



Weekly Memo

Serving Member Libraries Since 1959

Grace Riario • Interim Executive Director/Outreach Coordinator
Ramapo Catskill Library System • <http://www.rcls.org>
619 Route 17M • Middletown, NY 10940-4395 • 845.243.3747

September 2, 2019

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RCLS Board Talking Points



At its Monday August 19 meeting, the RCLS Board of Trustees had the following Talking Points:

- Thanked Grace Riario and RCLS Board members for attending the successful summer legislative meetings.
- Acknowledged that by being proactive, the RCLS cybersecurity software was updated due to recent ransomware attacks on other NYS Library Systems.
- Recognized RCLS Trustee Helen Rados who was awarded the NYLA Friends of Libraries Section Daniel W. Casey Library Advocacy Award.
- RCLS Board of Trustees continue to visit member libraries at their monthly Board meetings.
- Noted there is still time to register for the Legislative Breakfast and Annual Meeting scheduled for **Friday, September 13** at The Sullivan Event Center.

The Talking Points will be elaborated on in the Minutes of the August Board meeting, which will be posted to the [RCLS website](#) about a week before the next regular meeting on Monday, October 14 at RCLS. The current materials are available on the website (Minutes/Financial Reports, Executive Director's Report and Assistant Director's Report). If you have any questions about the Talking Points, contact Grace Riario (243.3747, ext. 233 or [e-mail](#)).

Last Call for Legislative Breakfast and Annual Meeting

The 32nd Legislative Breakfast and 60th Annual Meeting will be held at The Sullivan Event Center, Rock Hill on **Friday, September 13**. Check-in will begin at 8:00 a.m. and the continental breakfast will be ready by 8:30 a.m. Meet with State and county legislators about current issues facing libraries. Acknowledgment of the four Annual Meeting Awards winners. The business meeting, presentation of the 2020 RCLS Budget, and election of four RCLS Trustees will follow. Member library Boards of Trustees have been sent ballots to vote on the RCLS Budget. This is a good opportunity to view the Budget and ask questions regarding it.

Use the [RCLS online calendar](#) to register today. Deadline for reservations is **Friday, September 6**. For information, contact Ruth Daubenspeck at RCLS (ext. 222 or [e-mail](#)).

News Worthy

Regional

- [Virtual reality sessions for seniors](#) | New Lebanon Library | Hudson Valley 360 8.20.19

National

- [Could Public Reference Librarians Help Us Combat Digital Falsehoods?](#) | Forbes 8.20.19
- [Queens Public Library takes part in program offering one month of free Citi Bike rides for low-income New Yorkers](#) | QNS 8.20.19
- [Chrissy Teigen is Delighted by the Public Library \(And I Am Too\)](#) | Book Riot 8.20.19
- [Library cards unlock access to bikes, benefitting entire communities](#) | Shareable.net 8.19.19
- [Speeding tickets help fund local libraries in Kalamazoo](#) | Fox 17 News 8.16.19
- [Reddit user posts photo of library receipt that reveals they saved more than \\$7,000 by borrowing books](#) | Albany Times Union 8.14.19
- [Food pantry opens at Independence library](#) | KSHB 8.17.19
- [A Novel Concept: Silent Book Clubs Offer Introverts A Space To Socialize](#) | NPR 8.12.19
- [New library smoking restriction presents logistical challenges](#) | Albany Times-Union 7.26.19

Battle of the Books

Sunday, September 8 is the date for the RCLS Battle of the Books in Middletown at SUNY Orange's Orange Hall Theater from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Teens from 18 RCLS member libraries will form 19 teams to battle their way to the top.

Participating teens have read the same eight books. The Battle of the Books will test their knowledge as teams go head-to-head to answer trivia questions based on the eight titles.

This is an exciting event that draws teens from the across the system. Will the five-time champs from Daniel Pierce Library, Grahamsville be able to retain their title? This year will be the largest Battle to date! Come by and see what all the excitement is about!

Thanks to the SUNY Orange Education Department for sponsoring this event.



Autism Welcome Here Grant

Libraries and Autism will again award a total of \$5,000 in "Autism Welcome Here: Library Programs, Services, and More" grants, either for one proposal or to be divided among several applicants. All types of libraries in the US and



Canada are encouraged to apply. Applicants may propose to initiate a new program, bring an established program to the library for the first time, or enhance a program already offered. Applications will be accepted from **September 1 to December 1**. For more information and application, visit the [Libraries and Autism website](#).

Partner with National Voter Registration Day

Public Policy and Advocacy Office, Aug. 23

ALA, a premier partner of National Voter Registration Day, encourages libraries to sign up to observe the unofficial holiday on **September 24**. Libraries that [sign up by September 12](#) will receive a toolkit of free promotional materials: posters and stickers, and opportunities for training. National Voter Registration Day is a nonpartisan, unofficial holiday celebrated on the fourth Tuesday of September. US libraries provide voter registration forms and information about voting, as well as offer computers that patrons can use to register to vote, update their registrations, or research information about the candidates and the issues.



Photo of the Week

LIVING WELL ELLENVILLE WALKING GROUP HEALTH & WELLNESS CLASSES!
 Join us for either, or both:
 10:00 am: Walking Group (20-25 minute walk from Library)
 10:30 am: Assorted Health and Wellness Classes (healthier eating, exercise tips or demos, cooking demos, holistic health, power of positive thinking...)
 Healthy snacks provided each week.
 Where:
 Ellenville Public Library & Museum
 40 Center Street
 Ellenville, NY

THURSDAYS AT THE ELLENVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY
 Let's walk together!
 Let's learn together!
 Enjoy a cooking demo and healthy snacks.
 Try new activities and different ways to be healthy!
 RSVP requested
 Call for more information or to RSVP
 (845) 647-6400 x 336

Living Well Ellenville Walking Group and Wellness Class
 Try new activities and different ways to be healthy!
 10:00 am: Walking Group
 Join us for a 20 - 30 minute walk from Library through town. We can accommodate a variety of walking levels,
 10:45 am: Health and Wellness Classes
 Classes cover a variety of topics and activities including healthier eating, exercise tips and demonstrations, cooking demonstrations, holistic health, medication, yoga, and community resources.
 Join us for either, or both!
 For activities held in the Ellenville Library, free bus transportation may be available to you. Speak with Shanna Nigro to learn more about transportation.

Stress Management Training
 Our workdays are filled with expectations of multitasking and increasing emphasis on efficiency and productivity. Tack on a culture of being "stressed," in which people falsely believe that if you aren't stressed, you're not working hard, and stress management and self-care can quickly become an afterthought. Discussing stress and mental health in the workplace can be difficult, but the benefits are worth the effort.
 Join us in a stress management training to learn about stress reduction and gain mental-health-friendly activities to help yourself and your staff recharge, boost your mood, and increase productivity at work and home.

Hosted by: Living Well Ellenville & HealthlinkNY Community Network
When: Thursday, February 21 10:30 am – 11:30 am
Where: Ellenville Public Library 40 Center Street Ellenville, NY 12428

How to register:
 Contact Shanna Nigro
snigro@ellenvilleregional.org
 Phone: 845 647-6400 Ext. 336

Ellenville Regional Hospital
 Innovating. Collaborating. Providing award-winning care.

healthlinkny
 COMMUNITY NETWORK

Living Well Ellenville

Ellenville Public Library & Museum has partnered with Ellenville Regional Hospital to offer an ongoing series, *Living Well Ellenville*, to promote health and wellness in the community. Each Thursday at 10 a.m. the program starts with a short group walk, followed by a healthy snack, beverage and wellness related program at the library. Topics vary but focus on health and wellness. On August 6 the program was highlighted by the [National Library of Medicine](#). To learn more about *Living Well Ellenville*, visit the [library's website](#) or contact Library Director Kristin Fowler (kfowler@rcls.org or 647-5530).

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.



Banned Books Week Ideas for Libraries Serving Teens

Intellectual Freedom Blog, Aug. 21

Jamie M. Gregory writes, “‘Censorship leaves us in the dark. Keep the light on.’ This is ALA’s [theme for Banned Books Week, September 22–28](#). Banned Books Week is my favorite annual celebration in the library because it offers so many learning opportunities to students, most importantly by opening the door to discussion about intellectual freedom and its role in a democratic, open society. Different types of censorship create different types of darkness in our society. This year, try out the following topics and activities for teens to consider.”



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](#).

September

Tuesday, 3

Construction Aid Application due to RCLS

Wednesday, 4

[Digital Census Preparation Workshops](#),
RCLS – 9:30 a.m.

Thursday, 5

[Presentation by Executive Director Candidate](#),
RCLS – 2:00 p.m.

Thursday, 5

Special RCLS Board Meeting, RCLS – 3:30 p.m.

Friday, 6

LARC-YS, Sloatsburg – 9:30 a.m.

Friday, 6

Battle of the Books Bag Stuffing, RCLS – 3:00 p.m.

Sunday, 8

Teen Battle of the Books, SUNY Orange – 12:00 p.m.

Monday, 9

[Census Training for Staff Serving Youth](#),
Valley Cottage – 10:00 a.m.

Tuesday, 10

[How to Spot a Fake: Disinformation and Our Media](#),
Valley Cottage – 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday, 11

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

Thursday, 12

Mock Printz Committee Meeting, Goshen – 10:00 a.m.

Friday, 13

[Legislative Breakfast and Annual Meeting](#),
The Sullivan Event Center – 8:00 a.m.

RCLS Headquarters E-mail and Extension Directory (845.243.3747)

Grace Riario	Interim 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 Hofer	Fiscal Officer	223

Ramapo Catskill Library System
presents



vidcode

Training

**Wednesday,
August 28,
2019**

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

**Ramapo Catskill
Library System**

619 Route 17M
Middletown, NY
845.243.3747

This workshop is for library staff to learn about Vidcode. The first part of this workshop will review the basics that were covered in the first Vidcode workshop. The second part will go into more advanced functions of Vidcode.

If your library did not sign up for Vidcode, but you would like to learn what it's all about, you may attend this workshop.

Presenter

Leandra Tejedor, Vidcode co-founder.

CE Credit

This is a Technology Workshop; participants will receive 2 Contact Hours.

Registration

Registration is required by 5 p.m. Tuesday, August 27. Use the [RCLS online calendar](#) to guarantee your seat today.



Ramapo Catskill Library System
presents



2020 Census Training for Youth Staff

**Monday,
September 9,
2019**

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

Valley Cottage Library
110 Route 303
Valley Cottage, NY 10989
845.268.7700

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.

This 2020 Census training is for library staff serving children and teens. Learn how the 2020 Census can make an impact on our youngest library users, and how you can help patrons fill out the 2020 Census.

We want to be prepared!

Presenter

Keith Camire, Partnership Specialist, U.S. Census Bureau

Registration

Registration is required. Use the [RCLS online calendar](#) to guarantee your seat today.



Ramapo Catskill Library System
presents

How to Spot a Fake: Disinformation and Our Media



Share techniques for spreading false information on the internet. Includes an ideation session on how to help our communities identify truth from fiction.

While disinformation is as old as snake oil salesmen, our current media environment brings new and pernicious challenges. Our media diets these days include curated social media feeds in addition to too-many outlets like televised newscasts and radio programs. When we engage in biased media, our ideas about the world are confirmed again and again.

Education about media sources new and old is one way to help ourselves and our communities see outside of our filter bubbles. To that end, this three-hour workshop will provide a historical overview and framework for false information. We'll uncover the ways in which social media has added to these challenges. And we'll share methods for spotting bad information by looking at real-world examples of information that rapidly spreads on the internet.

We know these issues impact our communities, and so we'll close by identifying easy-yet-impactful ways of working with library users to be on the lookout for information that is designed to manipulate us.

**Tuesday,
September 10,
2019**

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

**Valley Cottage
Free Library**

110 Route 303
Valley Cottage, NY
845.268.7700

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 emceeding 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.





60th Anniversary
1959-2019

Legislative Breakfast and Annual Meeting



The RCLS Legislative Breakfast and Annual Meeting will be held at The Sullivan Event Center.



The Legislative Breakfast is an opportunity to meet and greet with state and county legislators about libraries. Member libraries will showcase their best programs in a special display area. Following a hot breakfast buffet, Library Champions will share their testimonies. Legislators and the RCLS Executive Director will give brief remarks. Four awards will be presented – Member Library Adult Program of the Year, Member Library Young Adult Program of the Year, Randall Enos Member Library Children's Program of the Year and Anthony J. Knipp Library Trustee.

**Friday,
September 13,
2019**

8 a.m.

**The Sullivan
Event Center
Rock Hill, New York**

Register using the
[RCLS online calendar](#)

The RCLS Annual Business Meeting will include approval of the 2018 Annual Meeting minutes, presentation of the 2020 RCLS Budget and election of four RCLS Trustees - one each from Orange, Rockland, Sullivan and Ulster counties.



Ramapo Catskill Library System
presents

How to Spot a Fake: Disinformation and Our Media



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Tuesday,
September 17,
2019

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

Ramapo Catskill Library System

619 Route 17M
Middletown, NY
845.243.3747

Presenter

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Registration

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Ramapo Catskill Library System
presents



2020 Census Training

**Tuesday,
September 24,
2019**

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

Ramapo Catskill Library System

619 Route 17M
Middletown, NY
845.243.3747

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

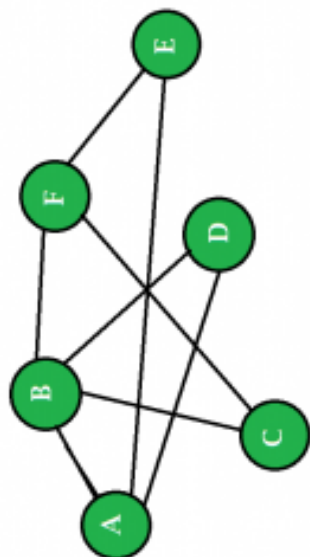
Mario Garcia, Partnership Specialist - Lower Hudson Valley Region/U.S. Census Bureau

Registration

Registration is required. Use the [RCLS online calendar](#) to guarantee your seat today.



Ramapo Catskill Library System
presents



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.

**Tuesday,
October 8,
2019**

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

**Valley Cottage
Free Library**

110 Route 303
Valley Cottage, NY
845.268.7700

Presenter

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Ramapo Catskill Library System
presents



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

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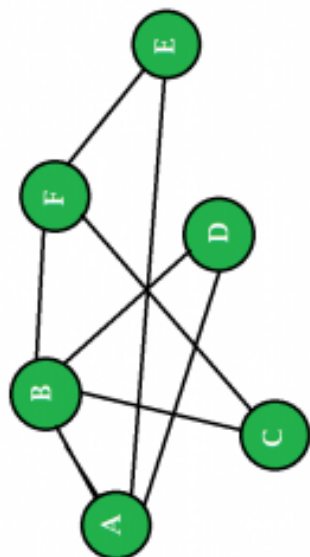
Mario Garcia, Partnership Specialist - Lower Hudson Valley Region/U.S. Census Bureau

Registration

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presents



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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.

**Tuesday,
October 22,
2019**

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

**Ramapo Catskill
Library System**

619 Route 17M
Middletown, NY
845.243.3747

Presenter

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