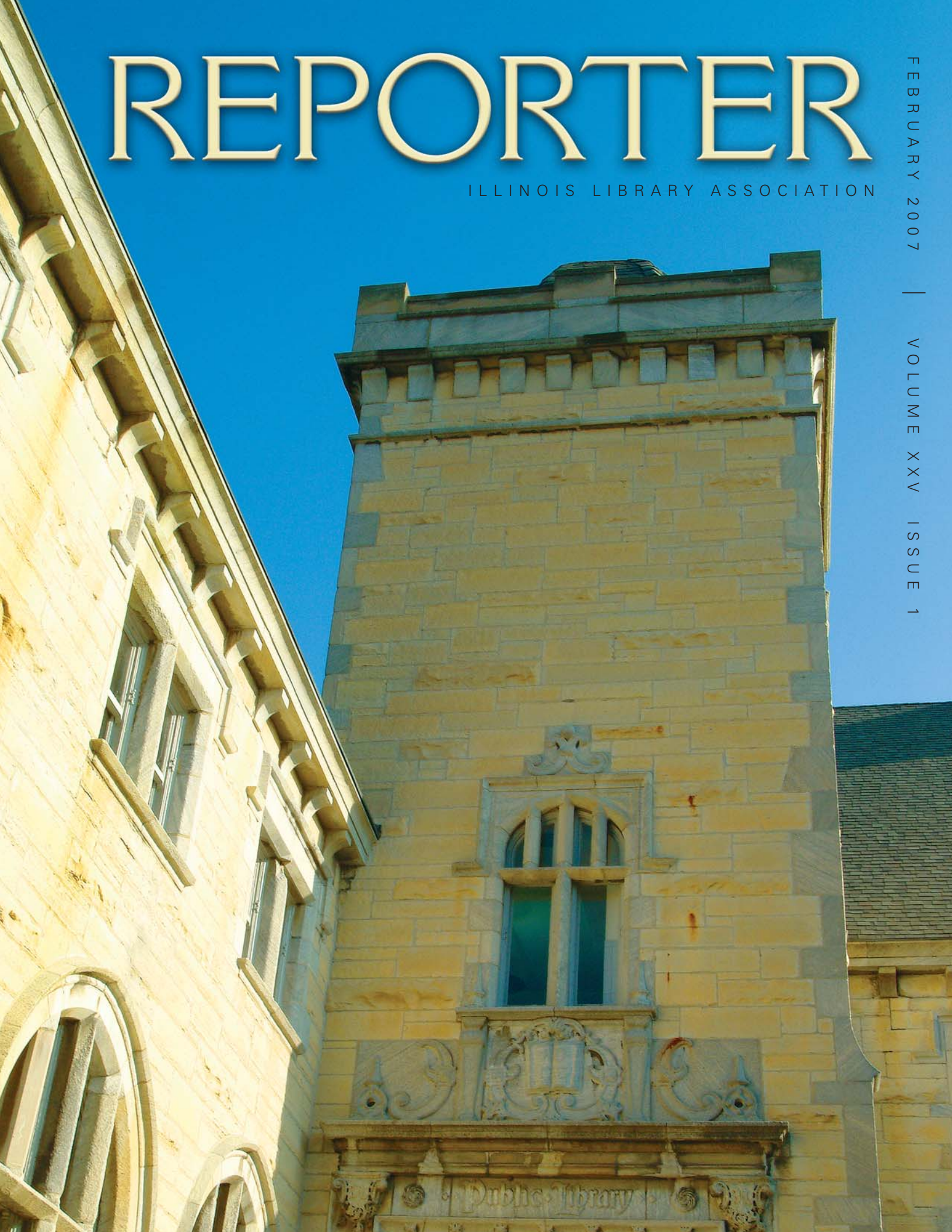


REPORTER

ILLINOIS LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

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The Illinois Library Association Reporter

it is forum for those who are improving and reinventing Illinois libraries with articles that seek to: explore new ideas and practices from all types of libraries and library systems; examine the challenges facing the profession; and inform the library community and its supporters with news and comment about important issues. The *ILA Reporter* is produced and circulated with the purpose of enhancing and supporting the value of libraries, which provide free and equal access to information. This access is essential for an open democratic society, an informed electorate, and the advancement of knowledge for all people.



ON THE COVER

Joliet Public Library, housed in the historical 1903 Daniel H. Burnham-designed building in the heart of Joliet. This year's *ILA Reporter* covers are showcasing Illinois libraries's incredibly rich heritage photographed, inventoried electronically, and archived in "Art and Architecture in Illinois Libraries." (See April 2006 *ILA Reporter*, pp. 12–17.) This project was supported by the Illinois State Library, a division of the Office of Secretary of State, using funds provided by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) under the federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA). Principal investigators: Allen Lanham and Marlene Slough, Eastern Illinois University. Photo by Dennis Pryber, Verso Design Corp.

The Illinois Library Association is the voice for Illinois libraries and the millions who depend on them. It provides leadership for the development, promotion, and improvement of library services in Illinois and for the library community in order to enhance learning and ensure access to information for all. It is the eighth oldest library association in the world and the third largest state association in the United States, with members in academic, public, school, government, and special libraries. Its 2,900 members are primarily librarians and library staff, but also trustees, publishers, and other supporters.

The Illinois Library Association has three full-time staff members. It is governed by a sixteen-member executive board, made up of elected officers. The association employs the services of Kolkmeier Consulting for legislative advocacy. ILA is a 501(c) (3) charitable and educational organization.

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See ILA calendar for submission deadlines for the *ILA Reporter*. Copy should be submitted by e-mail to ila@ila.org. Copy may also be submitted on disk or faxed to (312) 644-1899. You are encouraged to include digital or film photos (black/white or color) and graphics (on disk or camera-ready) with your articles, which will be included on a space-available basis.

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No Fear of Commitment: The Power of Library Partnerships

How do I find the right partner?

What can I do to get things started?

How do I make it work?

Are we talking about a romance or library partnerships here? While you might expect discussions on these topics to be dissimilar, they both will raise many of the same issues, including common values, commitment, and communication. Maybe this isn't so surprising because, whether it involves two people or large groups and organizations, it's about people and relationships.

Here are three inspired examples of libraries that found relationships that generated results for the participating organizations and, in turn, the communities they serve. Partnerships will raise the profile of the library, expand the portfolio of services and programs, and open the door to a whole range of new possibilities. These are libraries that have no fear of commitment and have found more than one partnership soul mate along the way.

BE TRUE TO YOUR SCHOOL

Partners: Barclay Public Library District; Warrensburg/Latham School District

Demographics: The public library is located in Warrensburg (population 1,300) and serves a district of close to 6,000. School district enrollment is just over 1,100.



From the outside, the Barclay Public Library District and the Warrensburg/Latham School District appear to be two separate, high functioning institutions. But looking inside, you see how intertwined the public library and school district library are, and how this deep commitment has built an especially strong foundation in which the students and community are able to create and thrive.

Chances are most students that have passed through the district's elementary/middle and high school since 1993 have crossed paths (in a good way) with Barclay Public Library Children's Librarian Jody Long. She has helped raise the profile of an ongoing partnership project and initiated many more since she began working at the library. These successful public/school library partnership projects include:

Book Run: The public library delivers books and other materials twice a week to teachers requesting materials to enhance their curriculum. Sometimes it's several books on the same subject, or several copies of the same title that the class would be reading together. "No library I know of has all the resources it needs," says Long. "Everyone benefits from strong schools."

Book Discussion Groups: In response to school librarian requests and an LSTA grant, Long held book discussions with students during their lunch periods. The program proved so popular with the students that the groups continue five years later, thanks to funding from the middle school Parent Teacher Organization and the Barclay Public Library Friends for the high school.

Poetry Slams: The high school librarian asked the public library for help getting an annual springtime slam started. This associates the library with a hot trend, and gives the library a recognizable face for hard-to-reach teens.

Family Reading Night: When the elementary school librarian asked for help, the public library answered the call and has been there every year since with readers and refreshments, and sometimes supplying books to be read.

Weed and Feed: The public and school libraries coordinated their LSTA grant efforts to complement each other's collection and bring better service to the students.

Summer Reading: The elementary teachers bring their classes to the public library during the last week of school each year. At that time, the students get to hear about the upcoming summer reading program. To add to the effort, the school lets Barclay put up a bulletin board display to promote the summer program.

The list of partnership programs between the public and school libraries does not end there. One successful program led to another and another.

Sara Goodner, librarian at Warrensburg/Latham elementary/middle school stresses the importance of communication as a key to success. "Jody consistently bounces ideas off of library staff and the teachers. This kind of access and information-gathering supports the right partnerships in the right way."

Partnership essentials: Long points to communication as the focal point for partnerships. "Keep your eyes open and, if you see a need, make an offer. There's a good chance something will transpire. Also, be available, with an open door and a willingness to talk."

GET DOWN TO BUSINESS AND RAISE THE BOTTOM LINE

Partners: Glen Carbon Centennial Library; Edwardsville/Glen Carbon Chamber of Commerce; Lewis and Clark Community College

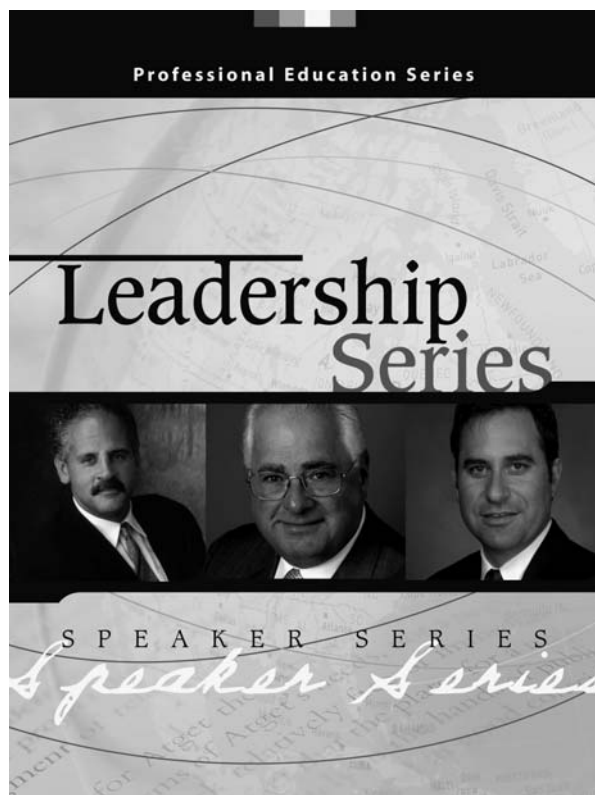
Demographics: Glen Carbon (population 11,400) and Edwardsville (population 25,000) each have their own public library, but in many ways function as one community.

What started with outreach and dialogue by the public library led to a whole new way of doing business for a group of power-charged community partners that became allies.

Keeping watch on the community, the Glen Carbon Centennial Library recognized that it needed to expand its resources for the flourishing business community. But to make sure the library was getting what the businesses needed, Library Director Anne Hughes went and checked first with the local Chamber of Commerce.

Good thing Hughes took the time to speak with the chamber. In addition to the expected print materials, the business community got a new online Business Resource Center available 24/7 on the library's Web site. The library also started a Business After Hours for networking and to help introduce the resources to the business users. "Getting business and community leaders inside your library and actually showing them the resources are your best bet for real use and ongoing word-of-mouth promotion," says Hughes.

But this was just one component of the power-charged LSTA grant and partnership project known as A.L.L.I.E.S. (Allies Launch Leadership Institute and Educational Speaker series).



When Hughes went to the chamber to investigate their needs, she learned of the chamber's long-standing desire to launch a leadership academy. This was the "ah-ha" that became the core of the grant to "empower individuals to take leadership roles in order to keep the tradition of community betterment thriving and to further develop the existing leadership in our area." A speaker series was another exciting feature of the A.L.L.I.E.S. grant. Three nationally known speakers, including Stedman Graham, spoke to large audiences on the subject of leadership.

Grant funding provided a wonderful opportunity for the library to lead the way. The speaker series, leadership institute, and the enhanced business resources all spotlighted the library's role in the community as educators and innovators.

The chamber already had a speaker series, but to bring in the level of speakers desired for the partnership project, more funding was needed. The library introduced the idea of sponsorship to the partners. Surprisingly, the chamber had not considered this before. Hughes stressed that they needed to go after "big money" to support their vision. Moving forward with the philosophy "it can't hurt to ask," first-time sponsors such as Wal-Mart came to the plate. This was a great lesson for the chamber, and they have been able to continue to support their ongoing speaker series with sponsor support.

Putting together events can eat up a lot of staff time, but the community college had the mechanism in place for registering participants for the speaker series. The expertise of their continuing education department was also utilized to oversee the execution of the planning document for the Leadership Institute.

Without question, the library's visibility in the business community has increased. The library director is now a member of the Chamber Education Committee and will participate as a member in the first Leadership Institute. A library board member will perpetually be a member of the Institute board of trustees. Hughes says that "clearly, these efforts have garnered more interest in the library overall."

Partnership essentials: "Start by asking potential partners how the library can help them, not visa versa," says Hughes. "Based on observation, let them know what the library already has, and how you think it could benefit them. And if this is not enough, what can the library add to help?"

"Start by asking potential partners how the library can help them, not visa versa."

TAKE A GAMBLE WITH A HIGH ROLLER

Partners: Gail Borden Public Library District; Grand Victoria Foundation; School District U-46; too many more to list (50+)

Demographics: Gail Borden is located in Elgin (population 94,487) and serves a district of 123,507. U-46 is the second largest school district in the state, with 40,294 students.

Once you take the partnership plunge, all the effort pays off over and over again. What started with the huge (literally) dinosaur exhibit at Gail Borden Public Library District has generated a continued influx of ideas and partnership requests from throughout the community.

In 2005, Gail Borden electrified the community with the exhibit GIANTS: African Dinosaurs by Project Exploration, featuring magnificent towering dinosaurs, fossils, interactive displays, and sixty-five programs. (See October 2005 *ILA Reporter*, p. 21.) The major funder for the exhibit was the Grand Victoria Foundation. Yes, as in the Grand Victoria casino. Maybe not the most likely of library partners, but Denise Raleigh, Gail Borden's director of marketing, development, and communication, was aware of previous educational support by the foundation and, after additional research, initiated contact. Another clear-cut illustration of the power of "the ask."

GIANTS brought in more than fifty partners, including School District U-46, which in turn brought in more than 11,000 visiting school children. The school district worked long and hard with Gail Borden to schedule the many school visits and also provided free busing for many of its classes. Visits were also arranged with the seventeen parochial and private schools in Elgin, daycare centers, home school groups, and other education organizations. Students and teachers were so "wowed" by the exhibit and programs that many made return trips with family and friends.



Recruitment of volunteers was crucial to the success of this project. Starting with only fifty regular volunteers, Gail Borden grew that number to 226. The volunteers served as docents for the tours, worked in the exhibit gift shop, assisted in the installation and de-installation of the exhibit, served at the Greeter Desk, and in many more up-front and behind-the-scenes capacities.

One of the realized project goals was outreach to the large Hispanic community. A Hispanic outreach coordinator was selected to serve as liaison to and recruit from the community. A bilingual task force, made up of staff and community partners translated all project materials in Spanish. This included brochures, exhibit signage, and scripts for the many tours given in Spanish.

Gail Borden garnered a priceless gem from GIANTS: the library has been the “go-to” partnering stop ever since.

“Partnering builds idea capacity,” says Raleigh. “Looking through our current newsletter, over half of the programs in the next two months are partnered and most of these were brought to us. Often ideas are presented in person, which is always the best way. Being centrally located, we get lots of drop-in visits. Also, as an organiza-

tion, we make a concerted effort to ensure that our staff is involved in community groups. Where we see a good opportunity, we normally have a staff member that wants to participate.”

No matter the proportions of the partnership project, getting the word out to the target audience is as much a key to success as anything. Raleigh strongly emphasizes, “Partnering builds message capacity.” Partners involved often have their own channels of communication, whether it is their newsletter or e-blasts, targeted to their audience. Each organization has its relationship with the press and other community organizations and businesses. Partnerships also add active word-of-mouth capacity. “Be prepared to let go of some of the controls, and let your partners’ PR wheels roll. There is a little more risk involved, it’s more work, but I couldn’t recommend it more highly,” says Raleigh.

Partnership essentials: Success starts with a staff that understands partnership values. Raleigh says the Gail Borden staff is amazingly talented and flexible. When opportunities come up, they look to see how they can reprioritize other work to make a new project work. They also appreciate the opportunity that partnerships bring to interact with their community and customers in a new way.

Partnerships of all sizes work for libraries of all sizes. Sure, most library buildings cannot accommodate a three-story-tall dinosaur skeleton. But many libraries could develop a targeted online business resource center or lead lunchtime book discussions at their local schools.

So take a chance to “reach out and touch someone.” That potential partner you’ve been eyeing might also be interested, but too shy to make the first move. Sometimes getting started is as simple as a good opening line. “How can I help you?” comes highly recommended. **ILA**

“Partnering builds idea capacity.”

TIPS FOR SUCCESSFUL PARTNERSHIPS

1. **TALK AND LISTEN.** Your library is full of gifts and talent. Get out of the library and let potential partners know what the library has to offer and how it could benefit them. Be sure to ask what their current needs are, and if there is anything else the library can do to help.
2. **RESEARCH.** Dig in and determine what type of projects potential partners have participated in. What are their interests and resources? This could lead to some unexpected partnerships.
3. **BE REALISTIC.** Partnerships involve a significant time investment. Before you make a commitment, look at ongoing work, what can be prioritized, and extra demands that will be made on your staff. Then balance with the potential impact. Will it be worth it? (If it's a good project, it will absolutely be worth it.)
4. **BE INCLUSIVE.** Don't overlook potential key players both inside and outside the library. Have you checked to make sure all the library staff that want to be involved have been invited to contribute in some capacity? Have you invited that high-profile community organizer, who sometimes exhausts you with constructive criticisms of the library, to be on the project task force?
5. **GET ORGANIZED.** First things first. All partners need to sit and set objectives and timelines and assign roles and responsibilities.
6. **ASSESS.** At the "get organized" stage be sure to schedule periodic meetings for the specific purpose of assessing progress and readjustment.
7. **TALK SOME MORE.** Establish how partners will communicate and share updates, and then keep doing it. Ideally everyone will be online, but if not, get everyone in the groove so the offline partners or volunteers are not left out.
8. **PROMOTE.** Great! More partners = more outbound lines of communication. What that means is less control, but by golly, it's free. Double (at least) the newsletters, press contacts, e-mail lists, blogs, word-of-mouth contacts, etc. Don't worry about it.
9. **PROMOTE.** Don't let any staff member or trustee leave the library without partnership project promotional materials in hand. Provide them with brief introductory talking points and training on using them. This is your most effective sales force.
10. **PROMOTE.** Put together a few presentations (with and without PowerPoint; short and less-short), and get each partner out there to speak at as many community groups as possible.
11. **KEEP TRACK.** Record results, keep copies of everything inbound and outbound, monies spent, gate counts, press coverage. At the end, take time to place it all in context with goals, outcomes, and lessons learned.
12. **SAY THANK YOU.** From handwritten notes to hosting a lunch or submitting an award nomination, whatever you do will leave a lasting impression. This is an essential component of successful partnerships present and future. Just do it!

Words Connect Us

Thanks to all of you that responded to our survey in fall 2006 on your impressions of the *ILA Reporter*. We surveyed, we listened, we discussed — and we determined to make some changes, based on your comments. Our goal is to produce a publication that is more practical, inspirational, and filled with ideas.

Some of the changes are very specific:

- The cover profile story will feature practical information for the library community, authored by an *ILA Reporter* Advisory Committee member and will include a tip sheet on the article's theme;
- We will create a "My Turn" column;
- "Sally in Libraryland" by Sally Decker Smith will be featured four times per year and Allen Lanham will author two columns to increase the coverage of academic community issues;
- The annual feature on art in libraries will be dropped; and
- The cover will feature more creative design and interesting photos for the cover.

Perhaps the most noticeable change will be the introduction of more color into the publication. This was requested by readers, and while we cannot afford full color for the entire publication, we are introducing full color on the cover. It is a very evolutionary process, but we hope these changes are received well.

Our primary concern, as always, remains quality content. In reading the survey results, I heard frequently, "Tell me something new, give me some ideas, inspire me, but don't tell me what I already know." When discussing this issue with the ILA Executive Board or the *ILA Reporter* Advisory Committee, I used the October 2006 article "DOPA and the Participation Gap" and the December 2006 article "Libraries as Sanctuaries for Criminals?" as examples, in my admittedly biased opinion, of timely, practical, and important information. It is my hope that the committee and membership, in general, start to produce and share their original, thoughtful, practical ideas and that the publication will attract new readers and engage current readers alike.

Our ambitious goal is to engage the entire Illinois library community. We are a fractious community, each believing its voice isn't heard — academic librarians, children's librarians, directors, front line staff, public librarians, school librarians, special librarians, students, support staff, and trustees. The joy of the association is that so many unite to work on issues beyond themselves and their institutional concerns for the common good. There is a universal desire to belong to something, to make meaning out of our lives, and to enjoy the company of others. Those goals, joys, and desires are reflected in the *ILA Reporter*. It is the one tangible benefit that all receive. It is our hope that this evolving publication, through its design and words, connects us all in a meaningful and engaging manner. **ILA**



This is the tenth 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.

CHICAGO STATE UNIVERSITY

Chicago State University (CSU) is a fully accredited public urban institution located in a residential community on the south side of Chicago. Primarily a commuter university, the campus is situated on 161 acres in an attractive woodland setting. It was originally founded in 1867 as an experiment for teacher training, known as the Cook County Normal School. Over the years the institution has undergone a number of name changes and relocations with the addition and expansion of many programs. This past summer the library moved from the thirty-four-year-old structure, the Paul and Emily Douglas Library building, to the New Academic Library structure.

The new 142,000-square-foot CSU library opened its doors for the 2006 fall term and was dedicated on October 12, 2006. It is a spacious contemporary design with well-appointed furnishings (Agati, Steelcase, KI, Vecta, etc.) with assembly, seminar, and meeting rooms capable of hosting as many as 600 in conferences, with reader seats for 250, and more than 200 computer workstations. It includes different environments to accommodate a variety of cognitive styles and activities. It boasts spacious lobbies, an exhibit hall, auditorium, and the Chicago Café; a secured environment with carded entry, guards, and camera surveillance; roomy aisles and open stacks for 250,000 volumes

(post 1990-); and a wireless environment for ubiquitous computing. Retention scheduling for stack management moves older less used materials to closed stacks. “Rover” is the name of the dual-aisle Automatic Storage and Retrieval System (ASRS), which has a capacity of 800,000 volumes in a high-density, three-story closed-stack storage (6,500 bins); books are retrieved by robotic cranes on demand from the Voyager Integrated Library System (ILS) Online Public Access Catalog (OPAC). Collection management and security uses Radio Frequency Identification (RFID), which enables real-time check-in and self-check as well as assisted circulation services and efficient inventory management. Returns are sorted by floor and ASRS locations in the Materials Handling System (MHS) using radio frequency signals to control a conveyor-sorting system.

The CSU library currently has approximately 450,000 physical volumes, media, and documents; and is heavily digital, with 23,000 online journals and 2,000 e-books, or the additional 27,000 equivalent of ca. 650,000 volumes. It is a member of OCLC connecting it to sixty-five I-Share libraries and the other academic libraries through CARLI (Consortium of Academic and Research Libraries in Illinois), and regionally to Chicago-area libraries through the Metropolitan Library System with its





interlibrary van services. It is an associate member of the Center for Research Libraries (CRL) and institutional member of the American Library Association and Illinois Library Association. Open 77 hours each week, 6,000 to 8,000 people enter its premises weekly during the academic year; 60,000 reference transactions occur each year; it circulates 25,000 volumes externally and another 5,000 through interlibrary loans; from 250,000 online searches annually it downloads 180,000 documents, so its document delivery is cresting a quarter million. It is customer service-oriented, embracing its motto “Your Library of Choice.”

LIS is composed of both information and instructional agencies, which together enhance each other’s possibilities of informing and learning in a model teaching library. Its departments are: (1) Systems and Technical Services (Acquisitions, Cataloging, Processing, Systems), (2) Public Services (Access and Circulation, Reference and Instruction, Educational Resource Center, and Music and Arts); (3) Archives and Special Collections; and (4) Technology and Learning Resources (Media Production and AV Services, Distance Learning, Student Computing, and Media Center). These cooperate to offer a broad array of services provided by twenty-six professional faculty and administrators, forty-five paraprofessionals, three graduate assistants, and two dozen work-study students and aides augmented by advisory committees, volunteers, and a Friends of the Library organization. It operates on a modest budget of ca. \$4 million, augmented by grants and dedicated funding, foundation support, consortia services, and in-kind gifts and services valued at another million dollars each year, plus building operations estimated at \$400,000 annually.

Fast Facts

Building	142,000 square feet
Project Costs	\$37 million
Seating	250
Collections	450,000 titles (includes books and audiovisual materials)
Computers	200 workstations
Hours	77/week
Staff	78 FTE (26 professional faculty and administrators, 45 paraprofessional, 3 graduate assistants, and student aides)
Architect	Heard & Associates, Inc., Chicago
Associate Architect	Architectural Services Enhancement, Inc., Hinsdale
Library Design Architect	Interplan Practice, Ltd., Oakbrook Terrace
Landscape Architect	Site Design Group, Chicago
Structural Engineer	Matrix Engineering Corp., Chicago
Mechanical Engineer	Henneman, Raufeisen & Associates, Inc., Chicago
Civil Engineer	SDG, Inc., Des Plaines
Interiors	Agati, Chicago Johnson & Associates Business Interiors, Inc., Chicago Urban Works Interior Design, Chicago
Construction	VACALA Construction, Inc.
Web site	http://library.csu.edu

ILLINOIS NATURAL HISTORY LIBRARY



The Illinois Natural History Survey (INHS), established in 1858, always had a strong tradition of supporting its library. By 1885, the INHS library had a collection of 1,200 bound volumes and 3,856 pamphlets and periodicals, which focused on all aspects of natural history. In the following years the collection would move from Bloomington to Urbana and eventually merge with the library collection of the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign (UIUC). In 1940, the INHS library became a separate UIUC departmental library when it reclaimed a large part of its collection and moved with the Illinois State Geological Survey (ISGS) into the Natural Resources Building on campus. The INHS library eventually became very crowded as the collection and the staff grew and little room was left for users to relax or study. During the last week of November 2005 the library was moved to the I-Building in the University's South Research Park along with the Office of the Chief and most of the Center for Wildlife and Plant Ecology.

The University's Master Campus Plan includes developing a "Survey Campus" in the South Research Park. Already in this locale are the Illinois State Water Survey, the Illinois Waste Management and Research Center, several INHS research facilities and a number of ISGS offices. The INHS and ISGS had been renting space in the east side of the I-Building since the spring of 2002. The university purchased the I-building in September 2004; the west side renovation was finished September 2005 and the move was completed by the first week of December 2005. The library was allocated 6,389 square feet on the first floor in the northwest corner. The architect chosen was Smith/Burgett Architects Inc. Jeff Schrader, UIUC Director of Library Facilities, contributed to the design of the library.

The new library is very attractive with welcoming shades of light blue, light green, and beige with warm wooded panels on the shelving units. Features include spacious reading areas, a rare book room, and an archive and special collections room. There is vinyl flooring throughout the library with one carpeted area that frames a windowed, casual area where users can relax and view the new books, journal issues, and newspapers.



The university purchased electric compact shelving from the Bradford Systems Corporation. It houses the 46,000 volumes and will allow for fifteen years of growth. There are two offices and a staff room with ample space to house three part-time staff members. This room is an important hub for the processing of new materials. Reference and circulation are combined into one desk that is large enough to accommodate the staff and users' needs. The UIUC library provides three public terminals for users to search the Internet or access the UIUC library's online catalog and electronic resources. There is also a scanning station open to users.

A grand opening celebration held on Friday May 12, 2006 was very well attended in spite of the cold and rainy weather. INHS Chief David Thomas and University of Illinois Librarian Paula Kaufman spoke. There was plenty to eat and a drawing was held for INHS books and posters.

Fast Facts

Building	6,389 square feet
Project Costs	\$820,500
Seating	30
Collections	46,000 print volumes, 650 periodical subscriptions (print and electronic), photograph collection (20,000 items), Illinois Wetlands Inventory Map Collection, Illinois Nature Preserves Commission Reports, INHS Technical Reports
Hours	45/week
Staff	1 full-time, 4 part-time
Architect	Smith/Burgett Architects Inc.
Mechanical Engineer	Reliable Electrical Engineer Glesco
Construction	Turner Construction, Associated Contractors
Web site	http://www.library.uiuc.edu/nhx



WARSAW PUBLIC LIBRARY

Creating a new asset for the community of Warsaw, Ill., was the goal of the late Leon Lamet. The Warsaw attorney and his wife, Marion, earmarked \$1 million in their will for building a new library. OPN Architects, Inc., was chosen as the architects for the new \$900,000, 6,000-square-foot facility. The library opened in May 2006, replacing a Carnegie-style building dating to 1916.

The red-brick, one-story building features an open floor plan with plenty of seating scattered around for comfort. A semicircular wooden counter with a beautiful granite countertop donated by Hill Dodge Bank, a local bank, sits in the center of the main room and serves as the circulation desk. Large overhead signs designate different areas of book stacks. New shelves and new furniture with warm wood tones radiate throughout the building. Tall ceilings and large windows allow for plenty of light. A large meeting/conference room is to the left as one enters. This meeting room is for public use and can be used even when the library is not open. A rare book/genealogy room sits to the right of the staff area. Also encompassed in the open floor plan is a children/youth reading area. Gender-specific restrooms are accessible from the meeting room and the main library. Outside, landscaping, walkways, and off-street parking complete the inviting look. Benches and a flag pole are dedicated to the memory of people that have been important in the life of the community library since its beginning.

Some of the “old” has moved to the new facility from the 1916 library across town. The old circulation desk is set near the children’s library corner. A glass display shelf is now in the magazine and newspaper area and several wooden chairs made it into the new community meeting room. Wooden tables from the former Carnegie-style library have been refinished and now stand in the new Prairie-style building.

The library has seven computers for patrons to use. In addition to these computers, the Warsaw library is a wireless site where patrons can bring their own laptops and use the wireless access anytime the library is open.

With no steps to limit access to the building, circulation of library materials has only increased since the opening of the new library. Not only is the building easily accessible physically, but also geographically. The library sits only two blocks from the local school. Kids come in right after school and use the library computers, do homework, check out materials, or attend an after-school program the library has planned.

This quote says it all when it comes to how the community feels about the new Warsaw Public Library: “A new library is like finding a \$100 bill on the sidewalk.” —Anonymous library patron. ■

Fast Facts

Building	6,000 square feet
Project costs	\$900,000
Collections	15,159 titles including books, DVDs, videos, audiobooks, magazines, etc.
Computers	7 patron and 3 staff
Hours	41/week
Staff	3 part-time
Architect	OPN Architects, Inc.
Construction	Bi-State Contracting
Web Site	www.warsawlib.org



What a Difference a New Building Makes

“**W**hat a difference a day makes,” go the words to the song, and I am here to attest to a spin on that refrain: “what a difference a new building makes.” Since opening the doors to the new 57,500-square-foot Tinley Park Public Library on September 4, 2004, we have experienced a welcomed increase in all of our circulation figures.

	2004–05	2005–06
Attendance, up 30%	265,344	347,319
Circulation, up 15%	454,280	524,831
Internet, up 21%	43,670	53,207
Reference questions, up 6%	64,543	68,889
Registered borrowers, up 2%	25,847	26,440

The numbers for the year 2006–07 are projected to surpass those of last year by an increase of no less than 7 percent, giving validity to the increase in usage as being the result of more than a first-year phenomenon.

Are these increases due solely to the construction and opening of a new library or to the new growth in the Village of Tinley Park? Moving from the east side of Tinley Park to the near geographical center of this growing community, patrons, old and new, had to discover the location of the new library before they could use it, and it appears they have successfully done so and, liking the services they discovered, are continuing to do so!

■





How to Have a Good Relationship with your Police Department

Ah...the things they don't include in your job description! Whether you are the library director, the reference librarian, or the circulation clerk there is always something you never dreamed you would be spending your time on, whether it is removing the ice from the sidewalk, plunging the toilet, or putting the piece of a dog-chewed book back together. We find ourselves in the library profession being bombarded with issues that we never thought would happen and that are sometimes beyond comprehension.

I learned this early in my tenure as a public library director of a small public library in southern Illinois serving a population of 4,500. It was a Saturday morning in October 2004 when my staff said, "You have to come in and hear this." A ten-year-old minor left a message while masturbating on our answering machine at the library. This was one of several instances involving this individual but it is the one that prompted me to call our local police department and to begin an open dialog with our police chief in order to ensure safety of library patrons and staff.

It took this obscene incident to open my eyes to the reality of safety in libraries and how my staff and I could not solely keep the library secure. Safety is everyone's business and a concern that all sizes and types of libraries share. This incident prompted me to meet with our town's police chief and share my concerns. Over time I have been able to communicate safety concerns to our local law enforcement, including issues regarding theft, sexual offenders, and unattended children.

When the Chicago media attacked library security and questioned whether libraries were a sanctuary for criminals, my thoughts immediately went back to my early days as director and how I too began reaching out to our local law enforcement. It has not been an easy process, but it was one that was made easier with the assistance of my colleague, mentor, and friend Donella Odum. When the *ILA Reporter* wanted to do an article on building better relations with the police, I instantly thought of Donella and her husband, Steve, as a source of practical and commonsense information.

Donella is the head librarian at the Sallie Logan Public Library in Murphysboro. She has a master's degree in curriculum and instructional media and more than thirty years of library experience, while Steve, the retired chief of police in Carbondale, has more than thirty years of police experience, twenty-eight of those years in Carbondale. Steve has a master's degree in public administration and is a graduate of the FBI's National Academy. This article is based on a discussion with Donella and Steve, concerning the relationship of libraries and their local police

"Safety is everyone's business and a concern that all sizes and types of libraries share."

“Open communication and a willingness to work together will benefit both organizations and the community.”

departments. During thirty years of marriage, they have spent a lot of time discussing safety and libraries. Based on their experiences and expertise, they share a practical and commonsense approach to building lines of communication and working relationships between libraries and police departments and how those have worked from both perspectives.

Sallie Logan Public Library is in the southern Illinois community of Murphysboro serving a population of almost 10,000. For almost fifteen years Donella Odum has served as the library director in this growing and changing town. Her relationship with the Murphysboro police began as a result of problems with the library's alarm system, which runs through the police station. When the police department noticed that the alarm system for the library was no longer active in their notification system, they called the library to discuss the issue. Donella found that if she notified the police department of issues at the library, such as changes in after-hours lighting or after-hours maintenance work, they appreciated the notice and it prevented any confusion and alarm about the unusual activity. This exchange of information was the first step in a working relationship that led to the library and police teaming up to tackle the issue of late and lost library materials. In addition to the state statute of lost library materials, the city of Murphysboro has a local ordinance making it a violation to have more than \$50 of late or lost library materials. When a patron has lost items the library prints a letter, on police letterhead, to be signed by the police chief but delivered at library expense. In some rare but extreme instances the police will actually deliver the letter in person. This approach to lost materials has resulted in a positive return rate of about 75 percent and, more importantly, the support and strengthening of the working relationship with local law enforcement. The Murphysboro police take seriously that the library collections are public property and when pieces of the collection are stolen, they have a role and responsibility to enforce the law. By talking and working together, Donella and the police have been able to address an issue of concern, and have developed mutual respect for their roles as public servants in the community.

It was mutual respect and open communication that made for a successful relationship between Steve, as the former Carbondale police chief, and other public entities. As in the Murphysboro case, Steve touched base with administrative leaders and

directors on a regular basis, sometimes as often as once a week. Steve explains this as an example of public entities being proactive and sharing information to help curtail illegal activities. As an example, due to his close working relationship with the local school district superintendent, the police were able to offer advice and assistance in designing an improved traffic flow pattern for the school parking lot. Perhaps a very small issue, but it was of great importance

to the school district and although not necessarily the responsibility of the police department, the assistance helped foster an important relationship between the two public entities.

In addition to sharing his experience with the Carbondale school district, Steve and Donella helped to develop a five-point tip list for working with local law enforcement:

1. Both libraries and the police departments are public entities, working for the good of the community. Like your patrons, police personnel are members of the community and want it to be secure and safe. Take steps to build better relationships of communication and mutual respect for each other's roles in the community.
2. The police are granted authority to act when the law is broken and they understand the laws that guide their operating procedures. They may not be aware of the laws that guide library operations.
3. While the police can offer libraries training on safety and crime prevention issues, you can offer training to police on various library issues including confidentiality and local and state laws concerning library materials.
4. Take advantage of this year's Per Capita Grant disaster planning requirement to open lines of communication with your local police department and involve the police in performing a safety scan of your facility.
5. Although getting to know the police chief is important, also get to know the patrol officers for your area. Involve them by sharing your safety concerns, asking advice, or simply inviting them to “walk through” the library as a safety presence.

Libraries and police departments each play a critical role in a healthy community. They are both public entities that the community funds to provide a specific service. They have a responsibility to work together and cooperate to serve the community, but they must understand the other's role and how they can assist each other. Open communication and a willingness to work together will benefit both organizations and the community. ■

Cooperation with your Local Police Department

“There’s value in having a police presence there as much as possible. It’s important for police to interact with kids.”

A strong working relationship with the River Forest Police Department (RFPD) is a true asset to the River Forest Public Library. The relationship we have today with the police department has developed over time, creating a partnership that continues to evolve. In 2001, the RFPD requested and received \$100,000 in B.A.D.G.E. grant funds from the Balanced Approach toward Drug and Gang Enforcement program administrated by the state. They pledged more than \$20,000 of these funds to start an after-school program in the library meeting room named the “Latchkey Lab.” Various police officers took shifts in the lab after school, supervising the fifth- to eighth-grade students, providing computers with computer games and a television with video games. Some days they would venture into the park next door and play tag football or Frisbee. The goal was to provide a supervised place for middle school students to hang out after school and get to know some of the local law enforcement officers in a friendly, nonconfrontational way. Weiss called the program a community gem. “It first started as a way to offer supervision for kids whose parents were working. It’s been very successful. There’s value in having a police presence there as much as possible. It’s important for police to interact with kids.” (*Forest Leaves*, November 10, 2004).

The program ran successfully through June 2004. At that time a portion of B.A.D.G.E. grant funds were redirected to Homeland Security, and suddenly the funding for the program evaporated. Officer Troy Fields, Crime Prevention and School Resources officer, said, “The lab gives kids a positive direction. When officers were not available to staff the program, police received more calls and complaints about kids loitering outside the library.” (*Forest Leaves*, November 10, 2004).



This was the case for the 2004–05 school year. Without the B.A.D.G.E. grant funds the program no longer existed. The library remained next door to the middle school and the fifth- to eighth-grade patron population continued to frequent the facility but without a specific place to be or activities in which to participate. Officer Fields would drop by and visit on occasion and the students regularly submitted suggestion cards requesting that the program be resumed.

As a result, the idea for ASK@River Forest Library (After School Kids) was envisioned; a structured daily program for students in fifth to eighth grade. Each day would involve a different activity, i.e., board games, movies, video games, crafts, programs, etc.

A number of times, the RFPD has been a fantastic resource for the library. For instance, when a case of child abuse was reported to a staff member, or a developmentally disabled patron was frightening other patrons, or a child reported having been abducted and returned to the facility, police responded and gave the library guidance in addition to dealing with the issues. When the alarm system was accidentally tripped in the middle of the night, police officers responded with alacrity and good humor. Because of this long-term relationship both the police officers and the library staff have a mutual respect for each other's roles in the community. We work together to make our community the best it can be.

“This program concept would be used to introduce and engage this ‘tween population to using the library — opening up the possibility of them exploring other library resources and retaining their interest in public libraries.”

Occasionally library staff would demonstrate a new database or explain a new library service. This program concept would be used to introduce and engage this ‘tween population to using the library — opening up the possibility of them exploring other library resources and retaining their interest in public libraries.

A budget was developed and more than \$9,000 was raised from a variety of organizations and individuals: Community Bank, the Oak Park-River Forest Community Foundation, the River Forest Service Club, the Oak Park-River Forest Township Youth Services Department, Oak Park-River Forest Rotary, Mr. and Mrs. Das Gupta, and Mr. and Mrs. Pochly. This new ASK program began in August 2006 and is working very well. Officer Fields has been very visible and regularly stops by to say hello to the students and chat with staff, maintaining the police/library collaboration.

The RFPD has continued to be very supportive and we have developed our partnership in other ways. When we discovered weapons that had been disposed of or hidden in one of our recycling bins, they were quick to respond. A student's MP3 player was stolen and the RFPD graciously filed a report.

Recently, during one of Officer Fields's drop-in visits, we were conversing about the need for Internet safety training in our community. This training would address protection of personal information online, cyber bullying, finding accurate online information, etc. The presentations would be created for children, teachers, principals, and parents. Officer Fields was just starting to develop this concept based upon the I Safe.org program when it was suggested that library staff also be involved in this project. Together our Teen/Electronic Resources librarian, Magan Szwerek, and our Children's Program and Outreach Coordinator, Ellen Cutter, have developed an Internet safety presentation with Officer Fields that addresses the prominent Internet safety issues of the Village of River Forest. Three joint presentations have been made thus far at one parochial school. Others are being scheduled within our local school district.

Informative links to Internet safety guidelines for parents, school-age children, and teens are being added to the RFPL Web site and will be linked from the RFPD Web site. As we continue to partner with the River Forest Police Department to fill the needs of the village, it will be interesting to see what new programs will result. ■

Civilian

Police Academy

When I lived in suburban Lake Oswego, Oregon, my police department's motto was "No Call Too Small" so I came to have pretty high expectations of the department, both as a citizen and as a city department director. When I relocated to Freeport in 2004, I doubted such personal service could be matched by a small town force. Wrong.

I soon discovered the Freeport Police Department provides service every bit as responsive and sensitive as what I'd become accustomed to in life in the suburbs. First of all, it was easy to get to know Freeport Police Chief Jerry Whitmore through the mayor's regular twice-monthly city department directors' meetings, not to mention occasional city hall potlucks. Initially, I placed any non-emergency calls for assistance through his office, explaining, "I'm new here. Help me learn the ropes."

I would describe the circumstance that prompted the call and ask whether the situation I was calling about merited police attention or if it was something I should handle myself. The answer was pretty standard each time I called, either, "We'll send someone over to talk to you," or "We'll send someone out to talk to the citizen."

In order to be an educated consumer of services in my new situation, however, I wanted to learn more about the general working of the Freeport Police Department. Fortunately, there is a free fifteen-week program, the Civilian Police Academy, offered twice a year, and open to any Freeport resident. All new city council members and new city employees are encouraged to attend.

The Academy consists of a series of two-hour classes and discussions, held once a week, with a twenty-five student limit. In addition to attending the class sessions, each participant is expected to complete a four hour ride-along with a patrol unit and spend two hours in the 9-1-1 Center.

The course gave me the opportunity to hear about issues that affect law enforcement in Freeport and learn about a whole range of procedures and services — from accident investigation to evidence collection to victim services — from instructors who are members of the Freeport Police Department. As a consequence, I am now on a first name basis with many of the city's more than fifty officers, plus I got to meet Kilo, the K-9 dog.

On those occasions when I've talked to groups and individuals about advocating on behalf of libraries to their legislators, I usually pass along Lyndon Baines Johnson's advice, "The time to make friends is before you need them." It seems to me that Johnson's advice is useful in many situations, including when you set out to create a good working relationship with your police department.

When I heard about the CBS2/Beacon News coverage about criminal activity in libraries, I telephoned Chief Whitmore so we could review how to meet each others' expectations. He offered to attend a library management team meeting where six library supervisors were present to hear his advice about when to call the police for help. His message: Just call us.

"Call us if you think a crime is being committed," Chief Whitmore said. "Call us if you are frightened by a situation or behavior. Call in the evening if you want an escort to your car. Call if something makes you uneasy."

Chief Whitmore was particularly concerned that we call for assistance with situations involving children. "Don't let a situation escalate," he cautioned, "before you call." He also advised us, based on his personal experience, not to hesitate because of fear or retaliation. He also assured library managers that library calls are priority calls for the Police Department.

By now, I've had enough knowledge of and experience with Chief Jerry Whitmore and his officers that I feel confident contacting the police as he advises, and it occurs to me that this making friends business works both ways.

When I enrolled in the Civilian Police Academy program, along with two other library employees, the course was offered at a meeting room at the local hospital. This fall, after some lobbying on my part, its organizers agreed it would be appropriate to take advantage of the meeting space at our new downtown library, where it will be repeated in the spring. It may take yet more lobbying, but someday soon I want to report that all the library's management team are academy graduates. ■

Sally in Libraryland

I usually try to lead a fairly organized life. I make careful plans, while remaining open to the possibility of serendipity. And sometimes those plans go so smoothly it startles me — because more often something takes an unexpected turn, and there I am...somewhere else entirely.

That's pretty much what happened to me when I went to Champaign for a meeting of ILA's Intellectual Freedom Committee. In the course of my ILA membership, I have been on several committees. Most met approximately quarterly, for a morning or an afternoon, somewhere nearby. One never met at all. But under the guidance of Rose Chenoweth, following an ambitious plan begun by Dianne Harmon and continued by Tamiye Meehan, this committee has a lot to do, and an all-day meeting was required. Members of the committee are from all over the state, so when David Hamilton offered use of the meeting room at CARLI, it was an ideal central location.

“When the student is ready,
the teacher will come.
I'm wondering where I will
encounter my next teacher.”

I have a back that does not always agree with my ideas of appropriate activity (I have learned that if I say, “I have back issues” to library people, they look at me oddly) so I needed to get there the night before our 8:30 A.M. meeting. David recommended a nearby hotel, and I was able to negotiate a reasonable rate (once I invoked the fact that I was attending a meeting at the university — good thing to remember). I carefully printed out my hotel confirmation as well as detailed MapQuest maps to the hotel and CARLI, packed them into the tote with the training tools I needed to take, and felt well prepared, well in advance. My fears of ice, sleet, or snow — that triad of lousy driving weather — proved to be groundless, and on an overcast afternoon I set out, snacks and CDs at hand. Once clear of the mayhem that is Chicago area traffic, I truly enjoyed setting the cruise control at a level that would protect me from being arrested (I am well aware that my accelerator foot cannot be trusted to do that) and singing along with the Simon and Garfunkel reunion album. I know all the words from 1968. It was an enjoyable trip. I'm very much a city kid, and am delighted to see a much larger sky when I can.

MapQuest led me faithfully into Champaign. And then had me turn onto a street that quickly became obviously not the street my hotel was on, because I could see a tenth of a mile ahead, which is where it said the hotel was, and there were no commercial buildings of any sort. At first I thought it was me, and pulled over to see where I had gone wrong. Turns out I had gone wrong by not getting a second opinion from Google Earth, or anybody. While working my way through the one-way streets to find my way back to the main street I had been on, things started to



look familiar, and I realized I was close to the Champaign Public Library, where I had done a presentation for their Staff Institute Day in the spring. Sure enough, as I crept down ever-darker streets, I spotted that lovely blue “Library” sign we all know and love, and found my way into the parking lot with an enormous sense of relief.

The library, if you haven’t been there lately, is undergoing massive change. An enormous new building is rising behind the old building. They had to create a new “front” entrance for the old building and a new parking lot. The evening I pulled in, the joint was jumping. A steady stream of cars was pulling in and out of the lot. Kids were being dropped off, or waiting for rides, or just hanging out near the entrance. Seniors, toddlers — seemed like the whole city was there! Just inside the entrance, past the very busy circulation desk, was a service point ingeniously created out of a stand-up computer terminal, staffed by a welcoming young woman. I asked for adult reference. She said she’d take me. Really, I said, just point me. It’s my pleasure, she said. And she escorted me to the reference desk.

I did not realize this at the time, but I was having a more purely patron moment at that desk than I have had in a library for a very long time. Around here, a lot of people at other libraries know me, and I get greeted by name. If I have a question, it’s generally of the “Where’s the CE meeting?” sort.

But that night in Champaign, I was a patron: I had an information need. I was irritated with my inability to bend MapQuest to my will and eager to get to the right place and horizontal.

Reference librarian Linda Larson did everything right. As busy as the place was, she gave me her undivided attention. She greeted me with a smile, listened to my tale of woe, and whisked out

a map of the city. As she unfolded it, she sympathized with MapQuest’s shortcomings, and assured me that she had been to meetings at that very hotel, and knew exactly where it was. She pointed out the proper location on the map. She named the streets I’d cross when getting close to where I should turn. She gave me landmarks, and apologized that Hooters was next door to the hotel, but easy to spot. Then she said, “Here — you should have this map,” and gave it to me. Minutes after arriving, I was on my way out the door, map in hand, quite sure that this time there would be no wrong turns. There were not.

It was an excellent reminder for me of the way patrons feel when they come to us, and an experience I couldn’t have created on purpose. There was something I needed to know that I hadn’t been able to sort out for myself. Ninety-nine percent of the time, that’s what brings patrons to us, whether what they need to know is where the cookbooks are or what the GDP of Greenland is.

The attitude of the person on the other side of the transaction could have implied that I was a real idiot, either for relying on MapQuest, or for not knowing what she knew about the area. Instead, Linda demonstrated the very best that a reference librarian can be. As a patron, I would not hesitate to approach that desk again.

I thought I was going to Champaign to work on training, and ultimately, I did — but I also learned a whole lot, and I’m deeply grateful to Linda for the lesson! Careful plans, serendipity: my yoga teacher says, “When the student is ready, the teacher will come.” I’m wondering where I will encounter my next teacher.

E-mail (sallyinlibraryland@yahoo.com) or fax (847) 459-4760 or write (355 S. Schoenbeck Road, Wheeling, IL 60090) your tale to me, and then watch this space! 

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 *ILA Reporter* text is sent to the library in question for accuracy before being published here.

McCain Proposes Law to Force Web Sites to Report Unlawful Activity

Millions of commercial Web sites and personal blogs would be required to report illegal images or videos posted by their users or pay fines of up to \$300,000, if a new proposal in the U.S. Senate came into law, reported CNET News.com on December 11. The legislation, drafted by U.S. Senator John McCain, would also require Web sites that offer user profiles to delete pages posted by sex offenders.

In a speech on the Senate floor, the Arizona Republican and former presidential candidate warned that “technology has contributed to the greater distribution and availability, and, some believe, desire for child pornography.” After child pornography or some forms of “obscenity” are found and reported, the Web site must retain any “information relating to the facts or circumstances” of the incident for at least six months. Webmasters would be immune from civil and criminal liability if they followed the specified procedures exactly.

McCain’s proposal, called the “Stop the Online Exploitation of Our Children Act,” requires that reports be submitted to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, which in turn will forward them to the relevant police agency. (The organization received \$32.6 million in tax dollars in 2005, according to its financial disclosure documents.)

Internet service providers already must

follow those reporting requirements. But McCain’s proposal is liable to be controversial because it levies the same regulatory scheme — and even stiffer penalties — on even individual bloggers who offer discussion areas on their Web sites. “I am concerned that there is a slippery slope here,” said Kevin Bankston, an attorney with the Electronic Frontier Foundation (EFF) in San Francisco. “Once you start creating categories of industries that must report suspicious or criminal behavior, when does that stop?”

According to the proposed legislation, these types of individuals or businesses would be required to file reports: any Web site with a message board; any chat room; any social networking site; any e-mail service; any instant messaging service; any Internet content hosting service; any domain name registration service; any Internet search service; any electronic communication service; and any image or video-sharing service.

Kate Dean of the U.S. Internet Service Provider Association said her members appreciated McCain’s efforts to rewrite the current procedures for reporting illegal images, which currently are less than clear.

McCain’s proposal comes as concern about protecting children online has reached nearly a fever pitch in Washington. U.S. Attorney General Alberto Gonzales gave two speeches recently on the topic, in which he said, “We must do all that we can to protect our children from these cowardly villains who hide in the shadows of the Internet.”

But the reporting rules could prove problematic for individuals and smaller Web sites because the definitions of child

pornography have become relatively broad. The U.S. Justice Department, for instance, indicted an Alabama man named Jeff Pierson in December 2006 on child pornography charges because he took modeling photographs of clothed minors with their parents’ consent. The images were overly “provocative,” a prosecutor claimed.

The other section of McCain’s legislation targets convicted sex offenders. It would create a federal registry of “any e-mail address, instant-message address, or other similar Internet identifier” they use, and punish sex offenders with up to ten years in prison if they don’t supply it. Then, any social-networking site must take “effective measures” to remove any Web page that’s “associated” with a sex offender.

Because “social networking site” isn’t defined, it could encompass far more than just MySpace.com, Friendster, and similar sites. The list could include Slashdot, which permits public profiles; Amazon.com, which permits author profiles and personal lists; and blogs like RedState.com that show public profiles, as well as media companies that permit users to create profiles of favorite games, gadgets, and music.

“This constitutionally dubious proposal is being made mostly based on fear or political considerations rather than on the facts,” said EFF’s Bankston. Studies by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children show the online sexual solicitation of minors has dropped in the past five years, despite the growth of social networking services, he said.

In this political climate, members of Congress may not worry much about

precise definitions. The U.S. House of Representatives in a 410-15 vote approved another bill also vaguely targeting social networking sites. (See October 2006 *ILA Reporter*, pp. 16–21.)

And in July, for instance, Congress overwhelmingly approved a bill that made it a federal felony for Webmasters to use innocent words like “Barbie” or “Furby” to trick minors into visiting their sites and viewing sexually explicit material.

In 2007, Gonzales and the FBI are expected to resume their push for mandatory data retention, which will force Internet service providers to keep records on what their customers are doing online. An aide to Rep. Diana DeGette, a Colorado Democrat, said that she’s planning to introduce such legislation when the new Congress convenes.

Cathy Milhoan, an FBI spokeswoman, said that the FBI “continues to support data retention. We see it as crucial in advancing our cyber investigations to include online sexual exploitation

of children.”

In addition, Sen. Charles Schumer, a New York Democrat, and McCain said that they’ll introduce similar legislation dealing with sex offenders and social networking sites in January.

Barrington Library Wins Land Battle

The Barrington Area Library said that it has reached an agreement to buy just more than three acres for \$916,980 from nearby Pepper Construction Co., reported the December 14 *Daily Herald*.

“We’re glad to be able to negotiate a mutually beneficial settlement with our neighbors,” said Richard Ryan, president of the board of library trustees. “This presents the library with the opportunity to move forward, serving the community from its present location for many years to come. We look forward to working together with Pepper Construction, the Park District, the Village of Barrington,

and the Garlands to make this area a wonderful public campus in our community.” Pepper probably wouldn’t put it so amicably, however. “They just came in and took our property,” said Richard Pepper, chief executive of the general contracting firm.

The library has won an eminent domain lawsuit it filed to forcibly obtain ownership of the property from Pepper. It initially sought 5.1 acres and Pepper didn’t want to give up any. The two sides went back and forth in court, hired their own appraisers and settled on 3.162 acres.

“Unfortunately, they exercised eminent domain against one of Barrington’s most respected citizens and against one of the most respected companies in Barrington,” said Thomas Hayward, the attorney representing Pepper. “But it’s done with now.”

Hayward eventually advised Pepper to take the deal because “sooner or later the library would’ve taken it anyway under eminent domain, and we’d rather lose 3.1 than 5.1 acres.” The library board is considering going to referendum to fund



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an expansion to the current 60,000-square-foot building.

But Pepper said the topic of expansion never came up. “They said they didn’t have any current plans and that they just wanted it for greenery,” he said. “We had no choice in the matter.” Part of the reason that the library agreed to 3.1 acres, Pepper said, was because the Barrington Park District offered to sell the library two acres of its own land.

Park district board President Christine Garry said she couldn’t discuss details, but confirmed that the park district is in talks with the library about land.

But why would the library want two acres on the other side of town?

It isn’t enough space to build a branch and, according to Garry, the two acres in question are designated open space. Pepper said he’s accepted Pepper Construction’s smaller campus despite not knowing what’s going to happen with the land. “We have a good relationship. In Barrington, you have to be on a good note with each other. It’s too small not to be.”

The purchase allows the library to move forward with any future expansion plans to meet the informational needs of a growing population while adhering to local open space requirements. Talk of expansion is becoming an increasingly hot topic since the library doesn’t have a branch despite the district’s covering seventy-two square miles, the largest geographic area of any district in the state.

It serves all the Barrington villages, Tower Lakes, Deer Park, and parts of Hoffman Estates, Algonquin, Lake Zurich, Fox River Grove, and Palatine. According to the library’s press release, funds for the land purchase have been factored into the library’s current budget and will not impact taxpayers.

Sugar Grove Library to Cut Hours

The Sugar Grove Public Library will cut eleven hours off its weekly schedule starting in January, reported the December 16 *Daily Herald*.

The library board decided to cut service on Monday mornings, Wednesday

nights, and Friday afternoons. The library also plans to order fewer new titles in 2007 and increase some fees for services, such as interlibrary loans.

Trustees said these decisions were necessary after the library’s fourth failed tax increase request in November. The ballot question asked residents to raise the tax rate for the library from ten cents to fifteen cents per \$100 of equalized assessed valuation. “We can’t provide service during those hours,” Library Director Beverly Holmes Hughes said.

Library staff members also have to prepare for moving into a building almost five times as big as the current one in the next few years, Hughes said. “We’re trying to reserve and preserve funds wherever possible,” she said.

The library plans to send postcards to residents of the library district with the new hours. Instead of opening at 10 A.M. Monday, the library will open at 2 P.M.; instead of closing at 9 P.M. Wednesday, it will close at 5 P.M.; and instead of closing at 5 P.M. Friday, it will close at 2 P.M. In picking what hours to cut, Hughes said she looked at keeping staff members’ schedules consistent and minimizing the effect on community groups that use the library.

The library board plans to put another tax-increase request on the ballot the April 17, 2007, election. This question will ask for increased rate for library operations, funds from this proposition would be available to the library by July 1, 2008 at the beginning of the library fiscal year 2008–09.

Board Upholds Petition for Annexation Vote

There could be a referendum in April on the annexation of about 1,600 acres by the Batavia Library District in Blackberry Township, reported the December 14 *Beacon News*. (See December 2006 *ILA Reporter*, p. 33.)

A Kane County electoral board on December 13 rejected objections made to signatures calling for such a referendum. That means the question should be on the ballots of voters in the current Batavia dis-

trict, as well as in the area proposed for annexation. More than 50 percent of voters in both areas must approve annexation.

There are still plenty of legal questions surrounding Batavia’s action to annex the property, then to change that annexation with another ordinance that takes the petitioners out of the area proposed for annexation. Undoubtedly, those will be decided later in court, and that could change any potential referendum.

Still, the electoral board denied three of the four objections made to signatures of Russell and Lori Ott, who had put their names to a petition objecting to the Batavia Library Board annexation. The electoral board made up of State’s Attorney John Barsanti; Chief Deputy Clerk Jay Bennett of the County Clerk’s office; and Carolyn Herwig of the Circuit Clerk’s office, ruled the Otts live in the proposed annexed area and were registered to vote from there when they signed the petition. Batavia resident Daniel Zack, who claimed the Otts were not registered voters from the Brundige Road address at the time they signed the petition, filed an objection to their petition. The board also overruled other points Zack made that the signatures were not legible, and that the signatures did not match those on the Otts’s voter registration cards.

But Bruce Roberts, the attorney for objector Zack as well as for the Batavia Library District, said Geneva officials overstepped their authority by getting involved. He tried to argue that the fact of Geneva library officials helping the Otts file their petition was the equivalent of government agencies campaigning for a referendum question, something they are forbidden from doing. “It’s our contention that was improper political activity a local unit of government should not engage in,” Roberts said.

Barsanti replied that the electoral board is only convened to consider if the signatures are legitimate, not the mindset of the people who signed the petition or how the signatures were gathered.

Roberts also tried to argue the electoral board proceeding was moot because of a second annexation the Batavia district

made last week. In that one, the district moved to vacate residential properties in the district, including the Ott's home.

Again, Barsanti said that was not a decision to be made by the electoral board.

While both those issues are sure to come up when this situation hits the Circuit Court, they were not part of the December 13 discussion.

Lisle Library Considers Two Plans for Update

By this time next year, Lisle residents can expect to be checking out books from an updated library, reported the December 15 *Lisle Sun*.

The library's physical plant board saw preliminary plans of interior renovations at a meeting December 6. Architect Jim Filliung presented two ideas to the board — one that changes the library layout to a more rectangular look, and the other to renovate the library according to a more circular layout. This was the first time board members had seen pictures of potential ideas, so there will be much discussion before any decisions are made.

Although the plans are still in their earliest stages, board members unanimously agreed the circular plan looked great. "For something different, for something that opens it up, I think we should go with the circular plan," board member Barb Lund said.

The new plans might result in a loss of up to 15,000 library items because of a loss of shelf space to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act. The board agreed that one objective is bringing in more light. Potential plans include adding a bay window to the first floor. Other plans include new carpet and paint and a reorganization of current space.

Library Director Bill Strecker said the board originally wanted money for a new building. That would mean increasing taxes, so the issue went to referendum in April 2005. Residents voted against the measure. From there, library officials had to decide if they wanted to leave the building as is or make interior renova-

tions. "We didn't get a new building, so we have to work with what we have," Strecker said.

A year ago, Strecker said, the decision was made to go ahead with the renovations, and the library has \$1 million from its special reserve fund to make it happen. "We want to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the library," he said. "Let's make it more comfortable for patrons." Strecker hopes construction can start by February so it can be finished by the time the summer reading program starts in June. Because there will be minimal wall construction, the library should be closed for only a few days at a time during the renovation, Strecker said.

Harry Potter Can Stay in Georgia

The Georgia Board of Education voted to uphold a local school board's decision to leave Harry Potter books on library shelves despite a mother's objections, reported the *Associated Press* on December 15. The board members voted without discussion to back the Gwinnett County school board's decision to deny Laura Mallory's request to remove the best-selling books.

Mallory, who has three children in elementary school, has worked for more than a year to ban the books from Gwinnett schools, claiming the books try to indoctrinate children in witchcraft. "It's mainstreaming witchcraft in a subtle and deceptive manner, in a children-friendly format," said Mallory, who is considering a legal challenge of the board's ruling. "The kind of stuff in these books — murder and greed and violence. Why do they have to read them in school?"

Gwinnett school officials have argued that the books are good tools to encourage children to read and to spark creativity and imagination. Banning all books with references to witchcraft would mean classics such as *Macbeth* and *Cinderella* would have to go, they said.

J. K. Rowling's Harry Potter books, published by London-based Bloomsbury Publishing PLC, have been challenged 115 times since 2000, making them the

most challenged texts of the twenty-first century, according to the American Library Association. The challenges most often claim the series encourages children to question adult authority and promotes witchcraft, said Deborah Caldwell-Stone, deputy director for the association's Office for Intellectual Freedom.

Arlington Heights Library Gets Its Message Out on Web's YouTube

Arlington Heights Memorial Library officials like to stay on the cutting edge of technology to keep residents informed, and that's just what they're doing with their latest communications tool, using videos stored in YouTube, reported the December 20 *Daily Herald*.

Knowing that more and more patrons are turning to the library's Web site, www.ahml.org, they now hope to use that medium to inform them with video blogs, or vlogs, as they call them. These short video segments — filmed by the library's creative staff — began running earlier this month, and will change three times a week to alert library patrons about new services and programs. As if that's not high-tech enough, library staffers are taking their cameras on location throughout the village. Different newsmakers and residents will be featured in their opening shot to capture the viewers' interest.

In December, a vlog featured Metropolis Performing Arts Centre President Monica McCarthy with Ebenezer Scrooge, from the theater's current production of *A Christmas Carol*, as the lead-in personalities. They cut to library personnel who inform residents of the library's holiday hours and update them on what happens after patrons use drop-off sites to return library materials. Look for upcoming hits to include a spot filmed in front of the new Beaner's Gourmet Coffee and another featuring Arlington Heights Village President Arlene Mulder, and her son, Mike.

Deb Whisler, the library's public information officer, says staff members

applied for a grant from the Illinois State Library for funds offered by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the Federal Library and Technology Act. "We received a \$30,000 Library Technology Act grant for our staff to write, film, and produce these short video clips through June as a new communications vehicle for our customers," Whisler says. Besides the technology aspect of it, Whisler adds, library staffers are having fun with the new medium and always seek input on people and locations in the community to feature.

Bovine Stars in Dairy Commercial Filmed at Aurora University Library

So, this cow walks into the library at Aurora University, reported the December 20 Aurora *Beacon News*.

And Jim Oberweis is there, sitting

behind a desk full of milk bottles, and he tries to hire the cow. And then... well, maybe you had to be there. The joke comes across more clearly in an upcoming TV commercial, the filming of which brought the local dairy owner and his four-legged friend into the Aurora University Library.

Why a college library?

The ad is supposed to be set in the Oberweis Dairy corporate headquarters in North Aurora. Problem is, Oberweis's actual office is too small for a film crew and a 1,700-pound animal. "And we're on the second floor," Oberweis said, "so that would have been a challenge." The Aurora University Library, at ground level and recently remodeled, was a perfect substitute. Tarps protected the carpet.

Welcoming a cow to campus made for less disruption than might be expected. Outside the reference room, librarians and a handful of students ruminated over their work as usual. "We're between semesters right now, so there are only

a few students around," said university spokesman Al Benson.

The commercial shows Oberweis and his son Joe conducting a job interview with a candidate who turns out to be a cow. In reality, the five-year-old Holstein named Bridget (she plays the cow) already works for Oberweis Dairy at her home, Sunset Acres Farm in Hampshire, which supplies the dairy with about 400 gallons of milk per day.

Aurora University has a history of collaboration with local businesses and organizations. In August 2006, new carpeting, shelving, and furniture was installed in the library's first floor. The library will soon enter a fund-raising stage in anticipation of a major building renovation or new construction.

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Please contact attorneys Keri-Lyn Krafthofer, Paul Keller or Britt Isaly at 312-782-7606 to find out how Ancel Glink may be of service to you.

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ILA Candidates for 2007

The ILA Nominating Committee has announced the candidates for election in the spring of 2007.

For vice-president/president-elect (three-year term beginning July 1, 2007 — June 30, 2010):

Donna Dziedzic,
Naperville Public Libraries
Pam Van Kirk,
Galesburg Public Library

Board of Directors (three-year term beginning July 1, 2007 — June 30, 2010). 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:

Halle Mikyska,
Kane County Law Library, St. Charles
Kathryn M. Harris,
Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library

Director-at-Large:

Robyn Hendricks,
Decatur Public Library
Michelle Petersen,
Glen Carbon Centennial Library

Director-at-Large:

Mesfin Tefera, trustee,
Aurora Public Library
Dayle Zelenka, trustee,
Skokie Public Library

Director-at-Large:

Carole Dickerson,
Freeport Public Library
Lisa Poignant,
Chillicothe Public Library District

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, 2007. 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, 2007. 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 Tina Hubert, Kendi Kelley, Mary Munroe, Tobi A. Oberman, Lynn Stainbrook, Denise Zielinski, and Dianne Harmon, chair.

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, 2007 (unless otherwise noted). Write the award name on the lower left-hand corner of the

envelope. Simply submit three (3) copies of the ILA nomination form and any other materials required for the award you have chosen. In addition, please send the same documentation by e-mail to the ILA office (ila@ila.org).

Award winners will receive notification in July 2007, and will be a guest of ILA at the annual presentation ceremony in Springfield (October 2007).

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

Last Chance to Apply For Public Library Energy-Efficient Lighting Upgrade Grants

2007 will be the last year that the Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation (ICECF) will offer grants to public libraries for upgrading facilities operating on standard incandescent lamps to high efficiency lamps and ballasts. If you were a previous grant recipient you already know that energy-efficient lights are easy to install, improve lighting quality, and use less energy. This gives every public library the opportunity to save money on future electric bills and gives residents better facilities.

The ICECF will be accepting grant applications beginning in fall 2006 through April 2007. Public Library Upgrade Program application materials will be mailed directly to ILA members as soon as they are made available. More than two hundred public libraries are already benefiting from this new, cost-efficient technology. Don't miss your chance to take advantage of this unique opportunity. In the interim, please contact the ICECF Program Manager Lisa Starks at (312) 372-5191 if you have any questions.

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.

PERSONAL MEMBERS

Tina L. Carter, Chicago Public Library
Li Fu, University of Illinois at Chicago
Mary Haub, Kiskwaukee College Library, Malta
Kimberly Hecht, Worth Public Library District
Kristine Kenney, Schaumburg Township District Library
Amanda M. Kuzminski, Orland Jr. High School, Orland Park
Melissa McCune, Fox River Grove Public Library District
Amanda McKay, Lincoln Trail Libraries System, Champaign
Lori Mestre, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Holly Mulhern, Fremont Public Library District, Mundelein
Kenneth J. Orenic, Dominican University, River Forest
Sarah M. Pritchard, Northwestern University, Evanston
Pamela M. Salela, University of Illinois at Springfield
Irene Scherer, Round Lake Area Public Library District
Mitch Walker, Barrington

STUDENT MEMBERS

Jessica Pollitt, Dominican University, River Forest
Howard G. Rein, Glencoe

TRUSTEE MEMBERS

Nora Aman-Gurvich, Elmhurst Public Library
Becky Ault, Kewanee Public Library District
Vicki Burger, Ela Area Public Library District, Lake Zurich
Yvonne Crosswell, Richton Park Public Library District
Philip Hupfer, Elmhurst Public Library
Ruth McDonald, Evergreen Park Public Library
Wally Salganik, Indian Trails Public Library District, Wheeling

Illinois Reading Enrichment and Development (iREAD) Committee

Jane Kauzlaric, Joliet Public Library

The Illinois Reading Enrichment and Development program (iREAD) has helped Illinois library staff for over twenty-five years to motivate children to read by offering the resources and products necessary for summer reading programs. This summer, Mission READ: To the Library and Beyond, will be the theme across the state. Mission READ products, illustrated by Caldecott Medalist Eric Rohmann, may be purchased at <http://ila.org/pub/iread.htm>. There you will also find a poster and t-shirt for teens designed by Rori DeClue. Orders may be placed online or by fax, phone, or mail. Remember, every purchase from iREAD supports library advocacy.

If you have ideas or suggestions for the 2008 Get in the Game - READ! Resource Guide, submit them to iREAD at <http://www.ila.org/pub/iread.htm>. Hurry, the deadline for the 2008 Guide is March 16, 2007.

Reaching Forward Forum for Support Staff

Sally Schuster, Addison Public Library

The Reaching Forward Conference of Library Assistants is just a few months away: Friday, May 18. The conference is held at the Donald E. Stephens Convention Center, 5555 North River Road, Rosemont. It's not too early to register! Check out our Web site (www.reachingforward.org) for all of the current details.

This year's conference offers a variety of programs. There should be plenty of choices for each of you to have an interesting and informative day.

It's always fun to attend the author programs and get autographed copies of their books. Musician and author Jim Gill talks about the benefits of music and

play in the lives of young children. Kelly James-Enger presents self-help information on several subjects from publishing your writing to getting organized to exchanging bad habits for good ones. Rich Lindberg, the team historian for the Chicago White Sox, discusses his favorite team in one session and talks about a true crime tale in another.

Library and patron safety, storytelling, copy cataloging, healthier living, database promotion, censorship, and multiculturalism are just a few of the topics offered at this year's conference.

Each year winners of two awards are announced at the conference: the Robert P. Doyle Award and the Oberman/Rich Award. It is easy to nominate someone deserving at your library. You can even nominate yourself. Make the committee's decision really tough this year with lots of deserving nominees!

All the information you need is on the awards page of our Web site (www.reachingforward.org/awards.html). You can nominate someone online or print the nomination form and send it to Denise Zielinski (DuPage Library System, 127 South First Street, Geneva, IL 60134; fax: (630) 232-0699). The committee will accept nominations through March 15, 2007.

The Robert P. Doyle Award was established in 1999 in honor of ILA Executive Director Robert P. Doyle, who is a strong advocate for library assistants. He provides essential support for the Reaching Forward Conference of Library Assistants. This award encourages support staff attendance at the Illinois Library Association Annual Conference and is open to support staff working in all types of libraries. Submit the nomination with a statement, one page or less, completing the phrase "Why I (or my nominee) would like to attend the ILA Annual Conference and how it would affect my (or his/her) personal and professional growth." One recipient will receive full registration and expenses, up to \$800, to attend the ILA Annual Conference.

The Oberman/Rich award was established in 1995 in honor of Tobi Oberman and Tom Rich, who were instrumental in

developing the Reaching Forward Conference. The award recognizes the contributions of a support staff member to the library community and to the role of support staff in libraries. It is open to support staff working in all types of libraries. This nomination form requires a statement, one page or shorter, "Why I would like to attend Reaching Forward" or "Why I think (name) deserves to attend Reaching Forward." The recipient receives free registration to Reaching Forward, \$50 for expenses, and a framed certificate. If there are several deserving candidates, more than one award is given.

The next issue of the *ILA Reporter* will contain more details about the conference, and the Web site (www.reachingforward.org) has the latest information. Hopefully, you have May 18 saved on your calendar. Don't forget to tell your supervisor and your colleagues about this exciting continuing education opportunity.

Young Adult Services Forum (YASF)

Amy Alessio, Schaumburg Township District Library

Do you serve young adults ages twelve to eighteen in your community? Are you looking for new ways to reach this elusive group? The Young Adult Services Forum became active in 2006 to help us all share ideas. This forum builds on the excellent work of the iREAD and Youth Services Forum groups in offering conference programs, workshops, and publications. By now our first electronic newsletter has gone out; most readers will have seen a copy through their systems.

Feedback on the 2006 ILA Annual Conference programs was positive enough that the YASF is hoping to continue presenting on timely young adult topics at the 2007 conference. We also look forward to continued co-sponsorship of programs and events with the Youth Services Forum. We find that many library staff that serve young adults also serve other age groups, so this cooperation makes sense.

Another great cooperative effort is with the iREAD initiative. In 2006, the first YA iREAD manual was published as well as separate YA products. In order to continue this fabulous trend, everyone needs to send in young adult ideas for the manual. The deadline is March 16, 2007. Send Young Adult ideas for the 2008 Get in the Game program to <http://www.ila.org/pub/iread.htm>. Categories for the 2008 YA manual include slogans, program ideas on sports/health or gaming, book lists, displays/marketing, puzzles, and working with volunteers.

In 2007, the YASF plans to do a regional workshop and develop an interactive Web site in addition to publishing future newsletters. Would you like to get involved? There is plenty for everyone to do, even virtually from home or the library! Contact co-leaders Amy Alessio at aalessio@stdl.org or Cindy Welch at cwelch2@uiuc.edu.

Youth Services Forum

Kelly Laszczak, Orland Park Public Library

The YSF is proud to introduce the "Golden Ticket Award." This award will be added to the list of ILA sponsored awards and will be presented by the Youth Services Forum and Rob Zimmers

of Quality Books. The award is for an individual who works directly with children and has made an outstanding local contribution in library services to young people in his/her community by creating and implementing library programs that promote a love of literature and instill positive feelings about libraries. Prizes include a one-year paid membership to ILA and \$150 cash prize.

In addition to the Golden Ticket Award, the YSF will continue to sponsor the Davis Cup Award. The Davis Cup honors an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to library services to young people within their community and beyond. The major differences in the two awards are:

- Nominees for the Golden Ticket Award do not have to have a master's of library science or be a member of ILA. The Davis Cup nominees must.
- The Davis Cup recipient must be an ILA member; the Golden Ticket Award recipient need not be.
- The Davis Cup recipient does not have to work directly with children or work in a library setting; the Golden Ticket Award recipient must do both.
- The Davis Cup recipient must actively participate in professional organizations, typically on a state or national level; the Golden Ticket Award recipient need not.

- The Davis Cup recipient must positively affect those outside his/her own community; the Golden Ticket Award specifically looks at local contributions within one's own community.

Nominations for both the Golden Ticket Award and the Davis Cup Award are due May 15, 2007. For more information about the Davis Cup or to obtain a nomination form for all ILA awards visit: http://www.ila.org/membership/apps/ila_awards.pdf.

Registration for the Youth Services Forum's Spring Workshop is coming soon! This year the workshop is titled "Mission: Magic" and will feature magician Rick Eugene. Eugene will teach librarians how to perform magic tricks to enhance programs and entertain audiences. The workshop will be offered twice from 9:30 A.M. to NOON. For those interested in attending closer to the central part of the state "Mission: Magic" will be presented on April 20, 2007, at the Reddick Library in Ottawa, Ill., and for those farther south the workshop will be presented on May 9 at the Lewis & Clark Library System headquarters in Edwardsville, Ill. Registration for ILA members is \$10 and for nonmembers is \$15. See registration form on page 38.

Library Jobline of Illinois

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

Positions for Librarians and Support Staff

All employer job openings are listed on the ILA Web site (www.ila.org/jobline) for 30 days and the cost is \$80.



Join your colleagues in Springfield Thursday, April 19, 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, and banners, and we are confident a large turnout will make lawmakers take notice and hopefully generate positive media coverage for our efforts.

Strategy Session and Dinner — Wednesday, April 18, 2007, 6:30 – 9:00 P.M. Northfield Inn, Suites, & Conference Center, 3280 Northfield Drive in Springfield, featuring ILA Legislative Consultant Kip Kolkmeier, a cash bar, and buffet dinner. The cost is \$30, payable to the DuPage Library System. Register by April 11, 2007 at <http://www.dupagels.lib.il.us/calendar/detailpages/1165875762.html>.

In addition, 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

REGISTRATION

Name:	
Institution:	
Mailing Address:	
City, State, Zip:	
Daytime Phone:	Fax:
E-mail:	
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 order an \$10.00 breakfast at the state library at 7:30 A.M. The legislative breakfast with your state legislator will include coffee, teas, juices, muffins, croissants, fruit, sausage, bacon, hash browns, biscuits & gravy, and a ham, egg, and cheese casserole.
- I would like to order a \$8.50 box lunch, including a chips, apple, brownie 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 make a tax-deductible donation \$_____ to help support Illinois Library Day.

Total \$_____ (for any of these optional items — box lunch, breakfast, and donation)

Method of payment:

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

Account No.	Expiration Date
Signature	

Deadline for registration is April 12, 2007. 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.

Mark your calendar for National Library Legislative Day, Wednesday, May 2, 2007—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 have 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; \$219 single/double rate for a junior efficiency suite and \$239 for a superior suite or one bedroom deluxe suite, 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 30, 2007.

MONDAY, APRIL 30

“Lobbying 101 Preconference” at the ALA Washington Office (1615 New Hampshire Ave., N.W., First Floor, Washington, D.C. 20009) from 3:00–5:00 P.M. Sponsored by the Association of Library Trustees and Advocates and the ALA Washington Office, the preconference is designed to provide tips on how to make an impact during hill visits and to help with the organization of presentations to your legislators.

TUESDAY, 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.

WEDNESDAY, 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.

REGISTRATION

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

Your registration fee includes legislative materials, coffee breaks at the briefing sessions, and the Congressional Reception on Wednesday 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.

- \$45 for ILA Members \$55 for nonmembers

\$50 for dinner on Tuesday 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 parsley red pepper mashed potatoes
- Vegetarian lasagna

Method of payment:

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

Account No.	Expiration Date
Signature	

While attending the 2007 National Library Legislative Day, I will be staying at _____ (name of hotel or other accommodations)

Deadline for registration is April 15, 2007. **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.

DEFENDING ACCESS WITH CONFIDENCE WORKSHOP

Defending Access with Confidence by Catherine Lord is a step-by-step program that takes participants through the history of intellectual freedom and the law, related policies, and approaches to challenges against intellectual freedom in the context of libraries. Utilizing this program, trainers will help participants understand their role in protecting the right to access in library settings and find alternative ways to satisfy patrons whenever possible.

This workshop is being offered in eight locations, throughout the state. The training is for all library staff members. Each workshop runs from 8:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

March 9, 2007	DuPage Library System in Geneva
March 22, 2007	Lincoln Trail Libraries System in Champaign
March 29, 2007	Shawnee and Lewis & Clark Library Systems at the Mascoutah Training Center
April 12, 2007	Rolling Prairie Library System in Decatur
May 1, 2007	Prairie Area Library System at the Reddick Library in Ottawa
May 3, 2007	Alliance Library System in East Peoria
May 10, 2007	North Suburban Library System in Wheeling
May 17, 2007	Metropolitan Library System in Burr Ridge

REGISTRATION

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

Registration Fee:

- \$30 ILA Member
 \$35 Nonmember

Lunch:

- Turkey Sandwich
 Beef Sandwich
 Vegetarian Sandwich

Method of Payment:

Check or money order for \$_____ made payable to ILA

Charge \$_____ to my VISA MasterCard

Account No.	Expiration Date
Signature	

Please select location:

- DuPage Library System
 Lincoln Trail Libraries System
 Shawnee and Lewis & Clark Library Systems
 Rolling Prairie Library System
 Prairie Area Library System
 Alliance Library System
 North Suburban Library System
 Metropolitan Library System

Registration deadline is one week before each workshop. All cancellations must be received in writing one week before your workshop. All **cancellations** are subject to a \$15 processing fee.

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

YOUTH SERVICES SPRING WORKSHOP

MISSION: MAGIC!

with Magician Rick Eugene

Friday, April 20, 2007 ~ 9:30 to NOON ~ Reddick Library ~ 101 Canal St., Ottawa, IL

Wednesday, May 9, 2007 ~ 9:30 to NOON ~ Lewis and Clark Library System ~ 425 Goshen Rd., Edwardsville, IL

Are you looking for a great new attention-getting way to open the programs you do in your library? Do you want to wow the students you see on your school visits? Do you ever find yourself with some time to fill while waiting for a guest speaker to arrive? Or do you just want to be that really cool librarian who can do magic tricks?

Magician Rick Eugene will teach you how to do simple, easy-to-learn magic tricks with objects that you already have in your library. He will also demonstrate simple magic tricks that can be performed with inexpensive magic props.

REGISTRATION

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

I am registering for: April 20, Ottawa May 9, Edwardsville

\$10 for ILA/SWAYS Members \$15 for non-members

Registration includes a continental breakfast.

Method of payment:

Check or money order for \$ _____ made payable to ILA or

Charge \$ _____ to my VISA MasterCard

Account No.	Expiration Date
Signature	

Deadline for registration is April 11, 2007, for the Ottawa workshop, and April 30, 2007, for the Edwardsville workshop. **Cancellations** must be received in writing one week before the workshop date. Cancellations received less than a week before the workshop date will receive a 50% refund. Confirmations and additional information will be sent after the registration deadline.

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

Or **register online** at http://www.ila.org/events/reg_ysf.htm.



REACHING FORWARD

May 18, 2007 • 8:00AM – 3:30PM

Registration Form—Reaching Forward Annual Conference for Library Assistants

ONE REGISTRATION FORM PER PERSON • REGISTRATION DEADLINE MAY 4, 2007

NAME _____ E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

LIBRARY NAME _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ FAX _____

Please select one program per time slot. Each conference attendee must fill out a registration form.

10:00 – 10:30 AM

Author book signings and no conflict exhibitor time

10:30 AM – 12:45 PM (*choose one/counts as 2 sessions*)

- Teaching Parents How to Protect Their Children
- Who Says Management Can't Be Fun?

10:30 – 11:30 AM (*choose one*)

- The Chicago White Sox: Baseball Tradition on the South Side (author talk)
- Censorship: the Good, the Bad and the Ugly
- Music Play for the Very Young (author talk)
- From Pen to Publication: How to Get Your Writing in Print (author talk)
- Storytelling...You Can Do It!
- LegalEase Made Easy
- Keys to Living Healthier Starting Today
- When to Call 911
- Reference Desk Realities

11:45 AM – 12:45 PM (*choose one*)

- Shattered Sense of Innocence (author talk)
- May There Always Be Music! May There Always Be Books! (author talk)

- Fairy Tales, Myths, and Dead Relatives: Creating the World of Abraxas (author talk)
- Telling Your Story
- Copy Cataloging for Graphic Novels
- Make the Most of your Minutes
- Choosing an Exercise Program for You
- Street Gang Trends
- Security Tips for Library Personnel

12:45 – 2:00 PM LUNCH

2:15 – 3:15 PM (*choose one*)

- May There Always Be Music! May There Always Be Books! (author talk)
- Break Your Bad Habits & Replace Them With Better Ones
- Programming: The Heart and Soul of a Children's Department
- Dysfunction Junction
- Cataloging the Untouchable
- Promoting and Using Your Databases
- Reference Basics and Fundamentals
- An Approach to Multi-Culturalism
- Street Gang Trends
- Penny in a Pond: The Power of You

Conference costs are:

ILA Members **\$100 ea.** = \$ _____

Non-ILA Members **\$110 ea.** = \$ _____

Check here for a vegetarian option

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

You may also register online at: www.ila.org

No refunds will be given after April 27, 2007

If special accommodations are needed due to a disability, please contact the ILA office before April 27, 2007.

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

FEBRUARY 2007

- 2** IREAD meeting, 11:00 A.M., Morris Area Public Library District, 604 Liberty St., Morris, IL 60450; phone: (815) 942-6880; fax: (815) 942-6415.
- 20** Deadline for April issue of the *ILA Reporter*.
- 23** ILA Executive Board meeting, 10:00 A.M., Metropolitan Library System, 125 Tower Dr., Burr Ridge, IL 60527-5783; phone: (630) 734-5122; fax: (630) 734-5050.
- 24** Trustee Forum Workshop, Hickory Ridge Marriott Conference Hotel, 1195 Summerhill Dr., Lisle, IL 60532. Individual attendees will make reservations for the event directly with Marriott Reservations at 800-334-0344. If the individual attendee does not check in, there will be a charge of one night's room rate. Registration form in the December 2006 issue of the *ILA Reporter*; p. 51.

MARCH 2007

- 1-3** PLA Spring Symposium, San Jose, Calif.; phone: 800-545-2433, ext. 5PLA; e-mail: pla@ala.org.
- 9** Defending Access with Confidence Workshop, DuPage Library System in Geneva, Ill. Registration form in this issue of the *ILA Reporter*; p. 37

- 22** Defending Access with Confidence Workshop, Lincoln Trail Libraries System in Champaign, Ill. Registration form in this issue of the *ILA Reporter*; p. 37.
- 29** Defending Access with Confidence Workshop, Shawnee and Lewis & Clark Library Systems at the Mascoutah Training Center. Registration form in this issue of the *ILA Reporter*; p. 37.
- 29-1** April Association of College & Research Libraries (ACRL) 13th National Conference, Baltimore, Md.; phone: (312) 280-2521; <http://www.acrl.org/ala/acrl/acrlevents/baltimore/baltimore.htm/>.

APRIL 2007

- 12** Defending Access with Confidence Workshop, Rolling Prairie Library System, Decatur, Ill. Registration form in this issue of the *ILA Reporter*; p. 37.
- 13** IREAD meeting, 11:00 A.M., Morris Area Public Library District, 604 Liberty St., Morris, IL 60450; phone: (815) 942-6880; fax: (815) 942-6415.
- 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; <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/>.
- 19** Illinois Library Day. See registration form p. 35.
- 20** Deadline for June issue of the *ILA Reporter*.

MAY 2007

- 1** Defending Access with Confidence Workshop, Prairie Area Library System at the Reddick Library in Ottawa, Ill. Registration form in this issue of the *ILA Reporter*; p. 37.
- 1-2** National Library Legislative Day. The registration form will appear in the February 2007 *ILA Reporter*. The ALA briefing day will be held at the Holiday Inn on the Hill, 415 New Jersey Ave., N.W., Washington, DC 20001. ILA has reserved a room block at the Capitol Hill Suites, 200 C St., S.E., Washington, DC 20003; phone: 888-627-7811; \$219 single/double rate for a junior efficiency suite and \$239 for a superior suite or one bedroom deluxe suite, 14.5% sales taxes are not included. When making reservations, please mention the Illinois Library Association. The hotel has

created a personalized ILA Web site that guests can access to learn more about the event and to book, modify, or cancel a reservation from June 23, 2006 to May 8, 2007. Access to the site is organized by guest type and can be obtained by going to the following link:

<http://tinyurl.com/tnd5q>.

Registration form appears in this *ILA Reporter*, p. 36.

- 3** **Defending Access with Confidence Workshop**, Alliance Library System, East Peoria, Ill. Registration form in this issue of the *ILA Reporter*, p. 37.

- 10** **Defending Access with Confidence Workshop**, North Suburban Library System, Wheeling, Ill. Registration form in this issue of the *ILA Reporter*, p. 37.

- 17** **Defending Access with Confidence Workshop**, Metropolitan Library System, Burr Ridge, Ill. Registration form in this issue of the *ILA Reporter*, p. 37.

- 18** **Reaching Forward Conference of Library Assistants**, Donald E. Stephens Convention Center, Rosemont, Ill. <http://www.reachingforward.org/>.

JUNE 2007

- 8** **ILA Executive Board meeting**, 10:00 A.M., Urbana Free Library, 210 Green St., Urbana, IL 61801-3283; phone: (217) 367-4057; fax: (217) 367-4061.

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

- 21–27** **ALA Annual Conference**, Washington, D.C.; phone: (312) 280-3225; <http://www.ala.org/>.

AUGUST 2007

- 20–26** **World Library and Information Congress: 73rd International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) Council and General Conference**, Durban, South Africa. For further information, see IFLA Web site: <http://www.ifla.org/>.

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

SEPTEMBER 2007

- 22–29** **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. Or visit the Web site at <http://www.ala.org/bannedbooksweek/bannedbooksweek.htm/>.

OCTOBER 2007

- 9–12** **ILA Annual Conference**, Springfield, Ill., at the Prairie Capital Convention Center. Conference Hotels: Abraham Lincoln Hotel and Conference Center, 701 East Adams St., Springfield, IL 62701; phone: (217) 544-8800; fax: (217) 544-8079; single/double: \$97, plus tax. Hilton Springfield, 700 East Adams St., Springfield, IL 62701; phone: (217) 789-1530 or 800-445-8667; fax: (217) 522-5346; single: \$105/double: \$120, plus tax.

- 14–20** **Teen Read Week**. For further information, see <http://www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/teenreading/teenreading.htm/>.

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

- 25–26** **Health Science Librarians of Illinois Annual Conference**, Champaign, Ill. For further information, please contact: Stacey Knight-Davis; phone: (217) 581-7549; e-mail: slknight@eiu.edu/.

NOVEMBER 2007

- 1–3** **Illinois School Library Media Association Annual Conference**, Crowne Plaza, Springfield, Ill. For further information, see <http://www.islma.org/>.

DECEMBER 2007

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



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 - Money and securities
 - Data processing hardware, software, and extra expense
- Library Auto Extension Endorsement
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 - Towing services/service call
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Partnerships

Who needs 'Em?

I've been thinking about partnerships and wondering if my point of view about them is "nature" or "nurture." Nurture won. With seven siblings (six still living), independence was, at best, a state of mind. The reality was that we worked together to get things done — everything from helping with chores to packing the car for the annual summer vacation to Indiana (where my parents grew up and where most of my extended family lived), to getting the snow shoveled (note to self — never buy a house on a corner lot). And if we weren't working together, a group of siblings were making decisions for the others. Although we are grown, and all except me retired, we still try and make decisions for one another (well, mostly me — they call it "advice"). Human dynamics are curious things.

Being the youngest in the brood allowed me to view the world from a unique perspective. It also made me the target for all sorts of higher-level game playing with our parents. With seventeen years between me and my eldest sibling, I benefited from observing the dynamics of the group and how partnerships changed shape as needed, rather like an amoeba or Eastern Europe after World War II. Borders moved, participants changed, and objectives were adjusted. Sometimes this happened in less than ten minutes! It was almost like a small United Nations — every country was heard from, sometimes people spoke different languages, generational differences became apparent, and sometimes there were stand-offs (the violent, food-throwing sort). I once observed our mother take her shoe off, just like Khrushchev, and smack it on the backyard picnic table just to get our attention.

I also learned very early on that I would lose — repeatedly — so I developed a thick skin and learned when to compromise and when to cut bait. It wasn't personal (yeah, right). Compromise also taught me to create a personal space, generally demonstrated by masking tape on a piece of furniture or the floor, for evaluating options and choosing the path of greatest success or least familial abuse (usually in the form of unmerciful razzing). In my family the unmerciful razzing was a sign of love and affection — if they didn't like you, they would ignore you. (Family Lesson #5 — If you don't have anything nice to say, don't say anything at all.) Taking a more introverted, introspective position also gave me time to assess my options and choose the best alliances. From whom could I learn the most, and with who could I most easily align around seemingly fundamental issues — fairness, respect for a common goal, energetic exchange of ideas, and simple enjoyment?

However, at the end of the day, it was the alliances that proved most valuable to my brothers and sisters. Those alliances meant there were winners and losers — and over time none of us wanted

to be the loser. I learned quickly that the best way to lose less was to partner more, and to partner with the best of the group. So, for science and math projects I partnered with my father, for history I partnered with my middle brother, and for English I partnered with my middle sister. For fun, I learned from two brothers. We became quite proficient at folding paper airplanes and launching them into the living room from the bedroom hallway. Except for the slamming bedroom doors and roaring laughter, I think we were pretty anonymous! These same brothers also taught me how to tap a telephone (the old ones hard-wired into the wall). Another note to self — surveillance is easier than we think.

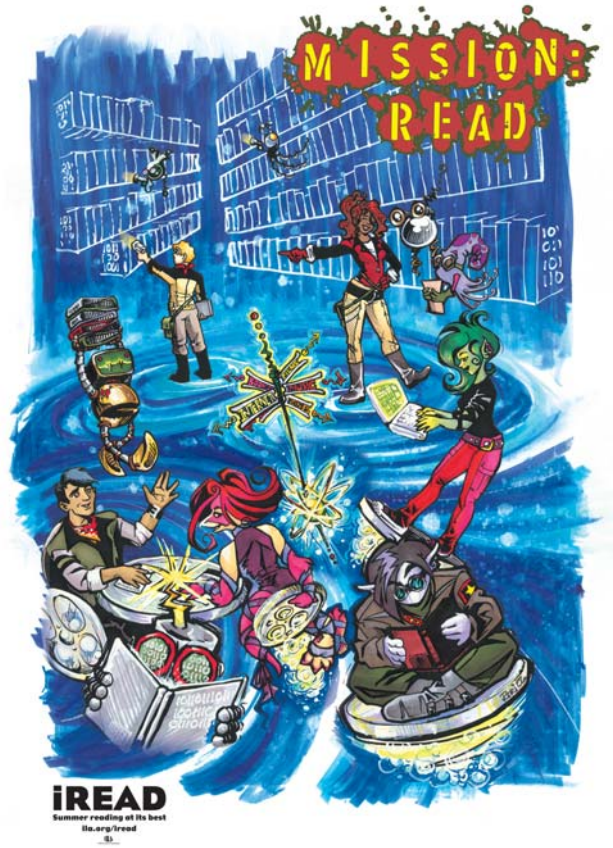
Notes to reader

- Be aware of interpersonal communication and be part of the dialogue, lest someone else make decisions for you or your library.
- Building partnerships across groups or organizations takes patience, and sometimes drastic measures are necessary to bring attention to an issue (sometimes you just need to smack your shoe on a table).
- Learn from the people who don't speak up as well as those who do. And, don't take anything personally — it isn't about you. If a few players don't like you or you don't like them, a friendly reminder to all that it is about the goal is in order, and all egos need to be checked at the door.
- Small accomplishments build into great accomplishments, and setbacks are just that, setbacks. Keep moving forward.
- Have fun! Partnership building is all about making the most of limited resources to reach a common goal. The more enjoyable it is for everyone, the more likely the partnership will be sustained.

In contemplating the concept of partnerships I see that my childhood, more than any aspect of my life, prepared me for my career. What I also have recognized is that many people and organizations I have had the pleasure and honor to work with haven't been as open to partnerships. Acknowledging this makes me sad that people are afraid of change. It frustrates me that I have been, at times, unsuccessful in forming alliances to build long-lasting partnerships and, more fundamentally, it leaves me feeling nervous that people and organizations would rather stand alone than together to work towards a goal.

Partnerships can be efficient, cost-effective, and can connect people in ways never imagined. Perhaps I should take my shoe off more often, and smack it on a table. Note to self — keep a shoe with a strong heel under my desk... carry to all meetings. ■

This year **iREAD** is pleased to introduce artwork and programming to support Young Adult Summer Reading programs. The **2007 YA iREAD Mission Read!** artwork features a graphic novel style that is showcased in a YA poster. Other YA products include: a T-shirt, teen window cling, messenger bag, a deep space water wiggly, a special section of the Resource Guide, and clip art on the CD. To view and/or order, visit the ILA Web site at <http://www.ila.org/pub/iread.htm>



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