

from its current 1,000 feet. But it recently changed those plans. "After determination by engineers, professionals in the industry, it couldn't be (shortened) safely, so we are going to just take it down and put up," Franklin County Presiding Commissioner Tim Brinker said Wednesday. "The way we were going to do

completely taken down. A budget for the project has not been determined, said County Emergency Management Director Abe Cook. "We're not real sure where bids are going to come in, so we're going to have to look at all the options," he said. If bids for the 400-foot tower do not work out, the county could have a 300-foot

through further design and approval. "There's a lot of design work that has to go into a radio system," he said. "Owning the site is a plus." But an advantage of using shorter towers is they can be put up with cranes, which a 400-foot tower cannot, Cook said. "There might be a substan-

The county previously purchased lighting for the tower from SPX Aids to Navigation, of Charlotte, North Carolina, for \$19,402. Cook said those lights will now be used on the new tower. The deadline to submit bids on the tower project is Tuesday, Nov. 28. The county initially paid \$108,000 for the tower and

Scenic Regional offers blood pressure kits

By Antjea Wolff
wolffa@emissourian.com

All Scenic Regional Library branches are now carrying blood pressure monitoring kits for patrons to check out for up to 28 days.

The American Heart Association and St. Louis County Library partnered to create a new program, Libraries with Heart, earlier this year. The program allows library patrons to check out kits that contain an arm monitor cuff, instructions on how to accurately check blood pressure at home, information about ways to lower blood pressure, a list of local healthcare providers and a notepad to record each blood pressure check that comes in a plastic carrying case.

After hearing about the program, Scenic Regional Library Assistant Director Megan Maurer pushed to get these kits for Scenic Regional branches. Maurer was able to secure 20 kits to

distribute across all nine branches: Union, St. Clair, Pacific, New Haven, Sullivan, Hermann, Wright City, Owensville and Warrenton.

Maurer said the staff members at Scenic Regional were very pleased to be able to provide these kits to their service area.

"Like so many non-traditional items that we circulate at the library, we strive to provide the public with other items that they might need to enhance their quality of life, and this is one of those items," she said.

Several counties in Missouri along with one city in Illinois have already introduced the blood pressure monitoring kits into their libraries' circulation.

"Public access to blood pressure machines are not readily available in rural areas," said Jennifer Jaeger, the American Heart Association's St. Louis executive director. "We're excited to expand this program to meet people where

they are to help improve blood pressure in those areas. With this latest collaboration, we will reach residents in Jerseyville, Illinois along with Warren, Franklin, and Gasconade Counties in Missouri."

According to the American Heart Association, nearly half of American adults have high blood pressure, or hypertension, which can lead to deadly health consequences such as stroke, heart disease, kidney disease, vision loss and sexual dysfunction if left untreated. The American Heart Association encourages those with high blood pressure to consult a physician.



Shop with a Deputy donates

Larry Brown, left, a financial representative, presents a \$2,000 check to the County Sheriff's Department for the Shop with a Deputy program. The program is a partnership between the Sheriff's Department and the Deputy Sheriff's Association. The program allows school counselors or the Sheriff's Family Support Division to refer children in Washington and Union.

Highway 50 lane closures continue

Drivers will continue to see road work on Highway 50 in Union next week, according to the Missouri Department of Transportation.

Highway 50 will have one eastbound and one

Drive and northbound Highway 47 between 7 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. from Monday, Nov. 27, to Wednesday, Nov. 29.

The work is part of \$6.94 million in improvements along Highway 50 in Union that

SERVING OUR SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES



Dr. Greg Zydiak
Medical Director



Shannon Chrisco
RN / Admission Coordinator

