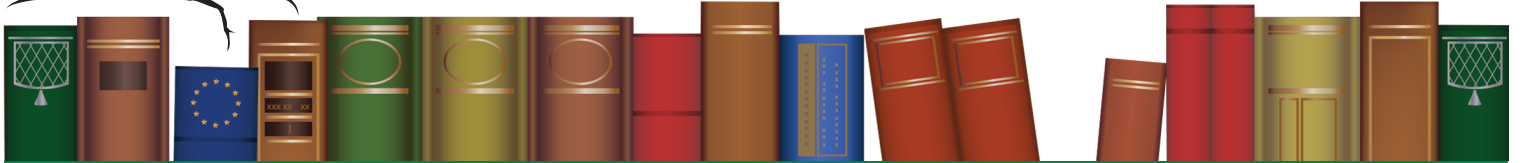




# THE Scenic Regional Library NEWSLETTER

read, explore, grow



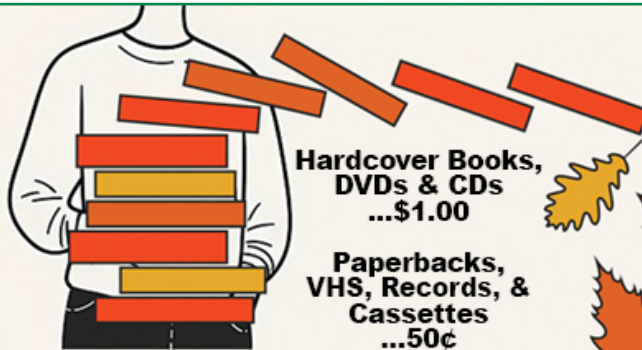
issue 137 | october 2024

A monthly publication from your local library!

## Friends of the Library Preview!

Wednesday, Nov. 6  
5:00pm-6:00pm

All Friends of the Library members receive a 10% discount at the book sale and may attend the preview event.



Hardcover Books, DVDs & CDs  
...\$1.00

Paperbacks, VHS, Records, & Cassettes  
...50¢

# FALL BOOK SALE

AT EACH BRANCH LOCATION



Thursday, Nov. 7: 9am-8pm  
Friday, Nov. 8: 9am-6pm  
Saturday, Nov. 9: 9am-5pm

SCENICREGIONAL.ORG | FIND US ON FACEBOOK!

Call: 636-583-0652 for more info.



WE WILL BE CLOSED  
MONDAY,  
NOVEMBER 11  
FOR  
VETERAN'S DAY

## Board Games Now Available

Scenic Regional Library is now circulating board games! The library has added 300+ games to its collection that patrons may check out for up to two weeks. Games at each branch are located next to the magazines. There are games for all ages, including Rabbit Rally, Ticket to Ride, Mysterium, Apples to Apples, and many more. To view the entire collection, visit us online at [scenicregional.org/games/](http://scenicregional.org/games/). To place a hold, visit the library's online catalog or call your local branch.



# GAME CIRCULATION



*Kids playing chess in the Hermann branch.*



*Familiar face pumpkins decorating the Pacific branch.*



*After reading about messes in storytime, kids at the Union branch sorted all of the toys before playing with them.*

## "The Flower Sisters" Chosen as 2025 Community Read

The 2025 Community Read Selection Committee has chosen "The Flower Sisters" by Michelle Collins Anderson as next year's title! Each year, Scenic Regional Library partners with Washington Public Library and East Central College to host an annual Community Read. The goal is to have as many people reading and discussing the same book at the same time. Over four weeks, the library and its partners will distribute over 1,000 free copies and present many programs that relate to the book's themes. The next Community Read will take place in April, 2025.



### Summary:

Drawing on the little-known true story of a tragic event that took place in the author's Missouri hometown at an Ozarks dance hall in 1928, this beautifully written novel, told through twin storylines fifty years apart, explores the unpredictable effect of split-second decisions, small-town tragedy, and the ways family secrets reverberate through generations. Sure to resonate with fans of Daniel Woodrell, Donna Everhart, Ellen Marie Wiseman, and Jeannette Walls. At birth, Violet and Rose Flowers were identical, save for a tiny bluish-purple mark gracing Violet's slender neck. By nineteen, their temperaments distinguish them, as different as the flowers their mother named them for—Violet, wild and outgoing, and Rose, solitary and reserved. Still, they are each other's world. Then, on a sweltering, terrible August night in 1928, an explosion rocks Lamb's Dance Hall in Possum Flats, Missouri, engulfing it in flames, leaving one twin among the dozens dead, and her sister's life forever changed. Fifty years later, Daisy Flowers is dumped on her grandmother Rose's doorstep for the summer. A bright, inquisitive fifteen-year-old, Daisy bargains her way into an internship at the local newspaper—where she learns of the mysterious long-ago tragedy and its connection to her family. Rose, now the local funeral home director, grows increasingly alarmed as her impulsive granddaughter delves into Possum Flats' history, determined to uncover the horrors and heroes of the fiery blast. For a small town, Possum Flats holds a multitude of big secrets, some guarded by the living, some kept by the dead. And through Rose, Daisy, Dash—a preacher who found his calling that fateful night—and others, those ghosts gradually come into the light, forcing a reckoning at last.



## October Anniversaries

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



Randy, Custodian  
Warrenton Branch



Judy, Library Assistant  
St. Clair Branch



A Warrenton branch Friends of the Library member received a backpack cooler tote when she renewed her membership this year.

## Library Releases 2023-2024 Annual Report



The library has released its annual report for the 2023-2024 fiscal year, which ended June 30. Among this year's highlights were a visit from Governor Mike Parson at the Union branch; a performance of "Give 'em Hell, Harry" by Clifton Truman Daniel, Harry Truman's grandson; and the three exhibits at The

Gallery at the Library in the Hermann branch: "Portraiture," "Winter Eden," and "At Play."

The library showed high usage throughout the year, with many increases. Over 368,000 people visited the library's nine branches, and 6,730 new library cards were issued. In addition, the library checked out 462,813 physical items and 265,823 digital items, such as e-books and e-audiobooks. The total number of digital checkouts reflects a 33.67% increase from 2022-2023.

The library checked out 4,695 non-traditional items such as telescopes, headphones, cake pans, microscopes, WiFi hotspots, and Chromebooks, and added blood pressure kits and Tonieboxes to the collection. In 2023-2024, the library offered 606 adult programs, reaching 7,874 people, a 20.4% increase from the previous year, and 983 children and teen programs attended by 25,591 people. Library staff also facilitated 212 visits to

3,383 senior citizens at nursing homes and senior centers in all three counties.

The fiscal year also saw the third annual Community Read, an event designed to encourage discussion by having as many people as possible read the same book simultaneously. The book chosen for the 2024 Community Read was "Harry Truman's Excellent Adventure: The True Story of a Great American Road Trip" by Matthew Algeo. In addition, two other books were chosen for middle-grade students and children to involve all ages in the event: "The Great Turkey Walk" by Kathleen Karr and "Road Trip!" by Claudia Friddell. The library and its partners gave away 2,136 free copies of all three books to the public and area schools. Over four weeks, the Community Read saw 86 themed programs with 1,647 attendees.

To read the full Annual Report, visit us at [scenicregional.org/about-us/library-reports/annual-report/](https://scenicregional.org/about-us/library-reports/annual-report/).



## Changes to Hoopla for Reciprocal Borrowers



Beginning November 1, Scenic Regional Library's reciprocal cardholders will no longer be able to access Hoopla. The decision was made to curb skyrocketing costs for the digital platform. Hoopla's annual fee is based on usage, which has caused many public libraries nationwide to struggle to afford the popular product. Since Scenic Regional introduced Hoopla in 2015, the annual cost has skyrocketed from \$15,000 to \$106,000. Over the past year, over 41,000 items were checked out through the platform.

Reciprocal cardholders are residents of Heartland Regional, Missouri River Regional, St. Charles City-County, St. Louis County, Crawford County (excluding Sullivan), and Washington County libraries. **The change will not impact any Washington residents, including those living in the Washington Public Library District, nor households purchasing a Scenic Regional library card.**

Hoopla offers over 1.5 million digital audiobooks, books, comics and manga, music, movies, TV, and more.

## Last Month's Most Popular Titles

**1st** – *Verity* by Colleen Hoover - Lowen Ashleigh is a struggling writer on the brink of financial ruin when she accepts the job offer of a lifetime. Whose truth is the lie? Stay up all night reading the sensational psychological thriller that has readers obsessed.

**Genres:** Thriller, Mystery, Romance, Fiction

**2nd** – *Story Watch* by C.J. Box - Wyoming Game Warden Joe Pickett investigates a mysterious death at a secret remote high-tech facility in this riveting new novel.

**Genres:** Mystery, Westerns, Fiction

**3rd (tied)** – *A Girl's Guide to Moving On* by Debbie Macomber -In this powerful and uplifting novel, a mother and her daughter-in-law bravely leave their troubled marriages and face the challenge of starting over.

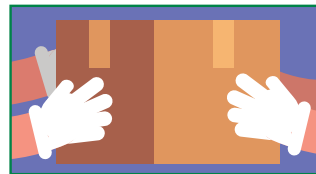
**Genres:** Romance, Contemporary, Fiction

**3rd (tied)** – *Too Late* by Colleen Hoover - A story about a woman caught in a dangerous web of obsessive love, trying to find a way out before it's too late.

**Genres:** Romance, Thriller, Fiction



## Library Seeks Donations



Scenic Regional Library is always accepting donations of gently-used books, DVDs, music CDs, and books on CD! Most donations will be sold at our semi-annual book sale. Have a lot? Call ahead of time, and we will help you carry them in! Contact your local branch for more details.



(L-R) Lorelei Garber, Megan Feldmann, Morgan Gunn, Troop 4211.

## Local Girl Scout Troop Uses Library Sewing Labs to Earn Silver Award

Troop 4211 finished their Silver Award with the help of the sewing labs we have available at the library. They had to work on this project 50 hours and it took 9 months in total. Their project name is "Fidget Blankets for Memory Care." They made 15 blankets that will help Memory Care patients with dexterity and cognitive function. The blankets were donated to The Arbors Memory Care wing in Washington, MO. This is the highest award a Girl Scout can earn through 8th grade.

SCENIC REGIONAL LIBRARY

LIKE US! GO TO FACEBOOK.COM | VISIT US AT SCENICREGIONAL.ORG



## Books by Presidential Candidates

Are you interested in reading a book by one of the presidential or vice-presidential candidates? Check out one of these titles! To place a book on hold, call your local branch or visit our online catalog at [scenicregional.org](http://scenicregional.org).



**Donald Trump** – *Trump: Think Like A Billionaire, Great Again, Trump Never Give Up, Think Like a Champion, The America We Deserve, Think Big, Trump: The Art of the Deal, Time to Get Tough Again*

**Kamala Harris** – *The Truths We Hold, Superheroes are Everywhere*

**J.D. Vance** – *Hillbilly Elegy*

## Colossal Clue at Union Branch

Who stole the missing book?! Solve a giant mystery with us during a game of Colossal Clue™ at the Union branch on Saturday, October 26, from 5:30 to 7:30 PM. During this after-hours program, family and friends can follow the mystery of the missing book throughout the library. This program is for ages 5+ and will feature three different difficulties to accommodate most ages. This program can be completed in groups or individually. To RSVP, call the Union branch at 636-583-3224, stop by the branch, or register online at [bit.ly/3ZMKWQt](http://bit.ly/3ZMKWQt).

UNION BRANCH
CHILDREN 5+

# COLOSSAL Clue™

Who hid What book Where?  
 For this after hours program grab your family or friends and follow the mystery of the missing book. RSVP today: Call 636-583-3224, stop by the branch, or register online.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26, 5:30PM - 7:30PM



Patrons learned how to make scarves with alcohol inks at the New Haven branch.



Kids got to practice their fine motor skills with paper weaving at the Owensville branch.



Patrons made Fall Wreaths at the Sullivan branch.



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## SCENIC SAYS!

What is your favorite Halloween tradition?

What genre do you read the most and why?

What do you wish more people knew about the library?

**Alesia**  
Branch  
Manager,  
St. Clair



"I love DIY costumes. When I dress up for Halloween I usually go for the punny costumes, some of my favorites are: ceiling fan (Go, ceiling, go!), Smartie pants & Bee Arthur."

"I find myself drawn to novels about dystopian societies and I can't really explain why. Comparing them to our world, they're a reminder that "it could be worse" but at the same time a warning of what could be."

"I wish patrons knew more about all of the digital resources available to them, there are soooo many!"

**Madison**  
Library  
Assistant,  
Union



"I love going to the pumpkin patch with my family to find the largest pumpkins! We like to find ones in different categories (prettiest, ugliest, etc)."

"I usually read horror or romance. Bonus points if it's both! I really like the push-and-pull of romance and the spooky element with horror."

"I wish people knew more about our online resources on our website. We have a wide variety of things to utilize such as test guides, genealogy, foreign languages, DIY, and more all free to use!"

**Bekah**  
Children's  
Programmer,  
Pacific



"My husband and I watch the movie "Arsenic and Old Lace" every Halloween."

"Historical Fiction and Romance. I love history and learning about lesser known people and events, but I also enjoy the light escapism that romance offers."

"We have so many great programs for all ages! There is always something happening at the library. Also, we are open to programming suggestions, so if there's a program that you'd like to see at the library, let us know. (...)"

**Danae**  
Library  
Assistant,  
Union



"Dressing up my kids."

"Looking back through the years, I'd have to say Fantasy. Mystery and Sci-Fi are a close second."

"I wish more people knew about the amazing wide variety of subjects and genres we carry. You never know what oddly specific topic you will come across if you look."



*A monthly publication from your local library!*

## Library Provides Drop Off Locations for Warners' Warm-Up Coat Drive

# WARNERS' WARM-UP

The library's Franklin County branches will serve as drop-off locations for this year's annual Warners' Warm-Up Coat Drive. The organization is requesting donations of new or gently used coats of all sizes—for men, women, and especially children.

This year's two-week collection period will begin on October 21 and continue until November 2.

Former St. Louis Rams quarterback Kurt Warner and his wife Brenda launched the coat drive in 2001 as a one-day drive before a Rams game. It has evolved into a two-week St. Louis metropolitan area-wide effort with hundreds of drop-off locations on both sides of the river. The Warners' Warm-up Coat Drive collects over 15,000 coats each year.

## Teaming up to keep the Bi-State warm since 2001

### Touch of Hope Drive in November



Throughout November, all branches of Scenic Regional Library will collect essential hygiene items and gently used purses to benefit the Touch of Hope Purse Project. Touch of Hope's mission is to give comfort to women in times of need with compassion, dignity, and even a little style by providing an "almost new" purse or reusable bag filled with all of the essentials.

Touch of Hope also provides care bags to the library to distribute to those in need. The bags contain essential hygiene items. Boxes will be available in each branch's entryway for donations.

### Donations:

- Body wash
- Shampoo
- Conditioner
- Razors
- Lotion
- Combs
- Deodorant
- Toothbrush
- Toothpaste
- Floss
- Tampons
- Pads
- Other essential hygiene items
- Gently used purses

## Election Information from League of Women Voters® Available at Branches



The League of Women Voters® is a nonpartisan, grassroots organization working to protect and expand voting rights and ensure everyone is represented in our democracy. They empower voters and defend democracy through advocacy, education, and litigation at the local, state, and national levels.

The League of Women Voters® will provide the library with nonpartisan informational pamphlets for its Franklin County branches for the upcoming election, which will contain pertinent election information. The pamphlets will be available from Friday, October 18, to the day of the General Election on Tuesday, November 5. For more information about the League of Women Voters, visit [www.lwv.org](http://www.lwv.org).



*Kids had a very Buzzzzzzzy day at storytime in St. Clair.*



## 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		
STATE	ZIP CODE	
PHONE NUMBER		
EMAIL ADDRESS		
NAME OF INDIVIDUAL, FAMILY, BUSINESS OR ORGANIZATION TO APPEAR ON BOOK		
BRANCH (Please select one) <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		SIZE OF BOOK <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) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hermann Branch <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>New Haven Branch <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>Owensville Branch <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>Pacific Branch <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>St. Clair Branch <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>Sullivan Branch <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>Union Branch <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>Warrenton Branch <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>Wright City Branch <input type="checkbox"/></li> </ul>	<b>LEVEL OF MEMBERSHIP</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Silver - \$25 <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>Gold - \$50 <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>Platinum - \$100 <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>Diamond* - \$500 <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>*Lifetime Membership</li> <li>Up to \$10 in book sale volunteer vouchers can be applied toward any level of membership dues.</li> </ul>		<b>MEMBERSHIP GIFTS</b> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center; margin-top: 10px;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p><u>Gold:</u> 21oz. metal water bottle</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p><u>Platinum:</u> 20-can cooler backpack</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p><u>Diamond:</u> \$150 donor wall book</p> </div> </div>
<b>WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP?</b> (Select all which apply) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Volunteer at the Fall Book Sale <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>Volunteer at the Spring Book Sale <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>Volunteer at other events <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>Volunteer at my local branch <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>Serve on the local Friends of the Library's Governing and Planning Committee <input type="checkbox"/></li> </ul>		<b>OFFICE USE ONLY</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> New Application</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Renewal</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Date Received:</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Check # _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Cash</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Amount Received:</li> </ul>	

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.*