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## People Profile: Glenda Alvin

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**Rumors**  
from page 14

**chase and chug** at the **2011 Charleston Conference**. Stay tuned.

Speaking of which I just heard that the fantabulous **Connie Foster** will become **Interim Dean of Western Kentucky** shortly. Like wow! Good luck, **Connie!**

Some baby news. **Thomas Mack Gremillion** is **Becky Lenzini's** second grandchild. See his picture in this issue, p.1.



And **Dennis Brunning** sent me this picture of his granddaughter all dressed up in St. Patrick's Day garb. Isn't she cute?!

And **Roger Schonfeld** and his wife are expecting a second baby this summer.

Ran into the magnificent **Bob Schatz** at one of the meetings I have been going to and he told me his daughter is married and he has grandchildren of his own. He showed me pictures on his **iPhone** or was it a **BlackBerry**? See **Bob's Op Ed** (this issue, p.48). He says that libraries are losing valuable real estate on the their institutional homepages. I remember when that tried to happen to us at the **College of Charleston** but thanks to great leadership it didn't happen. Still, **Bob** is right at least from my experience. As I search the Web looking for library staff I find it harder and harder to find the library homepages.

Some people have all the fame! **Becky Lenzini's** great movie Website <http://serious-movielover.com/> has been discovered. She is now movie reviewer for a Website in Chicago <http://www.snspost.com/>. Plus she was interviewed for their radio spot <http://www.snspost.com/sns-04022011-rango-reviewed/>.

The creative **Scott Smith** tells me he has finished library school at **Kent State**. His column this time is about **Curious George**

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against the grain  
**people profile**

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**Glenda Alvin**

**BORN AND LIVED:** Landstuhl, Germany; Air Force family: California, Mississippi, District of Columbia, Okinawa, Ohio, IL.

**EARLY LIFE:** East St. Louis Senior High School, **Kent State Univ.** (BA), **Atlanta University** (MSLS), **U of South FL** (MA).

**PROFESSIONAL CAREER AND ACTIVITIES:** Youth Specialist and Fine Arts Librarian, **Tampa-Hillsborough Public Library System**, Acquisitions and Collection Development Librarian positions at the **St. Petersburg Jr. College**, **University of Central Arkansas**, **The College of New Jersey** and **Tennessee State University**.

**FAMILY:** Mother (**Mildred**), Sister (**Bettie**), Brother (**John**), Nephews (**Jay** and **Andrew**).

**IN MY SPARE TIME:** I make bed quilts and wall hangings from African, Asian, and novelty theme fabrics. I also manage my church's bookstore, and I coordinate the book club.

**FAVORITE BOOKS:** *The Woman's Study Bible* (**Nelson**), *Jubilee* (**Margaret Walker**), *Third Life of Grange Copeland* (**Alice Walker**), *The Hand I Fan With* (**Tina McElroy Ansa**), *Warmth of Other Suns* (**Isabel Wilkerson**), *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* (**Rebecca Skloot**), the *Yada Yada Prayer Group Series* (**Neta Jackson**), and *The Daniel Fast* (**Susan Gregory**). I collect books and magazines on African American quilting and quilters, which I have put in LibraryThing.

**PET PEEVES:** Selfishness, telemarketers.

**PHILOSOPHY:** Treat people the way I want to be treated.

**MOST MEMORABLE CAREER ACHIEVEMENT:** Editing the RFP for our ILS system.

**GOAL I HOPE TO ACHIEVE FIVE YEARS FROM NOW:** To have a home with a large of enough space for a separate quilting studio and dining room.

**HOW/WHERE DO I SEE THE INDUSTRY IN FIVE YEARS:** I see less print books and periodicals in libraries and public life. I see the coming of a more online-access environment with fewer library staff. 🌱

**Is Selection Dead? The Rise of Collection Management ...**  
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the titles that patrons get to choose from, or approving titles that they have chosen. Selection thus appears to be alive and well rather than dead and is simply assuming new and different forms.

**Response #2 – David Magier (Princeton University)**

Some provocative propositions deployed to promote PDA and hasten the death of selection are based on false distinctions, library caricatures, and rhetorical strawmen. Outmoded libraries with “traditional,” “local” collections — consisting of printed books selected “one at a time,” “just in case” someone might ever need them and without regard to the information needs of users, and created, furthermore, with wanton abandon in an unmanaged era of plenty, for the purpose of organizing a “wonderful collection” of content that no one needs and is anyway hard to discover or use — are contrasted with proposed patron-driven, cost-effective,

“just in time” libraries responding digitally to users’ needs, providing Webscale discovery and instant delivery, where libraries themselves “pale in comparison to what is available on the Web.”

Both sides of that contrast are far from reality, and betray a fearsome lack of understanding of what collection development (and selection) really are. No library (since Alexandria) tried to collect “everything.” Libraries scalably deploy limited resources. Selection — print and electronic — has always been “patron-driven”: understanding and balancing priorities among current and potential future trajectories of need of constituencies and fields is the keystone of collection development, driving acquisition decisions.

Ignoring the long tail of need, abdicating subject knowledge, liaison, and the means of collectively shaping shared collections, turning over all selection to users (and expecting “the Web” to supply whatever else is needed) will surely save space, reduce payrolls, and win the hearts of administrators. The resulting libraries, though, will be incapable of supporting research, and are likely to be cut off from access to collections of research libraries that collaborate to deploy their limited resources for that serious purpose. 🌱