Weekly Memo

RCLS.

Serving Member Libraries Since 1959

October 21, 2019

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- ✓ RCLS Weekly Memo Archives
- ✓ Autumn Edition of RCLS Directory
- ✓ Juvenile Book Preview Session
- ✓ ANSER Manual
- ✓ Equipment Coordinated Order Form
- ✓ Autumn Forthcoming Bestsellers
- ✓ 2020 Operating Budget
- ✓ Fall Into Books

RCLS Board Meeting

The materials for the **Monday, October 21** RCLS Board Meeting are now 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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Teen Battle of the Books 2019

On Sunday, September 8, over 100 teens representing 17 libraries gathered at SUNY Orange in Middletown to participate in the RCLS Teen Battle of the Books.

The Battle of the Books (BOTB) is an annual trivia competition between RCLS libraries. Teens in grades 6-12 can participate. Every team must read the same eight books and answer questions based on details from those books. The double elimination bracket system allows for every team to participate in at least two rounds. The team that is eliminated first, gets first pick of hundreds of free books for all teen participants, and the top three teams win cash prizes.

This year's winners were, in 3rd place, Nanuet Library, New City Library in 2nd place, and the 2019 Champions were from Moffat Library of Washingtonville. There were many close games, and several new teams participated this year.

The BOTB planning committee would like to thank the many volunteers that made this program happen: Nathan DePaul, who was the question reader, and is a BOTB alum, Stephen Hoefer, timekeeper, and Jerry Kuntz, judge, from RCLS, and Matt Pfisterer from Middletown Thrall Library, who has been the Battle scorekeeper for several years. Another thank you goes out to SUNY Orange, who helps sponsor this event.

The next Battle of the Books committee meeting is scheduled for **Monday, November 4** at 9:00 a.m. at the Suffern Library. New members are always welcome.

Moffat Library of Washingtonville 2019 Teen Battle of the Books winners

News Worthy

Regional

- [Area libraries plan community service events in conjunction with The Great Give Back on Oct. 19](#) | Daily Freeman 10.11.19

- [PAWSAFE Adoption Event on Library Give Back Day](#) | Patterson Library | HamletHub 10.12.19

National

- [Auditing the First Amendment at Your Public Library](#) | Intellectual Freedom Blog - American Library Association 10.2.19

- [Local schools, libraries receive book donations from the Library of Congress](#) | News 10 ABC 10.1.19

- [Net neutrality ruling offers NY renewed means to enact Internet protections](#) | Times Union 10.1.19

- [DC Circuit Court Delivers Mixed Ruling on Net Neutrality](#) | American Library Association 10.1.19

- [Why Libraries Are Eliminating Late Fees For Overdue Books](#) | City Lab 10.2.19

- [Remembering Andrew Carnegie's Legacy](#) | American Libraries Magazine 9.30.19

- [Chicago Public Library to eliminate late fees, erase debt and begin automatic renewals for up to 45 weeks](#) | Chicago Sun Times 9.30.19

- [Chicago to become largest U.S. public library system to go fine-free](#) | Chicago Tribune 9.30.19.

New City Library Team, Second Place

Team from Nanuet Public Library, Third Place

More Than 100,000 Sign #eBooksForAll Petition

[ALA Public Policy and Advocacy Office, Oct. 14](#)

In just one month, the ALA [#eBooksForAll campaign](#) has gathered more than 100,000 signatures from readers, authors, library staff, and patrons from all 50 states to condemn Macmillan Publishers' plan to restrict library access to ebooks. Beginning November 1, Macmillan will limit libraries to purchasing only one copy of each new ebook title for the first eight weeks after its release. Additional copies will then be available for two years of access at four times the consumer price. An average of 3,000 people each day are signing the online petition, which urges Macmillan CEO John Sargent to reverse the planned embargo on ebooks sold to libraries.

ALA and libraries across the country are asking you to voice your opposition to [Macmillan's new library ebook policy](#) by signing this [petition](#) and telling Macmillan CEO John Sargent that access to ebooks should not be [delayed or denied.](#)

Get the word out to your patrons with a generic flyer and bookmarks that can be found on the [RCLS website](#). Customized bookmarks can be found in the RCLS LibraryAware account under "Promotion" titled "Test Templates." For help or to open a LibraryAware account, contact Martha Sullivan at RCLS (ext. 247 or msullivan@rcls.org).

Photo of the Week

On Saturday, August 18, Moffat Library of Washingtonville celebrated the 10th anniversary of Alex's Lemonade Stand, an annual fundraiser for childhood cancer research. The event was organized by former staffer and now board member Abby Peterson. The stand was visited by Alex's mom, Liz Scott, as well as by NYS Assemblyman Colin Schmidt (pictured above) and many residents. Head of Youth Services, Emily Kinney, was on hand to do a craft with the kids. Over $1,500 was raised towards the cause, a new record! Thanks to all the volunteers who donated their time and energy towards this!

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.

NYS Library Digital Collections

The New York State Library Digital Collections has been upgraded to support a responsive design for viewing on all screen sizes, faster loading, a new landing page with more graphics to highlight collections, and improved indexing for more effective searching. The New York State Library began digitizing New York State government documents in 1995. The Digital Collections include some historical materials from the 18th through the early 20th century in many subject areas, including the Revolutionary War, the Civil War, Native American materials, New York State laws and natural history. While books make up the core collection, Digital Collections also include primary source materials such as letters, diaries and rare manuscripts as well as maps, music scores, and other visual materials. Access the collection on the NYS Library website.

Holiday Cookie Contest

Bakers of any age are wanted for the Holiday Cookie Bake-Off fundraiser for the Friends of Ethelbert B. Crawford Public Library (EBCPL). The Friends help the library by providing monetary support for programming and volunteering for library outreach events.

Program attendees and local "celebrity" judges will vote for the winners. The registration deadline is **Monday, November 25**.

The event will take place **Tuesday, December 10** beginning at 5:30 p.m. at the library. For rules and more information, visit the EBCPL website.

RCLS Directory

The Autumn 2019 edition of the *RCLS Directory* is now online. This issue contains responses from 24 of the 47 member libraries. **In addition, the pagination has been restructured so the online PDF and print copy page numbers correspond.**

We appreciate the Directors' time and effort in helping make the Directory a valuable communication tool.

Send new updates anytime to Ruth Daubenspeck.
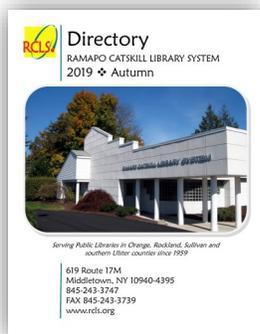
System Calendar

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.

October

Monday, 21—Wednesday, November 27
RCLS Juvenile Book Preview Session, RCLS

Monday, 21
System Services Committee, RCLS – 9:30 a.m.

Monday, 21
RCLS Board Meeting, RCLS – 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, 22
Algorithms in Everyday Life: How Hidden Biases Impact Our Most Vulnerable Neighbors, RCLS – 10:00 a.m.

Tuesday, 22
Building Children's and Teen Spaces, RCLS – 2:00 p.m.

Wednesday, 23
Cybersecurity Group, RCLS – 9:30 a.m.

Thursday, 24
2020 Census Training, Monticello – 10:00 a.m.

Monday, 28
CLOUSC, Port Jervis – 9:15 a.m.

Tuesday, 29
101: Basic Library Trustee Education, Haverstraw – 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday, 30
RCLS Managers Meeting, RCLS – 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday, 30
Working together to get everyone counted!, Monticello – 2:00 p.m.

Thursday, 31
OLA Meeting, Goshen – 10:00 a.m.

Thursday, 31
Working together to get everyone counted!, Goshen, – 11:00 a.m.

RCLS Headquarters E-mail and Extension Directory (845.243.3747)

Working Together to Get Everyone Counted!

Rockland County

Blauvelt Free Library
541 Western Highway
Blauvelt, NY
845-359-2811
Wednesday, October 16
2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Register here

Sullivan/Ulster County

Ethelbert B. Crawford
Public Library
479 Broadway
845-794-4660
Wednesday, October 30
2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Register here

Orange County

Goshen Public Library
and Historical Society
366 Main Street
Goshen, NY
845-294-6606
Thursday, October 31
11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Register here

The libraries are once again called upon to assist people to participate in the Census. Once again, we have no extra funds or resources to do this work. The 2020 Census will be online for the first time and we, the libraries, will be the ones helping our communities navigate the 2020 Census portal, answer questions and making sure everyone gets counted.

What can we offer to our communities with the resources we currently have? This is the question that we will answer together during this session.

Please join us for a discussion about what we need to consider before we help our communities. Together, we will develop the best practices for libraries that are able to help with the 2020 Census and can become a 2020 Census site for their County.

Registration

Registration is required. Use the RCLS online calendar to guarantee your seat today.
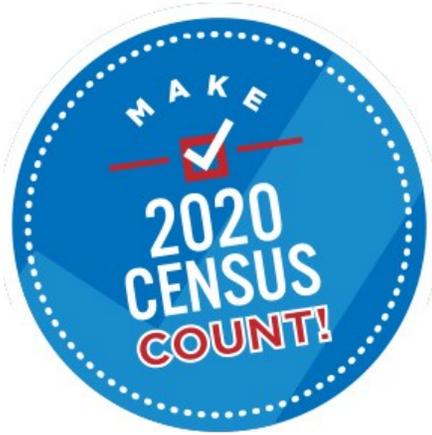
2020 Census Training

Orange County

RCLS Headquarters
  619 Route 17M
  Middletown, NY
  845-243-3747
Tuesday, September 24
10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Register here

Orange County

RCLS Headquarters
Thursday, October 17
10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Register here

Sullivan County

Ethelbert B. Crawford
  Public Library
Thursday, October 24,
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Register here

Workshop

Once a decade, America comes together to count every resident in the United States. Counting an increasingly diverse and growing population is a massive undertaking. Ultimately, the success of the census depends on everyone's participation. Libraries, as always, will be playing a pivotal role in educating community members about the impact the Census data will have in our lives for the next ten years.

The 2020 Census data will be essential for you and your community. Please join us at one of the 2020 Census training sessions below. As library staff, you will face many questions about the 2020 Census; people will be coming to the libraries seeking help on filling out the online form. We want to be prepared!

Presenter

Mario Garcia, Partnership Specialist - Lower Hudson Valley Region/U.S. Census Bureau

Registration

Registration is required. Use the RCLS online calendar to guarantee your seat today.
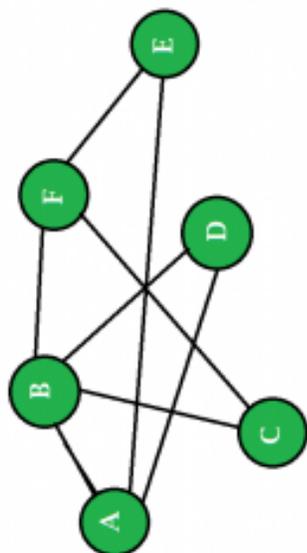
Algorithms in Everyday Life:
How Hidden Biases Impact Our Most Vulnerable Neighbors

Describes how biased thinking makes its way into computerized systems. Provides hands-on activities to help learners understand algorithms. Helps participants identify next steps for assisting impacted populations.

Computer systems are increasingly tasked with making decisions for and about human beings. They are making decisions about which ads to show us, whether or not we make it to the second round of a job interview, and even how long prison sentences should be.

These systems are reliant on algorithmic processes. Algorithms are often considered a company's "secret sauce," and usually the public doesn't know what's in them. This session will demystify the concept of an algorithm and will shed light on what we *do* know about the systems that make some of the more pressing decisions in our lives.

We will learn how our human biases are incorporated into algorithms, discuss the venues in which algorithm-based systems are pernicious, and discuss new ways of helping our communities better understand this new backdrop of machine-based decision making.

Presenter

Davis Erin Anderson's work focuses on understanding the impact of technology on the culture at large, translating these challenges into real solutions for library staff. She is project lead for NYC Digital Safety, an NYC-funded program that keeps library staff informed about evergreen topics in data privacy and digital security.

Davis worked with Mozilla Foundation to review and update their web literacy curriculum, resulting in the launch of Mozilla's Core Curriculum for Web Literacy in March 2018. In addition to planning and emceeing METRO's symposia series, Davis has designed and facilitated workshops on data privacy and security, web mechanics, and personal networking skills for library staff.

Registration

Registration is required by 8 a.m. Monday, September 9. Use the RCLS online calendar to guarantee your seat today.

Tuesday, October 22, 2019

10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Ramapo Catskill Library System

619 Route 17M
Middletown, NY
845.243.3747

RCLS!

Building Children's and Teen Spaces

Tuesday, October 22, 2019

2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

If your library is in the beginning phases of a construction project, this panel discussion is for you. Learn a few tips and tricks about building children's and teen spaces from library stat who have gone through it! What did they enjoy, learn and wish they had known before their libraries were build?

Panelists included:
Beth Balogh - Josephine-Louise Public Library, Walden
Karen Golding, - Goshen Public Library & Historical Society
Michelle Muller - Goshen Public Library & Historical Society
Stephen Hoefer - RCLS Fiscal Officer

Registration is required. Use the RCLS Online Calendar to guarantee your seat today.

Ramapo Catskill Library System
619 RTE 17M
Middletown, New York 10940 | (845)243-3747
http://rcls.org

Ramapo Catskill Library System
presents
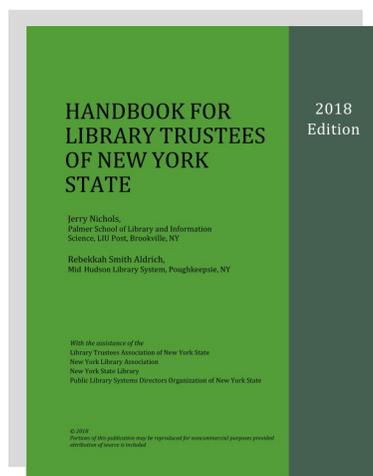
101: Basic Library Trustee Education

Tuesday, October 29, 2019

10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Haverstraw King's Daughters Public Library

10 West Ramapo Road
Garnerville, NY
845-786-3800

This session is designed to give new trustees a basic understanding of their duties and responsibilities.

It will cover basic financial practices, essential laws and other critical information you may need to ensure your confidence in serving as a Board member of a Library and a voice of your community. The items covered in this session are limited; it is advised that you familiarize yourself with the New York State Trustee Handbook, which will be distributed to each attendee at the program.

Presenter

Grace Riario, RCLS Assistant Director and Outreach Coordinator

Registration

Registration is required. A minimum of 5 registrants is required or the workshop will be canceled. Use the RCLS online calendar to guarantee your seat today.

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