

HORNELL — A month long celebration noting the 150-year history of the **Hornell Public Library** came to a close on Friday, as the New York State Legislature made it "official."

During an event to thank the library's supporters, a proclamation from the New York State Assembly and Senate recognized the good works of the library, not just as a book depository, but a center for community activity and education as well. It cited the library for being "an exemplary institution dedicated to serving the community and the needs of its citizenry."

Last month, the sesquicentennial was marked with a presentation and dinner at The Main Place in Hornell. It was also noted on June 29, with a collaborative presentation with the Hornell Intermediate School's 6th grade Technology Class, outlining the history of the library and other long-time institutions in the Hornell area in the form of a short film.

The proclamation went on to thank the library for being "a partner in the intellectual growth of the communities it serves, offering not only books, but educational programs which have nourished the minds of generations."

Specially thanked were the ongoing efforts of Director Alice Taychert, who provides the day-to-day leadership in implementing programs that will bring the 150-year-old organization into the 21st Century. As a result, today the library boasts more than 51,000 materials on-site, historical artifacts that rival any collection in the region and a number of innovative online resources available at their website [www.hornellpubliclibrary.org](http://www.hornellpubliclibrary.org)

Upcoming rounds of construction aid may see changes in the building to facilitate new programming.

"It's monumental," said Mike Palmesano, Community Liaison for Assemblyman Joe Errigo and on behalf of Errigo and Senator Tom O'Mara. "It's a community center, as much as a well rounded library contributing to the intellectual growth of our community."

Also announced on Friday was the results of a month-long basket raffle fundraiser for the library that drew donations from over 70 local businesses and organizational partners.

What's up next in the library's ongoing mission?

Uncovering more of its deep historical significance in the community, including a lobbying effort to get a historical marker placed at the library for a local suffragette, noted statewide for penning moving pieces in more than 40 newspapers prior to women being granted the vote.