COVID-19 QUARANTINE EDITION
The content of this newsletter is certainly a lot different than I anticipated it would be when we decided in March to start a monthly newsletter.

The Library Building is closed. All of our in-person programs are cancelled. We do not know when we will be allowed to reopen, but certainly not until after the stay at home order has been lifted.

In the meantime, the library staff members are still trying to serve our patrons and the community through our on-line services.

LIBRARY CARDS
Many of our original on-line services require patrons to log in using their library card barcode number and a PIN. If you do not know yours, call or email the Library.

If you know someone who lives in the Library’s District (same boundaries as the elementary school district) but has not registered for a library card, please encourage them to contact the Library. We can sign them up for a temporary card to give access to on-line resources. Then once we reopen they can supply ID and verification of address so they can check out physical materials.

RETURNING LIBRARY BOOKS
If you have checked out books, DVDs, or other items from the Library, do not worry about due dates. Nothing is due until after the library reopens and we will not charge any late fees during this time.

Although the book drop is unlocked, we would rather you keep all items at home until the library reopens. We will clean & sanitize the items and put them in a box to quarantine them for a week.

READING CHALLENGE 2020: FOCUS ON ILLINOIS
Adults and high school students can still participate in this independent reading challenge, using books they have at home or downloading e-books or audio books. We have changed the order of the monthly themes to make it easier to find a qualifying title.

For April, read a book by an Illinois Author that was written after 1970. Suggestions can be found on our website: www.carthagepubliclibrary.com/2020-Focus-on-Illinois.html. You can download a bookmark there, or just send us an email with the information after you have read a book for the month.

We have not drawn the winner of the first qtr prize yet—we want to be sure all March participants have had a chance to send us their entries.

DON’T FORGET TO COMPLETE YOUR 2020 CENSUS — on-line, over the phone, or by mail.

CONTACTING THE LIBRARY
The best ways to contact us are to call 217-357-3232 and leave a message on the answering machine or email us at cartlib@mtcnow.net. We are monitoring both from home, and will respond.

INTERNET ACCESS—WIFI
The Library’s WiFi Signal extends to the sidewalks and parking areas by the Library. Look for the network Library Guest and log-in using the password Library1234 (with a capital L).

SERVICE SPOTLIGHT — E-BOOKS & AUDIOS
EREAD ILLINOIS & ADML
The Library is a member of two consortia that provide downloadable e-books and audio books. Links are on our website. You log in with your Library barcode number and PIN and check out the items. They return automatically. Books may be read on a computer, e-reader, tablet, smart phone & other devices. Once they have been downloaded, you do not need an Internet connection to read or listen to them.

E-Read Illinois uses the Axis360 app and includes books in Kindle format. Alliance Digital Media Library (ADML) uses the Overdrive or Libby app.

BIBLIOBOARD & INKIE
Biblioboard and Inkie are free for anyone physically in Illinois. No library card is needed. You will not find popular bestsellers, but classic titles and children’s books are available. Each quarter there is a new collection of “pop-up picks” curated by librarians according to a theme. Inkie.org features ebooks by independent authors, many from IL.

TUMBLE BOOKS
During this time of quarantine, Tumble Books is providing free access to their libraries of e-books and audiobooks. It includes Tumble Books & Tumble Math for children, Teen Book Cloud, Audio Book Cloud with audios for all ages, and Romance Book Cloud for adults.

Scholastic Book Sale
The Carthage Primary School is holding an on-line Scholastic book sale through April 19. Order online and the books can be shipped to any address. This is a great way to provide physical print books to your children and grandchildren while supporting the school. Find the link on the PTO Facebook page or contact the School.

Links to all of these collections are available on the Library’s website: carthagepubliclibrary.com. Call or email us if you have questions or need help.
BOOKMARK DESIGN CONTEST

The annual contest is open to adults as well as to children of all ages. Entry forms are available at from the Library’s website: www.carthagepubliclibrary.com, or draw a 7.5 x 2.25 inch rectangle on any paper. Designs must have a library-related theme (libraries, books, reading) and must be the original work of the artist with no copyrighted figures or characters. Designs showing how you are reading while staying at home would be very appropriate. The entries will be divided into categories based on age/grade and one winner will be chosen from each age group. Bookmarks will be judged on theme, creativity, originality, attractiveness, and neatness. Each winner will receive $5.00 in “library cash” which may be used to pay for overdue fines, copies, or book sale items. Entries are now due a week after the Library re-opens, and winners will be announced at a later date.

RUBBER DUCKY CLUB

If you have children age 0-5 years, this is a great time to participate in the Rubber Ducky Club. This program encourages caregivers to read, write, talk, sing, and play with their children to help them develop pre-literacy skills.

Complete 15 activities from the monthly page and receive a rubber duck. Complete another 15 activities in the same month and receive another duck and a book. The monthly activity sheets can be downloaded from our website: www.carthagepubliclibrary.com/children--families.html.

You can view the list of activities on-line and write down on any paper which ones you do. Turn in the papers after the library re-opens to receive your prizes. If you’re afraid you will lose it, you can take a picture of the paper and email it to cartlib@mtnow.net.

Another great source of brain building activities for young children is vroom.org and the Vroom app.

TEEN & TWEEN SCENE

I know you are busy now with on-line schooling. Check out some of the links on the teen page of our website. If you would like to have a virtual teen gathering on-line just to talk with each other, let us know & we will try to arrange it. Also if you wish to video record book reviews and send them to us, we will attempt to upload them to the Impact YouTube channel.

SERVICE SPOTLIGHT — On-line Resources

TESTING & EDUCATION REFERENCE CENTER

This valuable resource includes full-length practice tests for GED, SAT, ACT, PSAT, GRE, LSAT, MAT, MCAT, ASVAB, NCLEX-PN, NCLEX-RN, TOEFL and U.S. citizenship. It also offers practice questions for certification tests for various career fields including: accounting, cosmetology, fire fighter, law enforcement, postal worker, real estate, and social work. It offers information on undergraduate and graduate programs and tuition and scholarship assistance, as well as resume, interviewing and networking advice.

Remote access to this database and to the Gale Legal Forms database have always been available to our patrons. Use the links from our website and log-in with your barcode number.

ANCESTRY

This is a great time to do some genealogical research into your family’s history. Access to our Ancestry database was previously only available inside the Library. During this pandemic, Proquest has generously allowed us to provide remote access.

Begin at the Library’s website: carthagepubliclibrary.com. Hover your mouse over the “References & Resources Tab” then click on the Ancestry tab. Send us an email to request the password.

The Library edition does not allow you to create a family tree and receive “leaf” hints, but you have access to all of the immigration, census, vital statistics, and other databases of records.

OTHER ONLINE RESOURCES

The Reference & Resources tab of our website has always had links to useful information. We have added links to sources of reliable information about the Coronavirus.

During this time when schools and cultural institutions are closed, many companies are now allowing free access to their resources. We have links to educational resources on the Children & Families and Teens & Tweens pages of our website. Many links to cultural experiences—concerts, virtual tours, etc. are on our Adult page. We will continue to add resources to these pages.

VIRTUAL PROGRAMMING

Many of you have read Defending Jacob by William Landay and The Monuments Men by Robert Edsel. Let us know if you would like to have an on-line video chat book discussion. Or we could have a virtual Knit & Stitch group session—share your projects & ideas or learn how to sew masks.

We still need a name for this newsletter. If you have any suggestions, please email them to us.