

April 15, 2020

## Documenting COVID-19: White Plains Experiences

We're living in unprecedented times. Many of us are working from home and adapting our work routines to shared living spaces, childcare demands, social isolation, and everyday life distractions all while reading and hearing constant updates about COVID-19's impact across the world.

Others have had health challenges, some very serious, while many friends and neighbors face unemployment and financial uncertainty. Families are split apart as grandparents are isolated from grandchildren.

Meanwhile, we hear stories of adaptation, education, and creativity. Stories being written, languages being studied, art being shared, neighbors helping neighbors. Our lives, little resembling what they did just a few months ago, have continued in new ways.

For these reasons, the Library is creating a new collection: **Documenting COVID-19: White Plains Experiences.**



We want to hear about you, what you're doing, how you're doing, what you see outside your window. We want to read your reflections and your thoughts, your hopes and fears, your poetry and prose, see your photographs, and listen to your podcasts.

Do you remember your last day at work? How have you adapted to working from home? Parents, tell us of your struggles and your triumphs. Kids, share your art, hobbies, and

thoughts. Nothing is too small. Because in ten, twenty, fifty years from now, people will want to learn what happened; not just the formal history, or the science, but the day-to-day details, the lived experience.

**Documenting COVID-19: White Plains Experiences** will remain a part of the Library's White Plains Collection and will be available for future students, researchers, and writers who seek to understand life during this pandemic.

Contributions can range from a blog post to diary entries, from letters and emails to photographs and drawings, from essays to audio or video recordings. We are happy to [accept digital material now](#), and will scan and catalog print materials after we open.

We hope that individuals will step forward with submissions, and that our many partners in the community will help by encouraging their members to contribute. Once the Library building is open, we can help with the creation of podcasts or other methods to collect people's histories.

To submit any digital media to our collection, visit [our website here](#). For more information, please get in touch with us.

**Brian Kenney**

Library Director

[bkenney@whiteplainslibrary.org](mailto:bkenney@whiteplainslibrary.org)

**Kristy Bauman**

Programming Librarian

[kbauman@whiteplainslibrary.org](mailto:kbauman@whiteplainslibrary.org)

---

## A Message to White Plains Library Foundation Donors



Thanks to broad community support, the White Plains Library Foundation (WPLF) is helping the Library adapt its programming and services while the building is closed. For example, the software for the Library's newsletters is funded by the WPLF. These weekly communications have become an increasingly important source of information and connection for more than 12,000 e-mail subscribers. The Foundation is also funding the Library's capacity to host Zoom programs and add new digital resources for kids, teens, and adults. Thank you for helping to make so much possible. Your commitment to the Library affirms a successful public-private-partnership that will be essential in the coming months. We look forward to keeping in touch with you.

**Questions or comments? Please contact Nancy Rubini, WPLF Executive Director at [nrubini@whiteplainslibrary.org](mailto:nrubini@whiteplainslibrary.org).**

## Resources for Seniors



You will find a compiled list of resources [here on our website](#). The list includes senior shopping hours and lanes at local markets; local organizations providing shopping assistance and delivery, classes over the phone, and other services; as well as a list of local food pantries that are still open.

## DIY Masks & FAQ

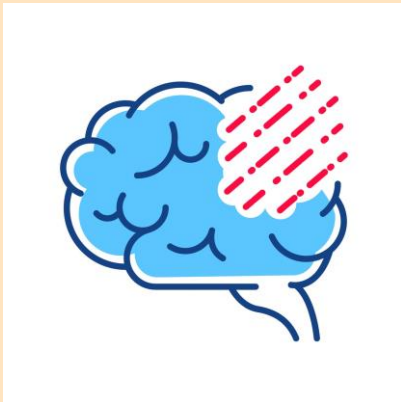


Over the past few weeks, recommendations on the use of fabric masks have evolved rapidly and now with the Governor's decree requiring everyone to cover their mouths and nose in public, we will likely see even more. At first, there was skepticism that homemade alternatives were effective. However, since the CDC's

[recommendation](#) that everyone should wear a fabric face cover in public, we've seen an explosion of mask-making information online. Sorting through the sheer number of patterns, and the contradicting information about the effectiveness of various filter materials, has been overwhelming and even paralyzing. With the understanding that any mask is better than none, Edge Librarian Kathlyn Carroll [curated a few resources on our website](#) that will hopefully help keep information overload at bay.

---

## Understanding Alzheimer's & Dementia



**Thursday, April 16**

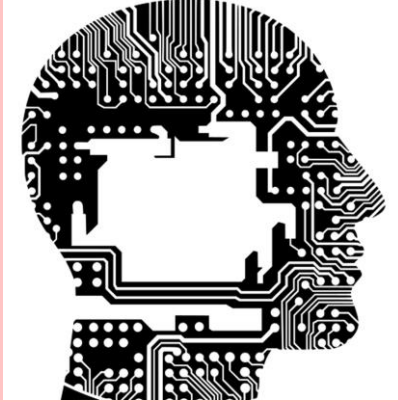
**2:00 – 3:30 p.m.**

Alzheimer's is not normal aging, it's a disease of the brain that causes problems with memory, thinking and behavior. Join us to learn about: The impact of Alzheimer's, the differences between Alzheimer's and Dementia, Alzheimer's Disease stages & risk factors, and current research.

To register for this program, please call 800-272-3900. Those who have registered will be sent the link via email and will be given a call-in number for Q&A after the program.

---

## Tech Tips for Parents: Minecraft vs. Fortnite vs. Roblox



Tuesday, April 21

4:30 – 5:15 p.m.

“Tech Tips for Parents” is a weekly, digitally-streamed series where Digital Media Specialist Austin Olney will give relevant tips and knowledge for incorporating technology at home. This week, three popular games kids play these days will be compared and discussed. A Q&A will follow.

Register in advance [here](#).

## National Poetry Month



April is National Poetry Month! To celebrate, we'll be sharing a poem a day [on our Website](#),

[Facebook](#), and [Twitter](#). We also have a [community poem prompt](#) for teens (submission deadline is April 21st) and a weekly [magnetic poem prompt](#) for grades 1-6.

---

## Around the Web



### [Facts on Coronavirus.](#)

The White Plains BID put together [this list of restaurants \(and other businesses\)](#) that are still open for takeout/delivery.

[Here is a \(growing\) list of resources](#) for gig workers affected by the coronavirus pandemic.

The International Space Station is [sharing tips from space for living in isolation](#), since astronauts are so good at it.

Here are the books [New Yorkers are borrowing from the library](#) while sheltering in place.

---

## Photo of The Week



**Left:** I've lived in WP for more than 30 years yet never seen this...empty block full of beautiful blooming flowers. It was unbelievable. Photo by **Laura M.**

We want your work from home photos! In each issue of This Week on Martine we feature one patron submitted photo that was taken in White Plains. To submit your photography for a chance to be featured, visit our [submission page](#), upload a photo, and fill out our form with a short description of the photo and your name.



[Sign up for this Newsletter](#)

Copyright © 2020 White Plains Public Library, All rights reserved.

This newsletter is sponsored by the [White Plains Library Foundation](#).

Kristen Thornton-De Stafeno, Editor - [kthornton@whiteplainslibrary.org](mailto:kthornton@whiteplainslibrary.org)

**Our mailing address is:**

White Plains Public Library  
100 Martine Avenue  
White Plains, NY 10601

914-422-1400

[librarian@whiteplainslibrary.org](mailto:librarian@whiteplainslibrary.org)

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)



[Forward this to a Friend](#)