

CENTRAL LIBRARY REPORT

January – June 2012

The Poughkeepsie Public Library District's Adriance Memorial Library is the Central Library for the Mid-Hudson Library System. As such, the Library's staff provides a variety of supplemental reference and training services to the member libraries and the correctional facilities. This is a summary of 2012/1 - 2Q Central Library activity.

- 1. Tuesday Tips:** These handy reference and otherwise useful tips continue to be popular. All of the tips are designed to better enable frontline staff to assist patrons at the local level. As we come closer to one year of Tips, we will look for evaluative input from both the Central Library and Collection Development Advisory Committee as well the membership, as a whole.
- 2. Spring Continuing Education:** The Spring 2012 continuing education activity focused on the OPAC (online catalog) and the NOVEL databases (those provided free of charge through the New York State Library). Workshops were created and delivered in each of the five counties and were conducted by Head of Central Library Services Deb Weltsch and PPLD Librarian II Jennara Wenk. The feedback on the evaluations was positive, along with some suggestions for future presentations.
- 3. Pathfinders:** The head of Central Library Services, along with PPLD Librarian II Bev Santero, developed a pathfinder on Civil Service tools and tips. The goal is to have 4 – 6 such pathfinders created or revised each year on topical areas of current interest.
- 4. Collection Evaluations:** Staff created follow-up health information collection inventories in order to evaluate the effectiveness of the Fall 2011 emphasis on health information collections and reference services. Reports will be delivered to member libraries in the coming weeks for their action.
- 5. Collection Development:** As part of the Central Library program, the Library District receives an allocation of funds specifically for library materials. The 2012 allocation has not yet to be determined but it is estimated to be in the range of \$58,000. Of that, \$39,569 has been earmarked for print materials. Of that, \$20,193 has been spent or is encumbered.
- 6. Custom Services:** A customer service workshop was provided for the staff at the Carmel library. Such custom services are available on request from any member library.
- 7. Reference Services:** Central Library staff continues to provide standard reference service to member library staff members and also directly to (self-referred) patrons from throughout the MHLS service area.