

BACKGROUND

The vision for library service for Josephine County is about the future. This report does not deal with the current library closure, the lapse of service for the second time in the over seventy year history of the library service in our county, or the methods or approaches to fund service. This is about a vision, the ability to gather and motivate the public to support a shared view of the future of service for our community.

Josephine County has taken the issue of continued library service to the voters of the county. In the last two efforts, the requests for funding were denied. While there may be dozens of reasons for voters to turn down the financing requests, the key issue for the future is whether such defeats were based on a failed vision of the library service.

Josephine Community Libraries, Inc., is a non-profit community based organization that was recognized by the IRS in 2008 as a 501(c)(3). The group intends to develop a library service based on the Public Television/Public Radio model of service, seeking support and memberships from the community to generate the financing necessary to offer the service. This group is the community champion to return quality services to the community.

THE VISION

Cultural, community, educational, and entertainment services combine in a single entity to define the role of the library of 2020. The Josephine Community Public Library is much more than a building or a collection of books, it is a place alive with the spirit of the community. It connects the seeking with the sources, providing cultural, youth, education and entertainment access to all citizens, regardless of financial status. The library is a community center, providing electronic, written, and human resources to encourage community development.

The library of 2020 is a resource that provides services and access to information and support needed to facilitate the individual and the community. The key focus points for the services and resources of this community asset are as follows:

- **Child and Youth services** will be a focus of the library, with outreach as well as specialty programs to encourage, enhance, and aid the community youth.
- A **qualified and quality group of dedicated individuals** will provide the staffing for this service, with professionals as well as outreach specialists to assure the vision of community enhancement will be a core part of the library service.
- The system will be **CONNECTED**, technology and access to world wide resources will be provided to all, with a 24/7 electronic support system.
- The library will provide a **community center**, meeting area, and be a hub to the community.
- The **educational services** in the community will be supported and enhanced, with connections between educational providers at all levels and the resources and support needed to allow individual students to succeed. From English as a second language and literacy to advanced research support for college students, the assets of the library are a key to community education.
- **BOOKS!!** In all forms and styles, the library will have the most current as well as all the classic books available to patrons.
- **Electronic Data Bases** will be a key feature of the 2020 library, allowing inquiring residents to have access to the highest quality and best resource data bases available. Subscriptions will be electronically accessible, along with specialty information targeted to the region.
- **Personnel Resources** in the library will receive the support and training to permit the staff to be viewed as a key community resource.
- **Specialty Materials** will be provided to all seekers, including DVD materials, Music, Audio Books, Specialty prints, and other key materials to serve portions of the community otherwise unable to have access to such key materials.

In addition to the services and resources, the library of 2020 is much more. It is an asset that facilitates community gatherings, and adds the cultural fabric of Josephine County. To achieve this vision, the library will:

- **ORGANIZE COMPANION EVENTS** to enhance and support community events throughout the County. From First Friday Art Night and Walk Along the Rogue to the Blackberry Festival, the library will be an integral part of celebrating the culture that makes this county unique.
- **PROVIDE ACTIVE CHILDREN'S EVENTS** to involve young people in information access, reading for pleasure and intellectual gain, and generating an informed and active core of youth to provide the leadership for future generations.

- **LITERARY AND CULTURAL** opportunities to hear authors, composers, and stimulating thinkers add to the cultural opportunities in the county.
- **ACCESS TO THE LIBRARY** for all community groups will provide a meeting place for groups and organizations.

Access is a critical feature for our visionary service. The support of a library in the future will not be simply the hours a building is open, or the ability to get a book, it will be a combination of physical and other access media to allow full use of the key services of the library. To assure such access, the library of 2020 will be:

- A building where **PHYSICAL ACCESS** can be made by the public Monday through Friday from 10:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. and 1:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M. on Saturday. (Not open on Sunday)
- Resources that have **ELECTRONIC ACCESS** to patrons 24/7. With catalogue and some key services available through the web site or similar access devise.
- The key to **INTERLIBRARY SERVICES** allowing patrons to have access to collections throughout the region and the world.
- Actively providing **OUTREACH SERVICES** to the community, both the special needs community and the community at large.

This is a special place, a special service, and a key to the future of our county. Not only will this be a place of joy and entertainment, it is a critical piece of the educational and cultural fabric that will build a sound community.

HOW WAS THIS VISION DEVELOPED?

THE VISION EVENT

The vision event for JCLI was conducted on Saturday, June 21, 2008. The following individuals attended:

Jackie Clary	Shirley Jaarsma	Suzanne Wicklin
Adeline Isert	Dick Jaarsma	Phyllis Fox Krupp
Barbara Ketley	Bonnie Johnson	Janet Lane
Sue Hutchinson	Liz Medley	Joyce Ashley
Kevin Widdison	Steve Chroninger	Le Raish
Tim Roberts	Joanne Stumpf	Teresa Stover
Jen Roberts	Nick Stover	Doug Walker
Ginny von Gal	Peggy McKillop	Cliff Kuhlman
Nettie Kuhlman	Ron Hornby	Ted Risser
Jeni Foster	J. P. Gagnon	Robin Elliott
June Yearger	DonnaJean Wendle	Dean Wendle

Bill Peterson began the workshop with a brief overview of the purpose and intent of the workshop, with a focus on the library of 2020. The following is a brief overview of the AGENDA for the event:

AGENDA

10:00 A.M. Welcome and Orientation to the Event

10:20 10:30 Introduction and Count Off

10:30 10:50 Small Group Session

Facilitators: Facilitators kicked off the small groups with an introduction exercise, asking participants to provide their name and why they are attending the vision event. After the introductions, the goal of the first step of the visioning event is to literally draw a picture of a perfect library in 2020. What does the library of 2020 look like, what services does it offer, where is it, what are the kinds of events that happen in the library.

11:00 to 11:30 Large Group Session:

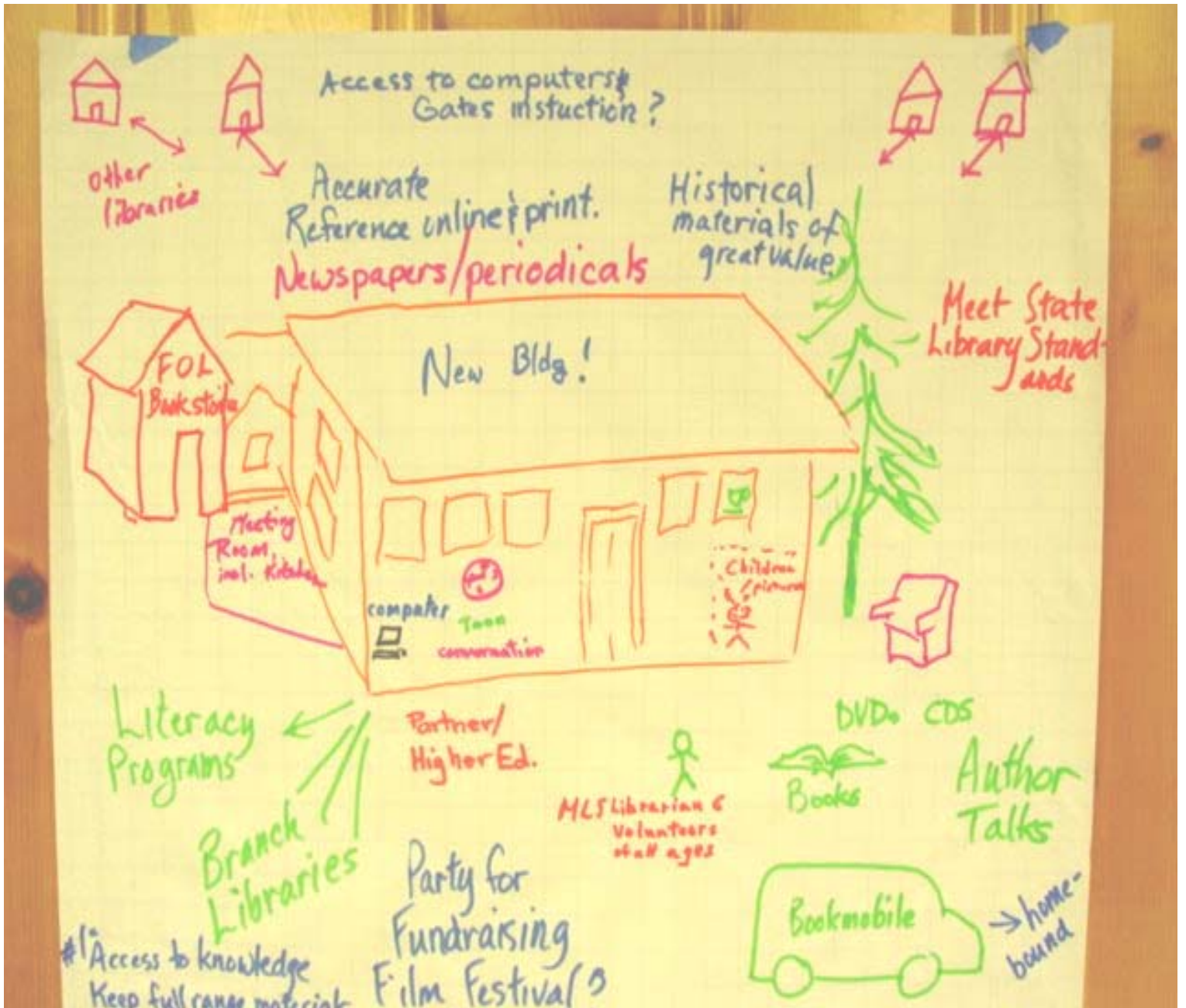
Each group is to present their picture of the perfect library in 2020. The common themes from each picture will be captured during the “report out” to the group.

11:40 – 12:15 Small Group Session

Facilitators worked with their small groups to answer the following four questions:

1. Please identify the services you believe the library of 2020 will need to provide: (List as many as you think the library will need to have in the year 2020)
2. What resources should be available at the library?
3. What sort of events are part of the library?
4. What is the availability of library services? What are the hours of access, and what other access methods besides the open doors to the library are part of the library service?

Three separate groups were formed, and three “pictures” of the library of 2020 were generated. The pictures are as follows:



(New Materials - 1/2/1998)



N.Y. Times
Best Sellers



- MEETING ROOMS
- COMPUTER ACCESS
- CLASSES
- ART EXHIBITS
- DUTCH BROS. ROOM
- INTEGRATE w/ YRCA
- Boys & Girls Club



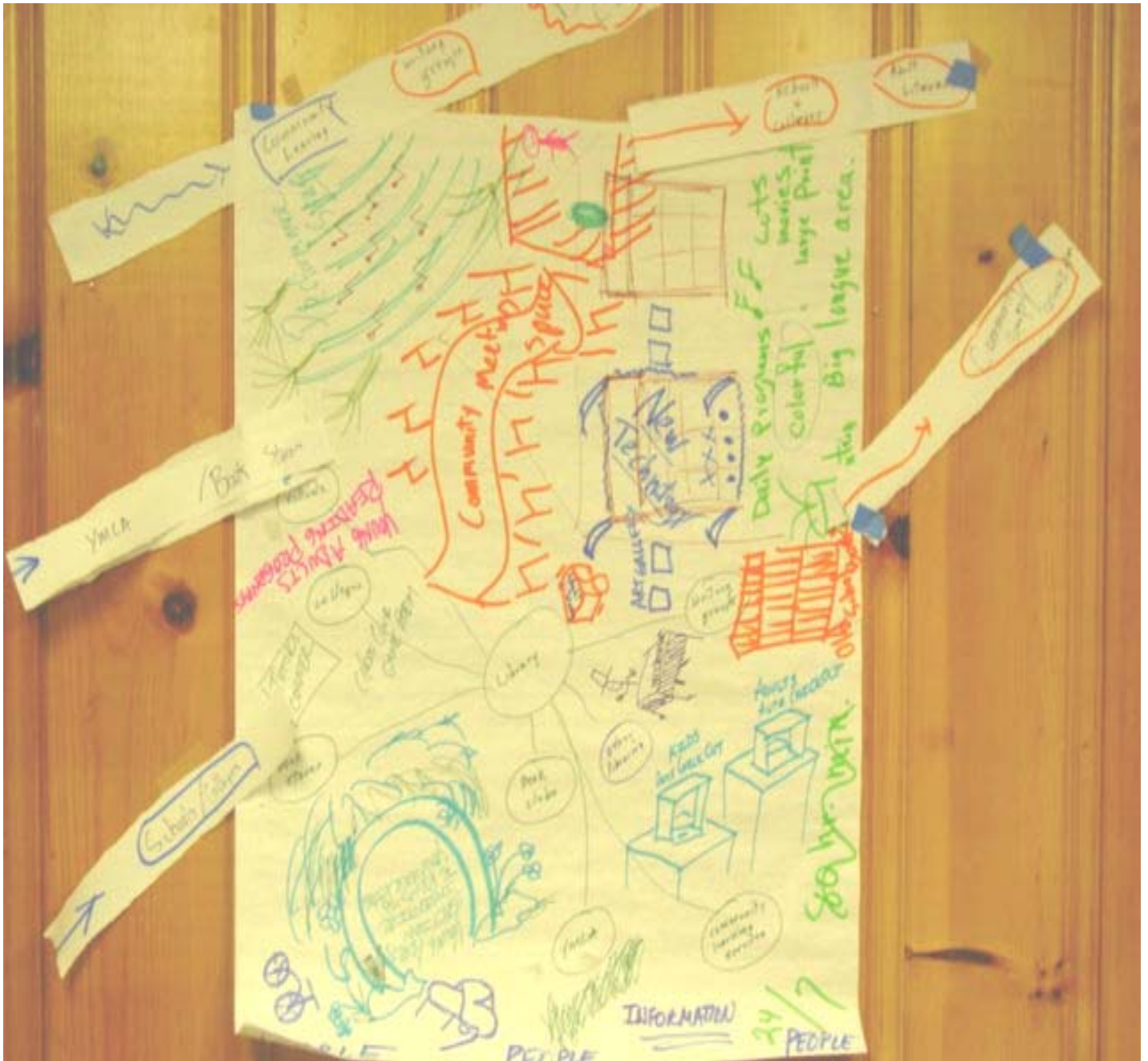
Small Store front
libraries in
Shopping malls,
hospitals,
retirement centers

Outreach



NEW! Addition
New to existing
Community network

Big window on gate of light w/ UV
Sun's UV Radiation w/ UV Radiation
SUNLIGHT w/ UV Radiation



In the group session, the small groups reported the key features of their drawing of the future library. The key points in similarity from all the drawings are as follows:

1. Technology: Well connected and open access
2. Public Access: Meeting Rooms, Open availability
3. Materials: Publications, Periodicals, Best Sellers, Music, Video/DVD, Quality Reference
4. Connectivity: The library is connected to the community and the institutions of the community including schools, college, youth programs and non-profits, and cultural/arts events.

Several other themes were present in each depiction of the library of 2020. In all cases the visualized “library” is much more than a building and books!!

The responses to the key questions on future library services is as follows:

Group One:

Question Number One: Please identify the services you believe the library of 2020 will need to provide: (List as many as you think the library will need to have in the year 2020).

1. The library is a community center, books, books, books, books, people coming to see exhibits, presentations, lectures,
2. A Staff is available to provide professional assistance to patrons, provide research support and assistance.
3. Children’s librarian, specialty programs for children including reading hour.
4. Literacy programs
5. Basic Computer Instruction

Question Two: What resources should be available at the library?

1. Cooperative lending with RCC, schools, medical and law libraries
2. Catalogue available to review on line, extensive research section materials.
3. New and up to date books are available
4. Magazines, books on tape, DVD’s, music, census materials.
5. Computer and web access
6. Conference Rooms
7. Art Exhibits, Community events, lectures

Question Three: What sort of events are part of the library?

1. Events that relate to activities already in town, and the themes of the season, including
 - a. Art Shows (first Friday)
 - b. Monthly display feature (i.e. woman history, amazing may, etc)
 - c. Film showings
 - d. Local authors celebrations
 - e. Chalk art with the chalk art event in October
2. Educational lectures by authors, educators or topics for education, Chautauqua
3. Childrens’s events
 - a. Storytime
 - b. Puppet shows
 - c. Reading programs and competitions
4. Other ideas mentioned included:
 - a. Used book sale
 - b. Give a bood (with best, silliest, most valuable, etc)

Question Four: What is the availability of library services? What are the hours of access, and what other access methods besides the open doors to the library are part of the library service?

1. The library is open to the public 10 AM to 7 PM M-F, with 10-5 on Saturday
2. Book and materials reservations are available on line 24/7
3. Branch libraries are open throughout the County on the same hours
4. Internet access is a key feature of the libraries
5. Bookmobile is a key feature of access
6. Decentralized cooperative access includes medical collection, RCC, branches, and the general collection available throughout the county

Group Two:

Question One: Please identify the services you believe the library of 2020 will need to provide: (List as many as you think the library will need to have in the year 2020)

1. Computer and technical support for electronic connection and the internet
2. Helpful, professional reference staff
3. Youth services
4. Bookstore/Coffee shop/Mother's Room
5. Professional partnership programs
6. Literacy programs

Question Two: What resources should be available at the library?

1. Updated print materials, including books and periodicals
2. Multimedia materials
 - a. Classical Music
 - b. Audio books
3. Community Meeting Room
4. Trained Volunteers

"The library needs to have something to offend everybody."

Question Three: What sort of events are part of the library?

1. Author talks, concerts, lectures
2. Fundraisers, film festival
3. Book clubs

Question Four: What is the availability of library services? What are the hours of access, and what other access methods besides the open doors to the library are part of the library service?

1. Seven Days/week, especially Saturday and Sunday
 - a. Online Catalogue 24/7
 - b. Main Branch at least 40 hours per week

2. All Branches are Open
3. Bookmobile
4. Autocheckout
5. Visible location, centrally located

Group Three:

Question Number One: Please identify the services you believe the library of 2020 will need to provide: (List as many as you think the library will need to have in the year 2020).

1. Children's programs
2. Professional, well trained staff
3. Public Computers and Web Access
4. Book Store/Gift Store/Coffee Shop
5. Reference Seccion
6. Adult Literacy Programs
7. Teen Services
8. Book Holds
9. Automated Check out
10. Volunteer Center Bulletin Board/Center

Question Two: resources should be available at the library?

1. Internet Access
2. Good Administration
3. Great Facilities
4. New Materials
 - a. Reference
 - b. Periodicals
 - c. Fiction – Non-fiction Collection
5. Online Subscriptions to periodicals and data bases
6. Trained Staff and Volunteers
7. Resource Developer
8. Volunteer Coordinator
9. Performance Center
10. Teen Room – Game Room

Question Three: What sort of events are part of the library?

1. Childrens Events, Story Time
2. Club Meetings and Meeting Room, Book Club
3. Concerts and Performances
4. Guest Authors and speakers
5. Art Exhibits and Shows
6. Technical Classes, software and hardware

7. Cultural Events
8. Writers Conferences
9. Music
10. Poetry readings

Question Four: What is the availability of library services? What are the hours of access, and what other access methods besides the open doors to the library are part of the library service?

1. Open 24/7 and online
2. Multiple Branches Open
3. Interlibrary loans
 - a. Branches, Community College
 - b. Jackson County
 - c. Medical
 - d. Legal
4. Kiosks throughout the community
5. Books to homebound
6. Bookmobile

The distillation of these inputs created the vision stated in the initial portions of this report.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Josephine Community Libraries, Inc., we wish to thank all the participants in this event. The board is proud to enunciate a vision for 2020 that is not a failed vision of an institution that may have become an anachronism, it is instead a vital and living part of the future.