



Jul/Aug 2021

# theBookmark

Check our website or call us for open hours & holiday closures.

Virtual library open 24/7/365.

## The Summer Reading Challenge is on!

*A summer of fun-filled outdoor activities for kids and unique challenges for adults.*



**K**ids, teens, and adults are invited to participate in this year's Summer Reading Challenge (SRC), Tails & Tales, from June 28th - August 13th. We are excited once again to offer Beanstack, an online program that allows participants to easily track their reading progress. Traditional paper logs are available upon request.

Kids and teens can earn virtual badges by reading and completing activities, and then come into the library and pick up a matching button to add to your reading ribbon! Each badge you complete will earn an entry into our end of summer raffles—fun prizes featuring favorite characters such as Pete the Cat, Dog Man, Pikachu, and Super Mario Bros.



Our events will take place outdoors this summer, and will include storytimes, crafts, and STEM programs. Tweens & teens will also have events especially for them—cupcake decorating, painting, tie-dye, and more! Most programs will require registration; check our event calendar for more details and sign-up information. Stop by the Children's Room anytime during the first week of SRC to learn about the program, play Plinko for prizes, pick up your patriotic take and make craft, and choose a cool bookmark to mark your spot in a good book! Super Reader lawn signs featuring our mascot Charlie will be available while supplies last.

**A**dults can also log their reading, complete challenge activities, and attend programs to earn virtual badges and raffle ticket entries towards great prizes. Join us in celebrating summer with good reads and fun times!

## Library receives donation

*Stewart's Shops presents library with a donation made possible through their Holiday Match program.*

**I**n May, the library received a \$500 donation from Stewart's Shops through their Holiday Match collection program. Stewart's matches all individual donations received between Thanksgiving and Christmas day with 100% going directly to support local charities benefiting children under 18 that apply to receive this funding.

Head of Youth Services, Molly Chatt, was delighted to receive this generous donation. The funds will be used to purchase popular paperback books for youth to offer as prizes and incentives for the library's 2021 Summer Reading Club. She explains, "When children and teens participate in our Reading Club, we like to give them paperback books as rewards for completing their reading goals. Research has shown that adding to the home libraries of children fosters a culture of learning, and that it is crucial for children to have books of their own to enhance their literary development. This summer we hope to give at least two books to each child and teen who participates in our Summer Reading Club."

In previous years, the majority of the book prizes were gathered as donations from our Friends of the East Greenbush

Library group. Due to pandemic restrictions, the Friends group have not been able to accept used book donations from the public. The grant funds will be used to purchase books from the Scholastic Literacy Partnerships program which offers educators and libraries steeply discounted books for the sole purpose of giving them to children to keep.



*The library receives a \$500 donation through the Stewart's Shops Holiday Match collection program. Representatives from Stewart's presented the check to the Director on May 12, 2021. (L-R) Jill Dugas Hughes, Director, Molly Chatt, Head of Youth Services; Stewart's representatives Megan Cheney and Johnny Edick; and Jennifer Lubbers, Youth Services Librarian.*

# Join us outdoors for our summer events!

All events will be held outside on the library grounds or at the Farmers' Market. For event details and to register (\*) go to <https://events.eglibrary.org/>. For service updates and COVID safety policies, go to <https://eglibrary.org/>.



## Kids & Teens

We are excited to offer a variety of programs this summer for kids and teens! There will be a mix of virtual and outdoor programming in order to reach as many of our patrons as possible. Join us for storytimes, as well as art, science, and music programs outdoors under the library tent! The majority of our

programs this year will have strict registration and capacity requirements due to COVID restrictions, please check our event calendar for dates and complete registration details. The programs listed below are drop-in -- if weather seems questionable, please call the library that day for program status.

### Tuesdays Under the Tent!

July 13 — August 10 | 10a-4p

Stop by the big tent outside for lawn games and activities. Enjoy a different art activity each week—sand art, suncatchers & more!

### Family Fun at the Market!

June 30 — August 11 | 4-7p

Look for us outside of the library on Farmers' Market days for crafting fun for the kids!

## Adults

### Wireless Wednesdays Drop-In Tech Help

Wednesdays | 5-7p @ the Market

Bring your questions & devices.

### Live Concert Series on the Patio

All ages welcome. BYO blanket/chairs.

#### Tanager\*

Wednesday, July 14 | 7p

(Rain date 7/21)

#### Back to Bacharach & Beyond\*

Wednesday, August 11 | 7p

(Rain date 8/18)

### Monday Book Discussions\*

Monday, July 19 | 10a or 7p

Monday, August 16 | 10a or 7p

### Farmers' Market Information

<https://eglibrary.org/newsletter/farmers-market/>

<https://events.eglibrary.org/>

East GreenbushLibraryYMCARFarmerMarket



## we're @ the market!

**Farmers' Market Vendors** Wednesdays 4-7p (rain or shine)

**Friends Mini Book Sales** Select Wednesdays (see event calendar)

**Library Activities** Select Wednesdays (see event calendar)

**Community Partners** Select Wednesdays (see event calendar)



## Take a StoryWalk™

Our new story is ready for young readers to enjoy while exploring the grounds.



Jennifer and her grandmother used our StoryWalk™ for inspiration to create some Couch Potato rock artwork!

StoryWalk™ is a fun way for families with young children to read stories while enjoying time outdoors. Pages from picture books are laminated and attached to wooden stakes that are posted at regular intervals along an outdoor walking path or sidewalk. As families follow the path, they stop and read pages of the story.

Our current story, *The Couch Potato* by Jory John, is the second story to be installed since the path was created in the Fall of 2020. Be sure to stop by to enjoy some time outdoors while reading and playing on the library grounds. The next story is tentatively scheduled to be

posted by the end of July or the beginning of August.



StoryWalks™ are supported by funds from the New York State Library's Family Literacy Library Services Program and by the Upper Hudson Library System, and can be found at many libraries throughout Albany and Rensselaer counties. The StoryWalk™ Project was created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, VT and developed in collaboration with the Vermont Bicycle & Pedestrian Coalition (VBPC) and the Kellogg Hubbard Library.

# Story contest winners celebrated

*Winners read their stories at reception held in their honor.*

On a hot sunny day in June, our Pen to Pandemic Contest came to a close with a reception to honor the participants at the East Greenbush Community Library. The authors presented their work at an outdoor reception on the library patio on June 5th to a crowd of Town and Library dignitaries, as well as other participants, friends, and family members. The four stories presented were all chosen for cleaving to the strict



*James Chicoine reads his story, Things Have Gone Crazy in the Manor, to a captive audience situated on the lawn.*

criteria of time and place, while each story was beautifully rendered, thoughtful, and original. The event opened with remarks from Library Director, Jill Dugas Hughes, and an introduction from Jody Squadere, Librarian and project lead.

For the age 18-49 category, first place winner Eva Dacier read from her story “When Maddie Met Hazel” which drew upon the historical unsolved murder mystery of teenager Hazel Drew from Sand Lake and used diary entries to bring her characters to life. First place winner of the age 50+ category, James Chicoine read his savagely funny story “Things Have Gone Crazy in the Manor” which took a deep dive into the historical myths and stories of Rensselaer County. Runner-up Kelly Gallagher read her story “The Falls” about the moments when a parent realized that her child looked to her for learning about the natural world with reverence and trust. In “The Zumba Barn” runner-up Julie Lomoe humorously touched on so many things that people have had to face during this pandemic, including managing her own emotional wellness while dealing

## Judges Give Rave Reviews

*“When Maddie Met Hazel” — “The writer was able through journal entries to articulate her grief on losing her grandmother and dealing with all the external forces dealing with a pandemic. Writing in the style of diary entries was intriguing...it reflected the way a lot of people have coped with COVID by journaling.”*

*“The Falls” — “This is a heartwarming wonderful story beautifully written. So very real! It finds hope and beauty in difficult times.”*

with usually reasonable people doing a 360 degree turn and reacting with hateful and irrational behavior.

We will be publishing the collection of these and all eligible stories in a book called *Pen to Pandemic: A Community Anthology from the Time of COVID-19* with Troy Book Makers. The authors tell universal stories with common themes for anyone living anywhere through the pandemic. Extended families living together, visits to loved-ones, old and newborn, through windows, and new



*Group photo with winners and dignitaries from Rensselaer County Legislature, Town and the Library as well as friends, and family members.*

versions of traditional holiday gatherings, children and teenagers still making friends and people still falling in love, sometimes with their own partners all over again. Toilet paper! Streaming Netflix! Food, food, food! Finding it, preparing it, and most importantly, smelling and tasting it! There were ghost towns, shutdowns, and food deliveries. The book is slated to be available in early September 2021. We know these wonderful stories will pique your interest and resonate with our community. It will be given as a gift to the authors who were included in the book and available for purchase at the Library.

*“Things Have Gone Crazy in the Manor” — “This was so humorous! It is very imaginative, and the author is a talented storyteller. It starts out serious and ends with out loud laughing.”*

*“The Zumba Barn” — “The writer touched managing emotional self-care which brings its own set of challenges made difficult during the pandemic. We have all heard about reasonable people doing a 360 and reacting with hate and irrational behavior.”*



*Winners & Library staff (L-R): Julie Lomoe, Jill Dugas Hughes (Library Director), Eva Dacier, James Chicoine, Kelly Gallagher & Jody Squadere (Librarian/Project Leader).*

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## East Greenbush Community Library

10 Community Way, East Greenbush, NY 12061

Phone: 518-477-7476 | Fax: 518-477-6692 | [eglibrary.org](http://eglibrary.org)

Find Us:    

Open Hrs. (thru 7/3): M 9-4; Tu/Th/Fr 10-6; Wed 10-7; Sat 10-4

Effective 7/6: M/Tu/Th 10-6; Wed 10-8; Fr/Sa 10-4

Closed Sundays | Closed July 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> for Independence Day

**Hours are subject to change. Check website or call for updates.**

## Board of Trustees

Michael Poost, *President*

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Shay Harrison, *Trustee*

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*The public is invited to Board of Trustees meetings.*

*Please check [eglibrary.org](http://eglibrary.org) for more details.*

Jill Dugas Hughes, *Director* | Susan Bell, *Designer & Editor*

The Friends of the Library, *Contributing Authors*

## Budget Vote & Election

*Tuesday, September 14th | 9 am to 9 pm in the library.*

A public hearing to review the 2022 Preliminary Budget will be held on Tuesday, July 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm in the library. The proposed budget will be presented to the community for a public vote on Tuesday, September 14<sup>th</sup> from 9 am to 9 pm. A second proposition on the ballot will be to elect a Trustee to fill one open position on the Library Board of Trustees. The elected Trustee will serve a 5-year term that will begin on January 1, 2022. You must be a resident of the Town of East Greenbush to become a Trustee and to vote in this election.

*For more information about the election visit our website at*

**<https://eglibrary.org/about/board/>**



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Non-Profit  
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Permit No. 203



**we're @ the market!**

*Wednesdays | 4-7p (Rain or Shine)*

**<https://eglibrary.org/newsletter/farmers-market/>**

*See page 2 for special library events at the market.*

## IMPORTANT DATES

**Tuesday, July 20 | 6:30 pm in the library (open to public)**

- 2022 preliminary budget public hearing.

**Wednesday, July 21**

- Trustee candidate packets available.
- Library absentee ballot applications available.

**Tuesday, September 7 (by 5pm)**

- Last day to request an absentee application & ballot (must request in person).

**Monday, September 13**

- Absentee ballots must be postmarked (USPS) by 9/13.

**Tuesday, September 14 (9am—9pm)**

- Library budget vote and election at the library.



Did you miss our virtual Cord Cutting class? Visit our YouTube channel for our Cord Cutting 101 playlist by topic or go to <http://bit.ly/EGcordcutting> to download the presentation, play the video and access other helpful links.



The library now has an online subscription to Consumer Reports!

Resident patrons can access it from home using their library barcode at <https://bit.ly/EGconsumer>. All patrons can access it from library computers or on devices connected to the library's Wi-Fi network.