONLINE

[Featured review: Adult biography](#)

Isaacson, Walter. *Steve Jobs*. Oct. 2011. 630p. Simon and Schuster, hardcover (978-1-4516-4853-9).

Now we all know how the story ends. But that only adds a certain frisson to this biography of the man who was determined to “make a dent in reality.” Shaping reality was what Jobs was about, not only in his extraordinary vision of how personal computers could remake the world but also in his personal life, where early forays into Eastern mysticism led to belief in what Star Trek called a “reality distortion field”—Jobs believed reality was malleable and made others believe it, too. The book is filled with examples of projects that seemed impossible to complete but were completed and goals that appeared unachievable but were achieved—all because Jobs insisted it could be done. Yet Jobs was no saint. Juxtaposed against Jobs’ story are contrasting profiles of Apple cofounder Steve



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USNews
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Hugo, based on author-illustrator Brian Selznick’s *The Invention of Hugo Cabret*, is in theaters nationwide beginning November 23. Use this [poster](#) and [bookmark](#) in celebration of this Caldecott Medal-winning book and soon-to-be movie classic. *Hugo* from ©2011 Paramount Pictures Corporation and GK Films. **NEW!**
From ALA Graphics.

New this week
in American Libraries

Wozniak, the actual engineer, who would benignly have given away the specs for designing personal computers (he did give low-level associates some of his Apple shares before it it went public), and Bill Gates, at different times Jobs' partner and rival....

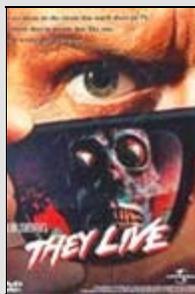
[Point, push, print, and publish](#)

Will Manley writes: "Fifty years ago, Warhol saw that America's strongest cultural forces, celebrity and democracy, would fuse together. He rightly understood that we would become a country that would guarantee not just life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness but also fame. For every Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie, we now have a Kate and Jon Gosselin. We have gone from daguerreotype to Flickr in 150 years. Just as anyone can be a writer, anyone can now be an artist. It's as easy as point, push, print, and publish."...



[31 horror films in 31 days: The terrifying conclusion](#)

Daniel Kraus writes: "There's a famous line from John Carpenter's *They Live*: 'I have come here to chew bubblegum and kick ass. And I'm all out of bubblegum.' That's exactly what I did to the third annual 31 Horror Films in 31 Days Challenge. Previous Octobers, I suffered the tortures of the damned, with the final days spent drooling in front of the TV as indescribable horror after indescribable horror flashed before my bloodshot eyes, so determined was I to meet my queasy quota. But not this year. Now excuse me while I spend the next month watching *Golden Girls* reruns to detox."...



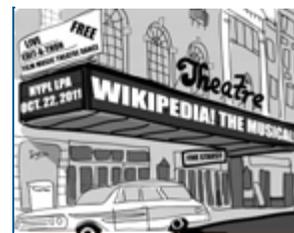
Likely Stories, Nov. 1

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

Dallas Update

[The Dallas Arts District](#)

The cornerstone and catalyst for creative vitality in the region, the Arts District is home to the city's leading visual and performing arts institutions. In 1978, Boston consultants Carr-Lynch recommended that Dallas relocate its major arts institutions from different parts of the city to the northeast corner of downtown. The District includes the Dallas Museum of Art, the Dallas Symphony Orchestra, the Dallas Opera, and other venues. During the Midwinter Meeting, the Crow Collection of Asian Art will feature an [exhibition](#) of work by emerging Shanghai-based artist Qui Anxiong....



[Next Steps](#)

[Technology in Practice](#)

[E-Content](#)

[Censorship Watch](#)

[Currents](#)

[Perpetual Beta](#)

[Inside Scoop](#)

[Ask the ALA Librarian](#)

[Solutions and Services](#)

[AL Focus](#)

Great Libraries of the World



[Bibliothèque Ste.-Geneviève](#), Paris.

Completed in 1851 by architect Henri Labrouste, this library inherited the collections of the Benedictine Abbey of Ste.-Geneviève, said to have been founded in 502 by the Frankish King Clovis I. The iron structure of its reading room has been praised by Modernist architects for its introduction of advanced technology

Dallas Arts District

[Airline boarding times](#)

Airlines have been boarding passengers since the first commercial flight, but as they have added new classes of seating to their cabins and new fees for priority boarding—all in the name of more revenue—they have slowed down the whole process. Checked-baggage fees have only added to the problem, and planes are now fuller. That is why some airlines have gone back to the drawing board to rein in a lengthening process....

New York Times, Oct. 31

Division News

[AASL conference comes to a close](#)

International mobile technology expert Mimi Ito (right) brought the AASL 15th National Conference and Exhibition in Minneapolis to an end October 30. More than 3,000 school librarians, educators, exhibitors, and guests discussed key issues that impact our nation's school libraries. The conference featured preconference workshops, several school and educational tours, more than 100 top-quality continuing education programs, thought provoking opening and closing general sessions, author events and more than 200 exhibiting companies....

AASL, Oct. 31



[Nicholas Carr on Stone Age thinking](#)

Author Nicholas G. Carr, the speaker at the AASL National Conference's Opening General Session on October 28, contends that technology could be moving us away from innovation and progress, and closer to the Stone Age in terms of how we process information—a scary thought, considering the country's desperate call for 21st-century thinking. Our brains are changing as we use new technologies, and Carr argued that although we acquire skills, such as increased visual-spatial intelligence (being aware of many moving parts at once), we also weaken our "mindful knowledge acquisition," inductive analysis, critical thinking, imagination, and reflection....

eSchool News, Nov. 1



[Streaming and teaming for strong school libraries](#)

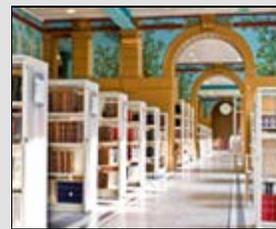
Dorcas Hand writes: "The trouble with agreeing to blog the AASL conference is that the days are so chock full of great sessions and good friends that I can't sit still to write. Saturday morning, I attended Buffy Hamilton's (right) streamed session on transliteracy. I look forward to a second viewing when the stream is archived because it was so meaty I will need a second listen to absorb all her insights. The [Learning Commons](#) session with Judi Repman of Georgia Southern University in Statesboro was also an interesting experience." Read her previous post on [e-ink and collection development](#)....

AL: Inside Scoop, Oct. 27, 31



[AASL from the floor](#)

in a monumental building. It is now part of the University of Paris 1.



[Bibliothèque de la Sorbonne.](#)

Universities of Paris. Built as the library of the University of Paris in 1770 after the university acquired the college of the Jesuits, who were expelled from France in 1763, the library closed in 1793 during the French Revolution and its books and holdings were transferred elsewhere. The current building by architect Henri-Paul Nénot was completed in 1897, three more stories were added in 1932, and a basement level was put in place in the 1970s. The Collections Patrimoniales contain the university archives up to the Revolution, historical manuscripts, the papers of philosopher Victor Cousin, the papers of the dukes of Richelieu, and some 100,000 pre-1801 imprints. The library now serves five of the universities of Paris.

This *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](#)

Christopher Harris writes: "I found a couple of fun e-content tidbits on the exhibit hall floor of the AASL National Conference in Minneapolis. First up is [ThingLink](#), a site that provides image enhancements through tag links. Think old school image maps, but taken to an entirely new level. In the Gale booth, I saw the new design for the [Gale Virtual Reference Library](#) interface. For the last few years, GVRL has been more of an ebook database than a book reading platform."...

AL: E-Content, Nov. 2



[Closing AASL celebration at Nicollet Island Pavilion](#)

Wendy Stephens writes: "On October 29, many school librarians were already on their ways back east into the early October snow, but the climate, bolstered with auxiliary heat lamps, was more hospitable at the Nicollet Island Pavillion where AASL held its Annual Conference Closing Celebration. Just across the Mississippi River from downtown Minneapolis, conference-goers were treated to pan-seared walleye and wild rice, both Minnesota delicacies, and had the opportunity to make s'mores over fire pits (above)."...

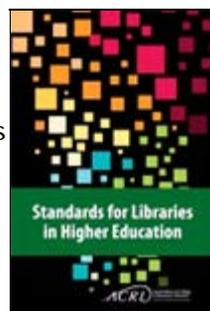
AASL Blog, Oct. 30



[ACRL releases revised Standards for Libraries in Higher Education](#)

The ACRL Board of Directors has approved a comprehensive revision of the association's "Standards for Libraries in Higher Education." The [newly revised version](#) of SLHE provides a guide to libraries in advancing and sustaining their role as partners in educating students, achieving their institutions' missions, and positioning libraries as leaders in assessment and continuous improvement on their campuses. ACRL is offering a free introductory webcast on the standards at 1 p.m. Central time on November 9. RSVP [here](#)....

ACRL, Nov. 1



[ALSC prepares for Día 2012](#)

ALSC will celebrate the 16th anniversary of El día de los niños / El día de los libros (Children's Day / Book Day), also known as Día, on April 30, 2012. On November 14, ALSC will roll out the new [Día website](#), which will include a free downloadable resource guide containing programming, outreach, book lists, and activity sheets. Librarians can also register their event on the Día website. Registration opens on November 14. ALSC is also offering three new Día-related webinars....

ALSC, Oct. 31



[Literary Landmark status given to Hackley Public Library](#)

ALTAFF has named the 121-year-old Hackley Public Library in Muskegon, Michigan, a Literary Landmark as a result of its connection to Caldecott Medal winner Verna Aardema Vugteveen. Vugteveen, who wrote under the pen name Verna Aardema, died in 2000. In

[Library Handbook 5](#), edited by George M. Eberhart, which is scheduled for publication in 2013 by ALA Editions.



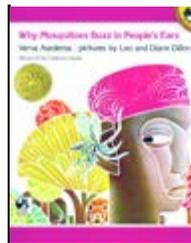
Career Leads from
AMA JobLIST

[Product Manager, WorldCat Quality](#), OCLC, Dublin, Ohio. Tens of thousands of libraries around the world use OCLC services to locate, acquire, catalog, lend, and preserve library materials. The Product Manager is responsible for all aspects of product planning and development. This role also provides critical input to the product marketing team in product release and promotional efforts....



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1976, she won the Caldecott for *Why Mosquitoes Buzz in People's Ears*....

Muskegon (Mich.) Chronicle, Oct. 31

[LLAMA webinar keeps your library secure](#)

Just when everything in your library is running smoothly, along comes an unruly patron who seems strangely threatening. LLAMA will present "A Person of Interest: Safety and Security in the Library" on November 16. The webinar will demonstrate effective ways to deal with patrons in the library who are breaking library policy, displaying behavioral problems, or breaking the law. [Register](#) online....

LLAMA, Oct. 31

[Web course on mashups and APIs](#)

LITA's five-day web course, "Creating Library Web Services: Mashups and APIs," will be offered November 14–18 to help participants learn how to bring pieces of the web together with library data. Live synchronous lectures will take place each day 11 a.m.–1 p.m. Central time. This course has sold out in the past; [register here](#)....

LITA, Nov. 1

[Genealogy reference institute at Midwinter](#)

[Early-bird registration](#) for RUSA's "Behind the Genealogy Reference Desk: Genealogy Is Bigger in Texas" (event code RUS1) ends December 2. The full-day Midwinter event will take place January 20 and will feature expert speakers on local and specialized resources. Librarians interested in learning how to use genealogy-related resources more effectively are invited to attend....

RUSA, Nov. 1

[Registration begins for Teen Tech Week 2012](#)

[Registration](#) has opened for YALSA's [Teen Tech Week](#), which will be held March 4–10, 2012. The theme is "Geek Out @ your library." Teen Tech Week is an annual celebration of technology and digital literacy, and encourages teens to take advantage of the many technologies available to them, free of charge, at their libraries....

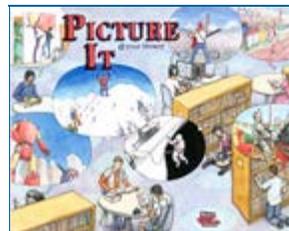
YALSA, Nov. 1



[Teen Read Week 2011](#)

Thousands of school and public libraries throughout the country joined YALSA to celebrate [Teen Read Week 2011](#), October 16–22. More than 5,000 libraries embraced this year's theme, Picture It @ your library, by hosting an array of events and programs that encouraged teens to read for fun and become regular library users....

YALSA, Nov. 1



[PLA Boot Camp recap](#)

Digital Library of the Week



[Maps of Delaware and the Mid-Atlantic Region](#)

drawn from the [Historic Map Collection](#) in the Special Collections Department of the University of Delaware Library, includes several hundred sheet maps representing Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, New York, Virginia, West Virginia, and Washington, D.C.; and four atlases of the state of Delaware. The digitized maps are from the 17th through the 20th centuries, and include transportation, regional, municipal, manuscript, and historical maps; and nautical charts of Delaware Bay.

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.

Kathleen Hughes writes: "The 2011 [PLA 'Results' Boot Camp](#) took place October 18–21, in Nashville. Designed to help attendees get their libraries in strategic shape and prepared to meet any challenges, the PLA Boot Camp program is led by Sandra Nelson and June Garcia. We asked Boot Camp attendees to tell us about the experience. Here are some of their observations."...

PLA Blog, Oct. 25

Awards & Grants

[National Library of Medicine honors winners of software development challenge](#)

Five software applications are the winners of the National Library of Medicine's first software development challenge. The winning apps can help people learn about anatomy, help researchers find gene information in research literature, and help people sift through large amounts of scientific and medical information....

National Institutes of Health News, Oct. 27

[2011 Dundee International Book Prize](#)

The 2011 Dundee Literary Festival in Scotland announced October 27 that Irish writer Simon Ashe-Browne, 26, is winner of this year's Dundee International Book Prize. The first-time author was awarded more than \$16,000 for his psychological thriller *Sympathy for the Doc*, which will be published by Glasgow-based Cargo Publishing under the new title *Nothing Human Left*. The annual literary award offers one of the UK's largest prizes for unpublished authors....

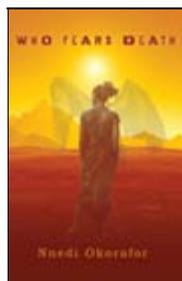
Deadline News, Oct. 27



[World Fantasy Awards](#)

Charlie Jane Anders writes: "The verdict is in, and we watched it happen. The World Fantasy Awards at the October 30 World Fantasy Convention in San Diego, California, were a star-studded celebration of fantasy writers, publishers, and readers. The award for best novel went to Nnedi Okorafor for *Who Fears Death* (DAW), and the award for best story went to Joyce Carol Oates for 'Fossil-Figures.'"...

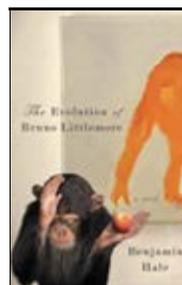
io9, Oct. 31



[Bard Fiction Prize 2012](#)

Author Benjamin Hale has been selected to receive the Bard Fiction Prize for 2012. The prize, established in 2001 by Bard College to encourage and support promising young fiction writers, consists of a \$30,000 cash award and appointment as writer in residence at the college for one semester. Hale is receiving the prize for his debut novel, *The Evolution of Bruno Littlemore* (Twelve, 2011)....

Bard College, Nov. 1



Seen Online

[Salt Lake library director resigns amid](#)



Public Perception

How the World Sees Us

"There is no frigate like a book, and no harbor like a library, where those who love books but can't afford their own complete collections, or those who need a computer, or kids who need a safe place to read after school, or moms with toddlers who want their babies to learn to read, can all come together and share in a great community resource."

—Detective fiction author Sara Paretsky, urging residents of Chicago, and anywhere else library hours and staff are threatened, to advocate for their public libraries, [Sara Paretsky's blog](#). Oct. 30.

@ [More quotes...](#)

ENJOY OUR
LATEST
CONTENT

[Connect with your kids: Father-and-Son Road Trip Photographing America's Libraries](#)

[controversy](#)

After more than three years of running Salt Lake City's libraries, director Beth Elder (right) has stepped down. The Salt Lake City Library board of directors on October 28 unanimously accepted Elder's resignation after receiving multiple complaints about her management style and policy changes. She said stepping aside would help the library move forward. Elder restructured library management and staffing roles, saying she had to make tough but much-needed changes over the years. Debbie Ehrman, a longtime library employee, will act as interim director....

Salt Lake City *Deseret News*, Oct. 28



[Librarians protest Chicago mayor's proposed cuts](#)

During an October 31 Chicago City Council hearing on Mayor Rahm Emanuel's proposed budget, librarians staged a storytime read-in in front of the mayor's office to voice opposition to his plan to cut library hours and staff. Children sat on the floor in their Halloween costumes as librarians held an interactive storytime reading books such as *Go Away Big Green Monster* and *Bark, George*. Aldermen showed up to the City Hall storytime to support librarians, and several said they could not vote for Emanuel's budget if the library cuts remain. Librarians presented a [petition](#) with 4,000 signatures to rescind the cuts. Watch the [newscast](#) (1:10)....

Chicago Tribune, Oct. 31; *Chicago Sun-Times*, Oct. 31; *WMAQ-TV*, Chicago, Oct. 31



[Libraries become outlet for powerless residents](#)

From the moment West Caldwell (N.J.) Library Manager Karen Kelly arrived at work October 31, "the phones were ringing off the hook," she said. After patrons realized the library was open, the next question they had was whether the library had Wi-Fi. "We are serving a dual purpose by providing warmth and knowledge," said WCPL Director April Judge....

Caldwells (N.J.) Patch, Nov. 1

[Libraries as a core service](#)

Dave Peters writes: "How crucial are libraries to a community? Beloved by many, they nonetheless are among the first places residents turn when faced with a desire to save money. We've been exploring this question as part of our '[Forced to Choose](#)' project. We also asked people in our Public Insight Network to give us their thoughts. We have a lot of librarians in the network, so we heard a lot of reasons to consider libraries core services at the heart of what a community is. But we heard from others as well."...

Minnesota Public Radio, Nov. 1

[Library will not ban Occupy Bangor protesters](#)

The Bangor (Maine) Public Library will not adopt a policy to ban the Occupy Bangor protesters from camping out on library grounds. The demonstration started on October 29. Protesters are required to leave the nearby Pierce Park when it closes at 10 p.m. From there, they must move over to the library grounds. As it stands, anyone is



[Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh Helps Patrons with Job Seeking](#)

[Connect with your kids: Celebrate El Día de los Muertos](#)

[Native-American and Other Symbolic Mascots Can Divide Communities](#)

[Connect with your kids: The Secret to Your Child's Academic Success](#)

[Carmen Agra Deedy: 'All students should have the benefit of trained school librarians.'](#)

[What's Your Favorite Book? Is It the Same as Oprah's?](#)



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TweetWatch

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StoryWorld 2011 Conference, San Francisco, Oct. 31–Nov. 2, at: [#swc11](#)

Digital Library

allowed on library property and can access its Wi-Fi internet, even when it is closed....

WABI-TV, Bangor, Maine, Nov. 1

[California must value its librarians](#)

Regina Powers writes: "California paid for my master's degree in library and information science. While I am grateful to have had the grant and the opportunity to go back to school, I wish now that I had instead trained to be an electrician, a plumber, or an auto mechanic. California does not value librarians. Other states employ an average of one public librarian to 6,250 patrons. As of last year, California librarians were each expected to serve 10,854 patrons."...

Los Angeles Times, Oct. 26

[Should DCPL stay in the Martin Luther King library?](#)

Jonathan O'Connell writes: "The Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library is a historic landmark that, with its location in downtown Washington, D.C., is able to serve residents from around the city and provide support to the District of Columbia Public Library system's 24 other branches. But the building, completed in 1972, is also expensive to maintain. For instance: Because a specific, hard-to-find window is needed to replace any that break in the building, fixing a broken window costs \$16,000."...

Washington Post: Capital Business, Oct. 27



[Planned cuts at Philadelphia Library for the Blind](#)

Officials at the Free Library of Philadelphia and others are fighting against state plans for cutting services at Philadelphia Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped and shifting much of its work to its smaller counterpart in Pittsburgh. The Philadelphia library, the nation's oldest library for the blind, provides services to the blind, physically handicapped, and hearing impaired in the eastern half of the state, while the smaller Pittsburgh library serves the western half....

Philadelphia Inquirer, Oct. 27

[Accomplice pleads guilty in document thefts](#)

A presidential historian's assistant pleaded guilty October 27 to conspiring to steal valuable documents signed by Abraham Lincoln, Napoleon Bonaparte, and other historic figures from both sides of the Atlantic. Jason Savedoff, 24, admits he worked with historian Barry Landau since late last year to steal cultural heritage items from museums throughout the Northeast, including historical societies in Maryland, Pennsylvania, and Connecticut....

Associated Press, Oct. 27

[Library janitor pleads guilty to theft of books, DVDs](#)

A former library janitor who stole—and then sold—books and DVDs from the Lisle (Ill.) Library, where he worked, has been placed on two years' probation and ordered to pay \$2,500 in restitution after pleading guilty to felony theft. James F. Jackson, 43, was arrested August 27. Police say Jackson stole perhaps thousands of items and then sold them on the internet....

Chicago Sun-Times, Oct. 27

[Report: Multnomah County should privatize its libraries](#)

An October report, *Checking Out the Options* ([PDF](#))

Federation, Fall Forum, Baltimore, Oct. 31–Nov. 2, at:

[#dlfforum](#)

New York Library Association, Annual Conference, Saratoga Springs, Nov. 2–5, at:

[#nyla11](#)

31st Charleston Conference, Charleston, S.C., Nov. 2–5, at:

[#chsconf11](#)

RFID in Libraries Conference, London, U.K., Nov. 8, at:

[#rfid11](#)

Streaming Media West, Los Angeles, Nov. 8–9, at:

[#smwest](#)

ALA Midwinter Meeting, Dallas, Jan. 20–24, at:

[#alamw12](#)

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

[amlibraries](#)

Calendar

Nov. 9:
[LYRASIS Annual Member Meeting](#).
Online or at a number of [community sites](#).
"Content, Access, and the Role of Libraries in a Connected World."

Nov. 9–11:
[Access Services Conference](#), Georgia Tech Global Learning Center, Atlanta.
"Unlocking the 21st Century Library!"

Nov. 14–15:

[file](#)), by the pro-corporate and libertarian Cascade Policy Institute, comes as Multnomah (Oreg.) County commissioners are thinking of placing a library district authorization measure on the May 2012 primary ballot. If approved by voters, the district would provide permanent tax-raising authority for the library system. However, the report suggests that the county instead put library operations up for a private bid and charge annual user fees, arguing, "There is no inherent reason why library workers need to be unionized public employees."...

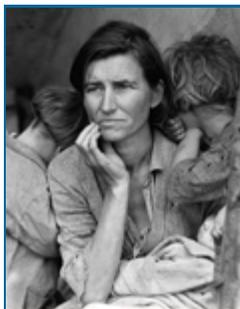
Portland (Oreg.) Tribune, Oct. 25



[LC closes its darkroom](#)

From the end of the Great Depression until 2011, anyone could order a silver gelatin reproduction, printed from negatives, of any image in the Library of Congress collection, most recently for about \$100 a print. Not any more. As a cost-cutting measure, the library's [duplication services](#) no longer include darkroom-made prints. You can still order a digitally printed duplication. Or if you want Dorothea Lange's "Migrant Mother" (right) as wallpaper for your desktop, you can download it for free....

Washington City Paper: Arts Desk, Oct. 26



[Library hosts Boardwalk Empire historians](#)

On October 29, the Atlantic City (N.J.) Free Public Library hosted a panel of three Atlantic City historians—Ralph E. Hunter Sr., Allen Pergament, and *Boardwalk Empire* author Nelson Johnson—to discuss Prohibition in the city, the vital role of the city's black population, and the differences between fact and the events as portrayed in the award-winning HBO series *Boardwalk Empire*. "People think [the show] is all stuff that happened in Atlantic City, but didn't really happen," Hunter said. "I know it, Nelson knows it, and the whole world would know if they read his book."...

Press of Atlantic City (N.J.), Oct. 29

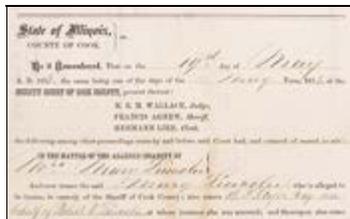
[Some nonprofits could lose tax-exempt status](#)

Fruitland (Idaho) Community Library depends on cash donations to pay its rent and expenses like internet service for 10 public-access computers. Since the library opened in 2000, its use has mushroomed. But it surprised volunteer librarian Ginger Strawn to hear that her library is one of the nonprofits that the Internal Revenue Service says have lost their tax-exempt status because they haven't filed financial-disclosure forms for at least three years. The IRS website on October 28 [listed](#) more than 386,000 nonprofits nationwide that have had their nonprofit status revoked....

Boise Idaho Statesman, Oct. 29

[Library receives Mary Todd Lincoln's commitment documents](#)

Public officials have transferred Mary Todd Lincoln's insanity hearing record from Cook County (Ill.) Circuit Court vaults to the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library in



[Life and Literature](#)

Conference on biodiversity literature digitization, Field Museum, Chicago.

Nov. 14–18:

[2011 Global Education Conference](#), online conference.

Nov. 16:

[The RDA Vocabularies: Implementation, Extension, and Mapping](#), webinar. Sponsored by the National Information Standards Organization and the Dublin Core Metadata Initiative.

Nov. 21–23:

[International Conference on Management of Emergent Digital EcoSystems](#), Westin San Francisco Market Street.

Nov. 28–30:

[Semantic Web in Libraries Conference](#), Hamburg, Germany. "Scholarly Communication in the Web of Data."

Nov. 30–

Dec. 2:

[Australasian Conference on Information Systems](#), University of Sydney, Australia. "Identifying the Information Systems Discipline."

Dec. 1–3:

[Humanities, Arts, Science, and](#)

Springfield. There are 16 court pleadings and 39 expense vouchers, including a petition by Mary's son, Robert Todd Lincoln, asking to have his mother declared insane. Next will come a public reexamination of her hearing to see if she should have been committed to a psychiatric hospital in 1875....

WBBM-TV, Chicago, Oct. 31

[Library zombies come to Sarnia](#)

Who knew zombies have rules? At least the ones walking through downtown Sarnia, Ontario, on October 29 did during the third annual Zombiefest put on by the Sarnia branch of the Lambton County (Ont.) Library. Jeff Beeler, reference librarian and head zombie wrangler, reminded about 40 costumed participants in a quick orientation and safety session before the walk began. The library has been showing horror films for a half dozen years prior to Halloween and, in recent years, turned the event into Zombiefest....

Sarnia (Ont.) Observer, Oct. 30



[Children's library to open next to Japanese "cedar of hope"](#)

A private library will open in November near the giant Japanese cedar in Rikuzentakata, Iwate prefecture, Japan, that was dubbed "the cedar of hope" after it survived the devastating March 11 tsunami. The wooden library has been constructed within the grounds of Imaizumi Tenmangu shrine, which was itself rebuilt. Rikuzentakata was chosen as the location for the project, as the city's only library had been destroyed, and seven library staffers were tsunami victims....

Daily Yomiuri (Japan), Oct. 29



[Go back to the Top](#)

Tech Talk

[The Great Firewall of America](#)

Mathew Ingram writes: "Many internet users in the United States have watched with horror as countries like France and Britain have proposed or instituted so-called ['three strikes' laws](#), which cut off internet access to those accused of repeated acts of copyright infringement. Now the United States has its own version of this kind of law, and it is potentially much worse: The Stop Online Piracy Act ([PDF file](#)), introduced in the House October 26, would give governments and private corporations unprecedented powers to remove websites from the internet on the flimsiest of grounds, and would force internet service providers to play the role of copyright police." The Electronic Frontier Foundation has [more details](#)....

GigaOM, Oct. 27; Ars Technica, June; Electronic Frontier Foundation, Oct. 28

[Exploiting the fun factor](#)

Stephen Cass writes: "Games, game design, and our instinct to play them are forces now driving the technologies at the center of today's always-on, always-connected businesses. Mobile devices and social networks have become as much platforms for

[Technology Advanced Collaboratory](#)

International Conference, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

Dec. 5–6:
[International Conference on Grey Literature](#), Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. "The Grey Circuit: From Social Networking to Wealth Creation."

Feb. 13–15:
[O'Reilly Tools of Change for Publishing Conference](#), New York Marriott Marquis.

Feb. 23–26:
[Alaska Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Westmark Fairbanks Hotel and Conference Center. "Alaska's Libraries: Heart of the Community."

Mar. 13–17:
[Public Library Association](#), National Conference, Philadelphia.

Mar. 21–23:
[Tennessee Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Marriott Knoxville. "Libraries Transform."

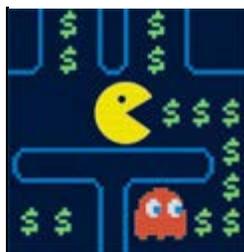
@ [More...](#)

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playing games as anything else. Companies that ignore games face the same fate as those that ignored the rise of the internet in the 1990s. At best, they will be forced to play an expensive game of catch-up; at worst, they will fall irretrievably behind their competitors.”...

Technology Review, Nov. 1

[Internet Explorer drops below 50% of web usage](#)

Peter Bright writes: “A couple of interesting things happened in the world of web browser usage during October. The more significant one is that Internet Explorer’s share of global browser usage dropped below 50% for the first time in more than a decade. Less significant, but also notable, is that Chrome for the first time overtook Firefox here at Ars, making it the technologist’s browser of choice.”...

Ars Technica, Nov. 2

[The best antivirus tools for 2012](#)

Neil J. Rubenking writes: “New model-year security products used to come out in the fall, like new model-year cars. This year the first 2012 antivirus ([G Data AntiVirus 2012](#)) turned up way back in May. So far PCMag has reviewed nine antivirus tools explicitly identified as 2012 models, along with several others released during the same period. Which of these recent releases is the best?”...

PC Magazine, Oct. 5



[The best podcast manager for iPhone](#)

Adam Dachis writes: “There aren’t many podcast managers, or ‘podcatchers,’ for iOS, but perhaps that’s because there’s one that’s already next to perfect. [Downcast](#) handles practically every podcast need you’ve got, offering easy updating, streaming, and multitouch gestures. Every one of Downcast’s features was designed to make getting and listening to your podcasts easy.”...

Lifehacker, Nov. 2



[The best Android phone](#)

Brian Lam writes: “First, a caveat: I still think the iPhone is the [best phone](#) because of how polished it is and because it has a large number of quality apps. But Android phones are powerful, look better every day, and are unparalleled in their connection to the cloud. So I won’t keep nagging you about the iPhone—I’ll just tell you which Android phone I’d get if someone put a gun to my head. An especially important handset is coming out shortly: the Samsung Galaxy Nexus (right).”...

The Wirecutter, Oct. 27



[Android orphans: A sad history of support](#)

Michael DeGusta writes: “The announcement that Nexus One users [won’t be getting upgraded](#) to Android 4.0 Ice Cream Sandwich led some to [justifiably question](#) Google’s support of their devices. I look at it a little differently: Nexus One owners are lucky. I’ve been researching the history of OS updates on Android phones, and Nexus

newsletter emailed every Wednesday to personal members of the [American Library Association](#) and subscribers.



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



Beverly Goldberg,
Senior Editor:
bgoldberg@ala.org



Greg Landgraf,
Associate Editor:
glandgraf@ala.org



Sanhita SinhaRoy,
Associate Editor:
ssinharoy@ala.org

Jennifer Henderson,
Contributing Researcher

To advertise in American Libraries Direct, contact:



Brian Searles:
bsearles@ala.org



Katie Bane:
kbane@ala.org

Send feedback:
aldirect@ala.org

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One users have fared much, much better than most Android buyers. The picture isn't pretty for most Android users."...

The Understatement, Oct. 26; TechCrunch, Oct. 26; Marco.org, Oct. 26

[An Android app's answer to Siri](#)

David Pogue writes: "I spent much of my recent [iPhone 4S review](#) talking about Siri, the incredibly useful speech-controlled virtual assistant that's the best new feature on the phone. I find myself using it constantly—to send text messages, set or cancel alarms, create appointments, and create reminders. Android phones have always let you speak to type. But they've never had anything like Siri—or so I thought. Then I got this note about [Speaktoit](#) in my inbox from a PR guy."...

New York Times: Pogue's Posts, Oct. 12, 27

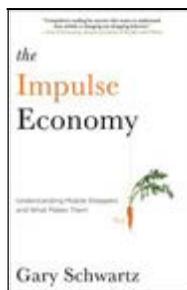


E-Content

[Do you want a smart book?](#)

Atria is publishing its first book to be equipped with a smart chip, the publisher announced October 28. Tapping the RFID-enabled sticker with a near field communication-enabled smartphone will bring up a website with additional materials for the book. The debut smart book is *The Impulse Economy: Understanding Mobile Shoppers and What Makes Them Buy* by Gary Schwartz. The smart book allows the physical book to become interactive for both the book buyer and the book browser....

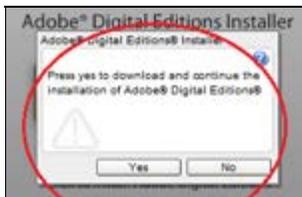
Los Angeles Times: Jacket Copy, Oct. 28



[Ebrary ebook downloads](#)

Wayne Bivens-Tatum writes: "Ebrary now allows users to download ebooks ([PDF file](#)) to devices. Ebrary users can download up to 60 pages of a book into a permanent PDF file or an entire ebook using Adobe Digital Editions, which seems to load onto every ebook reader except the one I own (the Kindle). Ebrary has always had an ebook model similar to the e-journal model we're all familiar with, where multiple users can access the same item just as they can with journal articles."...

Academic Librarian, Oct. 30; Ebrary, Oct. 27



[Extend the due date on your Kindle ebook from the library](#)

Bobbi Newman writes: "Just a friendly tip from your friendly online librarian. It is pretty easy to 'extend' the due date of the library ebook you check out to your Kindle, just turn your wireless connection off until you're done with it. This will allow you to keep reading the book until you're done. The title won't expire until you reactivate your wireless connection."...

Librarian by Day, Oct. 26

[Paying for first](#)

Seth Godin writes: "Here's a bit of speculation: Soon, there will be three kinds of books on the Kindle. \$1.99 ebooks: This is the clearing price for virtually all ebooks going forward. \$5 ebooks: This is the price for bestsellers, hot titles, and books you have no choice but to buy because they were assigned in school. \$10 ebooks: This is the

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price you will pay to get the book first, to get it fast, to get it before everyone else. There might even be a subset of books for \$20 in this category.”...

The Domino Project, Oct. 22

[The 10 most amazing databases in the world](#)



Rena Marie Pacella writes: “The 10 most amazing databases in the world do more than store knowledge. They provide researchers with new ways to solve long-cold crimes, predict economic recessions, measure your love life, map the universe, and save lives.”...

Popular Science, Oct. 31

[PDA in the library](#)

Steve Kolowich writes: “Patron-Driven Acquisition is a model of ebook licensing that aims to relieve library purchasing agents from spending thousands on books no one will end up reading. A new report on the future of academic libraries identifies such demand-based services as an inevitable trend for libraries under pressure to prove that their expenditures are in line with their value. And one university says its own experimentation has produced damning data exposing the inefficiency of traditional collection-building compared to new methods that could prevail in the digital era.”...

Inside Higher Ed, Oct. 28

[Las Vegas schools have high hopes for iPad program](#)

(subscription required)

Paper textbooks might soon go the way of the slide rule and the typewriter as the Clark County, Nevada, school district launches a \$790,050 iPad program, one of the largest of its kind in the United States. Instead of getting hefty books, about 1,150 Las Vegas middle- and high-school students were given thin iPad 2 tablets, each loaded with an interactive-textbook app, developed by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, for their Algebra 1 classes. The app is more than just a digital textbook....

Education Week, Oct. 18

[Twitterology: A new science?](#)

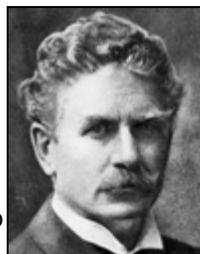
Ben Zimmer writes: “Twitter is many things to many people, but lately it has been a gold mine for scholars in fields like linguistics, sociology, and psychology who are looking for real-time language data to analyze. Twitter’s appeal to researchers is its immediacy and its immensity. Instead of relying on questionnaires and other laborious, time-consuming methods of data collection, social scientists can simply take advantage of Twitter’s stream to eavesdrop on a virtually limitless array of language in action.”...

New York Times Sunday Review, Oct. 29

Books & Reading

[Top 10 great satirists](#)

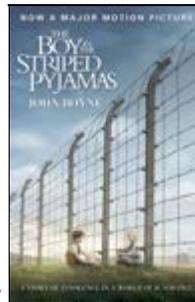
LordZB writes: “Satire is the form of humor that holds people, or society in general, up for examination, and ridicules the follies revealed. Good satire should offer improving examples or at least make us consider choices we often take for granted. In this sense, satire is of huge value to society. While satire can be cruel to the victims it mocks, it should always be funny. These



10 individuals are the best satirists that have ever lived."...
Listverse, Oct. 31

Six famous novels written in less than a month

Jill Harness writes: "It's [National Novel Writing Month!](#) Some people criticize the concept, claiming that novels written in under a month aren't going to be worth the paper they're printed on. But there are plenty of examples to prove the naysayers wrong. In fact, many classic, bestselling novels were penned within this time frame. While these authors completed these fine pieces of literature without the motivation of National Novel Writing Month, they still serve as an excellent example."...
Mental Floss, Nov. 1

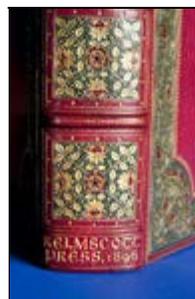


New librarian completely unaware that books exist

(satire)
Information Processor and Facilitator Kathleen Olivo, 22, was floored to discover that the Excelsior Library, where she started work today, is in fact full of books. "I couldn't believe that so much information is organized this way," Olivo said, pulling a hardcover copy of *Johnny Tremain* down from the shelves and swiping a hesitant finger along a page. "Have you seen these things? They're so bulky!" She held the book up to her face and sniffed. "Gross."...
Insert Eyeroll, Oct. 31

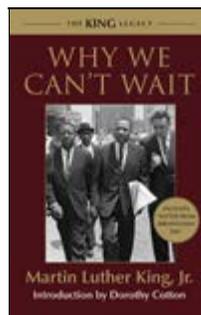
A mysterious binding

Helena E. Wright writes: "One of the treasures held by the Division of Culture and the Arts at the National Museum of American History is a beautiful book in a splendid binding. We know a good deal about the book, its history, and its importance, but some questions remain, particularly about its binding. It's an intriguing mystery. [The Works of Geoffrey Chaucer](#) was published by William Morris at the Kelmscott Press in England in 1896. The volume was part of the collection of publishing magnate William Randolph Hearst, who sold it at auction in 1938."...
O Say Can You See?, Nov. 2



Written in prison

L. D. Mitchell writes: "Here's an interesting idea for a private library: Collect nothing but titles that have been penned by prisoners. Some of the world's greatest, as well as some of the most influential, literature ever written was penned by prisoners. Among such titles are Cervantes's *Don Quixote* (begun while the author was locked up in debtor's prison); Ezra Pound's *Pisan Cantos* (written while the author was imprisoned by Italian partisans during World War II); and Boethius's *Consolation of Philosophy* (written while the author was under arrest on false charges of treason)."...
The Private Library, Oct. 28



Actions & Answers

The role of guerrilla librarianship

Mandy Henk writes: "Guerrilla librarianship

involves building and maintaining libraries directly where people and the need for information intersect. It can mean building them on a beach, in a bar, or at an occupation. Guerrilla libraries exist for many reasons, and they are well-grounded in Ranganathan's Five Laws of Library Science. Most of all, guerrilla librarianship is an act of resistance."...



Occupy Wall Street Library blog, Oct. 28

[The career road of Occupy Wall Street](#)

Damian Ghigliotty writes: "Mandy Henk, circulation, reserves, and interlibrary loan librarian at DePauw University in Greencastle, Indiana, joined the Occupy movement in late September and rediscovered the role she cares most about—connecting people with information. Since then, she has commuted back and forth between Greencastle and Zuccotti Park in Lower Manhattan with a focus on developing new models for libraries at a time when many are facing budget shortfalls."...

FINS, Oct. 31

[12 ways to save your library](#)

Jennifer Derrick writes: "I've always been a huge supporter of our library, giving money, time, and materials (they're even in my will), but it's not enough when just a few people are giving. When the community got together to fight the closure, I learned a few additional ways to help fight cutbacks and closures, as well as ensure the subject never comes up in the first place. Here are some ideas. Note that the more of these you can do simultaneously, the better your chances of keeping your library alive and thriving."...

Saving Advice, Nov. 1

[These library projects got funded: Why not yours?](#)

PC Sweeney writes: "Every once in a while I peruse the amazing projects that are happening on [Kickstarter](#). I am especially interested in projects with a library or librarian theme to them. I have been reading about some amazing projects done by librarians around the world, and at the same time I have heard other librarians lamenting the lack of funding for awesome projects of their own. It seems this would be a great way to raise money for your library pet project. Each of these projects have funding goals of less than \$10,000 and *most* are for less than \$5,000."...



PC Sweeney's Blog, Oct. 27

[Bake a bundt along with the Food Librarian](#)

Bake a bundt for National Bundt Day on November 15. Then [submit](#) a photo or blog post by November 24 to Mary Yogi, the Food Librarian, and she will send you a 1.25-inch button (right) for baking along with her. She has also baked a bundt a day since October 17 in her "I Like Big Bundts 3" challenge, in which she will make a total of 30 cakes. (The [Doll Bundt Cake](#) was extraordinary!) See the [interview](#) with the Food Librarian at I Love Libraries....



The Food Librarian; I Love Libraries

[17 Twitter marketing tips](#)

Cindy King writes: "Are you looking for fresh ideas to improve your Twitter marketing? We sought out hot Twitter tips from the pros. Twitter has already grown more in the last nine months than in the last five years and this trend is expected to continue. How does Twitter fit into your social media marketing? Here are 17 Twitter marketing tips shared by Social Media Examiner's writers."...

Social Media Examiner, Oct. 26

[Book inscription tells a tale of censorship](#)

Brian Herzog writes: "I work in the library in Chelmsford, Massachusetts, which is next door to the city of Lowell, the birthplace of Jack Kerouac. As a result, we try to maintain a good Jack Kerouac collection, but one specific book in our collection is particularly special. The book is *The Portable Jack Kerouac*, donated to the library in 1995 by the grandson of long-time Chelmsford Librarian Edith Pickles (right). Just this week a coworker showed me this book—the story Edith's grandson recounts in the inscription is just stunning."...

Swiss Army Librarian, Oct. 27



[What Wikipedia deletes, and why](#)

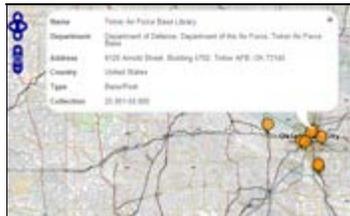
For the past year, a University of Pennsylvania research team has been mining Wikipedia content to learn what the online encyclopedia's administrators have been considering too "dangerous" to leave online. In 2010, redactions accounted for more than 56,000 of the 47.1 million revisions, according to the research team. In May 2010, Wikipedia's leaders gave approximately 40 people the ability to permanently delete text, including entries in the history pages; now more than 1,800 people have that ability....

Chronicle of Higher Education: Wired Campus, Oct. 26

[Census of federal libraries](#)

Profiles of U.S. federal libraries from around the world are now available online. Presented dynamically with an [interactive mapping tool](#) (only viewable on Firefox), the Federal Library Directory displays geographic and collections data from more than 1,000 libraries. This publicly available dataset, sponsored by the Federal Library and Information Center Committee, identifies members of the federal library and information center community and offers current information on their locations, collections, services, and specialties....

Library of Congress, Oct. 28



[Postal history at the Post Office](#)

David Straight writes: "The United States Postal Service provides a wealth of resources, reaching back to its roots in colonial America, for those interested in its history. Last summer the Historian's Office redesigned its [postal history website](#). The [photo gallery](#) displays a small fraction of the pictures held in the Post Office collection, and [postmaster finder](#) is one of the most valuable resources."...

Philatelic Literature and Research, Oct. 30



Future format: Goals and measures

Karen Coyle writes: "The LC report on the future bibliographic format (aka replacement for MARC) ([PDF file](#)) is out. It is short and has few specifics, other than the selection of RDA as the underlying data format. A significant part of the report lists requirements; these, too, are general in nature and may not be comprehensive. What needs to be done before we go much further is to begin to state our specific goals and the criteria we will use to determine if we have met those goals."...

Coyle's InFormation, Nov. 1; Library of Congress, Oct. 31

Describing and measuring the value of public libraries

Paul T. Jaeger, et al., write: "Public libraries find themselves in the position of defending and justifying their funding and continued existence to their stakeholders. Many of these public libraries seek to prove their worth to their community through the use of different measurements and metrics to demonstrate quantifiable contributions and different understandings of the concept of value as part of showing a contribution. This paper discusses the implications of value demonstration approaches for libraries in social and policy contexts."...

First Monday 16, no. 11 (Nov. 7)

How to tell if they really love your library

Steven Bell writes: "This is a profession that promotes the idea of loving a library. If you need some evidence, just visit

[ILoveLibraries.org](http://LoveLibraries.org). But what does it really

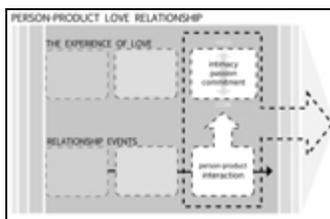
mean to love a library or any other

inanimate object? There is a study that attempts to answer this

question. It's a report titled '[Shoes, Cars and Other Love Stories](#)' and it's actually a dissertation in the field of industrial design by Beatriz

Russo."...

Designing Better Libraries, Oct. 30



12 ways to create quizzes and tests for free

Julie Greller writes: "With budgets being cut left and right, teachers are trying to find ways to administer quizzes and tests without exceeding their copy limit at school. (A ream of paper for the entire year?) I'll admit that it's hard to find a lot of truly free programs online that offer grading and statistics. My list also includes a survey app which can also be used for small quizzes."...

A Media Specialist's Guide to the Internet, Oct. 28



Best state genealogy websites, 2011

Rick Crume writes: "Some of the most useful records for genealogists are kept at the state level. In selecting this year's best state websites for genealogy, we were on the lookout for databases where you can look for a relative's name. Many of the 75 sites (at least one per state) have indexes, and in many cases, you can even view images of original records. We salute the efforts of these state archives, historical societies, and genealogical societies—and even a few ambitious individuals—for making genealogical and historical information available online."...



Family Tree Magazine, Oct. 19

[Public libraries and Baby Boomers](#)

Suzanne Flint writes: "Recognizing that many current adult and senior library services do not reflect the character or interests of today's Boomer generation, the 'IMLS Western Regional Fellowship: Transforming Life After 50' helped to effectively position public libraries as a resource that can help adults (ages 50+) remain vital and contributing members of their communities. The Fellowship has concluded and the entire curriculum—including two webinars, podcasts of the major speakers, and materials from six online courses—is [archived](#) and available free to anyone on the TLA50 website."...



UpNext: The IMLS Blog, Oct. 28

[U.S. Copyright Office outlines its priorities](#)

Andrew Albanese writes: "Orphan works, preservation for libraries, mass digitization, and fighting digital piracy are among the priorities set by the Register of Copyrights Maria A. Pallante in an October 25 paper ([PDF file](#)) outlining the U.S. Copyright Office's 'priorities and special projects' for the next two years. In all, the paper articulates 17 priorities in the areas of copyright policy and administrative practice, and 10 'new projects' designed to 'improve the quality and efficiency' of the U.S. Copyright Office's services in the 21st century."...

Publishers Weekly, Oct. 26

[Writing in the library](#)

Amanda Ellington writes: "The practice of writing involves the recognition of shapes and letters as well as small motor coordination and then the combination of the two. When trying to incorporate writing in your children's space, think of activities that will develop small motor coordination and shape and letter recognition. I am listing a few that I have included in the children's room at the Lexington Park (Md.) Library, where I work, as well as some I have seen in other spaces."...



ALSC Blog, Oct. 28

[Google Street View goes indoors and to the park](#)

Google is taking its Street View mapping service indoors. In May, Google announced plans for 360-degree Business Photos, a program that would send Google photographers to various businesses to snap professional photos for their Places Page.



Atlantic Wire [pointed](#) to a [comic book store](#) (above) in Tustin, California, that has interior Street View activated. And on October 31, Google began enhancing Street View with [images of parks](#) from 22 different countries....

PC Magazine, Oct. 28; Atlantic Wire, Oct. 26; Google Lat Long Blog, Oct. 31

[The creepy librarian stalker hypothesis](#)

Sarah Houghton writes: "There is a bit of a pestilence on female public figures, including those of us in the library world. Certain men, and on occasion women, behave rather inappropriately toward us. For

years I thought it was something that only I was experiencing. Then I started talking with my female colleagues—others who speak, write, or are otherwise in the bibliosphere's public eye. I have been surprised to learn how many women experience this inappropriate craziness from fellow librarians."...

Librarian in Black, Oct. 31

[National Library of Uzbekistan](#)

Robert Newlen writes: "The Uzbekistan government has recently invested significant resources in improving library services, which includes the construction of a new [National Library of Uzbekistan](#). On a recent business trip to Tashkent (the capital), I had the opportunity to visit the construction site of the new library where I took this picture. The official opening is scheduled for November."...

In Custodia Legis, Oct. 28



[Some YouTube Insights](#)

David Lee King writes: "I was poking around in my library's [YouTube account](#)—generally tidying up the place and adding some info to video descriptions. While doing that, I started looking at our YouTube Insights (that's what YouTube calls statistics or analytics), and discovered some neat stuff. And I thought I'd share."...

David Lee King, Oct. 27

[Top 5 Google Plus annoyances](#)

Ed Swiderski writes: "After using Google Plus for a couple of months, I'm actually a big fan. But I have mixed feelings about it. I'm a huge fan of the innate viral capabilities, however, there are still some things that need to be ironed out."...

ChicagoNow: Ed or Alive, Oct. 19

[The freshman research paper](#)

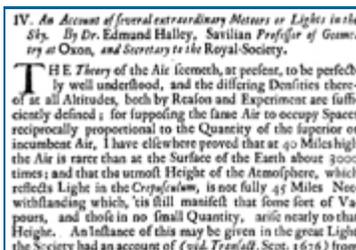
Meredith Farkas writes: "I understand perfectly that faculty want their first-year students to find quality resources and they want their students to have an understanding of scholarly communication. But is the best way to do that forcing them to find scholarly articles for a research paper? That requires so many different skills that many of these students don't have yet. Research is painful. Scholarly articles are impossible to read. The first year should be about getting students excited about participating in research and contributing to the scholarly conversation."...

Information Wants to Be Free, Oct. 27

[Online Royal Society journal archive now free](#)

The Royal Society has announced that its world-famous historical [journal archive](#)—which includes the first-ever peer-reviewed [scientific journal](#)—has been made permanently free to access online. Around 60,000 historical scientific papers are accessible via a fully searchable online archive, with papers published more than 70 years ago now becoming freely available. The Royal Society is the world's oldest scientific publisher, with the first edition of *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society* appearing in 1665....

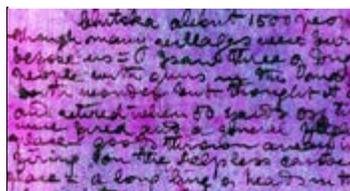
Royal Society, Oct. 26



[Livingstone's diary digitized and made legible](#)

In Africa in 1871, explorer David Livingstone met *New York Herald* reporter Henry M. Stanley and gave him a harrowing account of a massacre he witnessed, in which slave traders slaughtered 400 innocent people. Stanley's press reports prompted the British government to close the East African slave trade. An international team of scholars and scientists led an 18-month project to recover Livingstone's original account of the massacre. The story, found in a diary that was illegible until it was restored with advanced digital imaging, offers a unique insight into his mind. The diary is now [online](#) through the UCLA Digital Library Program....

UCLA Newsroom, Nov. 1



[Shakespeare, Bacon, and modern cryptography](#)

Laura Massey writes: "Currently reigniting the Shakespeare authorship controversy is Roland Emmerich's new movie *Anonymous*, which posits that the Earl of Oxford wrote Shakespeare's plays. With academics and bibliophiles of all types understandably up-in-arms in response, this 150-year-old battle seems a no-win situation. But there is a silver lining. In a fascinating and little-known byway of history, the authorship controversy led directly to some of the most important 20th-century advances in a seemingly unrelated field: cryptography."...

The Cataloguer's Desk, Oct. 24



[Study on game transfer phenomena](#)

Over the course of many years, a debate has raged on as to what direct effects video games have on those who play them. According to a study published in the third issue of the *International Journal of Cyber Behavior, Psychology, and Learning*, gamers can experience an integration of video-game elements into their everyday lives, whether through intentional or automatic response, thanks to an analysis of behavior called game transfer phenomena (GTP). The findings also demonstrated how video games sometimes trigger intrusive thoughts, sensations, impulses, reflexes, optical illusions, and dissociations....

IGI Global Blog, Oct. 31



[Anchorage Public Library video](#)

The staff of the Anchorage (Alaska) Public Library put together this excellent promotional [video](#) (3:30) that showcases their facility, collections, and services to a diverse population. They had the help of Ice Cap Productions and Sugarsled Creative, as well as local residents and a library architect....

YouTube, Oct. 21



[Haunted library screamfest](#)

The David M. Rubenstein Rare Book and Special Collections Library at Duke University in Durham, North Carolina, put on a Haunted Library Screamfest "eeks"-

hibit and open house October 31. The event was free to both the living and the dead, and featured 13 items from the collection, including letters to Duke University's Parapsychology Laboratory, Halloween postcards, Bela Lugosi's signature, and a box of 49 glass eyeballs (right)....

The Devil's Tale, Oct. 25



[The continuing mystery of the Scottish book sculptures](#)

The mysterious book sculptures that started turning up at libraries and other cultural venues in Edinburgh, Scotland, last spring are still making an appearance. Now Garry Gale, director of the city's Music Library, said when he saw the sculptures he realized they looked exactly like a paper sculpture he had bought a year or so earlier from a certain artist that he didn't name, but the styles were so unerringly similar it had to be the same artist. But apparently most people would prefer to keep the mystery going....

National Public Radio: Krulwich Wonders, Oct. 31



[The Two Ronnies debate book classification](#)

Ronnie Barker and Ronnie Corbett debate the merits of having books shelf-arranged by color in this [sketch](#) (3:28), "The Confusing Library," from Season 10 (1983–1984) of *The Two Ronnies*, a popular British show from BBC1. "You don't classify books by the color?" "Oh yes, it's the architect's idea; he said it looked neater."...

YouTube, July 31



[Go back to the Top](#)

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The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | November 9, 2011

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American Libraries Online

[Amazon's library model: Can we learn from it?](#)

Christopher Harris writes: "A lot of library and ebook pundits (all five of us?) have been talking about it, but Amazon finally launched its [Kindle Owner's Lending Library](#). Amazon has been working to find more ways to add value to its Prime program, such as the inclusion of streaming movies and TV shows. The [Kindle Fire page](#) spends much more time talking about the streaming media from Prime than it does the books. While this is interesting to look at, the real question, of course, is what impact will this have on our libraries?"...

AL: E-Content, Nov. 4



[Placing adult literacy front and center](#)

Dale Lipschultz and Miguel Figueroa write: "The groundbreaking first U.S. Conference on Adult Literacy was held November 2–5 in Houston, Texas. Sponsored by ProLiteracy, the conference brought together adult learners, literacy providers, educators, and librarians to discuss the challenges and opportunities facing the adult literacy field in the 21st century. The opening general session introduced the new '[Stand for Literacy](#)' campaign, an opportunity for adult learners and librarians to share their personal literacy stories."...

AL: Inside Scoop, Nov. 9



[Egypt's cultural center seeks its path amid turmoil](#)

The January 2011 uprising that led to the ousting of former Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak may be over, but the Bibliotheca Alexandrina—Egypt's nearly 10-year-old center for culture and scholarship (above)—has seen some recent upheaval. The library's director, Ismail Serageldin, has come under attack, and



Help choose the color of the [ALA Midwinter Meeting t-shirt](#). More than 100 people voted to select the color of ALA's Annual 2011 Conference t-shirt, and it sold out quickly.



[Check back](#) on November 15 to see the winning color and remember to come early to claim yours at the ALA Store.

many members of his staff and others are demanding his resignation. Sohair Wastawy, former director of the BA, says the accusations are unjustified. Wastawy spoke with *American Libraries* Associate Editor Sanhita SinhaRoy on November 3....

AL: Global Reach, Nov. 9

Serving players through selection

Erik Bobilin and Nicole Pagowsky write: "While libraries are learning the value of gaming, there is not currently a great deal of information available discussing standards for video game collection development, and few libraries with game collections have published their policies. To help out, [Team G](#) (above) of the 2011 class of ALA Emerging Leaders worked to study and establish best practices for video game collection development in libraries."...

American Libraries feature



Summer reading levels up

Greg Landgraf writes: "Like many libraries, Canton (Mich.) Public Library has traditionally operated a summer reading program to encourage children to keep reading through the summer months when they aren't facing regular class assignments. But the library had two significant issues with the program. One was budgetary. The second issue was effectiveness. The library was concerned that simply offering a reward for kids to read does not help them develop into lifelong readers." Ann Arbor District Library also created a summer game, shown in this [video](#) (2:28)....

American Libraries feature; YouTube, Nov. 3



Preserving bits

Greg Landgraf writes: "As video games gain influence in our culture, the need to preserve them for future study gains importance as well. Richard Pugh of the Library of Congress's Packard Campus for Audio-Visual Conservation in Culpeper, Virginia, is working to build a video game archive. The project, currently dubbed the Video Game Collection, acquires every game that comes to LC through copyright registration, which Pugh estimates at about 10% of the games published each year."...

American Libraries feature

Helping warriors unleash the power of the pen

Amy Hartman and Holly Baumgartner write: "The best pleasures in life are often unexpected, and we have been lucky enough to be ambushed by a program that has become one of the most extraordinarily



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rewarding experiences of our careers. The Sylvania branch of the Toledo–Lucas County (Ohio) Public Library and Lourdes College of Sylvania cosponsored the Veterans’ Writing Workshop in 2010. We crafted a variety of thought-provoking writing and reading exercises intended to encourage all veterans to write about their experiences for their own benefit or to share them with friends and family.”...

American Libraries feature

[2012 Library Design Showcase: Call for submissions](#)

American Libraries is now accepting submissions for the 2012 Library Design Showcase, our annual feature celebrating the best new and newly renovated or expanded libraries of all types. Like [last year](#), the showcase will be primarily published online, with excerpts published in the March/April 2012 issue and in *American Libraries’* Spring Digital Supplement. Submit photos and a form ([PDF file](#)) to the AL office by January 13....

AL: Inside Scoop, Nov. 8



[Currents](#)

Carla M. Connolly (right), 59, a librarian at South Suburban College in South Holland, Illinois, for 22 years, passed away November 6; her nephew, David M. Connolly, is a longtime staff member of ALA and ACRL. **Daniel Jones** will retire January 6 as director of Northrup Library at Texas Biomedical Research Institute in San Antonio. On October 17, **Richard Reyes-Gavilan** was named director and chief librarian of Brooklyn (N.Y.) Public Library....

American Libraries column



ALA News

[Rich Harwood at the ALA President’s Program](#)

Rich Harwood (right), described as “one of the great thinkers in American public life,” is the featured speaker in ALA President Molly Raphael’s President’s Program at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Dallas on January 22. Over the past 20 years, Harwood has become a leading national authority on improving America’s communities, raising standards of political conduct and re-engaging citizens on today’s most complex and controversial public issues....

ALA Conference Services, Nov. 8



[Occupy Wall Street librarians to speak at Midwinter](#)

The new ALA Masters Series kicks off at ALA Midwinter with an exciting special session led by three of the People’s Library builders. “[A Library Occupies Occupy Wall Street](#)” is a Special Masters session on January 21, where attendees will learn firsthand from the librarians on the front lines of Occupy Wall Street. Betsy Fagin and Mandy Henk (above) and Zachary Loeb will share their experiences in building the People’s



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Library and being part of the Occupy Wall Street movement....
ALA Conference Services, Nov. 8

[2012 Emerging Leader participants announced](#)

The participants for the 2012 class of ALA Emerging Leaders have been selected. Seventy-seven individuals ([PDF file](#)) were chosen to participate in this year's program. The program is designed to enable library staff and information workers to participate in project-planning workgroups, network with peers, gain an inside look into ALA structure, and have an opportunity to serve the profession in a leadership capacity early in their careers....
Office for Human Resource Development and Recruitment, Nov. 7



[Have fun on National Gaming Day, November 12](#)

Got the urge to yell out "Uno!" or showcase your Nintendo Wii prowess? Head to your local library. On November 12, more than 20,000 people are expected to come together for the ALA's Fourth Annual [National Gaming Day](#). Libraries will [take part in the event](#) by hosting get-togethers for kids and families to meet and play classic board games such as Connect Four and Scrabble or dabble in an international Super Smash Bros. Brawl video game tournament. Watch the Palatine (Ill.) Public Library [NGD video](#) (1:06)....
Newsday (Long Island, N.Y.), Nov. 4; Campaign for America's Libraries, Nov. 4; YouTube, Nov. 3



[Forum on rural library advocacy](#)

Join rural library leaders in a conversation about advocacy, leadership, and the newly revised [Small But Powerful Guide to Winning Big Support for Your Rural Library](#), at a special forum during the 2012 ALA Midwinter Meeting in Dallas on January 22. Sponsored by three ALA committees and the Association for Rural and Small Libraries, the session will employ the World Café method of hosting large-group dialogue....
Office for Literacy and Outreach Services, Nov. 8

[Public library survey extended to November 18](#)

Study managers have extended the participation deadline for the 2011–2012 [Public Library Funding and Technology Access Study](#) online survey to November 18. Funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and ALA, the survey provides an important opportunity for libraries to share information regarding computer and internet resources and infrastructure, as well as funding, technology



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Check out these [mini-video demos](#) that show you how the revamped *Booklist Online* makes collection development and readers' advisory a little less work and a lot more fun. **NEW!**
From *Booklist*.

New this week
in *American Libraries*

training, and other uses of public libraries, such as providing public access technology centers in their communities....

Office for Research and Statistics, Nov. 7

[OITP appoints its first research associate](#)

Alan Inouye writes: "In 2007, the Office for Information Technology Policy established the [OITP Fellows](#) program, where distinguished scholars and practitioners can work on varied aspects of the OITP portfolio. Now we are establishing the OITP Research Associates program in the same spirit but for early career professionals with a serious interest in national public policy. Jessie Mannisto (right) will serve as the first OITP Research Associate with a term extending through August 2012."...

District Dispatch, Nov. 8



[100 Days for Haiti](#)

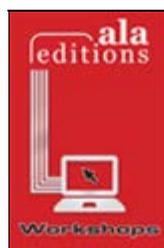
Since the January 2010 Haiti earthquake, ALA has been committed to helping rebuild libraries on the island. Deborah Lazar, librarian at New Trier High School in Winnetka, Illinois, has pledged to match any gift to the ALA Haiti Library Relief Fund (up to a maximum of \$5,000) from now through January 2012. You can make a [qualifying donation](#) on the ALA website now, or send your contribution to the ALA International Relations Office....

International Relations Office

[Be a great boss](#)

ALA Editions has launched a new workshop, "[Be a Great Boss: The Kickoff to Your Year of Learning](#)" with Cathy Hakala-Ausperk. This four-part workshop (January 5–March 22) complements Hakala-Ausperk's book [Be a Great Boss](#). Your purchase includes the ebook, featuring the complete text of the print edition in PDF format. Following the month-by-month organization of the book, the workshop will show you how to cultivate an attitude that instills confidence and develop a staff you can depend on....

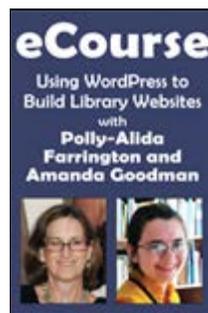
ALA Editions, Nov. 9



[How to build library websites using WordPress](#)

A six-week facilitated eCourse called "[Using WordPress to Build Library Websites](#)" begins January 16. The course will teach the nuts and bolts of building a library website that is both user friendly and easy to maintain. Amanda Goodman and Polly-Alida Farrington will serve as instructors. Participants will need regular access to a computer with an internet connection for online message board participation, viewing online video, listening to streaming audio, and downloading and viewing PDF and PowerPoint files....

ALA Editions, Nov. 9



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[Games in Libraries](#)

[Helping Warriors](#)

[Interview: Sohair Wastawy](#)

[E-Content](#)

[Censorship Watch](#)

[Currents](#)

[Perpetual Beta](#)

[Inside Scoop](#)

[Ask the ALA Librarian](#)

[Solutions and Services](#)

[AL Focus](#)

Great Libraries of the World



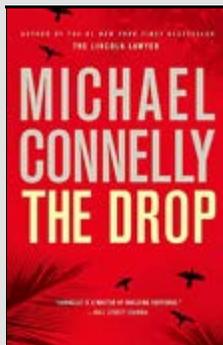
[National Assembly Library](#), Palais Bourbon, Paris, France. Established in 1796 in a hall of the National Assembly and remodeled by [Jules de Joly](#) in 1826, the

Booklist ONLINE

Featured review: Adult crime fiction

Connelly, Michael. *The Drop*. Nov. 2011. 416p. Little, Brown, hardcover (978-0-316-06941-0).

Harry Bosch, who's been given three years until he must retire, is yet again deep in "high jingo," the LAPD's special version of power politics, in which a combination of cover-up, corruption, and "the good of the department" gets in the way of justice. This time, the jingo is tied to the apparent suicide of George Irving, son of Bosch's longtime nemesis, former cop Irvin Irving, now a city councilman. Why does Irving handpick his enemy, Bosch, to take the case? The ploys and counterploys run deep....



Valuing paperbacks

Joyce Saricks writes: "I've always advocated cataloging paperbacks and adding them to the collection, shelving them right alongside the hardcovers. Paperbacks have a long history of being undervalued. Perhaps their reputation goes back to the whole idea of pulp fiction—low-quality paper and binding for low-quality prose. Popular, perhaps, but not good enough to appear in hardcover."...



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

Dallas Update

Culture, class, and a new kind of cowboy

Arts, architecture, and a bit of French flair put a cultural spin on this iconic Texas city, as this [video](#) (3:16) by TravelTex points out. On the right is the Pioneer Plaza [cattle drive sculpture](#) commemorating the 19th-century longhorn cattle drives that took place along the Shawnee Trail. The 70 bronze steers and three trail riders were created by artist Robert Summers of Glen Rose, Texas. Each steer is larger than life at six feet high, and the sculpture is said to be the largest bronze monument of its kind in the world....

TravelTex, July 14, 2010; Wikipedia



All about DART

Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) gets you around Dallas and 12 surrounding cities with modern public transit services. The DART

library can be seen by prior appointment even when the Assembly is sitting. Its 22 ceiling paintings depicting the history of civilization were the work of artist [Eugène Delacroix](#) in 1838–1845. The library contains more than 350,000 volumes, as well as the original records of the trial of Joan of Arc and the Aztec Codex Borbonicus. In 2009, it signed a partnership agreement with the [Bibliothèque nationale de France](#) to digitize some of its rare manuscripts, including a copy of *Le Roman de la Rose* and an autograph copy of [Jean-Jacques Rousseau's Julie, or the New Heloise](#).



Salle de La Chapelle,

Municipal Library, Alençon, France. Housed in a former 17th-century Jesuit church, the city's rare-books collection consists of 723 manuscripts, at least 125 of them from the Middle Ages, and 57,000 rare books dealing with the history and culture of Normandy.

This 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

Red and Blue Lines stop at ground level at the Convention Center Station under Exhibit Halls E and F. Trains run every 5 minutes during peak (rush) hours and every 10 minutes during off-peak hours. The cost is \$1.75 one way or \$4 for a day pass....

Dallas Area Rapid Transit



[A boarding pass on your screen](#)

Susan Stellin writes: "With a growing number of travelers carrying smartphones, the era of paperless boarding may have finally arrived. I recently tried a mobile boarding pass for the first time on a Delta flight out of LaGuardia Airport and had no problems checking in or getting through security and onto the plane. But it's not yet a foolproof way to travel, so here are some things I learned from my test drive, as well as feedback from fliers who have used e-boarding passes many times."...

New York Times, Nov. 2

[Airline Wi-Fi check](#)

Brett Snyder writes: "It took ages, but United has finally made a decision on putting [Wi-Fi on its fleet](#). Instead of just doing the domestic fleet, it's going global. Now, almost every U.S. airline has plans for Wi-Fi with at least one of the various providers out there. Here's a look at how they stack up."...

Condé Nast Traveler: Daily Traveler, Nov. 7



Division News

[Submit proposals for ACRL 2013](#)

ACRL invites proposal submissions for the [ACRL 2013 Conference](#) to be held April 10–13, 2013, in Indianapolis. Contributed paper, panel session, preconference, and workshop proposals are due May 11, 2012. Cyber Zed Shed presentation, poster session, roundtable discussion, and Virtual Conference Webcast proposals are due November 9, 2012. [Submit proposals](#) via the online form....

ACRL Insider, Nov. 8



[Become a LLAMA mentor or mentee](#)

The LLAMA Mentoring Committee has begun recruiting mentors and mentees for the July 2012–June 2013 year. The mentoring program pairs librarians who are currently in leadership positions with librarians who are interested in becoming leaders. The deadline to apply for [mentors](#) and [mentees](#) is December 16....

LLAMA, Nov. 8

[Refresh your customer service skills](#)

On November 30, PLA will host a live, hourlong webinar, "[Fully Engaged Customer Service at Your Library](#)," as part of its "Public Libraries at Work" monthly webinar series. Participants will learn a fresh approach to customer service and discover ways to reduce work stress by enacting techniques to connect with patrons and respond to their needs in an efficient and positive manner. The registration deadline is November 28....

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 2013 by ALA Editions.



Career Leads
from
ALA JobLIST

[Director of Library](#)

[Services](#), The Citadel, Charleston, South Carolina. The Director of Library Services is the chief academic and administrative officer of the Daniel Library, including the Citadel Archives and Museum, and the Friends of the Daniel Library organization. Holding faculty rank and reporting to the provost, the director participates in college governance as a member of the Deans' Council, Academic Board, and Graduate Council....

PLA, Nov. 8

[AASL Pre-Midwinter Institute](#)

AASL encourages school librarians to attend the AASL Pre-Midwinter Institute, "Tools for Transforming Your School Library Program," taking place January 20 prior to the ALA 2012 Midwinter Meeting in Dallas. Attendees will learn how to collect and use data to drive their program's improvement. To register, visit the [AASL website](#)....

AASL, Nov. 8

[New ASCLA Youth Services Consultants interest group](#)

The [Youth Services Consultants Interest Group](#), a new group hosted by ASCLA, is now online and accepting new members. Youth services consultants and any state library staff member who works with youth services on a statewide level are encouraged to join this member-driven group. To join, log in to ALA Connect, access the group's [ALA Connect page](#), then click "Join."...

ASCLA, Nov. 8

[Go back to the Top](#)

Awards & Grants

[RUSA achievement awards and travel grants](#)

There's a little more than a month left to nominate yourself or someone else for one of the many achievement awards and conference travel grants offered by RUSA. The deadline for all nominations is December 15, with the exception of the BRASS Gale Cengage Learning Student Travel Award, which has a deadline of January 31....

RUSA, Nov. 8

[STARS/Atlas Systems Mentoring travel grant](#)

The [STARS/Atlas Systems Mentoring](#) travel grant is now offered in the amount of \$1,250, thanks to an increase in funding from award sponsor Atlas Systems. The grant is presented annually to a library practitioner who is new to the field of interlibrary loan, document delivery, or electronic reserves and provides support for travel expenses associated with attending the ALA Annual Conference. The deadline for nominations ([PDF file](#)) is December 15....

RUSA, Nov. 7

[2012 ASCLA awards](#)

The 2012 awards offered by ASCLA are an excellent chance to recognize colleagues, institutions, or particular programs for their contributions to the division and the areas of librarianship in which they serve. The nomination deadline is December 15. Download the appropriate award nomination form from the [awards section](#) of the ASCLA website....

ASCLA, Nov. 8

[Need funding for Annual Conference 2012?](#)

Take advantage of two grants made available through the New Members Round Table: the 3M NMRT Professional Development Grant, and the Shirley Olofson Memorial Award. Applications for these two grants are due December 16 and December 12, respectively.



@ [More jobs...](#)

Digital Library of the Week



The Nantucket (Mass.) Historical Association Research Library's [Historic Photograph Collections](#) are the most complete visual record of the history of Nantucket Island in existence and consist of more than 50,000 images. Several thousand have now been scanned and individually cataloged into a database that is searchable online.

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

Applicants must be members of NMRT....
NMRT Notes, Nov. 1

[EBSCO offers travel grants to ALA Annual Conference](#)

ALA and EBSCO are partnering to offer seven scholarships for librarians to attend the 2012 ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, California, June 21–26. Each EBSCO scholarship will be in the amount of \$1,000 for conference registration, travel and expenses. The deadline to [apply](#) is December 1....

Office of ALA Governance, Nov. 3

[Science Kits for Public Libraries grants](#)

The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers Chicago Section is accepting applications for the IEEE Science Kits for Public Libraries Grant. The grant will provide funding to more than 20 public libraries in the Midwest for the development of math and science collections for K–12 students through the creation of science kits—especially kits that provide prepared experiments for use by students, educators, and librarians. The application deadline is December 15. Watch the Mount Prospect (Ill.) Public Library [video](#) (4:24) to see the kits in action....



Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Chicago Section, Nov. 4; YouTube, Nov. 1, 2010

[OCLC recognized for workplace practices](#)

OCLC has been honored with the 2011 Alfred P. Sloan Award for Business Excellence in Workplace Flexibility for its use of flexibility as an effective workplace strategy to increase business and employee success. The award, part of the national When Work Works project, recognizes employers of all sizes and types across the United States. When Work Works is a national project to educate the business community on the value of workplace flexibility, such as flextime....

OCLC, Nov. 4

[The 90-second Newbery Film Festival: New York](#)

Betsy Bird writes: “Kids from around the world (yes, world) filmed 90-second or so versions of various Newbery Award and Honor books. They sent these videos to YA author James Kennedy (of *The Order of Odd-Fish*) and he collected, curated, organized, tightened, and generally got them into working order. Kennedy received more than 100 entries, so those were culled down to a select few that he is showing in three theatrical showings. Here in New York, our film festival on November 5 was the first and played in the main branch of the library system.”...



School Library Journal: A Fuse #8 Production, Nov. 7; YouTube, Oct. 13

[Business Book of the Year 2011](#)

Poor Economics: A Radical Rethinking of the Way to Fight Global Poverty (PublicAffairs) is the 2011 *Financial Times* and Goldman Sachs Business Book of the Year. Abhijit Banerjee received the £30,000 (\$48,290 U.S.) award on behalf of his coauthor Esther Duflo at a dinner in London on November 3. The

How the World Sees Us

“When that old robber baron Andrew Carnegie decided to plow his ill-gotten gains into building this library system ‘for the people,’ he had to have believed we would realize its value and support it in the years to come....

“Stately old buildings are expensive to heat, cool, modernize, and maintain. The information age has necessitated more and more computers, e-readers, and other technology, all of it essential for people who don’t have it at home, especially children whose future depends on multi-platform literacy.

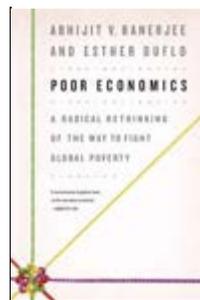
“The library leadership has done a fine job of raising capital funds and using them to their best advantage. The result is a growing list of library redesigns, each one a jewel of form and function....

“Rejecting this small levy because it should have been more widespread would be like rejecting a diphtheria vaccination because it doesn’t cover measles. The money won’t do everything, but it will do something, and that something is well worth doing.”

—Staff writer Sally Kalson, in an editorial favoring a tax

authors use randomized control trials of the type used to assess new drugs to study the behavior of poor people and the best ways to alleviate poverty....

San Francisco Chronicle, Nov. 4



levy for the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, "[Small Library Tax, Big Returns.](#)" *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, Nov. 6.

@ [More quotes...](#)

[2011 Roald Dahl Funny Prizes](#)

The Roald Dahl Funny Prize celebrates the best in funny literature for children in memory of one of the most inventive and humorous children's authors. This year the two winners who had the judges clutching their sides were *Cats Ahoy!* by Peter Bently in the 6 years and under category, and *The Brilliant World of Tom Gates* by Liz Pichon in the 7-14 age group. The winner in each category wins £2,500 (\$4,025 U.S.). For the first time this year, more than 400 school pupils took part in the voting process....

Yahoo! Lifestyle UK, Nov. 8



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[Great Songs and the Artists Who Created Them: 'Viva Las Vegas'](#)

['The Weird Sisters' Author Eleanor Brown Shares Her Thoughts About Libraries \(video\)](#)

[Libraries Open Their Doors to Gamers on National Gaming Day @ your library](#)



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[2011 Scotiabank Giller Prize](#)

Esi Edugyan was named the 2011 winner of the Scotiabank Giller Prize on November 8 for her novel *Half-Blood Blues* (Thomas Allen), about jazz musicians in World War II Paris. The largest annual literary award in Canada, the prize awards \$50,000 to the author of the best Canadian novel or short story collection published in English. The shortlist was chosen from an unprecedented 143 books submitted for consideration by 55 publishing houses....

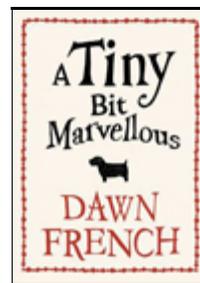
Scotiabank Giller Prize, Nov. 8



[2011 Galaxy National Book Awards](#)

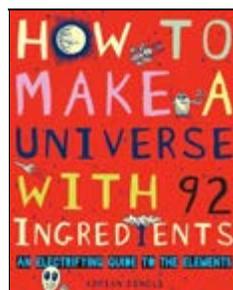
Jackie Collins picked up the outstanding achievement prize at the 2011 Galaxy National Book Awards, announced in London November 4. Collins's 28 novels have never been out of print and are all international bestsellers. Her most recent novel, *Goddess of Vengeance*, debuted at the top of the UK *Sunday Times* bestseller list in April. Dawn French won the award for fiction for *A Tiny Bit Marvellous* (Penguin), while Caitlin Moran won the nonfiction prize for *How to Be a Woman* (Ebury)....

BBC News, Nov. 4



[UK Information Book Awards 2011](#)

The winners of the first UK School Library Association Information Book Awards were announced in London on November 2. The awards celebrate information books, the importance of nonfiction materials for children and young adults, and the high standard of resources available. The overall winners were Adrian Dingle's *How to Make a Universe with 92 Ingredients* (Scholastic) and Kristen McDermott and Ari Berk's *The Life and Times of William*



Shakespeare (Templar)....

School Library Association Blog, Nov. 2

[Prix Goncourt goes to high school teacher](#)

France's highest literary prize, the Prix Goncourt, was awarded November 3 to Alexis Jenni for his novel *L'Art Français de la Guerre* (The French Art of War). Jenni is a first-time novelist who teaches high school biology. Despite its prestige, the Prix Goncourt comes with just a token financial reward—about \$13. Yet the attention it brings often means a significant increase in book sales for the winner. Jenni's 600-page novel is a journey through France's military history in Indochina, Algeria, and at home....

Los Angeles Times: Jacket Copy, Nov. 3



Seen Online

[Occupy D.C.'s "People's Library"](#)

The Occupy D.C. library has become a hub of information—and novels—for Washington protesters. The library recently expanded to a larger tent to accommodate a continuing influx of donations, which includes an edition of *French Women Don't Get Fat* and one man's donated comic book collection. Volunteers now estimate the collection holds more than 1,000 volumes. Known as the "People's Library," it has no library cards, closing time, late fees, or even a requirement to return the books. Similar libraries have sprung up at other Occupy protests, including New York and London....

Wall Street Journal, Nov. 4



[Special tax for Pittsburgh's Carnegie Library passes](#)

By a margin of more than two to one, Pittsburgh voters November 8 approved a binding referendum to add 0.25 mills to the tax on all real estate in the city, and steer the proceeds to the fiscally challenged Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh. The new revenue, as much as \$3 million annually, will play a large part ([PDF file](#)) in allowing the library to continue providing neighborhood-based services to city residents, including early learning programs for children and families, job search assistance, and computer and internet access....

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, Nov. 8; Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, Nov. 8



[Chicago mayor's library cuts face city council vote November 16](#)

Mayor Rahm Emanuel's \$6.3-billion budget cleared its first legislative hurdle November 7 when the Chicago city council's budget committee approved the spending plan hours after the finance committee advanced the revenue package. That sets the stage for a full council vote on November 16. Although Emanuel restored \$3.3 million from the initial \$8.6 million in proposed cuts, the measure would still eliminate almost 20% of Chicago Public Library staff, restrict hours of operation, and cut several areas of programming, including those geared toward children and computer literacy....

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Streaming Media West, Los Angeles, Nov. 8–9, at:

[#smwest](#)

Association for Educational Communications and Technology, International Convention, Jacksonville, Florida, Nov. 8–12, at:

[#aect2011](#)

Berlin 9 Open Access Conference, Washington, D.C., Nov. 9–10, at:

[#berlin9](#)

Life and Literature Conference, Chicago, Nov. 14–15, at:

[#lifelit](#)

2011 Global Education Conference, online, Nov. 14–18, at:

[#globaled11](#)

California Library Association / California School Library Association, Annual Conference and Exposition, Pasadena, Nov. 11–13, at:

[#calibconf](#)

Chicago Sun-Times, Nov. 7

[Chicago's library of the future](#)

Jaywon Choe writes: "The University of Chicago's new Joe and Rika Mansueto Library is a futuristic bubble of a building with nary a stack in site. Many of its nearly one million items—special collections, journals, dissertations, documents—can be accessed online. While many academic libraries are digitizing and moving holdings off site, Manseuto is the largest and latest to add automated storage and retrieval systems." The Museum of Science and Industry's Kevin Byrne got a [behind-the-scenes look](#) at the Mansueto recently. Watch the [video](#) (2:38)....

New York Times, Nov. 4; Month at the Museum 2, Nov. 3; YouTube, Nov. 3



[Book challenge at Blue Springs](#)

Parents of a child in the Blue Springs (Mo.) School District have objected to a book they say is riddled with obscenities. *Hold Still* by Nina LaCour was pulled in October from a school library as the district reconsiders whether it is appropriate for student reading. Now the ACLU is threatening to get involved if the school district caves in to pressure. Parent Christina Brown said the book is "extremely inappropriate" for public school because it describes explicit sexual relationships....

KCTV, Kansas City, Mo., Nov. 8



[Indiana libraries closing doors, cutting hours](#)

Libraries in Indiana are delaying repairs, limiting purchases of new material, and closing their doors as they bow under the weight of statewide property tax caps and declining revenue. The Johnson County and Greenwood library systems will face shortfalls of about 10% next year. Edinburgh (right) plans to spend 5% less next year. And two branches of the Hammond Public Library system have closed while facing a \$1.2-million shortfall....

Associated Press, Nov. 5



[NYPL president arrested for DWI](#)

The new president and CEO of the New York Public Library, Anthony Marx, was arrested and charged with driving while intoxicated November 6 after he sideswiped a parked vehicle with his library-owned Audi, law-enforcement officials said. The library released a statement from Marx that said, "My focus now is on moving forward and assuring that this incident does not detract from the important work and goals shared by all my colleagues." Marx succeeded former NYPL President Paul LeClerc in July....

Wall Street Journal, Nov. 8

[Alec Baldwin Foundation donates \\$250,000 to East Hampton Library](#)

On November 1, the East Hampton (N.Y.) Library announced a donation of \$250,000 from the Alec Baldwin Foundation to assist in the construction of the library's expanded children's wing, which is expected to break ground in the spring. The donations



Indiana Library Federation, Annual Conference, Fort Wayne, Nov. 14–16, at:

[#ilf11](#)

Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences, Annual Meeting, Charlotte, North Carolina, Nov. 13–16, at:

[#informs2011](#)

All About Mobile Conference, San Francisco, Nov. 15, at:

[#allmob](#)

Museum Computer Network, Annual Conference, Atlanta, Nov. 16–19, at:

[#mcn2011](#)

ALA Midwinter Meeting, Dallas, Jan. 20–24, at:

[#alamw12](#)

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

[amlibraries](#)

Calendar

Nov. 12:
[National Gaming Day @ your library.](#)

**Nov. 29–
Dec. 1:**
[Online Information Conference](#), National Hall, Olympia, London.

Dec. 1–3:
[Humanities, Arts, Sciences, and Technology Advanced Collaboratory Conference.](#)

are part of the actor's promise to donate the proceeds of his commercials for Capital One Bank's Venture Rewards card to arts and cultural organizations....

East Hampton (N.Y.) Star, Nov. 3

[West Hollywood's StandUp Librarian isn't laughing](#)

Meredith Myers, librarian and professional comedian, was fired from a West Hollywood library job that she loved. Myers has an MLS, but library jobs are scarce these days. So earlier this year she devoted much of her volunteer time to fundraising for the West Hollywood branch of the Los Angeles County Public Library and soon took a job as a library page, developing her comedy routine at the same time. But shortly after the *Los Angeles Times* interviewed her about her work, the library let her go without explanation. Myers [comments](#). "What I hope all of you learn from my story is that when bad stuff happens, it is not the end of the performance."...

Los Angeles Times, Nov. 2; StandUp Librarian blog, Nov. 6



[Librarian's words are binding](#)

Steve Lopez writes: "Several years ago a young man who was majoring in philosophy and French got a part-time job in his university library to help pay his bills. Over time, it occurred to him that he loved that hallowed sanctuary, surrounded each day by bound volumes of ideas and by records of our history. He knew then what he wanted to do with his life and went on to graduate school to study library science. Today, he's a librarian at Delgado Community College in New Orleans, helping rebuild a collection wiped out by Hurricane Katrina. His name is Andrew, by the way, and he's my son."...

Los Angeles Times, Nov. 9

[Iraqis want U.S. to return stolen Saddam archives](#)

Salah Nasrawi writes: "Detailed records of former Iraqi President Saddam Hussein's private deliberations with his inner circle released by the Pentagon are raising serious questions about the right of the United States to seize Iraqi state documents and keep them under its control even after ending its eight years of occupation. For Iraqis, the documents and transcripts—which were part of a massive state archive that American forces captured after they invaded Iraq in 2003—are considered a treasure and part of Iraq's national heritage and should be returned to Iraq."...

Al-Ahram Weekly (Cairo), Nov. 3–9

[D.C. gets \\$6-million settlement in three-alarm fire case](#)

Washington, D.C., will receive \$6 million in a settlement of its case against the general contractor that headed the renovation of the Georgetown branch of the District of Columbia Public Library, severely damaged in 2007 by a three-alarm blaze that investigators found was caused by a construction worker using a heat gun. The city will receive the [settlement](#) from the insurance carriers for Dynamic Corp. and subcontractor Two Brothers Contracting. It had initially sued Dynamic for \$13 million in damages to the 76-year-old building. The library reopened in 2010 after a \$23-million restoration....

Washington Post, Nov. 4; *Legal Times*: BLT, Nov. 4



University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. "Digital Scholarly Communication."

Dec. 5–7:

[7th International Digital Curation Conference](#), Marriott Royal Hotel, Bristol, U.K. "Public? Private? Personal? Navigating the Open Data Landscape."

Dec. 5–9:

[27th Annual Computer Security Applications Conference](#), Buena Vista Palace Hotel and Spa, Orlando, Florida.

Jan. 4–7:

[Hawaii International Conference on System Sciences](#), Grand Wailea, Maui.

Jan. 6:

[CreateGear: Enabling the Curation of Digital Collections](#), University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

Jan. 16–18:

[International Conference on Technology, Knowledge, and Society](#), University of California, Los Angeles.

Jan. 20–24:

[American Library Association](#), Midwinter Meeting, Dallas.

Feb. 9:

[Digital Strategy](#), Association of Learned and Professional Society Publishers Seminar, London.

Feb. 10:

[Online Northwest](#).

[Joplin library lost some 1,200 books in tornado](#)

Even though the Joplin (Mo.) Public Library building wasn't struck by the May 22 tornado, its collection took a big hit, said Library Director Jacque Gage. Between 1,200 and 1,500 library items that had been checked out are gone with the wind. Every section of the library lost something, and the biggest losses were to children's books, DVDs, and adult fiction....

Joplin (Mo.) Globe, Nov. 2



[Wikipedia gains more academic credibility](#)

It was about six years ago that University of British Columbia Professor Jon Beasley-Murray first noticed his students citing Wikipedia in their essays. If they were going to use Wikipedia for his class on Latin American literature, he thought, they might as well improve some of the shoddy articles. So for the past five years, students in his class have edited or contributed articles to Wikipedia as part of a class assignment. By the end of 2011, Wikipedia hopes to have convinced enough professors worldwide that approximately 10,000 students will be contributing to the site....

Vancouver (B.C.) Sun, Nov. 5

[Room to Read changes lives](#)

Nicholas D. Kristof writes: "I came here to Vietnam on October 28 to see John Wood (right) [hand out his 10 millionth book](#) at a library that his team founded in Cai Lei in the Mekong Delta—as hundreds of local children cheered and embraced the books he brought as if they were the rarest of treasures. Wood's charity, [Room to Read](#), has opened 12,000 of these libraries around the world, along with 1,500 schools. He has opened nearly five times as many libraries as Carnegie, even if his are mostly single-room affairs, at the astonishing rate of six per day."...

New York Times Sunday Review, Nov. 5



[Professors decry cuts to Library and Archives Canada](#)

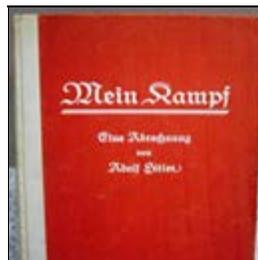
Canada is losing out on priceless historical records because of funding cuts and poor management at its Library and Archives, a national university teachers group said November 2. The Canadian Association of University Teachers launched its "[Save Library and Archives Canada](#)" campaign at a Parliament Hill press conference, lashing out at what it says is LAC's lack of interest in buying rare books and artifacts....

Ottawa (Ont.) Citizen, Nov. 3



[The Return of Mein Kampf](#)

Sarah Wildman writes: "Distributing and displaying Nazi paraphernalia is forbidden in Austria, Germany, Belgium, the Czech Republic, France, Lichtenstein, Luxembourg, and Lithuania. And for nearly 70 years, the German state of Bavaria, which holds the copyright for Hitler's *Mein Kampf*, has fought against the book's publication. While these restrictions may have helped limit its widespread distribution in Europe, the book is widely available, in its



Oregon State University, Corvallis.

Mar. 21–25:

[Information Architecture Summit](#), New Orleans.

Mar. 25–29:

[American Chemical Society](#), National Meeting and Exposition, San Diego. "Chemistry of Life."

Mar. 26–27:

[Future Perfect](#), Conference, Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa, Wellington. "Digital Preservation by Design."

Apr. 11–14:

[Museums and the Web](#), Conference, Sheraton Marina, San Diego.

Apr. 18–20:

[Washington Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Tulalip Resort Casino. "One Tribe: Bringing Washington's Libraries Together."

Apr. 18–20:

[Florida Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Wyndham Orlando Resort. "Vibrant and Vital Florida Libraries."

@ [More...](#)

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entirety, across the web. As Europe faces the end of the copyright on one of the most painful texts of the 20th century, some people now believe the best course of action is not to extend the ban but to publish *Mein Kampf* with extensive annotations that explain how the book was used and what it wrought.”...

New York Times: Latitude, Nov. 4

[School librarian arrested for sexual misconduct](#)

County sheriffs arrested John David Sullivan of Estill Springs, Tennessee, November 8 in connection with multiple charges of sexual misconduct. Sullivan was working as the librarian at Moore County High School in Lynchburg but resigned at the onset of an intense, three-week investigation. He is being held on a \$100,000 bond and is scheduled to appear in Franklin County Circuit Court on November 18....

WAFF-TV, Huntsville, Ala., Nov. 8

[Suspect in library stabbing appears in court](#)

Samuel Ampong made a brief court appearance November 5 in connection with the stabbing of another man in the Toronto Public Library branch at City Hall. Ampong was arrested November 4 after a man was stabbed inside the branch in an apparent argument over the use of a computer terminal....

CBC News, Nov. 5

[Go back to the Top](#)

Tech Talk

[Kindle Fire vs. Nook Tablet](#)

Barnes & Noble announced its new \$249 Nook Tablet on November 7 and the combination of hardware and software enhancements will instantly make it one of the most impressive Android tablets on the market when it begins shipping November 18. Amazon’s \$199 color touch-screen tablet, the Kindle Fire, is currently on preorder and ships by November 15. Until the PCMag Lab acquires both tablets for testing, here is how the [hardware specs](#) stack up. Dan Costa spent enough time with the new Nook Tablet to [form some impressions](#). Mary Burkey [notes](#) that the tablet features a “Read and Record” ability, which allows you to record ebook text for later playback—a do-it-yourself audiobook + narration....

PC Magazine, Nov. 7; Booklist Online: Audiobooker, Nov. 7



[How to take better pictures on your iPhone](#)

Jason Boog writes: “With the [99-cent Big Lens app](#) on your iPhone or iPad 2, you can create more artful photos. The app includes a customizable soft-focus feature, color filters, lenses, and other features that enable you to create some professional-looking work.” HelpMyBrand blogger Tom Martin says: “I have to say it’s just perfect for food bloggers, tourism bloggers, restaurant blogs, and home decor or real estate blogs.”...

GalleyCat, Nov. 7



[How to choose an online backup service](#)

newsletter emailed every Wednesday to personal members of the [American Library Association](#) and subscribers.



George M. Eberhart,
Editor:

geberhart@ala.org



Beverly Goldberg,
Senior Editor:

bgoldberg@ala.org



Greg Landgraf,
Associate Editor:

glandgraf@ala.org



Sanhita SinhaRoy,
Associate Editor:

ssinharoy@ala.org

Jennifer Henderson,
Contributing Researcher

To advertise in American Libraries Direct, contact:



Brian Searles:
bsearles@ala.org



Katie Bane:
kbane@ala.org

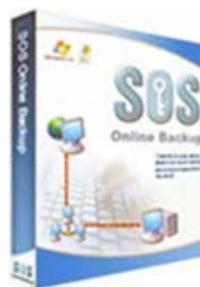
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Michael Muchmore writes: "The need for online backup services such as [Carbonite](#), [Mozy](#), and [SOS Online Backup](#) couldn't be clearer. A recent survey conducted by Wakefield Research and Carbonite showed that even though '51% of Americans have experienced a computer crash where they lost all of their digital files, more than one third (39%) admit they have never backed up their computers or haven't done so in more than a year.' What's more, '40% of Americans feel they would never be able to recover, recreate, or repurchase all of their documents and files if their personal computer crashed.'"...

PC Magazine, Nov. 2



[Those reCAPTCHA words](#)

Patrick Manning writes: "Con enthsba! Look familiar? Those confusing semi-words you retype to buy Rolling Stones tickets on Ticketmaster or sell an antique lamp on Craigslist might not read as real words, but they are. They're actually images from the pages of books, and thanks to reCAPTCHA technology, they are a key reason Google has digitized more than 15 million books since 2004."...

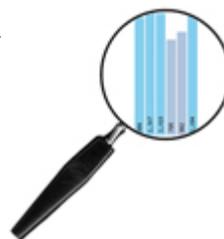
Fox News, Nov. 6



[Everything you always wanted to know about web tracking](#)

Dan Tynan writes: "Think web trackers aren't following you? Think again. Just by visiting the *IT World* website, roughly half a dozen ad networks and web analytics companies have deposited tracking cookies on your machine. Don't freak out, it's not as bad as it seems. In fact, there's an awful lot of hype, fear, and misinformation surrounding web tracking—and both sides are guilty of overstating the dangers of tracking, as well as the benefits. How much do you know about web tracking? Take the following true-false quiz to find out."...

IT World, Nov. 3



[16 creative ways to make your Facebook Timeline photo](#)

Tim Ware writes: "For those with a creative bent, probably the most exciting change is the Timeline cover photo, an 851-by-315-pixel canvas that you can fill with the image of your choice. Inserted into the lower left of the Timeline cover is your profile photo. The fun is coming up with interesting and clever ways to have your cover photo and your profile photo interact. The following examples should help spark your imagination and give you some ideas of the possibilities."...

Social Media Examiner, Nov. 1



[Virtual job interview](#)

Kelly Yang writes: "It used to be that if you were obnoxious, you'd have a hard time getting through a job interview. Now, things have changed. Skype, with its 170 million monthly active users, is changing the face of recruiting, and not always in a good way. Last year, I sat through 78 Skype interviews in order to successfully place seven employees. Often I have mere minutes to decide. How do you make these tough calls



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when the connection is unstable, the audio delayed, and looking someone in the eye is impossible?"...

New York Times, Nov. 3

E-Content

[The Amazon Lending Library is not the apocalypse](#)

Andy Woodworth writes: "At first glance, it seems like a pretty mind-blowing announcement. But when you read between the lines, it doesn't look quite so epic. The part that really cracks me up is the phrase, "[You can borrow a new book as frequently as once a month.](#)" in the help section. Since the only other number possible is zero times a month, I guess they have to try to sell what they have as best as they can."...

Agnostic, Maybe, Nov. 4



[Could Amazon's Lending Library end up in court?](#)

Rachel Deahl writes: "As more information has come to light about the Amazon Lending Library, the tenor in the publishing industry has shifted from puzzlement to anger. Although Amazon initially said it reached a variety of terms with publishers to include their titles, *PW* has learned that the overwhelming majority of titles were taken without publishers' knowledge or consent. Some publishers are consulting their contracts and their lawyers to see what, if any, legal action can be taken."...

Publishers Weekly, Nov. 9

[Amazon's Prime Lending Library list viewable online](#)

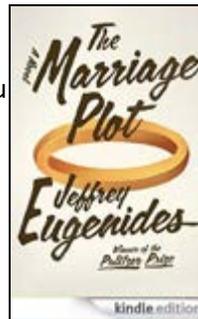
Amazon is tempting Kindle owners to sign up for its Prime service with free ebooks. If you are wondering if there are any good ones to read, you can now peruse a list right from your PC. The internet retailer's complete [collection of Prime Lending Library books](#) for Kindle devices is online and accessible from any web browser. Amazon's library collection includes more than 5,300 Kindle editions that Prime members can download and read for free. (Some users report they are getting cut off after around 1,000 books.)...

PC World, Nov. 6

[A Kindle disconnect?](#)

Jenna Wortham writes: "I just finished reading *The Marriage Plot*, Jeffrey Eugenides's latest novel. And you know what? I didn't love it. I was surprised, because his previous works, *Middlesex* and *The Virgin Suicides*, are among my favorites. But the main difference between my experience reading those books and this one is that I read *The Marriage Plot* on my Kindle. Does consuming books on an e-reader shape the way our brains absorb and process what we've read?"...

New York Times: Digital Diary, Nov. 2



[State librarians ally with Internet Archive's Open Library](#)

Michael Kelley writes: "All 50 state librarians have decided to throw their weight behind the Internet Archive's [Open Library](#) lending program. The Chief Officers of State Library Agencies voted unanimously during a meeting held October 24–26 in Santa Fe, New Mexico, to enter into a memorandum of understanding with the Internet Archive that will essentially make the state librarian in each

state a point person for the lending program.”...

Library Journal: The Digital Shift, Nov. 4

[We don't read that way](#)

Maura Smale writes: “I was chatting recently with a professor in my liaison department who was beginning research for a new book. Did she have everything she needed? Was there anything I should look into ordering? Yes, she said, the library was pretty well stocked with books and journals for the topic. However, many of the books she needed we only had as ebooks—for those, she would order print copies through interlibrary loan.”...

ACRLog, Nov. 8

[Five huge, free ebook collections](#)



Ellyssa Kroski writes: “Now that we have so many devices that enable us to read ebooks with ease, even those who were initially skeptical have now jumped on the ebook bandwagon. Whether you have an iPhone, iPad, Kindle, Nook, or smartphone, you will find free ebooks that are compatible with your device on these websites. Here are five ebook collections that contain more than 100,000 free ebooks.”...

iLibrarian, Nov. 4

[Readmill networks lonely bookworms](#)

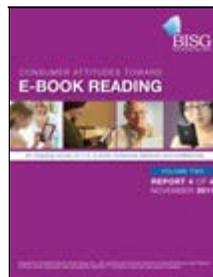


Traditionally, reading has been a solitary activity. But two Berlin-based Swedes, David Kjelkerud and Henrik Berggren, hope to change this. They are close to launching new social software called [Readmill](#), an intelligent bookmark for ebooks, which promises to create a social network for bookworms to share their reading habits, margin notes, and recommendations. Readmill members can create a semi-public reference list for their books, giving them the possibility of alerting friends to interesting passages for discussion....

Der Spiegel, Nov. 4

[BISG report on ebook reading trends](#)

Ebook sales can be expected to continue growing as readers show increased loyalty to and satisfaction with the digital format, according to the latest Book Industry Study Group's *Consumer Attitudes Toward E-Book Reading* survey. Results show that nearly 50% of print book consumers who have also acquired an ebook in the past 18 months would wait up to three months for the e-version of a book from a favorite author, rather than immediately read it in print....



Book Industry Study Group, Nov. 8

[The average lifespan of a web page](#)

Mike Ashenfelder writes: “What is the average lifespan of a web page? Predictably, estimates vary and vary over time. A 1997 [special report](#) in *Scientific American* claimed 44 days. A subsequent 2001 academic study ([PDF file](#)) in *IEEE Computer* suggested 75 days. More recently, in 2003, a *Washington Post* [article](#) indicated that the number was 100 days.



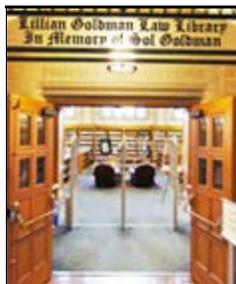
Determining the average lifespan of a web page is complicated not just by the infrastructure required to analyze a representative sample of links across the web but also because we take for granted that we know what it means that a web page has died.”...

The Signal: Digital Preservation, Nov. 8

[Yale Law School Library leads in open access](#)

An online access project has given Yale Law School faculty broader readership than ever before. The library added roughly 3,000 faculty-published scholarly articles, from legal journals to an open-access database, on its website over the past year—giving it the largest online repository of its kind. The effort has made Yale a leader among institutions seeking to increase the amount of academic content that is freely available to the public....

Yale Daily News, Nov. 2



[Sharing cultural interfaces](#)

LC's National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program



has launched [Viewshare.org](#), a platform for empowering curators, archivists, and librarians to provide access to the digital cultural-heritage objects they are preserving. Supporting multiple metadata upload options and featuring such data augmentation tools as geocoding and ISO 8601 date conversion, Viewshare offers a free, intuitive tool for building and sharing customized, interactive views of cultural-heritage digital collections....

The Signal: Digital Preservation, Oct. 31

[Building the perfect data repository](#)

Cameron Neylon writes: "There has been a lot of talk about data repositories and data publication, but there is still a lack of tools that are both truly attractive to research scientists and provide a route to more general and effective data sharing. The research repository of choice remains a haphazard file store and the data-sharing mechanism of choice remains email. How do we bridge this gap?"...

Science in the Open, Oct. 27

[Go back to the Top](#)

Books & Reading

[The future of reading](#)

Katherine Schulten and Shannon Doyné write: "How is the definition of 'reading' changing? What is the future of the book industry? What does all this mean for schools, students, and literacy rates? In 2008, the *New York Times* published a series called '[The Future of Reading](#)' in which some of these questions were raised. Three years later, that future is evolving at such a rapid rate that stories on the topic crop up regularly in every section of the paper. In this post, we've collected and categorized many of those articles, and suggested ideas for classroom inquiry." Watch the [video](#) (4:01)....

New York Times: The Learning Network, Nov. 3; July 27, 2008



[Are cookbooks obsolete?](#)

Julia Moskin writes: "With the boom in tablet technology, recipes have begun to travel with their users from home to the office to the market and into the kitchen. With features like embedded links, built-in timers, infographics,



and voice prompts, the richness of some new apps—like [Baking With Dorie](#), from the baking expert Dorie Greenspan; Jamie Oliver's [20-Minute Meals](#); and [Professional Chef](#), the vast app released last month by the Culinary Institute of America—hint that books as kitchen tools are on the way out."...

New York Times, Nov. 8

[IFLA picture book survey](#)

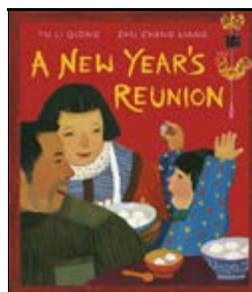
Take a few minutes to list the top five children's picture book titles that you enjoy sharing with children and that represent books created and published in the United States. After the survey closes, the nominations will be ranked and submitted as the United States Top 10 list to the Libraries for Children and Young Adults Committee of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions. The aim of the survey is to create a list of picture books from around the world that have been selected and recommended by librarians....

IFLA Libraries for Children and Young Adults Committee

[Best illustrated children's books](#)

The *New York Times Book Review* has announced its list of the 10 Best Illustrated Children's Books of 2011. Artwork from this year's winners will appear in the special Children's Book section of the *Book Review's* November 13 issue. The judges (one of whom was Jeanne Lamb, coordinator of youth collections at the New York Public Library) chose from among hundreds of children's picture books published in 2011....

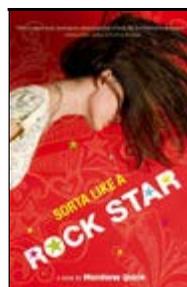
New York Times: ArtsBeat, Nov. 3



[Altruism in YA literature](#)

Sharon Rawlins writes: "The tradition of everyone sharing something they are grateful for on Thanksgiving made me think of some quirky YA books that have featured altruistic characters who engage in random acts of kindness or those with great feel-good endings—the kind of story where everyone pulls together at the end. Several of my favorite YA books like this came out last year, and two in particular were on the 2011 Best Fiction for Young Adults list."...

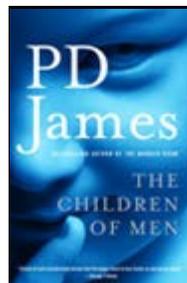
YALSA The Hub, Nov. 9



[Best books on politics and campaigns](#)

In honor of the upcoming election year, the Friends of the San Francisco Public Library have hunted down what they consider to be a satisfying reading list containing some compelling fiction and nonfiction titles about politics, politicians, and the political process. The list of 10 books offers a wide variety of perspectives and topics (because in San Francisco just about anything can be political)....

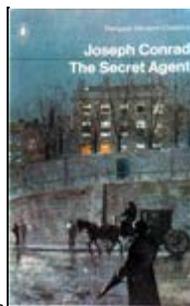
The Readers Review, Nov. 1



[The art of the novel](#)

Geoff Dyer writes: "In London recently there was an exhibition of paintings by Atkinson Grimshaw. The name might not ring a bell, but his paintings will be familiar to you from the covers of Penguin English Library and Penguin Modern Classics editions from the 1970s. For me, the identification of these novels with the paintings is absolute. To reread any of them with different cover art is inconceivable. I know the paintings well enough to have absorbed the contents of the books visually, by near-synesthesia. And the title in sharply discreet Helvetica was the pristine look of modernity—sometimes modernism—itself."...

New York Times Sunday Book Review, Nov. 3



[Lush illustrations from the 1949 *Alice in Wonderland*](#)

Maria Popova writes: "Here's a beautiful 1949 edition of *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* and *Through the Looking Glass*, illustrated by [Leonard Weisgard](#)—only the second version of the Lewis Carroll classic, and the first with color illustrations. The vibrant, textured artwork exudes a certain mid-century boldness that makes it as much a timeless celebration of the beloved children's book as it is a time capsule of bygone aesthetic from the golden age of illustration and graphic design."...

Brain Pickings, Nov. 7



[A brief history of time-travel literature](#)

Emily Temple writes: "On November 8, Stephen King's newest work, *11/22/63*, a novel about a man who travels back in time via a storeroom to stop the JFK assassination, hit shelves. Inspired by this newest addition to the time-travel literature genre, we got to thinking about a few of our favorite time-travel stories, and particularly about all of the different ways those fictional mortals manage to thrust themselves back and forth in space-time. These are a few of our favorites."...

Flavorwire, Nov. 9



Actions & Answers

[Overdue notice: Defend our libraries](#)

Antonino D'Ambrosio writes: "Local governments across the United States—from New York City to Detroit, and from Denver to Seattle—are slashing library budgets and closing libraries. This threatens to wall off knowledge, restrict access to the internet, and shutter a valuable communal meeting place. This year, 19 states are cutting some funding for public libraries, many by more than 10%. These cuts will disproportionately punish poor and working class people."...

The Progressive, Nov.

[Calculating the value of a community library's use](#)

Brian Herzog writes: "This year while we were compiling all of my library's FY11 statistics to report to the state, it

become. Although Google seems determined to keep adding new features, I suspect there's little it can do to prevent Google+ from becoming a ghost town. Google might not know it yet, but from the outside, it's clear that G+ has started to die—it will hang on for a year, maybe two, but at some point Google will have to put it out of its misery."...

Slate, Nov. 8

[Director of Egypt's Bibliotheca Alexandrina under fire](#)

Ismail Serageldin (right), director of the legendary Bibliotheca Alexandrina in Cairo, Egypt, has come under attack from the majority of his library staff and others who demand his departure over questions of unprofessional employee practices, alleged retaliation against workers for speaking freely, and for his affiliation with the outcast Mubarak regime. According to internet and Facebook reports and videos, peaceful protests and sit-ins demanding that Serageldin leave immediately have been taking place in Alexandria since late October....



Intellectual Property Watch, Nov. 6

[Why kids can't search](#)

Clive Thompson writes: "We're often told that young people tend to be the most tech-savvy among us. But just *how* savvy are they? A group of researchers led by College of Charleston business professor Bing Pan tried to find out. Specifically, Pan wanted to know how skillful young folks are at online search. Perhaps not surprisingly, the students generally relied on the web pages at the top of Google's results list. But Pan pulled a trick: He changed the order of the results for some students."...

Wired, Nov. 1

[The myth of the tech-savvy student](#)

Ron Tanner writes: "When I began teaching a course called 'Writing for the Web' three years ago, I pictured myself scrambling to keep up with my plugged-in, tech-savvy students. I was sure I was in over my head. So I was stunned to discover that most of the 20-year-olds I meet know very little about the internet and even less about how to communicate effectively online. It seems clear that our increasingly technological world demands technologically adept citizens. Why wouldn't we educate students in sophisticated uses of the internet?"...

Chronicle of Higher Education: Online Learning, Nov. 6

[Life after Google](#)

Lane A. Wilkinson writes: "Remember when Google was just a search engine? Yeah, me neither. Given how *weird* Google has been lately, I've decided to embark upon an experimental journey. can we really live without Google? I don't know, but I'm going to try. Over the next few months I'm going to intentionally divest myself from as many Google products and services as possible. Here's the plan."...

Sense and Reference, Nov. 4

[Wisconsin student project unites artists and libraries](#)

Merging organizational savvy and community outreach, three students in the University of Wisconsin–Madison SLIS (Erinn Batykefer, Laura Damon-Moore, and Christina Endres) have created a resource to connect



artists, libraries, and the people who love them. The "[Library as Incubator Project](#)" is a clearinghouse for ideas: Artists can submit descriptions of their art, teachers can find ideas about integrating art into their lessons, and libraries can learn how to broaden services....

University of Wisconsin–Madison, Nov. 3

[Johns Hopkins medical library to be online-only](#)

The William H. Welch Medical Library at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore will close its doors to patrons on January 1. But the library as an information resource is not closing; it is just moving completely online. The transition,



10 years in the making, is an inevitable acknowledgment of the dwindling use of the 81-year-old library's 45,000-square-foot building and its 400,000 physical volumes, according to Library Director Nancy K. Roderer (above)....

Library Journal: The Digital Shift, Oct. 27

[The great obituary hunt](#)

Carmen Nigro writes: "One of many tools in the researcher's toolbox is the obituary. They can be very useful to those who are researching genealogy, adding details that would otherwise be unknown. The names of relatives, location of birth, final resting place, occupation, religious affiliation, volunteer work, and other details of how someone spent their life are but a few examples of the wealth of information that can help a researcher or genealogy hobbyist flesh out the details of the life of someone from the past."...



New York Public Library blogs, Nov. 9

[Wikipedia tops list of plagiarized sources](#)

David Nagel writes: "Where are students finding the materials they plagiarize in their papers? According to a new study, Wikipedia tops the list for both secondary and college students. But as a category, encyclopedia sites are among the least popular sources, coming in behind four other types of information outlets, including both academic sites and paper mills. The study, *Plagiarism and the Web: A Comparison of Internet Sources for Secondary and Higher Education Students* ([PDF file](#)), analyzed more than 33.5 million papers submitted to the [Turnitin](#) service."...

Campus Technology, Nov. 3

[Copyright Office reports on legal issues of digitization](#)

The ongoing dispute between Google and copyright holders regarding mass digitization of books shows that the time is right for policymakers to take up some crucial questions, according to an October 31 report by the Copyright Office. The hefty document, *Legal Issues in Mass Digitization: A Preliminary Analysis and Discussion Document* ([PDF file](#)), provides an analysis of several issues, including the rights of libraries and archives, fair use rights, use of orphaned works, and licensing....

BNA Patent, Trademark, and Copyright Law Daily, Nov. 2

[Two new library podcasts you should listen to](#)

Bobbi Newman writes: "There are two new podcasts in libraryland you should be listening



to. I know both of these hosts personally and I can't recommend their work enough, so check them out. [Circulating Ideas](#) is a librarian interview podcast hosted by Steve Thomas. And [Whatever Mathers](#) features creative conversations with fabulous host Amy Mather and a revolving cast of surprise guests from all walks of the creative landscape."...

Librarian by Day, Nov. 8

[Academic library publishing services on the rise](#)

Publishing services provided by libraries are expanding and professionalizing, according to a new [report](#) by the Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition on behalf of a team of researchers from the libraries of Purdue University, Georgia Institute of Technology, and the University of Utah. Approximately half (55%) of all respondents to a survey of deans and directors at 223 institutions indicated having or developing library publishing services....

Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition, Nov. 1

[What the dead once ate](#)

Jeff Weinstein writes: "Some time ago, when I was restaurant critic for the *Village Voice*, I was given a tour of the New York Public Library's menu collection by its librarian, the late dancer and author Reynaldo Alejandro. He led me into a dark room and began to take down a few of the stacks' 400 boxes, arranged chronologically. Most of the elaborately printed menus he opened were made for political banquets or top-hat special events, frilly objets d'art often saved as keepsakes. They left me cold. Where were the mimeographed throwaways from the diners, coffee shops, and automats?"...

Obit, Nov. 7



[The very model of a modern-day librarian](#)

Amanda Hill writes: "At the musical evening held October 15 as part of the Deseronto (Ont.) Public Library's 125th anniversary celebrations, John Hall, the organist and director of music at Christ Church, sang this song (based on Gilbert and Sullivan) as a tribute to the work of Frances Smith, Deseronto's current librarian, and her team. We're hoping to get a video made of a repeat performance to share, but in the meantime, here are the words to give a taste of the event."...

Deseronto Archives, Nov. 2

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American Libraries Online

[The Occupy Wall Street Library regrows in Manhattan](#)

Christian Zabriskie writes: "The People's Library at Occupy Wall Street was destroyed in the early morning hours of November 15. The library was torn down and its books, laptops, archives, and support materials were thrown into dumpsters by armed police and city sanitation workers. Numerous library staff were arrested and, in one case, a librarian strapped the notebooks of original poetry from the library's poetry readings to her body before lending aid to comrades who had been pepper-sprayed. Staff were [assured](#) that they would be able to recover their materials from a city sanitation depot, but on November 16 they found the laptops smashed, much of the [collection missing](#), and many of the books that were recovered damaged beyond recovery (above)." In response, writers have launched [occupyeducated.org](#), an online library for occupiers....



American Libraries news, Nov. 16; Occupy Wall Street Library blog, Nov. 15-16

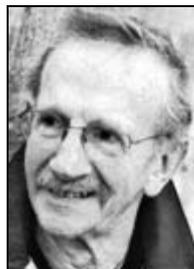
[The brass ring of sustainability](#)

Beverly Goldberg writes: "Last week's Election Day brought some remarkably good news for many public libraries across the country that sought operating millages and capital bonds for improvements. Seasoned advocates are well aware, however, that those victories were no reason for library boosters to rest on their laurels or stop reaching for the elusive brass ring of fiscal sustainability."...

AL: Inside Scoop, Nov. 16

[Newsmaker: Poet Laureate Philip Levine](#)

At age 83, Philip Levine (right) has been appointed the 2011-2012 poet laureate consultant in poetry by Librarian of Congress James Billington. He took up his duties October 17, opening the library's annual literary season with a reading from his work. In this interview, the street-smart poet has a few choice words to say about a lifetime of experience with good librarians—



At the Midwinter Meeting in Dallas on January 22, [Carl Lennertz](#) will describe [World Book Night](#), a giveaway of one million free books to underserved readers across America on April 23, 2012.

and some bad ones....

American Libraries column, Nov./Dec.

[On My Mind: An unplugged space](#)

Amanda Wakaruk and Marc Truitt write: "The physical library was once a place of refuge, an escape from distraction. But today, the constant need to connect and communicate has largely rendered this role obsolete. A library without internet and Wi-Fi access is, thankfully, an anomaly. In addition to being regarded as technology hubs for the public, should libraries reclaim their reputation for solitude by offering communication-free 'Walden zones' where people can easily engage in private, focused reading and reflection?"...

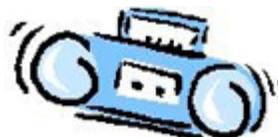
American Libraries column, Nov./Dec.



[Recommended listening and audiobooks](#)

Q. I got to explain to an older patron today that audiobooks can be downloaded. Now that she knows, she would love to give her 13-year-old granddaughter something *else* to listen to. Does ALA have any lists of audiobooks for children? **A.** The annual [Notable Children's Recordings](#) list that comes out of ALSC has always been a mix of children's music *and* story titles, with the format evolving from lists of cassettes to CDs to downloadable files....

AL: Ask the ALA Librarian, Nov. 16



ALA News

[So-called antipiracy copyright legislation](#)

Corey Williams writes: "The latest round of legislation thinly cloaked under a veil of copyright was supposedly crafted to squelch online piracy. Here's what we have: The Protect IP Act (PIPA) bill ([S. 968](#)) in the U.S. Senate and the recently introduced companion SOPA or E-Parasite bill ([H.R. 3261](#)) in the U.S. House of Representatives. So you ask, what do these bills actually mean?" The Electronic Frontier Foundation and other opponents of the SOPA bill are participating in [American Censorship Day](#), an internet-wide day of protest, on November 16. EFF claims there has been an [explosion of opposition](#) to the legislation. Read the [op-ed](#) by Rebecca MacKinnon....

District Dispatch, Nov. 15; Electronic Frontier Foundation, Nov. 15; *New York Times*, Nov. 15



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[Conversations on transforming libraries](#)

ALA President Molly Raphael will host two afternoons of conversation about the evolving needs of our communities and how we can transform libraries and librarianship to meet their challenges January 21–22 at the 2012 Midwinter Meeting. One is “Empowering Voices, Transforming Communities,” which features renowned Syracuse iSchool professor David Lankes (right) leading small groups to address questions about transforming our communities and the profession. Sessions are open to all Midwinter attendees....



Conference Services, Nov. 15

[Champion Connections seeks applicants](#)

ALA will host a special event at the 2012 ALA Midwinter Meeting called “Champion Connections.” As part of ALA President Molly Raphael’s diversity leadership initiative, “Empowering Diverse Voices,” the event, scheduled for January 21, will provide new and emerging leaders with an opportunity to meet established leaders within ALA, its divisions, round tables, and affiliates. ALA is accepting [applications](#) through December 1 from those interested in participating. Individuals who are selected will be notified by December 16....

Office for Diversity, Nov. 15

[ALCTS selects its Emerging Leader](#)

Erica Findley (right), digital resources/metadata librarian at Pacific University in Forest Grove, Oregon, has been selected as the ALCTS-sponsored Emerging Leader for 2012. ALCTS sponsors one Emerging Leader who has chosen collections and technical services as a career and is a member of ALCTS. After her year in the Emerging Leader program, Erica will serve a one-year term as intern to the ALCTS board of directors....



ALCTS, Nov. 15

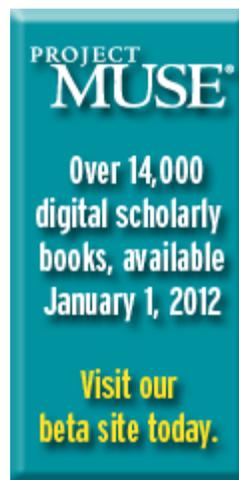
[LITA’s Emerging Leaders](#)

Jodie Gambill and Tasha Keagan are the LITA-sponsored participants in the ALA 2012 Emerging Leaders Program. LITA sponsorship includes a \$1,000 stipend to help offset the costs of attending the 2012 Midwinter Meeting and the 2012 Annual Conference. Gambill and Keagan will each work on LITA projects and be mentored by the LITA leadership....

LITA, Nov. 9

[PLA’s Emerging Leader](#)

PLA announces Heather Beverley, children’s librarian and technology/young adult consultant at Cook Memorial Public Library District in Illinois, as its representative for the 2012 Emerging Leaders program. The leadership development initiative enables newer library workers to participate in work groups, network with peers, gain an inside look into ALA structure, and have an opportunity to serve the



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profession in a leadership capacity. Beverley will receive \$1,000 to attend the 2012 Midwinter Meeting in Dallas and the 2012 Annual Conference in Anaheim, California....

PLA, Nov. 15

[AASL's Emerging Leaders](#)

AASL is sponsoring Krystal Gutierrez and Jennifer "Charlie" Kelly as its 2012 Emerging Leader. AASL will defray the cost of attending the 2012 Midwinter Meeting and the 2012 Annual Conference for Gutierrez, an elementary librarian at Smithville (Tex.) Elementary School, and Kelly, who worked most recently as a contract library media specialist substitute for Roberto Clemente School #8 in the Rochester (N.Y.) City School District....

AASL, Nov. 15

[CALA's Emerging Leaders](#)

The Chinese American Librarians Association has selected Yuan Li, scholarly communications librarian at Syracuse (N.Y.) University Library, and Chris Kyauk, intern at the Ethnic Studies Library at the University of California, Berkeley, for the 2012



Emerging Leaders program. As sponsor, CALA provides a stipend of \$1,000 to support their attendance and participation in the Emerging Leaders program at the 2012 ALA Midwinter Meeting and Annual Conference....

Office for Diversity , Nov. 15

[APALA's Emerging Leader](#)

The Asian/Pacific American Librarians Association's Scholarships and Awards Committee has selected Tina Chan (right), reference and instruction librarian at the State University of New York, Oswego, as its 2012 Emerging Leader. APALA will provide funding to support her attendance and participation in the Emerging Leaders program at the 2012 ALA Midwinter Meeting and Annual Conference....



Office for Diversity, Nov. 15

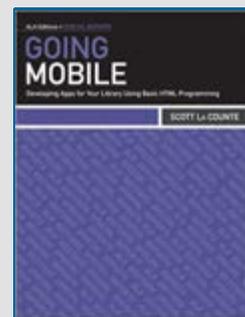
[The fundamentals of small public library management](#)

Anyone at the helm of a small public library knows that every little detail counts. But juggling the responsibilities that are part and parcel of the job is far from easy. *Small Public Library Management* is a comprehensive handbook that includes everything administrators need to keep a handle on library operations, freeing them up to streamline and improve how the organization functions. Small public library veterans Jane Pearlmutter and Paul Nelson address such issues as finance and HR to collection development and policy and programming. The book is packed with practical advice....



ALA Editions, Nov. 15

[Teaching information literacy to college students](#)

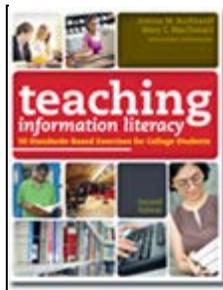


[Going Mobile](#)

provides practical guidance in how librarians can put the library in the palms of their patrons' hands. Using the HTML skills that many librarians already have along with flexible development tools, technology expert Scott La Counte shows how creating a customized mobile app

Joanna Burkhardt will facilitate an eCourse on [Teaching Information Literacy to College Students](#). Burkhardt, head librarian at the University of Rhode Island branch libraries and coauthor of *Teaching Information Literacy: 50 Standards-Based Exercises for College Students*, will serve as instructor for this three-week eCourse, which starts January 9....

ALA Editions, Nov. 15



[How to improve your library instruction](#)

Information literacy expert Sarah Steiner will teach a 90-minute workshop called "[How to Improve Your Library Instruction: Assessment in Five Minutes](#)" on January 11 at 12:30 p.m. Central time. Drawing from real-life examples, Steiner will discuss how to write the best assessment questions and use inexpensive survey tools to gauge learning while you interact with students....

ALA Editions, Nov. 15



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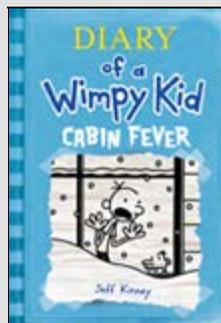


Booklist ONLINE

[Featured review: Fiction for youth](#)

Kinney, Jeff. *Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Cabin Fever*. Nov. 2011. 224p. Grades 5–8. Abrams/Amulet (978-1-419-70223-5).

Adults just don't make any sense. They say kids should get more exercise, and then they take away all the playground equipment because they're afraid of getting sued. They allege that they're in charge, yet they have to ask middle-schoolers how to work the microwave. They proclaim kids should read more and then publish books like this! Wait. Well, they definitely got that last one right, as everything in this sixth entry will appeal to the very readers who have made this the tween series of the decade. This time around, Greg Heffley's can-you-even-believe-it diary entries and comical line art capture a nightmarish month between Thanksgiving and Christmas....



[Talking with Daniel Kraus](#)

Mary Burkey writes: "I spoke briefly with *Booklist's* Daniel Kraus about the audio recording of his novel *Rotters*—an experience that was so surreal that he just 'dipped in here and there to hear samples. But I'd be open to listening to the whole thing one day if time allowed.' One aspect of the recording that especially pleased Kraus? 'The music at the end of the audiobook was from the band



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[On My Mind](#)

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[Perpetual Beta](#)

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[AL Focus](#)

Great Libraries of the World



[Abbey of St. Peter im Schwarzwald](#), Sankt-Peter, Germany. Built by Austrian architect [Peter Thumb](#)

Vorvolakas, a fictional band in the book that became a real band to create an entire song.”...

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

Dallas Update

[Dallas World Aquarium](#)

The Dallas World Aquarium, at 1801 N. Griffin Street (about a 16-minute walk from the Convention Center), is both an aquarium and a zoo that features flora and fauna from five continents, 14 countries, three oceans, and numerous seas and rivers. Exhibits include a 200-foot Wilds of Borneo entrance ramp, an “Orinoco: Secrets of the River” rainforest exhibit, an outdoor South Africa display, and Mundo Maya, an eight-story immersion exhibit that is modeled after the ancient Mayan civilization....

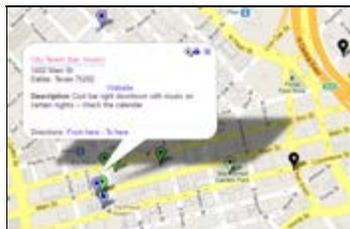
Dallas World Aquarium



[An alternative guide to Dallas](#)

This guide was created by Nicole Pagowsky and the North Texas Radical Reference Collective to help those looking for alternative options in Dallas (lifestyle, diet, interests) that might not be included in mainstream city guides. The [guide and map](#) is not fully comprehensive, but they did their best to give you options as close to the Convention Center and downtown as possible, and with a few outliers....

Radical Reference



[A rubric for breakout sessions](#)

Doug Johnson writes: “One of the activities that is a part of my workshop on designing authentic assessment tools involves creating a rubric to assess the quality of a conference breakout session. Since all participants have experienced the good, the bad, and the ugly of attending this kind of performance, such a tool is fairly fast and easy to build—and fun to discuss. For 10 minutes of work in a room full of strangers, a list like this is usually not too bad.”...

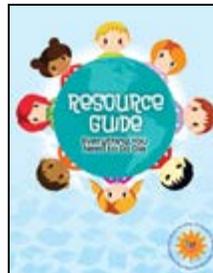
Blue Skunk Blog, Nov. 13

Division News

[ALSC launches new Día website](#)

To better serve the growing population of libraries offering events for El día de los niños/El día de los libros (Children’s Day/Book Day) on April 30, ALSC has launched a completely redesigned [website](#). The new site offers a Día resource guide ([PDF file](#)) designed for public and school librarians that gives them everything they need to produce a Día event. Registration is now open for Día events around the country....

ALSC, Nov. 14



in 1737–1739, this Rococo library is decorated with paintings above the bookshelves that illustrate the major areas of knowledge. Much of the collection was lost in 1806 with the coming of secularization, but it has retained volumes on geography, astronomy, and literature of the Enlightenment.



[Carmelite Monastery Library](#)

Straubing, Germany. The library was founded in 1368 and completely restored in 2008. The main hall is famous for its dazzling frescoes of scholarly Carmelites painted in 1715 by an unknown artist.

This 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 2013 by ALA Editions.

[Spotlight on adult literature at Midwinter Meeting](#)

ALTAFF, along with ALA Conference Services, will sponsor a Spotlight on Adult Literature on January 21 at the Exhibit Hall during the 2012 ALA Midwinter Meeting in Dallas. Participating publishers will host book and galley giveaways, author signings, and more. Jeanette Winterson (right) will sign galleys of her memoir *Why Be Happy When You Could Be Normal?*, and Val McDermid will sign copies of her new book *The Retribution*....



ALTAFF, Nov. 15

[Leadership for today's libraries](#)

ALCTS will present a virtual Midwinter symposium called "[Launching Your Star Potential: Leadership for Today's Libraries](#)," beginning January 9 at 1 p.m. Central time. Adam Goodman, from the Center for Leadership at Northwestern University, will deliver the keynote address, and James Hilton, vice president and chief information officer at the University of Virginia, will close out the symposium on January 13. These content leaders will focus on important aspects of leadership in an ever-changing environment....

ALCTS, Nov. 15

[RUSA spatial literacy course](#)

The next offering of RUSA's online course, "Introduction to Spatial Literacy and Online Mapping," will be November 28–December 18. Through podcasts and hands-on assignments, participants will explore uses for geographic information systems (GIS) technology within organizations and also its social uses beyond simple cartography. The deadline for [registration](#) is November 23....

RUSA Blog, Nov. 16

[New AASL video podcast series](#)

AASL presents *30 Second Thought Leadership: Insights from Leaders in the School Library Community*, a new [video podcast](#) series delivering brief and practical advice from respected school library leaders on important questions about school libraries today and in the future. Questions are based on the themes of *Knowledge Quest* issues....

AASL, Nov. 15

[Boost your library's teen services with YALSA's pre-Midwinter workshop](#)

Find out how you can give your library's standard teen services an easy-to-implement boost at YALSA's half-day workshop, "Innovations in Essential Teen Services," on January 20. Join YALSA for easy updates on providing readers' advisory, homework help, teen space design, promoting and developing literacy skills, and more. If you



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Career Leads from
ALA JobLIST

[Assistant Librarian/Coordinator of Testing Services](#)
 Central Wyoming College, Riverton. Responsible for providing professional librarian assistance, overseeing the Testing Center, and supervising the college's open computer lab. Successful candidates should have a bachelor's degree in library science or related field and three years of related experience. Application review to begin November 30....

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Digital Library of the Week

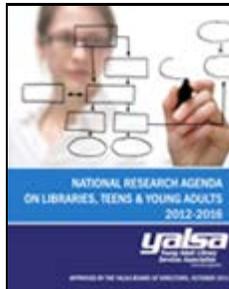
plan to attend Midwinter, you can add the institute to your [registration](#)....

YALSA, Nov. 15

[New issue of *Journal of Research on Libraries and Young Adults*](#)

The Fall 2011 issue of YALSA's *Journal of Research on Libraries and Young Adults* is now [available](#). This special issue focuses on the [new national research agenda](#) from YALSA, with contributions from YALSA's research committee chair and members of the JRLYA Editorial Advisory Board. The journal is published four times a year, in November, February, May, and August. Its purpose is to enhance the development of theory, research, and practices to support young adult library services....

YALSA, Nov. 15



[International students and academic libraries](#)

ACRL has released [International Students and Academic Libraries: Initiatives for Success](#), edited by Pamela Jackson and Patrick Sullivan, which presents insightful case studies that describe over a dozen exciting library projects supporting the success of international students studying at academic institutions. The work provides numerous examples of new and innovative strategies for librarians to encourage library use among international students and increase international student success....

ACRL Insider, Nov. 15



[Go back to the Top](#)

Awards & Grants

[John Cotton Dana Award expands to eight](#)

Libraries using innovative ways to conduct public relations efforts have more opportunities to benefit. The [John Cotton Dana Award](#) is being expanded to include eight \$10,000 grants. The award is provided in conjunction with the H. W. Wilson Foundation, ALA, and EBSCO Publishing. The award, which is managed by LLAMA, honors outstanding library public relations projects. The next deadline to [apply](#) for the awards is March 15....

H. W. Wilson Foundation, Nov. 15



[YALSA award and grant applications due December 1](#)

Each year YALSA offers more than \$90,000 in grants and awards to its members to travel to ALA conferences, to support collection development, to honor outstanding contributions to young adult librarianship, to conduct research, and more. YALSA members may [apply](#) for various awards and grants by December 1....

YALSA, Nov. 15

[Apply for a 2012 Coretta Scott King Book Awards](#)



[Europeana Collections 1914–1918: Remembering the First World War](#)

will encompass by 2014 (the centennial of the war's outbreak) a substantial digital collection of material from national library collections of [10 libraries and other partners](#) in eight countries that found themselves on different sides of the historic conflict. It is cofunded in the framework of the European Commission's Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (CIP). The three-year project will make more than 400,000 WWI sources publicly and freely available online for the first time—content that is often rare and highly fragile because of the deteriorating quality of the paper it was produced on and generally only accessible in reading rooms. The digital library officially started in May 2011 and will continue to add items through April 2014.

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.

[Donation Grant](#)

The deadline to [apply](#) for the Coretta Scott King Book Awards Donation Grant has been extended to January 31. Awarded by the Coretta Scott King Book Awards Committee, the grant provides books submitted for consideration for the awards to libraries and other organizations to expand their collections. Each year, three organizations are selected that demonstrate need and potential benefit from receiving the collection....

Ethnic and Multicultural Information Exchange Round Table, Nov. 14

[Hawaiian librarian awarded Medal of Pushkin](#)

Patricia Ann Polansky (right), Russian bibliographer for the Northeast Asia Collection at the University of Hawaii at Manoa since 1970, was presented November 11 with the Medal of Pushkin from the government of Russia, a rare honor for an American. The medal recognizes great contributions to the study and preservation of Russian cultural heritage or the promotion of cultural exchange. Minister of Foreign Affairs Sergey Lavrov presented the medal to Polansky....

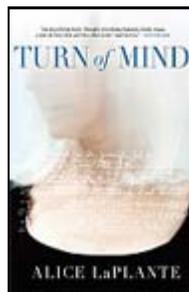
University of Hawaii News, Nov. 14



[2011 Wellcome Trust Book Prize](#)

The third Wellcome Trust Book Prize was awarded to Alice LaPlante November 9 for her debut novel *Turn of Mind* (Random House), a tale of a family's secrets exposed by murder and a brilliant mind in terminal decline from Alzheimer's. As the novel progresses, the narrator's mind collapses as she enters the last stages of dementia. It is the first novel to win the £25,000 (\$39,750 U.S.) Wellcome Trust Book Prize, which is open to outstanding works of fiction and nonfiction on the theme of health and medicine....

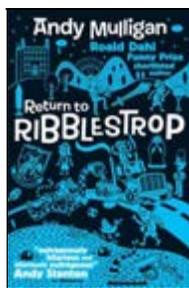
Wellcome Trust, Nov. 10



[2011 Guardian Children's Fiction Prize](#)

Andy Mulligan's *Return to Ribblestrop*, about a school filled with pupils including Colombian gangster's son Sanchez, self-harming Miles, wild Millie, and a motley crew of orphans, is the winner of the 2011 *Guardian* Children's Fiction Prize. Established in 1967, the £1,500 (\$2,383 U.S.) award celebrates works of children's literature by British or Commonwealth authors. The prize is awarded by a panel of authors and the review editor for *The Guardian's* children's books section....

The Guardian (U.K.), Nov. 10



Seen Online

[Chicago budget passes, libraries affected](#)

Mayor Rahm Emanuel's budget passed the Chicago City Council unanimously November 16. The 50-0 vote sets the city down a path next year of belt-tightening measures, among them the reduction of Chicago Public Library hours and layoffs of library staff. In recent weeks, the mayor compromised with aldermen to soften the blow of library cuts....

Chicago Tribune, Nov. 16



Public Perception

How the World Sees Us

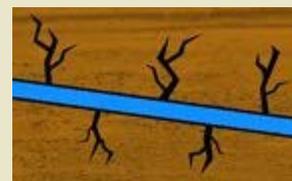
"As Wall Street and Occupy Wall Street continue their battle for the soul of American society into the winter and then an election year, the flood of knowledge represented by the OWS People's Library is one of the best weapons protesters have to hold their ground against their much better financed, and armed, adversaries."

—UC-Irvine History Professor Mark LeVine, in "[The People's Library and the Future of OWS.](#)" *Al Jazeera*, Nov. 16.

@ [More quotes...](#)

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CONTENT

[Fracking: Energy Bonanza or Environmental Debacle?](#)
by Wanda Urbanska



[Connect with your kids: Art Parent @ your library](#)

[Is lying on the internet illegal?](#)

Eyder Peralta writes: "On November 15, a subcommittee of the House Committee on the Judiciary heard some fascinating testimony about the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act (CFAA). The hearing, titled "[Cyber Security: Protecting America's New Frontier](#)," focused on big cyber threats to the country's infrastructure, but there was another juicier question that came out of the hearing: The way the Justice Department wants to interpret a current law, lying on the internet would amount to a crime."...

NPR: The Two-Way, Nov. 15

[Anti-net neutrality bill defeated in U.S. Senate](#)

An effort on Capitol Hill to overturn the federal government's net neutrality regulations failed today. By a 46–52 vote, the U.S. Senate rejected a Republican-backed proposal that would have lifted the regulations before they take effect on November 20. The defeat of the bill sends a [clear message](#) that libraries and the public they serve not only care strongly about this issue but also depend on a free and open internet to provide unfettered access to all types of information....

CNET News, Nov. 10; District Dispatch, Nov. 10

[Occupy Toronto Library: The best?](#)

Toronto author Peter Unwin writes: "On November 12, I visited the yurt that houses the Occupy Toronto Library where I was donating a copy of my last book, *Hard Surface: In Search of the Canadian Road*. I mention this because the Occupy Toronto library is now widely viewed as the finest library in the entire Occupy system. I find myself wondering how it is that the entire City of Toronto cannot maintain a public library that serves the local community, but that somehow a few kids in tents can do exactly that."...

Toronto Globe and Mail: In Other Words, Nov. 14



[Brooklyn branch showcases emerging artists](#)

Librarian Boris Loselev is on a mission to give his neighborhood a culture shock. For the past 10 years, Loselev has quietly turned the auditorium of the Gravesend branch of the Brooklyn Public Library into a high-class gallery exhibiting emerging artists' works. He said Gravesend is in desperate need of a culture shock so he works overtime on his own dime to pull off the monthly art exhibits....

New York Daily News, Nov. 14

[California school librarians under pressure](#)

Since the onset of the recession, the mantra among school leaders in California has been to keep cuts away from the classroom when possible. But that hasn't been true for what some educators consider the largest classroom on campus—the school library—even though demand has never been greater for guidance on how to safely and effectively navigate today's overwhelming array of research options. Once a national model, California's school library program has languished in recent years....

Capitol Weekly, Nov. 14

[Boston's new zine lending library opens](#)

Julia Dawidowicz writes: "Imagine a friendly

[History of the Youth Media Awards](#)

[How to Find a Great Job: Entry-Level Workers and Career-Changers](#)

[Conversations with the Earth: Indigenous Voices on Climate Change](#)

[Jonathan Stroud: 'Right from the beginning, libraries were there for me' \(video\)](#)

[The Headline Works of Andy Warhol at the National Gallery](#)

[Libraries Open Their Doors to Gamers on National Gaming Day @ your library](#)



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2011 Global Education Conference, online, Nov. 14–18, at: [#globaled11](#)

National Digital Public Library Conference, Los Angeles Public

space in which you are given the resources to express your own unique voice, knowing that it will be heard. Nestled in the back of [Lorem Ipsum](#), the beloved indie bookstore situated in Cambridge, Massachusetts' Inman Square, such a place exists: the [Papercut Zine Library](#). Soon after moving to this new location, Papercut already has a fully functioning zine lending library. With unique artwork, 15,000 independently produced zines, and a zine-making station stocked with everything from a vintage typewriter to art supplies and endless collaging materials, the space oozes with originality and creative energy."...

Boston Globe: The Next Great Generation, Nov. 12



[An unusual library finds a new home](#)

In Chicago's Humboldt Park, a small band of volunteers scrambled to put the finishing touches on their library's new home—the sixth in as many years for the [Read/Write Library](#), the city's largest depository of grassroots printed materials. Formerly known as the Chicago Underground Library, Read/Write rejects the selectivity of traditional libraries and collects "anything from university press to handmade artists' books to zines made by 13-year-olds," said Nell Taylor, the founder and executive director of the all-volunteer, donation-financed library, which officially reopened on November 11. She said Read/Write is the nation's only grassroots-oriented library to house printed works from an entire city....

New York Times, Nov. 12



[Library's denial of Nativity scene sparks controversy](#)

Plans to include a live nativity scene in outdoor courtyard at the Springhill branch of the Webster Parish (La.) Library created some controversy in this community after library officials reportedly said no to anything with "religious tones," according to event planner Letha Dew. Library System Director Beverly Hammett said November 15 that she would release a statement on the library's position but was awaiting advice of legal counsel....

Shreveport (La.) Times, Nov. 16

[Private equity firm acquires LJ, SLJ](#)

RLJ Equity Partners, a middle-market private equity firm whose chairman is the founder of Black Entertainment Television, [announced](#) November 9 it has acquired Media Source, Inc. (MSI), the parent company of *Library Journal*, *School Library Journal*, Junior Library Guild, and *The Horn Book*. Details of the transaction were not made available. In March 2010, MSI bought LJ and SLJ from Reed Business Information....

Library Journal, Nov. 9

[Library mascot is a globetrotter](#)

One of the most well-traveled people in the Houma-Thibodaux area of southeast Louisiana may not be a person at all—it might just be Garcon, a stuffed alligator and the mascot of the South Lafourche branch of the Lafourche Parish Public Library. Garcon spends most of his days hanging out on the library's reference



Library, Nov. 15–17, at:

[#ndpl](#)

Museum Computer Network, Annual Conference, Atlanta, Nov. 16–19, at:

[#mcn2011](#)

ALA Midwinter Meeting, Dallas, Jan. 20–24, at:

[#alamw12](#)

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

[amlibraries](#)

Calendar

Nov. 29–

Dec. 1:

[Gilbane Conference](#),

Westin Boston Waterfront.

Nov. 29–

Dec. 2:

[International Conference on Education, Informatics, and Cybernetics](#),

Doubletree by Hilton Orlando at SeaWorld, Florida.

Dec. 6–9:

[Digital Strategies for Heritage](#), Conference, World Trade Center, Rotterdam, Netherlands.

Dec. 9:

[Northern Ohio Technical Services Librarians](#), Fall Meeting, Kent State University, Ohio.

desk. But the alligator's favorite hobby is traveling, so he often hitches rides with library patrons to places like the White House, the Colosseum in Rome, and Cozumel....

Thibodaux (La.) Daily Comet, Nov. 14

[Colonel Sanders book discovered in KFC storage](#)

Longtime Yum Brands employee Amy Sherwood was poking around the archives at KFC's storage facility in Louisville, Kentucky, when she came across a typed manuscript (right), unseen for some 40 years. She quickly realized what it was and who wrote it—Colonel Harland Sanders himself. According to KFC, the "[food autobiography](#)" was written in 1965 or 1966 and provides a rare look into the life of the world's legendary entrepreneur and shares his personal collection of favorite recipes that he gathered and perfected over his lifetime. The company plans to publish it online sometime in 2012....

Toronto Star, Nov. 11; KFC, Nov. 10



[Scooter Hayes, the hip-hop librarian](#)

Scooter Hayes, better known as Melvil Dewey the international library hip-hop superstar, makes use of his own creative spirit and love for libraries to educate youth on the permanent value of libraries.

He started story rapping for kids at the New Hanover County Library in Wilmington, North Carolina, in 2009, and for a library school course he created a YouTube video called the [Dewey Decimal Rap](#) (4:15) that has gotten nearly 600,000 views. Since then, Hayes has released a CD of [library hip-hop](#) songs and is in negotiations to turn his act into a picture book. Watch his story in this [documentary](#) (6:54) directed by Stacey Jewell....

Camp Le Jeune (N.C.) Globe, Nov. 10; YouTube, Mar. 10, 2009; Vimeo, Sept.



[Novelist fights the tide by opening a bookstore](#)

A collective panic set in among Nashville, Tennessee's reading faithful after a beloved local bookstore closed here last December and another store was lost to the Borders bankruptcy. But residents have found a savior in Ann Patchett, the bestselling novelist who grew up in the city. On November 16, Patchett, the acclaimed author of *Bel Canto* and *Truth and Beauty*, opened [Parnassus Books](#), an independent bookstore that is the product of six months of breakneck planning and a healthy infusion of cash from its owner....

New York Times, Nov. 15



[Manuscripts decaying in Patna library](#)

More than 5,000 rare manuscripts are decaying in Patna University's Central Library in the Indian state of Bihar for lack of proper upkeep and preservation. The manuscript section of the library, once considered to be a repository of rich cultural heritage, was locked after the three employees looking after it retired several years ago. The air conditioning has not been working for the last 25 years. The manuscripts are written in Persian, Urdu, Arabic, Sanskrit, Maithili, and Hindi, and date back as far as the 13th century....

The Times of India (New Delhi), Nov. 11

Dec. 12–14:
[International Conference on Social Computing and its Applications](#), Aerial UTS Function Centre, Sydney, Australia.

Dec. 13–15:
[International Conference on Innovative Computing Technology](#), University of Tehran, Iran.

Jan. 6:
[CurateGear: Enabling the Curation of Digital Collections](#), Symposium, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

Jan. 23–25:
[Digital Book World](#), Conference and Expo, Sheraton Hotel and Towers, New York City.

Feb. 2–4:
[RootsTech: Family History and Technology Conference](#), Salt Palace Convention Center, Salt Lake City.

Feb. 7–10:
[iConference 2012](#), Faculty of Information, University of Toronto. "Culture, Design, Society."

Feb. 23–26:
[Vilnius Book Fair/ Baltic Book Fair](#), Lithuanian Exhibition and Congress Centre, Vilnius. "Open the World!"

**Feb. 25–
Mar. 4:**
[New Delhi World Book Fair](#), Pragati Maidan, New Delhi,

[Go back to the Top](#)

Tech Talk

[Amazon Kindle Fire review](#)

Sascha Segan writes: "The Amazon Kindle Fire puts the Apple iPad on notice. The Fire is the first small tablet that average users can pick up and immediately use, with a simple, clear interface. Then there's the price: Android along with amazing specs for just \$199. It's open enough to attract geeks, too. While the user interface occasionally gets sluggish, we're willing to have a bit of patience to get a first-rate tablet for half of what most competitors charge; thus the Kindle Fire is our first Editors' Choice for small tablets." The Fire can also run almost any Android app. [Here's how](#)....

PC Magazine, Nov. 14–15



[Fire aside, other Kindles also shine](#)

David Pogue writes: "If you think that the pace of technological progress is already too fast, you'd better not look at ebook readers. You'll get whiplash. All of a sudden, ebook companies are flooding the market with new models simultaneously. You'd think some major gift-buying season was about to begin. In all, Amazon has three new Kindle models. The two cheaper ones will surely get lost in the smoke from the Fire, but that's a pity; they're rather spectacular."...

New York Times: Personal Tech, Nov. 13



[Perceptions 2011: A survey of library automation](#)

Marshall Breeding writes: "For the last three years I have conducted a survey and written a report on the perceptions that libraries form of the quality of the core automation products they use and their satisfaction with the service they receive. It's time to collect data for the 2011 edition of the survey. This is an opportunity for libraries to register their perceptions of the ILS product they use, its vendor, and the quality of support delivered. Here is how you can participate."...

Library Technology Guides, Nov. 14

[Google's webfont library](#)

Sarah Gooding writes: "Did you know that Google has a [directory](#) of nearly 300 webfonts available for use on your website? One advantage of using Google's fonts is that they load quickly because they are reliably hosted on Google's servers. Plus, all of the Google webfonts are released under open source licenses, which means that you can freely use them on any noncommercial or commercial project. [Supreme Google Webfonts](#) is a plugin that makes it easy to add Google webfonts to your WordPress site."...

WPMU.org, Nov. 15



[Sarah's Gadget Showcase, part 4](#)

Sarah Houghton writes: "This installment of the Gadget Showcase is a collection of random miscellaneous things I use . . . stuff that works well for me. This is truly a list of 'a few of my favorite things.' Enjoy, and tell me what

India.

Mar. 1–2:

[Edge2012](#)

Conference, Macdonald Roxburghe Hotel, Edinburgh, Scotland. "Pushing the Boundaries of Public Service Delivery."

Apr. 11–14:

[Museums and the](#)

[Web](#), Sheraton Marina, San Diego, California.

@ [More...](#)

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



Beverly Goldberg,
Senior Editor:
bgoldberg@ala.org



Greg Landgraf,
Associate Editor:
glandgraf@ala.org



Sanhita SinhaRoy,
Associate Editor:
ssinharoy@ala.org

your favorite things are too in the comments section." On the right, a [Dyson air multiplier](#)....

Librarian in Black, Nov. 12



[Throttling and web-surfing speeds](#)

Kevin J. O'Brien writes: "Web surfing can be baffling. A favorite page gets hung up. A data-intensive application, like playing a video or downloading large files, stutters or stops. Is it the telecommunications operator? Is it the website? Is it the smartphone or the computer? Or just a sign of internet thrombosis? Often, the blame lies with the telecom operator, which is selectively slowing broadband speeds to keep traffic flowing on its network, using a sorting technique called throttling."...

New York Times, Nov. 13

[The risks of ultrafast networks](#)

The promise of having access to mammoth amounts of data instantly, anywhere, is matched by the threat of catastrophe. People are creating more data and moving it ever faster on computer networks. The fast networks allow people to pour much more of civilization online. But statistics dictate that the vastly greater number of transactions among computers in a world 100 times faster than today will lead to a greater number of unpredictable accidents, with less time in between them....

New York Times, Nov. 13

[The making of the Xbox: A video game revolution](#)

Dean Takahashi writes: "Microsoft launched its Xbox video game console one decade ago. Nobody expected it to succeed. The skeptics were out in force when the giant-size console launched on November 15, 2001. It turned out to be successful beyond Microsoft's wildest expectations. Microsoft lost (or, more politely, invested) more than \$4 billion in the first console. But it has created an entertainment business that is now much more valuable than that."...

Games Beat, Nov. 14



[The best online backup service](#)

Brian Lam writes: "The most foolproof way to back up a computer in case of emergency isn't a hard drive anymore. It's an online backup service that sends your precious data to the internet where fire, flood, thievery, and hard drive failure can't touch it, in real time, as long as you've got a net connection. Believe it or not, these services cost only about as much as the cost of a few cups of coffee a month. There are two popular choices: Backblaze and Crashplan. Crashplan wins, according to my own research and testing."...

The Wirecutter, Nov. 13



E-Content

[What's next? Book Match?](#)

Jennifer Henderson,
Contributing Researcher

To advertise in American Libraries Direct, contact:

Doug Lewis:
dglewis@mindspring.com



Katie Bane:
kbane@ala.org

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American Libraries
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Christopher Harris writes: "If I can rip my CD to an MP3, why can't I scan my book to an EPUB? That is the question running through my mind as I ponder the new [iTunes Match](#) service from Apple. For \$24.99 a year, the service scans the music on your hard drive and then matches it with songs available through iTunes to provide online access to your music.



Presumably, the music you are matching has been ripped from your CDs; iTunes offers to automatically rip, or extract and convert, CDs you play to have them stored as digital files on your computer. In reality, Apple's service does not check for the origin of the file."...

AL: E-Content, Nov. 16

[Dispatches from the Field: A guide to ebook purchasing](#)

Sue Polanka writes: "For those libraries looking to purchase ebooks, you are not alone. According to the *Library Journal* 2011 survey of ebook penetration and use in libraries, 95% of academic, 82% of public, and 44% of school libraries are already offering ebooks, and many more are considering it. For anyone contemplating purchasing ebooks, asking why is the most important question. Whatever the reason, it is imperative to keep one's goals in mind throughout the process. Buying ebooks is a complicated process; to do it effectively is an even greater challenge."...

American Libraries column, Nov./Dec.

[Libraries ramp up ebook lending](#)

After a tentative foray into digital lending on PCs and e-readers several years ago, public libraries are opening the next chapter for smartphones and tablet computers. The movement kicked into high gear in September when Amazon finally turned on its Kindle for 11,000 local libraries, triggering a flood of new users. App developers are also working with libraries to enable book lovers to borrow on their smartphones. The evolution is playing out amid some challenges, including an ongoing squabble between eager-to-grow libraries and publishers that fear copyright infringement and losing money on digital distribution....



USA Today, Nov. 14

[Authors Guild urges caution with Amazon ebooks](#)

Amazon recently started offering free ebooks to its Prime members, and it looks as if the fight is just beginning. On November 14 the Authors Guild posted a [warning](#) against the Prime ebooks. It raised a number of valid issues about how Amazon doesn't actually have the rights to lend most of these ebooks....



The Digital Reader, Nov. 15; *Authors Guild*, Nov. 14

[Accessibility issues in ebooks and e-readers](#)

Ken Petri writes: "This page supplements material from a chapter on the accessibility of ebooks in [No Shelf Required 2: Use and Management of Electronic Books](#) (ALA Editions). It covers two topics that had to be truncated in the chapter due to concerns about length and currency of information: [Functional criteria for ebook accessibility](#), and [An overview of common ebook accessibility](#)."...

[Open Library: A national interlibrary ebook loan](#)

Dan Weissmann and Ashley Gross write: "With digital books exploding in popularity, some major publishers are making it more difficult for libraries to get ebooks on their virtual shelves and keep them there. But there is a plan to help libraries create something like a national online interlibrary loan system for digitized books. The [Open Library](#) project, part of a massive online library called the [Internet Archive](#), wants to help libraries team up to get digital mileage out of their existing paper books."...

Venture, WBEZ-FM, Chicago, Nov. 13



[Academic libraries and ebooks](#)

Peter Brantley writes: "One of the most confusing impacts of the surge in access to ebooks is whether academic library interests should be more or less bound together with public libraries. The issue has a wide range of ramifications, from acquisitions to collections and to responses to the shifting commercial marketplace. What would be intriguing is if one market could serve the other."...

Publishers Weekly: PWxyz, Nov. 10

[Wake Forest collaborates on textbook alternative](#)

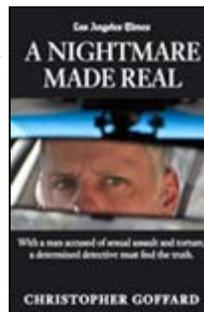
Wake Forest University and [Odigia](#) have partnered to create BioBook, a digital alternative to college-level biology textbooks. Funded by a \$249,000 grant from the Next Generation Learning Challenge, BioBook has nodes that contain all the baseline information a textbook would include, plus additional materials such as multimedia, quizzes, and the ability to ask peers and teachers questions. Teachers can track student progress and interaction with the material and give feedback or suggest help. Students and teachers can also write new nodes....

Campus Technology, Nov. 9

[L.A. Times publishes 99-cent ebook](#)

Erin L. Cox writes: "On November 14, the *Los Angeles Times* released its first ebook, *A Nightmare Made Real*, based on a series of articles by staff writer Christopher Goffard. The ebook is an expanded version of Goffard's two-part series on a Las Vegas banker accused of kidnapping, torture, and sexual assault. Available on Kindle, Nook, and iBooks for 99 cents, *A Nightmare Made Real* is said to be the first in a series of 8–10 ebooks that the daily intends to publish. It's the latest in a trend that is seeing newspapers publishing ebooks."...

Publishing Perspectives, Nov. 14



[Comic books lead top-grossing iPad book apps list](#)

Comic book apps continue to lead the top-grossing iPad apps in the books genre. According to research from AppData, Inside Network's data service that tracks app and developer leaderboards, Comics is the number one top-grossing iPad book app, followed by DC Comics at number two and Marvel Comics at number three....

eBookNewser, Nov. 15



[Hashing out digital trust](#)

Kate Zwaard writes: "I like to describe content authentication

programs as consisting of two parts: 1) tools and evidence we provide to users so they can assure themselves that they're looking at the real thing; and 2) tools the stewards of the information use to reduce the risk of content being altered. A cornerstone of both are the methods we use to determine fixity, that is, that a file has not been accidentally or purposefully changed."...

The Signal: Digital Preservation, Nov. 15

[Digital preservation](#)

Do you still have those large 5.25-inch floppy discs at home? Or computer files created with an old program that doesn't exist anymore? Then you are familiar with today's problem: Your current computer cannot cope with these old data carriers or software anymore.



Large cultural heritage institutions are facing a similar problem. But there is a solution: emulating old computer systems using modern computers. Europe's [KEEP](#) (Keeping Emulation Environments Portable) project, which began in 2009, has been doing research and development into technical and legal possibilities and challenges to give long-term access to digital information using emulation....

Koninklijke Bibliotheek, Nov. 3

[ProQuest reorganizes](#)

ProQuest on November 9 announced that it has reorganized into six business units and named a new executive team. Past ALTAFF President Rod Gauvin will head ProQuest Information Solutions with responsibility for all library markets. In addition, 40 jobs have been eliminated across the company, which employs some 1,800 people. In a statement, ProQuest officials said the moves would make the organization "flatter and more agile" and more responsive to customer needs. Among the changes, ProQuest has moved Bowker under the direction of Michael Gersch, senior vice president and general manager of Serials Solutions....



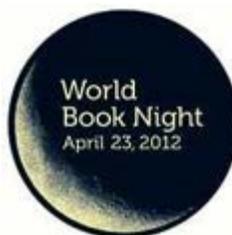
Publishers Weekly, Nov. 10

[Go back to the Top](#)

Books & Reading

[World Book Night U.S.](#)

World Book Night U.S has launched an [official website](#) for the April 23 celebration that aims to spread a love of reading and books through book giveaways across the country on one night. WBN also launched on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#). On April 23, 50,000 book givers will hand out 20 copies of one of the 25 World Book Night picks in communities across the United States. One million paperbacks will be given away. Bookstores and libraries are encouraged to put up displays of the books in their regular editions....



Bookselling This Week, Nov. 14

[10 charities that promote literacy](#)

Dianna Dilworth writes: "The holidays are just around the corner and many people are looking for ways to give to others. If you want to encourage future readers, we have put together a list of 10 charities that promote literacy. For your exploration, we've



listed the name of the charity, its mission statement, and its website.”...

GalleyCat, Nov. 15

[The subconscious bookshelf](#)

Leah Price writes: “Because books can be owned without being read and read without being owned, bookshelves reveal at once our most private selves and our most public personas. They can serve as a utilitarian tool or a theatrical prop. For a coffee-table book of my own, I recently toured several [writers’ book collections](#). Gazing at the shelves of a novelist whose writings lie dog-eared on my own bookcase, I felt as lucky as a restaurant-goer granted a peek at the chef’s refrigerator.”...

New York Times Sunday Book Review, Nov. 10; *Financial Times*, Nov. 12

[100 best first lines from novels](#)

The editors of *American Book Review* selected what they consider the most memorable first lines of novels. The titles on the list span centuries and genres and include classics (*Moby-Dick*, 1984) and contemporary novels that are certain to become classics (*Neuromancer*, *Middlesex*). Use this list to test your literary knowledge....

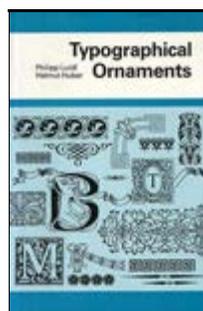
Information Please



[The art of fleurons](#)

L. D. Mitchell writes: “Book designers looking to spruce up an otherwise dreary page often turn for help to a group of typographic glyphs known broadly as ornaments. Among the most common glyphs in this group are borders, cartouches, rules, tail-pieces, and, the subject of today’s post, [fleurons](#) (aka printers’ flowers). Fleuron refers specifically to stylized forms of flowers or leaves (what Robert Bringhurst called horticultural dingbats).”...

The Private Library, Nov. 4



Actions & Answers

[10 ways schools are teaching internet safety](#)

Meris Stansbury writes: “Teaching students about internet safety has been important for as long as the internet has existed, but it’s in the spotlight this year in particular as schools get ready to apply for 2012 e-rate discounts on their telecommunications services and internet access. To get an idea how educators are approaching this issue, we recently asked readers: ‘Do you teach internet safety at your school or district? If so, how?’ Here are 10 of the most innovative and detail-rich answers.”...

eSchool News, Nov. 11



[J. Edgar at the Library of Congress](#)

Mark Hartsell writes: “Director Clint Eastwood and actors Leonardo DiCaprio and Naomi Watts came to the Library of Congress’s Jefferson Building on March 27



to shoot scenes for a film about the life of J. Edgar Hoover, former head of the FBI and—for nearly five years—an LC employee. Hoover got his start in government in 1913 at the Library of Congress, first as messenger, then as clerk and cataloger. Kenneth D. Ackerman, author of the book that inspired the film, believed the library's cataloging system inspired him to create a system at the FBI to track information about individuals, groups, and movements." Eastwood's *J. Edgar* opened in theaters November 11....
Library of Congress Information Bulletin 70, no. 5 (May 2011)

British librarians and the First World War

Lynn Young writes: "In 1923, the Library Association commissioned the calligraphers Edward Johnston and H. Lawrence Christie to design a roll of honor commemorating the British librarians who fell in the Great War. The association contacted libraries across the United Kingdom asking for information about staff members killed. It was decided that the entire memorial (above) would be made of a series of wood panels incised in gilt. The memorial remained at the British Museum until 1998 when it was moved to its current site in the British Library."...



British Library: *Untold Lives*, Nov. 13

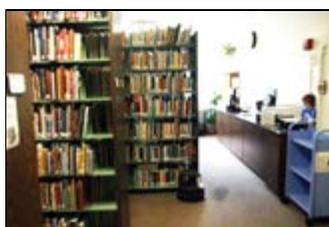
Prove your relevance through qualitative data

Steve Matthews writes: "There are few things more important in the librarian profession today than proving to the funders that the library is relevant and valuable to the community. You can better prove that by using more than count numbers—circulation count, door count, program count—and make use of qualitative data for your measurements of success. Of course, qualitative data is much harder to collect than quantitative."...

21st Century Library Blog, Nov. 16

Renovation as a catalyst for change

Erin Dorney and Eric Frierson write: "This post is about two libraries attempting to reinvent services, collections, and spaces as the walls of their buildings come crashing down. Rather than embarking on phased construction projects, the library buildings at both St. Edward's University and Millersville University (above) will be completely shut down for a period of one and two years, respectively. Renovations can be catalysts for change, experimentation and flexibility, and distributed/embedded librarianship."...



In the Library with the Lead Pipe, Nov. 9

Google has everything (but the library has more)

Lane Wilkinson writes: "So how do we counter the popular belief that everything is in Google? You know what sticks? Numbers. If you really want to drive the point home that Google is only a moderately helpful research tool, why not quickly show your students that, far

from being 'everything,' a Google search returns *fewer* articles than a fairly standard library database. It goes like this."...

Sense and Reference, Nov. 10

[Fayetteville Free Library's Fab Lab](#)

Audrey Watters writes: "Earlier this year, *MAKE Magazine's* Phillip Torrone wrote a provocative article asking, 'Is it time to rebuild and retool libraries and make techshops?' In other words, should libraries join some of the other new community centers that are being created and become hackerspaces or makerspaces? The Fayetteville (N.Y.) Free Library's Lauren Smedley (right) is building a [Fab Lab](#)—short for fabrication laboratory—that will provide free public access to machines and software for manufacturing and making things."...

MindShift, KQED-FM, San Francisco, Nov. 9



[The Bobst Library treasure hunt](#)

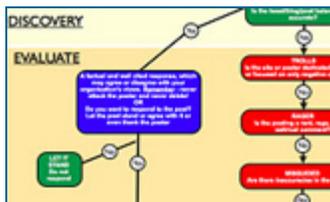
Adam L. Penenberg writes: "I am doing research for a book on ways that game mechanics are expressed in everyday life, and I wondered if gamification could be a good way to expose my journalism students to research beyond the web. This led me to team up with Alexa Pearce, a research librarian at New York University's Bobst Library, to create a mobile, interactive treasure hunt. The test was composed of nine questions, each worth 1,000 points, and if a student requested help or a hint it would cost 250 points. They had three hours to complete it."...

Fast Company, Nov. 14

[Should you respond to comments on your social media sites?](#)

Kathy Dempsey writes: "Ever wonder whether you should respond to a user comment on your Facebook page, Twitter feed, or blog? When is it appropriate to say something, and how should you say it? Every organization with social sites has wondered about this. When librarians talk about social media, especially Facebook, the problem of how to interact with fans always comes up. There's a wide range of challenges. Here are five common ones, from the most restrictive to the least."...

The 'M' Word—Marketing Libraries, Nov. 9



[Museum collection meets library catalog in Trove](#)

Seb Chan writes: "The National Library of Australia's [Trove](#) is one of those projects that you come to understand just how important it is only after it is built and live in the world. At its most basic, Trove provides a metasearch of disparate library collections across Australia, as well as the cultural collections of the National Library itself. Being an aggregator, it brings together a number of different National Library products that used to exist independently, such as the very popular Picture Australia."...

Fresh + New(er), Nov. 8



[Decoding medieval and renaissance iconography](#)

This online exhibition at the Reed Gallery of the Dunedin Public Libraries in New Zealand sheds some

light on the meaning of signs and symbols in medieval artwork and illustration. Iconography was adopted by early printers who incorporated symbolic meaning into their devices. One of the most famous was the *festina lente* (“make haste slowly”) dolphin and anchor of the Aldine Press in Venice. The images and symbols displayed in this “Signs and Symbols” exhibition are becoming less and less recognizable outside academic circles....
Dunedin (N.Z.) Public Libraries



[Search using your terms, verbatim](#)

Corin Anderson writes: “Behind the simplicity of Google search is a complex set of algorithms that expands and improves the query you’ve typed to find the best results. Automatic spelling correction ([vynal] to ‘vynyl’) and substituting synonyms (matching [pictures] to ‘photos’) are just two examples of the improvements we make. But in some rare cases, we don’t find what you were looking for. So starting November 15, with the Verbatim tool on, we’ll use the exact words you entered without making normal improvements.”...

Google Inside Search, Nov. 15



[Search Google Books by ISSN](#)

Jonathan Rochkind writes: “Turns out Google Books does support searching by ISSN, using ordinary fielded search syntax, although I don’t believe it’s documented anywhere. Mostly what you’ll find is digitized bound journals from libraries (that is, digitization of some volumes of the journal, probably not all of them, which may or may not have full-text access). Sometimes things that physically look like monographs but are published serially also get ISSNs. Google Books also has to have ISSN metadata for the record.”...

Bibliographic Wilderness, Nov. 15

[Art librarianship](#)

Annie Pho writes: “Many of us start out library school with a particular area of focus in mind. Mine was art libraries, and while I have explored other areas of librarianship, this one is still of interest to me. There are many ways to be an art librarian. Think about all the ways our society learns about art and imagine a librarian there to help with the process. Here are a few good resources for students who are interested in art librarianship.”...

Hack Library School, Nov. 14

[Law firms and librarians: They need each other](#)

Chuck Lowry writes: “Vendors have an almost unique perspective on law firm librarians. We are sometimes partners, sometimes adversaries; sometimes you use us and sometimes we use you; we are often friends; it is undeniably true that we cannot live without you, nor you without us. If I were to have a group of law firm administrators in front of me, with members chosen from job titles such as CFO, COO, CIO, or CEO, here is what I would tell them about the role their librarians play with information vendors and their products and practices.”...

On Firmer Ground, Nov. 10

[Stuttgart's new Rubik's cube library](#)

Helen Morgan writes: "Stadtbibliothek Stuttgart is definitely not your run-of-the-mill German city library. This modern architectural masterpiece designed by Eun Young Yi is a colossal new building that opened to the public in October. Taking on the form of a giant, two-toned Rubik's cube, the glowing design is a beacon for architecture and book lovers alike. The structure's façade looks like a formation of colorful glowing cubes, while inside the space contrasts with a simple and minimalist style."...

Inhabitat, Nov. 14



[Where to find new research papers](#)

Roddy MacLeod writes: "Here I've listed 30 freely available websites and services that help anyone find details of new scholarly research. These are services that link directly to research papers, reports, conference papers, preprints, or theses that have appeared in journals, institutional repositories, or elsewhere—and especially services that produce RSS feeds, because RSS can be an excellent facility for keeping up-to-date."...

Roddy MacLeod's Blog, Nov. 10



[APPitic: A learning app directory](#)

Joyce Valenza writes: "I just discovered [APPitic](#), a supercool directory of more than 1,300 apps for education, selected by a team of four Apple Distinguished Educators (ADEs) who tested the apps with a variety of different grade levels, instructional strategies, and classroom settings. Browse for relevant learning apps using pull-down menus under the broad categories of Preschool, Themes, Multiple Intelligences, and Bloom's Taxonomy."...

School Library Journal: NeverEndingSearch, Nov. 13



[Three useful bookmarking sites](#)

Corina Mackay writes: "Bookmarking is a great way to save things for later follow-up or to revisit on a regular basis. While your browser's built-in bookmarks make for a quick and easy visit to your favorite sites, external bookmarking sites can extend to images, quotes, and articles. If you use bookmarks often, you may need a better way to organize them and incorporate them effectively into your workday. Here are three helpful tools."...

Social Media Examiner, Nov. 10



[How to keep patrons away from you](#)

Will Manley writes: "In my working days I noticed that the most stressful places to work in the library were children's, circulation, and reference. The common thread here is patrons. Aren't they a pain? Think how much more fun it would be if we just kept the patrons out of the building. You can only have one staff development day a year, so how do you keep patrons away from your desk when they are allowed to enter the building? Here are some suggestions."...

Will Unwound, Nov. 11

[RedMan at the McCracken County library](#)

This library [promotional video](#) (0:31) exhorts patrons to “get well-read” at the McCracken County Public Library in Paducah, Kentucky. However, one wonders if it will also encourage people to dress up in weird costumes and throw books around....

YouTube, Nov. 11



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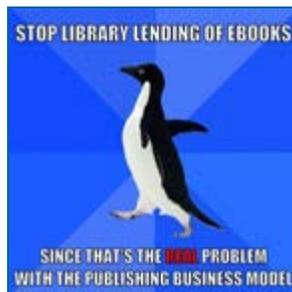


American Libraries Online

[Penguin week: When licenses attack!](#)

Late-breaking news: Penguin has [restored](#) Get for Kindle ebooks (the backlist, but not new releases) [until the end of the year only](#), pending a redefined agreement. Christopher Harris writes: "Sharks are usually considered the scariest beasts in the sea, but this week penguins are giving their toothy water friends a run for their money. On November 21, Penguin [took back its ebooks](#) and left OverDrive and libraries who had purchased Penguin books through that service standing around wondering what happened. But [new information](#) raises some critical questions about how and why this happened. OverDrive's role in this could have more serious implications. ALA President-Elect Maureen Sullivan released a timely and [hard-hitting statement](#) November 22 that took Penguin, OverDrive, and Amazon to task for restricting readers' access to books." ALA's [Carrie Russell](#), [Nora Rawlinson](#), [Matt Weaver](#), [Laura Hazard Owen](#), and [Bobbi Newman](#) also weigh in on the situation...

AL: E-Content, Nov. 22–23; Associated Press, Nov. 23; *Publishers Weekly*, Nov. 23; ALA Office for Information Technology Policy, Nov. 22; Digital Library Blog, Nov. 21; District Dispatch, Nov. 22–23; EarlyWord, Nov. 22; Library Renewal, Nov. 22; paidContent, Nov. 22; Librarian by Day, Nov. 22

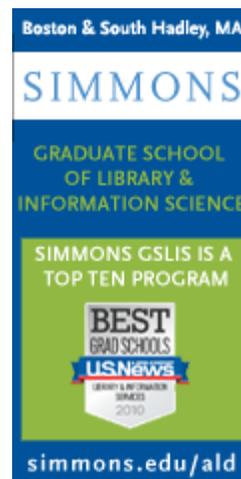


[Wide backlash greets internet antipiracy bill](#)

Groups from both ends of the political spectrum—and everything in between—have come out against a congressional bill that would require internet service providers to police users' online activities for potential copyright infringement. What's more, it would empower the U.S. attorney general to order the removal from the domain name system of any website that "engages in, enables, or facilitates" infringement. Introduced October 26 by Rep. Lamar Smith (R-Tex.), chair of the House Judiciary Committee, the [Stop Online Piracy Act](#) (H.R. 3261) has a number of high-profile supporters. Among them are Register of Copyrights Maria Pallante, who said that [without SOPA](#), "the U.S.



Fun fact: The precursor to the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Round Table had a kissing booth (called "Hug a Homosexual") at ALA Annual Conference in **Dallas** in June 1971. [See the photo](#) in the New York Public Library Digital Gallery.



copyright system will ultimately fail.”...
American Libraries news, Nov. 22; *Ars Technica*, Nov. 16

Talking turkey about school libraries

Beverly Goldberg writes: “An [online petition](#) is demanding that the Obama administration mandate the full funding and staffing of school libraries. The petition was initiated by a teacher-librarian in California who must *really* mean business since she calls for the ‘immediate withdrawal of all federal monies’ from any school that fails to comply. Since the one sure-fire predictor of a student’s academic success is attending a school with a fully funded and staffed school library, why haven’t policymakers taken heed?”...

AL: Inside Scoop, Nov. 23

Thanksgiving Week serves up net neutrality

The concept of net neutrality became a reality November 20, when long-sought rules slipped into effect to protect equitable access to online content. However, an unresolved lawsuit filed by Verizon in January continues to challenge the underlying principles codified by the Federal Communications Commission. Specifically, FCC regulations ([PDF file](#)) forbid mobile and fixed telecommunications providers from blocking or delaying the transmission of constitutionally protected content or online devices for any reason....

American Libraries news, Nov. 23

Youth Matters: Reach out through outreach

Abby Johnson writes: “Some of the most important library work I do is outside the library’s walls. Outreach—traveling offsite to bring service to potential users—is essential to serving my community and especially its children. Outreach allows librarians to put a friendly face on library services and to meet our patrons where they are (which is all the more important when you’re serving children who don’t have their own means of transportation to the library).”...

American Libraries column, Nov./Dec.



Bookamania in Chicago

More than 7,000 children and parents filled the Winter Garden at Chicago Public Library’s Harold Washington Library Center November 19 for [Bookamania](#), CPL’s annual celebration of children’s books and authors. Participants included Chicago Bear Israel Idonije (right) reading to the kids, as well as authors Nina Crews, Arthur Dorros, and Robert Burleigh....

AL Focus, Nov. 21



Book-themed nuptials

Rhonda Puntney Gould, youth services and special needs consultant at Lakeshores Library System in Waterford, Wisconsin, and her betrothed Michael (right) shared nuptials October 29 at Racine (Wis.) Public Library. The ceremony, dinner, and dance were all held at the library, with a book-themed cake. Gould is president of the Wisconsin Library



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Association and a member of ALA's governing Council...

AL Focus, Nov. 22

ALA News

National STEM Video Game Challenge

The [National STEM Video Game Challenge](#) opened November 21, aiming to motivate interest in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) learning by tapping into students' natural passion for playing and making video games. The annual competition is accepting [submissions](#) of original video game concepts and designs from students and educators in four categories (middle school, high school, collegiate, and educator) through March 12. ALA is participating as an outreach partner this year....

OLOS Columns, Nov. 21



Media focus shines on National Gaming Day

As hundreds of libraries across the country celebrated the fourth annual National Gaming Day @ your library on November 12, a variety of media outlets took notice and highlighted the programs and events happening in their own communities. [Participating libraries](#) held a variety of gaming activities including board games, role playing games, an international "Epic Super Smash Bros. Brawl" tournament, and a retro 30th anniversary *Frogger* contest....

Public Information Office, Nov. 22

Empower your community at the Advocacy Institute

"[Mobilizing Community Support for Your Library](#)" is the focus of the Advocacy Institute Workshop at the ALA 2012 Midwinter Meeting in Dallas. The workshop will focus on engaging and mobilizing friends and trustee groups, opinion-makers, and civic organizations to support all types of libraries. Presenters include Jennifer Martin, Ed Palmer, and Rocco Staino. The institute will take place January 20....

Office for Library Advocacy, Nov. 22

Ingrid Abrams named ALSC Emerging Leader

ALSC has chosen Ingrid Abrams (right) of the Brooklyn (N.Y.) Public Library as its representative in ALA's 2012 Emerging Leader program. As a children's librarian, Abrams makes a difference in the lives of users of her local branch library every day. As an Emerging Leader, Abrams will attend the 2012 Midwinter Meeting in Dallas, as well as the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, California....

ALSC, Nov. 22



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[Reforma selects its Emerging Leader](#)

Reforma has selected Alicia Long (right), library assistant at the State College of Florida and a recent MLIS graduate from the University of South Florida, for the 2012 ALA Emerging Leaders program. Long was a 2009 ALA Spectrum Scholar. In addition to her new position at the State College of Florida, she currently serves as recording secretary for the newly reactivated Reforma de Florida Chapter....

Office for Diversity, Nov. 22



[Submit a poster session proposal for Annual Conference](#)

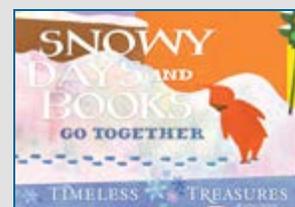
Poster sessions will be held on June 23–24 (Saturday and Sunday) of the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, California. They are an effective forum for the exchange of information and a means to communicate ideas, research, and programs. Submit your [proposal](#) by January 6....

ALA Poster Sessions, Nov. 22

[An eye-opening look at graphic novels](#)

Many educators now agree that graphic novels inform as well as entertain, and to dismiss their educational potential is to throw away a golden opportunity to reach out to young readers. [Graphic Novels in Your School Library](#) by Jesse Karp and illustrated by Rush Kress, is a one-stop resource with the school library at center stage. Published by ALA Editions, the book explores the ways in which graphic novels can be used in the library and in the classroom....

ALA Editions, Nov. 21



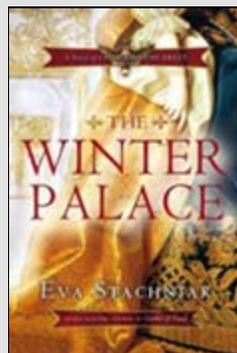
“Crunch, crunch, crunch, his feet sank into the snow.” [The Snowy Day](#), Ezra Jack Keats’s classic story of Peter, who treks through his neighborhood into the deep, deep snow, is now a **Timeless Treasures poster**. Peter’s adventures making a snow angel, packing a snowball, and taking a cozy hot bath evoke the simple pleasures of being a child in winter. This vibrantly illustrated Caldecott Medal winner celebrates its 50th anniversary in 2012. **NEW! From ALA Graphics.**

Booklist Online just got a makeover.
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Booklist ONLINE

[Featured review: Historical fiction](#)

Stachniak, Eva. *The Winter Palace*. Jan. 2012. 436p. Bantam (978-0-553-80812-4). Polish-Canadian author Stachniak’s brilliant, bold historical novel of 18th-century Russia is a masterful account of one woman’s progress toward absolute monarchical rule. For Catherine the Great, the path to her eventual coup d’état involves 20 years of subtle strategizing, intelligence gathering, and patience. Born Sophie of Anhalt-Zerbst, this “pale, appealing sliver of a girl” arrives in St. Petersburg in 1743 as a potential bride for Peter, Empress Elizabeth’s weak-willed nephew and heir....



New this week
in *American Libraries*

[The Booklist interview: Karen Armstrong](#)

Ilene Cooper writes: "Karen Armstrong has long been recognized as one of the world's most thoughtful and insightful writers about religion. Included in her books are *A History of God: The 4,000 Year Quest of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam* (1993); *Jerusalem: One City, Three Faiths* (1996); *Buddha* (2001); *Muhammad: A Prophet for Our Time* (2006); and *The Bible: A Biography* (2007). In November 2007, Armstrong learned that she had won a prize. Each year the nonprofit organization TED (Technology, Entertainment, Design) honors a person who has made a difference in the world. There is a monetary award, but, more important, each winner is given 'One Wish to Change the World.' Armstrong knew what she wanted her wish to be. *Booklist* spoke to Karen Armstrong by phone at her home in London."...



[What happens when you invite a Booklist editor to your book launch](#)

Daniel Kraus writes: "Being celebrated by the literati as the most venerable of critics, we editors are inevitably invited to stand before the assembled gala crowd, looking smashing in our tuxes and holding our martinis, to give our opinion of the about-to-be-published book. Sometimes this goes well. Other times it goes really, really, really badly. To give you an idea, take this scene from the 1964 film *Youngblood Hawke* (above), based on the excellent Herman Wouk novel, which is itself loosely based on the life of Thomas Wolfe."...

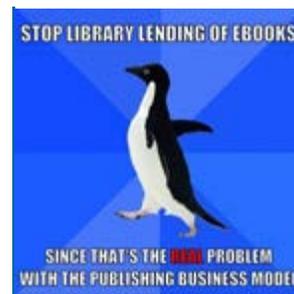


@ Visit [Booklist Online](#) for other reviews and much more....

Dallas Update

[The J. Erik Jonsson Central Library](#)

The Dallas Public Library's downtown facility at 1515 Young Street, named in honor of former mayor J. Erik Jonsson, opened in 1982. Its eight floors feature many permanent exhibits, including an original broadside print of the Declaration of Independence, a Shakespeare First Folio, a collection of Navajo blankets, celestial globes, a scale model of a Viking ship, and art by Harry Bertoia, Robert Rauschenberg, and Barbara Hepworth (right). Self-guided tours ([PDF file](#)) are permitted during open hours....



[Youth Matters](#)

[E-Content](#)

[Censorship Watch](#)

[Currents](#)

[Perpetual Beta](#)

[Inside Scoop](#)

[Ask the ALA Librarian](#)

[Solutions and Services](#)

[AL Focus](#)

Great Libraries of the World



[Duchess Anna Amalia Library.](#)

Weimar, Germany. The library, a public research center for German literature and art and music history, is named for Anna Amalia, duchess of Saxe-Weimar-Eisenach, who arranged in 1766 for the books belonging to the ducal court to be moved into her remodeled residence. A major part of the

Dallas Public Library

[Preserving the legacy of Robert Johnson](#)

A Dallas church has purchased the site where legendary bluesman Robert Johnson made his final few recordings. In June, the First Presbyterian Church of Dallas bought [508 Park Avenue](#), the [dilapidated](#), three-story, Zig-Zag Moderne downtown building where Johnson recorded almost half of the 29 songs that make up his entire discography. The church plans to renovate it in 2012, creating a cultural center complete with a museum, a performance space, an art studio, and a music education center called The Spirit of the Blues. Johnson's "[Me and the Devil Blues](#)" (2:38) was recorded here on June 20, 1937, in the former Brunswick Records studio on the top floor....

New York Times, Nov. 19; *Dallas Observer*, May 16; YouTube, May 27, 2007



[Gifts for the compact traveler](#)

As airlines continue to hike fees for checked bags and overweight suitcases, fitting everything into one compact bag—whether it is a carry-on or a lightweight suitcase—is more important than ever. Spotting an opportunity, luggage and accessory makers have introduced a host of new packing products. Here are 12 gift ideas for practical travelers on the go....

New York Times: Practical Traveler, Nov. 21



Division News

[Perfect for holiday giving](#)

Do you have someone on your holiday gift list that loves YA books? Do you know someone that is a Michael L. Printz Award aficionado? If so, then the 2012 YALSA [Michael L. Printz Award calendar](#) is the perfect item to put on your holiday gift-giving list. The calendar is filled with information about Printz authors and other YALSA award winners. Each month sports a high-quality image of the cover of a Printz-winning title....

YALSA Blog, Nov. 22



[Eleven preconferences at PLA](#)

Attendees at the [2012 PLA Conference](#) in Philadelphia will have an opportunity to get a head start on professional development before the conference is fully underway. On March 13–14, [11 preconferences](#) for public library administrators, managers, and staff will offer practical education in a focused and interactive environment. Several are a perfect fit for public library trustees as well. These intensive programs range in length from half a day to a day and a half and feature knowledgeable, professional instructors....

PLA, Nov. 21



[ACRL offers e-Learning scholarships](#)

ACRL is offering e-Learning scholarships to help librarians, library

collection was destroyed or severely damaged by a fire in September 2004. The [Rococo hall](#) was restored and reopened in 2007, along with a modern reading room called a "Book Cube"; some of the damaged volumes have now been replaced or restored.



[Francke Foundations Historical Library](#)

Halle, Germany. Founded as a charity in 1695 by the Pietist cleric August Hermann Francke, the Francke Foundations possess a library with a strong emphasis on religious and cultural history. The collection, which includes a cabinet of curiosities, has been housed in a well-preserved building dating from 1728.

This 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 2013 by ALA Editions.

staff, and library school students stretch their professional development dollars. Fifteen [e-Learning scholarships](#) will be awarded, 10 covering the registration cost of a webcast and five covering the cost of an online course. Scholarships can be redeemed for ACRL e-Learning events offered between February 1 and August 31, 2012. The application deadline is December 8....

ACRL, Nov. 21

[Graphic novel webinar will help you reach tween readers](#)

Tween readers have shown a healthy appetite for graphic novels, but finding age-appropriate materials for middle schoolers can be difficult. Discover how you can build a great graphic novel collection for your middle-grade readers in YALSA's December 15 webinar, "Graphic Novels and Teen Readers," presented by Robin Brenner. Brenner will discuss company age ratings and how the savvy librarian can demystify the variety of ratings that exist. [Registration](#) is now open....

YALSA, Nov. 22

[Easily integrate technology into your library](#)

Technology is part of the everyday life experience for most teens—and by integrating it with standard teen services, librarians can better serve and support teens' learning needs. Find out how in "[Connect, Create, Collaborate: Supporting Teen Needs with Technology](#)," a new online course offered in winter 2012 by YALSA. The self-paced course takes place February 6 to March 19 and will be taught by Linda Braun....

YALSA, Nov. 21

[Linked data and the Semantic Web at the ALCTS Symposium](#)

"Libraries, Linked Data and the Semantic Web: Positioning Our Catalogs to Participate in the 21st-Century Global Information Marketplace," the ALCTS Midwinter Symposium, brings together the leading experts in the fields of linked library data and the Semantic Web in Dallas on January 20. The speakers will be Peter Brantley, Karen Coyle, Corey A. Harper, Eric Miller, and Ross Singer. You can register for the symposium through the ALA Midwinter Meeting [registration site](#)....

ALCTS, Nov. 21

[Go back to the Top](#)

Awards & Grants

[National Friends of Libraries Week Awards](#)

ALTAFF is accepting applications for the National Friends of Libraries Week Awards through December 1. For the fifth year, awards will be given to Friends groups in conjunction with National Friends of Libraries Week, which was held October 16–22. Two awards of \$250 will be given to groups in recognition of activities held during the week. [Applicants](#) must provide a one- to two-page summary of all activities and efforts....

ALTAFF, Nov. 21



Career Leads from
JobLIST

[Dean of the Library,](#)

University of Texas at Arlington. Provides administrative leadership for a system of three campus libraries and eight program areas within the Library. The dean reports to the provost and vice president for academic affairs and serves on the appropriate academic, technological, and administrative councils. The dean will provide strategic planning and policy direction in the areas of collection development, public and technical services, facilities planning, and personnel policy, and is responsible for the coordination of the branch campus libraries in conjunction with the managers of those libraries....



[Nominations sought for 2012 Madison awards](#)

The ALA Washington Office is calling for nominations for two awards to honor those who have championed public access to government information and the public's right to know. The James Madison Award celebrates an individual or group who has brought awareness to these issues at the national level, and the Eileen Cooke State and Local Madison Award honors a leader who has built grassroots awareness of the importance of access to information. The deadline for [nominations](#) is December 30....

District Dispatch, Nov. 24

[Gale Cengage Learning Financial Development Award](#)

ALA is currently accepting [nominations](#) for the Gale Cengage Learning Financial Development Award, given to a public, school, or academic library for carrying out a financial development project to secure new funding resources. The award includes \$2,500 and a gold-framed citation....

Office of ALA Governance, Nov. 22



[Libraries selected to build learning labs for teens](#)

The Institute of Museum and Library Services and the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation announced the [first 12 winners](#) of a national grant competition to build 21st-century learning labs in libraries and museums around the country. The winners—eight libraries and four museums—will receive a total of \$1.2 million in grants to plan and design the labs. Inspired by YOUmedia, the teen space at Chicago Public Library, as well as innovations in science and technology centers, these labs will help young people move beyond consuming content to making and creating it....

Institute of Museum and Library Services, Nov. 17



[Salem Press launches the Library Grants Center](#)

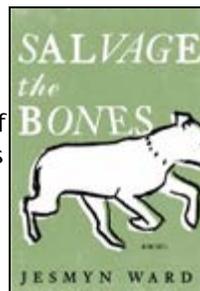
Salem Press has launched the Library Grants Center, a free web tool to help librarians navigate the world of library grants. Its website says: "At a time when the word 'library' is inseparable from the phrase 'budget cuts,' librarians need help finding help. So we scoured the web in search of free funding for libraries and discovered that the options extend far beyond national and state opportunities. Hundreds of grants are available to libraries of all types from local foundations, family trusts, small and large corporations, professional organizations, and the publishing community."...

Salem Press, Nov. 16



[2011 National Book Award winners](#)

The National Book Foundation announced the winners of the 2011 National Book Awards on November 16, bestowing the fiction award on Jesmyn Ward, author of *Salvage the Bones* (Bloomsbury USA), which chronicles 12 days in the life of a poor African-American family attempting to weather Hurricane Katrina in coastal Mississippi. The nonfiction award went to Stephen Greenblatt for his book *The Swerve: How the World*



@ [More jobs...](#)

Digital Library of the Week



The [Alwin C. Carus Coin Collection](#) was donated to Hillsdale (Mich.) College by Alwin C. Carus of La Salle, Illinois. It is a large collection that contains a broad range of coins and currency, including coins from ancient Greece, Macedon, and Rome, medieval English coins, Byzantine coins, Islamic coins, Chinese coins and currency, United States coins, and coins from all over the world, including Australia, Brazil, Canada, France, Germany, Great Britain, India, Mexico, Russia, and many others.

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.

Solutions and Services
LOOKING FOR NEW PRODUCTS? [Click Here!](#)

Public Perception
How the World

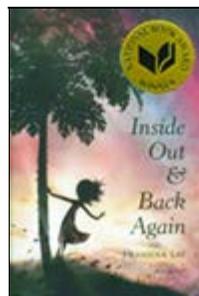
Became Modern (W. W. Norton), about a 15th-century book lover who almost singlehandedly spawned the Renaissance's rediscovery of classicism....

Washington Post, Nov. 16

[National Book Award for Young People's Literature](#)

Mark Flowers writes: "Congratulations to Thanhha Lai, who was named the winner of the National Book Award for Young People's Literature on Wednesday for her verse novel *Inside Out & Back Again*. There's a great interview with Lai on the National Book Foundation [website](#). After all the controversy last month over the Young People's Literature nominations (see [our initial coverage](#) and a [follow-up](#)), it was easy to forget there was still a winner to be chosen, but hopefully now we move the focus to where it belongs: debating whether the right book won."...

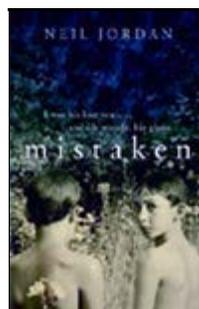
YALSA The Hub, Oct. 17–18, Nov. 18



[Neil Jordan takes novel of the year at Irish Book Awards](#)

Neil Jordan's *Mistaken* has been named novel of the year at the Bord Gáis Energy Irish Book Awards 2011 in Dublin. The film director, who won an Academy Award for *The Crying Game*, clinched his prize at the awards ceremony, held November 17. *Mistaken* [tells the tale](#) of two Irish boys who bear an uncanny physical resemblance to each other. They come of age in the Dublin of the 1960s. One attends a good school, the other does not. One lives in south Dublin, has a solicitor for a father, and aspires to a serious literary career. The other does not. Later, the confusions caused by their likeness grow increasingly complex and sinister....

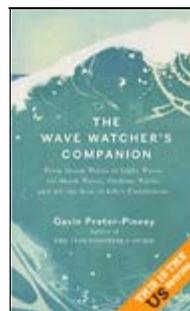
TheBookseller.com, Nov. 18; *The Guardian* (U.K.), Jan. 14



[Winton Prize for Science Books](#)

Gavin Pretor-Pinney, founder of the Cloud Appreciation Society, was awarded the £10,000 (\$15,640 U.S.) Royal Society Winton Prize for Science Books November 17 for his latest observations on laid-back living, *The Wavewatcher's Companion* (Bloomsbury). The book explores *all* types of wave, not just the ones you find on the water—everything from sound waves to light waves, brain waves, Mexican (stadium) waves, waves of traffic, and waves of emotion....

The Independent (U.K.), Nov. 18



Seen Online

[Huffington Post debuts new Libraries in Crisis series](#)



Nora Rawlinson writes: "A new series, [Libraries in Crisis](#), debuted in the *Huffington Post* in mid-November. As [described](#) by Books Editor Andrew Losowsky, it will look at 'how today's libraries are about more than books [ed note: oops, someone neglected to communicate this to the logo designer], and how they can be a community resource where reliable information and guidance is provided, free of bias and commercial influence.'"...

EarlyWord: The Publisher | Librarian Connection, Nov. 21

Sees Us

"The internet is an accumulation; a library is order. I have nothing against the electronic library, it's just not a replacement for the library of ink and paper."

—Argentine-born Canadian writer Alberto Manguel, [interviewed](#) in the *Ottawa (Ont.) Citizen*, Nov. 20.

@ [More quotes...](#)

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CONTENT

[Resources for Caregivers: 'Who has time to read when you're going through all that stuff?'](#)



[Connect with your kids: A DIY Guide to Holiday Gift Giving @ your library](#)

[ACC Basketball Is Still the Best](#)

[Trailers from Hell!](#)

[Great Songs and the Artists Who Created Them: 'Baby, I Need Your Loving'](#)

[How to Find a Great Job: Entry-Level Workers and Career-Changers](#)

[Fracking: Energy Bonanza or Environmental Debacle? by Wanda Urbanska](#)



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[How will we read: In public libraries?](#)

C. M. Rubin writes: "Libraries across the United States need our help as they are being closed or having significant cuts made to their budgets. The public library service has affected each of us at some point in our lives whether as a child, a student, or as an adult. So before you read my interview with ALA President Molly Raphael, take a moment to look at 10 important things you need to know about our American libraries."...

Huffington Post, Nov. 21

[Video loans on the rise in libraries](#)

Video lending has exploded during the past five years, rising at a far higher rate than the lending of books or audio, according to information from the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners. Video lending statewide more than doubled between 2000 and 2010, from 6.6 million videos to 14.1 million. People like to borrow from libraries because it saves them money over Netflix or other services....

Boston Globe, Nov. 24

[Occupy Wall Street librarians hold press conference](#)

The volunteers who organized the [People's Library](#) during the Occupy Wall Street demonstration in New York's Zuccotti Park held a [press conference](#) November 23 with renowned civil rights attorney Norman Siegel to discuss the library's removal by New York police. The library [demanded](#) that the city replace every missing book and [provide a space](#) to recreate the library. Staff and patrons from the library gave testimony. An Occupy Wall Street statement read: "So far, the People's Library has received 1,099 books back (right) from the Dept. of Sanitation after last week's raid (some of which were not library books to begin with), and out of these, about 800 are still usable. About 2,900 books are still unaccounted for, and less than one-fifth of the original collection is still usable."...

Occupy Wall Street Library blog, Nov. 22–23; LibraryThing; Metro, Nov. 23; *Washington Post*: Blog, Nov. 23



[Nashville's Limitless Libraries draws interest nationwide](#)

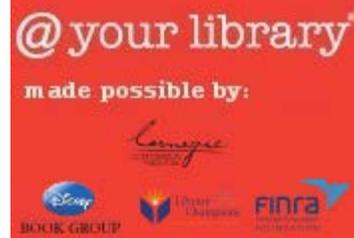
An agreement between the city school district and the Nashville (Tenn.) Public Library called [Limitless Libraries](#) is drawing new attention. Metro middle and high schoolers can use their home or school computers to check out books, DVDs, and CDs from the public library and have them delivered to their schools. Library officials in New York City, Boston, and St. Paul, Minnesota, have called Metro in recent months, interested in implementing similar initiatives. Limitless Libraries is sending more than 7,000 items a month to Metro schools and circulation has increased as much as 140%....

Nashville Tennessean, Nov. 21



[Ontario school board rejects book ban](#)

An award-winning Canadian novel, which one parent wanted removed from classrooms for what she called



Calendar

Dec. 4–9:

[Special Libraries Association Military Libraries Division](#).

Military Libraries Workshop, Norfolk, Virginia. "Riding the Information Wave."

Dec. 7–9:

[Specialized Information Publishers Association](#).

Annual Marketing Conference, Eden Roc Renaissance Hotel, Miami Beach, Florida.

Dec. 10:

[International Human Rights Day](#).

Dec. 12–13:

[Coalition for Networked Information](#).

Fall Membership Meeting, Crystal Gateway Marriott, Arlington, Virginia.

Jan. 20–24:

[American Library Association](#).

Midwinter Meeting, Dallas.

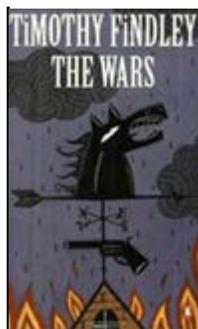
Feb. 1–3:

[Association of American Publishers Professional Scholarly Publishing](#).

Annual Conference, Mayflower Hotel, Washington, D.C. "Prospering with

exploitive sexual references, will stay on an Ontario school board's list of approved books. Carolyn Waddell wanted the Bluewater public school board to ban Timothy Findley's *The Wars*, complaining about the book's explicit, detailed descriptions of often violent sexual encounters. In mid-November, trustees endorsed a report by Bluewater's textbook appeals committee, which recommends keeping *The Wars* on the board's list of approved, optional teaching materials....

Quebecor Media Inc. Agency, Nov. 17



[Banned books now available in Libya](#)

For decades the late Libyan dictator Moammar Gadhafi kept a tight grip on power and public information. Now for the first time, books banned by the regime are on display in Tripoli, opening a door that was closed for many years. Some of the banned books are on topics like homosexuality or human rights in the Arab world, but the regime's ban was mostly on books of a religious nature, like those on Wahabbism and others on the Salafi movement. Watch the [video](#) (2:06)....

CNN, Nov. 21; KTHV-TV, Little Rock, Ark., Nov. 21



[Thanksgiving by the numbers](#)

Steve Barnes writes: "Some stats, courtesy of the Census Bureau: **248 million:** The number of turkeys expected to be raised in the United States in 2011. That's up 2% from the number raised during 2010. The turkeys produced in 2010 together weighed 7.11 billion pounds and were valued at \$4.37 billion. **2.4 billion pounds:** The total weight of sweet potatoes—a popular Thanksgiving side dish—produced by major sweet potato producing states in 2010. North Carolina (972 million pounds) produced more sweet potatoes than any other state."...

Albany (N.Y.) Times-Union: Table Hopping, Nov. 17

[UK court rules library closures unlawful](#)

Campaigners attempting to stop the closure of local libraries in the United Kingdom won a surprise victory in the high court November 16 when a judge ruled that the decision to ax services in Gloucestershire and Somerset was unlawful and should be annulled. Judge Martin McKenna found that local authorities had failed to comply with their public sector equality duties when pushing through the closures and ordered the councils to revisit their plans....

The Guardian (U.K.), Nov. 16

[Librarian in Black finds cult fame](#)

Sarah Houghton, the new acting director of the San Rafael (Calif.) Public Library, has cultivated an international reputation as the edgy, darkly attired, tattooed author of the [Librarian in Black blog](#). She launched the blog in December 2003 to filter relevant tech news to other digital librarians. It has evolved into a platform for her thinking on a range of subjects, such as vegan cooking, household gadgets, her cats Dorian and Fiona, and the way women who speak in public can get stalked and harassed....

Novato (Calif.) *Marin Independent Journal*, Nov. 20

Digital: Making Investments Pay."

Feb. 8–9: [International Association of School Librarianship / Zimbabwe Library Association](#)

Regional School Library Seminar, Masiyephambili College, Bulawayo, Zimbabwe. "School Libraries in Africa in the 21st Century: Learning from Each Other."

Mar. 21–23: [Computers in Libraries](#)

Conference, Hilton Washington, D.C.

Mar. 29–

Apr. 2:
[Art Libraries Society of North America](#), Annual Conference, Sheraton Centre, Toronto. "Colouring Outside the Lines."

Apr. 11–14:
[Popular Culture Association / American Culture Association](#), Annual Conference, Boston Marriott Copley Place.

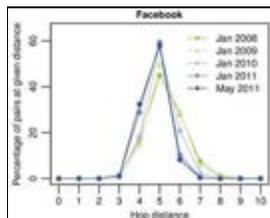
Apr. 17–20:
[Texas Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Houston. "Relevant, Responsive, Revolutionary, Right Now."

Apr. 24–27:
[Alabama Library Association](#), Annual Convention, Wynfrey Hotel, Hoover.

[Facebook reduces degrees of separation](#)

Adding a new chapter to the research that cemented the phrase "six degrees of separation" into the language, scientists at Facebook and the University of Milan [reported](#) November 21 that the average number of acquaintances separating any two people in the world was not six but 4.74. The original "six degrees" finding, published in 1967 by the psychologist Stanley Milgram, was drawn from 296 volunteers. The new research used a slightly bigger cohort: 721 million Facebook users....

New York Times, Nov. 21; Facebook Data Team, Nov. 21



[Detroit Public Library to close four branch locations](#)

At its meeting on November 15, the Detroit Library Commission approved the closure of four of the city's 23 branch libraries. The branches approved for closure, effective December 22, are Lincoln, Mark Twain, Monteith, and Richard (above). The commission pointed to declining property values and the shrinking population of the city ([PDF file](#)). The library is funded by a millage, but revenue has declined 12% each year for the past three years and is expected to continue to decline for the next three years....

Crain's Detroit Business, Nov. 17; Detroit Public Library, Nov. 15



[Former Bettendorf director won't face charges](#)

The Scott County, Iowa, attorney's office will not file criminal charges against former Bettendorf Library Director Steven Nielsen after investigating allegations that he acted improperly in his leadership role of the RiverShare library consortium as it looked for a new software system. The group voted in March to award a contract to Polaris Library Systems. Nielsen announced in August that he was accepting a job with Polaris, and competitor SirsiDynix filed a complaint alleging ethical impropriety....

Davenport (Iowa) *Quad-City Times*, Nov. 17

[New Zealand library in dispute over Koha trademark](#)

Koha is a free, open-source library management system created by the Horowhenua Library Trust, a New Zealand public library. This software has been the subject of an ongoing fight with LibLime, a U.S. company that wants to make the software proprietary. Now Horowhenua is [asking for funds](#) to support an expected legal battle. Library Director Joann Ransom says LibLime has been only been granted [provisional rights](#) to the name Koha by the Ministry of Economic Development....

LWN.net, Nov. 22; Koha Library Software Community, Nov. 21; Radio New Zealand, Nov. 22



[Fired clerk sues Huntington Beach library](#)

A deaf woman with cerebral palsy claims she was wrongfully fired from her job as a clerk in the Huntington Beach (Calif.) Public Library. A response from the city lists more than 25 reasons the city is not responsible for Merrie Sager's firing, saying she did not go through proper channels to report any alleged discrimination or harassment. Sager is accused of throwing a book, yelling, and making an inappropriate hand gesture. She is suing for lost wages and emotional

June 10–14: [Association for Computing Machinery/IEEE Computer Society](#)

Joint Conference on Digital Libraries, George Washington University, Washington, D.C.
#preserving #linking #using #sharing."

Sept. 19–23: [Joint Conference of Librarians of Color](#), Kansas City, Missouri. "Gathering at the Waters: Celebrating Stories, Embracing Communities."

@ [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.



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



Beverly Goldberg,
Senior Editor:
bgoldberg@ala.org



Greg Landgraf,
Associate Editor:
glandgraf@ala.org

distress....

Orange County (Calif.) Register, Nov. 17

[Waterloo map librarians create historical street map](#)

Staffers at the University of Waterloo's Map Library have painstakingly overlaid 1955 street maps of the Waterloo, Ontario, region onto modern Google Earth images, creating a digital database that shows with stunning clarity how much the area has changed and expanded in a half century. The [street map](#) is the latest phase in an ongoing project to document local visual history. The first phase scanned over 2,000 aerial photos of the region from the 1930s–1950s. The maps were built by Steven Xu and a team of part-time workers at the library over a period of several years....

Waterloo (Ont.) Record, Nov. 15



[Would you like a book with that wine?](#)

Red wine and cheese. Red wine and chocolate. Red wine and a good book. Port Townsend (Wash.) Library Director Theresa Percy proposed a novel idea for a fundraiser: Release a limited edition of wine, with sales going to the city library and the county library. "It will mean around \$7,000 for the libraries," said Richard Sorensen, a local winemaker who agreed to donate a barrel of 2005 "Library Red" cabernet after being approached by Percy....

Peninsula Daily News (Wash.), Nov. 15



[Librarian was one of the first to try penicillin](#)

For 10 years, Lydia Bogner had been crippled by osteomyelitis. But one day in 1943 she was given the gift of a new medicine called penicillin. It was a gift from a cousin who had worked on this new wonder drug and was given a special wedding present by the Eli Lilly pharmaceutical company to offer penicillin to someone who might qualify for its use. Bogner went on to become the medical records librarian at Mansfield (Ohio) General Hospital for 28 years....

Mansfield (Ohio) News Journal, Nov. 20

[Few visitors to Baghdad's American Corner](#)

In a nook of the library at Baghdad University, sturdy histories of the American Revolution and the Vietnam War line up next to Alexis de Tocqueville and John Updike. Yet, the readers never come. As far as Kamal Yunis, a research librarian who oversees what is formally called the American Corner, can tell, no student has ever opened one of the books. The collection was assembled by the American Embassy and is an example of the sort of cultural programs the State Department will emphasize after the troops leave....

New York Times, Nov. 22

[Madrid to streamline its city and regional libraries](#)

Jennifer Riggins writes: "After three years of negotiations, Mayor Alberto Ruiz-Gallardón of Madrid, Spain, and regional president (similar to a governor) Esperanza Aguirre are nearing an agreement to merge the municipal and regional libraries. There are 16 regional libraries and 29 city libraries that maintain essentially the same catalogs and are often located near each other. A merger would create a uniform



Sanhita SinhaRoy,
Associate Editor:
ssinharoy@ala.org

Jennifer Henderson,
Contributing Researcher

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library catalog across the city.”...

SmartPlanet, Nov. 22

[Go back to the Top](#)

Tech Talk

[Nook's specs are exaggerated, again](#)

David Pogue writes: “I’ve always been a little bothered by the way the Nook is advertised—or at least suspicious. Last year, I caught Barnes & Noble [misreporting](#) the Nook’s weight. Well, guess what? Barnes & Noble is at it again. On the Nook website, the very first bullet point is, ‘HD movies and TV shows.’ But the Nook’s screen resolution is 1024 by 600 pixels. That’s not even close to high definition.”...

New York Times: Pogue's Posts, Nov. 17



[HP is #2 tablet maker in 2011](#)

Nate Hoffelder writes: “A very odd thing happens when you sell a tablet for 80% off the retail price; people go nuts trying to buy it. More than a million tablets were sold in the U.S. in the first nine months of the year, according to a [report](#) released by the NPD Group. Analysts also believe that the 1.2 million tablets brought in more than \$415 million in revenue.”...

eBookNewser, Nov. 22; NPD Group, Nov. 22



[How to buy a cellphone](#)

Jamie Lendino writes: “If you thought choosing a cellphone was difficult before, it’s even tougher today. That’s a good thing, though, because it demonstrates how innovation in the wireless industry has skyrocketed. We’re seeing rapid progress across all fronts, including displays, data networks, user interfaces, voice quality, third-party apps, and even mobile gaming. So what should you be looking for when buying a cellphone? Here are some key points to consider.”...

PC Magazine, Nov. 16



[USB stick brings Android to PCs, TVs](#)

Mike Isaac writes: “Google has made no secret about its plans for Android. The company wants Android everywhere. And thanks to FXI Technologies’ Cotton Candy USB device, we may not have to wait long to see Android on more than just our mobile devices. FXI essentially built an ultra-lean computer inside a small USB stick. Stick it into any device that supports USB storage, and Cotton Candy will register as a USB drive. From there, you can run the Android OS in a secure environment inside your desktop.”...

Wired: Gadget Lab, Nov. 18



[iPad apps for photojournalists](#)

Alex Garcia writes: “Search the iTunes store with the term ‘photography’ and you’ll easily get lost among more than a thousand apps. Many apps are useful for professional photographers, such as those for tethered shooting, model releases, and portfolio apps, but they don’t seem crucial for photojournalists. I did find



several with interesting functionality for photojournalists that you can't easily replicate elsewhere. There are also a number of inspirational apps for those long days waiting for politicians or defendants to show up. Here are some that you might consider."...

Chicago Tribune: Assignment Chicago, Nov. 15

[The best Kindle Fire apps](#)

Jill Duffy writes: "Amazon's new 7-inch Kindle Fire (\$199) is one of the most affordable tablets on the market. If you're a new Kindle Fire owner, you need a starter kit. The 16 apps that we recommend downloading first are available right in the Amazon Appstore, so you can nab them simply and quickly. Your first dozen or so apps that you install should, in theory, be the ones you end up using the most. But again, because the Amazon Appstore holds only a limited subgroup of the Android apps ever made, the best of the bunch may seem a little lackluster, so far."...

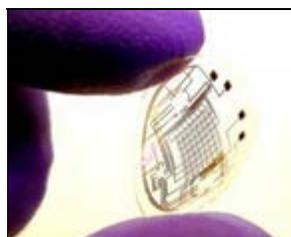
PC Magazine, Nov. 16



[Receive emails through your contact lenses](#)

A new generation of contact lenses that project images in front of the eyes is one step closer after successful animal trials, say engineers at the University of Washington. The technology could allow wearers to read floating texts and emails or augment their sight with computer-generated images, Terminator-syle. But there are still wrinkles to iron out, like finding a good power source. The researchers describe their computerized contact lens in the latest issue of the [Journal of Micromechanics and Microengineering](#)....

BBC News, Nov. 21; J. Micromech. Microeng. 21 (2011): 125014



[GPO releases its first app](#)

The U.S. Government Printing Office has released its first [mobile app](#), which provides the public with quick, easy access to information about Members of Congress. Based on the [Guide to the House and Senate Members](#) and information in the [Congressional Pictorial Directory](#), the app allows users to browse for Members of Congress by last name, state, chamber, or party. Additionally, users can search by first and last name....

FDLP Desktop, Nov. 15



E-Content

[It's time for a National Digital Public Library](#)

Susan Hildreth writes: "I have just returned from the exciting and inspirational conference, 'Creating a Blueprint for Building a National Digital Public Library.' Held at the Los Angeles Public Library's grand Central Library, this was an opportunity for public libraries to become engaged in the creation of the Digital Public Library of America. The DPLA represents the work of many institutions in digitizing a tremendous variety of content and envisions a future where this content and much more is freely available in all libraries and easily discoverable by all."...

UpNext: The IMLS Blog, Nov. 21

[Ebooks in U.S. public libraries](#)

In addition to free public access to computers and the internet, public libraries provide their communities with robust electronic collections. One area of significant interest and growth has been the provision of ebooks. Nationwide, 67% of public libraries report offering free access to ebooks to library patrons—up 30% since 2007....



ALA: *2011 Public Library Funding & Technology Access Study*

[OverDrive's Test Drive program for libraries](#)

OverDrive has launched [Test Drive](#), a program for libraries to support the demonstration and lending of ebook reading devices and tablets to their patrons. The program includes device recommendations and guidelines for setup, maintenance, and support, as well as best practices for institutions that want to stock and lend ebook readers and tablets to patrons. OverDrive has also selected the [Sony Reader Wi-Fi](#) (Model PRS-T1) as the first "Test Drive Approved" device....

Digital Library Blog, Nov. 22

[Kindle device license limits are stupid](#)

Jow Wikert writes: "There, I said it. I'm betting most consumers and quite a few publishers don't realize that Amazon has limits in place to prevent you from loading one Kindle ebook on more than 6 devices within the same account. Once you try to get it onto the 7th device, you are greeted with an error message saying, 'License Limit Reached,' and they nudge you to buy another copy of the product. No way. This is yet another example of why DRM sucks."...

Joe Wikert's Publishing 2020 Blog, Nov. 22

[For their children, some ebook fans insist on paper](#)

Matt Richtel and Julie Bosman write: "Print books may be under siege from the rise of ebooks, but they have a tenacious hold on a particular group: children and toddlers. Their parents are insisting this next generation of readers spend their early years with old-fashioned books. This is the case even with parents who themselves are die-hard downloaders of books onto Kindles, iPads, laptops, and phones. They freely acknowledge their digital double standard." But [others question](#) the assessment that ebooks are bad for kids....

New York Times, Nov. 20; Digital Book World, Nov. 21

[It's beginning to look a lot like election archiving season](#)

Abbie Grotke writes: "The national elections are a year away, but the Library of Congress is already busy archiving presidential campaign websites and preparing to archive House and Senate campaign sites and more starting in March 2012. This actually isn't the earliest we've started: For the 2008 archive we began a full 19 months before the election. We began collecting the presidential campaign sites earlier this month, and our Web Archiving Team is reviewing the results of the crawl. We've noticed that some of the sites we started archiving a few weeks ago have already changed their look and feel."...

The Signal: Digital Preservation, Nov. 17

[Find your way in a book](#)

Nate Hoffelder writes: "Have you ever wondered exactly where in the world an event in a book occurred? [Book Drum](#)—a two-year-old community of book lovers working to build a wiki-type collection of information about their favorite books—now has you covered. It recently launched a [map](#) feature marked with the key locations from

150 books. However, it's a collection of points, not paths. There are a number of entries for the *Grapes of Wrath*, but no way to place them in order. But this is still a fun feature. I wouldn't have known where *Interview with a Vampire* took place or what the street looked like."...
eBookNewser, Nov. 22

[When reading CliffsNotes is too much trouble](#)

AOL, Mark Burnett, Coalition Films, and Josh Faure-Brac have joined forces to present to the world *CliffsNotes Films—The Fastest Way to Learn*. These short, jokey animated films, each narrated by a superhero dork named "Super Cliff," promise to guide the reader through classic works of literature. The shorts are interactive, including in-video links to related content such as commentary from college professors. There are even "helpful cheats" that allow the viewer to win Shakespeare and Cliff badges. Watch *Hamlet* [here](#) (7:14)....



Publishing Perspectives, Nov. 21

[What I learned while digitizing our backlist](#)

Vicky Hartley, head of digital development for Duncan Baird Publishers, writes: "As simple as e-publishing seems in your head, it's really quite involved and always more complex than you or anyone else in your company thinks it will be. To start with, the logistics of publishing an ebook are not filled with the most efficient processes. There are different formats, each with their own limitations and eccentricities. Then there are the internal difficulties."...

FutureBook, Nov. 21

[Circulating iPads in the Darien children's library](#)

Kiera Parrott writes: "In September, the Darien (Conn.) Library began circulating iPads for use with young children. What began as a 'Hey-this-would-be-neat-let's-try-it-and-see-what-happens' project has evolved into an immensely popular service that has both our patrons and fellow librarians buzzing. What follows will describe how and why we developed this new service, with tips on helping other librarians jump into developing their own model."...



ALSC Blog, Nov. 15

[ProQuest business dissertations on ebrary](#)

To offer libraries a new avenue for providing patrons with full-text access to scholarly dissertations and theses in a key discipline, ProQuest announced November 22 a new business and economics subscription collection available on the ebrary platform. With a growing selection of more than 2,400 titles, the new Business Dissertations and Theses Collection enables scholars to mine emerging research from world-renowned business schools for new ideas and comparative study....

ebrary, Nov. 22

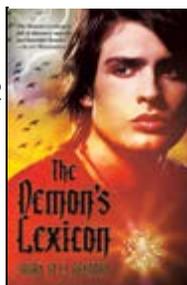
[Go back to the Top](#)

Books & Reading

[Staking the vampire](#)

Maria Kramer writes: "*Breaking Dawn, Part 1* premiered

November 18, and it's only a matter of time until Part 2 wraps up the series in a happy little bow. Astute commentators agree that the *Twilight* saga changed the shape of teen literature, propelling paranormal romance and vampires to the top of the charts. But have the blood-drinking sophisticates overstayed their welcome? The Hub is here to ask the question 'What next?' Towards which creature should we direct our adulation—or mockery? Who will put the stake in the vampire trend? Let's examine the options."...



YALSA The Hub, Nov. 22

[D'oh! Neil Gaiman on *The Simpsons*](#)

Geoff Boucher writes: "*The Simpsons* delivered one of its most ambitious episodes November 20—an elaborate heist spoof that finds Homer, Bart, and guest star Neil Gaiman trying to steal the



thunder of today's megasuccessful publishing series. The episode, titled '[The Book Job](#),' is a parody of Steven Soderbergh's *Ocean's Eleven* (and, yes, that *is* Andy Garcia playing the wealthy, cold-blooded heavy) but it saved its most savage parody for today's paranormal romances that target young-skewing audiences." Read an [interview](#) with Neil Gaiman about his role in the episode. Sarah Debraski and Gretchen Kolderup [discuss](#) the episode....

Los Angeles Times: Hero Complex, Nov. 18; The DeadBolt, Nov. 21; YALSA The Hub, Nov. 23

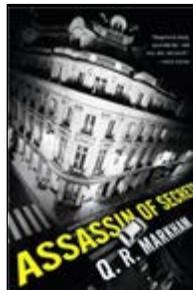
[Nine reasons why publishers should stop acting like libraries are the enemy](#)

Bobbi Newman writes: "I know you think that if it weren't for libraries more people would buy your books. I have bad news for you: If it weren't for libraries, people would read less and not buy more books. Let's face it, no one who is willing to spend four months on the waiting list for their favorite author is going to buy that hardback copy and probably not the trade paperback or paperback either. Instead of seeing that library book as money out of your pocket, consider it the gateway drug to your author."...

Librarian by Day, Nov. 23

[Tinker, tailor, soldier, plagiarist](#)

Tim Vines writes: "There's been quite a recent buzz about Q. R. Markham's recently published book *Assassin of Secrets*, but for all the wrong reasons—it's apparently [plagiarized](#) from a blend of a dozen spy fiction authors including James Bamford, Charles McCarry, and Graham Greene. The author, whose real name is Quentin Rowan, has expressed profound regret, and explains in a [comment](#) that it's all a result of wanting too much, too soon. In fact, he's never really been into writing his own material, as plagiarism checks on his previous work also show plenty of evidence of cutting and pasting. Little, Brown is in the stew as well, as this is the [second book](#) in five years they've published that has been found to be largely copied."...



Scholarly Kitchen, Nov. 21; Reluctant Habits, Nov. 8; The Debrief, Nov. 9

[Retired Fort Myers librarian now a novelist](#)

Bill ("Henry") Hoffman, former director of the Fort Myers–Lee County (Fla.) Public Library, has taken up writing since his 1998 retirement. His new historical novel, *Flaherty's Run* (Lachesis), takes the main character, Will Flaherty, on a journey in a bookmobile with his sister Carol and an ex-German prisoner of war named Max, from North Florida to the Keys in 1946. Hoffman forced himself to write a disturbing scene when the bookmobile is stuck in mud and the three characters use books as tools to free the vehicle....

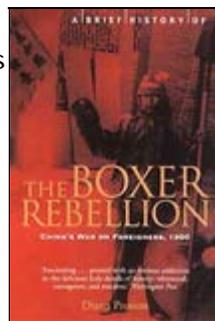
Fort Myers (Fla.) News-Press, Nov. 19



Top 10 shocking books about China

Zhengyi Mei Mei writes: "China's history is so vast, its geography so massive, its politics so controversial, and its customs so perplexing, that it was nearly impossible to reduce this list to 10 books. The country's long record of human rights abuses, rampant government corruption, heartless property confiscation, and categorical censorship of information make China fertile ground for fiction and nonfiction alike. Some of these books are shocking, some scholarly, some simply entertaining, but each reveal a different facet of Chinese culture."...

Listverse, Nov. 18



Bookseller experiments with online handselling

Longtime bookseller Roxanne Coady, owner of R. J. Julia Booksellers in Madison, Connecticut, has unveiled JustTheRightBook.com, a subscription model that aims to wed human-to-human customer service with the convenience of online shopping. This is how it works: Readers [take a quiz](#) on the website, which will determine their reading mood. The questions are tame and direct. The answers are studied by R. J. Julia Booksellers staff, who in turn, select a book for the reader....

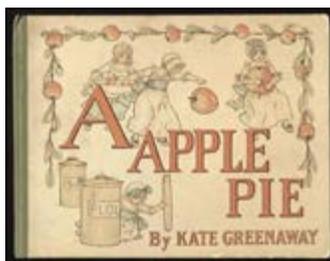
Publishing Perspectives, Nov. 22

Pie-ology: A full-filling story

Jennifer Harbster writes: "Pie season is upon us and I predict that you will be making or buying a pie sometime in the near future. There is something about this delectable dish that provokes childhood memories and many of us have no qualms about stating our opinion on what constitutes the best pie.

The *A–Z of Food and Drink* (2002) suggests that the word pie (pye) first appeared in English in the early 14th century, and by mid-century it became commonplace. Even Geoffrey Chaucer mentions pie in his 'Cook's Tale.' "...

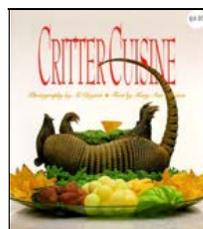
Inside Adams: Science, Technology, and Business, Nov. 18



The 10 weirdest cookbooks

Thanksgiving is almost here, and while most families will roll out the turkey, stuffing, and mashed potatoes, a select few out there will get a little adventurous and might dig deep into the cookbook archives. For the sake of the children, hopefully none of them have these cookbooks....

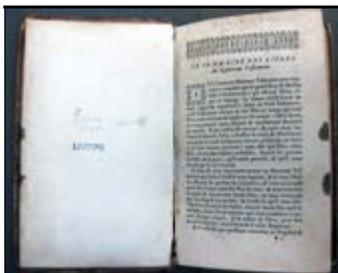
Publishers Weekly: PWxyz, Nov. 22



[Sleuthing a bibliographic mystery](#)

Rebecca McCallum writes: "The other day, I discovered a mystery in Special Collections: an extremely skimpy catalog record for a book in our collection. All it said about this book was: 'Bible. N.T. French [Nouveau testament] [S.l. : S.n., not after 1762.] 665 p. ; 19 cm. Title page missing.' Because the book had been missing its title page for a very long time, we had no idea where or when it was published, by whom, or even what its real title was. It was time to do some detective work."...

Wesleyan University Special Collections and Archives Blog, Nov. 14



Actions & Answers

[What is a library?](#)

Bobbi Newman writes: "After recently tweeting a link to ALA President Molly Raphael's [statement](#) regarding the destruction of the Occupy Wall Street Library in New York, I became engaged in a conversation on Twitter about what constitutes a library. To me this seems obvious, but I had a hard time coming up with a hard and fast definition. I discovered that, like Justice Stewart, I'm of the know-it-when-I-see-it mindset when it comes to identifying a library."...

Librarian by Day, Nov. 19; ALA Public Information Office, Nov. 17



[Why I am not signing the "Save Libraries" petition](#)

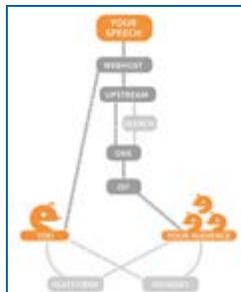
Buffy Hamilton writes: "A steady barrage of discussion list messages, tweets, Facebook postings, and blog entries have been making the rounds in recent weeks urging people to sign a [petition](#) to the White House on school libraries. While I know the [intent](#) was noble in creating this, petitions like these are often a slippery slope, so I'm going to be politically incorrect and offer a dissenting perspective. I do not mean any disrespect to those who think this petition will make a difference, but I would encourage us a profession to unpack the language and assumptions laden in the wording."...

The Unquiet Librarian, Nov. 18; *School Library Journal*, Nov. 8

[Free speech is only as strong as its weakest link](#)

Rainey Reitman writes: "From Mubarak knocking a country offline by pressuring local ISPs to PayPal caving to political pressure to cut off funding to WikiLeaks, this year has brought us sobering examples of how online speech can be endangered. As internet users, we rely on a chain of intermediaries—such as social networks, search engines, and ISPs—to help ensure that creative expression and information reach a broader audience. Unfortunately, weak links in this chain can operate as choke points to accomplish widespread censorship. [Click here](#) to explore the different intermediaries in the chain, the vulnerabilities they face, and examples of how they have been targeted by those who would squelch online expression."...

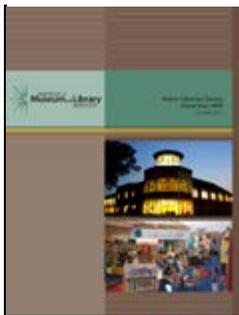
Electronic Frontier Foundation, Nov. 21



[Library visits at historic high](#)

The ways in which Americans use libraries changed significantly in the decade ending in 2009 as libraries adapted to meet the evolving needs of their users. In 2009 (the most recent data available), libraries were visited a record-breaking 1.59 billion times, according to the Institute of Museum and Library Services' report on the [FY2009 Public Library Survey](#), a census of public libraries in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the territories conducted annually by IMLS....

Institute of Museum and Library Services, Nov. 18



[National Day of Listening, November 25](#)

StoryCorps, the national nonprofit oral history organization, is asking Americans to take a few minutes to pay thanks to a beloved teacher on the day after Thanksgiving. This can include acknowledging a teacher on Facebook, sending a tweet, posting a video tribute on YouTube, or recording a face-to-face interview using StoryCorps' do-it-yourself guide....

StoryCorps

[Professional codes of ethics for librarians](#)

Librarians all over the world are well aware of their profession's ethical implications. In more than 60 countries, library associations have developed and approved a national code of ethics for librarians. The IFLA Committee on Freedom of Access to Information and Freedom of Expression has collected nearly 40 of them and brought them together in the list "[Professional Codes of Ethics for Librarians](#)." ...

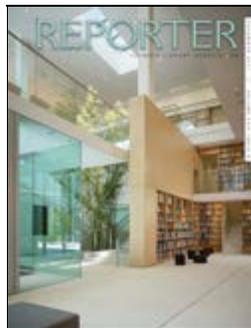
Freedom of Access to Information and Freedom of Expression, Nov. 19

[Creation of the Poetry Foundation Library](#)

(PDF file)

Katherine Litwin writes: "When the Poetry Foundation Library opened its doors on June 25, it became the only library in the Midwest dedicated solely to poetry, and one of a small number of poetry libraries around the world. As the first librarian hired by the Poetry Foundation, my fantastic task was to create a new library out of a singular collection of resources to be housed in an architecturally distinctive space. Located at 61 West Superior Street in Chicago, the building was designed to be an artistic, cultural building in an urban environment." ...

ILA Reporter 29, no. 6 (Dec.): 8–11



[YouTube: The first 15 seconds](#)

David Lee King writes: "What's important in your YouTube videos? The first 15 seconds. According to [YouTube's Creator Playbook](#), you have 10–15 seconds to hook your viewer into watching the rest of your video. What do many of us do with those first 15 seconds? A slow fade-in. Cheesy music. A flashy branded intro and titles. Exciting stuff, huh? Instead, here's what Youtube says we should do." ...

David Lee King, Nov. 22



[Google Scholar opens up its citations](#)

Anyone can now track his or her citations via Google Scholar. The free citation service is [billed](#) as "a simple way for authors to compute their

citation metrics and track them over time." Google had announced a [limited-release test](#) of the service in July. Google Scholar automatically sorts articles into groups. Authors can go through those, identify which articles are indeed theirs, and edit the list. Google Scholar collects citations for each author and graphs them over time to calculate different metrics...

Chronicle of Higher Education: Wired Campus, Nov. 17; *Google Scholar Blog*, July 20, Nov. 16

[Planes overhead and other cool Wolfram Alpha things](#)

Richard Byrne writes: "This [Wolfram Alpha demo](#) (2:32) shows you what you happens when you enter the term 'planes overhead' in Wolfram Alpha. As you'll see, Wolfram Alpha doesn't act like Google, Bing, or any other search engine. I think the video is a great demonstration of what makes Wolfram Alpha neat. Watching this got me to dive into my archives for other Wolfram Alpha posts. Consider this my Wolfram Alpha round-up post."...



Free Technology for Teachers, Nov. 20; *YouTube*, Nov. 18

[How to become an essential librarian](#) (PDF file)

Breanne Kirsch writes: "Becoming an essential or indispensable librarian will allow new librarians to have increased job stability and other benefits. Based on personal experiences and research, I have compiled a list of six steps to becoming an essential librarian: Find a mentor, read the literature, collaborate, adapt, become a leader, and be persistent."...

Endnotes: The Journal of the New Members Round Table 2, no. 1 (Nov.)

[Things to do: Completely transform the library](#)

Dan Messer writes: "Transformation is not only desirable, but 100% necessary. Are we ready? Some ideas about what we could do to enhance our services and further that transformation arose in comments and through conversations. Here's a short list. However, it's easy to say we need to reimagine the library, but to do it we'll need resources, skill sets, a willingness to learn and adapt, and the administrative vision to make it happen."...

Not All Bits, Nov. 22

[Web-based email](#)

Stephen Abram writes: "I am a huge fan of web-based email, although I do get email through our corporate client as well as Facebook, LinkedIn, and DMs through Twitter. As you can see in this [chart](#) (right), web-based email usage is cratering for people aged 12–34. From personal experience I know all my friends and relatives in this younger age group generally contact me through either Facebook or texting instead of email. I believe this demographic is a really important segment for libraries—teens, students, and young parents."...



Stephen's Lighthouse, Nov. 21; *Business Insider*, Nov. 18

[New Jersey State Library returns missing 1716 document](#)

Having valuable public documents go missing is not a rare occurrence, but having them turn up in good condition

certainly is. In mid-November, the New Jersey State Library returned to the New Jersey State Archives a 1716 legal document that outlined a procedure for the laying out of roads between towns. It had originally been discovered at the Orange County College Library, but was later found to have been stolen from the archives when it was stored in the basement of the State House....

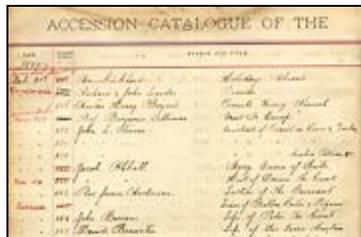
New Jersey State Library, Nov. 21



[What Muncie read, 1891–1902](#)

John Plotz writes: "[What Middletown Read](#) is based on an incredible trove of unprepossessing ledger books found in an attic during the renovation of the 1904 Muncie (Ind.) Public Library and brought to light by Ball State University English Professor Frank Felsenstein. No previous project includes a database that supplies, to ordinary casual web visitors, this kind of in-depth history about a library's acquisitions and patrons. It's the interlinked combination of three different sorts of data—patron records, borrowing records, *and* library catalog—that makes this such a revealing cache."...

Slate, Nov. 17



[The evolution of the memo, 1849–2011](#)

Mitch Toda writes: "In practically every collection of Smithsonian records I acquire and accession, I can expect to find the humble memorandum. Primarily used to communicate within an organization, the memorandum plays a role in documenting the history of the Smithsonian. As you will see from this tour (video or slideshare) of memoranda found in our collections, their form has changed over the years, but the information they contain can be both mundane as well as enlightening."...

The Bigger Picture, Nov. 22



[The Gerstenslager bookmobile](#)

Larry Nix writes: "For many years the [Gerstenslager Company](#) in Wooster, Ohio, was synonymous with bookmobiles for public library extension librarians. Although the roots of the company date back to 1860, it was not until after World War II that the company began designing and building custom bodies for specialty vehicles including bookmobiles. One of my postcard collecting interests is bookmobiles, and in my collection is a group of cards that include advertising on the back for the Gerstenslager Co. and its bookmobile business."...

Library History Buff Blog, Nov. 18



[SSA extends FOIA restriction to 100 years](#)

Megan Smolenyak writes: "Unfortunately, it's now official. I have been

ordering Social Security applications for several decades, and have found them especially valuable. But recently, without any announcement, the Social Security Administration extended the restriction to 100 years from the birth of the applicant, so you can now only obtain this record in an unaltered state for those born prior to 1912. I can apparently receive the full application if I can prove that the parents are deceased, but that's a catch-22."...

Smolenyak's Roots World, Nov. 17

[Libraries on Google+](#)

Google+ was launched in June and has since built up a membership of more than 40 million users. Early in November, Google began allowing organizations to create their own pages on the site. In the past few weeks, [dozens of libraries](#) have created Google+ pages, from large public libraries such as the [New York Public Library](#), to smaller, tech-savvy ones like [Darrien \(Conn.\) Library](#) and [Skokie \(Ill.\) Public Library](#). [Several academic libraries](#) have staked out Google+ pages as well....

Library Journal: The Digital Shift, Nov. 18

[Evernote takes on web reading with Clearly](#)

[Evernote](#), an application that has gained momentum by providing an easy way for people to quickly capture things they want to remember, is determined to branch out past its humble note-taking origins. On November 16, the company unveiled its latest addition: [Clearly](#), a browser extension that aims to simplify online reading by stripping away links, advertisements, and other clutter from web articles. Users can also save articles to their Evernote accounts....

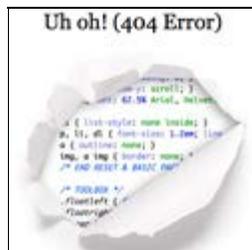
New York Times: Bits, Nov. 16



[How to deal with broken URLs](#)

Daniel Cornwall writes: "Web resources have their drawbacks, the most dramatic of which is link rot. Some URLs are more durable than others, but chances are good that at some point you are going to visit a site and get a 404 (File Not Found) error. In most cases, especially with U.S. federal government materials, this is not the end of the world. There are several techniques that you can use to find the missing resource."...

Alaskan Librarian, Nov. 19



[Another year of mildly attractive men](#)

Zack Frasier writes: "Our student group at the University of South Carolina, LISSA, has a fundraiser that happens around this time every year, [The Mildly Attractive Men of Library Science](#). It is a calendar that we make and sell annually to raise money for our student organization, and each year we do a variation on a theme. It features some of the most mildly attractive men in USC's School of Library and Information Science. All proceeds from sales directly support student involvement in and attendance at professional conferences."...

Hack Library School, Nov. 17



[Sexiest librarian alive](#)

Stephen Abram writes: "OK, I took some cold pills and I'm thinking strange. Has *American Libraries* or *Library Journal* ever considered a sexiest librarian alive issue? Too much fun LMAO. Some business tactics just might not translate but it could work for #partyhearty and #makeithappen at ALA Midwinter. Here is a start on an anthem..."
Stephen's Lighthouse, Nov. 17

[Go back to the Top](#)

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The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | November 30, 2011

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[Laurie D. Borman appointed AL editor and publisher](#)

Laurie D. Borman is the new editor and publisher of *American Libraries* publications, effective December 5. Borman has a journalism degree from Indiana University and more than 20 years of experience in magazine and digital publishing. Borman comes to *American Libraries* from Spertus Institute, where she was editor and writer for print and digital media and helped to promote its Asher Library. Her management experience also includes serving as editorial director at Rand McNally, where she was responsible for integrating print with website and other e-content, overseeing editorial strategy and developments, and initiating Rand McNally's social media program....

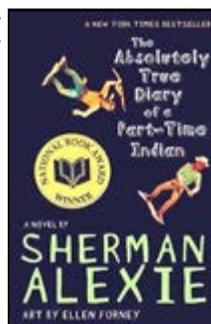
American Libraries news, Nov. 29



[Anti-Christian charges prompt review of Part-Time Indian](#)

The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian was yanked from the library shelves and required reading list of the Dade County (Ga.) High School because of complaints from parents about what they deemed as vulgar, racist, and anti-Christian content. Students had been required to read Sherman Alexie's young adult novel about a teen growing up on an Indian reservation, but the numerous complaints prompted Superintendent Shawn Tobin to remove the book until it could be reviewed....

AL: Censorship Watch, Nov. 29

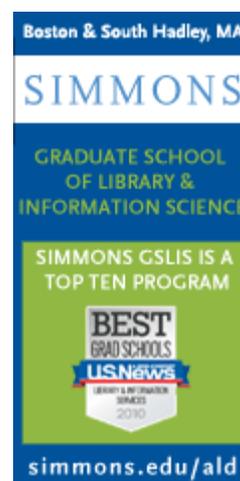


[Hold Still pulled after "big misunderstanding"](#)

The Blue Springs (Mo.) School District has removed Nina LaCour's young adult novel *Hold Still* from its library and classrooms in response to parental complaints about its language and sex scenes. Stephen and Christina Brown complained to the



[Early Bird registration](#)
 for the Midwinter Meeting
 closes December 2.



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 INFORMATION SCIENCE
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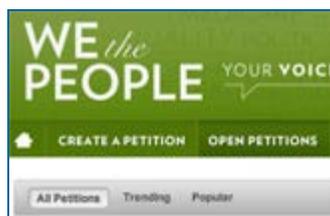
principal at the Blue Springs Freshman Center after their 14-year-old daughter read the book, which is about a young girl coping with the suicide of her best friend, as part of an extra-credit assignment in a freshman English class. Brown said the book is inappropriate for public school because it describes explicit sexual relationships....

AL: Censorship Watch, Nov. 30

[Sign here for school libraries](#)

Beverly Goldberg writes: "The URL had barely expired November 27 on California librarian Sean Shanahan's bold [online petition](#) demanding strong school libraries in every American school when another campaign got off the ground. Noblesville, Indiana, school librarian Carl Harvey is seeking advice from colleagues by encouraging them to [comment on his blog](#) on how best to craft the new petition."...

AL: Inside Scoop, Nov. 29; Library Ties, Nov. 28



ALA News

[Brad Meltzer named honorary chair of National Library Week](#)

Best-selling author, television host, and library advocate Brad Meltzer (right) has been named the 2012 honorary chair of National Library Week. As the author of nine books and the host of the History channel series *Decoded*, Meltzer credits libraries and librarians in this [video](#) (1:42) as the reason he became a writer. As honorary chair, Meltzer appears in print and digital PSAs promoting National Library Week, April 8–14, 2012. ALA also offers free customization of the [PSAs](#) for libraries. Other promotional materials include a sample op-ed, proclamation, press releases, and scripts for use in radio ads. [Products](#) from ALA Graphics that support National Library Week are also available....

Public Information Office, Nov. 29; YouTube, July 13



[Complete program for new ALA Masters Series at Midwinter](#)

The new ALA Masters Series offers insights into the hottest trends and issues as it showcases experts from across library specialties as they describe their latest in-house innovations in fast-paced 30-minute sessions. The [lineup](#) for the January meeting is now complete. The hourlong Special Masters session, "A Library Occupies Occupy Wall Street," is a Midwinter bonus. Attendees will learn firsthand from three of the People's



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Library builders, librarians Betsy Fagin, Mandy Henk, and Zachary Loeb, about their experiences creating the library and being part of the Occupy Wall Street movement....

Conference Services, Nov. 29

[National Gaming Day 2011 another success](#)

The surveys are in, and what comes through loud and clear is that National Gaming Day @ your library continues to strengthen communities and bring diverse groups of people together. More than 1,400 libraries registered to participate, and 27,767 gamers signed up for NGD activities. But the numbers aren't the real story. Once again, the true spirit of the day is what happens at each library, as the following anecdotes provided by librarians prove."...

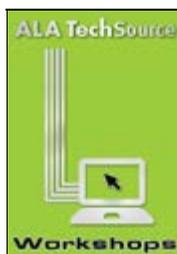
National Gaming Day @ your library, Nov. 29



[Build a user-friendly library site in 10 steps](#)

ALA TechSource will host a new 90-minute workshop, "[10 Steps to a User-Friendly Library Website.](#)" on January 25. A clean, well-designed website can mean the difference between an informed library user and a confused one. With a focus on the needs and wants of the library user, Amanda Etches-Johnson and Aaron Schmidt will help you develop the skills to make your library website easier to use and more interesting. [Registration](#) is available at the ALA Store....

ALA TechSource, Nov. 28



[Web analytics for librarians](#)

ALA TechSource is offering a new session of the popular workshop, "[Web Analytics for Librarians: Informing Decisions through Web User Data](#)" with Paul Signorelli and Sarah Houghton. This workshop will take place in two parts on January 12 and 26. You will learn how to use web analytics as tools for improving your library's information architecture, usability, marketing, and communication. [Registration](#) is available at the ALA Store....

ALA TechSource, Nov. 28

[Roberta Stevens reflects on a year as ALA President](#)

Roberta A. Stevens (right), outreach projects and partnerships officer at the Library of Congress and National Book Festival project manager, will discuss her experiences as 2010–2011 ALA President in a lecture at LC's Thomas Jefferson Building on December 6. Stevens will describe how she used the visibility of ALA's presidency to build support for libraries during a time of economic uncertainty and the reexamination of the value of



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public and private institutions....
Library of Congress, Nov. 8

[Emily Hamstra is RUSA's 2012 Emerging Leader](#)

Emily Hamstra (right), learning librarian at the University of Michigan's Shapiro Undergraduate Library, has been selected as RUSA's 2012 Emerging Leader. Hamstra received her MS in Information with a specialty in community informatics in 2009 from the University of Michigan. She is an active member of ALA, RUSA's Collection Development and Evaluation Section (CODES), and ACRL....
RUSA, Nov. 29



[Davis, Mosley named BCALA Emerging Leaders](#)

The Black Caucus of the American Library Association has selected Angiah Davis, reference librarian at the Robert W. Woodruff Library at the Atlanta University Center, and Derek Mosley, archivist and assistant director of the Ernest J. Gaines Center at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, for the 2012 ALA Emerging Leaders program. Davis received her MS in Library and Information Studies from Florida State University in 2008. Mosley graduated from the Simmons College Graduate School of Library and Information Science in 2011....
Office for Diversity, Nov. 29



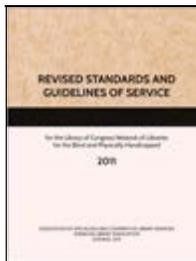
There's always a [free webinar](#) to attend at Booklist Online. Topics include collection development, reference, ebooks, and audiobooks. In December, watch out for Lerner Publishing Group's Spring Preview and "Hooked on Books: New Titles for the Newest Readers"—or watch previous webinars at your leisure. **NEW!** From **Booklist**.

[Proposal deadline extended for ALA Research Series](#)

The ALA Office for Research and Statistics has extended the book proposal deadline for the peer-reviewed *ALA Research Series*. The new deadline date is December 19. The series seeks research based on methods other than surveys (such as observational research, content analysis, grounded theory research, ethnographic technique, and historical research) as well as research that blends different methods. Proposal guidelines and a list of topics in which the review panel is interested are [available](#) online....
Office for Research and Statistics, Nov. 29

[Revised LC Network standards published](#)

The [Revised Standards and Guidelines of Service for the Library of Congress Network of Libraries for the Blind and Physically Handicapped](#) have been published by ASCLA. This 2011 version is the fourth iteration of ALA standards for libraries serving blind and physically handicapped individuals. They were developed by consumers, network librarians, and their administering agencies to provide a benchmark for service by which the libraries can judge their accomplishments....
ASCLA, Nov. 29



[What to do before and after retirement](#)

Retirement holds many questions for librarians, and it's never too soon (or too late) to start asking them. Published by ALA Editions, [Pre- and Post-Retirement Tips for Librarians](#) offers insight, inspiration, and tips for those already retired as well as those thinking about retiring. In this book, edited by Carol

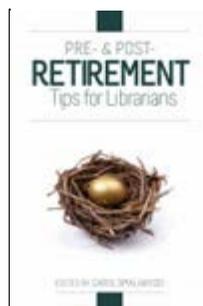
New this week in American Libraries



[E-Content](#)

Smallwood, a raft of veteran librarians, financial advisors, and other experts address retirement planning, early retirement, volunteering, and how to stay connected to the profession....

ALA Editions, Nov. 29



[Censorship Watch](#)

[Currents](#)

[Perpetual Beta](#)

[Inside Scoop](#)

[Ask the ALA Librarian](#)

[Solutions and Services](#)

[AL Focus](#)

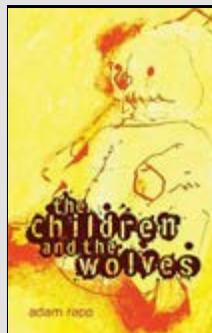
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[Featured review: Youth fiction](#)

Rapp, Adam. *The Children and the Wolves*. Feb. 2012. 160p. Candlewick (978-0-763-65337-8).

In the wake of such modern masterpieces as *33 Snowfish* (2003) and the Printz Honor-winning *Punkzilla* (2009), readers should know the kind of grueling, soulful, gut-punching work to expect from Rapp. Still, be warned: this is his most hellish—and hellishly readable—vision yet. Bounce, a rich 14-year-old genius (and one of the most frightening characters you'll find in YA lit), has two 13-year-old lowlife friends, Orange and Wiggins (her "two lost wildebeests"), in her thrall, thanks to her towering IQ, brash sex appeal, and endless supply of OxyContin....



[Taking Tea with Alexander McCall Smith](#)

Connie Fletcher writes: "It's been 170 years since a crowd of readers jostled one another on the pier of New York Harbor, reportedly calling out to a ship arriving from England, 'Is Little Nell dead?' Little Nell, the heroine of Dickens's *Old Curiosity Shoppe*, did die, as we all know, and by the end of the 19th century, so had the practice of publishing novels in serial installments, for the most part. As a result, a rare, immediate conduit between writer and reader elapsed with it. Until now. This year, two separate serial novels appeared in two separate newspapers in the UK. Both serializations are the work of Scottish literary powerhouse Alexander McCall Smith, former professor of medical law at the University of Edinburgh and author of the No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency series, the Sunday Philosophy Club series, the Portuguese Irregular Verbs series, and a number of standalone novels, short stories, and children's books."...



Great Libraries of the World



[Frederick the Great's Library](#)

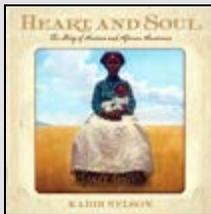
Schloss Sanssouci, Potsdam, Germany. The circular library room in Prussian King Frederick the Great's 1740s summer castle is accessible through a narrow passageway from his bedroom. The walls and alcoved bookcases are paneled with cedarwood and augmented with rich gold-colored ornamentation. Frederick's 2,100 books were removed for safety during World

[African-American history with "heart and soul"](#)

Cindy Dobrez writes: "I was skeptical that Kadir Nelson, talented as he is, could pull off a solid history of a country and a people within 100 pages, but I needn't have worried.

[Heart and Soul: The Story of America and](#)

[African Americans](#) (Harper/Balzer & Bray, 2011) is a masterpiece. Written as a piece of storytelling from an elder, Nelson includes major events and historical figures but weaves in viewpoints and history based on his own family. From slaves helping build the colonies in the mid-1500s to the election of the first African-American president, Nelson has a lot of material to cover."...



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

Dallas Update

[Saddle up for the Dallas Wine Trail](#)

There are four excellent wineries in the Dallas city limits (though not downtown). On January 21, they are jointly hosting a Dallas Wine Trail in which you (or more likely your spouse or partner) can taste their wines, try their food, and visit with the staff, owners, and winemakers. Tickets go on sale December 1. You will need to provide your own transportation. If you can't visit the wineries, at least look out for the local vintages at restaurants....

Dallas Wine Trail



[Dallas Farmer's Market](#)

If you're wondering where to have lunch one afternoon, head down to the farmer's market at 1010 S. Pearl Expressway that has served Dallas as a source of fresh produce for more than 100 years. Shed 2 of the market is designed as a foodie's delight, with vendors of specialty items, food-related products, and enticing eateries. You can get spices, gourmet cookies and pastries, fresh fudge, locally pastured meat and poultry, and cheeses. Restaurants here serve lunch Tuesday through Sunday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. It's a 20-minute walk from the convention center, or a short hop on the #35 bus....

Dallas Farmer's Market

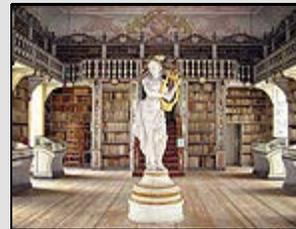


[It's called "airplane mode" for a reason](#)

Nick Bilton writes: "In my November 27 [column](#) I argued that the Federal Aviation Administration should reevaluate a rule requiring passengers to power down electronic devices before taking off and landing on airplanes. Specifically, I said that passengers should be permitted to use



War II and finally returned in 1992 after reunification.



[Freising Cathedral Library](#)

Freising, Germany. The cathedral's Baroque library hall became the first Catholic public library in Bavaria when it opened in the 1730s. A new building was created for the collection in 1974, but the original library, which contains a statue of Apollo from 1780, is still in use.

This 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 2013 by ALA Editions.



Career Leads

electronics if they were turned to airplane mode, and they should stop having phone conversations. The column seems to have touched a nerve with readers. Here I have responded to some reader questions and comments.”...

New York Times: Bits, Nov. 27–28

[How to weather an airport delay](#)

Josh Noel writes: “Though several hours on an unmoving airplane sounds as awful as any inconvenience in modern America, Mike Tomaro, a Milwaukee-based clinical psychologist who specializes in aviation-related anxiety, offers a reasonable counterpoint. Anyone who has flown between the United States and Europe has spent at least seven hours on a plane. Should any of us wind up in such a situation, he said, fool yourself. Here are some other tips for managing a long tarmac delay.” And if you are stuck at a gate in Chicago’s O’Hare Airport, you can now have food delivered to you at no extra charge with the [B4 You Board app](#) (above)....

Chicago Tribune, Nov. 15, 22



[How does the American Airlines bankruptcy affect you?](#)

Michelle Higgins writes: “American Airlines, which filed for bankruptcy November 29, is among the last of the major carriers to do so, raising predictable questions for customers about how the changes will affect them. Based on what can be gleaned from the bankruptcies of other airlines over the past few years, the general answer is that at least for the short term, the experience of flying with American will remain largely the same, though changes are likely down the road.”...

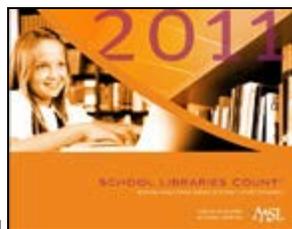
New York Times: In Transit, Nov. 29

Division News

[School librarians help provide needed digital citizenship skills](#)

According to supplemental questions asked as part of the 2011 [School Libraries Count!](#) national longitudinal survey of school library programs conducted by AASL, an overwhelming majority of schools across America are including digital citizenship—appropriate and responsible technology use—as part of their curriculum. Survey findings ([PDF file](#)) also indicate the school librarian serves as one of the primary educators when it comes to digital citizenship....

AASL, Nov. 29



[Students and families have increased access to school library resources](#)

Technology acquisitions in school libraries across the nation appear to be leveling, while remote access to school library databases is rapidly increasing. Data was collected as part of AASL’s national longitudinal survey, [School Libraries Count!](#), conducted yearly since 2007. A steady increase in remote access was noted each year since 2007, with the 2011 results reporting that 82% of libraries participating in the survey now make databases available to students outside of school confines....

AASL, Nov. 29

from
ALA JobLIST

[Library Director.](#)

Lawrence (Kans.) Public Library. We are looking for a customer-focused community leader with a clear vision for the future of public library services in Lawrence. The next director of Lawrence Public Library must be able to engage our customers, empower library staff, implement emerging technologies, work with local government leaders, and build strategic partnerships within the community. Candidates must have considerable experience with budgeting, personnel management, customer service, strategic planning, public relations, and advocacy. Deadline to apply is December 31....



@ [More jobs...](#)

**Digital Library
of the Week**

[Young adult author Ally Carter added to PLA 2012](#)

PLA announced the addition of the Young Adult [Author Lunch](#) with Ally Carter to the PLA 2012 Conference March 15. Carter (right) is the *New York Times* best-selling author of the four books in the Gallagher Girls spy school series, including *I'd Tell You I Love You, But Then I'd Have to Kill You* and *Only the Good Spy Young*. Carter joins a remarkable collection of authors and illustrators scheduled to join PLA 2012, including: David Baldacci, Carl Hiaasen, Oscar Hijuelos, Joyce Carol Oates, Jerry Pinkney, Lisa Scottoline, and Karin Slaughter. A separate [registration](#) is required for special author events....

PLA, Nov. 29



[UIUC library to digitize C&RL archive](#)

The University Library at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign has launched a project to digitize the complete back run of ACRL's scholarly research journal *College & Research Libraries*. The volunteer initiative will scan the full contents of *C&RL* from 1939 to 1996 and make them freely available to the public in the University of Illinois's IDEALS institutional repository. *C&RL* contents from 1997 to the present are freely [available](#) through the publication's online presence at HighWire Press....

ACRL, Nov. 29



[AASL joins alliance to support literacy education](#)



AASL joins 20 other stakeholder groups representing educational and school and community leaders in support of the new [National Center for Literacy Education](#). NCLE, a project of the National Council of Teachers of English and the Ball Foundation, provides a clearinghouse for educator teams and schools engaged in innovative literacy education practices to share and learn from one another....

AASL, Nov. 29

[AASL partners in celebrating inaugural Digital Learning Day](#)



AASL, working together with the Alliance for Excellent Education and other national educational organizations, is calling on school librarians to participate in the inaugural national Digital Learning Day on February 1. [Digital Learning Day](#) will celebrate innovative teaching practices that make learning more personalized and engaging and encourage exploration of how digital learning can provide more students with more opportunities to get the skills they need to succeed in college, career, and life....



The [Media History Digital Library](#) is a nonprofit initiative dedicated to digitizing collections of classic media periodicals that belong in the public domain for full public access. The project is supported by owners of materials who loan them for scanning and donors who contribute funds to cover the cost of scanning. It has scanned more than 200,000 pages. The collection features extensive runs of several trade publications, among them *The Film Daily* (1918–1936), *International Photographer* (1929–1941), *Moving Picture World* (1912-1918), and *Photoplay* (1917–1940).

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

AASL, Nov. 29

[Four ALSC online courses start January 16](#)

ALSC announced the release of its Winter 2012 Online Education [schedule](#). The division will offer four courses, each of which begins January 16.

"[Connecting with Tween Readers](#)" examines the developmental needs for this age group; "[Out of This World Youth Programming](#)" provides innovative ideas and tips on how to plan, promote, execute, and evaluate programs; "[Children with Disabilities in the Library](#)" explores ways the library might be able to assist students with disabilities; "[Information Literacy—From Preschool to High School](#)" discusses the creation, marketing, and presentation of successful information literacy programs, and other ideas....

ALSC, Nov. 29



[LITA offers two full-day workshops at Midwinter](#)

LITA will offer two full-day [workshops](#) at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Dallas on January 20. Mark Phillips will present "Digital Curation at the Command Line," which provides a hands-on review of basic tools for bit-level preservation. Nina McHale and Rachel Vacek will present "Getting Started with Drupal," which provides an introduction to the Drupal content management system. Participants should plan to bring a laptop for both workshops....

LITA, Nov. 29

[ALTAFF to host Nuts & Bolts program at Midwinter](#)

ALTAFF will host "Nuts & Bolts for Trustees, Friends, and Foundations" on January 20 at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Dallas. The program will feature speakers who will address topics of interest to trustees, friends, foundations, and citizen advocates, followed by round table discussions geared toward each group. Keynote speaker Ron Heezen, executive director of the Shreve Memorial Library in Shreveport, Louisiana, will examine why libraries are critical. Advance [registration](#) is \$50....

ALTAFF, Nov. 29

[YALSA's new webinar-on-demand](#)

Looking for guidance with the latest topics in teen services? Look no further than YALSA's webinars-on-demand. Previously recorded [webinars](#), led by content experts selected by YALSA, are complimentary for YALSA members and available for purchase for nonmembers. YALSA has posted a new webinar-on-demand, "From 140 Characters to 10 Pages," hosted by Laura Pearle (free to YALSA members/\$19 for all others)....

YALSA, Nov. 29

[Call for online learning proposals](#)

RUSA is seeking proposals for webinar presentations for its 2012 series of professional development webinars that will be held from January 2012 through August 2012. RUSA webinars are an opportunity for librarians to infuse their year with professional development they can conveniently—and affordably—pursue from the comfort of their home or office. Webinars will cover topics relevant to a broad range of librarians, library staff, and library supporters. The deadline for [proposals](#) is December 31....

RUSA, Nov. 29

[ALTAFF offers members 40% discount on Patron](#)

Perception

How the World Sees Us

"Libraries are where we learn about things that are new to us. Their books broaden our perspectives, change the way we see the world and, at the most basic level, provide us with free and open access to knowledge and information. Over the two months that the People's Library has been in operation at Zuccotti Park, we librarians have come to see how vital this mission is to the enrichment of our broader society."

—University of Pittsburgh Associate Professor of English William Scott, who volunteered for six weeks as a librarian for the Occupy Wall Street Library, "[The People's Library of Occupy Wall Street Lives On.](#)" *The Nation*, Dec. 12.

@ [More quotes...](#)

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[How to Get a Great Job: Resume-Writing 101](#)



[Donna Seaman Interviews Elizabeth Berg](#)

[Libraries Offer Financial Education](#)

Profiles

ALTAFF is offering division members a special deal on Patron Profiles, a digital online quarterly resource from *Library Journal* and Bowker Pubtrack Consumer that delivers intelligence and advice based on extensive surveys of library patrons. Each issue provides in-depth results and analysis on one crucial topic facing library leaders today. For the first year, the four topics will be ebooks, the mobile library, websites and virtual services, and patron media consumption....

ALTAFF, Nov. 29

[Go back to the Top](#)

Awards & Grants

[2011 I Love My Librarian Award](#)

The 2011 Carnegie Corporation of New York/*New York Times* I Love My Librarian winners will be announced next week. The 10 winners will be honored at a December 8 award ceremony at the Times Center in New York City, with a special appearance by author and attorney Caroline Kennedy. The event will also commemorate the centennial of the Carnegie Corporation of New York. All librarians and library advocates in the New York area are welcome to attend....

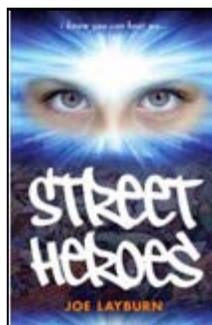
@ your library



[Tower Hamlets Book Award](#)

Joe Layburn's *Street Heroes* (Frances Lincoln) won this year's Tower Hamlets Book Award. The award—for books written primarily for ages 10 to 12—was announced November 25 at a ceremony at the Idea Store Whitechapel. *Street Heroes* is set in London's East End and is about a boy named Georgie, whose father is a highly controversial politician whose message is to get rid of nonwhite people. Everyone assumes Georgie shares his father's views, but while he loves his dad, he's really not sure what he thinks. Then Georgie begins to hear a voice in his head, the voice of a Muslim girl named Fatima....

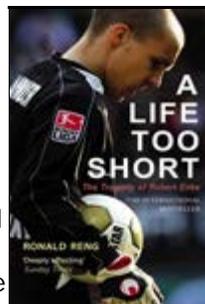
Tower Hamlets Schools Library Service (London), Nov.



[2011 Sports Book of the Year](#)

Ronald Reng has won the William Hill Sports Book of the Year Award 2011 for *A Life Too Short: The Tragedy of Robert Enke* (Yellow Jersey Press). Reng's biography of the German national soccer goalkeeper who suffered from depression and took his own life in 2009 was praised by the judging panel for its powerful and insightful nature as well as its sensitivity and sincerity. First published in Germany, the book became an international bestseller....

The Guardian (U.K.), Nov. 28



Seen Online

[Facebook settles FTC privacy charges](#)

The social networking service Facebook has agreed to settle Federal Trade Commission charges that it deceived consumers by telling them

[Scott Turow: 'Libraries need our support. Get involved.'](#)

['Nobody's Perfect': Billy Wilder's Some Like It Hot](#)

[ACC Basketball Is Still the Best](#)

[Resources for Caregivers: 'Who has time to read when you're going through all that stuff?'](#)



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Calendar

Dec. 8–9: [Center for Public Scholarship](#). Social Research Conference, John Tishman Auditorium, 66 West 12th Street, New York City. "The Future of Higher Education."

2012 Library Promotions

Feb. 1: [Digital Learning Day](#). Sponsored by the Young Adult Library Services Association.

Mar. 4–10: [Teen Tech Week](#). Sponsored by YALSA. "Geek Out @ your library."

Apr. 1–30: [School Library Month](#). Sponsored by the American Association of School Librarians.

they could keep their information on Facebook private, and then repeatedly allowing it to be shared and made public. The proposed settlement ([PDF file](#)) requires Facebook to take several steps (including privacy audits for the next 20 years) to make sure it gives consumers clear and prominent notice and obtains their express consent before information is shared beyond the settings they have established. But Lance Ulanoff [asks the question](#): Did the FTC just ruin Facebook?...

Federal Trade Commission, Nov. 29; Mashable, Nov. 30

[EU set to slap Facebook with privacy sanctions](#)

The European Commission is preparing a directive to prevent Facebook from sharing users' information—such as their political opinions, sexuality, religious beliefs, and location—with advertisers unless users specifically allow it. Following concerns over the privacy implications of the practice, a new EC Directive, to be introduced in early January, will be part of an update to [current data protection laws](#). Should Facebook fail to adjust its privacy settings in compliance with the new legislation, the social network could face [prosecution](#) and/or a heavy fine....

Mashable, Nov. 28; *The Telegraph* (U.K.), Nov. 26



[How Facebook is ruining sharing](#)

Molly Wood writes: "I'm afraid to click any links on Facebook these days. No, it's got nothing to do with the spam attack and the flood of nasty images making their way into news feeds all last week. Instead, it's because the slow spread of Facebook's Open Graph scheme is totally ruining sharing. I know you've seen this at the top of your news feed: a list of stories your friends have been reading. Or, simply, a single post with a great headline leading to a story that you'd really like to read. So you click it, because your friend shared it, and you really want to read it. Instead of the story, you get this (above)."...

CNET News, Nov. 18



[Some school librarians welcome the noise](#)

Buffy Hamilton (right), who calls herself "The Unquiet Librarian," holds the phone receiver away from her ear at the Creekview High School library in Canton, Georgia, revealing a cacophony of noise in the background. Hamilton welcomes what she calls the "hum of learning"—students talking about projects, watching videos, and even singing "Happy Birthday." In her new library role, Hamilton focuses on enhancing lessons and class projects with tools of the digital world to access, organize, and evaluate information....

Boston Herald, Nov. 25



[Toronto library closures planned, union warns](#)

The Toronto library union says city hall is moving ahead with a series of library closures and service reductions despite a promise to maintain the status quo. According to the Toronto Public Library Workers Union, City Manager Joe Pennachetti has endorsed a new consulting report calling for the closure of 15 library branches and massive cuts to service hours across the city. The union says the

Apr. 8–14: [National Library Week.](#)

"You Belong @ your library."

Apr. 10: [National Library Workers Day.](#)

Sponsored by ALA-APA.

Apr. 11: [National Bookmobile Day.](#)

Sponsored by the ALA Office for Literacy and Outreach Services, the Association of bookmobile and Outreach Services, and the Association for Rural and Small Libraries.

Apr. 12: [Support Teen Literature Day.](#)

Sponsored by YALSA.

Apr. 21–28: [Money Smart Week @ your library.](#)

Sponsored by ALA and the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago.

Apr. 22–28: [Preservation Week.](#)

Sponsored by the Association for Library Collections and Technical Services.

Apr. 23–24: [National Library Legislative Day.](#)

Liaison Hotel, Washington, D.C.

Apr. 30: [El día de los niños/El día de los libros \(Children's Day/Book Day\).](#)

Sponsored by the Association for Library Service to Children.

May 1–7:

move flies in the face of the "clear will of City Council and the Toronto Public Library Board," which have already rejected these options....

CTV Toronto, Nov. 25

[UK Parliament to investigate library closures](#)

As advocates throughout the United Kingdom fight to keep their local libraries open, the Culture, Media, and Sport select committee has launched an inquiry into library closures. The library inquiry will investigate whether planned library closures across the UK are compatible with the 1964 Libraries and Museums Act. The committee is asking for submissions by January 12 on what constitutes "a comprehensive and efficient library service" in the 21st century and what effect library closures have on local communities....

The Guardian (U.K.), Nov. 24

[No free speech at Mr. Jefferson's library](#)

Peter Van Buren writes: "Morris Davis (right) was [fired](#) from his job at the Congressional Research Service for writing the article '[Justice and Guantanamo Bay](#)' in the November 10, 2009, *Wall Street Journal*. (The irony of being fired for exercising free speech while employed at Thomas Jefferson's library evidently escaped his bosses.) With the help of the ACLU, Davis demanded his job back. The case was [heard](#) November 10.



Someday, it will likely define the free-speech rights of federal employees and so determine the quality of people who will make up our government."...

Huffington Post, Dec. 4, 2009, Nov. 28; *Wall Street Journal*, Nov. 10, 2009; *ABA Journal*, Nov. 11

[FTC extends deadline for COPPA comments](#)

The Federal Trade Commission has extended until December 23 the deadline for the public to submit comments on proposed amendments ([PDF file](#)) to the [Children's Online Privacy Protection Rule](#), which gives parents control over what personal information websites and online services may collect from children under 13. To file a comment online, write "COPPA Rule Review, 16 CFR Part 312, Project No. P-104503" on the comment, and follow the instructions on the [web-based form](#)....

Federal Trade Commission, Nov. 18

[Libraries borrow marketing ideas from bookstores](#)

Throughout the downtown branch of Columbus (Ohio) Metropolitan Library, books are displayed with the covers facing out. "Staff picks" are lined up on a table; another holds books billed "As heard on NPR." Pat Losinski, director of the library system, said, "We know that, as bookstore experts have known for years, the face-out displays matter. It casts at least a preliminary vision in the reader's mind" of what the book is about and why it's important....



Columbus (Ohio) Dispatch, Nov. 28

[Retired librarian keeps small town organized](#)

During her decades married to a globe-trotting government official and her time working in the collections of the Smithsonian Institution, Sharon Howe Sweeting sampled a wide variety of international cultures. Since moving back to her birthplace, Cherry Creek, New

[Choose Privacy Week.](#)

Sponsored by the Office for Intellectual Freedom.

[Sep. 1–30: Library Card Sign-Up Month.](#)

[Sep. 30–Oct. 6: Banned Books Week.](#)

Sponsored by the Office for Intellectual Freedom.

[Oct. 14–20: Teen Read Week.](#)

Sponsored by YALSA.

[Oct. 21–27: National Friends of Libraries Week.](#)

Sponsored by the Association of Library Trustees, Advocates, Friends, and Foundations.

@ [More...](#)

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



Beverly Goldberg,
Senior Editor:
bgoldberg@ala.org

York, after a far-flung career, she has worked hard to preserve its history. Among her efforts was modernizing and organizing the Cherry Creek Town Museum, using the skills she gained as a librarian and archivist, after taking over as town historian in 2009....

Buffalo (N.Y.) News, Nov. 25

[Washington digital project helps libraries preserve history](#)

Since 2006, the Washington State Library's [Washington Rural Heritage](#) project has been helping the state's smallest libraries not only preserve community history but digitize it and make it part of a website accessible to all. With the help of an Institute of Museum and Library Service grant, libraries in communities with a population of 25,000 or less have applied to Rural Heritage for funds up to \$10,000. Twenty-five libraries across the state now have historic documents online and seven more are working on their collections....

Seattle Times, Nov. 27



[\\$10,000 raised for Flint Public Library](#)

When author and filmmaker Michael Moore spoke at Whiting Auditorium in Flint, Michigan, November 22, he brought with him more than just stories to share from his new memoir *Here Comes Trouble*. He brought 2,000 copies of his book he had purchased from his publisher, ready to sell them at the free public event, giving 100% of the proceeds to the Flint Public Library. Library Director Kay Schwartz said the event raised about \$10,000....

Flint (Mich.) Journal, Nov. 23

[Still images promoting moving pictures](#)

"Most of what makes people want to go to the movies now was developed and used at the beginning of the development of film," said Barbara Cohen-Stratyner, a curator at the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts and the organizer of "[The Birth of Promotion: Inventing Film Publicity in the Silent-Film Era](#)," an exhibition that runs through February 25 in the library's Lincoln Center gallery. The exhibition covers the early period in the form of the newsletters—the *Edison Kinetogram*, the *Kalem Kalendar*, the *Lubin Bulletin*—sent to theater owners and operators of film exchanges. Watch the [promotional video](#) (0:59)....

New York Times, Nov. 23; YouTube, Nov. 2



[British Library puts 19th-century newspapers online](#)

Four million pages of newspapers from the 18th and 19th centuries are now available online through the British Library, in what head of newspapers Ed King calls "a digital Aladdin's Cave" for researchers. The [British Newspaper Archive](#) is a partnership between the library and digital publishing firm Brightsolid, which has been scanning 8,000 pages a day from the library's vast archive for the past year and plans to digitize 40 million pages over the next decade. Access to the archive onsite is free; offsite access can be purchased for 2 days, 30 days, or 12 months....

Associated Press, Nov. 29; British Newspaper Archive



Greg Landgraf,
Associate Editor:
glandgraf@ala.org



Sanhita SinhaRoy,
Associate Editor:
ssinharoy@ala.org

Jennifer Henderson,
Contributing Researcher

To advertise in American Libraries Direct, contact:



Doug Lewis:
dglewis@mindspring.com



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[Rape victim sues library architect, contractor](#)

The family of the East Bay High School student who was brutally beaten and raped outside the Bloomingdale Regional branch of the Tampa–Hillsborough County (Fla.) Public Library System in April 2008, is suing the companies that designed and built the facility where the attack occurred. In the suit filed November 14, the family said the design and construction of the library, built in 2005, contributed to the attack. At issue is the design of the after-hours book drop, which requires patrons to exit their vehicles and walk to the after-hours container, where the rapist first approached the victim....

Tampa (Fla.) Tribune, Nov. 23

[Statue stolen from Albuquerque branch](#)

An outdoor sculpture beloved by library patrons and with deep personal meaning for its creator has vanished from the prominent location it occupied for years at the Juan Tabo branch of the Albuquerque (N.Mex.) Public Library. Whether the thief or thieves mistakenly thought the statue of a boy reading a book was made of valuable bronze or stole it for some other reason remains a mystery. Library staff said they saw the statue of the little boy named Shaun when they came into work November 23, but it was gone by noon. Watch the [newscast](#) (2:24)....

KROE-TV, Albuquerque, Nov. 24



[Flagler County library gazebo vandalized](#)

A gazebo dedicated to the “founding mother” of the Flagler County (Fla.) Public Library will be replaced with a sturdier pavilion-style structure better able to sustain the assault of vandals. What remained of the gazebo dedicated on September 22, 2001, to the late Sandra Rose Friedman was removed in early November, said library director Holly Albanese. The gazebo had been under a steady attack for years by vandals who damaged its screens, benches, and intricate wood pieces....

Daytona Beach (Fla.) News-Journal, Nov. 24



[Go back to the Top](#)

Tech Talk

[Secret software on mobile phones logs everything you do](#)

David Kravets writes: “The Android developer who raised the ire of a mobile-phone monitoring company in mid-November is on the attack again, producing a [video](#) (17:10) of how the Carrier IQ software secretly installed on millions of mobile phones reports most everything a user does on a phone. Trevor Eckhart’s video actually shows the logging of text messages, encrypted web searches, and you name it. Carrier IQ denied that its software logs keystrokes, but the video clearly undercuts that claim.”...

Wired: Threat Level, Nov. 29; YouTube, Nov. 28



[How to buy a game console](#)

Will Greenwald writes: "Another year has passed and Microsoft, Nintendo, and Sony all continue their slow, steady battles for gaming and entertainment domination. Sony is reportedly working on new console hardware, and Nintendo has actually unveiled its next-gen system, the Wii U (right). In the handheld gaming world, the Nintendo DS has been replaced by the 3DS, and Sony's PlayStation Vita will unseat the well-worn PlayStation Portable early in 2012. Here we take a look at the big three consoles, along with Microsoft's Kinect and Sony's PlayStation Move add-ons, to help you decide which are the best to buy now."...



PC Magazine, Nov. 22

[Gaming headsets for online play](#)

Will Greenwald writes: "A gaming headset is a must-have accessory for the serious gamer. The good news is that you can get a headset for as little as \$50. Inexpensive headsets can be very simple stereo headphones with an additional microphone and connector. More expensive pairs can add features like built-in USB audio so you only need to use one cable, and multiple connection options so you can use it with both PCs and game consoles."...



PC Magazine, Nov. 4

[Microsoft Office in development for the Apple iPad](#)

Microsoft is currently developing its entire suite of Office productivity applications for the Apple iPad. This is the company's first attempt to reaching out to the emerging tablet segment with its business software. Industry insiders claim Microsoft is working on standalone versions of such Office programs as Word, Excel, and PowerPoint to sell for \$10 each in the app market. The move will directly challenge Apple's own suite of applications that are customized for the iPad, such as Pages, Keynote, and Numbers....



Good E-Reader Blog, Nov. 29

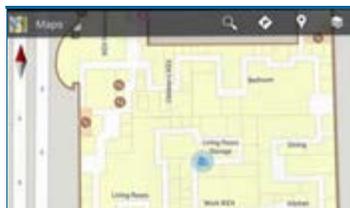
[How to skip software updates](#)

J. D. Biersdorfer writes: "If you are completely sure you do not need a particular update from Microsoft, you can hide it so it goes away. To do that, go to the Start menu to All Programs and open Windows Update. In the Windows Update box, you should see a list of updates suggested for your computer, organized by how important Microsoft has deemed them."...

New York Times: Gadgetwise, Nov. 22

[Google Maps goes indoors](#)

Brian McClendon writes: "When you're inside an airport, shopping mall, or retail store, a common way to figure out where you are is to look for a freestanding map directory or ask an employee for help.



Starting November 28, with the release of Google Maps 6.0 for Android, that directory is brought to the palm of your hands, helping you determine where you are, what floor you're on, and where to go indoors." Watch the [video](#) (1:01)....

Google Lat Long Blog, Nov. 28; YouTube, Nov. 28

[Smartphone apps send holiday greetings](#)

Claire Cain Miller writes: "More people are skipping paper holiday cards—or at least the part where you mail them yourself—in favor of cellphone apps that create cards and send them by text message, email, or snail mail. Though websites like Shutterfly and Paperless Post have already simplified the process by letting people upload photos and order or send cards online, the new apps make it even faster by doing away with the need to transfer a photo from your phone to the computer and write notes and addresses by hand."...

New York Times: Personal Tech, Nov. 23



[Turning library books into touchpads](#)

Sures Kumar writes: "One of the places where the tension between searching and browsing is readily apparent is at the library. We often find ourselves getting lost among the shelves, browsing and hoping for a serendipitous discovery or two. Rather than trying to find a book using the Dewey Decimal System, you can navigate spatially and orient yourself in the direction of your search using a digital search compass in my 'Nimble' prototype. People still like the tactile feel of books and other printed media, and they also like to browse. Nimble allows you to collect and sort notes and highlight text from books you are reading." Watch the [video](#) (4:11)....

Sures Kumar's Blog; YouTube, Nov. 8



E-Content

[Obama wants better digital archive of federal records](#)

The process of archiving government data, decisions, and deliberations is set for a major overhaul. President Obama on November 28 [ordered agencies](#) to make wider use of digital-based record-keeping systems in what aides promise will be the most significant change to government archiving since Harry S. Truman's presidency. White House aides said Obama will give agency chiefs four months to draft plans to improve records-management programs, to be followed by specific government-wide instructions on how to make record keeping more cost-effective and accessible....

Washington Post: Federal Eye, Nov. 28; White House, Nov. 28

[Sticking a toe in the ebook tsunami](#)

Marijke Visser writes: "There is a tendency among many ebook stakeholders to want to stay with what we know, how things have always gone, and a desire to shape the digital content realm in the shadow of the print world. Unfortunately, this is in direct opposition to the demands of the rapidly shifting reading ecosystem. Brian O'Leary (right) of Magellan Media [challenged](#) stakeholders (27:26) to take advantage of the '[Opportunity in Abundance](#)' and act together to affect the critical change needed for the reading ecosystem to succeed against the disruptions in force."...

District Dispatch, Nov. 28; YouTube, Oct. 31



[It's not about libraries, it's about Amazon](#)

Eric Hellman writes: "When Douglas County (Colo.) Libraries decided to put 'Buy this book' buttons on its online catalog pages, the response was strong.

In just 11 days, the buy buttons had garnered almost 700 clickthroughs. According to Library Director Jamie LaRue, the library is putting buy links direct to publisher-supplied URLs when they are provided. In isolation, this data seems to be strong support for the notion that a digital presence in libraries can support sales of books. The recent [withdrawal](#) by Penguin from library ebook lending platforms (such as OverDrive) seems to be a profoundly shortsighted move."...

Go to Hellman, Nov. 25



[Cambridge would like you to rent an article](#)

Jennifer Howard writes: "Will researchers pay for short-term access to journal articles? Cambridge University Press is about to find out. The publisher has just announced a rental program ([PDF file](#)) for articles from the more than 280 peer-reviewed journals it publishes. After registration and payment, the reader is emailed a link, through which they can access and read the article in PDF format as often as they wish during the subsequent 24 hours."...

Chronicle of Higher Education: Wired Campus, Nov. 30

[When ebooks attack, paperbacks die](#)

Frank Catalano writes: "The mass market paperback is dead. It just doesn't know it yet. Ailing for months, its demise is now all but assured by Amazon's recent announcement that the least expensive, wonderfully readable, and portable Kindle is now \$79, a price point matched over the Black Friday holiday by Barnes & Noble for its Nook Simple Touch Limited Edition (right). For the price of 10 paperback books, an avid reader can get a device that not only provides fiction at a lower per-book price than paper, but also permits an entire library of current reading to be carried anywhere."...

Geek Wire, Nov. 27



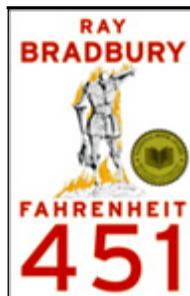
[Broward County makes ebooks available at airport](#)

Over the summer, Broward County (Fla.) Library in Fort Lauderdale had the idea to make more than 34,000 public-domain titles on its "virtual branch" website directly available and visible in one of the community's busiest centers—the Fort Lauderdale–Hollywood International Airport. Broward County Library's [partnership](#) with the airport has resulted in positive feedback from users of the service and the media. Travelers use QR codes displayed on LCD screens in the airport's baggage claim area to download free books from the county's libraries....

Digital Library Blog, Nov. 28

[Fahrenheit 451: The ebook](#)

At age 91, Ray Bradbury is making peace with the future he helped predict. The science fiction/fantasy author and longtime enemy of the ebook has finally allowed his dystopian classic *Fahrenheit 451* to be published in digital format. Simon & Schuster released the electronic edition November 29. First published in paperback in 1953, *Fahrenheit 451* imagines a world in which the appetite for new and faster media leads to a



decline in reading, and books are banned and burned. Bradbury himself has been an emphatic defender of traditional paper texts, saying that ebooks "smell like burned fuel" and calling the internet nothing but "a big distraction."...

Associated Press, Nov. 29

[Ebook piracy whodunit](#)

Matthew Flamm writes: "Jason, a 29-year-old Manhattan publicity executive, bought an iPad2 in August and began downloading ebooks. He now has some 50 titles, including *Water for Elephants*, the Twilight series, all of Harry Potter, *The Help*, and the Game of Thrones series. He hasn't paid for any of them, but he doesn't feel guilty. Book publishers know of many Jasons, and—like music label executives before them—say that convincing these consumers that they are indeed stealing is crucial to the industry's antipiracy battle."...

Crain's New York Business, Nov. 27

[Japan cool to ebooks](#)

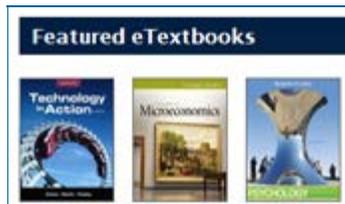
A new report shows Japan to be wary of ebooks, despite the country's reputation for technological expertise. More than 1,000 Japanese and Chinese men and women were polled on their attitudes toward ebooks in a survey that reveals stark contrasts between the two countries. Of the 600 Japanese respondents asked "Do you use or do you want to use ebooks?" 57.7% responded they would "never read an ebook." Of the 450 Chinese respondents, only 4.5% answered the same. While 70% of Chinese respondents said they had already downloaded and read an electronic book at least once, only 10% of Japanese participants in the survey said they had done so....

TheBookseller.com, Nov. 29

[Textbooks take a big leap to digital](#)

The potential for digital growth is leading publishers to experiment with products that stretch the boundaries of traditional textbooks, slowly turning away from static text and images toward a multimedia, intuitive approach, publishers say. According to the Student Monitor, a private student market research company based in New Jersey, about 5% of all textbooks acquired in the autumn in the United States were digital textbooks. That is more than double the 2.1% of the spring semester....

New York Times, Nov. 23



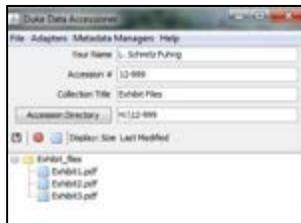
[Michigan moves towards e-textbooks](#)

The University of Michigan is in the early stages of an initiative that could save students money by moving to electronic textbooks, particularly in large, introductory-level classes where textbook costs can be high. University Librarian Paul Courant told the Senate Advisory Committee on University Affairs November 28 that a collaborative group is pursuing a timetable that is expected to pilot in 2012....

University of Michigan, Nov. 29

[A peek into an electronic records archivist's toolkit](#)

Lynda Schmitz Fuhrig writes: "When it comes to electronic records there is no magic button that makes them readable or usable on a computer. Electronic records archivists rely on all types of hardware, software, and operating



systems. Many pieces of software, which function as an archivist's toolbox, can help files remain available or become usable again. Here is a small list of some open-source and/or freely available software we use at the Smithsonian Institution Archives."...

The Bigger Picture, Nov. 29

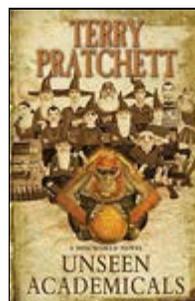
[Go back to the Top](#)

Books & Reading

[10 of the most memorable literary libraries](#)

John Mullan writes: "From the British Museum reading room to Gormenghast, here are 10 of the most memorable libraries in literature." Number 7 is *Unseen Academicals* by Terry Pratchett: "Influenced by Borges, the library of Pratchett's school of wizardry is a baffling space containing at least every book ever written. You can enter the library from one place and exit at another. Books are chained in order to prevent them harming their users. The librarian is an orangutan, adept at reaching the top shelves and stern in his imposition of the library's rules."...

The Guardian (U.K.), Nov. 25



[The mind's ear](#)

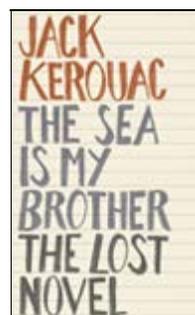
James Parker writes: "Audiobooks are on the rise. Purchasable, downloadable, borrowable from the library, they are making ever deeper inroads into what publishers persist in calling (with touching optimism) 'the book market.' A recent article by Peter Osnos on *The Atlantic* website parsed the sales data in anticipation of a 'coming audiobooks boom.' At the very moment the poor old book-object dissolves before our eyes, we are renewing our primary contract with the author by offering him our ears."...

New York Times: Sunday Book Review, Nov. 25

[10 lost novels the world found again](#)

Emily Temple writes: "In mid-November, Jack Kerouac's first-ever novel, *The Sea Is My Brother*, was finally [published](#) 40 years after his death. The novel, long thought to be lost by experts, was unearthed in Kerouac's personal archive by his brother-in-law. To celebrate this newest development in the literary canon, we decided to take a look at Kerouac's newest/oldest book and other lost novels that were eventually found again."...

Flavorwire, Nov. 26; BBC News, Nov. 24



[Amazing Stories magazine](#)

Elizabeth C. writes: "Beginning in April 1926, [Amazing Stories](#) ran for almost 80 years. The first magazine dedicated purely to science fiction, it was much beloved, despite an occasionally spotty publication schedule. Some issues are particularly noteworthy, like volume 3, issue no. 5, from 1928 (right), which features the first print appearance of Buck Rogers. But from rocketships and robots to telepathy and time travel, *Amazing Stories* provided entertainment, adventure, and intrigue in every issue, and many are very collectible today."...

Reading Copy Book Blog, Nov. 22



Actions & Answers

[Europe gives the U.S. a lesson in internet due process](#)

Derrick Harris writes: "On November 24, a European court [struck down](#) a rule imposing network-monitoring responsibility on an ISP with regard to copyright infringement, and experts believe the decision could help rein in the spread of SOPA-like laws throughout Europe. Meanwhile, the highly controversial Stop Online Piracy Act (SOPA), which imposes heavy burdens on service providers to sniff out and stop infringing activity, looks likely to pass once U.S. lawmakers actually get around to voting on it."...

GigaOM, Nov. 29; CIO, Nov. 24

[Decline in consumers seeking health information](#)

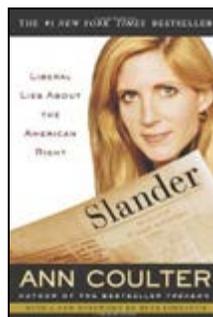
In 2010, 50% of American adults sought information about a personal health concern, down from 56% in 2007, according to a new national study from the Center for Studying Health System Change. The likelihood of people seeking information from the internet and from friends and relatives changed little between 2007 and 2010, but their use of hardcopy books, magazines, and newspapers dropped by nearly half to 18%. This was most pronounced among older Americans, people with chronic conditions, and people with less education—some of the more vulnerable subgroups....

Center for Studying Health System Change, Nov.

[Rethinking "quality" in the research library](#)

Rick Anderson writes: "I'm going to suggest something that may seem crazy on its face. Research libraries need to worry less about the objective quality of the books they acquire, and instead focus on another property, at once more concrete and more elusive—utility. The obvious and reasonable retort to such a suggestion would be 'How useful can a low-quality book be?' Let's start by considering two books, both of which, one could reasonably argue, are objectively bad, though each in a different way."...

The Scholarly Kitchen, Nov. 28



[Dealing with politicized reference questions](#)

Amanda Maddock writes: "I've often found myself faced with reference interactions where a patron is looking for sources in favor of a position for which there is a lack of academic support. Some of these issues have been barred as research topics by professors who feel that abortion, gun rights, and gay rights often produce limited and repetitive arguments in student papers. As a librarian, however, I do not have the luxury of telling patrons that their topics won't work. I'm there to provide objective information access, even if the topic in question challenges my own ideas of what is objective."...

Letters to a Young Librarian, Nov. 28

[John Cotton Dana and *The Men of Letters*](#)

Larry Nix writes: "Although John Cotton Dana is best known in the library profession for his advocacy of library public relations, one of the things that I admire most about him was his sense of humor. I



have in my collection a four-page publication titled *The Men of Letters* (May 1913) published by the Elm Tree Press in Woodstock, Vermont. It begins with a letter, supposedly published in the *Newark (N.J.) Evening News*, that was instigated by Dana when he was director of the Newark Public Library.”...

Library History Buff Blog, Nov. 29

[Are you a 21st-century librarian?](#)

Steve Matthews writes: “How does one measure his or her own librarianship to determine whether he or she is a 21st-century librarian? Over the past two years I have reviewed hundreds of articles and reports and blog posts that discuss scores of 21st-century library and librarianship ideas, concepts, and actions. What I have collected and outlined is an initial list of the major characteristics that will certainly tell you whether you are on the right path.”...

21st Century Library Blog, Nov. 28

[Is librarianship in crisis?](#)

Aaron Tay writes: “Librarians are worriers, and one thing we like to worry a lot about is the future of libraries. Veronica Arellano, however, [thinks](#) that we should stop writing about it. She has a point that too much negativity can be self-fulfilling, and we need to be careful not to drive away young, passionate people in our profession by being too negative. That said, I do not totally agree that the problems and dangers facing librarianship are always exaggerated, and that everything is fine and dandy.”...

Musings about Librarianship, Nov. 25; The Formerly Freelance Librarian, Aug. 4

[12 citation generators](#)

Julie Greller writes: “A few days ago, my niece asked me for information about how to format a bibliography. I couldn’t help but tell her the story of how when I was in high school we had to follow a formula that the teacher provided in a handout. There are now free programs that will practically do all the work for you, including putting your bibliography in a Microsoft Word document. So I sent her a small list of my favorite programs, and then expanded the list here.”...

A Media Specialist’s Guide to the Internet, Nov. 26



[Automating libraries: An annotated bibliography](#)

The ALA Library has updated its fact sheet on library automation. It offers a selection of print and online resources that provide an introduction to the issues to consider when selecting a tool that provides patron access and circulation inventory for your library’s collection of books, DVDs, and any other materials....

ALA Library Fact Sheet no. 21

[Beginners’ impressions of genealogy](#)

James Tanner writes: “I have been helping three ladies just starting out in genealogy and they had some interesting and consistent comments. Their knowledge about what they were getting into was extremely limited. They had no prior experience in doing research and had fair computer skills. In each case, I spent more than the normal few minutes helping a patron at the Mesa (Ariz.) Regional Family

History Center. So what were their initial impressions?"...

Genealogy's Star, Nov. 20

[The Bodleian's treasures on display](#)

Cynthia Haven writes: "As you enter the darkened room, a 1623 Shakespeare First Folio is to your right. Enigmatic scraps of a poem by Sappho are to your left. And all around you the wonders of the world:



Weighted with heavy seals, a 1217 engrossment of the Magna Carta is nearby. In the corner of one glass case lies an exquisite 18th-century miniature scroll of the *Bhagavad Gita*, which shines like a cache of jewels. The Bodleian Library's 'Treasures of the Bodleian,' on display through December 23, shows some of the Oxford library's most important and most evocative rarities." Watch the [series of videos](#) describing the exhibit....

Stanford University: The Book Haven, Nov. 26; YouTube, Nov. 2

[My three favorite collections of private papers](#)

Jillian Dunham writes: "To check some facts on the multiple-personality poster girl Sybil, a photo researcher and I headed to the special collections room at John Jay College of Criminal Justice, which houses transcripts of Sybil's psychotherapy sessions. Going through the boxes of Sybil's late biographer, Flora Rheta Schreiber, which also contain her personal letters and photographs, impressed me with the intimacy of such collections. Here are some striking private details from the archives of three great public figures."...



New York Times: The 6th Floor, Oct. 18

[To survive, indie bookstores need to act more like Amazon](#)

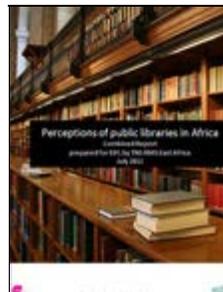
What can indie bookstores do to keep from dying out? Rich Adin writes: "First, if your local pizzeria can offer free delivery, why can't your local indie store? Amazon's delivery is quick, but indie delivery could be quicker, and we all know how unwilling we are to wait. Second, if the store is not already a corporation, make it one. Then create a nonvoting class of stock, and give one share for every \$250 in purchases. Give the local book-buying public a direct stake in your success. Third, create a special members-only club. Amazon does this, and even some indies have their clubs—but none of them are really special."...



An American Editor, Nov. 28

[Public libraries in the news in Africa](#)

Public libraries made headlines in Africa in November after meetings in which government officials and library leaders discussed the findings of a study on the role of public libraries in contributing to national and local development. The research is part of a six-country study, [Perceptions of Public Libraries in Africa](#), conducted by the European nonprofit Electronic Information for Libraries. The countries studied were Uganda, Kenya, Ethiopia, Tanzania, Ghana, and Zimbabwe....



Electronic Information for Libraries, Nov. 15

[Libraries as art](#)

An exhibition titled "Library Science," now on display at the Artspace gallery in New Haven, Connecticut, celebrates the inspirational effect libraries can have on the creative artist and how artists can highlight not only individual libraries through their work but also bring attention to some of the bigger issues facing modern libraries. The online exhibition [catalog](#) shows works by all of the 17 international artists featured in the exhibit, as well as information about visiting the gallery and satellite projects in other parts of the state....

Library As Incubator Project, Nov. 28; Artspace gallery



[To Have App Have Not](#)

Overdue Masterpiece Theatre presents a Kansas City (Mo.) Public Library [production](#) (1:53). A stranded Hemingway novel contemplates life, duty, morality, and mobile apps in the company of another literary lost soul. "If only Mrs. Fleming knew about the new KC Library mobile application, she could renew me with the push of a button."...

YouTube, Nov. 11



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