

# Bathroom Reader

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## October 18—Alaska Day

Alaska Day is an official state holiday in Alaska and is observed the same date every year. It honors the anniversary of the formal transfer of the Alaskan territory and the raising of the U.S. flag at Sitka on October 18, 1867.



## Library Catalog Update

Voyager, the library's online catalog showing all the items available, now shows thumbnails of the book jackets for many of the books in the library. These can help you identify the book you want even faster!

## October 28, 1886

### Lady Liberty

On this date, President Cleveland dedicated the Statue of Liberty in New York Harbor. The statue is located on a 12 acre island and was a gift of friendship from France as a symbol of freedom and democracy. It was designated as a National Monument in 1924.



## Hold the Salt

Because of freshwater shortages, it is predicted that desalination will become one of the world's largest industries. Inland cities will likely face more problems than coastal areas.

-McKinley Conway, "The Desalination Solution," *May-June 2008*, p. 23

## Will you really be able to retire?



According to a recent article, one-third of Americans who retire are working again two years later. Two-thirds of Americans say they don't think that retirement is possible for the middle class.

-Marvin J. Cetron and Owen Davies, "Trends Shaping Tomorrow's World, Part Two, *May-June 2008*, p. 43.

## You're Kidding

- Chances that an American lives within 4 miles of an EPA Superfund Site: 1 in 4
- Amount per year that a quarter acre of Iowa farmland could earn with a wind turbine on it: \$10,000
- Dollar amount Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae loan companies have spent on lobbying since 1998: \$174,000,000

Source: *Harper's Magazine/October 2008*

New E-Journal Database: Environment Complete is a new e-journal database recently added to EbscoHost. It contains more than 1700 titles going back to the 1940s and has full text for more than 680 journals. Check it out...or better yet...**Ask a Librarian** for help!