

Rye Public Library <contact-ryepubliclibrary.org@shared1.ccsend.com>

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A message from Rye Public Library!

To s.borne@comcast.net



A Message From Library Director Andy Richmond ~JULY 31, 2025

Hello Steve,

I am writing tonight to tell you of my decision to resign from my position of Director of the Rye Public Library. I announced my plans to the Library Staff and Board, and know that some of you are aware, but wanted to make wider notice. I am excited to pursue new challenges and inspirations. At the same time, I am deeply thankful for the opportunities presented to me over the years by the Rye community through the Rye Public Library.

I have gained much from my experience at RPL, and have appreciated a vibrant interaction with the Rye community. In earlier library service to a much larger population, my planned programs were often meagerly attended. Right away in Rye, I learned that sincere effort would be rewarded with community engagement. We joked that a programming audience might not show until several minutes before the program... but they would show. They would also engage, and bring as much to events as they received. I will always appreciate the breadth and depth of Rye's small, but involved, community.

Collectively, you have contributed endlessly to shaping the scope and content of the RPL collection and its range of services. As with any public library, RPL is a reflection of its community, and the scope and richness of RPL's offerings demonstrates a strong synergy. Over the years, the Rye community has been welcoming, supportive, and generous in helping plan and ensure RPL's future. I'm confident that involvement will continue.

I've learned an immeasurable amount from the fine individuals I have worked with over my time in Rye. Library Staff, Trustees, Town colleagues, and many selfless volunteers through the years have helped fill my professional reservoir with fine examples of

librarianship, service, and community dedication. The extraordinary Staff at RPL will undoubtedly guide the Library forward with their customary excellence. My role in leading the amazing Staff members I've had the sincere pleasure to call colleagues, was an easy one, as they all excelled individually. I can only hope my own contributions at Rye Public Library have been of benefit to Rye and surrounding communities.

As parting efforts for the Rye Public Library, I have arranged expert attention for the grandfather clock in the adult services area, within the original footprint of the circa 1911 Library. This beautiful clock was donated to the opening of the Rye Public Library and has stood sentinel since. For over 100 years it kept perfect time, but suffered a setback during the Covid pandemic. Strangely, that crisis corresponded with the clock beginning to lose time. We've nudged it gently along with simpler fixes, but I'm hopeful this new attention will offer a lasting solution.

To fulfill my second hope, I have a favor to ask. Another aged sentinel, in the form of the sugar maple tree at the Eastern corner of the Library's original lot on the building facade bordering Washington Rd., is struggling. I've arranged an automated watering schedule, but I realize it's a longshot. I hope the Rye community can collectively keep this beautiful tree in their thoughts. Your positive energy and support might help it thrive, as it has the Library.

Farewell and Thank You,

Andy



We hope you enjoyed this special issue of the Ripple Effect!

Rye Public Library

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