PRESS RELEASE

May 27, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Cumberland County’s Public Libraries Plan Limited Reopening; Residents Need to Check Each Library for Available Services

Mechanicsburg, PA – Cumberland County Libraries will reopen using a phased-in approach based on the Commonwealth’s Framework for Reopening Public Libraries. While plans are being developed and implemented, residents should visit the Library System website, to access information for each of their favorite libraries.

“Each library is developing its own plan in accordance with directives from the Office of Commonwealth Libraries,” said Carolyn Blatchley, executive director of the Cumberland County Library System. “All locations will have limited services, but most library hours remain the same, some libraries will offer no-contact pick-up of books on hold and some will offer limited public computer use.”

The Cumberland County Library System is abiding by all the Pennsylvania Department of Health Guidelines, including social distancing, and masks or face coverings will be required for in-library service. Plexiglas desk guards have been installed for the safety of residents and staff.

Additional procedures for libraries and residents:

- Delivery of materials between Cumberland County's Public Libraries will be limited in June. All new interlibrary loans from outside the county are suspended.
- Due dates for all materials due on or after March 13 are extended until June 1, with a grace period through June 4.
- Books on hold and interlibrary loan items from March are in the library waiting for residents.
- Returns will be accepted in designated areas only. All items will be quarantined for 72-hours before check-in but residents will not accrue additional fines.
Residents can use all online resources and place books on hold, if owing less than $25 in fines, and can access free online services with library cards. This includes tutor.com, Kanopy, audio books, e-books, and databases including magazines, investment information. Residents can request a temporary Digital Access Card, if they don’t have a library card. This temporary card allows residents to access online services, including downloadable eBooks and eAudiobooks. However, it cannot be used Kanopy, our online streaming video platform.

The 2020 Summer Learning Program is available for all ages, you can download Beanstack tracker to track your summer reading.

For the most up-to-date information, visit the Cumberland County Library System website.

The Cumberland County Library System (CCLS) has seven local libraries, one branch facility, a system administrative office, and a non-profit foundation. The library system provides service to more than 250,000 people in Cumberland County and a small portion of Franklin County.

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The Cumberland County Library System consists of seven federated local libraries, one branch facility, a system headquarters office, and an associated non-profit Foundation. The Library System provides support to its member libraries through information technology, securing library materials, older adult services, training opportunities, and administrative and financial services. More information on the Cumberland County Library System can be found at www.cumberlandcountylibraries.org.