

YOUR LIBRARY NEEDS YOU!



**The future of the
Red Hook Public Library
is in your hands.**

Paid for by the Friends of the Red Hook Public Library. No public funds were used to produce this mailing.

Friends of the Red Hook Public Library
7444 S. Broadway
Red Hook, NY 12571

Non Profit
US Postage
PAID
Newburgh, NY
Permit #91



RED HOOK PUBLIC LIBRARY



★ ★ ★ ★ ★ We earned 5 stars from *Library Journal* in 2013!

Why is the library asking for a change in funding?

Current funding has not kept pace with the community's increased usage of our facility and services. Red Hook Public Library actively applies for grants, accepts donations and benefits from the talents of a robust community of volunteers, but...

Since 2010, there has been a significant increase in the community's use of library services:

- Our fans can't stay away - visits to the library have increased 524%
- We've doubled the number of programs offered to the public
- Attendance at programs has increased 97%
- Borrowers are sharing 31% more materials
- Computer and wireless usage has increased by 28%

A stable, reliable funding source is required to:

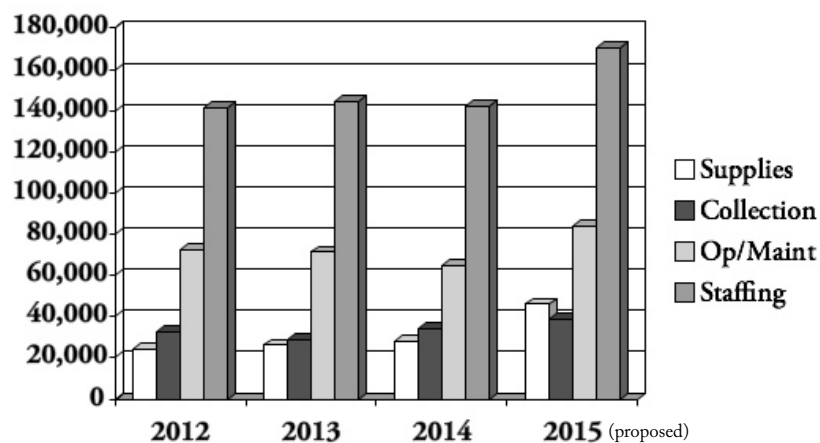
- Meet the current and future needs of our community
- Allow for prudent planning as outlined in the library's long-range plan
- Maintain current hours and operations
- Maintain our historic building

Operating expenses will continue to increase

In the past four years, as illustrated in the graph below, operating expenses have increased due to:

- Increase in staff to operate the Children's Library, provide services and programs
- Rising cost for utilities
- Maintaining/expanding technology
- Fees to Mid Hudson Library System*
- Building repair and maintenance

* in 2010 we paid no MHLS fees; fees now exceed \$10,000/year due to cuts in state funding



While expenses have increased, funding has not kept pace

Funding from the state and county has been drastically reduced, causing us to supplement the community's tax dollars with grants, donations and fines/fees, which are unreliable streams of income.

What will happen if the library doesn't get the funding it needs?

Without this additional funding, the library may have to:

- Reduce the number of days and hours it is open
- Reduce the number of programs offered
- Eliminate some current services
- Reduce the number of items available to borrowers

What will the increase cost?

The increase will cost:

- \$11.46 per \$250,000 assessed value
- **Less than \$1 per month** for the average homeowner

Did you know?

Attendance at programs and library usage is comparable to area libraries that have *two to three times* Red Hook Public Library's funding? Below is just a sampling of the programming the library offered in 2013:

- Romp & Stomp
- Toddler Fundamentals
- Dungeons & Dragons
- Teen Film Club • Book Clubs
- Battle of the Books
- Petite Picasso
- Spinning Yarns Knitters
- Rock, Rattle & Read Story Time
- Homeschool Jamboree
- Teen Techs
- Job Search Clinic
- Health Care Navigator
- La Dolce Lingua Italian Language Classes
- Mandarin Chinese Language Classes
- American Sign Language Classes
- Elder Law Workshops
- Financial Fitness Workshops
- Ladies Who Launch • Crafternoons
- Go Club • The Big Read
- Author Events • Monster Mash
- Read Local Red Hook Lit Festival
- Red Hook Volunteer Fair
- Summer Reading Program
- Red Hook Bicentennial
- Sister Cities Committee
- Hardscrabble Day
- Apple Blossom Day
- Trivia Contest
- Family Fun Night • Tweenopia
- Winter Festival
- Superhero Science
- Mysterious Readers Society
- Homework Help • Mock Caldecott
- Friday Night Livebrary • Lego Club
- Math Circle



On Tuesday, May 20th at the Red Hook Central School budget vote, please vote YES! on Proposition #3. The quality of Red Hook Public Library depends on it.