Tails and Tales Summer Reading Program Starts June 1

The Library’s annual Summer Reading Program kicks off on June 1. The theme is “Tails and Tales.” There will be reading challenges, prizes and virtual programs for all ages. This year, children will be keeping track of how many minutes they read and recording it on a zoo trail gameboard. Drawing prizes will include Amazon gift cards, games, puzzles, stuffed animals, painting kits, costumes, and much more!

The Summer Reading Program isn’t just for children. Teens and adults will also be able to do fun challenges that include reading and other activities. Adults will have the opportunity to enter raffle tickets into the prize drawing of their choice. Prize basket themes include beach, camping, coffee, and tech.

Reading during the summer is important for all ages, so keep reading! And don’t forget that listening to books always counts as reading.

Sullivan Branch Manager Wins Award

Kecia Philpot, Sullivan Branch Manager, was named the Sullivan Chamber of Commerce’s 2020 “Woman of the Year”. She was also a nominee for the honor in 2018 and 2019.

Ms. Philpot has served on the Sullivan Chamber of Commerce’s Board of Directors for the past three years, during which time she was elected vice president in 2020. She has served on the East Central Area Literacy Council for the past two years, as well as vice president for the recently-formed Franklin County Literacy Council. Ms. Philpot is an active member of Temple Baptist Church in Sullivan, where she works with youth every Wednesday evening. She’s also a member of the church’s praise team and choir. Ms. Philpot was elected alderman for the City of Sullivan, Ward 2, in 2021.

Ms. Philpot began working at the Sullivan branch in June 2016 and was promoted to branch manager in August 2019.
Three children from Wright City are the first to complete the library’s “1,000 Books Before Kindergarten” challenge. Brothers Liam and Ezekiel completed the challenge on April 5, soon followed by another Wright City child, Ava, on April 9. The program encourages parents to read 1,000 books with their children before they start kindergarten.

Nearly two hundred children throughout the library’s district have signed up for the challenge, which was launched in September 2020. Parents can either visit their local branch and pick up a reading log, or go to https://scenicregional.org/1000-books-before-kindergarten/ and register online.

Each time 100 books are read, the parent and child can stop by their local branch to pick up a sticker for that page in their reading log. After reading 1,000 books, a child receives a “color-your-own” book bag that they can decorate to carry their library books. Children who complete the challenge are featured in the library’s newsletter and on its social media pages. A press release is also sent to the local newspaper about the accomplishment.

The library launched the program due to all the benefits from a parent reading with their child. Studies have shown that a parent reading with their child provides a great opportunity for bonding. Reading together is also fun and creates life-long memories, whether they are reading books they own, picking them out on a visit to the library, or downloading them onto an e-reader device. Experts agree that children who learn the necessary skills early do better in school and later in life. Participating in “1,000 Books Before Kindergarten” can help put a child on the right track.

While reading 1,000 books may sound like a daunting task, it’s much easier than one may think. If a parent and child read just one book a night, they will read 365 books in a year. In two years, the number will grow to 730. In the third year, they will surpass the goal at 1,095 books. Considering that most children start kindergarten at age 5 or 6, they have more than enough time to complete the challenge.

“1,000 Books Before Kindergarten” https://1000booksbeforekindergarten.org is a national non-profit organization that promotes the literacy program, which has been adopted by thousands of public libraries across the country.

In April, Sullivan branch patrons John and Mary Edwards donated $500 to the library. They were awarded a lifetime membership to the Sullivan branch’s Friends of the Library group for their generous gift. The donation will be designated for use at the branch. (Mr. and Mrs. Edwards only removed their face masks briefly for the photograph.)

Virtual Dog Man Trivia was available for our young patrons to enjoy. Miss Kayleigh also talked about the latest Dog Man books and how to access this fun series at our library. Families could pick up an activity packet at their local branch.
May is Mental Health Awareness Month. Franklin County CARES and Scenic Regional Library are partnering in a six-month building resiliency campaign, #DoOneShareOne. The campaign encourages people to sign up at www.franklincountykids.org to receive a Monday Mental Health e-mail each week. The emails provide amazing ideas and tricks people can use to improve their mental well-being.

Some examples of the tips provided by the Monday Mental Health e-mails:

• “Did you know that looking up at the ceiling or the sky can instantly ground you? Try it. Next time emotions are big, simply look to the sky.”

• “Bilateral movement can help calm you. Bilateral movement is anything that you do using your left and right side of your body. Think marching in place or blinking one eye and then the other.”

Franklin County CARES and Scenic Regional Library encourage everyone to sign up for these emails, as well as share #DoOneShareOne content with family and friends over the next six months. Follow Franklin County CARES on Facebook at www.facebook.com/strengtheningonetostrengthenall for more content and videos and graphics, which people can share with family and friends.

Franklin County CARES is an initiative working to educate social service agencies, schools, and others who come in contact with children and families about the effects of traumatic experiences on children, families, and the community. Partner organizations include the Franklin County CARES Action Committee, Scenic Regional Library, East Central College, Lutheran Family and Children’s Services, Franklin County Area United Way, Hope Ranch, and the Franklin County Community Resource Board.

For more information about Franklin County CARES, visit www.franklincountymocares.weebly.com.

Did you know we have a poetry club here in Franklin County? Here, the Poetry Club of Franklin County poses with their poems in our Union branch display case (masks were temporarily taken off for photo). Stop by to read great local poetry and learn about our community members! Please ask for information on how to join the club if you are a fan of writing or just reading poetry!

During Virtual Kids Club Miss Sherri from Owensville taught us how to make a five-pointed star using a pencil, paper, protractor and art supplies.
**“Lore,” by Alexandra Bracken**

The descendants of Greek Heroes like Perseus and Odysseus are tasked with hunting Gods. Zeus has punished his rebellious children by forcing them to be mortal for 7 days every 7 years (the Agon), and blessed the Hero families with the ability to gain the powers and immortality of the Gods they kill during that time. Lore Perseous is happy with her life away from the Agon in New York City, but gets pulled back in when her childhood friend, Castor, who died 7 years ago, reappears during the Agon, and Athena collapses on her doorstep.

I must admit that this book took me a while to get into, but once I did, it was a wild ride that I couldn’t put down. The lists of Hero families and their key members in the back of the book are incredibly helpful. I highly recommend this book, especially if you have any interest in a new take on Greek Mythology.

-Review by Christy, Administration

**“The Broken Girls,” by Simone St. James**

The Broken Girls is set in Vermont in the 1950s and in 2014. In 2014, Fiona Sheridan is a journalist writing fluff pieces for a local news magazine. Her sister was murdered 20 years ago and her body found at an abandoned girls’ boarding school, Idelwild Hall. She learns a wealthy woman has purchased the ruins of the school and is determined to rehabilitate and reopen the school. Fiona decides to write an investigative article about the renovations and while on a tour, a body is discovered. The story then switches to the 1950s and tells the story of four roommates navigating their personal stories as well as navigating the issues of living in a rundown boarding school.

The book has intriguing characters, stories of hauntings, interesting journalistic research, and thrilling moments. The book has many twists and turns that keep you interested in what the end will be.

-Review by Renny, Wright City branch

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**Long-time Library Trustee Steps Down**

Gasconade County native Diann Wacker recently stepped down as a library trustee after serving for 34 years. She was born and grew up in Hermann, and has lived in Owensville most of her life. Ms. Wacker was originally appointed to the Gasconade County Library Board of Trustees in 1987. In 2015, when the Gasconade, Warren, and Franklin County Libraries consolidated into a single district, she continued to serve on the new Scenic Regional Library Board of Trustees. During her time as trustee, the library passed its first tax increase in 55 years in 2014 and opened a new, 6,800 sq. ft. branch in Owensville in 2018.

An engraved “book” recognizing Ms. Wacker’s years of service was placed on the Owensville branch’s donor wall in April 2021. She is the second-longest serving trustee in the library’s 62-year history.
VIRTUAL BOOK CLUBS

Warrenton branch
Thursday, May 6 at 5:30 pm
Such a Fun Age by Kiley Reid.

Pacific branch
Tuesday, May 11 at 6:00 pm
The Art Forger by Barbara Shapiro.
Wednesday, May 12 at 10:00 am
A Painted House by John Grisham.

St. Clair branch
Thursday, May 20 at 6:00 pm
The Giver of Stars by Jojo Moyes.

Union branch
Thursday, May 20 at 6:00 pm
The Group by Mary McCarthy.

Hermann branch
Wednesday, May 26 at 4:30 pm
Anxious People by Frederick Backman.

New Haven branch
Wednesday, May 26 at 5:00 pm
The Lost Girls of Paris by Pam Jenoff.

Wright City branch
Tuesday, May 25 at 6:00 pm
I’ll Be Gone in the Dark by Michelle McNamara.
Wednesday, May 26 at 5:00 pm
Before I Let You Go by Kelly Rimmer.

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
Thursday 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

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.

VIRTUAL KID & TEEN PROGRAMS

Virtual Kids Club
Every Monday at 4:00 pm
5/3: Cinco de Mayo Celebration
5/10: Optical Illusion Toothpick Spinner
5/17: Let’s Play With Our Food
5/24: Backyard Games
5/31: Memorial Day/No Kids Club

Virtual Teen Program
1st Wednesday of Month at 4:00 pm
5/5: Mexican Folk Mirror Art
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.

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

Scenic Regional Library Foundation
Donor Wall “Book” Order Form

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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
304 Hawthorne Drive
Union, MO  63084
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.

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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**BRANCH AFFILIATION (Please select one)**

- **Friends of the Hermann Branch**
- **Friends of the New Haven Branch**
- **Friends of the Owensville Branch**
- **Friends of the Pacific Branch**
- **Friends of the St. Clair Branch**
- **Friends of the Sullivan Branch**
- **Friends of the Union Branch**
- **Friends of the Warrenton Branch**
- **Friends of the Wright City Branch**

**LEVEL OF MEMBERSHIP**

- Bronze – $10
- Silver – $25
- Ruby – $50
- Gold – $100
- Platinum – $250
- Diamond* – $500

*Lifetime Membership

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP? (Select all which apply)**

- **Office Use Only**
  - □ New Application
  - □ Renewal
  - Date Received:
    - □ Check #_____
    - □ Cash
  - 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.*