

# Dover native to present program Tuesday on new book

Dover native Patricia Miller Mauro, author of the book "Safe from the Past: A Story of Hope, Faith, and Determination," will present a program Tuesday at 7 in the Dover Public Library's Community Room.

The library is located at 525 N. Walnut St., Dover.

Mauro's program will focus on her latest book, an inspiring and deeply personal tale of perseverance in the face of unimaginable hardships. Told in an open, honest voice with the deepest sincerity, Mauro's life story serves as a rousing inspiration to those with the desire to create a better life than the one they are living.

The program is part of the library's 2010 Author Series and is free. Refreshments will be served at the conclusion of the program. Mauro also will be available to sign copies of her book.

Mauro is a graduate of Muskingum College and earned a Master's in business administration from New York University. She worked in New York City's financial district 13 years and now resides in Texas with her husband and two children.

Recently, she took time



**Patricia Miller Mauro**

to answer several questions for The Times-Reporter. Here's what she had to say:

## **What do you do for a living?**

Up until about a year ago, I was one of several controllers for a major bank in Dallas. I have worked in supporting securities operations my entire career. I left last year to be more available to my children and unexpectedly ended up publishing a book.

## **Who influenced your decision to write a book?**

One person who influenced me was Denver Butson, a published poet living in NYC. I sought him out originally to see if he could "ghost write" my

story, but when he heard what I had to say and saw how passionate I was about getting its message out, he refused and insisted I write the book instead. We would work one on one, getting the story in shape. But when I moved to Texas, we lost touch and the book took a backseat to family and career.

The person who really pushed me into getting it finalized and published was my friend Sue who lives on Long Island. She read the manuscript and insisted I go seek a publisher. I guess she really liked it. When I shared the manuscript with other friends to see what they thought, the response was overwhelming.

## **Was it difficult to write about situations you had lived?**

Sometimes, yes. On one hand, I felt very liberated for being able to write what happened and not feel like I had to hide that anymore. On the other hand, they were very painful memories. Topics such as poverty, abuse, and abandonment are tough topics to talk about. It was easy to write about what happened, but it was much harder to put on paper how it affected me internally. The writing process forced me to open up about what I was thinking during those extremely tough times and it made me very vulnerable and uncomfortable, but it was necessary.

## **What advice would you give an aspiring writer?**

Almost the same message I give in the book, which is never give up, even if you feel like you just don't have it in you to keep going. I asked Denver what was the best advice he ever received as a writer and his response was, "keep sitting in that chair until you write every day." He treats it as a discipline and not a hobby.