



September Reports

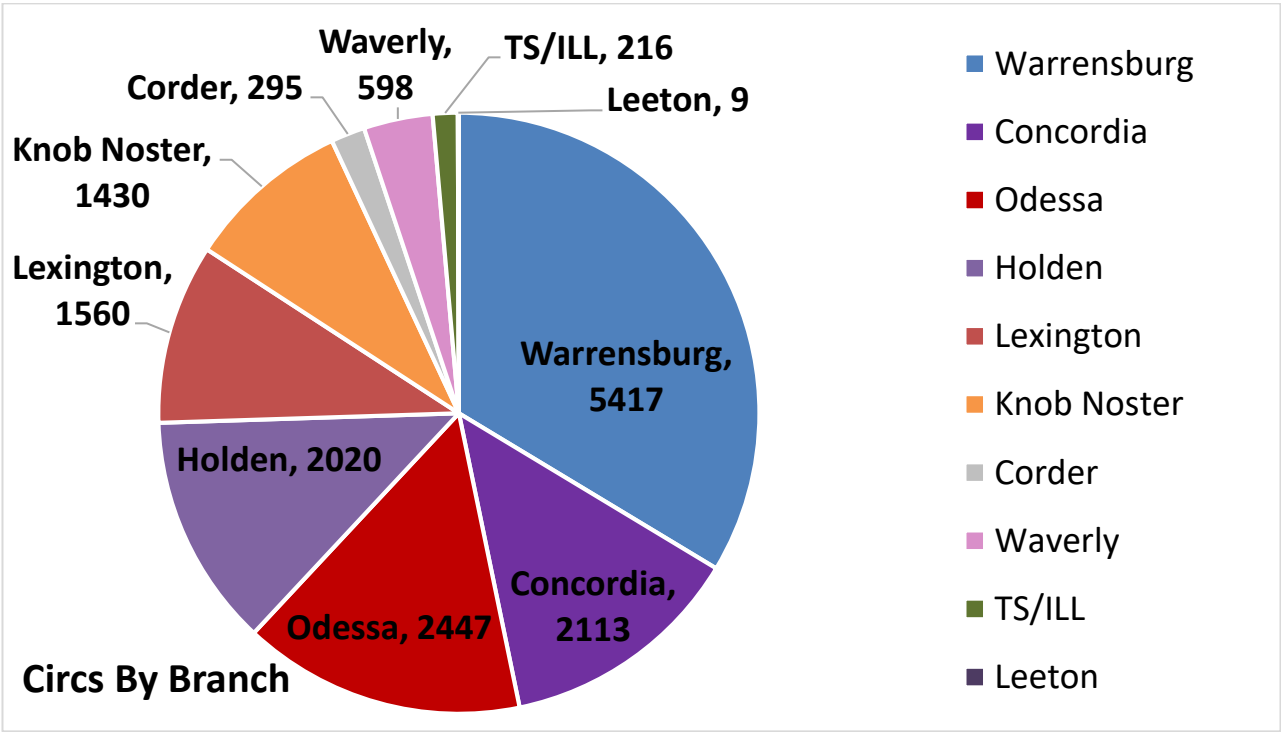
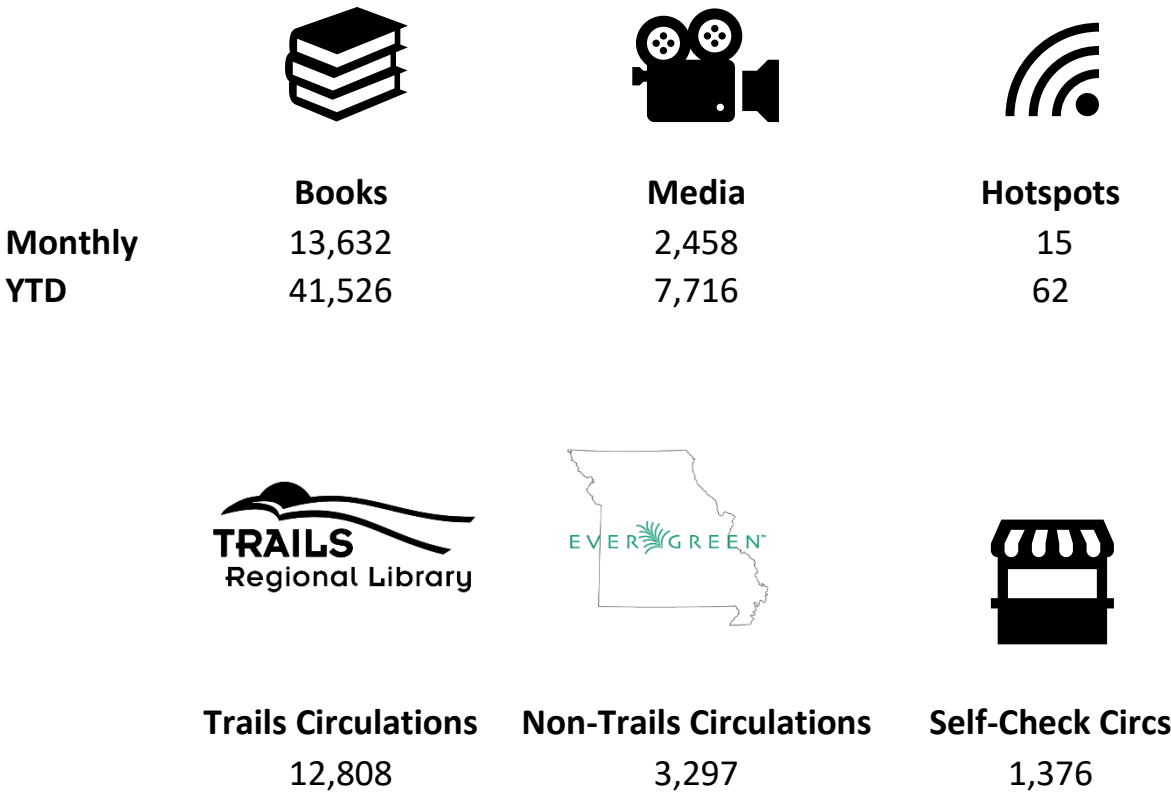
Presented to the Board October 2026

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Circulation, Physical Materials

September
Circulations



Circulation, Digital Materials



	eBooks	eAudio	Video	Music
Month	577	2,129	256	24
YTD	1,661	6,434	806	120

What is it?

Cost-per-circ, no wait times, smaller collection, max 10 check-outs per month



	eBooks	eAudio	Magazines
Month	1,719	1,781	539
YTD	5,260	5,790	1,626

What is it?

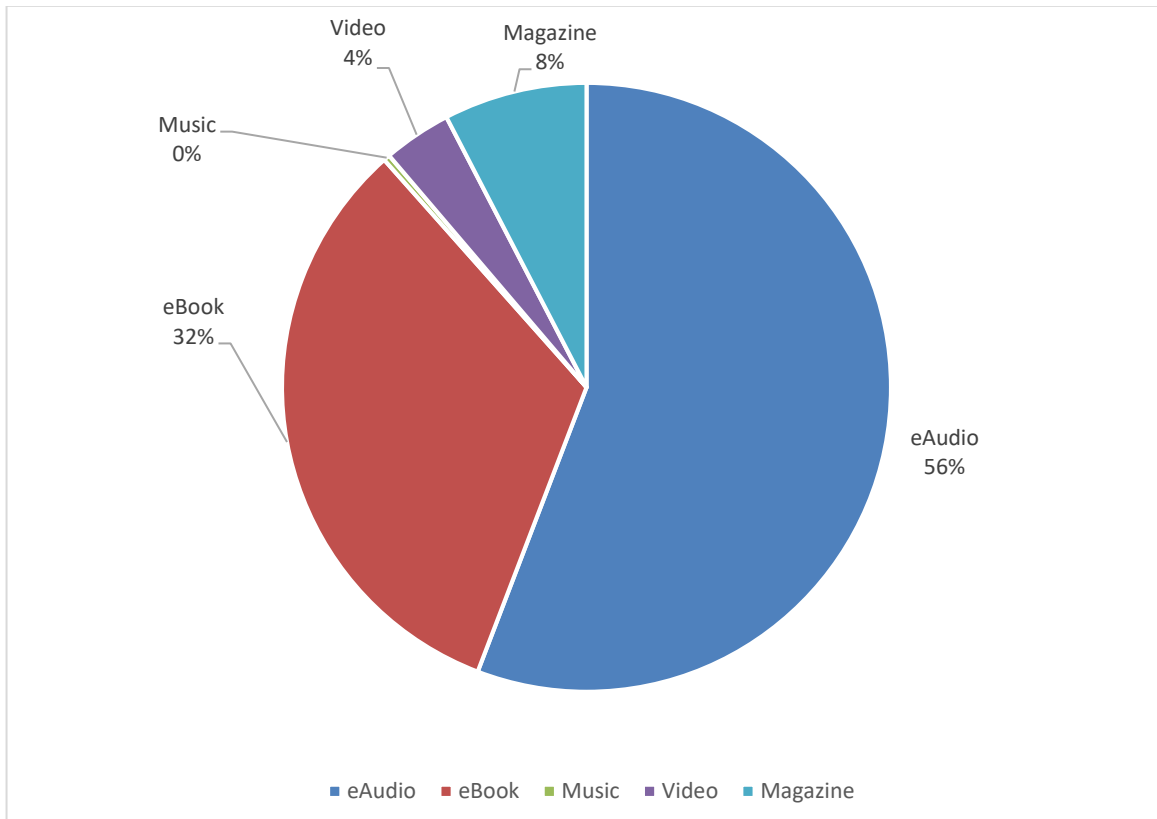
Consortium funding, more \$ per title, Kindle-compatible



	eBooks	eAudio
Month	13	42
YTD	41	140

What is it?

Annual subscription for curated collection.



Usage, Computer & WIFI Internet Access:

Computers:

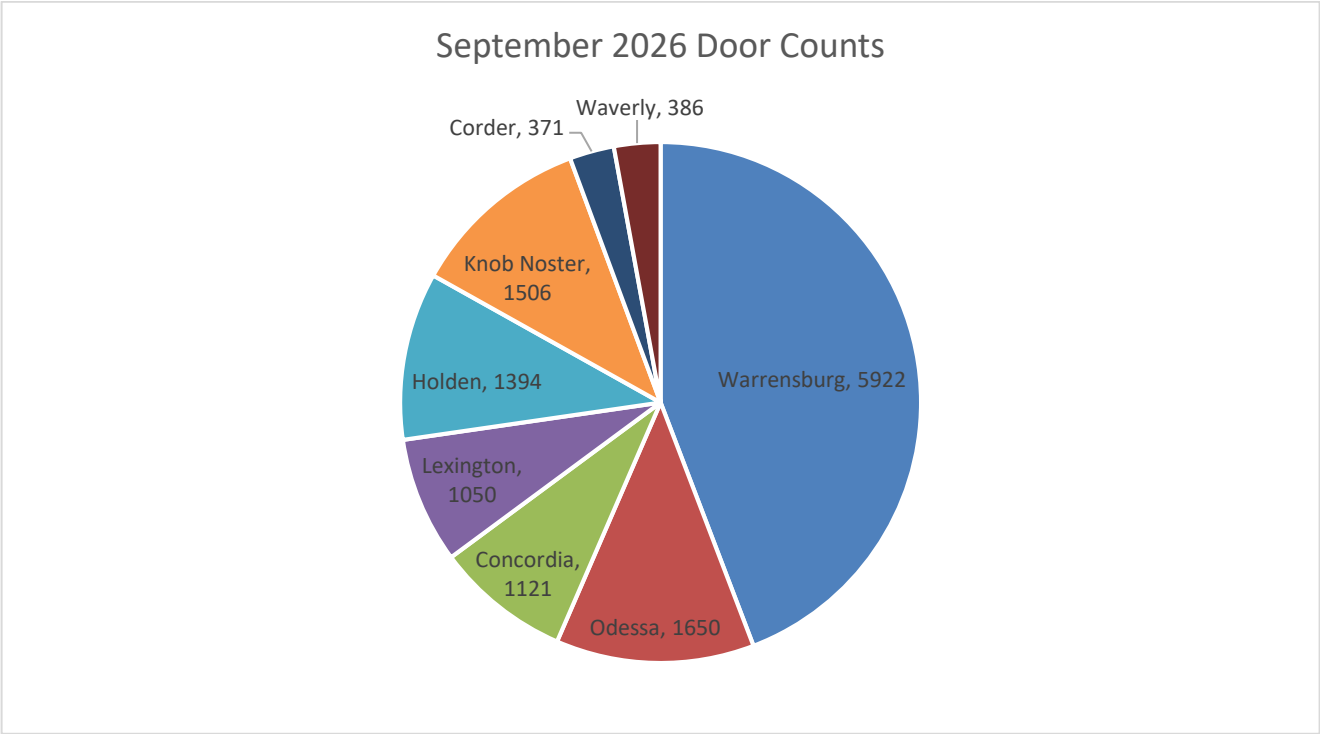
District: Current Month	
September	Total
2026	1,040
2025	1,178
2024	1,288
2023	995
2022	1,043
District: Year to Date	
FY 2026	9,917
FY 2025	8,879
FY 2024	8,941
FY 2023	8,214
FY 2022	7,719

WIFI:

District: Current Month	
September	Total
2026	*16,612
2025	1,423
2024	1,565
2023	1,292
2022	1,052
District: Year to Date	
FY 2026	*150,859
FY 2025	18,445
FY 2024	15,312
FY 2023	16,766
FY 2022	4,933

*Previous tracking was unique usage count. State wants total usage count, so moving forward the numbers will be significantly higher and more accurate to true usage.

Usage, Door Counters:



Collections

September

135811

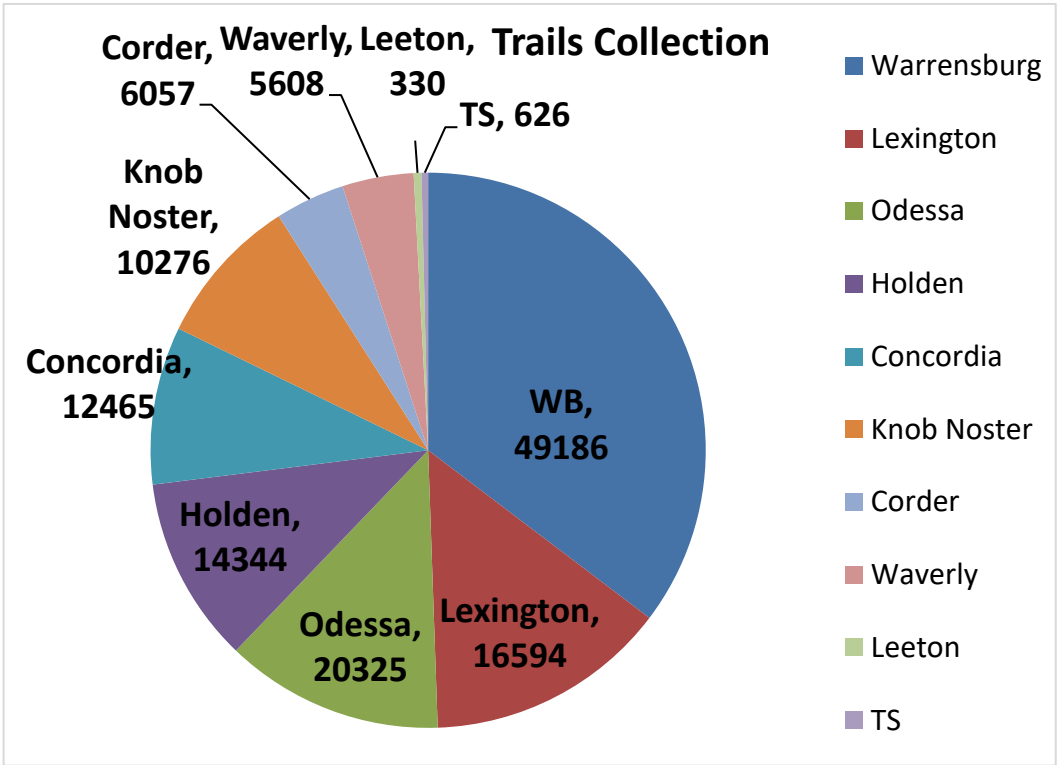
Total Collection

1035

Added

3570

Removed



Director's Report

Director: Jackie Hawes:

Seems like the days just keep flying by! I'm not sure how we're already in October! September started with me attending a Special Districts Legislative Roundtable which was hosted by Little Dixie Regional Library in Moberly, MO. This was a 2-hour discussion with other special district leaders and legislators to address common policy issues. This was the final roundtable in a series of 18. After the series of roundtables were completed, the MO Special Districts Association's Legislative Affairs Committee has set priorities for direct lobbying and advocacy on behalf of special districts. The following are the key priorities (not all specifically relate directly to TRL):

1. Addressing special district impacts for property tax credits, like the SB 190 senior property tax credit or SB 3's freeze/cap (which still stands, as of now), and property tax abatements, such as with Chapter 100 (Industrial Development Bonds) or Chapter 353 (Urban Redevelopment).
2. Static language to exclude special districts from potentially harmful policy proposals.
3. Protecting special district services through municipal annexation.

In addition, the MoSDA will continue ongoing advocacy to educate state lawmakers and agencies on what special districts are (and are not), especially with nearly 40 percent turnover in the State Capitol next year. The Legislative Affairs Committee will also continue advocating in support of a balanced fix for under-assessment and to ensure property is accurately classified; supporting practical solutions for Mo Healthnet (Medicaid) funding, and supporting initiatives to diversify special districts' funding options in statute (such as this year's efforts to allow library districts, senior citizen boards, and SB 40 board to ask voters to impose a local sales tax).

Over the Labor Holiday weekend, my sisters and I had our annual Sisters Weekend at my house. We had a wonderful time! Then, one of my sisters stayed with me for 2 weeks to assist with repairs, cleanup, etc at my house. During this time, I worked part time from home in order to not get too far behind while my sister was visiting.

On the 10th, I was interviewed by a UCM LIS student about my role as a public library director. I also attended a webinar on Understanding Poverty. On the 15th, we had our 1st of 2 Strategic Planning Long Range Planning Committee meetings. We had a great brainstorming session on 2 of our 5 Vision Priority Categories. On the 16th, I visited with the WB staff prior to the Board meeting later that evening. On the 22nd, 24th, & 29th, I attended site visits with Navigate Building Solutions as they begin working on our facilities assessment. We should have our first follow up meeting with Navigate in early October. On the 23rd, I attended a webinar on Mastering Difficult Conversations and a meeting with a potential lobbyist, Cole Arreola-Karr, for libraries that are interested. I will be bringing additional information to the TRL Board of Trustees at the October meeting regarding the possibility of hiring a lobbyist as part of this group for the upcoming legislative session.

Assistant Director: Susan Kromrie

I should really cease to be surprised at how fast the time is going. September for me felt like a very scattered month. I think it was having too many things starting at once. I met with a

Statistical Reports

manager to try to improve their performance, but unfortunately, it was not enough and they resigned. I also did some successful interviewing for the Corder programmer position and some unsuccessful interviewing for the Knob Noster custodian position.

I have been working with TrustCentric to coordinate dates and times for our community forums, as well as just meetings to touch base. We had our two Sounding Board meetings where we got quite a lot of good input for our strategic planning process. Cory Scheer will be joining our next all-staff day to get some more staff input for the process.

I went along with Navigate for some of their facility visits, but had other commitments and couldn't make it to all of them. I felt that they did a good job of digging into what the branches might need. I also started some coaching with Brandy Sanchez which is always helpful. We are going to be working on ways to make branch visits and follow-up more productive. Amongst all this my husband had a minor heart procedure and we took a couple of days off to visit some of the kids and grandkids.

Department Reports:

Human Resources: Tessa Moulton

September has been busy with UKG meetings, testing, and fixes. I met with the two UKG builders to get the Performance, Recruitment, and Compensation modules finished. We have signed off on the Recruitment module and have been able to repost the Holden and Knob Noster custodian positions through the UKG Career Portal on Monday, September 28, 2026. Now applicants will use our career portal to apply for positions. There will no longer be the Quick Apply through Indeed; however, all managers involved in the hiring will be able to access applications as soon as they enter the system. This will remove the extra waste of printing applications and resumes and the extra time of waiting until the end of the priority date for the applications to be reviewed. The recruitment module has an added bonus of allowing the applicants who are invited to interview the ability to schedule an interview within the time frame given. Plus, the interview questions are located within the system, so answers can be typed, saved, and stored within UKG. This system should streamline the hiring process to help everyone involved. I will have to do some training on the system since we have managers who will have to use the system. Once the managers learn about the capabilities I think they will like it.

UKG has the Performance module almost ready to sign off on next week. I meet with the builder to assign all of the employees a Performance Review on Tuesday, and we should be ready to use that piece soon also. The Performance module also has the 6-month review included as a sub category, and all of the reviews will be automatically sent a month in advance. The Performance Reviews have the same parts and pieces as the paper version; however, everything is digital, so there will not be the lag-time in sending the paper copies around to everyone. Plus, the performance reviews will be digitally stored for easy reference at any time. The goals can be monitored by employees and their managers and notes and updates can be added at any time. The goals then can be revisited during annual reviews to determine if they were completed or need to be continued. I am hopeful that we will cut back on the paper waste and allow everyone easier access to information. The only question I have remaining concerning the goals is to see if it is possible to have the goals feed into each employees' dashboard so they are visible without having to search.

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Trails has received two resignations and hired three people. The two resignations in September are Matt Kelsey, Warrensburg Branch Manager, and Emily Luebrecht, TS Clerk I and the three hires are Stephanie Hyde, Corder Branch Part-time Library Clerk II, Victoria Zarillo, Warrensburg Branch Part-time Evening Custodian, and Christina Meyer, Warrensburg Branch Part-time Morning Custodian. The Warrensburg Branch Manager position has been posted on UKG with the custodian positions for KN & HD. The TS Clerk I position will be posted as soon as Anita Love returns from her days off. During the interim, Amy Franklin has graciously accepted the position as Interim Branch Manager to help keep the branch running. Having someone in the branch who can answer the day-to-day operation questions is important and keeps consistency for patrons and staff. We appreciate her willingness to work in this capacity even though programming is where her passion is! Stephanie Hyde was able to start Wednesday, September 23, 2026, was able to watch Storytime on that day and has been learning everything quickly since Megan will be gone a week in October to MLA. Victoria Zarillo started on Tuesday, September 29, 2026. Corey Todd has been completing the custodial responsibilities for the Warrensburg Branch, and they have generously accepted responsibility in training the new custodial staff members. Corey has done a fabulous job while we have been without a custodian, and Corey has been doing a very thorough job at getting Victoria ready for her responsibilities. Christina Meyer is starting on Monday, October 5, and Corey is also going to train Christina on that day also, so I am sure she will receive all of the information needed to complete the job well.

A big area of frustration I had in September is the invoice we received from UKG. We were supposed to have paid for the next 12-month's service. The invoice consisted of another year of the modules; however, we have not finished completing all of the modules that we paid for 12 months ago. I received the bill on September 3, 2026, contacted UKG and had not heard anything again for two weeks. I was not getting any responses concerning my questions (Why are we being charged for another year when we don't have all of our modules up and running? Why are we getting the invoice with such a quick turn around?); they sent me several emails stating that the invoice was correct. I finally had a phone conversation with Tim Marsh, Director of Public Sector Sales, on September 16, 2026, but didn't hear anything again for two weeks. I contacted Tim again on Monday, September 28, 2026, and now I have a phone call scheduled for Monday, October 5 concerning the invoice. We shall see what UKG is going to do to make the situation right.

Support Services: Obie Halle

September was a busy month! With HVAC troubles, electrical issues, and a few unusual happenings - our team had to be pretty flexible and I am proud of how we kept the operations smooth. A few computers were replaced with existing stock, the replaced computers will be repurposed after repairs. Progress was made on print servers so every branch can track daily and monthly print transactions, new commercial vacuums were supplied to the Warrensburg and Odessa branches, Annex operational setup was improved in preparations for All Staff Training and winter projects. We have initial proposals from our roofing contractor to tackle pre-winter repairs.

Facilities and capital projects

- Completed the Waverly parking-lot improvement, including final striping and closeout.
- Following Board approval, advanced the Lexington and Waverly HVAC replacements into contract execution, measurement, and scheduling.
- Completed automatic-door inspections at all branches through DH Pace. Minor repairs and adjustments may now be completed within a \$400 not-to-exceed limit, with quotes pending for larger replacements and installations.

Technology and security

- Completed a systemwide repair and validation of door-count reporting across all eight branches, restoring reliable daily, monthly, and hourly attendance reporting.
- Completed systemwide Action1 patch-management deployment and additional security improvements, including MOREnet nameserver updates, shared-drive permission corrections, and creation of an Admin-Only Archive.
- Ordered ten Mobile Beacon hotspots for circulation through Technical Services, adding mobile internet resources for both staff and patron use.
- Acquired two replacement toilets for the Knob Noster branch and had Beerman adjust the flanges for secure seating.
- Replaced a failed HVAC RTU compressor in Warrensburg.
- Responded to Warrensburg patron vehicle incident immediately, had the area cleaned up within an hour and kept everything cordoned off for safety prior to window inspection.

October has MLA, more Navigate and Trustcentric meetings, and planned repairs and inspections so we can continue progressing work orders. Looking forward to it!

Technical Services: Anita Love

The TS team went out to Knob Noster and Concordia to weed their entire collections. September 11th and 14th we were in Knob Noster and September 10th, 21st and 22nd the team worked in Concordia. The team didn't have time to do any shifting to equal out shelf space but branch staff were more than happy to do that job. In the Concordia branch we did adjust two small ranges of double-sided short shelving to aid the staff's line of sight. The reconfiguration seems to be working well for the staff.

Our next step will be having the TS team go back out to physically measure the collections and then try to figure out other ways to lay out the collection. Both branches need more shelf space for large type and less shelf space for adult non-fiction. It becomes quite a puzzle to figure out how our space can best be utilized. Naturally, branch staff do have input on how they would like to see the branch arranged.

Unfortunately, we did not get to the project of weeding picture books, J fiction and J non-fiction plus graphic novels in the other 6 branches. We are now looking at pushing that project into October.

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Near the end of September, I put my HR hat back on and sat in on the interviews for the two Warrensburg part-time custodial positions. I worked alongside the branch manager on this project.

At the end of September, I had my last Aspen training. We will be going live to the public in October. More information will be forthcoming.

On a sad note, Emily Luebrecht who has been with us for 3 wonderful years as our Technical Services Clerk has resigned. Her last day will be October 9, 2026. Emily has been a wonderful asset to the TS team and she will be greatly missed. We wish her all the best in her future endeavors

Public Services: Catie McLaughlin

September has been a busy month with finishing up all the reports that go hand in hand with Summer Reading. Thankfully, we have completed all of those! Debbie survived her first round of helping with program approvals. It took us longer than normal, but everyone was kind and understanding and we are thankful to have it behind us. We had our programmer's meeting at the beginning of September. Programmers were introduced to our new tablets, Spheros, and Ozobots. Everyone had a great time learning and experimenting together and exploring programming ideas for the upcoming season. We had discussions with the managers and programmers regarding programmer meetings and we will be adjusting our schedule moving forward to ensure that programmers have the support and training they need prior to seasonal due dates for program planning.

With Summer 2026 in our rearview, we are getting ready to start looking at Summer of 2027! Whew, it feels like we barely get to take a breath and then we are back at it again. Programmers are registered for upcoming training for Summer '27 provided by the Missouri State Library. We are excited for some of our newer programmers to get to experience the fun of these workshops. We are also gearing up for our MLA conference where we will be on the lookout for our next year's performers.

October is already shaping up to be another busy month. Debbie also attended a virtual webinar about Physical Literacy programming. Finally, we are excited for Haley's return on October 1st.

Branch Reports:

Concordia: Jennie Parks

Type of program	Name of Program	Age group	Number attending/ using
Program	Storytime	0-5	119
Program	Book Club	19+	7
Program	STEAM Day	6-12	6
Program	Low Key Teen Takeover	13-18	9
Passive	Coloring Sheets	All Ages	142
Passive	Scavenger Hunt	All Ages	32

Statistical Reports

Outreach activities completed:

- Sept 10- Jennie at Concordia Middle and High School. Shared with 7-9th graders about library resources during their English class.
- Sept 16- Jennie at St. Paul's. Read with a class of 9th grade girls. The teacher is having guests from the community come in each week to read a chapter of their book.

New cards issued: 16

Meeting room usage: N/A

Reference Questions: 247

Other Questions: 134

Highlight:

- Jennie enjoyed visiting both schools and building relationships with the teachers and students.
- Staff and patrons are appreciating the new hours of operation.

Staff cheer:

- Anita and the TS team did a wonderful job weeding! They also rotated the two shelves in the children's area in order for the staff to have improved line of sight in that section. Staff appreciates their hard work. Patrons have also commented at how it has opened up the space and looks nice.
- It's been wonderful to see the hard work that is being placed into Navigate and TrustCentric. The staff and community are working diligently to create a vision and a plan.

Upcoming Outreach:

None

Corder: Megan Brunner

Type of program	Name of Program	Age group	Number attending/ using
Program	Storytime (x4)	0-5	6
Program	Monday Melodies (x4)	0-5	0
Program	Book Club	19+	3
Program	Yoga Fridays (x4)	19+	14
Program	S.T.E.A.M. Team	6-12	8
Program	Teen Movie Night	13-18	0
Passive	Coloring Sheets	All Ages	5
Passive	Take & Makes	All Ages	3

Outreach activities completed: 0

New cards issued: 7

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Meeting room usage: N/A

Reference Questions: 82

Other Questions: 98

Highlight:

- Trails hired a new programmer, Stephanie Hyde. She started at the end of September but we are very happy to be back up to a 2-man operation.

Staff cheer:

- Stephanie is doing a great job diving into her new role as our branch programmer. She has a go-getter spirit that is the perfect addition to our family here.

Upcoming Outreach:

-

Holden: Barbara Bancroft

Type of program	Name of Program	Age group	Number attending/ using
Program	Storytime (x4)	0-5	110
Program	Book Club	19+	3
Program	Spy School	6-12	15
Program	Tuesday Tech Talk	19+	2
Program	Cartoon and Pancakes	All Ages	23
Program	Makes Gonna Make	19+	10
Program	After School Hangout	13-18	0
Program	Ready Set Grow	0-5	0
Passive	Coloring Sheets	All Ages	65
Passive	Third Space	All Ages	60
Passive	Take & Makes	All Ages	12
Passive	Question of the Day	All Ages	150

Outreach activities completed:

- Two private schools have started their library times for their students to check out books.

New cards issued: 50

Meeting room usage: 28

Reference Questions: 116

Other Questions: 79

Highlight:

- Our first spy school was very successful and the kids really enjoyed it. They have been keeping track of when the next spy school is scheduled.

Staff cheer:

- Mike has really stepped up helping with all of the custodial duties.

Upcoming Outreach:

- Will be taking Wolfner library pamphlets and Trails library card applications to local adult care institutions.

Knob Noster: Lauren Sweeney

Type of program	Name of Program	Age group	Number attending/ using
District Program	Library Card Sign-Up Month	All Ages	30
Program	Storytime x4	0-5	100
Program	Brick Builders	All Ages	14
Program	Edible Stamping x2	0-5	32
Program	Coffee & Company	55+	3
Program	Move & Groove	0-5	11
Program	Pickle Autopsy	6-12	14
Program	Story Strollers	19+	0
Program	Storytime Goes Wild	All Ages	14
Program	Fakémon	13-18	20
Program	Book Club	19+	9
Program	Bad Art Afternoon	6-12	11
Passive	Seed Library	19+	9
Passive	Early Literacy Toys & Puzzles	0-5	128
Passive	Scavenger Hunt	All Ages	34
Passive	Word of the Week	6-12	13
Passive	Stick Together Poster	All Ages	28
Passive	Coloring Sheets & Activity Pages	0-5	114
Passive	This or That?	All Ages	224
Passive	Share Your Opinion	All Ages	47
Passive	Junior Detectives	6-12	16
Take & Make	Fakemon	All Ages	4

Outreach activities completed:

- Spirit Trails program in partnership with the Spirit Trail Coalition.
- MCVAA Headstart Storytime x2 – 29 participants
- Shared flyers to community Facebook groups.

New cards issued: 30

Meeting room usage: 21

Reference Questions: 248

Other Questions: 561

Highlight: The highlight of our month was the Pickle Autopsy program. Getting to teach critical thinking skills and play pretend with patrons is a small part of what makes our jobs so special.

Statistical Reports

Staff Cheer: I would like to send my thanks to Catie in Public Services for all of her help with the Spirit Trails program!

Upcoming Outreach:

- MCVAA Headstart Storytime x2,
- Hallowfest at the Knob Noster State Park October 17th.

Lexington: Barbara Seitter

Type of program	Name of Program	Age group	Number attending/using
program	Story Time x 4	0-5	48
program	Kids Club	6-12	5
program	Brick by Brick	Family-all	8
program	Tech Tuesday	18+	6
program	Book Club	18+	3
program	10 Warning Signs of Alzheimer's	18+	0
Passive	Color sheets	0-5, 6-12	49
Passive	Tune in to Trails	6-12	6
Passive	Piece by Piece	all	9
Passive	Semiquincentennial	all	4

Outreach activities completed: 1

New cards issued: 33

Meeting room usage:19

Reference Questions: 707

Other Questions: 154

Highlight: Foundation volunteers have been working on the book sale room preparing for an October sale. It's looking great!

Upcoming Outreach: Working with community businesses to distribute 200 books to Leslie Elementary school kids before Thanksgiving.

Odessa: Kendra Redden

Type of program	Name of Program	Age group	Number attending/using
Program	Storytime (Wednesday x5)	0-5	58
Program	Storytime (Thursday x4)	0-5	57
Program	Sit & Get Fit x2	19+	6
Program	Set Phasers to Stunning	19+	0
Program	Scribble Squad	13-17	2
Program	Breakflix	0+	5
Program	Love is and Open Book	19+	5
Program	Genealogy 101	19+	15
Program	Gamer's Afternoon	13-17	0
Program	Jr. S.T.E.A.M Lab	6-12	4

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Program	Book Lover's Book Club	19+	4
Program	Medieval Texting	6-12	10
Program	S.T.E.A.M. Lab	6-12	5
Program	Here to Skein, Yarn Tomorrow	19+	2
Passive	Coloring/Activity Sheets	0+	47
Passive	Puzzle/Chess Set	0+	38
Passive	Library Card Sign Up Month Bag Give Away	0+	26

Outreach activities completed:

- Noelle Postlethwait and Stacy Simpson provided 15 kindergarten students at S.O.A.R. with a storytime and a craft.
- 45 children 0-5 at the Odessa R7 Child Care Center enjoyed storytime with Noelle Postlethwait and Stacy Simpson.
- Noelle Postlethwait and Kendra Redden facilitated the first two programs in an ongoing partnership with a new reading program at Odessa R7 School District designed to improve literacy and promote positive reading experiences. A total of 56 students toured the library, learned about library resources, and explored ways that literacy can show up in different forms by completing a variety of projects with Snap Circuits.

New cards issued: 35

Meeting room usage: 66

Reference Questions: 437

Other Questions: 292

Highlight:

- Odessa staff was excited to kick off fall programming at the branch and welcomed the opportunity to start visiting the schools again. We're happy to be back connecting with our community and students!

Staff cheer:

- I'm grateful to our administration and Board for investing in our library managers through coaching sessions with Brandy Sanchez from Soulfire. I appreciate their commitment to supporting our leaders, encouraging growth, and strengthening our teams.

Upcoming Outreach:

- **Cookies with Santa** on Saturday, December 5, 2026 from 1:00 to 3:00 pm. Odessa will have activity stations, cookie decorating, and Santa for all patrons to enjoy. We would love to have anyone who wants to help.

Warrensburg: Amy Franklin

Type of program	Name of Program	Age group	Number attending/ using
program	Storytime x8	0-5	226
program	Music & Movement x3	0-5	183
program	Wonder Club x4	6-12	37
program	Zumba x2	18+	12
program	Alzheimer's Info 10 Warning Signs	18+	0
Program	Vibe & Thrive x2	13-17	0
Program	Alzheimer's Info Brain Healthy Habits	18+	4
Program	R.E.D.	6-12	9
Program	Craftastic	19+	5
Program	Owl Prowl	Family/All Ages	13
Program	Cookbook Club	18+	3
Program	Crafty Family Fun	Family/All Ages	3
Program	Literary Antics	18+	0
Program	One-on-One Techtorials	18+	1
Passive	Would You Rather	All Ages	295
Passive	Maker Table	All Ages	105
Passive	Activity Sheets	All Ages	400
Passive	Scavenger Hunt	All Ages	70
Passive	Take-N-Makes	All Ages	18
Passive	Interactive Bulletin Boards	All Ages	65

Outreach activities completed:

- Get the Red Out – 9/3 with 372 participants
- Veteran's Home – 9/14 with 11 participants
- Martin Warren Title Night – 9/22 with 68 participants
- Community Connections Fair- 9/26 with 212 participants
- WB MS Library Visits – 9/30 3 classes with 68 participants

New cards issued: 186**Meeting room usage:** 18**Study Rooms:** 51**Reference Questions:** 780**Other Questions:** 1198**Highlight:** Two staff members have completed CPR Certification.**Staff cheer:** Corey has stepped up and completed custodial tasks for the branch and will be training the new hires.**Upcoming Outreach:**

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- Sixth grade reading classes are touring the branch with many signing up for new cards.
- Jae will be attending the Johnson county Inter Agency meeting on October 14.

Waverly: Amy Boland

Type of program	Name of Program	Age group	Number attending/using
Program	Sassy Seniors	55+	5
Program	Storytime	0-5	12
Program	Back to School Game Day	Family/All ages	4
Program	Chalk Painted Centerpiece	19+	0
Passive	Coloring & activity pages	everyone	14

Outreach activities completed:

New cards issued: 11

Meeting room usage: 0

Reference Questions: 41

Other Questions: 39

Highlight: We have had several highlights this month.

- First - we had our parking lot done and it looks wonderful!
- Malta Bend school has started coming back to check out books.
- We had 11 new patrons get cards for library sign up month.
- Beerman heating and cooling came to the rescue again during an outage. New air condition has been approved. Thank you!
- I met with Jackie for our branch visit.
- We also met with Navigate this month on building projects.
- New family coming to story time.

Staff cheer: All is well

Upcoming Outreach: Trick or Treat around the Trail for the Santa Fe Elementary school.

Leeton Express Branch: Deanna Schuler