



Weekly Memo

Serving Member Libraries Since 1959

Grace Riario • Executive Director/Outreach Coordinator

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

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

October 14, 2019

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- ✓ [ANSER Manual](#)
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- ✓ [Autumn Forthcoming Bestsellers](#)
- ✓ [2020 Operating Budget](#)
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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.

The Personnel and Finance Committee will meet **Wednesday, October 16** at 4:00 p.m. at RCLS.

These are open meetings and all



Working Together to Get Everyone Counted!

Libraries are called upon once again to assist people to participate in the 2020 Census. For the first time, the Census will be completed online. Libraries, with no extra funds or resources, will be helping our communities navigate the 2020 Census portal, answer questions and make sure everyone is counted.

What can the libraries offer our communities with the resources they currently have? This question will be addressed during the *Working Together to Get Everyone Counted!* workshop. Plan to join us for a discussion about what we need to consider before helping our communities. Together we can 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.



The workshops will take place on:

- **Rockland County:** Wednesday, October 16 at 2 p.m. at the Blauvelt Free Library.
- **Sullivan/Ulster County:** Wednesday, October 30 at 2 p.m. at the Ethelbert B. Crawford Library, Monticello.
- **Orange County:** Thursday, October 31 at 11 a.m. at the Goshen Public Library after an OLA Meeting at 10 a.m.

Please register to participate through the [RCLS Calendar](#).

Libraries Transform Book Pick

ALA Communications and Marketing Office, Oct. 7

Readers nationwide can now borrow and discuss the first e-book selection of the [Libraries Transform Book Pick](#), a new digital reading program from ALA and Rakuten OverDrive. During the reading period **October 7–21**, book lovers across the US can borrow an ebook copy of the riveting saga *After the Flood* by Cassandra Montag at public libraries without any waitlists or holds. Readers will only need a library card and the [Libby app](#) to download and read the e-book, then discuss via social media. The Libraries Transform Book Pick is a collaboration between *Booklist*, Libraries Transform, and OverDrive.



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News Worthy

National

- [Fort Worth Library drops late fees, forgives \\$461,000 in fines](#) | Fort Worth Star-Telegram 9.30.19
- [Major publisher puts sharp limits on libraries lending new eBooks](#) | KAKE-ABC 9.29.19
- [Search Amazon And Find If Your Library Has The Book For Free](#) | Forbes 9.29.19
- [Publishers limit libraries' ability to provide eBooks](#) | Chillicothe Gazette 9.28.19
- [Video Takes You On a Tour of Some of the Most Magnificent Libraries in the World](#) | Good News Network 9.28.19
- [Enjoy Free Internet at the Library? You Can Thank This Woman](#) | Wired 9.27.19
- [Libraries & Archivists Are Digitizing 480,000 Books Published in 20th Century Limiting library e-books a blow to literacy](#) | San Antonio Express News 9.27.19
- [Libraries & Archivists Are Digitizing 480,000 Books Published in 20th Century That Are Secretly in the Public Domain](#) | Open Culture 9.27.19
- ['Hopepunk' and storytelling](#) | Greenfield Recorder 9.26.19
- [Brooklyn Libraries On Their Way To 'Net Zero' CO2 Emissions](#) | Patch 9.25.19

Nominations Close October 21 for I Love My Librarian

ALA Communications and Marketing Office, Oct. 8

Library users have until October 21 to nominate superstar librarians for ALA's prestigious I Love My Librarian Award. Members of the public can submit nominations [online](#) for



library professionals who have transformed communities and improved lives. The award recognizes the outstanding public service contributions of librarians working

in public, school, college, community college, or university libraries in the US. This year's award winners will each receive a \$5,000 cash prize, a plaque, and a travel stipend to attend the award ceremony in Philadelphia on January 25 during the ALA Midwinter Meeting.

First Amendment Audits in Public Libraries

Intellectual Freedom Blog, Oct. 2

Deborah Caldwell-Stone writes, "A loosely organized social media campaign to 'audit' government spaces and agencies for alleged First Amendment violations has begun to target public libraries. The individuals and groups undertaking these self-described 'First Amend-



ment audits' claim a right to film in any space accessible to the public, arguing that they're entitled to do so as taxpayers and citizen journalists. Based on their output, their goal is to create videos of their encounters with police, security officers, and public officials that document a claimed violation of the cameraperson's rights. Here are some guidelines and resources."

October is Health Literacy Month

Helen Osborne, M.Ed., OTR/L, founder of Health Literacy Month, shares advice for public library staff and management



on how important clearly communicating about health is and how your library can help patrons find relevant, readable, credible, up-to-date health resources. Visit the [WebJunction website](#) for more information.

Photo of the Week



This photo taken at the New City Library shows the turnout of literacy tutors (45+ people) looking to coach new arrivals to the USA to become citizens. The program, one of the winners of the *RCLS Literacy Mini-Grant Program*, is targeted toward providing improved literacy skills, citizen information or training to become a U.S. citizen and English as a Second Language (ESL) classes. The goal is to create a Citizenship Coaching Center as an additional service of the Literacy Solutions tutor program being managed and headquartered at the New City Library. The Center will serve as a hub for training volunteer literacy tutors to work in RCLS member libraries countywide as citizenship coaches for applicants in the process of preparing for a U.S. Citizenship interview and exam.

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.

Share your library news with the
RCLS Weekly Memo
Send your press ready article to
rclsmemo@rcls.org



Friends of Moffat Library November Bus Trip

Please join the Friends of the Moffat Library to experience the Susquehanna River Valley’s [Street of Shops](#) in Lewisburg, PA. Over 375 shops located in a restored, historic woolen mill...folk art, tin ware, pottery, art glass, dolls and more to help with holiday gift-giving.

A luxury West Point motor coach (with lavatory) leaves **Saturday, November 16** at 7:30 a.m. from St. Mary’s Church parking lot (42 Goshen Ave., Washingtonville, NY) and arrives at Street of Shops at approximately 10:30 a.m. for shopping and lunch on your own. Located completely indoors, this country village offers one of the most unique shopping experiences in the east. Open seven days a week year round, featuring a wide selection of merchandise including art glass, artwork, custom jewelry, baskets, primitive country, candles, tin ware, antiques, pottery, vintage furniture, Pennsylvania handcrafted items, historical collectibles and much more. The bus will depart at 4:30 p.m. for the return to Washingtonville.

The cost is \$45/person, which includes driver gratuity. Please make checks payable to “FOML” no later than **Wednesday, November 6:**

FOML
C/O Moffat Library
6 West Main Street
Washingtonville, NY 10992
For additional information call 845.783.6107.

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

Tuesday, 15

[eContent Buyers Session](#), RCLS – 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday, 16

[Is Facial Recognition technology providing you with a full picture?](#), RCLS – 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday, 16

[Working together to get everyone counted!](#), Blauvelt – 2:00 p.m.

Wednesday, 16

RCLS Personnel and Finance Committee, RCLS – 4:00 p.m.

Thursday, 17

[2020 Census Training](#), RCLS – 10:00 a.m.

Saturday, 19

The Great Give Back – Is your library participating?

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.

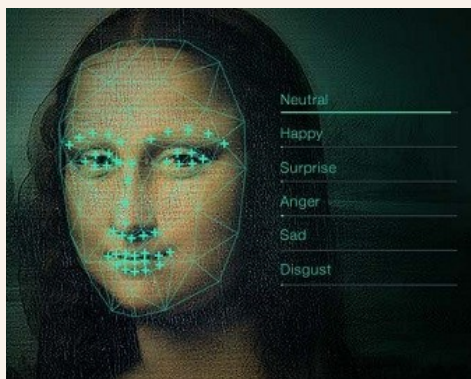
Thursday, 24

[2020 Census Training](#), Monticello – 10:00 a.m.

RCLS Headquarters E-mail and Extension Directory (845.243.3747)

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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

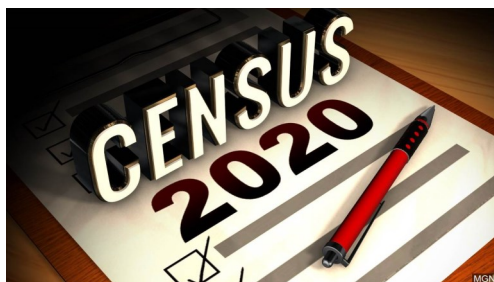
Varoon Mathur, as a Technology Fellow, Varoon conducts interdisciplinary research on the social implications of machine learning and related technologies on public domains. Varoon joins AI Now after serving as a Microsoft Data Science for Social Good Fellow and earning his software engineering degree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

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Ramapo Catskill Library System
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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

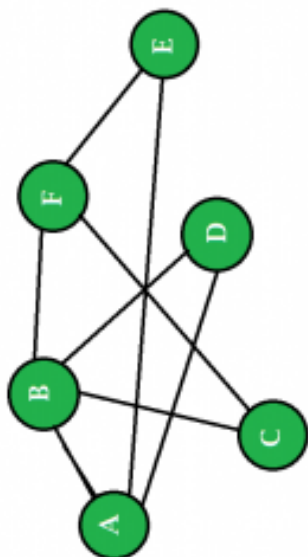
Mario Garcia, Partnership Specialist - Lower Hudson Valley Region/U.S. Census Bureau

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.

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 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.

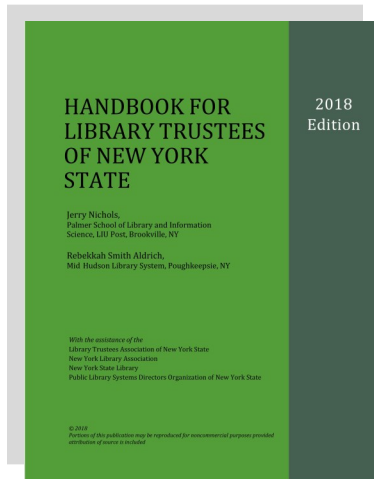


Ramapo Catskill Library System

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.

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.

