Some people think that libraries are going to disappear in the near future due to eBooks and Google. However, that’s very unlikely. I remember when the Internet arrived in the early 1990s—people thought that libraries were doomed. However, they adapted to changing times. Libraries have certainly changed over the past forty years. They used to be buildings filled with books. Librarians checked out books and answered reference questions. Today, most people do look to the Internet for answers to their questions. However, libraries now offer a wide range of new services. They offer programs for all age groups, including children, teens, adults, and senior citizens. Libraries offer outreach to senior citizen centers, day cares, preschools, assisted living centers, homebound people, and other organizations. They provide computer classes to the public. Libraries offer online research databases providing information about everything from automotive repair and foreign language instruction to genealogical research.

Anyone worried about the futures of libraries just needs to look at Scenic Regional Library’s usage statistics for last year. In 2013, we checked out 498,535 items and had over 276,000 people visit our branches. The library’s eBooks and eAudiobooks were checked out 38,483 times—a 29% increase over the past year. In addition, residents used the library’s Internet computers 50,895 times and searched its online research databases over 149,609 times. The library also had 3,830 children attend storytimes and 1,959 children participate in its summer reading program. An additional 40,549 people attended book clubs, adult programs, and teen programs in 2013.

Libraries aren’t going anywhere. They will continue to evolve and adapt as technology and society changes. It will be exciting to see what new services libraries offer in the future.

Volunteer Spotlight
Becky Hoch has volunteered at the Library’s administrative offices for the past three years. She sells books online that have been donated to the library. The Library can make significantly more money selling certain books online than they can at its regular book sales.

Thank you, Becky! We appreciate you! Volunteering at the library is a great way to give back to your community. It can also look great on a college application or resume. Would you like to volunteer at the library? Contact your local branch for an application or more information.

On January 14, teens at the Union Branch’s Teen Tuesday photographed their faces with the covers of some great young adult books.

A great way to learn about upcoming programs and events at the library is to follow us on Facebook. “Like” your local branch’s Facebook page today!
It’s Not Too Late to Participate in the Winter Reading Program

Scenic Regional Library’s Winter Reading Program for kids and teens continues until March 15. It’s not too late to sign up! Visit your local branch to pick up a Winter Reading BINGO card and discover a new genre or two this winter. Each square on the BINGO card represents a different genre or subject of books. If you read 5 books at your reading level (or 4 if you use the free space), you get a BINGO. Bring the card back to the library for a prize. Local area businesses, like Dominos, Casey’s, McDonald’s, and Sugar Momma’s have donated free food coupons for prizes. Check with your local branch of Scenic Regional Library to see what you could win with a BINGO. And if you’re feeling the need to read even more, read for all 25 squares and you’ll be entered into a drawing for a giant chocolate bar!

The proposed measure would increase the Library’s property tax levy from 10 cents to 20 cents.

The Library has had the same 10-cent operating levy in all three counties since 1959. In 2012, it collected the third-lowest tax rate in the state—131st out of Missouri’s 133 public libraries. Unlike school districts, the library is over 96% locally funded. Nearly all of the library’s revenue is received from local property tax, not state or federal funds.

Scenic Regional Library conducted a survey last spring that was mailed to 4,700 residents in the three-county area. Nearly 60% of respondents said that they wanted the library to provide longer service hours, more new material, or upgraded and expanded facilities. However, the library’s existing revenue does not allow for any of these changes.

More new material; more e-books. The library can’t afford to provide enough new material needed to serve the residents in its district. Serving 130,000 residents in the three-county area, wait lists for new titles exceed three or four months. If successful, the measure would more than double the amount of new items purchased by the library each year, including books, DVDs, CDs, and audiobooks. The library could also double or even triple the number of new e-books and e-audiobooks it purchases.

Longer service hours. Most Scenic Regional branches are closed on Mondays and only open one evening a week. Currently, the library can’t afford the additional staff needed to provide longer service hours (more evening and weekend hours) when most residents are home from work and can visit. If successful, the measure would allow the library to expand service hours at all its locations.

New services and technology. The Library is also beginning to fall behind on technology. It can’t afford to provide all the services offered by many libraries today, such as downloadable digital magazines; streaming digital movies and music; text- and chat-reference service; and e-readers which are preloaded with bestsellers and can be checked out. These services would be added with the new revenue, along with many others.

Due to the speed at which technology continues to change, most public libraries offer computer skills classes and e-book training for the public. While the library has begun to offer some of these classes and training, it would like to offer much more. Other services the library would like to offer with more funding include books-by-mail to homebound residents, more genealogy resources, public meeting rooms at more locations, and additional research databases.

More programming for all ages. In the past year, the library has begun offering free programs at all its branches for teens and adults on a wide range of subjects from gardening and watercolor painting to crocheting and cooking. The effort has been extremely successful. In fact, they have been so well-attended that the library’s small facilities often can’t accommodate the turnout. In some cases, the programs have to be held at off-site locations. The library would like to offer significantly more programs and even better-quality programs for children, teens, adults, and seniors.

More community outreach. Like most public libraries, Scenic Regional Library has also begun to provide outreach to their communities. This has involved providing materials and services to preschools, daycares, nursing homes, assisted living centers, adult day cares, and other organizations. The response has been overwhelming and the library can’t meet the demand without additional staff.

Major upgrades to facilities; additional branches. Many of the library’s facilities need upgrades and improvements that it cannot afford. The buildings are too small to accommodate increasing program attendance or additional new material. The library’s service population continues to grow and it cannot afford to expand the size of its facilities. For example, the population of Warren County has increased from 8,750 in 1960 to 32,513 in 2010, but the library still only has one branch serving the entire county. In some cases, the library’s facilities are not even handicapped accessible. The library’s New Haven facility was built in 1880 and hasn’t been renovated since the early 1960s. The levy increase would allow the library to significantly improve or expand all of its facilities.

How much will it cost?

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<td>MO River Reg. (Jefferson City)</td>
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<td>St. Louis County Library</td>
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<td>Washington County (Potosi)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scenic Regional Library</td>
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*Based on an individual or family with a house assessed at $110,000.
**Upcoming Events**

**UNION**

**KIDS & TEENS PROGRAMS**

**Preschool Storytime**

Wednesdays & Saturdays at 10 AM

**Teen Tuesday**

February 11 at 4 PM
Join us for a program created with YOU in mind!

February 25, 3-5 PM
Drop in and game with us!

**ADULT PROGRAMS**

**Robbery in Union**

February 4 at 6 PM
Sue Blesi will describe the 1903 Rudolph & Collins Bank Robbery in Union. Sue will also sign and sell copies of her 3 area histories. Call to register.

**21st Century Books Reading Group**

February 6 at 10 AM
*The Devil in the White City* by Erik Larson will be discussed.

**The Chain Gang**

February 7 from 6-7:30 PM
Come crochet with us!

**Using the Internet for Genealogy**

February 11 at 6 PM
The Four Rivers Genealogical Society will discuss tools available through Scenic Regional Library, Franklin County, and other online resources.

**Fitness for Life: Zumba**

February 18 at 1 PM
Zumba instructor Kami Farrell will teach Latin music based exercise. Adults only. Call to register.

**B.A.CH. Book Club**

February 20 at 7 PM
*The House of the Spirits* by Isabel Allende will be discussed.

**WARREN COUNTY**

**KIDS & TEENS PROGRAMS**

**Preschool Storytime**

Tuesdays at 10 AM
February's themes are Shapes-Curved and Straight, Hearts and Valentines, Stars, and Shapes Everywhere.

**Teen Tuesday “Marshmallow Wars”**

February 11 at 4 PM
Teens ages 12-18 are invited to join us in making “marshmallow shooters” and practicing their aim! Space is limited! Sign up at the Library or call 636-456-3321.

**ADULT PROGRAMS**

**Movie Night: Letters to Juliet**

February 11 from 6-8 PM
Come join us for the romantic movie, *Letters To Juliet*, and dip some treats in the chocolate fountain. Sign up at the library or call 636-456-3321.

**Self-Defense**

February 25 from 6:30-7:30 PM
Learn about and practice the art of self-defense with Jeremiah Coke. Sign up at the Library or call 636-456-3321.

**Book Club**

February 19 at 2 PM
We will be discussing *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak. Please join us!

**HERMANN**

**KIDS & TEENS PROGRAMS**

**Preschool Storytime**

Thursdays at 10 AM

**Story Hour with Parents as Teachers**

February 12 from 1:30-2:30 PM
Fall in love with reading at this special afternoon story hour. We'll have Valentine stories, songs, crafts, and treats.

**Teen Scene: Post-It® Note Art**

February 19 from 3-4:30 PM
Tap into your inner artist, no matter how small, by creating Post-It® Note art to decorate the new teen space.

**Teen Open House: Game On!**

February 23 from 2-4 PM
Join us for an afternoon of games, snacks, and FUN checking out the new teen space at the Hermann Branch.

**ADULT PROGRAMS**

**Learn to Quilt!**

February 7 at 2 PM
Come learn some basic quilting skills at the Hermann Branch. Bernadine Oetterer will be at the Library to instruct our class. Call or come in for more information.

**Be Creative! Creative Writing Club**

Every 2nd Wednesday at 6 PM

**Join us for Book Club**

Every 3rd Wednesday from 6-8 PM

*In December, the St. Clair Branch had Cookie Day. The branch celebrated the holidays with cookies, tea, and coffee for patrons throughout the day. They also had a cookie exchange.*

*The Hermann Area EMS presented a CPR class on January 22 at the Hermann Branch. They even allowed participants to practice chest compressions on dummies.*

Children made Christmas ornaments at the New Haven Branch in December.
**Upcoming**

**NEW HAVEN**

**KIDS & TEENS PROGRAMS**

**Preschool Storytime**
Tuesdays at 10 AM
In February, we will enjoy stories, songs, crafts, and finger plays about shapes and Valentine’s Day.

**ADULT PROGRAMS**

**Basic Computer Skills**
February 12 from 1-2:30 PM
Yes, basic, hands-on, computer experience using a mouse, navigating Windows 7, basic functions, and more. Registration is essential and class size is very limited. Reserve your place today.

**Book Club**
February 26 at 5 PM
We will be discussing *The Light Between Oceans* by M. L. Stedman. Stop by the library to reserve a copy.

**Benefits of Trees with Sandi Hillermann McDonald**
February 27 at 6-7:30 PM
Old New Haven School, 810 Maupin Street
Call or stop by to reserve your seat today. Sandi will share everything you need to know to plant, care for, and enjoy the trees in your landscape.

**Coming in March**

**Paper Crafting with Barb Kandlbinder**
*The March Book Club* read is *Kabbalah: A Love Story* by Lawrence Kushner.

**Events**

**PACIFIC**

**KIDS & TEENS PROGRAMS**

**Preschool Storytime**
Thursdays at 10 AM

**Valentine Crafts and Reading with Max**
February 8 from 11 AM-12 PM

**Crafty Kids Club**
February 12 from 3:30-4:30 PM

**Read ’n Build**
February 15 from 11 AM-12 PM

**ADULT PROGRAMS**

Registration required for the following programs. Please call 636.257.2712 or visit the Library to sign up.

**Crochet for Beginners**
February 8 from 1-2 PM
Beginner’s class on crochet.

**Historian and Author, Sue Blesi**
February 19 from 6-7 PM
Sue Blesi will be giving a humorous presentation on the botched Farmers & Merchants Bank Robbery of 1921.

**Adult Book Club**
February 26 at 6:30-7:30 PM
We will be reading *The Giver* by Lois Lowry.

**Continued...**

**ST. CLAIR**

**KIDS & TEENS PROGRAMS**

**Preschool Storytime**
Thursdays from 11 AM to 12 PM

**Teen Book Club**
February 18 at 3:30 PM

**Teen Time**
February 19 from 3-5 PM
Casino day.

**Read - Build - Play Club**
February 22 at 10 AM

**ADULT PROGRAMS**

**How to Write a Novel with Clark Willie, Author**
February 25 from 3-4 PM

**Adult Book Club**
February 27 from 2-3 PM

**OWENSVILLE**

**KIDS & TEENS PROGRAMS**

**Preschool Storytime**
Thursdays at 4:30 PM
Hear stories, sing songs, and make a craft.

**Mystery Craft Day**
February 22 from 10 AM - 12 PM
Come find out what fun craft Miss Kim has for you!

**Knitting Circle**
February 5 at 6:30 PM
With Charlie Hada. Bring a friend!

**Movie Night**
February 7 at 7 PM
Showing *The Lone Ranger* with Johnny Depp. As always, it's free!!

**Book Club**
February 19 at 6:30 PM
We’re discussing *The Gurnsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society* by Mary Ann Shaffer.

**Petroglyphs in Gasconade County**
February 20 at 6:30 PM
Presented by Dan Slais. Reserve your place now!!
Friends of the Library Groups Forming

Scenic Regional Library is excited to announce that it will be forming Friends of the Library groups in all seven of our communities.

The new Friends of the Library groups have several purposes:
- Provide an opportunity to support the Scenic Regional Library branch located in your community
- Maintain an association of people interested in libraries
- Promote library resources and services
- Raise funds and encourage gifts to support the library
- Recruit volunteers to help with library operations
- Foster a positive relationship between the library and the community

An individual can join their local Friends group for as little as $10. The annual membership dues are used to buy books, DVDs, CDs, computers, equipment, furnishings, and to support programming at the Library. An individual can help the Friends have a greater impact through making a larger contribution.

All membership dues and contributions are tax deductible and designated solely for use by your local branch’s Friends of the Library group.

While Scenic Regional Library is a tax-supported institution, it has the third-lowest collected tax rate among Missouri public libraries and has not had a tax increase since 1959.

Each community’s Friends of the Library group will be governed by a committee. The local committee will meet to plan how to recruit new members, publicize the Library and its services, organize fundraising events, recruit volunteers, and other activities. The committee also decides how to donate their money to their local branch. Friends of the Library members will elect the committee at a meeting which will be held in early 2014.

Friends members reap rewards as patrons. Membership dues and contributions are used to make the Library stronger. As a patron, they will gain a library with more high quality programming, faster computers, and a better quality selection of materials.

In addition, Friends of the Library members receive the following benefits:
- Members receive a 10% discount on books purchased at the library’s fall and spring book sales.
- Members in 2014 will have their name and contribution level engraved on a plaque which will be placed on permanent display in their local branch.
- Members can attend special programs and events at any branch which are only open to Friends of the Library members.

A membership application for the Friends of the Library can be found on the last page of this newsletter or on the Library’s website at www.scenicregional.org/friends.

Kindles Available for Checkout at Hermann and Owensville Branches

Scenic Regional Library is beginning a pilot program on February 1 at its Hermann and Owensville branches that will allow patrons to check out Kindle e-readers.

Scenic Regional Library is beginning a pilot program on February 1 at its Hermann and Owensville branches that will allow patrons to check out Kindle e-readers. The devices are pre-loaded with e-book versions of fifteen bestselling hardcover fiction novels. Patrons can request and check out the e-readers like they do a book; however, the devices are only available to Hermann and Owensville branch patrons during the pilot program. Three Kindle e-readers will be available for request and check out at each location.

“It’s a good opportunity for people who have never used an e-reader to become familiar with one without having to go out and buy one,” said Library Director Steve Campbell. “Then, if they decide to go out and get one, that’s great. They can get one and download e-books from the library. If someone is on a long wait list for a bestseller, this is also a way for them to get familiar with one without having to go out and buy one.”

If the pilot program is successful and the devices are heavily used by patrons, the Library hopes to make Kindle e-readers available at all of its branches.

The bestselling fiction titles on each device are:
1. The Invention of Wings, by Sue Monk Kidd
2. The Goldfinch, by Donna Tartt
3. Dark Wolf, by Christine Feehan
4. Standup Guy, by Stuart Woods
5. Sycamore Row, by John Grisham
7. The Pagan Lord, by Bernard Cornwell
8. The First Phone Call from Heaven, by Mitch Albom
9. Fear Nothing, by Lisa Gardner
10. River Road, by Jayne Ann Krentz
11. Command Authority, by Tom Clancy and Mark Greaney
12. Gone Girl, by Gillian Flynn
13. Doctor Sleep, by Stephen King
15. Cross My Heart, by James Patterson

While Scenic Regional Library joined Missouri Evergreen on January 13. We would like to thank the public for their patience as we continue to work out the bugs. Shown to the left is a single day of items either being sent to, or received from, other Missouri Evergreen member-libraries. We expect the volume to continue to grow rapidly.
Teen Advisory Board Creates Teen Area for the Hermann Branch

Teens were recruited from the local middle and high schools to serve on the Hermann Branch’s Teen Advisory Board. The group’s purpose was to design an area for the branch that would attract local teens to the library. Members met five times in three months to share their ideas and to select furnishings for the space. The furnishings were purchased with state aid funds from the Missouri State Library. The teen area was completed on January 22 and includes a Kindle Fire (pre-loaded with young adult fiction titles) available for use inside the branch. There will be an open house to unveil the new teen area on Sunday, February 23 between 2:00 and 4:00 PM.

Locations & Hours

**Administrative Office (ADMIN)**
308 Hawthorne Drive
Union, Missouri 63084
Phone: 636-583-0652
- Mon thru Fri: 8am - 5pm
- Sat: Closed
- Sun: Closed

**Union Branch (UN)**
308 Hawthorne Drive
Union, Missouri 63084
Phone: 636-583-3224
- Mon & Fri: 9am - 6pm
- Tues, Wed, & Thurs: 9am - 8pm
- Sat: 9am - 3pm
- Sun: Closed

**Hermann Branch (HR)**
601 Market Street
Hermann, Missouri 65041
Phone: 573-486-2024
- Mon: Closed
- Tues, Thurs, & Fri: 9am - 6pm
- Wed: 11am - 8pm
- Sat: 9am - 3pm
- Sun: Closed

**Owensville Branch (OW)**
107 North First Street
Owensville, Missouri 65066
Phone: 573-437-2188
- Mon: Closed
- Tues, Thurs, & Fri: 8:30am - 5:30pm
- Wed: 8:30am - 7pm
- Sat: 8:30am - 1pm
- Sun: Closed

**Pacific Branch (PC)**
119 West St. Louis Street
Pacific, Missouri 63069
Phone: 636-257-2712
- Mon: Closed
- Tues, Thurs, & Fri: 9am - 6pm
- Wed: 9am - 8pm
- Sat: 9am - 3pm
- Sun: Closed

**St. Clair Branch (SC)**
515 E Springfield
St. Clair, Missouri 63077
Phone: 636-629-2546
- Mon: Closed
- Tues, Thurs, & Fri: 8:30am - 5:30pm
- Wed: 8:30am - 7pm
- Sat: 9am - 1:30pm
- Sun: Closed

**Warren County Branch (WR)**
912 South Hwy 47
Warrenton, Missouri 63383
Phone: 636-456-3321
- Mon, Thurs, & Fri: 9am - 6pm
- Tues & Wed: 9am - 8pm
- Sat: 9am - 3pm
- Sun: Closed

**New Haven Branch (NH)**
901 Maupin
New Haven, Missouri 63068
Phone: 573-237-2189
- Mon: Closed
- Tues, Thurs, & Fri: 8:30am - 12:30pm; 1pm - 5:30pm
- Wed: 8:30am - 12:30pm; 1pm - 7pm
- Sat: 8:30am - 1pm
- Sun: Closed
SCENIC REGIONAL LIBRARY
FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

All information submitted is considered confidential and will never be given or sold to any other individual, company, or organization.

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<tr>
<th>NAME TO APPEAR ON PLAQUE (Ex., William &amp; Mary Smith or The Smith Family or Franklin County Hardware)</th>
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<th>BRANCH AFFILIATION (Please select one)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Friends of the Hermann Branch</td>
<td>Bronze – $10</td>
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<td>Friends of the Owensville Branch</td>
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<td>Friends of the Warrenton Branch</td>
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<td>Platinum – $250</td>
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<td>Friends of the Union Branch</td>
<td>Diamond* – $500</td>
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<td>Friends of the New Haven Branch</td>
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<td>*Lifetime membership</td>
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<th>WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP? (Select all which apply)</th>
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<td>Volunteer at the Fall Book Sale (November)</td>
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<td>Volunteer at the Spring Book Sale (May)</td>
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<td>Volunteer at other events</td>
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<td>Volunteer at my local branch</td>
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<td>Serve on the local Friends of the Library’s</td>
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<td>Governing and Planning Committee</td>
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Mail this form (or drop it off at your local branch) with your personal check or money order to: Friends of the Library, 308 Hawthorne Dr., Union, MO 63084

Membership dues and contributions are tax deductible.