The first Wellsville library was organized in 1939 when the Honor Brite Girl Scouts, Mrs. Ralph O'Neil, & Mrs. W.H. Ireland collected books. Lucky Hostetter provided a room, and the Chamber of Commerce furnished a stove and fuel while others built shelves and donated funds.

In 1940 the city appropriated funds to support the Library; however it later withdrew its support. In 1941 a special election passed that provided provisions and maintenance for the Library. Jenny Lytle was hired as the first librarian and the library was housed at City Hall the first few years. It was then located at a house on South Main, a shop building on the school grounds, and one of the Adriance buildings.

In 1946 the city purchased the Batdorf building at 610 S. Main with the understanding that it would be used for a library. In 1965 the library was reorganized, redecorated and Mrs. Leroy Childs was hired as librarian.

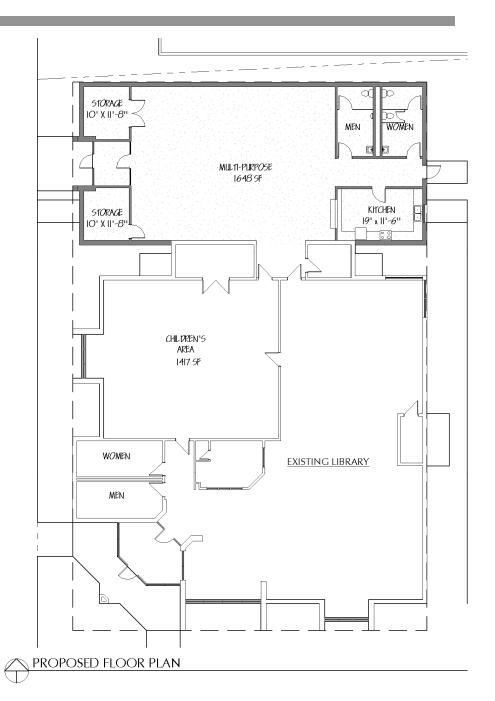
In 1988 the Friends of the Library Foundation was chartered, and in 1990 Dupreeze E. Pearson left funds for a new library building with the stipulation that it include a meeting room with a two hundred person capacity. The Friends of the Library Foundation also contributed to the interior furnishings for the new building. On October 31, 1992 the library took possession of the new building. The entire community assisted with the move and setting up the new library and cleaning of the old facility.

In the summer of 2010 the City of Wellsville and the Wellsville City Library Board approved the proposed site plan to begin a fundraising effort for an addition to the existing building. The proposed plan includes a larger meeting room, additional storage, additional restrooms, and a complete kitchen. The plan also includes converting the present meeting room into a children's area. The present Children's Area will then be used for expansion of the Young Adult and Adult collections and reading/study areas.

Since 1992 Wellsville has grown with the addition of a new school and several rural subdivisions. Computer technology has changed since 1992 and the Library now has nine computers for public use. The library would like to be able to provide additional computers by adding some just for kids in their new area, allowing separation between adults and children using computers. The Wellsville library has gone through many changes, and is committed to provide good services for our patrons in the future. We expect Wellsville to continue to grow and would like to be ready to meet the changing needs of the community and our library patrons.

The addition is planned to be compatible in design to the original construction, using the same brick, shingles, and architectural detailing so that the entire facility will appear as one building. No new parking is planned, as there is adequate parking on the street in the downtown area, and the addition should not significantly increase the demand for additional parking.

The addition will be on a separate heating and cooling system so that energy can be conserved when the space is not occupied. Walls, windows, and the roof will be highly energy efficient in their construction to keep utility expenses reasonable. The new addition will have a separate entrance to allow use of the Meeting Room while restricting access into the rest of the Library.



Questions and Answers

- Q. Why is an addition proposed for the Library?
- A. The Library wants to meet the demands created by a growing Wellsville and increased demand for public access computers and other popular library programs. Additional space will allow internal growth in all areas of the library, serving patrons of all ages.
- Q. How will the proposed addition be used?
- A. The addition will be used to replace the existing meeting room, thus allowing the Children's Area to move into the existing meeting room, which in return will create additional internal space for adults and young adults. All age groups would benefit from this addition.

The proposed addition will have a separate entrance, kitchen, and restrooms so that it can be used without access into the main library building.

- Q. How much will the proposed addition cost?
- A. Based on 2010 costs, the proposed addition will cost approximately \$510,000. This amount includes site preparation, building construction, furnishings, and design fees.
- Q. Who will pay for the cost of building and equipping the proposed addition?
- A. Currently the addition is proposed to be built with donations from individuals, corporations, foundations, and possibly government grants. All private sources of funding are being explored. Approximately \$36,000 has already been raised and encumbered for the proposed building addition.



- Q. How is the library's budget funded?
- A. The library has a 2010 budget of \$80,299, of which 77% is funded by the City of Wellsville, 17% by the North East Kansas Library System, 2% by fines, misc. income and donations, 2% by carry-over from previous year's budget, and 2% from grants and State Aid.
- Q. Will the proposed addition create additional operational costs, and if so, how will those increased costs be funded?
- A. The proposed addition should not require the need for additional staff. Additional building area will increase utility costs by approximately 25% or less because of the limited occupancy of the meeting room. Great emphasis will be placed on energy efficient building design and equipment selection so that the new addition will be very cost effective to operate.

Additional custodial and maintenance costs should be minimal because of the good quality of the construction materials that will be used. User fees to rent the meeting space to outside groups are proposed to offset some of the additional utility cost of the addition.

The Friends of the Library Foundation will provide continual support for future expenses.

For questions about the proposed library addition or for information about gifting to the Library, please contact:

Becky Dodd, Librarian

785-883-2870 or wclibrary@wellsvillelibrary.org

This brochure has been paid for by The Friends of the Library Foundation.



Bird's eye view of the existing library in the foreground and the proposed addition with separate entrance on the north side of the existing building.

Proposed Addition for the Wellsville Library



Ground level view of the proposed addition with separate entrance. Architectural detailing, along with wall and roof materials are proposed to match the existing building.