

THE LIGHT at the CORNER

of Mills & Carver



Construction Update

Welcome to the first MCJCC Newsletter! This will be the space where we keep you informed about recent and upcoming events and activities as well as community news. Please remember to check monthly to learn what is happening.

An Architectural Vision

When Doug Harris began the design of the MCJCC facility, he took the time to do a little historical research. It was his intent that the design reflected the characteristics of buildings in the past. To begin with, the brown board-like material to the right of the entry doors and around the corner are representative of Chestnut which years ago was abundant in this area.

The rock column on the entry porch is covered with rock that is very similar to what is used on the Rosenwald building. The man who stacked that column made many trips over there to double check the grout and the distance between the rocks in an effort to duplicate it as close as possible. The board and batten that covers the rest of the lower building was and still is the way houses are often sided. The top of the building, with its dormers, represents the rebirth of the original Mary C. Jenkins Community Center, as it appears to be lifted out of the lower section. When the exterior is painted, it will be an emotional experience to view the building.

Things are moving quickly at the facility. You can now see the beginning of retaining walls both on Mills Ave. and Carver Street. This is both a safety measure as well as for drainage control. The exterior walls of the building are beginning to reflect the history that architect Doug Harris designed. That vision is presented in the column on the left side of this edition. The patio is finished in the back and in the view from Mills you can see the beautiful wall of windows and the doors that open up to the patio and back- yard.

Inside is actually very exciting. The big Community Room will be the perfect place for performances, large meetings, dinners and even a little Bingo! The stage is accessible for all as is the entire building and there is a ton of wall space for historic and educational exhibits. Edith's Corner Library will be located in the larger meeting room across from the Community Room that will also serve as the Conference Room where the Board of Directors will meet. Multipurpose is the criteria for every room in this facility! The Smaller Meeting Room will be down the hall and can only handle small groups of 6-8, a perfect place for our committees to meet. The kitchen is back in the corner behind the Community Room and opens both to it and the patio via pass-through windows for dishes/supplies and food. This will make serving so much easier.

We can't wait to show everyone in the community the new Mary C. Jenkins Community Cultural Center. You will love it!