



# New Castle Library Friends

## Footnotes

*News for enthusiastic supporters of the New Castle Public Library*

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*"The seasonal urge is strong in poets. Milton wrote chiefly in winter. Keats looked for spring to wake him up... Burns chose autumn. Longfellow liked the month of September."*

*Helen Bevington*



### *The Harvest Moon*

It is the Harvest Moon! On gilded vanes  
And roofs of villages, on woodland crests  
And their aerial neighborhoods of nests  
Deserted, on the curtained window-panes  
Of rooms where children sleep, on country lanes  
And harvest-fields, its mystic splendor rests!  
Gone are the birds that were our summer guests,  
With the last sheaves return the laboring wains!  
All things are symbols: the external shows  
Of Nature have their image in the mind,  
As flowers and fruits and falling of the leaves;  
The song-birds leave us at the summer's close,  
Only the empty nests are left behind,  
And pipings of the quail among the sheaves.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow



## ***Separation Day Book Sale Books Available***

Over the past few months, the library has been offering free books on the porch outside the front entrance to the library. As their supply of free books is running out, they have reached out to the Friends to see if we would be willing to make available books that were collected for the Friends' Separation Day Book Sale. We agreed and Jeanne-Marie Camac and Susan Swansburg, the Friends' Book Sale co-chairs, are working with the staff to select the books for this initiative.

While these books will be offered for free on the front porch, a donation box will also be available. During past Separation Day book sales, paperbacks sold for .50 cents and hardbacks for \$1, but donations of any amount will be greatly appreciated.

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## ***News from the New Castle Public Library***

by Tyler Antoine, Adult Services Librarian



There's no question that things have been different here at the New Castle Public Library over the past few months. Namely, the lack of patrons in the building. Many of our staff have lamented the fact that we can no longer make that human connection on a daily basis, which for some of us becomes fuel for our fire, helping us to persist and avoid burnout in our ultimate goal to serve our community. In many ways, this quarantine has forced us to work closer together with one another as we continue to provide virtual programs, curbside pickup, and book bundles.

When we are lucky enough to see a regular patron out and about in the neighborhood, or to catch them on the phone while they're placing a hold, many of them seem surprised at the range of services we continue to provide. Simply put, it's more difficult than ever to connect with our patronage to clue them in on what's happening here at the New Castle Public Library.

That's where we could use your help. Give us a hand in spreading the word about our curbside services, our virtual programs, or the range of business services we're providing at a social distance (printing, copying, even public notary services). By letting your friends and neighbors know that our library continues to be there for our community, you help our staff remain motivated and at the ready.

We've also begun offering calendars detailing our upcoming virtual events on the table where we typically place curbside materials, outside the parking lot entrance to the library. You are invited to take a few to disperse among your friends and loved ones. We also should mention our fully decked-out front porch, which has free books, newspapers, coupons, and Sudoku puzzles to keep our patrons entertained during these uncertain times.

We all sincerely look forward to the day when we can greet you back into our lovely, historic building, and continue making the connection with all of you. Until then, know that we are here for you, and only a phone call away.



## ***Brandywine Zoo Passes and So Much More***

by Sara Thomas, Youth and Teen Services Librarian  
([sara.thomas@lib.de.us](mailto:sara.thomas@lib.de.us))  
and Tyler Antoine, Adult Services Librarian ([tyler.antoine@lib.de.us](mailto:tyler.antoine@lib.de.us))

During this time, all libraries in DE are closed to the public. However, many libraries, including ours, are doing virtual programming through Facebook Live events, Zoom meetings, and sharing videos.

### **Ongoing Virtual Programs:**

- **Every day @ 3 PM:** *Happy Tales* – join our Zoom meeting to read to PAWS dogs. Register on the virtual calendar for the zoom link and password.
- **Mondays @ 7 PM:** *Pajama Story Time* – join our Facebook Live event for bedtime stories and songs.
- **Tuesday @ 4 PM:** *Teen Time* – hang out, play games, make new friends!
- **\*Fridays @ 11 AM:** *Story Time* – join our Facebook Live for different stories each week.

\*Starting 9/4, *Story Time* will be hosted on Zoom and begin at 10 AM. Register for this program on Libcal (see below) and you'll receive a link to the Zoom meeting.

The library has teamed up with the *Brandywine Zoo* to provide a family pass to the zoo, good for one visit for a family of two adults and up to four children under the age of 18. Once a patron checks the pass out, they will have a two-week window to visit the Brandywine Zoo before returning it to the library. For now, this pass will only be available to patrons who have the New Castle Public Library set as their pickup library on their library card. The pass will be available starting Monday, August 31 on a first-come-first-serve basis. Patrons interested in placing a hold on the pass should call the library during regular business hours.

Want some items (books, CDs, DVDs, etc.) but not sure what titles to place on hold? [Fill out this form](#) and our librarians, Tyler (Adult Services) & Sara (Youth and Teen Services), will choose some items for you!

The library would also like to remind our community-at-large that free WiFi is still available in our parking lot and reading garden, both of which are located behind the library. You don't need to have a library card to access our WiFi.

Also, important to note is that curbside pick-up continues with new expanded hours for your convenience. Curbside takes place from 10:00am to 6:45pm on Mondays and Tuesdays, 12:00pm to 6:45pm on Wednesdays and Thursdays, and 10:00am to 4:45pm on Fridays and Saturdays. No appointments are necessary – just give us a ring when you're in the parking lot.

Patrons are also invited to check out our porch on Delaware Street, where free books and other materials (puzzles, craft projects for children, and lots more) for adults and children are provided on a daily basis. Reference and hold services are also provided during our curbside hours. To reach us, call us at 302.328.1995.

In addition, the library is happy to announce that we're now offering Public Notary Services to patrons. For just \$5 a seal, one of our staff can notarize any documents that require it. It is important to note that social distancing guidelines must be maintained during the notarization process. To find out more about how this service works, as well as about our printing and copier services, give us a call at 302.328.1995 during regular business hours.

Finally, we're excited to say that we have a new social justice book club for teens entitled Woke Reads! At the inaugural meeting, the book discussed was *Slay* by Brittney Morris. Next book selection is *Clap When You Land* by Elizabeth

Acevedo on September 23rd at 3 PM. For more information or to register for the club, please give the library a call at 302.328.1995.

Thank you for supporting our library.

We miss our patrons and hope that you are all safe and healthy!

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## ***September Book Recommendations***

If there is a book you would like to recommend, email us at [nclibraryfriends@gmail.com](mailto:nclibraryfriends@gmail.com)

Patty O'Brien

### ***Hidden Valley Road: Inside the Mind of an American Family***

by Robert Kolker

This is the true story of an American family with six out of their twelve children diagnosed with schizophrenia. In the mid-1970's, while the Galvins struggled with the societal stigma of mental illness, they became the first family to be studied by the National Institute of Mental Health. Unbeknownst to them, samples of their DNA informed decades of genetic research that continues today in the search for treatment and perhaps eradication of this disease. This unsettling book showcases, with great compassion, a family's suffering, parental choices, and ultimate hope.

Fern Toner-Horisk

### ***In Five Years***

by Rebecca Serle

This whimsical tale is an unforgettable story of two best friends, Danni and Bella. It is described as "heartbreaking, redemptive, and authentic," as it looks at destiny and our purpose on earth. It is a book you will read and immediately want to share with a friend.

Bruce Burk

### ***White Rage: The Unspoken Truth of Our Racial Divide***

by Carol Anderson

White rage is the blind anger some white members of our society experience when faced with African Americans seeking their rights as equal citizens. This book, written in 2016 by historian Carol Anderson, is a well-sourced account of systemic racism. It opens in 1861 and records the organized, political movement to suppress African Americans' full participation in democracy over the course of history, to modern day. This is a sobering primer of reactions and rollbacks to the legal gains of African Americans by presidents, politicians, and pundits fueled by white rage. White rage and suppression continue today, making this text a timely addition to our national conversation about race in America.



## ***Phoebe Dill*** **1938 - 2020**

The New Castle Library Friends lost one of its founding members at the end of June 2020 with the death of Phoebe Dill.

Born in Batavia, NY, Phoebe graduated from Cornell University and earned a Master's degree in Education from SUNY, Geneseo. She married her husband, Robert Dill, in August of 1961. They moved to New Castle in 1990 and lived for two years in Jefferson House before acquiring a home in which to raise a family.

Phoebe was always active in the community. She was a member of the New Castle Presbyterian Church, serving for many years as Clerk of the Session. She was a member of the Arasapha Garden Club, a gifted flower arranger, and a dedicated gardener. She transformed a patch of ground opposite her home into a colorful hillside garden for the benefit of passers-by en route to the river walk.

She was a docent at the Delaware Art Museum for 15 years, where she helped to develop a brochure for self-guided tours of the sculpture garden, which is used today.

Phoebe loved the New Castle Library and along with a number of others was instrumental in founding the New Castle Library Friends in 2004. Working with the former librarian, Katie Newell, she held meetings to promote the fledging organization and acted as treasurer during the early years. She was the Trustee Liaison to the Library during the period of the last renovations. A lover of books, she founded the New Castle Book Club with another friend and this organization still meets monthly.

Unfortunately, the development of Alzheimer's caused her to withdraw from civic engagements, but she should be remembered by us, the Friends, for her commitment to our Library and its welfare in our community.

Roberta Yarker Smith

