



read, explore, grow

THE Scenic Regional Library

NEWSLETTER



issue 143 | april 2025

A monthly publication from your local library!

Owensville Branch Opens Community Garden – Check Out a Raised Bed!

The Owensville branch will open a community garden on Monday, April 14. The garden, located behind the branch, features ten raised beds for vegetables, flowers, and herbs. The garden beds, soil, and supplies were purchased with a Federal grant from the Department of Social Services through the University of Missouri Extension Family Nutrition Education Program. Volunteers filled the beds with topsoil and compost on March 25.



The garden beds can be “checked out” for the entire growing season by individuals, as well as organizations such as Scouts and 4-H groups, school classes, food pantries, and church groups. There are no costs or fees for “checking out” a garden bed. The library offers some gardening tools for use in the community garden for individuals who do not have them.

To “check out” a garden bed, a copy of the library’s Community Garden User Agreement must be signed and returned to the branch. It outlines the rules for people utilizing the garden. The agreement can be found online at <https://scenicregional.org/gardenagreement/>. For additional information, please contact Owensville Branch Manager Erica Mosley at 573-299-0006 or emosley@scenicregional.org. The library opened a community garden at the St. Clair branch in 2021.

Do You Want to Talk about “The Flower Sisters”?

When you read a great book, don’t you want to discuss it with someone? If so, the library’s monthly book discussion groups provide a perfect opportunity. The purpose of the library’s annual community read is to unite our communities by having as many people as possible reading and discussing the same book at the same time.



If you’ve already read “The Flower Sisters”, the next step is to join in the conversation and discuss the book’s themes and ideas with others in your community. We’re halfway through April, but there are still plenty of book discussion groups scheduled to discuss this year’s book.

Upcoming Book Discussion Groups for “The Flower Sisters”:

- Tuesday, April 15, 6pm | Owensville
- Tuesday, April 15, 6pm | Sullivan
- Wednesday, April 16, 2:30pm | Hermann
- Wednesday, April 16, 6pm | Washington Public Library
- Thursday, April 17, 2pm | St. Clair
- Thursday, April 17, 6pm | New Haven
- Thursday, April 17, 6pm | Union
- Tuesday, April 22, 2pm | East Central College Library
- Wednesday, April 23, 2pm | Warrenton
- Wednesday, April 23, 5:30pm | East Central College Library
- Tuesday, April 29, 6pm | Sullivan
- Wednesday, April 30, 5pm | Wright City



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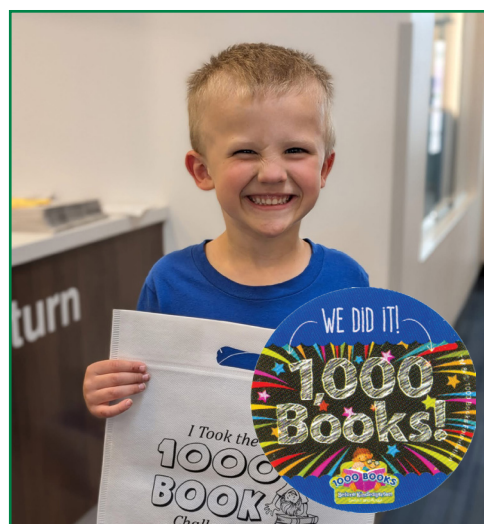


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1000 BOOKS Before Kindergarten



Congratulations to Riley at the Pacific branch who recently completed 1,000 Books before Kindergarten!



Congratulations to Carson from the Union branch who recently completed 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten!

Missouri House Bill Could Have Major Impact on Local Library Funding

A bill was passed by the Missouri House in mid-March that would reduce personal property taxes over the next three years. Currently, personal property taxes in Missouri are determined based on one-third of market value. House Bill 903 would reduce that to 18% of market value over three years.



What does this mean for our library? Currently, over 25% of the library's revenue is derived from personal property taxes. If the bill were to pass the Senate, our library would lose an estimated \$222,000 in revenue the first year; \$444,000 in the second year; and \$667,000 in the third year, as well as each subsequent year.

The losses in revenue would result in significant cuts to library services. Funding for public schools and other taxing districts would also be negatively impacted by the legislation.

HB 903 has moved to the Missouri

Senate. It will need to be passed by the Senate and signed by Governor Kehoe to become a law.

For those interested in contacting Missouri State Senator Ben Brown about House Bill 903, they can call his Jefferson City office at 573-751-3678 or email using an online form by visiting: <https://www.senate.mo.gov/DistrictWebApplication/Contact?DistrictNumber=26>.

Secretary of State Announcement on Overdrive Does Not Impact the Library

In March, Missouri Secretary of State Denny Hoskins announced withdrawal of state funding for Overdrive following allegations regarding inappropriate materials accessible to minors. The decision does not affect access to Scenic Regional Library's digital materials. Patrons can continue borrowing from Overdrive's Libby, Kanopy, and Hoopla. The platforms are all funded locally and include parental controls or audience filtering options.



The Secretary of State's announcement related to state funds used to provide digital content (magazines, building blocks books, beginning readers, early readers, and other titles) for the MOREnet Shared Digital Collection, which is used by a consortium of Missouri public schools.

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Federal Library Funding in Question



INSTITUTE of
Museum and Library
SERVICES

In late March, the entire staff of the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) was placed on leave for three months. The agency distributes Federal funds to state libraries, which use them to fund statewide initiatives and provide direct

grants to libraries. In Missouri, over \$3.3 million in Federal grant funds are provided to the Missouri State Library each year.

Some IMLS staff are expected to return, and the move did not eliminate Federal funding for libraries. However, with the dramatic changes at the agency, it is unclear if Congress will reauthorize those funds in September 2025.

A major reduction or elimination of IMLS funds would have a significant impact on the library. While we don't receive direct operating revenue from IMLS, the funds are used to subsidize some library expenses. IMLS funds are used to subsidize the library's Missouri Evergreen membership fees. Without subsidies, these fees would increase by 73%. In addition, the increase may force many smaller libraries to leave, which will raise Scenic Regional's fees even higher. The library borrows over 50,000 items a year from other Missouri Evergreen libraries.

IMLS funds are also used to subsidize the statewide courier service that transfers materials between Missouri libraries. Every library in Missouri receives two free days of courier service each week. For many smaller libraries, that's their only courier service. Obviously, if they can no longer transfer materials between their library and other libraries, remaining in Missouri Evergreen is pointless. So, even if they can afford increased Missouri Evergreen fees, if they can't afford courier, they will need to leave the consortium anyway. If enough smaller libraries are forced to leave, increased fees aren't the only concern; it's not inconceivable that the consortium could completely collapse.

Nearly all the grants we receive are funded through IMLS, too. Currently, the library has a grant funded through IMLS for art classes at the Gallery in Hermann. Due to the situation at IMLS, payment for the grant is frozen. Our current self-check systems, which are aging out, were funded through IMLS grants. The library is in the process of applying for replacement systems. The library's current servers were funded through these grants, too.

For those interested in advocating for the reauthorization of IMLS funds for libraries, they should call their elected officials now.

For those interested in advocating for the reauthorization of IMLS funds for libraries, they should call their elected officials now:

U.S. Representative Ann Wagner

Washington, D.C., office: (202) 225-1621

Washington, Missouri, office: (636) 231-1001

U.S. Senator Josh Hawley

St. Louis, Missouri, office: (314) 354-7060

Washington, D.C., office: (202) 224-6154

U.S. Senator Eric Schmitt

St. Louis, Missouri, office: (314) 230-7263

Washington, D.C., office: (202) 224-5721



DIY Birdhouses was a hit at the New Haven branch. Patrons applied yummy treats for our feathered friends to enjoy!



Library Director Steve Campbell was a guest reader for Read Across America Week on March 6 at Daniel Boone Elementary. He read two books to students in Ms. Kaufmann's first grade class.



The Union Branch Friends of the Library donated ten new puppets to their branch in March. The puppets cost \$170.



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Congratulations to this family! They all signed up for their first library card at Scenic Regional library.



A group of 4-H friends met at the Warrenton branch for a fun hands-on crocheting session.

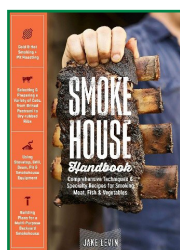


We are ready for the Community Read! Adult Programmer, Eli, poses with the book kits all branches have for patrons to pick up.

The Library Can Help You Perfect Your Grilling or Smoking Skills

The perfect weather for grilling and smoking is right around the corner. Grilling and smoking food isn't simple. There are endless variables, like temperature control, cooking time, and the type of fuel, that can make the difference between your food being succulent or a charcoal briquette. It takes practice and research.

Fortunately, the library has over 200 books on smoking and grilling everything from meat and poultry to seafood and vegetables. We even have vegan barbecue books! You'll find advice and recipes from world-renowned grill masters—not some guy on the Internet. Check out some of the books (and e-books!) in our collection to help you perfect your grilling and smoking skills:



“Smokehouse Handbook: Comprehensive Techniques & Specialty Recipes for Smoking Meat, Fish & Vegetables,” by Jake Levin

Levin provides detailed step-by-step photos showing various techniques, including cold-smoking, hot-smoking, and pit roasting. Featured recipes include specialty brines and rubs along with preparation guidelines for all the classic cuts of meat, including ham, brisket, ribs, bacon, and sausage, as well as fish and vegetables.

“How to Grill Everything: Simple Recipes for Great Flame-Cooked Food: A Grilling BBQ Cookbook,” by Mark Bittman

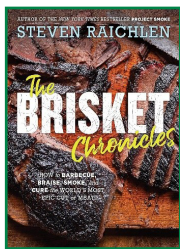
Here's how to grill absolutely everything from the perfect steak to cedar-plank salmon and pizza. Featuring 1,000 recipes and variations, covering every part of the meal, including appetizers, seafood, meat and poultry, vegetables, and even desserts.

“Wood Pellet Smoker and Grill Cookbook: Flavorful Grilling and Smoking Recipes for Your Wood Pellet Smoker,” by Quinn Harding [Also available on Hoopla]

This cookbook caters to all skill levels with easy-to-follow recipes and step-by-step instructions for grilling and smoking everything from succulent ribs and juicy burgers to tender brisket and flavorful vegetables. Learn essential smoking techniques, temperature control, and wood pellet selection to achieve perfectly smoked meats and vegetables.

“How to Grill Vegetables: The New Bible for Barbecuing Vegetables over Live Fire,” by Steven Raichlen [Also available on Hoopla]

How to fire-blister tomatoes, cedar-plank eggplant, hay-smoke lettuce, spit-roast brussels sprouts on the stalk, grill corn five ways—even cook whole onions caveman-style in the embers. And how to put it all together through 115 inspired recipes. Plus, chapters on grilling breads, pizza, eggs, cheese, desserts and more.



“The Brisket Chronicles: How to Barbecue, Braise, Smoke, and Cure the World's Most Epic Cut of Meat,” by Steven Raichlen

[Also available on Hoopla]

Grill master Steven Raichlen shares more than 60 foolproof, mouthwatering recipes for preparing the tastiest, most versatile, and most beloved cut of meat in the world—outside on the grill, as well as in the kitchen.

For more books about grilling or smoking food, just do a subject search for “grilling (cooking)” or “smoking (cooking)” in our online catalog! <https://srl.modiscovery.org/>.

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Library Seeking Service Organizations to Donate AED Devices

The library has been slowly adding Automated External Defibrillator (AED) devices at its branches through donations from community organizations and other entities. The portable devices are used to analyze a person's heart rhythm and deliver an electrical shock, or defibrillation, if necessary to restore a normal heartbeat. They are intended to help people experiencing sudden cardiac arrest.

The AED devices can be used by anyone in the vicinity and give the user step-by-step instructions. The devices are mounted on the wall in each branch's entrance hallway, which allows them to be used after hours by groups using the public meeting rooms.

On March 26, The Pacific Eagles donated \$2,021 to the library for the

purchase of an AED device for the Pacific branch. The St. Clair Lions Club are in the process of purchasing an AED for their local branch. The City of Union has tentatively agreed to purchase an AED device for the Union branch using their next disbursement of opioid settlement funds.

The library already has AED devices at the Owensville and Hermann branches. The Owensville Lions Club and Hermann Ambulance District each purchased an AED device for their local branch.

If anyone belongs to a service organization or other entity interested in donating an AED device to the library's branches in Warrenton, Wright City, Sullivan, or New Haven, they should contact Library Director Steve Campbell at 636-583-0652.



Pacific Branch Staff receive a donation from the Pacific Eagles for an AED device. Pictured, left to right: Adult Programmer Ali Heisler, Andrew Whitman with the Pacific Eagles, Library Supporter Kay LeClaire who facilitated the donation, and Branch Manager Lori Jane Perdew.

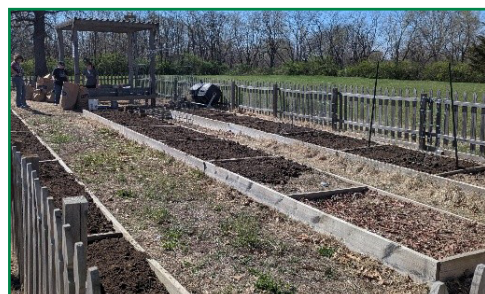
Staff April Anniversary

Thank you for being such an *important* piece of our puzzle!



Laura, Library Assistant Warrenton

On March 26, library staff and volunteers prepared the St. Clair Community Garden for the new growing season. They cleared the weeds from the beds and added fresh topsoil and compost.





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SCENIC SAYS!

Do you have a green thumb? If so, what are you growing in your garden?

What are your top three food items for a picnic?

Do you prefer reading outside on a sunny spring day or inside on a rainy spring day?

Michele
St. Clair
Branch



"Yes, I do! I am going to try herbs this year on my patio. Then, dry them and put them in canning jars and give away as gifts."

"Hamburgers and brats, German potato salad, and my mom's recipe for baked beans."

"Inside on a rainy day."

Sue
Owensville
Branch



"Absolutely not. Only when I spill green food coloring on it."

"Fried chicken, potato salad and macaroni salad."

"Curled up outside is the best place to be."

Denise
Union
Branch



"I like to think I do, with everything except succulents. I keep an herb garden for cooking and making different wellness items and grow tomatoes and lettuce."

"Fruits, cheese, and chips."

"I love a rainy day. Plus, if I'm inside my cats are usually on my lap, so that's an added bonus."

Sarah
Owensville
Branch



"I like to grow all my own fresh herbs, and a cherry tomato plant for snacks!"

"Cheese, summer sausage, and grapes."

"Definitely inside: cozy chair, hot coffee, and the pitter-patter of rain on the windows."



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Last Month's Most Popular Titles

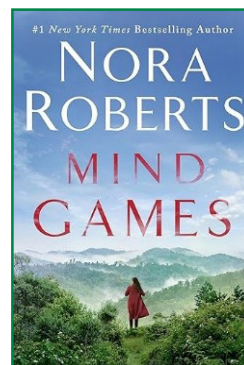
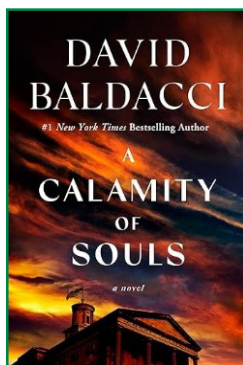
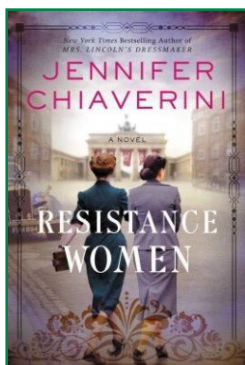
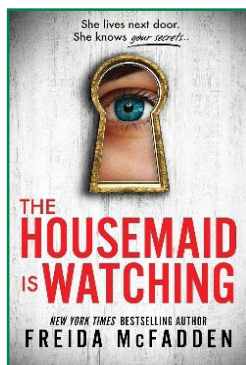
1st – “The Housemaid is Watching,” by Freida McFadden - Millie, now a social worker, moves with her husband Enzo and their two children to a suburban neighborhood, seeking a fresh start. Their new life takes a dark turn as they encounter unsettling neighbors, leading to a series of events that threaten their family's safety. The third installment in “The Housemaid series,” set approximately fifteen years after the previous book. **Genres: Adult Fiction, Mystery, Suspense, Psychological Thriller, Crime**

2nd – “Resistance Women,” by Jennifer Chiaverini - An enthralling historical saga that recreates the danger, romance, and sacrifice of an era and brings to life one courageous, passionate American—Mildred Fish Harnack—and her circle of women friends who waged a clandestine battle against Hitler in Nazi Berlin. **Genres: Adult Fiction, Historical, World War II, Germany, Holocaust**

3rd – “A Calamity of Souls,” by David Baldacci - Set in the tumultuous year of 1968 in southern Virginia, a racially charged murder case sets a duo of white and Black lawyers against a deeply unfair system as they work to defend their wrongfully accused Black defendants in this courtroom drama. **Genres: Historical Fiction, Mystery, Thriller, Crime, Legal Thriller**

4th – “The Flower Sisters,” by Michelle Collins Anderson - Drawing on the little-known true story of a tragic event that took place in the author's Missouri hometown at an Ozarks dance hall in 1928, this beautifully written novel, told through twin storylines fifty years apart, explores the unpredictable effect of split-second decisions, small-town tragedy, and the ways family secrets reverberate through generations. **Genres: Adult Fiction, Historical, Mystery, Coming of Age, Thriller**

5th – “Mind Games,” by Nora Roberts – The novel following Thea, a woman with extraordinary psychic abilities, who becomes the target of a dangerous adversary. As she struggles to control her visions, she partners with a skeptical but protective detective, Nate, to uncover a deadly conspiracy. Their growing attraction adds tension as they race against time to outmaneuver a ruthless villain. **Genres: Adult Fiction, Romance, Suspense, Mystery, Paranormal, Thriller**



Several enthusiastic patrons learned how to play mahjong at the Owensville branch.



Thank you to Wright City West Elementary for having Ms. Kayleigh for career day for their 2nd graders!



St. Clair Friends of the Library hosted a program at St. Clair featuring the World Bird Sanctuary.

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Across

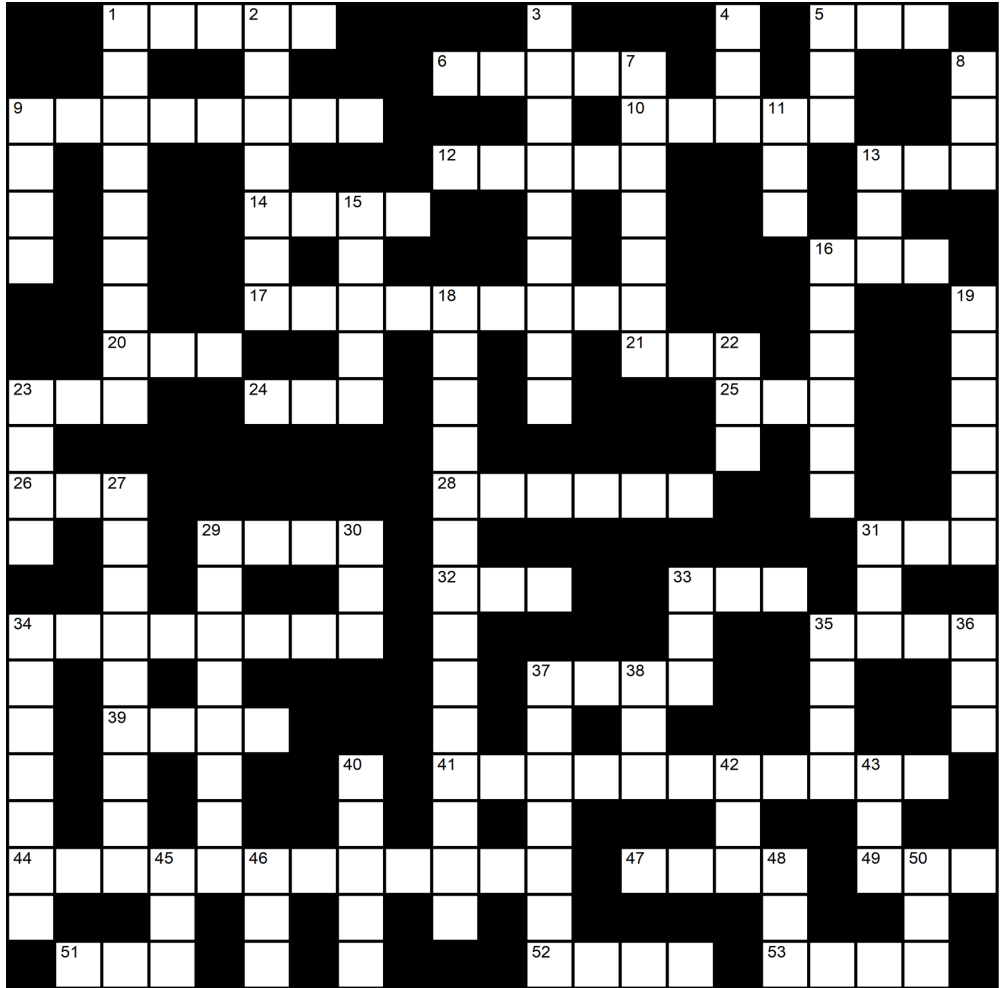
1 Spring arrival from shell - 5 Future feathers factory - 6 Underground networking system - 9 Nature's free-range residents - 10 Leafy overhead shelter - 12 Dutch delight in spring - 13 Slippery river swimmer - 14 Healing succulent solution - 16 Down in the dumps - 17 Free pass privilege - 20 Playground pursuit game - 21 Female friend, informally - 23 Digit at foot's end - 24 Star of our show - 25 Top card character - 26 Before, poetically speaking - 28 Breath's vital element - 29 Reach new heights - 31 Pub's foamy favorite - 32 Himalayan hair-raiser - 33 Folding path finder - 34 Baby botanical beginner - 35 April's special target - 37 Process printed patterns - 39 Earth's growing medium - 41 World around us - 44 Resource-saving mission - 47 Trick's unfortunate target - 49 Joke that might choke - 51 Cleaning cloth casualty - 52 Great Lake legend - 53 Space in square terms.

Down

1 Nurture to nature - 2 Weather's bigger picture - 3 Environmental villain - 4 Endless chatter matter - 5 Make mistake moves - 7 Tree in training - 8 Buddy in brief - 9 Invisible mover - 11 Poetic praise piece - 13 Arrival time estimate - 15 Wave world wonder - 16 Moving water ribbon - 18 Light-lunch process - 19 Wallet's welcome - 22 Circuit completion - 23 Bark-bearing giant - 27 Added length bonus - 29 Easy to deceive - 30 Tail's happy motion - 31 Fuss and flutter - 33 Steaming with steam - 34 Lab life lessons - 35 Genuine imposter - 36 Fall far behind - 37 Money moving in - 38 Breath's basic blend - 40 Growing green thing - 42 Brief sleep sweep - 43 Persistent pesky pest - 45 Droop down deep - 46 Cool in retro - 48 Time's big chunk - 50 Wing-like way.

Find the answers at
www.scenicregional.org/crossword.

April Crossword Puzzle



Sullivan's storytime read books about flowers and created giant flowers afterward. We are ready for SPRING!



Thanks to everyone who came to the Union branch and learned the art of paper quilling.

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Purchase a "Book" for the Donor Wall in Your Community's New Library

The Scenic Regional Library Foundation and Friends of the Library groups are selling donor wall "books", which will be placed in the entrance hallway of each new library building.

You can have your name, your family's name, or your business's name become a permanent part of the new library in your community. Donor wall "books" can also serve as a beautiful and long-lasting memorial for a loved one.

The cost of a donor wall "book" is based on the size of the book:

- 8" x 1 1/2" book – \$150
- 10" x 2" book – \$250
- 9" x 3" book – \$350

Visit www.scenicregional.org/foundation/ or complete this form to place your order. The Foundation accepts debit and credit cards (online), checks, and cash (only for forms brought to the library) for donor wall "book" purchases.



Proceeds from the sale of the donor wall books are designated for the local Friends of the Library group and used to assist with the purchase of furnishings and equipment in their new building.

Purchases are tax deductible.



Scenic Regional Library Foundation Donor Wall "Book" Order Form

FIRST NAME		DATE	
MIDDLE INITIAL	LAST NAME		
STREET ADDRESS			
CITY		ZIP CODE	
STATE			
PHONE NUMBER			
EMAIL ADDRESS			
NAME OF INDIVIDUAL, FAMILY, BUSINESS OR ORGANIZATION TO APPEAR ON BOOK			
BRANCH (Please select one)		SIZE OF BOOK	
<input type="checkbox"/> Hermann Branch <input type="checkbox"/> New Haven Branch <input type="checkbox"/> Owensville Branch <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific Branch <input type="checkbox"/> St. Clair Branch <input type="checkbox"/> Sullivan Branch <input type="checkbox"/> Union Branch <input type="checkbox"/> Warrenton Branch <input type="checkbox"/> Wright City Branch		<input type="checkbox"/> 8" X 1-1/2" - \$150 <input type="checkbox"/> 10" X 2" - \$250 <input type="checkbox"/> 9" X 3" - \$350	
OFFICE USE ONLY			
Date received: _____			
Amount received: _____			
<input type="checkbox"/> Check # _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Cash			

Mail this form (or drop it off at your local branch) with your personal check or money order to:

Friends of the Library
251 Union Plaza Drive
Union, MO 63084






SCENIC REGIONAL LIBRARY FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



October 1, 2024 – September 30, 2025 Membership Year

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

If this membership is for you, please provide your information; if this membership is a gift for someone else, please provide their information:			
FIRST NAME		MIDDLE INITIAL	
LAST NAME			
STREET ADDRESS		CITY	
STATE		ZIP CODE	
PHONE NUMBER		EMAIL ADDRESS	
If this membership is a gift for someone else, please provide your information:			
FIRST NAME	MIDDLE INITIAL	LAST NAME	
STREET ADDRESS		EMAIL ADDRESS	PHONE NUMBER
BRANCH AFFILIATION (Please select one)	LEVEL OF MEMBERSHIP	MEMBERSHIP GIFTS	
Hermann Branch <input type="checkbox"/> New Haven Branch <input type="checkbox"/> Owensville Branch <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific Branch <input type="checkbox"/> St. Clair Branch <input type="checkbox"/> Sullivan Branch <input type="checkbox"/> Union Branch <input type="checkbox"/> Warrenton Branch <input type="checkbox"/> Wright City Branch <input type="checkbox"/>	Silver - \$25 <input type="checkbox"/> Gold - \$50 <input type="checkbox"/> Platinum - \$100 <input type="checkbox"/> Diamond* - \$500 <input type="checkbox"/> *Lifetime Membership	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  <i>Gold:</i> 21oz. metal water bottle </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <i>Platinum:</i> 20-can cooler backpack </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <i>Diamond:</i> \$150 donor wall book </div> </div>	
WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP? (Select all which apply)		OFFICE USE ONLY	
Volunteer at the Fall Book Sale <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer at the Spring Book Sale <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer at other events <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer at my local branch <input type="checkbox"/> Serve on the local Friends of the Library's Governing and Planning Committee <input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> New Application <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal <input type="checkbox"/> Date Received: <input type="checkbox"/> Check # _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Cash <input type="checkbox"/> Amount Received:	

Mail this form (or drop it off at your local branch) with your personal check or money order to:
 Friends of the Library, 251 Union Plaza Dr., Union, MO 63084
Membership dues and contributions are tax deductible.