



theBookmark

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

Virtual library
is open 24/7/365

2023-2028 Library Strategic Plan

Library serves as the central hub for learning and community connection.

Our library has always been a vital community hub, fostering learning, connection, and inspiration. The new 2023-2028 strategic plan will guide us forward while staying true to our values. We envision the library as the central hub where all people will feel welcome, supported in learning, and connected to their community and one another.

Through discussions with the community, patrons, staff, Board, Friends and partners, we've identified key areas of focus that will drive our library's growth. We're excited about the possibilities! Your continued involvement is critical as we bring this plan to life.



We will focus on the following organizational goals:

1. Build Community Connections
2. Engage with Your Community
3. Satisfy Curiosity & Stimulate Imagination
4. Promote Literacies
5. Advance Local Economic Vitality

Thank you for being a part of the East Greenbush Community Library family. Together, we're shaping our future for learning, connecting, and promoting our sense of community.

Stop in or visit our website at <https://eglibrary/about/board> to read the full strategic plan which includes survey results and details on how we will implement this plan. **Comments or Questions?** Please contact Jill Dugas Hughes, Library Director, at director@eglibrary.org or call 518-477-7476.

Winter Reading Challenge (WRC) 2024!

Participate in the WRC January 8th—February 23rd.



Settle in and get comfy with this year's Winter Reading Challenge: Stay Cozy! Enjoy book recommendations and displays, as well as in-person and virtual programs. Starting January 8, register for the challenge online by visiting the library's website or pick up a game card at the Reference or Children's Desks. Log your reading and track your activities to

earn raffle tickets toward gift cards and a cozy-themed grand prize gift basket. The challenge runs from January 8th—February 23. Questions? Contact the Reference Desk at 518-477-7476, option 4. Kids and teens can also participate in the Winter Reading Challenge to earn prizes and free books!

Extended Library Hours Monday-Thursday 9 am—8 pm, Friday 10 am—6 pm, Saturday 10 am—5 pm, Sunday 1 pm—5 pm. Drive-thru service closes 15 minutes before the library.

Librarian receives Golden Shovel Award

Cultivating a partnership and making an impact in the community.

On November 1, 2023 the Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) held its annual meeting and open house where they presented 5 Golden Shovel Awards to volunteers, supporters, and organizations that went above and beyond to help the CCE increase their impact on local agriculture, horticulture, 4H youth development and association. This year we are proud to announce that Adult and Information Services Librarian, Jody Squadere, received the Golden Shovel Award for Family & Consumer Science for her work in cultivating a hands-on cooking class entitled *Cooking with Felisha*.

In 2020 Jody and Felisha Chandler, Nutritional Program Coordinator II at the Rensselaer County CCE, formed a partnership to provide a series of virtual hands-on cooking classes to the community during the pandemic. Navigating the technology to support a virtual program came with its challenges, but none that couldn't be overcome by this dynamic duo! With Jody organizing the format and managing the technology behind the scenes and Felisha working

her culinary magic at the forefront to make her crowd-pleasing favorites, such as All-Star Picnic Fare, Black Bean Burgers, and Southwestern Pan Veggie Hash, *Cooking with Felisha* was truly a memorable experience for all.

At the awards ceremony Felisha recognized and thanked Jody for being a marketing strength for EFNEP. "Jody is uplifting, enthusiastic and never tosses in the towel when something doesn't work. She also taught me how to pivot and try new things that will help EFNEP success. I look forward to working with her in the future." To date, they have provided 10 virtual and 2 in-person cooking classes to over 80 participants!



(L to R) Golden Shovel Award recipient Jody Squadere, Adult Information Services Librarian and Felisha Chandler, Nutrition Program Coordinator II at the Cornell Cooperative Extension (Rensselaer) who was also recognized at this event for her 20 years of service



Business services available at the library

Beyond lending materials, we offer a range of services to support your needs.

As the central hub for learning and community connection, the library strives to provide a wide variety of materials, programs, and resources that inspire learning, imagination, collaboration, and compassion. One of our goals is to provide resources that support local businesses, entrepreneurs and community leaders in an effort to advance local and economic vitality. To accomplish this, the library has evolved beyond lending traditional items. With a library card members can stay connected and conduct their work by borrowing laptops and hot spots for on-the-go convenience or by reserving time on one of our public workstations. We also offer the use of our self-serve public printer, copier, and fax machines for a nominal fee (card and cash accepted). Use of the scanner functionality is available for free! For added convenience print jobs can be sent to the library's printer from any location, using any device.



In need of a Notary Public? A notary is available during some of the hours the library is open. Please call ahead at 518-477-7476 to ensure availability. The library offers this service at no charge.

If you are looking for a job, the library can help! Cypress Resume is an online resume builder that helps job-seekers create professional-quality resumes in three quick and easy steps. Resumes can be tailored to fit almost any job. While Cypress Resume is a good resource for anyone, it is especially useful for those with limited computer or writing skills. In addition to Cypress Resume, the library's website has links to other resources for career exploration, training, and jobs! Access these and other helpful materials from a library computer or from home at <https://eglibrary.org/digital/ee>.

Programs for Adults

Registration is required unless noted otherwise. Register at <https://events.eglibrary.org> or call 518-477-7476. Check our events calendar regularly for updates and new programs.



MOVIES

Cinema Society

Calling all classic movie buffs! Meet at the library at 1:00 on the 1st Thursday of every month to watch, appreciate, and discuss classic movies with fellow film aficionados. See our online calendar for a list of titles.

Third Thursday Matinee

Come watch popular block buster movies on the library's big screen. Held on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 1:00. See our online calendar for a list of titles.

MUSIC CONCERTS

Triskele

March 24th | 2 pm

Triskele is an all-female Celtic band out of Albany NY. They are known for their stunning harmonies, singing in Gaelic language, and for their Irish wit.



Old Time Dance Band

April 7th | 2 pm

Blending jazz styles from the 1920s through the 1940s, enjoy their combination of arrangements of big band favorites and traditional jazz tunes.

Peaceful Country Band

April 27th | 2 pm

Join us for an afternoon of great classic country music. Cowboy boots not included!

CRAFTS FOR ADULTS

Grab & Go Project Linus

Pick up kits January 13th thru January 27th

Help make a quilt for Project Linus, an organization that collects new handmade blankets for children who need comfort, are seriously ill, or traumatized. No registration required, kit (includes pattern and fabric).

LOCAL AUTHOR TALK

In Conversation with Karen De Bonis

April 6th | 6 pm

"Growth: A Mother, Her Son, and the Brain Tumor They Survived." Can a woman who never learned to stand up for herself find the courage to speak up for her son?

HEALTH & WELLNESS

Organize Your Way to Sanity!

February 8th | 6:30 pm

Jes Marcy's signature method of decluttering, *Prioritize Your Sanity*, offers all the pillars you need to be successful in decluttering your life. She will present practical strategies that will help and challenge you.

LOCAL INTEREST / HISTORY

Seals of the American Revolution

January 11th | 2 pm

Some seals are self explanatory, but many are cryptic. Marvin Bubie deciphers the meanings in many of the seals that celebrate the War of Independence and how they honor the lives of ordinary individuals who accomplished extraordinary things.

When Life Gives You Scraps, Make A Quilt

January 28th | 2 pm

Discover the art of American Quilts with Connie Frisbee Houde as she unveils a collection of distinctive quilts from the NYS Museum. Learn about the process behind their construction and the history of quilting in America.

LEGAL & FINANCIAL

It's Your Money, Get It Back

January 16th | 6:30 pm (virtual)

Does New York State have money in your name? Each day they return about a million dollars to those who follow claims. Learn about what kind of funds are held, how to claim your money, and estate items.

EDUCATION & EMPLOYMENT

Fostering Access Rights & Equity for Women

March 19th | 6:30 pm (in library and virtual)

Join Stacey Salgado of the NYS Dept. of Labor for a presentation on employment rights and benefits especially important to women workers in NYS.

Visit our online calendar or stop in to see the full list of programs scheduled in January through April.

(continued on page 4)



East Greenbush Community Library

10 Community Way, East Greenbush, NY 12061



Phone: 518-477-7476 | eglibrary.org

New Extended Hours:

Mon/Tue/Wed/Thu 9–8; Fri 10–6; Sat 10–5; Sun 1–5

Drive-thru closes 15 minutes before closing.

Closed all day: December 24 & 25 (Christmas Eve & Christmas Day), January 1 (New Year's Day), January 15 (MLK Day), March 25 (Staff Development Day) and March 31 (Easter)

Closed at 5 pm: December 31 (New Year's Eve)

Board of Trustees

Mari Harris, *President*

Michael Poost, *Trustee*

Charlie Pensabene, *Vice President*

Nichole Krisanda, *Trustee*

Katie Sheehan, *Treasurer*

Amanda Miller, *Trustee*

Camille Engel, *Secretary*

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*

New Membership Perks!



The Friends are happy to announce their new Membership Tiers and Benefits for 2024! Some of the perks of becoming a member include early book sale shopping hours, access to special collections, and much more! The membership period runs from January 1st through December 31st. Visit us online for details at <https://bit.ly/EGFriendsMembership>. A paper mailing will be sent to members in February.

(Programs for adults, continued from page 3)

SAFETY & PREPAREDNESS

Workshops for Adults

3/5, 11 am: Preventing & Responding to Identity Theft

3/6, 3 pm: Emergency Preparedness for Seniors

4/16, 11 am: How to Recognize and Avoid Scams

Workshops for Families

3/6, 6 pm: Emergency Preparedness for Families

3/12, 6:30 pm: Child Safety

4/23, 6:30 pm: Safeguarding Your Child's Identity

Winter Reading Challenge starts Jan. 8th!



Spring Book & Media Sale

Don't miss the big sale happening **April 12-14th!** There will be a great selection of thousands of hardcovers, paperbacks, DVDs and puzzles.

PROGRAMS FOR KIDS & TEENS

Family Storytimes Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays @ 10 am

Preschool Storytimes Wednesdays @ 11 am

1/24, 4 pm: K-2 Crew

2/16, 10 am: Clifford's Birthday! Please register.

Teens (grades 6-12)

Anime Club every other Wednesday @ 3 pm

The Friday Thing on Fridays @ 3 pm

New programs are added often, please check our events calendar for a complete listing of adult, teen and children's programs.