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Ferndale Library Offers Online Card Sign-Ups / Expedient Mobile Service for Ferndale Residents

Available Through the Library's Website

www.ferndalepubliclibrary.org

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Ferndale Residents Can Now Sign Up for Library Cards Online & Access Online Resources

FERNDALE, MI (June 9, 2020--) The Ferndale Library has made it easier for residents to attain their library cards, with a new online application form. This quick digital questionnaire allows residents to provide the same information they would otherwise present to a circulation specialist at a service desk, expediting acquisition of their own individual library card numbers, and gaining them access to digital resources like ebooks, films, and downloadable audiobooks through Ferndale Library's various online content platforms like **hoopla**, **Libby**, **RBdigital**, and **Kanopy**. Once they've completed the form and circulation staff have processed their information, arrangements can then be made to forward a physical card to the patron by mail (or through a contactless conveyance through their first Curbside Pick-Up).

The library is in the middle of a six-stage reopening plan, on its way toward restoring full operations inside the building while establishing comprehensive safety measures to protect both patrons and staff, in accordance with CDC Guidelines. Patrons can also access a full list of the stages of the library's reopening plan on its main website.

Stage Two of this reopening process started last week, and it included the unveiling of the new Online Library Card Sign-Up feature. Stage Three starts on June 15, and it initiates the service of Curbside Pick-Up. This is the first time the library has offered such a service on a full-scale and the scheduling of pick-ups will be set to specific timelines depending on the day of the week.

Ferndale Patrons can initiate a curbside pick-up by placing a hold on materials through the library's online catalog, (ferndalepubliclibrary.org). When they receive an automated notification that they're items are ready, prompting them to then contact library staff by phone or email, and arrange an arrival time for pickup. Since the items will be checked-out before the patrons arrive, allowing for contact-less pick-up: Any patron placing holds for curbside pick-ups will be provided a specific number that they can call or text once they're outside, so that staff can synchronize a deposit of their items onto an outdoor table.

While the library has been closed, usage of Ferndale's digital resources has increased, including films, comics, picture books, audiobooks, music, and eBooks. But there have also been new additions to the library's digital content, such as the **RBdigital Comic Books** collection. Library staff also took this time to increase awareness of the hundreds of databases offered through the Michigan Electronic Library (MeL.org) and the video tutorials for artists and entrepreneurs offered through CreativeBug and LinkedInLearning.

Another exciting update to library services includes the announced availability of the popular video streaming service **Kanopy**, giving Ferndale cardholders access to more than 30,000 independent films and documentaries, including titles of unique social and cultural value from esteemed distribution sources

like The Criterion Collection, the Great Courses, A24, PBS, and thousands of independent filmmakers. Cardholders will be able to enjoy up to 8 different films from Kanopy per month, which is the same amount as the cap set in place for a similar service like Hoopla (which provides access to films, eBooks and audiobooks as well as films).

There's never been a better time to get a library card, given all of the content that's available. And, in a post COVID world, Ferndale residents don't have to worry about leaving their homes in order to get their new library cards. More info is available online at ferndalepubliclibrary.org.