

**Letter to the Editor**  
about  
**PROJECT BOOKENDS**

To the Editor,

Some Skaneateles residents – perhaps many – recently received a letter purporting to be from “Bookends” and soliciting financial support for the “Bookends Learning Center.”

The Skaneateles Library did not authorize that letter, which was unsigned and did not have a complete return address. Nor was it sent by Peter or Elsa Soderberg, Holly Gregg, or anyone else who is involved in the ongoing effort to develop the Project Bookends idea. Please disregard this letter. We have contacted the U.S. Postal Inspection Service to investigate.

At its heart, Project Bookends is a working group of volunteers that seeks to relocate the Library and the Barrow Art Gallery to a new facility on the former site of the Stella Maris Retreat Center. The building would also include a cultural/learning center and community gathering place.

It is a very big idea, to be sure – and one that is far from fully developed. Over the next several weeks and months the Project Bookends team will be asking the community for their input. We want to know what you think and what you’d like to see in this exciting new venture.

Despite what this anonymous letter implies, we are at the very beginning of this work and are concerned that someone would ask our neighbors to give money to support a building plan that doesn’t yet exist. If you have sent a donation to the return address on the letter, please contact the Skaneateles Post Office at 685-6189 to retrieve your mail. You may want to ask your bank to stop payment on the check. If the Library receives any donations that appear to have resulted from the anonymous letter, we will immediately contact the donor.

We are puzzled by the fact that someone would anonymously communicate with our friends and neighbors on this subject, especially without first talking with a member of the Project Bookends group or a Library trustee. Perhaps the anonymous author was trying to be helpful – but perhaps not.

In either event, we encourage all of you to a) ignore the letter, b) stay tuned for public meetings and other forums that will be announced in the near future, c) participate as fully as you can in learning about and being part of this endeavor, and d) of course, stop in to the Library anytime. As always, we are here for everyone.

Sincerely,

David Graham, Vice President  
Skaneateles Library