Effective August 1, 2023, all Missouri public libraries must comply with 15 CSR 30-200.015 Library Certification Requirement for the Protection of Minors to qualify for state aid funding. The rule was introduced by Missouri Secretary of State Jay Ashcroft, whose office oversees the Missouri State Library. Section C of the rule states:

“The library has or will adopt a written, publicly accessible policy allowing a minor’s parent or guardian to determine what materials and access will be available to that minor, and no person employed by or acting on behalf of the library shall knowingly grant access to a minor to any material in any form not approved by that minor’s parent or guardian;”

It is impossible for any library to create a policy to control or monitor a minor’s access to its collections. In reality, this has always been the case; however, with the advent of new technology, it has become even more pronounced.

Libraries’ computer systems are not sophisticated enough to automatically block a list of titles a parent (or legal guardian) does not want their minor to check out. Even if such technology existed, library staff could not prevent a minor from reading certain materials in the library.

Furthermore, with self-check systems, minors can check out items on their own without ever interacting with library staff. With our online resources, minors can access digital materials (e-books, e-audiobooks, etc.) from home or a mobile device with their library card.

While the library’s internet access utilizes content filtering software to block pornography and other obscene content, the library cannot control or monitor other content an individual minor may access on the internet of which their parent (or legal guardian) may disapprove.

Unlike when minors are at school, library staff do not supervise minors. At a public library, it is the responsibility of the parent (or legal guardian) to determine what their minor views, checks out, or accesses at the library.

The library’s previous card consent language only addressed a parent or legal guardian’s financial responsibility for materials checked out on the card and does not comply with the new rule. After consultation with legal counsel, in order to comply with the new rule, the library will be expiring all minors’ library cards on July 31, 2023. A minor is defined as anyone under the age of eighteen (18) years old.

To renew a minor’s library card, a parent (or legal guardian) must accompany their minor to a Scenic Regional Library branch or the Washington Public Library and sign the new card’s consent language. The new consent language acknowledges that the parent (or legal guardian) understands that the library cannot control or monitor a minor’s access to the library’s collections, including the Internet.

A parent (or legal guardian) who is uncomfortable being solely responsible for monitoring what their minor accesses at the library (including online) are advised to not renew their minor’s library card.
Harry Truman’s Excellent Adventure Chosen as 2024 Community Read

Secretary of State Visits Wright City and Warrenton Branches

The 2024 Community Read Selection Committee has chosen “Harry Truman’s Excellent Adventure: The True Story of a Great American Road Trip” by Matthew Algeo as next year’s title!

Each year, Scenic Regional Library partners with Washington Public Library and East Central College to host an annual Community Read. The goal is to have as many people reading and discussing the same book at the same time. Over the course of four weeks, the library and its partners will distribute over 1300 free copies, and present many programs representing the themes of the book, which include Harry Truman, memoirs, cars, road trips, U.S. presidents, regional food, New York City, and Broadway.

Summary:
On June 19, 1953, Harry Truman got up early, packed the trunk of his Chrysler New Yorker, and did something no other former president has done before or since - he hit the road.

No Secret Service protection. No traveling press. Just Harry and his childhood sweetheart Bess, off to visit old friends, take in a Broadway play, celebrate their wedding anniversary in the Big Apple, and blow some of the money he’d just received to write his memoirs. Hopefully incognito.

In this lively history, author Matthew Algeo meticulously details how Truman’s plan to blend in went wonderfully awry as he revisits the Truman’s route, staying at the same hotels and eating at the same diners, and takes detours into topics such as the postwar American auto industry, McCarthyism, and the decline of Main Street America.

By the end of the 2,500-mile journey, you will have a new and heartfelt appreciation for America’s last citizen-president.

Use Brainfuse HelpNow® This School Year

Don’t stress about the upcoming school year! The library offers Brainfuse HelpNow®, a free online tutoring service for grades K-12, to help give your child the help they need. Brainfuse HelpNow® has a user-friendly interface and offers many online learning assistance options, such as live tutoring, a writing lab, the ability to send a question and receive an answer within 24 hours, and much more. Live tutoring is available every day from 2 to 11 pm and can be accessed online from home. To use or learn more about Brainfuse HelpNow®, visit us online at scenicregional.org/databases/#childrens, and sign in with your library card!
How long have you worked for Scenic?
I’ve worked for Scenic for roughly 10 months now; a year in September!

What made you want to work in a library?
I’ve always had a passion for books and reading, so the idea of working in a library came to me quite easily. I have very fond memories of visiting my hometown library as a child; wandering around the aisles until I finally scoped out the perfect book to bury my nose between. I’ve also always greatly appreciated the services my local libraries have provided, so naturally I was drawn to the prospect of helping provide those same services to others. Libraries provide -so- many important resources to the public, and it’s exciting to be a part of that.

What do you wish more people knew about the library?
I wish more people knew just how much they can find, learn, and experience at the library! Before arriving at Scenic I had a very outdated and limited view of what a library could be. Though I’ve always had wonderful experiences at my local branches, I’d never really taken the time to explore all that they offered. Now, I love seeing the reactions of people once I tell them about all the non-traditional items we loan out (all the way from fishing poles to Wi-Fi hotspots), as well as the super fun and educational events we hold!

What is your favorite part of the job? Why?
Tough one - I have a lot of favorites! I’d have to say my favorite part of the job is getting to see all my coworkers and friends I’ve made at the various SRL branches. No matter where I’m working, I know I’ll see a patron or peer who’ll put a smile on my face. SRL has an awesome team, and I love knowing that we’re genuinely helping people every single day.

What are you currently reading or what are you reading next?
I’m about to start Erin Morgenstern’s The Starless Sea, which Amazon describes as “a timeless love story set in a secret underground world—a place of pirates, painters, lovers, liars, and ships that sail upon a starless sea.” Only a little way in so far, but I can already tell I’m going to love it!

You can only take one book to a desert island. What book, and why?
Oof, another toughie! For the sake of practicality, I’d say I’d need to bring along something like Tim O’Shei’s How to Survive on a Deserted Island - trips to desert islands don’t usually end well if one is unprepared, after all. But for my own enjoyment I’d bring something familiar and cozy, like Lemony Snicket’s The End. The plights of the main characters, the Baudelaire orphans, have always inspired me ever since childhood; and in this book they too have to escape from a deserted island. Whether I’m trying to relax or survive- I’d enjoy reliving those moments in a similar setting!

Any hobbies or interests outside the library?
Reading of course, whenever I can find the time. I also spend a lot of my downtime playing video games, watching movies (I LOVE a good horror flick), and working on various creative projects. I majored in computer animation, but love to build and create using all kinds of mediums.

Is there anything else you would like people to know about you, your job, or your library branch?
Only to keep an eye on our Events Calendar! Scenic provides for and crafts -so- many cool events for people of all ages and all walks of life. It’s great to see those resources utilized, and even better to see all the smiles and laughter they generate throughout.
**Interruptions and Continuities: Textiles Painting and Sculpture Exhibit**

The Gallery at the Library, located at the Hermann branch, will host the reception for its next exhibit, “Interruptions and Continuities: Textiles Painting and Sculpture,” on Friday, September 1, from 6 to 8 pm. “Interruptions and Continuities: Textiles Painting and Sculpture,” is an all-media exhibit by Sun Smith-Forêt that will display her paintings, knotted and woven sculptures, and her participation in the Riverwork Project.

Sun Smith-Forêt is a professional studio artist, teacher, and independent curator from St. Louis. She completed an MFA in painting, drawing, design, and printmaking at Washington University and studied art history, art, and architecture as an undergraduate student. Since then, her artistic practice has encompassed textile construction, quilts, sculpture, and knotted and woven functional and amuletic objects.

The exhibit will run from Friday, September 1, to Friday, November 17. The gallery is free and open to the public. All ages are welcome. All artwork is for sale. Washington and Hermann law firm Zick, Voss, Politte, Richardson & Brinker PC is the sponsor for the exhibit and reception.

To learn more about Sun Smith-Forêt and her work, visit sunsmithforet.com.

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**Confident Kid Dental Charity Provides Dental Services to Franklin County Children**

Confident Kid Dental Charity (CKDC) partners with families, dentists, and funders to provide dental care financial support to kids on Medicaid in Franklin County. Children aged 18 months to 18 years on Medicaid in Franklin County, unable to access dental care conveniently, are eligible for CKDC’s services. CKDC’s mission is to increase access to dental care for kids on Medicaid. Dental decay is the number one chronic childhood disease and is ten times more prevalent than asthma, with 25% of third graders having untreated cavities. Poor dental health can lead to school attendance and performance issues; health complications such as gum disease, heart disease, diabetes, and cancer; and the inability to find employment.

“This has been a lifesaver. There is no way I could have afforded to get all of this done for them. It’s truly been a blessing getting this help,” said a mother who has received CKDC services. To learn more about CKDC and to find the application, visit confidentkid.org/contact-us, or contact Susan Schuh at susan@confidentkid.org to request an application.
Black Light Bingo Fundraiser for Franklin County Domestic Violence Shelter
Union Moose Lodge on August 26

Turning Point Advocacy Services will hold a Black Light Bash Bingo fundraiser event on Saturday, August 26, at the Moose Lodge in Union. All proceeds will go toward operating a new domestic violence shelter in Franklin County. Turning Point is a 501(c)3 nonprofit that has operated a shelter in northern Warren County since 1994. The organization plans to open the new shelter in Franklin County by the end of 2024.

Tickets for the Black Light Bash Bingo event can be purchased at www.blacklightticket.com. Tickets are $30 each in advance; $35 at the door. Tables are $240 each (8 people) in advance; $280 at the door. A ticket purchases 60 bingo cards (6 per round), a dauber, and two glow-in-the-dark items. Additional bingo cards can be purchased at the event; 6 cards for $10. Doors open at 5:00 PM, bingo begins at 7:00 PM. There will be a DJ, cash bar, silent auction, two 50/50 raffles, and two “last man standing” bingo games at the event. All ages are welcome, but only ages 16+ can play.

Turning Point’s Franklin County fundraising committee also has a dine and donate event scheduled at Panera in Washington on Saturday, August 19, from 4:00 to 8:00 PM. 40% of sales during that time will go to Turning Point for operating the Franklin County shelter. A person must use the promotional code FUND4U for Turning Point to receive the donation.

Donations for the new Franklin County shelter’s operating expenses can be made online at https://www.turningpointdvs.com/donate or by contacting the organization’s business office at 636-456-1186. Donations over $100 are eligible for a 70% state tax credit. More information about Missouri’s Domestic Violence Shelter or Rape Crisis Center Tax Credit can be found here: https://dss.mo.gov/dfas/taxcredit/dvtaxcredit.htm.

Library Offers Teacher Assistance

Teachers! Have you heard about our Teacher Assistance program? The library and the Washington Public Library have partnered to offer a teacher’s assistance service to educators in Franklin, Gasconade, and Warren counties. The service allows teachers to submit a request online for their classroom and have library materials delivered to their school. (Teachers can also pick up the materials at the branch nearest their school.)

Teachers can request up to fifty items at Scenic Regional and Washington Library at a time, including DVDs, CDs, books, and audiobooks. They can request specific titles or materials about a subject, such as “children’s books about planets.” Educators can also use the service to request materials to assist with lesson planning. The libraries ask that teachers provide at least two weeks to fill a request. The service is available to educators at preschools, daycares, and private and public schools. You can find the teacher assistance request form at www.scenicregional.org/teacherform.

Have library material delivered to your classroom! Teacher assistance requests can be submitted at www.scenicregional.org/teacherform.
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 1½” book – $100
- 10” x 2” book – $200
- 9” x 3” book – $300

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

STATE                ZIP CODE

PHONE NUMBER

EMAIL ADDRESS

NAME OF INDIVIDUAL, FAMILY, BUSINESS OR ORGANIZATION TO APPEAR ON BOOK

BRANCH (Please select one)  SIZE OF BOOK

☐ Hermann Branch  ☐ 8” X 1-1/2” - $150
☐ New Haven Branch  ☐ 10” X 2” - $250
☐ Owensville Branch  ☐ 9” X 3” - $350
☐ Pacific Branch
☐ St. Clair Branch
☐ Sullivan Branch
☐ Union Branch
☐ Warrenton Branch
☐ Wright City Branch

OFFICE USE ONLY
Date received: __________
Amount received: __________
☐ Check # __________
☐ 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
If this membership is for you, please provide your information; if this membership is a gift for someone else, please provide their information:

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<th>FIRST NAME</th>
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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 |

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<td>Friends of the New Haven Branch</td>
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<td>Friends of the Owensville Branch</td>
<td>Ruby – $50</td>
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<td>Friends of the Pacific Branch</td>
<td>Gold – $100</td>
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<td>Friends of the St. Clair Branch</td>
<td>Platinum – $250</td>
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<td>Friends of the Sullivan Branch</td>
<td>Diamond* – $500</td>
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<td>Friends of the Union Branch</td>
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<td>Friends of the Wright City Branch</td>
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WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP? (Select all which apply)

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<td>□ New Application</td>
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<td>Volunteer at the Spring Book Sale</td>
<td>□ Renewal</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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<tr>
<td>Serve on the local Friends of the Library’s 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, 251 Union Plaza Dr., Union, MO 63084

Membership dues and contributions are tax deductible.