

TOWN OF TONAWANDA LIBRARIES



A TREASURE AT THE CROSSROADS . . .

Due to Erie County's severe fiscal crisis in 2005, three public libraries in the Town were permanently closed. Only the Kenmore and Kenilworth libraries remain open.

Why Build a New Library?

Town residents deserve better!

- Current libraries are located literally blocks from the City of Buffalo border
- They were constructed many decades ago
- They are inadequate in size
- They have too little space to provide adequate library programs and services
- They are not welcoming in design
- They have extremely limited parking

What Features Will a New Library Include?

Modern libraries offer service enhancements that far surpass book borrowing!

- Bright, open airy general library space
- Adequate collection space with format appropriate shelving
- Media collections located on open shelves for easier browsing and check-out
- Adequate study space and room for community meetings
- Appropriate areas for public PC access and computer training classes
- Ample Parking

Where Will a New Library Be Located?

A consultant has recommended a 35,000 square foot facility (with room for expansion to 50,000 square feet). The ideal location would be central within the Town. Adequate space for this size building, green space and required parking is extremely limited. The *Advisory Committee on Town Library Services* has been evaluating sites with analysis based upon access, availability, cost, location, parking and possibility for shared use.

See reverse side for more information about Town libraries and what you can do to help!

How Much Will a New Library Cost?

The Town's Comptroller has estimated that an \$8.3 library project would cost the average homeowner less than \$16.50 per year.

Facts About Town Library Use...

- Over 5,000 users came into our libraries every week during 2007– totaling nearly 270,000 for the year
- Over 25,000 public PC log-ons were recorded at the Kenmore library during 2007 – the second highest use of any library in the entire county
- Over 1,600 people received assistance with their 2006 income tax preparation
- 142 special programs for children and adults were conducted in 2007, with total attendance exceeding 2500
- Our libraries combined, are now open a total of 107 hours each week
- The Kenmore Library is now open 7 days a week during the school year

What You Can Do...

Please sign up to be part of the effort to get a new library for the Town! Contact any of your elected officials to express your support!

Letters should be addressed to the following individuals at: Municipal Building, 2919 Delaware Avenue, Kenmore, New York 14217.

	<u>Office Phone</u>	<u>Home Phone</u>
Anthony F. Caruana, Supervisor e-mail: acaruana@tonawanda.ny.us	877-8804	832-5578
John Bargnesi, Councilman e-mail: jbargnesi@tonawanda.ny.us	481-4311	877-0681
Lisa Chimera, Councilwoman e-mail: lichimera@tonawanda.ny.us	877-8804	877-4801
Daniel J. Crangle, Councilman	877-8804	833-5708
Joseph H. Emminger, Councilman e-mail: jemminger@tonawanda.ny.us	877-8804	838-0431

This information has been compiled by the *Advisory Committee on Town Library Services*. The *Committee* was formed upon joint recommendation from the Town Board and Library Board. It includes representatives from the Town Board, Library Board, Kenmore Village Board, Town Planning Board, Ken-Ton Schools, and the Library. Recommendations are the result of a study, which included local focus groups, performed by a consultant retained by the *Committee*.