Library Launches RFID Technology

On October 25, the library launched RFID (radio frequency identification) systemwide. The new technology will increase efficiency 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.

While the library’s Board of Trustees approved the conversion to RFID technology several years ago, the ongoing building project delayed the plan. A company called Tech Logic, located in Minnesota, was selected for the project in February 2021.

Over the past seven months, staff placed an RFID tag in every one of the 300,000 items (books, DVDs, music CDs, audiobooks on CD) in the library’s collection. 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. The library will use temporary RFID tags for interlibrary loan items coming from other libraries.

The library originally planned to “go live” with RFID in mid-August, but installation of the security gates was delayed several weeks due to supply chain issues.

RFID has been used in 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.

Valerie at the Union branch checks out an item to a patron using the library’s new RFID technology.

RFID security gates at the Union branch.

Scenic Regional Library will be closed:
Friday, November 11 for its annual Staff Development Day
Thursday, November 28 and Friday, November 29 to celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday.
New Union Branch Manager

Renny McBride will be the new Union branch manager beginning November 1. She has served as branch manager at the Wright City branch since the facility opened in April 2018.

Ms. McBride has a master’s degree in library science from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and bachelor’s degree in history from Illinois State University. Prior to working at Scenic Regional, she was the adult services manager at the O’Fallon Public Library (2017-2018) and Bloomington Public Library (2014-2017).

Wildcat Wednesdays: Wright City Offers New Afterschool Program

This school year, the Wright City branch has offered a weekly afterschool program for students from the nearby middle school. The library has contracted with a company called Side by Side Wellness (www.sidebysidewellness.com), based in O’Fallon, to provide the program. The company specializes in counseling and fitness services for all ages.

Side by Side Wellness has an on-staff counselor at the branch from 1:00 to 4:00 PM each Wednesday, which is an early release day at the middle school. A library staff member is present at all times. The branch has called the program Wildcat Wednesdays. The program provides an opportunity for students to have a space (meeting room) to hang out without disturbing other patrons.

After the first month, the branch staff considered the program a success. Attendance has averaged 7-14 students, with the first two hours being the busiest. The branch provides board games, art supplies, and other activities. The Side by Side Wellness counselor, who interacts with the students continuously throughout the time period, also occasionally brings snacks and sports drinks for the students. The branch staff has received positive feedback from the students.

The library and Side by Side Wellness have discussed the possibility of offering more structured programming, such as yoga, movies, games, or short classes, in the future.

Congratulations! 1000 Books Before Kindergarten

Pacific patron Gracie completed 1000 Books Before Kindergarten.
Library Awarded Federal Grant to Checkout 100 Hotspots, 300 Laptops

On October 12, the library was awarded a federal Emergency Connectivity Fund Grant for $248,498. The grant, available with American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA) funds, will provide 300 Wi-Fi enabled Lenovo 100e (Gen 3) LTE Chromebooks and 100 Wi-Fi hotspots for checkout. It is the largest grant for services the library has received in its history.

The grant funds include the monthly Wi-Fi costs for the 400 new devices, along with the library’s existing 75 hotspots. The Wi-Fi connectivity cost for each Chromebook is $20 per month, and $30 per month for each hotspot. The grant funding will reimburse the library for the connectivity costs on its existing 75 Wi-Fi hotspots back to July 1, 2021, which will save the library $27,000 this fiscal year. The library’s existing 75 Wi-Fi hotspots were checked out 1,293 times in the past year.

With the grant, the library will extend the checkout period on all the hotspots and Chromebooks to six months. The devices will be available for checkout in the coming weeks. The devices will also be available to Washington Public Library patrons.

The grant’s goal is to provide broadband connectivity to individuals in rural areas. Unlike most library grants, it does not require any matching funds.

New Wright City Branch Manager

Kaleigh Baryo will be the new Wright City branch manager beginning November 1. She has worked at the Wright City branch since the facility opened and served as the full-time youth services programmer since July 2018. Ms. Baryo previously worked for the St. Louis County Library from 2014 to 2017. She resides in Wright City with her husband and children.

Community Literacy Foundation Donates Little Library

The Community Literacy Foundation recently donated a Little Free Library to Sunset Health Care Center in Union. Dan and Drew Busekrus built the library and Gretchen and Brett Kelley (not pictured) donated funds to stock the library with new books. Sunset staff members Tracy Hasten, administrator, L’Tanya Chism, activities director, and Maegan Bates, business office manager, are pictured with Dan, Drew, and Robyn Busekrus and Foundation board members Dawn Kitchell, Julie Frankenberg and Jake Thebeau.

This is the third Little Free Library built by the Busekruses for the Community Literacy Foundation and placed in Franklin County nursing homes. To learn more about Foundation projects, visit the website https://www.communityliteracyfoundation.org/community-projects.

SCENIC REGIONAL LIBRARY
LIKE US! GO TO FACEBOOK.COM | VISIT US AT SCENICREGIONAL.ORG
Staff Spotlight: Kasey, Hermann Branch Manager

Tell us about your career at Scenic. I was hired in March 2019 as the Adult Programmer in Hermann. I held that position for 6 months and then took the very NEW Library Assistant Floater position. After floating for almost a year, I became the Hermann Branch Manager.

Do you miss floating? Some days I do! I loved working at every branch, meeting patrons across our three counties. I also loved working in Administration because every day was a learning experience. Whether I was assisting with our system-wide delivery or organizing documents for our archives, I was thoroughly enjoying myself and learning a lot about what goes on behind the scenes in a library.

What made you want to work in a library? My mom was the assistant librarian at my high school and I saw every day that she really enjoyed what she did. I’ve worked in hospitality, music, veterinary medicine, and patient care. The one thing that all of my jobs had in common was customer service. I love helping people and I get to help in many ways every single day I step into the library.

What is your favorite part of the job? Why? I probably have too many favorites. I do love that I can help our older community members with their technology needs. I haven’t been stumped with a computer or smartphone question yet! I also take great pride in our library’s ability to shape the minds of our youth. Signing children up for their first cards is a highlight of my day.

What do you wish more people knew about the library? I wish that more people knew that our libraries have access to a plethora of educational tools. If you log on to one of our public computers and/or have a valid library card, you will find a variety of over 50 resources such as ABCmouse, Live Homework Help, financial guidance, genealogy, adult education courses, foreign language courses, reference journals, and SO MUCH MORE!

What upcoming program are you most excited about and why? I am excited about EVERY program that will be held in our new building! Hermann has been waiting patiently and all of our patience will pay off next Spring when we open the doors to our new location. We can’t wait to show the people of Hermann our new community center where everyone is welcome!

Any hobbies or interests outside the library? I love hiking with my husband, Michael. I also love hanging out with my stepdaughter, Gianna. We live in downtown Washington, so we like to meet up with Grandma, Grandpa, and the best dog in the world, Leo, and hike the riverfront trail. I am super quirky. I love all things Barbershop Harmony! I sang in a barbershop quartet for years and am looking forward to getting back into singing once the threat of Covid is behind us.

You can only take one book to a desert island. What book, and why? This is a tough one. I’d have to say the Bible to help me through famine, anger, grief, sadness, etc. But if I made it onto the desert island on purpose and had all of the amenities, I’d choose Dave Barry’s Greatest Hits because he is brilliant and hilarious! Humor makes everything better, especially vacation on a desert island.
On October 15, First State Community Bank presented a $300 check to the library for a “book” on the new Hermann branch’s donor wall. The proceeds will go to the Hermann branch Friends of the Library group. The donor wall will be located in the vestibule of the new Hermann branch, which is expected to open in June 2022.

Each branch in the library system has its own donor wall. Businesses, individuals, and organizations can purchase the “books” and have them engraved with a name. All donor wall “book” purchases are tax deductible and the proceeds go directly to each Friends’ group for use at their branch. 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

Donor wall “books” can be purchased online with a debit or credit card at https://scenicregional.org/donorwall/. The donor wall “book” form can also be printed, completed, and mailed to the library with a check.

The library’s foundation and Friends’ groups have sold several hundred “books” systemwide since the fundraiser was launched in 2017.

St. Clair Branch Receives Donation

The St. Clair branch received a $500 donation in October from patron and Friends’ member, Margaret Heard. The donation will be transferred to the Friends of the Library group and designated for use at the branch. Ms. Heard was recognized for the generous donation with a “Diamond Level” lifetime membership certificate to the St. Clair Branch Friends of the Library.
**November 2021 Upcoming Events**

**Hermann Branch**  
Call: 573-486-2024

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<th>ADULT PROGRAMS</th>
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| CALM Training (Limit 12)  
Tuesday, November 23, 5:00 pm-6:15 pm  
CALM (Conversations on Access to Lethal Means) and suicide prevention training presented by Safer Homes Collaborative. |

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<th>BOOK CLUBS</th>
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| Book Discussion Group (Limit 8)  
Wednesday, November 17 at 4:30 pm  
Persepolis by Marjane Satrapi. |

Visit here for all Book Clubs: scenicregional.org/how-do-i/find-a-book-club/

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<th>KID &amp; TEEN PROGRAMS</th>
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| Preschool Storytime  
Every Thursday at 10:00 am |

Virtual Kids Club: What Pet to Get?  
Monday, November 29 at 4:00 pm

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**New Haven Branch**  
Call: 573-237-2189

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| History in New Haven (Limit 16)  
Thursday, November 18 from 5:00-6:00 pm  
Local historian David Menke presents on the Anna Bell Chapel and New Haven history. |

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<th>BOOK CLUBS</th>
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| New Haven branch (Limit 16)  
Wednesday, November 17 at 5:00 pm  
Hidden Valley Road by Robert Kolker. Pick up a copy at the library. |

Visit here for all Book Clubs: scenicregional.org/how-do-i/find-a-book-club/

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<th>KID &amp; TEEN PROGRAMS</th>
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| Preschool Storytime (Limit 16)  
Every Tuesday at 10:00 am  
3rd Saturday of month at 10:00 am  
Up to kindergarten age. |

Kids Club: Weave Your Very Own “Turtle the Turtle” (Limit 16)  
Tuesday, November 9 at 4:00 pm  
Do you have a turtle? Learn interesting turtle facts as you weave one of your very own!  
Ages K-5th grade.

Virtual Kids Club: What Pet to Get?  
Monday, November 29 at 4:00 pm

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**Owensville Branch**  
Call: 573-437-2188

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<th>ADULT PROGRAMS</th>
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| MOCA (Missouri Ozarks Community Action)  
1st & 3rd Wednesday of the month, 10:00 am-12:00 pm or 12:30 pm-4:00 pm  
Visit the mobile services van at the branch. MOCA staff will be able to answer questions and assist with service applications. |

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<th>BOOK CLUBS</th>
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| Seeds of the Month Club  
Every first Tuesday-ask for details!  
November seed: Lemon Basil |

Pioneer Corn Husk Doll Craft (Limit 16)  
Thursday, November 18 at 5:00 pm  
Bicentennial family program.

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| Lil’ OWLs Storytime (Limit 16)  
Every Wednesday at 10:00 am |

Read, Build, & Play (Limit 16)  
Saturday, November 13 at 10:30 am  
Topic: Stuff to do with sticks.  
Ages K-5th grade.

Virtual Kids Club: What Pet to Get?  
Monday, November 29 at 4:00 pm

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**Patrons at the Owensville branch were able to take advantage of the mobile sewing lab all of October. Their final project was a flight bag.**

**The Murder at Skull Manor Mystery Dinner at the Warrenton branch was spooktacular! Big thanks to Bob & Toni Truetken, owners of Deerfield’s On Main for graciously allowing us to host it at their beautiful establishment!**
PACIFIC BRANCH
Call: 636-257-2712

Register for all in-person programs!

ADULT PROGRAMS
Mahjong Club (Limit 12)
Every Monday from 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Take-A-Ticket Technology Tutor
Tuesday, November 2 from 10:00 am-3:00 pm
Sign up for 30-minute time slots for help with your device.

Bicentennial Bluebird Bookmark (Limit 10)
Tuesday, November 30 at 1:00 pm
Craft a lovely, stitched Bluebird bookmark made with felt.

BOOK CLUBS
The First Chapter Book Club (Limit 16)
Tuesday, November 9 at 6:00 pm
The Haunting of Hill House
by Shirley Jackson.

The Next Chapter Book Club (Limit 16)
Wednesday, November 10 at 10:00 am
The Night Circus by Erin Morganstern.

Visit here for all Book Clubs:
scenicregional.org/how-do-i/find-a-book-club/

KID & TEEN PROGRAMS
Take & Make supplies at the library
Preschool Storytime (Limit 16)
Every Thursday at 10:00 am

Kids Club: Games Rock (Limit 16)
Monday, November 22 at 6:00 pm
Kids will make their own Tic-Tac-Toe game. Grades 1st-5th.

Family Game Night (Limit 12 per hour)
Monday, November 15 from 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm or 6:00 pm-7:00 pm

Virtual Kids Club: What Pet to Get?
Monday, November 29 at 4:00 pm

ST. CLAIRE BRANCH
Call: 636-629-2546

Register for all in-person programs!

ADULT PROGRAMS
Holiday Leftover Remix (Limit 9)
Saturday, November 20 at 1:00 pm
We’re cooking up new ways to fix Thanksgiving leftovers.

Mod Podge Mania (Limit 12)
Monday, November 22 at 6:00 pm
We’ll Mod Podge everyday items transforming them from drab to FAB!

Spice of the Month Club: Chai
Tuesday, November 30 at 6:00 pm

BOOK CLUBS
Third Thursdays Book Club (Limit 20)
Thursday, November 18 at 6:00 pm
The Light Between Oceans
by M. L. Stedman.

Visit here for all Book Clubs:
scenicregional.org/how-do-i/find-a-book-club/

KID & TEEN PROGRAMS
Take & Make supplies at the library
Preschool Storytime (Limit 20)
Every Thursday at 10:00 am

DIY Pizza for Teens (Limit 9)
Wednesday, November 17 from 3:00 pm-5:00 pm
Teens will make their own pizza while utilizing our new mobile culinary cart.

Homeschool Sweater Pumpkins (Limit 20)
Friday, November 19 from 11:00 am-12:00 pm
Homeschool students will create a decoration, using a recycled sweater.

Turkey Windsock Craft (Limit 20)
Saturday, November 20 at 10:00 am
Ages 5-12.

Virtual Kids Club: What Pet to Get?
Monday, November 29 at 4:00 pm

SULLIVAN BRANCH
Call: 573-468-4372

Register for all in-person programs!

ADULT PROGRAMS
Pinterest Craft Night:
The Last Leaf Painting (Limit 16)
Thursday, November 4 at 6:00 pm

Get Hooked! Learn to Crochet (Limit 16)
Thursday, November 18 at 6:00 pm

BOOK CLUBS
As The Page Turns Book Club (Limit 16)
Tuesday, November 16 at 6:00 pm
Is This Anything? by Jerry Seinfeld.

Visit here for all Book Clubs:
scenicregional.org/how-do-i/find-a-book-club/

KID & TEEN PROGRAMS
Take & Make supplies at the library
Preschool Storytime (Limit 16)
Every Tuesday at 10:00 am

Kids Club: ‘Tis the Season for Christmas Crafting (Limit 16)
Monday, November 8 at 4:00 pm

Teens! Holiday Escape Room (Limit 16)
Monday, November 22 at 5:00 pm

Virtual Kids Club: What Pet to Get?
Monday, November 29 at 4:00 pm

Kids at the New Haven branch made folded book hedgehogs during Kids Club in October.
ADULT PROGRAMS
Getting to Know Daniel & Rebecca Boone (Limit 24 Adult/Family)
Thursday, November 4 at 6:00 pm

Beginner’s Sewing Project (Adult/Teen limit 18 per session)
Monday, November 8 at 6:00 pm
Friday, November 12 at 10:00 am
Learn to make a bean bag phone holder. Choose one session.

Baby Lock Sewing Machine Lab Times (Limit 8 per session)
November 2, 9 from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm
November 3, 10, 17 from 4:00 pm-7:00 pm
November 6, 13 from 12:00 pm-4:00 pm
November 12 from 2:00 pm-5:00 pm
November 17 from 4:00 pm-7:00 pm

BOOK CLUBS
Hooked on Books (Limit 16)
Thursday, November 18 from 6:00pm-7:00 pm
On the Corner of Bitter and Sweet by Jamie Ford.

Visit here for all Book Clubs: scenicregional.org/how-do-i/find-a-book-club/

KID & TEEN PROGRAMS
Take & Make supplies at the library
Preschool Storytime (Limit 16)
Every Wednesday at 10:00 am

Virtual Kids Club: What Pet to Get?
Monday, November 29 at 4:00 pm

Kids Club: Kenpo Karate (Limit 18)
Monday, November 29 at 5:00 pm

COMPUTER CLASSES (18+ yrs.)
MS Word 2019: Document Formatting (Limit 5)
Tuesday, November 16 at 10:00 am

MS PowerPoint 2019: Working with Slides (Limit 5)
Thursday, November 18 at 1:00 pm

MS Excel 2019: Customizing Columns, Rows & Cells (Limit 5)
Tuesday, November 30 at 6:00 pm

ADULT PROGRAMS
An Evening in Mystic Movie Night (Limit 29 per evening)
Tuesday, November 2 at 5:30 pm
Wednesday, November 3 at 5:30 pm

Instant Pot Thanksgiving (Limit 29 per evening)
Tuesday, November 9 at 6:00 pm
Wednesday, November 10 at 6:00 pm

Friendsgiving Trivia Night (Limit 29 per evening)
Tuesday, November 16 at 6:00 pm
Wednesday, November 17 at 6:00 pm

Take-a-Ticket Technology Tutor
Wednesday, November 17 from 10:00 am-5:00 pm
Sign up for a 30-min. appointment.

Wrestling at the Chase (Limit 29 per evening)
Tuesday, November 23 at 6:00 pm
Presentation by author Ed Wheatley.

Two Hundred Years of Notorious Crimes in the Show-Me-State (Limit 29 per evening)
Tuesday, November 30 at 6:00 pm

BOOK CLUBS
Reese’s Reads Book Club (Limit 29)
Thursday, November 4 at 5:30 pm
Water for Elephants by Sara Gruen.

A Novel Bunch Book Club (Limit 29)
Wednesday, November 24 at 2:00 pm
Where Are You Luis Velez by Catherine Ryan Hyde.

Visit here for all Book Clubs: scenicregional.org/how-do-i/find-a-book-club/

KID & TEEN PROGRAMS
Take & Make supplies at the library
Preschool Storytime (Limit 29)
Every Tuesday at 10:00 am

Virtual Kids Club: What Pet to Get?
Monday, November 29 at 4:00 pm

Teen Wildcat Wednesdays
Every Wednesday from 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm
No Wildcat Wednesday on November 24
After school drop-in programs for teens in the meeting room.

Virtual Kids Club: What Pet to Get?
Monday, November 29 at 4:00 pm
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](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.

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NAME OF INDIVIDUAL, FAMILY, BUSINESS OR ORGANIZATION TO APPEAR ON BOOK

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<tr>
<td>Hermann Branch</td>
<td>8” X 1-1/2” - $100</td>
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<td>10” X 2” - $200</td>
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<td>Owensville Branch</td>
<td>9” X 3” - $300</td>
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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
251 Union Plaza Drive
Union, MO  63084
SCENIC REGIONAL LIBRARY
FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
October 1, 2021 – September 30, 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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<tr>
<td>Friends of the Hermann Branch</td>
<td>Bronze – $10</td>
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<td>Friends of the New Haven Branch</td>
<td>Silver – $25</td>
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<td>Friends of the Owensville Branch</td>
<td>Ruby – $50</td>
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<td>Friends of the Pacific Branch</td>
<td>Gold – $100</td>
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<td>Friends of the St. Clair Branch</td>
<td>Platinum – $250</td>
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<td>Friends of the Sullivan Branch</td>
<td>Diamond* – $500</td>
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*Lifetime Membership

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

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP?</th>
<th>Office Use Only</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volunteer at the Fall Book Sale</td>
<td>New Application</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volunteer at the Spring Book Sale</td>
<td>Renewal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volunteer at other events</td>
<td>Date Received:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volunteer at my local branch</td>
<td>□Check #_____</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serve on the local Friends of the Library’s Governing and Planning Committee</td>
<td>□Cash</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Amount Received:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.