



MHLS BULLETIN

Mid-Hudson Library System | Serving the Staff and Trustees of Public Libraries in the Columbia, Dutchess, Greene, Putnam & Ulster County Area
103 Market Street - Poughkeepsie, New York 12601 - 845.471.6060 - Fax: 845.454.5940 - <http://midhudson.org>

Millennium Server Upgraded

While occurring a week sooner than expected, the Millennium Server Upgrade was a success.

Laurie Shedrick, MHLS Automated Systems Manager, reports that everything went smoothly and member libraries reported very few problems in the hours after Millennium came back up on Friday.

On Thursday, as MHLS staff called each member library to let them know about the emergency shutdown, member library staff responded valiantly, reporting they were prepared despite the short notice. Many noted they had taken Laurie's advice and done the offline client "fire drill" the week before.

Please remember that staff who use Millennium in the library are our "eyes and ears." If you notice something weird or wonky please report it to Laurie so we can figure out what is going on. Laurie is also interested to hear what you have to say regarding the process speed and/or other comments that you have since the upgrade to the new server:

lshedrick@midhudson.org, x21.

MHLS Announcements

Check Your Info: Information from the *Mid-Hudson Library System Statistical Annual Report 2006* (as reported by Member Libraries on their 2006 Annual Reports) is now available at <http://midhudson.org> → Administration & Management → Budgeting & Finance (direct link: http://midhudson.org/annual_reports/2006/main.htm) If you notice any discrepancy in the information listed for your library, please contact Lena at lsmolon@midhudson.org by June 8th.



Reminder: Due to needed construction in our delivery area there will be **no delivery or pickup on Saturday June 9, 2007**. Normal operations will resume on Monday June 11, 2007.

MHLS Libraries

The American Library Association (ALA) and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) announced that they have selected 4 MHLS member libraries to receive a collection of 15 classic books from the *We the People Bookshelf* project. The theme of this year's *Bookshelf* is the "Pursuit of Happiness."

- **Kinderhook Memorial Library**
- **Patterson Library**
- **Pawling Free Library**
- **Morton Memorial Library and Community House (Rhinecliff)**

The **Heermance Memorial Library in Coxsackie** declared May as *Military Appreciation Month* at the library. The library collected personal hygiene and entertainment items in lieu of fines for area residents serving in the military overseas. There has been such a great outpouring of support from the community that the library has extended this program into June.

Resource Sharing & Millennium



Please remember: Do not tape delivery slips or notes to items going through the delivery. The tape can damage items.

(See Resource Sharing Standards, Circulation, item #7: <http://midhudson.org/resource/General/RSstandards.htm>)

Marketing, Advocacy & Funding

In honor of National Library Week in April and to celebrate the love of reading, the **Friends of the Plattekill Public Library** sponsored a "**How I Learned to Read**" Essay Contest. On May 21st, the Friends held an award ceremony as part of their first-ever Annual Meeting, and awarded each winner with an award certificate and a gift card to Barnes and Noble. They received 84 contest entries. Quotes from the entries included:

- "Reading helps understand life and its something you'll have with you for life."
- "Reading means a lot to me because now that I read, I can have a new adventure every time I pick up a book. One

"I violently oppose cutting funding to programs that make this county worth living in."

—Putnam County Legislator Regina Morini, "Putnam lawmakers seek line-by-line look at budget," *The Journal News*, 6.1.07

day I can share a castle with a fairy princess and the next day I can sail the seven seas with a ship full of pirates.”
- “My father loved books as a kid and adult, and he helped me read. Sometimes he would do my chores for me so I could keep reading.”

Reference & Collection Development

ePortfolios [<http://www.eportfolio.org/>] is a new way young people are using the Web to post their achievements, work experience, projects, writings, art and more as they work with school advisors, apply to colleges, etc. Great resource for juniors in high school applying for college – more polished than a MySpace page!

Youth Services

Highlights from the *It CAN Be Fun & Games @ Your Library Workshop*: Thanks to Sue Scott of the Marlboro Free Library and other MHLS librarians sharing their library gaming experiences (electronic and traditional), young people and families in some MHLS libraries will soon be enjoying new activities. Some ideas to consider for your library:

- Encourage young people to bring in PlayStations and other equipment, set up and offer tournaments
- Contact local gaming stores to bring in equipment and offer programs
- Invest in last generation equipment, solicit same from patrons
- Purchase equipment over time, possibly with Friends' support
- Invite Sue Scott to do gaming program at libraries
- Organize game disc swap at library
- Offer young people and/or family board game night
- Solicit used games from patrons & allow kids to bring own
- Have Bunco tournaments (very popular in Saugerties)
- Set up Yu-Gi-Ho sessions, with periodic tournaments (PPLD)

For workshop handouts and write up, see MHLS Gaming Resources at
http://midhudson.org/program/ideas/teen_programs.htm

Miss Something? If you missed saving something that appeared on the *MHLS Youth Services listserv*, you can always search in the archives by going to <http://midhudson.org/MHLS/listserv/listservs.htm> and look in the middle box on the right for the archives link. All you have to do is put in a search term for the issue you are looking for and the original message should appear. You can bookmark this site or just remember that you can find it on the *MHLS Site Map*, under *Listservs*.

The Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC), a division of the American Library Association, encourages libraries large and small to visit the **Kids! @ your library Campaign** Web site at <http://www.ala.org/kids> and take advantage of free materials, resources and ideas. The latest materials added to the site include:

- Spanish-language resources.
- A list of *Top Ten Ways to Use Bill Harley's *At Your Library* Song in Your Library and Community* provides examples of how libraries can use the upbeat song to grab attention.
- A story theater script-The Chicken and the Librarian- adapted by Dianne de Las Casas and used with her permission, can be downloaded and used for library/school/community events.
- Kids! @ your library* Best Practice Wiki at http://wikis.ala.org/alsc/index.php/Kids%21_%40_your_library_Best_Practices_Wiki provides a free, open space where librarians can share how they have successfully used campaign materials within their libraries and communities.

Trustee Resources

New on Trustee Resources: Sample PowerPoint presentation, “*Board of Trustees Orientation*,” from the Mahopac Library. To access the file along with other resources for orientation for new trustees to go: <http://midhudson.org> → *Trustee Resources* → *Orientation of New Trustees*

Administration & Management

2007 Public Library Funding & Technology Access Study preliminary findings:

- More than half (54.2 percent) of U.S. public libraries now offer free wireless access
- Library staff in more than half of public libraries provide assistance to patrons applying for or accessing e-government
- Sixty-eight percent of libraries offer online homework resources – serving the educational needs of more than 36 million school-age children



The final 2007 report will be available online and as a print-on-demand book in September 2007. More information, including links to more than a decade of related research on public libraries and the Internet conducted by the Information Institute at Florida State University, is available at <http://www.ala.org/plinternetfunding>.

Member Libraries are welcome to submit items of interest and job openings to the MHLS Bulletin: bulletin@midhudson.org. The MHLS Bulletin is available on line at <http://midhudson.org/bulletins/main.htm>.

“Today’s public libraries are vital community technology hubs that millions of Americans rely on for their first and often only choice for Internet access.”

-Public Library Funding & Technology Access Study Project Overview, <http://www.ala.org/plinternetfunding>

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← Funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, **Quick Ways to Find Quick Answers** was held in all five counties during May. More than 50 member library staff took advantage of this opportunity to learn about the new **Quick Answers** web site and to contribute content. Input from the five sessions is currently being incorporated and the site will be launched, system-wide, later this month.

The Spring 2007 Trustee Education Series began in May with three → sessions of **Trustee Essentials**. Trustees in attendance this year described the session as “informative,” “concise and well-organized.” One noted that workshop is “*Very valuable for all trustees, experienced and inexperienced.*” The Trustee Series continues in June with Advanced Trustee: *Smart Growth for Your Library*.



Above: MHLS Executive Director Josh Cohen at the Ulster Co. Trustee Essentials session.



← The **MHLS Board of Trustees** visited the Elting Memorial Library in New Paltz for their May meeting. Jennifer Lange, who serves on both the New Paltz and MHLS boards, conducted a tour of the recently expanded building afterward the meeting.



← The quarterly **Friends Support Group** met in May to hear from Staatsburg Library director Anne Jordan speak about event planning. Their next meeting will be July 18th at the Town of Esopus Library to discuss Book Sales. [Pictured left: *Rebekkah Smith Aldrich, MHLS Coordinator of Member Information*]



Above: About a dozen people came out for the quarterly **System Tour**. Attendees met the MHLS staff and learn about each department and service MHLS has to offer. 73% reported that the tour “*exceeded expectations.*”



Above: MHLS staff Josh Cohen, Merribeth Advocate and Rebekkah Smith Aldrich helped out at a recent volunteer orientation session at the **New Lebanon Library**. New Lebanon has over 20 dedicated volunteers who work regularly scheduled hours at the library.