

Holmes Public Library
Director's Report
May 6, 2021

Greetings from the Holmes!

The Library is alive and well and busier than ever. Over the last few weeks' computer use, copier use and faxing requests have increased a great deal. Most days the phone is ringing with patron requests for holds and questions about the collection. The staff is working diligently as we inch towards a full reopening of the building. Summer Reading my look a little different this year as I am not anticipating the ability for in person programming but my fingers are crossed for a return to full library services in September.

The Children's Area will be open by appointment beginning Monday, May 10th. The toy/play room will remain closed. Appointment times will be 30 minutes and are limited to 3 people because of the size of the room. Walk ins will be welcome if nobody is in the room. The room's AWE will be available for children to use and individual coloring pages and crayons will be left on the table. Small individual boxes of crayons were purchased using the library's gift account. The staff is excited to reach this milestone and to listen to the sound of little children's voices.

The quarantining of books is finally over and that will significantly help the workflow in the building. Starting Monday, May 10th books will be checked in as they are returned inside the building and delivery will be done every day. This will allow the community room to be cleaned so that the room can be used for meeting space. Capacity limits are driving the delay of indoor programs. The library is still only allowing 10 people in the building at a time including staff and patrons. This may change in the near future.

Just in time for the nice weather the library grounds will be getting a beautiful addition of a pink dogwood tree. Former Director Betsy Randall has generously offered to buy a tree for the front of the building to replace the old tree stump. Big Thank You to Betsy and Kudos to the highway department for clearing the stump and planting the grass. In other good news, please think of the Friends when you are enjoying the Ruth Perkins Reading Garden. The Friends are willing to take care of the cost of a spring and fall cleanup of this special area.

The Library has a new phone system installed by Ceasar Calouro, the Town's IT Specialist. The phone system is cloud based and should provide the library with better connectivity.

Things are starting to open up around here and I would like to take the opportunity to say Thank You for your support during the past year. I know I can count on your continued support moving forward. Very special Thank You to Sue Davey!! She was a great Trustee and we wish her so much peace and luck in her new endeavors.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Gallant