

Holmes Public Library
Director's Report
May 7, 2019

Welcome the Month of May!

Kathleen Olding joined our Staff on April 10th as the new Circulation Associate. Kathleen is a resident of Plymouth and was previously employed for thirteen years as a para educator for the Town of Hingham. Kathleen brings her skills as a Life Coach to students ages 18 -20 to us as she adjusts very nicely to her new role at the Holmes. She has so much to learn and so much to share with us. Kathleen has embraced her new role and displays superior skills in Customer Service. If you haven't already, please stop by the circulation desk to say Hello and welcome her to the Library.

The Community Read 2019 was a huge success!! Many, many patrons checked out the book and feedback was extremely positive. We had three book discussion that were well attended with good healthy discussions. Some readers found Laura to be self-serving in writing the book, while others wonder how else she could tell her story. Most speculated if this would have been a different story had the little boy been white. The nature of the story made it easy to have a great variety of programs. I personally was so impressed by a foster care parent and her child who came to share their story for our "What can I do?" program. There were 16 programs with total attendance of 133. Checkouts were high, feedback was plentiful, programs were good quality, but I was disappointed in the turnout for many of the programs. A Kindness tree handmade and beautifully created by Assistant Director Marie Coady was on display on the book table. Looking like leaves different ways to show kindness were displayed on the tree. Inspirational bookmarks were purchased and placed on the table. Pictures and artifacts from the Library's Puppet Troupe Company H, Friends of the Library, the Beautification Committee, The Boy Scouts and Girls Scouts were displayed in the Library Display case. 31 young patrons completed the Kindness Savage Hunt and receive a Dr. Seuss eraser. Young Adult patrons created no-sew fleece blankets for pet shelters and also created "positive sticky notes"- sticky notes with inspirational quotes and illustrations during Teen Craft night. Working with the Silver Lake Middle School Librarian Vicki Wright, Children's Librarian Stacey Beshers brought the sticky notes to the Peer Leadership group where 7th and 8th graders discussed how they would like to expand upon the project and discussing ways they could spread them throughout the school to spread cheer and kindness.

Paintings from the Council of Aging painting class are on display in the community room for the Month of May. This is a popular event each year. The Library will host a COA Art Show reception on May 23rd at 1:00 PM. Light refreshments will be served. Janice Campbell from the Halifax Congregational Church has shared her origami crane display. Each crane has a prayer written on the inside. The cranes are hung along the circulation desk. Public comment has been very positive. Thank You to Janice and the Seniors from the painting class for sharing their creative work with our community.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jean Gallant

