

*Entrance—Spring 2011*



The Kenton County Public Library presents the  
**Covington Library Renovation & Expansion Project**



Rebuilding for the future.



*New Entrance Summer 2013*



To donate or learn more about sponsorship opportunities for the new building, please contact Robin Klaene at (859) 578-3608.

## History of Covington and the Renovation & Expansion Project

The 52,174 sq. ft. Covington Library opened its doors at 502 Scott Boulevard on Monday, January 21, 1974 having moved from the Carnegie Library. Later that year the building won the prestigious Honors Award of the Kentucky Society of Architects for its designer Robert Ehmet Hayes. Since opening, the Library has welcomed millions of visitors who have used the library to meet their educational, informational and recreational needs.

During the summer of 1998, the Covington Library underwent a cosmetic renovation project. In 2007, the Library's Board of Trustees began to look towards the future of the Covington library. The Board hired an architect to do a feasibility study. The study found that while the building was structurally sound, the infrastructure needed to be brought up to current standards. The roof, wiring, fire suppression mechanisms, stairwells and HVAC have never been replaced and are not up to current safety standards. The roof had a 25-year warranty and in the 37 years of the building has never been replaced. The chiller, which cools the building, was also beyond its life span and was in constant need of repair.

The architecture firm Design Group was selected to redesign the 37 year-old building. They spoke to community groups and staff about the vision for the library and received much input. Their design for the renovation of the Covington Library is in keeping with the Library's tradition of modern architecture. The new building will be a reflection of the Library itself – it's where tradition and technology meet. The curves throughout the structure are reminiscent of the river. It blends new and old elements-curved modern architectural lines connect to the bend/flowing of the river, the modern shingles on the exterior of the building reflect the shingle method of construction found in our neighboring historic communities.

The Covington Renovation and Expansion project is expected to be completed in late spring of 2013. This is the first time in the history of the Library system that a building has undergone a major renovation and expansion while staying open.

## Environmentally Conscious

During this renovation and expansion project, whenever possible project managers and staff are working to manage this process in an environmentally sensitive manner.

- Trees that need to be removed will be given to our regional wood workers guild.
- Materials normally thrown away in construction projects will be donated to local not-for-profits and community groups, recycled or auctioned off.
- We will be re-using much of the shelving, all of the Carnegie furniture, and wooden chairs.
- New products were selected to be more energy efficient, durable, and easier to keep clean.
- Staff are being certified in green cleaning methodologies.
- The building is designed to be able to add additional environmental features such as green roofs and solar panels.

## Strong Partnerships Make it Work

This project is possible in part thanks to our neighbors and community partners.

- Citizens, business people and neighborhood groups that participated in the planning surveys and meetings to help us design the building that will meet their needs
- City of Covington is providing parking for people who will be using the Library during the renovation
- Baker Hunt Foundation, Gateway Urban Campus, Reality Tuesday, Covington Independent School district are providing meeting spaces for our community groups and programs
- The Friends of KCPL for their continued support of the Library.

## Renovation Highlights

**Expanded Space:** 12,540sq. ft. will be added to the current 52,193 sq. ft. building bringing it to a total of 64,174 sq. ft. when renovation is complete.

**Children's Department:** will move to the lower level and have its own meeting room and outdoor children's learning garden (currently the lower level houses administration, staff lounge, closed stacks, offices and storage).

**The Local History Department** will move to the second floor. It will have its own research space and environmental controls needed to preserve historic documents.

**The entrance** will move to the southwest corner of the building (where the ramp from the parking lot begins).

**A drive-thru** will be installed with access from Scott Boulevard.

**A larger public meeting room** will be created with the ability to separate into thirds to meet the demands of free public space for the community.

**A new computer lab** will offer movable walls to provide more computer access when not being used for classes.

## Your Questions

### When is the Library going to close?

-**The Library will be open** though materials (books, movies, music) and programs may be limited at times. If looking for a specific item it is best to look for it online at [www.kentonlibrary.org](http://www.kentonlibrary.org) before coming and placing a hold on it. The parking lot will be closed but patrons will be able to park for free for a limited time in the garage at the corner of Fifth and Scott, directly across the street from the Library.

### Why undergo such an expansion at this time?

-Construction costs are at an all-time low and interest rates are at a historically low level which makes it a good opportunity to undertake a project such as this. Also, this project has been more than four years in the making. In 2008, the Library's Board hired architectural firm Design Group to do a cost/benefit analysis of the project. In early 2009, the community was asked for input on what they needed from their Library. In 2010, Design Group was contracted to create a plan to redesign and add on the current facility. We also expect that this project will provide employment for many workers in the building industry.

### How much will it cost and how will it be paid for?

-Initially the Board investigated the cost of demolishing the current structure and constructing a new building. Estimates for this work exceeded \$25 million. After receiving the feasibility study, the Board adjusted their plan and made the decision to do a major renovation. Construction costs for this renovation are estimated at \$9.2 million. The current total estimate for the project is \$12.5 million including architectural fees, furniture, computers and other items. This will be paid for by savings, bonding and fundraising efforts.

### How long will the project take and who are the key players?

-This is a five phase project which will begin in early 2011 and is expected to take between 18 and 24 months. The Covington Library will remain open during renovation though some services may be limited. The renovation/expansion was created by architects from Design Group located in Covington, Kentucky. Codell Construction Management of Winchester, Kentucky, will manage the project.



Kentucky History floor

Main floor

Children's Department/lower level



## Covington Library Renovation & Expansion Square Footage—Before and After

	Current	After		Current	After
Square footage	52,193sq. ft.	64,733 sq. ft.	Teen area	416 sq. ft.	1,300 sq. ft.
Children's Dept.	4,573 sq. ft.	10,740 * sq. ft.	# of computers in lab/in building	20 in lab 61 in building	21 in lab 100 in building
Kentucky History	4,069 sq. ft.	7,473 sq. ft.	Outreach Services	2,435 sq. ft.	2,831 sq. ft.
Main/Floor Reading Room	15465	18,950 sq. ft.			

\*includes addition of a children's specific meeting room

## Gift Levels for the Covington Library

Gift Amount	Naming Rights Opportunity	Named
UNAVAILABLE	Main Reading Room	Mary Ann Mongan
\$250,000	Kentucky History Department	
\$200,000	Children's Department - Story Time Room	
\$150,000	Computer Learning Center	
\$150,000	Public Meeting Room	
\$125,000	Children's Department - Outdoor Programming area	
\$100,000	Lobby/Atrium	
\$75,000	Archives Room	
\$50,000	Adult Public Reading Patio	
\$30,000	Study Rooms (3 rooms \$10,000 each; available individually)	
\$25,000	Community/Event Section in Lobby	
\$20,000	Conference Room (2 rooms \$10,000 each; available individually)	
\$15,000	Circulation Desk	
\$10,000	Drive-thru	
\$10,000	Teen Counter	
\$5,000	Adult Reference Desk	

The Capital Campaign period allows for pledges that can be split over multiple years. A pledge also makes it possible for you to consider a gift more significant than may otherwise be possible.

For a tour, or more information about the Covington Renovation & Expansion project, please contact Library Executive Director Dave Schroeder at (859) 578-3600 or Covington Branch Manager Julia Allegrini at (859) 962-4074.

**Kenton County Public Library - Covington Library**  
 502 Scott Blvd., Covington, Kentucky (859) 962-4071  
[www.kentonlibrary.org/covington](http://www.kentonlibrary.org/covington)

