

Holmes Public Library  
Director's Report  
August 10, 2021

How can it be August already? Time certainly does fly when you are having fun. The Library has been a bee hive of activity during the months of July and August. Most summer programs have been very well attended; Adult book clubs have started in full swing, each one well attended with participants happy to be out socializing. Miss Holly was welcomed back from her well-deserved vacation by all her adoring fans and hit the ground running with a Family Fun night on Monday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>. Families came and enjoyed bubble machines, sidewalk chalk, hula hoops (not as easy as it looks), stories, crafts and Freeze pops. Community Service Librarian, Debbie Adduci is doing a terrific job with the Genealogy group. Debbie had never facilitated a Genealogy group before and wasn't really sure what to expect. Her warm and friendly personality gives it just the right touch to keep the group coming and growing. She will be asking the Friends of the Library to sponsor a cemetery tour.

The popular Pet Show scheduled in July was postponed due to rain. It was rescheduled for this Monday night August 16, 2021. Show starts at 6PM. The Library purchased a new PA system to replace the one that was used the year before the Pandemic. The Town IT Specialist Cesar, help with choosing the system. The new system has a Bluetooth speaker, wireless microphone, and all the bells and whistles. I am happy to have the new system for the Pet Show, but it can be used for so many other programs. I had a book downloaded on my phone playing out of the speaker. So cool! The system cost \$126 and I used funds from the gift account.

I have developed a good working relationship with the new Council of Aging Director Darlene Regan and have been appointed to the Board for the COA. The COA writing group is meeting at the Library now. It is a comfortable setting with no parking issue and more space than at the COA. The Staff is excited to host this wonderful group.

While the plan was to lay low this summer and gather strength for a full re-opening in September, that is not exactly how things are progressing. Admittedly, I am feeling a little overwhelmed by my responsibilities at the moment. The ARIS report is due on August 27<sup>th</sup> and the writing of the Long Range Plan while not due until October should be ready for Board approval at the September meeting and working with Cesar is taking more time than I care to think about. Every day is a new adventure in the building, never knowing what the day brings. Thanks to a wonderful supportive Staff, I know that things will all work out. ARIS report is a quarter of the way complete, highlights of the report will be ready for our September meeting. I am happy with the writing of the plan. (taking my time so it comes out just right.)

The Friends of the Library Book Sale is scheduled for Saturday, September 11<sup>th</sup>. We hope to use the same format as years past, both inside and outside. The library has started taking donations. Please feel free to drop off your gently used materials.

Respectfully,

Jean