



Update:

News from the Claverack Free Library

Spring/Summer 2010
Vol. 16 – No. 1

The Stacks Are Alive (*with the Sound of Books*)



Our library will always be a place to borrow books, bring children for story hours, and attend adult programs, but as we enter a new decade and look forward to the possibility of an expanded library space, we also look forward to new technologies that will allow us to offer more services.

In mid February, our library, together with the other members of the Mid-Hudson Library System began offering downloadable audio books free to our patrons. Best-selling and classic audio

books are available 24/7 from the library's website <http://claveracklibrary.org>. You can browse the collection, check out with your library card and download to your PC, Mac and many other mobile devices. To get started, you will need to install free software – OverDrive Media Console, also available on the website. The books can be enjoyed immediately or transferred to a variety of mp3 devices, including iPod. Titles will automatically expire at the end of the lending period. There are no late fees! Some audio titles can also be burned to CD. Don't have an mp3 device?

Our website will also help you pick the right player for you.

There are currently 267 titles available. Within the first month, 440 patrons of the Mid-Hudson Library System had signed up for the service and downloaded almost 700 audio books.

When the technology is available, we hope in the not too distant future, we'll also be able to offer e-books for download on your Kindle, Sony Reader, Nook and other hand-held reading devices.

If digital books are not for you, don't despair. Our library will continue to be the heart of our community, offering books, periodicals, adult and children's programs, and computer access.

Spring Book Sale

The Trustees and Friends of the Claverack Free Library will host the library's annual spring book and plant sale on **Saturday and Sunday, May 8 and 9**. The sale runs on Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and on Sunday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

One of two book sales held on the library's lawn each year, the spring sale offers thousands of gently used hardcover and paperback books sorted by subject beneath a large tent. Rare, oversized, autographed, and gift-quality books are available at the Friends Boutique at special pricing. And the garden tent hosts a wide selection of seedlings, annuals, perennials, shrubs, and garden accessories from local gardens and businesses.

On Saturday home-made breads, cookies, cakes and brownies, coffee, and luncheon will be served in the café tent, with live music and activities for children. Raffle tickets, with prizes including gift certificates from local restaurants, shops, and services can be purchased in advance at the library, as well as at the sale, with the drawing set for Sunday at 2 p.m.

We need volunteers! Stop in the library and sign up.



Fun for Kids

“*Make a Splash*” at the Claverack Library this summer! This summer we will explore the element of water. Each week we will dive into different bodies of water and see what lives there and what water means to us.

On Saturday, June 26 the children will register for our summer reading program, sign up for our annual summer reading game and become water wizards as they move from station to station learning about water. We’ll also have treats and drinks to share. Each of the following Wednesdays starting at 10:00 a.m. we will learn about a different aspect or body of water. We’ll read stories, sing songs, play games and make crafts.

- **June 30** – Special Guest Author and Illustrator Nancy Castaldo will come to explore the Ocean with us. We will learn about the ocean’s Sunlit Zone and make Jellyfish.
- **July 7** – We will sail back to land and investigate the tide pool and beach! We’ll play with water and sand. Get ready to get wet this week.
- **July 14** – Mud Creek will join us to slide into ponds and streams. We’ll learn about dragonflies, frogs and tadpoles and other creatures from local bodies of water. This week the children will be able to paint their own rubber duck.



This summer with us!

- **July 21** – We’ll get energized with waterfalls and water power. The children will learn about the power of water and make a water-wheel.
- **July 28** – Spin through the water cycle with us as we see where water goes. What happens to mud puddles? Why is the grass wet in the morning? Where does rain come from? We’ll discover the answers to these question and more.
- **August 4** – Closing ceremony and awards for everyone. We’ll play some games and eat some treats.
- **Thursday, August 12** at the Claverack Town Park in Philmont we will have our Grand Finale! Along with the Philmont library we will have hot dogs, chips and Community Stone Salad. We’ll have fun entertainment and a special guest. Sign up for this fun event at your library this summer.

If you’d like to help with setting up, cleaning up or projects, volunteer forms are available at the library.

THEA SCHOEP & TOBI FARLEY

Catching Up with the World on the Web

We are pleased to offer the first in what we hope will be an ongoing series of free computer skills workshops. Thanks to generous support from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, our six computers will be put to work during this series of workshops designed just for adults who have yet to feel comfortable with logging on and discovering all that the Internet can offer.

On four consecutive Thursdays at 4 p.m. beginning on May 27, Doug Fenson, head of the computer and technology department at Hudson High School, will be on hand to tutor

and lead participants through some of the many necessary uses of the Internet.

- May 27: Basic Internet for Seniors
- June 3: Social Networking for Adults
- June 10: Career Management/Job Seeking for Adults
- June 17: Buying & Selling on the Internet

Due to limited computer access, reservations are necessary; call 518.851.5950 to register for any or all of the series. Because our library has wireless Internet access, participants are invited to bring along their own laptops.

Meet Our Volunteers

Treasurer, Pam Banks

Pam Banks has one of the more time-consuming and behind-the-scenes volunteer posts at the library – treasurer. A trustee since 2007, Pam brings her experience of running her own business to the board. She and her father designed Fry-Bake pans, used for cooking and baking outdoors, which she sells throughout the world.

Pam's Claverack roots go back to 1955 when her grandparents bought Hillegonda Farm. She visited often as a child and moved to the farm permanently in 1988 to help them out. Summertime sees Pam maintaining her fences and pastures for the grazing of a certified organic beef herd owned by her neighbors, The Farm at Miller's Crossing.

A sailor and an avid rock and ice climber, she also enjoys long walks in the woods with her dog, Targhee. She's a volunteer at the Hudson-Athens Lighthouse, where she assists with tours.

A neighbor invited Pam to join the library board of trustees. "I've only been an occasional library user throughout my residence here," she said, "but I've always liked libraries in general. I guess I have an emotional attachment to this library that was handed down to me by my grandmother, Virginia Woolley, who always made a point to contribute to the library's fund drive. It's particularly exciting to be involved now with expansion on the horizon, after decades of work done by the dedicated persons who came before me."

Meet more people who work behind the scenes at our library with our wonderful staff to help keep things running.

~ THE EDITORS

Secretary, Wendy Wilde

Having worked in publishing her whole life, Wendy Schmalz Wilde was delighted to be asked to join the board last year. She now serves as secretary.

Wendy and her husband, Michael Wilde, have lived in Claverack since 1999 in a tiny old house filled to the gills with books. She's a literary agent and he's an editor, so it seemed inevitable that one of them would eventually become involved with the library.

They first started coming to Columbia County to visit clients in Copake and Ancram. It wasn't long before they decided to move here themselves.

She's an amateur woodworker who hasn't done anything more ambitious than bookcases, but hopes to one day have a serious shop in her barn. She also loves yoga and playing with her two basset hounds, Horton and Lulu.

"I'd been thinking of volunteering at the library since we moved here, but thinking and doing are two separate things. It wasn't until I was asked to help that I finally pitched in. I'm so proud to be a part of this wonderful community institution. I'm just sorry it took me so long."

DID YOU KNOW?

In 2009:

Our library circulated more than 26,000 books, an increase of 3,000 titles from 2008; over 1,300 people attended the library's free sponsored programming; attendance at our free children's summer reading program neared 500.

Thank You Notes

We are grateful to the following friends, volunteers, and supporting organizations:

A.B. Shaw Volunteer Fire Company	The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
Virginia Benedict	Ted Hilscher
Deborah Byer	Hudson River Bank & Trust Company Foundation
Brianna & Heather Cordato	Pamela Kline, Traditions
Gabiella & Robin Cozzolino	Peter Larmour
Sal Cozzolino	George Rodenhausen
Tobi Farley	Marion Vosburgh
Gary Friss, Signs by Designs	Allan Wirth

the Claverack Free Library

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All contributions are tax deductible

HOURS:

Monday: 1PM-8PM
 Tuesday: 10AM-2PM
 Wednesday: 1PM-8PM
 Thursday: Closed
 Friday: 10AM-5PM
 Saturday: 10AM-2PM
 Sunday: Closed

What You Save by Using the Library

Item (Free at the Library)	Estimated Retail
Hardcover Book Borrowed	18
Paperback Book Borrowed	8
Movie Borrowed	3
Music Borrowed	12
Audio Books Borrowed	22.74
Museum Pass Borrowed	10
Magazine Borrowed	3.57
Newspaper Use in Library	0.5
Interlibrary Loan	2
Meeting Room Use per Hour	50
Auditorium Use per Hour	300
Program Attended - Adult	18
Program Attended - Children	15
Computer Use, e.g., Internet and MS Word per hour	12
New York Times Archive Article	3.95
Other Database Searching - Number of Months Used	200
Reference Questions	7.25