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Trending...The Latest From PLOnline

- Public libraries already promote information literacy, digital literacy, experiential learning, and also function as a center for communities to come together and engage. What if promoting a healthy lifestyle and physical fitness were added to this list? For Sonoma County Libraries, situated in Santa Rosa, California, that is exactly what is happening. Armed with a \$30,000 federal grant, twelve branches will offer physical fitness classes like Cardio Kickboxing and different types of yoga and meditation, as well as classes on healthy cooking, and programs that target all age groups. For the next seven months, this “Healthy Living at Your Library” series will promote health and fitness literacy, something the county says is in line with the library system’s [strategic plan](#) and the [2016 Sonoma County Health Needs Assessment](#). Read "[Promoting Health and Fitness Literacy at the Library](#)."



- People often become overwhelmed when thinking about changing their library to incorporate User Experience (UX) principles. Don’t panic though – you can start small. UX plays a part in every conceivable interaction between the user and your library. From a flyer about programs, to your smartphone app to the broken lock on the partition in your restrooms, all of these impact user experience. Your online presence plays a part as well – from your website to social media and mobile apps. Read "[Rethinking User Touchpoints](#)."



- Last month in “[Pop-Up Perfection: Staging a Pop-Up Library](#)” I discussed one of the hottest trends in public library outreach—the Pop-Up Library. This month I’d like to share my own library’s experience staging our first Pop-Up Library. At first it didn’t look like Rogers Memorial (Southampton, NY) Library’s (RML) Pop-Up Library was going to happen. The staff was prepared and all the equipment was loaded and ready to go but the weather just wasn’t cooperating. It was August 18 and while the heat and humidity typical of a summer on eastern

of planning and preparation on hold. In the end library director Liz Burns and the library's senior staff decided to place their faith in Mother Nature. By mid-morning



the sky was blue and the sun was shining down on Coopers Beach, a public beach popular with locals and summer visitors alike, where staff from reference, teen services, and the library's family department had set up a tent and settled in for a day of giveaways, story time, and sharing the wide variety of services the library offers to a surprised but excited group of beachgoers. Read "[If You Pop-Up They Will Come.](#)"

- Barbara Laws, a first grade teacher in Grandblanc, Michigan, was experimenting with colors. Some of her most disruptive students (who had difficulty reading)



found using color overlays improved their attention and reading. Laws had discovered the idea in the book *Reading by the Colors*, by Helen Irlen, published by the Irlen Institute in California. Irlen's research revealed that 40 percent of students with reading problems actually had visual problems, many of which could be overcome through visual correction. Read "[Reading With Colors.](#)"

- When I opted to pursue my MLIS, I was already removed from college and working full-time. I knew it was not financially feasible for me to stop working or to dramatically reduce my hours. The nearest onsite MLIS program to me did not offer many of the classes I wanted to focus on, and it was not realistic for me to relocate out of state. Having met several colleagues who had pursued their degrees online, I felt that was my best option as well. Read "[Online Education: Connected or Disconnected?](#)"



- Libraries in northern New Jersey recently gave up some secrets to Jim Beckerman, staff writer for *The Record*. They shared some of the unusual items



that live in 'library limbo.' For a variety of reasons, these items aren't circulating, but librarians just can't bring themselves to toss them away. Read "[What's In Your Library Secret Stash?](#)"

Midweek Media MashUp

A Choice Selection of Links for Your Perusal

- [Don't Let This Election Ruin Politics for You](#)
- [Science Proves That Deadlines Get Things Done](#)
- [Getting Started with Open eBooks](#)
- [How to Protect Your Library with Medieval Book Curses](#)
- [Ten Facts About the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier](#)
- [Harnessing the Incredible Learning Potential of the Adolescent Brain](#)

as possible. Thanks for reading!

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