



GUILDERLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY

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GUILDERLANDLIBRARY.ORG

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Moooooving Forward

**A message from
Library Director
Tim Wiles**

I'd like to start off by thanking you all for your patience as we continue working through the stages of the coronavirus crisis. As I write, New York State is in great shape compared to the rest of the country, and of course we all hope this will continue, despite troubling developments

in many other states. **The library industry was never told by any part of the New York State government which of the four phases of reopening we fall under.** After a while, we figured we were unlikely to get an answer, and so we began devising plans on our own, working in conjunction with our 28 partner libraries in the Upper Hudson Library System (UHLS), as well as with best practices emerging around the state, the country, and the world.

Administrators, Information Technology Staff, and Department Heads have all been busy keeping up with the latest developments in the virus situation and leading a group of innovative staff who have been creatively reinventing services for online delivery wherever possible. This includes maintaining library operations: payroll, bills, building upkeep and virus-related renovations, computer management, and planning for the next budget year—all in a climate of uncertainty and with the added difficulty of doing so remotely, without access to files and other important work tools. The once-simple act of ordering cleaning supplies and Personal Protective Equipment became a quest that involved many employees spending weeks trying every avenue until adequate supplies could be purchased. Perseverance!

Curbside Services

We are delighted that by the time you read this, we will have had **curbside pickup for holds** and the **return of borrowed material** well underway. On the day we shut down, March 13th, there were **17,000 items** checked out to Guilderland patrons, and **thousands more** of our items checked out to patrons of other libraries in UHLS. On a normal day, it would be startling to have 500 items returned in one day, so we hope that not everyone in



Our first curbside customer, Bob Bettcker

town chooses to return immediately. There will be **no fines charged for anything currently checked out**, so feel free to ease into returning books, DVDs, CDs and audiobooks. Please hold off on returning Library of Things items (gadgets, board games, folding tables, etc.) until we are ready to accept them. **Curbside checkouts coming soon - stay tuned!**



Returned items are quarantined for 72 hours in these sheds, then the items' exteriors are sanitized.

You'll find four sheds in our parking lot, with slots put into them to allow you to return materials. Each shed will be open for one day, after which it will be locked for 72 hours, so that we can follow CDC guidelines for quarantining the materials. It is currently thought that all signs of the virus disappear with a 72-hour quarantine.

But we are not taking any chances. After 72 hours, the material will be brought inside, laid out on tables, and zapped with an electrostatic spraying device, which kills bacteria and viruses with a high degree of efficacy. The entire library industry is based on a model of sharing physical objects, and, **unlike a store or restaurant doing curbside service, everything gets returned.** It is essential for the health of our staff and patrons, as well as for the safety of our business model itself, that the materials are virus-free before being checked out to another patron.

We thank the **Guilderland Library Foundation** for their generous purchase of the sheds, along with other monies dedicated to antiviral expenses, which of course we did not budget for. We are grateful in turn for all who support the Foundation financially—they were, perhaps literally, a real lifesaver this time!

Vote Results

While we are thanking people, **we'd like to thank the 7,500 or so voters who sent in their ballots and supported our budget by 64 percent!** A vote of confidence from the community at a time like this is especially appreciated, and we will continue to work hard to maintain your trust and serve you effectively. Conventional wisdom says that since school and library budgets are the only budgets in America over which voters have direct control, the higher the voter turnout, the more likely budgets will not pass. New York State voters made an solid investment in their future, passing over 99% of such budgets this year. Thank you!

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SUMMER READING PROGRAM



Adults, Teens, AND Children All! Register for the "Imagine Your Story" Summer Reading Program on Beanstack! beanstack.guilderlandlibrary.org

On Beanstack, you can track the books you read and earn points toward **fun raffle prizes**:

- **Kids and Teens:** earn extra points by completing special book challenges based on some of your favorite series like Elephant & Piggie and Magic TreeHouse, or on the many series from popular author Rick Riordan.
- **Adults:** read more than 12 books over the challenge period to be entered into a raffle to win one of three prizes: a **\$40 gift card to the Book House of Stuyvesant Plaza.**

Family Storytimes start July 7, and will air Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10 am on the GPL Kids & Families Facebook Page. Request to join today if you haven't already!

We also have **Virtual Storytime-To-Go Kits** on our SRP web page: www.guilderlandlibrary.org/SRP. There you'll find fun eBooks, songs, and rhymes for toddlers and preschoolers that you can share at home together.

Check our **Events Calendar** and social media regularly for updates on exciting **virtual performances**, including: BeeBee the Clown, Magician Jim Snack, Jungle Jim's Magical Balloon Show, a Small Reptiles Animal Show, and Robert Rogers Puppet Company. These will be open for all to enjoy.



FAMILY PROGRAMS

The following programs will be held online, using one of our videoconferencing platforms. You will need either a computer with a microphone and webcam, or a smartphone for these events. **Registration is required for all, indicated by [R].** Click on the **Events calendar on our website, guilderlandlibrary.org**, to register. Please provide your email address so that we can send you a link for the event.

Magician-in-Training Academy

**Self-paced sessions begin Monday, June 29 (join anytime)
Ages 10 and up – adults welcome, too!**

Learn to become a magician with a world-famous magic practitioner! In this eight-session virtual course (we'll send you a new module each week), Magician Tom Verner will be using props you have at home or can buy at your local drug store for only a few dollars.



Instructor Tom Verner founded Magicians Without Borders, performing in over 40 countries for over one million people.

This training isn't just for children; it's great for adults also, perhaps a grandparent who would enjoy the creative challenge of performing magic for the grandkids and their friends, or a business

professional who wants to make a presentation more engaging and entertaining, or a teacher who wants to incorporate magic into their lessons. The possibilities to add magic in your life and work are endless—sign up today! **[R]**

Learn to Draw Comics

**Self-paced sessions with Ira Marcks
beginning Wednesday, July 15**

Get out your pencils and paper! Register today and on July 15, we will send you a link to a series of self-paced videos on diary comics: doodles that have been elevated to drawings that tell a story. In these ten short videos, Ira Marcks will teach us the basics of cartoon storytelling through a diary comic about everyday life. **[R]**

**Live session with GPL's Tom Nucci
Wednesday, July 29 @ 6 pm**

After you have viewed the videos and had a chance to draw your own diary comic, let's meet online on Wednesday, July 29 to show off your work and for a question and answer session (Q&A) with one of GPL's own artists-in-residence, Tom Nucci. Registration is limited to 15 people. **[R]**

Imagination Yoga Zoom Class

Tuesday, July 28 @ 2:30 pm

Join Rebecca Morris-Kencsan, L.M.T, M.A. for an imaginative yoga class full of storytelling through poses, breathing exercises, and using meditation & journaling as a way to kickstart creativity. **[R]**

ADULT PROGRAMS

The following programs will be held online, using one of our videoconferencing platforms. You will need either a computer with a microphone and webcam, or a smartphone for these events. Registration is required for all, indicated by [R]. Click on the Events calendar on our website, guilderlandlibrary.org, to register. Please provide your email address so that we can send you a link for the event.

CULINARY

Cookbook Club: Virtual Edition
Wednesday, July 8 @ 7 pm: Sourdough Starters
 YouTuber Cooper Nelson of *Silently Cooking* discusses sourdough starters! Learn how to make and maintain your own sourdough starter, along with tips and tricks for getting the perfect rise. [R]

Cooking with What's on Hand
Wednesday, July 29 @ 6:30 pm
 Are you cooking in your own kitchen more often these days? Most of us are not shopping as often as we used to and we may see shortages on the shelves when we get there. Karen Roberts Mort from Cornell Cooperative Extension will talk about how to take an inventory of your pantry, fridge and freezer and create simple, healthy meals with what you have in stock. [R]







GARDENING

Evolution of a Garden: Keeping a Garden Journal
Friday, July 10 @ 4 pm
 We're working with Cornell Cooperative Extension to offer this fun gardening program online! Join Mary Carol White, Master Gardener since 2008, for this virtual presentation as she highlights the practical benefits and enjoyment that come from keeping a garden journal. You'll learn from the presenter's 40+ years of journaling about her own varied and extensive gardens. [R]

Gardening in Containers: Fruits, Vegetables and Herbs
Friday, July 17 @ 4 pm
 No soil, poor soil, living in an apartment? You can grow many fruits, vegetables and herbs in containers. Decorate your patio, cultivate delicate plants over the winter, or have an herb garden on your windowsill. Gardening in containers can be the solution. Join Connie Metcalf, Master Gardener with Cornell Cooperative Extension, for this presentation to learn the essentials on adding containers to your garden. [R]

Meeting Online: A Primer
Thursday, July 16 @ 6 pm
 From business meetings, to family chats, to presentations, learn how to use free platforms like Google Hangout and Zoom to get together safely and effectively. In this live, virtual session, Librarian and Digital Technology Trainer Beckett Jarvis-Girtler will walk us through their features and explain the pros and cons of each. [R]

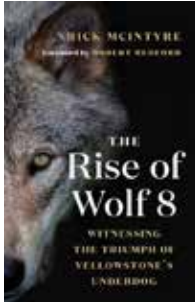




Manage Your Time Workshop: Come with your Challenge!
Tuesday, July 28 @ 6 pm
 Do you struggle with time management? Does time get away from you? Do you have uncompleted goals that you're not sure how to accomplish? Bring your issue as we walk through them together, learning from each other. Share if you'd like during this interactive workshop, but it's not necessary. Come in challenged and leave empowered with your personalized steps to change. All registrants will receive a worksheet to complete (optional, not mandatory) ahead of the virtual program. *Presenter: Rhonda Allen, National Board-Certified Integrative Health and Wellness Coach.* [R]

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUPS

Night Owls Online
Monday, July 13 @ 7:30 pm
 Join us for a virtual book club as we discuss ***The Rise of Wolf 8: Witnessing the Triumph of Yellowstone's Underdog***, by Rick McIntyre. Decades after the last wolf in Yellowstone National Park was killed, the park rangers brought them back, with the first wolves arriving from Canada in 1995. This is the incredible true story of one of those wolves. Available now for anyone to read on Hoopla, in both eBook and audiobook format. Please be sure to register for Night Owls Online, by visiting the Library's online events calendar. Once you are registered, we will send you an invitation. *Moderated by Librarian Maura Powers-Smith* [R]



Wilder Reads Book Club Online
Friday, July 31 @ 7 pm
 This month, we're reading ***The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek*** by Kim Michele Richardson, available for download as an eBook or audiobook on Hoopla and Overdrive. To participate in our book group, join Wilder Reads Book Club on goodreads.com anytime, and RSVP for this online conversation with Librarians Dustin and Joslyn Wilder. [R]



FROM LIBRARY DIRECTOR TIM WILES



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We thank the five candidates who ran for the library board, three of whom were incumbents. We are grateful to outgoing trustees

Herb Hennings and **Phil Metzger**, who were both great library trustees. In addition to being Vice-President of our board, Mr. Hennings was also our representative on the UHLS board, and was a staunch advocate for libraries in our annual lobbying efforts downtown. Mr. Metzger was a valuable trustee who will also be missed. We are grateful to **Mark Keeling** for running again and winning re-election, and we are excited to welcome two new trustees, **Marcia Alazraki** and **Dr. Richard Rubin**, to the board.

On the building renovation and expansion front, we are excited to say that **we remain on time and slightly under budget** at this point in the planning process. We submitted our documents to the State Education Department right on time at the end of May, and we anticipate a fairly quick approval.



The current plan is to go to bid in October, and to begin work as soon as possible thereafter. That could be right away, depending on the market for construction jobs and the weather, or it could be the spring of 2021. Either way, **we continue to project a grand reopening in July of 2022**. The project is being planned carefully to minimize any necessary closures and disruptions. Especially after the coronavirus situation, we are being as proactive as possible to ensure we don't have to restrict access or services any more than necessary.

We are constantly adding new programs and content, throughout this "new normal" we are all adjusting to. We encourage you to explore all that we offer, and keep tabs as we strive to safely reintroduce services. Check our website, follow us on Facebook and Instagram, and see our weekly eNews to keep informed on our progress. Also, keep in mind that **ALL ages can participate in our Summer Reading Program**. There are prizes to be won while diving into some good books. Parents, this is a great opportunity to model a lifelong love of reading—the *real* prize!

Once again, we thank you for your patience and support at this unprecedented time. We miss you. Stay safe and be well.

MORE GPL NEWS

Dial A Story
New stories each week for adults & children!

While everything has moved online lately, we're going back to basics! With GPL's new Dial A Story service, you can listen to a GPL staff member read a new story every week with just your phone. This new low-tech alternative is a great way to rest our eyes and sharpen listening skills. Call **518.519.4111** to enjoy engaging, imaginative stories for adults and children!



Guilderland Public Library Board of Trustees Virtual Board Meeting
Thursday, July 16 @ 6 pm

This meeting will be streamed live on our **Facebook page** and archived there. Public commentary before and during the meeting may be directed to: pio@guilderlandlibrary.org.

New Ways to Learn Online

We're excited to announce three new learning databases set to launch in July:

- **Learning Express Library/Job & Career Accelerator:** You'll find academic skill-building, test prep and career-related resources – all in one easy-to-use platform. The separate add-on module, Job & Career Accelerator, has resume- and cover-letter templates and resources to explore careers, find open positions, and get hired.
 - **Pronunciator:** This language-learning service features a whopping 163 languages to learn, including American Sign Language and ESL, each taught in 130+ home languages! There are video tutorials, downloadable audio lessons—even music lyrics in foreign languages.
 - **Bookflix, from Scholastic:** This award-winning, online literacy resource pairs interactive, fictional video storybooks with related nonfiction eBooks. Bookflix engages young students, reinforces reading skills, and introduces early readers to a world of knowledge and exploration.
- Look for all of these new databases on our website soon!**

Collections News

Looking for some great summer beach reads? We've just purchased multiple copies of a dozen recently-published books that we think you'll love. We're prepping them to be ready for when we start curbside pickup of items from our shelves—to get them into your hands! Want to see the list? Visit our Adult Summer Reading page for details: guilderlandlibrary.org/adultsrp/ and scroll down to see the "What to Read" section. While you're at it, sign up for Adult Summer Reading at guilderlandlibrary.beanstack.org/reader365. Read 12 books and be eligible to win a \$40 gift card to the Book House at Stuyvesant Plaza!

