

Holmes Public Library
Director's Report
March 8, 2016

Thank You very much for the opportunity to serve as Director of the Holmes Public Library. It has been a pleasure to work with the Board of Trustees as Interim Director and I look forward to continuing my work moving the library forward and meeting the needs of the Halifax Community. Besides the Long Range Plan which will be our number one priority, work will begin on weeding through the large print, fiction and nonfiction collections. The goal is to make sure our collections are up-to-date with books in good condition. Like laundry weeding is a continuous process but our initial focus will be series collections. The library has a very outdated Collection Development Policy. The Policy is intended to provide guidance for the selection and evaluation of materials which anticipates and meets the needs of the Halifax Community. Once things are settled work will begin on updating this policy.

April will bring a "shower of activity to the library". In addition to our regular monthly programs, Drop-in Knitting, Genealogy, Afternoon, Evening and Mystery book clubs, Halifax Colors, and Halifax Writes we will be hosting a Walt Whitman one-man Poetry night. Stephen Collins will present a program titled Unlaunch'd Voices, An Evening with Walt Whitman. This program is completely funded by the local Cultural Council and will be held on Monday, April 25, 2016 at 6:30 pm. Cathy Drinan, Health Agent for the Town of Halifax will be presenting two programs on Dementia at the Library. The programs will be April 4th from 6-8pm and then again on Wednesday April 6th from 1-3pm. A local preschool, Winnetuxet Children's Place will be holding their Annual Art Show on Saturday April 2nd. A collection of beautifully framed art work by these very cute preschoolers will be on display in the community room through the month of April. April 10th thru the April 16th is National Library week. The library plans to celebrate this week with colorful displays in the Children's, Young Adult, and Adult areas. I also hope to purchase plastic library bags to hand out to patrons during this week. Marie will be helping the Genealogy Club make a Facebook page similar to the one for the Fiber Arts Group. These pages are run independently of the Library.

Progress is being made on the Long Range Plan. I will be attending a workshop given by the Massachusetts Library System on the Strategic planning process. This workshop is Wednesday March 9, 2016 at the Mashpee Public Library. The agenda will include a discussion of the Strategic Planning Model that MLS is currently using, including the streamlined three-meeting structure, and a discussion of what should be included in a plan to make it successful and acceptable to the MBLC. Several residents have already been in contact with me and asked to participate in the process. This workshop will help to develop a timeline. To date we have 185 surveys returned to the library. Survey Monkey analyzes the data for you using graphs. During our strategic planning meeting we can project these graphs onto a screen making it easy for participants to view and interpret the results. This data will be included when the committee decides which service roles the library will focus on for the next five years. A mission statement must be included in the Long Range Plan. Our current mission statement is on the library homepage of the town's website.(please see Below)

Mission Statement:

The Holmes Public Library strives to be an integral part of the community by providing patrons with open and equitable access to informational, educational, cultural and recreational resources; to meet and interact with others in the community; to attain their educational goals; to find, evaluate and use information in a variety of formats; and to continue to learn throughout their lives.

In serving this mission, the Library endeavors to create an environment that welcomes and satisfies the needs of patrons of all ages, abilities, and cultural backgrounds via a dedicated and informed staff, a vital collection, current technology and access to regional resources.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Gallant

