

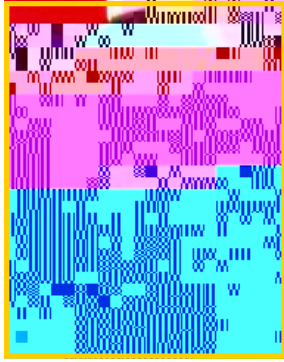
December
2007

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Independence Hall, Philadelphia, PA



Mary Nation, Administrative Assistant for the Alexandrian Public Library, has added a three year term as Member-At-Large for the Library Support Staff Interests Round Table (LSSIRT) of the American Library Association to her extensive list of accomplishments and duties. She was one of two candidates elected to represent the interests of Library Support Staff. At the ALA Annual

Meeting in Washington, DC, Mary was appointed Chairman of the LSSIRT Membership Committee.

For the preceding nineteen years, Nation has been employed as Administrative Assistant at the Alexandrian Public Library. She has served as a member of numerous Posey County volunteer organizations including: United Way, American Red Cross, and Homeless Shelter of Mt. Vernon. Her commitment to excellence earned her the Outstanding Volunteer award in the 2004 United Way Annual Campaign. In addition she was a member of the Posey County 21st Century Leadership Class and was acknowledged as a Hometown Hero by the *Mt. Vernon Democrat*.

As a member of the Library Support Staff Interests Round Table, Nation will

be working directly with other library professionals energetically striving to assure libraries are capable of providing essential services to the public. All libraries - public, private, special and educational - are represented by the LSSIRT and members of the LSSIRT are constantly interacting with the over 65,000 American Library Association library

That famous profile was unmistakable. As Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., waited for his cue to begin speaking at the 2007 ALA Annual Conference President's Program, my thoughts raced back to the summer of 1965. It was my first trip to Washington, D.C. His father, Robert F. Kennedy, was the Senator from New York, and one of many recognizable faces I saw from my perch in the Senate visitor's gallery. As RFK turned to whisper to a young aide at his side, he gave me a perfect view of his aquiline profile. And now I was staring intently at his namesake son, less than one mile from where I first saw his father.

Robert F. Kennedy Jr. is the Chief Prosecuting Attorney for the Hudson Riverkeeper and President of Waterkeeper Alliance. The Hudson Valley has long been considered the birthplace of the modern American environmental movement, and RFK, Jr. joined the Riverkeeper Organization in 1984.

Addressing the crowded Convention Center hall, he delivered an emotional indictment of the Bush administration's record in protecting the United States ecosystem. He charged that in just "six years of monumental arrogance and incompetence," many of the environmental laws of the last few decades have been systematically destroyed. He also declared that several of the worst polluters are now in charge of protecting the environment, appointments granted by Bush in return for political contributions.

An avid white-water rafter and master falconer, Kennedy talked lovingly of introducing his 6 children to the beauty and wonders of nature. But, he gave many examples of the encroaching environmental decay, from children consuming dangerous levels of mercury in mother's milk to one-fifth of the lakes in the Adirondacks becoming sterile because of acid rain from coal-fired power plants. He also blasted what he called the "indolent press" for not being more critical of the Bush policies and for not exposing the corporate cronyism that is running rampant. He cited this lack of investigative journalism as the reason for a disconnect between public perception

and reality.

He charged that the Bush Administration has eviscerated long-standing laws that have protected our nation's air, water, public lands, and wildlife, enriching the president's political contributors while lowering the quality of life for the rest of us. He brought many in the audience(ngl62 aul62 0 -1.14

