



PHOTO BY DAVE MARNER

OWENSVILLE FRIENDS of the Library donated \$22,500 toward the cost of a new electronic message board installed last week at the Owensville branch of Scenic Regional Library.

Friends group donates digital message sign to Owensville Library branch

The Owensville Friends of the Library group has donated a digital monument sign to their branch.

The sign was installed on May 29 by Ziglin Signs of Washington in front of the library, along Highway 19. It's expected to be fully-operational in early June.

The branch will use the sign to publicize upcoming programs and events. The Owensville branch is the only Scenic Regional Library facility with a digital sign. It can be updated wirelessly by the branch staff.

Cost of the sign was \$30,000. The Friends group contributed \$22,500 and the library paid \$7,500. The purchase represents the largest donation to the library by one of its Friends groups, according to Steven Campbell, executive director of the library system.

The Owensville branch's Friends of the Library has been the most successful Friends groups in the library system and until the purchase of the digital sign had the largest bank balance. The Friends of the Library's funds are generated from annual membership dues, book sale proceeds, fund-raising events, and donor wall "book" sales. All funds raised by the group remain earmarked for the Owensville branch.

Last summer, the group held an enormously-successful fund-raiser to auction naming rights to different sections of the library. The auction event had a large turnout and raised \$5,500 — more than any other branch's auction event throughout the system.

The group also sold close to 100 donor wall "books" — also more than any other Friends group in the library system.

The wooden books are engraved with the name of an individual, organization, or business, and placed permanently in the branch's entrance hallway. They were sold for \$100, \$200, or \$300, depending on the size of the gift.

Owensville branch Friends of the Library members, along with Owensville representatives on the Scenic Regional Library Foundation Board of Directors Doug Dunlap and Diane Laimore, sold the books over the past two years. One-third of all donor wall books sold throughout the library system were sold in Owensville. The concept of selling the donor wall books as a fund-raiser was Laimore's idea, according to Campbell.

Last year, the Owensville branch Friends of the Library group purchased the materials and volunteered their time to construct a butterfly garden. The stone-

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tions from the Austin Peters Group which conducted a study for the city. Aldermen are expected to manage

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framed raised bed contains plants and flowers which attract butterflies. The Owensville branch Friends of the Library group has 35 members. Trudy Oberbeck is president.

Scenic Regional Library has a Friends of the Library group in each of its nine communities with branches.

Anyone interested in joining the Owensville Friends of the Library or purchasing a donor wall book can visit www.scenicregionalfoundation.org. The Scenic Regional Library Foundation and its Friends of the Library groups were created in 2013 and are a 501(c)3 organization. Memberships and donations are all tax deductible.

Investigate assault reports, of protective orders

reporting parties.

On May 23, deputies responded to the 300 block of Kansas City Avenue in Bland for a reported violation of a protective order. A 33-year-old male and a 35-year-old female reported that an active ex parte order of protection had been violated by a 21-year-old female. This case was referred to the prosecuting attorney for review.

n. A man, 57, was in contact with the

Arrests of DWI following crash on Highway 100 near Junction

ported at 4 a.m., Burris was traveling west on Highway 100 when he went off the left side of the road and overturned. Burris had moderate injuries. The truck was a total loss and was towed from the scene by Harvey's Towing of Hermann.

Burris was not wearing a seat belt at the time of the crash.

The MSHP also reports the arrest at 8:55 p.m. June 2 of Eric V. Merrell, 40, of Bland, on allegations of driving while intoxicated and speeding. He was released to a sober party. The arrest was made in Gasconade County.

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