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Trending..The Latest From PLOnline

- **The Law of Privacy for Libraries: A librarian could be fined.** This post provides a short list of resources for public libraries to consider when dealing with privacy policies and cases. A survey was conducted of the laws of the thirteen states encompassing the Southeastern Library Association. The [survey](#) covers what constitutes a library, what indeed is a library record, and differences in the laws of the thirteen states. According to the survey, all of these states' library record laws deal with circulation records, but some laws address other items like the use of computers, email, and chat. Read the entire article "[Privacy Laws, Libraries, and Librarians.](#)"
- Advocacy is an important part of our job, one that we don't actually do as often as we think we should. While you have daily opportunities to talk about the great work that your library is doing, there is a really powerful opportunity for us to put our voices together on Capitol Hill for National Library Legislative Day (NLLD) on May 2–3, 2016. Can't make it to D.C.? See ideas for participating virtually in "[Virtual Library Legislative Day.](#)"
-  Since 2010, spending cuts have drastically affected public libraries in the United Kingdom, particularly in England. A BBC investigation discovered a startling trend: In the past six years, almost eight thousand paid staff have lost their jobs, which amounts to 25 percent of the total working force. In that same time period, over 340 libraries have closed, with at least another hundred slotted to close in the next year. Additionally, over 170 libraries have been "transferred to community groups," which means that they are solely run by volunteers. The use of volunteers is the only number that has increased (by fifteen thousand) since 2010. Is this trend signifying the end of UK public libraries? Read more about England's library woes in "[Cuts Too Deep? England's Public Libraries in Trouble.](#)"
- Due to a renovation project for some much needed building repairs, my library was forced to temporarily relocate. Our approximately 65,000-item collection

transition process took four weeks. We hired a company to pack our collection for storage, but all other packing, including what we were moving or needed accessible was done by staff. We are now settled in and hope to return home in the fall. Read the entire article, "[The Top Three Challenges of Library Relocation.](#)"

- Newsflash! If you are a children's librarian, then you are a performer. As such, there are things you can do to make your "performances" really special. This post will focus on the most universal of library performances: storytime. The most important thing to remember is that your audience has not come to see a book, watch a finger rhyme, or hear a song; they have come to see *you*. You are the one who makes the magic happen. Read "[\(Don't\) Break a Leg: Children's Librarian as Performer.](#)"
- What happens when you combine thirteen students, a librarian, and a furniture design professor and put them in jail? Creativity, collaboration, and design. That's exactly the formula for success that [New York Public Library's Correction Services](#) Managing Librarian, Sarah Ball, looked for when she contacted the Parsons School of Design. She was looking for a way to update the makeshift carts NYPL was using at Rikers Island and the Manhattan Correctional Facility. Get the whole story in "[Collaboration Changes the Lives of the Incarcerated.](#)"
- A collection of 7,500 manuscripts and 2,500 photographs relating to civil rights icon Rosa Parks is [now available for public viewing](#), thanks to the Library of Congress and the Howard G. Buffet Foundation. The Foundation has loaned the collection to the Library of Congress for ten years. Read more in "[Library of Congress Shares Rosa Parks Collection.](#)"
- It's no secret to librarians that many patrons come to the library for more than our collections. Most people can find books and DVDs online. They can use our research databases without getting out of bed. For reference questions they can call, email, text, or instant message. We have reference resources that don't circulate, and anyone who's worked in a children's room knows that parents don't want to buy the thirty-five books their child wants that day, so coming to the library can be a life (and pocketbook) saver. Still, many patrons who come in the door don't, strictly speaking, need our services. Many come for another free service we provide, albeit indirectly: human contact. Read "[We Are Here, and We Are Generally Pleasant.](#)"



Midweek Media Mash-Up

A Choice Selection of Links for Your Perusal

- [The Benefits of Virtual Mentors](#)
- [Is Social Media Ruining Vacations?](#)
- [Should Empathy Be Taught in Schools?](#)
- [Our Brains Focus On Bad News. Here's How to Rewire Them.](#)
- [The New Yorker: Weeding Library Books](#)

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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