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American Library Association • November 4, 2014



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Open Access discussed in next AL Live webcast

Scholarly journals are increasingly becoming digital, experimenting with new publishing models such as Open Access, and incorporating multimedia into their formats. In addition, the process of research continues to evolve because of mandates from funding agencies to publicly share research findings and data. For a candid discussion of what OA is (and isn't), join us for "Open Access and Libraries," the next broadcast of [AL Live](#) at 2 p.m. Eastern time on Thursday, November 6....



American Libraries, Oct. 28

Participate in the Digital Inclusion Survey

Larra Clark writes: "I can attest to the power of library data such as that provided by thousands of libraries through the Digital Inclusion Survey throughout my career. The time librarians take to respond to national surveys puts our community on the map for those who might otherwise count us out of the Digital Age. Here are five reasons I think public library staff should say yes to the [Digital Inclusion Survey](#), which is open until November 22."...



District Dispatch, Nov. 3

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[Punch authors revealed for the first time](#)

Seth Cayley, Head of Research Publishing, Cengage Learning EMEA



In 2014 Gale, part of Cengage Learning, published the online [Punch Historical Archive](#), containing every issue of the magazine. Although best known for its superb cartoons, the biting wit of *Punch*'s articles deserves wider recognition; full-text searching in the archive will allow researchers and students to explore the magazine in new ways.

For much of its life, the magazine's articles were written anonymously. The mocking figure of "Mr. Punch" was mainly the public identity of the magazine, not its contributors. However, in reality, *Punch* was put together by a tight brotherhood of writers....



[Read more](#)

The world's most celebrated magazine of humor and satire is now available in a fully searchable digital archive, [Punch Historical Archive](#).

[CHECK IT OUT](#)

[Opening round begins for the Goodreads Choice Awards](#)

Bibliophiles can make their voices heard on some of their favorite books that were published this year. The opening round has begun for the 2014 Goodreads Choice Awards. Goodreads users can submit their votes in 20 different categories: fiction, mystery and thriller, historical fiction, fantasy, romance, science fiction, horror, humor, nonfiction, memoir and autobiography, history and biography, business books, food and cookbooks, comics and graphic novels, poetry, debut Goodreads author, YA fiction, YA fantasy, middle grade and children's, and picture books. More details at [Goodreads](#)....



GalleyCat, Nov. 3

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ONLINE FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA.

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Verizon, AT&T tracking users with supercookies

Craig Timberg writes: “Verizon and AT&T have been quietly tracking the internet activity of more than 100 million cellular customers with what critics have dubbed ‘supercookies’: markers so powerful that it’s difficult for even savvy users to escape them. The technology has allowed the companies to monitor which sites their customers visit, cataloging their tastes and interests. Consumers cannot erase these supercookies or evade them by using browser settings, such as ‘private’ or ‘incognito’ modes.”...



Washington Post, Nov. 3



Which messaging technologies are safe and secure?

In the face of widespread internet data collection and surveillance, we need a secure and practical means of talking to each other from our phones and computers. Many companies offer “secure messaging” products, but how can users know if these systems actually secure? The Electronic Frontier Foundation released its [Secure Messaging Scorecard](#) on November 4, evaluating dozens of messaging technologies on a range of security best practices....



Electronic Frontier Foundation, Nov. 4

Carbondale creates an intergenerational book

The staff at Carbondale (Ill.) Public Library are working on a community-created content initiative for their Ezra Jack Keats minigrant. Here is a progress report from Director Diana Brawley Sussman: “After seven months of planning, the day came for us to gather together children from the Boys and Girls Club and seniors from Senior Adult Services to begin work on an ebook they would make together. The seniors and kids were all excited about the prospect of becoming published authors and accomplished artists, thanks to the book pages they were about to write and the illustrations they would see exhibited at the library for their book release party.”...



The Library As Incubator Project, Nov. 4

NYPL vs. Seattle in the battle of the book sorters

On October 29, New York reasserted its dominance in at least one corner of the literary universe: book sorting. In the fourth

annual “battle of the book sorters,” the giant mechanical sorter shared by the New York Public Library and the Brooklyn Public Library sorted 12,570 items in an hour, while a similar behemoth belonging to the King County (Wash.) Library System sorted a mere 11,868. “The laid-back atmosphere of Seattle got a real taste of fast-paced New York today,” said Salvatore Magaddino, the deputy director of the Book Ops facility in Queens, which houses New York’s \$2.4 million, 238-foot-long sorter....



New York Times: ArtsBeat, Oct. 29

Neil Gaiman’s tips for reading stories to kids

Over the weekend, writer Neil Gaiman and artist Lorenzo Mattotti appeared together at the New York City independent bookstore McNally Jackson to promote *Hansel and Gretel*. At the event, Gaiman read an excerpt from the story in front of an audience that included a plethora of both adults and kids. During the Q&A session, he offered some guidance for reading stories to young people....



GalleyCat, Nov. 3

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Citizens vote “yes” on library funding

Election Day 2014 turned out to be a success for many library systems across the country seeking to raise or continue funding. Voters approved a \$108.5 million plan by the [Charleston County \(S.C.\) Public Library](#) to build five new facilities, renovate 13 others, and complete a system-wide technology upgrade. In the Detroit area, voters approved a tax increase to provide funding that will restore services and collections at the [Redford Township District Library](#). New Mexico residents passed [Bond B](#), which provides \$10.8 million for public, academic, public school, and tribal libraries. Here are some [other returns](#)....



American Libraries Online, Nov. 5–7

What a library levy means to a West Virginia town

Deborah Fallows writes: “I was standing at the front desk of Charleston, West Virginia’s main library on Election Day 2014 when a burly man in worker’s clothes stopped by just to announce to the librarian, ‘I voted yes on the levy!’ It was an important day for the libraries of Kanawha County. Passing the levy would mean almost \$3 million a year for the next five years, which amounts to about 40% of the libraries’ budget for operations and staff. Losing the levy would mean—well, no one even wanted to contemplate that.”...



The Atlantic, Nov. 7

The '80s called and want their prices back...
Save big with the Springer Book Archives!



Act Now!

Springer springer.com

IRS provides update to libraries on Tax Forms Program

Emily Sheketoff writes: "On November 4, the Internal Revenue Service announced that it will continue to deliver 1040 EZ forms to public libraries that are participating in the [Tax Forms Outlet Program](#) (TFOP). TFOP offers tax products to the American public primarily through participating libraries and post offices. The IRS will distribute new order forms to participating libraries in the next two to three weeks. Public library leaders can discuss the management and effectiveness of TFOP with leaders from the IRS on February 1 during the 2015 ALA Midwinter Meeting in Chicago."...



District Dispatch, Nov. 5



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For rural communities, it's more than just a library

James J. Turner writes: "In a knowledge-based economy, libraries have a central role in helping rural residents learn and communicate. I stressed this point at a recent groundbreaking ceremony for the Lake Odessa (Mich.) Community Library. Libraries are increasingly important for rural communities. They have expanded their role from lending books to offering meeting spaces and providing high-speed internet connections, the latter often being difficult to obtain away from urban centers. The expansion of the Lake Odessa Community Library is an investment in new economic opportunities for the area."...



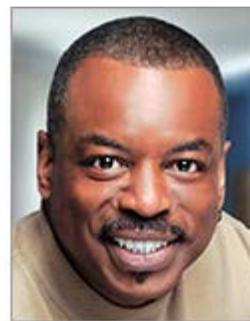
Washington Post, Nov. 3

ALA CHICAGO the conversation starts here...
MIDWINTER MEETING & EXHIBITS
JANUARY 30-FEBRUARY 3, 2015
alamidwinter.org



LeVar Burton to speak at 2015 Midwinter Meeting

Passionate and lifelong children's literacy advocate, actor, producer, director, and educator LeVar Burton (right) will offer an unmissable treat for Midwinter Meeting attendees when he appears as an Auditorium Speaker on February 1. For three decades, Burton has been capturing the admiring attention of both audiences and his industry peers. He was host from 1983 to 2009 of the beloved original *Reading Rainbow* PBS series, is cofounder of the award-winning Reading Rainbow digital library, and is currently developing the next generation of innovative children's educational media....



Conference Services, Nov. 6

Promoting access for blind and visually impaired patrons

Mike L. Marlin writes: "On June 28, 2013, delegates from member countries of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), a United Nations agency, signed the [Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired, or Otherwise Print Disabled](#).



This historic treaty, intended to ease international copyright restrictions on publications for print-disabled readers, still requires ratification by at least 20 WIPO member countries in order to become legally binding. At the 37th UNESCO General Conference in Paris in November 2013, a parallel resolution, the [Manifesto for Libraries Serving Persons with a Print Disability](#), passed overwhelmingly."...

American Libraries feature

Inexpensive tablets and apps for children with autism

Catherine Shu writes: "TechCrunch first profiled [Puzzle Piece](#), a startup that makes affordable tablets and apps geared toward children with autism, [in May](#). Though educational apps are helpful for teaching social skills to children with autism and helping them with their schoolwork, many families [could not afford](#) a tablet. Puzzle Piece wants to make tech accessible to all families, with a 9-inch Android tablet that costs \$29 and a \$19-per-month subscription plan that gives children access to a library of more than 80 apps."...



TechCrunch, May 1, Nov. 4; CNN Money, Apr. 2, 2012

Netflix to adapt Lemony Snicket for TV

Netflix is entering a new area: live-action family entertainment. The streaming company has acquired rights to the best-selling series of books *A Series Of Unfortunate Events* by Lemony Snicket (Daniel Handler), with plans to adapt them as a live-action series. Narrated by Snicket, the



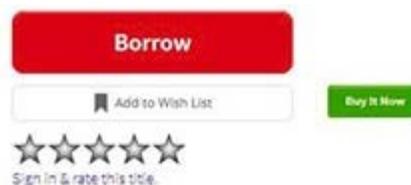
books recount the tale of the orphaned children Violet, Klaus, and Sunny Baudelaire at the hands of the villainous Count Olaf, as they face trials and tribulations, misfortunes, and an evil uncle. Netflix announced that “Mr. Snicket’s participation will be limited, given his emotional distress, but the project has the full involvement of his legal, literary, and social representative Daniel Handler, who is often mistaken for him.”...

Deadline: Hollywood, Nov. 5

Libraries and Buy It Now: A difficult decision?

Robert C. Maier writes: “When Simon & Schuster announced in June that it was extending to the entire US a pilot project originally started with the New York City Public Libraries, it became the last of the Big Five publishers to license its ebooks for loan by libraries.

But there is a catch. This is the requirement that libraries licensing S&S titles also offer them for sale to borrowers through a prominently displayed Buy It Now button. For many public libraries, this requirement puts the long-held belief that all services should be free to the end user without commercial inducements at odds with another long-held principle—that readers should have access to all published material in the format of their choice.”...



AL: E-Content, Nov. 5

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Tell us what you think at virtual town hall meetings

ALA members are invited help shape the future of the Association by joining in one, two, or all three virtual town hall meetings convened to discuss the Association's new strategic directions. Hosted by ALA President Courtney Young (right) and ALA Executive Director Keith Michael Fiels, the sessions will focus on three initiatives that have been identified as strategic priorities for the next three to five years: Advocacy (November 19), Information Policy (November 20), and Professional and Leadership Development (December 11)....



Office for Library Advocacy, Nov. 7

Obama asks the FCC to implement real net neutrality

Stacey Higginbotham writes: "President Obama is calling for the FCC to [implement Title II rules](#) from the Telecommunications Act of 1996, which is what the ISPs view as the nuclear option when it comes to network neutrality rules. Such rules would seek to prevent ISPs from blocking or slowing lawful content on both their last mile networks and at interconnection points. The president also [called for](#) network neutrality rules to apply to wireless networks." FCC Chairman Tom Wheeler quickly [replied](#), seemingly asking for more time to proceed. The *Washington Post* offers some [background](#)....



GigaOM, July 24, Nov. 10; White House, Nov. 10; TechCrunch, Nov. 10; Washington

Post, Nov. 11

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[Punch authors revealed for the first time](#)

Seth Cayley, Head of Research Publishing, Cengage Learning EMEA



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[Read more](#)

The world's most celebrated magazine of humor and satire is now available in a fully searchable digital archive, *Punch Historical Archive*.

[CHECK IT OUT](#)

[NYPL searches for renovation inspiration](#)

Jennifer Maloney writes: "Shana Kimball, who works for the New York Public Library, is part of the institution's attempt to reboot the contentious renovation of its flagship Fifth Avenue building. After [abandoning](#) its original plan, which had sparked fierce public opposition, the library says it is doing things differently. This time, library staff are gathering ideas and inspiration on visits to bookstores, museums, and the Apple Store, among other spaces. They plan to solicit input early on from the public through surveys and focus groups, forums they said are more effective than the town-hall meetings in which the former plan was pilloried."....



Wall Street Journal, May 7, Nov. 9

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ONLINE FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA.**RISE WITH THE TIDE**
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[California librarians celebrate military tattoos](#)

Carmen George writes: "The stories that live within the tattoos of National Guard Sgt. 1st Class Larry Milam and 23 other veterans are being shared in a new multimedia exhibit, '[War Ink](#),' which has some unusual champions: Librarians. Chris Brown, senior manager at the Contra Costa County (Calif.) Library, created 'War Ink' with Jason Deitch, a former Army medic and military sociologist. Finding veterans for the project was largely the task of 20 librarians who are now helping promote the collection of videos and photos released online November 11 in honor of Veterans Day."...



Fresno (Calif.) Bee, Nov. 11



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[Study: Video games are not making us more violent](#)

Keith Stuart writes: "Major new research into the effects of violent movies and video games has found no long-term links with real-life violence. The methodology of previous laboratory studies, which have used spikes in short-term aggressive behavior to suggest a causal relationship between screened and real-life violence, have also been questioned in the [report](#), published in the *Journal of Communication*.

Christopher Ferguson, a psychologist at Stetson University in Florida, carried out two studies into media violence."...



The Guardian, Nov. 10



[Trombone Shorty and Bryan Collier to wrap up Midwinter](#)

Internationally renowned, Grammy-nominated trombone and

trumpet player Troy “Trombone Shorty” Andrews (right) will get attendees on their feet to Wrap Up 2015 Midwinter Meeting in Chicago and Rev Up for Annual Conference in San Francisco. His energetic music at the performance on February 3 will be followed by a conversation with award-winning illustrator Bryan Collier. Andrews and Collier will discuss their collaboration on *Trombone Shorty*, a lively picture book autobiography that shows how Andrews followed his dream of becoming a musician and succeeded despite the odds....



Conference Services, Nov. 10

Hackers breach Wyoming State Library catalog

The Wyoming State Library said its statewide online catalog, WYLDcat, was breached October 7 by unknown hackers, but no sensitive personal data was compromised. The breach was discovered after library security detected unusual activity, State Librarian Lesley Boughton said. She added that the breach was not disclosed until November 7 because of an ongoing investigation. The typical patron record includes a name, address, telephone number, and optional email address. The hackers may have been able to see what patrons checked out, officials said....



Associated Press, Nov. 8

Four tech trends librarians should know about

Kenneth J. Varnum writes: “Where is library technology heading in the next few years? What are the emerging tools and technologies that we should be paying attention to, in order to be ready when the time is right to adopt them? Those are the questions contributors to *The Top Technologies Every Librarian Needs to Know* (Facet, 2014) were asked to address. Read on to find out about some of the technologies addressed in the book—augmented reality, discovery, large-scale text, and open hardware.”...



CILIP Blog, Nov. 11

Collecting Marvel and DC comics for teens

Kylie Peters writes: “This October, DC [announced](#) its movie lineup through 2020, and Marvel [did the same](#) through 2019. Both publishers also have TV shows both on the air and in development. I collect comics for teens in two public libraries, and I have found that building a solid set of Marvel and DC titles has not only provided patrons with reading materials they want, but has also drawn in some teens who might otherwise not be reading for fun at all. It takes a little time and research to become familiar enough with these comics to build a strong collection,



but it's well worth the investment. Here's some info to get you started."....

YALSABlog, Nov. 10; Den of Geek, Oct. 16; IGN News, Oct. 28

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[Another Story: Farewell, Internet Public Library](#)

Joseph Janes writes: “Word has reached me that the Internet Public Library, which I wrote about in the last [issue](#), will no longer be supported at the end of 2014. The news means that IPL will just miss making its 20th birthday next March 17 (the happy coincidence of my Irish heritage and a convenient Friday deadline). IPL started in a graduate seminar I led and then took on a life of its own, helped by many willing, kind, and generous hands along the way. Let me tell you three reasons why the initial project was so successful.”...



American Libraries column, Oct. 20, Nov. 13

[Sen. Reid will move USA Freedom Act to a vote](#)

Joe Mullin writes: “On November 12, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-Nev., right) took action to move the [USA Freedom Act](#) toward a debate and a vote. That’s a big turnaround from September, when Senate sources said passing the act ‘wasn’t a top priority.’ With Reid’s support, a vote could come as early as next week. Reid has filed for a cloture vote to end debate, which will require 60 votes. That will be the biggest hurdle.” ALA is [asking](#) librarians to call their senators in support of the bill, which would effectively end the government’s bulk collection of phone and internet call records....



Ars Technica, Nov. 13; *ALA Office of Government Relations*, Nov. 13

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GALE CENGAGE Learning

[Amazon and Hachette resolve their dispute](#)

Laura Hazard Owen writes: "Amazon and book publisher Hachette Book Group have finally reached a deal in the negotiations that have been going on since May. For months, Amazon [removed preorders](#) on Hachette titles, shipped them with delays, and would not discount them. When the new ebook terms take place in early 2015, 'Hachette will have responsibility for setting consumer prices of its ebooks, and will also benefit from better terms when it delivers lower prices for readers.' This sounds like the return of agency ebook pricing about two and a half years after the Department of Justice first sued Apple and publishers for conspiring to set ebook prices."...



GigaOm, May 23, Nov. 13

The '80s called and want their prices back...
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springer.com

Information literacy and research practices

On November 12, ACRL released the [third draft](#) of its *Framework for Information Literacy for Higher Education* and called upon the community to provide additional feedback. Against this backdrop, this latest issue brief is particularly timely. In *Information Literacy and Research Practices* ([PDF file](#)), Nancy Fried Foster, Ithaka S+R's senior anthropologist, demonstrates how "researchers in the wild" are adhering to many of the goals described in the draft *Framework*. Foster argues that the *Framework* "captures more realistically what information-literate people really do."...



Ithaka S+R, Nov. 13; ACRL Insider, Nov. 12



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Privacy in the post-Snowden era

Mary Madden writes: "While Americans' associations with the topic of privacy are varied, the majority of adults in a new survey ([PDF file](#)) by the Pew Research Center feel that their privacy is being challenged along such core dimensions as the security of their personal information and their ability to retain confidentiality. More than a year after contractor Edward Snowden leaked documents about widespread government surveillance by the NSA, some 43% of adults have heard 'a lot' about 'the government collecting information about telephone calls, emails, and other online communications as part of efforts to monitor terrorist activity.' But perhaps more striking is Americans' lack of confidence that they have control over their personal information."....



Pew Research Center, Nov. 12

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JANUARY 30-FEBRUARY 3, 2015
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ALA at the Sharjah International Book Fair

ALA's largest international professional development event wrapped up November 13 in Sharjah, United Arab Emirates (UAE), with hundreds of librarians gathering at the Sharjah International Book Fair (SIBF) for the first SIBF/ALA Library Conference. Librarians from Afghanistan, Bahrain, Egypt, India, Iraq, Jordan, Malaysia, Nigeria, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, UAE, and other countries, attended the free two-day professional development and networking event; 425 pre-registered and around 400 signed up onsite....



AL: The Scoop, Nov. 14

Beginner's electronics: 10 skills you need

Kannon Yamada writes: "Many of us have never even touched a soldering iron—but *making things* can feel incredibly rewarding. There are some key skills you need when tackling electronics projects; whether you plan on fixing broken devices or assembling Arduinos, the right skills make the difference between rage and elation. Here's a quick run-down of 10 of the most basic DIY electronics skills to help you get started."...



MakeUseOf, Nov. 12

33 books to read, based on your favorite films

Daniel Dalton writes: "If you love *Groundhog Day*, try *The First Fifteen Lives of Harry August* by Claire North. We join Harry August near the end of his 11th life, which has been exactly the same as the 10 before it. When he dies, he returns to the beginning and starts it all again. Nothing ever changes—until now. A small girl visits his bedside with a message, and August must learn how to change his life to prevent a future he can't allow. Another: If you love *Se7en*, try *The Treatment* by Mo Hayder. For one of the most disturbing films of the last 20 years, a book that is one of the most disturbing ever written. Featuring grotesque murders and a genuinely unsettling plot involving pedophile rings and child abuse, *The Treatment* is not for the faint of heart."...



Buzzfeed, Nov. 7

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FCC chairman wants more broadband funding

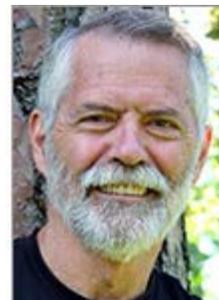
The head of the Federal Communications Commission is seeking a major increase in funding to help boost internet-access speeds at schools and libraries and expand their Wi-Fi networks. Noting that 63% of schools lack high-speed broadband connections, FCC Chairman Tom Wheeler said November 17 that he wants to raise the annual amount the government spends to wire educational faculties through its E-rate program to \$3.9 billion a year from \$2.4 billion. ALA President Courtney Young released a [statement](#) November 17, saying that the proposal “will go a long way towards changing the broadband dynamic.”...



Los Angeles Times, Nov. 17; Office for Information Technology Policy, Nov. 17

FTRF kicks off 45th anniversary celebration

The Freedom to Read Foundation will kick off a year-long celebration of its [45th anniversary](#) on November 20 with a live [Google Hangout On Air](#). The event, headlined by YA author Chris Crutcher (right), will be an opportunity to hear about FTRF’s past successes, current projects, and future goals. Speakers will also reveal plans for the upcoming 12 months, including several fundraising events around the country and a collectible tribute book. Attendees will have the opportunity to participate via Q&A.....



Freedom to Read Foundation, Nov. 17

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Encourage innovation with the updated SpringerMaterials database

In celebration of the newly relaunched **SpringerMaterials Database**, Springer is offering a deep, limited-time 20% discount on the entire back file.

Why consider? By making this one-time purchase, libraries will receive perpetual online access to over 450 volumes of the *Landolt-Börnstein* database at only 10% of the total print cost of those 450 volumes.

Consider this a must-have resource for any library supporting research in chemistry, physics, materials science, and engineering.

Visit the [website](#) for details or contact libraryrelations@springer.com to request a quote.



The '80s called and want their prices back...
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Lilead Project survey results

Maria R. Traska writes: "More than five years after the start of the Great Recession, school libraries in the US are in crisis, their budgets constricted and their staff short-handed or nonexistent. Professional staff positions are left vacant or filled by uncertified personnel, materials budgets slashed. Many library programs have been eliminated. Most of these actions are taken at the administrative level, outside the control of both library supervisors and building-level school librarians. The [Lilead Project](#), the first national survey of district school library supervisors conducted in more than half a century, reveals that supervisors are expected to do a lot more with a lot less and are forced to pick up most of the slack themselves."...



American Libraries feature

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Highland Park High School: Six books require permission

Highland Park (Tex.) Independent School District officials released a list of six books November 14 that require parental permission for students to read for class. They are *The Art of Racing in the Rain* by Garth Stein, *Brave New World* by Aldous Huxley, *Dracula* by Bram Stoker, *The Glass Castle* by Jeanette Walls, *The Picture of Dorian Gray* by Oscar Wilde, and *The Working Poor: Invisible in America* by David K. Shipler. For years, Highland Park High



School teachers have sent home permission slips for certain books. But the practice is attracting greater scrutiny as parents and community members debate whether some books are too mature for teenage students....

Dallas Morning News, Nov. 14

17 apps that teach coding

"Today as I was going through my bookmarks, I came across an [excellent visual](#) created by Sean Junkins where he features a bunch of powerful apps to help you teach coding in the classroom. Unfortunately, the visual does not render legibly when turned into a large infographic. So instead, I am sharing with you the apps featured in it. I really like how Junkins arranged these apps into different categories that will help you target different areas in the teaching of coding."...



Educational Technology and Mobile Learning, Nov. 17



The best drone for every beginner

Sean Hollister writes: "So you want to be a drone pilot? *This* is where you start. Not with a crazy \$1,200 semiautonomous eye in the sky, but a cheap miniature quadcopter. Chinese companies are pumping out truckloads of mini quads right now, and while they can't find their own way home, they *can* teach you the basics of how to fly a speedy four-propeller craft for under \$100 even in a tiny space. The hard part, I found, is picking the right one."...



Gizmodo, Nov. 14

Five browser extensions for news junkies

Yohana Desta writes: “Unless you’re a journalist, it’s tough to keep up with breaking news. Keeping one eye on Twitter and constantly refreshing the homepage of your favorite news source is effective, but tiring. Thankfully, there are some helpful shortcuts. Browser extensions can help the news junkie who’s always attached to a computer keep up on everything he or she needs to know. From global alerts to headline highlighters, these five extensions will work around the clock to keep you informed.”...



Mashable, Nov. 10

Online presentation creation tools

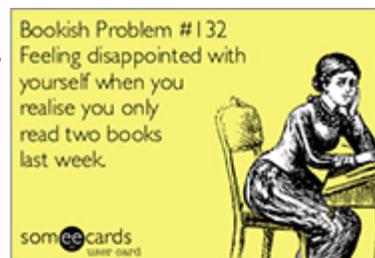
Brad Sietz and Caroline Sinkinson write: “Educators regularly use software tools to create materials for real-time discussion with an audience (conference presentations, classroom instruction). In today’s computing environment, software is increasingly web-based or cloud-based and does not have to be downloaded or installed on a computer in order for it to be used. Online presentation creation tools are no exception. Many of them produce durable teaching artifacts that can be accessed after the initial delivery for ongoing learning.”...



ACRL Instruction Section Tips and Trends, Fall

How to read for pleasure: Step-by-step instructions

Tara Kehoe writes: “Reading for your own enjoyment takes practice. I know it sounds a little crazy, but folks practice their hobbies all the time, and why should recreational reading be any different? It can be hard today to turn off distractions and just read. So here is a practical guide. Follow it and you (or those you are trying to encourage) will soon discover the enjoyment of reading for pleasure.”...



YALSA The Hub, Nov. 17

36 expert Google search tips

Brandon Widder writes: “Google’s most valuable asset has always been its phenomenal search engine. Unfortunately, Google isn’t one to automatically recognize punctuation and grammar within search queries. However, the symbols and punctuation listed here are exceptions to the rules, ones that allow you to better refine your search results when used in



conjunction with your desired search terms. Just don't add any spaces between the symbol and your search phrases. Otherwise, Google will ignore your commands.”...

Digital Trends, Nov. 9

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

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AL Direct FAQ: americanlibrariesmagazine.org/aldirect

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[Gunman shoots three at FSU's Strozier Library](#)

Florida State University students, faculty, and staff are heading back to class November 21 after one of the most horrific days in the university's history. Police say [Myron May](#), a 31-year-old attorney and FSU graduate, shot two students and one library employee at 12:25 a.m. on November 20 in the lobby entrance of Strozier Library. Up to 500 panic-stricken students were in the library when the chaotic scene unfolded. Two minutes after May began firing, police [shot and killed](#) him in the wheelchair ramp of the library's outside exit. Students [recalled](#) the [tense moments in the library](#) later that day. One student [survived](#) because a bullet lodged in a library book he had just checked out....



Tallahassee Democrat, Nov. 20; Tampa Bay Times, Nov. 20; Fort Lauderdale Sun-Sentinel, Nov. 20; ABC News, Nov. 20

[USA Freedom Act stalls in the Senate](#)

The Senate failed November 18 to advance legislation on bipartisan surveillance reform, dealing a significant setback to the Obama administration's plans to end the National Security Agency's mass collection of Americans' communications records. Lawmakers fell two votes shy of the 60 needed to proceed to a floor debate on the USA Freedom Act. Although advocates, [including ALA](#), vowed to continue to press for curbs, some officials said privately that the prospects are uncertain as a GOP-controlled Congress



takes over in January and as renewed fears of terrorism could begin to shift public attitudes. [This analysis](#), by one of the USA Freedom Act's principal supporters, Sen. Patrick Leahy (D-Vt., above), offers background on why reform is needed....

Washington Post, Nov. 18; ALA Office of Government Relations, Nov. 19; Sen. Patrick Leahy

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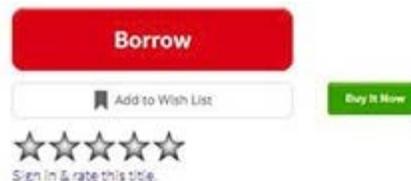
The '80s called and want their prices back...
Save big with the Springer Book Archives!

Act Now!

Springer springer.com

Simon & Schuster drops "Buy It Now" requirement

Robert C. Maier writes: "Simon & Schuster (S&S) [announced](#) November 20 that it will no longer require libraries to display a 'Buy It Now' (BIN) button in order to lend its ebooks. Instead, libraries will be able to opt into the BIN program at their option. This change eases tension among S&S, libraries, and ebook vendors, and it opens the door to a full partnership with S&S and greater access for library patrons to the publisher's ebooks. No other publisher had a BIN requirement. Many libraries found the BIN requirement to be coercive and beyond the bounds of business terms (price, loan limits, and time limits) already instituted by the Big Five." ALA President Courtney Young [welcomed](#) the change....



AL: E-Content, Nov. 20; Simon & Schuster, Nov. 20; ALA Washington Office, Nov. 20



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[2015 Class of Emerging Leaders announced](#)

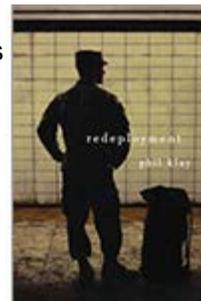
ALA has selected 50 library staffers to participate in its 2015 class of Emerging Leaders. The program is designed to enable library staff and information workers to participate in project planning workgroups, network with peers, gain an inside look into ALA structure, and have an opportunity to serve the profession in a leadership capacity early in their careers. The program kicks off with a day-long session during the 2015 ALA Midwinter Meeting in Chicago. Following this session, the program will continue in an online learning and networking environment for six months....



Office for Human Resource Development and Recruitment, Nov. 18

[Phil Klay wins National Book Award for fiction](#)

Phil Klay won the National Book Award for fiction on November 19 for his debut short story collection, *Redeployment* (Penguin), which draws on his experience serving as a Marine in Iraq and captures the terror, boredom, and occasionally the humorous side of war. In an emotional acceptance speech, Klay described returning from the war, being treated as if he were unstable, and being asked by children if he had killed anyone. Some of the stories take place in Anbar Province, while others are set in the US as soldiers struggle to readjust to civilian life." Ursula K. Le Guin won the Medal for Distinguished Contribution to American Letters; watch her [acceptance speech](#) (6:08)....



New York Times, Nov. 19; YouTube, Nov. 20



[Midwinter Scheduler is open](#)

Use the online Midwinter Scheduler to plan for your sessions, programs, and other activities. Browse, select, add, update, get recommendations, create your calendar, share (or don't), make a list of exhibitors, and find the other ways it will help you plan and track your time at 2015 ALA Midwinter Meeting in Chicago, January 30–



February 3....

Conference Services

50 dark novels for the dark days of winter

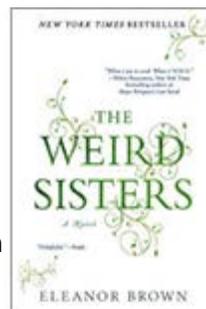
Emily Temple writes: “We’ve reached the time of year when the days seem impossibly short and the nights never ending. That’s good if you’re a vampire or like to go to sleep early, but less exciting for the rest of us. So what is one to do with all this extra darkness? Read some dark books, of course. After all, there’s nothing better to cut through the literal gloom than to curl up with some intellectual doom. All you need is a tiny light to see your book by. Here are 50 gloriously dark novels to read during these dark days. After a while, you may even stop wishing for the light to come.”...



Flavorwire, Nov. 20

Time-management tips for book discussion leaders

Sue Dittmar writes: “Being a discussion leader takes up a big chunk of time, and you have to be willing to sacrifice at least a few hours each week. If the leader isn’t willing to learn more about a book than what’s printed on its pages, a club most likely will not last longer than a few gatherings. This isn’t an easy undertaking. Time management comes into play and, honestly, I often skid into discussion with the ink still wet in my notebook. But I do have a few tricks that have helped me out. These have been revised time and time again.”...



The Booklist Reader, Nov. 20

Detekt tool sniffs out spyware

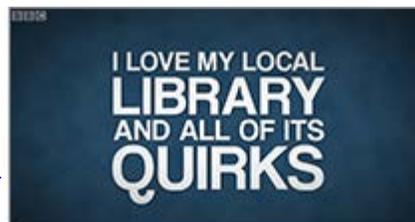
Eva Galperin writes: “Recent years have seen a boom in the adoption of surveillance technology by governments, including spyware that provides its purchasers the unchecked ability to target remote internet users’ computers. Software like this is designed to evade detection by its victims. That’s why the Electronic Frontier Foundation supports [Detekt](#), a new malware detection tool developed by security researcher Claudio Guarnieri. Detekt is an easy-to-use, open source tool that allows users to check their Windows PCs for signs of infection by surveillance malware that we [know is being used](#) by government to spy on activists and journalists.”...



Electronic Frontier Foundation, Nov. 20

Scroobius Pip’s poem, “Library”

Scroobius Pip is a spoken word poet and hip hop recording artist from Stanford-le-Hope in the UK. His animated poem [“Library”](#) (2:15) was commissioned by



Chris Hawkins for BBC 6 Music's [celebration of libraries](#) and performed on his weekly radio show, *The Beatdown*....

YouTube, Nov. 20; BBC 6 Music

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[A home to the homeless](#)

Ellyn Ruhlmann writes: “Just before 9 a.m. on a Tuesday in Madison, Wisconsin, people line up on the corner outside Madison Public Library, waiting for the doors to open. Some of them have spent the night on nearby street benches or on the pavement near the building. They’re ready for a soft chair and dry air. Jane, who prefers not to give her last name, says she’s classified as chronically homeless. Jane says she didn’t start coming to the library until she became homeless. Now she’s drawn to it for many reasons; it’s one of the few places she can go where it doesn’t matter what she wears or whether she has money.”...



American Libraries feature

[The Ferguson library gives a lesson in community](#)

Mary Elizabeth Williams writes: “What you need right now, at this particular moment in American history, is a story that doesn’t stoke your feelings of rage, depression, and moral exhaustion. And I am here to give it to you. Thank God for libraries. In the tumultuous aftermath of the November 24 announcement of a grand jury decision not to indict officer Darren Wilson in the shooting death of Michael Brown in August, many public services in the Ferguson, Missouri, area have shut down. But not the [Ferguson Municipal Library](#).”....



Salon, Nov. 25

17 AASL members are Lilead Fellows

The Lilead Project recently announced the participating fellows in its 2015–2016 Lilead Fellows Program. Seventeen members of AASL were included in the list of 25 participants. The program is an advanced and intensive professional development program designed to empower, enable, and equip school district library supervisors to think differently about their library programs and to be effective and inspirational leaders for change in their districts. The 18-month program will focus on developing leadership skills in integrating information literacy instruction, technology use, and advocacy for library programs....

AASL, Nov. 21

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Punch authors revealed for the first time

Seth Cayley, Head of Research Publishing, Cengage Learning EMEA



In 2014 Gale, part of Cengage Learning, published the online [Punch Historical Archive](#), containing every issue of the magazine. Although best known for its superb cartoons, the biting wit of *Punch*'s articles deserves wider recognition; full-text searching in the archive will allow researchers and students to explore the magazine in new ways.

For much of its life, the magazine's articles were written anonymously. The mocking figure of "Mr. Punch" was mainly the public identity of the magazine, not its contributors. However, in reality, *Punch* was put together by a tight brotherhood of writers....



[Read more](#)

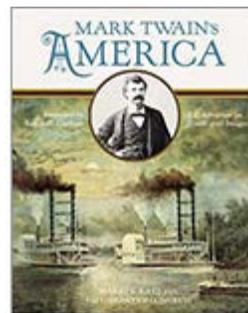
The world's most celebrated magazine of humor and satire is now available in a fully searchable digital archive, *Punch Historical Archive*.

[CHECK IT OUT](#)

Mark Twain, LC, and plagiarism accusations

Daniel Hernandez writes: "An independent scholar, Kevin Mac Donnell, of Mac Donnell Rare Books in Austin, Texas, announced on

a Mark Twain web forum in early November that he had uncovered a hefty amount of plagiarism in *Mark Twain's America*, an illustrated biography by Harry Katz and the Library of Congress published by Little, Brown. He noted that its chronology of Twain's life seemed to be lifted without attribution from *Mark Twain A to Z*, a reference book by R. Kent Rasmussen. More scholars have since joined Mac Donnell on the forum in scrutinizing *Mark Twain's America*, and they now say the text includes over 100 factual errors as well.”...



Quartz, Nov. 23

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How college students really do research

Emily Singley writes: “We hear a lot about how college students ‘only search in Google these days’ or ‘never look past the first page of results.’ How true are such commonly held assumptions? Are they supported by recent examinations of student research behaviors? For answers, I looked at seven studies published within the last three years ([PDF file](#)). This is what I learned.”...



Usable Libraries, Nov. 22



Mita Williams at Midwinter

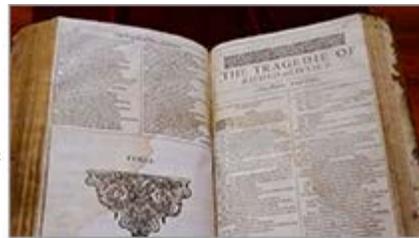
Some of our oldest public libraries were born out of mechanics institutes, and many of our newest public libraries feature makerspaces. In her ALA Masters Session, “Mechanic Institutes, Hackerspaces, Makerspaces, TechShops, Incubators, Accelerators, and Centers of Social Enterprise: Where Do Libraries Fit In?” at the 2015 Midwinter Meeting, Mita Williams (right), founder and board member of Hackforge, will offer a field guide to these new spaces and point out the differences that make a difference. The [session](#) will take place on Sunday, February 1....



Conference Services, Nov. 21

First Folio found at Saint-Omer town library

A Shakespeare First Folio has been discovered in the rare books collection in the library of Saint-Omer, France, where it had lain undiscovered for two centuries. It is only the second known copy in France of a publication that is seen as one of the most valuable books in the English language. Town librarian [Rémy Cordonnier](#) said he came across the folio in September when he was selecting books for a forthcoming exhibition on historic links between England and northern France. The work has several pages missing, including the title page, which could account for its remaining unidentified for so long...



The Telegraph (UK), Nov. 25; La Voix du Nord (Lille), Nov. 25

Six iPad apps turn photos and videos into comics

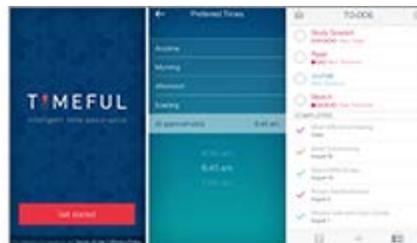
Here are six apps that students can use to create beautiful cartoons in their multimedia projects or in activities that involve comic strips, digital storytelling, and presentations. All of these apps are easy to use and do not require any advanced technical skills. Some of the things students can do with these apps include: take pictures and turn them into cartoons, capture cartoon videos, draw cartoon sketches, customize and add different effects to pictures, and convert photos into cartoon avatars....



Educational Technology and Mobile Learning, Nov. 23

Six best productivity apps of the year

Jill Duffy writes: "As the year is creeping to a close, I've been thinking about the apps that have come out this year and made life more organized and productive for individuals. This list covers some of my personal favorites, as well as those that seem to benefit the more disorganized people in my life. For example, [Timeful](#) is a free iPhone app that intelligently helps you find time to do the things you want to do, without overriding the things you have to do."...



PC Magazine, Nov. 24

Scottish Book Trust wants a library card for every child

Every child in Scotland should be automatically enrolled in their local library, according to the director of the Scottish Book Trust, Marc Lambert, who made the call at the start of [Book Week Scotland](#) on November 24. He said the move would not only benefit children but would also secure the future of libraries. Hundreds of events are taking place at libraries across Scotland this week as part of the national celebration of reading. Lambert



also said that libraries must communicate with their users and potential users better....

BBC News, Nov. 23

How is a library open house like a Thanksgiving dinner?

Melanie A. Lyttle and Shawn D. Walsh write: "It's true: Library open houses and Thanksgiving dinners are more alike than you might believe. We just had a library open house for nearby public library directors and board members. And it sure felt like we were cleaning up and preparing for a major family gathering. It was all friends and colleagues and people we'd known for a while, but just the same, we wanted to make sure our 'house' was just perfect. It felt just like buying new furniture to improve the look of your home right before your relatives visit. With Thanksgiving a little way away, we thought the parallels were funny and appropriate."...



Public Libraries Online, Nov. 24

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