



GALWAY PUBLIC LIBRARY

2026 ANNUAL NEWSLETTER

Greetings from your friendly local library!



IT'S BEEN A BUSY, FUN-FILLED YEAR!

Highlights of the Year



Galway Public Library 2025 REPORT TO OUR COMMUNITY

23,781
VISITORS

Wifi
1,945
TIMES ACCESSED

eBook
7,398
DOWNLOADS

Summer Reading

- 184 Registered
 - 103 Programs
 - 1,073 Attendance
- 137,400 Minutes Read this Summer

Card Holders

2,338

HOW WE GOT IT DONE IN 2025

Programs
352
PROGRAMS

5,664
ATTENDANCE

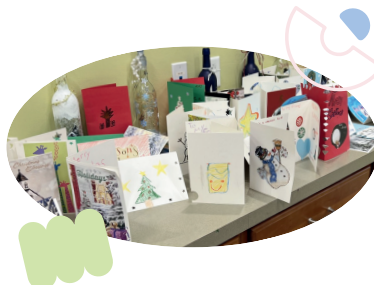
32,598
Items
Borrowed

35,582
Items in the Collection

* * * PreK & Kindergarten visits have kept Miss Julie very busy. She loves showing young visitors the many things that the library has to offer!

Galway joined other Southern Adirondack Libraries to participate in the Big Read from National Endowment for the Arts. We all read *Fuzz* by Mary Roach, had a virtual author visit, & hosted nature programs.

* * * Kids' Summer Reading Program participation increased in number of readers & hours read!



Increased collaboration between the Library, Galway Central School, and Galway Town Seniors group encouraged kindness by providing cards to senior citizens, patients in hospitals & nursing homes, as well as to fire departments & EMS.

* * * Adults were enthusiastic to participate in their own Reading Challenge during the winter: A new annual tradition!

Upcoming Events to Look Forward To

The library is planning a variety of special events and programs this summer to celebrate the 250th Anniversary of the United States of America:

PATRIOTIC ADULT READING CHALLENGE - during July, with a chance to win a prize basket!

"Share Your American Story"
Tell your family's American experience.

America's Potluck

For the whole family. Bring a dish to share & play colonial games.

Photography Club Show: "What Freedom Means"

"Celebrations, Ceremonies, & Commemorations"
Presented by the County Historian

Traditional American music program by Cosby

Library Election

Wednesday, June 3rd | 2-8 PM

AT THE LIBRARY

All registered voters in the Galway Central School District may vote in the Library's annual budget election. There are no trustees up for re-election this year.







The public will vote on a proposition to collect \$258,900 in property taxes to operate the library for the **2026-2027 fiscal year**.

A budget information meeting will be held at the library on **Wednesday, May 27th at 6:30pm**.

Proposed '26-'27 Budget

INCOME	FY 25-26	FY 26-27
Fees, Sales, Interest, Reserve	\$ 2,300	\$ 7,800
Donations & Foundation Support	\$ 12,500	\$ 17,500
Tax Appropriations	\$253,850	\$258,900 2.0%
TOTAL INCOME	\$268,650	\$284,200 5.8%
EXPENSE	FY 25-26	FY 26-27
Payroll	\$164,500	\$178,430
Materials & Programs	\$ 30,280	\$ 28,060
Maintenance & Utilities	\$ 45,020	\$ 50,360
Administrative Services	\$ 28,850	\$ 27,350
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$268,650	\$284,200

Grants Received

	\$800	Ballston Spa National Bank
	\$1,110	Friends of GPL
	\$200	Galway Lions Club
	\$7,400	GPL Foundation
	\$141	Hannaford Supermarkets
	\$1,966	NYS Local Library Services Aid
	\$600	WGY Christmas Wish

Through the GPL Foundation:

\$800	Price Chopper's Golub Foundation
\$450	Stewart's Holiday Match








Above: 2025 program funded by grants!
Left: Generosity of Stewart's Shops

FRIENDS & FOUNDATION

The Friends & the Foundation are non-profit organizations established to provide funding & support to the library. We are extremely grateful to them for their ongoing & future support!

Your support of Friends' fundraisers has provided the following to the library this year:

-  Planned upgrade of four public computers, monitors, catalog computer, staff computer & staff laptop
-  Pledge to pay for passes to the Hyde, MiSci, & Saratoga Children's Museums
-  Funds for snacks for kid programs
-  Prize baskets for our popular 1st annual Adult Winter Reading Challenge
-  Publicity materials for Memorial Day parade

New members are welcome! Membership is \$5/year. Check the website for details about upcoming fundraisers & when book sales will be held.



FRIENDS:


friendsofgalwaylibrary@gmail.com
galwaypubliclibrary.org/friends




Library participants in the 2025 Memorial Day Parade

Consider giving your charitable donations to the Foundation in honor/memory of a loved one. Foundation investments increase your giving power by generating additional revenue for the library.

This year, the Foundation financially supported:

-  Online & physical publication of the **Galway Get Together**, a community newsletter for sharing local information & services. Businesses & individuals who value the newsletter are encouraged to make a designated donation to the Foundation.

-  Pledges that allowed a decrease in the tax levy request, including a \$7500 pledge for the upcoming fiscal year budget to keep our tax request at the 2% tax cap.



FOUNDATION:

the.gplf@gmail.com
foundation.galwaypubliclibrary.org

Summer Reading Program 2026



JUNE 27 - AUGUST 15

Stop by the library for a full calendar of events and get ready to "Unearth A Story" this summer!!

Galway Public Library's Summer Reading Program is open to kids, teens, & families!

- Help name our imaginary Discovery Dog this spring and then join us this summer as he sniffs out stories, digs up discoveries, and uncovers adventures!
- Pick up reading logs starting **June 20th** & begin logging reading time on **June 27th**.
- Back by Popular Demand:** Kids up to age 18 earn prizes from our prize machine for every hour read; they can also win grand prizes. Rewards available all summer long!
- Reading BINGO cards** offer more chances to win.

EACH WEEK WILL HAVE A NEW THEME TO EXPLORE!

- Week 1:** Red, White and Woof!
- Week 2:** Jurassic Bark
- Week 3:** Paws in the Garden
- Week 4:** Hometown Tales & Tails
- Week 5:** Rockhound Adventure
- Week 6:** Paws through the Past
- Week 7:** Pirate Paws & Buried Treasure

Guest Programs:

Tang Teaching Museum Art Program

Bo the Educational Beaver from Wild For Life, Inc.

George Steele of Schoolyard Naturalists

Gardening Workshop by Cornell Cooperative Extension

Visit from Darby Knizek-Neahr, Galway Town Historian

- Weekly Themed Storytime** for young readers with crafts & activities.
- Teen activities:** Teen Movie Night & Teen Advisory Board meeting. Many volunteer opportunities for teens all summer long!
- End-of-summer celebration on August 20th** with treats & fun activities.

Galway Public Library
Receives Recognition:

TRUSTEE & LIBRARY PROGRAM
OF THE YEAR AWARDS



In May of 2025, Galway Public Library was pleased that the Southern Adirondack Library System recognized Trustee Jim Hodsoll for his longtime commitment and financial guidance to the library. The Library also received accolades for our Memories of Survivors program series held during 2024.



Galway Get Together
COMMUNITY NEWS
& RESOURCE CENTER

This publication is supported by the GPL Foundation; monetary donations designated for the Galway Get Together are appreciated.

EMAIL SUBMISSIONS TO:



galwaygettogether@gmail.com

DID YOU KNOW?

Local organizations & non-profits can reserve rooms for meetings!

Wow!

In 2025, our patrons saved \$519,141 by using the Galway Public Library!

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO, VOLUNTEERS & DONORS

Mary & Bob Abes
Debbie Agresta
Jace Aldridge
Anonymous
Arnold's Farm Fresh Produce
Ballston Spa National Bank
Jennifer Baxter
Jane Behrens
Mathias Benvenuto
Blackbaud Giving Fund
Sue Burchill
Ralph Caparulo
Max Caron
Meghan Center
Lilyana Chevalier
Steve Clark
Cock 'n Bull
Charlene Cook & Tom Beardsley
Cornell Cooperative Extension
Mary Cuffe Perez
Germaine Curtin
Amy David
Sofia Davison-Gauss
DLG Tree Care/Devon Gayes
Susan Dufel
The Dugout
Mary Eberhart
Lillian Elmendorf
Jen Evans
Kara & Katy Ferguson
Gary, Deb, Josh, Rae, & Steve Flint
Santina Florio
Megan Floyd
Charles Ford
Jim Foster
Jeanne Frank
Theo Friedman
Friends of the Galway Public Library
Galway Central School District Staff
Galway Central School 6th Graders
Galway Lions Club
The Galway Local
Kenzie Gardinier
Rylie Glenn
Glenville Hills Garden Club
Lori & Tom Godbout
Jeanne Goderie
Jake, Maria, & Sonny Goldsmith
Mike Gorsira
GPL Foundation
GPL Teen Advisory Board
Sharon Groat



Glenville Hills & Galway Central School 6th Graders Garden Clean-Up Day at the Library

Mary Hallgren
Lois Hammond
Evelyn Hanna
Hannaford Supermarkets
Kenny Hartman-Wexler
Joreen Hendry
Sue Hinton
Braeden Hirtle
Jim Hodsoll
Elizabeth Homer
Lauren Hopper
Rich Horsch
Pam Hyde
Gretchen & Tom Jewell
Melissa Jones
Mark Kalinkewicz
Sharyn Kalinkewicz
Eric Klausner
Mylie Kondenar
Cate La Barre
Cheryl Lee
Magdalene Maciag
Mamma Mia's Restaurant
Tammie Matecko-Conti
Kat McCleneghen
Kent & Anthony McCort
Al & Barb McKean
Wesley McKean
Souix McMullen
Gaella Mitchell
Aiden Morey
Annika Muller
Grace Murphy
Karen Murphy
Tari Lee Muth
Chelsea Neahr
Ailey, Amy, & Piper Nelson
Joanne Niemeyer
Emma Obern
Eli Padilla
Beth & Karl Parker
Avery, Henry, Julie & Ray Pasieka
Price Chopper's Golub Foundation
Keiley & Mia Reed
Rich Regels
Arlene Rhodes
Joe & Tyler Richiazzi
Jeff Ritchie

Vicki Rockefeller
Julie Rohr
Erik Roy
Mary Salvino
Virginia Sawicki
Elizabeth Sheets
Marina Shlomovich
Meghan Simone
Joan & Norman Slagle
Trisha Smith
Smith's Orchard & Bake Shop
S. Adirondack Audubon Society
Matt Staskowski
Stewart's Holiday Match
Fred Sutch
Gracyn Symonds
Tang Museum
Louise Thomas-Churchill
Bethany Thompson & Family
Stephanie Todd Payton
Doris Tretiak
Grace VanOmmeren
Via Aquarium
Village Home & Garden
David Waite
Sallie Way
Sue Wemple
Dawn Wheeler
WGY Christmas Wish
Nanci Wilson
Natalie Winner
Jeremy Womer
Lucinda Wood
Donna Zelanko
Beth & Alan Zostautas

DONATIONS IN MEMORY OF:

Ardeth Deay
Ruth Gerardi
Denny Hanna
Connie Messer
Dusty Rhodes
Vic Nanartowich



DONATIONS IN HONOR OF:

Mary Eberhart
Beth Waite



We are thankful that many of you were able to attend our festive Volunteer Appreciation Reception in October!



Ongoing Monthly Programs

CHILDREN & TEEN PROGRAMS

Chess & Checkers Club

3rd Thursday at 4pm | Ages 9-14

Crafternoon

Hands-on crafts!

2nd Monday at 4pm | Ages 6-12



E-Sports Gaming Club

Fun & competitive video gaming (PS4/5, Switch & Wii); tournament brackets with prizes awarded.

2nd Saturday from 11-2 | Grades 5+

Lego Club

New build challenges each month!

1st Monday at 4pm | Ages 5-14

Nature Club

Get outside & learn about the environment

3rd Monday at 4pm | Ages 6-12

Pokémon Club

Trade, play, & talk about Pokémon

2nd Saturday at 10am | Ages 6+

Raising Readers Storytime

Themed stories & songs with crafts

Every Tuesday at 10:15am | Ages 0-5

Tech & Science Club

4th Monday at 4pm | Ages 8-12

Teen Advisory Board

Help plan future teen programs, have fun & earn volunteer hours!

4th Thursday at 7pm | Teens



Tech Club Fun!

ADULT PROGRAMS

Astronomy Club

Promote interest & knowledge through presentations & star gazing.

3rd Wednesday at 6:30pm

Beginner Yoga

A beginner-friendly practice incorporating breath work, meditation, essential oils & mindfulness. Cost \$10 per class. Bring a mat & water bottle.

Every Monday at 5pm

Coloring Club for Adults

No experience necessary. Ages 16+ Supplies provided but feel free to bring your own.

1st & 3rd Tuesdays at 5pm

Mahjogg

Enjoy this fun, yet intricate tile game.

Every Monday at 1pm

Photography Club

Share your photographs & learn how to improve skills.

Last Wednesday at 6pm

When Readers Meet

Reading & discussion group

4th Monday at 6pm

Young Professionals

Book Discussion

Book club for young adults ages 17-30s

2nd Wednesday at 7pm

TECH ASSISTANCE

Call for an appointment or stop in on **Wednesdays** or the **3rd Saturday** for answers to your tech questions.



Adult Candle Class

ITEMS AVAILABLE TO



- * Board Games
- * Snowshoes
- * Birding Backpack
- * Memory Kit
- * Educational Kits
- * Garden Seeds from CCE
- * Telescope



Thank you to Cornell Cooperative Extension for our expanded seed library!



Galway Public Library

Non-Profit Org.
US Postage
PAID
Galway, NY 12074
Permit no. 25

RESIDENT
GALWAY, NY 12074

Stop in and see us soon!



LOCATION

PO Box 207
2112 East Street
Galway, NY 12074



CONTACT US

Phone (518) 882-6385
Email gal-director@sals.edu
Website galwaypubliclibrary.org



@galwaypubliclib



Members of Board of Trustees, Treasurer & Director of Galway Public Library



HOURS

Monday 10-6
Tuesday 10-6
Wednesday 2-8
Thursday 12-8
Friday 12-6
Saturday 10-2
Sunday Closed