

Holmes Public Library
Director's Report
February 10, 2015

(FEBRUARY TRUSTEES' MEETING CANCELED DUE TO ICY ROAD CONDITIONS)

January and February storms have caused the library to be closed due to snow for a total of 25 hours so far. The library closed two hours early, at 6 p.m., on Monday, January 26, and did not reopen until Thursday, January 29, after a blizzard (Juno) dropped over a foot of snow, and then had to close again on Monday, February 2, when another winter storm (Linus) came through. The Town of Halifax Buildings & Grounds department works extremely hard keeping all of the town buildings' walks clear of ice and snow on snowy days, and clearing them again after every storm. They are to be commended for all they have done so far, with another month of winter still to go! We were notified of one school staffperson slipping on a walk coming from the school building, but have had no incidents involving the library walks or the parking lot.

The library was closed on Monday, January 19, for Martin Luther King Day, and will be closed on Monday, February 16, for Presidents' Day. The library celebrated Take Your Child to the Library Day on Saturday, February 7, with a Pajama Storytime by Marie Coady attended by 36 children and adults, which launched the library's pajama drive (running through March 5) and Valentine's Day on February 14, with a family Valentine's Day party, attended by 50 children and adults. Photos from both events were posted on Facebook, where they received many "likes" and comments from parents complimenting Marie on her creativity and talents.

The annual town report was due January 23, and a copy is attached. Reference Librarian Susan Scott and I attended the Southeastern Mass. Library Legislative Breakfast on the morning of February 6. The breakfast was attended by over 80 people, but neither of our local legislators was able to be there. Driving and parking was still difficult due to back to back storms. We will have another chance to talk with them about library budget line items on Legislative Day at the State House on April 1.

Funded by the LSTA Customer Experience in a Digital Age, the library is starting a new service of online museum pass reservations, using TixKeeper, from the same company that we get our online event calendar, EventKeeper, from. From the library's Web site, library patrons will be able to log on at any time of day with their library cards and reserve a museum pass instead of having to wait for the library to be open. This will also allow us to get statistics on how often each pass is used a lot more easily. A staff training was scheduled for January 29, but after being rescheduled twice, is now scheduled for tomorrow, February 11.

Due to a Special Town Meeting scheduled for February 17, the date of the Combined Book Club Potluck, organized and facilitated by Jean Gallant twice a year, has been changed to February 24.