

CHERRY VALLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Cherry Valley Chapters

March/May 2026



The wait is over! Join us for the official ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Idea Zone at 9:45 am or join us anytime throughout regular hours (10:00 am to 4:00 pm) for the first look at our new makerspace. While you're there check out our 3-D printer, try your hand at a variety of crafts, and learn about our upcoming programs.



IDEA ZONE GRAND OPENING!
SATURDAY, MARCH 28TH AT 10:00AM

755 E. State Street, Cherry Valley IL 61016
Phone: 815-332-5161

Cherryvalleylib.org



Children

Story Times at Your Library

Story time programs give children time to interact with books and learn the joy of reading! Space is limited; please register.

Story Times run March 2 – May 2

Ages
birth
to 2
years

Book Babies

Tuesdays at 9:30am

Enjoy 20 minutes of baby bounces, rhymes, short stories, and finger plays to help introduce your child to the world of books. After story time there will be 25 minutes of playtime and socialization. Because this is a special time for you and your little one, please make alternate arrangements for other children during story time.

Ages
2-3
Years

Wee Read

Mondays at 9:30am

Enjoy 30 minutes of short stories, finger plays, rhymes, and songs. In this program parents or caregivers interact with their children and discover the joy of reading.

ALL
ages

Family Story Time

First Saturday of the month at 10:30am

Enjoy 30 minutes of stories, songs, and movement with your family. Please register ONLY ONE family member.

**There is a limit of 10 families so be sure to register soon!*

Scoops & Stories at Cattle & Cream

Thursday, May 28 at 6:30pm

Visit Cattle & Cream, purchase a sweet treat, and enjoy 30 minutes of stories, songs, and more!

Drop
In!



Ages
2-6
Years

Story Sprouts

Thursdays at 9:30am

Enjoy 30 minutes full of reading readiness, finger plays, rhymes, short stories, songs, and dancing as we grow our love of books.

Music and Movement

Fridays at 9:30am or 10:30am

Come spend 30 minutes in our musically rich environment, singing, dancing, and listening to stories.

Ages
7-11
Years

LEGO League

Thursday, March 5 at 6:00pm

Thursday, April 2 at 6:00pm

Thursday, May 7 at 6:00pm

Show off your building skills and join other LEGO®-loving kids for an hour of brick-building fun. Try the featured building challenge or create your own! LEGO will be provided and will stay at the library.

After Hours KPop Dance Party!

Friday, March 27 at 5:30pm

Huntr/x and Saja Boy fans unite! Support your favorite band by crafting your own light stick. Then, sing along and dance to songs from the movie. This event will contain flashing lights, which may be disruptive to people who are sensitive to light.

**Minimum of 10 registrations required or event will be cancelled.*



Kids Events

Family Fun

ALL
ages

iSpy Spring Scavenger Hunt

March 13 - April 11

I spy with my little eye... some book characters hiding in Cherry Valley! Get outside and explore our community during our fourth-annual scavenger hunt. Starting March 13, pick up a clue sheet at the library, or check our website for a printable copy. Solve the riddles and find the answers that will be posted on signs at public places and businesses throughout the village. Once you've completed your sheet, *return it to the library by April 11* to be entered into a raffle for a gift basket full of Cherry Valley goodies, including gift cards to local restaurants and attractions. Grab your whole family and have fun exploring!



Ages
3-11
Years

Pajamarama

Thursday, March 19 at 6:00pm

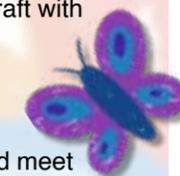
Pajamarama means come dressed in your bedtime best to enjoy some sleepy stories and a craft with your family.

Butterfly Exhibit

Saturday, April 18 at 10:00am & 11:00am

Learn about the life cycle of butterflies and meet them up close! Each attendee will get 10 minutes in the butterfly tent, and there will be other crafts and activities.

**Children ages 5 and under must be accompanied inside the butterfly tent by an adult.*



KPop Party

Tuesday, March 31 at 2:00pm

Come celebrate the movie that everyone is raving about! We will sing along to the music, have different craft stations, games, and more inspired by our favorite idols, Huntr/x and Saja Boys!

90s Art Night

Thursday, April 16 at 6:00pm

Put on your scrunchie and your stirrup pants and get ready to make some crafts from the 90s! We will have perler beads, shrinky dinks, and more. Younger children will work together with their older siblings or their grownup(s).



Family Art Night:

Summer Reading Decorating Party

Thursday, May 21 at 6:00pm

Come help us make some decorations for the library's upcoming summer reading program. Dress for a mess!



Cherry Valley Joy Ride for Safety

The Cherry Valley Public Library is collaborating with community partners in a new initiative to support helmet use in our community! This series is designed with youth safety in mind by promoting consistent helmet use through positive interactions within the community, and incentivization through creativity and rewards.



Get Caught, Get a Cone!

Don't just decorate your new helmet, wear it! Now that you have your awesome new helmet if you get caught wearing it when hanging out at the skate park, the Cherry Valley Police will give you a ticket for a free kids scoop from Cattle & Cream. It pays to be safe! Ice cream sponsored by Ride Illinois.

Bike Rodeo & Helmet Handout

Wednesday, April 1 at 1:00pm

Come hangout at the Cherry Valley Skate Park and learn all about bicycle safety, helmet safety, and traffic safety. Bring your own bike, or borrow one of ours and go through the safety course. All youth will be fitted with a properly sized helmet provided by Safe Kids Winnebago County, and a bike light from the Rockford Park District.

**This program is weather-dependent, so watch our website and social media for updates.*

Space is limited! Please register!

Joy Ride Bike Train

Saturday, April 4 at 10:00am

Bring your bike, scooter, or skates and show off your new helmet! Join Miss Heather for a joy ride around Baumann Lake. This program is weather-dependent, so watch our website and social media for updates. *Helmetts required.*



For more information about staying safe check out: rideillinois.org and www.safekids.org/bike

Teen

**Ages
12-17
Years**

All About Anime

Monday, March 2 at 6:00pm

Monday, April 6 at 6:00pm

Monday, May 4 at 6:00pm

Grow your appreciation of Japanese animation and culture as we discuss anime and manga while sampling a variety of Asian snacks.

Teen Advisory Board

Monday, May 11 at 6:00pm

This quarter, teens will offer their suggestions on growing teen programming and services at the library, while also helping to decorate the library for the upcoming Summer Reading Program.

Sticker Stay and Play Day Drop In!

Friday, April 3

You got your helmet from the Bike Rodeo, now come make it yours! Design your own vinyl sticker using the Cricut in our new **IDEA ZONE** to make your helmet truly one of a kind! Drop in anytime during open hours to work with library staff on this fun craft!

Friday Night Take Over

Friday, March 27 from 7:00-8:00pm K-Pop Karaoke

Friday, April 24 from 6:00-8:00pm Ping Pong Tournament

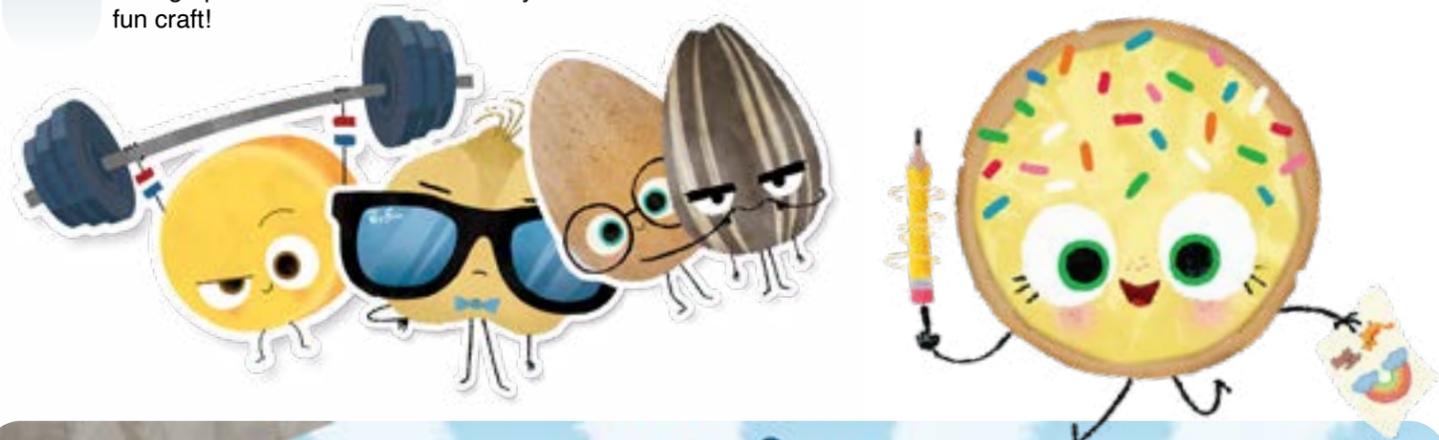
Teens are taking over the library for after-hours pizza, games, and activities!

**Minimum of 10 registrations required or event will be cancelled.*

Book Edge Painting

Saturday, May 16 at 1:00pm

Sprayed edges have taken over new books, but old favorites can be just as pretty! Bring in a copy of your favorite book from home, and we will provide all of the supplies to decorate the page edges to give a glimpse of the story within. (A limited selection of books will be available for those who need one.)



PLANT A SEED, READ

Summer Reading Program SAVE THE DATE!

Grow with books during the library's summer reading program, Plant a Seed, Read! Program registration begins on Friday, May 8 at 9:00 am. Sign up and start recording your minutes and activities in Beanstack starting Tuesday, May 26. The summer reading program is open to people of all ages!

Adult

Senior-Moments

You're invited to join our group centered on building community. We spend time together, talk, laugh, and have fun!



Women Who Have Run for President

Thursday, March 19 at 10:30am

Let's take a look at the many women who have run for U.S. President before Kamala Harris.

Starting in the mid 1800's, before women even had the right to vote, a number of intrepid ladies dared to defy the conventions of the time to run. Starting in the last quarter of the 20th century, corresponding to the Women's Lib movement, even more females stepped up as candidates for the highest office. As we celebrate Women's History Month, let's recognize the more than 50 women who became candidates for U.S. President.

-Presented by Linda Greene-

Imaginary Journey to Giverny: Monet – Artist and Gardner

Thursday, April 16 at 10:30am

Through a carefully curated visual presentation, we will discuss the artist's home and gardens and learn about Monet as both passionate horticulturist and innovative painter.

-Presented by Denise Laurin-



Battling the Aging Brain

Thursday, May 21 at 10:30am

Similar to other parts of the body, the human brain tends to become less agile as people get older. Learn about the changes you can expect and how to keep your brain healthy.

-Presented by Michelle Hoffman-

Pizza, Medicare, & You

Tuesday, May 19 at 6:00pm

Get a slice of knowledge and a slice of pizza! Join us for an informative Medicare meeting with tasty pizza on the side!

Presented by Kris Wilcoxon of American Republic Insurance Services who has been serving clients since 2003.

Muffins & Medicare

Wednesday, May 20 at 10:00am

Come and grab a morning muffin as we learn about the changes to Medicare. Presented by Kris Wilcoxon of American Republic Insurance Services, who has been serving clients since 2003.

AARP® Safe Driving Course

Wednesday, March 25 and Thursday, March 26 from 12:30 to 4:30pm

The AARP Smart Driver course is the nation's first refresher course specifically designed for drivers age 50 and older. For course registration call (815) 332-5161. Course fee \$20.00 for AARP members, and \$25.00 for non-members. Course fee payable by check or cash to AARP; check preferred.

***CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS NOT ACCEPTED.**

You will be registered for both sessions of this event. Payment is due the first day of class.

Android Basics for New Users

Tuesday, April 14 at 3:00pm

Trying to figure out the basics of your new Android phone or tablet? Learn basic functions in this one-time class. Please bring your device(s).

Android Follow-up

Tuesday, May 12 at 3:00pm

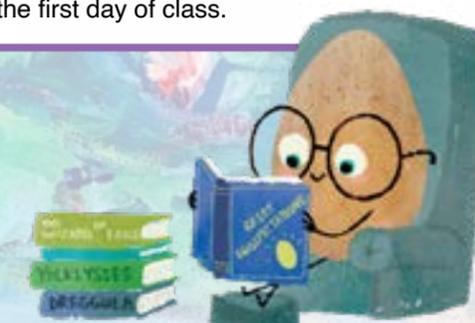
Already know the basics of your Android device but have some specific questions? Join us to ask or listen to other users to learn new tips and tricks. Please bring your device(s).

iPad & iPhone

Tuesday, April 21 at 2:00pm and

Wednesday, April 22 at 10:00am

Learn the basic features of your iPad or iPhone in this one-time class. Please bring your device(s).



Adult

Nature and You

How Does a Seed Library Work?

Tuesday, March 17 at 6:00pm

A workshop dedicated to explaining how the new Seed Library will operate in Winnebago County. We'll cover how to "borrow" seeds, how to save seeds at the end of the season, how to return seeds, and how the program helps strengthen community food access. Learn how to start seeds indoors with peppers! Includes a Q&A and feedback session so patrons can help shape what varieties the library offers.

Seed Starting and Beyond

Tuesday, April 21 at 6:00pm

A hands-on introduction to starting seeds indoors. Participants will learn how to read seed packets, choose the right soil, use grow lights or windowsills, prevent common mistakes, and transplant seedlings successfully. Learn how to start seeds with tomatoes and more!

Garden Planning and More

Tuesday, May 19 at 6:00pm

A simple, beginner-focused overview of how to plan a home vegetable garden. Topics include soil prep, spacing, watering, pest prevention, and choosing varieties for our climate (Zone 5b).



Craft Night!

Nouveau Greeting Cards

Tuesday, March 11 from 5:30pm-7:00pm

Add a touch of elegant flourish to your greeting cards, that can be used for any occasion. These art nouveau inspired cards are sure to brighten up someone's day.

Flower Book Vases

Tuesday, April 14 from 5:30pm-7:00pm

Got some old books you want to repurpose? Turn them into a lovely book vase. With some easy loops and a personal floral arrangement, make your own unique centerpiece.

Cabinet Cleanout Crafts!

Tuesday, May 12 from 5:30pm-7:00pm

Out with the old, in with the new! Help us clear out our cabinets to make space for future crafts! Missed any past craft nights that you wished you had a chance to make? Then join us on this date to create!

**Limited supplies available. Please limit to 2 crafts per person.*

***Seating is limited. Registration will close a week early.**

Book Group

All book groups will meet in-person at the library. Books are available for checkout once you register.

Read-y or Not Book Club:

The Great Alone

by Kristin Hannah

Tuesday, March 3 from 6:00-7:00pm

Thursday, March 5 from 10:00-11:00am

The Land of Sweet Forever

by Harper Lee

Thursday, April 2 from 10:00-11:00am

Tuesday, April 7 from 6:00-7:00pm

The Twilight Garden

by Sara Nisha Adams

Tuesday, May 5 from 6:00-7:00pm

Thursday, May 7 from 10:00-11:00am

Grounds for Murder:

Everytime I Go on Vacation, Someone Dies

by Catherine Mack

Thursday, March 12 from 6:00-7:00pm

Murder at the Vicarage

by Agatha Christie

Thursday, April 9 from 6:00-7:00pm

The Woman in the Library

by Sulari Gentill

Thursday, May 14 from 6:00-7:00pm



Take and Bake Cream Wafers

Make these cute little treats! Fun and easy to make, even little hands can help. "These cookie sandwiches are tender, and melt in your mouth good!"

**Registration for this program closes Wednesday, March 18 at 8:00pm
Pickup is March 27 to April 4.*



Chair Yoga

Wednesdays at 10:30am

Chair Yoga is a gentle introduction to yoga, designed for seniors and adults struggling with mobility. Local yoga instructor Marie Bridges

will walk you through poses you can use to help maintain flexibility, breathe more deeply, and sleep more soundly.

Registration and payment of \$5 registration fee must be done in person at the library for each session.

Idea Zone

Stay and Play in the Idea Zone!



The Idea Zone is a place where people **ages 12 and older** can gather to collaborate and create using a variety of tools and equipment. You can spend time here tinkering and crafting, attending a program, and learning new skills.

SPECIAL OPENING HOURS!

Saturday, March 28th – Ribbon Cutting at 9:45am and open 10:00am to 4:00pm

Sunday, March 29th – 1:00 to 5:00pm

Monday, March 30th through Saturday, April 4th – 10:00 am to 4:00pm

Regular Hours starting Wednesday, April 8th

Wednesdays and Thursdays – 10:00am to 7:00pm

Fridays and Saturdays – 10:00am and 4:00pm

Family Grab & Go Kits

Gather the whole family together with a fun-filled activity kit! Each kit contains supplies and instructions. One kit per family. Adult supervision is required.

**Recommended for ages 3+.*



Grow Your Own Reading Rainbows

March 13-21

Science and play come together with rainbows. Watch rainbows grow right in front of your eyes!



Butterfly Cookies

April 10-18

Butterfly in the sky, I can go twice as high! Find your joy with some delicious butterfly cookies you can make with your family.



Funny Face Flip Book

May 8-16

Draw some faces with different emotions and then mix and match for hysterical results.

Idea Zone 101: Sew a Kitchen Scrubby

Wednesdays:

April 15th or May 13th – 2:00 to 3:00pm

April 29th or May 27th – 5:30 to 6:30pm

Thursdays:

April 16th or May 14th – 5:30 to 6:30pm

April 30th or May 28th – 10:00 to 11:00am

Learn the basics of the Idea Zone's sewing machines while making a useful, reusable sponge. All experience levels welcome.

Equipment Available – (with staff assistance)

- 3D printers
- Button makers
- Cricut
- Heat presses
- Laminators
- Sublimation printer



• **Sewing machines (MUST complete Idea Zone 101 or show proficiency with equipment)**

Drop In!

Felt Flowers – During the month of April. April showers bring May Flowers. Make one flower or a whole bouquet throughout the month.

Drop In!

Comic Book Mania – During the month of April. Make your own comic books. We'll provide the template, you provide the imagination.

Drop In!

Mini Books – During the week of April 19-25. Celebrate National Library Week by creating a mini book to show off your library joy.

Drop In!

Bee Water Cups – During the month of May. Support the local bee population by making a pit stop that will also make your garden beautiful.





755 E. State St.
Cherry Valley, IL 61016
815.332.5161
cherryvalleylib.org

Library Hours

Monday - Thursday
9:00am - 8:00pm
Friday & Saturday
9:00am - 5:00pm
Sunday
1:00 - 5:00pm

Library Closed Dates

Sunday, April 5
Sunday, May 10
Monday, May 25
May 24 - September 1
Easter
Mother's Day
Memorial Day
CLOSED SUNDAYS

Spring Used Book Sale

Saturday, April 18 to Sunday, April 26



Shop the amazing selection of fiction, nonfiction, teen, kids' books, DVDs, and more! Stop by any time during the library's open hours to find some books for gift giving, or select a few presents for yourself. Spend \$10.00 or more to be entered into a prize

drawing for one of four gift cards to local businesses!

Please note - no donations are accepted

Sunday, April 12 - Sunday, April 26

We greatly appreciate all the donations we receive, but no donations will be accepted the two weeks of the book sale, including set-up time and book sale dates. This allows our volunteers to focus on our current inventory and make the book sale run smoothly. *Thank you for your understanding!*

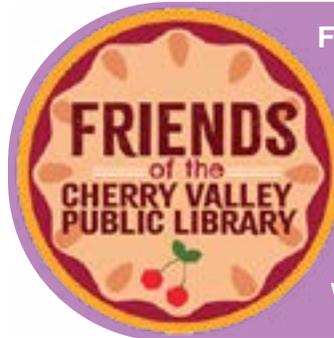
Friday, April 17 from noon to 4:00pm

Preview Sale

\$5 fee for annual Friends membership to enter

Saturday, April 25 and Sunday, April 26

Fill a bag for \$3!



Friends of the Library Meeting

Tuesday, May 12 at 6:45pm

Attend the Friends' quarterly meeting and help plan events and projects for the summer, including our Summer Reading Program.

Please go to our online calendar of events and register.

We hope to see you there!



Saturday, February 21; 10:00am - 4:00pm

Sunday, February 22; 1:00 - 4:00pm

Grab your family, neighbors, and friends for a weekend of golfing fun! Mini-putt through the indoor course that features some of your favorite book & movie characters for FREE! Reservations for tee times are encouraged, but drop-ins are also welcome.

After your round of golf, visit the snack bar where you can purchase treats. And, don't forget to bid on a huge variety of gift baskets and items in the Silent Auction that will culminate on Sunday evening. Many silent auction items will be on display prior to Mini-Golf for early bidding.

Village of Cherry Valley Upcoming Events

Questions?

Call the Village at 815 • 332 • 3441

- February 28 – Free Skate Night at Carlson Ice Arena from 6:30pm to 8:30pm
- April 4 – Easter Candy Scramble 1:30pm (Location TBD)
- May 1 – Citizen of the Year nominations due to Village Hall end of business day
- May 15-16 – Village wide garage sale from 8:00am to 4:00pm rain or shine