



Building on the Future By Library Director Tim Wiles

The finish line is in sight...the final touches to our construction project are currently taking place! We are preparing to welcome you safely back into the newly-expanded and safety-enhanced Guilderland Public Library this fall! Here's an

FAQ rundown of our reopening plans as they currently stand.

Q: When will the library reopen for public browsing?

A: Thank you for your patience! At long last I can announce that we will fully reopen on **Monday, September 27**. Now, on to the caveats: that date is subject to change, based on the newly-resurgent COVID-19 problem. But as of now, that is the date when we currently plan to open the doors to **fully masked** library patrons.

Not everything will be immediately available, but the majority of our collections and services will be. By that time, we'll have finished working on all but a few cosmetic construction details. We will resume our standard operating hours:

- Monday-Thursday: 9:30 am-9 pm**
- Friday: 9:30 am-6 pm**
- Saturday: 9:30 am-5 pm**
- Sunday: 1-5 pm**

Q: What's going on inside right now?

A: We are working on technology installations, some final electrical and lighting details, some painting touchups, and the all-important process of turnover—that is, the time when the building is no longer the responsibility of the general contractor and subcontractors, but is turned back over to the library. It's a bit like closing on a house. One moment, the building and its contents are still under construction, so if anything goes wrong, the contractors fix it. The next moment, it's the library's responsibility again. As good stewards of public funds and a building, we need to get everything in top shape before the transition occurs.

Q: Have you experienced any COVID-related materials delays?

A: We have. Currently, we are anxiously awaiting the arrival of our new shelving, as well as facing delays in getting anything that contains a computer chip, interior window glass, and basic furniture including tables and chairs. By September 27, we almost certainly will have succeeded

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in getting our final shelves shipped, assembled, installed, and loaded with books. COVID-related supply chain delays have that particular part of our operation about two months behind schedule. Thankfully, we accelerated construction earlier in the process, before many of those shortages and supply chain issues began to occur.

After we open, there may still be an occasional contractor putting finishing touches on things here and there, but overall, we will be ready for you to visit. There are some expected delays in getting chairs and tables that may make the place look and feel a little spare for a month or two, but generally speaking, we'll be able to serve you.

Q: Will you still offer curbside pickup?

A: Curbside services will continue through the end of the day on Sunday, September 26, but will be unavailable for at least the first few weeks the library is open for public browsing, and possibly indefinitely. We are not sure if we will be able to offer curbside at the same time that we serve patrons in the building, nor are we sure how much demand there will be for curbside among library patrons. We'll have to wait and see. Like so many things in this pandemic era, organizations are forced by ever-changing conditions to constantly refine themselves on the fly.

Q: Is photocopying available?

A: Yes, the public copier will be available. Right now, we are making copies at no charge, within reasonable limits.

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CURBSIDE & BROWSING HOURS

Through Sunday, September 26

Curbside Checkouts - Follow Signs:

- Mon./Wed./Fri.....9:30 am - 6 pm**
- Tues./Thurs..... 9:30 am - 9 pm**
- Saturday.....10 am - 2 pm**
- Sunday.....1:30 - 4 pm**

Returns - Parking Lot Sheds:

24/7, except holidays

Starting Monday, September 27

The library is open for public browsing:

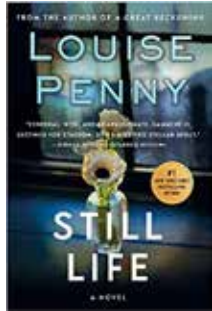
- Mon.-Thurs.....9:30 am - 9 pm**
- Friday.....9:30 am - 6 pm**
- Saturday.....9:30 am - 5 pm**
- Sunday.....1 - 5 pm**

ADULT PROGRAMS



Night Owls Online
Monday, September 13 @ 7:30 pm

Still Life by Louise Penny—the first in the acclaimed murder mystery series set in the fictitious village of Three Pines, Quebec and introducing Chief Inspector Armand Gamache—is our September selection. Request a copy through the UHLS catalog on our website; using the new UHLS Capira app; calling **518.456.2400 ext. 3** or emailing ask.librarian@guilderlandlibrary.org, then register on the Events tab of our website. **[R]**



Harvest Scarecrow Decoration

Friday, September 17 @ 2:30 pm
Tawasentha Park

Our sensibilities are shifting to the fall harvest season, and we've got the perfect craft activity to usher in autumn! We'll meet in the large pavilion at Tawasentha Park to create our scarecrow using paint, straw, and terracotta flowerpots. This charming decoration will be a welcome addition to your fall collection. **[R]**



1:1 Apple Tech & Résumé Help
Mondays: September 13, 20 & 27 @ 6:30 pm

Get the most out of your Apple devices...or craft a winning résumé with Learning Express! Get 1:1 virtual assistance from coach Robin with:

- ▶ Apple Watch, iPhone, MacBook, iPad, Apple TV
- ▶ résumé preparation with Learning Express at: <https://guilderlandlibrary.org/learning-tools>. Schedule your customized online appointment today! **[R]**



Don't Get Ticked! Protecting Against Lyme and Tick-Borne Diseases

Monday, September 20 @ 9:30 am
 Learn from an expert about the

different ticks in our area, and how to protect yourself and others from being bitten. Arm yourself with this important information *before* you head out for a scenic fall hike! *Presenter: Joellen Lampman, Community Integrated Pest Management Extension Support Specialist, New York IPM Program at Cornell University. This virtual program is offered through a collaboration with Albany Guardian Society. AGS will email registrants a link in advance of the event. [R]*

ONLINE WRITING WORKSHOPS

Open Places, Urban Spaces: The Poetry of Being There
Tuesdays, 6 Weeks: September 14 through October 19 @ 6:30 pm

The “poetry of place” is infused with the writer’s physical surroundings, reflecting established roots or transient locales. In this virtual writing workshop, we’ll discuss works by rural-influenced poets Joy Harjo and Ted Kooser, contrasted with the metropolitan leanings of Frank O’Hara and Terrance Hayes. We’ll explore where each of us is grounded, giving our familiar environs center stage through the written word. Space is limited; please commit to all six sessions. *Susan Comminos, a seasoned published poet who has taught writing at Siena College, The College of St. Rose and The University at Albany, leads this in-depth online series. This program is funded in part by Poets & Writers with public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts, the Governor, and the New York State Legislature. [R]*



Beginning Prose Fiction: A Writing Workshop

Wednesdays, 8 Weeks: September 22 through November 10 @ 6:30 pm

Intended for aspiring writers of all levels, this interactive workshop will help you explore the creative process. You'll share your own writing and critique the work of others in a respectful and constructive way. We'll work on expanding and refining vocabulary and style resources, and learn and reinforce writing skills. The only prerequisite is a desire to write! You'll receive a weekly lesson with accompanying reading sample and assignment. Space is limited; please commit to all eight sessions. *William D. Laremore authored two time-travel fiction novels, The Gearing Incident and World on Fire, and a paranormal romance series, Moonlight Becomes Her Volume I. He holds a Master of Arts degree from the University of Nottingham, England, and a Certificate of Advanced Study from the College of St. Rose. [R]*



ADULT PROGRAMS

HEALTH & SAFETY



American Red Cross Blood Drive
Friday, September 24
@ 1-6 pm

The need is critical. To schedule an appointment, please call 1.800.REDCROSS (1.800.733.2767) or visit redcrossblood.org and enter sponsor code *GuilderlandLibrary*. In

order to make a general blood donation (not power red), donors must meet the following criteria:

- ▶ in good health and feeling well
- ▶ at least 16 years old
- ▶ weigh at least 110 pounds
- ▶ if a repeat donor, donated 56 or more days ago

All donors will receive a limited-edition college football t-shirt, while supplies last. *Sponsored by the office of Senator Michelle Hinchey.*

Naloxone (Narcan) Training Online

Wednesday, September 29
@ 6:30-8:30 pm

This virtual program will be presented by Opioid Response



Trainers with the NYS Office of Addiction Services and Supports (OASAS). Participants will learn to recognize, respond to, and reverse a suspected opioid overdose using intranasal naloxone (Narcan), and how to obtain naloxone for their use as rescuers. **Please register in advance on the Events tab of our website or by calling 518.473.3460.** Shortly after registering, you will receive a confirmation email with instructions to join the training. If you do not receive this email or need assistance, contact **Mandee Nann at OASAS: mandee.nann@oasas.ny.gov.**

COMING IN OCTOBER:

- ▶ **Outdoor Flu Vaccine Clinic with RiteAid Pharmacists**
 Wednesday, October 6 @ 10 am - 2 pm:
- ▶ **Drug Take Back Day - Guilderland Police Department**
 Saturday, October 23 @ 10 am - 2 pm:



How Did You Find It?
GPL's monthly podcast
NEW: Friday, September 17
Have you heard? Librarian Kathleen Tyrrell drops a new episode of our monthly podcast, **How Did You Find It?**, the third Friday of each month. Listen on major platforms for GPL news, including reopening.

YOUTH PROGRAMS



Welcome to School Goodie Bags

September 1-11
 It's a whole new world as

children embark on their school journey entering **kindergarten**...or advance to the more complex next-level world of **middle school**. In both cases, we've got goodie bags containing a free book and some fun age-appropriate items to help kick off their school year! Please pick up your "swag bag" during curbside hours by September 11. **[R]**



New Storywalk Keenholts Park

Our second storywalk has been installed at Keenholts Park, providing a relaxing way for families to take a stroll and enjoy a story at the same time. Use the entrance by the Guilderland Baseball Dutchmen Field and

park in the first lot, then follow the grassy path to find posts with successive pages of **Rain**, written by Linda Ashman and illustrated by Christian Robinson. Our sincere thanks to the Town of Guilderland and Upper Hudson Library System for partnering on this project. We're also updating the storywalk at Tawasentha Park on the Blue Trail near the bridge.

Dial A Story
For children and adults

All ages are encouraged to unplug from technology and relax with a brief story using our Dial A Story line. Simply call **518.456.2400** and **press 5**, then choose 1

for an adult story; 2 for a children's story; and 3 for an international story. Check back often, as stories are updated on a regular basis.



ON THE CALENDAR



No Curbside Services Labor Day Weekend
Saturday, September 4 - Monday, September 6
Board of Trustees Meeting
Thursday, September 23
@ 6 pm

At GPL and streamed live on YouTube. Public commentary may be submitted at any time to: pc@guilderlandlibrary.org



Building on the Future
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Q: How about library programs—story times, book clubs, speakers, films, concerts, etc.?

A: Due to continuing concerns about COVID, library programs will continue to be held virtually, and occasionally outdoors at local parks throughout the fall.

Q: Will meeting and study rooms be available?

A: Based on our COVID policy, we are not yet ready to open meeting and study rooms. Please stay tuned on that front.

Q: How about library fines?

A: Library fines were suspended in March 2020, and they remain so. We'll give you ample notice when they return.

Q: What's the latest on the new cafe?

A: We issued an RFP for proposals for owner/operators who would like to rent the space. While we had three parties interested, none submitted a proposal by the deadline. We are following up with them to address any concerns, and we are likely to re-issue the RFP with a new closing date in the near future. At least one potential vendor has told us it is extremely difficult to hire people to work in such positions at this time. So, we won't have a café upon reopening, but we will secure a vendor as soon as possible.

Q: When will computers be available for public use?

A: We don't exactly know, but we expect the new computers to arrive by mid-to-late October. They've been difficult to obtain, given the worldwide computer chip shortage, but we're hopeful they'll arrive soon. The public computer desks are situated next to the new reference desk. Beyond that, you'll find the new teen room, and the childrens wing.



We're waiting on delayed items, including public computers and shelving units, to complete our building project.

Q: Got electric charging stations?

A: Yes! We have two Level 2 EV charging stations, each capable of charging two cars at a time. What's even better is that the rebate offered by NYSEDA covers the entire cost of purchase and installation, so these stations were essentially free.



Q: Final thoughts on the project?

A: The final financial books are not yet closed on the project. It will likely take two or three more months of cleanup before we can say that everything is done and all resulting minor problems addressed. However, **we are confident that we will be finishing construction about 10.5 months earlier than expected, and at a cost savings of at least a quarter million dollars below the anticipated project cost.**

We were fortunate to hit very few major snags throughout the process. We also thank you for your patience—our original plan called for only occasional closures of a few days at a time. When COVID threatened to close the facility anyway, we capitalized on that and were able to realize the cost and time savings above. **The new facility is 20% larger, with projected utility costs 20% lower, due to advances in technology and green initiatives.**

Plans are in the works for a Grand Reopening celebration of all we have accomplished as a community in creating this totally transformed facility for all to benefit from and enjoy. **More details to come!**



Book Donations are Back!

Side Parking Lot

Look for these gray donation bins in our side parking lot (take MercyCare Lane and hang an immediate right). **Bulk Book Warehouse**, a

family-owned and operated business in Rotterdam started in 2019, now processes all book donations collected at GPL.

Kanopy is Here!

Versatile New Digital Service

Enjoy scores of critically-acclaimed movies and TV shows...inspiring documentaries...award-winning foreign films... Kanopy Kids...the Great Courses—and much more, with your Guilderland or Altamont library card! Go to the E-library button on our home page, or https://guilderlandlibrary.org/e_library/ for more info.

