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The Library rebuilding has begun! Stripped to its bare bones and on track to meet Gold LEED certification, what stands now at 51 Baker Street is the promise of a world class library. It will be an expanded, light infused building, with inspired, flexible spaces providing something for everyone. The architect's renderings far surpass the limits of descriptive language and will remind you why your contribution is so valuable. So please look at the most recent plans at [maplewoodlibraryfoundation.org](http://maplewoodlibraryfoundation.org). Our community has already given generously in amounts large and small, totalling \$1,600,000, but we need another \$400,000 to meet the \$2,000,000 Foundation goal.

Not only will this building serve all our needs for decades to come, it will also serve the community in an energy efficient and sustainable way. In fact, Maplewood's Library will be among the most energy efficient municipal buildings in New Jersey. Your donations will contribute to:

- Making the Library all electric, using no fossil fuels whatsoever. An electric building will avoid emitting 80,000 tons of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere annually. Cleaner air for all!
- Installing solar roof panels which are expected to provide 55% of the Library's energy use, producing 170,000 kilowatt hours of emissions-free energy annually. With an estimated \$45,000 savings in energy costs per year and NJ incentives, the panels should pay for themselves within the next decade.

Due to the initial upfront costs of these innovative and vital energy features, the Foundation has announced a **Sustainability Challenge Grant**. This Challenge Grant has been made possible by: The Maplewood Lions Club, the Maplewood Committee for Servicemen and Servicewomen, and two anonymous donors. They have collectively pledged to match contributions to this fund up to the amount of \$35,000.



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*...the library  
has always been  
a resource for all,  
a champion for  
all, conceived  
for all, and  
open to all...*

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We have also been honored to receive a grant from Maplewood residents Robert and Fay Marchman. The Marchmans have graciously created the **Fay P. and Robert A. Marchman Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Fund**, which will ensure our Library continues to be open and accessible to all, and continues to fully serve the principles of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. Their words are inspirational: "Mindful of the real, on-going challenges to adopt D.E.I., and cognizant of the important successes our multi-racial/ethnic coalition has already achieved, we are investing in a future together. We invite you to join us. Help us to define our collective values and build an institution that serves, reflects, welcomes and nourishes us all." If you wish to contribute to this specific fund, please check the box on the remit envelope.

A library is the foundation of a community; it is a gathering place for the betterment of us all. Together we can reach our goal and ensure that the Maplewood Memorial Library continues to stand as a singular emblem of all we can achieve for our community.

With gratitude,

*R. Benjamin Cohen*

R. Benjamin Cohen, President  
Maplewood Memorial Library Foundation