



# ADVOCATES of the WESTCHESTER LIBRARY SYSTEM

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## Library Advocacy Day *(a/k/a Library Lobby Day)*

Governor Cuomo has released his proposed Executive Budget for FY 2012-13 and has kept Library Aid at the same level as last year's final amount of **\$79 Million**.

Over the last three years, Library Aid has been **cut by 23%**—going from \$102 Million in 2008 to \$79 Million in 2011, which is **below 1994 levels**. An increase of 4% for School Aid is included in the proposed Executive Budget, yet no other educational institution has been asked to operate at 1994 levels.

In conjunction with the Ramapo-Catskill and Mid-Hudson Library Systems, 4 buses are being reserved for the trip to Albany so that library advocates can meet with their State representatives to request the same increase in Library Aid as that given to schools.

### **Come join us on Tuesday, March 6, 2012!**

Buses will be leaving from the following locations:

Tarrytown (Westchester Marriott) ..	6:30 a.m.	New Paltz (Thruway Exit 18 Parking Lot) .	8:30 a.m.
West Nyack (Palisades Center) .....	7:15 a.m.	Kingston (Thruway Exit 19) .....	9:00 a.m.
Newburgh (Newburgh Mall) .....	8:00 a.m.	Catskill (Thruway Exit 21) .....	9:25 a.m.
Return trip leaving Albany .....		3:30 p.m.	

To register, go online to Ramapo-Catskill's webpage via the following link and follow the instructions.

**<http://calendar.rcls.org/>**

**IMPORTANT: WLS is sponsoring the cost of the bus for those attending from Westchester. When registering, be sure to select Westchester Library System as Name of Library so they know not to charge you personally.** Your confirmation will note you have not paid; forward that email to Elise Burke [[eburke@wlsmail.org](mailto:eburke@wlsmail.org)] who is arranging Westchester's payment.

Refreshments, sponsored by the Westchester Library Association (WLA), lobbying information and a schedule of appointments will be provided on all buses. Any other questions, contact Elise Burke at 914-231-3225 or via email at [eburke@wlsmail.org](mailto:eburke@wlsmail.org).

Your participation is extremely vital. We must speak up about the increased use of libraries and the need for more library funding.

Terry L. Kirchner  
*Executive Director*