**TOWN OF GAINESVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY, SILVER SRINGS, NEW YORK**

**VULNERABLE ADULTS**

The Town of Gainesville Public Library (“the Library”) strives to provide a warm welcome safe environment for all community and near-by Library users. The Library is particularly concerned for the safety of vulnerable adults\*.

Vulnerable adults who can understand and follow rules of conduct and who can care for themselves are welcome to the Library unattended. Vulnerable adults will be expected to follow the rules of conduct as outlined in the Library’s Patron Code of Conduct Policy. They should have contact information for parent/guardian or caregiver who can assist them in an emergency.

* Vulnerable adults who are unable or unwilling to care for themselves must be attended and have adequate supervision at all times,
* Staff will attempt to contact a parent/guardian or caregiver when a vulnerable adult’s:

Health or safety is in doubt,

Behavior disturbs other Library users,

Actions violate any rules of conduct,

Parent/guardian or caregiver is not present at closing time

Every reasonable effort will be made by staff to assist the vulnerable adult in contacting the appropriate adult. If no responsible adult can be reached, or a vulnerable adult is not picked up within 15 minutes of the Library closing, staff will notify the police.

\*Vulnerable adults are individuals over the age of 18 years who are mentally or physically challenged to a degree that significantly impairs the individual’s ability to provide for his/her own care or manage his/her own behavior without assistance.

This policy may be amended by the Library Board of Trustees at any time.

Adopted by the Board of Trustees: November 28, 2022