



Weekly Memo

Serving Member Libraries Since 1959

Robert Hubsher, Executive Director
Ruth K. Daubenspeck, Newsletter Editor

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

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

January 29, 2018

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- ✓ [RCLS Weekly Memo Archives](#)
- ✓ [NYLA Library Advocacy Day 2018](#)



Advocacy Day Briefing Webinar

Friday, February 16 from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. the Mid-Hudson Library System (MHLS) will present Advocacy Day Briefing, an online event designed for all library advocates – library directors, staff, trustees, Friends, volunteers and patrons – who are interested in speaking up for libraries during the New York budget negotiation season.

To be discussed during this live online webinar:

- Budget timeline and pressure points
- Budget and legislative priorities
- Effective talking points
- How, when and where you can speak up for libraries!

The webinar will be presented by Jeremy Johannesen, Executive Director of the New York Library Association alongside MHLS Coordinator for Library Sustainability Rebekkah Smith Aldrich. Please register for this event on the [MHLS website](#).

Assembly Hearing on Library Funding Testimony Available

Michael Stoller, Chair of the Regents Advisory Council on Libraries, has announced that copies of written testimonies, including that of [RCLS Executive Director Robert Hubsher](#), and the video recording of the January 10, 2018 Assembly Standing Committee on Libraries and Education Technology public hearing on library funding, are now available on the [Creating the Future: A 2020 Vision](#) webpage on the New York State Library website.

The primary intent of the hearing was for Assembly Committee members to learn more about the impact of the 2017/2018 State Budget on the New York State's public libraries and library systems. The 2017/2018 State Budget included \$24 million in capital funding for library construction and the allocation of \$95.6 million in State aid for libraries and library systems.

Witnesses provided compelling local examples of such needs, while also emphasizing the positive impact on local communities of the State Aid for Library Construction capital funds and increased State funding for library system operations. Witnesses also provided Assembly Committee members with ideas as to how the State of New York could further assist local communities, libraries, library systems and the New York State Library in improving library services for all New Yorkers.

Erie Canal Exhibition Live on DPLA!

The online exhibit of *Two Hundred Years on the Erie Canal* was curated by Heidi Ziemer of the Western New York Library Resources Council, with Dan Ward, in partnership with Empire State Digital Network with funding from Humanities New York. Exhibition materials were contributed by Empire State Digital Network, The New York Public Library, David Rumsey, Digital Commonwealth, HathiTrust, Illinois Digital Heritage Hub, Indiana Memory, Library of Congress, Minnesota Digital Library, Missouri Hub, Mountain West Digital Library, Recollection Wisconsin, and Smithsonian Institution.

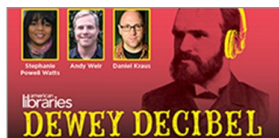
The online exhibition is complemented with a four-poster display and e-tablet kiosk available for travel to libraries across the state. If you are interested in hosting the posters and kiosk, contact Jennifer Palmentiero, Digital Services Librarian 845.883.9065 ext 116 or jennifer@senylrc.org at the Southeastern New York Library Resources Council (SENYLRC).

The Online Exhibition can be viewed on the [Digital Public Library of American website](#).

Dewey Decibel: Looking Back at Books

AL: The Scoop, Dec. 29

In [Episode 21](#), *Dewey Decibel* looks back at some highlights from the book world in 2017. First, *American Libraries* Associate Editor Terra Dankowski talks with author Stephanie Powell Watts, whose book *No One Is Coming to Save Us* is the first selection in ALA's [Book Club Central](#). Then Associate Editor Phil Morehart speaks



with Andy Weir, author of *The Martian*, about his latest novel, and talks

to *Booklist* Books for Youth Editor Daniel Kraus to discuss the *Booklist* list of the 50 best young adult novels of all time.

YSS Library Conference in Syracuse

The Youth Services Section (YSS) of the New York Library Association (NYLA) will host its Annual Spring Conference in Syracuse, NY on **Friday, April 13** from 8:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.



The conference will be held at [Sheraton Syracuse University Hotel & Conference Center](#) situated on the campus of Syracuse University. Special lodging rates are available.

The audience for this conference is primarily professionals serving youth and their caregivers. This year, the planning committee has included workshops for not only librarians, but for community partners, teachers, homeschoolers and more. Full conference offerings and registration information can be found on the [NYLA website](#).

Apply now for a YSS Spring Conference Scholarship. Two awards are given annually. The first, the New Member Spring Conference Scholarship, is given to a new member of the profession. The second, the Lisa C. Wemett Spring Conference Scholarship, is given to a highly motivated established librarian who has had a significant impact on youth and youth services in her/his community.

Each of the scholarships is designed to cover registration fees and up to \$250 reimbursement for expenses for attending the YSS Spring Conference. The candidates need to show strong commitment to the field of youth service librarianship or other related careers and be a member of NYLS/YSS.

For more information, visit the [NYLA website](#). Application deadline is **Thursday, February 1**.

Take Your Child to the Library Day

When is Take Your Child to the Library Day (TYCtLD)?

TYCtLD is the first Saturday in February (the 3rd in 2018).

When and how did TYCtLD begin?

Nadine Lipman, the retired Head of Children's Services at the Waterford (CT) Public Library, came up with the idea for TYCtLD. TYCtLD was first held in 2012, but [thanks to listservs!] librarians across the country began to join in for TYCtLD 2013, and in New York in 2014. YSS hopes to have libraries all across NYS signed on and participating in 2018.



Why should you participate in TYCtLD?

Regardless of population or economic status, your library serves children in your community. Take advantage of the positive PR this nation-wide celebration provides as you do more of what you already do so well!

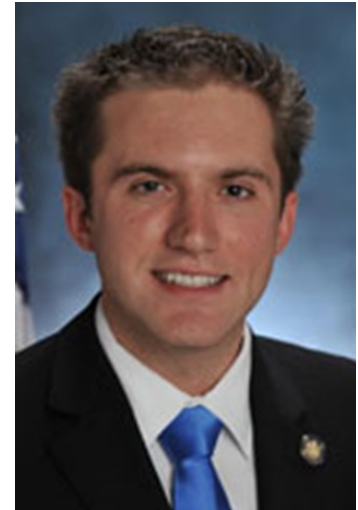
Learn more on the [New York Library Association website](#).

Know Your Legislator

According to the American Library Association (ALA) Library Advocate's handbook, the more you know about a legislator or official, the more effective you can be in communicating the library message and ensuring a successful outcome from your advocacy efforts.

In preparation for New York Library Association Library Advocacy Day, **Wednesday, February 28, 2018**, the *RCLS Weekly Memo* will be taking a closer look each week at one of the eleven legislators that represent the RCLS area.

99th Assembly District Assemblyman James G. Skoufis



Political party:	Democrat
Assumed Office:	January 1, 2013
Previous Positions:	Member, Woodbury Town Council
Education:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• MA, Political Science, Columbia University• BA, Political Science, George Washington University (summa cum laude)
Family:	Married Hillary Stuchin in 2017
Primary supporters :	Vote Smart Facts Matter
Committees:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Agriculture• Insurance• Labor• Local Governments• Subcommittee on Catastrophic Natural Disasters, Chair• Transportation• Veterans Affairs
Priorities:	Strong advocate for working- and middle-class constituents. Legislative priorities include a full repeal of the MTA payroll tax, tax cuts for small business growth, tax penalties for corporations who ship jobs overseas, and taking care of our veterans who honorably serve our country.
Libraries in District:	Chester, Cornwall, Goshen, Highland Falls, Middletown, (small sections), Stony Point, Tomkins Cove, Warwick, Washingtonville, Woodbury
Local Office:	11 Main Street, Chester, NY 10918
Local Phone:	845-469-6929
Albany office:	LOB 704, Albany, NY 12248
Albany Phone:	518-455-5441
E-mail:	skoufisj@nyassembly.gov
Website:	http://nyassembly.gov/mem/James-Skoufis/
Facebook:	https://www.facebook.com/JamesSkoufis/
Twitter:	https://twitter.com/jamesskoufis

Photo of the Week



On Thursday, December 21 at the Nanuet Public Library LARC-YS members discussed and voted on the titles to be used for the 2018 Mock Caldecott sessions.

Pictured left to right are: Claudia Uccellani, Palisades Free Library; Elyse Stoller, Haverstraw King's Daughters Public Library; and Lauren Banks, Nanuet Public Library

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 rcls-memo@rcls.org with 'Photo of the Week' in the subject line.

News Worthy

Regional

- [Highland Library cuts ribbon at new location](#) | Southern Ulster Times 1.24.18
- [Union sues Mount Vernon library over wages](#) | LoHud.com 1.24.18
- [Letter to the Editor: Prevent Library Underfunding by NYS](#) | Brewster Public Library | Brewster's Hamlet Hub 1.15.18

National

- [Gannon University unveils \\$16 million Nash Library](#) | GoErie.com 1.20.18
- [Library System giving 'tech' cards to students](#) | ArkansasOnline.com 1.20.18

- [Award may drop name of author tied to sterilization movement](#) | StarTribune.com 1.17.18
- [Librarians despise censorship. How can prison librarians handle that? It's complicated.](#) | Times Union 1.16.18
- [NY state must support NY's libraries, 'a beacon for all' \(Your letters\)](#) | Syracuse.com 1.15.18
- [Cuomo Halts a Controversial Prison Package Policy](#) | The New York Times 1.12.18
- [Moral judgements begin at home and stop at the library door](#) | The Altamont Enterprise 1.11.18
- [Kid-friendly? Drag Queen story time at Upstate NY library sparks controversy](#) | New York Upstate.com

2017 RCLS Annual Meeting Awards

At the RCLS Legislative Breakfast and Annual Meeting held on Friday, September 15, Annual Awards presentations were made. The following is a nomination for the *Member Library Adult Program of the Year Award*:

Program: “A Step Back in Time”
Nominator: Karen Fox, Adult Program Coordinator
Nominating Library: Pine Bush Area Public Library District

In celebration of National Library Week – April 10 through April 16, 2016 – the Pine Bush Area Library presented a unique program to highlight the history of our library building which was opened in 1907. The program included a Walking Tour of Sixteen (16) Historic Homes in the Hamlet of Pine Bush; a Lecture and Photo Exhibit by Town of Crawford Historian Joanne Keillor; a 1907 Re-Enactment of the Opening Day Ceremony and Ribbon-Cutting of the Library; and an Old-Fashioned Picnic on the library lawn at the end of the day’s festivities.

The idea to highlight our historic library and surrounding neighborhood with a one-of-a-kind program that would transport an entire audience “A Step Back in Time” to another era...to 1907 was an idea that we knew needed to be brought to life. And so it was.

On a lovely sunny day on Sunday, April 17, 2016, the Town of Crawford Historian presented a program to approximately 60 people in the audience. She spoke about the 16 old, stately homes which were nestled along the main and side streets of town. She supplied a brief history of each home and then she exhibited a photo of each. When her presentation was concluded, everyone was provided with a Tour Map to enable them to take a self-guided tour of the outside of each home. (An extra bonus was that a few of the current homeowners allowed people to come into their homes for a brief peek.) As everyone was leaving the library to start the tour, they were reminded to return to the library later for the reenactment of the ribbon-cutting ceremony and the picnic.

Later, back in the year 1907...as the original audience participants and other people were congregating in front of the new library building, Karen Fox, Adult Program Coordinator, addressed the crowd and reminded everyone that they had just taken “A Step Back in Time.” The scenes they were about to witness were what might have actually happened 109 years ago! And, so, the re-enactment began. Four of the original trustees, all dressed in their finest outfits, were standing on the front steps waiting to make their speeches. They all spoke passionately about what the new library would mean to the community. With the last speech concluded, a pair of large scissors was presented to the trustees. The photographer was poised to take the historic picture; and the ribbon was cut. Everyone applauded and cheered. It was a joyous occasion for the community. After great anticipation, everyone was finally welcomed into their new “one-room” library to see the books, the furnishings, and the library’s new Charter inside. Outside, the picnic tables were set up and refreshments were served on the front lawn.

A wonderful and historic day was had by all!



February Workshops — All are Free, unless otherwise noted.

✓ Orientation - Trustee Education Session 101

Saturday, February 10 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Location: Valley Cottage Free Library

This program will provide Trustees with the basic information every library Trustee should be acquainted with to be an effective board member. Officers in particular will benefit from receiving the latest information about their positions. As the items covered in this session are limited, it is essential that you familiarize yourself with the 2015 Trustee Handbook, which will be distributed to each attendee at the program.

Refreshments will be provided.

Register: [RCLS Calendar](#)

✓ Advocacy Session: Tell your library story effectively

Monday, February 12 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Location: Ethelbert B. Crawford Public Library, Monticello

Building a strong relationship with your legislators at the local and state levels takes time and finesse. Together, we are a stronger voice for our libraries.

This year we need all of you to speak up on behalf of libraries. Our governor is proposing deeper cuts. Proposed State Library Aid: \$91.6M (3% cut from 2017, a \$4 million cut) and Proposed Library Construction Aid: \$14M (42% cut from 2017, a \$10 million cut).

During these sessions, we will discuss and learn how to empower ourselves as advocates for libraries. What steps can we take every day? Why is it important to go to Albany on February 28, 2018? What would be expected of me when I attend the Advocacy Day in Albany? What is the role of NYLA?

Register: [RCLS Calendar](#)

✓ Advocacy Session: Tell your library story effectively

Tuesday, February 13 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Location: Nanuet Public Library

Repeat of previous day's program.

Register: [RCLS Calendar](#)

✓ Intermediate – Trustee Education Session 102

Saturday, February 17 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Location: Valley Cottage Free Library

If you have served as a Board member of a library for more than three years, you are encouraged to attend this session.

This is not an introductory course. A basic knowledge of the role and responsibilities of a library trustee in the State of New York (Session 101) is required.

This session will cover the different laws that libraries must comply with, financial reports, motions and fiscal issues you need to be aware of as a Board member and a review of the best practices of running an effective Board meeting including the role of a Board President.

Refreshments will be provided.

Register: [RCLS Calendar](#)

✓ RCLS Performers' Showcase

Friday, February 23 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Location: Middletown Thrall Library

Twelve performers give a brief glimpse of their programs for potential bookings by member libraries for programs for youth and families.

Register: [RCLS Calendar](#)

February Webinars — All are Free, unless otherwise noted.

✓ **Making Sense of the Numbers—Health Numeracy and You (and Me).**

Tuesday, February 6, from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

As healthcare becomes more sophisticated and complex, it's more and more likely that we will face situations where we have to use numerical skills to figure out our own treatment choices. Our capacity to deal with the numerical component of health information is called "health numeracy" and it's an aspect of health literacy, but is not the same thing (people can have high literacy and low numeracy, and you can't tell by looking what a person's numeracy level is!). The challenges relating to numeracy are many, and can defeat even people with the best intentions (including healthcare providers). Librarians and other service providers to the public already play crucial roles, serving as trusted information providers! In this session we'll learn more about health numeracy and how it plays a role in our health, discuss the ways that library staff and others already work with users around numbers and health, and some best practices to make our assistance even more effective.

Presenter: [Ann Glusker](#), [National Network of Libraries of Medicine—Pacific Northwest Region](#).

Register: [First Tuesdays](#)

✓ **Lunch at the Library: Nourishing Bodies and Minds**

Tuesday, February 6 from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

For too many children and teens, summer is a time of hunger and learning loss. Libraries offer the perfect environment to combat childhood hunger and obesity while preventing summer learning loss by offering free, healthy lunch to kids through the USDA Summer Food Service Program. In California, Lunch at the Library was developed to provide tailored support to library staff, offering tools to develop successful public library summer meal programs that draw new families to the library, foster community partnerships, and engage families with learning and enrichment opportunities while school is out. Join us for this webinar to learn about the tools and practical tips for starting or expanding a USDA summer meals site and incorporating lunches into your summer reading program. Even if you've been offering summer lunches for years, you'll come away inspired and ready to plan.

Presenters: **Trish Garone**, Programs Manager, California Library Association; **Patrice Chamberlain**, Executive Director, California Summer Meal Coalition; and **Jasmin LoBasso**, Marketing & Promotions, Kern County Library (CA)

Register: [WebJunction](#)

✓ **Homelessness in Small and Rural Communities: Libraries Can Help!**

Wednesday, February 21, from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Homelessness means having no predictable and safe place to sleep. Libraries in rural and small communities are often a source of information and daytime shelter for individuals facing homelessness or housing insecurity. In an already busy library with limited resources, staff may be challenged to respond to the needs of these patrons and to cope with compassion fatigue. This webinar will provide practical insights on providing services to people who don't have stable housing. Learn how to create an environment that feels welcoming, informative and supportive, including ideas for reducing policy barriers. Learn how to host conversations that explore public perceptions, help to debunk myths around homelessness, and strengthen community ties.

Presenters: **Mallory Pillard**, Director, Carnegie Public Library, Trinidad, CO; and **Sara Zettervall**, Founder, [Whole Person Librarianship](#), and Community Engagement Librarian, Hennepin County Library, MN

Register: [WebJunction](#)

Deadlines

- ★ Monday, February 5
[State Annual Reports](#) to RCLS

Job Openings

- ✓ [Job Postings](#)
- ✓ [Building Your e-résumé](#)

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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](#).

January

Tuesday, 30

[LARC-YS Mock Newbery & Caldecott Discussions](#),
Valley Cottage—9:30 a.m.

Wednesday, 31

[System Orientation](#), RCLS—10:00 a.m.

February

Monday, 5

RCLS Teen Librarians, RCLS—10:15 a.m.

Wednesday, 7

Directors Association Executive Committee,
RCLS—9:30 a.m.

Friday, 9

SUPLA, Monticello—9:30 a.m.

Saturday, 10

[Orientation—Trustee Education Session 101](#), Valley
Cottage—10:00 a.m.

Monday, 12

[Advocacy Session; Tell your library story effectively](#),
Monticello – 10:00 a.m.

Tuesday, 13

[Advocacy Session; Tell your library story effectively](#),
Nanuet – 10:00 a.m.

Tuesday, 13

RUG, Spring Valley – 10:00 a.m.

Friday, 16

DOSS, RCLS – 9:30 a.m.

Saturday, 17

[Intermediate – Trustee Education Session 102](#), Valley
Cottage – 10:00 a.m.

Monday, 19

Presidents Day – RCLS CLOSED

RCLS Headquarters E-mail and Extension Directory (845.243.3747)

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RCLS Youth Services Presents

2018 Performers' Showcase

Twelve performers will give 15-minute presentations of programs that are available for your library or organization.

The performers are:

**Friday,
February 23,
2018**

**9:30 a.m. Coffee
10:00 a.m.
Program**

**Middletown
Thrall Library**

11-19 Depot Street
Middletown, NY
845.341.5454

10:00	Brian Crandall	Mad Science/Bugs!
10:15	Joyce Schenkman	Spanish Together
10:30	Ria Alexander	Alexair Dreams Storytelling
10:45	Lee Knight	Mini Math Music
11:00	Bill & Brian Robinson	Wildlife Lectures
11:15	Hobby Quest	Children Enrichment Programs
11:30	Irv Plastock	Sing Along with Irv
11:45	Tom Riley	Become a Stamp Collector
12:00	Kevin O'Keefe	One-Man Circus in-a-Suitcase
12:15	Keith Torgan	Green Golly Project
12:30	Betsy Franco Feeney	Initial Cap Design
12:45	Robert McEntee	Magic Beyond Imagination

Handouts and performance rates will be available at the showcase.

[REGISTER ONLINE](#) by 8 a.m. Wednesday, February 14, 2018

If you are unable to attend the showcase and would like copies of the handouts, please e-mail [Eileen Acosta](#)



Ramapo Catskill Library System



NYLA Library Advocacy Day 2018

YOUR Support Needed @ your library™

CONVENIENT MOTORCOACH LOCATIONS and DEPARTURE TIMES!

(PLEASE ARRIVE AT LEAST 15 MINUTES BEFORE DEPARTURE)

**Wednesday
February 28,
2018**

- West Nyack 6:45 a.m. (Palisades Center)
- Newburgh 7:30 a.m. (Newburgh Mall)
- New Paltz 7:45 a.m. (Thruway Exit 18 Parking Lot)
- 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 will be provided on the motorcoaches.

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 FEBRUARY 21

Late registrations will not be accepted.

PLANNING TO DRIVE 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 @ RCLS

845.243.3747 ext. 245 or 866.364.4329 ext. 245

dan@rcls.org

