

Holmes Public Library  
Director's Report  
December 12, 2017

## **Happy Holidays to All!**

### **Programming**

Reflecting on 2017, I am impressed by the quality of our library programs. Statistics for the first half of this fiscal year are as follows-- 85 Adult programs, 99 Children's programs, and 21 YA programs. Total attendance for these programs is 1734 participants.

- **Holidays in Halifax** – The library participated in the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Holidays in Halifax. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library 8 gallons of hot apple cider and almost 20 dozen cookies were served to a cold but festive crowd. Guests were pleasantly entertained by an enthusiastic group of students from the Silver Lake Choir.
- **Tuesday Morning Knitters** – The morning knitting group held their first Annual Pot Luck Lunch. Each person in the group contributed to bringing something for lunch to share with the group. The library provided hot apple cider and eggnog. Cards and candies were passed around and good tidings were shared. This event had great food, fun and friends. They even managed to do some knitting.
- **Afternoon Book Club** – The Afternoon Book group read A Redbird Christmas by Fannie Flagg. Book Club facilitator Maria Bumpus led the group in a mini greens workshop after a discussion of the book. Thank You to Betsy Randall for accompanying Maria on a walk on her property to collect greens. Thank You to Maria for the extra effort in making this month's book club special.

### **Budget**

It is that time of year again. Town departments must submit to the Town Accountant their Fiscal year 2019 budgets no later than January 5, 2018. The Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee have asked that departments submit budgets that would retain the same level of services in Fiscal Year 2019 as in Fiscal Year 2018. There have been changes made to the State Aid to Public Libraries Program. Municipal Revolving Funds will no longer count towards the Municipal Appropriation Requirement. This means for the Town of Halifax that our TAMI will be adjusted, and the MAR will be recalculated. The MBLC will recalculate the MAR for affected libraries in January/February 2018. The preliminary MAR for the Holmes Library for Fiscal Year 2019 is \$323,523. (without revolving funds).

### **Capital Plan**

The Capital Planning Committee has started meeting for Fiscal Year 2019 needs. Over the next few weeks I will be making a list of capital items I expect to be requesting for Annual Town meeting and a separate list of capital items I feel will need to be replaced or repaired in the next 5 years. One item on the list for Annual Town meeting will be improvements to the lighting for the HOPS/Library parking lot.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Gallant

