

pathways

Special Edition | Summer | June–August | 2020

**KEEPING YOU
CONNECTED
& SAFE**



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WEBSITE

tplibrary.org

EMAIL

tplibrary@tplibrary.org



"Ask a Librarian!"

live chat available at tplibrary.org

LIVE CHAT HOURS

mon-fri • 9 am–9 pm

sat • 9 am–5 pm

sun • 12–5 pm

VIRTUAL EVENTS

While our doors are closed, we are bringing our events to you through Zoom webinars and meetings. Signing up through Zoom is easy: Once registered, you'll receive an email with the event link and password.

A few helpful things to know:

- Downloading the Zoom software/app is not required to attend our events, but may enhance your experience.
- Recordings of some events will be made available on-demand for a limited time at tplibrary.org/events.
- Some events contain a live, interactive presentation, and you may be visible to other participants.
- If you need help with Zoom, visit tplibrary.me/zoom-help, or use our "Ask a Librarian" chat for live help.

Get Your *Digital-Only* Library Card



1 million eBooks, audiobooks, and more through Hoopla, Libby, and RBDigital apps



Thousands of films—including educational content for kids—through Kanopy



50+ online resources—Ancestry, Consumer Reports, and Lynda—to help you with research and life skills



One digital-only library card



DIGITAL-ONLY CARD

Who can get a digital-only card?

- Residents of incorporated Tinley Park and Orland Hills who do not have an existing Tinley Park Public Library Card
- Anyone who owns or leases taxable property in incorporated Tinley Park or Orland Hills and does not have an existing Tinley Park Public Library Card

How it works:

- Digital-only cards provide access to eBooks, audiobooks, streaming media, and online resources
- Digital-only cards cannot place holds on physical materials or check out physical materials

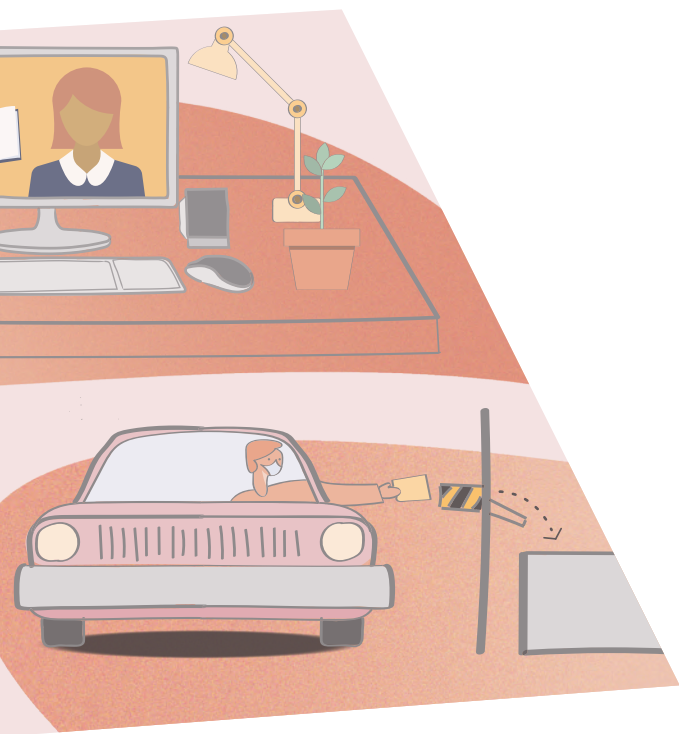
Sign up today at tplibrary.org/digital-card.



Keeping the Community Safe & Connected During COVID-19

As librarians, we are committed to providing equal access to information, to supporting education and lifelong learning, and to serving our community—we unequivocally believe that libraries are fundamental institutions in democratic societies. That’s why, when news about the global impact of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) began circulating in January and February 2020, our staff were faced with what seemed like an impossibility—what if we had to close the library to help prevent infections in our community?

During the first two weeks of March, that impossibility became a reality as we watched the number of coronavirus cases in Illinois steadily tick upward. We first canceled our staff in-service day and all library events through April 30 (and later, through May 31) as an effort to comply with state and federal recommendations to limit all non-essential gatherings of 50 or more people. As it became apparent on Friday, March 13 that the Governor would order all public schools closed, we coordinated with our counterparts at the Village of Tinley Park and the Tinley Park-Park District and determined that, in the interest of public safety, our doors would close on March 16.



Keeping the community safe meant that we had to rapidly adjust our services, including:

- Closing our book drops and extending checkout due dates to July 6 (at the time of this writing)
- Pausing fines and late fees during the library's closure
- Developing a Phased Reopening Plan, including opening the book drops on Tuesdays (starting May 12), and introducing curbside pickup in early June

We also took several steps to expand our online services, including:

- Providing a digital-only card for community members who have never signed up for a library card. Get a digital-only library card by visiting tplibrary.org/digital-card
- Extending privileges for library cards that expired January 2017-March 2020 (those cards are now active until July 4, 2020)
- Ensuring that existing fines/fees would not prevent someone from using our eBooks, audiobooks, and online resources (like Ancestry, Consumer Reports, and Lynda)
- Creating online reading challenges through Beanstack—download the Beanstack app or visit tplibrary.beanstack.com

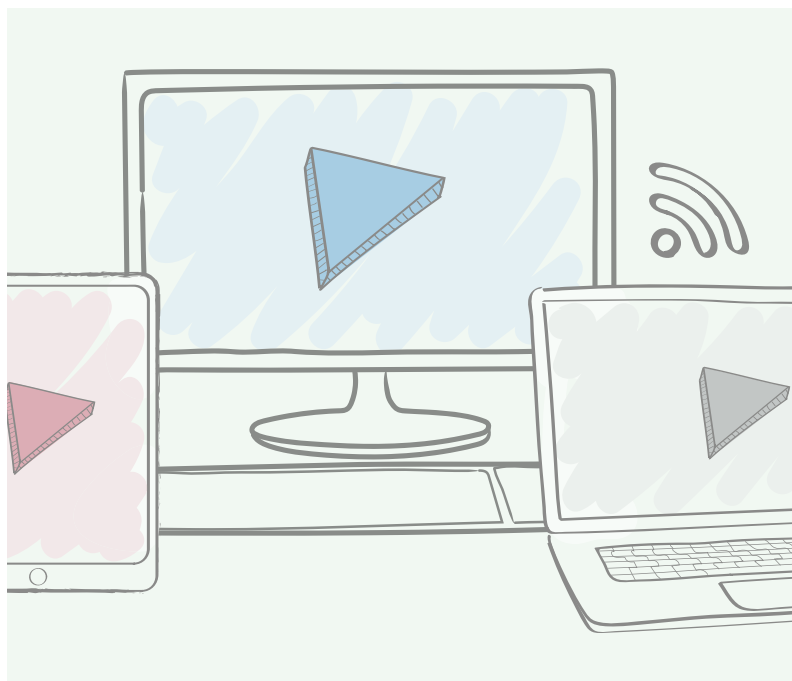
At the time of this writing, we are continuing to adapt to this unprecedented and difficult situation. We are constructively using the time that we are closed to improve our facilities—including a deep cleaning of our carpet and upholstery, installing new pavers outside the library's entrance, constructing sneeze guards and placing them at our public service desks, and installing new computers for the public.

We unequivocally believe that libraries are fundamental institutions in democratic societies.

Our staff have gracefully adjusted to serving the community while working remotely. We continue to purchase physical books for the library and have increased our purchase of eBooks and audiobooks to meet the current demand. Additionally, library staff are planning virtual events, including an online Summer Reading Challenge. And last, but certainly not least, we are online to help answer your questions—whether through our Ask a Librarian Service at tplibrary.org or through Google, Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

Above all, we have been grateful to you for supporting us during this unprecedented, challenging time. The messages you have sent us—“We miss the library!”—touch our hearts and help us remember why we are here: to enrich the community by providing dynamic resources, exceptional service, and reliable information. Tinley Park is a community of readers, and we are here for you.

Attend Your Favorite Library Events *from home*



Social distancing doesn't mean missing your favorite library events! We are offering virtual versions of our events on Zoom. Download the Tinley Park Public Library app or visit tplibrary.org/events for a full schedule of upcoming and on-demand events.

Need tech help? Schedule a one-on-one Zoom meeting for technology help with our Computer Assistants at tplibrary.org/tech-help-request.

Challenge Yourself to Read This Summer



To keep everyone safe, we're taking our traditional Summer Reading Challenge online this summer. The challenge will be open July 1–August 15 and will take place through Beanstack. Get started by downloading the Beanstack app for iPhone/iPad and Android, or visit tplibrary.beanstack.com. If you need help getting started, contact us using the Ask a Librarian chat on our website, tplibrary.org.

ECRWSS
Residential Customer

How Tinley Park has used the library during COVID-19...

Digital Engagement

March–April



23%

increase in digital checkouts
from March–April last year



285

new digital-only library cards



199

questions answered online

Spring into Reading Challenge

in April



237

Reading Challenge signups



1,070

books read (birth–grade 2)



57,888

minutes read (grade 3–adult)

Top Books Read



1. *The Night Watchman*
2. *The Cuckoo's Calling*
3. *Two Summers*
4. *On Earth We're Briefly Gorgeous*
5. *Exhalation*

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Catherine Hannon, President
Gina Miller, Vice President
Darren Meyers, Treasurer
Laura Hess-Wojcik, Secretary
Patricia Adaranijo, Trustee
Bradley Daniels, Trustee
Barbara Rose Whalen, Trustee

BOARD DATES

Wed, Jun 24
Wed, Jul 22
Wed, Aug 26

ADMINISTRATION

Rich Wolff, Administrator
Zach Musil, Assistant Administrator

PATHWAYS STAFF

Kevin Palys
Sarah Schroeder