



# Weekly Memo

Serving Member Libraries Since 1959

Grace Riario • Executive Director

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

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November 25, 2019

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## RCLS Board Talking Points



At its Monday, November 18 meeting, the RCLS Board of Trustees had the following Talking Points:

- Welcomed Jennifer Park to the position of Community Engagement and Talent Development Specialist as of January 2, 2020.
- Acknowledged that the 2020 Census is coming to fruition and the part libraries will play.
- Save the date: **Tuesday, February 25, 2020** for NYLA Library Advocacy Day in Albany.
- Save the date: **Friday, September 25, 2020** for the RCLS Legislative Breakfast and Annual Meeting.

The Talking Points will be elaborated on in the Minutes of the November Board meeting, which will be posted to the [RCLS website](#) about a week before the next regular meeting on **Monday, December 16** at RCLS. The current materials are available on the website (Minutes/Financial Reports and Executive Director's Report). If you have any questions about the Talking Points, contact Grace Riario at RCLS (243.3747, ext. 233 or [e-mail](#)).

## Census Results Tied to Federal Library Funding

[ALA Public Policy and Advocacy Office, Nov. 19](#)

A [new analysis](#) released November 18 reveals that more than \$1 billion in federal funding for libraries will be allocated to states based on the 2020 Census. Published by Andrew Reamer of the George Washington Institute of Public Policy, the study pinpoints the financial impact the census will have on libraries. The population count in the decennial census determines the level of funding allotted to each state through LSTA, which provides federal funding to state library agencies to support libraries. The program is one of more than 300 federal programs that allocates funding to local communities based on data derived from the census.



## What's New at Your State Library!

If you were unable to attend the State Library programs and meetings at the NYLA Conference, you can check out: [What's New at Your State Library!](#)

## News Worthy

### Regional

- [The Accelerator hosts second annual Emerging Leaders Youth Conference](#) | Mid-Hudson Times 11.21.19
- [Pleasant Valley Library rises from ashes with more visitors, plan for \\$3M renovation](#) | Pleasant Valley Free Library 11.18.19
- [How Dutchess County is working to close the digital divide](#) | Poughkeepsie Public Library District | Poughkeepsie Journal 11.13.19
- [Julia Phillips, National Book Award finalist, to speak at Goshen Library](#) | The Chronicle 11.12.19

### National

- [Washington Post places Citrus in national spotlight with NY Times story](#) | Citrus County Chronicle 11.6.19
- [ALA Responds to Citrus County New York Times Block](#) | American Libraries Magazine 11.5.19
- [Commissioners call New York Times 'fake news,' deny library funding for digital subscriptions](#) | Tampa Bay Times 11.5.19

### International

- [Swedish government grants \\$175,000 to fund drag queen story hours for children](#) | Pink News 11.10.19
- [The first generations of 'digi kids' are struggling with literacy as experts warn against screen time](#) | ABC News Australia 11.10.19

## NYS Complete Count Commission's Final Report

The New York State Complete Count Commission has released its final report recommending measures to reach hard-to-count (HTC) communities in the 2020 Census. A number of challenges are identified in the roadmap where libraries can help break down barriers to a complete count, including a lack of motivation or fear in providing personal information to the federal government and a lack of digital connectivity for many populations. Recommendations related to how libraries can help to get a complete count include leveraging trusted voices and organizations in the community to talk about the importance of the Census; using youth-facing organizations to emphasize the importance of counting children under five; forming complete count committees; and establishing "Census Assistance Centers" to increase internet access across the state and help people complete their Census questionnaires. HTC populations in our region include renters, New Americans, young children and families, people with limited internet connectivity and seniors with limited technology experience.



The Census Bureau has established a map where community members who want to work on the Census can post or locate complete count committees. To access the map visit the [United States Census Bureau website](#).

A PDF of the full census report is available on the [New York Government website](#).

### ALA Sullivan Award

The Sullivan Award recognizes an individual who has shown exceptional understanding and support of public library service to children while having general management, supervisory and administrative responsibility that has included public service to children in its scope. This award is presented annually.

The annual award consists of a commemorative gift and a gold-framed citation.

For more information and nomination form, visit the [ALA website](#). The deadline for nominations is **Saturday, February 1**.

### US Postage Stamp to Honor Librarian Anne Spencer

*Black Christian News Network One, October 25*

A poet, librarian, and civil rights activist from Lynchburg, Virginia, will be honored in the US Postal Service's 2020 Forever stamp series. Anne Spencer, who died in 1975, is included in the recently unveiled "Voices of the Harlem Renaissance" series. Spencer was Lynchburg's [first African-American librarian](#). She was the first librarian of the Dunbar branch of the Jones Memorial Library, where she served from 1923 until 1945. The branch was located inside Paul Laurence Dunbar High School and served the African-American residents of Lynchburg.



## Photos of the Week



Above: New York Library Association (NYLA) Friends of Libraries Section (FLS) Randall Enos Conference Scholarship recipients (L to R) Meg Sgombick from the Friends of the Florida Public Library, presenter Randall Enos, former RCLS Youth Services Consultant and Marianne Michaud from the Friends of the Fairport Public Library.

Left: (L to R) Leslie S. W. Riley, former RCLS Public Services Consultant presents the Daniel W. Casey Library Advocacy Award to Helen Rados, President of the Friends of the Ethelbert B. Crawford Public Library in Monticello and RCLS Trustee

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](mailto:rclsmemo@rcls.org) with 'Photo of the Week' in the subject line.

## December Workshops — All are Free, unless otherwise noted

### ✓ Adult Program Roundtable

**Tuesday, December 3 at 10:30 a.m.**

**Location:** Newburgh

Library programmers can share information on presenters, performers and best practices in library programming. Bring copies of flyers from your most successful programs of the past year and business cards from performers. To be more eco-friendly we ask that you bring only one copy of each flyer or business card, and that attendees take pictures of them with their phones.

**Register:** [RCLS calendar](#)

### ✓ Revamp Your Early Learning Space

**Wednesday, December 4 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. @ Monticello**

**Register:** [RCLS calendar](#)

**Thursday, December 5 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. @ Nanuet**

**Register:** [RCLS calendar](#)

**Friday, December 6 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. @ RCLS**

**Register:** [RCLS calendar](#)

Does your children's room need an update? Sign up for one of the *Revamp Your Early Learning Space* workshops for ideas, inspiration and best practices.

**Presenter:** Marisa Conner, who coordinates the programming and services for children and youth at Baltimore County (Maryland) Public Library. She created Early Learning Activity Centers in all nineteen branches at BCPL and designed the learning components for both Storyvilles, BCPL's award winning early childhood learning environments. She brings twenty-seven years of experience in education and over nine years of experience in public libraries to her work.

All attendees will be eligible to win a \$500 mini grant to update their early learning space.

*This program is made possible by New York Library's State Family Literacy Library Services Grant.*

### ✓ Library Cons and Festivals Demystified

**Tuesday, December 10 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**

**Location:** RCLS Headquarters

Have you thought about starting a library con or book festival at your library, but become overwhelmed at the thought? Our panelists will break down the process of starting a con, festival or other large scale program.

Participants will receive 2 CE hours for Children's Services/Elementary, Young Adult Services

**Panelists:** Jennifer Daddio, Pearl River Library; Danielle DeLorenzo: Port Jervis Free Library; Lisa Laico, Albert Wisner Public Library; and Cheryl Jones, Ethelbert B. Crawford Public Library.

**Snow date:** Wednesday, December 11

**Register:** [RCLS calendar](#)

## December Webinars — All are Free, unless otherwise noted

### ✓ Getting Started with LibraryAware?

**Thursday, December 5 at 2:00 p.m. repeated on**

**Thursday, December 17 at 2:00 p.m.**

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

**Register:** [LibraryAward website](#)

✓ **Writing Boxes: Library programming that will inspire writing and support literacy and family engagement**

**Thursday, December 5 from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

Library staff who serve children understand one of their core missions is to support reading. But what about writing? In this how-to webinar, presenter Lisa Von Drasek will describe Writing Boxes, an “instant” program template that requires very little prep, is easily replicable, inexpensive, works across age groups, and supports increased literacy and community engagement.

She will demonstrate how easy it is to plan and produce a Writing Box program, including modeling one program and offering suggestions on how to structure a program for children and young adults as well as their caregivers. She will cover the essential facets such as selecting developmentally relevant and culturally responsive mentor titles while considering diversity of physical, developmental and cognitive abilities creating a non-threatening and non-judgmental spaces to write.

**Presenter:** [Lisa Von Drasek](#)

**Register:** [Infopeople website](#)

✓ **Doing the Work Externally and Internally: Race, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion**

**Thursday, December 5 from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

How does a library respond to a community in deep crisis around race and social justice? That’s the question that Richland Library in Columbia, S.C. grappled with in 2017. Recognizing that there was no single answer, they launched initiatives on multiple internal and external fronts. Starting with a Social Awareness Taskforce geared toward community engagement and courageous conversations, they explored topics surrounding social and criminal justice, women’s rights and race. By using innovative approaches like Circles of Dialogue and mobile empathy labs, nearly 1,500 people have participated in the library’s race, equity and inclusion programming. To further their efforts, they have also focused internally, empowering staff to lead the charge to understand their biases, macroaggressions, and cultural competence through Let’s Talk gatherings, Check Your Bubble worksheets, and other effective tools. Hearing how Richland Library moved the needle on honest dialogue, empathy, and equity with their staff and community, you will be inspired to dig in and do the work at your own library.

This webinar is part of collaboration with *Library Journal*, highlighting the work of recent LJ Movers & Shakers.

**Presenters:** Richland Library (SC) staff, including Tamara King, Community Relations Director and 2019 Library Journal Mover & Shaker; Ci Ci Holloway, Human Resources Director; and Dee Robinson, Director of Library Experience, Branches

**Register:** [WebJunction](#)

✓ **Community Health Challenges: Training, Language and Programming for Libraries**

**Tuesday, December 17 from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

Public libraries are uniquely positioned to help their communities address substance misuse, homelessness and mental health concerns by connecting residents with accurate information and resources. Libraries are seen by many as safe, neutral spaces; but some topics carry fear and stigma that can have an outsized impact on staff and community members’ ability to respond. Compassionate training, policies, programming, and choice of terminology can help remove barriers that prevent people from seeking help for themselves or others, and give library staff the information and support they need to address this and other public health crises. This webinar will use several examples of library responses to the opioid crisis to highlight approaches, resources, and programs that can help reduce stigma and fear and promote healthier communities.

**Presenters:** Tramaine EL-Amin, Assistant Vice President, Strategic Partnerships, National Council for Behavioral Health; Jessica Styons, Interim Executive Director/City Librarian, New Orleans Public Library; Sheila Prevost, Public Services Administrative Assistant, New Orleans Public Library; and Kendra Morgan, Senior Program Manager, WebJunction.

**Register:** [WebJunction](#)

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## From the Library With Love

*American Libraries Trend, Nov./Dec.*

Anne Ford writes, “Finding love after 50 isn’t always easy. Social norms change, life events like divorce and death leave emotional scars, and it sometimes feels as if the rest of the world has already paired off. Fortunately, there’s the library—not as a place to make romantic connections per se, but as a resource for older adults who want to learn how to navigate the world of online dating. Several public libraries have begun offering programs that help older patrons safely and effectively meet potential partners on the internet. Among those are Westport (Conn.) Public Library, Skokie (Ill.) Public Library, and Billings (Mont.) Public Library.”

## 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](#).

### November

**Monday, 25—Wednesday, 27**

[RCLS Juvenile Book Preview Session](#), RCLS

**Monday, 25—Wednesday, 27**

[Mock Caldecott Book Preview](#), RCLS

**Monday, 25**

CLOUSC, Chester – 9:15 a.m.

**Thursday, 28—Friday, 29**

**Thanksgiving Holiday,  
RCLS CLOSED - NO DELIVERIES**

### December

**Monday, 2**

Battle of the Books and RCLS Teen Librarians, Goshen – 9:30 a.m.

**Tuesday, 3**

[Adult Program Roundtable](#), Newburgh – 10:30 a.m.

**Wednesday, 4**

[Revamp Your Early Learning Space](#), Monticello – 10:00 a.m.

**Thursday, 5**

[Revamp Your Early Learning Space](#), Nanuet – 10:00 a.m.

**Friday, 6**

[Revamp Your Early Learning Space](#), RCLS – 10:00 a.m.

# Happy Thanksgiving



## RCLS Headquarters E-mail and Extension Directory (845.243.3747)

<a href="#">Grace Riario</a> .....	Executive Director/Outreach Coordinator .....	233
<a href="#">Chuck Conklin</a> .....	Delivery & Building Maintenance Supervisor .....	226
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