



GUILDERLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY

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Phased Reopening, Plus Construction

By Tim Wiles, Library Director

There is a lot going on here at the library! We have major news on a couple fronts, which I'm excited to share with you.



Phased Reopening

At our recent board meeting, the Trustees approved a phased reopening plan which opens our doors a little wider. We are doing our best to provide library services safely during the pandemic, and we have the added

complication of doing so with a building that will be under construction very soon. Our reopening is phased and gradual, and there will be future updates to the plan listed below.

Expanded Curbside Hours and Browsing Starts Wednesday, October 7

We will expand to 34 hours of curbside service AND open our Normanskill Room to public browsing on October 7. The schedule for both:

- **Monday-Wednesday-Friday, 10 am-4 pm**
- **Tuesday-Thursday, 1-7 pm**
- **Saturday, 10 am-2 pm**

Normanskill Room Browsing Starts Wednesday, October 7

We are excited to welcome you back on a limited basis to the Normanskill Room for drop-in patron browsing starting October 7! No appointment is needed. Guidelines:

- Use hand sanitizer upon entering
- Masks required for everyone ages 2+
- Please maintain social distancing of 6+ feet
- Self-service; enter at your own risk
- Restrooms unavailable, due to construction
- Check out all items before leaving
- Room is monitored by video
- Returns still go to the shed with the green canopy

Patrons will enter via the emergency exit door just to the right of our main front door, near our Little Free Library and front benches. The room will be stocked with a curated selection of our newest and most popular items, including children's and young adult materials. Checkout will be via two self-checkout machines. **We ask that patrons keep visits under 15 minutes, with no more than five people**

browsing in the room at any given time. The room will be monitored by video to ensure compliance for the safety of all.

While science tells us that the primary method of transmission of COVID-19 is airborne, it is also possible to get the virus by touching items that others have touched. We ask that patrons be judicious, and only touch items they are seriously considering checking out. For updates, please see: <https://guilderlandlibrary.org/gpl-reopening-plan>.

Expanded Return Hours

Return of materials continues at the sheds in our parking lot. Items are quarantined for 96 hours prior to being brought into the building and sanitized. We added 15 more hours of accepting returns for your convenience:

- **Monday-Friday, 9 am - 8 pm**
- **Saturday, 9 am - 2 pm**

Building Project Update

We are delighted to announce that construction is slated to begin **October 15!** This project commenced in earnest in 2017, and the referendum was approved by Guilderland voters in May, 2019. We will begin by expanding the children's area

just east of the library. Also in the first phase of construction, the public restrooms will be completely rebuilt and renovated. Once the new space is framed in, we'll move our children's collection into that space. Then we'll tackle the rest of the library's interior, moving collections frequently to allow for construction work on various indoor spaces.

Our parking lot will be significantly larger, with an additional 47 spaces, improved safety features and a relocated book drop that should reduce bottlenecks upon exiting. However, in the short term, our parking capacity will be reduced by about 25%, as the construction firms will fence off a section for their equipment.

While we're working to minimize impact on the public, we'll need to close off sections of the library and the collections for short periods of time. We'll do our best to keep you notified of what's available and what's not. If all goes according to plan, construction will be completed next fall. For more information on this project, please see: <https://guilderlandlibrary.org/get-to-know-us/places/renewal>.

That's a quick rundown of where we stand, and where we're headed. We're glad that you're on the journey with us as we continue to navigate uncharted waters. As we carefully move forward, all signs point to a bright future ahead!



ADULT PROGRAMS & RESOURCES



Election Day is Tuesday, November 3

During October and November, we've planned a series of Tuesday programs related to the election season. We've also compiled a useful web page listing everything you need to know to plan your vote, in one convenient spot.

Voting info: <https://guilderlandlibrary.org/vote2020/>

GPL serves as an Election Day polling place on Tuesday, November 3rd, 6 am - 9 pm. As in past years, voting will be held in our Helderberg Room. Approximately 3,500 citizens are eligible to vote at this polling place, so we have made the decision to **suspend curbside pickup and drop-in browsing on Election Day.**

If you vote here, please note that **bathrooms will be under construction and thus unavailable to the public.** Also, parking spots will be reduced, due to construction. If you can't find a spot in our main lot, our staff lot across Mercy Care Lane should have available overflow spaces.

Re-Examining the Right to Vote: Women's Activism and the Suffrage Movement

Tuesdays,
October 6, 20, 27
@ 6:30 pm

This year marks the centennial of the ratification of the 19th amendment, granting women the right to vote. The history surrounding this momentous ruling is fascinating, complex, and deeply rooted in activism. In this three-part *Re-Examining the Right to Vote* series, we'll read scholarly suffrage-movement articles and meet virtually to discuss them as a group.

Topics will include:

- origins of women's activism in the late 19th century
- the progressive era and the rise of reform and suffrage movements
- an examination of the post-suffrage era

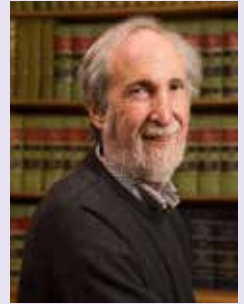
Lauren Kozakiewicz, PhD., history lecturer at University at Albany specializing in women's and gender history, will lead our discussions. Each session draws from three readings, which we'll share with you after you've registered, and you'll receive the link to participate the day before each event. Capacity for this series is limited, so don't delay—register for this virtual program on the Events tab of our website today! [R]



2020 and the Lessons of Presidential History

Tuesday, October 13 @ 7 pm

History is a great teacher...what can we learn from it, especially this year? Dr. Bruce Miroff, UAlbany professor of political science specializing in American politics and the presidency, will present a compelling examination of past presidential election themes. He'll cast a fresh light on current events and what might unfold in this year's contest, sharing lessons from the past that have helped shape the presidency in its current form. Sign up for this virtual program on the Events tab of our website today! [R]



CULINARY



Cooking Outdoors

Saturday, October 3
@ 1-3:30 pm

Savor the crisp fall weather with us while perfecting your grilling technique with Karen Roberts Mort from Cornell Cooperative Extension. This **in-person program**

will be held at the large pavilion at Tawasentha Park in Guilderland.

Program guidelines:

- Masks are required
- Maintain social distancing of 6+ feet
- If you or a member of your household is feeling ill, have been exposed to someone with COVID-19, or are exhibiting symptoms, please do not attend
- GPL and Cornell Cooperative Extension staff will conduct their own health screenings in advance

Free cookbooks chock-full of tasty outdoor cooking recipes will be distributed to all participants. [R]

Virtual Cookbook Club: Big Love Cooking

Wednesday, October
21 @ 7 pm

This month, we'll all cook from the same cookbook, using an eBook from our Hoopla digital platform: *Big Love Cooking*, by Joey Campanaro, owner of the beloved Little Owl restaurant in NYC. First, we'll download the book, then choose any recipe and make it at home. Finally, we'll meet up online to share our culinary results. This brand-new book, just published in September, was the suggestion of a long-time Cookbook Clubber! [R]



ADULT PROGRAMS & RESOURCES

Unless noted otherwise, 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, indicated by [R]. Click on the Events calendar on www.guilderlandlibrary.org to register. We'll send you the link to participate in advance of the program.

HEALTH

Outdoor Flu Vaccine Clinic

**Monday, October 5
@ 11 am-2 pm**

We're holding our annual drop-in Flu Vaccine Clinic in the Library parking lot this year. Everyone is required to wear a mask and complete a temperature check and brief health questionnaire. Both the regular vaccine and the high-dose option for people ages 65 and older will be available (please note: the high-dose option may be subject to availability). The pharmacists can also vaccinate any child age three or older. Please bring your insurance card with you. If you do not have insurance, a vaccine costs \$39.99.

**Drug Take-Back Day**

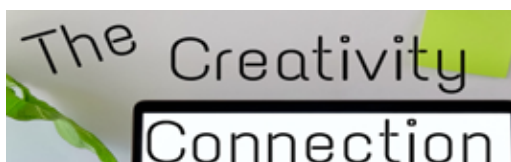
**Saturday, October 24
@ 10 am-2 pm**

Drug Take Back Day provides a safe and convenient way to dispose of substances.

This semi-annual event will take place on a drive-through basis in our staff parking lot (an immediate right turn upon entering MercyCare Lane), in partnership with the Guilderland Police Department. Prescription and over-the-counter medications are accepted, including liquid medicines and pet medications. Instructions:

- Put your medications in a bag, if possible
- Wear a mask covering your nose and mouth
- Put bagged medications in an easily-accessible place while remaining in your vehicle, or place the bag in your trunk so an officer may retrieve it
- Drive through to the drop-off point and stay in your vehicle
- Follow the officers' instructions

Please note: we cannot accept medications before 10 am or after 2 pm, nor can we accept sharps, needles, or lancets. Drug Take Back Day officials will not question anyone or request identification.

**The Creativity Connection Thursday, October 22 @ 6 pm**

A place to connect with creative people and unleash your creativity! This program is for adults interested in meeting other creatives, attaining creative habits, and discovering the Library's resources to help jump-start your creativity! Feel free to have a journal handy to capture your big ideas. [R]

ALBANY GUARDIAN SOCIETY

We're partnering with Albany Guardian Society to offer the following virtual programs to GPL patrons. You can register for these on the Events tab of our website.

Navigating the Maze of Senior Services

Wednesday, October 7 @ 8:30 am

Are you a senior, caregiver, or professional working with the elderly? This program will touch on transportation, meals, respite, income-based programs, and other senior services that will help you understand the options available. *Presenter: Gretchen Moore Simmons, MSW, Assistant Executive Director, LifePath* [R]

A Great Night's Sleep

Friday, October 23 @ 1:30 pm

Did you know how sleep deprivation can harm your health and affect relationships? Learn about recent findings and ways to get peaceful, revitalizing, uninterrupted sleep. *Presenter: Barbara Stevens, Certified Stress Management Consultant.* [R]

Night Owls Online

Monday, October 12 @ 7:30 pm

Our next selection is *The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek* by Kim Michele Richardson, available now on Hoopla in both eBook and audiobook format. This unique story beautifully illustrates the healing power of the written word, transcending poverty and intolerance throughout Appalachia in 1936. If you're looking for a book discussion group, consider joining us! [R]

**Talking Italian Online**

Wednesday, October 28 @ 6 pm

This class is designed for learners with little or no previous exposure to the Italian language. Let's meet after dinner for a fun and relaxed virtual chat about *vino Italiano* (Italian wine)! We'll focus on the basics of Italian grammar and conversation surrounding this topic. Our instructor, Valentina Ciccarelli, is an Italian native with extensive experience teaching Italian. She adores her culture and beautiful country, and enjoys sharing this passion with others. [R]



YOUTH SERVICES



Storytime Kits for ages 2-5

Monday, October 5: Autumn

Monday, October 19: Fairy Tales

Every other Monday in October, we'll have FREE storytime kits for ages 2-5

ready for curbside pickup, while supplies last. Each thematic kit contains suggestions for books, rhymes and songs to share together, and one or more fun activities. Pick up a Storytime Kit during our curbside hours listed below.

Curbside hours through October 6:

Monday-Wednesday-Friday: 11 am - 3 pm

Tuesday-Thursday: 3 - 7 pm

Curbside hours starting October 7:

Monday-Wednesday-Friday: 10 am-4 pm

Tuesday-Thursday: 1-7 pm

Saturday: 10 am-2 pm

STREAM Kits

Grades K-5 / Grades 6-12

Friday, October 23

First there was STEM...then STEAM...now the latest iteration is STREAM—an educational model incorporating Science, Technology, Reading, Engineering, Art and Math. Register on the Events tab of our website for a FREE kit full of engaging activities. One is designed for grades K-5; the other is for grades 6-12 (twens and teens). After registering each child separately, pick it up starting Friday, October 23 during our curbside hours listed above. [R]



Storytime on YouTube

Mondays @ 10:30 am

Parents and caregivers: see our YouTube channel for new picture book read alouds each week, where our children's librarians share some of their favorite tales!

Storywalk @ Tawasentha

GPL's Storywalk at Tawasentha Park

is a perfect fall family activity! Take a visual stroll through one of our kid favorites, **Bark, George**, by Jules Feiffer. This half-mile walk encourages fresh air, exercise and literacy fun! Park at the Winter Recreation Parking Lot and follow the blue Wildlife Preserve Loop; look for directional signs. *This project was supported by a grant from the Upper Hudson Library System, and co-sponsored by the Town of Guilderland. We greatly appreciate their support!*



Halloween Activities @ Tawasentha



Pumpkin Decorating Contest
Saturday, October 24

@ 2-3:30 pm

Grades 6-12

Meet us at Tawasentha Park, dressed in your best costume and ready to celebrate the Halloween season! Costumes

are optional, but will add to the fun. Among the activities planned, get creative and decorate a pumpkin. We'll take a picture of your creation to share online. The entry garnering the most votes will be awarded a special prize! [R]

Halloween Party in the Park
Saturday, October 31

@ 1-3 pm

Family / All Ages

We'd love to see you at our not-so-scary Halloween bash at Tawasentha Park! We'll have monster egg candy hunts and other fun activities such as crafts, a mini storytime, and maybe a surprise or two. Wear your costume, and bring your trick or treat bag and a towel or blanket to sit on. Please register your family as one unit with number of people attending, and register each child separately for the monster egg hunt at 1 pm or 2 pm. [R]

Halloween Party in the Park

Saturday, October 31, 1-3pm

@ Tawasentha Park

MORE GPL NEWS



Spotlight on Services

Job Information Resources

Unemployment is at a record high in the United States; economic uncertainty and job insecurity abounds. We're here to help! This month, we're spotlighting **GPL's Guide to Job Information Resources**, found at: <https://www.tinyurl.com/GPLJobInfo>.

There, you'll find employment websites; local businesses that are hiring; and information on downloading books on career development and job hunting, using either our Hoopla or Overdrive eBook resources. Also featured: one of our newest learning tools, **LearningExpress Library™**, chosen for its wealth of resources to assist with job searches and career development. This resource is also available on the *Learning Tools* part of our website at: guilderlandlibrary.org/learning-tools (click on Job Tools). Explore these helpful tools!



Guilderland Public Library Board of Trustees Virtual Board Meeting

Thursday, October 15 @ 6 pm on Facebook

This meeting will be streamed live and archived on our Facebook page and website. Public commentary may be directed to: pc@guilderlandlibrary.org.