



# INSIGHT

JESSE WHITE • SECRETARY OF STATE AND STATE LIBRARIAN

## Berry named ALA president

Illinois librarian John W. Berry will assume the presidency of the American Library Association beginning in July 2001. He was elected on May 4 by the ALA Election Committee that meets annually.



John Berry

"As president of the ALA, I will be committed to furthering its role in an evolving global information society and addressing our broad-ranging

but shared agendas," said Berry.

He currently serves as executive director of the NILRC, a consortium of 55 community colleges, universities and four-year colleges. Berry also has served as chairman of the Illinois Center for the Book, working closely with the Illinois State Library on past Illinois Authors Book Fairs.

Berry will succeed 2000 ALA President Nancy Kranich at the end of her term next July.

## Exhibit examines architectural influence of George Washington

*George Washington, Architect*, a traveling exhibit, is on display in the Illinois State Library atrium through Sept. 3.

The 12-panel exhibit explores a little-known aspect of George Washington's life as a highly-accomplished, self-taught builder. He never attended college or traveled in Europe, but formed his design ideas from reading English pattern books and seeking advice from local workmen and neighbors. His home at Mount Vernon has become an icon

"Mount Vernon is one of the most widely imitated, if not the most copied, house in this country...Easily the most famous house in the United States."

— RICHARD GUY WILSON,  
ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

architectural legacy, "Mount Vernon is one of the most widely imitated, if not the most copied, house in this country...Easily the most famous house

in the United States."

The exhibit examines not only Washington's design of his Virginia plantation and his vision of a grand American capital city, but his life and times through the prism of the 18th century.

The exhibit was made available through the cooperation of the

### *George Washington, Architect Exhibition*

Illinois State Library  
July 28 - September 3



## Inside INSIGHT

- ▶ State Library celebrates decade in new building
- ▶ Free access to library resources
- ▶ "Equipment to Books" grants awarded

of early-American design.

For nearly two centuries, architects and designers have adapted Washington's designs in their structures. As noted by architectural historian Richard Guy Wilson in the exhibit's section on Washington's ar-

Springfield Section of the American Institute of Architects, Renaissance Architects, Inc. and Secretary of State and State Librarian Jesse White. It was organized by the American Architec-

(see **Washington** on page 2)

# State Library celebrates decade in new building

Secretary of State and State Librarian Jesse White led a moving ceremony on June 20, marking the 10th anniversary of the Illinois State Library Building at Second and Capitol Streets in Springfield.

The celebration began in the library's atrium with the Illinois National Guard presenting the colors, followed by music from the Heritage String Ensemble and the Union Baptist Church Choir.

After welcoming remarks by State Library Director Jean Wilkins, Secretary White addressed the audience, followed by other library dignitaries, including Carolyn Anthony, Illinois Library Association president and director of the Skokie Public Library, and Sarah Long, former American Library Association president and director of the North Suburban Library.

"We are very proud of the services, programs and technology provided by the Illinois State Library,"

said Secretary White. "We also are extremely proud of this amazing building that houses our state's outstanding collection."

Since the State Library Act was enacted in 1839, the state's library collection has been housed in many locations. On June 20, 1839, Governor Thomas Carlin ordered all books, records and papers pertaining to state government be moved from Vandalia to the new Capitol (now the Old State Capitol) in Springfield. Stephen A. Douglas was the first Secretary of State to move into the 960 sq.-ft. space assigned to the State Library in the



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building.

The State Library moved its collection to the current Capitol Building in 1876, then to the Howlett Building (formerly the Centennial Building) in 1923, and finally to a building of its own in June 1990.

The Illinois State Library building is a modern structure with the names of 35 Illinois authors inscribed on the outside frieze. It boasts an impressive five-story marble atrium and 15 miles of bookshelves.

## Washington

(continued from page 1)

tural Foundation in conjunction with the Mount Vernon Ladies Association. Springfield is only the third city nationally to host the exhibit, which will continue its national tour after leaving the State Library.

The Illinois State Library atrium will be open extended hours during the run of the exhibit:

**Mon. - Fri., 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.**

**Sat., 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.**

**Sun., noon - 4 p.m.**

Admission is free.



*The Heritage String Ensemble provided entertainment during the ceremony.*

*A member of the Illinois National Guard salutes the flag while presenting the colors during the opening ceremony.*



# Library advocates from Illinois recognized at ALA conference

Renowned Illinois author Studs Terkel gave the keynote address at the American Library Association conference in July in Chicago, where leading library advocates from across the country were honored as part of the ALA's annual meeting.

The ALA and the Association for Library Trustees and Advocates, a division of the ALA, recognized more than 300 library advocates, including nine from Illinois, at its Honor Roll Banquet on July 7. Awards were given to those individuals who have actively supported and strengthened library services at the local, state or national levels over the past 100 years. Each recipient received a specially designed pin as a thank you for their contributions and dedication to libraries.

Those recognized from Illinois were: *Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley*; *Bridget L. Lamont*, former director of the Illinois State Library; *Robert McClarren*, who drafted comprehensive legislation on behalf

ALA Annual Conference



of Illinois libraries and the Illinois Library Association; *Congressman John Edward Porter*, author of an amendment to a bill that resulted in the repayment of \$11 million to the Illinois State Library from the U.S. Department of Education; and

*Robert W. Wedgeworth*, professor of library administration and library director at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Posthumous awards went to *Hugh C. Atkinson*, librarian at the U of I at Urbana-Champaign from 1976 through 1987 and developer of one of the most comprehensive library automation programs in the country; *Marlene Deuel*, former deputy director of the Illinois State Library; *Jeanne Hurley-Simon*, former state legislator, wife of Senator Paul Simon and long-time advocate for libraries; and *Robert Bingham Downs*, prolific author and crusader for intellectual freedom.

## Free electronic resources for ILLINET libraries

The Illinois State Library is providing ILLINET member libraries free access to the following databases for the 2001 fiscal year — *FirstSearch*, consisting of 16 databases, *NoveList* and *News Illinois*.

Two new databases also have been added — *Grove's "Embryonic" Encyclopedia of Life Sciences (ELS)* and *Physicians Desk Reference (PDR) Electronic Library Online*. ELS features signed articles from top scientists in their field. The PDR Electronic Library Online includes the PDR Library, *Stedman's Medical Dictionary* and the PDR for *Herbal Medicines*.

Applications for free access to these databases can be found on the Illinois State Library's Web page at [www.library.sos.state.il.us/e\\_res.html](http://www.library.sos.state.il.us/e_res.html). Current subscribers to *FirstSearch*, *NoveList* and *News Illinois* do not need to reapply for access.

For more information, contact Barbara Alexander at the State Library at [balexan@library.sos.state.il.us](mailto:balexan@library.sos.state.il.us).

## White awards \$1 million in "Equipment to Books" grants

It took just four and a half working days for the first 500 libraries to apply for "Equipment to Books" grants of \$2,000 each, awarded by Secretary of State and State Librarian Jesse White in July. More than 1,000 applications were received for the 500 grants totaling \$1 million, which were awarded on a first-received, first-funded basis.

"These short-term grants support the cost of higher-priced equipment

or materials that otherwise would be unavailable to many libraries," said Secretary White. "By sharing this cost, Illinois libraries can improve services to their patrons."

The grants offer libraries the opportunity to enhance information access and to promote resource sharing by purchasing one piece of needed equipment or adding reference materials. Libraries must purchase equipment directly related to

information access and resource sharing or reference materials such as sets, serials and one-year subscriptions that benefit access to information.

"Equipment to Books" grants are funded through the Library Services and Technology Act.

INSIGHT

# in closing...

**MEET US AT THE FAIR:** State Library staff will be on hand at the Illinois State Fair, Aug. 11-20, at a booth in the Secretary of State's tent.

The booth will offer two computer stations, including one for children with a game featuring Arthur the Aardvark.

At the Illinois Building's Senior Center, representatives from the Regional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped will be on hand to share information about its special services. The State Library's new Automation and Technology Department also will participate in "Tech Town," a technology exposition in the old Starlight Ballroom.

**PEOPLE AT THE ILLINOIS STATE LIBRARY:** *Blaine Redemer* was recently appointed head reference librarian.

*Sharon Ruda* has joined the staff as associate director to head up the Regional Library for the Blind and

Physically Handicapped, now housed in the State Library.

*Jane Running*, patent/trademark librarian, was appointed president of the Patent and Trademark Depository Library Association.

## **NEW ILLINOIS AUTHORS TITLES AT THE STATE LIBRARY:**

- *From Slavery to Freedom: A History of African Americans*, by John Hope Franklin. A new, expanded edition, including current history and maps.
- *Treachery on the Dark Side*, by Steven Burgauer. An intense but fun science fiction novel about an adventure to save what could be mankind's most important invention.
- *The History of Beer and Brewing in Chicago: 1933-1978*, by Bob Skilnik. A fascinating history of the rise and fall of the Chicago Brewing industry.



## *Save the date*

**Illinois State Fair**  
Springfield  
August 11-20

**International Literacy Day**  
September 8

**ALA Meeting**  
Peoria Civic Center  
October 14-17

**ISMLA Annual Conference**  
Arlington Heights  
November 9-11

**Illinois Authors  
Children's Book Fair**  
Illinois State Library  
Springfield  
November 18

Jesse White, Secretary of State and State Librarian; Jean Wilkins, Director, Illinois State Library. Produced by the Secretary of State Communications Department, Bob Yadgir, Director; Kristie Metrow, Editor. Printed by authority of the State of Illinois, August 2000 — GA-881 — ISSN — 10M

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U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
Springfield, IL  
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