

Groversville Public Library

21st Century News

Volume 1, Issue 1

June 2014

Capital Campaign News

Welcome to the inaugural edition of 21st Century News, the Groversville Public Library Capital Campaign Newsletter!! We have so much to tell you about.

Did you know that the decision to develop a public library for the villages of Kingsboro and Groversville took place in 1880 in the home of Alanson Judson, the Library's first President? A group of philanthropic leaders including such familiar names as Burr, Place, Heacock, and Judson, met at Mr. Judson's home on the corner of E. Fulton and Fremont and voted to establish a library. Until 1904, the new library existed in rented rooms but it became clear that a permanent home was needed. The Judson homestead was then selected as the ideal site and the new public library building was built with a generous grant from Andrew Carnegie. The original Judson home was moved, the ground prepared and our stunning Library was built and dedicated in December, 1905 on the very spot where the founders realized that a library was critical to the community.

The need for a community library is even greater today and in 2008, the Library's Trustees resolved to create a 21st Century Learning Center by developing plans to renovate our long term home. To make the



Home of Mr. Alanson Judson, E. Fulton & Fremont



Performance Space, Carnegie Room, 2nd floor

dream of a 21st Century Learning Center a reality, the Groversville Library Foundation decided, in the spring of 2013, to sponsor a capital campaign and hire a consultant. The work to raise money started last summer with Matt Blumenfeld from Financial Development Agency advising us.

As we have progressed, some of our successes have been noticed by the public. You may have seen the adjacent photo in the Leader-Herald in December announcing the success of our "Friends and Family" campaign, our first substantial community outreach effort. We raised \$886,000 from September through November, 2013. What an accomplishment and sincere thanks go to David Heacock and Ellen Wood for chairing that committee. More recently, the Leader-Herald published a photo showing NBT granting the campaign a major gift of \$50,000!!

As we continue our multi-year campaign, (many donations are being made as 5 year pledges) tremendous activity continues to occur behind the scenes and many thanks are due to our steering committee members (Betsy Batchelor, Lisa Buggeln, Bill Fiedler, Michelle Harring, David Heacock, Bob Maider, and Hannah McAllister) who have helped to develop our campaign brochure and other materials, write grant requests to local foundations, present our case to community groups, and to organize events. Ongoing tours of the Library are being conducted by Merry Brown and Patty Franco. Thanks also go to Ann Lee Clough and Brian Hannaburgh, for their advice and wise council, to Cathy Ellis who runs our campaign office, and to our GPL director, Barb Madonna, the backbone of the library who jumps in wherever we need her. Barb is instrumental in writing many of our grant requests. We also thank the Board of Trustees, the Foundation and the Friends for their continued support and encouragement.

With the help of all of these people, our donor community is growing and will continue to grow as we begin our leadership

gift phase this summer. We have now reached a new high - \$2 MILLION raised as of May, 2014 toward our goal of creating a new 21st Century Library within the walls



of our historic building. We have a long way to go, but we are confident that we will be successful. This new library will have the same grace and beauty with the ability to provide the expanded services that are needed in this 21st Century!

So, read on, and join us in celebrating our progress so far, and in the name of expanding circulation, please feel free to pass this newsletter on to a friend!

Warmly,
Christine Pesses
Chair, Steering Committee

In Memory of...

David Fisher, President of the Board of Trustees of the Groversville Public Library and a board member of the Groversville Free Library since 1996, gave a generous donation in memory of his father, Richard Fisher. He asked that his gift be designated specifically for the new elevator. David's father had been a Library Trustee for many years, but had to retire because he simply could not climb the stairs to get to the board meetings. He would have loved to continue, but the Library's inaccessibility took that possibility away.

(continued on Page 4)

Tax Credits Available

Federal and State Historic and New Market Tax Credits will play a critical role in funding the renovation of our majestic Carnegie library.

Built in 1904, on the National Register of Historic Places since 1976, and the NYS State Historic Register since its inception in 1980, our Library boasts a unique inverted butterfly shape featuring Beaux Arts architecture. It is one of only two Carnegie libraries in the United States to flaunt this breathtaking design.

Over 70% of our project costs will focus on the renovation of the historic portion of our building. Consequently, we anticipate funding from these Historic Tax Credits to provide \$2,000,000.

The New Market Tax Credits (NMTC) program focuses on needy communities, and with our local poverty rate we are more than eligible. While it is anticipated that 17% of our total project costs, or \$1.2 million, will come from this source, the truly amazing and innovative aspect is that the Gloversville Public Library will be the **FIRST** library in the entire state and only the **SECOND** library in the country to use NMTC in a renovation project. We will also be the first entity, for-profit or not-for-profit, in Fulton County to use NMTC.

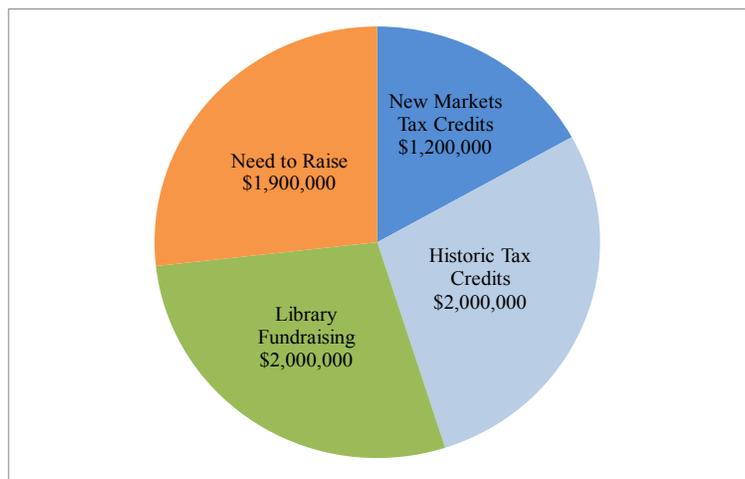
That is not to say that this is a new or untested funding stream. Hundreds of projects across the country have been funded through this program since its inception by Congress in 1994, just not in Fulton County nor any libraries in New York State.

These three funding streams will not only be the key to the successful renovation of our Library, but it will ensure that the Library will complete this project without a bond referendum.

Barbara Madonna
Library Director

http://www.cdfifund.gov/who_we_are/about_us.asp

<http://www.fdic.gov/regulations/laws/rules/8000-5400.html>



The GPL Is More than a Place to Check Out Books

The typical person who uses an e-reader (Kindle, Nook, etc.) is a twenty-something-year-old...not a "real" book lover and unlikely to benefit from a public library....Right?

Wrong!!! Meet Ruth Vlock, an octogenarian, a grandmother, and a resident of Gloversville since 1963, who reads every day. She also loves her library, our very own GPL.

Ruth's e-reader was an anniversary/birthday gift, given as a sort of curiosity, but has since become a major part of her reading regimen. She reads every night before going to bed, and every morning while drinking her coffee. But her e-reader really grew in importance after she had hip surgery. She had already learned how to download books from commercial sites, but she then discovered she could borrow e-books for free through our library using her GPL library card, right from her own computer. A quick tutorial provided by GPL staff on how to borrow e-books and Ruth was hooked. She loves it...she loves browsing for books at the library and also getting recommendations from family and friends, and then she looks up the titles to see if they are available on-line through The GPL. She does this when visiting her grandchildren, just sitting at home, and she even did it when caught for three days in a snowstorm in Georgia!

She has been very pleased by the selection of new books and the minimal wait times, even bragging to her daughter in Boston who sometimes has to wait for a year for a new title that Ruth can get electronically with virtually no delay.

Having an e-reader will not stop Ruth Vlock from going to one of her favorite places in Gloversville...the library...but it lets her enjoy her favorite authors in a new way, *for free*, even during a long, cold, icy winter!



Pre-Campaign Donors

City of Gloversville	Littauer Foundation	Price Chopper's Golub Foundation
Friends' Celebration fundraisers: 2008-2013	Lloyd B. & Paulette E. Politsch Fund	The Frank E. Perrella Charitable Trust
Fulton County Mineral Club	Member item from Assemblyman Marc Butler	Wal*Mart Distribution Center #6906
Howard S. Argersinger Trust Fund	Member items from Senator Hugh T. Farley	William Gundry Broughton Charitable Private Foundation, Inc.
Library Building Fund	NYS Public Library Construction Grants (funded by support of the NYS legislature)	

Capital Campaign Donors as of 5/31/2014

Linda Anderson	George and Pamela Farhart	Patricia and William Klohek	Carolyn and Anthony Siarkowski
Charles and Anita Ashelman	Suzanne Ferguson	Dragan and Kathy Konakov	Karen S. Smith
Elizabeth Batchelor	Bill and Barbara Fiedler	Nancy Krawczeski	Steve Smith and Bobbi Trudel
Phil Beckett	Mark and Debby Finkle	Peter and Donna Kuhner	Bill and Debra Stewart
John and Sunday Blackmon	David and Linda Fisher	Robin Lair and Rob DeLilli	Ann Streit
Matthew Blumenfeld	Donald and Dolores Fleischut	Alyce Lanphere	Jill Thaisz
Jeffrey and Nancy Brown	John and Patty Franco	Jean and Vince LaPorta	Robert and Lesia Thaisz
Merry Dunn Brown	Mike and Nancy Frank	Frank and Patricia Lauria	Rich and Barb Tucci
Buggeln Family	Mary Jane Fredericks	Angelo and Grace Lomanto	Bert Vonderahe
Nicole Bullock	Bob and Babette Frisbie	Barbara Madonna	Mary Lou Warnick
Todd and Trisha Byrns	Gloversville Sewing Center	Robert and Carol Maider	John and Lois Widdemer
John and Linda Callahan	Gregory and Carole Gottung	Margit and Gregory Maklae	Jennifer and Christopher Wojeski
Joan and Guy Ciaccio	Sid and Michelle Haring	John and Ginni Mazur	David and Ellen Freeman
Craig Clark	Christopher and Theresa Heacock	Hannah and Michael McAllister	Lois Wood McDonald
James and Elizabeth Cleary	David and Maureen Heacock	Deborah and Christopher Messner	Ellen Wood
Sandra Clifford	Jeffrey and Stacey Heacock	George and Janice Morgan	Shaila Penelope Wood and Family
Ann Lee and David Clough	Maureen Heacock and Anthony Smith	Ray and Carol Morse	Duane and Nancy Woodruff
John and Arlene Comstock	Bonnie and David Howard	Louise Moses	Eileen Wrightsman
Linda Conroy	Circe and Larry Johnson	Nancy Muskin	Ron and Trina Zimmerman
James and Carol Cownie	Kelley and Kirk Kehoe	NBT Bank	William H. St. Thomas Family Foundation, Inc.
Frank and Paula DeSantis	Michael and Lynn Kicinski	Diane Perrella	Howard S. Argersinger Trust Fund
Vincent DeSantis	Jennifer Kiernan and David Moran	Christine and David Pesses	Louis D. Mauro, Sr. Charitable Trust
Michael Durkee	Linda Kiernan	Shirley Pesses	
Cathy Ellis	Michael Kiernan	Barbara Reppenhagen	
M. April Ellis	Peter Kiernan and Shawn Cleland	William and Sharon Rogers	
Wanda Ellis	Susan Kiernan	Ruby & Quiri	
George Emden IV	James and Irene Klein	Peter and Christine Schoonmaker	
Jay and Mary Ephraim			

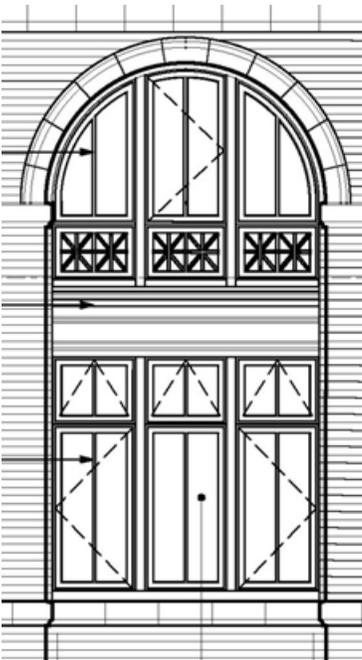


Gloversville Public Library Capital Campaign

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“Window Breaking”

There has been a lot of talk since 2012 about replacing the Library’s windows. The 2012 and 2013 Friends’ Celebration fundraisers pledged funds to this project. Two very generous donations totaling \$100,000 were given by the Lloyd B. and Paulette E. Politsch Fund. Finally, a grant through the New York State Library Construction Fund was obtained for over \$200,000. So, when can we expect to shatter some glass?

The truth is that grant funds are not always quick to arrive, the weather in New York State – especially this past winter – is not conducive to year-round construction, and the contractor who won the bid last summer went out of business in January.

The good news is that a new contractor has been approved, previous field measurements have been verified, and the windows are in the process of being manufactured. The Library will not incur any additional costs as a result of changing contractors.

Our Window Breaking Ceremony is being planned for fall 2014, and “God willin’ and the creek don’t rise,” this last phase of construction before the ground breaking of the big renovation will be completed by the end of the year.

Barbara Madonna
Library Director

In Memory of... (continued from Page 1)

Making the library fully accessible to all is an important goal. When this project is completed all people, young or old, able or disabled, will have access to the entire library. What a difference that would have made to David’s father! It would have allowed him to continue to participate, in a meaningful way, in the governance of a public service that he felt was very important to our community. We should all recall that at one time a disability meant that doors would be closed to you, floors would be unavailable to you, and life with a disability meant less access to so many of life’s pleasures. ADA laws passed in the ‘70s began the process of opening up doors and floors to people with disability or mobility issues, and the Gloversville Public Library is excited to join this movement!