

**IL Public Library Filtering  
 Legislature Stirs Discord**

At Illinois’s 99th General Assembly on February 29, State Representative Peter Breen (R-District 48) introduced House Bill 2689, which would create the Internet Screening in Public Libraries Act (ISPLA). The act provides that every public library in the state of Illinois must have a “technology protection measure,” such as filtering software, in place on all public computers “to prevent the display on a public computer of any visual depictions that are obscene, child pornography, or harmful to minors.” The library may disable the technology on request for an adult engaged in legitimate research. ISPLA contains no definition of “legitimate research.”

If ISPLA passes, Illinois will become the first state to mandate filters on all public library computers, including those chiefly used by adults, with the potential to fine noncompliant libraries. Currently, all states with filtering regulations allow libraries the option of using filtering software, instituting appropriate use policies, or limiting the filtering requirements to computers available for use by children.

Both the American Library Association (ALA) and the Illinois Library Association (ILA) oppose the bill as a potential First Amendment violation and an infringement of libraries’ right to regulate their own information policies, as well as an unfunded mandate.



Legislation mandating filtering controls in libraries was originally introduced at the 91st Illinois General Assembly in 1999 as HB 1812, a bipartisan measure. It has been reintroduced regularly every year but has never been enacted as law.

ISPLA has been applauded, however, by advocates such as David Smith, of the Illinois Family Institute, a Christian website, and Dan Kleinman on his site Sexual Harassment of Librarians.

The legislation bears a close re-

semblance to the Children’s Internet Protection Act (CIPA), enacted by Congress in 2000 to require libraries receiving E-Rate subsidies to provide filtering to prevent minors from accessing obscene or harmful content.

CIPA, enforced by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), places the burden of compliance on libraries that accept federal funds—libraries that often serve poor or rural communities where patrons may not have Internet access at home and who presumably most need full access to Internet resources. An ALA policy brief issued in June 2014 concluded that public libraries using CIPA-compliant filtering software routinely overblocked material that did not meet any obscenity standards, including websites that dealt with topics such as war, genocide, safer sex, and public health.

Internet filters were originally developed as tools for businesses, and the category-based algorithms used by the software’s vendors still reflect that emphasis. While there are open source products and community-moderated systems, most commercially available software is proprietary and works with a combination of keyword and URL blocking. The available

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systems are all fallible, however, often over- or underblocking content.

Putting the burden on the patron to request that a site be unblocked comes with its own pitfalls. Adults who wish to view content dealing

with mental or physical health, legal matters, or other personal issues may be disinclined to approach a librarian requesting access.

According to the librarians and advocates *Hotline* spoke with, the issue with ISPLA is not whether illegal content should be blocked. Rather, the concern is that Internet filtering software is not adequate to the task and should not be mandated at the expense of other solutions.

## Interview

### Mary Beth Leatherdale & Lisa Charleyboy

There's a dearth of materials for young people addressing the modern Native American experience. With *Dreaming in Indian* (Annick, 2014), featuring poems, artwork, narratives, and other pieces by Native people from all walks of life, editors Mary Beth Leatherdale (MBL) and Lisa Charleyboy (LC) are remedying that situation.

#### What's the story behind this book?

MBL: I was acquiring contemporary writing and artwork for a digital collection for high school English students.



Part of my mandate was to look for material by Native American artists. I was blown away by the incredible work I was finding. It got me thinking about how frustrating it must be for Native youth to continue to face misconceptions about their lives and aspirations. An anthology seemed like a great way for them to share their stories and to shine a light on their diverse experiences.



#### The contributors really shatter stereotypes.

LC: Mainstream media and Hollywood films consistently misrepresent indigenous peoples and perpetuate stereotypes embedded in Western culture. These are not reflective of the reality that I have found among the many talented and amazing Native people living on Turtle Island [aka North America].... We are not stuck in the past; we are still here, and we are a diverse population.

### Legal Issues Continue for Boston Oral History Project

After years of ongoing legal issues, Boston College's (BC) Belfast Project is again in the news. Launched in 2001, the oral history collection consists of recorded interviews with participants of Northern Ireland's 30-year civil conflict known as the Troubles.

The Belfast Project held some 50 interviews conducted through 2006. The project director's contracts promised confidentiality of the recordings until after the interviewees' deaths, although these were not reviewed by BC's counsel. However, since 2011, the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) has received numerous subpoenas from the UK requesting the interview material as crimes that occurred during the conflict continue to be investigated.

In early 2015, Winston Rea, a former loyalist prisoner, "secured a temporary injunction as police were set to board a plane for America" to retrieve his tapes. As of February 27, a judge claimed the Police Services of Northern Ireland's (PSNI) request for information was lawful as regards the subject of a police investigation; the recordings have been secured but have been kept sealed, as Rea has decided to file an appeal.

#### LEGAL TROUBLES

The project's roots date back to 2000, when journalist Ed Maloney in-

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY

*Library Journal & School Library Journal*

**VP, Group Publisher** Ian Singer

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760-317-2332

LIBRARY HOTLINE (ISSN 0740-736X) (RPUSA 123397467) is published weekly (every Monday except on the two Mondays nearest to the year-end holidays) by Library Journals, LLC, 123 William Street, Suite 802, New York, NY 10038. Randy Asmo, Chief Executive Officer; Ian Singer, VP, Group Publisher. Library Hotline is a registered trademark of Library Journals, LLC. All rights reserved. Printed in the USA. SUBSCRIPTION: \$119.99 per year, Canada \$159.99, Other (incl Air) \$159.99, Single Copy (U.S.) \$5.95, and Single Copy (all other) \$10.00. POSTMASTER: Send change of address to Library Hotline, PO Box 460483, Escondido, CA 92046-9803 Telephone 800-588-1030 Outside US 1-760-317-2332.

Printed in the U.S.A.

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roduced BC librarian Robert O'Neill to Irish historian and former Irish Republican Army (IRA) member Anthony McIntyre to propose a project: to collect recorded stories from former IRA paramilitary members, capturing their record of the conflict.

McIntyre agreed to act as the primary interviewer for the effort, assuming that the material, and the people who took part, would be protected to the fullest legal extent. The participant agreement stated that "each interview would be sealed until the death of the interviewee." McIntyre began his interviews in Ireland the following year.

Legal troubles for the Belfast Project began in 2011. British authorities had requested that the DOJ issue subpoenas for interviews from subjects they believed had connections to various crimes committed during the Troubles. The subpoenas were issued under the Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty (MLAT) signed between



## LIBRARY OF THE YEAR 2015

*LJ* is looking for role model libraries to vie for the honor of 2015 *Library Journal*/Gale Library of the Year. The \$10,000 prize celebrates the library that most profoundly demonstrates service to the community; creativity and innovation in programming or a dramatic increase in library usage; and leadership in creating programs that can be emulated by other libraries.

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the United States and the UK in 1994.

By May 2014, 11 tapes had been turned over to the PSNI after it issued a statement claiming it planned to seek the entire contents of the Belfast Project. As a result of these subpoenas, Gerry Adams, former leader of Sinn Fein, the IRA's political branch, was arrested. Two participants in the Belfast Project had implicated Adams in the 1972 murder of

dan Hughes, a "legendary IRA volunteer," had died by the time his recordings were subpoenaed; former IRA volunteer Dolours Price, however, was still alive, and her tapes remained under embargo. Adams was freed after four days of police questioning.

At this point it is unclear what contents of the Belfast Project are still held by BC. According to an FAQ on the college's website, the records are closed, "unavailable to use for any reason."

In May 2014, the *New York Times* quoted BC as stating that it would return any material to participants who wanted their interviews back. This had been a point of contention between BC and McIntyre and Maloney, who felt that as soon as the confidentiality of the project was compromised, this offer should have been extended to the participants. The article closed noting, "All the material is now locked away in an undisclosed location."

## UT Approves \$500K School Library Increase

Utah's school libraries have won an additional \$500,000 for new books, electronic resources, and other materials for the upcoming 2015–16 school year budget, pending the final vote by the state legislature in March.

Advocate Sharyl Smith and others

## People

**Linda A. Adams** is now Director, Charlevoix Public Library, MI. She was Interim Director and Adult Services Supervisor/Librarian.

**Emily Drabinski**, Coordinator of Instruction, Long Island University, Brooklyn, and a 2014 *Library Journal* Mover & Shaker, received the Association of College & Research Libraries Instruction Section Ilene F. Rockman Publication of the Year Award for her article "Toward a

Kairos of Library Instruction" (*Journal of Academic Librarianship*, 2014).

**Vanessa Irvin**, Assistant Professor, Library and Information Science, University of Hawaii, Manoa, is a Center for the Study of Libraries, Information, and Society Fellow for 2015–16.

**Jane Kohlenber** has retired as Director, Pemberville Public Library, OH. She first began working at the library in 1975.

## In Memoriam

**Carol Davis Junek**, a former Librarian at Sturgis Public Library, SD, and Rapid City Regional Hospital, died on February 28. She was 88 years old.

**Bernice Miller Olson**, a Librarian at Arabut Ludlow Memorial Library, Green County, WI, for 15 years, died on March 4. She was 94 years old.

**Thelma Davis Ralston**, former Director of Clementon Memorial Library, NJ, died on February 26. She was 103 years old.

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had not given up the fight for more school library funding, which *Hotline* reported on during March 2014, and celebrated the decision to increase the school library budget made by the state's Executive Appropriation Committee last week.

"In the coming school year, school libraries will have \$1,050,000 [total] to spend expressly on school library books and electronic resources," said Smith.

Smith, a former school district administrator in Utah and retired faculty member from the University of Washington Information School, is celebrating seeing the efforts of her year-plus-long push for school library funding finally see the light of day.

Members of the Parents Advocating Libraries in Schools (PALS) Steering Committee met with multiple leaders from Utah's House and Senate and convinced majority whips from both houses to sponsor their proposal. They also advocated for more funding using methods such as emailing legislators, with uniform subject lines titled "Save the Line Item" to keep school libraries front and center in the eyes of lawmakers.

"We've provided field trips for legislators and members of the governor's staff to see teacher librarians instructing elementary school students in information literacy skills and applications," said Smith.

Utah governor Gary Herbert had pushed for an increase in education funding across his state as well, asking for \$500 million for schools for the coming fiscal year. While the proposed budget lawmakers preliminarily passed last week reportedly was just half of that amount, it did expand funding for school libraries.

School libraries have seen their ups and downs in terms of funding for the past seven years. A single appropriation of \$2 million in 2007 dropped to \$1.5 million in 2008, then plum-

meted to \$500,000 in the 2009–10 school year. A small increase of \$50,000 brought the overall budget to \$550,000 in 2013, where it sat until the increase to \$1,050,000.

On March 12, Smith told *Hotline* that the bill, "including funding for school library books and electronic resources, passed both the House and Senate. Our funding...is secure."

## When Boys Can't Like "Girl Books"



Shannon Hale, author of the "Princess Academy" series (Bloomsbury), recently returned from a book tour for her latest title, *Princess Academy: The Forgotten Sisters* (2015). Speaking at a K–eight school, she discovered that boys and girls were in the audience from the younger grades—but boys from upper grades were not invited, she said.

This was the fourth time Hale remembered facing a situation where boys were excluded from her readings. She wrote about the latest experience on her blog and described it on Twitter (@HaleShannon), where she lit up the social network.

Hale is not alone. Other female authors have reported similar incidents of looking upon their audience to see girls—but not boys—staring back. While few educators would consider gender-dividing an audience for a reading by J.K. Rowling, Hale and author Linda Urban are at least two who have lived this experience personally.

No stranger to book tours, Urban recalled one for her novel *A Crooked Kind of Perfect* (Harcourt, 2007) that was a bit different from the rest. There were 30 middle school girls in the audience at one school venue—and not one boy.

Although the event went "fine," Urban said, she learned that the Illinois school librarian hosting her visit had decided not to invite the boys. The novel's protagonist is a ten-year-old girl, an aspiring pianist who plays an old organ her father buys instead.

A representative from the school where Hale spoke confirmed that middle school boys were not included in the reading. The spokesperson added that the organizers had requested that only third and fourth graders attend. But student attendance was low on the day of the reading owing to bad weather, so school officials invited middle school girls to fill seats.

The school made the decision not to include middle school boys because boys had previously shown a lack of interest in the title, said the rep, who added there was a concern that they might disrupt the reading.

Author Kate Messner believes that segregating boys from so-called "girl books" does more than just keep them from titles they may enjoy. It teaches boys that women speakers and female characters have nothing to offer them, she said.

Messner, who recently returned from a 22-school tour for her book *All the Answers* (Bloomsbury, 2015), added that she has never had a gender-segregated audience. But she believes the issue needs to be discussed and addressed. "If we're teaching young boys that women's voices don't matter, then what do we expect when men get older and have to co-exist with women in the workplace?"

## IL Library, Middle School Join for Maker Program

One evening in late January, some 50 parents and teachers gathered at the Arlington Heights Memorial Library (AHML), located outside of Chicago, for a high-tech presentation courtesy of 29 eighth graders from Thomas Middle School (TMS) in Arlington, IL. In groups, the students—

who had recently completed a nine-week elective course on 3-D printing, research, and design—presented their final projects to the audience.

Tasked with creating an entirely new product or redesigning an existing one, the students showed off their inventions. Projects included take-apart scissor handles that could be reconfigured for both right- and left-hand users and a Velcro strap de-

signed for astronauts to strap their books down in zero gravity.

Creating a class devoted to 3-D printing required a series of unconventional events to get the course off the ground.

In the summer of 2013, Trixie Dantis, a teen librarian at AHML, reached out to local 3-D professionals in the community and arranged for them to come to the library to teach a class for teenagers about emerging technology. During the half-day session, Jesse DePinto, CEO and co-founder of the engineering firm Voxel Metric, scanned and rendered 3-D models of the teenagers' heads, while Andrew Morrison, founder of the Maker space Workshop 88, was on hand to demo his MakerBot Replicator 2, which he used to print the 3-D heads.

That fall, upon returning to TMS, a few of the teens who had participated in the session mentioned the experience to James Grant, TMS's industrial technology teacher. They expressed real interest in learning more, which set the wheels turning in Grant's head: Why not team up with the library to allow the kids to learn more about 3-D printing?

Grant scheduled a meeting with Tom Spicer, the teen services supervisor at AHML, and together the pair assembled a possible lesson plan. With the tentative partnership already in place, Spicer applied for and won a grant from Arlington's own Friends of the Library program, allowing him to purchase two MakerBot printers.

The library's preexisting partnership with the middle school was crucial to its ability to get funding, because "it helped show Friends of the Library that we were going to help support local education," Spicer said.

In preparation for Grant's class, Spicer and the library staff watched 3-D printing tutorials and practiced using the printers so they could help

## Branching Out



On March 6, the San Diego County Library broke ground for the new **Alpine Library** (rendering), to replace the current 1978 facility. The new 12,700 square foot, \$9.4 million building, to be constructed next to Community Center Park at four times the size of its predecessor, was developed by the design-build team of C.W. Driver, Ferguson Pape Baldwin Architects, and Manuel Oncina Architects. The building will feature expanded collections, an enlarged children's area, both dedicated teen and tween spaces, a computer lab, a resource room, a fireplace, a homework center, a Friends bookstore, and an outdoor patio. The county set aside \$10 million in 2013 for the project; another \$350,000 for furnishings has been raised by the Alpine Library Friends, according to the *San Diego Union-Tribune*. The library is targeting Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED) Gold certification and will be the county's first zero net energy (ZNE) building.

The **Delmont Public Library, PA**, is looking to amass \$800,000 through grants and other funding to construct a new 3,900 square foot building in Newhouse Park, according to the

*Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*. The one-room library is too small to accommodate its constituents' needs, library director Denni Grassel told the *Post-Gazette*: "We want a big children's area and a meeting room." Board member and retired architect Tim Schmidt is the building's designer. Construction is expected to begin in 2017.

The **Central Arkansas Library System (CALs)** began construction on March 16 for a 130-space parking deck that will more than double the number of spots available to visitors to the Main Library. The project is estimated to cost \$3.9 million, which was approved in a 2012 bond measure.

In order to make room for the large number of students seeking tutoring help at the **Lodi Public Library, CA**, a plan has been approved by the Board of Trustees to renovate the building's patio into another meeting space, according to the *News-Sentinel*. The work to transform the seldom-used outdoor area into a space for up to 35 students will cost \$201,381, funded through contributions, and is likely to begin in September, with an early 2016 completion.

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the students use the equipment.

While organizing a class in conjunction with the middle school wasn't easy—it required in-depth communication between the library and school staff, multiple meetings, and the scheduling of “two field trips during school hours, and two separate assignments”—Spicer recommends that more libraries take on the challenge.

Librarians and teachers who are considering a similar partnership “should just do it,” Grant added. In his experience, there are plenty of available grants that will provide the funding for schools or libraries to invest in equipment such as 3-D software and printers.

The class was such a success that Grant will partner with the library to teach the elective again next fall.

## “Discworld” Author Terry Pratchett Dies at 66

Beloved fantasy author Terry Pratchett, best known for his “Discworld” novels, died at age 66 on March 12, following a long battle with Alzheimer's disease.

The UK's number one best-selling author in the 1990s, Pratchett attracted a huge fan base, selling more than 85 million books worldwide. Numbering more than 40 volumes, his immensely popular “Discworld” books led to dedicated conventions, many of which the author himself often attended, going out of his way to sign books and meet with fans. “Discworld” also spawned video and role-playing games, plays, and radio adaptations. Though the books were initially aimed at adults, Pratchett also wrote for children.

His final “Discworld” novel, *The Shepherd's Crown*, is scheduled to be published in fall 2015.

Pratchett garnered critical acclaim as well for his novels, especially among the library community. In

The **Auckland University of Technology Library**, New Zealand, selected **Innovative's Sierra Library Services Platform**. The library's physical collections number more than 230,000 items.

Former Texas House Representative Tim Von Dohlen (1971–93) donated his records to **Victoria College/University of Houston's Victoria Library**. The collection includes more than 187 bills and resolutions.

The **Greater Western Library Alliance**, a library consortium, agreed to a preferred purchasing agreement with **Reprints Desk, Inc.** Document delivery services will be

made available via Reprints Desk's online portal, Article Galaxy.

**Columbia University's Lehman Social Sciences Library**, New York, received an award from the Metropolitan New York Library Council's Innovative Internship Program to support a project entitled “Revitalizing Government Information Collections in Libraries via User Experience (UX) and Emerging Technologies.”

**Kent District Library**, MI, selected Sirsi-Dynix's **Symphony ILS** and **BLUEcloud** products. The library signed a five-year agreement with the company.

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2011, he was awarded the Margaret A. Edwards lifetime achievement award by the American Library Association, while *Nation* (HarperCollins, 2008) won the Michael L. Printz Award for Excellence in Young Adult Literature.

Over the course of his career, Pratchett picked up countless other accolades, including the Locus Award for Best Young Adult Novel for *The Wee Free Men* (2003), *A Hat Full of Sky* (2004), and *Wintersmith* (2006) and the Carnegie Medal for *The Amazing Maurice and His Educated Rodents* (2001, all HarperCollins).

Detailed worldbuilding and a clever blend of humor and fantasy characterized Pratchett's works. His “Discworld” books paid homage to such authors as J.R.R. Tolkien and H.P. Lovecraft and often parodied fantasy tropes and clichés. Creativity and innovation were hallmarks of his works.

With *Dodger* (HarperCollins, 2012), Pratchett retold the *Oliver Twist* story from the perspective of the Artful Dodger, bringing to life such figures from Victorian England as Benjamin Disraeli, Sweeney Todd, and Queen Victoria.

In *Nation*, Pratchett laid out an alternative history set in the 1860s, set on an island in a fictionalized version of the South Pacific. Simultaneously profound and humorous, this “rich and thought-provoking read” explored deep themes about society and humanity.

The author was born in Penn, England, in 1948 and developed a love of sf and fantasy from a young age. He left school at 17 to pursue a career in journalism. In 1971, he published his first novel, *The Carpet People*, a children's book. In 1983, he published *The Colour of Magic* (Colin Smythe Ltd.), his first “Discworld” book, and in 1987 gave up his position as press officer at Central Electricity Generating Board to devote himself to his writing career.

Following his 2007 diagnosis with Alzheimer's, Pratchett raised public awareness for the disease, donating \$1 million to the Alzheimer's Research Trust, asking Prime Minister Gordon Brown for an increase in dementia research funding, and, with the BBC, filming a documentary about his illness, *Terry Pratchett: Living with Alzheimer's*.



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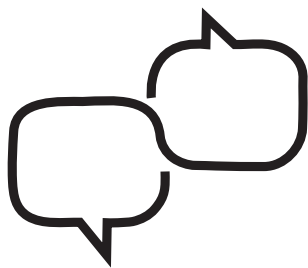
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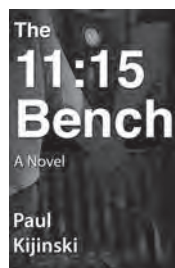


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