



Weekly Memo

Serving Member Libraries Since 1959

Grace Riario • Executive Director

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

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November 18, 2019

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- ✓ [RCLS 2020 Holiday Closings](#)
- ✓ [Fall Edition of RCLS Trustee FYI](#)
- ✓ [Autumn Edition of RCLS Directory](#)
- ✓ [Juvenile Book Preview Session](#)
- ✓ [Autumn Forthcoming Bestsellers](#)
- ✓ [2020 Operating Budget Ballots due Friday, December 6](#)

RCLS Board Meeting

The materials for the **Monday, November 18** RCLS Board Meeting are now on the [RCLS Website](#). The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. at RCLS.

A meeting of the Personnel and Finance Committee will begin at 5:00 p.m.

Both are open meetings and all are invited to attend.



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Mock Caldecott Voting

Would you like to help select the 40 books used for the Mock Caldecott discussions held in January? If so, here is your opportunity! Many of this year's best picture books are at RCLS for you to browse and vote on. Contact Eileen Acosta (ext. 221 or eacosta@rcls.org) to make an appointment. The last day to preview the books is **Wednesday, November 27**.



Can't make it to RCLS? The Mock Caldecott books will travel to three locations in December:

- December 2-6: Nanuet Library
- December 9-13: New City Library
- December 16-20: Valley Cottage Library

Call the Children's Room at the appropriate library to schedule a time to view the books.

A new option this year is online voting. If you cannot attend a preview at any of the four locations, you can fill out an online ballot at [Survey Monkey](#).

Juvenile Book Preview Session

There is still time to sign up for the Juvenile Book Preview, which has over 1,000 titles. Spots are filling up fast.

Contact Eileen Acosta (ext. 221 or eacosta@rcls.org) to make an appointment. The last day is **Wednesday, November 27**. For details, visit the [RCLS website](#).



Adult Program Roundtable

Tuesday, December 3 at 10:30 a.m., the Newburgh Free Library will host an Adult Program Roundtable for library programmers to share information on presenters, performers and best practices in library programming. Bring one copy of each flyer from your most successful programs of the past year and business cards from performers. Attendees will be able to snap photos with their phones.

Use the [RCLS Calendar](#) to register for this program.



News Worthy

Regional

- [Poughkeepsie library offers technology services to those in need](#) Poughkeepsie Journal 11.11.19
- [Wappingers' Grinnell Library inspired by Swiss, British architecture](#) Poughkeepsie Journal 11.12.19

National

- [A woman might go to jail for forgetting to return library books](#) | CNN 11.4.19
- [ALA Responds to Macmillan Letter](#) | I Love Libraries 11.1.19
- [Want to Borrow a Library eBook? Why it Might Become More Challenging \(& How Libraries are Fighting Back\)](#) | Book Riot 11.1.19
- [Libraries to boycott publisher's e-book policy](#) | Star Tribune 10.31.19
- [Books on wheels: When the library comes to the homeless shelter](#) | The Christian Science Monitor 10.31.19
- [Five hundred goats save the Ronald Reagan library from wildfires](#) | The Guardian 10.31.19
- [Michigan woman faces jail time over two late library books](#) | Lansing State Journal 10.31.19
- [Sonoma County Library expands Menstrual Equity Program](#) | Sonoma County Library 10.19.19

Public Library Responses to the Opioid Crisis

[PLA, Nov. 6](#)

The Public Library Association (PLA) and OCLC have released two new publications that demonstrate how public libraries are responding to the opioid crisis in their communities. In September 2018, the two organizations [launched](#) a collaborative [project](#) to collect and share knowledge and resources to support public libraries and their community partners in addressing this national health crisis. A [summary report](#) highlights the findings from [eight case study sites](#), highlights emerging practices of how libraries are responding to the crisis in collaboration with their partners, and identifies both the opportunities and barriers that libraries should consider.



The Case for Eliminating Library Fines

[CityLab, Oct. 2](#)

Linda Poon writes, “The decision to remove library fines is a growing nationwide movement. Already, dozens of US libraries have fully or partially eliminated overdue fines (usually for teens and children), according to a [fine-free map](#) from the Urban Libraries Council (ULC). In 2019, public libraries in Phoenix, Dallas, and Palm Beach, Florida, have changed their policies, and Curtis Rogers, ULC communications director, expects more to follow suit. San Francisco Public Library reformed its overdue fine policy in September. Before that, more than a third of library cardholders owed libraries money, averaging roughly \$24 per adult, according to the [city’s own research](#).”



Libraries Ready to Code

[Computer Science Education Week](#) (CSEdWeek), **December 9-15, 2019**, is an annual event to get students excited about coding. American Library Association’s (ALA) initiative Libraries Ready to Code, sponsored by Google, aims to ensure that libraries have the resources, capacity, and inspiration to embrace activities that promote computational thinking (CT) and computer science (CS) among our nation’s youth. Build your library’s capacity to help youth gain skills for the future by visiting the [Libraries Ready to Code website](#).



This year, youth can use their imagination to turn a real-life hero into a superhero using code. [Code Your Hero](#) is an activity that honors the everyday heroes in our students’ lives who use their powers to better their communities.

Photo of the Week



Photo from a meeting of The Ukuleleans led by Jeff Pfeffer

Gardiner Library Presents Ukulele Club

The Ukuleleans, led by Jeff Pfeffer meets on the second Wednesday of the month from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Gardiner Library. This free monthly club is for all ages of ukulele players, from beginner to experienced. The aim is to encourage one another, as group members have fun with this uniquely upbeat instrument. Individuals will also be given the opportunity to perform for the group, if they desire, building confidence to perform in front of audiences.

Jeff Pfeffer has been playing the ukulele for over 20 years, giving lessons to beginners along the way. He has performed locally in nursing homes and hospitals, as well as open mics and other venues. He particularly enjoys Tin Pan Alley, novelty songs, and sing-alongs, with a focus on performance.

Share a library-related photo, include a brief caption, your name, position and the library's name. A photo release is required from recognizable individuals in the photo. [Click here](#) for the RCLS photo release. Submit the picture to rclsmemo@rcls.org with 'Photo of the Week' in the subject line.

Libraries allow children to ask questions about the world and find the answers. And the wonderful thing is that once a child learns to use a library, the doors to learning are always open.

—Laura Bush

Webinar

✓ Eliminating Fines: A Win-Win for Your Library and Community

**Wednesday, November 20
from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

Libraries have traditionally charged overdue fines for three reasons: to generate revenue, to get materials back on time, and to teach responsibility. But what if all of these assumptions are wrong?

In this free webinar, you will discover why these reasons are old fashioned, incorrect notions that create a barrier for many people. You will hear how eliminating fines can lead to an increase in library use and circulation, with no negative effects. Presenters will review the research and results from the growing number of libraries across the country that have ditched late fines and coaxed new and former users to their doors. They will discuss how to gather your libraries' data and patron stories to create advocacy tools. They will share talking points, tips, and an advocacy tool you can use to build a case to eliminate fines in your library. It's a win-win for your library and community!

Presenters: Beth Crist and
Med DePriest

Register: [Infopeople website](#)

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](#).

November

Monday, 18—Wednesday, 27

[RCLS Juvenile Book Preview Session](#), RCLS

Monday, 18—Wednesday, 27

[Mock Caldecott Book Preview](#), RCLS

Monday, 18

RCLS Board Meeting, RCLS – 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, 19

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

Monday, 25

CLOUSC, Chester – 9:15 a.m.

Thursday, 28—Friday, 29

**Thanksgiving Holiday,
RCLS CLOSED - NO DELIVERIES**

December

Monday, 2

Battle of the Books and RCLS Teen Librarians,
Goshen – 9:30 a.m.

Tuesday, 3

[Adult Program Roundtable](#), Newburgh – 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday, 4

[Revamp Your Early Learning Space](#),
Monticello – 10:00 a.m.

Thursday, 5

[Revamp Your Early Learning Space](#),
Nanuet – 10:00 a.m.

Friday, 6

[Revamp Your Early Learning Space](#),
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