



Letters to the Editor

Dear editor,

I am so happy about the recent support and enthusiasm for our new Cambridge Community Library. I have said it before and now again, "a town without a library is pretty unappealing."

While my children were growing up we lived north, south, east and west. Every time we moved, one of the first things we did was meet the local librarian and get a library card.

Now, fast forward to today. My children are all book readers, even in this high tech world. My grandchildren are readers and curious about the world around them.

I treasure the fact that each of my children, at one time or another, has given me a clever or beautiful children's book(s) as a gift. Just yesterday, one of my sons told me he read to his children every night. They are now in college.

We are pelted daily with the idea that education costs a lot. However, the foundation for children wanting to seek an education cost me nothing. Oh - perhaps a late book fee now and then.

Reading is the basic bottom line to learning almost everything we need to know in this world. It is even the basis for developing programs to help those less fortunate who may not be able to read.

I urge each of my friends and community members to do whatever you can to get behind the drive for our new library. Our library is the last free place we can go to "see" the world and be mystified. Remember, you are never charged interest on your library.

Loretta Byrne
Cambridge

Dear editor,

On behalf of the Board of Trustees of the Cambridge Community Library, I offer heartfelt appreciation for the wisdom and support shown by the Village of Cambridge Board of Trustees in their decision to help fund the new Cambridge library at a level of \$400,000.

The Village of Cambridge joins the Village of Rockdale and towns of Christiana and Deerfield in showing united municipal support for one of the most important civic improvements our area will see in recent memory. (We hope the Town of Oakland will join this group when they take up the issue of library funding at their meeting on Tuesday, March 19 at 7p.m., so we may fully realize municipal support from all of our service area.)

The Cambridge Library Capital Campaign Committee has raised over \$1,085,000 toward a goal of \$1.8 million. Those who have contributed share a vision for a civic focal point of technology, arts and education that will benefit citizens of all ages.

While the tangible benefits of a new and larger facility are readily apparent, it is worth noting that the economic benefits of a library are sizeable. Several studies demonstrate that every tax dollar spent on a new library

contribute approximately four dollars in economic benefit to the community overall.

With the Village of Cambridge's commitment to the new library project, we are at 60 percent of the necessary funding to make construction a reality.

Our funding plans are built upon equal thirds from citizens (by way of individuals and the Friends of the Library), municipalities, and area civic foundations and philanthropic organizations.

The citizens and municipalities have nearly met their portion. We now look to our non-governmental civic leaders to take us across the finish line.

Every donation helps, and we encourage anyone who recognizes the value of a strong, modern village library (whether you use it or not) to visit www.newcambridgelibrary.com. There you can look at the architectural plans, remain up-to-date on plan developments, and make an online donation.

Dave Wilcox
President, Board of Trustees