

Enhancing the Story

SPECIAL PROJECTS CAMPAIGN



Improving Johnson County's Libraries



Making Connections to the Heart of the Community

Libraries are a community's great equalizer, drawing together families from diverse backgrounds, ethnicities, faiths and socio-economic status to strengthen the bonds of community. They are essential community centers and a welcoming resource for lifelong learners. Libraries alone extend resources to households by providing broadband internet access, computers and by connecting students with homework help. When we make improvements to one library; we are improving library services throughout the county.

The Johnson County Council approved an issue of library bonds in 2019 to support a new Clark Pleasant Branch in Whiteland, Ind.

We now hold the power to replace need with opportunity through a modernized branch of the Johnson County Public Library (JCPL) system for the Clark Pleasant area of Johnson County.



"Having a strong public library that serves the needs of the community is a great resource in helping all families advance literacy and education levels. These community amenities are the indelible assets which make Johnson County an amazing place to live, work, and grow."

– Dr. Patrick Spray
Superintendent,
Clark-Pleasant Schools

Addressing the Greatest Need

The boards of JCPL and the JCPL Foundation jointly examined the services, resources and facilities needed to meet the future needs of a growing Johnson County.

The Clark Pleasant Branch, one of four in the JCPL system, has served 1.2 million visitors in its 18 years of operation. The area's rapid population growth leads to program registrations regularly exceeding capacity. The branch not only serves Clark and Pleasant townships, but its central location in the county also makes it easily accessible to all Johnson County residents.

The community is attracting large companies and corporate investment which will continue as more people and employers recognize the amenities of Johnson County. This growth made the county the third fastest-growing in Indiana in 2016. The population has nearly doubled since 1987. Since 2000 the Clark-Pleasant Community Schools has seen a 104% increase in enrollment. The Pleasant Township population is projected to grow 34% by 2030.

The current Clark Pleasant Branch faces significant challenges:

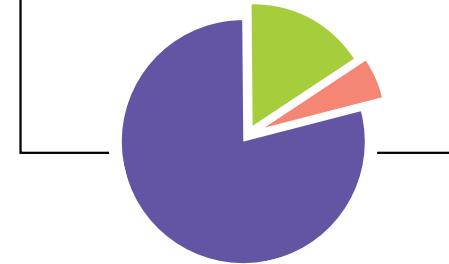
- ▶ Clark Pleasant area is growing rapidly.
- ▶ As new families move in; more schools are being built.
- ▶ The current building was not designed as a library:
 - ▶ Limited flexibility
 - ▶ Small children's area
 - ▶ No dedicated teen area
 - ▶ No study rooms
 - ▶ Lacks space for community groups
 - ▶ Public computers adjacent to busy area



Funding Sources

The approved bond, coupled with the library's existing reserve fund, enables the construction and outfitting of a new building that meets the demands of the growing population. This campaign is responsible for just a small portion of the project.

	\$7,400,000	Library Bond
	\$1,400,000	Library Reserves
	\$500,000	This Campaign



"Libraries are more relevant today than ever before. They are places for all ages to learn and find stories that fuel the imagination. They are a home for personal growth and a hub for neighbors to connect."

– Dana Monson, Community Development Specialist
City of Franklin

Ensuring the Greatest Benefits

Philanthropic support of this project will bring meaningful benefits to families through what happens *inside* the sophisticated new exterior.

The full Clark Pleasant Library project is an \$8.8 million venture that includes \$7.4 million in bond issues and \$1.4 million in reserve funds provided by the library.

This special-projects campaign seeks to raise some \$500,000 to equip intentionally designed spaces with state-of-the-art technology and equipment, as well as to construct an exterior space that promotes art, health and nature.

Six Key Projects

◆ EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING ZONE

A stimulating 300-square-foot interactive learning area for young children to learn through play. Families will discover the five literacy practices for early learning skills: *reading, singing, talking, writing* and *playing*. Parents and caregivers will have a comfortable gathering space to connect with their children and each other. Our funding goal of at least \$100,000 will also help ready preschoolers for kindergarten.



◆ ROBOTICS LEARNING LAB

A flexible 557-square-foot space where science, technology, engineering, art, math (STEAM) and robotics – areas heavily emphasized by learning communities – become highly interactive and motivating. This hands-on lab will provide after-school programs, STEAM and robotics teams, and those seeking STEAM-related careers. Our funding goal of \$100,000 will provide needed technology and equipment.

◆ TEEN GAMING CENTER

An area for teens to learn healthy competition emphasizing teamwork and social engagement. Gaming is a path to sports for teens who can't or won't participate in traditional programs, attracting students who are bright, disciplined and nimble problem solvers. Our funding goal of \$30,000 will supply technology to support a gaming station and an estimated five to 10 years of technology and equipment maintenance.

A library is “a key site of both cultural consumption and production and a facilitator of civil society in a way that other public places are not.”

– The Public Places of Central Libraries,
American Library Association

ADULT LEARNING CENTER

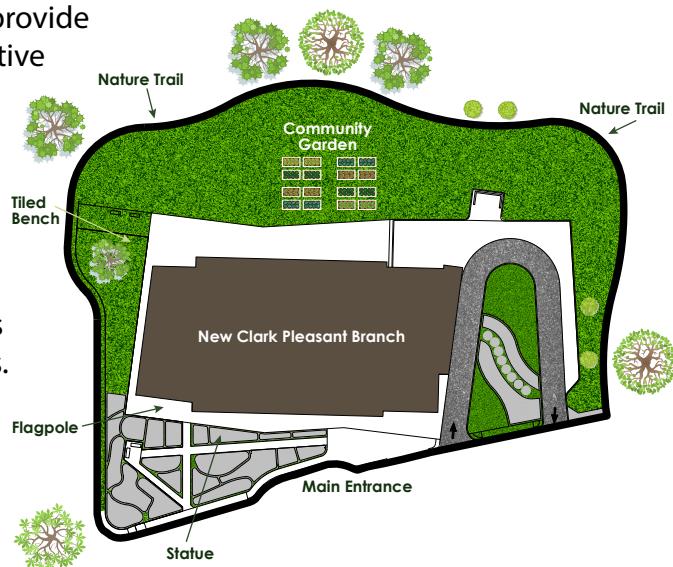
A dedicated space designed to help adults develop basic educational skills, English language skills, learning across cultures and more. Few places are as well-equipped to the pursuit of lifelong learning like a library. Our funding goal of \$60,000 will help provide resources necessary to support adult learning needs and to promote a literate society.

PUBLIC ART

An important aspect of a community's identity is the art it embraces. Community art helps create culture, support difference-makers, inspire economic development, stimulate tourism and fire the imagination. Our funding goal of \$90,000 will support three art projects for the enrichment of the community through art.

NATURE TRAIL & COMMUNITY GARDEN

A two- to three-acre area for gardens, natural landscaping and a paved fitness trail. As an external extension of the library's welcoming interior, the outdoor area will provide functional and restorative spaces for the whole family. A community garden is included in the planning. Our funding goal of \$130,000 will produce the trail, place markers and planting materials.



The vision for an expanded and enhanced Clark Pleasant Branch is within reach. The capacity to realize the needs and dreams for this 21st-century library relies on the investment of others who believe in the power of a library to be the beating heart of a community.



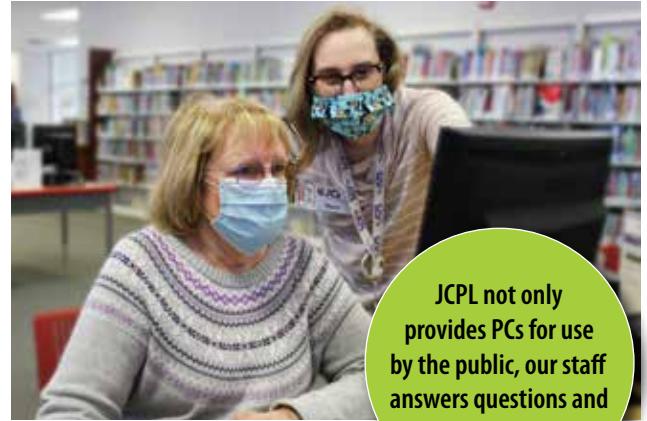
"The ALC has been very helpful to my life in the U.S. I'm learning English. My listening skills have improved. The English I learn at the ALC is useful for medical appointments, shopping, my kids' school work, and understanding the news. I can now communicate with people in English and I have made friends!"

Kanae (Kimishima) and her family, from Japan, live in Greenwood temporarily while her husband works for a Japanese manufacturing company. Kanae has been taking English classes at the ALC since September 2019.

Libraries Impact Our County

The impact a library makes on the economic development and the quality of life in a community cannot be overstated. The JCPL system's successful development of its Trafalgar Branch is proof, and the relocation and transformation of the Clark Pleasant Branch will do the same.

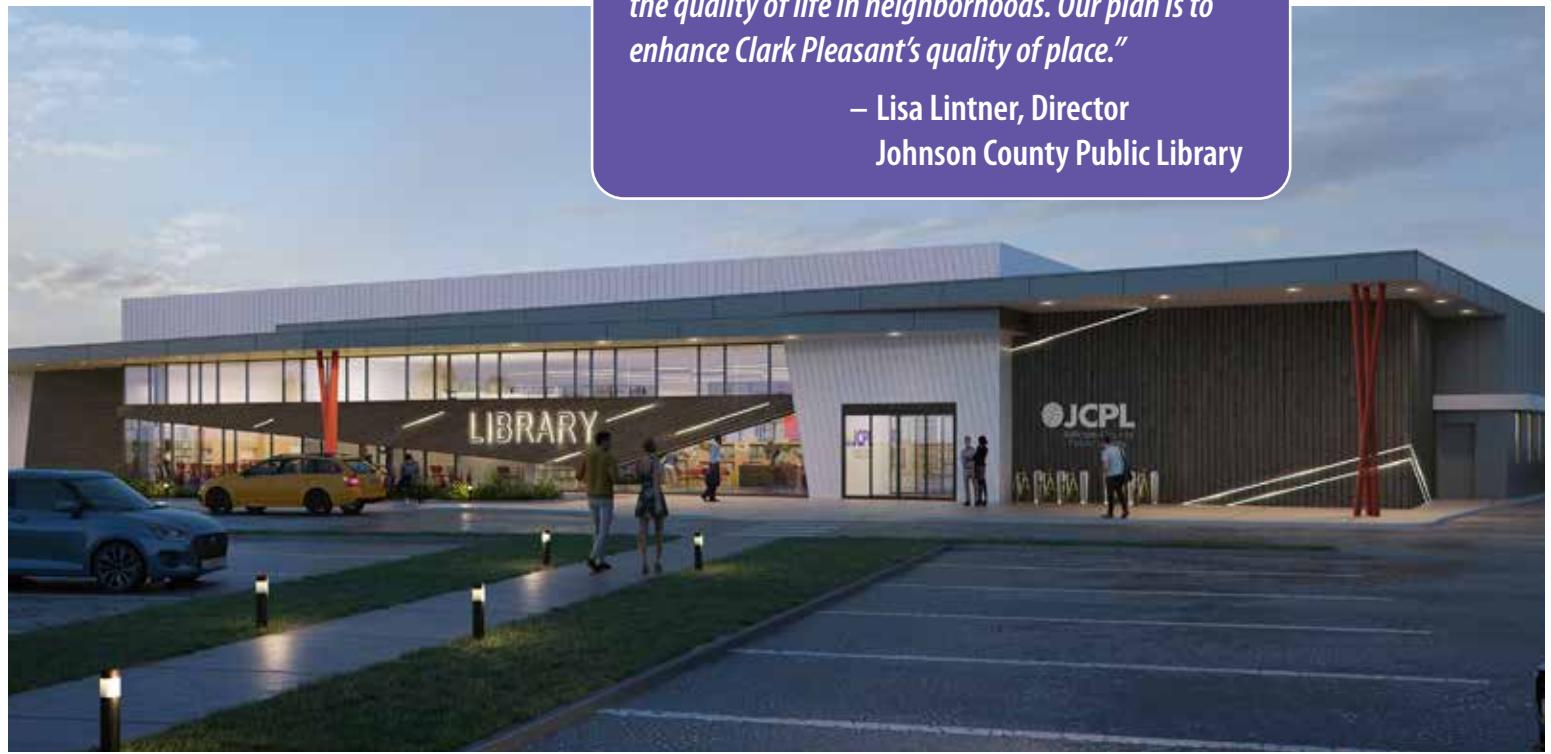
The branch is currently in a structure designed as office space and it is difficult to locate. The new location will nearly double the space from the current 10,000 square feet to 17,200, creating a flexible library to accommodate the area's substantial growth. The new branch in Whiteland will sit on seven acres along US 31 between New Whiteland and Franklin – an impossible-to-miss beacon of community and education – becoming the site of the visions and inspirations that bring the entire community together.



JCPL not only provides PCs for use by the public, our staff answers questions and provides guidance.

"Public libraries are catalysts for a community's physical development. Libraries are highly regarded and seen as contributing to the stability, safety and the quality of life in neighborhoods. Our plan is to enhance Clark Pleasant's quality of place."

– Lisa Lintner, Director
Johnson County Public Library



You Are Invited to Join Us

While generous donors have many choices in how to make a difference in society through philanthropy, few options influence our world and its future more than education – and libraries are a community's most open educational source. Libraries give us license to expand our imagination, feed our thirst for learning and foster a supportive community. They are the one place where humans of every age and background can engage, learn, grow and transform in ways that make our world a more complete and better place.

The Johnson County Public Library has fulfilled a long-standing commitment to provide premier educational experiences and create learning environments that support residents of all ages. The relocation and expansion of a new branch in Clark Pleasant will allow the library to continue and profoundly enhance these outcomes.

We hope you will imagine the ways in which you can support this special campaign to breathe life into an exciting new community hub for Clark Pleasant. Please contact any member of our supporting committee or boards, who would be delighted to share more information about this opportunity and its impact. Thank you for your consideration and generous support.

JCPL FOUNDATION BOARD MEMBERS

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Library Director, Lisa Lintner

A handwritten signature of the name "Lisa".

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New Clark Pleasant Branch GROUNDBREAKING

MARCH 23, 2021



YOU ARE INVITED
Clark Pleasant Branch
GROUNDBREAKING
Tuesday, March 23
10 a.m.

