

FAMILY SERVICES SOCIETY

# Organization dedicates new building

'It's just wonderful to have our own place,' director says

**By Jeffery Smith**

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BATH — A ribbon-cutting, building dedication and open house was held Friday afternoon celebrating the opening of a new Family Service Society Inc., building on East Steuben Street.

"Family Service Society has been providing community services in the Bath area for more than 30 years," Family Service Society Executive Director, Harmony Ayers-Friedlander said moments prior to the ribbon cutting. "It's just wonderful to have our own place."

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Harmony Ayers-Friedlander speaks during the ribbon-cutting for the new Family Services Society building on Friday afternoon in Bath. [ERIC WENSEL/THE LEADER]

# BUILDING

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Ayers-Friedlander said Family Services is so grateful to be located so close to local community partners, and for the many dedicated board members and staff that have made this success possible.

"I do appreciate the investment (the new building) is to the community and for those in need of assistance," Bath Village Mayor Bill von Hagn said. "It's just wonderful."

The former Bath area Family Service Society building was outside of the

downtown on County Route 11.

Ayers-Friedlander said the 104 E. Steuben St. building was dedicated as a surprise to long-term board member Joan Cates.

"This is a special recognition of one of our own," Ayers-Friedlander said. "Someone who has dedicated so much of her time to Family Service Society. The passion, the creativity of many years of Cates."

Ayers-Friedlander said during the event Family Service Society wants to recognize Cates.

"To show our appreciation

for all that she has done," Ayers-Friedlander. "She joined the (Family Service Society) board in April 1981 and she has continuously served on the board."

Cates said her time with the Family Service Society has just been a marvelous experience.

"And I hope to continue," Cates said.

Family Service Society offers a full range of services to meet the needs of families and individuals in a home, workplace and community. Family Services has local offices in Corning, Bath and Hornell.