

Holmes Public Library
Director's Report
December 8, 2015

The month of December has rolled in with many changes at the Holmes Public Library. During this transitional period library staff have performed their duties with professionalism and focused on the responsibilities of their jobs as well as the many additional tasks assigned to them at this time. The library staff has been asked to submit anonymous feedback (a difficult but necessary assignment) and work through a very uncomfortable few weeks in the building. A very special acknowledgement of your hard work goes out to Marie Coady, Rose Ruel, Susan Scott, Paula Walker and Stacey Beschets. The Holmes Public Library is a wonderful place because of your commitment to excellence. THANK YOU!

A staff meeting was held on December 3rd. All current staff members were present. Questions were asked and answered about how the library's current transition period and what the plans were in moving forward in light on the Director's resignation. Most of the questions were centered on the posting of the new Director's position. There was a discussion on the timeline and deadline for the Long Range. Staff is excited to participant in the new strategic plan!! Paula Walker seven year veteran of the library gave her resignation letter. This is a ten hour a week Library Assistant position. A copy will be provided to the board. Dates and times were set to provide Rose and Susan with their performance evaluations. The remaining evaluation to be done is that of the Assistant Director. Marie Coady is doing an amazing job navigating the learning curve of her new position. She is diligent in her work and has uploaded our new website using Wordpress. This is quite an accomplishment. I am proud of her work. Stacey Beshets is also doing a wonderful job navigating the learning curve of her new position. She has a warm and friendly personality and has received a warm welcome from staff, patrons and most importantly Storytime kids. On a more serious note there will be a file in the Directors office with documentation of some observations and concerns during the transitional period of Director resignation to appointment of interim Director. This file will be available upon request of the trustees.

The December calendar is filled with many wonderful activities for Adults and Children. In addition to our regular story times the Holmes Public Library has played host to a STEM Playgroup for six weeks on Friday afternoons. Beginning in November this group will continue through December 18th. The STEM Playgroup is a program of South Shore Community Action Council. It is free workshops having fun with Math & Science for parents & children 3-5 years. Betsy Randall, former library Director, held a Holiday Greens Workshop on December 5th. The library provided all the materials and the participants were asked to bring their own containers. It was a really fun day for all. Holidays in Halifax is on December 12th. The library will be open from 5 to 7:45. We will be having students from Silver Regional High School sing holiday songs at 6:00pm. A complete schedule is on the town website. On Wednesday December 16th at 6:30pm Miss Stacey will be holding a pajama story time reading the Caldecott Medal winner The Polar Express by Chris Van Allsburg. Children will come dressed in the pajamas, enjoy some

hot cocoa and help decorate cookies. Three book clubs will be held in December. The Afternoon group is reading *One plus One* by Jo Jo Moyes,

The Evening book club is reading *Skipping Christmas* by John Grisham and the Children's book group is reading *Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library* by Chris Grabenstein.

Give the gift of a Story For every three books you read in December, come tell Miss Stacey all about them and you can give a book to the library from brand new books set aside for this purpose. You will get your name placed into the book so everyone knows who donated the book to the library.

The library will be opened Christmas Eve from 10-1 and closed on Christmas Day. The library will be opened regular hours on Thursday December 31st from 10-5.