Holmes Public Library Director's Report February 16, 2016

The February programs have thus far been very well attended. Our Genealogy group continues to have a good turnout of enthusiastic people helping each other to find their roots. Susan facilitated both an afternoon book club and a mystery book club. Patrons from both groups expressed an excited interest in attending our Potluck book club on February 23rd. We are reading Three Fates by Nora Roberts. This fun event takes place twice a year with participants bringing a dish to share. Dinner is at 6:00pm and dessert, coffee and discussion begin at 6:30pm. Please pick up a copy of the book at the front desk and join us for an always spirited discussion. The Stress Reduction workshop had to be postponed because of snow. It has been rescheduled for February 22nd. Patrons expressed quite a bit of interest in this program about techniques to reduce stress so I anticipate a good turnout. The library has started a new monthly program, Halifax Colors. We will provide all the coloring pages, colored pencils, and music and light refreshments. Coloring is the new craze amongst libraries, the staff is happy to join the fun. Our Knitting Group meets every Tuesday at 10am. These ladies are AWESOME!! Marie has helped them set up a Fiber Arts Group on Facebook to help them stay connected and to get the word out on their activities. They are planning a road trip soon to the Knit One Quilt Two Shoppe in Barrington, RI. A reminder, the Holmes Public Library is joining the Boston Bruins Pajama Drive with Cradles to Crayons. We will be collecting new pajamas for children sizes 4T-20. This is the second year that we are participating in this great program. Last year we collected 28 pair of new pajamas. This year we have set a goal of 50. Please consider contributing a new pair of pajamas to this drive.

Our Children's Librarian Stacey Beshers gave tours of the library to students in grades 3-5. During each tour Stacey encouraged students to get a library card and allowed them to check out of materials with a card. She explained the different materials and programs offered at the library. As a result of these tours the children's book club has twenty students registered! 25 students also signed up for library cards in the month of February.

READY SET MARCH is the upcoming theme at the Library. On March 30th at 3:00pm Singing Seniors will be at the library for a special afternoon concert. This concert is being held later in the afternoon to encourage school-age children to attend. A light lunch will be served to singers beforehand to appreciate their efforts.

The National Education Association's Read Across America day is March 2, 2016. This signature program now in its 19th year focuses on motivating children and teens to read through events, partnerships and reading resources. To recognize this event library staff Jean, Marie, and Stacey will be invited to read a story to a classroom at the Halifax Elementary School.

SAILS Library Network is sponsoring a half day Library Showcase to provide members an opportunity to share ideas about programs, services, or new technologies that could be used in other libraries. I plan on attending this showcase which will be held on March 16th at the Bristol Community College.

Respectfully submitted,