



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

James L. Seward

## Seward Lends Hand To Phoenicia Library

JAMES L. SEWARD December 6, 2013

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**PHOENICIA, 12/05/13** – State Senator James L. Seward (R/C/I-Oneonta) today announced a \$20,000 state grant to assist with reconstruction and expansion of the Phoenicia Library.

**“Our libraries are hubs for countless activities and are vital to our communities, especially in these tough economic times,”** said Senator Seward. **“I am pleased to partner with the Phoenicia Library and the many area donors to help rebuild and expand this indispensable local resource.”**

The legislative grant secured by Senator Seward is being used to help fund the new Phoenicia Library which is replacing a library gutted by fire in March 2011. The new library will include a number of new features including: a dedicated children's room, new community room, and improved access for those with disabilities. The renovated library will also incorporate up to date energy efficiency measures.

**“The moment I learned of the tragic fire at the Phoenicia Library, I vowed to help in any way possible. This grant, along with the generous gifts from so many others, will breathe new life into the library and ensure that the benefits of a community library will continue for generations to come,”** Seward added.

Earlier this year, the Phoenicia Library was the recipient of \$177,714 in capital funds, part of the \$14 million Public Library Construction Grant Program. Senator Seward, a member of the Senate Select Committee on Libraries, helped usher that grant funding through the state budget process.

**“The Phoenicia Library is a landmark building and a true community center – restoring and updating the library will preserve this enduring connection to the past while opening a promising gateway to the future,”** Seward concluded.

Additional information concerning the Phoenicia Library and the fundraising effort can be found on-line at [www.phoenicialibrary.org](http://www.phoenicialibrary.org).