

Holmes Public Library

Director's Report

April 9, 2013

The Halifax Assistive Technology (HAT) project continues on schedule. Purchases of large-print books, closed-captioned DVDs, and audiobooks have been made. ZoomText software program and site license have also been purchased, as well as a high-definition video magnifier. The purchase of an assistive listening device is in process, but determining which system is suited to the library's needs and is within budget is still taking time. The HAT Advisory Committee had its final meeting on April 8. The next HAT project event is the Open House on Wednesday, May 1, 4-7 p.m. The library's new technology will be on display and participants lined up for the Open House include staff from the Talking Information Center; Ms. Wheelchair Massachusetts Nicole Tarzia; former Massachusetts Commission for the Blind staff; and possibly others.

Family story times and drop-in crafts continue to be offered on Saturdays by Miss Marie, as well as weekly infant lapsits and story times for different age groups during the week. The children's book club met on April 4.

The two adult book clubs, morning and afternoon, met on March 19th and March 26th. The Halifax Writes group met on March 21. Deliveries to the homebound (Bookmobile) were made on March 13 and March 27.

The library offered an afternoon session of the Getting Comfortable with Library E-Books workshop on Wednesday, March 13, which was attended by four people.

As library director, I attended Library Legislative Day at the State House on March 26 and left information about state aid for public libraries and other items on the Mass. Board of Library Commissioners' legislative agenda for Senator Thomas Kennedy and Representative Thomas Calter. I spoke at the selectmen's meeting on March 26 about the upcoming library trustee vacancies and about the need for new leadership of the Friends of the Holmes Public Library. On April 3, I was the guest speaker at the Mobile Home Estates Park Association's monthly meeting, and talked about library programs and services.

Upcoming events include:

- Afternoon Book Club, Tues, April 16, 1:00 p.m. (*The Physick Book of Deliverance Dane*)
- Friends of the Holmes Public Library meeting, Wednesday, April 24, 6:30–7:30 p.m.
- Evening Book Club, Tues, April 30, 6:30 p.m. (*The Secret Keeper*)
- HAT Open House, Wednesday, May 1, 4-7 p.m.
- Line Dance for the Library, Town Hall, Tuesday, May 7, 6:30–8 p.m. (Friends of the Library fundraiser, \$5 per person, plus raffles)