

Summer 2021: An Invitation to Re-Engage

Dear Neighbors,

We've missed you during the past long year. Many of us have faced loss, and many more have felt isolation and anxiety. As we emerge, the trustees, staff and FRIENDS of the library want you to know you are welcome here. You're welcome to come to the library to borrow, attend programs, read quietly, use our computers or free Wi-Fi, visit our gallery, or meet friends. We extend a special welcome to our new neighbors who relocated to the area during the pandemic and are putting down roots here.

Thanks to the dedication of our terrific staff, the library was able to offer some solace to the community through the online ordering of books, e-books, and movies and virtual programming during the long stretch of closures. It wasn't the same as seeing one another face to face, but it was a touchstone. An assurance that someone was out there offering entertainment, edification, and diversion.



Photo: Peter Bevacqua

On another positive note, so many of our supporters have stepped up to reflect their appreciation for all the library provides. A new category of sustained giving has been added to our options to give. These very special donors recognize the importance of securing the library's future through annual giving to provide a reliable funding stream as we grow our offerings and services. Of course, each

donation is deeply appreciated.

So, with things looking up, we're thrilled to invite you to RE-ENGAGE with us. The library is an ideal place to reconnect with so much of what we've all missed. All requisite safety precautions are in place to protect the health of our community-at-large and we're here for you and ready to serve. Come visit.

With our deepest gratitude,
The Board of Trustees

From the Library Director

The sun is shining and our library is open for in-person browsing and borrowing. Plans are underway to expand our open hours and to host some exciting new events and programs in the coming months.

As part of a region-wide initiative of the Mid-Hudson Library System, we received a \$3,000 grant from the American Library Association and Small & Rural Libraries to conduct a series of six community conversations. Designed to help us better understand the aspirations of our town, these discussions will elicit people's views of the future, concerns about the present, and ideas about strengthening our town. The goal is to become more effective in serving Claverack. Please check the calendar on our website for meeting dates or call the library to learn more.

Looking ahead, the Summer Reading Programs will take place in person, making use of the front lawn on sunny days and the community room when we have inclement weather. The traditional SRP registration day is on Saturday, June 26 from noon until 2 PM.

Tuesdays at the Park: entertainment for the whole family

Reading Clubs for first through third and fourth through sixth grades

Story Time for preschool through kindergarten on the front lawn - **Zoom programs** on Fridays at 10 AM

Story Walks at Mud Creek with backpacks to borrow at the library

Battle of the Books for middle and high school students

At the time of this writing, masks are still required inside the library. Thank you for understanding. If you're unable to wear a mask, we're happy to bring you items via curbside pickup. Orders can be placed over the phone or via email. When a program is held inside the library, masks must be worn by everyone above the age of two.

Programming for Adults

June 16, 7 PM - US Fish and Wildlife Service webinar on **the Endangered Chittenango Snail**

June 26, July 31, August 28 – **African Dance and Drum Workshops** for all ages and abilities, culminating with a performance at the Claverack Town Park in September. (Made possible by the NY State Council on the Arts.)

July 21, 6 PM - **Birding for Beginners** webinar

July 24, 8 AM – 1 PM – **American Red Cross Blood Drive**

Ongoing – **Art Shows** in the downstairs gallery and community room

Online registration and information on our new website: www.claveracklibrary.org



FRIENDS of the Library

Summer is finally here. The FRIENDS of the Claverack Free Library have been busy preparing spring and summer events for all of us. We hope you will enjoy them. **FOOD TRUCK:** *Food Truck Wednesdays* have returned for the third season and will continue through October. **BOOK OFFERINGS:** Instead of our large spring book sale, we are having themed book offerings throughout the summer. These books are available for small donations, with various subjects available throughout the summer. **RAFFLE:** A fantastic raffle of three different baskets, each valued over \$600, will be drawn on **July 7**. Raffle tickets are available at the library. **OTHER ACTIVITIES:** Your FRIENDS group also sponsors the "Battle of the Books" for high school and middle school students, funds the lending of local museum passes, and has purchased special sets of animal books for children. We are also involved in the Little Free Library Organization, which allows for online location identification of each of the four "Little Libraries" built by our Jr. Engineers in past programs.

The FRIENDS of the Claverack Free Library is a group of volunteers eager to expand its membership. We welcome new and returning members and encourage all to join and participate. Your membership helps us finance programs and purchases, which benefit our community. Further information can be obtained on the library's website or by dropping by the library.

9 Route 9H
PO Box 417
Claverack, NY 12513

518-851-7120
info@claveracklibrary.org
friends@claveracklibrary.org

claveracklibrary.org