AKLA CONFERENCE ATTRACTS RENOWNED SPEAKERS

AKLA will celebrate its 50th anniversary at the AKLA 2010 conference in Anchorage March 4-7, 2010. The conference, which will be held over Iditarod weekend, has attracted a host of notable speakers.

Award winning author Sherman Alexie grew up on the Spokane Indian Reservation in Wilpinit, Washington and tells the story of his life in novels, poetry and film. Alexie is a prolific writer. His book *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian* published in 2007 has won numerous awards. Two new books were published in 2009; *War Dances*, which is a collection of short stories, and a book of poetry titled *Face*. Alexie will speak at the Wendy Williamson Auditorium the evening of Thursday, March 4. The event is cosponsored with University of Alaska Anchorage Student Activities.

**Daniel Russell** will open the conference as the keynote speaker. He works for Google and has the title of Senior Research Scientist, Search Quality and User Happiness. His job is to improve search quality for end users and conduct field and lab studies of use patterns and behaviors with an emphasis on understanding real-world search behavior. Russell has also conducted research on the user experience for Apple, IBM and Xerox.

**Chris Crutcher** is an author,
LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Mary Jo Joiner

Dear AkLA members,

As you may have read on the AkLA list, the American Library Association meeting in Chicago drew a record number of registrants. With more than 28,000 people in attendance, the conference was like its own city. While it can be overwhelming, it is ultimately very rewarding to share with your peers and meet other library staff from all over the country and the world. In one session I sat next to a fellow from South Africa! Ironically, what proves to be the most fun is running into fellow Alaskans.

The Chapter Leaders Orientation, an all-day session, was outstanding. I wondered just how we would keep our minds engaged all day, but that proved to be easy. I recommend that the Alaska Library Association budget funds to send its President to either ALA Midwinter or the ALA Annual Conference each year. It was quite a learning experience to hear what other chapters are doing.

The Michigan Library Association has recently restructured to eliminate many of the committees, chapters and roundtables in favor of a structure more similar to the new PLA Communities of Practice. I was very impressed with the work that they have done and found that they began this process as a result of some of the same issues I see with our structure. In Missouri, their association has recently instituted a leadership and orientation day-long retreat to introduce new officers to their job responsibilities. They created an abbreviated version of their handbook and templates for submitting committee, chapter and roundtable reports for uniformity. I am hoping that we can discuss and examine some of these alternatives in order to revitalize our organization and inspire more people to participate. The ALA has a webpage for their Chapter Relations Office at http://www.al.org/ala/aboutala/offices/cro/index.cfm

Our ALA Council representative, Charlotte Glover, delivered a presentation copy of the Judith Krug resolution that E-Council passed at our May teleconference. Judith F. Krug was an indefatigable champion of libraries and librarianship and a steadfast advocate for First Amendment rights for all people. ALA has collected presentation copies from each state and will transmit the binder to Judith’s family along with the ALA Memorial Resolution.

All too soon we will enter a new election phase. Please let us know if you would like to become more involved with AkLA and please consider running for office. The nominating committee will become active in the fall and would love to hear from you.

Mary Jo Joiner

2009 AkLA President
Margaret A. Edwards Lifetime Achievement Award in 2000 and Writer Magazine’s Writers Who Make a Difference Award in 2004. Crutcher will be the speaker at the Authors to Alaska luncheon.

Rooted in Naparyarmiut (Hooper Bay), born in Bethel and raised in Anchorage, Alaska, Jack Dalton has grown up an ambassador between two worlds, his Yup’ik and European heritages. A professional storyteller, writer and teacher, Jack has been honored by the World Indigenous Peoples’ Conference on Education as a Distinguished Dignitary, featured as the cover story for the premiere issue of First Alaskans magazine and considered by many people around the world, indigenous and non-native alike, to be “The Storyteller.” He was also chosen as one of Alaska’s Top 40 Under Forty. He has created and produced three theatrical works of epic storytelling, written a book, and has both a DVD and a CD of his storytelling available. He travels extensively around Alaska, the US and Canada sharing his culture and stories in schools, universities, theaters, and on summer Alaska cruises to a wide variety of audiences. He teaches the importance of storytelling to the continuation of all cultures and works with students to create their own stories, thus continuing the tradition.

David Peterson is an author and illustrator best known for his series Mouse Guard. He says it’s a steady diet of cartoons, comics and tree climbing that fed his imagination as a child and is what still inspires his work today. David won the 2007 Russ Manning Award for Most Promising Newcomer. In 2008, David won the Eisners for Best Publication for Kids (Mouse Guard Fall 1152 & Winter 1152) and Best Graphic Album – Reprint (Mouse Guard Fall 1152 Hardcover). He is the creator of the Mouse Guard series and is excited to be working on projects he dearly loves doing. Peterson will be presenting at the conference as well as participating in a book signing event. He is willing and able to participate in school visits. Please contact him directly for pricing and availability. http://www.mouseguard.net/
Anchorage librarians are looking forward to welcoming you to Anchorage for the 2010 conference and the 50th anniversary of the Alaska Library Association. The conference opens on Thursday, March 4 with a day of pre-conferences, tours and speaker Sherman Alexie. For more information check out the conference website at: http://www.akla.org/anchorage2010/index.html.

Thank you for sending in speaker suggestions. We were able to book many of the speakers you requested. I’m looking forward to seeing you in Anchorage.

Susan Mitchell
AKLA VP for Conference
afsm1@uaa.alaska.edu

LITERACY COUNCIL OF ALASKA

The Literacy Council of Alaska (LCA) has provided literacy instruction to adults and children in Fairbanks since 1973. Today, LCA has many different literacy programs, though the Book Recycling and Lending Libraries programs are currently most pertinent to Alaskan librarians and their patrons.

The Book Recycling Program began in 2006. Books are donated to LCA from the community, sorted and cleaned, and then shelved until they are ready for distribution. Books are delivered locally, statewide and have even been shipped to soldiers in Iraq and to communities in El Salvador and Russia! Books are also used for LCA’s literacy programs and used bookstore Forget-Me-Not Books, which helps fund LCA’s educational programs. LCA was recently able to hire a part-time staff member devoted specifically to the Book Recycling Program; in the past, volunteers filled book requests. Books are free if a community is serviced by one of our airline partners (Frontier Flying Service, Wright’s Air, and Everts Air); if not, then the book recipient is responsible for USPS shipping charges. For more information about the Book Recycling Program please visit: http://www.literacycouncilofalaska.org/bookrecycling.html.

Last December, LCA established a new program called the Head Start Lending Libraries. To date, LCA has sent 3,705 books, provided by the Book Recycling Program, to 14 different Head Start classrooms. The goal of this program is to send age appropriate books every month to participating Head Start classrooms throughout Alaska, creating classroom libraries in mostly remote locations. The purpose of the Head Start Lending Libraries is to create homes rich with print materials, increase the opportunities for families to read together and promote literacy. This program has served the following Head Start classrooms: Allakaket, Ft. Yukon, Tetlin, Nenana, Tanana, Huslia, Kaltag, Holy Cross, McGrath, Sand Point, King Cove, Unalaska, Palmer and Meadow Lakes. These Head Start classrooms are operated by Tanana Chiefs Conference, Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association, Inc. and CCS Early Learning. The Head Start Lending Libraries is funded by the Administration for Children and Families Head Start Innovation and Improvement Projects Grant. LCA hopes to expand this program for the duration of this grant and then to continue sending books to the classrooms through the Book Recycling Program. For more information on the Head Start Lending Libraries please visit: http://www.literacycouncilofalaska.org/HeadStartLendingLibraries.html.

For more information on the Literacy Council of Alaska and its programs and services, please visit: www.literacycouncilofalaska.org.

Rachel Seale, Literacy Council of Ak.
Lending Library Coordinator
The Kenai Peninsula lost a feisty library champion when Emily DeForest, the Library Director of the Kenai Community Library from 1971 to 1999, died Friday, June 19, 2009. Raised in Los Angeles, California, a block from Wilshire Boulevard, Emily moved to Kenai in 1968 when her husband accepted a job at the Collier’s Carbon Chemical Plant. When she was elected Head Librarian in 1971, the Library collection was housed in the Kenai Civic Center, sharing space with City Hall, the Court System, social and civic groups and a church. Library staff pushed the book stacks on dollies against the walls of the Civic Center when the various groups met, then returned them to the center of the room to operate on Thursdays, the only day the library was open.

An ardent crusader for the library, Emily encouraged the City of Kenai to assume full responsibility for the library in 1972, and was instrumental in the construction of a new library building in 1976 and a library addition in 1987. An advocate of technology, Emily oversaw automation of the library catalog and provided patrons with access to the internet. She even encouraged a local Computer Sciences graduate student to develop a custom software program for tracking serials in the library.

After her retirement in 1999, Emily’s involvement with the Library continued. She logged hundreds of volunteer hours in the library, attended City Council and Chamber of Commerce luncheon meetings and was Historian (Emeritus) member of the Friends of the Library Board.

Julie Niederhauser
Kenai Community Library
SEWARD

Let’s Talk About It, Love and Forgiveness

was the Seward Community Library’s first opportunity to participate in American Library Association’s public programming. We are planning to make sure it is not the last time. We found Let’s Talk About It (LTAI) to be a great way to involve patrons not only in reading but community. The most common remark expressed as participants walked out the door after each session was “We should do this more often.”

Just what is LTAI? The Office of Public Programs of ALA has a myriad of resources for libraries of which LTAI is but one. LTAI is a themed book discussion series started in 1982. ALA enlists literary scholars to create reading lists based on themes. An archive of the diverse themes can be found at http://publicprograms.ala.org/ltai/. Participating libraries enlist a local scholar to present the program while the library staff provides a stipend for the scholar, the venue and marketing. The grant required that the program director attend LTAI training in Denver at ALA Midwinter. Funds were also used to provide a stipend to the scholar. ALA frequently partners with another organization in presenting book discussion themes. The Fetzer Institute sponsored the Love and Forgiveness theme to perpetuate their mission “…to foster awareness of the power of love and forgiveness in the emerging global community…” More information about Fetzer can be found at www.fetzer.org.

Our scholar, Doug Capra, was a central figure in the success of our series. He is passionate about literature, which was reconfirmed by the depth of knowledge and understanding he related to our group. He chose the Love and Forgiveness in the Face of the Enemy series which included The Iliad, Jane Eyre, Embers by Sandor Marai, The Guardians by Ann Castillo and Bel Canto by Ann Pachett. Our local library board purchased eight copies of each title for participants.

The theme of Love and Forgiveness proved somewhat confusing to the public, as Doug realized one morning at the coffee shop. A local business owner quipped, “So you’re doing sessions on Love and Forgiveness, right? I am going to send my whole staff for that training.” We then set to work making sure that everyone knew the series was a “book” discussion series and not a group therapy session.

During our planning, I worried that Doug’s decision to choose The Iliad as the first book to discuss was going to kill the program from the beginning. Six people attended that session and they became our core group. Doug entered with his personal, obviously well used, copy of The Iliad. As we had read only portions of the epic, Doug quickly retold the story highlights. For the next two hours, with questions and comments, we all gained a new appreciation for this ancient piece, especially as it relates to the world’s current political and religious struggles. Everyone was hooked, so much so that the refreshments were only secondary to the discussion.

Doug didn’t stop there. During
each session he brought an idea or something to cause everyone to challenge their perceptions of the novel. From discussing the science of phrenology to sexism in literature to men who write as women, our discussions were never boring and always went beyond the allotted two hours. The last novel for discussion was *Bel Canto* by Ann Pachett. The plot centers on a party thrown by a high-ranking South American official. The main event at the party is a performance by a popular opera diva. However, the whole group is seized by terrorists. As negotiations to be released drag on and hope of immediate freedom dims, the singer begins to entertain the group *a cappella*. Our discussion was interrupted by the surprise entrance and impromptu (though orchestrated by Doug) operatic solo sung by our local music teacher. It was essentially a recreation of the novel’s setting.

Though we had anticipated as many as 15 participants, we were very satisfied with our core group of six and those who came for a particular book. A local book club decided to join our last session, *Bel Canto*, which made the group bigger but no less talkative and insightful. The core group represented a cross section of the community from clergy to barista, stay at home moms to professional women. It was great to get to know people you meet on the street as passionate readers. We consistently had an equal number of men and women attend.

The library will most certainly make use of the list of themes for future LTAI book discussion series. We are already exploring them and planning to implement a session next winter. We are also contemplating creating our own series using the LTAI structure with Alaska themed books, fiction and non-fiction. We are being “forced” to by those who attended these sessions.

*Patricia Linville, Director*
*Seward Community Library*

**JUNEAU**

**Summer Reading Promotion Program**

Each May, for more than ten years, the Youth Services Staff of the Juneau Public Libraries have visited in the schools to promote our Summer Reading Program. In Juneau, we have seven elementary schools and one middle school which currently participate. Depending on the size of the school, the classes, and the school library in which we perform, we may present two, three, four or five performances in a morning.

The original idea for this event was the result of the school librarians saying they needed time without classes at the end of the year and the teachers still needed their release time. We find it an excellent way to have personal contact with the students in our community and tangibly support our school librarians. As our programs have evolved, many of the teachers and other adults have chosen to attend with the students.

To create the program we each prepare one or two stories to tell alone. We collect and learn four or five songs with a chorus that the audience might sing with us. We create minor and appropriate choreography to each of the songs. We also collect ten or more stories that will work well as plays and develop scripts for them. We have found that the less we use a narrator the better for most stories. If we have to have more than four characters, we create large images from foam core board mounted on a paint stick to use like a “puppet,” which allows one person to play more than one part. Of course it is a little tricky if more than one of your characters has to be on stage at once.

We take several weeks to rehearse together, reworking scripts as necessary, collecting costumes and props, and learning our parts. The school librarians each choose one morning for us to come from within the two week time frame we have scheduled. We print a small flyer stating all the events included in Summer Reading for each child to take home on the day of our show.

*(Cont. on pg. 8)*
The props for each script are packed separately by script. We dress in black tee shirts and pants so that we can become any character with ease. Black is not distracting when using the foam core board “puppets” as well.

Then we pack up and move, arriving at each site at least 30 minutes before the first group bursts into the room. The school librarians arrange the area so that we have a performance space and an off stage. After the librarian tells us the grade level and the duration of each event, we select the songs and stories to best fit our audience. We always chat with the kids as they arrive, then introduce ourselves and open with a song.

Several of the librarians supply us with drinks and snacks. During the two weeks that this happens the public library staff has to cover any desk shifts that we would miss. This promotion is a lot of work but also very much fun. We all feel famous for weeks, and sometimes years, hearing “I know you!” in the grocery store or on the street or when students come to the library to sign up for Summer Reading.

This promotion has created a strong positive association among the public library, the public schools and the children of our community, who grow up liking the library.

*Sandra Strandmann and mj Grande
Juneau Public Libraries*
DELTA JUNCTION

Library Journal Honor

We are one of the six libraries in Alaska recently honored by Library Journal. I was astonished to receive an email saying we had received a 5-Star rating (STILL amazed, in fact!)

This photo shows me (far right), our library board and my intrepid staff at our annual Open House last April. We are unveiling an Alaska Legislative Citation sponsored by Representative Woodie Salmon acknowledging the 5-Star Award.

It was a wonderful day, as you can see by our smiles, and over 300 people attended our Basket of Books Silent Auction where we raised over $8,000. The Board uses these funds to buy books to give away to our Summer Readers, all the arts and crafts supplies for kids programs through the year, and they now partner with Fairbanks Concert Association to bring cultural events to town—from folk singers to flamenco dancers. Never a dull moment in D-town!

Joyce McCombs
Delta Community Library

Library Journal Comes Up With New National Rating


(Cont. on pg. 10)
ANCHORAGE PUBLIC LIBRARY—
LIBRARY RENEWAL INITIATIVE UPDATE

CHUGIAK-EAGLE RIVER BRANCH

An Eagle River Town Center with a vibrant library has been a community goal for years and the project is almost complete!

New furniture and computers have been ordered; professional movers are dismantling and reassembling library shelving; volunteers are helping pack, move and unpack the 80,000-item collection; and local residents’ financial donations helped make all of this possible. This is truly a community effort!

When it re-opens in mid-August, the library will feature an expanded book and media collection, enhanced computer technology, separate areas for children and teens, group study rooms, and a large, welcoming reading area for all ages. The new library will boost the strength of the local economy and contribute to the health and vitality of the community.

The Friends of the Library and Anchorage Library Foundation are wrapping up their fundraising campaign for the branch. We hope that you will join us in this exciting effort to improve our library! Donations can be made online at www.anchoragelibraryfoundation.org or mailed to:

Chugiak-Eagle River Fund at the Anchorage Library Foundation, P.O. Box 244714, Anchorage, AK 99524.

MOUNTAIN VIEW BRANCH

The construction dirt is flying at the new Mountain View Branch. The construction began before the snow had even melted in February. The original building, which closed as a library in 1988 due to budget cuts, was gutted and is being restored as the main portion of the library. The foundation is being laid for an addition, which will become a community room. The target completion date is December 2009.

This project remains on target for LEED® gold level green building certification, one of the first built to this standard in Anchorage. LEED® is an internationally recognized certification process that measures standards such as energy efficiency, indoor air quality and stewardship of resources. This project will feature LED long-life lighting controlled by occupancy sensors, indigenous vegetation in the landscaping and low-emitting indoor paints and flooring. The new library will also serve as a multi-cultural resource with a diverse collection of materials and community-oriented programs that reflect the neighborhood’s rich cultural diversity.

Z.J. LOUSSAC LIBRARY

The Loussac is getting a new roof this summer with funding from the 2008 facilities bond. Work began in June on the much-needed repairs and will be complete by the end of summer. The project to renovate the terrace, which was proposed in the 2009 bond package, is on hold until complete funding is available.

Clare E. Stockert
Anchorage Public Library

(Cont. on pg.11)
Chugiak-Eagle River

LIBRARIES AT THE HEART OF OUR COMMUNITIES

Is there a place in your community: where residents of all ages and incomes visit and enjoy spending their time?
• where people go to hear interesting speakers discuss new ideas, books, travel and a broad range of topics?
• where comprehensive databases are available free of charge?
• where you can get help when applying for a job?
• where you can stop by and take home a book, CD or DVD at virtually no cost?

That’s also a place:
• that’s “owned” by everyone in the community?
• and can be counted on, day after day, to draw people downtown or to main street?

In a growing number of cities and towns, there’s one answer to all these questions: the public library.

ANCHORS FOR OUR CITIES & TOWNS

Dramatic new or renovated libraries have become cornerstones of downtown in dozens of cities, including Denver, San Antonio, Des Moines, Indianapolis and Salt Lake City, to name a few.

Noted architect and writer Witold Rybczynski offers an online slide show titled, “How do you build a public library in the age of Google?” His main point: libraries are far from dead in today’s Internet age – in fact, they’re making a comeback as key anchors in our downtowns. Indeed, they’re bringing us full circle to the “end of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th, when cities such as Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Detroit, and Chicago built ambitious public libraries.”

It’s important to recognize, however, that it’s not just big cities that benefit from libraries. In

(Cont. on pg. 15)
An Empire of Their Own: How the Jews Invented Hollywood, by Neal Gabler, 1988. Gabler’s writing is smooth and his insights are valuable. I’m especially enjoying his descriptions of some well-known, remarkable, and occasionally very eccentric individuals. Gabler concentrates on people who regarded entertainment as their “business,” yet what I’ve picked up is that even a profit-motivated businessman can be a great artist if he’s working with the right product. (Larry Hibpshman, Alaska State Archives)

Coop: A Year of Poultry, Pigs and Parenting, by Michael Perry, 2009. This third memoir by Perry is a beautiful blend of stories of his present life with his wife, step-daughter and newborn and memories of his childhood growing up on a rural Wisconsin dairy farm. His sense of humor really shines in this book, with many laugh-out-loud moments, as he tries to juggle writing, parenting, building his dream chicken coop (in spite of a lack of construction aptitude), farming and being a good husband. Through it all, his memories of haying, lambing and milking, living with a large family of siblings and foster-siblings, growing up in a small fundamentalist Christian faith, and his remarkable parents provide him with inspiration and encouragement. My favorite Michael Perry book yet! (Jude Baldwin, Fairbanks North Star Borough Public Library)

Too Close to the Falls, by Catherine McClure Gildiner, 1999. Yes, a woman’s memoir, but not of the usual kind. My husband read the book and recommended it to me — and he wouldn’t be caught dead wearing a pink shirt! Skillfully crafted, intellectually engaging, and fearlessly unapologetic, this book has the subject matter and literary style that would make any college lit class flame with enthusiasm and laughter. (Terrie Chang, Anchorage Public Library)

My mom recently turned me onto Arthur Upfield’s Inspector Napoleon Bonaparte mysteries. Upfield was an English immigrant to Australia who, between the late 1920s and 1950s, wrote around 40 mysteries set there featuring his half-Aboriginal sleuth, Nappy Bonaparte. Tracking skills and patience are the prime detecting talents possessed by Boney, as the character’s also known. The novels’ events take place all over that continent. Upfield had the gift of description that makes them lovingly evocative as well as informative. (Note from compiler: NoveList shows 29 books in this series, starting with The Barrakee Mystery published in 1929.) (Greg Hill, Fairbanks NSB Public Library)

As someone who has devoured numerous books about dysfunc-

(Cont. on pg. 13)
tional families, I can’t believe I have just discovered Wally Lamb. *This Much I Know Is True*, 1998, is at once mesmerizing and tedious. Lamb’s writing is functional and flowing, unlike his characters. They are complex, troubled, and unpredictable, yet lovable. One recognizes parts of everyone you’ve ever met in Dominick and Thomas. Twins, cultural bias, romance, coming of age, mental illness, sexual tension, mystery and intrigue: it is all there. Recommended for long reading sessions on a chaise lounge.

(Patricia Linville, Seward Community Library)

The History of the Alaska State Troopers [DVD] produced by the Fraternal Order of Alaska State Troopers, 2008, 54 minutes. Opening with a whirlwind history of the agencies responsible for law enforcement in the Territory of Alaska, the film quickly covers the years from the purchase of Alaska to World War II. It was in the early 1940s that the Alaska Highway Patrol was established, but it soon became evident that more than just traffic laws needed to be enforced. Eventually the Alaska State Troopers evolved. I came across this DVD in the Alaska Trooper Museum in Anchorage. It can be purchased from them by calling 1-800-770-5050 or 907-279-5050. Website: [http://www.alaskatroopermuseum.com/](http://www.alaskatroopermuseum.com/) (Sylvia Burns, Retired, Fairbanks)

Tommy Osredker recommended this book to me. I loved it. I actually listened to it from a Listen Alaska download. The audio version is excellent. It really brings the characters to life. It was a book I didn’t want to end. Book club discussion guides for the book are available online. (Roz Goodman, Pedro Bay)

I just completed reading the following book: *My Stroke of Insight: A Brain Scientist’s Personal Journey*, by Jill Bolte Taylor. 2008. At 37 years of age, this Harvard-trained brain scientist experienced a massive stroke. A neuroanatomist by profession, she writes about her experience and recovery period. This book is not just for stroke patients, but for anyone who is interested in brain science. It gives support and hope to those who have experienced a brain injury. It also gives any eye-opening account about medical practitioners, compassion and understanding, the shortcomings of conventional treatment, and much more. An insightful read for sure.

(Sheila Ring, Martin Monsen Regional Library)

The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society, by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows, 2008. This book tells the story, written in letter form, of an unlikely group of people who came together to discuss books when their island was taken over by the Nazis during World War II. When writer Juliet Ashton receives a letter from a stranger, a founding member of the Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society, she becomes intrigued with the stories of the people who live there. She travels to Guernsey to learn more of the remarkable tale of the island of Guernsey during the German occupation and decides to create a book based on their experiences.

(Marty Osredker)

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Log in or sign up to save this article.
Banned Books Week is the only national celebration of the freedom to read. It was launched in 1982 in response to a sudden surge in the number of challenges to books in schools, bookstores and libraries. More than a thousand books have been challenged since 1982. The challenges have occurred in every state and in hundreds of communities. People challenge books that they say are too sexual or too violent. They object to profanity and slang, and protest against offensive portrayals of racial or religious groups—or positive portrayals of homosexuals. Their targets range from books that explore the latest problems to classic and beloved works of American literature.

1. *And Tango Makes Three*, by Justin Richardson and Peter Parnell. Reasons: anti-ethnic, anti-family, homosexuality, religious viewpoint, and unsuited to age group.

2. *His Dark Materials* trilogy, by Philip Pullman. Reasons: political viewpoint, religious viewpoint, and violence.

3. *TTYL; TTFN; L8R, G8R* (series), by Lauren Myracle. Reasons: offensive language, sexually explicit, and unsuited to age group.


http://www.bannedbooksweek.org
General guidelines to publication in *Newspoke*,
Alaska Library Association newsletter:

**Not accepted:** paid advertising; material intended to “sell; make a profit” rather than to “inform.” Submissions viewed as advertisements, unless item is of particular interest to Alaska, Alaskan patrons and/or libraries, or is submitted by an AkLA member.

**Accepted:** Alaskana–books, book reviews, or articles relating to, or of interest to, Alaskan librarians and/or their patrons. Informative material related to libraries and librarianship, especially in regard to Alaska.

Most anything submitted by AkLA members–reasonably “tasteful and well-written,” of an appropriate length (much leeway here); author is willing to submit to possible editorial changes, which may include length, spellings, downsizing of convoluted sentences. . . (Editor will make every effort to let the author know of, and pre-approve, any significant changes before the material is published in *Newspoke*.)

**Other**–determined on an individual basis by “the committee” (defined as a group of at least three people, composed of AkLA members). If the *Newspoke* editor or the individual submitting has questions or concerns about any submission, the matter will be sent on to the *Newspoke* Committee.
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CALENDAR
Alaska Public Library Annual Report Due  Sept. 1, 2009
AkLA  Anchorage, 4:15 pm Chugiak-Eagle River Branch Library  Sept. 10, 2009
Eighth Northwest ILL and Resource Sharing Conference, Portland, OR  Sept. 17-18, 2009
AkLA  Anchorage, 4:15 pm, Anchorage Museum at Rasmuson Center  Oct. 8, 2009
BIZ BEE--Alaska Literacy Program, 907-337-1981, Dena’in Center, Anchorage  Oct. 9, 2009
Teen Read Week “Read Beyond Reality @ Your Library”  Oct. 18-24, 2009