Freehold Public Library

September 2020 NEWSLETTER

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*for digital distribution; not maximized for print

Library phone number: 732-462-5135
24-Hour Voice Mail Number: 848-863-5075
Email: help@freeholdpubliclibrary.org

NEWS & UPDATES:

- **WE'RE OPEN!** Monday through Friday, 9am - 5pm. We don't know when we'll be restored to our full schedule.

- **COVID-19 Safety.**
  - All returned material is quarantined for 3 days, so items will still be shown as "on loan" to patrons during that time. This protects staff as well as the next borrower.
  - High-touch surfaces are sanitized throughout the day (computers after each use).
  - **NEW** Visitors are limited to one hour, twice per day.
  - Mask and hand-washing/sanitizing are required.

- **Back to School.** Our local families/students as well as school administrators and faculty are working hard to start the school year off strong. Here are some library-related reminders:
  - Visitors are limited to one hour, twice per day. Groups are not permitted to gather inside the building, including one-on-one tutoring or study groups.
  - Online resources include databases, ebooks, downloadable audiobooks, and videos. Library cardholders must have a PIN to access most of these resources.
  - **NEW** Homework Help program will be available via Zoom for students through 6th grade. See information below.
  - We encourage students to come to the library to check out books! Our children's and YA collections are waiting for you.
  - Reference service (in other words, ask a librarian questions!) is always available via email or telephone. Students may contact the library for help with research, databases, book recommendations and random other questions.

- **NEW** **English as a Second Language** for beginners (ESL) classes online! See information in *Events* section below.

- **Free Grab Bags for Children!** Ask at the circulation desk for a prize bag (children ages 3 and up due to small parts).

- **Community Bulletin Board.** Our "physical" bulletin board is not available now. Instead, we are keeping a digital version. Feel free to send any free/local community events to share to Kathy at kmulholland@freeholdpubliclibrary.org. Hyperlinks to event notices are appreciated.

- **Meet (via Zoom) @ the Library**. When the building was open, many groups and clubs, along with tutors and playgroups, met at the library. During our closure, we may be able to host your meeting "virtually." Contact us at help@freeholdpubliclibrary.org for more information.

- **Outdoor Library Spaces** are available for your use.
  - WiFi reaches areas close to the building, but there is no place to plug/recharge.
  - Please remember to keep at least six feet between people and/or wear a mask.
  - Tables/benches in the (rear) Appleyard Family Reading Garden are available on first-come, first-serve basis. If you'd like to have a picnic, bring a blanket to sit on in event the tables are being used. There's plenty of shade!
  - Remember to dispose of trash properly. There is a garbage can just outside of the gate in the rear garden, and along West Main Street out front.
  - The garden is not a dog park. Pets are permitted for only brief visits, must remain on-leash, and no pet waste may be left behind.

- **Our Native New Jersey Plant Garden** is almost completed. Mike Z., the Boy Scout managing the project, will be installing slate pavers for the bike parking rack and make a few other adjustments.

- **New Jersey Library Construction Bond Act Grant Update**: No news is...*no news*. We understand that information about which libraries will win the grants may now not be available until November. Fingers crossed!

September Library Events and Online Meetings [Link to Online Calendar]

- **Book Chat. Wednesday, September 2, 3:30 PM (via Zoom).** Free-flowing discussion about books, literature, libraries, or whatever, facilitated by Book Group leader Erika Cox!
  Click on this link to join:
  https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85912479651?pwd=eDd3OUZDZlZTT2ZQMXdya0VDQTNoUT09
  Meeting ID: 859 1247 9651
  Password: 132239

- **Trustees Meeting. Wednesday, September 9. 7:00 PM (via Zoom).** The Trustees are tasked with the operation of the library. Public participation is welcome.
  Dial In: 929-205-6099; Meeting ID: 867 4699 8258; Password: 481458

- **Teen Library Committee Meeting. Wednesday, September 16, 7:30 PM (via Zoom).**
  Click on this link to join:
  https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87386614101?pwd=WnpCUjlYV1NGb0Q4VVdyYTZHcXc3UT09
  Meeting ID: 873 8661 4101
  Password: 866827

- NEW **English as a Second Language (ESL) Level 1 (beginner) Class (via Zoom). Mondays & Wednesdays (starting September 21), 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM.** Presented by our partners, Community Affairs and Resource Center (CARC). For information/registration, contact Aina at Aina at 732-774-3282 or email aholmscheller@carcnj.org.

- NEW 💻 **Homework Help. Tuesdays & Thursdays (starting September 22), 2:30-3:30 PM (via Zoom).** Students in elementary school through 6th grade are invited to hop-on their devices to consult with local high school students for a little help.
  For security/safety purposes, please register to access this program. *Email kmulholland@freeholdpubliclibrary.org with student's name and grade, and a joining link (good for all sessions) will be sent to you.*

- 💻 **Crochet Club Meeting. Monday, September 28, 7:30 PM (via Zoom).** Join your friends in Crochet Club as we chat, share progress on projects, learn a few tips, and catch-up with each other.
  Click on this link to join:
  https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89119994188?pwd=c0drejNRK3dsazR5dk15dUhnWkpnUT09
  Meeting ID: 890 1132 3198
  Password: 944014

- 💻 **Come Write In! Meeting. Wednesday, September 30, 7:30 PM (via Zoom).**
  Click on this link to join:
  https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84640525319?pwd=SldxQ0tVZndBbEhJa3lXbW1oMmtCZz09
  Meeting ID: 846 4052 5319
  Password: 685700

- 💻 📞 🏛 **Check-in with your Librarians!** Make an appointment (flexible schedule): Individuals or groups. Via Zoom, Facebook Video Call/Messenger, or telephone. Email Kathy at kmulholland@freeholdpubliclibrary.org to set-up a day/time. To speak with someone in Spanish, email Evelyn at esoto@freeholdpubliclibrary.org for an appointment.

- **Webinars/Online Events Presented by the New Jersey State Library**:
  https://www.njstatelib.org/events/2020-09/

Dear Library Patron:

Thank you for your cooperation with the necessary adjustments we've made in the library's operation in light of the pandemic. I'm reminded again how generous and gracious the people in our community are. We are inventing, together, a pathway through these unusual times.

Speaking of adjustments, when the library opened in July, the "dwell time" for visitors in the building was 30 minutes. The time limit is now increased to **one hour in the morning, and one hour in the afternoon** (with at least an hour break between visits). Please note that staff are not authorized to make exceptions to this policy.

As of this writing, we don't know when we'll return to our prior schedule (Saturdays and evenings) for access to the library building. All of our programs are offered online; many of those are in the evening.

Sincerely,

Kathy Mulholland

Kathy Mulholland
Library Director

Library Information Page

Information that doesn't change much from month to month:
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1g8sa1tvLCYIcbj7C1RAY4tWxbTvnlQceq5IYmlNbxjs/edit?usp=sharing

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