

O'Mara reminds young readers to participate in summer reading

THOMAS F. O'MARA July 5, 2022

ISSUE: SUMMER READING

NEW YORK STATE SENATE SUMMER READING PROGRAM



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Our region is incredibly fortunate to have such an outstanding network of public libraries providing access to books and other reading activities, materials, and opportunities.

Elmira, N.Y., July 5—State Senator Tom O'Mara (R,C,I-Big Flats) today reminded the region's young readers that he is sponsoring an online summer reading program promoted by the New York State Senate in partnership with the New York State Library and public libraries across the Southern Tier and Finger Lakes regions.

"I'm especially glad to be able to join so many local public libraries and other groups and organizations to encourage summer reading," said O'Mara, a past recipient of the "Outstanding Advocate for Libraries Award" from the New York Library Association. "The Senate's online summer reading program offers a convenient opportunity for students and their parents to enjoy the benefits and the rewards of summer reading together. Our region is incredibly fortunate to have such an outstanding network of public libraries providing access to books and other reading activities, materials, and opportunities."

To participate in the Senate's online program, click **HERE**. Among other features, the site includes a recording journal and links to additional information on and opportunities for summer reading. At the end of the program, participants will receive formal recognition from O'Mara for their reading achievement.

Numerous studies have shown that children who engage in summer reading make greater academic gains than children who do not.

According to New York State Library officials, last year's summer reading program featured the participation nearly 2 million young people statewide.

More information on the "Summer Reading at New York Libraries" program, as well as on the overall importance of summer reading, is online **HERE**.

Visit the website of the **Southern Tier Library System** for links to member libraries in Allegany, Chemung, Schuyler, Steuben, and Yates counties. Visit the website of the **Finger Lakes Library System** for links to member libraries Seneca, Tioga, and Tompkins counties.