“The [Pawling] Library is an integral part of the community– a place where anyone, regardless of financial background, can find free resources, lose oneself in a story, study learn and gather.”

-Feedback from the library’s 2018 community survey

ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

First and foremost, the staff and trustees of the Pawling Library are grateful to the Pawling voters for supporting our 2019 budget proposition last November. From signing petitions to displaying posters in local businesses, the tremendous support that we received from our patrons and community members was invaluable to our efforts and a reminder of the way Pawling values its library. The library had not asked for an increase in tax dollars for nearly ten years and these essential funds will enable us to continue to keep pace with inflation while still providing the high level of service our patrons expect and deserve.

The library’s finances were also strengthened by the phenomenal effort from library trustees and staff who raised nearly $60,000 in grant funds from local and national sources. These funds supported both capital projects and programming, affording the library the ability to undergo some much-needed renovations and repairs as well as diversify our programming. Congratulations and thank you to all involved in this effort and to the many donors who help us fund library programs.

Innovative programming is the backbone of the Pawling Library and we were thrilled to receive the 2018 Mid-Hudson Library System Spotlight Award in recognition of our leadership in the area of emerging technology. As proof that we continue to lead the way with innovative programming, turn to pages 4-7 to learn more about upcoming events like Circuit Steam Club and state-approved sexual harassment prevention training that any employer can send their employees to for free. Throughout the year, library program coordinators made a concentrated effort to host events at other locations like the Holmes Whaley Lake Civic Association and Lakeside Park. As always, we mined the wealth of talent in our community by asking local authors, illustrators, journalists, health and well-being specialists, and many others to share their expertise with our patrons.

As we look back over the past year, it’s clear that our library would not be as successful an institution without the essential support we receive from our community. From passing our budget proposition to our partnerships with local organizations (see the list on the back cover), the Pawling Library continues to grow in concert with the entire Pawling community. We have also been fortunate to have the assistance of many wonderful volunteers who support the library’s operations, from teenaged Library Legions to book sorters to trustees. (Special thanks to Verna Carey who recently retired after serving twenty years on the board!) Thank you to the many generous people and organizations who offer their time and talents to the library.

We have some amazing things in store for 2019, starting with automatic renewal of checked out items. We look forward to another successful year strengthening and forging new relationships within our town. The library belongs to all of us, and we look forward to learning together what that looks like for Pawling in 2019 and beyond!

Sincerely,

Brian Avery, Library Director

Stephanie McLaughlin, Board President
For a relatively small community library, we have a lot going on! Library patrons came through our doors over 65,000 times last year to access all kinds of services. For example, our public computers were utilized 10,489 times and our Wifi was accessed almost 17,000 times—more than double the year before. Further, community members visited our website a bit over 84,000 times in order to find out the latest information about program offerings and other important tidbits. Of course, we don’t just offer free computer use and Wifi. Our patrons checked out over 23,000 books, and downloaded an additional 4,945 eBooks and audiobooks by using their library cards with Overdrive!

However, for those patrons who love to come into our little library to take advantage of our programming, last year was a banner year for interesting, educational and fun programs with 901 program sessions that were attended almost 10,000 times by library users with a broad range of ages and interests.

Our library is a wonderful resource for life-long learning enthusiasts, where you can access free museum passes, how-to manuals in a myriad of subjects, detailed information about Pawling’s history, and an entree to everything that the Mid-Hudson Library System has to offer… over 3.2 million items!

So, if you find yourself with a yen to know more or do more in our community, please reach out to us, here at the Pawling Library. We would be happy to assist you in your search for information, recommend a good book, or connect you to our other resources and services.

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**BY THE NUMBERS**

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A YEAR OF IMPROVEMENTS

This has been a year of tackling long overdue improvements, large and small, to the Pawling Library’s buildings. With the help of targeted grant writing and excellent timing, most of these projects were completed without burdening the Pawling taxpayer.

Thanks to a grant from the Oliver S. and Jennie R. Donaldson Charitable Trust, the library was able to undertake a roof replacement project which had been postponed for several years. This generous grant not only paid for the removal and replacement of the old roof, but also took care of some underlying structural problems as well. A special thank you to Dutcher Avenue Builders, whose professional team got the work done in record time.

Concurrently with the roofing project, and in response to patron requests for separate spaces for different uses of the library, the new Teenspace was installed within the Donaldson Wing of the library. This project was partially funded through grants from Putnam County Savings Bank, The West Mountain Mission, and a Bullet Aid grant from the state of New York. If you haven’t seen this space yet, we invite you to come into the library to view this glass enclosed, sound dampening space for our teens’ use. Special thanks are due to and Joseph Meunier and Sons, who rearranged our existing shelves, and to JPL Glass and Storefronts Inc., who constructed a safe and beautiful space that respected the architectural integrity of this wing.

There are now two dedicated quiet use computers in the back of the library, for anyone who finds it easier to concentrate while tucked away in a corner of the library. Noise cancelling headphones are available for use at these stations, just in case ambient library noise continues to confound.

A much-needed full library interior paint job was undertaken recently. The walls are now light, bright, and clean, and the bookshelves are too! Thanks to George Apap’s crew who worked during off hours, nary a patron was displaced. (Although we can’t say the same for all the books and DVDs in the library that had to be packed up and re-shelved once the paint dried!) Many thanks to our volunteers who made this tedious task easier for all.

The library’s trustees are now in the process of prioritizing needed improvements and will be accessing grant opportunities in order to bring these projects to life- so stay tuned!
When summer arrives, so does the looming threat of decreases in academic achievement. Research shows that students who do not read over the summer demonstrate significant academic loss in the fall. It’s called the “summer slide.” And contrary to popular belief, the summer slide does not just affect reading ability. The same, if not larger losses are also likely in math and science as well. Even more distressing is the fact that these losses are cumulative. By the end of 6th grade, children who have never read over the summer are up to two years behind other children.

The Summer Reading Challenge will run from June 26th to August 24th. Together, we can prevent the summer slide! We encourage your family to participate in our online Summer Reading Challenge using READsquared. This program was designed by industry experts to encourage lifelong reading habits, and works best when families and children track using the app! Track the number of minutes you read, unlock mini games and badges, and keep the summer slide away.

Here are some other great ways to beat the summer slide:
- Model good reading habits. Show your child that you enjoy and value reading, so they should too.
- Bake/cook together—measuring and keeping math skills sharp!
- Create some no TV or electronic game times each day.
- Do a science experiment together
- Visit the library regularly this summer for new books.
- Talk about what you read with your child(ren)
- Read on the go –ask your child(ren) to read your shopping list or look for letters on signs in the car to keep their brains churning at all times.

Children’s Program Schedule
Our lottery registration for all children’s summer programs will be open
Monday, June 10th through Sunday, June 23rd
Programs and events will take place
Monday, July 8th through Saturday, August 17th

Teen/Buddy Book Club: Focuses on reading, making literacy connections, and critical thinking skills. For those entering grades 1-5. Books and teambuilding come together to make one great time.
Wednesdays 3:00-4:00 pm

Rookie Readers: Build early literacy and school readiness skills in this engaged reading program for preschool-age children.
Tuesdays
Session I: 2:30-3:00 pm
Session II: 3:15-3:45 pm

Reading Practice
For Young Students of All Abilities
On the go this summer? Track your time spent reading online using Read Squared. Login or create an account at http://pawlinglibrary.ny10.readsquared.com
Read Squared is also available as an app for Android or Apple.

Through the library, you can reserve passes for admission to the American Museum of Natural History, Danbury Railway Museum, FDR Library and Museum, or the Stepping Stones Museum for Children.
We’re not joking when we say we think reading is out of this world! In fact, our full slate of programs, including STEAM, kindergarten preparedness, music, slime, and more is sure to fight the summer slide across all disciplines. Plus, it’s just plain fun!

And don’t forget to mark your calendar for our Summer’s End Celebration! We know Pawling’s kids are sure to read all summer long, and when they do, we will celebrate with games, snacks, and activities all planned by our teen volunteers. Some attendees may also walk away with a raffle prize! Kids of all ages and a caregiver invited. **Sunday, August 25 1:00-3:00 pm**

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**Early Literacy Programs**

Bounce, count, and discover with our early literacy programs. The first steps to reading are taken here.

**Baby Bounce and Groove:** Early literacy for ages birth-18 months and a caregiver. **Tue, 10:00-10:45 am**

**Toddlers in Training:** Early literacy for ages 18-30 months and a caregiver. **Thu, 10:00-10:45 am**

**Twoodalo Twos:** Early literacy for toddlers, ages 2.5 to 3.5 and a caregiver. Two sessions: families must pick one. **Fri, 9:30-10:30 am OR 10:45-11:45 am**

**Musical Munchkins:** Special Music and movement classes for walkers up to 23 mo. Families can attend one or both classes. **Sat 7/27 and 8/10, 10:00-10:30 am**

**Tuneful Tykes:** Special Music and movement classes for 2 and 3 year olds. Families can attend one or both classes. **Sat 7/27 and 8/10, 10:35-11:15 am**

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**Preschool Programs**

**Rookie Readers:** Build early literacy and school readiness skills in this engaged reading program. (Preschoolers, 3-5) **Tuesdays, Session I: 2:30-3:00pm Session II: 3:15-3:45 pm**

**Summer Sensory:** Sensory activities are a great way to engage learning through play. We will read a story and then play with messy materials. All the fun, none of the mess stress at home! Attend one or both sessions. **For ages 3-5, Thurs, 7/11 and 8/8, 3:00-4:00 pm**

**Core Literacy: Space Explorers:** School readiness and literacy fun for ages 3.5-6. Children must be fully potty-trained to be dropped off. **Wed, 10:00-11:30 am**

**Ready for Kindergarten!** During this special story hour, we will read stories/ sing songs related to starting kindergarten. The perfect opportunity to introduce children to each other before the first day. For those entering kindergarten in Fall 2019 only, **Thu 8/22, 1:00-2:00 pm**

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**School Age Weekly Programs**

**K-8 Community Service Club:** We will complete community service projects of all kinds. Older participants will be given leadership opportunity helping younger children with the activities. **Tue, 11:00 am-12:00 pm**

**Kid D’N’D:** Adventure is out there! Create a crazy cool character and come along on this story based adventure where you control where the story goes. This is a simplified version of the game. (Grades 3-5) **Tue, 1:00-2:00 pm**

**Slime-y Science:** It’s science and it’s slime! We will discover and create all things slimy, goopy, and fantastically freaky. Please wear clothes that can get messy. (Grades K-2) **Wed, 1:30-2:30 pm**

**Teen/Kid Buddy Book Club:** For those entering grades 1-5. Kids and teen volunteers will team up to complete a weekly reading and themed challenge in this literacy focused hour. The program ends with a team game or activity that makes literacy connections and makes reading fun! **Wed, 3:00-4:00 PM**

**Core Literacy: Star Command:** Activities specially designed to fight the summer slide and keep literacy and STEAM skills sharp. (Ages 7-10) **Thu, 10:00 am -12:00 pm**

**Food Science:** We will be exploring edible experiments and crazy chemistry concoctions. Families with allergy concerns should contact us in advance of the program for accommodation needs. (Grades 2-5) **Thu, 1:30-2:30 pm**

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**School Age Special Programs**

**Scavenger Hunt:** Come one, come all--a fun search is calling! Help us solve clues and fun riddles as we uncover the hidden treasure in the library. (Grades K-5) **Fri 7/19, 5:30-6:30 pm**

**StarLab Planetarium:** Children in grades K-5 will learn about constellations, their stories, and more, all while inside the Mid-Hudson Children’s Museum’s travelling planetarium. This event will be held at the Lathrop Center in Lakeside Park. **Wed 7/31, 2:00-2:30 pm**

**Fairytale STEM night (family)** Once upon a time, there was a STEM night, for all families to enjoy! Families will work together to complete a series of STEM challenges, themed to some of our favorite fairy tales. (Ages 4-8) **Fri 8/16, 5:30-6:30 pm**
This summer’s schedule is packed with the brim with fun, fulfilling programs and volunteer opportunities for teens. Many programs are continuing from spring or returning from last summer by popular demand. We also have a myriad of new programs that we are very excited to offer! Whatever your preference we have opportunities for outside, inside, and online. Check out the list of weekly, monthly, and one-time programs in the section below! Don’t forget about our Summer Reading Challenge, set to run June 26th to August 24th!

Stop by or call the library to sign up for the Summer Reading Challenge or any of the programs listed below. For more info, please contact Phil at teen@pawlinglibrary.org

**Weekly Programs**

**Minecraft Monday:** Mon 4:30-5:30 pm
Play competitive games in either creative or survival mode. See who can build the coolest structure, compete to gather the most resources, fight monsters, and more!

**Gardening Club:** Tue 4:00-5:00 pm
The Pawling Library is starting a vegetable and herb garden! Gardening Club will meet once a week to plant and tend the garden and learn about gardening and the environment.

**Roblox Group:** Tue 5:30-6:30 pm
Engage with your peers in a series of online games or make your own scenarios to share! Roblox meets in the upstairs annex.

**Upcycled Art:** Fri 1:00-2:00 pm
Come and make an art project each week using recycled materials.

**Community Service Programs**

**Project Do Something:** Mon 6:30-8:30 pm
Project Do Something is a community service organization that meets on Monday nights during the summer to work on small but impact-full projects to better our community. Earn community service hours while having fun with your friends.

**Teen Party Planning Committee:** Fri 3:00-4:00 pm
Meet weekly to help plan the end of summer party by creating your own activity or carnival game for the children who attend. Members should be able to come to the carnival to run their game or activity.

**Library Legions**
Library Legions is a community service program in which teens make their own hours (up to two hours per week) and work independently. Legions help library staff with a variety of tasks around the library, including finding books, shelving books, organizing sections of the library, assisting in various projects, and keeping the library looking its best!

**Monthly D&D Quest:**
2nd Thursdays: June 13, July 18, August 15, 2:30 - 5:30 PM
Looking for adventurers to join us at the library for a monthly installment of the world’s most famous table top RPG, Dungeons & Dragons!

**One-Time Programs**

**Babysitter Training:** Mon July 15, 10:00-2:00 pm
Looking for a little summer spending money? Babysitting is a great way for teens to earn some cash for themselves as well as develop a sense of responsibility. Come in and take a class with an expert and learn valuable skills!

**Henna Party:** Fri July 19, 5:00-7:00 pm
Get henna done and learn about henna from a professional henna artist. Taste Indian snacks, color mandalas, and more.

**The Wayfinder Experience:** Fri July 26, 5:00-7:00 pm
Learn how to use foam swords and play a variety of games such as Capture the Flag, Duelling Circle, and Three Musketeers. Make sure to eat first or bring a snack.

**No-Bake Desserts:** Fri August 2, 5:00-6:00 pm
Create something delicious using easy a no-bake dessert recipe.

**Game Night:** Fri August 9, 5:00-7:00 pm
Come play card and board games in the library. The library will provide a selection of games, but you are also encouraged to bring any games you might want to play.

**Battle of the Books**
Mid-Hudson Battle of the Books encourages a community of engaged middle- and high-school-aged readers in our five-county region by introducing them to great books, authors, and their fellow readers in an atmosphere of friendly competition and good sportsmanship.

Read a selection of books and answer questions about them in trivia battle against other teams. The summer program culminates with a regional battle at Colombia Greene Community College. The High School battle will take place on Friday, August 16 and the Middle School battle on Saturday, August 17.

Our middle school team will meet once a week for practice on Wednesdays from 4:30-6:00. High school practice time TBD

More info at pawlinglibrary.org/battle
A patron gave us a gift, a sign on which was written When you smile you bring rays of light into the lives of others. We are very fortunate to see many beautiful smiles every day. Each one is a gift.

Our programming calendar contains a variety of presentations and workshops, including two in which we are collaborating with our friends from the Holmes Whaley Lake Civic Association and the Trinity-Pawling School. The first is Slide Slam: Making a Difference Digital Art Exhibition. The second is a seminar designed to educate employers in implementing sexual harassment prevention training in their place of business. In June, former NBC News producer and director, Ron Steinman will be our guest host for the film viewing of the PBS documentary American Creed and at the very end of August we’ll have a program that addresses climate change as well as a stress relieving sculpting workshop, aptly called, Unwind with Clay.

We hope you’ll be able to join us for these and other programs and that many will bring a smile to your face.

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**Special Workshops and Events**

**Patriot Hero of the Hudson Valley**
The life and ride of Sybil Ludington.  
_Tue 5/21, 7:00-8:00 pm_

**Intro to Calligraphy**
_Wed 5/22, 6:30-8:30 pm_

**Slide Slam: Making a Difference Art Exhibition**
(This will take place at the Holmes Whaley Lake Civic Association.)
_Sat 6/1, 2:00-5:00 pm_

**Healthy Living for Your Brain and Body**
Learn how to improve or maintain your overall health.  
_Tue 6/4, 7:00-8:00 pm_

**American Creed: A Film Screening & Discussion**
_Sat 6/15, 2:00-4:30 pm_

**Chronic Fatigue/Adrenal Fatigue: Fantasy v. Reality**
_Tue, 6/18, 7:00-9:00 pm_

**Essential Oils**
Find out the most popular ways to use essential oils.  
_Tue 6/25, 7:00-8:00 pm_

**Interior Design**
Discover how to create the home of your dreams.  
_Tue 7/9, 7:00-8:00 pm_

**Ayurveda, Diet, and Nutrition**
_Tue 7/16, 7:00-9:00 pm_

**Sexual Harassment Prevention Training**
_ Wed, 7/17, 10:00-11:30 am_  
(This will take place at the Trinity-Pawling School.)

**Multi-Generational Legacy Planning**
Explore estate planning opportunities for you, your family and retirement.  
_Wed, 7/24, 7:00-8:00 pm_

**Soul Painting**
Calming transformative creative workshop.  
_Wed, 7/31, 7:00-8:30 pm_

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**Weekly Programs**

**Monday Matinee** An afternoon movie for an adult audience, popcorn provided. Please observe the film’s rating.  
_Mon 2:00 pm_

**Afternoon Hatha Yoga**  
_Tue 1:00-2:00 pm. (Program fee: $4.00)_

**Evening Hatha Yoga**  
_Thu 6:30-7:30 pm. (Program fee: $4.00)_

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**Monthly Programs**

**From Memory to Family Memoir**
Learn to write your family and personal history.  
_Wed, 6/5, 7/3, 8/7, 6:30-8:00 pm_

**Tuesday Afternoon Book Club** Share your thoughts about your favorite novels with friends.  
_Tue 5/28, 6/25, 7/23, 8/27, 4:00-5:00 pm_

**Graphic Novel Book Club** Our newest book club reads and discusses adult graphic novels.  
_Tue 5/28, 6/25, 7/23, 8/27, 7:00-8:00 pm_

**The Evening Book Club** Share your passion for reading, & discuss your favorite books.  
_Wed 5/8, 6/12, 7/10, 8/14, 6:30-7:30 pm_

**Yin Yoga & Meditation** A relaxing session of Yin Yoga followed by Meditation.  
_Wed 5/15, 6/19, 7/17, 8/21, 7:00-8:00 pm. (Program fee: $4.00)_

**disAbility & Employment Workshop**
Learn how to apply for Social Security Disability Insurance and Supplemental Security Income and more.  
_Fri 6/14, 8/9, 3:00-4:30 pm_

To register or for more info on any adult programs, contact Donald, our Adult Programming Coordinator, at adult@pawlinglibrary.org or call 845-855-3444
Homebound Delivery Services

The Pawling Library now offers free delivery of materials to patrons who are physically unable to visit the library, including the elderly, the disabled, and those who are temporarily incapacitated by illness or accident.

For more information about this program contact us at 845-855-3444 or email circ@pawlinglibrary.org