

## SIMPSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY

8 Plymouth Road P.O. BOX 186, CARMEL, ME 04419 (207 848-7145) www.simpsonmemorial.org

## **HOW IT ALL CAME TO BE!**

In 2007 the Board of Trustees and the Library Director started looking at the services the library was providing and how we were reaching community members. There were many factors considered. Our major concern was a serious space problem and lack of running water and restroom. To address those concerns an addition to the library was needed, along with improvements to the older structure and improved access. We thought and talked and worked hard to bring that to fruition. Our first move was to conduct a survey at a general election, which showed overwhelming support from residents. We hired architect, John Spadola, to design an addition that would blend with the current building, keeping the old, but giving us the space that was needed. Alicia Nichols, Fundraising Counsel, was hired to assist us in reaching our financial goal. We started our Capital Campaign, "Proud of Our Past ~ Building Our Future." Pledges were made and donations of all sizes were given. Grants were written. We received \$200,000 from Next Generation Foundation, \$50,000 from the Stephen and Tabitha King Foundation, \$50,000 from the Terry and Regina Armstrong Family Charitable Trust, \$30,000 from the Town of Carmel and \$20,000 from the Davis Family Foundation. Pledges and donations are still coming in. As of August 28, 2015 we have raised \$544,000. An endowment fund will be created with funds remaining at the completion of the project. Aaron Newcomb Building Construction, Inc. has been hired to build the addition and renovate the existing building. Construction will begin a year and half ahead of schedule. This says much for the wide-spread

support for this project.

## THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HELPED!

The Capital Campaign Committee and the Board of Trustees would like to thank everyone who has worked for and/or donated to this project. We could not have done it without you. We would especially like to thank our Capital Campaign Committee chairs, Debora Elliott Ward and Marvin Graves along with other members, our Building Committee, Chair Becky Ames, Library Director; Wilbur Senter, Treasurer; Sue Kircheis, Secretary; Evie Smith, Capital Campaign Financial Secretary and Keith Ricker, Building Consultant. Thank you to the Town of Carmel for its generous support. Special thanks to Next Generation Foundation, Stephen and Tabitha King Foundation, the Terry and Regina Armstrong Family Charitable Trust and the Davis Family Foundation for their generous support of our project.

We are very fortunate to have wonderful neighbors. We have partnered with the Carmel Historical Society on numerous occasions. For this endeavor the Historical Society has provided an easement so a compliant septic system can be used by both organizations, which will enable the library to have a restroom after 90 years of operation.. The owners of the Fine and Dandelion next door, Sherelle and Al McIntyre, have graciously agreed to grading of the lawn.

We also wish to thank Alicia Nichols, Fundraising Consultant, for her assistance and our architect, John Spadola, for bringing our dream building to paper. We are looking forward to working with Aaron Newcomb Building Construction, and his crew. We ask for your patience in the upcoming months. It will be busy and noisy. But the end result will be worth it.

Groundbreaking celebration held August 25, 2015 at 1:00 PM