

Remembering Bonnie Katz

It is with tremendous sadness that the Ossining Public Library mourns the loss of librarian Bonnie Katz.



An esteemed film buff, passionate baseball fan, pet lover and photographer, it was easy to talk to Bonnie Katz about anything. She took great joy in forging personal connections with library patrons and colleagues alike, and with an outgoing, positive spirit, she did so easily, whether she was making camera recommendations, discussing Oscar nominations, or commiserating over late nights when the Yankees traveled to the West Coast.

"Bonnie was a much loved member of the Ossining Public Library team. Her positive spirit and passion for her profession and her community were an example to us all. We will hold our memories of her kindness and compassion close to our hearts. I extend my deepest condolences to Bonnie's family and many friends."

Karen LaRocca-Fels,
Library Director

A mainstay at the Adult Services and Information Desks, Bonnie joined the Ossining Public Library in 2006 and became an integral part of the staff and community in this, her second career. Unfulfilled by long hours working for a law firm, Bonnie chose to embark on a path where people were the priority, and pursued a Master's in Library Science. With an impeccable memory and quick research skills, she enjoyed answering complex reference questions, and building the library's film collection, regarded as one of the finest in the county.

A key part of Bonnie's work ethic was her drive to do better: to know more and to try more. She was an insatiable learner, always keen to take courses and workshops, and she kept a close eye on new and emerging technologies that could better serve the people of Ossining. Her enthusiasm for learning and discovery was boundless.

Her interest in professional enrichment led her to the Westchester Library Association, where she served on the board for several years, planned an annual conference, and was elected President in 2013. During her tenure, WLA focused on inclusivity in libraries, a topic of great importance to Bonnie.

"Bonnie's dedication to the Ossining Library, and all that libraries represent, made her a role model to her colleagues throughout Westchester. We are so proud to have worked with Bonnie, and more importantly, to have called her our friend."

Diana Lennon
Head of Adult Services



Even more than her film recommendations, of which there were many, her colleagues will forever treasure her ability to find beauty in the smallest moments. A long evening at work was something to celebrate, because it allowed her to photograph a brilliant sunset over the river, and a humid summer day was shrugged off because they're good for gardens. Her optimism and positive spirit are missed greatly, but will always be treasured by all.



*Tonight.
By Bonnie Katz
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