

## **Holmes Public Library**

### **Director's Report**

**July 14, 2015**

We are a little over two weeks into the Every Hero Has a Story summer reading program planned and run by Marie. Storytime sessions (six per week) and Monday Night Madness events have all been very well attended. The summer reading kickoff on Friday, June 26, was attended by 130 people! So far, 170 out of 200 summer reading bags have been given out. The Company H puppet troupe has been working on this year's show with Marie, and the show will be held on Thursday, August 6, at 11 a.m.

The Genealogy Club met on July 8 and we plan on continuing the group as long as the members want to. Guest speakers have been invited for the August and September meetings.

We have received five applications for the Technology Coordinator position as of today, and plan to begin interviews next week.

The Mystery Book Club will not meet in July and August, but all the book clubs are invited to the summer Combined Book Club Potluck on Tuesday, August 18, at 6:00 p.m. We will be reading *The Spellman Files* by Lisa Lutz. The Drop-in Knitting Group continues to meet weekly, and Susan's Afternoon Book Club and Writers Group both meet this week for July. Word Game Night will not meet in August, but will resume in September.

The SAILS Network has sent us the amount of our FY16 annual membership assessment, \$15,558. The Small Libraries in Networks grant of \$1,731 will be applied, bringing our invoice down to \$13,827 for FY16. SAILS also sent out its annual summary of services we received in FY15, estimating the value at \$91,376. SAILS is one of the lower-, if not the lowest-cost networks in the state.

We reinstated library overdue fines as of July 1<sup>st</sup> to encourage the return of library materials, especially school summer reading list books, materials belonging to other libraries, and popular items that other people are waiting for. Fine money will be turned over to the town. We are considering raising the fax rate, as 50 cents per page is making us a popular faxing destination for residents of surrounding towns. The fine schedule is 10 cents/day for books and periodicals (up to \$2 max.) and 50 cents/day for DVD, audiobook, audio CD, and kits (up to \$5 max.). Seniors aged 60 and up are exempt from fines (as are staff, but we still must abide by the rules for our personal checkouts).

The state budget news was not all good for library line items, as line item 7000-9506--Automated Networks/Library Technology and Resource Sharing was cut by \$600,000. The governor still has a few days to either sign or veto the spending bill.

Since the trustees' last meeting, Sen. Thomas Kennedy passed away (June 28). He represented the Second Plymouth and Bristol District, which includes all or parts of Brockton, Easton, East Bridgewater, Halifax, Hanover, Hanson, Plympton and Whitman. He was a great library supporter and will be missed.