



## **A Message from Your Library:**

**Spring 2020**

In the 129 years that the Claverack Library has served our community, the building has never been closed for an extended stretch of time. Today, we want you to know that we continue to serve during these difficult and unprecedented times. And although we're temporarily unable to meet in our new building, the library's staff and volunteers are working to bring needed resources to everyone who wishes to access them.

Things now are certainly different; rather than coming into the library to check out books, audiobooks and movies, patrons are logging onto our website to download a vast selection of shared digital materials through the Mid-Hudson Library System.

Since our grand opening in October, 126 new patrons have been issued library cards, with an additional 16 signed up since the building closed in mid-March. Our director and library workers have gotten creative by generating original online content such as pop-up story hours, remote book clubs, and wellness classes and facilitating the sharing of all sorts of digital resources, all to help ease the burden of isolation and underemployment.



*We look forward to being together again in our library.  
(Kara Keeler Photography)*

None of us knows when we'll be able to gather again in numbers and just what that will look like, but please know that the people behind the Claverack Library are doing our very best to continue to help our neighbors.

We invite you to contact us if you'd like assistance downloading our offerings, need tech support, or simply want to say hello. Just email [director@claveracklibrary.org](mailto:director@claveracklibrary.org).

For now, the trustees and staff wish to thank you for your support through the years and want you to know that we'll always be here – in new and different ways – for our patrons and the community-at-large. Stay well.

## **What's New Fiscally**

In 2019, with the wrap-up of the successful capital campaign to raise \$2.7 million, the new library opened debt-free. The end of the year and early 2020 brought unprecedented numbers of patron visits, new card holders, and attendees at library programming.

Thanks to Claverack voters, a successful referendum to increase operating funds from the town of Claverack was passed in November. Of the library's 2020 annual budget of \$157,444, \$73,500 comes from the town of Claverack, \$3,000 from Columbia County, \$1,000 from the town of Taghkanic, and \$1,277 from New York state. We've added two new part-time jobs to the area, and funding from the town is close to the library's total salary and benefits costs.

Recognizing that the new library will cost more to operate, the board of trustees prudently set aside monies to see us through the inaugural year. Yet, as it has for everyone, the current pandemic brought uncertainty in many ways, most notably in the form of lost revenue from our spring book and summer appeal.



**The Claverack Free Library**  
 PO Box 417/9 Route 9H  
 Claverack, NY 12513  
 Claveracklibrary.org

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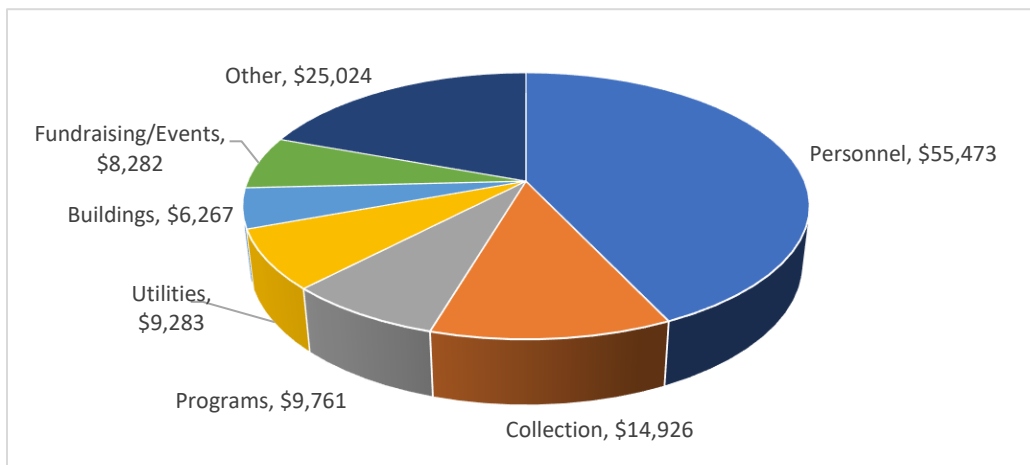
\*\*\*\*\*ECRWSS\*\*\*\*  
 Local  
 Postal Customer

**Annual Report 2019:** The CFL receives the lowest per capita funding from its town among Columbia County’s Libraries.

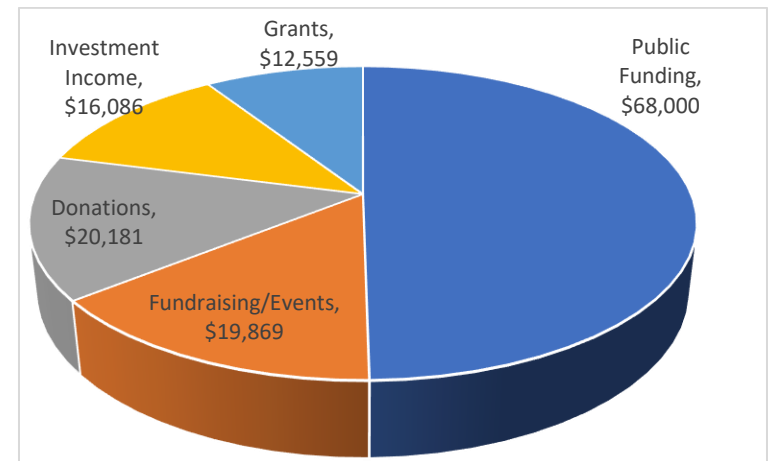
2019 Local Town Funding for Columbia County Libraries\*

Library	Chartered Population	Town Funding Per Capita	Town/City/Special District	County	Total
North Chatham	997	\$68.20	\$ 65,000	\$3,000	\$ 68,000
New Lebanon	2,305	\$59.87	\$135,000	\$3,000	\$138,000
Germantown	1,954	\$47.99	\$ 90,000	\$3,775	\$ 93,775
Kinderhook	6,486	\$44.22	\$280,830	\$6,000	\$286,830
Livingston	352	\$43.78	\$ 11,500	\$3,909	\$ 15,409
Philmont	1,379	\$34.16	\$ 44,500	\$2,604	\$ 47,104
Hudson	10,878	\$24.78	\$258,700	\$10,909	\$269,609
Valatie	4,344	\$19.32	\$ 80,000	\$3,909	\$ 83,909
Roe-Jan	7,115	\$16.78	\$115,501	\$3,909	\$119,410
<b>Claverack</b>	<b>4,642</b>	<b>\$14.43</b>	<b>\$ 64,000</b>	<b>\$3,000</b>	<b>\$ 67,000</b>
Chatham (School District Library)		N/A	\$369,000	\$3,909	\$372,909

\* Source: Mid-Hudson Library System



**Library Expenses, 2019**



**Library Income, 2019**