

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**JANUARY 2025**

### **Personnel**

Maria Kiely, Information Specialist in the Children's Room, has submitted her resignation. Her last day will be February 27 and the Library has begun recruiting for her replacement.

The Library has paid the LARC (Libraries of Rockland County) membership dues for all Library staff and trustees. Each person must select a division so I initially assigned a division that I felt fit their role in the organization. Adult Services, Children & Teen Services, Customer Service, or Advocates are the options. If you are interested in being reassigned or added to another division, please let me know.

Tracy Dunstan has been selected by the American Libraries Association to present about the BIPOC Fair that was held jointly by the Nyack and Valley Cottage libraries last September. The conference is in June in Philadelphia and it is a significant honor to be asked to share her expertise with her colleagues from across the country.

### **Outreach**

Tracy continues her EDI outreach work by facilitating the Culture of Inclusivity meeting at RCLS and a Special Interest Group at Southeastern NY Library Resources Council.

### **Programs**

Programming and Outreach Librarian Nanor Pogolian has partnered with the Regional Food Bank of Hudson Valley to bring the weekly food program *Just Say Yes to Fruits and Vegetables*. The program has been running throughout the Winter and will continue every Friday throughout the Spring. Attendees will learn how to add fruits and vegetables to their diet, how to take advantage of New York State food assistance programs including SNAP, and how to stretch food dollars, and then plan quick, healthy, and easy meals. The program includes cooking demos and produce that can be taken home.

Speaking of food, Nanor is also taking her murder mystery and true crime book club to the Burger Loft starting on March 1.

### **Technology**

This month the Library started using a new loan rule for new adult books. This new loan rule will fill holds for Nyack or Valley Cottage patrons but will not go out and fill holds in other libraries. The advantage for Nyack patrons is by limiting the number of new releases that are sent to fill requests in other libraries, the new release shelf here will contain more titles for both Nyack and Valley Cottage patrons to browse or place on hold. After ninety days, the item type reverts to the loan rules that were in use before for all other new releases and will fill the requests in system libraries.

The Library is pricing out 10 replacement PCs and upgraded operating systems for staff and public desks. Michael Grella is working with Frontline to manage the upgrades and we expect that work to be completed in March.

### **Facilities**

The Library has been making do with one boiler handling the work of two in the Carnegie-Farian room. We are working with L&L Mechanical to start the Heat Pump project. We are still waiting for the timeline for this project to start.

### **Advocacy**

Thanks to Sharon Aperto, Elyse Berg, and Kay Levinson from the Friends of Nyack Library for attending the Day of Advocacy in Albany. Our group brought concerns to legislators around cuts to library building funds and creating laws around freedom to read and anti-book banning efforts.