

Holmes Public Library  
Director's Report  
February 12, 2019

February is **National Library Lovers Month!**

According to the American Library Association February is also African American History Month, Low Vision Awareness Month, Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month, American Heart Month, National Canned Food Month, National Bird Feeding Month and National Embroidery Month. Library displays for the month will try to bring awareness to these observances.

Unfortunately, we received word from the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners that the Holmes Public Library did not receive funding for the Summer learning Expanded Grant. The number of applicants was far greater than anticipated and the Board was only able to fund 33% of applications. While I am disappointed, I would like to Thank Children's Librarian Stacey Beshers and local resident Karyn Townsend for their efforts in trying to make this grant a reality.

33 Welcome to the community packets have been mailed to new residents. Please find the attached document outlining the total estimated yearly cost to produce and mail the packets. The Friends of the Holmes Public Library have generously voted to fund the cost of these packets for two years to get a good indication of the usefulness and feasibility of the project. In the coming months we will be adopting a procedure to receive feedback from new residents.

Jorj Pitter, Desktop Support Technician from the SAILS Library Network has informed us that Microsoft will stop supporting the Windows 7 operating system. His recommendation is to seriously look into replacing Windows 7 PCs within the next year, especially staff computers. In light of this new information I have reached out to the Library's Finance Committee liaison to revise both the library budget and capital plan request. The library has a total of 18 computers that are in daily use. 2 OPACS (which are the computers patrons use for searching), 1 main circulation computer, 8 public and 7 staff. Of those ten are running on Windows 7. The 2 OPACS, 1 Circulation computer 3 Public and 4 staff. I am asking to revise the Budget to replace 5 computers this year and 5 next year. The first year 3 staff computers, the main circulation computer and 1 OPAC would be replaced. The additional cost for this can be taken out of the XFUNDS line on my proposed budget so the bottom line does not change.

Library Associate – Cataloger, Rose Ruel will be retiring at the end of February. Rose has worked for the library for 12 years. She began her time at the Holmes as a volunteer shelving Children's books once a week. She was hired in 2007 as a Library Technician working 10 hours a week. In 2008 Rose moved up the ranks to her current position of Library Associate. Rose's hard work will be missed, and the entire Staff wishes her health and happiness in her retirement.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jean Gallant

