

November 2021

## Gratitude

Dear Neighbors,

Our library's staff, board and FRIENDS have worked hard all year to adapt to the many changes and challenges brought by the pandemic. Throughout, we've felt a sense of gratitude, for this year has truly highlighted the value of our library to the community we serve.

We're grateful for the leadership of our dedicated director, Thea Schoep. During the evolving public health situation, Thea has been in constant contact with the Mid-Hudson Library System for guidance on safely extending our services to everyone who wishes to use them. And to our committed library staff – Deb Byer, Betty Grinrod, and Maxine Williams – for their continued efforts to provide reading material, audiobooks, CD's, and movies to our patrons at home. Their work is nothing short of heroic. The board of trustees has made decisions based on recommendations from the state and the CDC to keep the library running during this challenging year. Finally, the FRIENDS of the library have stepped up to support the vital work we do. From hosting Food Truck Wednesdays – which offered not only a safe way to dine out, but an opportunity to connect with friends and neighbors – to heading up our first fall book sale in two years, raising more than \$5,000 for the library. It was a joy to see fellow book lovers gathered beneath the tents once again.

Speaking of connecting, last spring the library launched a community-wide initiative called "Turning Outward." Supported by the American Library Association, the New York Library Association, and the Mid-Hudson Library System, this endeavor challenged our library leaders to engage with members of the community to learn of their visions and aspirations for Claverack. In small meetings with more than 60 people, we listened and learned how individuals and civic groups can take the lead to make Claverack an even better place to live. The next step will be to implement some of the many great ideas that grew from Turning Outward. For full results, visit [claveracklibrary.org](http://claveracklibrary.org).



Two years in residence, we're grateful for our new library. With its ample, flexible spaces and high-quality air filtration, the building serves to host safely distance meetings, not only for our organization, but for all who wish to gather here. And for our hard-working program committee, the board members, staff, FRIENDS, and community members who have worked together to mount programs and special events to brighten and enrich the lives of patrons of all ages.

Finally, we're deeply grateful for your generosity to the library during these uncertain times. From our sustainers – who recognize how crucial consistent giving is – to the hundreds of donors whose gifts amount to far more than the sum of their parts, to those who share their valuable time, every contribution is appreciated and will be put to good use. We hope you will continue to support the library however you are able.

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Everything we do is *for you* and everything we do is *thanks to you*.

Sincerely,

Stephen King  
President  
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Mario Verna  
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FRIENDS of the Library

### Special Events

**FRIENDS Holiday Sale**, November 10, 12-7 p.m. November 12, 2:30-5 p.m., November 13, 10 a.m.-  
2 p.m.

Opening of exhibition of Children's Book Illustrators, featuring a newly restored, three-dimensional work  
from Joan Steiner's *Look-Alikes*, November 20, 2 p.m.

**Concert of Celtic Music**, December 19, 6 p.m.

### Ongoing Programs

**Tai-Chi**, Tuesdays, 10 a.m.

**Gentle Yoga**, Thursdays, 10 a.m.

**Toddler to Pre-K Story Time**, Wednesdays, 10 a.m.

**Parent-to-Parent Support Group**, Saturdays, 9:30 a.m.

**Book to Film Club**, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month, 2 p.m.

**Fiber Arts Circle**, Wednesdays, 1-3 p.m. & 5:30-7 p.m.

Visit [claveracklibrary.org](http://claveracklibrary.org) for more information.

