



Cordova Library Turns 150!

In 2026, Cordova Library proudly celebrates 150 years of serving our community—and we're planning a year full of fun, history, and connection!

Here's a sneak peek at what's coming:

- April: A puzzle competition for adults and families
- June 6: Our annual Paint the Road event
- September 17: A 150th Birthday Party you won't want to miss!
- November: Trivia Night—keep an eye on our newsletters and Facebook posts throughout the year for helpful hints and clues

Our anniversary celebration officially kicked off at our open house with the release of a Cordova History Calendar, featuring historical photos of Cordova for each month. Due to its popularity, additional calendars can be ordered through January 15 for \$11. Calendars will be delivered by the end of January. To order, stop by the library with cash or check.

Looking ahead to February, we'll also have a limited-edition 150th anniversary tote bag available as a giveaway. These will be offered on a first-come, first-served basis, so stop in early, say hello, and grab one while supplies last!

We're excited to celebrate this milestone with you all year long—thank you for being part of Cordova Library's story!

Cordova Library History

The first library group started as a reading room in 1876. The first meeting was held in the Cordova Baptist Church under the auspices of the Cordova Temperance Reform Association. This association hoped to keep control of the library movement, but it was soon voted to set up the Free Library and Reading room with a voluntary group to support and manage it. This group pledged to pay 25 cents quarterly to support the library. Community supporters, stands at the July 4th celebrations and extra donations were all tried, but it was soon clear that more money was needed.

The trustees decided to reorganize under state regulations and have a Township Library and Reading Room. A petition was circulated at the April 1878 elections, the voters favored a one mill tax on township property.

The first order of books included encyclopedias, histories, complete works of Byron, Shakespeare, Dickens, Pinkertons and Homer, also a Horse Owners Cyclopedia, A Transmission of Life, A Physical Life of a Woman, 20,000 Leagues under the Sea and Ten Nights in the Bar Room.

Cordova Library Merchandise

To celebrate the Library's 150th anniversary, we will be offering library merchandise in mid-January. There will be two different designs. Once again, we will have [online ordering](https://www.cordovalibrary.com/library-merchandise/) available. Check out our website <https://www.cordovalibrary.com/library-merchandise/>

Cordova
District Library
est. 1876



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audiobooks in one place. Additionally, enjoy thousands of free titles on the Palace Bookshelf which are yours to keep for as long as you'd like. Download the Palace app for Android or Apple iOS today!

In Our Community...

Cordova Baptist Church

Greetings and Happy New Year from First Baptist Church of Cordova. We would like to thank all the wonderful people in Cordova for contributing to our Community Christmas Giving Mission. Through monetary donations, vouchers, and gift cards, we were able to deliver resources to 78 people in our community. Thank you to the following for your contributions: Cordova Fire District; Cordova Library District; Cordova Township; Cordova Park District; Home Extension; Plates & Pours; The Legion; Village of Cordova; Anonymous Individual Donors.

May you all be blessed as you have been a blessing to others!

Coming Soon.... Beginning this spring, the First Baptist Church will publish a bi-monthly newsletter!!! Stay tuned....

Village of Cordova

Reminder during the winter season, please remove your trash cans from the road when there is snow. The maintenance department needs to plow.

Winners of the 2025 Christmas Lighting contest will be announced after December 19th. Check out the Village's website for more information.
<https://villageofcordova.com/>

Make it Monday

Monday, January 19th at 1pm
 String Art Heart

Monday, February 16th at 1pm
 Handmade cards

Limited seats available, so call 654-2330.

Seated Exercise

Mondays, Wednesdays, & Fridays 9am

Join us three times a week for chair exercises. These videos include strength/balance, Yoga and Cardio workouts.

Teen Corner

Our teen programs are for those kiddos in 6th grade through high school. Sign up is appreciated for supplies.

January

Easy Stained Glass Class

5th | Monday | 1pm

Learn how to make a stained glass piece! The glass will already be cut and shaped, you will learn how to foil wrap it, then solder it!

Lego Flowers/Mini Succulents

19th | Monday | 3pm

Build Lego flowers and mini succulents with us!

Teen Advisory

19th | Monday | 4pm

Our monthly Teen Advisory where Teens come together to help decide upcoming programs, manage the Teen Space, and more.

February

Flower Arranging

6th | Friday | 12:30pm

Make your own beautiful bouquets/arrangements to treat yourself, or somebody else!

Mini Paint by Number

16th | Monday | 3pm

Paint by Number on smaller canvases!

Teen Advisory

16th | Monday | 4pm

Our typical, monthly Teen Advisory.

Euchre Club

Fridays @ 1pm

Come to the library and play Euchre with friends! Never played before? We'll teach beginners the rules and nuances of this timeless card game. Call 654-2330 to sign up.



Cordova District Library

402 Main Ave., Cordova IL 61242
www.cordovalibrary.com

309-654-2330 / fax 309-654-2290
hello@cordovalibrary.com

Cordova Library Book Club

We meet on the first Tuesday of the month at **10:00 am**.

Tuesday, January 6th
After Annie by Anna Quindlen



Tuesday, February 3rd

West with Giraffes by Lynda Rutledge

Join us in reading this heartfelt historical novel inspired by the true 1938 cross-country trek of two giraffes destined for the San Diego Zoo. Told through the memories of Woodrow Wilson Nickel, now 105, the story follows his youthful adventure driving the giraffes from New York to California amid the lingering hardships of the Great Depression and the Dust Bowl. Along the way he forms deep bonds—with the graceful animals, a rugged zookeeper, and a spirited photographer—while encountering the kindness of strangers and confronting personal and social challenges. Rich in historical detail, the novel blends adventure, coming-of-age growth, and reflections on hope, resilience, and the transformative power of the natural world.

Tuesday, March 3rd

A Gentleman in Moscow by Amor Towles

In 1922, Count Alexander Rostov is deemed an unrepentant aristocrat by a Bolshevik tribunal, and is sentenced to house arrest in the Metropol, a grand hotel across the street from the Kremlin. Rostov, an indomitable man of erudition and wit, has never worked a day in his life, and must now live in an attic room while some of the most tumultuous decades in Russian history are unfolding outside the hotel's doors.

Unexpectedly, his reduced circumstances provide him entry into a much larger world of emotional discovery.

Momigami—Art with Cheryl

Tuesday, February 17, 2026
9:00 - 12:00

We will create a stash of paper that feels like fabric to sew up a bowl of hearts. This easy and fun project is a great way to use light-weight scrapbooking papers. The library will supply everything! Just bring a creative spirit. Sign up in advance. Any questions may be directed to Cheryl.

Story Time Fridays @ 10am

Hello 2026! We are excited to start another year of Story Time. Story Time for all ages on Fridays! Each Friday, we will read stories, move our bodies and learn in centers with friends. Children of all ages are welcome to attend with guardian or babysitter. **NO Story Time on Jan. 2nd.**

Homeschool Art & Crafts

Wednesday, January 14th @ 1pm

Learn about Georges Seurat by painting in pointillism.

Wednesday, February 11th @ 1pm

Make Valentine's crafts with friends!

Call 654-2330 to sign up.

Do Your Own Thing

Do Your Own Thing is moving to Tuesdays!
Work on your projects with friends.

Tuesday, January 27th at 9am

Tuesday, February 24th at 9am

Evening Book Club

Thursday, January 29th @ 6pm

Black Cake by Charmaine Wilkerson

Wednesday, February 25th @ 6pm

The Handmaid's Tale

By Margaret Atwood

If you are interested in joining or need help getting the book, call the library at 654-2330. We look forward to seeing you!

Family Bingo

NO BINGO IN JANUARY

Friday, February 20th from 5pm-7pm

All ages are invited to join us for Family Bingo night. All supplies will be provided (if you have a lucky dauber-bring it!). Bring your own food and non-alcoholic drinks.

Registration is required.



Hours of Operation:

Monday through Thursday: 9:00am–7:00pm

Friday: 9:00am–4:00pm

Saturday: 9:00am-1:00pm

CORDOVA DISTRICT LIBRARY

402 Main Ave. Cordova, IL 61242



www.cordovalibrary.com

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Sew Angel Dresses

Thursday, January 8th @ 10am

The Cordova Library is partnering with Lila's Dresses to make outfits that will be donated to local hospitals to clothe stillborn babies. These outfits are made from donated wedding dresses and upcycled into both boys and girls outfits. The outfits are then packaged up and a letter is written to the baby's family from the co-founders of Lila's Dresses. If you are interested in helping sew outfits, please call the library at 654-2330 to sign up.



**Wednesday,
January 7th &
February 4th @ 6pm**

Stories by Starlight is for kiddos and families of all ages who would like to hear stories in the evening. We will have stories, snacks and activities.

**Family Reading Night @ Riverdale Elementary
Thursday, February 26th @ 5:30**

This year's theme is Explore and Discover with Books...A night of science and reading! Cordova Library will be participating by hosting a reading room. It is a fun night to explore different books and readers. Every child will receive a free book!



Stained Glass Classes

**Introduction to Stained Glass
Thursday, January 22nd at 9am
Saturday, February 7th at 9am**

Interested in learning the copper foil method of stained glass? Join us for a 4-hour class where you will learn to cut, grind, foil and solder your glass. All materials and patterns will be provided. Bring a snack and drink!

