



Lieutenant Governor Attending Grand Opening of Government Center

Time: Oct. 25, 2012 at 1 p.m.

Location: North Vernon Carnegie Government Center, 143 E. Walnut St.

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Lt. Gov. Becky Skillman will lead a celebration of the conversion of North Vernon's long-empty Carnegie Library into the new government center.

The public is also invited to the grand opening on **Oct. 25, 2012 at 1 p.m.** at the North Vernon Carnegie Government Center, 143 E. Walnut St. (U.S. 50 downtown).

"It is very rewarding to see the Stellar Community projects come to fruition," Lt. Governor Skillman said. "The idea of Stellar Communities was to help our smaller cities and towns achieve their long-term goals. This is just the first step of many for North Vernon as they move their city towards greater economic prosperity."

Skillman oversees the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs, one of the agencies responsible for awarding North Vernon the \$16-million Stellar Communities grant in March 2011.

"We are eager to show Lt. Gov. Skillman our new government center, and how Stellar Communities has helped trigger the revitalization of our city," said North Vernon Mayor Harold "Soup" Campbell.

City offices will be closed Oct. 17-19 to move out of the old city hall, at 275 E Main St., which will be used by Aging and Community Services of South Central Indiana. Offices will also be available for other service organizations.

After restoration the new government center will house city offices for the mayor and clerk-treasurer, and meeting chambers for city council and utilities.

Restoration of the 6,500-square-foot structure included the exterior, window repair, restroom work, HVAC replacement, finish upgrades and a new stairway and elevator. Local contractor Bradshaw Builders completed the work.

The City of North Vernon acquired the library, which was built in 1920, from the Jennings County government in 2009 with the promise to restore it.



The restoration is part of the city's Stellar Communities program. In March 2011, North Vernon was selected as one of two cities in Indiana to win a new Stellar Communities grant from the state. Receiving the grant will amount to millions of dollars for roads, housing, brownfields revitalization, storefront façades and other programs over the next few years.

Details about the Stellar Community projects can be found at www.northvernonstellar.com.

For more information contact the Jennings County Economic Development Commission at (812) 346-2388.