

Penguin Ebooks Return to OverDrive

“Penguin will resume doing business with OverDrive as of this morning,” Penguin spokesperson Erica Glass told *Hotline* on September 25. According to a blog post by Karen Estrovich, collection development manager for OverDrive, 17,000 Penguin ebooks are already “live and available for purchase in OverDrive Marketplace.” Although Estrovich refers to the transaction as a purchase, the books are being offered for a one-year term on a one copy/one user lending model. They are currently only available to U.S. libraries (including public, academic, and consortia), but libraries outside the United States should be able to access them soon. According to Glass, the agreement does not include K–12 school libraries.

In addition, Glass told *Hotline*, Penguin’s ebook partnership with Baker & Taylor (B&T), which “has been running in pilot mode” with the Los Angeles Public Library and Ohio’s Cuyahoga County Public Library since November 2012, has “now expanded to all Axis 360 libraries.”

“Baker & Taylor will make Penguin Group ebooks available for sale to li-

brary customers [including individual library systems and consortia] through its comprehensive Title Source 3 and Title Source 360 selection and acquisitions tools by [September 26],” Jenny Johnson, manager of corporate administration for B&T, told *Hotline*. “Purchased ebooks will then be available for patrons to discover, download, and read through the Axis 360 digital media platform. Titles will also be incorporated into Baker & Taylor’s First-Look new title notifications plans and throughout the full range of collection development programs that Baker & Taylor provides its customers for title selection and fulfillment in physical and digital formats.”

The deal has no impact on Penguin’s ebook distribution deal with 3M, said Glass, which began four months after the company broke off relations with OverDrive and has already expanded out of the pilot phase. In April of this year, Penguin further liberalized the terms of its ebook policy, lifting the six-month embargo on new Penguin titles.

WHAT ABOUT AMAZON?

Of the OverDrive deal, Estrovich initially also wrote, “Penguin ebooks are available for Kindle (US) via USB side-loading only.”

Interview

Scott Wasinger

On October 16, *Library Journal* and *School Library Journal* will host “The Digital Shift:



Reinventing Libraries” virtual event. EBSCO is a platinum sponsor of the event, and *LJ* reached out to Scott Wasinger, VP of sales for ebooks and audiobooks at EBSCO

Publishing, in the third of a series of interviews addressing how the ongoing digital shift is transforming libraries.

What will be the next big innovation?

The fall of the traditional catalog and the corresponding rise of fully integrated and far superior discovery services.

When will libraries be primarily digital and why will people still use print?

Most libraries will be predominantly digital, in terms of new content acquisition, within three years. Print will continue to be used when it is the only option and to a much lesser and diminishing degree.

What new business will libraries get into that is undreamt of today?

Local digitized collections...create(d), manage(d), [and] grow(n), not only for users of their own library but also for users of other libraries around the world.

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Is Yours the Best Small Library?

Library Journal is seeking nominations for its annual Best Small Library in America award. Cosponsored by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the award showcases the work of libraries that demonstrate outstanding service to populations of 25,000 or less (view eligibility requirements at ow.ly/oKBZD).

The postmark deadline for nominations is **October 14, 2013**.

However a day later, Penguin changed its mind. On September 26, OverDrive announced in another blog post by Estrovich that “Penguin eBooks will be available for ‘Get for Kindle’ in the same convenient manner as the other Kindle eBooks (US only) in your OverDrive collection. The USB side-loading requirement has been lifted and Penguin eBooks will have the same great ease of use as all other publishers’ eBooks. You can expect to see the change in your library’s collection soon.”

Amazon involvement was key to Penguin’s initial decision to call off its OverDrive distribution deal, an anonymous source told *Library Journal’s* infoDOCKET in February 2012. The move followed a November 2011 freeze on ebook sales of new Penguin titles to libraries, around the same time that Kindle launched its own “Lending Library,” and a January 2012 freeze on new audiobooks for libraries. In November 2011, Penguin also began requiring the USB download procedure for Kindles over a wireless download, pending a review of its library lending terms.

At the time, Glass said in a statement, “Due to new concerns about the security of our digital editions, we find it necessary to delay the availability of our new titles in the digital format while we resolve these concerns with our business partners.” The lifting of the restriction on wireless downloads may imply that those concerns have at last been completely resolved.

Librarians are excited by the news, with reactions on Twitter ranging

from “Hooray!” to “finally!” as well as criticism of the one-year lending model and the optimistically large purchases of Penguin titles recommended by OverDrive.

“To me, it means that we’re on a positive trajectory,” American Library Association president Barbara Stripling told *Hotline*. “We are moving forward, and expectations are that we will continue working in partnership with publishers to [resolve] remaining issues.”

Fairfax County Puts Controversial Plan on Hold

Community outrage over having weeded a quarter of a million books into dumpsters isn’t the kind of public relations brouhaha that any library relishes. That scandal, though, may be the least of the problems for the Fairfax County Public Library (FCPL), VA, where the library’s Board of Trustees has pressed pause on implementing a strategic plan that was supposed to guide the library forward.

FCPL made headlines in September when Fairfax County supervisor Linda Smyth brought to light dumpsters full of books discarded by FCPL, photographing them and bringing their contents to the attention of the rest of the Board of Supervisors. Of course, weeding is a process that every library goes through, as FCPL director Sam Clay pointed out. Many community members and library patrons, though, complained that the resulting culls should go to Friends of the Library groups that can resell

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Who Moves You?

The editors of *Library Journal* need your help in identifying the emerging leaders in the library world. Our 13th annual round of Movers & Shakers will profile 50 or more up-and-coming individuals from around the world who are innovative, creative, and making a difference, from librarians to vendors to others who work in the library field.

Nominations are due **November 2, 2013**; visit ow.ly/dXwcb.

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them or distribute them to schools and other organizations.

FCPL's weeding process turned controversial last fall, as the library moved to a floating collection system. From October 2012 to May

2013, Friends of the Libraries groups received no books from FCPL as the library discarded hundreds of thousands of books. Elizabeth Rhodes, collections coordinator for FCPL, said the halt in offering discarded

books to Friends groups was only ever meant to be temporary, but that as FCPL's move to a floating collection necessitated a move to central processing of discards, FCPL didn't yet have a mechanism to get materials to Friends groups.

That meant books in dumpsters, because while FCPL is able to donate discarded titles to Friends groups, that is the only avenue it is allowed for giving away books it can no longer use. County regulations state that the Board of Supervisors must approve any organization that gets property from the library. Otherwise, the books are required to be recycled once they have been processed out of the system.

Mary Vavrina, VP of the Friends of the Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library, said that while her group has started seeing books from the library again, the quantity of discards sent to her Friends group—and their quality—has notably diminished.

BEYOND THE BOOK SALE

The controversy has served to kick-start a wider-ranging conversation in Fairfax County about the future of its libraries. That conversation centers on what's known as the Beta Project, a slate of changes to library staffing and operations that were scheduled to begin a test run in two FCPL libraries this September.

The most controversial item in the Beta Project would see librarian and library assistant positions scrapped in favor of a customer service specialist position, which would not require applicants to have an MLS, MLIS, or even a bachelor's degree. The minimum requirement for a job as a customer service specialist is an associate's degree and at least two years of experience in retail customer service. The new structure also eliminates dedicated youth service librarians.

Also troubling to librarians was the lack of input that library staff and

Hartford PL Nation's First To Be BIA Certified

Helping patrons fill out immigration paperwork is increasingly needed by the community in Hartford, CT. The Hartford Public Library (HPL) is just across the street from Connecticut's only U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) office, making HPL a common destination for immigrants who need computer access to bring up information and fill out online forms—access they often don't have at home. To ensure that HPL staff can serve the needs of this community, HPL has become the first public library in America to have staff members accredited by the Bureau of Immigrant Appeals (BIA), then they can assist immigrants with the often confusing paperwork they need to fill out to get on—and stay on—the path to permanent U.S. citizenship.

Acquiring a passport stamp that lets an immigrant travel back home without endangering their chances of getting legal citizenship, for example, is a common objective for library patrons. It's also one that requires more complex navigation than some immigrants can do on their own. "To submit the application, you need a credit or debit card with a certain [available balance] on it and an email address," said Maryanne Daly-Doran, a part-time employee at HPL who has been instrumental in the library's immigrant services. "We may have to get them a debit card. We may have to help them get an email address."

Legally speaking, people without training in immigration law aren't supposed to offer such assistance. "It's really easy to practice law without intending to," said Rafael Pichardo, a lawyer who works part-time at HPL, providing low-cost legal assistance to immigrants. "Getting BIA accreditation for the staff provides the legal authority to do it and legitimizes the institution."

HPL is a natural place for immigrants to turn to for assistance with these issues, as the library already provides services that the community is familiar with through its the American Place (TAP) program, first started in 2000, which offers free English and citizenship classes, resources for studying at home, and assistance with accessing online immigration information, as well as recruiting and training volunteer cultural navigators for mentoring and tutoring support to new arrivals. "The library is already a trusted place," said Pichardo.

While HPL has a part-time lawyer and two BIA-accredited staffers, including Daly-Doran, to provide information, the program is still in its infancy. Over the next year, HPL's multicultural services director Homa Naficy and her colleagues will be working to offer what services they can while the program takes shape. More staff are getting ready to participate in the 40-hour-long training program. Naficy, meanwhile, is looking for ways to ensure that the program can be sustainably funded going forward, from applying for grants from organizations like USCIS to charging a nominal fee for more complicated legal advice, while keeping simpler consultations with BIA-accredited staffers as a free service. She's also looking at partnerships that could help to defray costs, such as bringing in volunteers from the University of Connecticut law school to assist patrons with immigration challenges.



community members had regarding the new plan. While staff members were consulted on the strategic plan that was approved last year, many aspects of the Beta Project came as a surprise to staff. "This was the beginning of rolling out a whole new model of service without any input from the community," said Jennifer McCullough, president of the Fairfax County Public Libraries Employee's Association. She and other librarians were struck by the distance between the strategic plan and the Beta Project, which was being proposed as a model for FCPL branches going forward. Many of the 200 community members at the county board meeting where implementation of the plan was suspended shared McCullough's concerns about lack of input.

"A NATURAL PROGRESSION"

Director Clay, though, described the Beta Project as "the natural progression from approval of the strategic plan to actionable steps." The plan was developed with input from customer surveys and meetings with branch managers, as well as consultation with other county libraries, such as King County Library System, WA, though records show that only library management and the FCPL Board of Trustees were consulted on the creation of the customer service specialist position.

Clay said he was surprised by what he characterized as a "vitriolic" reaction to the suggested staffing changes, pointing out that changing the minimum requirement wouldn't disqualify trained librarians, just open those jobs up to people without library degrees as well.

The FCPL Beta Project was put on hold earlier this month by the library Board of Trustees, at the request of county supervisors. Board members have organized a committee that will oversee several public meetings on

Michael Kelly was named Interim Dean of the College of University Libraries and Learning Sciences at the University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, effective October 13. He is currently Associate Dean at the Center for Southwest Research and Special Collections at the university.

Linda Lord, State Librarian at the Maine State Library, Augusta, received the Champion Award for Education, Training, and Leadership Development from the Maine Development Foundation (MDF). She was honored at MDF's annual meeting on September 20.

Judith Meixner announced her retirement as Children's Librarian at the Plainville Public Library, MA, effective at the end of October. She has been in the position for 15 years.

Kathy Pagles announced her retirement as Director of Blount County Library, TN, effective

at the end of the year. She has held the position for 23 years.

Carole Palmer, Director of the Center for Informatics Research in Science and Scholarship and Professor at the University of Illinois Graduate School of Library and Information Science, Champaign, received the 2013 Thomson Reuters Outstanding Information Science Teacher Award. She has been with the university for 18 years.

Sue Tauriello was appointed to the Board of Directors of the Delray Beach Public Library, FL. She is the President and Chief Executive Officer of Tauriello & Company Real Estate.

Sarah Thomas was appointed Roy E. Larsen Librarian for the Faculty of Arts and Sciences. This new role is in addition to her current position as Vice President at Harvard Library, Cambridge, MA.

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the proposed changes. That committee will report back to the board with its findings by November 19.

In the meantime, FCPL is looking down the barrel of another round of budget cuts. Next year's county budget slashes almost \$650,000 from FCPL coffers. While the lion's share of those cuts will come from materials acquisition, nearly \$275,000 will be eliminated from staffing. For Clay, just being able to prevent layoffs in the face of continuing cuts is a victory, and he pointed out that the Beta Project and strategic plan both involve no layoffs of existing staff, instead cutting costs by eliminating unfilled positions through attrition.

Kentucky Library District Gets Tax Reprieve

A northern Kentucky library district won at least a temporary reprieve from wholesale budget cuts

after a judge ruled that its tax rate can stay the same until an ongoing lawsuit—which is being watched closely by libraries across the state—wends its way through the appeals process.

In April, a circuit court judge agreed with a challenge brought by members of the Northern Kentucky Tea Party, finding that Campbell County had improperly set its library tax rate for more than three decades. Plaintiffs argued that Campbell County's library tax rate should drop from 7.7¢ per \$100 of assessed value to 3¢, the same amount taxpayers were charged when the district was created in 1978, almost immediately. Lawyers for the Campbell County library appealed the decision.

The September 17 decision in no way addressed the merits of the case, but it does allow Campbell County's three-branch library system to maintain its current operating budget. "It certainly provides clarity and stability

in the short term,” Jeff Mando, the attorney for Campbell County Public Library (CCPL), told *Hotline*.

Library director J.C. Morgan said the September 17 ruling will allow his district to remain intact while the appeals process continues. Morgan said lowering the tax rate to 3¢ would mean paring staff from 83 to 35 employees, shutting at least one branch, and cutting weekly hours from 70 to 50 at each branch.

Judge Glenn E. Acree, chief judge of the Kentucky Court of Appeals, also granted Mando’s motion to advance the appeal, and lawyers for both sides must file briefs by the end of 2013. The Court of Appeals will then decide

if it wants to hear oral arguments on the matter, which Mando said could take place by “late winter.”

A STATEWIDE SITUATION

The September 17 decision allows CCPL officials some breathing room for now, but if the legal reverse of five months earlier is upheld, it will not only impact Campbell County but threaten significantly to alter the way libraries around the state collect revenue. Similar lawsuits are pending in four other Kentucky library districts; so far, lawsuits have been filed against five Kentucky library districts, all challenging their status as special taxing districts.

Since 79 of Kentucky’s 106 library districts were created by a petition drive, the appellate decision could have statewide ramifications beyond the districts currently in litigation.

On April 2, Campbell County Circuit Court judge Julie Reinhardt Ward ruled that because the county’s library district was created this way in 1978, under a statute known as KRS 173.790, it is not entitled to raise tax revenue except through a similar petition signed by 51 percent of voters.

Mando argued that a separate state law passed in 1979, House Bill 44, made Campbell County a special taxing district, permitting limited annual tax increases not subject to voter approval. Ward ruled that HB 44 did not cancel out KRS 173.790.

EdLiNC Calls on FCC to Double E-Rate Funding

The Education Library Networks Coalition (EdLiNC)—a group of education associations that includes the American Library Association (ALA) and the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE)—is calling on the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to double the funding for E-Rate, EdLiNC’s co-chair Jon Bernstein told *Hotline*. The coalition also asks that the E-Rate program, which provides discounted Internet and telecommunications services to U.S. schools and libraries, offer more “scalable” goals for local entities, with limited national mandates.

EdLiNC’s requests were submitted within a 36-page statement, which forms the coalition’s official response to the FCC’s notice of proposed rule-making (NPRM) to overhaul the E-Rate program.

“Our problem is that [E-Rate’s current annual budget of between \$2 billion and \$3 billion] has not increased appreciably since 1998, and when that cap was set, it did not con-

News in Brief

Oxford University Press has partnered with the **National Association of Social Workers Press** to launch the online **Encyclopedia of Social Work**. The database includes over 450 articles and biographies, which will be added to every month.

The **Harford County Public Library**, Belcamp, MD, received the **2013 Innovator of the Year Award** from the *Daily Record*. It was honored for its **Little Leapers** collection of kits that develop early literacy skills through science, technology, engineering, and math topics.

Innovative Interfaces Inc. will establish a service center in Noida, India, to provide support to customers in Asia, Australia, and New Zealand. It is projected that the center, **Innovative India**, will have 60 staff members by the start of 2014.

The federal **Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS)** awarded competitive grants to libraries in the Pacific Territories, Freely Associated States, and Hawaii, including **Feleti Barstow Public Library**, Pago Pago; **Joeten-Kiyu Public Library**, Saipan;

Guam Public Library System, Hagatna; and **Alele Museum, Public Library, and National Archives**, Majuro.

Additionally, the IMLS awarded a \$500,000 **National Leadership Grant** to the **Westchester Library System**, NY, to expand its **Creative Aging in America’s Libraries** project, which sustains programs for older adults.

EBSCO Information Services has added to its products 15 new EBSCO ebook Subject Sets for library collections: **Sports Medicine and Physical Therapy; Diseases and Conditions; Aging and Gerontology; Pharmaceutical Science; Mental Health; Social Work; Business; Legal; Women’s Medicine/OB-GYN; Music; Self-Help; World Religions; Classic Fiction; Photography; and American History.**

Britain’s **Bodleian Libraries Chair Competition** winner was designed by **Edward Barber and Jay Osgerby** with manufacturer **Isokon Plus**. The chairs will be used in the refurbished **Weston Library**, Oxford, UK, which will open in October 2014.

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template the growth in mobile wireless devices or the existence of iPhones and tablets and things that would be critical learning tools right now,” Bernstein said. “So we think that there’s tremendous pent-up demand. Those things are moving into schools, which means that you need better broadband, and you need better deployment of bandwidth throughout the schools. There’s a lot of different pieces to this.”

EdLiNC, therefore, recommended the annual cap be reset to \$5 billion, “because that reflects where the demonstrable demand has been over the past two years,” Bernstein said. “And when we say current demand, that’s application demand. Actual demand, based on our estimates, is probably somewhere around \$8 billion a year. It’s just that a lot of people now don’t bother to file.”

EdLiNC called for the creation of a multiyear application, much as ALA recommended in its own filing [see *Hotline*, 9/30/13]. The coalition also listed numerous tweaks that it hopes will be made to the online application, called for the creation of a new online portal for applicants to eliminate extra paperwork and allow prospective participants to view the status of their applications, and affirmed that the program’s structure and focus should remain unchanged. “A strength of the program is that it is elastic. It has always been technologically neutral, because there may be other technologies that we’re not even contemplating that could arise in the next ten years that schools and libraries are going to need to have,” Bernstein said. “So we think that it’s really important that this remains [that way].”

EdLiNC rejected a proposal, submitted by another group, that E-Rate monetary allocations be changed to a per pupil formula grant program, rather than the existing application system.

“We are concerned that there are going to be big problems for ur-



The University of Missouri–Kansas City on August 22 opened the remodeled **Miller Nichols Learning Center** (pictured). With planning that began in 2004 and construction taking off in 2008, the new facility now encompasses 265,000 square feet, having gained 98,500 square feet. With design by Sasaki and project administration from PGAV Architects, the new building features a 300-seat lecture hall, two 100-seat classrooms, and two 200-seat classrooms. The former Miller Nichols Library takes up a large portion of the building, providing its customary services and collections as well as a café. A major addition to the building is the RooBot high-density storage system that will house 80 percent of the library collections and the Western historical manuscripts. In addition, 150,000 titles are on open shelves for browsing. The project was budgeted at \$70 million.

The **State College of Florida Bradenton** campus is looking to build a new library. To facilitate matters, the school has requested \$17.6 million in public education capital out-

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ban and rural recipients of the funds if this goes to a flat, per pupil allocation system,” Bernstein noted. “Some rural schools will not be able to get enough money to do what they need to do and want to do for bandwidth, and certainly a lot of the money will be taken out of urban schools,

lay (PECO) funds from the state legislature. The five-year capital improvement proposal was unanimously authorized in June to go to the state, according to the *Bradenton Herald*. Voting on the project is expected to begin at the legislative session commencing on March 4, 2014. Design work will begin as soon as the funding comes through and an architectural firm is chosen.

Looking to an October 12 reopening is the renovated **Santa Ynez Branch** of Santa Barbara Public Library, CA. Established in a “tiny redwood structure” in 1912, the library has relocated several times (at least once via volunteers with a forklift) but still encompasses the same 168 square feet of space and about 1,000 volumes. According to the *Santa Ynez Valley News*, the exterior of the branch was painted in June anonymously. The interior work includes the installation of adjustable shelving, a refurbishment of the wood floors, and a reconfiguration of the floor plan.

The 42-year-old **Love Library**, San Diego State University, is now being considered for seismic retrofitting, according to the *Daily Aztec*. The project is on a list of buildings needing “urgent attention,” once funding has been secured. The university has requested funding for the 2016–17 budget year. The cost of the project is estimated at \$3,755,000, though additional work will likely crop up—plumbing, elevators, etc.—leading to a complete library renovation.

so that will also decrease the ability to...have the services that they need.” Since Internet and telecommunications services are sold on a flat-rate basis, creating an allocation system just “doesn’t make a lot of sense,” he insisted, and the coalition would be strongly opposed to such a change.



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