Holmes Public Library Director's Report December 16, 2014

The library was open 5-8 during the 20th annual Holidays in Halifax on Dec. 13th and had big crowds for the musical performances, the reading of The Night Before Christmas by Dick Steele, and the visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus (the Cortis). The giant tree made out of newspapers made by Marie Coady was a real attention-getter. Cookies, cider, and cocoa were provided by the Friends. A lot of preparation and time goes into getting the building ready for Holidays in Halifax each year. Special thanks to Jean Gallant, Marie Coady, Tom Schindler, and Brenda Pettingill for going above and beyond the call of duty! Many thanks also to Trustee Chair Priscilla Murphy and Reference Librarian Susan Scott for helping to host the evening's activities. Many thanks to all who contributed to the cookie tables, as well!

The Friends' Silent Auction received some additional bids during Holidays in Halifax and is doing very well. Bids close tomorrow at 8 p.m.

The library has been experiencing problems with static on the phone lines and a dead main line for several days since the heavy rainstorm we had. The line is working again as of today.

Adult Craft Night, a program planned and presented by Marie Coady, was extremely popular. It was held on Wednesday, Dec. 3. Thirteen adults had a great time with glue guns and glitter, making wreaths from discarded books.

Book discussion groups led by Jean Gallant and Susan Scott continue to be well attended each month. The Mystery Readers will not meet in December due to the holidays. The Combined Book Club Potluck is planned for February 17 at 6:00 p.m. with a Mardi Gras theme. Jean Gallant stepped up to substitute for Miss Marie this month on storytime days and to facilitate the Children's Book Club. Weekly story times led by Marie Coady were in session through Dec. 12, and her special family event, Cookies & Cocoa, on Saturday, Dec. 6, at 11 a.m. was well attended and enjoyed by all.

Holiday hours: The library will be open on Christmas Eve Day, 10-1, closed on Christmas Day. For New Year's Eve, the library will be open 12-5, closed on New Year's Day.

We plan to have another January is E-Technology Month with drop-in tech help sessions, extra one-on-one sessions, and workshops on using tablets, apps, etc.

Upcoming dates to remember include:

- Annual Silent Auction bids due by 5:00 p.m. on Wed., Dec. 17
- Southeastern Mass. Library Legislative Breakfast, February 6, 2015, 8-10 a.m. Norton Public Library. Snow date, Feb. 13.