

CONFERENCE ADVANCE

Harboring History: SLA in Baltimore

By FREDERICK N. RASMUSSEN

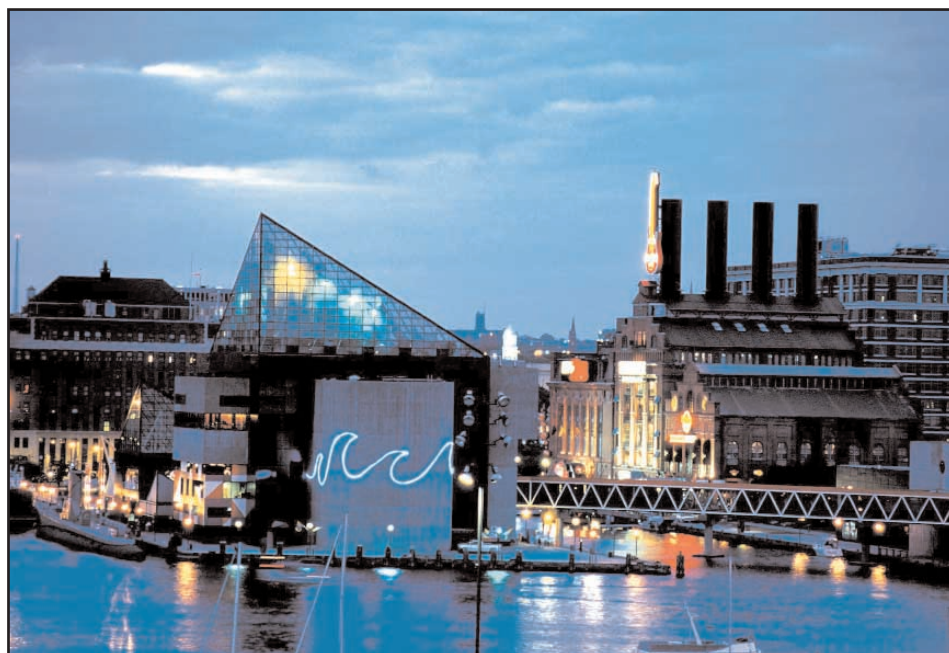
REPORTER AND COLUMNIST, *THE BALTIMORE SUN*

Welcome to Baltimore—which some wags call the Queen City of the Patapsco Drainage Basin. Baltimore and its fabled white steps are the home of the crab. The city is also the home of the Orioles and Ravens and some of the world's greatest medical institutions: The Johns Hopkins Hospital and the University of Maryland Medical Center.

Baltimore author Henry Louis Mencken, "The Sage of Baltimore," was born, lived and died here. It was Mencken who penned: "New York is fit only for the gross business of making money; Baltimore was made for spending it."

Speaking of the city's literati, Edgar Allan Poe lived and died here, and Jazz Age author F. Scott Fitzgerald lived here during the 1930s. Today, viewers may know of the city from author David Simon's "Homicide" or "The Wire," both of which became very successful and highly-rated TV shows.

And since its founding in 1729 as a tobacco settlement on the Patapsco River, Baltimore has grown into one of America's greatest cities with one of the busiest ports



Inner Harbor and National Aquarium at night

Photo: Baltimore Area Convention and Visitors Association

on the East Coast, and the closest to the Midwest. For years, people in this decidedly blue collar town lived by the sound of the factory whistle and found their livelihoods in the city's shipyards, railroad yards and at the now-closed Bethlehem Steel Corp's Sparrows Point plant and shipyard—founded in 1896 and once the largest steel

mill in the world.

Today, Baltimoreans—who like calling themselves Baltimorons—may work for Johns Hopkins, the Social Security Administration at its Woodlawn headquarters, the National Security Agency, or Goddard Space Flight Center. And on the

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KATHRYN PEASE

Welcome to our annual SLA conference issue. This one is chock full of information on our host city of Baltimore, and it includes the final News Division program provided by Chair-elect **Jim Hunter**. It's not too late to join us if you haven't made your reservation already.

I am very happy to announce that **Derek Willis** from *The Washington Post* has joined the *NLN* staff as our new Tech Tips columnist. If you have any ideas for topics you'd like to see covered, please shoot Derek an email at dwillis@gmail.com. In his debut, Derek discusses using aggregators to read feeds, how to integrate an XML feed into a Web site and how to provide XML feeds of

content. It's a great complement to **Jessica Baumgart's** feature on XML feeds.

In other news, I am sad to report that I am leaving the world of news librarianship—at least temporarily. As a rare endangered *Floridæ natus*, I've decided to return to my home state—specifically to Orlando—after being in temporary exile on Long Island. I am looking forward to integrating back into the Florida and Caribbean Chapter of SLA even though I will be joining the ranks of the unemployed and underinsured. Because I can't resist the call of the crab cake, I will still be making a pilgrimage to the annual conference where I hope to see many of my friends and colleagues.

Until then, I'm going to Disney World!

INMAGIC® The Research Asset Management Company

Join us at SLA 2006 for these Inmagic-sponsored sessions
...or just stop by our booth, 408 & 508. See you there!

● A News Division session:

News Research in the Newsroom

Tuesday, June 13, 7:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.
Baltimore Convention Center Room 345-346

Derek Willis, Research Database Editor, *Washington Post*, presents an in-depth session on news researchers and their place in the newsroom and how information or the lack of information management affects news coverage.

● A Strategic Technology Alliance Session:

New Requirements for Managing Research Assets: Are You Ready?

Tuesday, June 13th, 11 am - 12:30 pm
Booth 2550 at the INFO-EXPO

Hear Madeline Cohen, Director of the *Newsweek* Research Center, and Phillip Green, CEO of Inmagic, explain how "active management" of information assets delivers extraordinary value for an organization and firmly cements an information professional's role.



Research Asset Management: Powering News Research/Newsroom Success

To partner on ground-breaking journalism and deliver reliable, resourceful research... you need to:

- fully capitalize on all of the information assets that you know you have...somewhere
- easily add to those research assets, to create more value – not more chaos
- spend more time thinking and advising – and less time digging for those hard-to-find nuggets
- readily search across varied types of research assets
- make research assets easily accessible via the Web, 24/7 across the organization

How? With *Inmagic Presto for Newsrooms*.

It's a software application designed specifically for research asset management.

To learn more, visit our website:

www.inmagic.com/products/research/PrestoNewsrooms.html

NOTES FROM THE CHAIR



BY DENISE JONES

I am looking forward to seeing you in Baltimore in June. For those members who are returning and for those who are attending for the first time, please make sure to take advantage of the many opportunities that the annual conference offers.

There are the continuing education classes offered on Saturday and Sunday, June 10 and 11. **Dana Gordon** has put together two excellent News Division CE classes, Graphics Research and News Futures. Meet and talk to vendor representatives in the exhibit hall. The exhibitors provide an opportunity to find out more about resources you may already use and resources you might not even know about. The exhibit hall will be open Sunday at noon through Tuesday afternoon.

Another benefit of attending conference is a chance to network with your colleagues. You can talk face to face with other division members about your successes (and less-than-successful efforts), share ideas and pitfalls, and get feedback on new resources and software.

Although the economy seems to be perk-ing up nicely for many industries, it is not necessarily so for parts of the news industry. I have had some News Division members tell me it is doubtful they will be able to attend because their organizations are not funding much, if any, travel.

You all should know that **Jim Hunter**, our chair-elect and program planner, has put together a great program for the conference attendees. Realizing that some News Division members are operating on tight budgets, he is hoping to bridge the financial gap using digital resources. He plans to podcast most of the sessions, in addition to providing handouts and presentations, on the News Division Web site after the conference wraps. Jim says, "If you can't be at conference, we will bring the conference to you." Look for more details from Jim, especially on podcasting, before conference begins.

For those who will attend, things are shaping up nicely. Saturday afternoon there is a tour of *The Baltimore Sun* library and a reception in the suite later on Saturday night hosted by LexisNexis. Sunday night there will be a Dine-Around for those of you making dinner plans followed by a dessert reception in the suite hosted by *USA Today*. The dessert reception is also the night we make a special welcome and recognition to our first time attendees. (If you will be attending annual conference for the first time, please be sure to contact **Shira Kavon** at shira.kavon@turner.com so she can welcome you and introduce you to us. She'll have gifts for you, too!)

We will also get together in the suite on Monday night for the silent auction and for a reception hosted by ProQuest. Tuesday night is the awards banquet and reception at the National Aquarium on Baltimore's Inner Harbor. While the reception is from 7-8 p.m., you can arrive as early as 6 p.m. and your banquet ticket will allow you to tour the aquarium exhibits until 7 p.m. If you do arrive early, do not enter through the main tourist entry. Instead, follow the brick pathway on the right side of the building to the office entry. Maps will be available in the News Division suite.

If this is your first conference, I encourage you to attend as many of the News Division events as you can so others in the division can get to know you. If you have attended more conferences than you care to number, please make sure you meet and welcome our new members. We all have a lot to share with each other.

I'm looking forward to seeing a great turnout in Baltimore.

"You all should know that Jim Hunter, our chair-elect and program planner, has put together a great program for the conference attendees."

Celebrating the Best in Baltimore – Under the Sea!

By JENNIFER SMALL EVERT

The 2006 News Division Awards Banquet will be held on Tuesday, June 13 in the Marine Mammal Pavilion at the National Aquarium in Baltimore. Home to a wide variety of underwater creatures, the aquarium is located on Baltimore's Inner Harbor. This year we will be honoring award winners **Nora Paul** (Kwapil), **Ellie Briscoe** and **Kee Malesky** (Henebry), **Vicky McCargar** (Rhydwen) and **Emily Glenn** (Vormelker-Thomas).

All banquet attendees must purchase a ticket for the event although this year there is no transportation ticket due to the aquarium's close proximity to the main conference hotels. Anyone who does have a ticket may tour the exhibits at the Main Aquarium building from 6:00-7:00 p.m. If you want to come early to see the Main Aquarium, do not enter through the main tourist entry. Rather, follow the brick pathway on the right side of the building to the office entry. Maps will be available in the News Division Suite.

The reception for the Awards Banquet will begin at 7:00 p.m. in the upper lobby of the Marine Mammal Pavilion, found on Pier 4. Great thanks to LexisNexis who is generously sponsoring the reception this year. The dinner will follow in the Underwater Viewing Area.



NORA PAUL

The Joseph F. Kwapil Memorial Award Winner

Nora Paul is director of the Institute for New Media Studies at the University of Minnesota. Nora was previously at the Poynter Institute from 1991-2000. At the Poynter Institute, she led the programming efforts in the areas of news library management, computer-assisted research and new media leadership. She was editor for information services at *The Miami Herald* from 1979-1991. In that role, Nora developed one of the early full-text electronic news archives, brought in computer-assisted research and created a fee-based news research service for the public. Nora is the author of *Computer Assisted Research* and co-author of *Great Scouts: Cyber-Guides for Subject Searching* and *Behind the Message: Information Strategies for Communicators*.

At the Institute, Nora's work focuses on evolving digital storytelling forms. In 2001, Nora and Kathleen Hansen undertook research culminating in the "Crisis in News Libraries" summit. Nora was instrumental in bringing the journalism think tank New Directions for News to the University of Minnesota and serves as its director. She is on the board of the Online News Association, the Institute for CyberInformation at Kent State University, the

American Press Institute's New Media Initiative, and the University of South Carolina/IFRA Newsplex project.

Nora has been involved with News Division workshops, programs and seminars for over two decades. In 1994, she received the Henebry Roll of Honor Award.

She has an MLS from Texas Women's University and, after college, founded one of the first information brokerage services. She got her first modem in 1978 and has been accessing, studying and explaining the electronic delivery of information ever since.



ELLIE BRISCOE

The Agnes Henebry Roll of Honor Award Winners

Ellie Briscoe has been working in media libraries since 1973, when she took a job at the *Arizona Daily Star* as she was finishing a journalism BA. When offered a position as the City Desk clerk, she declined—she was having too much fun in the library, working for and learning from Kwapil winner Sandy Hall. So Ellie got her MLS. She has since worked for a twice-weekly local paper on Cape Cod where the library was a noisy alcove off the press room; for a major metropolitan daily, *The Oakland Tribune*; for the *Contra Costa Times*, then a mid-sized community newspaper; and, since 1987, for the National Geographic Society, a non-profit international educational publisher that produces films, cable TV, books, maps and five magazines, including a familiar yellow-bordered magazine with six million subscribers...uh, that is, members.

Has she seen extremes? She's worked both as a solo librarian and with a large staff (by news library standards) of 26. The NGS library was set up in 1926; the one at the *Contra Costa Times* basically didn't exist when Ellie started there. She set it up and along the way convinced the staff NOT to cut the pictures out of the old World Book Encyclopedia to run in the paper. Now she is part of a great team of professionals in the NGS' award-winning library, learning more from award-winning **Susan Fifer Canby**.

She joined SLA when her name was Ellie Wood, when we were the NewsPAPER Division, and how you organized and micro-filmed your clipping file was hot news. She put her journalism skills to use for the division, editing the early newsletter when it changed its name from *Short Takes* to *News Library News*, and editing the second edition of *Guidelines for Newspaper Libraries*. Grateful to her colleagues for their generous sharing of time and knowledge, she organized workshops for news librarians in both California and New England, so everyone could learn from everyone else.

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PEOPLE



BY JENNIFER O'NEILL

On the Move

Ander Murane at the *Rocky Mountain News* was recently promoted from librarian to assistant interactive editor/research where he serves as an assistant editor for the Web site. He supervises the assistant Web producers/enhancers who used to be classified as library employees, before the library was absorbed into Interactive Media.

Paul Koehler who had been working for the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* as a temporary contract employee has been hired as a permanent full time employee. His title is news archivist, and the library staff is thrilled to have him on a permanent basis.

Shelley Lavey, library director at the *Detroit Free Press*, has retired. Shelley and husband Tom are moving to their retirement home in northern Michigan, which they built themselves. Shelley plans to spend her first week of retirement building a shed and the second week enlarging the deck, with frequent breaks for sailing and golfing. Who knows what she'll do in week three?

Awards & Acknowledgements

Ron Larson, library director for the *Wisconsin State Journal* and *The Capital Times* in Madison, Wisconsin, has been named the 2006 Citizen of the Year by the McFarland Chamber of Commerce and was honored at a banquet on April 22nd.

Ron is the former president of the McFarland Historical Society and is spearheading the efforts to celebrate McFarland's sesquicentennial with a variety of events to be held throughout 2006. He was also in a small feature in *Madison Magazine* that profiled four local historians, calling them the "life preservers."

Oregonian news researcher **Lynne Palombo** is the spring term instructor for J202-Information Gathering at Mt. Hood Community College. The required journalism class of 15 students meets twice weekly for 10 weeks. The course is designed to teach skills and search strategies for gathering information ethically and legally from a

variety of sources. Special attention is given to the World Wide Web. Libraries, databases, public records, government documents, GIS, regular newspaper reading, and interviewing techniques are also covered. This is Lynne's second year of teaching this class.

Four staff librarians from *The San Diego Union-Tribune* received published credit on several stories in the entry that received the 2006 Pulitzer Prize for National Reporting (as well as the 2006 George Polk Award for Political Reporting.) The reporting exposed the bribery and influence peddling by Representative Randy "Duke" Cunningham that resulted in his resignation and prison sentence. In addition to writers Marcus Stern and Jerry Kammer of Copley News Service and Dean Calbreath, Bruce Bigelow and Onell Soto of *The Union-Tribune*, the librarians are **Cecilia Iniguez**, **Erin Hobbs**, **Denise Davidson** and **Peter Uribe**. Sadly, Cecilia passed away on April 19. Cecilia joined *The Union-Tribune* library in 2000. She was a graduate of San Diego State University and was an active participant on the newsroom's diversity committee.

Assistant research center manager **John Maines** of the *South Florida Sun-Sentinel* was a Pulitzer finalist for Investigative Reporting along with reporters Sally Kestin and Megan O'Matz for their series of reports about the federal government's widespread mismanagement of hurricane aid.

Carol Bradley Bursack, news researcher/elder care columnist for *The Forum* in Fargo, ND was interviewed extensively for a *Family Circle* article on elder care, which is scheduled to run in July. If you are interested in her book on elder care, you can check out her site at <http://www.mindingourelers.com>.

Belinda Harris, librarian at *The Roanoke Times*, received her first byline for a story on a potentially fraudulent business. While she has gotten many contribution tag lines, this is the first shared byline on a news story. It was lead reporter Ray Reed's

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Celebrating the Best in Baltimore-Under the Sea

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Give her a job to do and she's happy, so she was glad to be active in the San Francisco Chapter (Secretary), and the Washington DC Chapter (Secretary, President, various committees). She's been happiest teaching; at work she teaches Society staff how to find information in books, magazines, and databases, as well as how to do CPR; in her non-work life, she teaches Scottish Country Dancing and SCUBA diving.



KEE MALESKY

NPR listeners often ask, "What is her name anyway? Keema Leski, Kim Alesky, Kay Marlenski, or what?" Her name is Kee Malesky, nee Christine Mary Shields, of Brooklyn, NY. The "Christine" became "Kee" when her youngest sister learned to talk, and because she thought it was a rather cool name, she stuck with it.

With her colleagues in the NPR Reference Library, Kee Malesky performs background research, answers fact-checking questions, finds experts and story ideas, and provides guidance to staff on grammar, usage and pronunciations (but don't blame her when someone says "nook-yoo-ler"). She maintains the library's book collection, and she has also worked on special projects for NPR: producing Election Night briefing books, documenting the early history of the network, and designing training programs for the staff.

Kee has been married since 1970 to NPR's Robert Malesky, who is the senior producer of *Weekend Edition Sunday*. However, they are not on the official "NPR Couples" list because they met and married before either of them came to work at NPR.

After several years as an administrative drudge for NPR, Kee abandoned the network to get her master's degree in library science from The Catholic University of America in Washington, DC. She had planned to find a position deep in an archive somewhere with no human contact, but was lured back to NPR by her friends in the Broadcast Library in 1984. After cataloguing NPR programs for three years, Kee became the staff librarian for the original version of NPR's arts magazine program, *Performance Today*, and then moved to the News Reference Library in 1990.

Breaking the Mold: The Kee Malesky Story (2003) is a completely fictional account of Kee's early life. Producer Josh Seftel, working on a documentary about environmental science, asked Kee for permission to use her name for the character, a high school girl who enjoys research and finds the solution to a house mold problem that is making people sick. Airing on PBS and at film festivals

around the country, the short film has been well-received by reviewers and audiences. *The Providence Journal* called it "a zany eccentric tale."

In her copious spare time, Kee collects books and New York City memorabilia, enjoys European travel, and works on her family genealogy. She was the subject of a chapter in *Super Searchers in the News: The Online Secrets of Journalists and News Researchers* (2000, Cyberage Books) and co-authored (with **Richard Geiger** of the *San Francisco Chronicle*) the entry on "News Libraries" for the electronic edition of the *Encyclopedia of Library & Information Science* (2003). Kee has been a member of the adjunct faculty of Catholic University's School of Library and Information Science, and is active in SLA and in Beta Phi Mu, the international honor society of library science. She is a frequent guest speaker at library conferences and workshops.

The David Rhydwen Award for Outstanding Scholarly Contribution to News Librarianship



VICKY MCCARGAR

Vicky McCargar is a veteran journalist and freelance digital archivist whose research focus is preservation of newspaper content in digital formats. She worked at the *Los Angeles Times* for more than 25 years in both journalism and access technology, participating in numerous innovative digitization projects in various media. Before leaving the paper, Vicky served as the Associate Editor for Technology. In that role, Vicky was responsible for all technology initiatives involving historic image databases, data migrations, reformatting, software upgrades and preservation planning. Vicky is currently conducting an analysis for the Center for Research Libraries to develop long-term preservation criteria for news archives systems. She is a contributor to the preservation consortium InterPARES and was a member of the PREMIS committee developing metadata for long-term preservation. Her consulting work is the area of digital asset management systems, news vocabularies, metadata standards and digital preservation.

Vicky also teaches in the Department of Information Studies at UCLA. Her most recent graduate level seminar was entitled, "Issues and Problems in the Preservation of Cultural Heritage Materials."

Vicky has published numerous articles and often speaks on the topic of news archives and digital preservation.

She holds masters' degrees in library and information science from UCLA and in science and medical reporting from the University of Missouri School of Journalism.

Changes Arise at *The Sun*



By AMY DISCH

Earlier this year, *The Baltimore Sun* library saw its staff reduced by five as a result of buyouts offered as part of a cost reduction measure by the paper's owner, the Tribune Company. The primary duties of archiving the daily paper and research are now handled by a staff of six, and the library's focus is shifting to an environment which seeks "to help reporters help themselves."

The library's holdings include "5,000 cataloged books, periodicals, vertical files and other media." In addition, there are over two million clips and one million photos, which, along with the microfilm collection, circulate daily. Library Manager **Elizabeth Lukes** says, "Believe it or not, our use of electronic resources is about even with our use of non-electronic resources."

Lukes and nighttime researcher Paul McCardell handle all research requests, and there are four enhancers: **Phyllis Kisner, Carol Julian, Doris Johnson** and **Mike Farrell**, who are responsible for the archiving of each day's newspaper. According to Lukes, "This group has taken over the workload of the two archivists who left with little difficulty." However, the staff reduction has resulted in a delay in ordering and cataloging books and less work with the company intranet.

The library is open from 6 a.m. to midnight Monday through Friday and from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Sunday, with research assis-



The Baltimore Sun Library

tance available Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

The day begins with the enhancers working to archive all staff written stories by 9 a.m. After

"The library's immediate plans include a 2006 upgrade of its SAVE system and a publishing system upgrade for the newsroom, which will happen over the course of the next two years."

that deadline has been met, they begin to archive all wire stories and perform any necessary troubleshooting. Lukes says, "We are slowly incorporating more project-oriented work into our schedule, such as photo indexing and more intranet work."

Elizabeth Lukes, who had worked in *The Sun* library as a

researcher for four years, was offered the director's position in December 2005. She had previously worked there as an intern while earning her graduate degree through the distance learning program at Florida State University. Lukes states that the skills she developed during library school, "such as Web design and database management" have proved very useful in her current position, but adds, "I don't think any school program can fully prepare a person for real-life scenarios in the work world." Success working in a news library, Lukes says, requires "basic database searching capabilities" and a high comfort level with "retrieving and analyzing public records information." She adds that other skills, "such as cataloging, scanning and the general ability to organize information are also necessary."

The changes the library has

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Vormelker-Thomas Student Award Winner

By AMY DISCH, *THE COLUMBUS DISPATCH*

CHAIR, 2006 VORMELKER-THOMAS STUDENT AWARD COMMITTEE



EMILY GLENN

Emily Glenn is the 2006 recipient of the Vormelker-Thomas Student Award, an annual honor presented to a graduate student interested in pursuing a career in news librarianship. Emily holds a bachelor of science degree in journalism from Ohio University and will receive her master of library and information science from Kent State University in May.

Emily was an intern in the Editorial Library of *The Columbus Dispatch* last summer, where her responsibilities included assisting with text and photo archiving, the training of interns and new employees in the use of the library and its resources, and performing research for stories. She returned to *The Dispatch* from January through March of this year, where she completed a practicum that involved the establishment of a TWiki that is now being used as a tool for logging the reference and research efforts of the library staff. She is currently working as an intern in the library of the Ohio Department of Transportation.

Emily is a member of SLA, its Central Ohio Chapter, and the Columbus branch of the Associated Library Science Students of Ohio. In her free time, she enjoys reading, running and spending time with her husband, Jim.

Emily is very excited at the prospect of attending her first SLA conference, and in her statement on what she hoped to gain from the experience, she expressed a desire to learn "how libraries are using technology to better organize information and serve their patrons." Given her practicum project creating a TWiki, she is specifically interested in how other news libraries are using wikis and the "issues and challenges" that were faced in implementing them. She is also looking forward to the opportunity to meet and network with her colleagues.

The Vormelker-Thomas Student Award, named in honor of Rose Vormelker and Lou Thomas, was established by the News Division in 1977. It offers a \$1500 stipend, provided through the generosity of ProQuest and the News Division, which enables a graduate student to attend the SLA annual conference.

The 2006 Vormelker-Thomas Student Award committee members were **Leigh Montgomery**, Librarian, *The Christian Science Monitor*; **William Lucey**, News Researcher, *South Florida Sun-Sentinel*; **Carol Bursack**, News Researcher and Elder Care Columnist, *The Forum* of Fargo-Moorhead; **Andrea Nemetz**, last year's recipient and Entertainment Reporter, *The Chronicle Herald*, Halifax, Nova Scotia; and **Amy Disch**, News Researcher, *The Columbus Dispatch*.

Emily's winning essay, which discusses how news librarians can remain relevant in the midst of the many changes facing the news industry, is featured below.

Proving Our Value

By EMILY GLENN

A quote from Dave Barry, perhaps America's best-known humor writer, and a veteran of *The Miami Herald*, unnerved me: "Newspapers are dead."

Barry said this during an interview with a reporter from the *San Francisco Chronicle*. I hadn't expected such a bleak pronouncement from Barry. I can't say it did much for my mood, but it did get me thinking. The article's author, C.W. Nevius, noted he didn't get the merry interview he was expecting either, but he listened to Barry discuss traditional and new media and conceded that the future of newspapers—and other long-established news media—is a "worthwhile topic for discussion."

I disagree. I feel it's time for more than discussion. Recently, we have been inundated with statistics on falling newspaper readership, and sad tales of news libraries being reduced or eliminated entirely as media companies try to streamline themselves.

This has led to a crisis in news librarianship: How secure are our jobs? What does our future look like? How can we make ourselves too essential for downsizing?

The answers to these questions are more complex and nuanced than can be expressed in a single essay by a single person. However, news librarians do have some advantages: promising trends in the media industry, their technological savvy, and value-added service.

As librarians, we are not at the helm of the media companies employing us, and we generally do not make decisions regarding the organization's direction. However, if we actively assist our employers in their efforts to adopt and experiment with new media formats and outlooks, we can also prove our worth as savvy information professionals. Not only this, but we will set and enforce the perception that libraries, news libraries among them, are a part of the future, not just the past.

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WHO WANTS TO BE A NEWS LIBRARIAN?



By ANGELICA CORTEZ

As I was reading through Rhonda Fanning's experience and interest in becoming a news librarian, I could feel her enthusiasm and energy jump right off the paper. This lively young woman, who while in college spent a year in Australia studying Aboriginal culture, has developed and pursued her interest in news librarianship.

While an editor of her high school's newspaper, Rhonda became the research diva, always assisting with the investigative aspect of the newspaper. In college she majored in anthropology due to her interest in cultural research, but her part-time gig was working at the campus art library. She continued working at campus libraries throughout her undergraduate years, and after graduating she was encouraged to apply for her old supervisor's job. Rhonda worked as a library assistant for three years before deciding to pursue an MLS.

"One day, while listening to NPR, I heard a report that mentioned their news librarians," she says. "From that point I knew that I would put my library degree and research background to work for a news organization."

Rhonda is currently pursuing an MS in library and



Rhonda Fanning

information studies at Florida State University and will graduate this spring. In addition to her studies and working part time as a graduate assistant, she also interns at Florida Public Radio (FPR). And she did not passively wait for an announcement to obtain her internship at FPR. She called FPR inquiring about a possible internship. She was informed that they had just sent out an email regarding an opportunity; it was sent to the journalism department.

"I explained how students in library science were trained to quickly and accurately locate information, and my background and expertise would suit there needs perfectly," she says.

She became the first student from the College of Information hired at FPR. She provides research assistance and locates appropriate people to interview for newscasts. Now when an opening arises at FPR, announcements are sent to the College of Information as well as the College of Communication.

Rhonda is well aware of the scarce openings in news libraries as she has begun her job hunt. She hopes to someday work in a newsroom "where the librarians are a visible and valued part of the process."

"Librarians should not only be involved with the research, but also in the brainstorming of ideas and identifying possible interview sources," she says.

"I know that I might not be the one who changes the world," says Rhonda, "but I will definitely be there to accurately document the people and things that do."

With her enthusiasm, intelligence and abilities, she just might end up changing the world after all. I'm sure any news organization would be lucky to add her to their staff.



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2006 News Division Programming

With the spotlight on some of the hottest topics right now: technology trends, digitizing and preserving your collection, and strengthening and promoting your library, the News Division has something for everyone at this year's event.

Take a look below, and if you have any questions on the program, please contact **Jim Hunter** at jhunter@dispatch.com. For general conference and lodging information, see <http://www.sla.org>.

SATURDAY, JUNE 10

8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. - Graphics Research: Timelines and Deadlines
Ticketed Event #140
Price: \$199 member/\$299 non-member

With print, broadcast and online media using more visual information than ever, what's the best way to conquer graphics research on deadline? This session will provide participants with tips for getting the data they need. It also will look at the latest conceptual approaches to information graphics.

Speakers: Jeanette Brown, Library Director, USA Today; Kelly Barry, Assistant Graphics Editor, USA Today

Location: Convention Center 315

2:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. - Tour of the The Baltimore Sun Library Sponsored by MerlinOne

Location: Lobby of The Sun Building at 501 N. Calvert Street. For directions, contact Elizabeth Lukes, Library Manager, at elizabeth.lukes@baltsun.com or 410-468-2651.

4:00 p.m.-5:30 p.m. - News Division Board Meeting

Location: News Division suite, Sheraton Inner Harbor Hotel

6:00 p.m.-9:30 p.m. - News Division Reception Sponsored by LexisNexis

Location: News Division suite, Sheraton Inner Harbor Hotel

SUNDAY, JUNE 11

8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. - News Futures: Navigating the New World of Journalism and News Research

Ticketed Event #400

Price: \$199 member/\$299 non-member

Moderator: Nora Paul, Director, Institute for New Media Studies, University of Minnesota

Disruptive technologies, new storytelling forms, multiple output channels, citizen reporting—all of these trends are affecting the news business. How will they affect the news library? This panel will examine two key trends: the increased call for content from outside the news organization and the crafting of new forms of digital storytelling. Through discussions with newsroom practitioners and those creating content in this new environment, the issues and opportunities for news libraries will be outlined.

Speakers: Jane Singer, University of Iowa; Mark Potts, Backfence Inc.; Steve Fox, Washingtonpost.com Politics Editor; Andrew Haeg, Minnesota Public Radio

Location: Convention Center 309

12:00 p.m.-1:30 p.m. - Tribune Company Managers Meeting

Location: News Division suite, Sheraton Inner Harbor Hotel

2:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m. - LexisNexis Demonstration

All News Division members welcome

Location: News Division suite, Sheraton Inner Harbor Hotel

4:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m. - News Division Web Group Committee Meeting

Location: News Division suite, Sheraton Inner Harbor Hotel

6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. - Dine Around

Enjoy good food and conversation with your colleagues. Sign up for dinner with 5 to 6 of your colleagues hosted by our volunteer Table Captains. More info coming.

6:00 p.m.-9:30 p.m. - Dessert Reception Sponsored by USA Today

Location: News Division suite, Sheraton Inner Harbor Hotel

8:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m. - First-Timers Reception

SLA conference first-timers are welcomed and introduced by **Shira Kavon**, CNN New York Library

Location: News Division suite, Sheraton Inner Harbor Hotel

MONDAY, JUNE 12

7:30 a.m.-9:00 p.m. - News Division Vendors Roundtable: Digitized Microfilm

Moderator: Leigh Poitinger, Library Director, San Jose Mercury News

Four major vendors developing and marketing digitized newspaper microfilm archives share their progress. News Division members will have an opportunity to question vendor representatives about this emerging technology and vendor market plans.

Speakers: Chuck Palsho, President, NewsBank Media Services; Scott Fisher, Account Manager, Heritage Microfilm /NewspaperArchive.com; Dewayn Davis, Senior Account Manager, Olive Software; Barbara Beach, Vice President Publishing, Historical Papers, ProQuest

Location: Hyatt Ballroom A-B

9:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m. - History, News and Peter Drucker: The Power of Oral History

Moderators: Margret Neu, Information Services Editor, Corpus Christi Caller Times; Catherine Kitchell, Senior Reference Librarian, Bureau of National Affairs

This is a two-part program that demonstrates the power of capturing and transferring oral knowledge. Part 1: Is the history of

Continued on page 18

Harboring History: SLA in Baltimore

Continued from page 1

east side of town, Martin-Marietta, founded by aviation pioneer Glenn L. Martin, continues to be a leader in space and aviation technology.

The city's reputation as an educational center is well defined in such institutions as Johns Hopkins University and its medical school and the University of Maryland, Baltimore campus with its law and medical schools. Other notable institutions include Morgan State University, Towson University, Loyola College, Coppin State College, Goucher College, and the University of Maryland, Baltimore County.

Baltimore is a city that prides itself on its ethnic composition and includes from the early days, English, Irish, Germans and African-Americans. During the great age of immigration in the 19th century, Italians, Poles, Russians and Lithuanians landed at the immigration station at Locust Point, not far from the main gates of Fort McHenry, where during the War of 1812, a young lawyer, Francis Scott Key, on a British vessel below the fort, penned "The Star-Spangled Banner."

There is much to see and explore in Baltimore. Speaking of "The Star-Spangled Banner," plan to visit the Maryland Historical Society, 201 W. Monument Street, and see Key's original manuscript among other treasures from the state's past.

Before getting started touring the various attractions in the Inner Harbor, Baltimore's tourist Gold Coast, climb atop Federal Hill where Union General Benjamin Butler kept order over the city during the Civil War, and gaze around at the modern Baltimore below.

The following are recommended attractions, which can be reached by foot, water taxi, double-decker tour bus, or a quick taxi ride.

The Inner Harbor is home to the National Aquarium, and nearby are historic vessels such as the *Constellation*, a 19th century warship; the submarine *Torsk* from World War II; the Coast Guard Cutter *Taney*, the last surviving vessel afloat from the attack on Pearl Harbor; and the Chesapeake lightship. All vessels are open for tours.

Over at what's called the Inner Harbor East, learn about the city's role in the Civil War at the President Street Station.

Do you like trains, and if so, a visit to the world-famed Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Museum is just the ticket. The museum with its cars and locomotives is at 901 W. Pratt Street. If you're a sports fan, then plan to visit the Sports Legend Museum in the B & O's former Camden Station—now a part of the Orioles' Camden Yards ballpark.

The Walters Art Museum and the Baltimore Museum of Art shouldn't be missed, either.



Fells Point

Photo: Baltimore Area Convention and Visitors Association

Wander into old neighborhoods like historic Fells Point and Canton, or take in the magnificence of the Victorian and Edwardian eras by visiting Bolton Hill. And while in Bolton Hill, the Maryland Zoo and Druid Hill Park are nearby.

Don't be afraid to try hard crabs, one of the city's great culinary items or crab cakes. Perhaps some amiable Baltimorean will show you how to handle a crab mallet and navigate the anatomy of the crab whose succulent and spicy meat is worth every whack of the hammer.

Most of all, have fun and explore. Baltimoreans are a friendly lot and will be willing to show you the way or answer your questions.

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The Increasing Utility of XML Feeds

By JESSICA BAUMGART

HARVARD UNIVERSITY OFFICE OF NEWS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Editor's note: This article looks at developments with XML feeds since News Library News reported on RSS in 2004. Read An Introduction to RSS Feeds: <http://www.ibiblio.org/slnews/nln/nln04/nln262.pdf>

Just a few years ago, RSS feeds were a new technology few people had heard about. We wondered whether they might be something useful as we tried to figure out what RSS stood for. Now, XML feeds like RSS are proving their lasting value through many applications—some of which work their magic hidden behind the scenes.

News librarians should be concerned with feeds because they can be consumers of feeds and feed creators; and, many work for organizations that produce content. Their employers might be pondering whether to offer various feeds to their audiences.

Atom

More people are familiar with RSS than with Atom. Many of Google's services, like Blogger, Gmail and some news alerts, use the Atom standard for its feeds. A derivative of RSS spawned by disagreement over what RSS should be and how it should include certain elements, Atom has continued to establish its identity as a viable competitor and alternate format since appearing in 2003. To many users, the differences between Atom and RSS feeds are quite trivial. What is important when choosing an application to receive feeds is to make sure to select one that can handle multiple versions of XML feeds, including Atom feeds and different versions of RSS. Also, many people recommend offering various kinds of feeds for content instead of just one format. Some people who prefer RSS over Atom use Atom to RSS converters or a service like FeedBurner to create an RSS feed of the content on the page.

To address some of the criticisms that spawned Atom, people concerned with RSS' growth formed an advisory board to continue working on RSS. No one knows if the separate groups will ever reach a compromise on one feed standard.

Enclosures

An area of XML feeds in very active development is enclosures. Enclosure tags enable feed creators to "send" files with their feeds by referring to a file on the Internet that an aggregator should download. This technology is at the heart of podcasting and vodcasting. Developers are working steadily to figure out how to transmit files easier and more seamlessly through XML to people's desktops. There are even some special applications geared toward nothing but handling feeds with files for podcasting, vodcasting and more, like iPodder and FireAnt.

Imagine being able to distribute a research report via a feed without worrying whether the contents will end up in an e-mail spam folder.

In a February *Editor & Publisher* column, Steve Outing argues, "... these new media formats should become part of any newspaper's content strategy." Some news organizations use them to expand their news offerings and reach audiences who may not be as interested in a print publication. In converged organizations, it might be easy to begin distributing podcasts and vodcasts because people on staff already have experience working with sound or video and content appropriate for such casts might be available.

Podcasting

Likened to guerilla radio where anyone can have a show about anything syndicated to thousands of listeners, podcasting enables people to easily distribute a series of sound files via XML feeds. Like **Stephen Abram** observes in his March *Information Outlook* column about podcasting, the difference between a podcast and a sound file on a Web site is the syndication of an audio series. With the increasing number of MP3 players, especially Apple's iPod (from which the name derives), audio bloggers find their content going to more and more audiences. Not all podcasts come from people with a microphone and digital recorder. Many broadcast organizations are beginning to offer more and more of their serial content through podcasts. National Public Radio, which explored newspapers using podcasts in June 2005, offers many podcasts, as do organizations like American Public Media, *The Denver Post*, the *San Francisco Chronicle*, and some academic journals. Some professors offer their university lectures as podcasts, too.

Librarians are beginning to figure out how to use audio files distributed via XML to reach colleagues and their customers. Some are producing MP3s patrons can listen to while learning how to use the collection. Others are hoping clients will listen to book recommendations while jogging.

Vodcasting

Similar to podcasting, vodcasting refers to the syndication of video files, like what a video blogger might do. Some sources believe "vod" refers to "video on demand." Others wonder if the term is an attempt to borrow some of podcast's buzzword status. *The Naples (Fl.) Daily News* recently began vodcasting. *The Washington Post* offers vod- and podcasts.

Bringing XML Feeds to the Desktop

The true magic of feeds, of course, is how easy it is to use them

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Gary Price Visits Boston

By JESSICA BAUMGART

HARVARD UNIVERSITY OFFICE OF NEWS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

In early March, **Gary Price** shared his wisdom with about 150 people gathered at Simmons College and with a few information professionals over pizza and sausage at Santarpio's in East Boston.

At Simmons, Megan Fox, Web/Electronic Resources Librarian at the college, summarized Price's incredible ability for keeping current while introducing him: "Even if you just saw him speak last month or last week or yesterday, you know you'll learn something new."

Price shared quite a bit about his own career. Shortly after graduate school at Wayne State University, he started the List of Lists Web site (<http://www.specialissues.com/lol/>). His first day as a professional librarian was in February 1996. He began ResourceShelf (<http://www.resourceshelf.com/>)—which now has more than 20,000 e-mail newsletter subscribers—about five years later. He quipped that he thought he could start ResourceShelf, write the newsletter temporarily to market the site and then stop producing it. He's discovered during the last five years that people have become very dependent on the newsletter. He boasts that there's been something new on the site every day except for about six days. He credits ResourceShelf's deputy editors, too, for lots of work on the site.

Price recently became the Director of Online Information Resources for Ask.com, formerly AskJeeves. Although he was concerned about sounding like a commercial for the search engine, he provided the audience with many good reasons to reevaluate the services Ask.com provides, including a revamped search engine and a mapping site with handy features like a moveable endpoint and walking directions. In the four years since they purchased the search engine Teoma, they've done a lot to turn themselves around.

"Ask has invested in me to go out to talk to people like you," Price explains his role in his new job. "With your help, I want to help Ask develop ready reference tools." Price loves ready reference tools.

"Remember 'Save the time of the reader?' It's all about 'Save the time of the searcher' these days."

Of course, Price also showed us lots of nifty sites and tools. Many more were in his presentation than what time would allow him to demo.

Does he use every tool on a daily basis? "No!" He emphasized he has to sleep sometime. He explains that we don't use every reference book in our collection every day, just like we wouldn't necessarily use

every single tool every day. Many are good to know about either for our occasional use or for us to share with our clients, but they aren't resources we need to constantly tap. What's important is knowing the right tool for the right job at the right time. There are so many choices out there!

Price talked about how the News Division is his closest division in SLA. He learned over the years from reporters interviewing him that many don't know much about news librarians in their own organizations or even what's available to them through their own local libraries and what they have to offer. There's plenty of blame to go around for that. Librarians, vendors, and library supporters all can take some role in marketing libraries and their tools. Vendors, Price thinks, should become more active in telling people what kinds of products they offer to local libraries.

Marketing our profession is important to Price. We need to change people's perceptions of what librarians are and what we do. Information professionals should work on becoming information "go to" people.

When he recently talked to some students at the University of North Carolina, he learned several knew nothing about the resources available through their campus libraries. To him, that's a real shame.

Price makes a great ambassador for our profession, especially in his new role at Ask.com. He will definitely demonstrate the value of librarians while showing off valuable gems on the Web.

His presentation with suggestions and tools for keeping current is available online at:

http://www.resourceshelf.com/2006_simmons_march.html.

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23SLA

Proving Our Value

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Newspapers, too, are a part of the future, though perhaps not only in the traditional broadsheet format. Nevius did not mention that many media companies have already begun expanding their businesses to embrace newer news formats, from Web sites to podcasts. The Dave Barry article that filled me with such unease was posted online on the *San Francisco Chronicle's* Web site (<http://tinyurl.com/hyn63>). This is one example of how newspapers and other traditional media can grow. For as many potential newspaper readers as there are in the San Francisco Bay area, many more are on the Internet.

Media companies may feel flummoxed by the fragmentation of their audiences and changing consumer habits. However, this does not mean there is a lack of interest in the news, just that its delivery and format need to adjust to changing demands. Producing one newspaper with a little in it for everyone and a lot in it for all is a simple business model, but not one that will continue to function best in the current marketplace.

Reports from Nielsen/NetRatings show there's a lively interest in new formats for news: People who read online newspapers also consume many other sorts of media and they are loyal to their local newspapers' Web sites. Other reports from the same organization found that newspaper Web sites are hosting more visitors than ever, and that one-third of Internet users visit newspapers' sites.

The World Association of Newspapers' Gavin O'Reilly, in a January 2006 presentation, noted that newspapers are "fragmentation proof." In other words, they can appeal to an unusually wide range of audiences when compared to television shows, radio or specific Internet sites. While this is a strength, newspapers should also produce products that are fragmented. Products such as these might be aimed at one of America's growing minority groups or newsmagazines for young adults. Many newspapers have already created such publications, which have attracted new audiences and targeted advertising dollars. In this age of RSS feeds and podcasts, specialization offers an advantage while maintaining the traditional newspaper. O'Reilly noted that newspapers have been aggressive in taking advantage of technology to keep their readers and entice new ones. I would add that other traditional media sources—radio, and the relative newcomer television—have been making these innovations as well.

So how can we help and gain in the process? As librarians, we can encourage and support these efforts to reach new audiences and retain the current audience while promoting more such

exploration. We can involve ourselves in these projects from their inception and provide research assistance, not only with editorial issues, but also development, best practices and technology information. Making ourselves critical to these projects will make librarians and the library integral parts of both the media company's future as well as its current operations. Working on new and innovative projects will also increase the library's visibility, particularly to management.

Of course, we have demonstrated our proficiency with new technologies when we employ them in our own libraries. Not only do we demonstrate how blogs, wikis and other such tools can be used effectively, but we also enhance the efficiency of our own operations. Now we need to offer these skills and insights to the organization as a whole.

A final way to increase our visibility and prove our value is what we've been doing all along, but it bears repeating. Reporters can often do much of their own research: search the databases, find people, and look up historic events; but they turn to us because we provide value-added research. We free up their time, provide better information, faster information and information from verified and reliable sources. We should emphasize these qualities at all opportunities, look for chances to enhance them and better ways to serve our co-workers. We need to continue to be available when they need us, eager to help and always innovative.

None of this will be easy, and these are not sure solutions. The news industry is changing, and the future is uncertain. However, relying on our proven strength—quick, value-added research—while enthusiastically involving ourselves in our companies' efforts to reach new audiences, can help make us as visible and essential as possible.

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The Increasing Utility of XML Feeds

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to route content. Derek Willis' sidebar gives some great tips for integrating content into Web sites.

Aggregators have continued to become more sophisticated in the last few years. It seems like there's more of a variety now and more can handle the various kinds of feeds. Web browsers are also getting on the aggregation bandwagon, like Internet Explorer 7 and Firefox with its Live Bookmarks.

Also, it is possible to convert feeds to e-mail, like RSSFwd and R-Mail do. Many bloggers take advantage of these services to make it easier for people not using news readers to get their content. More people are using e-mail than those who know what RSS is. In a recent talk, **Gary Price** indicated that reaching people via e-mail is very important. The ResourceShelf, for example, has over 20,000 subscribers to its e-mail newsletter. E-mail is still the lingua franca and probably will be for a long time. Does that mean our organizations should shy away from using feeds? No. The last few years have indicated feeds are very useful and are more than just the latest trend.

Using the methods mentioned above, it is possible to bring feeds into a newsroom or a library. News Research Librarian **Colleen Robledo** would like to integrate feeds into the intranet research guides at the *The Orange County Register* and Freedom Metro Information. After using RSS in library school assignments, she's realized its usefulness and believes it could be very beneficial in the newsroom. Using an XSL stylesheet and JavaScript, she can pull XML feeds directly into intranet pages and display them as HTML.

A group aggregator is another option. *The Columbus Dispatch* employed two group aggregators with limited success. **Victor Black** used blogs to bring several relevant feeds to the newsroom and library staff. On the newsroom blog, the amount of material was often too much for reporters to read and would bury important content. Library staff members were already using their own personal news readers, like Bloglines, and were not very interested in the blog integrating several feeds.

Searching Feeds

Search engines are doing more with feeds, too. Not only do more offer search alerts via feeds, but Feedster and Technorati, leaders among search engines specializing in feeds, are still going strong. Both offer more than just basic search services, too, and are constantly adding new features.

Copyright

Because of issues related to copyright law, using a feed from the source or put together by the content creator is the safest route to go. Instead of just giving up when finding a source without a feed, consider writing to the administrator to see if they would consider offering a feed. The technology is still so new, many people don't know about it, understand it or know about the benefits of offering feeds. When creating a feed for a site without its own, be mindful of the content creator's rights. Some people may have waived their rights through Creative Commons or other licenses to encourage sharing and the use of their content, but many have not.

What's Next?

This summary of the world of feeds during the last few years shows there's been a lot of growth and development regarding XML feeds. Over the next few years, we'll probably continue to see more and more sources offering various content through XML. We might get to the point where publications not only offer feeds, but they also more commonly offer XML to HTML conversion services to make it easier for us to integrate their content into Web pages. Aggregators will continue to become more sophisticated, too. XML feeds will continue to prove they're more than a hot tech trend that will fade soon.



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Integrating XML Feeds into the Newsroom

By: DEREK WILLIS, *THE WASHINGTON POST*

Now that you're using RSS or Atom feeds, if you're anything like me, you start wishing every site came with a feed. Or that you could take that regularly updated file on the intranet and turn it into RSS. The good news is that there are a growing number of tools to accomplish both tasks. The bad news is that most of them require a certain level of technical involvement, persistence or both.

Turning Web content into RSS has been on my mind since I found myself going back to the same Web sites every day, not knowing whether there was anything new to find or not. Programs such as WebSite Watcher can monitor such changes for you, but often they can't make that information available to others.

One free service called Feed43 (<http://feed43.com>) can create RSS feeds for Web pages that don't already have them. It's mostly easy to use, but requires a little patience with pattern-matching in order to capture the information you want. The downside is that the feed created is publicly available (although you can choose to make it private). Already there are more than 4,000 active feeds on the site.

You can also convert information stored in newsroom databases into RSS feeds for use by reporters and editors. One such package is called RSSonate (http://www.gocc.gov/groups/RI_SOS/software/sqltorss), which was developed by Rhode Island state employees. It requires the scripting language PHP but otherwise offers a fairly simple process for selecting fields you want from a database and constructing a feed from them. It's all done in a Web browser, so you'll need access to a Web server to install and run RSSonate.

Many content management systems and other authoring tools now support RSS feeds. For example, you can purchase RSSDreamFeeder (<http://www.rnsoft.com/en/products/rssdreamfeeder/>), which uses Dreamweaver to produce RSS feeds. Since RSS and Atom feeds are both comprised of XML, many software publishers are building in support for creating them.

Lastly, there's always the route that I chose when I was tired of visiting the same sites day after day: I rolled my own RSS feed using a language called Python (details available at <http://www.thescoop.org/projects/fecnewsrss/>). Most so-called scripting languages have the ability to create RSS feeds from HTML pages, but they do require some investment of time to learn. Eliminating the daily grind of checking dozens of sites, however, is well worth the time spent. And be sure to check to see whether the RSS or Atom feed you create is a valid feed, which is done by visiting the FeedValidator (<http://www.feedvalidator.org/>).

Some further reading:

RSS Tutorial for Content Publishers and Webmasters (<http://www.mnot.net/rss/tutorial/>). Slightly dated, but a good introduction.

Derek Willis has been research database editor at *The Washington Post* since November 2004. He lives online at thescoop.org and can be reached via email at dwillis@gmail.com.

People

Continued from page 6

idea and decision. The story can be accessed at <http://www.roanoke.com/news/roanoke/wb/61120>.

Matt Fernandes, a researcher at the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, received a well-deserved Sunday 1A byline for a story on the battle over the next generation of DVD technology. Matt was asked to develop a news tip he had shared with some editors, and what was planned as a small consumer item became 1A material. You can read the full text at <http://tinyurl.com/gsj9q>.

Changes Arise at *The Sun*

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experienced over the past several months have resulted in the adoption "of a customer service model of marketing, based on professional development and person-to-person interactions." An example of the latter is the training library staff offer to all new hires.

The library's immediate plans include a 2006 upgrade of its SAVE system and a publishing system upgrade for the newsroom, which will happen over the course of the next two years. With these changes, Lukes is anticipating that the "workflow will remain intact," but she is also hoping "that the upgrades will eliminate some parts of the process."

Long-term, the library's main focus will become the maintenance of its archive. Lukes emphasizes that "the need for research will not go away, but as reporters continue to be encouraged to do their own research, the library will become more of an asset management center rather than a research facility."

**A tour of The Baltimore Sun library, hosted by Library Manager Elizabeth Lukes and her staff, will take place on Saturday, June 10th, from 2 to 4 p.m. Participants should meet in the lobby of the Sun Building, which is located at 501 N. Calvert Street.*

2006 News Division Programming

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your newspaper walking out the door? As long-term employees retire, they leave with incredible stories about our news organizations, the news industry and the people they've met along the way. At the *Chicago Tribune*, a new effort to capture institutional knowledge is underway in the form of an oral history project that will incorporate written stories, questionnaires and video. Part 2: Peter Drucker: The Ultimate Knowledge Worker. Peter Drucker had a deep appreciation of librarians, and he was the keynote speaker at SLA's annual conference in 2002. The centerpiece is a 20-minute video interview that **Bruce Rosenstein** conducted with Drucker last April, in Claremont, California. This program will give you the practical essentials of Drucker's thought, with ideas that can be put to use immediately.

Speakers: Debra Bade, News Research and Archives Editor, Chicago Tribune; Bruce Rosenstein, Librarian, USA Today

Location: Convention Center 314

11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. - Newsroom Wikis

Are wiki applications useful in a newsroom setting? A panel of news librarians will discuss the great potential that wikis have as research tools and the considerations to be made in technology, design and implementation of wikis. Through VPN connections, operational newsroom wikis will be demonstrated.

Moderator: Michael Meiners, Director of News Research, St. Louis Post-Dispatch

Speakers: Susan Ebbs, News Researcher, Raleigh News & Observer; Jessica Baumgart, Information Resources Specialist, Harvard University Office of News and Public Affairs; Michael Meiners, St. Louis Post-Dispatch; Jim Hunter, Library Director, The Columbus Dispatch

Location: Convention Center 341-342

2:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m. - NewsBank User Group Meeting

For NewsBank customers

Location: News Division suite, Sheraton Inner Harbor Hotel

3:30 p.m.-5:00 p.m. - News Division Business Meeting

The News Division leadership reports to the division members, discusses progress and plans for the future.

Location: Convention Center 309

6:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m. - ProQuest Reception and Silent Auction

Location: News Division suite, Sheraton Inner Harbor Hotel

TUESDAY, JUNE 13

7:30 a.m.-9:00 a.m. - News Researchers

Moderator: Lucy Shackelford, Research Editor, The Washington Post

Derek Willis of *The Washington Post* presents an in-depth session on news researchers and their place in the newsroom and how information or the lack of information management affects news coverage. To some degree this is open-ended, and there will be plenty of time for discussion during the session.

Speaker: Derek Willis, Research Database Editor, The Washington Post

Location: Convention Center 345-346

9:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m. - News Researcher Academy Informational Meeting

Dana Gordon, News Division Director of Education and Professional Development Chair, will lead an informational meeting on the Poynter Institute news researcher program scheduled for the fall.

Location: News Division suite, Sheraton Inner Harbor Hotel

11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. - What's on the Info-Horizon

Moderator: Claire Wollen, TorStar Syndication Services Manager, Toronto Star

Mary Ellen Bates will talk about the

most significant challenges facing special librarians in 2006, about what appear to be challenges but aren't, and how we can best address the changing needs of our profession.

Speaker: Mary Ellen Bates, Principal, Bates Information Services

Location: Convention Center Ballroom 1-2

1:30 p.m.-3:00 p.m. - Pumping Iron: How to Sustain, Strengthen and Grow News Libraries

Moderator: Ginny Everett, Information Services Director, The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

Three panelists from large, medium and small news organizations survey their peers, gather insights and share how the best in the news business protect, strengthen and grow their libraries. The focus is on how smaller libraries can create opportunities for growth.

Speakers: Anne Holcomb, Library Manager, Kalamazoo Gazette; Debra Bade, News Research and Archives Editor, Chicago Tribune; Sherry Adams, Library Manager, Houston Chronicle

Location: Convention Center 316

3:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.

Peter Johnson and **Vicky McCargar** of Preservati Partners, a new digital preservation consulting firm, will hold an informal "meet and greet" to talk about digital preservation issues and answer questions.

Location: News Division suite, Sheraton Inner Harbor Hotel

4:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. - Broadcast Librarians Meeting

All broadcast librarians—current, future, former, or wannabe—are invited to discuss pertinent issues, plan for next year's conference, consider articles for *NLN* and socialize with your colleagues.

Location: News Division suite, Sheraton Inner Harbor Hotel

6:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m. - News Division Awards Banquet

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2006 News Division Programming

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Location: National Aquarium at Baltimore's Inner Harbor

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14

7:30 a.m.-9:00 a.m. - Digital Archives and Preservation

Moderator: Peter Johnson, Preservation Partners

The preservation of digital materials is creating concern on the national and international levels, but it is still very much the realm of academic libraries and national archives. Over in the for-profit world, how are news organizations doing with their own historic materials? As repositories of "the first draft of history," how thorough a job are news archivists doing at retaining their digital legacy? In this era of dwindling budgets, what are the biggest challenges and constraints facing them in this important task? Digital preservation consultant and former *Los Angeles Times* technology strategist **Vicky McCargar** will present the results of the inaugural, 2005 survey of Newslib members and tell us what trends she'll be watching—including threats, opportunities, and emerging best practices. McCargar's survey was done under the auspices of InterPARES, the international digital preservation

Harboring History: SLA in Baltimore

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Fort McHenry

Photo: Baltimore Area Convention and Visitors Association

Editor's note: For more information on Baltimore, please see: <http://www.sla.org/chapter/cmd/balt06.htm>, <http://www.slamaryland.blogspot.com/> and <http://www.sla.org/chapter/cmd/Baltguide.pdf>.

consortium based at the University of British Columbia.

Speaker: Vicky McCargar, Preservation Partners, frequent lecturer with UCLA Department of Information Studies, Center for Research Libraries consultant

Location: Convention Center 314

9:15 a.m.-10:45 a.m. - Substitute Program

TBA

1:00 p.m.-2:30 p.m. - Keeping Current

Moderator: Shira Kavon, Senior Librarian, CNN New York

Staying on top of the rapidly changing world of library and information technology, journalism and library science is a huge challenge for news librarians. Paula Hane, bureau chief for Information Today and editor of NewsBreaks; Ira Chinoy,

University of Maryland; and Dr. Abby Goodrum, Ryerson University, will show us how they manage the flood of information to stay current in their field.

Speaker: Paula Hane, Information Today bureau chief and editor of NewsBreaks; Dr. Abby Goodrum, Associate Professor, Ryerson University; Ira Chinoy, Lecturer, University of Maryland

Location: Convention Center 314

4:00 p.m.-5:30 p.m. - News Division Board Meeting

Location: News Division suite, Sheraton Inner Harbor Hotel