ARNPRIOR PUBLIC LIBRARY * NEWSLETTER * JANUARY 2021

It's a fresh start to the year and the library is back to help you in any way we can.

2020 has taught us plenty. When our corner of the world went into lock-down in the spring, it became quite apparent the arts play a vital role in our daily lives - through literature, music and film; and the need for technology became paramount.

We learned new ways to deliver our library resources. The introduction of Curbside Service meant that we were able to circulate nearly 72,000 materials to our patrons over the last 12 months. As a community, we embraced technology. We're thrilled more than 1700 monthly users logged into our boosted free WiFi in the parking lot. More than 600 patrons regularly downloaded eBooks and eAudio books. Digital borrowing - including free movie streaming - soared by 63% - new records for our library! You can browse all of our online resources through our <u>Virtual Library</u> If you need assistance with ANY of our digital platforms, just let us know by completing <u>our on-line form</u>.

Curbside Service is alive and well to start 2021. We'd rather see the books flying off the shelves than sitting on the shelves so let us help you find the comfort in holding a book in your hands. Our top circulating books (hard copies from our shelves) last year: Adult Fiction: Where the Crawdads Sing by Delia Owens, A Better Man by Louise Penny and American Dirt by Jeanine Cummins. Memoirs top the non fiction selections of 2020. Our readers loved Educated by Tara Westover, From the Ashes by Jesse Thistle and Michele Obama's Becoming.





You can request these titles now for your Curbside Pickup <u>or</u> check out OverDrive to put your name on the reserve list as an eBook read.

The Arnprior Library is participating in a nationwide read of <u>Vi</u> by Kim Thúy for the month of January. It is available as a free (no hold required) download on <u>Overdrive</u>. Then join us here as part of the <u>One eRead Canada</u> <u>Book Club</u> with participating libraries, the author and readers across the country. This is a Canadian Urban Libraries Council initiative.

Remember, when you return your library books through the Book Drop, staff ensure they are held in quarantine for a minimum of 72 hours. So even though the titles may still show as outstanding on your card, no fines will be incurred during this period. We decided to get playful with the quarantine "book fanning" one day prior to the holidays and created this book star.

Library staff enjoy getting creative and we'll be adding some fun activities to our 2021 Curbside lineup!

Sign up for our **Virtual Stories!** Carolyn will read a story every week day beginning Tuesday, January 5. Register <u>here</u> or through the Youth Services page on our website. We will be sharing a variety of picture books written by Canadian authors. The readings are presented with permission from Access Copyright on behalf of the publishers.



Surprise!!! If you love reading and are a fan of surprises, then our new Kids' Surprise Bundles are for you! When you <u>register online</u> provide your age and interests and we will create a bespoke bundle of books just for you. This is a fantastic way to be introduced to new authors and genres and to step out of your comfort zone. While registering, you will have the option to choose a craft activity to pick up with your bundle.

The children's themed bundles are still available for you to sign out via Curbside. Simply go to our <u>catalogue</u> and enter "Book Bundle" as your search. There are nearly 60 themes to choose from!



Your library card gets you free access for two movie streaming platforms—Kanopy and Hoopla.

Set up an account on either service, using your 6 digit library card number and your email. You get 7 movie credit each month with Kanopy. Remember accessing the Kanopy Kids portal <u>does not</u> affect your monthly credit use and you can watch as many children's movies and animated storybooks as you'd like.

Additionally, the Great Courses do not count against your monthly credits on Kanopy.

With Hoopla, you have up to 3 selections each month. This includes movies, television series, eBooks and eAudiobooks.

If you do not have an active membership you can register for an eAccess card by simply completing our *online form*.

If you need to renew your membership (cards expire annually so that our database remains current) please visit our Membership page on the website and follow the instructions to renew your card.

There are also films available on the Internet Archive website which can be accessed without a library card. Visit the full listing of resources on our Virtual Library.

Of course, our popular <u>Blind Date with a Book program</u> is continuing in 2021. So, if you're stumped because you're not browsing the stacks, let us do the sleuthing and create a fantastic reading bundle just for you!

We've curated more than 200 of these specialized bundles in the last few months. We've got this down to a science now, so let us help you find that next great read.



It's not too late to start that research with Ancestry.ca!

Thanks to ProQuest, your library card now gives you full at-home access to the Ancestry database until at least March 31, 2021. If you haven't yet received your password to get started, fill our *your request* today!





These are unprecedented times for so many and the library is here to help you in any way we can. Remember, although our doors are closed, we can still help with your *printing needs;* Curbside pickup and delivery services, technology assistance and more (such as purchasing Town of Arnprior garbage tags, reference assistance, at home learning support and helping you navigate our digital world).

We're just a phone call away... 613-623-2279