

# REPORTER



One State, Many Faces: The Mosaic of the Illinois Library Community

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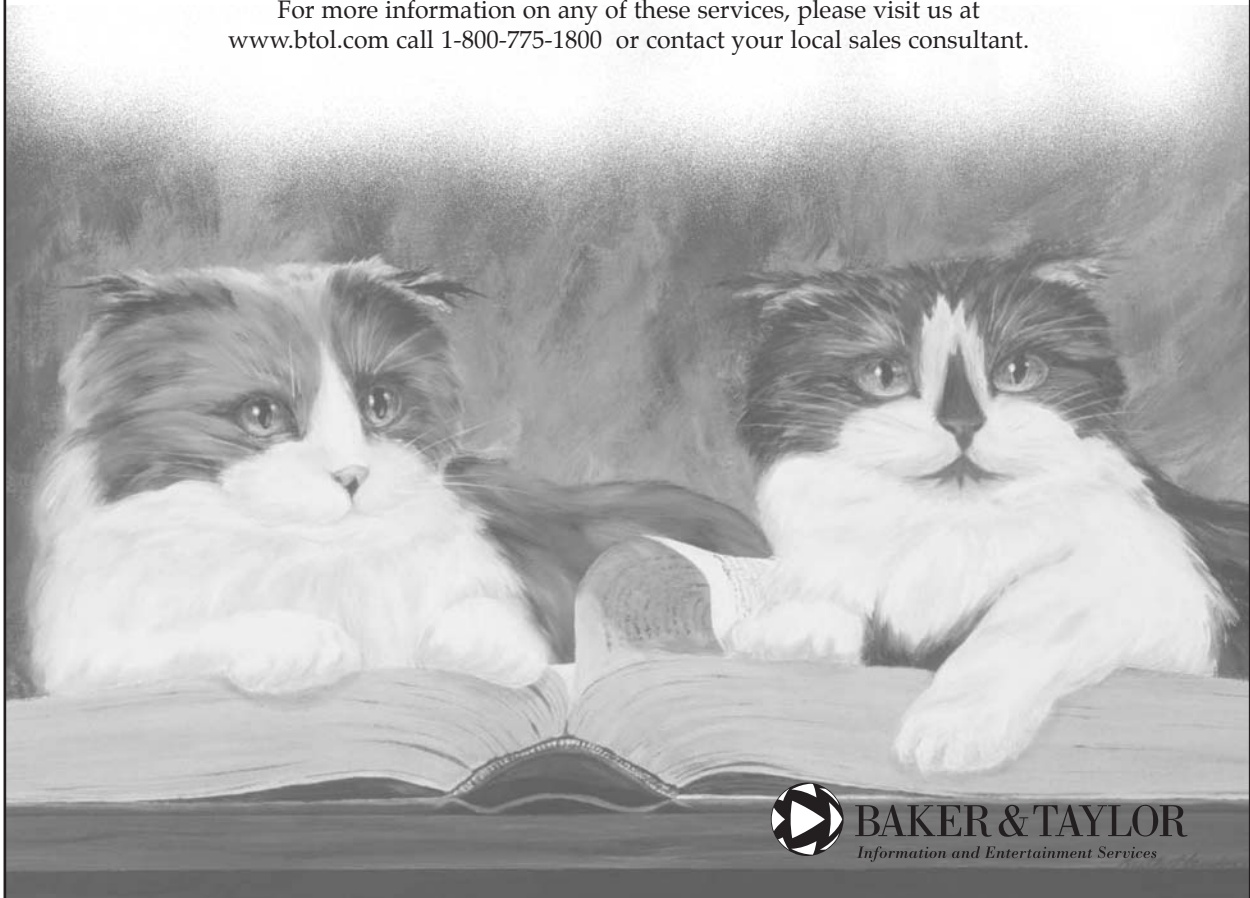
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Several state library associations—notably Illinois, Texas, and others—will collect monetary donations to support libraries in the Gulf Coast area. Donations are tax deductible and may be made by mail or online ([https://www.ila.org/events/donate\\_gulfcoast.htm](https://www.ila.org/events/donate_gulfcoast.htm)); 100 percent of donations will be sent to the state library agency or state library association of the donor's choice.

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# One State, Many Faces: The Mosaic

**T**

his year's cover feature explores the excellence and diversity of librarians and library advocates in Illinois. From small towns to big cities, universities to elementary schools, the best of Illinois' library community provide a model for outstanding performance in the profession. The variety of services provided and the individual styles that mark these library leaders make this a true mosaic, with many small parts creating a beautiful design.

This issue features library advocates, including a legislative consultant for libraries in Illinois, a program officer for a national organization, a library consultant for a system, and the president of a family-run bookbindery. *(continued on page 6)*

# of the Illinois Library Community



(continued from page 4)



**Kiplund  
Kolkmeier,**  
*ILA's Legislative Consultant*

**What does advocating for libraries really mean to you?**

To be an advocate for libraries is more than just supporting the buildings and the books. It is

about supporting the values of a free society; ensuring that every person has access to the information they need to achieve their goals as great students, workers, retirees, and citizens.

**What critical issues face libraries today?**

Libraries are confronted by many issues. Perhaps the most pressing is funding. As bad economic times have taken their toll over the last several years, library funding has not kept up with rising costs. In addition, intellectual freedom issues such as state level mandatory Internet filters seek to take away local control in deciding how best to serve the information needs of patrons.

**How have these issues changed since you first became involved in library advocacy?**

I have a greater appreciation for how the library community has to lead on intellectual freedom issues. Often these issues force us to take politically unpopular positions, and few other groups will step forward. It is unfortunate that such important issues are not championed by more groups.

**There has been a lot of talk about the “digital divide:” those who have easy access to computer technology and those who don’t. Do you think this is still an issue for libraries to be concerned about? If so, how can libraries redress the issue, given the tight budget restraints at this time?**

The gap between rich and poor in this country continues to widen. We see this in housing, jobs, education, and even government services. Public libraries are one of the great equalizers in society, providing the same level of service to every patron. Technology is an integral part of this service, and we should continue to advocate for government to fund additional access to information through technology.

**How did you become involved in your career and/or current position?**

I did not set out to become a legislative lobbyist. I was an attorney in Chicago and was asked by my law firm to serve as a temporary attorney for the Illinois Speaker of the House. After serving in this role, I was asked to work on behalf of a few clients and this has now grown into a full-time practice.

**Would you mind sharing an early memory of a librarian or a library as you were growing up?**

My story is probably a pretty common one. I have a distinct memory of going to the public library early in grade school to do my first research project. My teacher had asked us to use an encyclopedia for the first time. I looked up a term and immediately found a whole article filled with information. I began to play a game where I thought of a topic and quickly looked to see if there was an article on it. Time and time again, I found information on every single topic I could come up with. I had this overwhelming feeling of amazement that so much information could be collected and stored in one place. It was like opening up a door to a vast endless warehouse. This same feeling still comes over me sometimes when I am researching on the Internet.

**Ask a question you wish you had been asked and then answer it!**

**What is the future of libraries in our society?**

When dealing with legislators, I am often asked about the role of technology and how it is reducing the need for traditional brick and mortar libraries. I always quickly correct them and point out that the role of libraries hasn't really changed in thousands of years. Regardless of whether information is chiseled on stone tablets or flies through the air as digital data, libraries are the collecting points and the intersection of information in a society. Information curators are as vital today as ever. The professionals at libraries are even more necessary to navigate what are now seemingly endless paths to information. Perhaps more importantly, having a local public library is a commitment. It is a commitment to public access to information that does not discriminate by age, education, or social position.



## Veronda Pitchford,

*Urban Libraries Council*

### **What does advocating for libraries really mean to you?**

I, for one, do not want to be a library advocate forever. I love being a librarian!

What I want to see are the patrons and trustees who represent our communities and benefit from library services stand up with the librarians and share the successes within our walls with their neighbors, friends, and most importantly, legislators.

I am happy being a library advocate (for now) because I am proud to represent this profession and know the amazing talent and service represented throughout in people who work in libraries. But my ultimate goal is for us to train the masses we serve to take our message to the decision makers.

Libraries are a great return on investment for a community, and I want to hear that message from the voters to the decision makers. Is that too much to ask in one lifetime?

### **What critical issues face libraries today?**

The major issues I see facing libraries today are the M's:

1. Message — developing a concise message for the library and strategically staying on target.
2. Marketing that message to the community and legislators.
3. Money — competition for dollars with other agencies and departments in tough budget times.
4. Many masked competitors — There are corporations masking the selling of books and access to information as the equal to the quality service that libraries and librarians provide to customers.

We need to distinguish libraries with the value-added service we give to patrons. What frustrates me most is that the talent, service, and message are right there in our libraries. But rarely do we have the time or the energy at the end of the day to craft the message in non-library speak so that it is meaningful to our audiences who are often taxpayers and legislators.

### **How have these issues changed since you first became involved in library advocacy?**

Oh dear! Even in my short amount of time as an advocate for libraries, I have seen budgets shrink and advocacy for funds aggressively move to the forefront of the agenda for most libraries.

### **There has been a lot of talk about the “digital divide:” those who have easy access to computer technology and those who don’t. Do you think this is still an issue for libraries to be concerned about? If so, how can libraries redress the issue, given the tight budget restraints at this time?**

I think the digital divide is still an issue in libraries and the economic gap between rich and poor is not getting any smaller. More importantly, I think libraries and librarians also have a huge role to play in information literacy and navigation on the information superhighway for patrons of all economic groups. Who better on the planet than a librarian to effectively identify quality up-to-date resources for information seekers?

It is vital for libraries to craft services to meet this need, if not only for philosophical and service reasons, but to serve legislator goals as well. Better access to knowledge and education directly serves the economy and the community. We need to make this connection crystal clear to legislators and taxpayers in library messages, budget requests, and marketing materials. Libraries need to position themselves as working toward a common goal with legislators and their communities that utilizes the language of decision makers.

### **How did you become involved in your career and/or current position?**

I love being a librarian and I love representing librarians because of the great work they do and the chance to make a difference every day.

I have had the opportunity to do this first as a reference librarian, then at a regional library system in Illinois, and now as a program officer serving urban public libraries through a national organization called the Urban Libraries Council. Working with the Illinois regional library systems was a great training ground for best practices and connections to fabulous library people doing amazing things in the profession. I am one very lucky library chick, if I do say so myself!

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**Would you mind sharing an early memory of a librarian or a library as you were growing up?**

I want to hear politicians, trustees, and the community talk about their current experiences with librarians and how they have met their information needs and changed their lives of their constituents and communities.

Reminiscing is wonderful but I want to take this opportunity to encourage every librarian on the planet to invite their local, state, and national legislators and legislative staff to their libraries and programs to educate them on the services they provide, meet their patrons, and make a difference. GIVE these decision makers the opportunity to experience your library TODAY and show them how they can improve the quality of life for all of their constituents through funding a service that reaches out and serves every member of the community.

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**Bob Sibert,**  
*Bound to Stay Bound Books*

### **What does advocating for libraries really mean to you?**

Library advocates are those that are convinced of the important role of libraries in American society. They work to urge

American libraries to be the best they can be and to get Americans in all walks of life to use and value their libraries.

In my role as the third-generation president of a family-owned company that supplies children's books to schools and public libraries, I am naturally going to be a library advocate. What is good for our customers, the libraries, is going to be good for our company. But I think it goes deeper than that. Our company's mission, as we defined it years ago, focuses on trying to serve libraries to the best of our abilities. We may have a few employees, as every company does, who are just in it for the paycheck. But for the most part our employees have bought into the mission and feel their work is helping to accomplish something important. That something important is helping libraries to do the great things they do for our society.

We have tried to focus our advocacy efforts on scholarships to bring highly qualified people into the library field, professional development of librarians and library standards, and helping libraries to recognize excellence in children's books.

### **What critical issues face libraries today?**

The major issue facing libraries today is how to adapt to society's changing needs for information and communication. New technology such as e-books, podcasts, downloadable audio books, and streaming videos is constantly forcing libraries to rapidly change what they provide and how they provide it to their patrons. At the same time, there is an increasing number of traditional books being printed in shorter and shorter print runs. So the new technology is not replacing the old demands, it is over and above what was demanded of libraries before.

I believe many of the other big issues facing libraries can really be traced back to this one big issue. The financial difficulties of trying to cover so many different expensive mediums in addition to the rising cost of the old ones, the difficulties in attracting young people into library careers when the media keeps insisting that books and libraries are obsolete, a rising tide of illiteracy and indifference to reading that is eating away at the public demand

and support for libraries — all these and more can be attributed at least partially to the rapid technological shifts in how people look for information and communication.

### **How have these issues changed since you first became involved in library advocacy?**

This issue was present twenty-five years ago, but it was a more moderate and manageable one then. A watershed was reached about 1980 with the beginning of the personal computer age, and the pace of technological change has just accelerated from there. There also seems to be a cumulative effect as far as the percentage of the population affected by these changes so that it now is a major issue rather than a moderate one.

### **There has been a lot of talk about the "digital divide:" those who have easy access to computer technology and those who don't. Do you think this is still an issue for libraries to be concerned about? If so, how can libraries redress the issue, given the tight budget restraints at this time?**

Time and economies of scale will soon solve most of this problem.

Radios, then TVs, then stereos, were initially available only to the wealthy but were soon in every home or apartment. With their prices rapidly falling, personal computers will soon join them and be ubiquitous.

I think if you look at the people on the wrong side of the "digital divide" you would find that their age has led them to resist new technology or they are those that cannot read or don't want to read.

The two are closely connected, because those that don't read lack an important skill needed and probably have little motivation to use the computer. They have stayed in this state of practical illiteracy, despite the ready availability of books in their school library and their public library, in most cases, so it is more a question of education and motivation rather than access. For libraries to address the access issue without addressing the education and motivation issues is probably a waste of time.

I think libraries can afford to provide basic access to computers and the Internet to those unable to afford them. The budgetary problems come when the technophiles on the library staff get together with the vendors of fancy technology and the library gets oversold and underbudgeted on the latest and greatest, rapidly obsolescing gizmos.

*(continued on page 10)*

How I Helped the  
**Chicago Cubs**  
(Finally!)  
**Win the World Series**

by Harper Scott



**Hardcover** ISBN: 0970622570

**Price:** \$24.95 **Pub date:** 10/05

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The year is 2160. Interstellar flight is common, space stations are as busy as airports, and extraterrestrials inhabit Earth. And the Chicago Cubs *still* haven't won the World Series since 1908. Fed up, two Cubs fans use a time machine to travel back to 1908, recruit (okay, kidnap) two players from the last championship Cubs team, and bring them to the future to help the Cubs win another championship.

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**How did you become involved in your career and/or current position?**

I was born and raised in this library-oriented family business. On top of that I was a bookworm from when I first learned to read and my mother, a former librarian, and an older sister who was a librarian, heavily influenced me.

**Would you mind sharing an early memory of a librarian or a library as you were growing up?**

When I was young the school libraries in our town were pitiful and I was inundated with books from the family business so I didn't have much need for the public library. My high school librarian was unfortunately the stereotypical book-friendly but people-unfriendly librarian, so the first library I really relied on was Augustana College library. It was far better for studying than the dorms, plus when I would get a certain amount of work done, I could reward myself by looking through the stacks for interesting stuff.

**Ask a question you wish you had been asked and then answer it!**

**What issues does the American Library Association leadership and the library media spend the most time and attention on when they should be focusing on the core problems facing libraries, such as declining literacy, inadequate library budgets, librarian shortages, and the pressures of the digital age on libraries?**

Answer—they seem to spend most of their time on political issues that are important to some individual members but are of little importance in the grand scheme of the library world. These include turning ALA into a quasi-union for mostly already unionized library workers, the old Equal Rights Amendment and now the pay equality issue, the war in Iraq, the PATRIOT Act, the treatment of librarians in Cuba, and so on. Just how many school librarians are going to be eliminated and how many public library branches are going to close before ALA realizes that, if they don't focus on the crises facing libraries, there is certainly no one else that will.



**Lee Logan,**  
*Alliance Library System*

**What does advocating for libraries really mean to you?**

Being an advocate is like being a storyteller; the more captivating you are, the longer the story stays in the recipient's mind.

I started my career as a school library media specialist and learned to tell many stories to the elementary students. A good storyteller rehearses the "message" over and over. When it is time to tell the story, the "audience" becomes part of the message and begins to take ownership. Once they have ownership, you can influence the action that needs to be taken.

**What critical issues face libraries today?**

I think the most important issue facing libraries today is the erosion of privacy. This country was founded on the rights of freedom of expression and privacy. Our founding fathers and mothers left their homelands to come to a country where they could speak and read freely. Over the course of time I see pieces of those freedoms slipping away.

**How have these issues changed since you first became involved in library advocacy?**

Librarians have always faced challenges on print materials. As the medium changed, the challenge of the material presented in that format followed. First it was remove the book from the collection, now it is filter the information that is on the Web. The library community has long supported the judicial system when just cause is shown. With the PATRIOT Act, we are moving from a subpoena for records to a search warrant and library staff being restricted by law to not share that a request for information has been made. The world was just as intimidating in 1776 as it proportionately is now. We need to continuously reach for the balance of security and freedom.

**There has been a lot of talk about the "digital divide:" those who have easy access to computer technology and those who don't. Do you think this is still an issue for libraries to be concerned about? If so, how can libraries redress the issue, given the tight budget restraints at this time?**

Libraries have been the equalizer in the "information divide" since their formation. We have a "digital divide" because the medium of presenting the message is changing. The basic issue is still access to information. With proper planning and assessment, each library will know the method by which

their clientele gets the information they seek. Then they can plan and budget accordingly.

**How did you become involved in your career and/or current position?**

I became involved as a consultant by invitation. At that time I had both a school and public library background and the Illinois Valley Library System was looking for a Multi-type Library Development Consultant. I applied, was hired, and have evolved ever since.

**Would you mind sharing an early memory of a librarian or a library as you were growing up?**

I remember going to the Carnegie library in my hometown as a child.

The first time I went was very intimidating. It was a long, imposing walk up all those steps with short, stubby legs. (It still is, the legs haven't changed much!) Once inside, I was in front of this really huge desk with a lady standing behind it on a platform that made her look even taller than she was. If it wasn't for all of the neat stuff that I could borrow, I'm not sure I would have ever returned.

**Ask a question you wish you had been asked and then answer it!**

**Is advocacy work or fun?**

It's fun. Being an advocate teaches me to focus on the important details of the message and embellish later if needed; it keeps me honest, however, telling the truth sometimes "hurts" the recipient more than me; and it always contains an element of the unexpected.



This is the ninth in a series of articles highlighting new library buildings or additions. Each year we feature a noteworthy academic, school, special, or public library whose innovative concepts merit attention. Please send suggestions for future library features to ILA, 33 W. Grand Ave., Suite 301, Chicago, IL 60610-4306; phone: (312) 644-1896; fax: (312) 644-1899; e-mail: doyle@ila.org.



## Glen Carbon Centennial Library

**Anne Hughes**, *Glen Carbon Centennial Library*

The warm nighttime glow from the vaulted glass entrance to the Glen Carbon Centennial Library on Main Street beckons the community in.

One is first met by a life-size bronze statue of children reading on a bench in the glass lobby. The grand two-story gallery with double-sided fireplace/clock tower and cathedral style wood-beamed roof greets patrons as they enter the building. The library has been described by many as a “jewel” in our community of 11,400 located in southwestern Illinois, better known as the Metro East, located twenty miles from downtown St. Louis.

Completed in the fall of 2004, the \$2.6 million structure houses 14,337 square feet on one floor, located next to the gazebo at the entrance to Miner Park with easy access to the community bike trails.

The gazebo and an outdoor reading patio both offer a place in warmer weather to conduct story times and other programs outdoors. These and many other features were the visions come to fruition for the library board of trustees, staff, and friends of the library who worked so diligently for passage of the 2002 referendum to build the

new library. Due to enormous growth in population, the community had outgrown the one-hundred-year-old school building it had previously occupied.

To embrace Glen Carbon’s heritage, architects Jamie Henderson and Lynn Warren of Henderson and Associates, incorporated the village’s coal mining history in the design and details of the building. The exterior of the building consists mostly of mesa stone, which is made of mortar or concrete but appears to have a stone-like finish. The interior gallery’s great space is adorned with exposed wood trusses with metal connections expressed with steel plates and rivets resting on wood columns. The great space’s numerous windows fill the library with natural light. The signage and lighting fixtures incorporate details reminiscent of coal mines and trains. Signage was designed and created by Sherrie Hickman of Creative Options and Dave Thomas of Dave Thomas Design, both of Edwardsville, Illinois. The palette of interior colors — olive, purple, and blue hues — is warm and inviting. There are subtle color changes as one navigates from department to department. The children’s and teen areas have the brightest and most cheery color schemes. “Floating” suspended-lattice cloud-like woodwork creates a feeling of coziness throughout the building. Above

and at the end of the gallery, one “discovers” the subtly hued Quote Wall with a series of quotes from great literature. Curious patrons can contemplate the quotes and perhaps seek out these great works.

The entrance to the children’s area resembles a brightly colored coal mine entrance with rough hewn timbers holding up a corrugated tin roof overhanging. The computer station in this area is fashioned after a coal train with the backs of the seats painted like coal cars. The coal mine tracks can be followed into the children’s program room. Teens have their own space in an area with some privacy that includes a reading area, computer stations, and glass study room for group gatherings.

Comfortable reading areas are scattered throughout the building with lots of natural and indoor lighting making it easy to relax and reflect. Rather than a bank of standard carrels, computer stations dot the area throughout the building, providing privacy to conduct research or check e-mail. A community room with seating available for fifty with an attached kitchenette serves as a board meeting room and also sees extensive public use.

A brick paver area located in the front of the library honors, recognizes, and remembers loved ones, and individuals in the community can help the library continue to grow with a purchase of a paver.



## **Fast Facts:**

Building	14,337 sq. ft.
Project costs	\$2.6 million
Seating	230
Collections	35,000 titles, including books, CDs, audiobooks, videos, DVDs
Computers	16 public access
Hours	60/week
Staff	6.95 FTE
Architect	Henderson & Associates, Edwardsville, Ill.
Engineers	Blotevogel & Associates, Inc., Glen Carbon, Ill.
Interiors	Lawrence Group Colors, St. Louis, Mo.
Construction	Hart Construction, Inc., Alton, Ill.
Web site	<a href="http://www.glencarbonlibrary.org">http://www.glencarbonlibrary.org</a>



## Bridgeview Public Library

**Jane Schoen**, *Bridgeview Public Library*

Finding quiet and letting kids be kids at the same time was always a challenge at the Bridgeview Public Library. The library was essentially one big room shared by adults, young adults, and children. The meeting room served as the children's activity room, held a couple of public Internet computers, was used by the board of trustees for their meetings, a meeting space for book club, etc. But when the new doors opened on November 14, 2005, the overcrowding became a memory.

With the support of the village, a bond sale, and prudence on the part of the library, funds became available for an addition that would more than double the size of the library to 36,000 square feet. Frega Associates was chosen to do the design and Poulos Construction broke ground in May 2004. Weekly construction update meetings became part of the routine as we watched a huge hole get dug, concrete walls rise up out of the hole, and a beautiful, incredibly complex form join with our old building to become what is now a place Bridgeview residents can look to with great pride.

The arched entry invites everyone in and the famously friendly circulation staff is right inside at a spacious, curved desk. Above the desk hang "clouds" which add a touch of softness and whimsy to the modern surroundings. To the left is the children's services department. Finally, the children of Bridgeview have a place to learn and play without concern for noise levels. The use of primary colors and soaring windows make the space bright and inviting to young eyes. They have their own Internet, game, and database computers to use for homework and fun. Within children's services, there is an enclosed activity room that looks like a colorful house. Department employees have their own workroom and plenty of storage.

Past the circulation desk is the young adult department. They also have their own space and computers. Bean bag chairs can be moved around to create comfy, intimate reading areas. The teen advisory board meets regularly to plan events and mold the space to reflect their tastes. Beyond YA is the adult services department which is also bright and spacious. There are lots of brand new Internet computers, comfortable chairs for browsing, and three quiet study rooms. All the new space will allow for the expansion of our foreign language collections to meet the needs of our growing international population.

At the bottom of the stairs to the lower level there is an atrium with live tropical plants. The board of trustees has its own meeting room as well as a large public meeting room with a kitchen.

Bridgeview organizations are being encouraged to use these spacious facilities for their events. The library aims to become a center for the community, a place to gather for fun and learning, a place where all will feel welcome.



## **Fast Facts:**

Building	36,000 sq. ft.
Project costs	\$5.2 million
Seating	350
Collections	82,000 titles including books and audio visual materials
Computers	18 public access, 6 card catalog stations
Hours	64/week
Staff	9 full-time, 14 part-time
Architect	Frega Associates
Engineers	Bowman, Barrett & Associates
Interiors	Frega Associates
Construction	Poulos Construction
Web site	<a href="http://www.bridgeviewlibrary.org">http://www.bridgeviewlibrary.org</a>

# Donnelley and Lee Library

**James Cubit**, *Lake Forest College*

On October 8, 2004, Lake Forest College dedicated the new Donnelley Library. The new facility was designed to support the college's merger of library and information technology services into a single departmental unit and features the latest concepts, ideas, and technological innovations pertaining to teaching and learning, while providing a comfortable environment for research, collaboration, and study.

Features of the new library include: a cyber café; a wireless network; 24-hour computing labs; numerous study spaces and workstations, including small group study rooms for collaborative work; electrical power and data ports located near every seat; a speech and video production room where students can utilize video recording and presentation software to hone their presentation skills; four state-of-the-art smart classrooms; a technology resource center, equipped with high-end technology and staffed by academic technologists and trained students; space for the college archives and special collections; a learning and teaching center that enhances the learning process at the college by providing programs and services that promote excellence in teaching and learning; ample space for print collections; and an open, innovative design to accommodate the inevitable technological changes the future will bring.







## **Fast Facts:**

Building	72,000 sq. ft. (45,000 sq. ft. renovation, 27,000 sq. ft. new construction)
Project costs	\$18 million total (\$14 million construction, \$4 million program)
Seating	450
Collections	270,000 print volumes, 5,500 AV items, 2,000 periodical subscriptions (print and electronic), over 111,000 U.S. government documents
Computers	72 computers in public computing labs and classrooms, 25 computers for library research, 30 laptops available for checkout
Hours	95/week; part of library open 24 hours, seven days a week
Staff	26 (includes IT staff who are part of the merged library/IT organization)
Architect	Shepley Bulfinch Richardson and Abbott
Engineers	CS2 Associates
Interiors	Shepley Bulfinch Richardson and Abbott
Construction	Turner Construction
Web site	<a href="http://library.lakeforest.edu">http://library.lakeforest.edu</a>



## Plano Community Library District

**Deanna Howard**, *Plano Community Library District*

On December 20, 1904, Andrew Carnegie's secretary penned a letter to the Plano Public Library indicating, "Mr. Carnegie will be glad to give nine thousand dollars to erect a Free Public Library for Plano."

Almost exactly one hundred years later, the Plano Community Library District opened a 24,000-square-foot addition to that library. The original library was also renovated, making the new facility a wonderful blend of the old and the new. The building, evocative of Prairie Style architecture, is made of brick, cast stone, and Indiana limestone.

Like many small libraries across the state in similar situations, an addition of this size brought with it many firsts for the library.

It was the first time the library had a community meeting room and space to host large programs, a children's department and other special areas designed for special uses, room for the collections to expand, and was accessible to persons with disabilities.

The Kids' Library is a unique, colorful place designed for children preschool through eighth grade. The department features a program room for story times and other children's programs, sixteen public use computers, casual seating and places to study, and a special area for preschoolers and their parents to play or read together. Other areas on the lower level include the circulation department, vending area, meeting room, and technical services.

As patrons walk up the stairs to the upper level of the library, the first word often heard from them is "Wow." The open, welcoming space includes the adult fiction and nonfiction collections. Tucked away in a corner, the teen area is a funky and casual spot where teens can study, read, or hang out with friends. Two study rooms provide a place for groups to work together. Thirty computers with Internet access are available for patrons to use. (Imagine the delight of computer users who saw the number of PCs increase from six in the old building to forty-six in the expanded facility).

The architects, Frye Gillan Molinaro, Ltd., did an incredible job of honoring the original library building. As one approaches the “old” library on the upper level they see its exterior brick wall, as they step through the doorway they see it restored to its former beauty.

The built-in bookcases, exquisite woodworking, large oak tables, original circulation desk, fireplace, and original lampshades take center stage in a room that was previously overcrowded and cluttered.



The Carnegie Room, as we affectionately call this part of the library, offers a more traditional library environment, away from the hustle and bustle of the new facility. This quiet reading room houses magazines, newspapers, local history, and genealogy. It's a great place to study or sit in a comfy chair to read and for many older members of the community, it brings back fond memories of the library of their childhood. We know that on the opposite side of the building in the new Kids' Library, we are helping to create those memories for the next generation.

A library is about more than the “things” inside it. A library is about the people who walk through our front doors and the staff who look forward to helping them. This building is beautiful because it brings us together.

## Fast Facts:

Building	28,706 sq. ft.
Project costs	\$4.8 million
Seating	157
Collections	35,260 titles, including books, DVDs, videos, audiobooks, CDs, etc.
Computers	46 public use computers, 78 computers total
Hours	54/week
Staff	5 full-time, 12 part-time
Architect	Frye Gillan Molinaro Architects, Ltd.
Structural Engineer	Brown Engineers, Inc.
Mechanical Engineer	Calor Design Group, Ltd.
Civil Engineer	Engineering Enterprises, Inc.
Electrical Engineer	Radiant Design
Interiors	Frye Gillan Molinaro Architects, Ltd.
Construction	L.J. Dodd Construction
Web site	<a href="http://www.plano.lib.il.us">http://www.plano.lib.il.us</a>

# Morton College Library

**Rebecca Schreiner**, *Morton College Library*

Morton College Library underwent a six-month renovation in 2004 and opened on schedule for classes January 17, 2005. No updates or improvements had been made to the library since it was built in the early seventies. In order to provide a state-of-the-art library, the entire first and second floor of the library was gutted to install the electricity, connectivity, and new mechanical systems needed for a comfortable and functional modern library.

Before the library underwent renovation, it was dark, hopelessly dated, cluttered, and crowded. The fixtures were tired and we could only provide a fraction of the connectivity that we needed.

According to Anders Dahlgren, our library consultant, it showed the “accretion of small details” over a period of thirty years. The basic structure had potential as both the first and second floor have very large windows, some floor to ceiling. Our goal was to remove obstructions to allow in the natural light from these windows and to create an open design.

Conceptually, our president, Dr. Brent Knight, led the library remodel effort as he had substantial experience in the design and construction of commercial space. The entire front length of the entrance off the foyer is floor to ceiling butt glass. Etched into the glass is the word “Library” and also “Biblioteca”, the Spanish equivalent, to provide a welcoming environment to our students who are 75 percent Latino. A striking design element, planned by the architect, swoops into the outer foyer, over the top of the butt glass into the high two-story atrium. Loft indentations in the ceiling and carpet pattern on the floor draw your eyes to the circulation desk in front, technology help desk to your right, and reference desk to your left. The help desks include vertical cylinders which include the names of famous authors in a half tone on wallpaper. Behind the circulation desk is a specially designed “canted wall” consisting of special light woods stained with a blue glaze.



**New features in the library are:**

- a new wireless Cyber Cafe,
- wireless connectivity on both floors,
- fifty laptops which can be checked out from the circulation desk,
- sixty-four new PCs with flat-screen monitors (a three fold increase), a new sixteen-computer information literacy lab;
- eight new group study rooms complete with laptop ready tables;
- all new light maple furniture in a contemporary style;
- new light, transparent window treatments;
- original artwork specifically selected and placed by Denise Bellezzo, art faculty; and
- the faculty resource center which provides high-end computers and paraprofessionals to assist faculty who wish to incorporate technology into the classroom.

The library is barely recognizable from its former self. We believe we are giving our students the library they deserve. 2005 statistics of gatecount has quadrupled and reference, library instruction, and circulation have doubled compared to the original library in 2003.

With the support of our board of trustees and an excellent staff, architects, and contractor, we produced a state-of-the-art, award-winning library that will bring our students well into the twenty-first century. The new library has made a major difference in our entire college as it reflects our values and aspirations.



**Fast Facts:**

Building	17,000 sq. ft.
Project costs	\$1.5 million
Seating	280
Collection	50,984
Computers	64 PCs and 50 laptops
Hours	80/week
Staff	5 full-time, 2 part-time, student assistants.
Architects	Legat Architects
Engineers	KJWW Engineering
Interiors	Legat Architects
Construction	Happ Builders, Inc.
Web site:	<a href="http://www.morton.edu/library">http://www.morton.edu/library</a>



Photograph (c) June 2005 by Benjamin Halpern for Ratio Architects

## The Urbana Free Library

### **Fred Schlipf**, *The Urbana Free Library*

The Urbana Free Library is Urbana's public library, founded in 1874, as the first public library in east-central Illinois. The library is heavily used, with an annual circulation of about twenty-two items per capita.

The library has been located on its current site since 1917. The original classical revival structure was made possible by a gift from Mary Busey in honor of her deceased husband, Samuel T. Busey. The building's attractive design and corner site have made it a downtown landmark for nearly ninety years.

In 1975, an addition to the building doubled its size to about 25,000 square feet. The resulting glass box was sturdy but unpopular with Urbana citizens, who vastly preferred the original, historic portion of the building.

### **Planning for expansion**

Because the Urbana Free Library is a downtown library on a crowded block, expansion has required the acquisition and clearing of a number of adjacent sites. In the years since the original building was constructed in 1917, the city and the library's board of trustees have purchased nine additional buildings on the block. Most have been removed to provide expansion space and parking.

Serious planning for expansion began in 1987. Actual construction required thirty months, from November 2002 through May 2005.

Construction took place in two phases. After the new addition was completed, the library "camped out" there while the existing 1917 and 1975 buildings were remodeled. During all of this time, the library closed totally for only two weeks.

### **Notable features**

The most striking and popular feature of the remodeled and expanded library is its classical revival design. Both the 1975 addition and the new addition are sheathed in Indiana limestone to match the original 1917 building.

The library's first major piece of public art is an entertaining statue of a tortoise, hare, and stack of books. It was sculpted in place from a single twenty-ton block of Indiana limestone by Todd Frahm, a California artist who grew up near Urbana.

Seating for readers is located both in the historic reading rooms of the 1917 building and throughout the subsequent additions. Seating includes reading tables, carrels, armchairs, window seats, diner-style booths for teenagers, and sofas for families in the children's department. A quiet reading room provides study tables and armchairs. Every window has a reading table, armchair, or window seat.

Providing housing for the library's extensive collections was a major reason for expansion. In addition to shelving for general collections, the building includes far better space for the library's large local history and genealogy department — the Champaign County Historical Archives.

The completed library has five multi-function meeting and program rooms designed to meet heavy library and community demand. Among them are an auditorium, conference room, story room, and two study rooms. All but the story room may be reserved for public use.

To provide for future expansion, the library has purchased another building to the rear of the new addition. The back wall of the new addition is removable.

### Unusual Funding

The project was funded by a mixture of funding from the city of Urbana, the Urbana Free Library Foundation, and the state of Illinois.

The financial support of the foundation was critical to the project.

About 1,500 Urbana citizens and families contributed \$2.5 million of the \$8.5 million cost of the project. (The foundation's financial consultant initially estimated that the foundation could raise about \$500,000 — about twenty percent of the funds actually donated to the project.)

Because of the success of the foundation and of the city's "pay as you go" philosophy, the construction project was completely paid for by the time the ribbon was cut on May 1, 2005.



## Fast Facts:

Building	50,000 sq. ft. (building expanded from 25,000 to 50,000 sq. ft.)
Project costs	\$8.5 million
Seating	330
Collection	220,000 books, 30,000 recordings, 650 periodical subscriptions
Computers	65 patron, 50 staff
Hours	70/week
Staff	38 FTE
Architects	Isaksen Glerum Wachter (Urbana), with the assistance of Severns Reid (Champaign) Engineers
Civil	Berns-Clancy and Associates (Urbana) Mechanical and electrical GHR Engineers and Associates (Champaign)
Structural	Tyck, Gustafson, Reckers, Wilson, and Andrews (Chicago)
Interiors	Isaksen Glerum Wachter (Urbana)
Construction	Roessler Construction Company (Rantoul)
Web site	<a href="http://www.urbanafreelibrary.org">http://www.urbanafreelibrary.org</a>

# The Story

## Behind the Story: The Genesis of Big Library Coverage

Judy Hoffman, North Suburban Library System

In December, the Chicago area *Pioneer Press* newspapers committed to producing an in-depth study of a large swath of libraries, requiring a commitment of many weeks and contributions from virtually the entire staff. The result was a distinctive effort that gave a big boost to the library profile.

On December 14–15, 2005, the *Pioneer Press* published a feature story on libraries, as well as an editorial, that ran in every one of their fifty-seven community editions. Additionally, every community paper did an in-depth article on its own public library, along with a few school libraries.

There was a lot of e-mail buzz between libraries about this rare and valuable paper-wide presentation. We were pleased with the depth of the coverage, starting with a headline that libraries were “Not just for books anymore,” and a reminder to the 474,791 *Pioneer Press* readers that libraries should be measured by more than statistics.

We were curious how this library feature came to be and decided to go to the newspaper for the story behind the story. A little investigative work led to the source: Randy Blaser, Lake County Bureau chief, nineteen-year *Pioneer Press* veteran, and long-time supporter of area libraries.

### The Motivation for the Story

Blaser said the idea for the article had been formulating since a tour of the Northbrook Public Library a year ago. He was then chief of the North Shore bureau, and was touring the library as part of a community leadership conference. The tour featured the library’s newest technology, innovative projects, and expansive audio and video collections.

Soon after the Northbrook tour, Blaser was invited to tour the Glenview Public Library with a focus on their challenge of serving their community with too little space for collections or technology, and the continuing struggle for a new library. With the move to Lake County, Blaser became familiar with similar situations at the Deerfield Public Library and the Cook Memorial Public Library District.

“In addition to the space issues, it was interesting to learn more about the collections and areas of specialty,” said Blaser. “I proposed that the paper explore what it takes to build a top-notch library and how libraries are being used today.”



## Building the Story

The first question the editorial team tackled was, “how can we measure what a library should have?” Their research led to the *Illinois Public Library Statistics* published by the Library Research Center at the University of Illinois. This find delayed the story, since the latest statistics published were for the 2002–2003. Blaser wanted to work with the most current data, so work began in earnest when the 2003–2004 statistics became available a few months later.

It took the staff about two weeks to import, extract, and mold the data to make comparisons.

While *Pioneer Press* staff writer Marcia Sagendorph conducted interviews at the regional and state level for the lead article, each local paper delved into the issues and needs of their own local library. While portions of the statistics accompanied both the lead and local articles, the content fully explored the wide variety of ways that libraries provide access to information and innovation, and serve as critical community centers.

It’s often quoted that the media and libraries are in the same business — the information business. With each story, a reporter has to become a student of the subject. When asked what she learned in the course of writing her article, Sagendorph said, “I was surprised by the passion of those interviewed for the work they do and the mission of libraries.”

Blaser said, “While I had a suspicion that libraries were used a lot, it was surprising how truly popular and heavily used they are.” He also gained a greater awareness of the large role libraries serve as community centers.

***“While I had a suspicion that libraries were used a lot, it was surprising how truly popular and heavily used they are.”***

## Advice for Working with the Media

For as many libraries that have developed productive working relationships with local media, an equal amount will complain about the lack of attention or support. But as in most relationships, with consistent effort, and some give and take, the foundation can be built for greater understanding and ongoing work that benefits both sides.

“A good way to start relationship-building is to invite editors and reporters in for a tour,” explains Blaser, “and when you do, be sure to show them what is unique about your library. Detail how the library serves the community. Don’t forget to let the paper know that you are a resource for their research.”

“Most importantly, be open regarding the issues confronting the library. Is your library troubled by how to handle kids being dropped off and left unsupervised, or by the overflow of homeless using the library as a shelter in the winter? Talking with the newspaper is a way to get the word out. It’s a way to bring the community together and help find solutions.”



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# Position Your **Library** for **SUCCESS**

*Stephen Mongelluzzo, FIRST Communications, Mundelein, Ill.*

**N**

ews flash! Because you have a good working relationship with the news media doesn't mean that you successfully deliver your library's messages. It means that you have a good working relationship with the media. Because you are relaxed during media interviews doesn't mean you successfully deliver your messages. It means that you are relaxed during media interviews. There is only one way to consistently deliver your library's messages—through preparation.

And remember?

### **Failing to Prepare is preparing to Fail.**

It always amazes me how library directors (and many other library spokespersons) who are very successful in their careers, who meticulously prepare for a board meeting, or who will anguish over every word as they prepare a speech, will just “wing it” when they do a media interview.

Do you usually drop everything to do an interview when a reporter calls? Going into an interview, do you feel you are the best person to do the interview because you know more about your library than anyone else? Do you think to yourself, “I've done dozens of media interviews; I don't need to practice?” (Sure, and I don't ever need the help of a reference librarian because I've used a library dozens of times. In fact, I worked in my college library for three years.)

Do you develop messages for every interview? Do you develop messages for each program or service you publicize? Do you have talking papers with messages on recurring issues? Do you anticipate sensitive issues you will be asked to address, and prepare messages for each?

Yes, as famed UCLA basketball coach John Wooden constantly told his players, “Failing to prepare is preparing to fail.” Did he mean that UCLA would lose every game? Of course he didn't. What he did mean was that in the close games against good teams, his team could lose if they were not prepared. UCLA teams had great talent, but how many teams and athletes with great talent don't win? UCLA won ten NCAA titles in twelve years because it was also the best-prepared team.

There are some very simple things you can do to position yourself and your library for success when dealing with the news media. Some can be done right now—before your next interview. Others should be done each time a reporter calls for an interview.

The following are a dozen steps you can take to ensure that you and your library will shine in interviews.

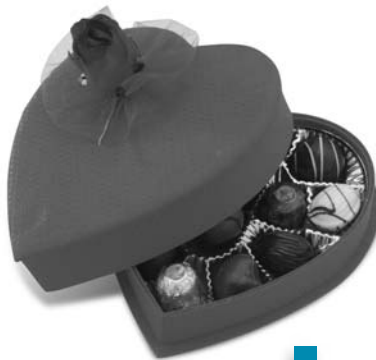
1. Develop a media policy. Most libraries have some kind of media policy. But is your media policy in writing? It should be. Your policy should specifically identify who may talk to the media, what issues they can address, who handles sensitive and controversial topics, and who talks to the media in the absence of these individuals. If you have some employees who can talk to the media on certain issues but not on others, include examples in your policy.

For instance, if department heads can talk to the media about programs and services offered by their department, but not about budget issues, specifically mention this limitation in your policy.

- Finally, you should communicate your policy to all employees regularly (at least once every year). Emphasize to your employees that they should immediately refer all inquiries from the media to the designated persons so they can respond with the most up-to-date, complete, and consistent information in a timely manner. Even seemingly innocent questions can become full interviews for the unsuspecting.
2. Identify issues that the media may call you about. What issues, especially controversial and sensitive ones, might the media contact you about? The time to prepare for these issues is not when a reporter calls, but when these topics are identified. Brainstorm with your staff. Are you prepared to talk about filtering or a reduction in library programs/services right now?
  3. Identify issues you want to discuss with the media. Which programs and services do you want to talk to reporters about? Many of these are ones that you talk about every year. Others might be one-time priorities. If providing a wide variety of high-quality programs and services to local residents is an important goal for your library, be prepared to discuss how your library adds to the quality of life at every opportunity, not just when specifically asked about this issue.
  4. Develop messages for these issues. Generate messages for each of the services, programs, or issues you have identified, and put them in writing. What actions do you want your readers, listeners, or viewers to take, and how will they benefit or prevent a negative consequence by taking these actions? Think of each message as the headline you want for the story.
  5. Develop talking papers on recurring subjects. Write talking points for those issues and programs that you will be discussing on a recurring basis. The talking paper should be a simple, one-page sheet with a bulleted list outlining the key points and your messages. You will find that many of these talking papers can be used from year to year with only minor updates. Do you have a talking paper for your library, for each department, as well as for each program or service?
  6. Gather “memory hooks” on a regular basis. Are you currently gathering success stories, quotations from authoritative sources, examples, analogies, and other “memory hooks” on a regular basis? You and each department should gather these on an ongoing basis so you will have them ready to use at a moment’s notice.
  7. Train your spokespersons, and this means you, too. Have you and other library spokespersons had media training? Or do you rationalize, “I’ve done dozens of interviews. I don’t need training”? The best way to identify problems and to see if you successfully deliver messages is to be taped during training.
  8. “Buy time” when a reporter calls. There is no rule that says you have to drop everything when a reporter phones. However, this is just what many library spokespersons do. Unless you have recently talked about an issue and have your messages already prepared, buy time. Even ten or fifteen minutes will help you to be better prepared.
  9. Develop messages and anticipate questions for every interview. Obviously, you will not anticipate every issue the reporter wants you to discuss. After you buy time, use it to develop messages for these one-time issues and put them in writing; then, anticipate the questions the reporter will ask. Also, have you saved a “memory hook” you can use?
  10. Practice. Sounds like the obvious next step, but how many times do you practice before an interview? After you have developed messages and anticipated questions, have someone ask you the questions, and see if you deliver your messages. Keep a cassette recorder handy in your office. Critique your practice.
  11. Know what you can and cannot talk about. There are some issues you should not or cannot talk about. Do you have privacy rules, legal restrictions, political issues, or policy questions to consider? Be familiar with them. Tell the reporter upfront if you cannot respond to certain questions. Don’t be swayed from this position.
  12. Have your messages in front of you during interviews. Once you have made the effort to develop your messages and to put them in writing, use them. Keep messages in front of you while talking to the reporter. Briefly glance at them from time to time. The only exception would be during a live TV interview, when you want to maintain good eye contact. Most spokespersons forget to deliver their messages because they don’t refer to them during the interview.
- Also, don’t deliver your messages only once. Repeat them.
- Yes, following these twelve steps will take time, and we all seem to be short of time these days. However, the upfront time that you spend in preparing for media interviews can save you time in the future and, more important, can help you successfully deliver your library’s messages. Remember, failing to prepare is preparing to fail!



# Sally in Libraryland



*Sally Decker Smith, Indian Trails Public Library District, Wheeling*

# W

riting about librarians of my youth last time got my subconscious mind going, and then after a while it thumped my conscious mind, and *voilà*: a valentine to mentors. And mentees.

I think most of us in Libraryland, and in particular those of us who had other jobs and careers before finding our way into this place, have had mentors. If we think of mentors in the broadest possible sense (as is my wont), they don't even have to be in librarianship to have helped us get to where we are today, wherever that is. And I'm not sure there is a word for mentoring negatively, but we need to be equally grateful to those who showed us what NOT to do.

Miss Hicks of my childhood library (I never did know her first name, although I'm sure she had one) firmly planted an image in my brain of librarians as helpful, and kind, and amazingly tolerant of questions. Miss Weiss of my grade school library inadvertently showed me the importance of letting readers choose their reading according to their interests and mood, not just their age or test scores. My high school librarian taught me that a library is there to be used!

A manager at my undergraduate job thrust me into a position of having a foolish amount of authority and responsibility at a very early age. She told me later if she had waited for me to ask for the promotion, I never would have, but she knew I could do it. She was absolutely right on the first count, and turned out to be right on the second.

In that job I learned a lot about supervising people, dealing with hostile members of the public, and how important it is to treat the people who clean up after the public with the greatest respect.

Military librarians during my husband's mercifully brief stint in the Air Force taught me that nothing beats the personal touch. Far from home, being greeted by name by people who remembered what I liked to read meant a great deal to me, and I tried to repay them by helping with every petition drive to save the libraries that came along.

The head of circulation who hired me for the partest part-time job there ever was (one night a week, alternate Saturdays) taught me the importance of accuracy in details in a library, and how to work frantically while looking serene and approachable.

My daughters have mentored me in ways I never expected. Conscious of my position as their primary adult female role model, I was brave enough to tackle library school more than ten years after finishing college. But from them I also learned that there are few messes that are fatal, and that laughing can get you through a bad day better than anything.

Jean Scully, with whom I attended library school, and who alphabetized us for the graduation ceremony, taught me that the only irrevocable decision I would ever make was having kids: jobs, houses, even spouses can be undone. It's a very freeing concept!

Elaine Burke, the head of adult services whose photo is on my desk, taught me more about librarianship than all those courses in school put together. I think about her almost every day, and when stumped, ask myself what she would do. When I am smart enough to figure that out and do it, it always works! Shirley Tehle, Jo Wright, and Joan Levin, the three musketeers of reference here, christened me D'Artagnan when a new librarian position was created and I got it.

Each taught me a lot about her areas of interest, and made me a much better reference generalist than I could have been without them. All are long retired now, but I occasionally come across a note one of them wrote, or get a catalog addressed to one of them, and I smile.

I met Miriam Pollack early on in my reference career, and she continues to be a good sounding board. I especially appreciate her saying "Are you nuts?" when it's appropriate.

I met Pat Hogan from Poplar Creek way back when I was a circulation clerk, although I'm fairly certain she wouldn't remember that. She treated me like a peer even when I didn't feel like one, and to this day when I need a brain to pick, she's one of the people I call.

She's running for ALA Council, and so am I, and she has reassured me and promised to show me the ropes (she was on Council before) if we're both elected.

Our director, Tamiye Meehan, challenges me almost every single day, and so far I'm rising to meet those challenges. But she has also given me latitude to try new things, and I've been able to present programs across the state with her blessing, continue writing this column, and actively participate in the wider library universe. And being elected ILA president and all, she certainly models excellent professional involvement behavior!

Mindful of the wonderful people who have made my path easier than it would have been without them, I am at a point in my career where I consciously try to give as good as I got.

Oddly, my first experience as a library mentor was an ILA project quite some time ago—Charles Hale orchestrated a grant project that matched librarians throughout the state. From that I learned that even early in my career I could offer support to someone else who was behind me on the career path.

I was in charge of pages for a while, and hired a tiny, feisty mom of three for one of the page jobs in 1991. Kelly Brungraber left our department to be page supervisor for youth services, and is still here, now as a children's services assistant with an LTA under her belt. She regularly reminds me and everyone else that I hired her, and I'm glad she's as grateful as I am!




A young woman with a degree from a library school in Britain applied for a part-time job here, and I liked her so much that I called ALA to see if it was recognized. It was, so I was happy to hire her. It turned out she hated her non-library full-time job, and after tasting the wonders of reference work here for a couple of years, she was ready to leave us for a full-time job at Barrington Public Library. If you see a tall, blonde Scotswoman throw her arms around me at a conference, that's Helen Stewart.

In the course of my time in Libraryland, many wonderful people have passed through this department, and I can only hope that I was someone they will look back on as someone who helped them learn what to do rather than what not to do. I actually had a dream that there was a party at my house, and everyone who had ever worked for me, and everyone for whom I have worked in Libraryland, was there. And it was one heck of a good time. So good, in fact, that I'm thinking it may be time to throw it for real!

Happy Valentine's Day to you all!

Have you been well mentored, or mentored well?  
E-mail: [sallyinlibraryland@yahoo.com](mailto:sallyinlibraryland@yahoo.com)  
or fax (847) 459-4760 or write (355 S. Schoenbeck Road, Wheeling 60090) your tale to me, and then watch this space!

**ILA**

 <small>Photo: Gall Bender Public Library District, Elgin, IL</small>		<h2>SPEER FINANCIAL, INC.</h2> <p>INDEPENDENT PUBLIC FINANCE CONSULTANTS SERVING LIBRARIES SINCE 1954</p> <p><a href="http://WWW.SPEERFINANCIAL.COM">WWW.SPEERFINANCIAL.COM</a></p>	 <small>Photo: Oak Park Public Library</small>
<p>Speer Financial, Inc. serving libraries with independence, honesty, integrity with distinctive expertise and is on the forefront in the application of technology in municipal debt issuance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Illinois' most active financial advisor.</li><li>• Referendum expertise.</li><li>• No cost capital project borrowing modeling.</li><li>• Open competitive sales lead to lowest bidder/lowest cost.</li></ul>		<p>ONE NORTH LASALLE STREET SUITE 4100 CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60602 PHONE (312) 346 - 3700 FAX (312) 346 - 8833</p> <p>Kevin W. McCanna, CIPFA; CFA President</p> <p>David F. Phillips, CIPFA Senior Vice President/ Director of Marketing</p>	

Library-related stories appearing in local Illinois news media are reflected in this section of the *ILA Reporter*. The intent is to alert and inform other libraries about issues and events that are considered significant by the general media. The draft *Reporter* text is sent to the library in question for accuracy before being published here.

## Hurricane Katrina Survivor Is Working at NIU Founders Memorial Library

A Hurricane Katrina survivor is putting her librarian skills to good use at Northern Illinois University (NIU), reported the December 21 *MidWeek*. Daisy Porter began working at the library on October 10.

Some of Porter's responsibilities at the library include assisting patrons at the reference desk, answering questions that are e-mailed to the library, and working on various projects for the special collections department. Porter said, as part of her job, she has discovered some children's books that are about 120 years old.

"I am a specialist in children's literature, so I'm going through all the children's books and moving the oldest and rarest ones into special collections, so they can be taken care of, so they can be preserved, and people cannot check them out and write in them," she said.

Porter learned about the Founders Memorial Library position while visiting the New Orleans Public Library's Web site. She said the Web site included an e-mail list of librarian positions. She said there was a listing for two positions in California and a listing for the NIU position. Porter said she decided to apply for the NIU position, because she is originally from Chicago and her brother currently attends NIU.

"I'm so happy I found this opportunity. When I was first hired, they asked me what I wanted to do and what I wanted to gain experience in, because they recognized that I'm a fairly new librarian," Porter said. "And they told me to look at this as a resume builder, so I'm doing exactly what I want to do and working with the experts in my field and learning a lot of stuff that I can take with me to any job."

Porter moved from Chicago to New Orleans in 2003 to accept a job at the east regional branch of the New Orleans Public Library. She was recently the assistant manager of the library branch. Porter graduated from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Graduate School of Library and Information Science in May 2003.

Porter left New Orleans the day before Hurricane Katrina hit the gulf coast area. She said traffic was very congested that day as most people were trying to leave the city.

"It took hours just to get out of the city," Porter said. "Everyone in the city was on the road at one time." Porter originally stayed in Memphis, Tenn., for about two days and then headed to Chicago to temporarily live with her sister. She returned to New Orleans about a month ago to retrieve her belongings. She said the uptown area, where she lived, was in good condition and almost back to normal.

According to Porter, the eastern section of the city, where she worked, was still heavily damaged by the hurricane. Porter said there were piles of garbage on the street corners, and there was no electricity. She said the library, where she worked, was flooded, and the books and the computers were damaged. "All these houses had spray-painted numbers on them to say how many bodies were found and what day they were found. It was spooky," she said.

Porter said she is not certain whether she will return to the New Orleans area. She said once she is done with the temporary position at Founders Memorial Library, she may try to find employment either in Chicago or in California.

"This is a temporary job, and they are not able to extend it beyond April for me. They don't have a choice because of the way the extra help system works at universities," Porter said. "So at that point, I will have to leave DeKalb, and I'm applying for jobs in the Chicago area and in New Orleans. There are very few jobs to apply for, but I found one in northern California. I have some friends there, so those are kind of the three areas I'm focusing on."

## Referendum on a \$30 Million Expansion May be Delayed until 2007

Library trustees may halt plans for a property tax referendum in 2006 that would help pay for an estimated \$30 million expansion, including a new east-side Rockford library branch, reported the December 21 Rockford *Register Star*.

The nine-member board that governs the city's downtown library and five branches still wants to tackle the ambitious plan. But November 2006 — the date the library planned to ask voters for a tax hike — might be too soon, and the ballot may be too crowded.

The Rockford School District also is expected to ask voters to renew a 58-cent property tax referendum in November, and momentum is building for a referendum on the November ballot to restore the city's home-rule powers. A library board committee meets next month to decide how to proceed with a referendum.

"We don't want to compete with the school district, and we don't know what the city is going to do with home rule," said John Brien, president of the library's board of trustees. "We want to explore private fundraising options as well. We also have a new director joining the library next month (Frank Novak, former director of the Ela Area Public Library District in Lake Zurich) and we'd like to give him time to get acclimated. But the most important thing is that we need to explain our case for a referendum, and we haven't done that yet."

The last time voters approved a tax hike for library operations was in 1984, when the tax rate increased to 30 cents per \$100 of assessed value. Today, the library's 32-cent tax rate, including a 2-cent maintenance levy, costs the owner of a \$100,000 home \$95.47 a year.

The 1984 referendum passed 55 percent to 45 percent. At that time, library officials promised not to seek another tax increase for at least seven years. The city's library system has grown substantially during the last two decades, and the time has come to make improvements, Brien said.

## Illinois Labor Relations Board Rules for Union in Wheaton

*Daily Herald* reported on December 20 that a new union made up entirely of student assistants, mostly teenagers, who work at the Wheaton Public Library has been certified by the Illinois Labor Relations Board.

In response, the Wheaton City Council voted on January 9 to fight the unionization in court, according to the January 10 *Daily Herald*. The city's resolution states that the Illinois Labor Relations Board's certification of the students' union, the Midwest Union of Public Employees, was "erroneous and not in the best interest of the city." The union does not represent the current seventeen students who are presently employed by the library.

Library director Sarah Meisels states, "the union is the work of one young man, who is not a student assistant. He exerted a great deal of peer pressure on students working in 2005 to sign authorization cards for a union. Afterwards, it became clear that the students did not understand what they had signed. No vote was ever taken."

Meisels indicated that the library's hourly rates for students are good, with frequent raises, and that there has been no dissatisfaction. "The library has no trouble filling vacancies, and students who go on to college clamor to return to library work during the summer breaks and the holidays," stated Meisels.

Meisels said, "It is unclear what purpose is being served by unionizing student assistants, minors who work fifteen hours a week. Students grow up and move on in life. They are the most temporary of temporary."

## Two Deny Bribery Charges in North Chicago Probe

Two men pleaded not guilty in Lake County Circuit Court to new charges in the North Chicago public corruption investigation, reported the January 5 *Chicago Tribune*. Calvin Warren is facing additional charges of official misconduct and bribery for allegedly accepting a payoff from his son-in-law, Glenn Bullocks, over carpeting at the North Chicago Library. Bullocks has been charged with bribery, said Assistant State's Atty. George Strickland.

Warren and Bullocks were charged in May along with five other North Chicago residents. They were accused of offenses ranging from improperly using city credit cards to fraudulently receiving public aid. Bullocks, whose company installed the carpeting, inflated the cost by \$7,000 and gave \$2,300 to Warren, who was on the library board, Strickland said. Warren did not hold a public meeting as required by law, Strickland said. The carpeting cost about \$20,600, he said.

## With or Without Trustees, Vote on Library Fund Set for March

The Winfield Public Library is marching ahead with its plan to ask voters to pay for a new library according to the December 30 *Daily Herald*. It seems the request will come even if the library district doesn't get the blessing of village trustees.

Library officials submitted a petition to the village to place a referendum on the March ballot to ask residents to increase their property tax rate by 26 cents, to 41 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation. The rate increase is estimated to cost the owner of a \$300,000 home about \$247 in additional taxes during the first year. The increase would nearly triple the library's current tax rate and would allow the library to borrow \$7.5 million for the construction of a new facility at Winfield Road and Sunnyside Avenue.

The petition, signed by about 136 people, effectively sidesteps village trustees, who were asked two weeks ago to approve a resolution approving the referendum.

Village officials gave no indication they'd approve the library's request, and several trustees openly voiced their worries about the scope and timing of the project. "I think they're asking good questions. . . . Certainly we'd like to have the support of the village," library director Matthew Suddarth said. "But if they don't vote on it, (the referendum) will still be on the ballot."

Since the Winfield Public Library operates as an arm of the village, it must get its annual budget approved by the village board. The library must also get approval to seek any referendum requests, but residents living in the library district can circumvent the process by submitting a petition signed by registered voters living in the district.

If residents approve the proposal, library trustees plan to knock down the current building and possibly replace it with a two-story, 28,000-square-foot building. To make room for the larger building, the library sealed a one-year purchase option on adjacent property earlier this year from local developer David Russo. The increased tax rate would also give the library about \$250,000 in annual revenue to pay for staff and building maintenance. Library officials are negotiating with several property owners for an interim site.

## Now You Can 'Charge it' for Library Fines

The number of libraries that accept credit card payments is on the rise, and the Bartlett Public Library District is about to join the list, according to the January 5 *Daily Herald*.

"We haven't worked out all the details, but we hope to have it in the next few months," said library director Todd Morning. Through an electronic payment system, the 35,000 or so Bartlett library patrons will be able to pay their fines with a swipe of plastic, Morning said. "It's been asked for throughout the state," he said. "There has been the sense that it's getting ubiquitous. People use credit cards for everything."

The library will be using Illinois Funds' E-Pay system, a program offered by the state treasurer's office, and will absorb the convenience fee rather than passing it on to patrons, Morning said. Staff members also plan to offer a public fax machine for use with credit cards, although not through E-Pay, he said. But until the new payment system is fully implemented, the Bartlett district will continue to accept only cash and checks to pay fines.

Larger area library districts have been accepting credit and debit cards for years. The some 70,000 patrons of the Arlington Heights Memorial Library have been able to pay fines with credit cards for at least three years, said executive librarian Lynn Stainbrook. The library averages about \$40,000 per month in fines and payment for lost books, and about \$2,000 of that is paid for with credit cards, she said.

By next month, the Arlington Heights library hopes to have a new credit card feature up and running — one that allows patrons to pay fines with plastic over a secure Web site, Stainbrook said. "We had the discussion that people would probably pay more fines this way because they don't carry cash," she said. Arlington Heights Memorial Library does not use E-Pay but has contracts with the different card companies.

So does the Schaumburg Township District Library, which has accepted plastic since January 2001, said director Michael Madden. The roughly 70,000 patrons of the Schaumburg library charge about \$4,000 to \$7,000 worth of fines and class and trip fees each month, Madden said.

The Poplar Creek Public Library District — a neighbor to the Bartlett district — is considering E-Pay for its roughly 37,000 patrons but has yet to make a decision either way, said administrator Patricia Hogan.

"We talked about it at the last meeting (in December), and that's where we are. If Bartlett is going ahead with it, that's where they are," Hogan said. For the Poplar Creek district, "it was part of a larger discussion."



## Lombard Library to Tap Patrons' Opinions

Getting more of what you want at Helen Plum Library in Lombard could be a phone call away, according to the January 5 *Daily Herald*. Library trustee have hired Executive Service Corps (ESC) of Chicago to facilitate a new long-range strategic plan. ESC has provided a four-person team, led by George Krafcisin, who spent most of his career with Kemper Insurance, and since 1996 has owned his own management consulting firm.

The basic outline of the plan process is to develop a vision statement, a mission statement, and a set of core values, which will guide the library in principle. "The best library is the one that is most responsive to needs of the local residents," explains library director Bob Harris, "and as the library belongs to the people of Lombard, we need to know what the people of Lombard want and need most in a library."

ESC will be interviewing about thirty-one community people using in-depth interviews during January and February. The interviewees were chosen to represent specific groups who use the library, such as homeschoolers or people with disabilities. Using the interview information, ESC will convene with staff, community members, and Lombard residents at an all-day retreat in March, to discuss the findings further. After the retreat, small "work group" teams will meet to work on the details of the plan, including specific objectives and measurable tasks.

June is the expected deadline for board adoption of the plan. Once the plan is adopted, ESC will attend quarterly board meetings to ensure that the plan is put into place, and not just "filed away."

Although the library is out of space, and the need for a larger facility is urgent, the plan is not only about the building. The library is interested in knowing what improvements to library service they can make, some of which may have nothing to do with a new building, according to Harris.

## Tax Hike Will Fund Expansion, Addison Library Officials Say

Addison library officials envision a new building more than triple the size of the current one, stated the December 15 *Daily Herald*.

First they need support from village officials — and money from taxpayers to get it done.

Library officials unanimously agreed to ask village trustees to place a referendum on the March 21 ballot seeking approval to borrow \$18 million. Library board president Sandy Super said they would like to raze the current 25,000-square-foot building, move to a temporary location, and build on its current space. Because the library is financed by the village, trustees must vote to place the question on the ballot.

Super hopes voters see the value in paying higher taxes to build a new and more spacious library. "It's a major concern that we have," Super said. "It's up to us to get our message out to the voters as to why it's a good thing for the voters." The library's request asks for \$18 million to build and furnish the library.

For years, library officials and staff have been lobbying for a new library. They say the current one is too cramped and it is plagued by an inadequate heating and air conditioning system. Officials are hoping for a new 75,000-square-foot building. Super estimates the tax increase would add about \$180 to the tax bill for a \$300,000 house in the first year.

Mayor Larry Hartwig said he likes the idea of a new library. But he would prefer to avoid a tax increase altogether. "It would behoove them to look very carefully at what their plan would be and ask for the minimum," Hartwig said. "I don't get the feeling that people want to build a real fancy type of facility." He believes the library board should explore building the new facility in phases and possibly expanding ten years from now.

## WIU Uses \$250,000 Snyder Gift to Create Icarian Professorship

Western Illinois University (WIU) Libraries recently established the first endowed professorship in Icarian and Regional Studies, based in the archives and special collections unit, reported the December 7 *Hancock County Journal-Pilot*.

In 2004 Lillian Snyder of Nauvoo presented WIU with a \$250,000 gift to create the position. Following a national search, Jeffrey Hancks was named to the first endowed professorship, effective July 1, 2005.

His primary duties include coordinating the archives and special collections unit's activities; developing the unit's collections, with special attention to the Icarian studies collection; and promoting the unit throughout Illinois.

"I am honored to have been selected as the university's first endowed professor," Hancks said. "As a native of west central Illinois, I am excited to work in the archives and special collections unit and to promote the history and culture of this fascinating region, including the Icarian settlement at Nauvoo. There is a long tradition of service excellence here, and I am committed to maintaining that excellence and moving the unit forward into new and unique endeavors.

This is definitely an exciting time to work in the archives."

Snyder died at the age of 91. She earned a bachelor's degree in agricultural economics from the University of Illinois in 1937, a master's degree in social work from Smith College in 1939, and a doctorate of social work from the Columbia University School of Social Work in 1975. She taught in WIU's department of sociology and anthropology as the first social work professor until her retirement in 1985. In retirement, Dr. Snyder continued her social work research in aging, alcoholism, mental health, and social justice.

Additionally, she was a leading voice on promoting communal studies, especially Icarian studies.

"Dr. Snyder's passing is a loss to us all," stated James Huesmann, dean of University Libraries at Western Illinois University. "In her, the ideals of the Icarian movement still lived on. And true to her beliefs, Dr. Snyder decided to provide a means by which those ideals will never die — by endowing a professorship dedicated to preserving the memory of the Icarian movement and the history of the west central Illinois region in which it lived."

## Dinos Pay off for Library

Thousands of people from all over the Fox Valley and the world descended on Gail Borden Library during its four-month exhibit *Giants: African Dinosaurs*, reported the January 3, 2006 *Daily Herald*. (See *ILA Reporter* October 2005, p. 21.) As workers took apart the replicas, library officials credit the exhibit, as well as the Dinos on Parade event, for raising the library's profile.

Visitors ranged from the toddler who threw a tantrum in the lobby because he couldn't take home the Jobaria, the exhibit's 33-foot-tall centerpiece, to a trio of Buddhist monks meditating near the Jobaria's feet. It was exactly what library officials wanted to see.

"We wanted to reach out to the community in a way that was to people of all ages and all cultures," said Denise Raleigh, the library's spokeswoman. "It was an educational opportunity to draw people in."

During the exhibit's four-month run, the library's daily attendance rate rose by an estimated 25–30 percent — the library's usual daily attendance is 2,000 visitors. Due to mammoth demand last week during the exhibit's final hurrah, the library added five additional tours. "The demand for this was wonderful, even for the very end," Raleigh said. "We thought perhaps it would get old in December, but it didn't."

Comparing Columbus Day 2005 to that of 2004, library card registration was up 82 percent and attendance was up 42 percent, Raleigh said.

To appeal to a range of visitors, library volunteers conducted tours in both English and Spanish. Miriam Lytle, the exhibit's coordinator, said Latino students from a grade school in Wheeling visited the dinosaurs three times. Visitors hailing from Laos, Holland, and the Fox Valley also joined the dinosaur tours, and she saw repeat visitors bring their families.

Lytle noticed locals taking ownership of the two-year-old library.

"I've heard people say 'the library' and now they are saying 'We are so proud of our library,'" Lytle said. "We are so proud that they are embracing the exhibit and the library."

As for what the library can do to top the success of the dinosaur exhibit, Raleigh said that's a good question.

"We're still percolating on that," she said. "You set the bar high for yourself and you hope you can maintain it."

## ILA Candidates for 2006

The ILA Nominating Committee has announced the candidates for election in the spring of 2006.

For vice-president/president-elect (three-year term beginning July 1, 2006 – June 30, 2009):

**Bradley F. Baker**, Northeastern Illinois University, Chicago

**Charlotte Johnson**, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

Board of Directors (three-year term beginning July 1, 2006 – June 30, 2009). A candidate from each pairing will be elected in accordance with the ILA bylaws as amended at the 1998 ILA Annual Conference; a total of four directors will be elected to serve three-year terms on the ILA board.

Director-at-Large:

**Vandella Brown**, Illinois State Library, Springfield

**Emily Guss**, University of Illinois at Chicago

Director-at-Large:

**Arlis Dittmer**, Blessing Health Professions Library, Quincy

**Jocelyn Tipton**, Eastern Illinois University, Charleston

Director-at-Large:

**Regina McBride**, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

**Christine Stupegia**, Sparta Public Library

Director-at-Large:

**Jamie Bukovac**, Indian Prairie Public Library, Darien

**Bleue Benton**, Oak Park Public Library

ALA Councilor:

**Richard A. Chartrand**, East Alton Public Library District

**Tina Hubert**, Lewis & Clark Library System, Edwardsville

Any ILA member wishing to be added to the ballot by petition may call the ILA office for information. Nominations by petition for an elective office shall be proposed in writing by at least one hundred (100) personal members of the association and delivered to the executive office by March 1, 2006. Candidates for director nominated by petition shall be added to the slate and placed in the paired candidate group that most clearly matches the affiliations of the petitioner as determined by the nominating committee. Petition candidates for vice-president/president-elect will be added to the presidential slate as requested. The polls will open electronically April 1, 2006. In addition, paper ballots will be sent to persons requesting one. The return deadline is thirty (30) days after the ballot is postmarked.

The electronic polls will close April 30.

Serving on the nominating committee are Richard A. Chartrand, Ruth E. Faklis, James R. Johnston, Matthew C. Kubiak, Beverly J. Obert, Chadwick T. Raymond, and Allen Lanham, Chair.

## John Doe and Employer Win Intellectual Freedom Award

The librarian known as plaintiff John Doe in *John Doe v. Gonzales*, along with Doe's unidentified employer, have been named the recipients of the 2005 Robert B. Downs Intellectual Freedom Award. The award is given by the faculty of the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Filed in August against U.S. Attorney General Alberto Gonzales, *Doe v. Gonzales* challenges the constitutionality of Section 505 of the USA PATRIOT Act, which allows the FBI to issue an administrative subpoena known as a national security letter without judicial oversight. Because Section 505 also gags those receiving a national security letter from revealing that fact, neither Doe nor his employer have reacted publicly to a November *Washington Post* story identifying him as George Christian of the Connecticut consortium Library Connection.

The plaintiffs lost an emergency appeal October 7 to have the gag order lifted so they could speak out about the ramifications of the PATRIOT Act during ongoing congressional debate regarding its reauthorization.

Since Doe and his employer cannot directly accept the award, a third party stood in on their behalf January 21, during a reception at the 2006 ALA Midwinter Meeting in San Antonio.

## Ever wished for a little appreciation? Well, wish no further — nominate yourself or your library for an ILA award.

Not sure who to nominate? Did you know that you could nominate your library for many of the ILA awards? If you don't share all that you or you and your library, library staff, and board are doing to contribute to better library service in Illinois — who will? ILA awards recognize cooperation and collaboration; best practices; outstanding new professionals, youth service librarians, academic librarians, trustees, and support staff; innovative libraries; exemplary careers and commitment to advocacy and intellectual freedom; service to blind and disabled patrons; and much more. If you, a library, or someone you know has done something extraordinary, identify the appropriate award and submit your nomination today. For more information on awards visit <http://www.ila.org/membership/awards.htm>.

### General Award Information:

Nominations are due at the ILA Office (33 W. Grand, Suite 301, Chicago, IL 60610-4306) on or before May 15, 2006 (unless otherwise noted). Write the award name on the lower left-hand corner of the envelope. Simply submit the ILA nomination form and any other materials required for the award you have chosen.

Award winners will receive notification in July 2006, and will be a guest of ILA at the annual presentation ceremony in Chicago (October 2006).

See the ILA nomination form and complete award information at <http://www.ila.org/membership/awards.htm>.

## Documentary by Morton College Reference Librarian Aired on PBS

Daniel Kraus, a reference librarian in the Morton College Library, was the director of a documentary that made its television premier on PBS's "Independent Lens."

"Sheriff" follows the daily adventures of thirty-eight-year-old Sheriff Ronald E. Hewett as he tries to keep the peace in the rural community of Brunswick County, North Carolina. More than five years in the making, "Sheriff" uses classic *cinéma vérité* techniques (excluding the interviews and music) to paint a detailed, intimate portrait of a dying breed of iconic Americana: the small-town sheriff trying to do good in a very bad world.

Indeed, Hewett is the quintessential Southern gentleman, a man whose easy smile, open sincerity, and comforting Southern accent invites the entire community to embrace him as part of their family. This is not entirely by chance. As a montage of Hewett business placards and road signs reveal, Hewett seems to be related to almost everyone in Brunswick County and is considered their favorite son.

Some of this admiration stems from Hewett's bold modernization of the formerly backward, backwoods department. Before Hewett was elected in 1994, the sheriff's department wasn't even open after 5 P.M.

"Sheriff" reveals the flawed but earnest human behind the Andy Griffith and Buford Pusser clichés. Hewett's daily struggles with justice, power, and public opinion are not far removed from America's own struggles.

Kraus is the writer and director of two previous award-winning feature films, "Jeftowne" and "Ball of Wax," both available on DVD.

He contributes to such publications as *Cosmopolitan*, *Playboy*, *Salon.com* and *Maxim*, and has written for several Chicago publications. He is also the winner of two AP awards for TV news photography. He grew up in Iowa and currently lives in Chicago. His films have been screened at dozens of festivals, including Slamdance, Cannes, Cinequest, Leeds, Austin, Atlanta, New York Underground, and Chicago Underground.

# ILA Welcomes New Members

We would love to welcome your friends and colleagues, too. By sponsoring a new member, you share the benefits of membership with others... and help create a stronger and more effective voice to promote the highest quality library services for all people in Illinois.

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PSA-Dewberry, Naperville

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## Illinois Reading and Enrichment Development (IREAD) Committee

Jane Kauzlaric, Joliet Public Library

Libraries are ready to set sail for the 2006 Voyage to Book Island summer reading program. The Resource Guide arrived in January; the other IREAD products you ordered will follow in March.

This year the Voyage to Book Island Summer Reading Program Virtual Showcase will be held on March 10, 2006. Join your colleagues throughout Illinois as we share our plans for this year's program.

Check with your library system for VTEL sites.

The 2007 IREAD summer reading program theme has been announced:

Mission READ: To the Library and Beyond. Eric Rohmann, the Caldecott Medalist from Illinois, will provide fun illustrations based upon this outer space theme.

And planning will soon begin for the 2008 program. We need you to be a part of the IREAD Team! Go to [www.ila.org/iread](http://www.ila.org/iread) to volunteer.

## Intellectual Freedom Committee

To Filter or Not To Filter, That Is the Question

Mary H. Munroe, Northern Illinois University

In *The Internet & Our Children: A Community Partnership*, the Illinois Library Association (ILA) states, "The library's mission is to provide the fullest possible access by everyone in the community to all constitutionally protected forms of expression. Libraries are designed to be inclusive, rather than exclusive." Discussing filtering in libraries, ILA goes on to say, "Filters are designed to exclude." However, ILA says that "filtering, much like any acquisition choice or any aspect of collection development, is a decision best left to local officials."

When a decision about filters needs to be made, there are a number of factors that librarians need to keep in mind.

### How reliable is filtering software?

When libraries restrict children to filtered Internet access, it may imply a contract with parents that their children will not be able to access certain objectionable material on the Internet. In a *Consumer Reports* study in 2005, the researchers say that the software is better at blocking pornography than before, but not perfect. The *Consumer Reports* researchers tested eleven products and found that the worst performer filtered 88 percent of the list of objectionable sites they tested.

When it came to hate sites, and those advocating illegal drug use, violence, and weapons-making, the filters were not as effective. For example, nine filters out of eleven failed to block a site with detailed instructions on how to kill someone with your bare hands.

Informative sites were too often blocked. Seven of the eleven products block the entire results page of a Google or Yahoo search if some links have objectionable words in them, and the filters were particularly heavy-handed against sites about health issues, sex education, civil rights, and politics. *Consumer Reports* advises weighing protection versus interference. One parent reported that the high school library's filtering system made research for his high school student impossible, and he had to provide unfiltered access to his home computer in order for the student to complete his assignments. A study conducted by the Electronic Freedom Foundation on Internet filtering devices found that the least restrictive setting blocked between .5 percent and 5 percent of search results based on state-mandated curriculum topics, and those that block with the most restrictive settings blocked up to 70 percent of the same results.

### Must I filter the computers in my library?

In Illinois, libraries may legally filter obscene content (as determined by a court of law) and child pornography, even if filters are imperfect. If a public library is using E-rate or LSTA funds to purchase computers used to access the Internet or to pay for direct costs associated with Internet access, they are required to filter. Compliance is not needed for other uses of LSTA funds.

However, except for legally defined obscenity and child pornography, adults are legally allowed free access to the Internet. Mary Minow, in "Lawfully Surfing the Net: Disabling Public Library Internet Filters to Avoid More Lawsuits in the United States," defines the "Cautious Public Library" as one who installs filters and will unblock a site only when an adult patron asks the librarian to unblock the site for bona fide research. The "Quick Public Library" as defined by Minow, also installs filters, but chooses a vendor that offers minimum blocking. The terminal allows patrons to choose filtered or filter disabled access, after clicking that they are over seventeen years of age.

Minow points out that the Quick Public Library is not only truer to the professional ideals of intellectual freedom, but also legally safer, since it does not expose the library to lawsuits for over- or under-compliance with CIPA or other state legislation, and it avoids legal issues over "bona fide research" or "other lawful purposes."

### What Are Best Practices?

If filters are the ultimate choice in your library, Doug Johnson has some advice:

- Base the choice of filters not on cost or convenience, but on features and capacity to customize. Make sure that you know exactly what your filtering software is blocking;
- Strongly advocate for the least restrictive setting;
- Generously use the override lists on Internet filters;
- Configure at least one machine that is completely unblocked in each library media center so that questionably blocked sites can be reviewed and immediately accessed by staff and students if found to be useful;
- Continue to educate and inform parents and the public about school and public Internet uses and issues; and
- Continue to create learning environments that promote the use of the Internet for positive purposes. Johnson, Doug, "Freedom and Filters," *Library Media Connection* 21/5 (February 1, 2003).

If your choice is not to filter, you have a wealth of resources to help you educate parents and children about the Internet:

- Provide a variety of safe sites on your Web site for all users, particularly children. A good start is ALA's Great Web sites for Kids:  
<http://www.ala.org/ala/alsc/greatwebsites/greatsites-brochure.pdf>
- Use ALA's Safety Toolkit at <http://tinyurl.com/8stud>
- Check out "A Parent's Guide to Internet Safety" at <http://www.fbi.gov/publications.htm>.
- Take a look at the GetNetWise safety site at <http://GetNetWise.org>.
- Have a clear, comprehensive Internet Policy and make it available widely.

Happy safe surfing.

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## Resources and Technical Services Forum (RTSF)

*Dean E. Cody, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville*

The forum would like to remind its members and readers of this column to nominate a colleague to receive next year's forum award. Who among your colleagues has:

- Demonstrated leadership in keeping pace with the rapidly changing resources and technical services environment;
- Demonstrated leadership in training colleagues (local, regional and statewide); and
- Facilitated discussion of issues pertinent to our area of expertise?

On November 2, 2005, a CARLI-sponsored (Consortium of Academic and Research Libraries in Illinois) event took place at the University of Illinois at Springfield. The IUAG (ILCSO User's Advisory Group) Consortial Cataloging and Authority Control Committee (CCAC) presented, "Fall Cleaning: Tools and Techniques for Catalog Maintenance." Currently you can find the documents and PowerPoint slides of the presentations on the ILCSO Web site at <http://www.ilcso.uiuc.edu/Web/ILCSO.html>. Casey Sutherland of the CARLI office was on hand to note that CARLI was recently formed by the merger of three consortia, viz. ILCSO, IDAL, and ICCMP. One of the themes of this program is the Voyager upgrade to version 5.0 next May. During the upgrade all Voyager systems will be out of service.

John Whisler of Eastern Illinois University gave three presentations.

He spoke on Voyager's Pick & Scan feature, which enables catalogers to make global changes (e.g. holdings location, type, or status) to selected item records. Second, he gave an in-depth demonstration of three of the many "buttons" on Gary Strawn's Cataloger's Toolkit software. Third, he briefly explained the document that CCAC prepared listing maintenance projects for bibliographic records, MFHDs, and item records. Priscilla Matthews and Susan Braxton of Illinois State University spoke on the effects of local cataloging practices on the Universal Catalog. ChewChiat Naun of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign gave a brief explanation of CARLI-recommended practices when catalogers use bibliographic records from non-OCLC sources.

Another CARLI-sponsored event occurred on November 29, 2005. The IUAG Acquisitions/Serials Task Force presented the topic, "E-Resources: Same Questions and Different Answers" held at Heartland Community College in Normal. Panelists for the morning session were Alex Bloss of the University of Illinois at Chicago, Lisa Gonzales of Trinity Christian College, and John Ballestro and Andrea Imre of Southern Illinois University Carbondale. Scheduled panelist Carljos Melian of Northeastern Illinois University was unable to attend due a fire in the library the night before. The morning panelists and discussion period addressed the big picture of electronic resource acquisition. Among the topics discussed were licensing issues, collection development criteria for deciding the appropriateness of a database to the curriculum, and the role of the acquisitions librarian in the acquisitions process. Afternoon panelists were Sandy Roe of Illinois State University, Cindy Fuller of Millikin, and Mary Lang of Augustana. Among the nuts and bolts issues discussed were strategies for deciding whether or not to use Voyager to track electronic resources, using the Notes field in Voyager to track information that an Access report will retrieve, and strategies for tracking electronic journals included in packages.



# Spring 2006 Continuing Education Opportunities

## Trustee Forum Workshop

Saturday, February 25, 2006

Hickory Ridge Marriott Conference Hotel  
1195 Summerhill Drive, Lisle, IL 60532

### Schedule:

Breakfast	6:30 – 8:30 A.M.
Business Meeting	8:30 – 9:00 A.M.
Program	9:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M.

This full-day workshop will cover the following topics:

- Fundraising
- How to Engage in Library Community Activities
- Effective Board Training
- How to Evaluate Your Director
- Legal Issues and Board Responsibilities
- Emergency Response Procedures
- Brainstorming

Networking and Fellowship

### Speakers Include:

Guy Blaszak, Heil and Heil Insurance Company  
Shirley May Byrnes, DuPage Library System  
Alice Calabrese, Metropolitan Library System  
Kip Kolkmeier, ILA Legislative Consultant  
Noreen Lake, Des Plaines Public Library  
Phil Lenzini, Attorney  
Sandra Norlin, Des Plaines Public Library

Full-Day Registration

\$85\* ILA Members

\$100\* Non-Members

\*Register multiple trustees and save! Register one trustee at the full price and each additional trustee from your institution will receive a \$10 registration discount! Please send a separate registration form for each trustee.

Registration includes breakfast and lunch, two snack breaks, and workshops.

Individual hotel accommodations are available for \$79 queen and \$99 double queen. Contact Hickory Ridge at (630) 971-5000 to book your stay.

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Photocopy or detach and mail or fax with payment to:  
ILA, 33 W. Grand, Suite 301, Chicago, IL 60610-4306  
Fax: (312) 644-1899

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

### Method of Payment:

- Check or money order for \$\_\_\_\_\_ made payable to ILA.  
 Charge \$\_\_\_\_\_ to my  VISA  MasterCard

Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Registration deadline is February 13, 2006. All cancellations must be received in writing by February 17, 2006. All cancellations subject to a \$15 processing fee; no refunds will be issued after February 20, 2006.

## 2006 IACRL Spring Conference

### Libraries in the Digital Future

March 29–31, 2006

The Chateau Hotel and Conference Center  
1601 Jumer Drive  
Bloomington, Illinois 61704

The keynote speaker for the Opening Session on March 30 will be Michael Jon Jensen, director of web communications, National Academies, and director of publishing technologies, National Academies Press.

The preconference, held on March 29, will feature presentations and breakout sessions focused on CARLI, the Consortium of Academic and Research Libraries in Illinois, and will include an opportunity to meet and hear an opening address by the new CARLI executive director, Susan Singleton.

A block of rooms for the conference has been reserved at the Chateau Hotel and Conference Center for \$81 / night plus tax; contact the hotel directly by February 28 toll-free at (866) 690-4006, and mention the IACRL Conference to get the special rate. Attendees are responsible for making their own lodging reservations.

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### Registration

Name:	Institution:		
Mailing Address:	City:	State:	Zip:
Daytime Phone:	Fax:	E-mail:	

- \$90 Early Bird Registration; must be postmarked by February 28
- \$100 after February 28
- \$ 75 Student Registration

### Method of Payment:

- Check or money order for \$\_\_\_\_ made payable to ILA.
- Charge \$\_\_\_\_ to my  VISA  MasterCard

Account Number:	Expiration Date:	Signature:
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Deadline for registration is March 24, 2006. Cancellations must be received in writing before March 24. Cancellations received after March 24 and before March 29 will receive a 50 percent refund. No refunds will be given for cancellations received on or after March 29.

Send payment to the ILA Office: 33 W. Grand, Suite 301, Chicago, IL 60610-4306, Phone: (312) 644-1896, Fax: (312) 644-1899

Or register online at [www.ila.org](http://www.ila.org).

## National Library Legislative Day

### Tuesday, May 2

Mark your calendar for National Library Legislative Day, Tuesday, May 2, 2006—the day we bring our lobbying skills to the nation's capital for what is deemed “the most important grassroots lobbying effort under our sponsorship!” A variety of activities has been designed to prepare National Library Legislative Day participants for an informed and effective day of congressional visits.

### Accommodations

ILA has reserved a room block at the Capitol Hill Suites, 200 C St., SW, Washington, DC 20003; phone: 888-627-7811; \$175 single rate; \$195 double rate, 14.5% sales tax not included. When making reservations, please mention the Illinois Library Association. For further information on the issues and briefing session, contact the American Library Association; phone: 800-941-8478. Since National Rural Electric Cooperative Association is scheduled for the same time period, please make your reservations prior to the cut-off date of March 31, 2006.

# The Capitol Hill Club



### Monday, May 1

#### 9:00 A.M.

Participants may want to attend the ALA briefing at the Holiday Inn on the Hill. This full day (9:00 A.M. – 3:30 P.M.) of issues' briefings is designed to prepare participants for congressional visits.

#### 6:00 P.M.

This day's events will continue with a cocktail hour (6:00–7:00 P.M.) and dinner (7:00 P.M.) at the Capitol Hill Club, 300 First St., SE, Washington, DC 20003; phone: (202) 484-4590. Attendance at dinner is optional.

### Tuesday, May 2

#### 8:30 – 9:45 A.M.

A kick-off with a brief summary of key issues has been scheduled at a location to be announced on Capitol Hill.

#### 9:45 A.M.

The delegation will “Hit the Hill,” with scheduled congressional appointments.

#### 3:00 P.M.

Currently, the tentative scheduled meeting with Illinois Senators Dick Durbin and Barack Obama.

#### 5:00 – 7:00 P.M.

The National Library Legislative Day Committee has scheduled a Congressional Reception (location to be announced). All representatives and senators will be sent invitations to attend the reception. Congressional staff is also being invited.

*(continued on page 44)*

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### Registration

Name:	Institution:		
Mailing Address:	City:	State:	Zip:
Daytime Phone:	Fax:	E-mail:	

Your registration fee includes legislative materials, coffeekes at the briefing sessions, and the Congressional Reception on Tuesday evening, organized by the National Library Legislative Day Committee. \$35 of your registration fee goes to the ALA for coffee breaks, room rental, and speakers and \$10 goes to ILA for registration, organizing the packets, dinner, and Congressional appointments.

### Registration Fee:

\$45 for ILA Members  
\$55 for nonmembers

### Dinner Fee:

\$50 for dinner on Monday night at the Capitol Hill Club, 300 First St., SE, Washington, DC 20003; phone: (202) 484-4590.

All dinners will be served with warm breads, butternut squash and corn chowder, seasonal baby greens with tomatoes, cucumbers and carrots, served with house dressing, chef's selection of potatoes and vegetables, chocolate decadence flourless cake, coffee, decaffeinated coffee, and a selection of fine teas. A cash bar will be available. **Price includes 10% District of Columbia sales tax and 20% gratuity.** Please choose one of the following menu options:

- Cilantro and fennel crusted breast of chicken served over Israeli couscous with sundried tomato sauce
- Pan seared filet of salmon with lobster sauce served with with parsley red pepper mashed potatoes
- Vegetarian lasagna

### Method of Payment:

- Check or money order for \$\_\_\_\_ made payable to ILA.
- Charge \$\_\_\_\_ to my  VISA  MasterCard

Account Number:	Expiration Date:	Signature:
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While attending the 2006 National Library Legislative Day, I will be staying at \_\_\_\_\_ (name of hotel or other accommodations) \_\_\_\_\_.

Deadline for registration is April 15, 2006. Cancellations must be received in writing before April 15. Cancellations received after April 15 and before May 1 will receive a 50 percent refund. No refunds will be given for cancellations received on or after May 1. Confirmations and additional information will be sent after the registration deadline. Send payment to the ILA Office, 33 W. Grand Ave., Suite 301, Chicago, IL 60610-4306, phone: (312) 644-1896, fax: (312) 644-1899.

## Youth Services Forum Spring Workshop

Open Your Library Doors Wider: How You Can Reach the “Hard to Find” Members of Your Community.

**Wednesday, May 10**

**9:00 A.M.—NOON**

Lewis and Clark Library System  
425 Goshen Rd.  
Edwardsville, IL 62025

Jan Watkins, head of youth services at the Skokie Public Library, will present a two-part program. The first half will be on Grandparents Raising Grandchildren. Jan will share information about the growing number of grandparents who have taken on the responsibility of raising their grandchildren, the reasons this has occurred, the challenges that they face, and ways in which the public library as well as other organizations can support their needs so that the children they are raising have the best possible advantages.

The second half of the workshop will be devoted to “Come on In—The Public Library as a Special Place for Children with Disabilities.”

This will include information on the LSTA grant the Skokie Public Library received in 2004 and the work that its youth services department did to accomplish their goals of better serving children with special needs.

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### Registration

Name:	Institution:		
Mailing Address:	City:	State:	Zip:
Daytime Phone:	Fax:	E-mail:	

\$20 for ILA/SWAYS Members

\$25 for non-members

Registration includes a continental breakfast.

### Method of Payment:

- Check or money order for \$\_\_\_\_ made payable to ILA.  
 Charge \$\_\_\_\_ to my  VISA  MasterCard

Account Number:	Expiration Date:	Signature:
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Deadline for registration is April 21, 2006. Cancellations must be received in writing before May 1. Cancellations received after May 1 and before May 10 will receive a 50 percent refund. No refunds will be given for cancellations received on or after May 10. Confirmations and additional information will be sent after the registration deadline. Send payment to the ILA Office, 33 W. Grand Ave., Suite 301, Chicago, IL 60610-4306, phone: (312) 644-1896, fax: (312) 644-1899; or register online: [http://www.ila.org/events/reg\\_ysf.htm](http://www.ila.org/events/reg_ysf.htm).



## Illinois Library Day

### March 1

Join your colleagues in Springfield Wednesday, March 1, to show your support for libraries! Libraries need to show the largest turnout ever for the annual Illinois Library Day! Let your voice be heard in Springfield this year.

Sponsored by the Illinois Library Association, the Illinois School Library Media Association, the Illinois Library Systems Directors Organization, the Illinois Special Libraries Association, and the Consortium of Academic and Research Libraries in Illinois, the event will be hosted by the Illinois State Library.

Plans call for participants to gather at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum and march en masse to the Lincoln statue on the east side of the state capitol building for a rally featuring speeches from library leaders. In case of inclement weather conditions, the rally will be held inside the Illinois State Library. Participants will be carrying signs, umbrellas, and banners, and we are confident a large turnout will make lawmakers take notice and hopefully generate positive media coverage for our efforts.

There will be two simultaneous 'working lunch' workshops (1:30–2:30 P.M.) that will be worth one CPDU for school librarians and a trustee education credit for public library per capita grants. We hope this added incentive will encourage trustees and school librarians to make the trip to Springfield and be a part of this special day.

Finally, some Illinois library systems have reserved a block of hotel rooms and are organizing buses/carpools for participants. Please check with your system regarding these arrangements.

To register, please complete this form or register online at [www.ila.org/events/reg\\_ild.htm](http://www.ila.org/events/reg_ild.htm).

## Registration

Name:	Institution:		
Mailing Address:	City:	State:	Zip:
Daytime Phone:	Fax:	E-mail:	
Name your Illinois library system:			

Name of Illinois legislators \_\_\_\_\_ (If you are unsure, please check <http://tinyurl.com/9m8ok> — insert your zip code, hit go, then provide your home address to determine your Illinois senator and representative.)

Have you attended Library Day before?  Yes  No

The following are optional additional items to consider:

- I would like to register for the school librarians workshop (1:30–2:30 P.M.)
- I would like to register for the trustee workshop (1:30–2:30 P.M.).

I would like to order a \$8.50 box lunch, including a brownie, chips, apple, and bottle of water, that will be available at the state library at 1:00 P.M., please select:

- Turkey and swiss on a croissant
- Roast beef and cheddar on a sub bun
- Veggies and cream cheese on a sub bun

I would like to purchase (state quantity) \_\_\_\_\_ \$10 compact umbrella(s) (royal blue and white with the phrase 'I ♥ Libraries') for a total of \$\_\_\_\_\_.

I would like to make a tax-deductible donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to help support Illinois Library Day.

Total \$\_\_\_\_\_ (for any of these optional items — box lunch, umbrella(s), and donation)

## Method of Payment:

- Check or money order for \$\_\_\_\_\_ made payable to ILA.
- Charge \$\_\_\_\_\_ to my  VISA  MasterCard

Account Number:	Expiration Date:	Signature:
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Deadline for registration is February 24, 2006.

Confirmations and additional information will be sent prior to the event. Send payment to the ILA Office, 33 W. Grand Ave., Suite 301, Chicago, IL 60610-4306, phone: (312) 644-1896, fax: (312) 644-1899.

# REACHING FORWARD

## *A Conference for Library Assistants*

Our mission is to provide professional opportunities for library support staff to grow, learn, and connect with new ideas.

May 19, 2006

8:00 AM–3:30 PM

Donald E. Stephens

Convention Center

5555 North River Road

Rosemont, IL 60018

### **PROGRAMS WILL INCLUDE:**

- Managing Emotions on the Front Line
- Staying Safe in a Dangerous World
- Trends in New Fiction – Chick Lit and African American Fiction
- Teen Volunteers in the Library – A Valuable Resource
- Grandparents Raising Grandchildren: How Libraries Can Help
- Interactive Technology Services
- Finding the Key to Understanding Yourself
- The Illinois State Library
- Six Keys to Financial Success
- Solving the Problem, Not the Symptom
- Doug Cummings and Linda Mickey — You've Written a Mystery... Now What?
- Specialized Services for People with Disabilities
- Programming for Pennies
- Baby Sign Language
- Anime: Reaching Teens in a Graphic World
- How to Avoid Identity Theft
- Can't We Just All Get Along? Or: It's My Way or the Highway! Which Sounds More Like You?
- How to Remember What You Saw
- Difficult Conversations
- Chaos to Order: Complete Home and Office Organizing
- Every Child Ready to Read
- Functional Exercise and Stress Relief
- What's a Blog? Why Do You Need One?
- Getting Beyond Living Paycheck to Paycheck
- "Psychological Decoder Ring" – Using the People Styles Inventory
- Branding Matters
- View It! Videos for Kids
- E-Pay: Electronic Payment Services Program

...and many more!

**8:00 AM**

Registration/Networking and Continental Breakfast

**8:30 AM:** Introduction and Welcome

**9:00 AM:** Keynote Address: *Loretta LaRoche*

Loretta LaRoche is an international lecturer, stress management consultant, theatre performer, best-selling author and star of several critically acclaimed PBS Specials, viewed locally on WTTW Channel 11. She is an adjunct faculty member at The Mind/Body Medical Institute, an affiliate of Beth Israel and Harvard Medical School, and is a contributing writer for *The Wellness Book*. Loretta's irreverent humor, wit and wisdom has for over 20 years helped individuals and organizations learn to take themselves less seriously by seeing the humor in everyday stressors.

**10:00 – 10:30 AM:** *Loretta LaRoche book signing and no-conflict exhibitor time*

**Get involved in your professional organization.  
Join ILA today for only \$25.00**

### **AUTHOR PROGRAMS:**

*The Mystery Mavens*

*Kevin Luthardt*

*Dennis Foley*

*Doug Cummings and  
Linda Mickey*

*Al Gini*

**Exhibits will  
be open  
throughout  
the day**

**Please visit our web site at  
[www.reachingforward.org](http://www.reachingforward.org)  
for more information  
regarding programming  
and the conference  
in general.**



Please call the Illinois Library Association  
at **312-644-1896** with registration questions.

## Registration Form – Reaching Forward Annual Conference of Library Assistants

May 19, 2006 • 8:00AM – 3:30PM

### ONE REGISTRATION PER PERSON

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

LIBRARY NAME \_\_\_\_\_

STREET ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ FAX \_\_\_\_\_

Please select one program per time slot.

#### 10:00 – 10:30 AM: Loretta LaRoche book signing and no-conflict exhibitor time

#### 10:30 – 11:30 AM (choose one)

- Author Program: Al Gini
- Author Program: Dennis Foley
- Finding the Key to Understanding Yourself
- Grandparents Raising Grandchildren: How Libraries Can Help
- Interactive Technology Services
- Managing Emotions on the Front Line
- Six Keys to Financial Success
- Staying Safe in a Dangerous World
- Teen Volunteers in the Library – A Valuable Resource
- The Illinois State Library
- Trends in New Fiction

#### 11:45 AM – 12:45 PM (choose one)

- Author Program: Kevin Luthardt
- Author Program: Doug Cummings & Linda Mickey – You’ve Written a Mystery...Now What?
- Anime: Reaching Teens in a Graphic World
- Baby Sign Language
- Can’t We Just All Get Along? Or: It’s My Way or the Highway! Which Sounds More Like You?
- How to Avoid Identity Theft
- How to Remember What You Saw
- Programming for Pennies
- Six Keys to Financial Success
- Solving the Problem, Not the Symptom
- Specialized Services for People with Disabilities

#### 12:45 – 2:00 PM LUNCH

#### 2:15 PM – 3:15 PM (choose one)

- Author Program: The Mystery Mavens
- Branding Matters
- Chaos to Order: Complete Home and Office Organizing
- Difficult Conversations
- E-Pay: Electronic Payment Services Program
- Every Child Ready to Read
- Functional Exercise and Stress Relief
- Getting Beyond Living Paycheck to Paycheck
- “Psychological Decoder Ring” – Using the People Styles Inventory
- View It! Videos for Kids
- What’s a Blog? Why Do You Need One?

#### Conference costs are:

ILA Members **\$90 ea.** = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Non-ILA Members **\$100 ea.** = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail your check payable to *The Illinois Library Association* along with this form to:

Reaching Forward/ILA  
33 West Grand, Suite 301  
Chicago, Illinois 60610-4306

Register online: <http://www.ila.org>

*No refunds will be given after  
April 30, 2006*

If special accommodations  
are needed due to a disability,  
please contact the ILA office  
before April 30, 2006.

There is a parking garage  
available for your convenience  
at a charge of \$11.00 per car  
(to be paid in cash to attendant  
on day of conference).

VISA       MasterCard

\_\_\_\_\_  
CARD NUMBER

\_\_\_\_\_  
EXPIRATION DATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE

# ILA Calendar | February 2006 — May 2006

## February 2006

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- 3 IREAD meeting**, 11:00 A.M., Pontiac Public Library, 211 E. Madison St., Pontiac, IL 61764; phone: (815) 844-7229; fax: (815) 844-3475.
- 6 ILA Public Policy Committee meeting**, NOON, DuPage Library System, Illinois State Library, Metropolitan Library System, and Shawnee Library System via VTEL videoconferencing.
- 20 Deadline for April issue of the *ILA Reporter*.**
- 24 ILA Executive Board meeting**, 10:00 A.M., Prairie Area Library System, 405 Earl Road, Shorewood, IL 60436-9445; phone: 815-729-3345; fax: 815-725-0930.
- 25 Trustee Forum Workshop**, Hickory Ridge Marriott Conference Hotel, 1195 Summerhill Drive, Lisle, IL 60532. See registration form p. 41.

## March 2006

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- 1 Illinois Library Day**, See registration form p. 45
- 6 ILA Public Policy Committee meeting**, NOON, DuPage Library System, Illinois State Library, Metropolitan Library System, and Shawnee Library System via VTEL videoconferencing.
- 21–25 Public Library Association National Conference**, Boston, Mass; phone: 800-545-2433, ext. 5PLA; e-mail: [pla@ala.org](mailto:pla@ala.org); <http://www.eshow2000.com/pla/>.
- 29–31 Illinois Association of College and Research Libraries (IACRL) conference**, The Chateau, 1601 Jummer Dr., Bloomington, IL 61704-0902; phone: (309) 662-2020. \$81 single/double rate, 12% sales tax not included. When making reservations, please mention the Illinois Library Association. See registration form p. 42.

## April 2006

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- 2–8 National Library Week**. Contact ALA Public Information Office, phone: 800-545-2433, ext. 5044/5041; fax: (312) 944-8520; e-mail: [pio@ala.org](mailto:pio@ala.org); <http://www.ala.org>.

- 3 ILA Public Policy Committee meeting**, NOON, DuPage Library System, Illinois State Library, Metropolitan Library System, and Shawnee Library System via VTEL videoconferencing.
- 4 Reference Services Forum meeting**, via VTEL videoconferencing, 10:00 A.M.–12:00 NOON.
- 7 IREAD meeting**, 11:00 A.M., Pontiac Public Library, 211 E. Madison St., Pontiac, IL 61764; phone: (815) 844-7229; fax: (815) 844-3475.
- 10–16 Young People's Poetry Week**, sponsored by the Children's Book Council, highlights poetry for children and young adults and encourages everyone to celebrate poetry. For more information, contact the Children's Book Council, 12 W. 37th St., 2nd Fl., New York, NY 10018; phone: (212) 966-1990; <http://www.cbcbooks.org>.
- 20 Deadline for June issue of the *ILA Reporter*.**

## May 2006

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- 1–2 National Library Legislative Day**. ILA has reserved a room block at the Capitol Hill Suites, 200 C St., SW, Washington, DC 20003; phone: 888-627-7811; \$175 single rate; \$195 double rate, 14.5% sales tax not included. See registration form p. 43. When making reservations, please mention the Illinois Library Association. The Monday evening dinner for the Illinois delegation will be at the Capitol Hill Club, 300 First St., SE, Washington, DC 20003; phone: (202) 484-4590. The Monday briefing session will be held at the Holiday Inn on the Hill. For further information on the issues and briefing session, contact the American Library Association; phone: 800-941-8478.
- 8 ILA Public Policy Committee meeting**, NOON, DuPage Library System, Illinois State Library, Metropolitan Library System, and Shawnee Library System via VTEL videoconferencing.
- 13 All award nominations are due in the ILA Office.**
- 19 Reaching Forward Conference of Library Assistants**, Donald E. Stephens Convention Center, Rosemont, Ill. See registration form pp. 46-47.

## June 2006

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- 2 **ILA Executive Board Meeting**, 10:00 A.M., Joliet Public Library, Black Road Branch, 3395 Black Rd., Joliet, IL 60431; phone: (815) 740-2660; fax: (815) 744-7208.
- 5 **ILA Public Policy Committee meeting**, NOON, DuPage Library System, Illinois State Library, Metropolitan Library System, and Shawnee Library System via VTEL videoconferencing.
- 20 **Deadline for August issue of the *ILA Reporter*.**
- 22–28 **ALA Annual Conference**, New Orleans, La.; phone: (312) 280-3225; <http://www.ala.org/>.

## August 2006

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- 3 **Reference Services Forum meeting**, via VTEL videoconferencing, 10:00 A.M. – 12:00 NOON.
- 20–26 **International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) Council and General Conference**, Seoul, Korea. For further information, see IFLA Web site: <http://www.ifla.org>.
- 20 **Deadline for October issue of the *ILA Reporter*.**

## September 2006

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- 13 **Reference Services Forum meeting**, via VTEL videoconferencing, 10:00 A.M.–12:00 NOON.
- 23–30 **Banned Books Week—Celebrating the Freedom to Read.** For further information, contact American Library Association, Office for Intellectual Freedom, 50 E. Huron, Chicago, IL 60611; phone: 800-545-2433 x4220; fax: (312) 280-4227; e-mail: [oif@ala.org](mailto:oif@ala.org). Or visit the Web site at <http://www.ala.org/bannedbookweek/bannedbookweek.htm>.
- 26 **Reaching Forward South Tenth Annual Conference for Library Assistants**, Northfield Inn Suites & Conference Center, 3280 Northfield Drive, Springfield, IL 62702; phone: (217) 523-7900. For further information, contact Ann Schaller, Alliance Library System, phone: (217) 223-2560; e-mail: [aschaller@alliancelibrarysystem.com](mailto:aschaller@alliancelibrarysystem.com).

## October 2006

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- 3–6 **ILA Annual Conference**, Navy Pier, Chicago, Ill.
- 20 **Deadline for December issue of the *ILA Reporter*.**

## December 2006

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- 20 **Deadline for February issue of the *ILA Reporter*.**

## January 2007

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- 19–24 **ALA Midwinter Meeting**, Seattle, Wash.; phone: (312) 280-3225; <http://www.ala.org/>.

## February 2007

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- 20 **Deadline for April issue of the *ILA Reporter*.**

## April 2007

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- 15–21 **National Library Week.** Contact ALA Public Information Office, phone: 800-545-2433, ext. 5044/5041; fax: (312) 944-8520; e-mail: [pio@ala.org](mailto:pio@ala.org); <http://www.ala.org>.
- 16–22 **Young People's Poetry Week**, sponsored by the Children's Book Council, highlights poetry for children and young adults and encourages everyone to celebrate poetry. For more information, contact the Children's Book Council, 12 W. 37th St., 2nd Fl., New York, NY 10018; phone: (212) 966-1990; <http://www.cbcbooks.org>.



## Library Jobline of Illinois

### Library Jobline of Illinois

<http://www.ila.org/jobline>

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