



# THE Scenic Regional Library NEWSLETTER

read, explore, grow



issue 142 | march 2025

*A monthly publication from your local library!*

## Annual Community Read Kicks Off March 24

Scenic Regional Library, Washington Public Library, and East Central College will kick off their fifth annual community read in March. The community read aims to foster connections within our communities and spark meaningful discussions by encouraging as many people as possible to read the same book.

This year's book is "The Flower Sisters" by Missouri author Michelle Collins Anderson. The historical fiction novel was inspired by the true story of the Bond Dance Hall explosion in West Plains, Missouri, on April 13, 1928. To learn more about the tragic incident, you can watch some videos by visiting [thiscommunityreads.org](https://thiscommunityreads.org) and clicking on "History" on the menu or checking out "The West Plains Dancehall Explosion" by Lin Waterhouse from the library's collection.

Beginning on Monday, March 24, the library and its partners will be giving away over 1,300 free copies of the "The Flower Sisters," which were purchased through the Neighborhood Reads bookstore in Washington. The books will be distributed on a first-come, first-serve basis while supplies last. E-book and e-audiobook copies will also be available for check-out through the library's digital services.

The community read also includes a variety of programs throughout April centered around the themes of the book. Some of these great programs include:

- **Cherry & Jerry Live:** With Isaac Cherry on percussion and Jerry Rabushka on piano, this duo will entertain with wonderful tunes from the era of ragtime, early blues, and jazz.
- **50 Years of Fashion and Social Influence:** Christine Miller and Louise Hermes lead an in-depth discussion on women's fashion from 1890-1930, featuring authentic garments that highlight style and cultural significance.
- **Glittersby Murder Mystery Party:** Calling all masters of mystery, we want your help to solve a murder at Jay Glittersby's mansion! Actors and sleuths are needed.
- **Jazz Band Concerts:** Experience the vibrant energy and talent of your local community high school jazz band in an unforgettable performance.
- **Learn to Dance the 1920's Way:** Grab your dancing shoes and join us to learn the Charleston. No experience necessary!
- **Prohibition with Pinckney Bend:** Explore the Prohibition Era and sample iconic spirits of the 1920's with Pinckney Bend Distillery.
- **Roaring Twenties Escape Room:** Travel to a time of speakeasies, jazz, and Al Capone. Teams of 4 will race to see who can solve the mystery first.

There will also be book discussions held at every branch and partner location. Overall, there will be 43 programs and 17 book discussions at Scenic Regional branches, Washington Public Library, and East Central College throughout the month, in addition to three visits by author Michelle Collins Anderson.

For more information about all the community read programming, including locations, dates, and times, visit [thiscommunityreads.org](https://thiscommunityreads.org) and click on "Program Guide". Register for these programs by visiting [scenicregional.org/events](https://scenicregional.org/events).



Meet "The Flower Sisters" author  
Michelle Collins Anderson:

- Monday, April 28, at 6:00 PM at the Warrenton branch
- Tuesday, April 29, at 6:00 PM at the Hermann branch
- Wednesday, April 30, at 6:00 PM at the Union branch



Listen to an interview with "The Flower Sisters" author Michelle Collins Anderson on the latest episode of the library's podcast, "Taking the Scenic

Route" at <https://rss.com/podcasts/scenicregional/>.





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## Coffee & Connect at Wright City Branch

Beginning Thursday, March 20, the Wright City Branch Friends of the Library group will host Coffee & Connect for adults 50+.

Coffee & Connect will be held on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month from 9:30AM to 11:00AM in the public meeting room.

The Friends of the Library will provide coffee. Games and cards also will be available, if people want to play.

Come by, chat, and enjoy coffee!



*Congratulations to this young patron! We hope you get lots of use with your new library card.*



*What a beautiful night of music we had 2/25/25 with The Divines Irish Band. Thank you to everyone that joined us at the Union branch!*

## Celebrating St. Patrick's Day? Hoopla and Freegal Can Help!

St. Patrick's Day has been celebrated in America since 1601! The first St. Patrick's Day parade was held that year in St. Augustine, Florida—a Spanish colony at the time. Celebrations ramped up in the mid- to late-Nineteenth Century as Irish immigrants flooded the United States and created their own identity as Irish Americans.

The most important ingredients for a great St. Patrick's Day celebration are food and music. You may be surprised to learn that the library can help.

Irish music is a must for St. Patrick's Day. The library's digital music platform, Freegal, has hundreds of Irish songs. You'll find music from legendary Irish bands like:

- The Dubliners
- The Chieftains
- The Pogues
- The Clancy Brothers

If you haven't listened to these bands, you're missing out. A proper St. Patrick's Day celebration isn't complete without listening to classic songs like the Irish Rover, Whisky in a Jar, and many others.

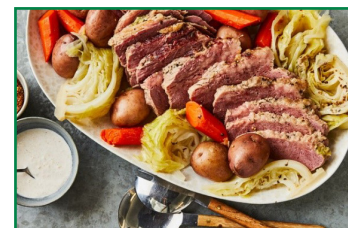
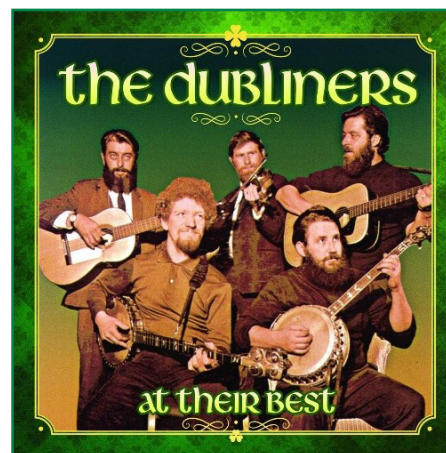
You can stream music from Freegal for eight hours every day—plenty of time to celebrate—on your Smartphone or other mobile device. You can create playlists on Freegal, so you may want to jump on today and begin adding songs for the big day.

Our digital music is completely free with a library card. You can find Freegal by visiting <https://scenicregional.org/virtual-library/download-stream/#eMusic>. There's even a free app.

If you're looking for some great Irish recipes for everything from corned beef and cabbage and Irish stew to Irish soda bread and green beer, you can find them at the library. You won't even need to visit your local library because they're available as e-books on Hoopla:

- "Saint Patrick's Day Recipes: The Perfect Traditional Irish Cookbook for Saint Patrick's Day," by Stephen G. J.
- "Throw a St. Patrick's Day Party," by Elizabeth Neuenfeldt
- "Get Baking for St. Patrick's Day!" by Ruth Owen

Just visit <https://scenicregional.org/virtual-library/download-stream/#eBooks>. Of course, Hoopla also offers a free mobile app. You can check out the book and have great recipes from these books open on your mobile device or Smartphone in minutes.







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## “Missouri Masters” Opens at the Gallery at the Library



The Gallery at the Library at the Hemann branch kicked off a new exhibit entitled “Missouri Masters” with an opening reception on Friday, March 7, from 6:00 to 8:00 PM. The show will run from March 7 to May 23 and is free and open to the public. The exhibit is sponsored by Hermann Lumber and Strassner Furniture.

The exhibit features internationally recognized Missouri artists Bryan Haynes, Billyo O'Donnell, Hans Droog, Gary Lucy, and Michael Bauermeister.

**Bryan Haynes** draws on the legacy of 1930's painters like Thomas H. Benton and Grant Wood. He has created murals and large-scale paintings for a variety of prestigious clients, including The Kauffman Foundation in Kansas City, The Missouri Botanical Garden's permanent collection, The Westward Expansion Memorial Museum at the Arch, Arrowhead Stadium, The Missouri History Museum, and Edward Jones. Haynes has also been commissioned for artwork by global companies such as Disney, Estée Lauder, Warner Brothers, Universal Studios, IBM, Nike, Sony Music, and Anheuser-Busch. The Bryan Haynes Studio and Gallery is in Washington.

**Hans Droog** is renowned for a diverse body of work including paintings, intricate metal and wood sculptures, and handcrafted furniture, all deeply inspired by the landscapes of the Midwest, Southwest, and Colorado. He gained recognition for his wildlife sculptures and paintings, securing commissions from organizations such as John Deere, Ralston Purina, Anheuser-Busch, as well as private collectors. Droog expanded his artwork to include large-scale public metal sculptures and wood craftsmanship.

**Billyo O'Donnell** is recognized as one of America's top landscape painters, featured in the Sea to Shining Sea exhibit at the Haggin Museum in Stockton, California. In 2013, Billyo was invited to the White House to create an ornament for the national Christmas tree. A member of the Plein Air Painters of America since 2013, Billyo has participated in cultural exchanges in China and exhibited across the U.S.

**Michael Bauermeister** is a distinguished sculptor and wood artist. His art is held in prestigious collections such as the Smithsonian's Renwick Gallery, the Boston Museum of Art, and the United States State Department's Art in Embassies program. Bauermeister's work has been featured in major publications like American Craft and Woodturning, and he has completed notable commissions, including for the Emperor of Japan in 2018.

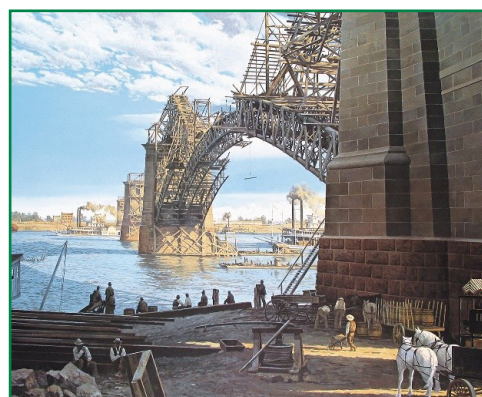
**Gary Lucy's** early career focused on wildlife art, earning him accolades such as winning the Missouri Duck Stamp competition. Later, he transitioned to historical interpretation, inspired by his observations along the Missouri River. One of his most notable projects was an exhibit at the old courthouse in St. Louis with over 35,000 visitors and featured on PBS. Lucy's original paintings for the exhibit have been reproduced over 265 million times worldwide. Lucy also had his work displayed at the State Historical Society of Missouri alongside famous Missouri artists George Caleb Bingham and Thomas Hart Benton. The Gary R. Lucy Gallery is in Washington.



Over 200 people attended the "Missouri Masters" opening reception on March 7 at the Gallery at the Library.



"Tree Farm," by Bryan Haynes



"The Eads Bridge Under Construction, 1873," by Gary Lucy



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## Library Advocacy Day

The Missouri Library Association's annual advocacy day event was held on February 4 in Jefferson City. Librarians, library trustees, and citizens from around the state met with their local legislators to advocate for increased state library funding and legislation benefitting Missouri libraries. State funding for libraries includes direct state aid, MOREnet funding (which subsidizes the library's internet costs), and Athletes & Entertainers Tax funding for new materials. The Missouri annual budget and new legislation is approved by the legislature in early May.

Director Steve Campbell, Union branch manager Denise Chappell, Assistant Director Megan Maurer, Pacific branch manager Lori Jane Perdew, and Hermann branch manager Tiffany Richards represented Scenic Regional Library at the event. They met with local legislators, including State Senator Ben Brown and State Representatives Jeff Myers, John Simmons, Bruce Sassmann, and John Hewkin.



(L-R) Union branch manager Denise Chappell, Hermann branch manager Tiffany Richards, and Pacific branch manager Lori Jane Perdew met with Missouri State Representative Jeff Myers. He represents district 42 in Montgomery and Warren counties.

## It's Time to Garden!

In Missouri, you can begin vegetable gardening early- to mid-March with cool-season vegetables like broccoli, cauliflower, cabbage, lettuce, onions, spinach, beets, carrots, radishes, and potatoes. If you've struggled to plant and maintain a successful vegetable garden in the past, the library has the resources to help. These are just some of the books in the library's collection to help you begin vegetable gardening, or improve your maybe-not-as-good-as-you'd-like vegetable gardening skills:

### "Ultimate Gardening," by Gardening Know How

This practical guide covers every aspect of gardening, no matter where you live or what you want to grow, and easy-to-understand tips and colorful photos make this a great guide for beginners as well as those who want to expand their gardening skills. You'll learn how to lay out a plot, prepare the soil, rotate crops, fend off weeds and pests, and much more.



### "Veg Out: A Stress-Free Guide to Creating Your First Vegetable Garden," by Heather Rodino [Also available as an e-book on Hoopla]

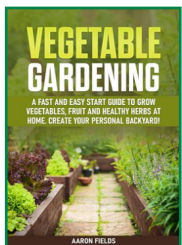
Gardening expert Heather Rodino teaches the basics of growing your own vegetables, such as how to choose the right plants for a climate and guarding the crop from hungry critters. Included are 30 profiles of beginner-friendly vegetables and herbs with detailed instructions on where to grow, when to harvest, as well as their sunlight, watering, and soil needs.

### "GrowVeg: The Beginner's Guide to Easy Vegetable Gardening," by Benedict Vanheems [Also available as an e-book on Hoopla and Libby]

For anyone who has ever wanted to tend a little piece of ground but wasn't sure where to begin, "GrowVeg" offers simple gardening projects that are both attainable and beautiful. The beginner-friendly instructions and step-by-step photography detail more than 30 approachable, small-scale gardening projects that will inspire and empower you to get growing.

### "The Vegetable Gardening Book: Your complete guide to growing an edible organic garden from seed to harvest," by Joe Lamp'1 [Also available as an e-book on Hoopla]

The award-winning television and podcast host Joe Lamp'1 provides insider tips and next-level insight for creating a lush, fruitful, and resilient vegetable garden. The book includes ideas for designing and laying out your garden for the greatest yields in the smallest amount of space; a plan for reducing maintenance and trimming down the traditional workload of a garden; a handy reference chart with an easy-to-follow crop rotation plan; and much more.



### "Vegetable Gardening," by Aaron Fields [Only available as an e-book on Hoopla]

This fast and easy guide teaches you everything you need to know about vegetable gardening. You'll learn the benefits of vegetable gardens, gardening terms, gardening tools you need, important gardening equipment, how to plan your garden, how to plant your garden, mulching tips and tricks, garden maintenance, vegetable gardening best practices, and so much more.

For more vegetable gardening books, just do a subject search for "vegetable gardening" in our online catalog! <https://srl.modiscovery.org/>

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## Staff March Anniversaries

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



Lori Jane, Branch Manager Pacific



Becky, ILL Clerk Administration



Christina, Library Assistant New Haven

## “The Very Impatient Caterpillar” the New Book for the Owensville StoryWalk™

The weather is finally warming up. If you live near Owensville, it's a great opportunity to visit the StoryWalk™ in Owensville Memorial Park with your children or grandchildren. It's been updated with a new book--“The Very Impatient Caterpillar” by Ross Burach.

The StoryWalk™ consists of 16 signs along a one-mile walking trail. Each sign contains a page of a children's book. The project is a partnership between the Owensville Friends of the Library, Owensville Parks & Recreation Department, and Scenic Regional Library.

The Owensville Friends of the Library and Owensville Parks & Recreation Department shared the project's cost. The library updates the StoryWalk™ signs with pages from a new book every three months.

The StoryWalk™ promotes early literacy, exercise, and family time together in nature. It's a fun and educational family activity that can bring joy to the community as people take a stroll and enjoy successive pages from a children's story along the path.



## Used Computer Monitors for Sale



The library has 21 used computer monitors for sale. They are approximately ten years old. There are

twelve (12) 19" Acer V193W monitors, two (2) 19" Acer V196WL monitors, five (5) 19" Dell E1911c monitors, one (1) adjustable Dell monitor (no model number), and one (1) 18.5" HP V193b monitor. They are \$15 each.

If interested, contact Denise by emailing [dedwards@scenicregional.org](mailto:dedwards@scenicregional.org) or by phone at 636-583-0652 (ext. 1012) between 9 am-3 pm, Monday-Thursday. Cash or checks payable to Scenic Regional Library.



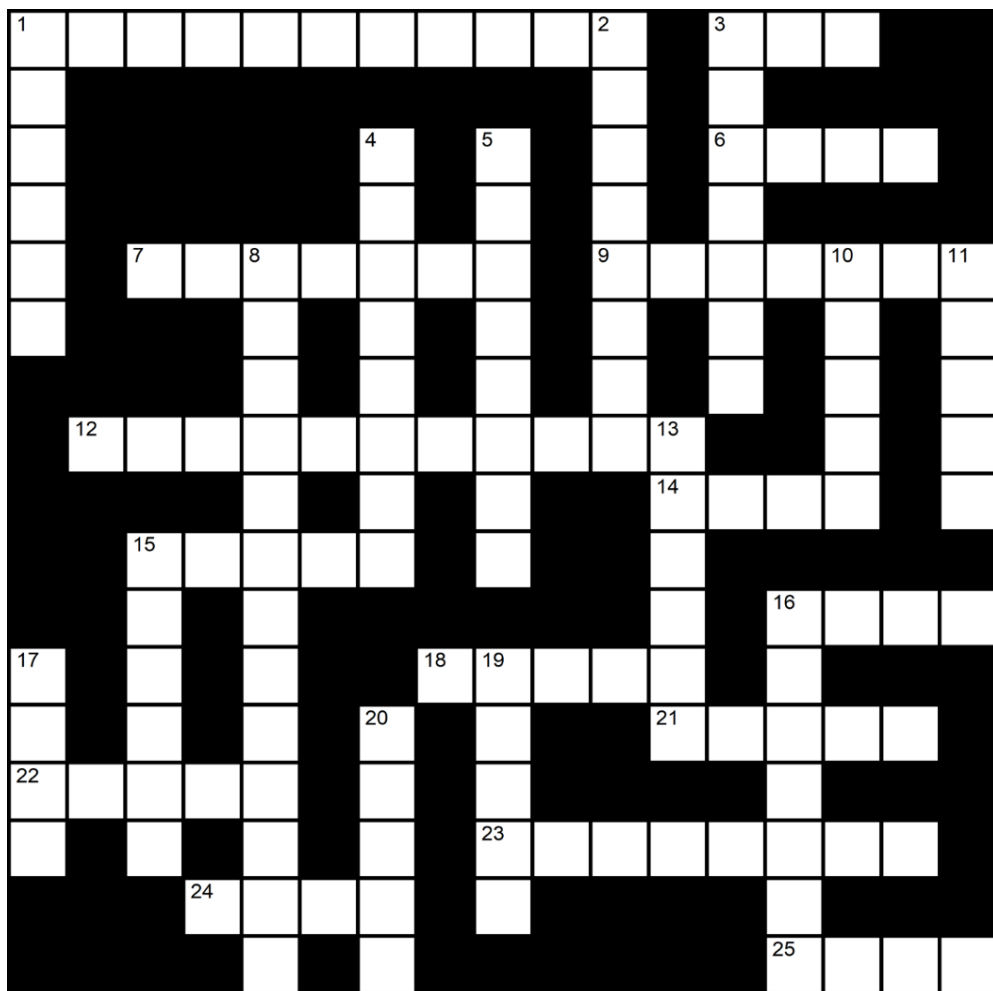
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## Scenic Regional Library Crossword Puzzle



### Across

**1** Historic New York location of first women's rights convention - **3** Kitchen vessel for cooking or boiling - **6** Narrative account or story - **7** Works of imaginative literature - **9** Colorful arc appearing after rain - **12** Invented by Marion Donovan - **14** Middle day of Roman months - **15** Color of grass and leaves - **16** Moving air in atmosphere - **18** Person officially recognized for holiness - **21** Warning device making loud noise - **22** First zodiac constellation - **23** Invented by Jeanne Villepreux-Power - **24** Bound collection of printed pages - **25** Precious yellow metallic element.

### Down

**1** Season between winter and summer - **2** Right to vote in elections - **3** Ireland's patron saint - **4** Young human beings - **5** Real estate board game invented by L. Magie - **8** Understanding of meaning - **10** Feathered flying creatures - **11** Device for telling time - **13** Legal or moral entitlements - **15** Celtic language family - **16** Advance notice of danger - **17** Process written words - **19** Newborn medical scoring system developed by female physician - **20** Legless reptile.

Find the answers at [www.scenicregional.org/crossword](http://www.scenicregional.org/crossword).



The New Haven branch presented a Storytime about Pete the Cat. Afterward, patrons made cats out of shapes.



Rachel O'Halloran with MU Extension shared her wealth of knowledge during "Dining with Diabetes" at the Pacific branch.



Our presenter Amy did an amazing job teaching the basics of Belly Dancing at the Sullivan branch. Look at those happy faces!  
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## Project Linus Collecting Blankets in Franklin County in March

### Project Linus



The library is hosting a collection drive for Project Linus at its Franklin County branches throughout March. Project Linus is a nationwide nonprofit organization that makes and collects new handmade blankets for children from birth to 18 years old that are seriously ill, traumatized, or otherwise in need. The Franklin County Chapter was created in April 2024 and has already distributed over 250 blankets. The national organization has a 97% four-star rating on

Charity Navigator. Donors can drop off their handmade blankets at the Pacific, Sullivan, New Haven, St. Clair, and Union branches. For more information about Project Linus, visit [www.projectlinus.org](http://www.projectlinus.org).



St. Clair patron, Pat, taught some great tips and tricks for card making and paper crafting at our Cards With Pat program in St. Clair.

## Last Month's Most Popular Titles

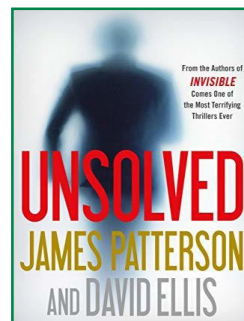
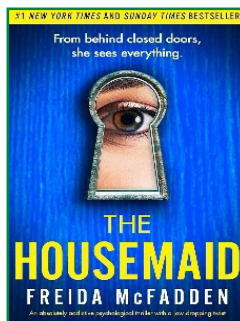
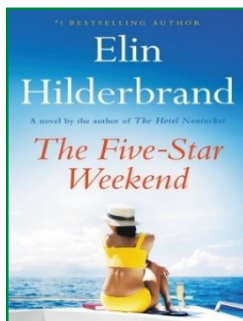
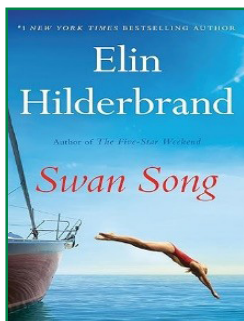
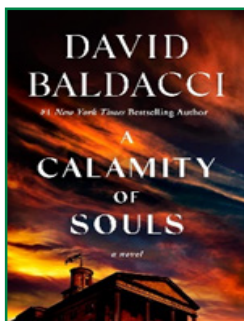
**1st – “A Calamity of Souls,” by David Baldacci** - Set in the tumultuous year of 1968 in southern Virginia, a racially charged murder case sets a duo of white and Black lawyers against a deeply unfair system as they work to defend their wrongfully accused Black defendants in this courtroom drama. **Genres: Historical Fiction, Mystery, Thriller, Crime, Legal Thriller**

**2nd – “Swan Song,” by Elin Hilderbrand** - The beloved #1 New York Times bestselling author brings her Nantucket novels to a brilliant finish: when rich strangers move to the island, social mayhem—and a possible murder follow. Can Nantucket’s best locals save the day, and their way of life? **Genres: Romance Fiction, Mystery, Chick Lit, Contemporary, Women’s Fiction**

**3rd – “The Five-Star Weekend,” by Elin Hilderbrand** - From the #1 New York Times bestselling author of “The Hotel Nantucket.” After tragedy strikes, food blogger Hollis Shaw gathers four friends from different stages in her life to spend an unforgettable weekend on Nantucket. **Genres: Romance Fiction, Mystery, Chick Lit, Contemporary, Women’s Fiction**

**4th – “The Housemaid,” by Frieda McFadden** - A New York Times, USA Today and Wall Street Journal bestseller and winner of a 2023 ITW Thriller Award. This unbelievably twisty read will have you glued to the pages late into the night. Anyone who loves “The Woman in the Window,” “The Wife Between Us,” and “The Girl on the Train” won’t be able to put down “The Housemaid”! **Genres: Psychological Thriller, Mystery, Suspense, Crime, Contemporary**

**5th – “Unsolved,” by James Patterson** - In this follow-up to the #1 bestselling thriller “Invisible,” every perfect murder looks like an accident, but as bodies start to pile up across the country, two FBI agents realize that something horrible is happening. **Genres: Murder Mystery, Thriller, Suspense, Crime, Detective**





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## SCENIC SAYS!

Spring is right around the corner. What is your favorite springtime activity?

Are you a one-book-at-a-time reader? Or do you like reading multiple books at the same time?

What future library program are you looking forward to the most?

**Maddy**  
Union  
Branch



"I love going on walks in the nice weather!"

"I usually try to read one physical book at a time, but I have absolutely been reading multiple different books in the past. My limit is roughly eight! I start to forget key details after that!!"

"I'm looking forward to seeing the UHS Jazz band perform for our community read! I was in band in high school, so I always enjoy watching them perform!"

**Robin**  
Warrenton  
Branch



"My favorite springtime activity is gardening. It brings me joy."

"I prefer to read one book at a time, but frequently find myself in more than one title."

"The upcoming program in Warrenton that I think will be interesting is "Trails Across Missouri"."

**Mindy**  
St. Clair  
Branch



"Watching all my perennials reappear, irises, daisies, lilies, and hostas to name a few."

"Sometimes I can read a non-fiction and fiction at the same time but not much more than that."

"On March 14th I am hosting an after-hours shamrock hunt! I'm so excited for the kiddos to run around looking for shamrocks that the leprechaun left behind!"

**Christy**  
Administration



"Laying outside in my hammock reading a book, with a blanket if it's chilly."

"One at a time!"

"Community Read Glittersby Murder Mystery Party!"





## 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/](http://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 <b>your</b> information:			
FIRST NAME	MIDDLE INITIAL	LAST NAME	
STREET ADDRESS	EMAIL ADDRESS	PHONE NUMBER	
<b>BRANCH AFFILIATION</b> (Please select one)	<b>LEVEL OF MEMBERSHIP</b> Silver - \$25 <input type="checkbox"/> Gold - \$50 <input type="checkbox"/> Platinum - \$100 <input type="checkbox"/> Diamond* - \$500 <input type="checkbox"/>  *Lifetime Membership  Up to \$10 in book sale volunteer vouchers can be applied toward any level of membership dues.	<b>MEMBERSHIP GIFTS</b>  <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>	
<b>WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP?</b> (Select all which apply)	<b>OFFICE USE ONLY</b>		
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.*