



PHOTOS COURTESY OF PEP, INC.

DONNA STOUGH, director of Protect Every Pet, Inc., with an office cat. **AN EXPANSION** is planned at PEP on the lot to the east of the clinic.



Scenic Regional branches close through April 4

Effective today (March 18) all nine Scenic Regional Library branches including Owensville and Hermann are closed at least until after April 4 due to the threat of the Coronavirus and the effort to limit its potential spread.

And, the system's director announced late Monday, all meeting room usage, programming, and outreach will be suspended until Wednesday, May 13.

Steve W. Campbell asked patrons to "please check the library website www.scenicregional.org and the branch Facebook and Instagram accounts for updated information. We will continue to monitor developments and respond accordingly."

Campbell announced Friday morning all branches had suspended their outreach to local schools and groups along with special in-building programming through at least April 1. The local system was following action taken March 11 by libraries across the state, he said.

Closing up entirely follows a similar trend for organizations and public institutions first announcing limitations on services to outright ceasing operations. "The decision to close is a difficult one. We realize that the library provides critical services to its communities," said Campbell. "However, we believe that this as the most responsible course of action in order to protect the health of our residents."

Due dates on all items will be extended until the library reopens. All holds remain in place but suspended until the library reopens. Book drops remain open but patrons are encouraged to keep items at home.

iclus, plan conference call

"The Missouri Republican Party is committed to protecting the health and well-being of Missourians," said Kay Hoflander, chair of the Missouri Republican Party. "We are following the lead of President Trump, Governor Parson, and our local officials in working to halt the spread of this dangerous virus. The situation we face is both unprecedented and rapidly changing, and we believe that altering our caucus process is the responsible and prudent thing to do."

The Congressional District

Conventions on May 30 and the State Convention on June 20 are not affected by this change.

Gasconade County Republican Central Committee officials had announced plans to hold their Republican Caucus at the Gasconade County Courthouse in Hermann on Saturday, April 4. That event is now cancelled.

The 2020 Call to Convention requires caucus participants to have been registered to vote at the time of the presidential preference primary.