



New Fletcher Library Partners

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Who Are We?

The New Fletcher Library Partners was formed in October of 2015. Since that time the group has organized to work toward construction of a new library/ community educational center in Fletcher to replace the current library building.

Why Do We Need a New Building?

The current building is not adequate to meet the needs of the community and has no room for expansion. The building is cramped and lacks space for privacy for such things as tutoring. The access road is in poor repair and the site lacks adequate parking. Programming is limited due to the space issues.

The staff at the library is superb and very helpful. There are programs for pre-school through high school students, but these could be improved with a better facility. There are often special programs and presentations as well. The Read to a Dog program is very popular with patrons getting to know the "regulars".

What Will a New Library Offer?

Space! More space for books, media and audio materials. There will be spaces for reading, rooms for tutoring that offer privacy, discussion areas and meeting areas for community groups and programs. The Children's area will be expanded with an auditorium for story time and special programs.

Access and Parking! The new building will have a better access and increased parking spaces for patrons.

Better space for our staff and volunteers who do such a good job of keeping the library running smoothly.

Necessary delivery/pickup space as well as work space.

More computers and computer power stations to assist those who utilize these computers for job searches, genealogical research, general research, etc.

What Has NFLP Done?

Since organization, the New Fletcher Library Partners have accomplished quite a bit. Some activities include:

- ✚ Gathering 1,000 signatures on a petition to the Henderson County Commissioners in advance of a presentation to the Commissioners.
- ✚ Commissioning a space-needs study to determine how much space and what types of spaces would be needed in a building approximately four times the size of the current building.
- ✚ Held a public forum to gather ideas/ideas from community members and library patrons.
- ✚ Staffing information tables at local events to provide information and recruit volunteers.
- ✚ Working toward getting 501(c)3 not-for-profit status to be able to solicit and accept tax-deductible donations for the new library and working with the Community Foundation of Henderson County and the Fletcher Arts and Heritage Association.
- ✚ Organizing a workshop on *Public Library Advocacy and Fundraising* on February 20, 2017. Molly Westmoreland, Consultant for Public Library Management, spoke to a group of NFLP members, Fletcher Town Board, the Friends of the Library, the Community Foundation, FAHA, and Henderson County Commissioners about advocating and fundraising for a new library.

A Community Thrives: an ACT/USA Today Grant

The NFLP submitted a grant application in the form of a short video to ACT/USA Today for it's a *Community Thrives* program which supports efforts to improve the community in the areas Wellness, Arts & Culture, and Education. This is an event in which people vote for their favorite project ala Beer City and Dancing With the Stars.

The voting window will be 11:59 am on April 12, 2017 and end at 11:59 am on May 12, 2017. Obviously we will need a lot of votes, so vote every day and encourage friends, neighbors, relatives and anyone else to vote as well. This grant could be \$50,000 or \$100,000 and go a long way toward accomplishing our goals.

The April Easter Egg Event

The New Fletcher Library Partners will have a booth at the Fletcher Town Easter Egg Hunt on April 8. Plans are not completely formalized as yet but we will have brochures, goodies for the kids, opportunities to volunteer to share your expertise with us and to help spread the word. We hope to see you stop by and say hello and see where you can help us.

What Can You Do?

Visit us on our Facebook page: **New Fletcher Library Partners**

Check out our website: **[www. newfletcherlibrary.org](http://www.newfletcherlibrary.org)**

Email us at: NFLPartners@gmail.com

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Donate to the construction fund! Go to this website:

<http://www.cfhcforever.org/searchCFHCfunds>

Under Fund ID Box enter **FLBF** and click SEARCH button  
Open Link to: The New Fletcher Library Construction Fund  
Follow instructions to complete donation. Many thanks!

