

Stone Ridge Library Foundation

November 23, 2016

Dear Friend of the Library,

The Stone Ridge Library Foundation campaign for renovation of the Children's Library project has gotten off to a solid start. Thanks to a generous \$50,000 grant from State Senator George A. Amedore Jr., it is halfway to its goal of \$100,000 needed to preserve, repair, and improve the 1811 structure that is home to the children's collection and programs.

Even greater news is that we have already raised \$20,300 toward the remaining \$50,000 needed to complete the project. The challenge we are facing now is to match that by the end of the year.

What will \$100,000 do?

Much work is needed to preserve our 200-year-old Children's Library for a third century of use.

Preservation measures include:

- mortar needs to be replaced on the building's south side
- building and installing five historically accurate windows to replace the current drafty ones.

Repair measures include:

- insulating under the children's room floor
- rebuilding the exterior back of the building with a new code-compliant porch that will replace the current stone porch.

Improvement measures include:

- gutting of the interior of the back room
- expanding into the adjacent cold porch and constructing a new kitchen
- adding a handicapped-accessible bathroom that will meet state and federal standards.

These improvements are the most important task that is now being planned- and remains to be funded- in order to completely overhaul the Young Adult and Kitchen area at the back of the Children's Library.

This is why the library needs your help to match this first \$20,300 that's been raised. And it needs to be raised before the end of the year. Your gift will help us meet this challenge!

The Stone Ridge Library Foundation, the 501c3 non-profit arm of the library's fundraising efforts, has for years worked to repair and modernize its two connected historic buildings, with residents providing the largest portion of contributions. By necessity, work began with the 1798 stone building, whose walls were so in danger of collapse that large wooden buttresses were needed to shore them up while awaiting repairs. The Library was stabilized with metal rods, steel beams in the basement, new load-bearing window and doorframes, and the removal of stones that had unduly weighed down the south wall.

This has been a huge undertaking for the library but the work doesn't stop there. The 1811 building has seen some attention this year. The building's roof and previously rotted corner beams have been replaced. And just this fall, the entire building was painted.

Please remember the **Stone Ridge Library Foundation** in your end-of-year giving. To learn more about the Foundation or to help meet this challenge go to <http://www.stoneridgelibrary.org/helpus.html>.

Best wishes,



Varcia Venetanos
Co-president
Stone Ridge Library Foundation



Rebecca Kalin
Co-president
Stone Ridge Library Foundation

Did you know?

Last year, children and parents

- checked out 16,668 books and materials
- enjoyed 121 children's program sessions
- and 42 summer program sessions.

