President’s Message

This is a bittersweet message, my last as your Missouri Library Association President.

It’s been a tough year, one of struggles and advocacy, fear and resilience, conflict and compromise. Libraries are facing a world in which the very nature of our work is sometimes suspect – where expertise and information resources, even programming and events, are called into question.

And yet, we have evolved faster than almost any other profession, embracing virtual services and assisting those in quarantine. We’ve been online for a decade; we lived in these spaces already. We represent all people in our collections and programs, include all backgrounds, gender identities, and colors. We support our communities through their struggles and collect census data; provide virtual learning resources, hotspots and Chromebooks; and connect through online storylines, Zoom knitting circles, and true crime podcasts. This is what we do, and will continue to do, even when this entirely meme-worthy, dumpster fire of a year is over. In the words of my favorite Disney princess, we will continue to “do the next right thing.”

This year was not what I expected when I assumed the job of association president last January. My original goal was to try and connect libraries, associations, and support groups to build a vision for where we are headed and how we can work together. It was going to be our “Blue Sky” year. That didn’t necessarily happen, but we still worked together to advocate for what is right and to support each other through times of crisis.

In many ways, the work we did is so much more important than the work I’d planned, and I feel very privileged to be a part of all that was accomplished this year. It’s been an honor to lead and serve this year, and I will continue to work diligently to support libraries and library workers. I wish my fabulous president-elect, Cindy Thompson, and our incoming Board, a blue sky year.

The Virtual Symposium was a success and we appreciate the feedback we’ve received from attendees and sponsors. Part of our strategic plan focuses on developing new ways to engage with and provide meaningful professional development to the membership. So, this format proved engaging and relevant, and provided a different kind of outlet for connection, which we will continue to explore. Cindy Thompson plans to focus on strengthening infrastructure during her tenure as president, fulfilling another goal of the association. As always, we appreciate all the volunteers that help the goals of MLA become a reality. I appreciate all the committee members, our Board of directors, and the Amigos staff, all of whom play a part in the success of the organization.

I am so proud of Missouri libraries and the work we’ve done this year, proud of our Board for making hard choices, and proud of our profession. I appreciate each and everyone one of you and the work you do!

Cindy Dudenhoffer
MO Library Association President, 2020
mlapresident@molib.org
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Let It Show! Let It Show! Let It Show!

Do you have some news to share? Let it show! Are you showing your community you care? Let it show! Do you have pride in your terrific staff? Let it show – right here! \textit{MO INFO} is produced by the MLA Publications Committee to show and share your news and information.

Submission Guidelines

\textit{MO INFO is published six times each year}, on the 15\textsuperscript{th} of January, March, May, July, September, and November. We collect, edit, and publish this newsletter; all you need to do is let us know about your news, events, successes, and resources.

Here’s how: submission deadlines are the 15\textsuperscript{th} of the preceding months, submitted by email to the committee at moinfonews@gmail.com. (Please include MO INFO in the subject line.) Our next deadline is \textbf{Tuesday, December 15}. If you have questions or a new contact person, just ask!

To facilitate the production process, please follow the submission suggestions below. Article format should be:

- Microsoft Word document
- Include desired headline and your contact email and role in MLA
- Include digital photos (with captions) and graphics with your articles as desired
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A variety of events awaits you! Use the links for changes to schedule, availability, or registration fees.
Meet this issue’s Featured Library Employee for the Missouri Library Association, Tracie Gieselman-France!

What is your name, your library, and your role at the library?

Tracie Gieselman-France, Duane G. Meyer Library at Missouri State University, Archivist

What originally got you interested in working at a library?

I have always loved libraries and reading books (you’d be jealous of all the ice cream cones and personal pizzas I “won” for reading books as a child!) but I hadn’t really thought about working at a library. I originally visited the MSU Archives as a researcher the same semester I was completing an internship at our local history museum and quickly realized that I enjoyed working with archival materials. I jumped at the chance to apply for a position as the Archives Specialist when it became available and have always felt it was pure luck that the Archives are a part of the library on our campus!

What keeps you coming back every day?

It is a combination of my colleagues and the community, the collections, and our researchers. Every day is different and I learn something new every day from my own research, or by assisting a patron. My colleagues and the community are equally important, as we often work together to create exhibits or suggest resources to our researchers, and the collaborations extend out to other libraries and cultural heritage institutions in our region.

What's challenging about your work?

I think it is important to be creative with how we present research and archival materials to the community and that can be a challenge. COVID has certainly accelerated the need for creative content and different ways to deliver content to our patrons.

Has your work made you either curious, or passionate, or awestruck about something?

I’m passionate about sharing the treasures found in archival materials with our researchers, whether they are college aged, elementary students, or seasoned authors.

I also feel very rewarded when a student experiences the magic of carefully turning the pages of a rare book!

What book, author, artist, show, or music are you engaging with this week, either personally or professionally? Persuade us why we should, too.

Professionally, I have been reading through Ozarks Folklore from authors such as Vance Randolph and Fern Nance Shumate/Nancy Nance. Always interesting and entertaining, especially since I am working with a collection related to both authors!

Personal consumption: We watched it a few weeks back, but I definitely recommend watching The Social Dilemma. This is a documentary on Netflix about social media and how it influences society.

I also look at a lot of cookbooks since we are eating at home more often. I have my own collection and look at a lot of websites, but I encourage everyone to check out the cookbooks at your local library, too!

For inspiration, I’ve been reading The Artist’s Way: A Spiritual Path to Higher Creativity by Julia Cameron. I haven’t committed to the exercises yet, but I like the techniques!

Like to nominate someone to be our next Featured Library Employee? Examples could be:

…a new employee you’d like to introduce
…someone with a unique job or on a unique career path
…an employee you find inspirational
…a coworker whose gifts you wish were more widely known
…someone who’s “an institution” full of interesting stories
…a role that has a new focus or is reaching a new audience
…someone you’d like to make more visible to potential employers

Submit name(s) and contact information, along with place of employment, to Shannon Mawhiney at smawhiney@missouristate.edu.

We’ll do all the work of contacting; we just need you to connect us!
Missouri Building Block Award

Nominate a book for the Missouri Building Block Award!

The Missouri Building Block Award Committee is accepting nominations for the 2021 Building Block Picture Book Award. The Building Block Award, administered by the Youth Services Community of Interest of the Missouri Library Association, is presented annually to the author and illustrator of the picture book voted most popular by preschool children in Missouri’s public libraries. We need YOUR input to ensure that we continue to have high quality, enjoyable picture books on our list of nominees!

Here are some of the criteria:

- Must be an original picture book, age-appropriate (birth through first grade) with child appeal.
- Copyright must be within the last two years (Dec. 2018-Nov. 2020).
- Must be a great read-aloud with rich vocabulary, flowing language and accurate grammar.
- May be fiction or nonfiction.
- Cannot be a holiday book.

EVERYONE is encouraged to nominate picture books. This year we have a convenient Google form that makes nominating a title easier for everyone. If you come across any picture books that you would like to nominate, just fill out the form completely and click “submit” -- it’s that easy!

The form can be found on the Missouri Building Block Award webpage or by clicking here. The deadline for submissions is Monday, Nov. 30.

Please share this information with anyone you feel may have a book to submit. We would love to hear from everyone! Membership with MLA is not a requirement.

We look forward to receiving your nominations! Happy Nominating!

Katie Long
Klong@little-dixie.lib.mo.us
Building Block Committee Selection Chair

Did You See…?

Check out this great library story from the Jefferson City News Tribune! Lincoln University librarian Bradley Kuykendall is featured as he encouraged people in his community to vote through his work in the library and at the polls.

Did you see a great library story in the local news recently? Please share it with us at moinfonews@gmail.com with “Did You See” as your email’s subject.

It may be featured in the next MO Info newsletter. Help us spread some good news!
At the Gentry County Library, we believe libraries are an essential community service. So it was inconceivable to think that on March 18, we would close and lock our doors. But we did. Our entire library district was reeling with the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent catastrophic economic collapse. We were six weeks from beginning our summer reading program that we had been working on for a year.

After a series of staff meetings, we developed a plan to deliver a mix of mailing summer reading packets, with a virtual program available as well.

The library needed to adapt and change find a solution that would solve two enormous and daunting challenges: how to keep kids engaged in reading and learning; and, even more pressing, the immediate problem that children in our library district were going hungry.

The school districts had kept their breakfast and lunch programs going for as long as they could, but those programs were going to end on the last day of the school calendar year. The grim prediction was one out of every four children would go hungry. We spoke to the superintendents of both school districts who were also looking for a way to continue feeding kids through the summer, and a collaboration was formed between the Gentry County Library, the Stanberry R-II School District, and the King City R-I School.

The Stanberry School District applied for and was approved for an extension of the Summer Food Service Program through the Division of Health and Senior Services. This program guaranteed free meals beginning on May 18 until August 24 for any child in the Gentry County Library district. While that timeline was longer than our summer reading program, we made the decision to continue the meal delivery for the entire summer.

This partnership enabled us to provide meals seven days a week to help meet the nutritional needs of the children in the library district. Families signed up on a week by week basis. On Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, the library staff reported to work at the Stanberry R-II School district kitchen with masks and gloves on and hairnets in place.

Three employees from Lunchtime Solutions, with whom the Stanberry School contracts for their lunch program during the school year, stayed on with us during the summer, as did a volunteer from the school staff for part of the summer. Each day, the staff would get the meals ready for delivery or pickup. Some families who lived in town came to the school to pick up their meals, while everyone else’s were delivered by the bookmobile. Each day’s meal also had some different activities included: coloring pages, crossword puzzles, silly joke pages, scavenger hunts, or some other fun activity. Every Friday the library added exciting new programming activities in “Imagine Your Story” with the Summer Reading Fun @ Home with your Gentry County Library packets.

We delivered and mailed an average of 275 to 300 packets each week. We delivered a total of 25,624 meals, 102,496 servings of fruits and vegetables, and 1,606 gallons of milk, and put 10,895 miles on the bookmobile van.
Joplin Public Library

Storywalk Adds Opportunity for Outdoor Fall Fun

A Storywalk has been added to the grounds of the library. Children's department staff worked hard to create this new family-friendly fall opportunity that utilizes the library’s outdoor classroom as its setting. The use of the outdoor classroom space is twofold - to provide COVID-19 friendly programming and to draw new attention to the beautifully designed area that contains lighted benches, trees, and pathways.

To create the Storywalk, laminated pages from a children's picture book were attached to stakes and installed around the perimeter of the outdoor classroom. As children and their parents and caregivers stroll along the path, they are guided to the next page in the story. A photo opportunity at the end of the Storywalk adds a bonus interactive element for families.

The debut Storywalk features the fun, Halloween-themed picture book *The Ghosts Went Floating* by Kim Norman and Jay Fleck. Staff installed the Storywalk the week of Oct. 19, and families were able to start enjoying it right away.

Reference Librarian Named Missouri's Outstanding Professional Librarian

Reference Librarian Patty Crane has been named Missouri Library Association’s Outstanding Professional Librarian. This award recognizes a librarian with an MLS or MLIS degree who has made a significant contribution to the improvement and advancement of library and information services. Patty was recognized during the virtual MLA conference on Wednesday, Sept. 30.

JPL Expands Opportunities for Patrons Using Grant Funds

Joplin Public Library users can now enjoy new, exciting opportunities to access broadband technologies following the receipt of CARES Act funds. Grant funds have been used to purchase 20 wireless mobile hotspots from T-Mobile and an outdoor wireless access point.

The mobile hotspots are capable of providing Wi-Fi for up to 15 devices and will be checked out for a period of 21 days.

The recently installed outdoor wireless access point is being used to boost the library’s internet signal. Free public Wi-Fi is now available 24/7 in the parking lot and outdoor areas of the library. No library card or password is necessary.

These projects are supported by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the CARES Act as administered by the Missouri State Library, a division of the Office of the Secretary of State.

JPL has also added a fun new collection type - Binge Box DVDs. These Binge Boxes are designed to maximize the home movie experience for library users. Binge Boxes are themed collections of DVD titles packaged together for ease and convenience. Each Binge Box contains anywhere from four to six different popular and/or nostalgic DVD titles pertaining to the box theme. By checking out a Binge Box, library users will be able to watch multiple movies with just one borrow.

This new media collection includes 32 Binge Boxes in the general collection and eight in the children’s department and was purchased using funds awarded through the Lemons Family Charitable Trust, which seeks to provide grants to local charitable institutions.

(Continued on page 8)
Gatewood Tapped as New PR/Marketing Assistant

Chelsey Gatewood has been appointed as Joplin Public Library’s new (and first ever) public relations and marketing assistant.

Chelsey’s education, work experience, and professional skillset make her a noteworthy addition to the library team. She holds a bachelor’s of science in communications from Pittsburg State University with an emphasis in advertising and marketing and is a veteran of the Joplin Public Library. She previously worked as a children’s library assistant from 2010 to 2016 before accepting a public relations assistant role for the Carl Junction School District and has been a long-time library user. In addition to working part time at the library, Gatewood plans to keep her part-time job with Carl Junction Schools.

Chelsey’s new position comes with a lot of exciting opportunities. She will help implement the library’s marketing plan, enhance awareness about the library, and strive to build great relationships inside and outside of the library building. Plus, her plans include making staff members’ lives easier and, according to Chelsey, “hopefully a little more fun.”

MOBIUS Earns SOC2 Compliance

MOBIUS has received a report of Service Organization Control (SOC2) compliance, after completing a process of reporting and auditing with a representative of the American Institute of CPAs (AICPA). The auditor evaluates an organization based on five trust principles: security, availability, processing integrity, confidentiality, and privacy. SOC2 compliance indicates that an organization has appropriate processes and policies in place to securely manage and protect its customers’ data, privacy, and the privacy of the patrons of those customers. It is a common requirement for software as a service (SaaS) providers, and MOBIUS is pleased to have achieved this recognition for its level of quality and trustworthiness.

MOBIUS Digitization Project Moves Forward

This summer, MOBIUS was awarded an IMLS grant from the Missouri State Library for a digitization initiative, including the adoption of Innovative Interfaces’ digital content management platform, Vital. Since then, MOBIUS staff have been working with Innovative to coordinate the implementation of the Vital installation and configuration and plan training sessions for both MOBIUS staff and library staff. Additionally, five libraries participating in the project will be migrating existing digitized collections to the Vital platform from legacy systems; MOBIUS staff have been working with those libraries and Innovative to begin coordinating those migrations. An initial overview training session on Vital with Schlomit Schwarzer of Innovative was held virtually in September, and more in-depth sessions will follow this fall and winter.

Concurrently, members of MOBIUS staff and the MOBIUS Digitization Committee have been working with Sean Ferguson, Preservation Specialist with the Northeast Document Conservation Center (NEDCC), to develop a training program for libraries participating in the project that may be new to digitization or would like guidance in further developing existing programs. A virtual kick-off event for this component of the project was also held in September, during which Sean led participants through an activity to help them assess and consider their institutions’ strengths and needs in the context of developing a sustainable digitization project or program. Participants will also have the opportunity to be paired with a mentor for more individualized guidance over the course of the program.

Launching a consortial digitization effort has long been an organizational goal for MOBIUS, and we are excited to have the project fully underway with the generous support of the State Library!
“Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion in Libraries: Progress and Promise” Online Conference is December 2. FREE for Members!

Join Amigos Library Services on December 2, 2020 for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion in Libraries: Progress and Promise. The day's sessions will guide you on taking a closer look – both inward and outward within your library's service community – at EDI and explore what initiatives in your library have worked, ones that have not and new ones that show promise.

Equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) initiatives and practices in library services have continued to grow and gain support over the past several years. However, now we need to ask ourselves, are we not only talking the talk, but walking the walk when it comes to EDI? Are the EDI initiatives and plans we developed years ago still working? Did they ever work? Are we seeing a positive impact from these efforts in our communities?

Attendance is free for Amigos members and early-bird registration for non-members is available through November 18. Register today at https://www.amigos.org/EDI!

Save the Date for our next conference: Feb 11, 2021 – “Moving On: Migrating Library Content and Data.”

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Ithaka is offering Amigos members a 3-month trial to JSTOR/Artstor. The JSTOR trial includes accesses to the Archive Journal Collections covering 7 subject areas. The Artstor trial is for the Artstor Digital Library with approximately 300 collections (composed of 2.5 million images). This offer is available through the end of the year.

(Continued on page 10)
myLIBRO Curbside Pick Up and In-library Services help libraries keep their patrons and staff safe while providing access to books, materials and resources in the new normal. Amigos is happy to announce our new partnership with myLIBRO!

The application easily integrates with library ILS systems, allowing patrons to select materials remotely from their mobile device and schedule curbside pick-up and in-library reservations for services including library card renewals and orders, computer lab reservations, self-checkout and more.

Emerald is offering a special ebook offer to Amigos members! This offer is a pick and choose option with the opportunity for libraries to create their own package starting with 25 titles up to 200 eBook titles from their eBook collections. This offer is valid through November 30, 2020.

ReprintsDesk, one of our vendor partners, is looking for interested member libraries that would like to become development partners in their new platform. ReprintsDesk is a document delivery provider and they are testing a new platform to improve end user experience for ILL, document delivery and open access documents. This is really a very interesting offer as their test portal and will be very helpful to end users. A development partner would have access to the new platform to test and provide feedback. Please contact Bea for more information at ramirez@amigos.org.

### Continuing Education Opportunities

#### Know & Go Updates
Know & Go’s are part of a series of informative web sessions covering topics of current interest. Designed for group participation, FREE for Amigos members and only $35 for non-members, Know & Go Updates are presented online on Monday afternoons from 1:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m. CDT. [Register today!](#)

- What's New in Graphic Novels November 23
- Documenting Library Work: Lessons We Can Learn from Technical Writers December 7
- Waxing Poetic: A Celebration of Poetry for All Ages in Library Collections and Programs December 14

#### Upcoming Live Online Classes
Here’s a quick look at upcoming Live Online classes. Classes are always being added so be sure to check out our full course schedule!  
*All times are listed in the Central Time Zone.*

- Metadata Management Tools: Programming with Python and PyMARC November 17 & 19, 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm
- SimplyE: Statistics November 18, 11:00 am - 1:00 pm
- SimplyE @ Amigos: An Overview and Demonstration November 23, 2020 at 1pm - 2pm
- Dewey Decimal Classification: The Basics December 8 & 10, 2020 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm
- Augmented, Virtual, and Mixed Realities: The Possibilities and Limitations December 9, 2020 10:00 am - 12:00 pm - Early bird registration ends 11/17
- Library Management: Change Management December 9, 2020 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm - Early bird registration ends 11/17
- Discover how Amigos Library Services can help your library! December 9, 2020 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm
- Soft Skills for Library Staff December 10, 2020 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm - Early bird registration ends 11/18
- Library of Congress Classification: The Basics December 15 & 17, 2020 10:00 am - 12:00 pm - Early bird registration ends 11/23
- Website Accessibility for Everyone December 16, 2020 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm - Early bird registration ends 11/24
- SimplyE @ Amigos: An Overview and Demonstration December 17, 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm
UMSL Libraries Celebrate Mary Zettwoch: Outstanding Library Employee 2020!

UMSL Libraries was thrilled that Mary Zettwoch, ILL Supervisor, was awarded Outstanding Library Employee 2020 by the Missouri Library Association. So often, the efforts of library folks who work behind the scenes go unnoticed. Below is why we appreciate and celebrate Mary Z.

Mary has served the UMSL Libraries for 28+ years, primarily overseeing the very busy and popular ILL department. Students and faculty know her by name and ask for Mary when they are desperate to find an obscure work because they know Mary will be relentless in finding it for them. Her strong service attitude was/is exemplified when –

- A call for volunteers went out to work on mold remediation at UMSL Library’s off-site storage, Mary was one of the first to jump in to commit her time in cleaning books, one by one.
- During the pandemic when the library moved online, Mary continued to serve the UMSL campus community in what seemed to be a seamless effort.
- Our library began to offer curbside service before opening the physical building, again Mary was one of the first to sign up for service slots.
- Mary volunteered to serve as the chairperson of an in-house committee planning successful social and staff development events – for over five years.
- Mary also serves at the Public Service Desk as needed and supervises student employees.

Her indefatigable efforts are no longer slipping between the cracks, as Missouri celebrates Mary Zettwoch as the Outstanding Library Employee 2020!

Mid-America Library Alliance

Upcoming MALA Webinars

The Art of Delegation: An Essential Management Skill for the New Workplace
with Pat Wagner, Principal, Pattern Research  Thursday, Nov. 19, 2020, 10-11 a.m.

Delegation is essential to freeing up your busy schedule; it’s also about investing in the future of your library. Pat Wagner will explain why encouraging staff to tackle new tasks and goals will help retain current employees and increase morale and productivity. This management and supervisory skills webinar will provide participants with the tools needed to nurture management and leadership skills through appropriate, effective delegation of responsibilities. For more information click here.

NETWORK with Your Metro-Area Readers’ Advisory Pros

with Gregg Winsor, Readers’ Advisory Librarian, Johnson County Library, Kaite Stover, Director of Readers’ Services, Kansas City Public Library, and Polli Kenn, Readers’ Services Coordinator, Lawrence Public Library  Friday, Nov. 20, 2020, 9:15 - 10 a.m.

This FREE 45-minute interactive Zoom session moderated by Gregg Winsor, Kaite Stover, and Polli Kenn will provide an opportunity for Readers’ Advisors from across the area to come together for community networking, professional growth, or just to find out what everyone else is reading/watching/listening to. Listen in for insights to the latest book group trends and programming ideas that will leave you with a fresh outlook and new colleagues to discuss where RA is headed next. For more information click here.

An Introduction to “Viewers’ Advisory”: Readers’ Advisory Goes to the Movies!

with Kaite Stover, Director of Readers’ Services, Kansas City Public Library  Wednesday, Dec. 9, 2020, 2-3 p.m.

Just as every book has its reader, every movie has its watcher. While books and movies share some elements--characters, plot, pacing, tone—there are things movies can do that books can’t (and the book isn’t always better!) Learn the key elements movies share with books, how they differ, and how to engage patrons about what they’re watching with the same confidence you have in recommending great reading. Viewers’ Advisory is a must-have skill for everyone! For more information click here.

Upcoming MALA Training:


Katherine Glenn, Training & Professional Development Coordinator, (816) 521-7266 kglenn@mid-americalibraryalliance.org.
Imagine Kids and Library Takeout Strike a Creative Chord

Kids throughout the Springfield-Greene County Library District are having a fantastic time with the Flapping Dragon Imagine Kit. Several families shared photos via email and social media, with one parent writing:

“Thank you for a fun filled afternoon with a flapping dragon puppet craft and storytelling at home. Our ferocious dragons Rainbow, Colorful, Spot and Reginald live in a Lego cave (built low so it’s easy to fly over). They love treasure and tacos! We appreciate all you do! — The Simpsons

Izzi Shares Her Passion with a Gift

Izzi was so excited about “Let’s Explore with Cor Cor” and she wanted Library patrons to read it, too. The 10-year-old travel enthusiast follows the book’s author on Facebook, “Curb Free with Cory Lee.” Izzi and her family have taken several of his suggestions for wheelchair-accessible destinations. “We want Izzi to never feel intimidated by travel,” says her mom. The family made a donation of $25 to purchase a book for the Library, and it will be added to the collection with a personalized bookplate honoring Izzi.

(Continued on page 13)
Families Explore Springfield in Pursuit of Hidden History

Patrons throughout the district are exploring Springfield and discovering new places to visit as they join the Library’s Hidden History Hunt. Participants pick up a hunt “guide” of 12 possible sites in Springfield. Those who visit at least six sites and turn in their completed guide by Oct. 31 will receive an “I ❤ My Library” window cling. Those who submit a selfie from one of the sites receive a Library logo book bag. The selfies are pouring in, with hilarious perspectives “holding” the giant fork and the Springfield Art Museum sculpture known as “French Fries.”

Maker Space Opens for Tech & Creative Projects

Need a laser engraver to create a wooden sign for home or a business? Want to create your own vinyl lettering for a sign or a T-shirt? Now the public can do that and more at the new Maker Space inside the Edge at the Midtown Carnegie Branch.

It was possible with grants from the Library Services and Technology Act and the Friends of the Library. The project is supported by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the Missouri State Library, a division of the Office of the Secretary of State.

Tours and use of equipment are by appointment. The Maker Space includes: A vinyl cutter to make and cut letters, shapes, etc. to create signs and iron-on transfers; video transfer equipment to transfer VHS or DVD to a USB drive or an SD card, which makes them easier to store, easier to share, and easier to watch; a laser engraver for designs and lettering on wood, acrylic, paper, and cardboard; a second 3D printer; and two soldering stations.

(Continued on page 14)
Defying the Pandemic, Friends Sale Raises $143,154.11

The coronavirus pandemic canceled many special events this year, but the Friends of the Library Fall Book Sale carried on, hitting the sixth-highest total since the sales began in 1985. They raised $143,154.11 in the week between the Friends Night Preview Sale Sept. 15 and Bag Day Sept. 20 at the Ozark Empire Fairgrounds E*Plex.

Giraffes Love a Good Story, Too

Library Station Youth Services Manager Phyllis Davis took the virtual Storytime & More on the road and partnered with Springfield’s Dickerson Park Zoo to film a segment with the giraffes. Ever the patient teacher, Phyllis instructed the giraffes about how to behave during storytime, and they listened attentively. Storytime & More airs at 10 a.m. every Tuesday on Facebook @thelibrary.org and on thelibrary.org/kids.

WWII Vet Is Zoom-Ready Now

Ed Fox, a 97-year-old veteran of WWII and Korea, is often contacted by U.S. government officials and students from all over the world about his service, including his role as a gunner in the Battle of Midway. In the age of COVID-19, conversations have moved to Zoom, and Ed needed help to learn this platform. Brennen Wood, IT Help Desk Coordinator, worked with Ed to set up an account and teach him how to use it. Ed was so grateful, he dropped off a $500 donation designated for the IT department. A friendship seems to have formed, as Brennen chats with Ed every week on Zoom, making sure he’s doing okay and getting the hang of it.

Kathleen O’Dell, Community Relations Director, Springfield-Greene County Library District, kathleeno@thelibrary.org.
St. Louis Community College Libraries Offer Free Online Events

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the St. Louis Community College Libraries have reached out to our 4-campus library system and our local communities in a variety of ways. The Racial Justice Film Series provides moderated discussions each month of such films as “13th,” “The Hate U Give” and “John Lewis: Good Trouble.” The monthly STLCC Libraries Speaker Series offers a variety of topics. Upcoming events include: Warriors, Wise Women and Spirit Beings in Missouri’s Indigenous Rock Art; LGBTQ and the Black Experience in St. Louis; and My Life in the Chinese Cultural Revolution. All events are free, online and open to the public.

University of Missouri – Columbia

Anderson Appointed to MU Restructuring Committee

Kate Anderson, head of the Zalk Veterinary Medical Library and interim assistant university librarian for science libraries, is a member of the new Program Audit and Restructuring Committee (PARC) which will provide recommendations regarding academic restructuring on the University of Missouri campus. Congratulations to Kate on her appointment to this important committee.

Pryor Elected President-Elect of RUSA

Christina Pryor has been elected the 2020-21 President-Elect of the Reference and User Services Association (RUSA). Pryor will serve her Presidential term during 2021-22.

“RUSA has been my professional home since I joined ALA as a student in the MLIS program and I’m honored to have the opportunity to continue my service to the Association that has provided me with so much professional growth throughout my career,” said Pryor.

Pryor has been back in Missouri since 2018 where she currently works as the Interim Assistant Director of Library Operations for the University of Missouri J. Otto Lottes Health Sciences Library and the Library Engagement and Missouri Coordinator for the National Network of Libraries of Medicine, Mid-Continenental Regional Medical Library. She has also held positions with the University of Washington Health Sciences Library, Amigos Library Services, St. Louis County Library and Covidien.

(Continued on page 16)
Mizzou Librarian Attends California Rare Book School

Special Collections librarian, John Henry Adams, was awarded the William Reese Company Scholarship to attend California Rare Book School through Zoom in August. He shared his thoughts with us on his experience in the course.

What is your background in instruction?
I’m a new Special Collections librarian and most of my background in teaching comes from my time in English departments: I taught writing and literature for eight and a half years before I switched careers. While there is some overlap between English classes and special collections instruction, there are of course some major differences, the biggest being that as a Special Collections librarian. I’m usually not designing a full course but instead doing one specific session.

What course did you take, and what did you learn from it?
I took the seminar on Better Teaching with Rare Materials. We talked about doing more engaging, active-learning course sessions and we also talked a lot about how to do effective remote class sessions using special collections materials. We’re not going to be able to do in-person Special Collections sessions this fall, so that is going to be very useful.

I also got a much better understanding of learning objectives for individual class sessions, which will let me more carefully tailor my instruction to a course’s overall needs. Special Collections sessions can easily degenerate into being a cool field trip for the class to go see some neat things and learn some interesting information, but ideally we always want those sessions to build on a course’s overall objective without the instructor to have to do some heavy lifting the next session.

What might you do differently in the classroom as a result of this training?
I think I will be more transparent at the start of sessions as to how materials came to us in Special Collections, especially in sessions that take a more generalist approach. Special Collections are made up of lots of smaller collections, usually purchased from or donated by collectors, and that typically means limitations in terms of what is in the collection. Putting that information on the table at the start is important because it clarifies why the collection is what it is and why some things might not be in it.

The course also strengthened my general desire to focus on active learning and to keep as far away from a show-and-tell format as possible. Special Collections is already doing that, but it’s important to keep pushing that aspect and to give students a chance to experience the materials more fully.

Library Depository Expansion Project Update

The University of Missouri Libraries Depository (UMLD) is an off-campus storage facility established in 1997 for important, but infrequently used, library materials. UMLD is designed to provide high-density storage in an excellent climate-controlled environment maintained at a constant 55°F and at a relative humidity near 40%. This controlled environment ensures that valuable, yet fragile, paper materials will be available for generations to come.

Currently UMLD is at capacity, housing over 1 million items. In addition, the Libraries rent space for around 400,000 additional materials and there are approximately 600,000 items that need to be transferred from the campus libraries. In order to accommodate these materials, the UM Board of Curators approved an expansion of UMLD.

The conditions in UMLD, as it is currently configured, add an average of 125 years of functional life to the items in the collection. The improved conditions in the new module will push that to an average of 150 years.

A hook up for an emergency generator will allow the Libraries to maintain the conditions inside the new module even during an extended power outage. The expansion of UMLD will allow the libraries on campus to recover some much needed space that is currently used to house infrequently used materials. On March 12, the first fence was put up at UMLD, marking the beginning of construction. The project is scheduled for completion on February 1, 2021.
UMKC Libraries Focus on Racial Justice

This Fall, the UMKC Libraries are focusing on social justice, specifically antiracism and practices that can improve academic experiences, and how the library serves students, faculty, and staff. Following the Join Us In Action initiative from the Summer, the UMKC Libraries are focusing on building a discussion around Ibram X. Kendi’s How to be an Antiracist. Chosen by the UMKC Division of Diversity and Inclusion, Kendi’s book is acting as a guide toward antiracist thinking and behavior.

Associated programming from the Libraries includes our month-long Anti-Racist Reading List book display at Miller Nichols Library, available October 1 – October 31, an anti-racist reading list of 38 recommendations from Kendi, and a live, virtual book discussion of Kendi’s “How to be an Antiracist” on October 29. The book discussion is free and open to the public, registration required.

UMKC Librarian Tracey Hughes will lead a live, virtual book discussion of Kendi's How to be an Antiracist on October 29. The book combines Kendi’s personal knowledge of racism’s effects with a deeper understanding of its systemic nature, and presents antiracism as not merely a catchphrase, but more accurately, a call to action.

The discussion will explore concepts from the book, which is considered “...an essential work for anyone who wants to go beyond the awareness of racism to the next step: contributing to the formation of a just and equitable society.”

The event is free and open to the public. Registration is required.

Link: library.umkc.edu/news-events/anti-racist-discussion

Find a copy of “How to be an Anti-Racist” at a library or bookstore near you, then join us for the book discussion. Register for the book discussion.
MCPL Opens New Branch, Breaks Ground on Auditorium

On September 14, MCPL began construction on a new project at its Woodneath Library Center that is estimated to be complete by December 2021. Adjacent to the existing branch and historic home on the 32-acre campus, the Library is building a state-of-the-art auditorium designed to seat up to 400 people for presentations and events. These will include the bestselling author programs offered by MCPL’s Story Center.

“While we’re unable to hold large gatherings right now, I know that this new space will be an incredible community resource in the future,” said Steven V. Potter, MCPL Director and CEO. “With flexible seating options and exceptional audiovisual capabilities, the new auditorium and surrounding grounds will be an ideal place for Library programs as well as various public forums and events.”

In addition to the auditorium, which will have a separate entrance from the library, this project will complete MCPL’s “Woodneath Campus Master Plan” that calls for the construction of a number of new features on the grounds. These include:

- An outdoor amphitheater for smaller events
- A stepped outdoor plaza connecting the existing library to the new auditorium
- A cultural feature near the site of the old barn and silo telling the history of the property
- Additional walking trails with educational markers
- Outdoor meeting space or “council rings” adjacent to the trail
- Expanded parking for the existing library and new auditorium

Later in September, MCPL marked the completion of another construction project, the opening of a brand-new building off Withers Road in Liberty. The 18,500-square-foot Withers Branch will serve as a replacement for the former Liberty Branch, which closed in August. The new building is more than 1,000 square feet larger than the old Liberty Branch and offers a variety of upgraded amenities, including:

- Dedicated areas for children and teens
- A drive-up window
- Enclosed community room for public programs
- Smaller collaboration and study rooms
- Outdoor reading and seating area
- Native landscaping

“We are thrilled to be able to welcome the Liberty community into this incredible new facility,” said Kara Drury, Withers Branch Manager. “This modern, upgraded space will allow us to better serve our customers for years to come.”

Currently, materials at all MCPL locations must be reserved and picked up through curbside or drive-up window service due to COVID-19 restrictions. In addition, all public programs, including storytimes, are currently being held virtually through Zoom or the MCPL360 Facebook page.

Both construction projects are part of MCPL’s ongoing Capital Improvement Plan, which launched following the passage of Proposition L in 2016. The Library is working with Sapp Design Architects, Helix Architecture + Design, and JE Dunn to upgrade all of its existing branches and add two new units of service by the end of 2022. Prop L funding has also allowed the Library to expand branch hours, enhance special services, augment early literacy efforts, and buy more materials.

More information about all of the Library’s construction projects can be found online at mymcpl.org/Community.

(Continued on page 19)
MCPL Garners Nearly $50K in Grant Funding, Boosts Branches’ Exterior Wi-Fi Signals

In September, Mid-Continent Public Library finished installing technology at 32 of its locations across the Kansas City metro to boost Wi-Fi signals into the parking lots outside its buildings. Funded by a CARES (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security) Act grant administered by the Missouri State Library, the project is aimed at expanding public access to high-speed Wi-Fi, a resource that is especially important as many schools and workplaces continue to operate virtually.

“Now more than ever, internet access is imperative to be an active member of our society, but not everyone has the luxury of having an internet connection at home,” said Bryan Gash, Chief Technology Officer at MCPL. “Boosting Wi-Fi signals into the parking lots outside our buildings not only supports social distancing by allowing users to spread out, it also ensures internet access 24/7 for those who can’t make it into our branches during business hours—something we know is very important for working families.”

The Library received $49,782 in grant funding to undertake the Wi-Fi extension project, which is one of the many ways it has altered its offerings during the pandemic. In addition to boosting Wi-Fi, MCPL has:

- Launched curbside and drive-up window service for contactless delivery of materials
- Converted all in-person events, including storytimes, to virtual platforms, such as the MCPL360 Facebook page
- Acquired more digital materials (books, movies, music, and more) for customers to access from home
- Implemented a variety of new safety procedures, including frequent cleaning/sanitization, requiring masks inside the buildings (both staff and customers), limiting capacity inside its buildings, and quarantining returned items

More information on how the Library has adapted to safely serve the community can be found at mymcp.org/COVID.

This project is supported by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the Missouri State Library, a division of the Office of the Secretary of State.

Library Honors Military Members During Virtual ‘Veterans Salute’

For the past 25 years, Mid-Continent Public Library has recognized Kansas City-area veterans for their service and sacrifice at its annual Veterans Salute celebration. This year, in lieu of an in-person event, the Library celebrated area veterans virtually between September 26 and November 11.

“This year’s celebration looks a little different, but the mission is still the same—to recognize and honor our nation’s veterans and preserve their stories for future generations,” said Dylan Little, MCPL Community Programming Manager.

In keeping with the tradition of choosing an annual theme, this year’s virtual event commemorated the 70th anniversary of the Korean War by featuring a series of interviews with area Korean War veterans who shared their memories and experiences of the war. Between September 26 and November 11, the Library released videos highlighting these interviews on the MCPL360 Facebook page and MCPL YouTube channel.

Another important part of each Veterans Salute is the presentation of special commemorative pins to the veterans in attendance. This year, MCPL made pins available to local veterans through curbside service at all locations.
Wolfner Library

Wolfner Library has some exciting programs and events for you to share with our joint patrons and library staff statewide!

**Michael Hingson Presents: From Virus to Victory – A Special Wolfner Library ZOOM Event**


Amidst the challenges and uncertainties of today’s pandemic, we can survive and thrive. Michael Hingson, survivor of the 9/11 terrorist attack and bestselling author of *Thunder Dog*, shows how audiences can live and stay calm when confronted by unexpected changes in their lives.

This event will be held via ZOOM on November 10 at 7:00 p.m. and will be recorded. To register, call (800) 392-2614 or visit [https://tinyurl.com/michael-hingson-wolfner](https://tinyurl.com/michael-hingson-wolfner). This event is open to the general public!

**Adult Winter Reading Program – Missouri 2021: Past. Present. Future.**

The 2021 Adult Winter Reading Program’s theme is the official Missouri Bicentennial theme: “Missouri 2021: Past. Present. Future.” Participants will celebrate the 200th anniversary of our state by exploring Missouri-related literature. Whether it is a book set in Missouri, about our state’s history, or written by a Missourian, this program will show the depth and diversity of our state.

The challenge is simple: Read six books that each fulfill a goal and earn a prize for participating. When patrons sign up, we will set them up with a BeanStack account to track their progress. There is a catalog with book suggestions and a sample cartridge available. As always, reader advisors can also help record patrons’ progress or provide additional ideas about books to read. The program begins January 2 and will run through March 8. Registration will open on Dec. 1, 2020, and continue through Feb. 23, 2021. The deadline for submitting the list of books read as part of the challenge will be March 15, 2021.

There will be two Drop-In Book Clubs to discuss Adult Winter Reading Program titles. These are scheduled for **Jan. 21, 2021 at 2 p.m.**, and **Feb. 23, 2021 at 2 p.m.**

**Storytimes, Podcasts, and Crafts…Oh My!**

Wolfner Library is excited to announce our new prerecorded virtual story times, podcasts and crafting videos for our youth patrons. Visit [sos.mo.gov/wolfner/youthservices/youth-materials-and-programs](https://sos.mo.gov/wolfner/youthservices/youth-materials-and-programs) to find what is new for youth at Wolfner Library!

**Wolfner Patron Book Clubs**

African American Topics Book Club (December 2, 2 p.m.): *Something to Celebrate* by Felicia Mason, Monica Jackson, and Margie Walker

**Upcoming Workshops**

To participate in one of the following Zoom workshops, please call (800) 392-2614 or email wolfner@sos.mo.gov to register.

**Missouri Assistive Technology Overview Workshop** (*November 17, 3:30 p.m.): Do you have questions about Missouri Assistive Technology’s programs? Whether your questions are about the Telecommunications Access Program (TAP), ICanConnect, or another program, this workshop will answer them. This workshop is open to educators and caregivers in addition to patrons. Library staff are encouraged to attend!

**Lockdown Your Digital Life** (*December 9, 10 a.m.): Based on the model from Oasis, a training program for older adults, Wolfner staff will host a workshop that focuses on protecting oneself from frauds and other real-life digital issues.
The Missouri Library Association, Columbia, MO, est. 1900, is the Missouri State Chapter of the American Library Association, Chicago, IL.

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