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Serving Cambridge For One Hundred Twenty Five Years



A groundbreaking ceremony was held at the Amundson Center Tuesday, May 20 to celebrate the expansion of the center to accommodate the new Cambridge Library. Shown above from the left are Friends of the Cambridge Library president Sharon Erb; Friends member Brian Soper; Cambridge Economic Development coordinator Linda Begley-Korth; Capital Campaign Committee members Neil Shively, Mary Gjermo and Bob Salov; secretary of the Library Board Scott Waller, Capital Campaign Committee member Cora Yenser; Library Board treasurer Patty Strohmusch and Library Board president Dave Wilcox. Photo by Sydney Krieger.

Cambridge breaks ground on new library

By Sydney Krieger
Hometown News LP

Over 125 people gathered in the back parking lot of the Cambridge Community Library/Amundson Center Tuesday, May 20 to celebrate the

official groundbreaking for the construction of the new library.

The library closed its doors early at 4:45 p.m. with promises to reopen at 6 p.m. for regular evening hours to give everyone an opportunity to

attend the ceremony and refreshments afterward.

Bob Salov acted as Master of Ceremonies, congratulating the various committees, surrounding community leaders and residents for supporting

the monumental task of raising the funds for the new library project.

"Right here," said Salov, "Will be the new 7,000-square-foot-library, built 'cookie by cookie.'"

Salov referred to the fundraising that had begun over two decades ago after the library moved from its original building in 1978 to the Amundson Center in 1990.

It was not long after the move, staff and patrons realized there would be a day when the library would need to expand.

"Tirelessly over the years the Friends of the Library worked to collect the pennies to contribute to the project," mentioned Salov.

The Friends contributed over \$178,000 from various fundraising efforts.

President of Cambridge State Bank Jason Brown presented Salov with a check for an additional \$50,000 from the John T. Vucurevich Foundation

during the ceremony.

The individuals and committees gathered for official photos with hardhats, shovels and "ground" to commemorate the day. A great deal of excitement and emotion surrounded the festivities.

"This is an exciting day for people who live in Cambridge and the surrounding communities," said Joan Behm, director of the Cambridge Community Library since 1993. "It is a wonderful legacy for future generations."

Although many people were involved with making this project a reality, some wore several hats - notably Mary Gjermo.

Gjermo worked on different committees simultaneously to keep the momentum going on fundraising and the mechanics of making this project a reality.

"The Capital Campaign Committee, Library Board and

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the fundraising and the details of the project," said Salov in recognition of those working on the nuts and bolts of the project. "These are the people who struggled at the table, the ones who decided what to do and how to do it."

Peter Vogel of Vogel Bros. Building Company said he was honored to have their company selected for the construction of the new facility.

Vogel worked on the Cambridge High School last year and the company constructed the elementary school and pool in Cambridge as well.

"We are invested in the community," said Vogel, who lives outside of Deerfield. "We are really glad to be a part of this historic project."

After the ceremony, refreshments were served in the lower level of the Amundson Center.

Cookies and beverages were provided courtesy of the library, and the Twisted Cone provided three flavors of Babcock ice cream.

For more information on

the new library project, visit the Cambridge Community Library and to see the bound copy of information put together

or visit the Facebook pages of either the library or the Friends of the Cambridge Community Library.



Capital Campaign Committee member Bob Salov accepts a \$50,000 check offered by Cambridge State Bank president Jason Brown, on behalf of the John T. Vucurevich Foundation. Photo by Sydney Krieger. More photos from this event www.cambridgeenews.com.