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## Mobile Clinic Has Strong Start

By Sarah O'Daniel  
St. Clair Staff Writer

The Rural Parish Clinic, a free mobile clinic operating out of a 40-foot van, had a successful first visit to St. Clair Thursday, March 5, according to Pat Bira, the clinic's executive director.

"They had a very busy day," Bira told *The Missourian*.

### ■ Set Up at St. Clare Parish

The clinic is located behind the former St. Clare Catholic School at the St. Clare Catholic Church and is open every Thursday from 9 a.m. through 4 p.m.

The clinic offers free health care to uninsured adults ages 19 through

64, whose household income falls at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty level.

Bira said the clinic is an initiative of St. Louis Archbishop Robert Carlson to provide medical services to all needy uninsured.

A variety of primary care services are offered, including acute care for minor injuries, illnesses and infections, preventive care, psychiatric, gynecological and social services, as well as chronic disease treatment.

"Our goal is to provide primary health care and social services to the rural communities of the Archdiocese

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### Playing for Books

A large crowd showed up to play book bingo Monday, March 9, at the St. Clair branch of Scenic Regional Library.

All winners of book bingo received a book as a prize.

Sallie and Kevin Levart, right, enjoyed playing. Book bingo takes place every second Monday of the month at 11 a.m. *Missourian Photos.*



## Community Garden to Open Soon

### ■ Dedication March 21 At St. Clair Library

By Sarah O'Daniel  
St. Clair Staff Writer

The community garden at the Scenic Regional Library St. Clair branch will officially open Saturday, March 21, following a dedication ceremony at 10 a.m.

Speakers at the event will include Roger Bardot, president of the St. Clair Farmers' Market; Kevin Levart, vice president of the St. Clair branch Friends of the Library; Paula Dace, master gardener and member-at-large of the St. Clair branch Friends of the Library committee; and Kara Bell, branch manager.

The dedication ceremony officially marks the beginning of the growing season for the garden.

#### Land Donation

In the spring of 2016, the St. Clair Farmers' Market expressed interest in the creation of a community garden. At that time, the library was in search of ideas for creating unique public spaces at its new facility and thought a community garden would be a great fit.

In the summer of 2016, First Baptist Church and United Methodist Church each donated one-tenth of an acre to the library for the purpose of constructing a community garden following the library's renovation. The newly renovated and expanded library opened August of 2018.

"I think it was a nice gesture on those churches' parts to think of something that would benefit the entire community when they made that donation," Bell said.

#### Friends of the Library

In 2019, the St. Clair branch Friends of the Library group agreed to take on the community garden project by providing both financial support and physical labor.

According to Bell, Dace directed construction of the garden and provided many hours of volunteer labor.

"She (Dace) provided a lot of the sweat equity and the leadership for the Friends on how to get the garden looking nice," stated Bell.

Local landscaper Cozy Bailey, owner of Cozy by Nature, and her mother, master gardener Caro-  
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## Plan Board OKs Changes

### ■ To Flood Insurance Rate Map

By Sarah O'Daniel  
St. Clair Staff Writer

The St. Clair Planning and Zoning Commission voted Monday night to approve the updated Franklin County flood insurance rate map (FIRM), and the new flood insurance study for the St. Clair community.

The commission board voted 4-0 to recommend approval to the board of aldermen. Commission members Wayne Dierker, Pat Wilson and Darin Slater were not present at the meeting.

A public hearing was held before the meeting, giving residents a chance to address the commission on the FIRM. No public comments were made.

According to St. Clair City Inspector Michael Bursey, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has updated its flood plain maps.

"Basically, we're incorporating that into our city ordinance to be approved," he said.

A letter sent to Mayor Ron Blum from FEMA

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## Residents Asked to Use Trash Bags

### ■ Trash Blowing in Wind

The city's code enforcement office has noticed a large amount of trash blowing in the wind and is urging residents to dispose of their waste using trash bags and not simply placing it in their trash containers.

City officials said trash not placed in bags is blowing away when Waste Connections workers empty the containers.

Guidelines to keep in mind are as follows:

- To ensure a clean and effective pickup, residents must have their residential toter at the

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### Community Garden to Open

The community garden at the St. Clair branch of Scenic Regional Library will officially open for growing season Saturday, March 21, following a dedication ceremony at 10 a.m. The garden still has beds available to be checked out. *Missourian Photo.*

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