



**HERSHEY
PUBLIC LIBRARY**

To our Library Community:

December 14, 2020

Our future selves will look back on 2020 as one of the most challenging years of our lives. It is funny to recount the plans we had back in January for a year that looked a lot like last year. We certainly lost a lot this year, but we gained a lot too. Here at the library, we gained a teen room, a reading garden, and a story time room. We gained new volunteers, new services, and new technology. We gained a new approach to the book sale and a whole new audience for library programs. We gained an extraordinary amount of staff capacity with new obstacles being overcome every day and we gained a new appreciation for the library mission. Never were library services more in demand than when the entire world moved online during an economic downturn.

While we all have high hopes for an improved 2021, I do think it's important to pat ourselves on the back for a job well done this year. I'm grateful to our community for remaining flexible as we changed our hours and our services. I'm grateful to the Derry Township administration for their steadfast support for library services. Finally, I'm grateful to the library staff for their ongoing resilience in the face of constant change. We have a lot of good people in our corner.

This has been a year unlike any other, but I can say with certainty, we're stronger because of it.

Kindly,

Laura O'Grady