



Weekly Memo

Serving Member Libraries Since 1959

Grace Riario • Executive Director

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

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September 30, 2019

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RCLS Member Libraries have Friends Indeed

Randall Enos,

NYLA Friends of Libraries Section, President Emeritus

People in Ramapo Catskill communities *love* their libraries. This was made abundantly clear as participants spoke about their friendly groups during the recent Friends Gathering at the Goshen Public Library and Historical Society.

Friends and staff representing twelve RCLS member libraries in Orange, Rockland and Sullivan counties came together to learn from one another and share the successes they've had and the issues they face in supporting their local public library.

The event was sponsored by RCLS and the Orange Library Association (OLA) and hosted by the Friends of the Goshen Public Library and Historical Society.

Yvonne Mirro, the President of the Goshen Friends, gave a brief profile of their group and talked about the role they played in moving their new building project forward.

In the "lightning round" sharing session, a spokesperson from each Friends group profiled their group and singled out significant activities in which the group is involved. Group members compared and contrasted how they handle book sales, increase membership, raise funds and other typical and not-so-typical activities associated with library support groups. One of the founding members of the Goshen Junior Friends group highlighted the unique skills that the teen members offer in support of the library. This piqued the interest of many from the other groups and underscored the fact that Friends activities are not just for those who are more advanced in age.

The evening ended with guided tours of the spacious new Goshen Library facility.

The recurring theme throughout the presentations is that libraries are the heart, soul and face of the community and must be supported and nurtured as much as possible and there are many community members intensely passionate about serving their communities through their libraries.

If it happens that library staff ever need a confirmation that libraries and library work are important, simply gather together a group of Library Friends and that question will be answered in spades.

Thank YOU to OLA for co-sponsoring, Goshen Friends for hosting and all who participated to make it a successful event.



Friends Gathering at Goshen Public Library and Historical Society

News Worthy

Regional

- [Mount Vernon Library workers reach contract after six years](#) | Midhudson news.com 9.23.19

National

- [At D.C. libraries, the formerly homeless help those currently struggling](#) | The Washington Post 8.29.19
- [Empowering Teens with Freedom of Expression](#) | ALA Intellectual Freedom Blog 8.29.19
- [Check out a book and a bike](#) | Omaha World-Herald 8.27.19
- [Library Fun Run Clears the Fines of Nearly 300 Patrons](#) | Runner's World 8.28.19
- [Bibliotheca Calls Out Amazon for Meddling in the Library E-book Market](#) | Publishers Weekly 8.27.19
- [Helsinki Central Library Oodi chosen as the best new public library in the world](#) | Oodi 8.27.19
- [Publishers Are on a Collision Course With Libraries](#) | Information Today, Inc. 8.27.19
- [What one woman learned working at every library in San Francisco](#) | Albany Times Union 8.27.19
- [Why librarians are up in arms against LinkedIn](#) | CNBC 8.28.19
- [Library Books Were Once Blamed for Spreading Deadly Diseases](#) | Mental Floss 8.26.19

FLS Randall Enos Conference Scholarship

In 2018 the Friends of Libraries Section (FLS) of the New York Library Association (NYLA) established a scholarship named in honor of longtime Friend Randall Enos, former RCLS Youth Services Consultant, recognizing his contributions as a founding member of the Empire Friends Roundtable which became the Friends of Libraries Section. Under his leadership, FLS has grown and increased its impact across New York State.

The FLS Scholarship Committee has announced the first recipients of the FLS Randall Enos Conference Scholarship. They are Meg Sgombick from the Friends of the Florida Public Library and Marianne Michaud from the Friends of the Fairport Public Library.

In this inaugural year, scholarship recipients were selected on the basis of a personal letter describing their interest in attending the NYLA Annual Conference and a statement of accomplishments. A letter of recommendation from their library director or Friends group officer was also required. The scholarship provides \$500 to each of two FLS members to attend the NYLA Annual Conference in odd-numbered years.

Meg has been incredibly active with the Friends group at the Florida Public Library. In one year, she has handled all the public relations for the group, created print flyers, bookmarks, display notices, and other promotional materials which are distributed to local media outlets. She also maintains the Friends Facebook page.

For the past three years Meg has attended NYLA's Library Advocacy Day. She added her voice to those of her colleagues for increased funding and legislation that supports and improves libraries across the state. She served as the designated spokesperson of her group and discussed with legislators the importance of libraries and the need for funding.

In letters of support, the library director and Friends group vice president strongly credited Meg with the vibrancy of the Friends group. Her development of publicity materials and use of social media have increased visibility of the Friends throughout the community. She had a major role in coordinating the 2016-2017 Florida Public Library Door to Door Campaign which was a joint effort of staff, trustees, and Friends. For this effort the Florida Public Library received the Ramapo Catskill Library System Program of the Year Award.

Never having attended a NYLA conference, Meg enthusiastically wrote about what she hopes to experience.



Meg Sgombick

She states that, "it will offer me the best opportunity to get inspired, develop new skills, and engage with my peers right in my own backyard." She goes on to mention that "as one of the youngest members of our Friends group, I am looking to uncover some avenues to reach a new audience and help our group grow."

FLS Daniel W. Casey Library Advocacy Award

Given annually since 1993 (through the precursor of FLS, the Empire Friends Roundtable), the FLS Daniel W. Casey Library Advocacy Award honors a volunteer member or a group from the library community whose efforts have contributed to the growth of libraries or Friends of the Library organizations.

The Casey Award Committee is pleased to present Helen Rados, current President of the Friends of the Ethelbert B. Crawford Public Library in Monticello, with the 2019 award.

Helen Rados strongly believes in the mission of public libraries. She is a founding member of the EBCPL Friends group and has, since the beginning of the organization in 2010, served as President, Vice-President, and Secretary.

This year alone, she organized the biggest Friends fundraiser (a bus trip to Lily Dale), advocated for the library to nearly double its video game collection, secured funding for a new STEM Kit program, assisted with a very successful Star Wars Day event (helping to train over 60 future Jedi), and served as judge for the Sullivan County Battle of the Books. Helen also shares responsibility for the Friends social media accounts, always promoting library events online as well.

Helen works closely with the library director and youth services librarian and regularly drops by to donate items she picked up for a program, craft or event. In 2016 she was chosen as the library's first "Friend of the Year." Helen is a regular at local farmers markets where she helps host outreach tables and pop-up storytimes. She has led programs in the outdoor story garden, organized fund-raisers for the community Bagel Festival, spearheaded a planning committee for the library's annual Fall Family Fun Day Event, and served as a volunteer coordinator for the first Sullivan County Youth Book Festival.

Helen's service doesn't stop when she leaves the library. She is on the boards of several other community organizations, including the Literacy Volunteers and Professional Women of Sullivan County. She regularly volunteers with the Federation for the Homeless. "She is an inspiration and a testament to how one person can have such a profound impact on a library, and thus, on the community as a whole" notes her nominator Cheryl Shelton Jones.

Helen Rados was elected to the Ramapo Catskill Library System Board of Trustees and is beginning her second term. She takes great pride in serving on various committees, including the Annual Meeting Awards Committee. She regularly attends the NYLA Annual Conference, bringing all she has learned back to her positions to share with those who were unable attend. Two new fundraisers are in the works, ideas brought to the library after Helen was inspired at a conference. Helen regularly attends NYLA Advocacy Day in Albany to speak with legislators on behalf of her library, the system, and libraries as a whole.

In Mary Paige Lang-Clouse's letter of support (one of six such letters), she notes that Helen is "the full package" who is not only a "doer" but is willing to meet, explore ideas, and implement projects in cooperation with others. "She is the very definition of an advocate." Congratulations to Helen Rados and Friends of the Ethelbert B. Crawford Public Library!

Helen will receive the FLS Daniel W. Casey Library Advocacy Award during the FLS Annual Membership Meeting at the NYLA Annual Conference in Saratoga Springs on Friday, November 15.

The following four nominees have received Certificates of Merit in commendation of their dedicated service to libraries.

Ann Hayes of the Big Flats Library
Friends of the Pleasant Valley Library
Friends of the Maxwell Memorial Library

Suzanne and Lou Dawes of the Friends of the Newburgh Free Library for their teamwork and creative attention to enhancing communication within the community served.

Thanks to Terry Mulee, Editor of FLS Friends News and Notes newsletter, for sharing the information on the FLS Scholarship and Award Recipients and FLS Daniel W. Casey Library Advocacy Award.

Photos of the Week

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.



ABOVE: A pleasantly surprised Helen Rados is presented flowers by Randall Enos, FLS President Emeritus upon being told she won the FLS Daniel W. Casey Library Advocacy Award for 2019.

LEFT: Helen with her husband James Goldfarb

Thanks to Cheryl Jones, Youth Services Librarian at the Ethelbert B. Crawford Public Library, for sharing the photos!

National Friends of Libraries Week

Friends of Libraries groups have their very own national week of celebration! United for Libraries will coordinate the 14th annual National Friends of Libraries Week **October 20-26, 2019**. The celebration offers a two-fold opportunity to celebrate Friends. Use the time to creatively promote your group in the community, to raise awareness, and to promote membership. This is also an excellent opportunity for your library and Board of Trustees to recognize the Friends for their help and support of the library.

For ideas, resources and even a free recorded webinar, visit the [United for Libraries website](#).

National Friends of Libraries Week Awards

Two Friends groups will be awarded \$250 each in honor of the celebration they will hold during National Friends of Libraries Week, October 20-26, 2019. For more information and to apply, visit the [United for Libraries website](#). Applications must be received by **Wednesday, December 4, 2019**.

NYLA Friends of Libraries Section

Stephen Hoefler, NYLA FLS Treasurer

The mission of the [Friends of Libraries Section](#) (FLS) of the New York Library Association is to promote and inspire local Friends groups in libraries of all types for the betterment of New York State's library community.

The benefits of membership include:

- **F**riends News and Notes quarterly newsletter.
- **R**educed NYLA membership rates for Friends and Friends groups.
- **I**nspiration for new ideas, projects and activities to promote your Friends group and your library.
- **E**ngage in advocacy for libraries locally and statewide.
- **N**etwork with Friends groups across the state.
- **D**aniel W. Casey Library Advocacy Award, Randall Enos Conference Scholarship and FLS Dewey Fellowship.
- **S**pecial registration rate for NYLA Annual Conference and to attend FLS Webinars for Free!



Consider selecting FLS as your primary section when you [join NYLA or renew your NYLA membership](#). It's the *Friendly* thing to do. For a hard copy of the FLS membership form, visit the [NYLA website](#).

New Resource on Census 2020 from New York State Library

The New York State Library is pleased to announce the release of the [Census 2020 Resources](#) web page. In an effort to count every person living in the United States, by April 1, 2020 the U.S. Census Bureau will have sent out invitations to participate in the 2020 Census, the first decennial census to be administered online. The web page was created by the New York State Library as a resource to emphasize the important role libraries play in creating awareness of the Census and by providing internet access for completing the Census online.



The sites listed on this web page include complete count information; resources from the U.S. Census Bureau, ALA, and NYLA; a LibGuide created by the New York Library Complete Count Statewide Committee;

resources for non-English-speaking populations; resources for hard to count disabled community; promotional materials; webinars; resources for educators and partners; and information on newsletters and e-mail lists.

Forthcoming Bestsellers

Grace Riario, RCLS Executive Director

The Autumn 2019 issue of [Forthcoming Bestsellers](#), a handy guide to up-and-coming new books, is now online. Member libraries' staff can duplicate or direct their patrons to the PDF.

This list is one of four produced during the year as predicted and derived from *Publisher's Weekly*, *Library Journal*, *Booklist*, Brodart or Baker & Taylor lists, etc. According to the publishers' schedules, the titles will be released during the upcoming three months.

For best results, place copies of the list near your New Books area or at the Circulation Desk.

The Editors for this edition are Patty Sussmann, Newburgh Free Library; Lisa Hewel, Josephine Louise Public Library; and Eileen Acosta, RCLS.

WATCH FOR THESE BLOCKBUSTERS

RCLS Autumn Bestsellers

THIS LIST EDITED BY: PATTY SUSSMANN • NEWBURGH FREE LIBRARY, LISIA HEWEL • JOSEPHINE LOUISE PUBLIC LIBRARY and EILEEN ACOSTA • RCLS CATALISS LIBRARY SYSTEM

OCTOBER

Chick, Lee. *Just Above*. The 9/11 toll in the Dak. Reader sees Irish teacher helping out an elderly couple and trying to achieve justice that only comes along once in a blue moon.

Connelly, Michael. *Night Fire*. Bosch and Ballard come together to work on a murder case that changed Harry's number who has just died. Did he want the case solved or buried?

DeMille, Nelson & Demille, Alex. *The Doctor*. A new thriller with an unconventional military investigator searching for an extremely dangerous disease.

Garrison, Lisa. *The Shape of Night*. A woman tries to run from her past and moves to coastal Maine where mystery, romance, and suspense follow her.

Graham, John. *The Guardians*. Guardian Ministries is a small insurance group founded by a government agent called John Quincy Miller who formed, convinced, and sent to prison for life. He writes a letter to the Guardians and the investigation is on.

Hilbard, Eric. *Final Figures on Paradise*. A widow returns to the Caribbean to get to the bottom of her deceased husband's double life.

Hill, Lisa. *Just Friends*. In this material collection of short fiction, Joe Hill discusses tensions between struggles in human relations tales of supernatural suspense.

Milerman, Josh. *Melrose*. It's been eight years since Mindboggled Melrose coped with her children in a sanctuary. A sequel to *Firefly*.

Moyes, Jojo. *The Girl on the Train*. Based on a true story and set during the Great Depression, the author tells the tale of extraordinary women as they journey into the mountains of Kentucky.

Steele, Danielle. *Child's Play*. Kate keeps a tight rein on her family, her career, her own emotions, never wondering if she really knows her children or if her hopes for them are the right ones, and what they want. She is about to find out.

Stout, Elizabeth. *Green Again*. Priddy Oliva Knowledge returns in this novel, making observations about herself and the people in her hometown in Maine.

Sundberg, Adam. *Along Came*. It's up to Vigil Flowers to find the murderer between two hostile college departments as the dead becomes deadly.

Woods, Stuart. *Swath*. Stone Barrington must trap a ruthless defector.

NOVEMBER

Haldane, David. *A Friend at Midnight*. FBI Agent Alfred Pine returns to her Georgia hometown to improve the investigation of her twin sister's abduction, only to encounter a serial killer possessing a range of terror.

& More...



Share your library news with the

RCLS Weekly Memo

Send your press ready article to

rclsmemo@rcls.org

October Workshops — All are Free, unless otherwise noted

✓ Algorithms in Everyday Life: How Hidden Biases Impact Our Most Vulnerable Neighbors

Schedule:

Tuesday, October 8 from 10 am to 1 pm at the Valley Cottage Library [Register](#) **OR**

Tuesday, October 22 from 10 am to 1 pm at the Ramapo Catskill Library System [Register](#)

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 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.

✓ Introduction to Foundation Directory Online

Thursday, October 10 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Location: Newburgh Free Library

Learn how to use Foundation Directory Online (FDO) to find funding for your non-profit organization. We'll show you how to navigate the database, organize your search and interpret the results to find the right match for your needs.

Register: [RCLS Calendar](#) Limited seating

✓ Is Facial Recognition Technology Providing You with a Full Picture?

Wednesday, October 16 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Location: RCLS Headquarters

The use of Artificial Intelligence technology within agencies and companies is increasingly accelerating, especially given the widespread adoption of Facial Recognition technology. There are obvious security and bias concerns given this technology, such as the leaking of biometric information or the fact that much of this technology has been shown to not work for those with darker skin tones. However, I trace how facial recognition and newly developed emotion recognition are being sold to public agencies by private vendors, and point to specific dangers that one needs to be aware of when thinking about the large scale adoption of these technologies.

Presenter: Varoon Mathur, a Technology Fellow, conducts interdisciplinary research on the social implications of machine learning and related technologies on public domains. Varoon joins AI Now after serving as a Microsoft Data Science for Social Good Fellow and earning his software engineering degree from UBC with a focus on machine learning.

Register: [RCLS website](#)

✓ Working Together to Get Everyone Counted!

Schedule:

Wednesday, October 16 from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Blauvelt Free Library [Register](#) OR

Wednesday, October 30 from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Ethelbert B. Crawford Public Library, Monticello [Register](#) OR

Thursday, October 31 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Goshen Public Library and Historical Society [Register](#)

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.

Presenter: Grace Riario, RCLS Executive Director

✓ 2020 Census Training

Schedule:

Thursday, October 17 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. RCLS Headquarters [Register](#) OR

Thursday, October 24 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Ethelbert B. Crawford Public Library, Monticello [Register](#)

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

✓ Building Children's and Teen Spaces

Tuesday, October 22 from 2:00 pm. to 4:00 p.m.

Location: RCLS Headquarters

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 staff who have gone through it! What did they enjoy, learn and wish they had known before their libraries were built?

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

Register: [RCLS Calendar](#)

✓ 101: Basic Library Trustee Education

Tuesday, October 29 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Location: Haverstraw King's Daughters Public Library

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 the 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 Executive Director

Register: [RCLS Calendar](#)

October Webinars — All are Free, unless otherwise noted

✓ What Data Does Your Community Need the Most?

Tuesday, October 1 from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

As the government publishes more of its data online, libraries can provide expert guidance about what information to prioritize. But what data does the community need most, and what are the challenges to getting that data published? Hear what public libraries in Washington State are doing to get community-centered data online, and learn about the latest research on local data needs.

Presenter: [Bree Norlander](#), MLIS, project coordinator for the Open Data Literacy project at the [University of Washington](#).

Register: [First Tuesday website](#)

✓ Getting Started with LibraryAware?

Wednesday, October 9 from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. OR

Thursday, October 24 from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

New to LibraryAware? Join us for an overview of the many ways you can use LibraryAware to quickly create professional-looking promotional materials for your library. We'll show you step-by-step how to use our most popular templates for print, e-mail, and social media so you'll be ready to start creating right away. With our drag and drop editor, working in LibraryAware has never been faster or easier!

Register: [LibraryAware website](#)

✓ Library Newsletters: Best Practices

Thursday, October 10 from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. (bonus training from 3:00 p.m. to 3:15 p.m.)

One of the most effective ways for a library to connect with patrons (and staff) is through e-mail, whether through regularly scheduled newsletters or occasional e-mail blasts. Hear from three libraries featured in the [white paper on newsletter best practices](#) who have stepped up their newsletter game and seen results.

Whether you are thinking of launching a newsletter or want a fresh look for the one you are currently sending, you are going to benefit from this webinar.

After the webinar, a 15-minute training session will show how to implement these ideas right away using LibraryAware.

Register: [Novelist website](#)

✓ Baby and Me at the Library!

Thursday, October 17 from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Imagine if one of the first public places families go with their new babies is to the public library...and then they never stop!

In this webinar, participants will learn how the library can welcome, celebrate, and support families with new babies, helping them to develop an early and lifelong love of libraries. Participants will also gain knowledge in positioning their library as an early literacy leader in the community, through effective partnership building and outreach. Multiple resources will be shared, including free templates for Baby's First Library Card that libraries may customize and use.

Presenter: Brigid Hubberman, Founder of the Children's Reading Connection, and long-time literacy innovator and advocate. For more information about Children's Reading Connection visit [their website](#).

Register: [NYSED website](#) The webinar will be recorded and archived.

✓ Scams, Fraud and Identity Theft: How Libraries Can Help

Thursday, October 17 from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Consumers are faced with increasingly complex scams and schemes used to defraud millions of people each year. As libraries strive to increase the digital and information literacy skills of their patrons, and provide timely and effective strategies for fraud protection, keeping up with options for consumer protection can be overwhelming. This webinar will explore the free resources available in multiple languages and formats provided by the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) that can be used by your patrons to protect their identity and to recognize and avoid scams. You'll also hear how Johnson County Library is partnering with local agencies to provide programs and resources to empower consumers in their community.

Presenters: Carol Kando-Pineda, Counsel, Division of Consumer and Business Education, Federal Trade Commission; and Marty Johannes, Careers/Personal Finance Librarian, Johnson County Library (KS)

Register: [WebJunction website](#)

✓ Public Libraries Partner to Respond to the Opioid Crisis

Wednesday, October 30 from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

As communities across the country experience the impact of the opioid epidemic, public library staff are finding themselves on the front line of this public health crisis. How should libraries engage? [Public Libraries Respond to the Opioid Epidemic with Their Community](#) is an IMLS-funded project led by OCLC and PLA to expand libraries' capacity to support their communities. The project studied a diverse set of communities where the library is an active partner in addressing the epidemic and facilitated discussions with library leaders and a range of government, public health, and community organizations. Presenters will share insights gained from the case studies and emerging practices, opportunities, and challenges, and share resources to help library staff guide their libraries' response to the opioid crisis. This is the first in a series of webinars on this topic, highlighting the project findings.

Register: [WebJunction website](#)

RCLS 2020 Budget Hearings

The RCLS Board of Trustees approved the 2020 RCLS Operating Budget at its Monday, August 19 meeting. Budget information packets have been provided to RCLS member library Directors and Board Presidents. The Budget Documents are also available on the RCLS website.

RCLS Executive Director Grace Riario, Fiscal Officer Stephen Hoefler and RCLS Trustees will attend the Budget Hearings to provide information and answer questions about the 2020 Budget.

Please use the RCLS online calendar to register, as the Hearings will be canceled if fewer than five people register.

The scheduled dates are:

- **Rockland County Budget Hearing**
Wednesday, October 2, from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Suffern Free Library
[Deadline for registration is Monday, September 30.](#)
- **Orange County Budget Hearing**
Thursday, October 3, from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
RCLS Headquarters, Middletown
[Deadline for registration is Monday, September 30.](#)
- **Sullivan/Ulster Counties Budget Hearing**
Monday, October 7, from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Ethelbert B. Crawford Public Library, Monticello
[Deadline for registration is Friday, October 4.](#)

Do not hesitate to contact Grace Riario (ext. 233 or griario@rcls.org) or Stephen Hoefler (ext. 223 or shoefler@rcls.org) if you have any questions about the Budget documents.

Note that the Ballot for approving the 2020 RCLS Budget must be returned to RCLS headquarters on or before **Friday, December 6.**

HBO Films Emotional Scene at Newburgh Free Library

Middletown (N.Y.) Times Herald-Record, Sept. 19

Newburgh Free Library Director Chuck Thomas got a front-row seat to the action September 18 as he spent the day watching actor Mark Ruffalo and an HBO crew film a dramatic scene for an upcoming limited series based on a Wally Lamb novel of the same name, *I Know This Much Is True*. Ruffalo and a group of background actors performing as library staff and patrons repeatedly practiced a scene, set in the 1990s, in which Ruffalo’s character makes an impassioned spiritual statement protesting the Gulf War and uses a knife to sacrificially cut off his right hand.



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

Wednesday, 2 CANCELED

Cybersecurity Group rescheduled Wednesday 23

Wednesday, 2

[RCLS 2020 Budget Hearing](#), Suffern – 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, 3

[RCLS 2020 Budget Hearing](#), RCLS – 7:00 p.m.

Friday, 4

RCLS COSAG, RCLS – 10:00 a.m.

Monday, 7

Battle of the Books / RCLS Teen Librarians, RCLS – 9:00 a.m.

Monday, 7

[RCLS 2020 Budget Hearing](#), Monticello – 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, 8

[Algorithms in Everyday Life: How Hidden Biases Impact Our Most Vulnerable Neighbors](#), Valley Cottage – 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday, 9

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

Thursday, 10

LARC-Teen Librarians, Nanuet – 10:00 a.m.

Thursday, 10

[Introduction to Foundation Directory Online](#), Newburgh, – 11:30 a.m.

Friday, 11

SUPLA, Monticello – 9:30 a.m.

Monday, 14

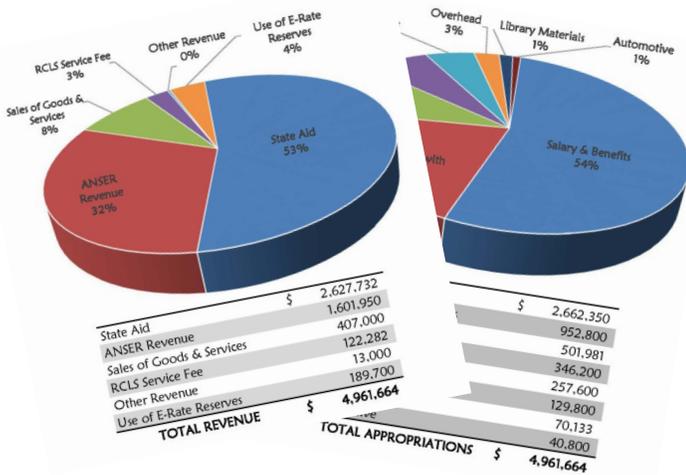
**Columbus Day—RCLS CLOSED
NO DELIVERIES**

RCLS Headquarters E-mail and Extension Directory (845.243.3747)

Grace Riario	Executive Director	233
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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

Ramapo Catskill Library System
presents

RCLS 2020 Budget Hearings



Rockland County

Suffern Free Library
210 Lafayette Avenue
Suffern, NY
845-357-1237

Wednesday, October 2

7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

[Register here](#)

Orange County

RCLS Headquarters
619 Route 17M
Middletown, NY
845-243-3747

Thursday, October 3

7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

[Register here](#)

Sullivan/Ulster County

Ethelbert B. Crawford
Public Library
479 Broadway
845-794-4660

Monday, October 7

7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

[Register here](#)

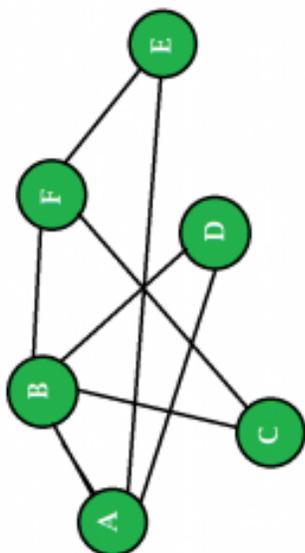
Grace Riario, RCLS Executive Director; Stephen Hoefler, RCLS Fiscal Officer and RCLS Trustees will present the RCLS 2020 Operating Budget to member library Trustees and Directors. Ample opportunity will be allowed for attendees to ask questions and for discussion. A copy of the RCLS 2020 Operating Budget along with related documents were distributed to every member library Director and each Board President.

Registration

Registration is required. Use the [RCLS online calendar](#) to guarantee your seat today. A minimum of 5 registrants is required or meeting will be canceled.



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

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.

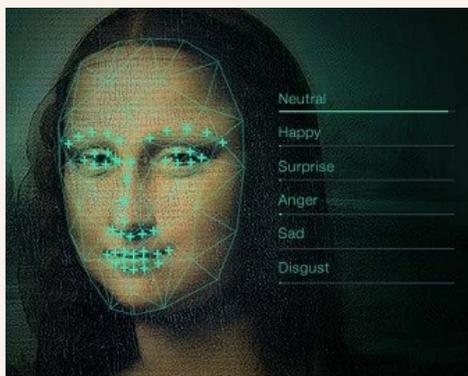
Davis worked with Mozilla Foundation to review and update their web literacy curriculum, resulting in the launch of Mozilla's Core Curriculum for Web Literacy in March 2018. In addition to planning and emceeding METRO's symposia series, Davis has designed and facilitated workshops on data privacy and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



Ramapo Catskill Library System
presents



Is Facial Recognition Technology Providing You with a Full Picture?

The use of Artificial Intelligence technology within agencies and companies is increasingly accelerating, especially given the widespread adoption of Facial Recognition technology. There are obvious security and bias concerns given this technology, such as the leaking of biometric information or the fact that much of this technology has been shown to not work for those with darker skin tones. However, the workshop will show how facial recognition and newly developed emotion recognition are being sold to public agencies by private vendors, and point to specific dangers that one needs to be aware when thinking about the large scale adoption of these technologies.

**Wednesday,
October 16,
2019**

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

**Ramapo Catskill
Library System**

619 Route 17M
Middletown, NY
845.243.3747

Presenter

Varoon Mathur, as a Technology Fellow, Varoon conducts interdisciplinary research on the social implications of machine learning and related technologies on public domains. Varoon joins AI Now after serving as a Microsoft Data Science for Social Good Fellow and earning his software engineering degree from UBC with a focus on machine learning. He is also a global health activist, and is a Coordinating Committee Fellow with Universities Allied for Essential Medicines, a student-driven NGO focused on access to medicines issues for the vulnerable and marginalized population. He has advised on global health policy and research at the World Health Organization and is a former TEDx Speaker.

Registration

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



Ramapo Catskill Library System
presents



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.



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

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

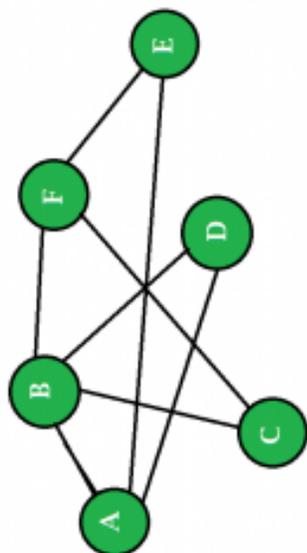
Mario Garcia, Partnership Specialist - Lower Hudson Valley Region/U.S. Census Bureau

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.

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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

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.





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 Hofer - RCLS Fiscal Officer

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



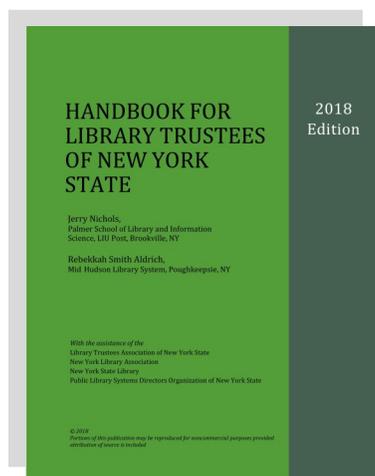
Ramapo Catskill Library System

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.

Light dinner will be served at 5:30pm.

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.

