

**Holmes Public Library
Director's Report
April 11, 2017**

News from the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners is that the House Committee on Ways and Means announced its FY2018 budget recommendations. The Good news is that State Aid to Public Libraries received an increase of 4.5% above what the Governor proposed in his budget. The MBLC requested increases in all its line items to prevent reductions in library services. All other MBLC budget lines were funded to the levels proposed in the Governor's budget which increased funding to all lines by 1%. The bad news is the funding to Massachusetts Center for the Book was eliminated.

Library Director Jean Gallant is registered to take classes in American Sign Language. This is a beginner class and runs for 6 weeks. After this session, there is an opportunity to take an intermediate class. The class is held at the South Shore Hospital. The cost is \$75.00. A request for reimbursement has been made to the Town Administrator.

The Library continues its efforts with Community Outreach.

- In the display case for the Month of April local resident Marc Valentine exhibits the story of the Mount Rushmore Flag. The Mount Rushmore Flag is a 24 by 35 foot United States flag made by the flag center in Cambridge. It is stored in Halifax in a custom crafted chest made by another local resident craftsman George Sturtevant. According to Marc Valentine the flag has traveled two million miles and been in 34 countries. Its journey began right here in Halifax in 1987. The Library owns two copies of the book "The National Flag Truck".
- The Halifax Historical Society will hold its regular scheduled meeting on Wednesday night, May 3, 2017 at 6:00PM at the Holmes Public Library. True crime writer and local author John Gallagher will give a presentation on his three books about local murders.
- The Halifax Council on Aging will display the paintings from the Senior painting class during the Month of May in the Library Community Room. The Council of Aging will hold a reception at the library on May 25, 2017 at 1:00PM. This reception is open to all members of the community and will be a time to socialize, admire these great works and congratulate the wonderfully talented painters in our community.

If you have not already please pick up a copy of the Community Read book, removable bumper sticker and brochure. The brochure lists all the great programs that are a part of our Community Read this year.

Respectfully Submitted,

