

Holmes Public Library
Director's Report
October 15, 2020

Reopening Status-

The planters filled with beautiful mums that adorn our front entrance are courtesy of the Friends of the Library. Thanks to Friends Board members Jeanne Kling and Candy Kniffen for the TLC they give to our flowers and making our library look warm and welcoming. The Holmes Public Library is opened 30 hours a week. Certification level for state compliance is 26 hours for Halifax's population group. Evening hours are defined as hours after 5PM. The Holmes Public Library is opened 8 evening hours a month. Evening hours continue to be very slow with very few patrons coming into the building after 5PM. The Staff is working hard every day to stay open and keep our patrons safe. We service 25 to 30 patrons each day. 5 to 7 people use the computers each day and 2 to 3 people use the copier. All our patrons have graciously accepted the restrictions required to remain open and for that I am very grateful.

Aris Statistics highlights-

For FY20 the Library was closed to the public for 16 weeks. Curbside pickup began on May 26, 2020. A drop in circulation is reflective of this closure. Total Circulation was down approximately 9300 materials. FY19 45,909 was reported in total circulation. In FY20 36,587 was reported in total circulation. The biggest decrease was in Adult materials. Children's and YA materials only had a drop of fewer than 2,000 materials.

ILL items received from other libraries were reported to 6447. ILL items provided to other libraries were reported to be 12,326. While these numbers are lower than the previous year they are consistent with the Holmes Public Library being considered a "lending library". Traditionally the Holmes Public Library lends to other libraries twice as many materials as our patrons borrow from other libraries.

October Programming highlights-

Staff has been very busy providing programming to our community during the month of October. The Adult Halloween card making kits were very popular. To date we have given out 25 kits. Thank you to Staff members Debbie Adduci and Maria Bumpus for creating these kits. It was a team effort. Both the Afternoon and the COA book groups met in October. The Afternoon group will continue to meet in the Great Hall in Town Hall. The COA will NOT meet in the coming months because of concerns with indoor programming. Lynnette Toohey will continue to choose books for the group to be read individually. Children's Librarian, Miss Holly created a spooky story walk at the Halifax Millennial trail behind the Halifax Museum. The book "Where's my Mummy" by Carolyn Crimi was used to make a Spooktacular trail. A sign at the beginning of the trail asks visitors to social distance wear a mask and use bug spray if needed. Permission was granted from both the Board of Selectman and the Board of Health to use the trail for this event.

Additional events during this month are "Raising a Reader with Big Ryan, Tuesday at 10am thru October 27th Live on our Facebook page", "Early Literacy Storytime, Prerecorded videos posted on our website and Facebook every Thursday", "Live Bedtime Storytime, on our Facebook Page!", "Halloween Storytime, Thursday, October 29 11am, Live on our Facebook Page"

Respectfully Submitted,

Jean Gallant

