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Dear Marlborough Community,

November was an exciting month, and some great progress has been made on our last remaining renovation projects. The local history room is nearly finished, with the final detail being our new cabinet bases which will be assembled by our very talented DPW. These new cabinets will be home to our local history collection. Finish work on the main interior staircase is almost complete, and final construction on the sidewalks is moving along well.

If you drive by and view the library from Main Street, you'll see that our beautiful, custom-made wood and glass doors have finally been installed on the front of the Carnegie Building! As a reminder, these doors are for emergency exit only, and I'd like to take this opportunity to explain further why we are not able to use this doorway as an entrance. During a major building renovation project like ours, the law requires that all aspects of the building become compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Unfortunately, the steepness of the front stairs, and the short distance between the building and the sidewalk, did not provide a grade sufficient to allow for the installation of an ADA-compliant ramp or other egress option. As a result, the architects and project managers determined that there was no way to adapt this front doorway into a code-compliant entrance. The Witherbee Street-side of the building, however, now provides ramps and multiple entry points that offer accessibility for all.

Speaking of Witherbee Street, crews have begun road work, which has caused some disruption to library access on weekdays before 3pm. This is a temporary disruption, with the eventual outcome being the completion of the additional library parking lot. This new lot will add another 35 parking spots, which we are very excited about! In the meantime, if you have little ones in your life that enjoy construction vehicles, be sure to bring them by the library during the morning hours. The view of the action from the Children's Room is great!

We have some really exciting programs coming up this December. Preschoolers should check out the launch of our new program, <u>Goblin Scouts</u>; we've got a fun <u>Ramen Bar</u> event for Teens; and if you're an adult, you'll have the opportunity to become a <u>Soup</u> <u>Master</u>, just in time for winter! I'm also thrilled to announce the return of our <u>English Conversation Circles</u> for those who wish to practice and improve their English speaking skills. This program is led by some wonderful community volunteers. We wouldn't be able to offer this program without them!

Warm Regards,

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Sara Belisle Director of the Marlborough Public Library

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