Library Community Forum—April 23rd
Share your thoughts with us about future library programs and services.

It’s our time to listen—and we want to hear your thoughts! Our Strategic Planning initiative will create a road map toward a future vision for the library. Please join us on Sunday, April 23rd at 2 pm in the Community Room at the Greenbush YMCA located at 20 Community Way in East Greenbush. We want all voices and perspectives, whether you use the library or not! We hope to get as many community members as possible to participate in our Community Forum. This is your opportunity to share with our consultants what you want your community to be, the challenges faced, and the changes needed to overcome them. All voices are needed! YOUR voice is needed!

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Summer Reading Challenge 2023
Registration begins June 26th! Stay tuned to our website, eglibrary.org, for details.

Come to the EGCL to celebrate reading, nature, and exploration with this year’s Summer Reading Program, “Read Beyond the Beaten Path.” Beginning Monday, June 26 through Friday, August 11, you can choose your way to play: pick up a game card at the library, download the free Beanstack app, or register online at eastgreenbushlibrary.beanstack.org. Participants of all ages can read books and complete challenge activities for a chance to win fantastic prizes!

And while we certainly love to see you read, Summer Reading at the East Greenbush Community Library is so much more! You can expect storytimes and nature programs for the kids, and games and art for the teens. Adults can look forward to book clubs, concerts, and craft events, and there will be special performers for all ages! Families can join together in the fun with our all-ages Bingo night, take part in our Tiny Art Show, and paint kindness rocks together to spread cheer throughout the community. We are excited for you to join us – this summer is the perfect time to get off the beaten path, enjoy a great read, and explore new books and authors!

Become A 36ER! April 3rd—July 31st
Take a library expedition to visit 36 unique libraries in the UHLS.

Love to visit libraries? This self-guided tour is for you! Visit as many of our 36 unique libraries in Albany and Rensselaer counties as you can between April 3rd and July 31st!

Road trip to the Upper Hudson libraries as a family, by yourself, or grab your friends and create a team. Whether you travel in a pack or solo, you’ll earn prizes like vinyl stickers for your water bottle or laptop, enamel pins, and bumper stickers along the way. Each of our libraries has its own unique architecture, vibe, events, and collection - so the real reward is experiencing them.

To get your expedition started, pick up a map and instructions at the library!
Meet Our Summer VolunTeens

Be part of the excitement of summer reading—become a volunteer!

The library’s VolunTeen program provides students in grades 7-12 with an opportunity to earn service hours, practice job skills, and give back to their community in a meaningful way. VolunTeens assist librarians with a variety of tasks, including shelving books and materials in the Children’s Room, preparing craft materials, and helping with special events. The time, energy, and talents of our VolunTeens are key to running successful programming and reading challenges for children and teens throughout the year. Many teens use their time spent volunteering at the library to fulfill requirements for their extracurricular activities, class assignments, or college applications. We recently spoke with a few of our VolunTeens about their experience volunteering at the library.

Asher has volunteered at the library since 2019, both during the school year and as part of our Summer VolunTeen Program. Asher has spent many hours working at the Summer Reading Headquarters, explaining reading challenges and awarding prizes to children and their families. Their favorite part of volunteering is “serving the people who come to the library and working volunteer shifts with friends.” In their spare time, Asher enjoys playing video games and reading mysteries and thrillers from the library’s teen collection. After high school, Asher plans to go to college to study architecture.

Kathryn began volunteering in 2019 as a Summer VolunTeen. She enjoys working with kids and helping them find what they need when they visit the library, from books to craft supplies. Many of her volunteer hours have been spent shelving books and assisting with children’s programs. When asked about one of her favorite volunteering memories, Kathryn shared, “There once was a little girl who came in and asked me to help her get a book she couldn’t reach, and then we checked out the book together.” In her free time, Kathryn likes to read, call her friends, and dance. Kathryn plans to go to college to become an interior designer.

Lily first joined our VolunTeen program during the summer before 8th grade. As a Summer VolunTeen, Lily has assisted with craft programs, outdoor activities, and shelving books in the Children’s Room. When asked what she likes most about volunteering at the library, Lily responded, “Helping people. It gives me joy to see people smile, and a sense of purpose knowing I am helping to make the community a better place.” Lily is now in 11th grade, and she plans to go to medical school after she graduates. In her free time, she enjoys attending library programs, playing the flute and guitar, reading, and playing tennis.
Maria has been a VolunTeen since 2019. Her favorite part of volunteering is “helping little kids have great experiences at the library” by reading and playing games with them. Maria’s favorite volunteering memory happened during her first year as a VolunTeen, when a child asked for her help with a coloring project, and then proudly showed her mother what they had created together. Her favorite thing about the library is that there is a dedicated section for each age group, “so that everyone can enjoy reading, from children to adults.” Maria enjoys reading mysteries and dancing in her free time, and her dream job is to become a lawyer.

Molly is an 11th grader who loves spending time at the library. She first signed up to be a Summer VolunTeen in 2021, and now volunteers during the school year as well. Molly has many fond memories of being a VolunTeen, such as “assisting with Fun Under the Tent, experimenting with crafts of the day, chasing bubbles with friends, and promoting reading exploration.” She views her time spent volunteering at the library as an invaluable experience. In her free time, Molly enjoys participating in service projects, choreographing for school musicals, and performing spoken word poetry. She plans to attend a four-year school in hopes of becoming an English teacher.

Do you want to volunteer to help your community this summer?
Are you entering grades 8+ in the fall? Come to a training session to learn more about our 2023 Summer VolunTeen Program! Training lasts about one hour and is mandatory for both new and returning VolunTeens. Look for training dates on our website starting at the beginning of June!

Attention OverDrive App Users

OverDrive is discontinuing its legacy OverDrive app May 1st and transitioning users to its newer app, Libby, for browsing and enjoying digital content from our library. It’s time to give Libby a try! All your loans, holds, and wish list items will be waiting for you in Libby when you add your library card. Libby also comes with new features we know you’ll love, like:

- Tags to categorize books however you’d like; even sync your OverDrive wish list into a tag!
- A central bookshelf for all loans and holds
- Customizable notifications for ready holds, new magazine issues and more
- Compatibility with Apple CarPlay, Android Auto, and Sonos speakers
- Extra learning and entertainment resources
- Easy access to OverDrive support staff

Note: Our library’s digital collection will continue to be available at https://UHLS.overdrive.com on desktop and mobile devices.

Thank You for Participating!

Many thanks to the children, teens, and adults who took part in our Winter Reading Challenge: Passport to Adventure! Throughout January and February participants read books set in places far and wide, took their taste buds on culinary journeys, planned their dream vacations, and engaged in other travel-themed activities. Together we completed 1,646 library-related activities! Adults recorded 659 books read, and children logged 36,420 minutes of reading! Did you miss this wonderful program? Don’t worry! Registration for our equally terrific Summer Reading Challenge begins on June 26.
East Greenbush Community Library
10 Community Way, East Greenbush, NY 12061 Phone: 518-477-7476 | eglibrary.org

Hours: Call or check website for updates.
Mon & Fri 10–6; Tue/Wed/Thu 10–8; Sat 10–5; Sun 1–5

Library Closures: 4/9 (Easter), 4/24 (Staff Development Day),
5/27 thru 5/29 (Memorial Day weekend), 6/19 (Juneteenth)

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The public is invited to Board of Trustees meetings.
Please check eglibrary.org for more details.

Jill Dugas Hughes, Director | Susan Bell, Designer
The Friends of the Library, Contributing Authors

Spring Book Sale
Friday—Sunday, April 21, 22 & 23

Don’t miss the big sale! There will be a great selection of thousands of hardcovers, paperbacks, DVDs and puzzles!

Friday, April 21: 12—5:30 pm ($1 each item)
Saturday, April 22: 10 am—4 pm ($1 each item)
Sunday, April 23: 12—3 pm ($5 bag sale* only)
*BYO grocery-sized bag on Sunday

Preliminary 2024 Budget Hearing
Tuesday, July 18, 2023 | 6:30 pm in the library
Public is invited to attend. When available, details will be provided on our website at eglibrary.org.

2023 Summer Concert Series

It’s always great to see all of your happy faces at our Summer Concert Series on the lawn. Once again, we are partnering with the Friends of the East Greenbush Community Library and the Music Performance Trust Fund. We thank them for their generous support co-sponsoring this 2023 Summer Concert Series.

Our concerts will begin at 6 pm out on the lawn. Please bring a lawn chair or a blanket for seating. Just slide off your shoes and relax on the grass. Some seating will be available. Walk-ins welcome, but register to guarantee a seat inside for inclement weather. Families are always welcome!

Thursday, June 29, 2023: Hot Vox Trio
60s and 70s folk and R&B tunes with lots of heart and harmony.

Thursday, July 27, 2023: Standard Time Quartet
50s & 60s pop/rock to well-known standards with smooth harmonies.

Thursday, August 3, 2023: Onkor
Classic Tunes, Oldies, and Rock ‘N Roll from the 50s to the present.

Register at events.eglibrary.org to guarantee inside seating in the case of inclement weather.