



Weekly Memo

Serving Member Libraries Since 1959

Grace Riario • Executive Director

Ramapo Catskill Library System • <http://www.rcls.org>

619 Route 17M • Middletown, NY 10940-4395 • 845.243.3747

December 16, 2019

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- ✓ [Winter Forthcoming Bestsellers](#)
- ✓ [RCLS Member Libraries Board Meetings](#)
- ✓ [RCLS 2020 Holiday Closings](#)

RCLS Board Meeting

The RCLS Board meeting has been re-scheduled for **Thursday, December 19**. Materials for the meeting are available on the [RCLS website](#). The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. at RCLS.

This is an open meeting and all are invited to attend.



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In honor of National Library Card Sign-up Month, the New York Library Association (NYLA) is requesting a library card from every library in New York State. Cards will be used for decoration, promotions, and showing off New York's libraries. For a list of the libraries that have mailed in their cards, visit the [NYLA website](#).

If you haven't already done so, mail a hard copy of your library card to: New York Library Association, 6021 State Farm Road, Guilderland, NY 12084.

Stewart's Shops Holiday Match

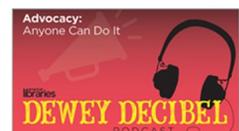
Stewart's Shops match individual donations made at their stores between Thanksgiving and Christmas, and distributes funds to local nonprofit agencies. Organizations that benefit children are eligible to apply for funds. An application can be downloaded at the Stewart's Shops website. All applications must be submitted by **Friday, January 31, 2020**. For more details, visit the [Stewart's Shops website](#).



Dewey Decibel Podcast: Library Advocacy

AL: The Scoop, Nov. 22

[Episode 44](#) of the *Dewey Decibel* podcast looks at the importance of library advocacy and offers tips on how to get involved. *American Libraries* Senior Editor and *Dewey Decibel* host Phil Morehart speaks with Denis Cotter, chair of Loudon County (VA) Public Library Board of Trustees, about how the board successfully lobbied the county board of supervisors for the elimination of fines at the library. Next, *American Libraries* Associate Editor Sallyann Price talks to John Windmueller of Washington Improv Theater in Washington, D.C., about how learning improv comedy skills can help you become better at advocacy.



News Worthy

Regional

- [Moffat Library secures funding for generator](#) | MidHudsonNews.com 12.9.19

National

- [Retired? Head For Your Local Library!](#) | Forbes 12.6.19
- [Toward More Sustainable Libraries](#) | Information Today 12.4.19
- [Libraries, in a Move for Equity, Scrap Late Fees](#) | NPQ 12.3.19

International

- [Libraries in the archive: snapshots of reading in Britain 1930s-1990s](#) | The Guardian 12.9.19

Webinar

✓ #eBooksForAll Campaign Update

Tuesday, December 17 from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

More than 200,000 people have raised their voices to oppose Macmillan Publishers' embargo on new eBook titles to public libraries, and the American Library Association (ALA) has filed its first report with Congress about restrictive licensing and unfair pricing for digital content. Now what?

Join the ALA Public Policy & Advocacy Office and the Public Library Association (PLA) for a free webinar to update you on the #eBooksForAll campaign, planned next steps with Congress and data gathering to build the library case, and specific actions you can take to advance these efforts. Bring your questions and your front-line experience to inform national planning and communications.

Register: [ALA website](#)

Libraries Transform Communities Grant

[ALA Public Programs Office, Dec. 2](#)

Library workers can apply for a new annual grant to support innovative and meaningful community engagement efforts in libraries. The [Libraries Transform Communities Engagement Grant](#) will provide \$2,000 for a school, public, academic, tribal, or special library to expand its community engagement efforts.

Libraries are invited to apply by designing and outlining activities for a library-led community engagement project. Project activities to be covered by the grant may include developing community engagement programs and services; partnering with a community agency that builds the capacity of the community to address an important concern/issue; or creating a program or event that connects the library to a community-identified aspiration or concern. Applications are due by **Monday, February 3, 2020**.



Chicago's No-Fines Policy Results in Many More Returns

[Chicago Sun-Times, Oct. 30](#)

Chicago Mayor Lori Lightfoot's decision to eliminate library late fees and lure scofflaw patrons back to the Chicago Public Library by erasing outstanding debt already is working wonders, city aldermen were told October 30. Testifying at budget hearings, Library Commissioner Andrea Telli (right) said the number of books returned has increased by 240% in the three weeks since Chicago jumped on the no-fines bandwagon. Still undecided about fines? Dawn Wacek, youth services manager at La Crosse (WI) Public Library, [debated the issue](#) with Bradley P. Tolppanen, professor of library science and head of circulation services at Booth Library at Eastern Illinois University.



Photos of the Week

Goshen Public Library Hosts National Book Award Finalist Julia Phillips



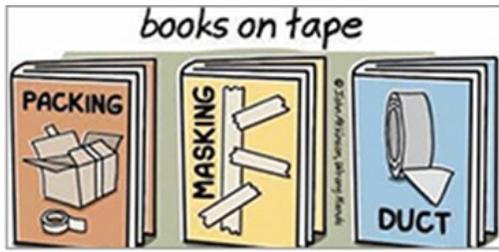
Author Julia Phillips wows the crowd at the Goshen Public Library as she discusses her bestselling novel *Disappearing Earth*, a finalist for the National Book Award. This book was also named one of the best books of 2019 by numerous publications, including *The New York Times*, which pronounced *Disappearing Earth* a "nearly flawless novel."



Goshen librarian Christine Mahr with author Julia Phillips.



Audience members personally engage with the author while getting their books signed.



54+ Terrible Library Puns

Book Riot, Oct. 22

Kelly Jensen writes, “One of the convenient things about library puns (and book puns more generally) is how nice they are for putting together book displays and book lists. They’re perfect for engaging patrons because they’re impossible to walk by and not take a second glance. Here is an assortment of 54+ delicious, hilarious, and downright cringeworthy library puns. I’m starting this list with the 13 that I put in my larger [book puns collection](#), and from there, I promise nothing but some smiles, somewhere, from fellow pun lovers.”



System Calendar

For a complete and up-to-date list of events, including links to additional information, see the [RCLS Calendar](#). To add information, contact [Ruth Daubenspeck](#).

December

Monday 16—Friday 20

Mock Caldecott Book Review, Valley Cottage

Monday, 16

Battle of the Books Committee, RCLS – 9:00 a.m.

Monday, 16

ANSER Committee, RCLS – 9:30 a.m.

Tuesday, 17

System Services Committee, RCLS – 9:30 a.m.

Thursday, 19

RCLS Board Meeting, RCLS – 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, 24—Wednesday, 25

**Christmas Holiday—RCLS CLOSED
NO DELIVERIES**

January

Wednesday, 1

**New Year’s Day—RCLS CLOSED
NO DELIVERIES**

Monday, 6

[Mock Caldecott and Newberry Award Discussion](#), RCLS – 9:00 a.m.

Monday, 6

[Mock Printz Award Discussion](#), RCLS – 2:00 p.m.

Wednesday, 8

Directors Association Annual Meeting, RCLS – 9:30 a.m.

Tuesday, 14

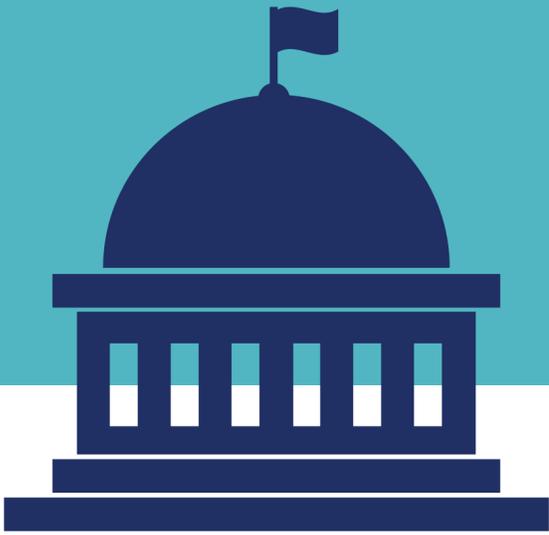
[LARC-YS Mock Discussion](#), Valley Cottage – 9:30 a.m.

Wednesday, 15

CTUG, RCLS – 10:00 a.m.

RCLS Headquarters E-mail and Extension Directory (845.243.3747)

Grace Riario	Executive Director/Outreach Coordinator	233
Chuck Conklin	Delivery & Building Maintenance Supervisor	226
Dan Donohue	ILL/Technical Services Librarian	237
Jerry Kuntz	Electronic Resources Consultant	246
Joanna Goldfarb	Youth Services Consultant	240
John Hurley	ANSER Manager and Systems Administrator	228
Stephen Hoefler	Fiscal Officer	223



NYLA Advocacy Day 2020

YOUR Support Needed @ your library™

Tuesday, February 25

CONVENIENT MOTOR COACH LOCATIONS and DEPARTURE TIMES!
(PLEASE ARRIVE AT LEAST 15 MINUTES BEFORE DEPARTURE - MOTOR COACHES LEAVE ON TIME)

- West Nyack 6:45 a.m. (Palisades Center)
- Newburgh 7:30 a.m. (Newburgh Mall)
- New Paltz 7:45 a.m. (Thruway Exit 18 Park & Ride)
- Kingston 8:15 a.m. (Thruway Exit 19 Park & Ride)
- Catskill 8:40 a.m. (Thruway Exit 21 Park & Ride)

Leaves Albany at 3:30 p.m.

Refreshments, advocacy information and a schedule of appointments provided on the motor coaches.

Register online @ <http://calendar.rcls.org/>

Make checks (\$5 per person – non-refundable) payable to RCLS.
Thanks to donations from the many Friends Groups, we are able to subsidize the price.
Send to Ruth Daubenspeck/RCLS • 619 Route 17M • Middletown, NY 10940

REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT DEADLINE IS THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20

LET US KNOW IF DRIVING YOURSELF

Use the online registration and check “Driving myself” under
“What is your preferred pickup location?”
You will receive an information packet.



QUESTIONS?

Contact: Dan Hulse @ Ramapo Catskill Library System
845.243.3747 ext. 245 dan@rcls.org