

# The Sikeston Public Library

## Governor awards grant for new internet services

Missouri Gov. Mike Parson recently announced that 39 Missouri libraries were awarded more than \$870,000 through the Missouri State Library to help residents access high speed internet for telehealth and distance learning in response to COVID-19.

The Sikeston Public Library received \$12,685 in grant funds to increase bandwidth for the library's internet, to upgrade and improve the wireless access system within the library, and to purchase five new computers and monitors.

"COVID-19 has created a massive shift to online services," Governor Parson said. "Providing our public libraries with the means to meet the need for access to devices and high-speed internet will help close the connectivity gap many students and citizens are experiencing during this time."

"We were quite pleased to receive this grant," said Ron Eifert, library director. "With doubled bandwidth and improved wi-fi, every user should see a noticeable difference. Updated computers had been in the works before the COVID shutdown, and now that process is back on track." Six initiatives were launched on July 2 as a part of the Rapid Broadband Deployment Initiative which uses the state's CARES Act funding. The broadband funding for Missouri libraries allocated up to \$2.5 million for this program. The Missouri State Library and Missouri Department of Economic Development reviewed and approved grant applications. "Innovative and impactful proposals show how libraries can play an important role in advancing telehealth and higher education needs in their communities. COVID-19 has disrupted so many aspects of everyday life, and libraries have stepped up to fill in gaps that wouldn't otherwise be met," said State Librarian Robin Westphal.

The program was designed to provide grants to Missouri's public libraries for resources such as hotspots and Wi-Fi enabled devices in support of telehealth and students of higher education. The funds from this program will be used to establish hotspot lending programs, Wi-Fi capable laptops for patron checkout, and expanding bandwidth at libraries to accommodate additional network demands.

Broadband internet access is essential to the success of our economy and our workforce," Department of Economic Development Director Rob Dixon said. "These resources to expand broadband internet will provide more opportunities for Missourians right now, and it will support our economic growth into the future."

## Book Club November selection



Book Club will meet  
November 17 at 630 pm  
in the McAmis Room

## New at the Library

**Piece of my Heart by Mary Higgins Clark & Alafair Burke**- Television producer Laurie Moran and her fiancée, Alex Buckley, the former host of her investigative television show, are just days away from their mid-summer wedding, when things take a dark turn. Alex's seven-year-old nephew, Johnny, vanishes from the beach. A search party begins, but no one remembers seeing him after the morning. As the sun sets, Johnny's skim board washes up to shore, and everyone realizes that he could be anywhere, even under water.

**War Lord By Berard Cornwell**- After years fighting to reclaim his rightful home, Uhtred of Bebbanburg has returned to Northumbria. With his loyal band of warriors and a new woman by his side, his household is secure – yet Uhtred is far from safe. Beyond the walls of his impregnable fortress, a battle for power rages. Threatened and bribed by all sides, he faces an impossible choice: stay out of the struggle, risking his freedom, or throw himself into the cauldron of war and the most terrible battle Britain has ever experienced. Only fate can decide the outcome.

**The Killer's Shadow by John Douglas and Mark Olshaker**- The legendary FBI criminal profiler and international bestselling author returns with this timely, relevant book that goes to the heart of extremism and domestic terrorism, examining in-depth his chilling pursuit of, and eventual prison confrontation with Joseph Paul Franklin, a White Nationalist serial killer and one of the most disturbing psychopaths he has ever encountered.

## Children's Corner

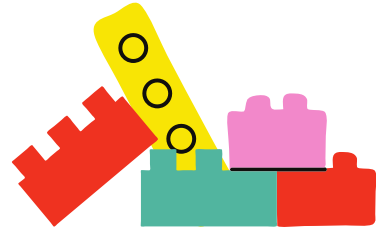
### SEE WHAT'S HAPPENING IN MRS LISA'S SECTION

#### Storytime!

Nov 4: BEARS  
Nov 11: CLOSED  
Nov 18: SQUIRRELS  
Nov 25 GIVE THANKS

WEDNESDAYS  
10am

#### Creation Station



Show off your building skills all month long

#### Author of the Month!



### Upcoming events

December Family Nights  
Preschool  
December 7  
6:30 pm

K-3rd  
December 14  
6:30 pm

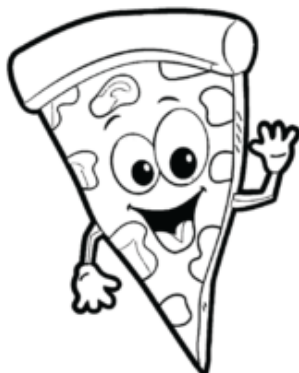
Reservations required. Will open for reservations two weeks before dates. For questions call 471-4140

### Library Hours

Monday-Thursday  
10am-8pm  
Friday  
10am-6pm  
Saturday  
10am-4pm  
Sunday  
1pm-5pm

# And the Winner is...

# 80



# 50



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Library will be closed November 11 for Veterans Day and November 26& 27 for Thanksgiving