

The Carthage Public Library

July 30, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: A message from the Director

Due to the tremendous amount of water damage the Library endured on July 12, the Library is not safe to open fully to the public at this time. This event has deeply saddened us, and we are working very diligently with our contractor and the insurance company to try to get the building put back in an organized and safe manner as soon as we can. The heaviest damage was in our beautiful original Carnegie Library on the second floor which includes Reference, Genealogy, periodicals, and audio visuals, and in the basement which houses our community room, IT office and storage. Due to the age of the original building and its unique architecture, extremely careful measures for drying and repairing it are in place.

Thankfully, the Library was already in curb-side service mode due to precautions against the community spread of COVID-19. I couldn't be more proud of my staff, as they have pitched in and worked extremely hard to make safe, clean workspaces where they can actually provide some limited services curbside. They are answering the phones from 9-5 daily and 9-1 on Saturdays. Please call the Library for requests for materials or log on to your Carthage Public Library account to place requests online yourself. We are also able to offer you help with copies, faxes and emails just by calling the Library as well. We are not charging fines at this time, and we will let you know with plenty of time when those will begin again. Free WiFi is still available in our parking lot. We have had a wonderful Summer Reading Program despite the COVID-19 situation. Stay tuned for Ms. Sherri's invitation to come and pick up your rewards!

We have such wonderful friends of the library. We thank all of you who have called, emailed, stopped by to see if you could help, or to see if we needed anything. Carthage is full of such generous, caring people who love their library and want to see her ready to roll again! We promise, as soon as we can, we will have both the original library and the new Steadley Legacy Center open to the public.

Stay safe and check us out online or give us a call.

Julie Yockey, Director



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