

MO INFO

Newsletter of the Missouri Library Association

September 2022

Volume 53, Number 5

President's Column

With each new book challenge we face and now learning about [Senate Bill 775](#) (see [section 573.550](#)), it can be a discouraging time for librarians in Missouri. Cindy Hohl (KCPL Branch operations director) said it best when [interviewed recently](#), “Well, it’s certainly a challenging time to be in the profession. Most librarians don’t go into the profession thinking that anything that they do during the course of their day could result in punitive action.” The annual Missouri Library conference couldn’t come at a better time to lift our spirits and help us reconnect with each other.



I want to personally invite you to our [2022 MLA Conference](#), September 28-30 at the Oasis Hotel and Conference Center in Springfield. After almost two years of being disconnected as a library profession, our insightful MLA conference team, led by Katie Hopkins and Jessie East (Springfield-Greene County Library), were purposeful when determining the focus of this year’s conference, “Restoring Connections.” The vital connections between one another, with our communities, and with our library users both energize and drive us.

This profession thrives on building relationships no matter what type of library setting you work in. Though the pandemic may have disrupted our norms, it could not diminish our deep-seated passion for discovering new ways to engage with our communities. This conference has been thoughtfully planned with rebuilding in mind.

Local author, [Marlene Chism](#), will kick off the conference with her presentation entitled, “From Conflict to Connection,” based upon her most recent book. The first 100 attendees will receive a free copy.

While at the conference, I want to encourage you to help celebrate your colleagues who have been chosen to receive awards. It’s so important to recognize the accomplishments of those in our field. The MLA Awards Gala will be held on Thursday, September 29, from 7-10 p.m. at Springfield’s Discovery Center and promises to be a fun, exciting event. The venue is an interactive, hands-on science center dedicated to inspiring curiosity and a life-long love of learning through memorable and engaging hands-on experiences in STEM. Sounds like our kind of place, right?

It’s time to enjoy each other, equip ourselves with more professional knowledge, celebrate our successes, and dream bigger!

Claudia Young
2022 MLA President
Missouri River Regional Library
Library Director
youngc@mrrl.org
573-634-6064 ext.245

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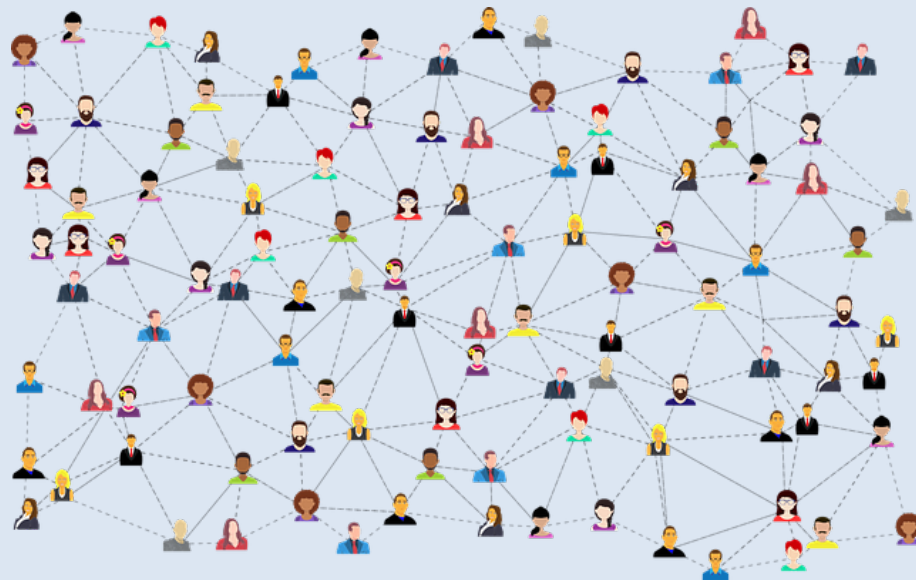
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Let MO INFO help you connect across Missouri!

MO INFO is produced by the MLA Publications Committee to be both informative and useful. Read it, impress all your friends and co-workers with your knowledge of current events, then share this with them (without being smug about it) and others.

MO INFO is published six times each year, on the 15th of January, March, May, July, September, and November. We collect, edit, and publish this newsletter; all you need to do is share your news, events, successes, and resources with us. Submission deadlines are the 15th of the preceding months, submitted by email to the committee at moinfo@molib.org. (Please include MO INFO in the subject line.) **Our next deadline is Friday, Oct. 14.** If you have questions, please ask. If you have a new contact, please share!

Share articles in Microsoft Word. Include desired headline and your contact email and role in MLA, and Include digital photos (with captions) and graphics with your articles as desired (*Everyone loves pictures!*)!

There's No Better Time for "Restoring Connections"

This year your Missouri Library Association conference is focused on reconnecting – with you, with great ideas. We invite you to envision what's next for your library, engage your staff and empower your users.

So please join us at the 2022 MLA conference, "Restoring Connections," Wednesday-Friday, Sept. 28-30 at the Oasis Convention Center in Springfield, Missouri.

This year's organizers, your hosts at the Springfield-Greene County Library District, are committed to providing attendees the opportunity to discover new ideas, share experiences and innovate together for better libraries.

Questions? Send them to your conference coordinators Jessie East & Katie Hopkins at mla2022sgf@gmail.com.

Here's a sample of what's in store!



**Restoring
Connections**
MISSOURI LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
2022 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Pre-Conferences

Pre-conferences take place **Wednesday, Sept. 28 from 9 a.m.-noon**. All pre-conference events are FREE but we do ask that you register in advance.

RA For All with Becky Spratford

Readers' Advisory belongs in every library, no matter its budget. Hone your readers' advisory skills with renowned Readers' Advisor Becky Spratford in this two-part, pre-conference event sponsored by LibraryReads.

Access Challenged? Intellectual Freedom Workshop

If you have ever found yourself explaining why we collect certain types of books, protecting a user's privacy by asking the police for a subpoena, or finding creative ways to remove barriers to access, this is the session for you. The workshop is divided into three sections that provide a short information component followed by a small group breakout where attendees will be led through scenarios.

Genealogy and Local History in ACTION: Resources and Training for the Library Professional

During this pre-conference session hosted by Springfield-Greene County Library, attendees will discover methods, resources, and practical skills that support local history and genealogy initiatives.

Performers Showcase

A staple of the MLA Annual Conference, this showcase will feature demonstrations and information tables from 15 different children's performers.



Keynote Speaker: Marlene Chism

Wednesday, Sept. 28, 3 p.m.

From Conflict to Connection

Most of us avoid conflict because we see conflict as a problem, but conflict is not the problem: mismanagement is. When we mismanage conflict, we lose connection with ourselves and with others. In this keynote presentation, Marlene Chism, author of *From Conflict to Courage* says, "There has never been more conflict and division in our world. As a result, there has never been a greater opportunity; the opportunity to be a channel for chaos, or a catalyst for clarity."

This presentation offers a new perspective on how conflict can be your greatest teacher personally, and a catalyst for leadership growth professionally.

Special Sponsored Sessions: Book Buzzes & Horror RA *(Sponsored by LibraryReads & Novelist)*

Books and swag will be available at all three sessions!

**Thursday,
Sept. 29
11 a.m.**

Horror Readers' Advisory: How to Help Your Scariest Patrons *(Sponsored by NoveList)*

Featuring Horror Writers Association Library Committee Co-Chairs Konrad Stump and Becky Spratford and Yaika Sabat from NoveList)

**Thursday,
Sept. 29
3 p.m.**

Buzzing About Books *(Sponsored by LibraryReads)*

Featuring LibraryReads representatives Kaite Stover (Kansas City Public Library) and Gregg Winsor (Johnson County Library) as well as Konrad Stump (Springfield-Greene County Library), Miranda Eudaly (Springfield-Greene County

Library) and Sarah Steele (St. Louis Public Library).

**Friday,
Sept. 30
11 a.m.**

Buzzing About MG/YA Books *(Sponsored by NoveList)*

Featuring Yaika Sabat from NoveList as well as a panel of Missouri librarians

"A Night at the Museum" Awards Gala @ the Discovery Center



Join us for a night at the hands-on science museum as we recognize some of your outstanding colleagues for their exceptional work and dedication in service of libraries and librarianship. Musical guest MOJO will kick off the reception at 7 p.m., to be followed by the awards ceremony at 7:30 p.m.

After the awards ceremony, mingle with your colleagues while you explore Springfield's favorite science museum. Explore the entire west wing which includes a mini golf course, a highwire bike, and many other interactive science exhibits!

Offsite Tours @ National Audio and Ozarks Studies Institute

Get out and about and see two of Springfield's most interesting places.

**Thursday,
Sept. 29**

Tour 1: 9-10:30 a.m.

Tour 2: 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

National Audio Company

National Audio Company is the only producer of magnetic tape for cassettes in the United States, and the largest manufacturer of cassette tapes in the entire world. Learn the history of this company and the fascinating process behind creating this one of a kind media format. Learn more about National Audio by clicking [here](#).

**Friday,
Sept. 30**

9:30 a.m.

Ozarks Studies Institute at Missouri State University

The Ozarks Studies Institute, an initiative of the Missouri State University Libraries, seeks to preserve the heritage of the Ozarks, its culture, environment and history by fostering a comprehensive knowledge of Ozarks' peoples, places, characteristics and dynamics.

**Friday,
Sept. 30**

9-10:30 a.m.

"Programming Over Pancakes" Breakfast

Ticket: \$20. Enjoy a pancake breakfast while hearing from librarians from across the state, and share some of your favorite adult programming ideas, during this special event.

Calendar of Events

Many opportunities for training, and ideas are only a click away with link to descriptions, availability, and any registration fees. All times CDT and subject to change.

Date	Time CT	Event	Sponsor
Sept. 16	10-11 am	Diversity Speaker Series: Talk Sexy to Me: How Gender Influences Conflict and Negotiation Processes and Outcomes AND What You Can Do To Overcome Disadvantages	University of Central Florida
Sept. 19	12-1 pm	Panel Discussion: The Role of Publishers and Libraries in the Evolution of Open Research	Library Journal
	1-2 pm	Racial Equity in Libraries: Hiring, Retention, and Promotion of BIPOC Employees	ASERL
Sept. 20	1-2 pm	Connecting Your Community Through Conversation: Living Room Conversations	Colorado State Library
	1-2 pm	Finding Census Bureau Data to Complete a Business Plan	US Census Bureau
	1-2 pm	Leading Together: Academic Library Consortia and Advocacy	ASERL
	1-2 pm	Middle Grade Latest and Greatest	Booklist
	6-7 pm	Copyright & Creativity for Ethical Digital Citizens	AASL
	6-7:30 pm	Resource Roundup: Free Tools from the Edge	TeachersFirst
Sept. 20-22	2-4 pm	The Usable and Accessible Library Space	Amigos Library Services
Sept. 21	1-2 pm	Communication and Conflict: "Can't We All Just Get Along?"	PCI Webinars
	1-2 pm	Breaking Bans: A Celebration of Challenged Books	Booklist
	1-2 pm	Creating an Inclusive Learning Environment: The Academic Library's Role in Helping First-Generation College Students Succeed	Georgia Library Association
	1-3 pm	Strategies for Creating and Rebuilding Library Partnerships	Amigos Library Services
	3-4 pm	So You Want To Be A Public Librarian	Metropolitan NY Library Council
	1-2:30 pm	Analyzing Health on the Local Level: Accessing State and Regional Substance Use Data	National Library of Medicine
Sept. 22	10-11 am	Christian Fiction: Good Books for Lovers of the Good Book	Texas State Library and Archives Commission
	2-3 pm	Civil Legal Issues of Natural Disasters: Libraries Can Help	WebJunction
	3-4 pm	Strategies for Success: Project Management for Libraries	Metropolitan NY Library Council
	6-7 pm	Freedom To Read: Fighting Book Banning and Censorship in Our Libraries	The Mark Twain House and Museum
Sept. 23	1-2 pm	Proactive Reference: When Users Don't Know What They Need to Know	NWACC Library
Sept. 26	1:30-2:30 pm	Know & Go: Tips for Cover Letters, Resumes, and Interviews	Amigos Library Services
Sept. 27	1-2 pm	Introducing loc.gov: Orientation and Research Strategies	FDLP
	2-3 pm	Collaborating for Access: The Outlook for Library Ebook Legislation	DPLA
Sept. 28	12-1:30 pm	Fundraising for Collections Care	FAIC
	1-2 pm	Using the American Community Survey Summary File	US Census Bureau
	2-4 pm	Library Management: Managing Change	Amigos Library Services
Sept. 28-30		Missouri Library Association (Springfield, Mo.)	Missouri Library Association
Sept. 29	3-4 pm	Finding Solidarity In Storytime	University of South Carolina
Oct. 3	1:30-2:30 pm	Know & Go: Using TikTok at Your Library	Amigos Library Services
Oct. 4	1-2 pm	Supporting the Whole Student: Leveraging Leisure Reading for Academic Success	Choice
	3-4 pm	Keeping Your Digital Life Organized, Part 1: The Principles of File Wrangling	Metropolitan NY Library Council
Oct. 4-13	10 am.-12 pm	JavaScript Basics	Amigos Library Services
Oct. 6	1-2 pm	A Librarian's Guide to Cybercrime Mitigation	Choice
Oct. 11	12-1:30 pm	Forget the Best: Good and Better Approaches to Preservation	FAIC
Oct. 12	1-2 pm	Accessibility in Your Library	Niche Academy
	1-2 pm	From Pitch to Publish: Publishing with the OLC Press	Online Learning Consortium
	2-4 pm	Library Management: Motivating & Retaining Employees	Amigos Library Services
Oct. 17	1-3 pm	An Introduction to Teaching Information Literacy	Amigos Library Services
Oct. 17-Nov. 11		Wikipedia + Libraries	National Library of Medicine
Oct. 19	1-2 pm	Successful Job Searching: Applications, Cover Letters, Résumés, and References	Niche Academy
	1-3 pm	Essentials of Library Book Sales and Donations	Amigos Library Services
	2-3 pm	Library of Things: The What, Why, and How of Lending Objects	WebJunction
Oct. 24	1:30-2:30 pm	Know & Go: What's New in Mystery and Horror	Amigos Library Services
Oct. 31	1:30-2:30 pm	Know & Go: Cemetery Searching for Genealogical and Local History Research	Amigos Library Services
Nov. 8-10		Beyond the Numbers: Addressing the Challenges of Economic Information	Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis. Research Library
Dec. 1		The Library Technology Roadmap	Amigos Library Services

Meet this issue's Featured Library Employee for the Missouri Library Association, Pam Wood!

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

My name is Pam Wood and I am the Stone County Library Youth Services and Outreach Coordinator.

What originally got you interested in working at a library?

A few years ago, my oldest son had just started college and I was still homeschooling my two younger children. I was looking for part time employment and thought a library position would be perfect because I love helping and interacting with people of all ages. I noticed online that a youth services position had opened at the Midtown Carnegie Branch of the Springfield-Greene County Library. I love reading and always loved reading books to my own children, so I knew any position that allowed me to host story times would be perfect. I worked at Midtown for just over four years and I've been with Stone County Library since February of 2020. Story time is still one of the best parts of my job!



What keeps you coming back every day?

I was born and raised in Stone County so I thoroughly enjoy serving its citizens. In my current position, I have the privilege of interacting with patrons of all ages during story time, art programs, summer reading programs, school visits, and community outreach events while delivering materials to our homebound patrons. My job is full of variety so there is no chance of getting bored.

What's challenging about your work?

Planning summer reading is always challenging! We have a top-notch youth services team and we all collaborate to plan summer reading programs. One of my primary responsibilities is to coordinate summer reading performances and library visits to our local schools. It has gotten easier each year but it's still tricky because I have to tentatively book performers long before most of our schools know their summer school schedule. Thankfully, our schools and the performers we've worked are very flexible when schedules don't work out quite as I anticipated.

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

I am passionate about treating all of our patrons with kindness and respect, regardless of age, gender or lifestyle. We never know what kind of day someone is having and everyone deserves a greeting and a smile.

Who is one of your mentors?

My mentors are my three sons ages 20, 22, and 25. They are all so witty and unique and truly comfortable in their own skin. Recently, I was reminded of just how amazing they are. On July 26, our youngest suffered the devastating loss of his girlfriend, the woman he planned to spend the rest of his life with. His brothers dropped everything and took time off work just to be with him, support him, and grieve with him. I've always said they have each other's backs but seeing that expressed in such a tangible meaningful way was amazing.

What book, author, artist, show, or music are you engaging with this week, either personally or professionally? Persuade us in one or two sentences that we should pick this up, too.

This is VBS week, August 7-11, so that has consumed my evenings - in a good way! I've also been listening to *City Spies* by James Ponti. It's a 2022-2023 Mark Twain Award Nominee and is so much fun. It's fast paced and the characters are kids that come from difficult living situations and each have specialized talents - computer coding and hacking, amazing deductive reasoning skills, and sleight of hand skills to name a few. In this first book of the series, they end up in Paris, working with MI6 to stop a criminal mastermind. If you are looking for a fun, quick read, I highly recommend it!

Is there anything else you'd like to share with us?

One of the most rewarding parts of my job is attending community outreach events. If you've never had the opportunity, I would encourage you to attend an outreach event in your community. During the summer and fall there are many outreach opportunities in Stone County. I love going to these events. It's so rewarding to engage with our patrons outside of the library and talk with them about all the great programs and services we offer. And when the kids see us at an event, they make us feel like celebrities!



Would you 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



CFP Closing Soon! Present at "The Library Technology Roadmap"

What is the best way to assess and evaluate current technologies? How do libraries choose which new technologies to adopt? When is it time to sunset an existing technology? This Amigos Library Services online conference will explore the complexities of planning and managing technology in libraries.

Amigos is now accepting presentation proposals for the December 1, 2022, online conference, "The Library Technology Roadmap."

Consider sharing your knowledge and experiences with other Amigos members!
[Submit your proposal](#) by September 21, 2022.



Headed to "Internet Librarian"? Save With Early Bird and Amigos Discount Code

Internet Librarian 2022 returns to Monterey, California October 18-20 for its 26th annual conference, "Community Impact: Digital Strategies & Partnerships." [Members can save on registration](#) with the Amigos discount code. Additionally, all registrants can save with early bird pricing if registered by September 23, 2022.

Missed "Materials on the Move"? Register now for the recordings!

If you missed the September 8 online conference, "Materials on the Move: Strategies for Delivery, Distribution and Storage" live, there's still a chance to catch up on the sessions. [Register](#) today for access to the recordings and explore changes and trends in delivery, courier services, distribution, and storage of library materials.

Special Bloomsbury Discount Available Through September 30!

Amigos members will receive an [additional discount](#) off any one-time purchase or the first year of a subscription to any collections on both the Screen Studies and Bloomsbury Music & Sound platforms through September 30th, 2022.

Amigos & Infobase Expand Partnership; Introducing Infobase Learning Cloud for Higher Education

Infobase Learning Cloud offers every member of your campus community [access to online learning resources](#) on popular software topics, in-demand soft skills, information literacy, SEL, and more using a proven Learn It, Do It framework.

Continuing Education Opportunities

JavaScript Basics

Basic HTML leads to static, dead Web pages. With the addition of some simple JavaScript, Web pages can interact with users. Learn [how to write simple JavaScript](#) code and incorporate pre-written scripts into Web pages.

Library Management: Motivating & Retaining Employees

Keeping employees motivated and helping them see the value of their work is job #1 for managers and supervisors. Explore strategies to [motivate and retain](#) library staff by creating a positive workplace culture, providing a strategic vision, and fostering communication.

Missed a Conference? Register for Amigos Conference Archives

Amigos Online Conferences - Easy to Access. Meaningful to Attend

As a member benefit, all Amigos online conferences are free of charge to the staff of Amigos member institutions!

Register today for access to recent conferences:

- [Amigos Member Conference 2022: Building the New Library Team](#)
- [Changing Standards, Local Choices: Navigating the Current Cataloging Landscape](#)
- [Facing the Future of Resource Sharing](#)
- [Adventures in Archives](#)
- [What Will We Keep: Creating the Next Remix of Library Services](#)

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 1:30-2:30 p.m. CDT. [Register today!](#)

- September 26 [Know & Go: Tips for Cover Letters, Resumes, and Interviews](#)
- October 3 [Know & Go: Using TikTok at Your Library](#)
- October 24 [Know & Go: What's New in Mystery and Horror](#)
- October 31 [Know & Go: Cemetery Searching for Genealogical and Local History Research](#)

Upcoming Live Online Classes

October – December class registrations are now open! 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 CDT.)

- [The Usable and Accessible Library Space](#) September 20-22, 2-4 p.m.
- [Strategies for Creating and Rebuilding Library Partnerships](#) September 21, 1-3 p.m.
- [Library Management: Managing Change](#) September 28, 2-4 p.m.
- [JavaScript Basics](#) October 4 - October 13, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
- [Library Management: Motivating & Retaining Employees](#) October 12, 2-4 p.m.
- [An Introduction to Teaching Information Literacy](#) October 17, 1-3 p.m.
- [Essentials of Library Book Sales and Donations](#) October 19, 1-3 p.m.

Joplin Public Library



Library Repeats Summer Meals Partnership

These days, many people recognize that libraries offer much more than just books. At the Joplin Public Library, we are focused on service, outreach, and enrichment through diverse methods. For the second year in a row, the Library sought to meet those goals by partnering with Joplin Schools. From July 5 through August 12, a Joplin Schools Nutritional Services employee handed out sack lunches to community children and teens. Anyone under 18 was eligible, and no library card was required. Every weekday, families would come to the Library for lunch and stay to visit afterward.



A family participates in the meals

The requirement to eat on-site, which was suspended due to COVID-19, meant that families connected with one another and the Library's resources. Library staff witnessed several previously unfamiliar families become regulars in other parts of the library before and after the meals. Overall, approximately 900 meals were served to the community as a result of this partnership.



MOBIUS Selects FOLIO & ReShare

MOBIUS is pleased to announce that it has selected EBSCO Information Services' FOLIO as its new library services platform and Project ReShare as its new resource sharing system. These two new systems will replace Innovative Interfaces' Sierra and INN-Reach systems. MOBIUS will begin the migration process in late 2022 with plans to be fully operational by the spring of 2024.

Both FOLIO and ReShare are truly modern systems based on the way today's libraries work. FOLIO is a community driven, open source platform that supports traditional library operations just like a traditional integrated library system (ILS) and positions MOBIUS for greater community collaboration around knowledge management. FOLIO was launched in 2016 and it was designed to encourage innovation.

Project ReShare is a user-centered, community-owned resource sharing platform that will allow for the connection of disparate ILS platforms. MOBIUS has been an active contributing member of the ReShare community since December of 2020. Adopting ReShare allows other libraries on disparate ILS systems to join MOBIUS. MOBIUS believes that ReShare offers more flexible opportunities to include a wider variety of platforms as the consortium continues to grow and evolve.

Sixty-one academic libraries will share the FOLIO system. These libraries will connect to our partner libraries using ReShare for resource sharing. MOBIUS has partner libraries in Missouri, Arkansas, Kansas, Oklahoma, and Texas. Our membership includes 65 academic libraries, 11 public libraries, 3 special libraries and the Missouri State Library.

MOBIUS would like to thank the members of the MOBIUS ILS RFP Working Group for the hard work and countless hours they put in over the past year. Their contributions were a vital part of the decision making process.

Springfield-Greene County Library District

\$10.5 Million Appropriated for The Library

The Library staff and administrators are developing plans for major building upgrades with the infusion of \$10.5 million in federal ARPA funds distributed by the State of Missouri. The legislature appropriated \$6 million for maintenance and improvement of library facilities and \$4.5 million toward the construction of a destination library in the city of Republic to replace the current branch. Early plans include a new, larger auditorium at the Library Center and renovations in the Circulation Department. The Springfield City Council also approved \$500,000 in federal ARPA funds. The Library staff will work on fundraising to raise matching funds for the various projects.



Micro Meadow Fans Work from the Ground Up

Spring is a long way off, but future gardeners learned the value of patience and soil prep in a summer series “Preparing the Soil for a Micro Meadow.” Attendees helped prepare a garden for the future at the GLO Center’s Jim House Community Garden. Library Station Reference Associate Mandi Hubbs hosted the group, and sent everyone home with Micro Meadow Kits, which will allow them to create their own micro meadows at home. The kits included native wildflower seeds mixed with sand, landscaping stakes, cardboard, burlap provided by the Mudhouse Roasting Center, instructions, and a plant list. Mandi added, “I’m so excited the Library is helping to create food and habitat for pollinators in our community!”



Young Do-it-Yourselfers Make the Most of Maker Space

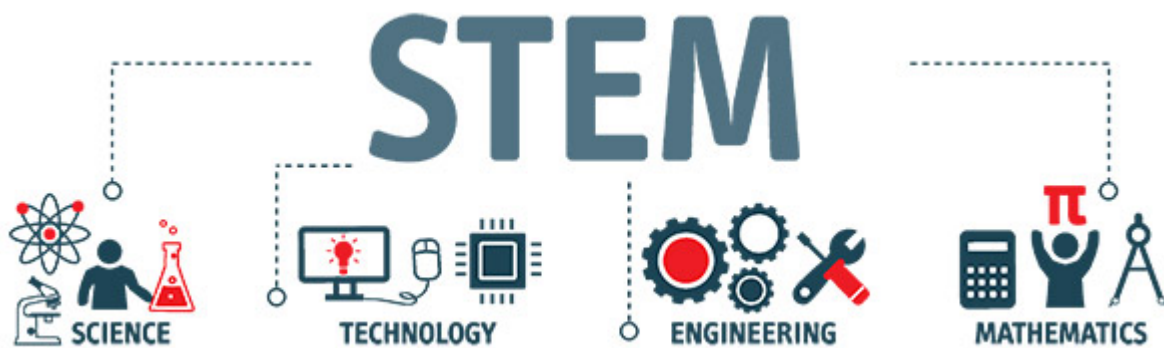
Families have been having fun making personalized silicone wristbands in the Maker Space. Slaid and Paislea Strickland were excited to personalize their bracelets — they have unique names and can never find them on premade merchandise. They reported they just bought pencils so they can return in August for our laser-engraved pencil program. On another day, we had a surprise visit from a homeschool group of 24 kids and 12 adults, all armed with packages of new pencils they wanted to personalize on our laser-engraver. Later, Maker Space staff conducted a tour for a local 4-H group, and several members used the laser engraver to etch pie plates for upcoming fundraising events.





Geezer The Band Rocks a Return for 400 Fans

Judging by the crowd on Friday, June 24, that filled the Library Center outdoor patio and spilled across lawns and sidewalks, it was a concert worth waiting for. It was the first Geezer concert in two years, first postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and then rescheduled from its spring date due to rain. That made for a pent-up demand among the fans of Geezer's renditions of popular and classic covers. Some of the estimated 400 concert goers ended the two-hour concert on their feet, dancing near the stage and parking lot. The Friends of the Library sponsored the Friday night event.



Kids Enjoy STEM Fun at Home with STEM Kits

A recent grant has expanded the Library's STEM offerings for kids in grades 1–5. They can explore their favorite STEM topics with a variety of STEM Kits available for checkout from any branch. The project is supported by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provision of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the Missouri State Library, a division of the Office of the Secretary of State. Families can search for "Stem Kit" in the catalog. Topics include engineering, sound, coding and basic science concepts like simple machines, and magnets. Other kits being added cover Three little pigs problem solving, Robotics and coding, Explore outdoors, Trucks and tools, All about magnets, and Magna tiles.



We've Got Wild Things — Collect the Whole Set!

While the Maurice Sendak "Wild Things" exhibit of original works were on display at the Library Center this summer, we promoted our own Wild Things of the Ozarks, courtesy Jay Young, graphic designer in Community Relations. Jay interpreted the mythical creatures said to roam the Ozarks long ago. Local History's Brian Grubbs and Konrad Stump assisted with the research. The Library then reprinted postcard versions of Jay's designs and made them available for collecting the whole set.

Continued on page 12



Library Express East Opening Set for Aug. 26

Residents and travelers in east Springfield have a new library convenience, as the Library adds another 24-hour kiosk to the family. The Library Express East, an outdoor library kiosk, will allow library card holders to check out books and DVDs from the unit at 3263 E. Chestnut Expwy. The kiosk is on the parking lot of the Frisco Building near U.S. 65. This is the district's second 24-hour kiosk, after Library Express West at 3872 W. Chestnut Expwy., the first in Missouri. A grand opening is schedule for Friday, Aug. 26. Both units were manufactured by EnvisionWare and funded by the Friends of the Library and a Library Services and Technology grant through the State Library. The library district will fund the maintenance and utilities costs, and lease of the lot space.



Christian County Library

\$5,568.99 Grant Awarded for New Library Services

Fulfilling our mission to expand access to innovative, community-driven facilities and services sometimes requires a little extra help. Thanks to a generous grant from the Christian County Library Foundation, access to library resources and services will become even better. Patrons will be able to more easily discover and register for library events and sign up for open meeting rooms with the integration of new event management software. We are also upgrading the library's point of sale system, making payments safer, and installing new art display rails and crafting tables. We are thankful to our support organizations, such as the Christian County Library Foundation, for providing those needed funds.



Foundation Director Amanda Cole, CCL Executive Director Renee Brumett, Foundation President Bryan Cox, Foundation Treasurer Barb Stillings, Foundation Vice President Shay Shoemaker, Foundation Director Sue Marshall



Congratulations to Our Two New MLIS Graduates

Brandon Jason, Nixa Community Branch Manager, and Charlee Evans, Programming Coordinator, have just completed their Master of Library & Information Science degrees from Mizzou. They were both selected as fellows of the Catalysts for Community Health project grant that focused on an interdisciplinary community health information program to meet the needs of low-income and rural communities. We are very proud of their work, dedication, and accomplishments!

New Partnership with Burrell Behavioral Health

Our community members have a new resource to help meet their wellness goals with the Burrell Emergency Room Enhancement Program. On Mondays, patrons can speak with a knowledgeable representative to answer questions such as applying for disability and Medicaid, filling prescriptions and completing applications for housing. These free one-on-one sessions



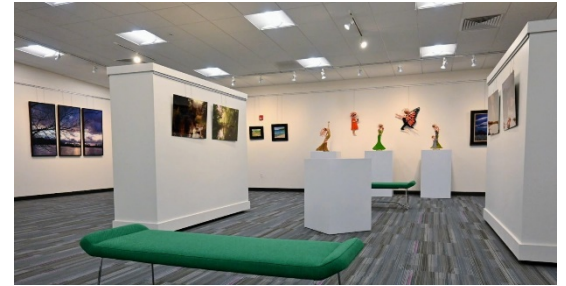
Scenic Regional Library

“The Gallery at the Library” Now Open

Scenic Regional Library has officially opened The Gallery at the Library, its new 2000-square-foot community art gallery located in the Hermann branch. The space will feature artwork produced by regional artists.

The gallery opened with great fanfare with a reception for its inaugural exhibit on Friday, August 5. Approximately 100 people attended the event.

The gallery will host four themed exhibits each year, rotating quarterly, with each show kicking off with a reception. The inaugural exhibit, "Sense of Place," is an all-media show that presents artwork depicting real or imaginary places that define the artist. The exhibition is open to the public during the branch's regular operating hours.

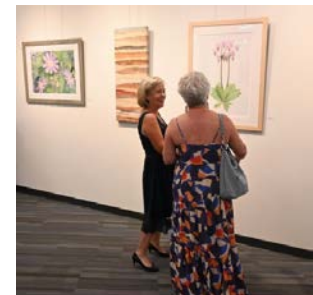


The 2000-square foot Gallery at the Library

The reception and exhibit are sponsored by Peoples Savings Bank of Hermann. It runs Friday, August 5 to Saturday, October 22.

The next exhibit, "Rivers," will open on Friday, November 4. The second in a series of all-media art shows, "Rivers" will invite artists to explore the theme from a personal perspective.

To learn more about The Gallery at the Library, visit scenicregional.org/gallery, or find us on Facebook!



From left to right: Photographer William Fields is one of many artists featured in the inaugural exhibit, “Sense of Place”; Some of the 100 attendees of the inaugural exhibit reception; botanical artist Theresa Long speaks with a visitor about her art during the reception.

Scenic Regional Library Adds to its Nontraditional Items



A Scenic Regional Library Memory Kit

Scenic Regional Library staff has been busy expanding the Library’s non-traditional items collection. This spring, 9 Lanikai Concert ukuleles, donated by River City Music of Washington, Missouri, were added to the collection.

Thanks to a \$1000 Ghost Light Program award from the Missouri Arts Council, in partnership with the Missouri Association of Community Arts Agencies (MACAA), Scenic Regional then bought cases for each ukulele. The instruments will be available for checkout at every library branch. Each ukulele comes with a tuner and an instruction booklet with ukulele basics and links to online resources.



A ukulele available for checkout

Another non-traditional addition to the Library's items is Memory Kits, designed to aid caregivers of those living with dementia to stimulate thoughts and memories.

With support from an Aging Ahead grant; ARPA funds; and Friends of the Library donations, staff created multiple kits with a variety of themes: Farm, outdoors, homemaker, handyman, patriotism, spring, summer, fall, winter, the 1950s, and the 1960s. Each kit contains reminiscence cards, activity cards, DVDs, puzzles, games, fidgets, and other memorabilia. Each branch started with two kits, but all kits will be available to all Scenic Regional patrons through the online catalog.

Intellectual Freedom Committee's Work: September 2021 – July 2022

As you can imagine, the Intellectual Freedom Committee has been busy this last year with all of the book challenges and libraries wanting to prepare for potential challenges. We have led many [trainings created by Tiffany Mautino](#) on intellectual freedom and sent multiple letters to boards about putting books back on the shelves. Below you can see where and when these took place (September 2021 – July 2022).

We periodically send out news and actions to our LISTSERV. Please join if you want to stay informed. Visit [MLA's Email List page](#), follow the instructions at the top and email listserv@moliblist.org to be added to INTELLFREEDOM-L. If you are looking for solidarity and support for intellectual freedom for your local board meetings, you can email IFC Chair Joe at mjkohlbur@jeffco.edu or Casey at caseymophillips@gmail.com. We can also share your request on our listserv.

IFC Trainings

2021

September

MLA Pre-Conference Session

November

2021 - Joplin Public Library

2022

January

Missouri Association of School Librarians (MASL)
Poplar Bluff Public Library
Scenic Regional Public Library

February

AMIGOS Workshop - Access Challenged

March

Cape Girardeau Public Library

April

Christian County Public Library
Cass County Public Library

May

Stone County Public Library
Sno-Isle Public Library

June

Missouri Public Library Directors Group (MPLD)
Chelmsford Public Library

Letters

Francis Howell School District (November 2021)

Wentzville School Board (January 2022)

[Nixa School Board](#) (June 2022)

[Follow-Up to Wentzville School Board](#) (June 2022)

[Independence School District](#) (July 2022)

Statements

September 2021

Statement on reaffirming the [MLA-IFC's support for Missouri Libraries, librarians and board members](#) fighting agenda-driven challenges

November 2021

Statement in support of [MASL and Missouri school libraries and librarians](#) in their fight against censorship

Featured in Media

[KSDK - February 2022 - Wentzville Banning](#) (video)

[St. Louis Dispatch - June 2022 - Wentzville Banning](#)

[Examiner - July 2022 - Independence Banning](#)

Jefferson County Library

New Locker Service

Jefferson County Library now offers after-hours, contactless pickup. We recently went live with locker service at all three (soon to be four) locations. The touch screen is also accessible with voice commands for a completely touchless experience.

A local company did an outstanding job with our custom vinyl wraps. They boldly display our new logo and signature colors.

Our patrons are happily taking advantage of this new convenience.

-- Pamela Withrow, MLA Web Group pwithrow@jeffcolib.org





Woodneath Library Center

Mid-Continent Public Library

Mid-Continent Public Library Hosts ‘Woodneath Homecoming Weekend’

Mid-Continent Public Library held a “homecoming” celebration at its Woodneath Library Center (8900 NE Flintlock Road, Kansas City, Mo.) on Friday, Aug. 12, and Saturday, Aug. 13, in honor of the recent upgrades made at the location, including the construction of a brand-new auditorium. The weekend kicked off with a dedication ceremony inside the auditorium, followed by refreshments and live music.

The new 236-seat auditorium will be used for large-scale library programs and community forums, with flexible seating options, a wide range of audiovisual capabilities, and backstage amenities, including a green room and small kitchen. The project is part of the library’s ongoing capital improvement plan, which was made possible by an increase in funding that voters approved in 2016 through Proposition L.



Woodneath Auditorium

On Friday afternoon, customers were invited to explore the recently transformed historic house on the property. Formerly known as the Elbridge Arnold Homestead or Edwin Y. Crouch Residence, the 1855-56 Greek revival-style farmhouse on the Woodneath Library Center campus is now home to MCPL’s Story Center, which helps local writers and storytellers create, share, and connect over stories. Funded by private donations, the adapted house is now open to the public to tour, attend programs, and work on their storytelling projects.

Throughout the weekend, Woodneath Library Center staff gave away fine forgiveness tokens (one per person) that could be used one time to clear library fines and fees (up to \$10). In addition, customers participated in a virtual scavenger hunt through the free GooseChase app. Participants qualified for a gift certificate to The Friendly Bean, a local coffee shop with a location inside Woodneath Library Center.

On the exterior of the property, customers can now utilize new seating areas, including an outdoor amphitheater and cultural node, and explore the walking trails that wind through the campus. The library is finalizing work by adding historical signage and making additional upgrades around the trails.

A variety of events for all ages were held throughout the weekend in the new Woodneath Auditorium and The Story Center house, including a puppet show, architectural tour, storytelling performance, and more.

MCPL Plans for Grain Valley Branch, Prepares to Open Green Hills Library Center

This August, Mid-Continent Public Library's Board of Trustees unanimously approved plans for the replacement of the library's existing Grain Valley Branch, currently located at 101 SW Eagles Pkwy. in Grain Valley, Mo. The new branch will be built on a 3.6-acre property that MCPL acquired last year on the west side of Buckner-Tarsney Road, approximately a mile south of the current location.

The new Grain Valley Branch will span approximately 12,500 square feet—about 4,000 square feet larger than the current branch—and will include a community program room, two meeting rooms, a dedicated children's area, and outdoor seating. Construction is slated to begin later this year with a groundbreaking in late fall. The project is targeted to be complete by late fall 2023. The current Grain Valley Branch, a storefront location that the library has leased since 2014, will remain open until construction of the new building is complete.



Green Hills exterior



Grain Valley renderings of the exterior (l) and interior (r)

The library is also nearing completion of its brand-new Green Hills Library Center (8581 North Green Hills Road, Kansas City, MO 64154), which serves as a replacement for the library's former Boardwalk Branch that closed for good in March 2022. Drive-thru service at Green Hills Library Center began on Aug. 24, and the building will open for full service in September.

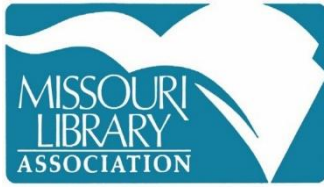
Green Hills is the home of the first public library culinary center in the region, which will offer food-based programs for all ages as well as incubator kitchen space for local food businesses. The rest of the branch offers a wide variety of modern amenities, including an enclosed storytime room, five reservable meeting rooms, a community program room (seats 200+), an outdoor seating area, and a coffee shop.

Both projects are part of the library's ongoing capital improvement plan, made possible by an increase to library funding through the passage of Proposition L by voters in 2016. Since that time, the library has renovated or replaced nearly all of its 30+ locations and added a brand-new branch in Lee's Summit. Design work for the capital plan is being completed by Sapp Design Architects and Helix Architecture + Design, with JE Dunn assuming responsibility for construction contractor management.

In addition to all the physical upgrades, the increased funding from Prop L has allowed MCPL 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 at mymcpl.org/Community.



Green Hills children's area



The Missouri Library Association,
Columbia, MO,
est. 1900, is the Missouri State Chapter

MO INFO

Newsletter of the Missouri Library Association

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You can find this and back issues of MO INFO on the MLA membership webpage: molib.org/mo-info-newsletter.

The newsletter is put together by MO INFO Subcommittee of the MLA Media and Publications Committee:

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