

**Holmes Public Library
Director's Report
August 9, 2016**

Welcome Back and Welcome to August!

Time flies when you are having fun and that is certainly true during the months of July and August at the Library. Summer Reading is going very well with a variety of programs and fun activities for all ages. To date, 170 of the 200 summer reading bags purchased have been handed out to participants of the program. There are still two events in August to give away the remaining bags to anyone who hasn't received one. Transportation night is August 10, 2016 and a family picnic with a visit from a 4-H group is scheduled for August 17, 2016. Both events are on a Wednesday night and scheduled for 6PM. Thank You to Stacey for her continued efforts in making the Holmes such a fun place to visit.

Work on the Long Range Strategic Plan is almost completed. Finishing touches and Board of Trustee approval is all that is need to submit the plan to the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners. The final plan needs to be emailed no later than October 1, 2016. Thank You to Marie for all your efforts during our planning process.

There are some special events planned for the month of August. On Tuesday August 16, 2016 "After Hours at the Holmes" will present a Garden Party. This is an opportunity for people to gather together in a casual setting to browse titles and discuss books that they read over the summer months. Light refreshments will be served. Books will be available for checkout. Also in August we will be holding our Bi-Annual Book Discussion Pot Luck Dinner. Book club participants from all three book clubs get together for a pot luck dinner. The selection is "The Lifeboat" by Charlotte Rogan. As with all events new members are always welcome. The Library will be receiving on loan from the SAILS Network the Overdrive Media Station. This is a touchscreen computer station and introduction to the Overdrive catalog. Patrons can sample any title and send it to their favorite device for checkout. It is an intuitive way for patrons to get to know the entire digital catalog-eBooks, audiobooks, music and video.

A new patch panel has been installed in the Data Closet. For a total cost of \$995.00 all our wires connecting us to the SAILS Network are organized and arranged in a beautiful new rack. These funds were part of the FY17 Library Budget. The installation of the new projector system in the community has begun and been delayed. New speakers and a smaller rack have been ordered. The hope is that the projector system will be completed by September 1, 2016.

On a sad note the Library would like to acknowledge the passing of two very special members of our Library Family and Library Advocates. Maureen Rogers was a library volunteer, a person who participated in most of our library programs, and Officer of the Friends of the Library passed away on August 5, 2016 after a courageous battle with cancer. Donations in Maureen's memory will be made to the library. New Library Trustees Robert Baker passed away on August 7, 2016 after a brief illness. The Holmes Public Library is a better place because of these two individuals.

