2014 STATISTICS

113,301 DBRL cardholders
203,190 people in library district
13,313 new cards issued
48,314 attendees at 1,921 programs

763,750 Website Visits
40,089 database uses

Over 777,000 Library Visits
110,391 uses of library Wi-Fi
188,788 uses of library computers

566,557 Items in Collection
Books: 430,466
Music CDs: 35,297
eBooks: 35,191
DVDs: 32,615
Audiobooks: 25,297
Downloadable Audiobooks: 6,914
Kits: 777

2,237,221 Total Check-outs
Columbia: 1,646,023
Callaway: 161,979
Digital Branch: 267,407
Outreach: 77,403
Southern Boone: 76,164
Library-To-Go: 14,751

STATE GRANTS FUND IMPROVEMENTS TO LIBRARY SERVICES

To improve services, the Daniel Boone Regional Library applied for and received three grants for specific improvements in 2014. All were through the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) administered by the Missouri State Library, a division of the Office of the Secretary of State.

Providing Tools to Promote Early Literacy
Recognizing the importance of early childhood learning, the Missouri State Library awarded “Racing to Read” grants to 27 libraries across the state last year. Of the $204,973 distributed, Daniel Boone Regional Library received $14,494. With the funds, we developed several printed pieces to distribute to parents and others who provide care to preschoolers. “A Parent’s Guide to Raising Smarter Children” was inserted into our July newsletter and mailed to all households in Boone and Callaway Counties. Our illustrated flip book features early learning suggestions for every week of the year. And our “Tech Tips for Ages 2-5” was produced as a folded card, sized for pocketbook or refrigerator. We also purchased six iPads and educational apps for preschoolers that we use in the children’s areas of all three libraries. Thanks to the grant, we hosted early literacy programs at each library and at the Title I Preschool in Columbia and purchased 200 books to give to families of preschoolers attending our early literacy programs.

Extending Summer Reading to More Rural Students
In 2014, we were awarded increased funding in our LSTA summer reading grant, which made it possible to expand our Books By Snail program to include students in high school. Books by Snail allows kids in rural areas to check out books and participate in Summer Reading through the mail. Any child or teen attending school in Auxvasse, Hallsville, Harrisburg, Hatton, Holts Summit, Kingdom City, Mokane, New Bloomfield, Sturgeon or Williamsburg is eligible. In 2014, we saw a 12 percent increase in participation, a 64 percent increase in new library card sign-ups and a 10 percent increase in the number of items checked out. The highest demand for book deliveries came from first-, second- and third-graders.

Helping People With Impairments Use the Library
Those with mobility impairments now have another way to get into and move around the Columbia Public Library. With $5,360 awarded by a Library Service Improvement Grant, the library purchased two Amigo RD motorized scooters, as well as an exterior call box with which patrons can ask for a scooter or wheelchair. The scooters have proven to be popular. The funding also enabled us to produce a brochure detailing library services and accommodations available to those with mobility, hearing and vision impairments.
REGIONAL NEWS

Bookmobile and Other Outreach Services
In 2014, we started making trial visits with Bookmobile, Jr. to the Columbia Square Apartments as part of our Youth Outreach program. These visits are now part of our regular monthly schedule.

2014 was the first full year of having Library-To-Go lockers at the Holts Summit City Hall. Combined check-outs from the Holts Summit and Hallsville lockers increased 64 percent.

Our staff visited an average of 148 homebound people each month in 2014, delivering 9,359 items. We use library vans for this service and purchased a new one last year.

Donations
The Daniel Boone Regional Library Foundation raised $14,730 during its annual fall fundraising campaign and an additional $1,140 through participation in ComoGives, the December campaign by the Community Foundation of Central Missouri. Also, for the first time, people could sign up for Amazon Smile and designate the Foundation as the recipient of a donation of 0.5 percent of their purchases through Amazon.

The Friends of the Callaway County, Columbia and Southern Boone County Public Libraries donated a combined total of more than $81,433 from their book sales in 2014.

In June, artist Ben Cameron donated his painting “Spring” to the Columbia Public Library; it is on display on the second floor. Later in the year, Love, Inc. donated “Starry,” a tiger sculpture painted by Dana Hartgrove, now on display in the children’s area at the Columbia Public Library.

Loss of Funding Affects Library Services
Missouri’s governor withheld the Remote Electronic Access for Libraries (REAL) appropriation and state aid for public libraries from the state’s 2014-2015 budget, which delayed receipt of $100,000 in funds earmarked for the purchase of new books and threatened the continuation of statewide contracts for databases. These funds were released in April 2015.

The Heart of Missouri United Way decided to no longer fund Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library in Columbia last year. This program provided a book every month to children from birth until age 5. The Columbia Public Library managed the mailing list for this program and assisted with sign-ups, while the Friends of the Columbia Public Library provided the funds for the first book in the program. At the time of its discontinuance, more than 4,600 children were enrolled in the program.

New Digital Services
In 2014, the library added digital movies, TV shows, music and more audiobooks to our online offerings through a service called Hoopla. Now patrons in Boone and Callaway Counties can borrow and play more than 10,000 titles on computers or mobile devices.

We added a new online reading resource to our digital branch: StarWalk Kids Media, a repository of over 500 eBooks for children.

Simon & Schuster Inc. finally agreed to sell eBooks to libraries in 2014, the last of the major five book publishers to do so. This means we can now offer eBooks by popular authors like Stephen King, Cassandra Clare and John Connolly.

With Conde Nast Publications’ decision to make more of its magazines available through our digital magazine provider Zinio, we can now offer digital versions of popular magazines like Architectural Digest, Bon Appétit, The New Yorker and Vanity Fair. We currently offer 128 magazine titles.

READING PROGRAMS

Summer Reading
We offered activities and events for all ages as part of 2014’s “Summer of Science” Summer Reading theme. With the inclusion of high school students in the Books by Snail program, we saw a nice increase in participation. We saw decreases for other Summer Reading registrations, except for teens, in Ashland, Columbia and Fulton. Among children ages birth to 5, 1,370 registered; in the 5-12 age group, 2,431 participated; 412 teens signed up; and 327 adults participated.

One Read
For the third time in the 13-year history of One Read, the public selected a nonfiction title for the community to read. “The Boys in the Boat” by Daniel James Brown proved popular and the programs related to the book drew 1,557 to the 31 programs held during September.

OTHER 2014 HIGHLIGHTS
Library staff planned and hosted the Missouri Library Association’s annual conference. Librarians Lauren Williams and Angela Scott co-chaired the event, which attracted 372 attendees. Retired Southern Boone County Public Library manager Karen Neely received the Meritorious Achievement Award.

We hired ETC Institute in Kansas City to conduct a community survey, as we did in 2007 and 2011. We received 1,270 completed surveys from those living in our three library districts. We’ll use the reports, some of which are ready now, to evaluate our services and guide us in our strategic planning.

We upgraded the software for our 12-year-old region-wide phone system.

Our libraries continue to be Health Insurance Marketplace enrollment locations.
COLUMBIA PUBLIC LIBRARY

Special Exhibits and Displays

A special exhibit of photos representing Missouri immigrants was displayed at the Columbia Public Library in April, curated by Danny Gonzalez of the Missouri Historical Society and sponsored by the City of Columbia’s Human Rights Commission and Missouri Immigrant & Refugee Advocates. Additional support came from the Missouri Arts Council, the Missouri History Museum, the Missouri Humanities Council, the Puffin Foundation, the State Historical Society, the Regional Arts Commission of St. Louis and Welcoming Missouri.

The elaborate Edna Tracy dollhouse has been on display in the Columbia children’s area since last year. It is on loan from the Boone County Historical Society through spring 2015.

In September and October, the library partnered with MU Libraries to sponsor programs in conjunction with the traveling exhibit “Lincoln: The Constitution and the Civil War,” on display at the MU Law Library.

Building and Equipment Upgrades

After 12 years of use, the Columbia Public Library’s carpet was fraying, faded and worn through in spots. We began the replacement process in February and completed it in May, doing the work a section at a time to allow patrons to continue using the library. All areas of the public and staff sides were re-carpeted, except for the Virginia G. Young Room and the back stairwell. Even though some of the collections and computers were unavailable during the process, and even the lobby was closed for several days, both staff and patrons remained in good humor. The local firm Professional Contractors & Engineers was the general contractor for the project.

Since we had to move furniture around anyway, we took the opportunity to make some changes and improvements. We replaced the public Internet computers on the second floor, added lighting and shades in the lobby and installed new self-service check-out stations in the lobby, the children’s area and on the second floor.

We changed the public access on the first floor to allow us to convert our mail room into a technology training space called the Studio (it opened in 2015). We also added a new seating area in the new books section and new fun furniture for older kids between the children’s and teen areas.

We also did some exterior repairs at the Columbia library, including replacing the concrete of the north plaza, resealing the north parking lot, replacing security lights and replacing one of two cooling towers on top of the building.

We added a “Petal Bench” to the children’s “Read, Play, Shine” area, thanks to funding from the Friends of the Columbia Public Library. It helps children learn the alphabet with a set of embedded objects that correspond to the ABCs.

The public computers in Columbia were modified to accept CAC readers, which active-duty military personnel can use to access online military training.

In June 2014, we installed a book drop in the north parking lot as a way to ease traffic flow through the south lot. The book drop was damaged by a motorist backing into it, and we then opted to put the replacement book drop in the Lucky’s Market parking lot in October.

Partnerships

The Columbia library continued to host free tax preparation services from AARP volunteers. In 2014, 3,310 federal and state returns were filed here. The library was the busiest site out of 114 such sites in Missouri.

We established a partnership with REDI (Regional Economic Development Incorporated) and the Small Business Technology Development Center to provide reference, training and data support.

The Columbia Public Library received the Toastmasters International District 8, Division E Communication Achievement Award for co-sponsoring quarterly workshops for the last four years. The award recognizes an organization that has made extraordinary contributions to communication and leadership excellence.

2014 Operating Revenue: $10,095,919

Library Materials 15%
Capital Outlay 13.5%
Salaries & Benefits 52.6%
Building Operations & Maintenance 12.6%
General Operating 6.3%

93.9% Property Taxes
1.8% Investment Income
1.8% Other
1.4% Contributions
1.1% State Aid

These revenue and expenditure charts represent operating funds only and do not include the Debt Service Fund that is used to pay off bonds used to construct the new Columbia Public Library.

2014 Operating Expenditures: $10,578,987
STAFF NOTES

Idenia Thornton, who works in the library’s Technical Services department, celebrated 45 years at DBRL and is still counting.

After 19 years at DBRL, librarian Sally Abromovich retired. She was one of the founding One Read co-chairs and was our regional adult fiction selector.

CALLAWAY COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

In May, the Callaway County Public Library joined other organizations, including Fulton State Hospital library, to recognize Mental Health Month. Winning artwork from the 2013 poster contest sponsored by the Missouri Department of Mental Health was displayed at the library, and we held a “Managing Your Mental Health” program for the public.

The library partnered with Callaway County to encourage sign-ups for the Citizen Alert system. Later in the year, the library worked with the Callaway County Conservation Office to offer programs like “Tips for Deer Season.”

Money from the DBRL Foundation’s Freiberger Fund enabled the Callaway library to purchase a large wooden dollhouse on a mobile base. It includes doll furniture and figures appropriate for creative play by young children.

SOUTHERN BOONE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

After working for the library system for nearly 45 years, Karen Neely retired in May, 2014. She began her career working on the bookmobile and later became our Outreach Manager as well as managing the Southern Boone County Public Library in Ashland.

Librarian Ronda Mitchell assumed the Southern Boone manager position in June, 2014. During her 21 years with the library, Ronda has worked in Circulation in Columbia, in reference at the Fulton library and then in Technical Services. She also oversaw the first Library-To-Go in Hallsville.

Thanks to a generous donation from Boone Electric, we were able to expand the interactive learning options for young children at the Ashland library. We added a big books and game kits for check-out, a mobile play kitchen, a puppet theater and a hands-on wooden activity center.

The Southern Boone County Public Library received three awards last year: the Community Partnership Award from the Girl Scouts, the Eagle Award from the Southern Boone Economic Development Council and Community Member of the Month from Southern Boone Middle School.

To make it easier for those with mobility issues to get into the building, we installed power-assist buttons to the main entrance of this library.

LIBRARIES & BOOKMOBILE STOPS

Established in 1959, the Daniel Boone Regional Library serves three library districts: Boone County, Callaway County and the City of Columbia. The Columbia Public Library is the largest library and serves as the regional headquarters. DBRL also operates the Callaway County Public Library in Fulton and the Southern Boone County Public Library in Ashland.

Located in Columbia, the Outreach Department operates two bookmobiles and serves numerous community organizations, retirement homes, etc. In 2014, the bookmobile served six towns: Auxvasse, Columbia, Hallsville, Harrisburg, Holts Summit and Sturgeon. The smaller Bookmobile, Jr. makes stops around Columbia in the Bear Creek, Blind Boone and Columbia Square neighborhoods and at Lunch in the Park during the summer, as well as visiting licensed child care centers in areas without a library building.

LIBRARY GOVERNANCE

The Daniel Boone Regional Library is governed by the DBRL Board of Trustees, which consists of 19 volunteers. As outlined in state statute, city library districts have nine members appointed by the mayor; trustees can serve up to three, three-year terms. County library district boards have five members appointed by their respective commissioners and serve four-year terms with no limit. A contract binds our three member library districts into a regional library system.

The DBRL board makes all library policy and budget decisions. Daniel Boone Regional Library’s fiscal year runs January-December. We are funded primarily through property tax income. State aid, interest income, grants, bequests and donations, and copier/printer income make up the rest of our revenue. Melissa Carr has served as the regional director for 18 years and worked for the library for 42 years. The director oversees the day-to-day library operations and the staff.

DBRL Board of Trustees as of December 31, 2014
Officers President Tonya Hays-Martin, Vice President/Secretary Philip Harrison, Warrant Officer Susan Daly
Boone County Library District Board of Trustees
President Dorothy Carner, Angie Crumbliss, Susan Daly, Patricia Powell, Bill Young
Callaway County Library District Board of Trustees
President Michael Luebbert, Mary Fennel, Tonya Hays-Martin, Terry K. Higgins
Columbia Library District Board of Trustees
President Julie Baka, John French, Lisa Groshong, Philip Harrison, Lynn Hostetler, Jim Jones, Gena Scott, Darel Schmick, Mary Ellen Sievert

Callaway County Public Library
710 Court St., Fulton, MO 65251, (573) 642-7261, TTY 642-0662

Columbia Public Library
100 W. Broadway, Columbia, MO 65203
(573) 443-3161, TTY (573) 443-6027, 1-800-324-4806

Southern Boone County Public Library
109 N. Main St., Ashland, MO 65010, (573) 657-7378

Bookmobile & Outreach Department
P.O. Box 1267, Columbia, MO 65205, 1-800-324-4806