



From the Executive Director's Desk...

By Rosemarie Brown

"What's Right, Right Here!"

There have been a number of great things happen this week that should be mentioned in our What's Right, Right Here article, there was 'something new', 'something that addresses the sustainability of our business community', 'some exciting news that will preserve our rich heritage', and 'a community thank you.'

'The Sustainability Of Our Business Community'



During a time when big businesses are hurting financially, one of our retail businesses has found a niche in hometown retail and they are celebrating a landmark anniversary of 115 years in the retail business. Founded in 1897, Glik's is one of the oldest family-owned apparel companies in the United States. In an industry marked by steady turnover and tough competition, Glik's stores would stand out from the pack on longevity alone. With a dedication to focusing on the customers, Glik's has established itself in small hometown markets. Glik's dedication to customer service is not a new motto. It began more

than a century ago when Joseph Glik sold merchandise from a horse-drawn wagon in Northern Missouri and Iowa. Now the company has 60 locations spread across nine states located in the Midwest with the three more stores opening in this year in October (Jacksonville, IL & Iron Mountain, MI) and one in November (Holland, MI). Each Glik's store is personally hand selected by the Glik's family where we make service a priority. "Our business has been about change and meeting the needs of our customers who have supported us for so many years," said Jeff Glik, CEO & President for Glik's.

'Exciting News That Will Preserve Our Rich Heritage'



Tina Hubert the Director of our Six Mile Regional Library has just announced two exciting happenings at the library. First the library has qualified to receive a renovation fund grant. The main library is located at 2001 Delmar is one of our beautiful old building built in 1929, but is truly

outdated and in need of many repairs. With this grant the Library will receive \$2,176,819.08 from the Illinois State Library only WHEN the Library can raise \$1,675,613.92; the total project costs \$3,852,433.00. The Public Library Construction Act Grant Program prioritizes construction projects into four categories. SMRLD qualified under priority 2: Projects that are designed to address population growth or to replace aging public library facilities. With the funding, the Library District will completely renovate the downtown building. After the renovation, the library will have a separate computer lab, a community room that seats 60, and a local history room. There will also be new restrooms on every floor, two real elevators, better lighting, more efficient heating and cooling, and an expanded youth department.

And the second announcement was the Library District will Receive Illinois Broadband Innovation Fund Grant of \$25,473.84 to create a Mobile Computer Training Opportunities Lab. Funding for this grant is from Partnership for a Connected Illinois through the Illinois Broadband Innovation Fund. The Library's grant application was one of fourteen awarded out of 113 applicants. The Library will purchase laptops, a mobile hotspot, a portable projector, and a variety of support materials in order to present computer classes to neighborhoods. Class topics include e-government, e-health, job seeking, and basic computer skills. Classes will begin in January 2013. For more information, contact Tallin Curran, Operations Manager, at (618) 452-6238, ops@smrld.org. If you are interested in the building fund or want more information please contact Tina at 2001 Delmar Avenue, Granite City, IL 62040, (618) 452-6238, director@smrld.org