



# GUILDERLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY

VOLUME 27, ISSUE 6

GUILDERLANDLIBRARY.ORG

MAY 2020



## Our Doors May Be Closed Right Now... But the Library is OPEN!

**A message from  
Library Director  
Tim Wiles**

I speak for the whole GPL staff when I say that WE MISS YOU!—as the staff photos throughout portray.

A lot of people think libraries are all about books—and they are right. But we are also all about people! The library of today is quite different from the quiet, rule-bound institutions many of us remember from our youth. Libraries today are vibrant, exciting places to go where you can always count on helpful staff and seeing some of your friends and neighbors. We're sure that you miss that too, and we hope to be back serving you soon.

Meanwhile, WE'RE STILL HERE FOR YOU. We continue to add electronic resources, and tutorials for easily accessing them are posted on our website and Facebook page. More titles than ever are available to you online, with reduced wait times for popular items. This newsletter lists these digital resources, and they're found on our "**Healthy at Home**" page: [guilderlandlibrary.org/healthy-at-home](http://guilderlandlibrary.org/healthy-at-home).

### Little Free Library

We're keeping you in mind in other ways, too. We wanted to find a small way to connect with you, our patrons, so we've installed a **Little Free Library** right in front of the building! The idea of the LFL is: *Take a Book, Share a Book*. We've stocked it with some good titles to start us off. Bring a single book or two that you'd like to share, and take one that you'd like to read. (Please don't use this spot as a place for donating more than one or two books; more than that should go in the bright green Better World Books bin in our side parking lot.) We'll periodically replenish, as needed, but we hope you'll find—and leave—some reading treasures for others to enjoy.



### Budget and Board Candidates

We usually publish a May/June newsletter. But due to the



uncertainty of the coronavirus situation, we're publishing two monthly newsletters, and this May issue will simply exist in electronic form. Usually, folks pick up newsletters in the library or at various sites around town, but since we and those sites are currently closed, we'll save some paper and just go digital for May.

In the May newsletter, you would typically find a detailed proposed budget for the 2020-2021 fiscal year, which begins July 1st. You would also find bios of the candidates running for our library board. That election is always the third Tuesday in May, but Governor Cuomo has delayed it until at least June 1st this year. The library board prepared and approved a budget for you to vote on back in February/March, and endorsed it at a recent board meeting. As you've come to expect, we've kept our budget under the tax cap limit. You can find budget figures here: <https://guilderlandlibrary.org/get-to-know-us/people/board-of-trustees/>.

There are details about the not-yet-rescheduled election that the Governor's office still needs to work out, so for now, we will dispense with our typical candidate bios, as we don't know who all of our candidates for library board will be. I can tell you that there are three board members whose terms are set to expire, and that all three intend to run for another term. We also have interest from two community members who hope to stand for possible election, once the State clarifies how to get one's name on the ballot. We'll continue to keep you posted.

### Reopening Plan

We are currently working with the other 28 public libraries in the Upper Hudson Library System (UHLS) on a coordinated

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## FROM LIBRARY DIRECTOR TIM WILES

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reopening plan. We must follow the ever-changing federal, state, CDC, and County Health directives, striving to achieve the delicate balance of creating flexible plans which allow for the greatest use of the library at the lowest health risk. These reopening plans are aimed squarely at helping our patrons as much as we can, while ensuring that we all stay safe.



There are many logistical considerations, and there will be necessary changes when we are able to reopen. We'll set up furniture and checkout lines to ensure everyone can remain six feet apart, for as long as social distancing remains necessary or desirable. For example, we currently have computer tables with four workstations, all within six feet of one another—we'll need to rethink that. Even our regular study tables have four seats, again all within six feet. When we reopen, we'll need to space visitors out. We'll also need to relocate some staff into public spaces, so that their desks can be six feet apart.

Most libraries in the region are currently discussing holding off on hosting any live events—library programs or meeting room checkouts—for several months after reopening. Will 100 people want to get together to watch a concert or a movie? Will 25 people want to share a room for a board meeting or a community group? Probably not, until the health experts tell us that it is safe to do so. We're planning to sanitize all materials when they are returned to the building, before they are placed back on the shelf. Since every item will need to be wiped down (assuming we can get the supplies to do so), this will slow us down a bit, at least at first. We have purchased industrial sanitizing equipment so that we can frequently disinfect the building.



In short, like most public institutions, we are quite busy maintaining operations remotely and rethinking our business model, seeking that ever-changing sweet spot where health meets services in an optimal combination. We appreciate your understanding as we continually adjust to the changing climate, expecting there will likely be a gradual return to

normalcy. Our whole society is in a state of fundamental transition. One thing hasn't changed: our goal is always to serve you to the very best of our ability.

We thank you for your patience, and we look forward to the day we can safely see you here again at the library.

*Timothy J. Wiles*

## ONLINE RESOURCES

**GPL Expands Online Offerings**

The Library has so many resources for you to use at home, and we're constantly adding more. Here are some of the resources we hope you'll take advantage of:

**Visit our Healthy At Home page:** you'll find just about everything at your fingertips! Your library card is all you need. Don't have one? Get a library card instantly on this page! It's your passport to our ever-expanding digital treasure trove. The choices are many—here's just some of what you can do:



- download books and audiobooks through **Overdrive**—we've added hundreds of additional ebooks and audiobooks to help meet demand
- browse magazines in **Flipster**—12

new titles, including *Rolling Stone*, *The Atlantic*, *Rachael Ray in Season*, *Car and Driver* and *The Week*, to name a few

- read the **New York Times** daily



You can stream movies from **IndieFlix**, listen to a concert on **Qello**, challenge yourself to one of the **Great Courses**, or binge on a British television series on **AcornTV**—all through our **RBDigital** account.



And now we're offering **Hoopla**, newly-acquired by the Upper Hudson Library System, which offers 750,000+ audiobooks, movies, music, comics, eBooks, TV shows and more! Simply go to **hoopladigital.com** to start accessing these materials instantly.

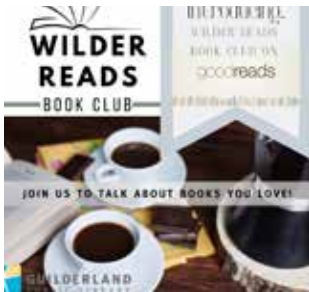


Not sure how to take advantage of all of these excellent offerings? No problem, we've got you covered! You can watch instructional videos created by our staff to get you started. Learn how to access the *New York Times*, download eBooks from the Libby App, access TV and movies on RBDigital, and much more. These videos are posted on our **Facebook** page and archived on our **Healthy at Home** web page for your reference. We'll be adding more content on how to access Consumer Reports, use Hoopla, and other topics, so be sure to check back often.



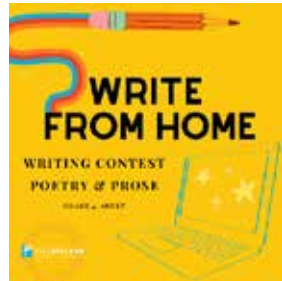
## ONLINE RESOURCES

## Here are more ways to interact with us online:



• Join an online book discussion group! **Wilder Reads Book Group** has moved over to the popular website [goodreads.com](http://goodreads.com). See our **Healthy at Home** page to join this vibrant group. Everyone ages 18+ is welcome to participate.

• Be part of our **Write From Home** contest for grades 4 through adult, which runs through **Friday, May 15 at noon!** Winners receive a \$30 prize from the Book House and special recognition, and everyone who enters will have their work published on our website if desired.



All forms of original, unpublished poetry and prose are eligible for submission. General contest guidelines:

- **Poetry:** two pages or 500 words maximum
- **Prose:** five pages or 1250 words maximum
- Participants must reside within the Guilderland School District or possess a Guilderland Public Library Card

See <https://guilderlandlibrary.org/wfh> for full details. Questions? email [ask.librarian@guilderlandlibrary.org](mailto:ask.librarian@guilderlandlibrary.org).



• Find your next book to read! We scoured our own shelves at home to put together a varied list of **Staff Bookshelf Picks**—fiction and non fiction—designed to inspire you to continue reading. You'll find links to our lists on the **Healthy at Home** page (might as well bookmark this page!). Every title is available in Overdrive, either as an eBook or Audiobook, and sometimes both.

• Watch fun and engaging storytimes from our very own Children's Librarians! Join the **GPL Kids & Families Facebook Group** to be entertained and educated by storytimes, crafts and activities designed by our creative and talented staff.



• **Ask us questions!** We stand ready to answer your reference inquiries. Call us between 10am-Noon or 2-4pm weekdays at **518.285.0050** (or leave a message); or you can email [ask.librarian@guilderlandlibrary.org](mailto:ask.librarian@guilderlandlibrary.org). We will get back to you with an answer.

## ONLINE ADULT / TEEN PROGRAMS



**Cookbook Club: At-Home Edition!**  
**Wednesday, May 6**  
**@ 7 pm: Special Guest**

**Wednesday, May 20**  
**@ 7 pm: Substitutions: This for That**

Cookbook Club goes virtual! Using GoTo Meeting, we're holding bimonthly sessions of Cookbook Club for a small group of patrons—no more than 15. We'll have a special guest at our debut event on May 6; then on May 20, we'll share ideas about great substitutes for ingredients you might not have on hand for a specific recipe. Bring your own ideas and suggestions! To register, visit the Events Calendar on our website and provide an email with your registration. Meeting coordinators will email you an invitation the day before the event. **Please note: you must provide an email address in order to participate.**

**Clutter Bootcamp!**  
**with Clutter Coach Jes Marcy**  
**Begins Monday, May 18**  
**Five self-paced video tutorials AND**  
**Final live Q & A June 1st @ 6 pm**

Jes Marcy is a professional organizer who has presented informative programs for the Library on organizing and learning to live with less. She doesn't espouse buying fancy storage boxes or making crafty tags to organize your stuff; instead, she focuses on a simple, judgment-free approach that is both refreshing and practical. In this course, you'll watch five recorded videos—each just 1/2-hour long—that comprise Jes' Clutter Bootcamp, customized for GPL. For the final program, we'll all convene live via GoToMeeting to ask Jes questions in person! Registration is limited to 15 people; visit the Events Calendar on our website to register. We'll send you the videos and the invitation to the final program. **Please note: You must provide an email address in order to participate.**



**GPL Trivia Tuesdays**  
**Tuesdays, May 12, 19, & 26 @ 7 pm**  
**For Adults & Teens**



GPL Trivia returns—to your living room! Join us for three themed Trivia Tuesday nights in May. Play individually, as an in-house team, or with a virtual team to vie for bragging rights as a GPL Trivia

Champion! Team captains should be 16+ years old and will be responsible for communicating with the hosts on GoToMeeting. Team Captains and team members that will need login information should register on the Events tab on our website.

**May 12:** Find your remembralls - it's **Harry Potter Trivia**  
**May 19:** Whatever! - totally rad **80s & 90s Trivia**  
**May 26:** Once upon a time, in a galaxy far, far away...it was **Disney/Star Wars Trivia**

SUMMER READING



Imagine Your Story! Online Summer Reading Club 2020 All Ages

This year, the world of Summer Reading Club looks a little bit different, but MANY things will be the same as past years—including our challenge to all of you to keep reading! As in the past, children AND adults can log their reading activities in Beanstack, and earn chances to win prizes! Mark your calendar to sign-up via Beanstack beginning June 1st at https://guilderlandlibrary.beanstack.org/reader365. Details will be forthcoming on our website soon too.

- 1. Starting in June, go to Reading 2020—Imagine Your Story on Beanstack to track all the books you're reading.
2. Follow us on Facebook on the GPL Kids & Families page for storytimes, virtual programs, and fun.
3. If you're not on Facebook, you can check the Imagine Your Story web page at www.guilderlandlibrary.org for more information on storytimes, virtual programs and fun activities.



Summer Reading Club is still a great way to stay connected, even if we need to stay apart a little while longer.

Read it Forward! for Teens

No due dates, no late fees! Libraries in the Upper Hudson and Mohawk Valley Library Systems will offer two books for teens to read and then "Read it Forward" to a friend.

In the book Croak, by Gina Damico, a 16-year-old girl is sent to live in upstate New York to learn the family business—being a Grim Reaper. In the graphic novel Nimona, by



Noelle Stevenson, a young shapeshifter with a mysterious past is out to wreak havoc as the sidekick to a supervillain with a vendetta.

Copies will be available once the Library reopens on a first-come, first-served basis. You can also participate by downloading the titles as an eBook or audiobook from Libby or Hoopla.

MORE GPL NEWS

Virtual Genealogy with Lisa Dougherty Every Wednesday in May

Our resident professional genealogist, Lisa Dougherty, is available for free family history consultations every Wednesday this month! Get 1:1 help starting the process or making progress at the Upstate NY Genealogy by Lisa Dougherty Facebook page. Also, you can access ancestry.com free at https://www.uhls.org/databases.asp.



Guilderland Public Library Board of Trustees Virtual Board Meeting

Thursday, May 21 @ 6 pm, streamed live on our Facebook page. Public commentary before and during the meeting may be directed to: pio@guilderlandpubliclibrary.org.



It's a Census Year!

Everyone counts! It's important that we all respond to the Census every ten years, to ensure our community receives the right amount of federal funding for hospitals, emergency services, schools, roads and more, plus appropriate representation in Washington. Have you answered yet for everyone in your household as of April 1st? It's quick and easy to do online, by phone or by mail. Go to https://2020census.gov or call 844.330.2020 today!

Ukulele Jam

Missing our Thursday night ukulele jams? The Normanskill Strummers are meeting online Thursdays in May from 6:30-8:00 pm. Email normanskillstrummers@gmail.com to join; see www.normanskillstrummers.com for info.

