



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Stephen M. Saland

Senator Saland Announces Library Construction Grants

STEPHEN M. SALAND March 9, 2010

| ISSUE: **EDUCATION**

Senator Steve Saland (R,I,C – Poughkeepsie) announces five area libraries have been awarded Public Library Construction Grants. The grants are supported by a \$14 million capital fund appropriation in the 2009 State Budget. In recognition of the lack of funding available for libraries' construction needs, this fund was initiated and approved when Senator Saland served as the Chairman of the Senate Education Committee.

"The resources and services provided our local libraries are invaluable to communities across the State. Regardless of age or interests, libraries offer something for everyone, particularly during difficult economic times when library usage dramatically increases. These grants come at a critical time when libraries are struggling to keep their doors open and services flowing to the public," said Senator Saland. According to the New York State Library, the Poughkeepsie Public Library District will receive \$90,000 for the purchase and installation of fixtures and furniture for the newly renovated and expanded library. The Morton Memorial Library in Rhinecliff has been awarded \$7,890 for the reconstruction of the front porch to create an accessible entryway.

The Staatsburg Library has also been granted \$74,700 for the construction of a 426 square foot addition to create a new children's room.

The Roeliff Jansen Community Library in the town of Copake will receive \$75,000 for the installation of plumbing, lighting, drywall, bookcases and cabinetry for the new library.

In addition, the New Lebanon Library has been awarded \$70,632 for the construction of new accessible bathroom; replacement of roof; and installation of geothermal heating system.

"I am pleased these communities will benefit from the grants," said Saland. "Without such assistance available, the entire building and renovation burden would fall squarely on the local taxpayer."