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A Publication of the Public Library Association

# PUBLIC LIBRARIES ONLINE WEEKLY

Friday, February 10, 2017

Issue #85

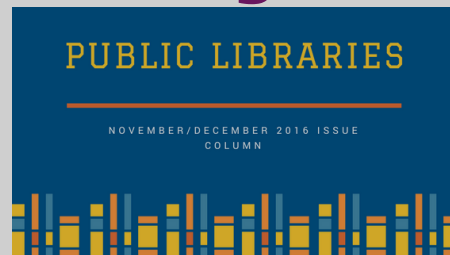
## Trending...The Latest From PLOnline

- Museums and libraries have long served as community catalysts. Both institutions promote continuing education and lifelong learning while serving as a “place-based hub for members of the public to engage in informal learning, access collections for educational or aesthetic purposes, and participate in civic dialogue.” Read "[Museums and Libraries Work Hand In Hand.](#)"
- Throughout presidential history, each of our 44 Presidents have expressed an eclectic list of their own favorites: James Madison’s—John Locke; William McKinley’s was Lord Byron; while Warren G. Harding favored *The Rules of Poker*. Perhaps, no president since Abraham Lincoln has been as shaped by reading and writing as President Barack Obama. As Former President Obama prepared to leave office earlier this month, Michiko Kakutani, book critic for *The New York Times*, interviewed him about his favorite books and the impact books have had during his life. Read "[The Power of Books Shapes Path to the Presidency.](#)"
- In our hyperconnected, networked world, where information flows freely to devices with the tap of a finger, librarians are no longer the gatekeepers of information. Promoting our detective-like information-finding skills is important so people know they can still turn to us when Google can’t cough up a good answer. Here are some innovative ways librarians can shine the light on reference services and continue to be the super info-professionals in their communities: Read "[Creative Ways To Fight Fake News.](#)"
- A lot of us can recall stories and tales told to us by our grandparents when we were much younger. Many stories were purely for entertainment but some may have been oral histories about our heritage and ancestors. These invaluable stories may have even shaped our upbringing due to the foundation they established in our lives. Many of us hung on to these oral histories and have retold them plenty of times to our children in the hopes that they, too, will keep the tradition going. But what would happen if these oral histories were lost? Future generations would never know about their family’s history. Such was

- In a recent commentary published in the Minnesota Star Tribune, Jacob Woods recalls a visit to the Latimer Central Library in downtown St. Paul, where he had a brief interaction with a man he presumed was homeless. The man had angrily remarked that Woods had “come to the library to read books.” This interaction confused Woods until he realized that, while he was there to pass the time, the man who was homeless viewed the library as a shelter. Read "[A Patron by Any Other Name is Still a Patron.](#)"

## Preparing for the Challenges Ahead

November/December *Public Libraries*



If the election has taught us anything, it is that standing quietly on the sidelines simply emboldens those who oppose our values. Join me and PLA as we ensure that public libraries are a safe place—free of intolerance for our communities and our staff. [Read more.](#)

## Midweek Media MashUp

A Choice Selection of Links for Your Perusal

- [Slate Looks at Library Late Fees](#)
- [Why Children Ask Why and How to Answer](#)
- [Make America Great with Great Broadband](#)
- [The Woman Behind Merriam-Webster's Viral Subtweets](#)
- [Met Museum Makes 375,000 Images Free](#)

### Ask Us Anything

If you have questions about PLOnline, *Public Libraries*, PLA or anything else, send them in. Just hit reply and send your question on its way! We'll get back to you as soon as possible. Thanks for reading!

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