



Sep/Oct 2022

★ Election Issue ★

# theBookmark

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

Virtual library open 24/7/365.



## Library Card Sign Up Month

September is library card sign up month! Kids that register for their first library card will receive a goody bag and a coupon for Stewart's ice cream!

## Kids Programs

### Storytimes

Tuesdays OR Fridays: Sept. 13—Oct. 21 | 10:30a (except 10/7)

Join us at the library for a fun half hour of stories, songs, and rhymes, followed by a half hour of informal playtime! No registration is required.



### Storytime at the Park

Wednesdays: Sept. 14—Oct. 19 | 10:30a

Toddlers and preschoolers are invited to storytime **at the E. Greenbush Town Park!** In the lower pavilion near the Red Barn. Check our event calendar for weather cancellation updates.

### K-2 Crew (grades K-2)

Thursdays: Sept. 15—Oct. 27 (except 10/6) | 4:15p

Variety of after school fun including stories, art projects, games, and STEM activities! Registration required.

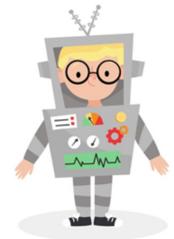
### New Reading Challenges for Kids in K-12!

Use the library's online tracking tool, Beanstack, to develop your child's love of reading from birth to graduation! Earn books as prizes along the way and build your child's home library. Start with 1000 Books Before Kindergarten, continue on with 500 Books Before Middle School, and finish strong with 100 Books Before Graduation. Ask in the Children's Room for more details.

### Costume Swap!

Saturday, Oct. 15 | 11a—1p

Swap instead of shop! Our costume swap is recycling at its most fun!



#### Here's how it works:

- Drop off your costumes in the Children's Room between Saturday, October 1st and Friday, October 14th.
- In exchange for each complete, clean, gently worn costume, you will receive 1 swap ticket to claim a new-to-you costume at the October 15th event. Please note that the library cannot guarantee fit or selection.
- We are accepting costumes in all sizes, infant to adult. You can drop off a costume even if you are not interested in choosing a new one.

### Halloween Parades!

Tuesday, Oct. 25 OR Wednesday, Oct. 26 OR Friday, Oct. 28 | all events start at 10:30a

Dress in your costume for a short Halloween Storytime for toddlers and preschoolers, and then we'll line up for a Trick-or-Treat parade through the library!

## Tweens & Teens

All programs are for tweens & teens in grades 6-12 unless otherwise noted. There are buses from Goff and Columbia to the library after school.

### Teen Anime Club

Wednesdays: Sept. 14 & 28, Oct. 12 & 26 | 3-5p

Join us on Wednesday afternoons to hang out and watch anime! No registration required.

### The Friday Thing

Fridays: Sept. 9, 16, 23, 30, Oct. 14, 21 & 28 | 3-5p

Drop by the library on Friday afternoons to eat snacks, play games, and make stuff! Weekly activities will vary. No registration required.

### Half Day Pizza & Movie

Monday, Sept. 26 | 11:30a—2p

Need something to do on your half day? Come to the library for pizza and an interactive movie!



**Registration is required and begins on Sept. 6.**

### Frankentoys Workshop

Wednesday, Oct. 19 | 3-5p

Unleash your inner mad scientist and create your very own monster! Design one-of-a-kind creatures from repurposed toys and stuffed animals. Use toys provided by the library or bring your own! **Registration is required and begins on October 5.**

# Annual Highlights—By The Numbers

*The library serves its members both in-person and online, providing materials and programs to meet their needs.*

A library's worth to its community can be measured in a number of ways. Even during a pandemic, the community used the library, borrowing digital books, audio books and streaming movies. In 2021, the library was open 2,444 hours and hosted 82,002 visitors. Library staff circulated 339,051 items, the highest circulation per capita in Albany and Rensselaer Counties! 16,294 people joined our in-person programming and virtual events, 3,415 used a public computer. 10,699 connected to the fiber internet network wirelessly, and 10,400 people visited the library's website.



For the second year in a row, the library was recognized in the Times Union "Best of 2022" as "the 2nd Best Public Library" in the region, a terrific feat considering the competition was among libraries with significant larger populations and budgets. We also received the honor "Upper Hudson Library System Adult Program of the Year" for our 'Pen to Pandemic' short story program. This unique program was created when staff identified a need and an opportunity in their community. As a creative and cathartic outlet, they invited people to create original short stories set locally during the Covid-19



pandemic. Working with several community partners, a team of judges selected the winning entries, which were published in the New Authors Journal. All submissions were collected and published in an original book entitled *Pen to Pandemic: A Community Anthology from the Time of Covid-19*, copies of which were presented to all the contributors and, of course, added to the library's collection!

The Oceans of Possibilities 2022 Summer Reading Program was a great success! 970 patrons of all ages participated in our Reading Challenge to read and complete fun activities for a chance to win prizes and books. We were thrilled to offer concerts, crafts, storytimes, wildlife shows, trivia, movies and more this summer as we returned to a full schedule of in-person programming. We could not have done it all without the help of our 53 dedicated teen volunteers, who donated 680 hours of their time this summer. The library would also like to thank the Friends of the East Greenbush Library, the Rensselaer Elks Lodge #2073, and Stewart's Shops for their generous support of our Summer Reading Program.

## 2023 Library Budget Vote & Election

The East Greenbush Community Library will hold its 2023 Library Budget Vote & Election in the library on September 13, 2022 from 9am to 9pm.

The 2023 budget was prepared with an eye towards maintaining the services and programs so valued by our community while still supporting library efforts to innovate and evolve. There were four major considerations drove development of the 2023 budget:

1. Maintain quality library services by providing vibrant physical and virtual spaces, developing diverse collections and programs, investing in technology safety and security, and supporting library staff who make this happen.
2. Join more than 25 UHLS libraries by migrating to "Fine Free" in January 2023, eliminating most fees for the late return of items.
3. Ensure the library's long-term sustainability by replenishing reserve accounts to mitigate the financial impact of necessary but costly building repairs.

4. Offer transparency to the community by including all income and expenses, including gift, grant, and capital income and expenses, in the voter approved budget.

The proposed 2023 budget (including all fund accounts) is \$2,332,682. In previous years gift, grant and capital funds were managed outside the budget. The tax impact on an average homeowner is \$9.45/year increase.

A second proposition on the ballot is for the election of two Trustees to serve five-year terms on the Library Board of Trustees. The two candidates on the ballot are Michael Poost and Charlie Pensabene. Candidate statements are available in the library or on our website.

For information about the library, candidate statements and FAQs, go to <https://eglibrary.org/about/board> or contact the Library Director, Jill Dugas Hughes, at 518-477-7476 or director @eglibrary.org.

| <b>Library Budget Summary</b>          |   | <b>2023 Proposed Budget</b>                 |   |
|--|---|---|---|
| <b>Income Summary</b>                  | <b>2022 Budget OPERATING Income</b>                           | <b>OPERATING &amp; RESERVE Income</b>       | <b>Notes</b>  |
| East Greenbush Tax Levy                | \$ 1,770,525  | \$ 1,876,757                                | Tax impact on average homeowner is \$9.45/yr. increase \$0.79/month         |
| Library Charges                        | \$ 41,500   | \$ 8,300                                    | Fine Free!  |
| Donations/Grants                       | \$ <i>Not in '22 budget; different accounting methodology</i> | \$ 28,500                                   | New accounting methodology for 2023 includes Donations/Grants               |
| Interest                               | \$ 400  | \$ 425                                      |   |
| Contract for Service Schodack          | \$ 320,000  | \$ 339,200                                  |   |
| County, State, Federal Aid             | \$ 4,950  | \$ 16,500                                   |   |
| Transfers From Reserve Funds           | \$ <i>Not in '22 budget; different accounting methodology</i> | \$ 63,000                                   | New accounting methodology for 2023 includes Gift, Grant, and Capital Funds |
| <b>TOTAL INCOME</b>                    | <b>\$ 2,137,375</b>   | <b>\$ 2,332,682</b>                         |   |
| <b>Expenditures Summary</b>            | <b>OPERATING Expenditures</b>                                 | <b>OPERATING &amp; CAPITAL Expenditures</b> | <b>Notes</b>  |
| Technology/Communication               | \$ 47,985**   | \$ 68,122                                   | Security Upgrades, Fiber Speed Increase                                     |
| Programming & Planning                 | \$ 11,000**   | \$ 16,900                                   |   |
| Books & Materials                      | \$ 144,500**  | \$ 157,715                                  |   |
| Facilities                             | \$ 136,800**  | \$ 192,506                                  | Aging Building, Inflation   |
| Professional Services                  | \$ 50,000   | \$ 75,350                                   | UHLS Membership, QuickBooks Online, Strategic Planning, Online HR Platform  |
| Library Operations                     | \$ 35,200   | \$ 31,050                                   |   |
| Human Resources/Staff Dev't            | \$ 5,000  | \$ 5,000                                    |   |
| Salaries & Benefits                    | \$ 1,537,640  | \$ 1,669,039                                | Compensation Study, Mandatory Steps & Benefits, +1.5 FTE, 3% COLA           |
| Capital Expenditures                   | \$ 0**  | \$ 17,000                                   | Cooling Tower, Backflow Preventer   |
| Transfer to Reserves (capital savings) | \$ 169,250  | \$ 100,000                                  | Capital Savings   |
| <b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>              | <b>\$ 2,137,375</b>   | <b>\$ 2,332,682</b>                         | **2022 Budget reflects operating expenses only; 2023 budget reflects both   |

**2023 Proposed Tax Levy/Rate:** Total Taxable Assessed Value: \$1,970,487,254; Tax Levy: \$1,867,757; Tax Rate: \$0.95 (per \$1,000 Assessed Value) represents an increase of 4 cents from the previous year. The tax impact of the proposed levy will be an increase of \$9.45/year or \$0.79/month. This figure is based on the Median Assessed Value for an East Greenbush home (\$225K).



Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Albany, NY  
Permit No. 203

## East Greenbush Community Library

10 Community Way, East Greenbush, NY 12061      
Phone: 518-477-7476 | Fax: 518-477-6692 | [eglibrary.org](http://eglibrary.org)

**Hours:** Call or check website for updates.  
Mon & Fri 10–6; Tue/Wed/Thu 10-8; Sat 10–5; Sun 1-5  
**Holiday Closings:** Sunday 9/4 & Monday, 9/5

## Board of Trustees

Michael Poost, *President*      Camille Engel, *Trustee*  
Shay Harrison, *Vice President*      Amanda Miller, *Trustee*  
Lynne Oudekerk, *Treasurer*      Kate Sheehan, *Trustee*  
Mari Harris, *Secretary*

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*  
The Friends of the Library, *Contributing Authors*



## Library Budget Vote & Election

**Tuesday, Sept. 13th, 9 am-9 pm (in library)**  
See details pgs. 2-3 or <https://eglibrary.org/about/board>



## Programs & Events

\*Register at <https://eglibrary.org/events> or call us at 518-477-7476.  
Stay tuned to our calendar for **digital learning programs** & more!



### For Adults

- 9/6: 6p      Greenbush Garden Club: Birds In Winter\*  
Club meeting 6pm; program starts 6:30p
- 9/11: 2p      Historical Society: Russell Sage "The Money King"\*
- 9/15: 1p      3rd Thursday Matinee: *Downton Abbey: A New Era*\*
- 9/15: 6p      Concert: As Iz (Registration suggested. Walk-ins welcome)
- 9/17      Make a Quilt for Project Linus Grab & Go\*  
pick-up starts
- 9/19: 10a      Book Club (10am or 6:30p)
- 10/4: 6p      Greenbush Garden Club\* (program TBD)  
Club meeting 6pm; program starts 6:30p
- 10/14: 11a      Dining With Diabetes\* with Hannaford Nutritionist
- 10/17: 10a      Book Club (10a or 6:30p)\*
- 10/19: 11a      Adult Craft: Stamping With Sharyn, Pt.1\*
- 10/20: 1p      3rd Thursday Matinee: *The Lost City*\*
- 10/23: 2p      Historical Society: Early Criminals Of The Capital District \*



### FALL BOOK & MEDIA SALE

October 7-9th

See details at [eglibrary.org](http://eglibrary.org)

### Community Partnership Events

- Sept.: 4-6:30p      Library/YMCA Farmers' Market  
(Market is held every Wednesday)
- 9/11: 11-2p      Bike With A Cop! @ EG Town Hall
- 9/12: 1-6p      Red Cross Blood Drive @ the Library.  
Appointment recommended. See online calendar for details.
- 9/14: 4-6:30p      Music Instrument Collection Drive @ Farmers' Mkt (rain location in the library)
- 9/28 : 4-5p      Meet & Greet K-9 "Bear" @ Farmers' Mkt
- 10/8 : 1-3p      Drug Take Back Day @ the Library
- 10/8: 1-3p      Cookout With A Cop @ the Library

### Kids Programs

See page 1 or visit us online at [events.eglibrary.org](http://events.eglibrary.org)

