LIBRARY PLANS FOR SAFE REOPENING

Because of the number of COVID-19 cases in Valley Stream during the pandemic, the library reopening process will be done in accordance with the guidelines established for an approved Business Safety Plan required by New York State. The Library Board of Trustees of the Henry Waldinger Memorial Library, in conjunction with the Village of Valley Stream, is committed to ensuring the health and safety of the staff, library users, and the entire Valley Stream community.

The library is stocking personal protective equipment (PPE) and necessary cleaning supplies to make the facility and materials safe. The overwhelming demand for face masks, sanitizer, wipes, etc. has meant that some of the items are in short supply or backordered from our vendors – similar to what the public has been experiencing.

Under Phase 1, the staff is limited to a maximum of 50% to maintain physical distancing mandates as it works to catch up on the backlog of work and materials that has developed in the past few months.

The library will continue doing virtual programming and will continue to encourage the use of its online resources and databases.

Plans for a virtual summer reading club are being finalized to include virtual story programs, craft activities, performances by Page Turner Adventures, and other fun activities.

During the next week or so, the library will be finalizing procedures to provide curbside or contactless service for patrons to borrow materials from the library. Patrons will be able to make requests via telephone or e-mail regarding what materials they would like to borrow, and library staff will locate the materials requested or appropriate substitutes. Then appointments will be scheduled for patrons to pick up the materials at the library with little or no contact to ensure the health and safety of staff and library users. The library anticipates this service to start before the end of June.

Again, we ask our library users and the community for patience as the library adjusts procedures and services to maintain the health and safety of all as we move through the various phases of reopening.

Mamie Eng
Library Director
BOOKS ACCEPTED IN BOOKDROPS

Starting on Wednesday, June 3, 2020, the Henry Waldinger Memorial Library will be accepting books and other library materials in the book depository outside the Children’s Room Entrance.

This is the first step in the library’s reopening process. When the library closed on March 20, 2020, with 100% workforce reduction, the book depository had to be closed as there was no one to empty it on a regular basis. An estimate of the number of books and materials that were checked out and not returned since then is 10,000 items!

The due dates for all materials due between mid-March to mid-April were extended to May 1st, then June 1st, and then to September 1st, so no overdue fines will be charged on these items. But now is the time for the library to start getting these materials back. We expect that most of our patrons are looking forward to returning them too. We ask that you return materials at your earliest convenience, but please do not overload the book depository or leave any materials outside the drop or on the steps, as you are still responsible for items not properly returned and checked in.

The library will be quarantining the materials for a minimum of 72 hours as per CDC guidelines before they will be checked in and re-shelved. This is for the safety and health of the staff and will ensure that the materials should be virus-free when they are borrowed by you later. Your safety and health are important to us too!

If you cannot return the books immediately, there is no rush as they are not due until September 1, 2020.

VIRTUAL BOARD MEETING

The Library Board of the Henry Waldinger Memorial Library will hold a Virtual Board Meeting on Wednesday, June 17, 2020, at 7:30 p.m. All members of the public are welcome to attend via Zoom.

The agenda for the meeting will be posted on the library’s website, and it will be e-mailed to anyone who registers to attend the meeting by sending a message on Facebook or an e-mail to hwmlcontact@hotmail.com.

REGISTRATION FOR ONLINE ESL CLASSES

During the past few years, Literacy Nassau has conducted ESL classes at the Henry Waldinger Memorial Library for beginning, intermediate, and advanced students. Due to the pandemic, Spring 2020 classes were conducted online and were much appreciated by the students. Therefore, Literacy Nassau is offering adult ESL classes online throughout the summer.

Anyone interested in enrolling for the summer classes should e-mail Kelly Siry, Regional Director of Literacy Nassau at KSiry@LiteracyNassau.org between June 29 to July 10, 2020, for an appointment.

Many ESL students are coping with losing their jobs, taking on the task of homeschooling their children, and many other issues, but Literacy Nassau remains committed to providing ESL classes to them.
TENNESSEE WALT PRESENTS
DISTANT COUNTRY 3

The Henry Waldinger Memorial Library, in conjunction with other libraries on Long Island, will be co-hosting “A Distant Country 3,” on Saturday, June 6, 2020, at 2:00 p.m. This musical program presented by New York-based country singer/songwriter Tennessee Walt (aka as Gayden Wren) will be streaming live on Facebook.com/TennesseeWalt.

“Libraries have been hard hit by the coronavirus lockdown,” explained Gayden Wren, the Garden City native who performs country music as Tennessee Walt. “The resources they might lean on in ordinary times — local governments, particularly — are facing their own crises, and libraries won’t necessarily be high on their list. This concert is designed to provide entertainment, of course, but it comes with a message. I’ve been a library person since maybe the day after I learned to read, and nobody’s coming away from this show without hearing a plug or two for our libraries.”

Walt (or Wren) will allow prospective audience members the chance to make song requests beforehand via e-mail, at teenwalt@gmail.com, and he will devote some of the program to honoring those requests.

The tentative program list for this 75-minute show includes songs associated with Hank Williams, Roy Acuff, Garth Brooks, the Carter Family, Johnny Cash, Patsy Cline, Merle Haggard, Waylon Jennings, Willie Nelson, Cal Smith, Hank Snow, Taylor Swift, Hank Thompson and Kitty Wells, plus those requests and a few Walt originals — plus the usual mix of anecdotes about the songs and the artists who created them.

The show’s No. 1 purpose, Walt (or Wren) says, is entertaining its audience. “We’re talking about some of the greatest songs ever written,” Wren said. “It may not be what you think of when you think of country music—it’s voice and piano, not guitars and fiddles—but it’s great music, period. This is a chance for people to kick back and forget their troubles for 75 minutes or so. For that matter, it is a chance for me to do the same thing. These shows are the closest thing to normalcy I’ve had in months, and I enjoy them at least as much as the audience does—and, to judge by the comments we’ve been getting on Facebook, the audience enjoys them a lot!”

SIMPLY PUPPETS PRESENTS
VIRTUAL SHOW

On Thursday, June 4, 2020, at 4:00 p.m., David Goboff, puppeteer of Simply Puppets, will present a special virtual puppet show for Valley Stream children and families. He will tell the story of “The Frogs Who Wanted a King,” a classic Aesop fable.

On Tuesday, June 2, 2020, Children’s Librarian Ms. Kunz did a Craft-Along with the children to make paper frog puppets, and now, Goboff will show the children how to use their homemade frog puppets to participate in the performance. After the show, Mr. Goboff will take questions from participants about puppeteering.

Puppeteer David Goboff grew up in Valley Stream, attending Howell Road School, Memorial Junior High School, and Valley Stream Central High School. He earned a BFA in Theater and now lives in Weston, Florida.
TEEN AUTHOR ENCOURAGES CREATIVITY

At the end of 2019, the Valley Stream Young Adult Book Club began reading and discussing the *Track* series by award-winning teen author Jason Reynolds, and they had a virtual book club meeting about *Lu*, the last book in the series in March 2020.

The YA Book Club passionately discussed all four books at length and decided that while they are all different, the thing the teens love most about the books is the way the author tells the story. They loved the way Jason Reynolds writes compelling characters.

In this series of short videos, Reynolds offers a storytelling prompt. Some are easier than others. In one of the earlier prompts, Reynolds asks teens to create an award for themselves. The catch is that it cannot be a “real” award, it must be something completely new. What better way to celebrate our everyday triumphs?

Another favorite is when Reynolds asks teens to pretend that they have a remote control to control the world around them. Who would not want to press the “mute” button every now and then? Find these and more here: [https://guides.loc.gov/jason-reynolds/grab-the-mic/write-right-rite](https://guides.loc.gov/jason-reynolds/grab-the-mic/write-right-rite).

Valley Stream teens have been encouraged to participate in “Write. Right. Rite” each week.

JOB SEARCH RX WORKSHOPS CONTINUE

The Henry Waldinger Memorial Library is continuing its series of Zoom workshops for job seekers on Saturday mornings, at 10:00 a.m.

The June 6th workshop will focus on job searching using the JobNow™ database which is available to Valley Stream library cardholders, including its resume service and job location tool.

On June 13th, Ms. Eng will cover Resume Basics for different job seekers. She will provide tips for creating an effective resume, and she will demonstrate various resume building tools through Microsoft Office or Google.

These programs are supported, in part, by funds from a grant that the library received from the New York State Library’s Adult Literacy Library Services Program.

All are welcome to attend. Send a message on Facebook or an email to hwmlcontact@hotmail.com OR kidsroomvs@nassaulibrary.org for the Zoom information.

DIGITAL LIBRARY CARDS AVAILABLE

Do you need a digital library card? The application for the digital library card is available through the Nassau Library System at: [https://www.nassaulibrary.org/coronavirus-information/digital-card-application/](https://www.nassaulibrary.org/coronavirus-information/digital-card-application/).
KEEP IN TOUCH

While the library remains closed to the public, these are alternate ways to contact the library:

- E-mail us at:
  - hwmlcontact@hotmail.com
  - VSTeens@nassaulibrary.org
  - kidsroomvs@nassaulibrary.org
- Message us on social media:
  - https://www.facebook.com/henrywaldingermemoriallibrary/
  - https://twitter.com/ValleyStreamLib
  - https://www.instagram.com/valleystreamlibrary/
- Send us a letter via USPS. Unfortunately, this is the slowest method, but we do get the mail and will respond to you as soon as possible.

Mamie Eng  
Library Director

CONSUMER REPORTS AVAILABLE ONLINE

Did you know that with your Valley Stream library card that you have free full-text access to Consumer Reports and all its comparison charts for cars, refrigerators, mattresses, etc.?

Go to the library’s homepage at www.valleystreamlibrary.org and click on the link to Consumer Reports. You will be directed to the sign-in page where you will have to enter your Valley Stream library card number to gain access to Consumer Reports. Please note that if you go the commercial Consumer Reports website, you will NOT have the option to enter your library card number to gain free access.

So, if you are thinking about buying a new grill for your backyard or a new air conditioner, check out the reviews and ratings in Consumer Reports before you head to the store.

The Village of Valley Stream is working on holding drive-in movie events at the Hendrickson Park Pool Complex Lot this summer! Due to guidelines set forth by New York State, there will be limits on how many cars can be accommodated, and how tickets will be allocated, and other logistics need to be finalized. The events will be limited to Village residents.

The Village and the Recreation Department are working to bring much-needed outdoor fun to the community as safely as possible. Further information will be available on the Village website at https://www.vsvny.org/ when it is available.