

LIBRARY HOURS

Mon. & Wed.
11:00 am- 7:00 pm
Tues. & Thurs.
9:30 am- 7:00 pm
Fri. 11:00 am- 5:00 pm
Sat. 9:00 am-5pm



February 2026

Carthage Public Library Newsletter

Volume 7, Number 2

New Library Building

The contractors are working through punch list items and should finish soon!



Shelving

We finally received the quote we had been waiting on from another shelving company. It was more reasonable than the first one and we are able to proceed. We've decreased the estimated cost for new shelving and furnishings to \$250,000.

However, it may take 3-4 months for the shelves to be delivered and installed, which will delay our moving date.

Fundraising Matching Challenge - Stacking Up Support for our New Library

A donor has issued a fundraising challenge: If the community can raise \$25,000 before the end of March, she will match that amount.

\$3,425 was raised in December via the Giving Tree and \$2040 through the Friends gift basket raffle, so we are one fifth of the way there.

We still plan to recognize gifts of \$50 or more with paper snowflakes in the library's window. We'd like to see a blizzard of snowflakes in our window (but not outside)!

The Carthage District Library Foundation is a 501(c)(3), and a qualified charity for RMDs and gifts. Checks can be brought in or mailed to the library. On-line giving is also an option, although fees apply. For details, click the link below:

<https://www.carthagepubliclibrary.com/library-foundation.html>

Book Sales

Our shelves and carts of used books and DVDs for sale are overflowing, and we are NOT moving those items to the new building.

Please come and take as many as you would like - a monetary donation is appreciated, but not required.

We are not accepting additional used books at this time.

ONGOING EVENTS FOR ADULTS

Book Club

Thurs., Feb. 12, 12:30

The Day the World Came to Town: 9/11 Gander Newfoundland by Jim DeFede

Thurs., March 12
Remarkably Bright Creatures by Shelby Van Pelt

Copies of the book are available for checkout. New members always welcome.

Crochet & Knitting group

Every other Tuesday
Feb. 10 & 24
6:30-8:00 pm

Bring a current project or learn something new. Share your skills with others. For anyone 8 & up.

Euchre Club

Wednesdays 2:00-4:00 pm.
(Thursdays could be added back in if there is enough interest.)

All skill levels are welcome. For adults and high school age students.

English Language Learners

An informal group for adults & students
5th grade & older
Thursdays 5:30-6:45
No class on Feb. 26



Virtual Program
"Still Afraid of the Dark: an Evening with R. L. Stine"

Tues., Feb. 24, 7:00 pm

R.L. Stine is a prolific author of children's horror novels, but this program is intended for adults. Register at <https://bit.ly/ILPStine> to watch on your own, or join us at the library for a Watch Party.

The March 19 Illinois Libraries Present program features Pulitzer Prize winning author Percival Everett.



February 2026

Carthage Public Library Newsletter

State-Wide Reading Programs

Just a reminder to keep reading books on the Readers' Choice lists so you can vote for your favorite.

Monarch for K -3rd grade - read 5

Bluestem for 3-5th grade - read 4

Rebecca Caudill for 5-8th - read 3

before the end of February

If you read 10 or more, and turn in your list, you will earn a prize.



**e-ReadIllinois
now on The
Palace Project
App**

The eReadIllinois content of ebooks and audios has been transferred from the Boundless app to the Palace Project app. Download the app, search for Carthage Library, and sign in using your library card barcode number and PIN.

Alliance Digital Media Library (ADML) is still available using the Libby app. This collection includes books in Kindle format and audios.



**Hancock County Family Fair
Saturday, February 7, 9:00-1:00
Carthage Primary School Gym**

(new location this year)

An "Outer This World" free event Games, crafts, activities & prizes provided by area agencies.

Entertainment

Free lunch (donations welcome)



Family Game Night

**Mon., Feb. 9 & March 9
4:30-6:30**

A variety of board games and cards will be available at the library, or bring your favorite.

Invite friends to come play too. Children under 8 yrs. must be accompanied by an adult or responsible teen.

We're having Game Night instead of Chess Club, but you are still welcome to play chess.

Winter Reading Challenge

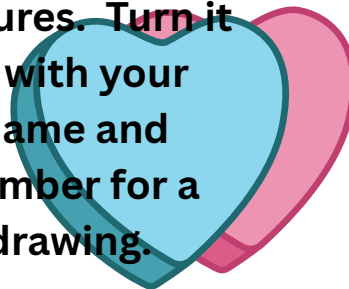
For all ages, kids and adults.

Pick up a copy of the Scholastic Challenge which lists 25 reading activities. See how many you can do in January & February.

Complete at least 8 to be entered in a prize drawing.

VALENTINE'S DAY SCAVENGER HUNT

Come on in to the library to find all the hidden pictures. Turn it in with your name and number for a drawing.



ONGOING EVENTS FOR YOUTH

Note: if school is cancelled or dismissed early due to weather, Library programs will also be cancelled.

**Move & Groove and
Preschool Storytime**

**Tuesday mornings
February 3, 10, 17, 24**

Music & Movement activities begin at 9:30 am followed by story time at 10:00 with crafts and other activities.

For children ages 5 and under with an adult. Older siblings may attend.

STEAM Club

**Tuesdays, 3:30-4:30 pm
February 3, 10, 17, 24**

Science, Tech, Engineering, Art and Math Activities for ages K-6th Grades

1000 Books Before Kdg

We're always seeking new participants. Children receive a rubber duck and a free book for each 100-book milestone.

<https://1000booksbeforekindergarten.org>

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library

Register your PreSchool child to receive a free book in the mail each month.

www.imaginationlibrary.com