

Annual Report to the Town of Cortland- 2025-2026

The fiscal year ending April 30, 2026, proved to be another successful year at the library. We continued to provide many weekly programs for all ages including preschool story time, preschool playtime/music time, crochet for kids and adults, fine motor skills, STEAM club, young adult library lounge, book club, and movie club for adults. The library offered many one-time events, starting with our big Summer Reading kick-off party followed by a reptile show on the same day bringing in a total of 352 patrons. We also had a magic show, The Discovery Center, Smarty pants balloon show, Mad Science and we even hosted The Illinois Storm Chasers. The Library also makes it a point to participate in most of the other Town activities such as Summerfest, Touch-a-Truck and the Cortland Lions Egg hunt in which we provide crafts, activities and face painting. We love being able to be a part of providing these amazing programs to our community. To the best of our tracking abilities, we served approximately 5,056 people at our various programs. This includes our on-site and off-site programs. One of our smaller, but much appreciated services is the free Daily Chronicles we get for our patrons, we receive 10 a day and they are on a first come first serve basis. We also have many copies every week of the Midweek available.

We added a new product to our collection this year and we now have Tonies available for checkout. They are a new version of children's audiobooks that come loaded on a toy like character and play on a Tonie box. That have been a huge hit and our collection continues to grow as does the demand.

Our approved levy income for the 2026/2027 fiscal year is \$ 311,642. This is an increase of almost \$14,000 from last year. We also continued to receive our per capita grant from the state in the amount of \$6,487. We were fortunate enough to be named in an endowment fund established at the DeKalb County Community Foundations in which we receive an additional \$6,921 every year for programming. The library came in within budget with a carryover amount of \$145,000.

We did some renovations at the library this year and we installed new flooring throughout the front room of the building and we also installed some power poles to get rid of the cords running across the floors and updated some electrical issues. Our patrons and staff love the fresh look!

I had a board vacancy most of the year, but that seat has now been filled. We have a full staff, made up of 3 full time positions and various levels of part time positions. We have a great work team and I am impressed with everyone's love and dedication to the library.

Total fiscal year patron visits 32,973

Total circulation- 31,419 (physical material) + 4,890 (e material) = 36,309

Books-**25,061**

DVD's- **5,139**

Audio Books & CD's- **715**

Other-**420**

Magazines-**84**

ILL (Interlibrary loan) - loaned -**6,420** borrowed -**5,071**

A total of **11,491** items transported through our blue bins for the year.