

# Expecting More From Our Libraries



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# Take Aways

1. Think Librarians Not Libraries
2. Think Community Not Collection
3. Think Aspirations Not Deficiencies



# Think Librarians Not Libraries





# Problem of Definition

**library** | 'lī, brerē, -brərē |

noun (pl. **libraries**)

a building or room containing collections of books, periodicals, and sometimes films and recorded music for people to read, borrow, or refer to: *a school library* | [ as modifier ] : *a library book*.

- a collection of books and periodicals held in a library: *the Institute houses an outstanding library of 35,000 volumes on the fine arts*.
- a collection of films, recorded music, genetic material, etc., organized systematically and kept for research or borrowing: *a record library*.
- a series of books, recordings, etc., issued by the same company and similar in appearance.
- a room in a private house where books are kept.
- (also **software library**) Computing a collection of programs and software packages made generally available, often loaded and stored on disk for immediate use.

**ORIGIN** late Middle English: via Old French from Latin *libraria* 'bookshop,' feminine (used as a noun) of *librarius* 'relating to books,' from *liber*, *libr-* 'book.'





NEW JERSEY  
&  
LOCAL

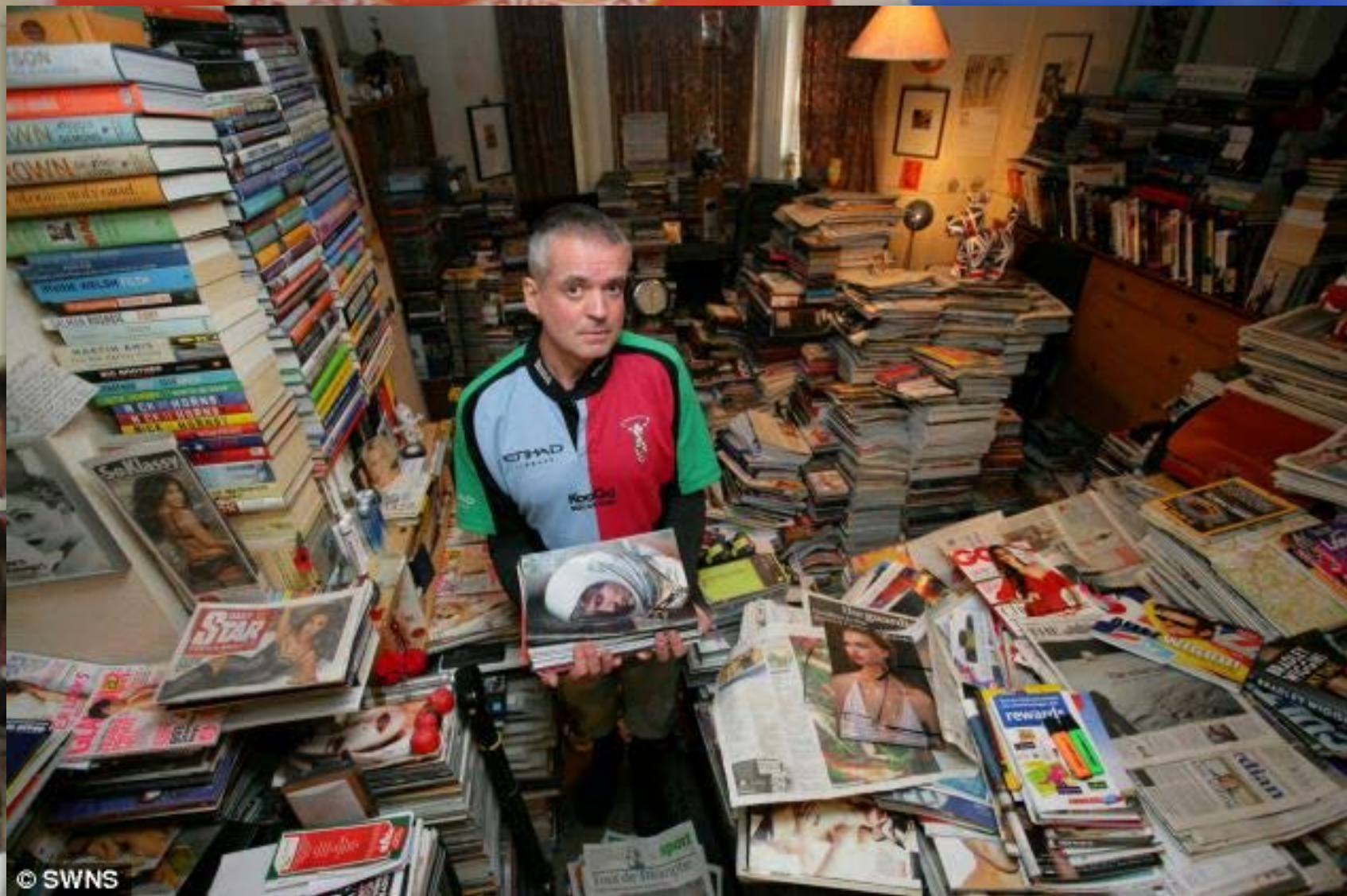
HOW TO?

PETS  
NATURE  
ADVENTURE

SEMPER PARATUS  
1790

EUROPE & WORLD HISTORY

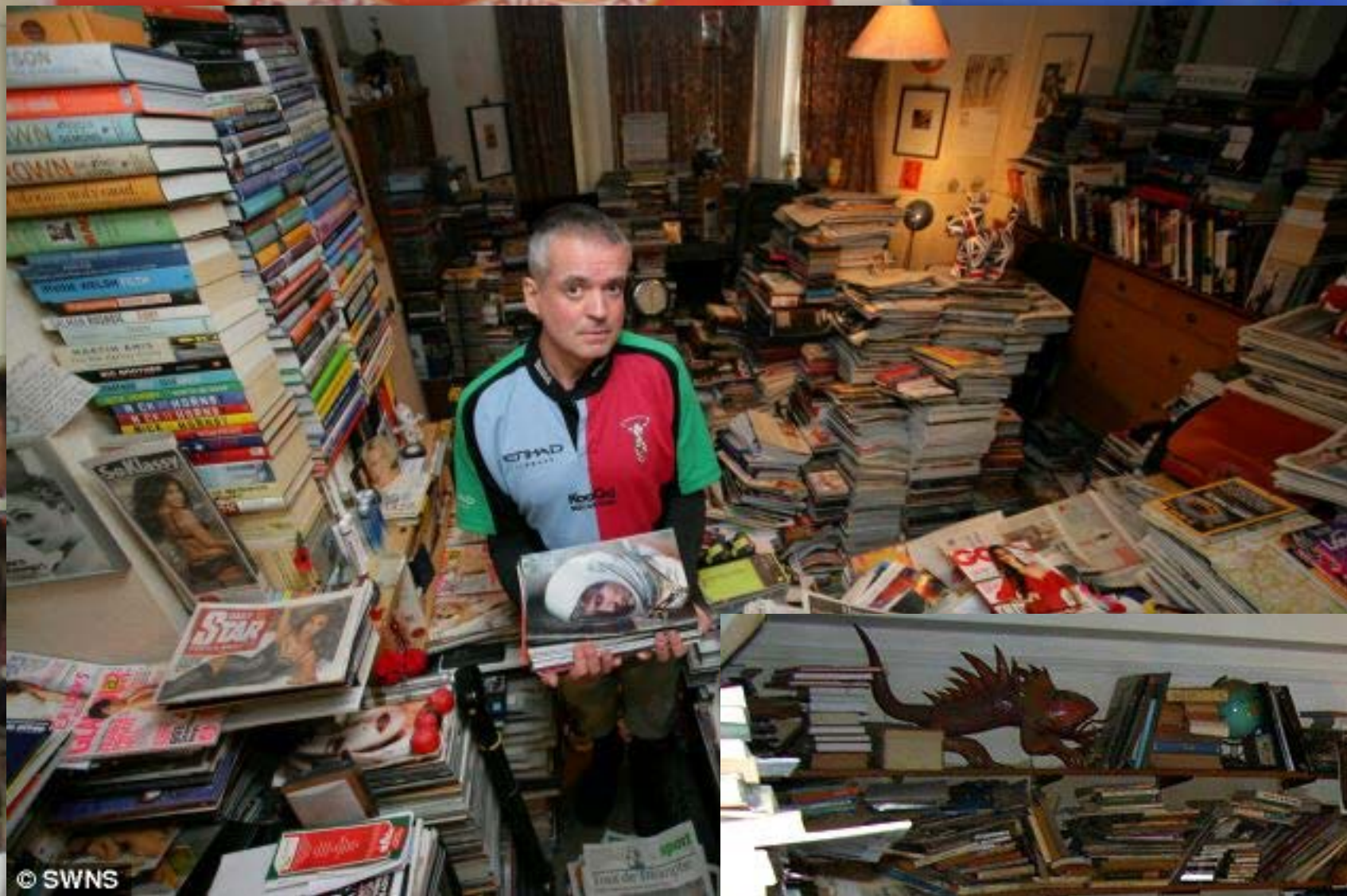




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# Pro on

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noun (pl. **libraries**)

a building or room of books for people to read

- a collection of books
- *volumes on the fine arts*
- a collection of films for research or borrowing
- a series of books, read in order
- a room in a private house
- (also **software library**) a collection of software available, often loaned

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**Other Problem: Libraries  
Don't Make a Difference**











**A Mandated Facilitated Space (Virtual and/or Physical)  
Maintained by the Community, Stewarded by Librarians,  
and Dedicated to Knowledge.**







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# Community Not Collection





Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

What do you love to do?

What are you passionate about?

Would you be interested in sharing what you know/ teaching it to your neighbors/ to the community?

Can I have your contact info?

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Do you want to speak in person? Please have the Executive Director contact me \_\_\_\_\_

Susan L. Considine, Executive Director  
Fayetteville Free Library  
300 Orchard Street  
Fayetteville, NY 13066  
315-637-6374 X 307  
[sconsidine@fflib.org](mailto:sconsidine@fflib.org)



Staff Initials \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_













Coding makes you better



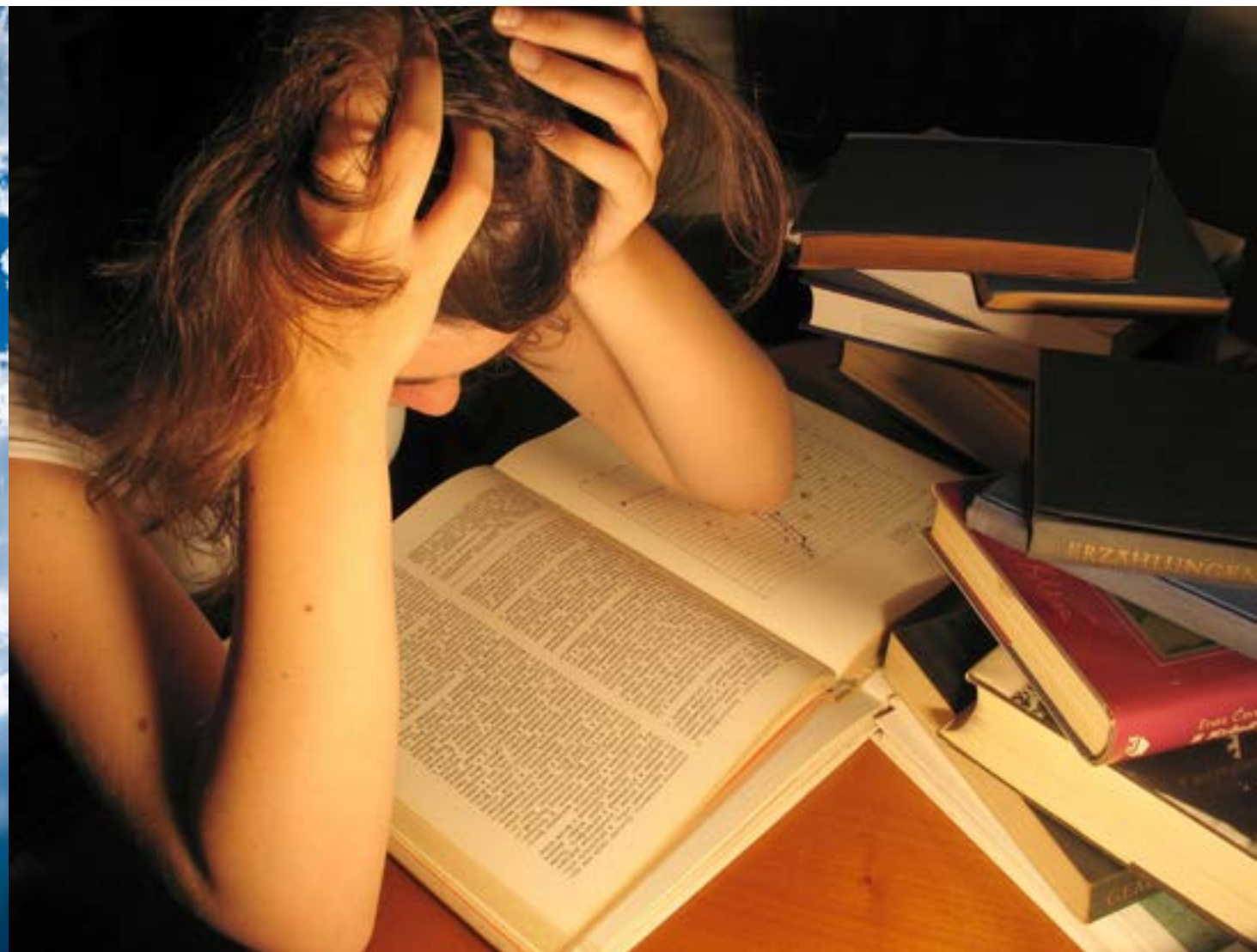
Problem Solving

From Idea to Reality

Understanding



# Aspirations Not Deficiencies





# Two Types of Deficit Thinking

- What We Expect
- How We Market



# Advocacy or Remediation?



# Advocacy or Remediation?

Reading



# Advocacy or Remediation?

Reading

Tech Skills



# Advocacy or Remediation?

Reading

Tech Skills

Internet  
Access



# Advocacy or Remediation?

Remediation	Activity	Area	Promotion	Activity
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Reading

Tech Skills

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Access



# Advocacy or Remediation?

Remediation	Activity	Area	Promotion	Activity
Low Literacy Rates Low School Performance	Host Tutoring Services Reading Hours Book Clubs	Reading	Reading and Writing for Exploration, Learning and Opportunity	Writing Clubs Library as Community Publisher Local Author Engagement

Tech Skills

Internet  
Access

# Advocacy or Remediation?

Remediation	Activity	Area	Promotion	Activity
Low Literacy Rates Low School Performance	Host Tutoring Services Reading Hours Book Clubs	Reading	Reading and Writing for Exploration, Learning and Opportunity	Writing Clubs Library as Community Publisher Local Author Engagement
Low Income Access Generational Access Issues (“Why can’t grandpa tweet?”)	Workshops Kindle Book Loading	Tech Skills	Economic Development Shaping Technology for Community Online Participation	Hack-a-thons Tech Petting Zoos

Internet  
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Rural Connectivity	Public Access Machines	Internet Access	Economic Development Democratic Participation	Rural Broadband Initiative Municipal WiFi Hotspot Loaners

Yes our communities have problems. Yes we should seek to solve them. Yet you motivate community action through aspirations, not constant reminders of failings



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We also cannot see our members as consumers whose primary deficit is their ability to create

# Take Aways

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# EXPECT MORE

**Demanding Better Libraries for Today's Complex World**



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