

# for immediate release

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## NORTH CANTON PUBLIC LIBRARY LAUNCHES LIBRARY TO GO AND AN EPIC (DIGITAL) SUMMER

NORTH CANTON, Ohio (May 26, 2020) – Beginning Monday, June 1, 2020, the North Canton Public Library will launch two initiatives as it continues to phase in services: Library to Go and the Epic Summer of Giving.

### Library to Go

Library to Go will restore the North Canton Public Library's borrowing services to its community. Library users will be able to place holds on items either online or by phone. Items will be checked out, placed in sealed, opaque bags with the customer's name, and available for no-contact pickup at the Library. Additionally, Library to Go will make popular craft classes available. Customers will be able to pick up craft kits and complete projects from home with YouTube instruction from staff (registration required). Library to Go pickup hours will be Monday-Thursday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The Library continues to follow recommendations from government officials, health officials, the Ohio Library Council, and the REALM (Re-opening Archives, Libraries, and Museums) project while planning a responsible restart to operations. Library staff will stagger shifts, wear face coverings, maintain social distancing, wash hands, perform daily symptom assessments, and disinfect common areas. Returned items will be quarantined for seven days before they are made available to others.

"We have a team of staff members that has been working tirelessly to maintain library service since the library closed its building to the public March 17," said Library Director, Andrea Legg, who began employment with the North Canton Public Library April 13, 2020 amid the coronavirus crisis. "It's been an interesting time to take this next step in my career, to say the least, but I'm so proud of the work our library is doing to maintain and restore service to our community through this pandemic."

### Epic Summer of Giving and Celebration of Community

New for 2020, the Library will host its popular Epic Summer Reading Program digitally. Specially tailored for this time of social distancing, programming for June and July is filled with summer fun and activities to be done from home. Readers will register for challenges and track progress online with the Library's new program called Beanstack. Beanstack, which also offers an app, is very user friendly and makes it easy to participate in the Epic Summer Reading Club. Challenges are available for children, teens and adults. As readers log reading and complete activities, they'll earn digital tickets and enter to win one of many grand prizes when the summer reading program ends on July 31.

Making the so-called lemonade out of lemons, the Library is committed to safely inspiring kindness and positivity among its community and has rebranded this year's program its Epic Summer of Giving and Celebration of Community. To encourage the community to stay home and stay safe, the Library will not have its typical treasure chest and other small incentives to help encourage readers as they strive toward their reading goals. Instead, to help the community through this challenging time, the Friends of the Library will generously donate \$1000 to each the North Canton Cares Pantry and the Stark County Pet Food Pantry when a community reading goal of 500,000 minutes is reached (cumulatively by all ages).

As a key resource in the North Canton community, the Library believes its role during this very difficult time includes sharing information, supporting neighbors, assisting in community projects, and providing education and entertainment.

As plans for a responsible restart to operations are made, the health and safety of Library staff and the community remains the Library's top priority. Recommendations from government officials, local authorities, and health departments related to COVID-19 will continue to guide decisions over the coming weeks and months. The Library will continue to communicate its plans to restore services via its website at [ncantonlibrary.org](http://ncantonlibrary.org) and Facebook page, Instagram and Twitter accounts ([ncantonlibrary](https://www.facebook.com/ncantonlibrary)).

### About the North Canton Public Library

Founded in 1926, the North Canton Public Library has a vision to inspire the community to seek lifelong learning and enjoyment. The library strives to fulfill this vision by providing diverse, quality programs, services and resources for everyone, while supporting relationships that empower individuals to pursue enlightenment and enhance knowledge.

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