



## **Instilling the Love of Reading**

Many of you may have read about Mr. Roehl's generous donation to the new Public Library and Community Center. 257 other very generous people have stepped forward with cash gifts and pledges to reach this goal. \$4,000,000 has been raised for this project. WOW! Their gifts will help transform the ambitious idea of a new Marshfield Public Library & Community Center into a real place – a multi-use and integrated complex to address and meet the needs of Marshfield's educational, social, personal and community development now and for generations to come.

Think about times you have used our public library. I remember taking my children to Story Time at the library before they began school. Even after they began school, we made weekly trips to the library to check out a stack of books for reading during the coming week. Sometimes those trips would take quite a bit of time. It was hard for my children to decide exactly which books to take home! I would read with our children during the day and my husband usually read to our children at bedtime. I have such good memories; both of my two kids snuggled on my lap while I read their favorite books to them. My husband would read longer chapter books, reading a chapter a night. Many times one chapter turned into two, or three, or more. My children went on to learn to read and to love it. Many nights I would find them under their covers with a good book. Many mornings it was tough to get them up and off to school because they had been up too late reading.

I know literacy research tells us that:

- Young children that are read to aloud recognize more letters of the alphabet.
- The more types of reading materials children have at home correlates with a higher reading proficiency.
- Children who read frequently develop stronger reading skills.
- Having year round access to books increases reading motivation.

The public library is an amazing resource for all families. Reading and libraries have changed. Many people use electronic devices to read books now. Others love the feel of a good book in their hands with the ability to turn pages. Our Library has both of these options available, and the new library will have more technology and the infrastructure to be able to support future technology, that we can't even dream of today.

With the fundraising campaign reaching the \$4,000,000 mark the Marshfield Public Library and Community Center's capital campaign moves into phase II of the two-phase project. The campaign co-

chairs Laura and Tom Drendel, Karen and Bill Hocking, and Ginny and Joe Mazza are committed to continue fundraising to realize the full vision of the Library and Community Center. Co- chair Karen Hocking states, "This project has the capacity to reach all ages with improved services and social opportunities in a community building that will make Marshfield proud.

A new Public Library and a new Community Center will be such an enhancement to our Community! If you'd like to make a gift, no matter how big or small, please send a check to the Marshfield Area Community Foundation at PO Box 456, Marshfield, WI 54449.



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