

“Whatever the cost of our libraries, the price is cheap compared to that of an ignorant nation.” ~ Walter Cronkite

**Willow Public Library**  
**Spotlights!**  
**April 2021**

• **Current WLA members:**

Patty Bills  
Marian Charles  
Melinda Dale  
Carol Goltz  
Bill Mailer  
Bryan Mills  
Stephanie Richey  
Mary Sanford  
Laura Thomas  
Bonnie Warner

*Meetings are at 10:00 a.m. the second Tuesday of the month; no meetings during the summer.*

• Please let the Library staff know if you would like to be a “**Friend of the Library**” to help as needed. And, what programs would you like offered when the new library opens?

• **Construction Continues!**

The Library is OPEN and has been throughout construction. The beams are beautiful, windows plentiful, and all seems to be progressing well. Exciting times for Willow! Still hopeful of an October grand opening!

• **Ongoing Fundraisers:**

[Pick. Click. Give.](#)

[Fred Meyer Community Rewards](#)

[Amazon Smiles](#)

Online donations at:

<https://www.waco-ak.org/upgrade-project/>

**Check Library events online:**

<http://www.matsugov.us/facilities/willow-public-library>

and find Willow Library on Facebook.

**Note:** The Mat-Su Library Board invites applicants for two at-large openings. If you advocate for libraries, do consider applying.



Check out the size of the window in the teen area of the new library!  
Thanks to Bill Mailer for photographing the construction process each step of the way. Maybe a future slide show for the community?

1. Plans are underway for the **Summer Reading Program**. It will operate similarly to how it did in the summer of 2020. Stay tuned for details published online and at the library.

2. The annual **5K Fun Run** will be the Saturday of Memorial weekend, May 29. Stephanie Richey is organizing this popular event once again. Run, walk, enjoy, and earn another colorful Grow Your Library t-shirt! More news about this soon.

3. **Yes, we expect the new library will serve Willow well:** spacious shelving areas, attractive design, study rooms, teen area, children’s area, fireplace, comfortable furnishings, meeting room, beautiful artwork, business machines, lake view and more. A fine collection, staff, and customer service will continue in a setting we think will be welcoming to all. Improvements to the community center area of the building are also a valued addition to what Willow-area residents will soon have available. It’s all coming soon, thanks to widespread efforts of many. New and improved it will be!

4. Have you seen this announcement on the Willow Library website about **newspapers**?

“All you need is your library card to access [World News and Alaska Papers](#), including [Anchorage Daily News](#) and [Mat-Su Valley Frontiersman](#), plus access to the [5 Major U.S. Daily Newspapers](#).” Those are The Washington Post, Wall Street Journal, New York Times, Los Angeles Times, and Chicago Tribune. Read them, full text, online, with a free library card.

5. Collaboration in Willow is alive and well. The **Lions sponsored Willow Winter Trail Challenge** organizers expressed appreciation to the Willow Library for being the “go to place” for stamping. Celebration of this successful activity will be on April 25 at 2:00 in Newman’s Park.

Stop by our “little library in the lobby” in action.  
We are open and here for you! Monday through Saturday.

[\(907\) 861-7655](tel:(907)861-7655)

Librarian Julie Mitchell, Assistant Librarian Lea Ann, and Staff