

Miss Marie has almost completed booking all her performers for Summer Reading. This year's theme is "Dream Big." The kick-off will be Friday, June 22nd. And, remember to save the date for cOmpany H's next performance which will be August 23rd in the Great Hall. The book discussion groups were busy in March with Miss Marie's Young Adult/Kids Book Club reading and discussing The Scorpio Races by Maggie Stiefvater, Jean's Evening Book Club reading Born on a Blue Day by Daniel Tammet, and Susan's Afternoon Book Club reading The Murder of King Tut by James Patterson

Kicking off with an Open House last weekend, now on display in the Community Room is the Winnetuxet Children's Place exhibit celebrating "Week of the Young Child." On Wednesday, the Hockomock Digital Photographers will present our next Golden Opportunities workshop, "Digital Photography: Composing Pictures." In the display case is George Miller's beautiful hand-carved collection of birds. The bird exhibit and Bob Fuller's Halifax Reads presentation on his beautiful handcrafted ships' steering wheels and metal ships components is a pleasant reminder of all the talent and creativity that always exists around us.

Jean and I have been writing the interim narrative report to send to the Board of Library Commissioners for the Halifax Reads grant and appreciate the opportunity to take the time to review the original application and reflect on the many accomplishments. So far, attendance at the two programs totals 156; Overboard (the book and the books on CD) were borrowed 302 times (not counting the number of times the other Tougas titles have been borrowed); the Halifax Reads Facebook page has 78 "likes;" and 204 phone calls were made (twice) reminding readers about the programs. The Library sent out 3,869 postcards, printed 5 different bookmarks, as well as a brochure. Students from Silver Lake Regional High School are helping at the events by handing out programs, directing patrons and asking questions. Another student is capturing the programs with her camera. The series is a true-community event with representation by members of various Town boards, organizations and generations. Generations, the Council on Aging's friends group, offered and is providing refreshments at the Great Hall programs. Community members are enjoying the Great Hall for the purpose for which it was intended and may encourage other groups to use it for similar purposes. In the grant, we stated our intention of tying our long-range plan's service role "Know Your Community" with Halifax Reads, and we are accomplishing that.

We have been working on another LSTA (Library Services and Technology Act) grant called "Serving People with Disabilities" for \$7,500 to purchase three key pieces of assistive technology for patrons and community members who have low vision or are hard of hearing. Our draft proposal was favorably reviewed, and, if the program is actually funded, we are quite hopeful to be awarded the grant. If funded (and using some matching funds from our budget and our State Aid), we will purchase the following equipment:

- Merlin Elite, a high definition magnifier with text to speech from Enhanced Vision (Susan helped negotiate a superior price!) (The Elite comes out the end of March and is still under wraps. This is the link to the older silent [LCD Merlin](#))

- [Motiva Personal PFM360](#) System from Williams Sound reduces background noise and broadcasts a speaker's voice to individual listeners up to 150 feet away. The system is portable so staff can use it to help patrons who are hard of hearing who come for help at the Circulation Desk and can also be loaned to community groups

- [ZoomText Magnifier/Reader](#) USB Drive allows patrons to see and hear what they are doing in any application, ZoomText reads documents, web pages and email - right through the computer's headphones, and with ZoomText Magnifier/Reader, the computer is easier to see, hear, and use. This software can be loaded on any of the library's computers and patrons may also borrow the [flashdrive](#) it comes on for use on their personal laptops when they are in the library.

The grant will have funds for some one-on-one training between library staff and patrons; offer the Library an opportunity to make connections with health care providers; host an Open House for the equipment; run a sandbox (the



Massachusetts Commissions for the Blind and Deaf and Hard of Hearing will bring demonstration equipment; and host a Sensitivity panel for Town staff, board members and community members to learn how to better serve these populations.

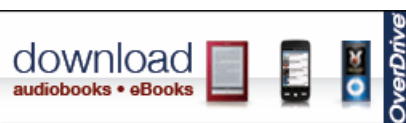
Thanks to Richard's perseverance, the Library's book drop has been repainted, sandblasted and augmented (a new bottom section has been riveted on) saving funds that might now be used for making the Community Room more comfortable and attractive. Diane and Jean now have access to the Library pages on the new Web-site. The FirstClass software loaded easily, and hopefully this access will make the process of keeping the minutes up to date easier. SAILS updated the circulation software last week, but there are some resulting quirks on the public catalog that SAILS is working on. SAILS also updated their public web-site. It is packed with information, perhaps even a bit too much as it seems to be an awfully busy web-site.

The Wage & Personnel Board has recommended the Assistant Director position, and we are told that the next step is Finance Committee/Selectmen Recommendations and then Town Meeting. Attached is a draft letter for our new resident welcome packet, the draft patron privacy policy, and information about the [Mass. Memories Road Show](#). Gerry Elliott would be happy to assist the Trustees work through the various town boards for approval for placing a new sign on Plymouth Street and on improving lighting along the entrance from the street.

Charlie Seelig sent an email asking that Town board members be alerted that the Attorney General's Office has updated some of its documents, particularly the Regulations and the Guide, concerning the [Open Meeting Law](#). He does not believe that members are required to notify the Town Clerk's office that they have received copies of the updated regulations and guide this time but asks that all members acquaint themselves with the revised documents.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debra DeJonker-Berry,
Library Director



The Mass Memories Road Show

The [Mass Memories Road Show](#) will be coming to Halifax on Saturday, November 10 from 10:00-3:00 PM. The event will be held in the Elementary School and is most importantly an event celebrating family history that will produce a digital collection of photos that will be available and searchable on the Mass Memories web-site. Anyone who has a connection to Halifax can bring up to three photographs that will be scanned at the Road Show. Information about the photographs will be collected that day as well as oral histories (people will be asked to have themselves videoed while they hold and describe their photo). Original copies of the files will be kept forever at UMASS Boston, and the Halifax Museum will receive a DVD of the images. UMASS Boston makes a commitment to back up and refresh the files forever so they always are in a current and usable file format (remember 8 mm film).

The three photographs should be something personally important to the contributor, photos they believe are representative of themselves, their family, or their community. These photos should be originals. If they were taken with a digital camera, then the digital file should be brought on a thumb drive instead of a printed version (this will ensure the best resolution). The photos should be ones that are not already in public collections.

Members are needed for core planning team. The key responsibilities of the planning committee will be to talk the event up, help identify people in the community to invite to the event and encourage others to bring their photos. One week before the event, Heather Cole, of the Road Show, will host a training session for volunteers. About a dozen local volunteers will be needed for that day, and Heather will come with another dozen or so Road Show volunteers, called "Roadies."

One the day of the event, there will be 6 stations manned half by local volunteers and half by Roadies:

- Registration
- Information Station (where descriptions of the photos are written down) -History Station (staffed by local volunteers who can help identify the photos) (the places, for example), and can perhaps collect contact information in case someone would like to donate a photo or item. This station will also have a one-page handout about Halifax (we need to write that). The Museum could also sell local history books or other items.
- Preservation Station staffed by a professional archivist who will give advice (what an opportunity!)
- Maureen Taylor, the photo detective (she can look at a photo and tell you things, like when it was done, whether the subject was a little boy or a girl...) <http://www.maureentaylor.com/>
- Video Station (optional) (where you can talk about your photo)
- Keepsake photo station (your photo is taken holding the photo you brought) for you to take home
- Refreshments for the volunteers (we will use the Community Room at the Library as a break room for the volunteers)

Visit this link for more information about the Road Show
<http://www.massmemories.net/MMRS%20Handbook%20012011.pdf>



September 2012

Welcome to Halifax!

We, the Friends, Trustees, Staff and Volunteers of the Holmes Public Library wanted to introduce ourselves and our wonderful Library to you.

Open 41 hours each week, our Library offers a wealth of opportunities year-round including:

- Books, audio books, magazines, newspapers, DVDs, music CDs—for all ages
- Programs for all ages including
 - Children's story hours for infants, Toddlers, Pre-K, Pre-School, and after school Homework Help
 - A spectacular Summer Reading Program
 - cOmpany H, a children's puppet troupe
 - Special Saturday events such as Chess Club, LegoMasters and a walk-on storyhour
 - Book Discussion groups for both adults and young readers
 - An Annual Community-Wide read each Spring
- Wi-Fi Internet Access, pc access, color printing, and fax service—*and coffee too!*
- One-on-one computer instruction (by appointment)
- Special services for those with low-vision including Large-Print Books and hand-held magnifiers
- Home-bound delivery service in cooperation with our Council on Aging
- Specialized databases including byki Language System, Universal Class and Ancestry.com
- A community bulletin board
- Massachusetts and Federal Tax Forms
- An ongoing Friends of the Library Book Sale in our Lobby and an Annual Book Sale in June

Enclosed is a copy of the Library's brochure with our hours of service, contact information and more about our Library. Drop by the Library soon. We look forward to meeting you!



Draft Holmes Public Library Privacy Policy (date)

Privacy Statement

By State law, all patron card activity is confidential – that is even true for very young children. With your child's library card and PIN number, library staff can show parents how to use the "My Account" feature on the SAILS library catalog. The My Account feature provides a list of material checked out and even the option to renew items.

Library Staff respect the patron privacy when calling about reserves materials, simply stating the number of items waiting but not their titles.

Library Staff will check out a reserve book to patrons other than the account holder with that patron's library card in their possession.

Patron Privacy Policy

The confidentiality of library records is governed by Massachusetts General Laws¹, and the Holmes Public Library follows the [Code of Ethics of the American Library Association](#) and/or (we currently state: "The Holmes Public Library is in accordance with the [American Library Association Policy on Confidentiality of Library Records](#).)

Confidentiality extends to information sought or received, and materials consulted or borrowed, and includes database search records, reference interviews, circulation records, inter-library loan transactions, registration records, and all other personally identifiable uses of library materials, facilities or services.

Circulation, registration information, and information retrieval records may not be disclosed except to:

- The cardholder
- Staff of SAILS Network members and SAILS staff acting within the scope of their duties.
- Persons authorized by the cardholder to access the individual's records
- Representatives of any local, state, or federal government, pursuant to subpoena or to civil, criminal or investigative power. Upon receipt of any such subpoena or search warrant, the Library Director will consult with legal counsel to determine if the subpoena or search warrant is in proper form and if there is a valid basis for its issuance before providing confidential information.

The Library does not sell, lease or otherwise distribute or disclose patron name, email address, telephone number or other personal information to outside parties but may, on occasion, use patron contact information to inform community members of Library services.

¹ "That part of the records of a public library which reveals the identity and intellectual pursuits of a person using such library shall not be a public record." Confidentiality extends to books and information sought or received and materials consulted and borrowed, and extends to all personally identifiable uses of library materials, facilities or services by Library patrons of all ages. For example, the Library Trustees and Staff are reviewing procedures for picking up reserve books

and other materials or providing information as to what is checked out or placed on reserve to other than the library card holder. January 2012



Frequently Asked Questions

Can someone else pick up my reserve materials for me? Yes, if they lend you their library card

Can you tell me what items are out or overdue on the card of my child? No, but we will gladly show you how to use the My Account feature on the SAILS catalog which displays checked out material and a renewal feature

If I forget my library card, can I still borrow materials? Unfortunately, a valid library card is needed for checkout. With proper identification, a replacement library card can be easily purchased for \$1.00.

