

West Leb library design set; \$4 million campaign begins

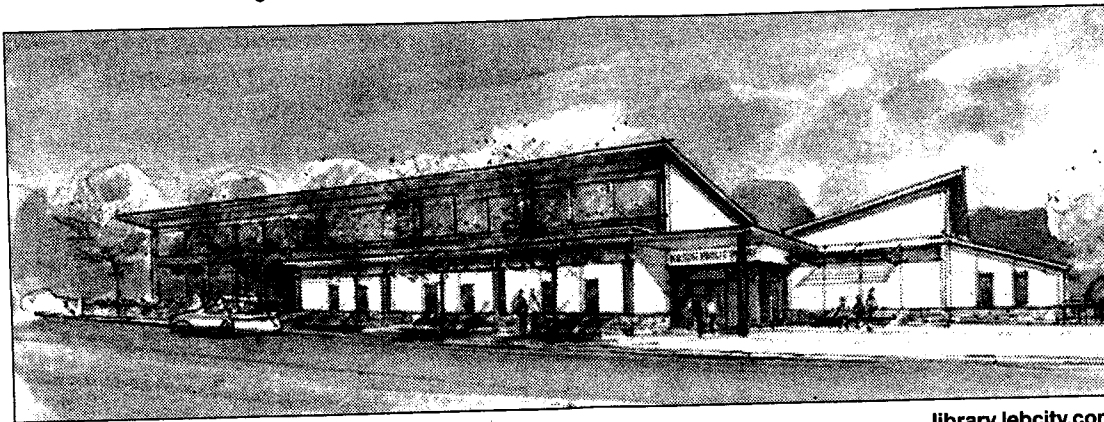
By Kristen Senz
Staff Reporter

WEST LEBANON —

The design for the new Kilton Library on Main Street has been finalized, and a new non-profit foundation has been formed to embark on a \$4 million fund-raising campaign for the project, Lebanon Library Director Lou Ungarelli said this week.

The Lebanon Public Libraries Foundation, which was officially formed in January, recently received tax-exempt status from the state and federal government, paving the way for it to begin accepting donations for the new West Lebanon library, Ungarelli said.

A five-member board of trustees for the foundation plan to meet within the next few weeks to form a strategy and several sub-committees to begin planning various fund-raising events and programs, he said.



library.lebcity.com

The design for the front of the Kilton Library, above, features large windows that will allow plenty of natural light into reading areas that face Main Street in West Lebanon. The children's room, right, allows plenty of space for storytime and other activities and offers a view of the protected playground outside.

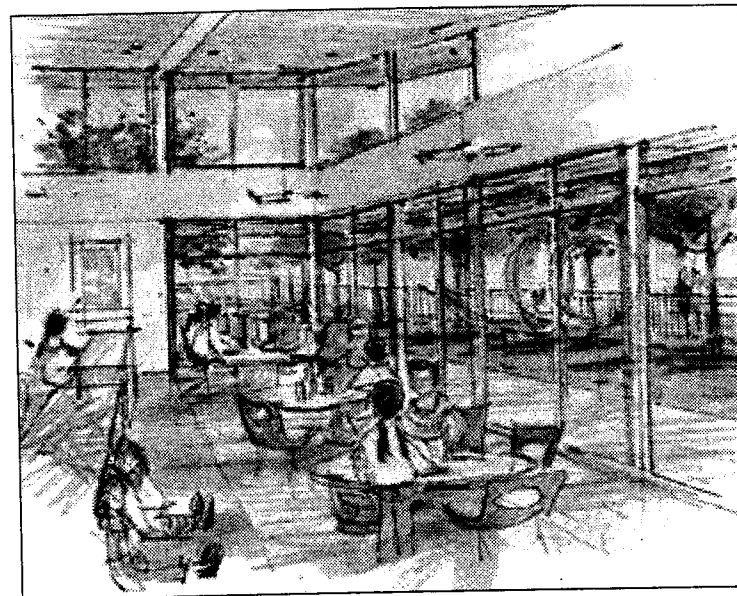
Architecture firm Tappe Associates Inc. of Boston has produced design sketches and a building model of the new Kilton Library, which can be viewed at the city's library Web site, www.library.lebcity.com.

Plans for the new library call for 15,000 square-feet of space.

The building will house a 120-seat auditorium, an art gallery, private meeting rooms, a kitchen, a teen services area, computers for Internet access, a children's area to include a story and craft room, and cozy reading areas. It also features an outdoor reading garden and

playground. The location has the potential for more than 200 on- and off-street parking spaces, according to Ungarelli.

Funds to purchase the 1.24-acre site on Main Street and \$1 million toward the estimated project cost of \$5 million came from the estate of longtime



West Lebanon residents James and Willena Kilton. Ungarelli said the foundation will most likely kick off its capital campaign in earnest this fall. At that point, the trustees for the foundation will be seeking volunteers to help coordinate activities, Ungarelli said.

It's unclear what will happen to the current city-owned West Lebanon Library on Main Street, which is situated on less than an acre of land in an area zoned for commercial use. City Manager Gregg Mandsager has said he hasn't explored potential uses for the building.

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