

CURRENTS

April 2026

Winter Reading Challenge Wrap Up

Spring is officially here and the Winter Reading Challenge has ended! Between January 1 and February 28, 573 Riverside patrons took the challenge to read for five hours, with the promise of a free book upon completion. 293 of those patrons finished the challenge, and many went above and beyond. In 2025, participants logged 83,962 minutes spent reading. This year, they logged 131,264 minutes. That's 91 whole days!

Reading for entertainment, connection, and lifelong learning (plus the reward of a free book!) is something we love to see growing in our community. Be on the lookout for the Summer Reading Challenge in June with new books and more exciting prizes for you to win!



**WE'RE
MOVING!**

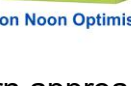
The Scott City branch is closed
through April 6 for its move to
1408 Main Street, Scott City.

Scott City patrons are encouraged to
use the Benton branch or any
Riverside Regional Library location.

New Literacy Kits

Check out a fun and educational kit for 3 weeks!
Call 573-243-8141 or visit us at 1997 E Jackson Blvd for more info.

Screen Free • Phonics • Audiobooks • Music • Games

- My First Tonies 
- Unearth a Story Tonies 
- "As Seen On" Tonies 
- Juvenile Tonies 
- LeapReader 
- LeapStart 
- LeapPad 
- Meet the Sight Words: Level 1 
- Meet the Sight Words: Level 2 
- Meet the Sight Words: Level 3 
- Meet the Phonics: Blends 
- Meet the Phonics: Digraphs 

Free to
all Riverside
card
holders!

Thank you to Jackson Friends of the Library and the Jackson Noon Optimist Club!

Looking for a screen-free but modern approach to helping your child learn and grow? Maybe a fun and simple way to connect with your grandchildren while they're visiting? Or an educational resource for supplementing your homeschool classroom? Check out one of Riverside's seventeen new Early Literacy Engagement Kits!

The benefits include sparking curiosity, building phonics skills, practicing early learning concepts, and fostering a love of reading.

Kits are available for check out to all families in the Riverside community. Find out more information about the kits' contents and age recommendations by calling or visiting the library.

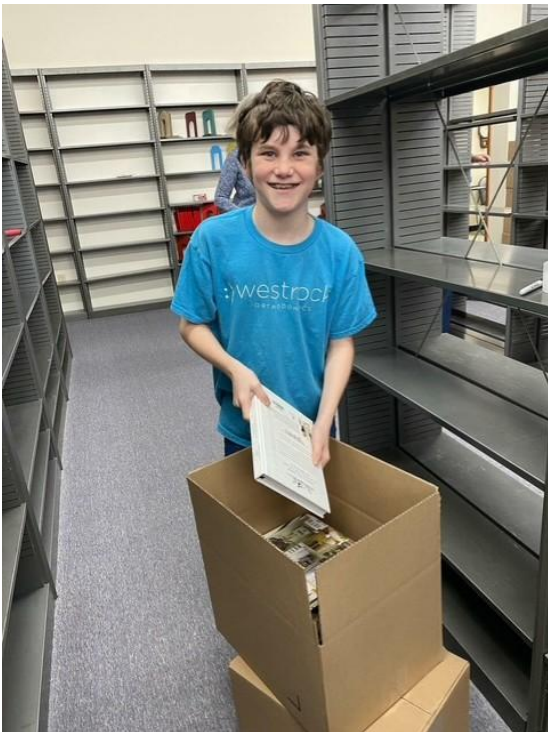


Notes From the Director

April 19-25 is National Library week. What do you love about your library? The librarians? The great books and movies that you check out? What about library events – do you have a favorite? This is a wonderful time to stop by your favorite branch and share what you love about your Riverside Regional Library. Our favorite part of Riverside Regional Library is you. So, help us celebrate National Library week – come in check out a book, movie or attend an event.

Remember the new Scott City location will be opening on Monday, April 6!

We will see you soon at YOUR library!
Frankie Lea



Last book
being
packed at
Scott City
Branch!!

Joyful Strings Concert

We're thrilled to welcome back the local dulcimer group, Joyful Strings!! Come enjoy the sweet sounds of folk and traditional mountain music on April 8 at 2 pm at the Main Branch in Jackson. This program is appropriate for all ages.



Join the Cookbook Club!!

Love to cook? Love to share? Join our Cookbook Club for a deliciously fun morning! Each month explore recipes from a featured cookbook, then come together to try new dishes, taste each other's culinary creations and chat about our favorites. Make new friends who love food as much as you do!

First gathering will be on April 25 from 10 am to noon at the Main Branch, Jackson. To join, register with Robbie at 573-243-8141 or ask at the Jackson Branch checkout desk.

Celebrate Earth Day

Help pollinators with this Community Garden Craft. All ages are welcome to come and create a bee bath on April 6 from 9 am to 6 pm at the Perryville Branch.

Get back to nature with a leisurely stroll. Join us for a nature walk for all ages on April 22 at 3:15pm at the Perryville Branch (weather permitting)

Create an Earth Day craft item on April 22 at 4pm at the Oran Branch. Program is for all ages.

Get ready to garden with two informational programs from Donna Aufdenberg, MU Horticulturalist. For ages 18+. Please register at 573-243-8141 or at the Jackson Branch.

- Growing Blueberries – April 6 from 4-6pm
- Growing Tomatoes – April 20 from 4-6pm

Earth Day Trivia Event

Presented by Lavinia Silva, President | Preserving Our Planet

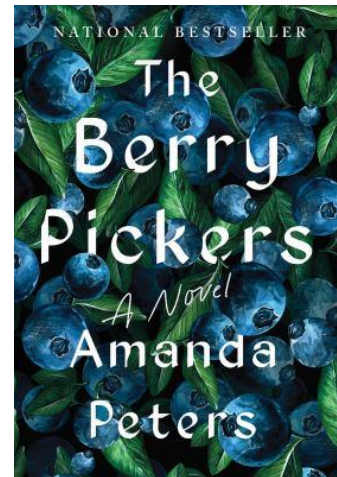
Join us for a fun and engaging Earth Day celebration! Lavinia Silva and her team will lead an interactive trivia session all about sustainability, environmental facts, and simple actions we can take to help protect our world. This program is designed for adults (18+).

Event Details

- Date: April 11
- Time: 1:30–2:30 PM
- Location: Riverside Regional Library – Jackson Branch
- Audience: Adults 18+

Book Clubs

@Jackson



Adult (ages 18+)
April 20 at 6pm

via Zoom (ages 18+)
April 27 at 7pm

Elementary Book Club
April 1 at 1pm (ages 5-7)

Juvenile Book Club
April 27 at 5pm @Jackson (ages 8-14)

@Perryville

Adult (ages 18+)
April 13 at 2pm

@Oran

Adult (ages 18+)
April 20 at 1:30pm

Banned (ages 12+)
April 24 at 4pm

@Scott City

Adult (ages 18+)
April 28 at 3pm

YA (ages 16+)
April 28 at 3:30pm

For details and more programs for all ages, visit www.riversideregionallibrary.org/calendar or follow us on Facebook

Library Happenings



Participants in Eat Smart Program presented by MU Extension.



Reading Buddy Craft @Jackson



St. Patrick's Day Story Time @ Jackson



Melted Crayon Craft @Jackson