Angler’s Guide to Fishes of the Gulf of Mexico, by Jerald Horst and Mike Lane (444 pages, September 2006), provides colorful illustrations of Gulf fishes that the recreational angler might catch. In addition to identifying physical and behavioral characteristics, the guide indicates the food value for each species and includes similar species that are less tasty or only useful as bait. $35.00. Pelican. ISBN 978-1-58980-388-6.

The Avenger Takes His Place: Andrew Johnson and the 45 Days That Changed the Nation, by Howard Means (286 pages, November 2006), examines conditions in the United States in the weeks after Abraham Lincoln’s assassination and the confusing muddle of questions that the new president had to contend with what to do about Southern leaders (especially Jefferson Davis), when to restore constitutional rights to the ex-Confederate states, whether to appease or defy the congressional radicals who called for a severe punishment of the defeated South, and how to handle the issue of suffrage for the newly freed slaves. Rather than exonerate Andrew Johnson, who clearly had major failings, Means tries to show what he was up against. Herman Melville hoped he would be an avenger of the wrongs committed by the South, but Johnson simply was incapable of meeting the challenges that Lincoln might have overcome. $25.00. Harcourt. ISBN 978-0-15-101212-1.


The Impact of Technology on Asian, African, and Middle Eastern Library Collections, edited by R. N. Sharma (278 pages, October 2006), offers some interesting perspectives on libraries in the developing world. Fifteen essays cover such topics as technology in Chinese and Vietnamese libraries, university libraries in India, the role of libraries in combating information poverty in Africa, the partnership of West Virginia State University with the Université Nationale du Benin, and computer-based information in Egypt and the Middle East. $50.00. Scarecrow. ISBN 978-0-8108-5448-2.

Iranian Cinema and the Islamic Revolution, by Shahla Mirbakhtyar (200 pages, August 2006), follows the new Iranian cinema before and after the Islamic Revolution of 1979. Mirbakhtyar, an actress herself in at least two of the films she discusses, uses Persian rather than Western reviews and published criticism. She draws the line with films released before 1997, when the moderate president Mohammed Khatami was elected, lifting some of the restrictions on social and cultural issues in cinema. $35.00. McFarland. ISBN 978-0-7864-2285-2.

Ledyard: In Search of the First American Explorer, by Bill Gifford (331 pages, January—

**Nicknames of Places**, by Adrian Room (357 pages, September 2006), tracks the origins and etymologies of some 4,600 alternate names for cities, states, countries, and topographical features worldwide. Well-organized and comprehensive, the book comes out several notches better than a Google search or Wikipedia in my extremely informal test. Room, a noted British toponymist with 40 reference books to his credit, cites examples of usage where possible and provides appendices on regional nicknames (the Bermuda Triangle), road and street nicknames (the Mother Road), Romany names (Tudlo tem), renamed countries (Dahomey), Roman names for European cities (Lugdunum), English county names (Salop), and astronomical names (Gaia). $75.00. McFarland. ISBN 978-0-7864-2497-9.


**Stories in Stone: Conserving Mosaics of Roman Africa**, edited by Aïcha Ben Abed (188 pages, December 2006), was published to coincide with an exhibition at the J. Paul Getty Museum from October 26, 2006, to April 30, 2007 the irst major U.S. exhibition solely devoted to ancient Tunisian mosaics. Roman mosaics in Africa reflected the interests and artistic sensibilities of private citizens, as opposed to Rome, where the official art was ideological. In addition to a history and thematic treatments, this well-illustrated volume offers chapters on conserving mosaics in situ and lifting them from fl oors for exhibition. $75.00. Getty Conservation Institute. ISBN 978-0-89236-803-7.
