



The new lighting being installed throughout the museum in Laporte by AEGIS Resource Management by David Clark & Kevin Coles (pictured) on 1/12/2016. This shot being taken in the Pauline Holcombe wing of the main building.

Jan. 27, 2016

TOURING SULLIVAN COUNTY'S MUSEUM ... while dusting

For any of you who have chosen or had to change out your lights from fluorescent to LED; you'll understand our excitement over our most recent news.

Year before last, we began to solicit for

funds to replace our lighting. As time went along, money came in from individuals who gave what they could to assist in this goal. Eventually this figure exceeded half of the quoted price, just to do the main building. Then because of schedules, hunting season and weather, this project got postponed until Jan. 12th of this year.

When the day finally came, David Clark and Kevin Coles of Aegis Resource Management from Etters, Pa. came early in the morning with boxes, wires, ladders and everything needed in preparation for the change-over of lighting anticipated to take two days. Except for a short lunch break, they worked steadily until after 4:30 in the afternoon. This work included, obviously, changing out the bulbs and ballast for the ceiling fixtures, checking wiring for ceiling hanging fixtures and along the way they cleaned every cover of every fixture before putting them back together. (I personally appreciated this last step because these ceilings are quite high and there's no way I wished to tackle that very needed job!)

So, we're working away at museum projects throughout the day – oh, and did I mention there was a meeting here that morning and over the course of the day 11 visitors? – and the men simply worked around everything else that was going on.

As the day was coming to a close and the snow had started to come down, I asked David where they were staying that night: "Oh, we're not. We'll be done a little after 4." Really?!? And, yep, they were.

Now, the excitement comes in because for anyone who has tried to work on a project or do research here, the difficulty to see what you're doing . . . well, it tires the eyes. We're used a quilters lamp, hand held fluorescent lights, stood at the front entrance on a sunny day or simply taken to going outside to see better what we needed to look at: *no more*. The difference is more than noticeable from the moment you walk in the door and so deeply appreciated. That appreciation goes to the donors who graciously contributed (to our eyesight and sanity) and to David and Kevin for their professionalism in accomplishing this installation.