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Trending..The Latest From PLOnline

- Five-year-old Katelyn Vincik was born without a fully developed left hand and is on a waiting list for a professional prosthetic device. Her parents, however, had heard about the e-NABLE Community, an organization of volunteers who develop and share designs for 3-D-printable prosthetics. Kimberly Vincik (Katelyn's mother) contacted Harris County (Houston, Texas) Public Library to see what options were available for 3-D printing the required parts. Harris County libraries are home to the Jocelyn H. Lee Innovation Lab, and fortunately for Katelyn, the Innovation Lab is home to a fantastic community of volunteers eager to help. Read "[Prosthetic Device Created at Library's Innovation Lab.](#)"
- Much has been said about the battle between publishers and libraries. Libraries objected to high prices, especially for e-books, and publishers moaned about decreasing profits. Discussions center around ownership models and [digital preservation](#), but one variable is missing in all of these equations: the author. Read "[Getting Paid: How Do Authors Make Money from Library Books?](#)"
- A group catalog can be a wonderful thing for library users. Your local library may not have the book you need, but—guess what—a library *somewhere* in the state or country has the book, and they may send it to your library for you! Sounds amazing, right? A library opening up their catalog to patrons outside their service population signifies progress in librarianship. But stop to consider the postage price for libraries with small budgets. Consider the price of sending a book from southern Texas to northern Texas. Many libraries are willing to forgo the risk of receiving books back from a borrowing library. Read "[Group Catalog and OCLC's Navigator: Blessing or Curse?](#)"
- Volunteering during the summer doesn't have to be all about the summer reading programs or getting all of the library's books in perfect alphabetical order. At the Arlington Heights Memorial Library in Illinois, teens and staff alike get to show off a variety of skills in the Summer Volunteer Squad program. The Summer

was modeled after a similar program at the nearby Oak Park (IL) Library. Read "[Summer Volunteer Squad Offers Creative Options.](#)"

- Over the last ten years of consulting with libraries, I have seen the number of libraries with strategic plans slowly increase. But the plans are often not shared with staff, and library leaders don't have [decision-making and engagement tools](#) they can use for day-to-day work. It is time to let go of the expensive, year-long strategic planning processes that result in a five-year plan that collects dust. In today's fast-paced environment of constant technological, demographic, fiscal, and social change in our communities, we have to be nimble and ready to meet opportunities and push through challenges. Dynamic planning practices provide the tools to be in touch with our community members, empower staff, and engage stakeholders in order to continuously meet the needs of our communities. Read "[The Importance of Dynamic Planning for Libraries.](#)"



New Episode!

In the latest episode of [FYI: The Public Libraries Podcast](#), Kathleen Hughes, PLA Manager of Publications, talks to Holly Hibner and Mary Kelly about weeding library collections, awful library books, and more. Holly and Mary have recently released a book in PLA's Quick Reads series, entitled "[Weeding Manual.](#)" In addition, they are cofounders of the popular blog [Awful Library Books](#) and co-authors of the book "[Making Your Collection Count: A Holistic Approach to Library Collection Management.](#)" Holly Hibner is adult services coordinator at the Plymouth District Library in Plymouth, Michigan and Mary Kelly is youth services librarian at the Lyons Township Library in Michigan. [Listen to the podcast here.](#)

Midweek Media MashUp

A Choice Selection of Links for Your Perusal

- [Does *Pokemon Go!* Need a Code of Ethics?](#)
- [Ten Recommended Books for Fans of Netflix's *Stranger Things*](#)
- [President Obama's Summer Reading List](#)
- [Facebook Research Shows Dog People Have More Friends](#)
- [Public Libraries as Hubs of Health Information](#)

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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