Missouri is celebrating its bicentennial this year. In 1821, the Missouri Territory was admitted as a state, under the Missouri Compromise. Throughout 2021, the library will be hosting a series of 22 virtual programs focusing on “all things Missouri.” This is part of the statewide celebration of Missouri’s 200 years of history.

Patrons can enjoy the programs on Facebook or catch the recording later on the library YouTube channel: www.youtube.com/scenicregionallibrary. Watch the newsletter and library website (www.scenicregional.org/missouri2021) for additional Missouri Bicentennial programs throughout 2021, including topics such as the 1904 World’s Fair, Ozark folk music, Native Americans of Missouri, and Haunted Missouri.

During the month of March, there will be three virtual bicentennial programs:

**Historic Missouri Roadsides**
Thursday, March 18 at 5:00 pm
Author William Hart will present a travelogue of Historic Missouri Roadsides, in which Hart will focus on businesses owned by Missouri citizens, helping to establish and nurture historic tourism.

**State Park Spotlight**
Friday, March 19 at 1:00 pm
Patrons can become armchair travelers to Arrow Rock Historic State Park located in central Missouri.

**Native Plants of Missouri**
Tuesday, March 23 at 5:00 pm
The Jefferson County Master Garden Chapter will be discussing plants native to Missouri and how to incorporate native plants into your landscaping.
At their February meeting, the Library Board voted unanimously to move ahead with implementing radio-frequency identification (RFID) technology at the library. A company called Tech Logic, located in Minnesota, was selected for the project. With RFID, a tag is placed in every item in the library’s collection (books, DVDs, music CDs, and audiobooks on CD). A tag is basically a sticker with a paper-thin metal “chip” in it. The tags, which are programmed to contain all the information about the item, can be read with a scanner without even handling the item.

RFID has been used in some libraries around the country and the world for decades. In recent years, the cost of the tags and equipment has decreased to the point at which the technology is now affordable to many public libraries. RFID technology will increase efficiency at the library and allow the library to better manage its collection in several ways.

Check-out and Self-check. With RFID technology in place, instead of having to scan each item’s barcode individually to check it out, a stack of several books can be simply placed on a pad and scanned at the same time. This speeds up the checkout process, while also reducing repetitive motion for staff.

Inventory. Inventory is an important way to manage a library’s collection by identifying missing, lost, and out-of-place items. It guarantees that the information in the library’s online catalog matches the actual collection. Currently, when the library wants to conduct an inventory, staff must handle and scan every single item. With RFID, the process is much easier. Inventory can be conducted by simply moving a device in front of each item on a shelf—the items don’t need to be touched or handled at all. An entire shelf of items can be scanned and inventoried in seconds.

Security. RFID also provides security features for the library. Security gates will be placed at the entrance of every branch. If a patron were to walk out with an item that wasn’t properly checked out, a sound will be emitted from the security gates to alert the staff. The first step in the process will be for the library staff to place RFID tags on every item in the library’s collection. This enormous task will take several months. Once the tagging is complete, the library will launch RFID. The library plans to launch the technology in the fall or winter. The library will use temporary RFID tags for interlibrary loan items coming from other libraries.
Staff Spotlight: Macee
Branch Manager, Union

How long have you worked for Scenic?
8 ½ years

Have you held any other positions at Scenic? If yes, what were those, and how long did you work at that position?
I’ve held a few different positions at Scenic! I was hired when I was 17 as a shelver and after doing that for a year and a half, I was moved up to Library Assistant. I held that position for a few years before becoming the Children’s Programmer and then after about eight months of doing that, I was promoted as the Union Assistant Manager. This past August, after three years of being the Assistant Manager, I was promoted to Branch Manager! I always like to quote Drake when talking about my time with Scenic, “I started from the bottom, now I’m here.”

What made you want to work in a library?
BOOKS! I was an avid reader in school and thought that it would be a peaceful and fun first job, working with what I love best, books! It turns out that I found my passion here and have decided to make it my lifelong career.

What do you wish more people knew about the library?
I wish people knew how important and influential a library can be in someone’s life. We offer so much more than books and have helped patrons find jobs, information about lost family members, fill out resumes, find shelter, etc. We love helping people in more ways than just finding their next read.

What upcoming virtual program are you excited about and why?
I am looking forward to watching our virtual program, “Grandma’s Scotch Eggs”! It sounds DELICIOUS and I’m curious to see how they are made!

What is your favorite book? Why?
I can’t just pick one! One of my favorite books is, “The Handmaid’s Tale” by Margaret Atwood. It’s gritty yet poetic and ultimately about the power of women in a society that doesn’t want to recognize their importance as individuals. It’s a very empowering book.

February 4 patrons had the opportunity to virtually learn how to make a fun candy bouquet for their valentine! Pictured are three fun and very different examples.

“Presidential Love Letters” was presented virtually via our YouTube channel on February 11. Visit YouTube to subscribe to all of our virtual programming.

Winter Reading Program displays were at many branches filled with books that would satisfy a square on your Bingo card.
“Saving Freedom: Truman, the Cold War, and the Fight for Western Civilization” by Joe Scarborough

I was drawn to “Saving Freedom” for the opportunity to learn more about Harry S. Truman, 33rd President of the United States from 1945 to 1953, for whom so many sites and institutions in Missouri are named. Joe Scarborough, former United States congressman and creator of Morning Joe, offers a compelling description of the two-term Senator from Missouri who assumed the presidency after Franklin D. Roosevelt’s death. Scarborough attributes Truman with a “strong and innate sense of right and wrong” and a “clear-eyed view of the world.” As such, in the hope of saving American lives and swiftly ending the war in the Pacific following Japan’s refusal of surrender, Truman ordered the atomic bombing of Japan in 1945. While some discounted his presidency, Scarborough calls Truman “the greatest foreign policy president of the postwar era.” Truman’s influence on the world stage includes the introduction of the Truman Doctrine, support for the Marshall Plan, formation of NATO, and acknowledgment of the Israeli state.

I appreciate Scarborough’s narrative of the personal relationships between Truman, his State Department advisors and congressional leaders throughout the draft, presentation, and bipartisan adoption of the Truman Doctrine. Scarborough emphasizes the importance of this doctrine in moving the United States from a largely isolationist country to an engaged participant in the political and economic affairs of nations particularly endangered by the threat of Soviet communism. I was heartened to reacquaint myself with the Truman Doctrine cited as an “example of thoughtful bipartisanship, government efficiency, diplomatic brilliance, presidential leadership, and informed public debate” in the midst of current political divisions. Additionally, and unexpectedly, I credit “Saving Freedom” for answering my burning question: Why is America’s National Churchill Museum located in Fulton, Missouri?

-Review by Cheryl, Warrenton Branch

“Let’s Make Ramen: A Comic Book Cookbook” by Hugh Amano and Sarah Becan

This is not only a cookbook, but goes into the history and etiquette of ramen. It was fascinating to learn that ramen is fairly new in the history of Japanese cuisine. Ramen shops in Japan became popular following WWII. A ramen shop is called a ramen-ya, and I loved the chapter on navigating a Japanese ramen-ya - slurping is encouraged, but talking is not! I worried that I wouldn’t like the comic book format because I tend to only like cookbooks with pictures, but the drawings are so well done that I didn’t miss actual photos at all. The cookbook portion is set up in sections by the different components of ramen (broth, meat, noodles, and accompaniments) and has inserts of advice from well-known ramen chefs. Pictures accompany each step in the cooking process and the process is described in minute detail. I do have to say, though, that this book did not make me want to try making ramen from scratch, but it did make me want to seek out a really good ramen-ya!

-Review by Christy, Administration

February 18 “Virtual Painting with a Twist” featured a horse artist from Long Meadow Rescue Ranch. The presenters also spoke on their mission to provide a safe haven to farm animals in need.

Our “Virtual Kids Club: Let Love Grow” taught children about planting and growing flower seeds. Virtual Kids Club is featured every Monday at 4:00 pm.

The Mingo National Wildlife Refuge was featured this month during “Virtual Show-Me State Parks & Historic Sites”. This program is held the 3rd Friday each month at 5:00 pm.
The library offers people wanting to improve their job skills, create or improve their resume, or study for a career test or certification, with an incredible online resource called Learning Express Library. It’s provided to public libraries across Missouri for free through the Missouri State Library.

Learning Express Library divides their resources into four areas: Computer Skills Center, Adult Learning Center, Career Center, and Resume and Cover Letter Builder.

**Computer Skills Center**
More than 100 self-directed video tutorials for commonly used software applications from Adobe, Microsoft, and the Windows operating system. Engaging, self-paced videos where you can save progress and return at your convenience.

**Adult Learning Center**
Practice tests and courses to build your math skills; become a better reader; improve your writing, speaking, and grammar; or prepare to become a U.S. citizen.

**Career Center**
Learn more about careers, including careers in the military. Take courses and/or practice tests for Civil Service and vocational career certification including ASVAB, EMT, Praxis 1 and real estate licensing.

**Resume and Cover Letter Builder**
More than 200 expert-developed resumes covering a range of occupations and preparation levels. Build your own or use templates.

Before you use Learning Express Library from home on a desktop computer or laptop, you will need to log in for the first time at the library on a public computer to create an account. Simply click the register button and create a new account. After the account is created, you can enter your Username (email address) and Password on a computer at home to use Learning Express Library.
VIRTUAL BOOK CLUBS

Warrenton branch
Thursday, March 4 at 5:30 pm
In the Woods by Tana French.

Pacific branch
Tuesday, March 9 at 6:00 pm
Wednesday, March 10 at 10:00 am
Chat about any book you’ve recently read.

Hermann branch
Wednesday, March 17 at 4:30 pm
March by Geraldine Brooks.

Union branch
Thursday, March 18 at 6:00 pm
Simple Favor by Darcy Bell.

St. Clair branch
Friday, March 19 at 6:00 pm
The Kitchen House by Kathleen Grissom.

New Haven branch
Wednesday, March 24 at 5:00 pm
Of Literature and Lattes by Katherine Reay.

VIRTUAL STORYTIMES

Herman branch
Tuesdays at 10:00 am

New Haven branch
Tuesdays at 10:00 am
3rd Saturday of month at 10:00 am

Owensville branch
Wednesdays at 10:00 am

Pacific branch
Mondays at 7:30 pm
Thursdays at 10:00 am

St. Clair branch
Thursdays at 11:00 am

Sullivan branch
Tuesdays at 10:00 am

Union branch
Tuesdays at 7:00 pm
Wednesdays at 10:00 am

Warrenton branch
Tuesdays at 10:00 am
1st Saturday of month at 10:00 am

Wright City branch
Wednesdays at 10:00 am
Thursdays at 6:00 pm

VIRTUAL ADULT PROGRAMS

Grandma’s Scotch Eggs (Virtual)
Thursday, March 4 at 5:00 pm

From the Shamrock Shore:
Virtual Music, Songs, and Spoken Word from Ireland
Thursday, March 11 at 5:00 pm

Virtual Meditation with Melody
March 12 & 26 at 10:00 am

Bicentennial Program:
Virtual Historic Missouri Roadsides
Thursday, March 18 at 5:00 pm

Bicentennial Program:
Virtual Show-Me State Parks & Historic Sites
Third Friday each month at 1:00 pm

Bicentennial Program:
Virtual Native Plants of Missouri
Tuesday, March 23 at 5:00 pm

Virtual Spring Bunny Craft
Thursday, March 25 at 5:00 pm

St. Clair Spice of the Month Club
Ask for details at the St. Clair branch!

Owensville Seeds of the Month Club
Every first Tuesday-Ask for details at the Owensville branch!

VIRTUAL KID & TEEN PROGRAMS

Virtual Kids Club
Every Monday at 4:00 pm
3/1: Dr. Seuss Oobleck
3/8: Shamrock Shakes
3/15: St. Pat’s Rainbow Craft
3/22: Spring Bird Craft
3/29: Intro. to Space Cooking 101

Virtual Teen Program
1st Wednesday of month at 4:00 pm
March 3-That Flies? The creepy, unusual, just weird animals that fly and make you wanna say “and that flies”?
February 3-Virtual Mindfulness for Teens

How Do I Access These Programs?

Since last summer, all library programming has been virtual due to COVID. While many people are disappointed that they can’t enjoy the library’s great programs with other people at their local branch, there are some great benefits to virtual programs. For example, you can watch them from the comfort of your home, maybe even snuggled under a blanket. If you’re watching a virtual program and need some more coffee or tea, you can pause the recording and not miss anything. And, of course, if you miss a virtual program completely, you can just go back and watch the recording.

There are also many ways that you can experience the library’s programs. We offer programming on a variety of platforms, including Zoom, YouTube, and Facebook. You can find all of our virtual storytimes exclusively on the branch Facebook pages, while our book clubs are gathering on Zoom (https://scenicregional.org/how-do-i/find-a-book-club). To access past programs, visit our YouTube channel (www.youtube.com/scenicregionallibrary), where you can find playlists for kids, teens, and adults. To find a full list of all library programming visit, http://scenicregional.evanced.info/signup/Calendar.
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.scenicregionalfoundation.org](http://www.scenicregionalfoundation.org) 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.**

Donor wall “books” can be purchased throughout the construction project and will be unveiled at the grand opening of each new branch library.

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SCENIC REGIONAL LIBRARY  
FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION  
April 1, 2021 – March 31, 2022 Membership Year  

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

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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.