

**AGENDA**

**Library Board of Trustees-Verona Public Library  
500 Silent Street Verona, WI 53593  
608-845-7180**

**Wednesday, May 6, 2026 at 6:30 p.m.  
Library Conference Room**

Call to order

- Approval of the Regular Meeting Minutes of 4/8/26
- Review and approval of the April 2026 invoices
- Public Comments
- City Council Liaison's report
- Library Director's report
- Old Business
  1. Discussion and update on the Library Space Needs Assessment
  2. Discussion regarding donor recognition policy
- New Business
  1. Preliminary discussion of 2027 library budget

## Library Board Meeting Notes

Library Board of Trustees-Verona Public Library  
500 Silent Street Verona, WI 53593  
608-845-7180

Wednesday, April 8, 2026 at 6:30 p.m.  
Library Conference Room

**Attendees:** Burkart, Hopp, Conwell, Jones, Franke, Spencer, Miller, Kellor

**Call to order:** Hopp called the meeting to order at 6:32 PM

**Approval of the Regular Meeting Minutes of 3/4/2026** - Kellor moved, 2nd by Franke. Motion carries.

**Review and approval of the March 2026 invoices** - Jones moved, 2nd by Kellor. Motion carries.

### Public Comments

None

### City Council Liaison's report:

- Public Works building land purchase has been approved.
- Aldi approved.

### Library Director's report:

- The library will be migrating to a new library system next week, 4/12/26 - 4/16/26.
- Mayor is making a proclamation for National Library Week. Board members are encouraged to attend.
- Several Verona Public Library staff attended the Public Library Association conference in Minneapolis/St. Paul. It was a great conference!

### Old Business

1. Discussion and update on the Library Space Needs Assessment
  - Hopp meeting with OPN next week to discuss ideas for expansion of the existing library.
  - Highlighted the importance of refining needs lists for proposed expansion.

### New Business

1. Discussion and possible action regarding the 2026 Adjacent County Reimbursement Request.
  - *Spencer moved to approve, 2nd by Kellor. Motion carries.*
2. Discussion regarding staff job descriptions review

- *moved to May meeting.*
- 3. Discussion regarding donor recognition policy
  - Board will review examples
  - *No action today*

**Adjournment:**

A motion to adjourn was made by Miller, 2nd by Kellor. Adjournment approved at 7:52 PM.

# Director's Report

## Verona Public Library

### April 2026

#### Circulation

Items circulated: this includes all items checked out and renewed from the library, including items requested by patrons from other libraries.

Items Circulated	2026	2025	2024	2023	2022	Average
January	47,842	49,310	48,218	47,722	46,024	47,823
February	43,611	44,262	47,599	46,003	42,218	44,739
March	50,643	52,126	50,433	52,026	49,314	50,908
April		47,280	45,552	46,674	47,514	46,755
May		46,806	43,352	44,226	42,775	44,290
June		58,000	57,330	59,454	52,827	56,903
July		61,051	60,127	58,102	52,448	57,932
August		55,597	55,179	58,081	55,184	56,010
September		47,037	46,523	45,429	45,066	46,011
October		45,869	47,097	47,785	42,440	45,798
November		42,023	46,203	44,975	43,939	44,285
December		44,901	44,005	43,655	42,000	43,640
<b>Total</b>	<b>142,096</b>	<b>594,262</b>	<b>591,618</b>	<b>594,132</b>	<b>561,749</b>	<b>585,438</b>

New Library Cards: The number of new library accounts created each month for patrons who reside in the City of Verona, does not reflect patrons' "home library" selection.

New Library Cards	2026	2025	2024	2023	2022	Average
January	148	212	171	188	119	168
February	149	106	176	137	149	143
March	119	212	189	176	155	170
April		119	150	152	129	138
May		108	124	142	140	129
June		197	262	290	344	273
July		206	217	218	239	220
August		207	195	212	206	205
September		121	136	141	141	135
October		114	187	170	150	155
November		122	148	119	144	133
December		111	117	128	122	120
<b>Total</b>	<b>416</b>	<b>1,835</b>	<b>2,072</b>	<b>2,073</b>	<b>2,038</b>	<b>2,005</b>

Holds Filled: Number of items checked out from our hold shelves per month, includes items pulled from our collection and items sent from other SCLS libraries.

<b>Holds Filled</b>	<b>2026</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>Average</b>
January	11,477	12,733	11,436	11,882	12,153	11,936
February	10,552	10,100	11,303	10,432	9,722	10,422
March	11,038	11,003	11,091	12,068	10,837	11,227
April		11,034	10,423	10,065	10,780	10,576
May		11,057	10,275	10,358	9,446	10,284
June		11,357	10,845	11,473	10,202	10,969
July		11,910	11,440	10,819	9,537	10,929
August		10,827	10,781	11,192	10,631	10,858
September		10,740	10,620	10,496	10,395	10,563
October		10,363	10,847	10,678	9,434	10,337
November		9,431	10,210	10,129	9,839	9,902
December		9,909	9,743	9,665	9,010	9,952
<b>Total</b>	<b>33,067</b>	<b>130,464</b>	<b>129,014</b>	<b>129,257</b>	<b>121,986</b>	<b>127,680</b>

## Reference

### Reference Statistics March 2026

Computer Lab Use: 767

Test Proctoring: 5 exams

Outer Library Loans: 71 requests

Personal Archiving Lab Sessions: 4

Library Visits: the number of people who pass through the front entrance of the library, as recorded by the automated people counting sensor.

<b>Library Visits</b>	<b>2026</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>Average</b>
January	18,202	18,476	16,183	16,114	10,780	15,951
February	17,722	17,627	18,492	15,945	11,193	16,196
March	20,100	20,406	19,457	18,160	13,628	18,397
April		20,127	17,727	18,062	16,488	18,101
May		18,158	17,169	16,049	12,366	15,936
June		24,154	23,528	22,204	16,624	21,628
July		25,821	23,261	20,232	17,057	21,593
August		23,134	22,187	22,619	18,830	21,693
September		17,974	17,053	14,958	13,890	15,969
October		19,427	19,832	17,011	14,009	17,570
November		16,624	16,116	16,152	15,729	16,155
December		17,187	15,805	16,190	13,552	16,434
<b>Total</b>	<b>56,024</b>	<b>239,115</b>	<b>226,810</b>	<b>213,696</b>	<b>174,146</b>	<b>213,442</b>

Reference Questions: Number of questions answered per month that qualify as reference questions as defined by the WI Department of Public Instruction. Changes reference question criteria were implemented in September 2024.

Reference Questions	2026	2025	2024	2023	2022	Average
January	1,464	1,338	1,929	1,640	1,061	1,486
February	1,351	1,260	2,161	1,638	1,653	1,613
March	1,540	1,489	1,989	1,830	1,758	1,721
April		1,747	2,004	1,896	1,226	1,718
May		1,223	1,995	2,031	1,117	1,592
June		1,678	2,638	2,487	2,183	2,247
July		1,734	2,144	2,058	1,691	1,907
August		1,519	2,242	2,331	2,075	2,042
September		1,491	1,490	1,837	1,341	1,540
October		1,492	1,804	1,840	1,566	1,676
November		1,235	1,340	1,836	1,628	1,510
December		1,307	1,431	1,835	1,356	1,482
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,355</b>	<b>17,513</b>	<b>23,394</b>	<b>23,259</b>	<b>18,655</b>	<b>20,649</b>

Meeting/Study Room Use: The total number of meeting room reservations for the Community Room, Conference Room, and Study Rooms each month as recorded by library room reservation software.

Room Use	2026	2025	2024	2023	2022	Average
January	568	647	560	474	164	483
February	604	636	674	487	206	521
March	575	661	575	524	272	521
April		675	569	506	305	514
May		606	551	509	328	499
June		565	519	422	314	460
July		636	490	423	316	466
August		565	499	538	411	534
September		588	521	172	327	402
October		664	676	512	398	563
November		554	634	528	453	542
December		529	591	495	396	503
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,747</b>	<b>7,326</b>	<b>6,859</b>	<b>5,590</b>	<b>3,890</b>	<b>5,952</b>

## Collection Management

Number of items added to and deleted from the library collection through March 2026. Due to the software migration, a technical services freeze started March 31 and lasted through April 16:

<b>Items Added</b>	<b>Books</b>	<b>Audio</b>	<b>Video games</b>	<b>Video</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Magazines</b>	<b>Total</b>
January	881	2	4	21	0	107	<b>1,015</b>
February	930	6	3	13	12	112	<b>1,076</b>
March	1,046	23	14	31	4	88	<b>1,206</b>
April							
May							
June							
July							
August							
Sept.							
October							
November							
December							
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,857</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>307</b>	<b>3,297</b>

<b>Items Deleted</b>	<b>Books</b>	<b>Audio</b>	<b>Video games</b>	<b>Video</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Magazines</b>	<b>Total</b>
January	1129	2	0	24	7	209	<b>1,371</b>
February	456	3	0	3	1	50	<b>513</b>
March	986	22	13	20	4	48	<b>1,093</b>
April							
May							
June							
July							
August							
Sept.							
October							
November							
December							
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,571</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>307</b>	<b>2,977</b>

## Personnel and Staff Development

The library was closed April 13 for an all-day staff training on the new ILS system. Staff also took a tour of the new Verona Community Center (in the old library building).

Amanda Jessup has been hired as the Youth Services Summer LTE; her first day will be May 11.

Stacey, Theresa, Ronda, Jess and Leah attended the PLA conference April 1-3.

Rue Ann Flesch from the UW-Madison iSchool will begin a 120-hour practicum in Adult Services on May 11. Tonja met with another iSchool student regarding a fall practicum opportunity.

Mark attended the webinar, *Library 2.0 Online Mini-Conference: Perspectives on A.I.*

Theresa attended two AI Workgroup Meetings with the City of Verona. She will continue to attend these meetings until an official AI policy has been drafted for the city.

## Equipment and Physical Facilities

Theresa and Ronda cleaned the sorter; this is something they do quarterly to help keep it running smoothly.

## Administration and Internal Operations

All of the South Central Library System libraries migrated to the new SirsiDynix integrated library system the week of April 12. Staff have been very busy learning the new system this month.

The library management team discussed 2027 budget priorities.

## Marketing and Public Relations

Facebook graphics & web/tv slides: 33

Fliers and bookmarks: 32

FB posts: 71

Instagram posts/reels: 6

FB followers: 5,862

Insta followers: 2,027

March Events Newsletter 1: 8,915 recipients; In the spotlight: **2025 Statistics Highlights**

March Events Newsletter 2: 8,900 recipients; In the spotlight: **LINKcat Changes are Coming Soon**

Abby, Maureen, Julie, Katie, and Tonja attended the monthly marketing meeting on March 31.

## Library System and Interagency Cooperation

Leah worked with BRMS librarian Melanie Galdes to facilitate programming at the middle school.

Jenny attended a WLA board meeting.

## Fundraising

The library has received \$9,275 in donations for the library endowment fund so far this year.

## Exhibits

### **2026 Community Banner Art**

April 6 – 22

Stop in to enjoy the entries in the 2026 Banner Art Competition. The competition was developed to showcase the unique talents of Verona student artists as well as to beautify our city. This year's theme is "Hometown Heroes." Banners are hung in the adult reading area on bookshelf end caps.

### **Frank Lloyd Wright's Unitarian Meeting House at 75**

April 27 – May 8

This year marks the 75th anniversary of the Unitarian Meeting House, widely regarded as one of Frank Lloyd Wright's most significant achievements. Through a blend of narrative and archival photographs and documents, this exhibit explores the planning, construction, and preservation of this deeply personal work—a National Historic Landmark that redefined the concept of sacred space since its completion in 1951.

## Library Events and Programs

### **1000 Books before Kindergarten**

13 kids were registered this month, bringing the total number of registrants to 2954.

### **Kids' Events**

#### **Minecraft Club**

Thursday, April 2, 4:00 – 5:30 pm

For ages 7-11. Play Minecraft in both creative and survival worlds! Join the library's shared Realm and play with other kids in the club.

Attendees: 23

#### **Parent/Child Book Club: Olivetti**

Tuesday, April 7, 5:30 – 6:30 pm

For ages 8-11. In March, Parent/Child Book Club will discuss the novel *Olivetti* by Allie Millington.

Attendees: 11

#### **April Showers Story Time**

Wednesday, April 8, 6:30 – 7:00 pm

For ages 2-6. Join us for stories and songs about April rain showers!

Attendees: 7

### **Pokémon Club**

Thursday, April 9, 4:00 – 5:00 pm

Ages 6-11. Join fellow Pokémon fanatics for a Pokémon related activity each month. Bring your Gameboy, Switch, or learn to play the trading card game and compete against other kids! Bring your own deck or borrow one of ours. No registration.

Attendees: 11

### **Stuffed Animal Sleepover**

Friday, April 10, 3:00 – 6:00 pm

For ages 0-11. Drop off your stuffed animal at the children's desk for a fun, overnight adventure! Then check out photos showing the stuffed animals' adventures posted to the Verona Public Library Facebook page the following day. Pick up your stuffie any time the library is open on Saturday, April 11. *The sleepover photos received a high amount of traffic on Facebook.*

Attendees: 33

### **Crochet Workshop**

Friday, April 10, 3:30 – 4:30 pm

All ages. Registration required. Crochet help for if you're stuck, need guidance on a new skill or stitch, or just picking out a new project! Please register for one 15-minute session per person. Assistance provided by Mara from the Sow's Ear. *Cancelled due to illness.*

### **Read to a Dog**

Friday, April 10, 4:00 – 5:30 pm and Saturday, April 18, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Ages 5-11. Registration required. Grab your favorite book and read to a furry friend.

Attendees: 8, 12

### **Toddler Art and Play**

Tuesday, April 21, 10:00 – 11:00 am

For ages 1-3. Toddler Art and Play is a drop-in program that includes messy process art and sensory play for toddlers ages 1-3. We recommend wearing clothes that can get messy.

Attendees: 53

### **Read to a Dog**

Wednesday, April 22, 4:00 – 5:30 pm

Ages 5-11. Registration required. Grab your favorite book and read to a furry friend.

Attendees: 6

### **Beginning Crochet**

Friday, April 10, 4:30 – 5:30 pm

Ages 8-15. Registration required. Learn the basics of crochet like holding the yarn and hook, chaining, and the single crochet stitch with Mara from the Sow's Ear. Yarn and tools will be provided. *Rescheduled from April 10 due to illness.*

Attendees: 0

## **Upcoming In-Library Kids' Events**

### **Spring Story Time**

March 30 – May 8

Baby Story Time: Fridays at 10:30 am and 1:00 pm

Toddler Story Time: Mondays and Wednesdays at 9:30 am

Preschool Story Time: Mondays and Wednesdays at 10:30 am

Sensory Story Time: Thursdays at 9:30 am

Everybody Story Time: Thursdays at 10:30 am

### **Spring Story Time**

Saturday, April 25, 9:30 – 10:00 am

Designed for ages 0-5. Join us for a spring-themed story time with books, songs, and rhymes.

### **Read to a Dog**

Saturday, April 26, 1:30 – 3:00 pm

Ages 5-11. Registration required. Grab your favorite book and read to a furry friend.

### **Favorite Books & Bites: Chronicles of Narnia**

Monday, April 27, 4:00 – 5:00 pm

For ages 8-11. Discuss the Chronicles of Narnia series, plus enjoy activities and snacks related to the books. Pick up a copy of the first book of the series, *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* by C.S. Lewis at the children's desk to read in advance, or if you're already a fan, just sign up and join us.

### **Child Development Story Time**

Tuesday, April 28, 10:30 – 11:00 am

Designed for ages 2-5. Join a member of CI Pediatric Therapy Centers' staff for an interactive story time of books, songs, movement, crafts and fun!

### **Free Comic Book Day**

Saturday, May 3, 10:30 am – 3:00 pm

Designed for ages 6-17. Drop by the Verona Library to pick up some free comics for kids and teens. Comics available while supplies last. Thanks to Westfield Comics for partnering with us so we could provide comics for our community!

### **Music & Movement Story Time**

Tuesday, May 5, 10:30 – 11:00 am

For ages 1-5. Join us for an active Music and Movement Story Time, which includes singing, dancing, instruments, and stories.

### **Parent/Child Book Club: Island of the Blue Dolphins**

Tuesday, May 5, 5:30 – 6:30 pm

For ages 8-11. In May, Parent/Child Book Club will discuss the novel *Island of the Blue Dolphins* by Scott O'Dell.

### **Story Time Mending**

Wednesday, May 6, 9:30 – 11:00 am

For adults. Does your child have a favorite toy with a dangling arm or missing eye? Has their beloved baby quilt sprouted a hole or a torn binding? Does your child insist on wearing that sweatshirt with the loose pocket? Local resident Nancy will offer free mending services during story time on Wednesdays.

### **Birthday Story Time**

Wednesday, May 6, 6:30 – 7:00 pm

For ages 2-6. Join us for stories and songs about birthdays!

### **Minecraft Club**

Thursday, May 7, 4:00 – 5:30 pm

For ages 7-11. Play Minecraft in both creative and survival worlds! Join the library's shared Realm and play with other kids in the club.

### **Crochet Workshop**

Friday, May 8, 3:30 – 4:30 pm

All ages. Registration required. Crochet help for if you're stuck, need guidance on a new skill or stitch, or just picking out a new project! Please register for one 15-minute session per person. Assistance provided by Mara from the Sow's Ear.

### **Beginning Crochet**

Friday, May 8, 4:30 – 5:30 pm

Ages 8-15. Registration required. Learn the basics of crochet like holding the yarn and hook, chaining, and the single crochet stitch with Mara from the Sow's Ear. Yarn and tools will be provided. *Rescheduled due to illness.*

### **Read to a Dog**

Friday, May 8, 4:00 – 5:30 pm and Saturday, May 9, 1:30 – 3:00 pm

Ages 5-11. Registration required. Grab your favorite book and read to a furry friend.

### **Child Development Story Time**

Tuesday, May 12, 10:30 – 11:00 am

Designed for ages 2-5. Join a member of CI Pediatric Therapy Centers' staff for an interactive story time of books, songs, movement, crafts and fun!

### **Kindermusik**

Wednesday, May 13, 9:30 – 10:00 am

For ages 0-5. The Wonder Studio presents a demo Kindermusik class for ages 0-5 and accompanying adult. Come sing, play, and move with us!

### **Chat & Chew Book Club: The Holes Series**

Wednesday, May 13, 6:00 – 7:00 pm

For ages 12-14. Calling all 12-14 year-olds! We are starting a new book club just for you!! Each month we will discuss a standalone book or a series, plus enjoy activities and snacks related to the book(s). In May, we will discuss the Holes series by Louis Sachar.

### **Spanish Story Time/Hora de Cuentos**

Thursday, May 14, 10:30 – 11:00 am

Designed for ages 3-6. Para edades 3-6. Join Mr. Ricardo for Spanish story time, an event where kiddos and caregivers can participate in interactive activities such as music and songs, finger plays, bounces, rhythms, rhymes, puppets and more.

### **Pokémon Club**

Thursday, May 14, 4:00 – 5:00 pm

Ages 6-11. Join fellow Pokémon fanatics for a Pokémon related activity each month. Bring your Gameboy, Switch, or learn to play the trading card game and compete against other kids! Bring your own deck or borrow one of ours. No registration.

### **Daniel Tiger: Angry Feelings Story Time**

Friday, May 15, 10:00 – 10:30 am

Designed for ages 2-5. Hear Daniel Tiger stories and sing songs about coping with angry feelings, then join in an activity, discussion, and a brief Q&A with child therapists from Kind Therapy, LLC.

### **Read to a Dog**

Saturday, May 16, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Ages 5-11. Registration required. Grab your favorite book and read to a furry friend.

### **Favorite Books & Bites: The Lemonade War Series**

Monday, May 18, 4:00 – 5:00 pm

For ages 8-11. Discuss the Lemonade War series, plus enjoy activities and snacks related to the books.

### **Utka Ensemble: Storybook Music Project**

Monday, May 18, 4:30 – 5:15 pm

For all ages. Join the Utka Ensemble for a free musical story time at the library! A great way to introduce children to the power (and fun!) of classical music, the Utka musicians will present diverse children's picture books alongside carefully curated music. From beloved classics like Peter Rabbit to newer favorites, it's an experience for the whole family to enjoy. The ensemble features piano, oboe and violin. This event is sponsored by Beyond the Page, National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Madison Community Foundation.

### **Toddler Art and Play**

Tuesday, May 19, 10:00 – 11:00 am

For ages 1-3. Toddler Art and Play is a drop-in program that includes messy process art and sensory play for toddlers ages 1-3. We recommend wearing clothes that can get messy.

### **Read to a Dog**

Saturday, May 19, 4:00 – 5:30 pm and Wednesday, May 20, 4:00 – 5:30 pm

Ages 5-11. Registration required. Grab your favorite book and read to a furry friend.

### **Tween Craft: Comics Club**

Thursday, May 21, 5:00 – 6:00 pm

For ages 8-11. Write your own graphic novel or comic book and connect with other comics fans. Continue a story you already started or invent something brand new!

### **Ocean Story Time**

Saturday, May 23, 9:30 – 10:00 am

Designed for ages 1-5. Join us for an ocean-themed story time with books, songs, and rhymes.

### **Robotics and STEM with StemForce**

Saturday, May 30, 1:30 – 2:30 pm

Designed for ages 6-11. The StemForce robotics team of local middle schoolers will bring their team's First Tech challenge robot and allow participants to learn more about STEM and robotics, plus get hands-on experience with their robot. Caregivers are welcome but do not need to register.

### **Teen Events**

#### **Crafty Tuesday**

Tuesday, March 3, 4:00 pm

Stop by Teen Central for DIY projects. Create throughout the week, as supplies last. *Comments: Teens chose from a number of relaxing paint-by-sticker art pieces!*

Attendees: 12

#### **BRMS Make'n'munch**

Thursday, April 16, 11:00 – 1:30 pm

Students at Badger Ridge Middle School who have signed up for library during lunch can enjoy some crafting time. *Comments: teens had a fun time perusing recycled scrap paper and comics, choosing pieces to collage together onto magnet sheets. Once completed, they could write messages and speech bubbles on them with a dry erase marker! Some described their finished projects as, "aura" and "lit," meaning they were all excited about them.*

Attendees: 28

#### **Japanese Marbling**

Thursday, April 16, 7:00 – 8:00 pm

Try Suminagashi: the art of Japanese water marbling! We'll create rice paper ink prints.

*Comments: After learning the basics, teens spent a meditative hour playing with water, brushes, and color. All of them created multiple, colorful prints and enjoyed experimenting with different techniques and sharing them to enhance their results!*

Attendees: 9

## **Murder Mystery Night**

Friday, April 24, 7:00 – 8:30 pm

Solve a murder at the library by searching for clues, cracking codes, and opening locks. Find the answer before the culprit strikes again! *Comments: Teens had a great time exploring the library after-hours, completing a scavenger hunt of clues and working together to create hypotheses! While some kids really focused on figuring things out, others enjoyed socializing and finding evidence. Some new faces said they “had a really fun time!”*

Attendees: 26

## **Upcoming Teen Events**

### **Donuts & Gaming**

Thursday, April 30, 4:00 – 5:30 pm

Snack on donuts and more! Face off on the Nintendo Switch or SNES, try a board game or puzzle, or bring your own device. Stay and enjoy the good vibes or drop in for a sweet treat!

### **Crafty Tuesday**

Tuesday, May 5, 4:00 pm

Stop by Teen Central for DIY projects. Create throughout the week, as supplies last.

### **Chat & Chew Book Club: Holes Series**

Thursday, April 16, 7:00 – 8:00 pm

Calling all 12-14 year-olds! We are starting a new book club just for you! Each month we will discuss a standalone book or a series, plus enjoy activities and snacks related to the book(s). In May, we will discuss the Holes series by Louis Sachar. Pick up a copy of the first and/or second book of the series, Holes and/or Small Steps at the children's desk to read in advance, or if you're already a fan, just sign up and join us.

### **BRMS Make'n'munch**

Thursday, May 21, 11:00 – 1:30 pm

Students at Badger Ridge Middle School who have signed up for library during lunch can enjoy some crafting time.

### **Donuts & Gaming**

Thursday, May 28, 4:00 – 5:30 pm

Snack on donuts and more! Face off on the Nintendo Switch or SNES, try a board game or puzzle, or bring your own device. Stay and enjoy the good vibes or drop in for a sweet treat!

## **Adult Events**

### **Distance Learning English Classes for Adults**

Mondays 6:00 – 7:30 pm, Level: Beginner, January 26 – April 28, 2026

Tuesdays 6:00 – 8:00 pm, Level: Intermediate, January 20 – April 28, 2026

This free group English class will be offered mostly online using Zoom. You will practice speaking,

listening, reading, writing and new vocabulary in English. This class is presented in partnership with Literacy Network. The last class of session meets in-person at the library.

April 6, attendees: 8

April 7, attendees: 2

April 13, attendees: 10

April 14, attendees: 2

April 20, attendees: 14

April 21, attendees: 2

### **Drop-In Tech Help**

Tuesdays, 9:00 – 11:00 am

Struggling with your phone, tablet or laptop? Simply drop by the library on a Tuesday or Thursday between the hours of 9:00 -11:00 am for help from a knowledgeable librarian. Bring your questions about topics like getting started with the Libby app, setting up an email account, word processing, storing pictures, navigating social media platforms, and troubleshooting software issues.

March 31, attendees: 5

April 7, attendees: 1

April 14, attendees: 0

April 21, attendees: 3

### **Memory Café**

Tuesday, April 7, 3:30 – 5:00 pm

A "memory café" is a social gathering designed for individuals experiencing early dementia and memory loss, along with their caregivers or loved ones. Come to connect, socialize, and build support networks in a comfortable and welcoming environment centered around conversation over coffee.

Attendees: 4

### **Library Yarns Craft Group**

Wednesdays, 4:30 – 6:00 pm

If you enjoy knitting, crocheting, embroidery, or another needlecraft, please join us at this weekly drop-in stitching circle hosted by the library. Meet up with other fiber art enthusiasts, learn new techniques, exchange ideas, or find inspiration for your next project.

April 1, attendees: 12

April 8, attendees: 14

April 15, attendees: 13

April 22, attendees: 13

### **Growing a Pollinator Friendly Garden**

Tuesday, March 31, 6:30 – 7:30 pm

Pollinators are responsible for one out of every three bites we take in a day. They help plants to produce seeds, fruits and vegetables. In addition, pollinators play a vital role healthy ecosystems which clean the air, stabilize soils, protect from severe weather, and support wildlife. Many pollinator populations are in decline, a fact attributed to a loss in feeding and

nesting habitats. Come and learn which plants to grow, how to design and space them, and how best to care for a garden that will delight both you and pollinators all season long. Hosted by the Verona Sustainability Task Force along with the Sugar River Gardeners.

Attendees: 38

### **Adult Art Club**

Wednesday, April 8, 6:00 – 8:00 pm

Feeling crafty but seeking a little camaraderie as you create? This is the club for you! Bring in whatever project (sewing, knitting, drawing, etc.) you're working on, or select from provided supplies to do adult coloring or Zentangle. The atmosphere is informal and supportive, so come enjoy some social time while pursuing your artistic interests!

Attendees: 1

### **From Wood to Watercraft: Dugout Canoes of Wisconsin**

Thursday, April 9, 6:30 – 7:30 pm

Sissel Schroeder, Professor of Anthropology at UW Madison, will educate us about the Wisconsin Dugout Canoe Survey Project.

Attendees: 45

### **Historical Fiction Book Club**

Friday, April 10, 10:00 – 11:00 am

This month we will read and discuss *Absolution* by Alice McDermott.

Attendees: 5

### **Hands-Only CPR\***

Tuesday, April 14, 6:30 – 7:30 pm

Hands-Only CPR can be just as effective as conventional CPR. The Fitch-Rona EMS will teach us what Hands-Only CPR is and how to give it. The power is in your hands.

\*Cancelled due to weather

### **Printing Workshop: Drypoint Etching**

Wednesday, April 15, 6:30 – 8:00 pm

Learn a modern version of this 15th century printmaking technique, using ordinary plastic and water-based materials.

Attendees: 12

### **Coffee with the Classics**

Friday, April 17, 10:00 am – 12:30 pm

This month we will watch *Singin' in the Rain*.

Attendees: 5

### **Antiques Appraisal Event**

Saturday, April 18, 10:00 am – 1:00 pm

We are excited to host an antique and collectibles appraisal event featuring author and

antiques expert, Mark F. Moran. Bring your antique/collectible items to see what, if any, historical or monetary value they may have. Mr. Moran was a guest expert on the PBS program, Antiques Roadshow, for nine seasons and is the author or co-author of more than 25 books on antiques and collectibles. If you don't have an item to appraise, feel free to come and observe!  
Attendees: 62

### **Taste for Mystery Book Club**

Monday, April 20, 10:00 – 11:00 am

This month we will read and discuss *In the Woods* by Tara French.

Attendees: 4

### **Mosaic Knit Along**

Monday, April 20, 4:30 – 6:00 pm

Join Library Yarns for a mosaic knit along with the popular Pressed Flowers motif. Mosaic knitting is a colorwork knitting technique with only one color worked per row, invented by late knitting revolutionary Barbara G Walker. Over three sessions, we will learn the history and basics of mosaic knitting with the Pressed Flowers project of your choice. This program is appropriate for intermediate knitters comfortable with casting on and binding off, knitting and purling, and basic increases and decreases. You will be responsible for your own materials for your project; yarn, needles, etc.

Attendees: 10

### **VPL Cookbook Club: Southern Food**

Tuesday, April 21, 6:30 – 8:00 pm

Fried green tomatoes, anyone? Let's enjoy a Southern food experience this month!

Attendees: 16

### **AI Workshop: Privacy, Terms, and Boundaries**

Wednesday, April 22, 6:30 – 8:00 pm

Artificial intelligence (AI) is showing up everywhere, and it can feel confusing or intimidating to know where to begin. This workshop series offers a supportive, beginner-friendly introduction to AI in a guided and low-pressure setting.

Attendees: 3

### **Card Making Workshop: Spring Fling**

Friday, April 24, 3:30 – 5:00 pm

Indulge in some spring cheer as you make four fabulous floral cards which you can then use to spread that cheer!

Attendees: 13

## **Upcoming Adult Events**

### **Distance Learning English Classes for Adults**

May 26 – August 11

Mondays 6:00 – 7:30 pm, Beginner

Tuesdays 6:00 – 8:00 pm, Intermediate

This class is offered mostly online using Zoom. Practice speaking, listening, reading, and writing in English. Students will receive free English textbooks by mail. In partnership with Literacy Network.

### **Drop-In Tech Help**

Tuesdays, 9:00 – 11:00 am

Struggling with your phone, tablet or laptop? Simply drop by the library on a Tuesday or Thursday between the hours of 9:00 -11:00 am for help from a knowledgeable librarian. Bring your questions about topics like getting started with the Libby app, setting up an email account, word processing, storing pictures, navigating social media platforms, and troubleshooting software issues.

### **Memory Café**

First Tuesday of each month, 3:30 – 5:00 pm

A "memory café" is a social gathering designed for individuals experiencing early dementia and memory loss, along with their caregivers or loved ones. Come to connect, socialize, and build support networks in a comfortable and welcoming environment centered around conversation over coffee.

### **Library Yarns Craft Group**

Meets each Wednesday. Drop-in between 4:30 – 6:00 pm

If you enjoy knitting, crochet, embroidery, or another needlecraft, please join us at a drop-in stitching circle. Meet up with other fiber art enthusiasts, learn new techniques, exchange ideas, or find inspiration for your next project. All skill levels welcome.

### **Mosaic Knit Along**

Monday, April 27 and May 11, 4:30 – 6:00 pm

Join Library Yarns for a mosaic knit along with the popular Pressed Flowers motif. Mosaic knitting is a colorwork knitting technique with only one color worked per row, invented by late knitting revolutionary [Barbara G Walker](#). Over three sessions, we will learn the history and basics of mosaic knitting with the Pressed Flowers project of your choice: choose from the kerchief below (free pattern linked below); a potholder/dishcloth (pattern provided in class); or bring your own pattern from those in the Ravelry collection below. This program is appropriate for intermediate knitters comfortable with casting on and binding off, knitting and purling, and basic increases and decreases. You will be responsible for your own materials for your project; yarn, needles, etc.

**Verona Aspiring Writers Group**

Monday, April 27 and May 11, 7:00 – 8:00 pm

The Aspiring Writers Group offers constructive feedback and inspiration to writers and aspiring writers of all genres.

Want to get a blog started or grow one? Hoping to be published in a magazine? Trying to finish or fine-tune the next great American novel? We welcome all!

**Verona Public Library 20<sup>th</sup> Building Anniversary Party**

Wednesday, May 6, 4:30 – 6:30 pm

The library building is turning 20! Come and celebrate all of the wonderful things that have happened so far within these walls! There will be cake and punch to enjoy, crafts and activities in which to participate, and a special birthday story time at 6:30 pm for little kids to follow!

**Frank Lloyd Wright's Unitarian Meeting House at 75**

Wednesday, May 6, 6:30 – 7:30 pm

This year marks the 75th anniversary of the Unitarian Meeting House, widely regarded as one of Frank Lloyd Wright's most significant achievements. Through a blend of narrative and archival photographs and documents, this presentation explores the planning, construction, and preservation of this deeply personal work—a National Historic Landmark that redefined the concept of sacred space since its completion in 1951.

**White Jasmine Cooking Class**

Thursday, May 7, 6:30 – 7:30 pm

Join us for another delicious evening with [White Jasmine](#)'s Huma Siddiqui-Seitz as she demonstrates the steps and shares the recipes for traditional Pakistani dishes.

This program's menu will feature Mediterranean vegetable tagine and couscous with green onions, spinach and cilantro with Tandoori Masala.

**Historical Fiction Book Club**

Friday, May 8, 10:00 – 11:00 am

This month we will read and discuss [What the Wind Knows](#), by Amy Harmon.

**Celebrating 250 Years of Tea in America**

Saturday, May 9, 1:00 – 2:00 pm

Do you like tea? Do you like history? What about delicious and elegant food? If you answered yes to one or all of these questions, this is definitely the event for you! Author, Journalist and Speaker Veronica Hinke will highlight the history of tea and tea parties in America, with a particular focus on the Victorian, Edwardian, and Prohibition eras.

**Stop the Bleed**

Tuesday, May 12, 6:30 – 7:30 pm

Stop the Bleed training, led by members of the Fitch-Rona EMS, empowers people to act

quickly and be the help until help arrives. You will learn how to use your hands, dressings and tourniquets to control bleeding to immediately assist people with massive or uncontrolled bleeding until professional responders arrive.

### **Library Yarns: Yarn and Materials Swap**

Wednesday, May 13, 4:30 – 6:30 pm

Got extra yarn or yarn-related projects/supplies you aren't using? Others do too! Bring your unwanted things and take a look around for something you might be able to use.

### **Spanish for Beginners: Ordering at Restaurants**

Wednesday, May 13, 6:30 – 7:30 pm

Join Spanish instructor Shannon Lucy for another fun and educational opportunity to learn some Spanish. This class will focus on ordering at restaurants.

### **Voter Information and Registration**

Saturday, May 16, 1:30 – 3:30 pm

Stop by to get information about voting and/or register to vote. Volunteers from the nonpartisan League of Women Voters will be on hand to answer your questions.

### **A Taste for Mystery Book Club**

Monday, May 18, 10:00 – 11:00 am

This month we will read and discuss [\*The Maid\*](#), by Nita Prose.

### **Selecting and Growing Annuals**

Wednesday, May 20, 6:30 – 7:30 pm

Join master gardener and UW Horticulture Extension volunteer Katie Hartman to learn which annuals to select and when/where to plant them for maximum garden health and beauty.

### **Coffee with the Classics**

Friday, May 22, 10:00 am – 12:30 pm

This month we will watch *An American in Paris*.

## THE BETTY J. KARWEICK VIRTUAL AUTHOR TALKS SERIES

Welcome to *The Betty J. Karweick Virtual Author Talks Series*, presented in partnership with the Library Speakers Consortium. Here you will have access to live virtual visits including interactive questions and answers with bestselling authors and talks on a broad assortment of topics given by experts in their fields. Recordings of talks will be available for viewing after live event.

### **Author Talk: The History of US Women Astronauts**

Thursday, April 2, 1:00 – 2:00 pm

Total Views: 25

### **Author Talk: Writing Action-Packed Spycraft with Brad Taylor**

Tuesday, April 14, 6:00 – 7:00 pm

Total Views: 7

### **Author Talk: Lush Lyricism & Intimate Confessions w/Miranda Cowley Heller**

Wednesday, April 22, 1:00 – 2:00 pm

Total Views: 0

### **Upcoming Events:**

#### **Author Talk: Jason Reynolds**

Thursday, April 30, 6:00 – 7:00 pm

Jason Reynolds is an award-winning and #1 New York Times bestselling author. Join us in conversation with Jason as we discuss his latest work, *Coach*, the fifth—and last—entry in the highly popular *Track* series.

#### **Author Talk: The Transformative Power of Love with Marjan Kamali**

Thursday, May 7, 6:00 – 7:00 pm

Join us for an exciting conversation with internationally acclaimed author Marjan Kamali as we delve into the timeless wonder of her *New York Times* bestselling novel, *The Lion Women of Tehran*.

#### **Author Talk: Robot-Proof Your Kids (and Yourself) with Dr. Vivienne Ming**

Tuesday, May 12, 1:00 – 2:00 pm

Join us for a timely conversation on AI, humanity, and the next steps towards building a better future with self-proclaimed “mad scientist” Dr. Vivienne Ming as we discuss her new book, *Robot-Proof: When Machines Have All the Answers, Build Better People*.

#### **Author Talk: Reshape Your Beliefs with Nir Eyal**

Tuesday, May 19, 1:00 – 2:00

What if the only thing standing between you and the seemingly impossible...was belief? This is the question posed by bestselling author Nir Eyal in his new work, *Beyond Belief*.

## Outreach

### **Outreach Events**

#### **Outreach story times:**

Total daycare story time presentations: 12

#### **Books 'n Booze at Stone Porch Alehouse**

Thursday, March 26, 6:00–7:00 pm

The group discussed *American Spy* by Sally Hepworth.

Attendees: 9

#### **Homeschool Group Visit**

Wednesday, April 1, 10:30–11:30 am

A local homeschool group visited the library to take a tour, listen to a few books, and learn about the work librarians do. *Comments: The children in this group were fascinated by the sorter machine!*

Attendees: 17

#### **Verona Eggstravaganza**

Saturday, April 4, 9:00 am–12:00 pm

The library had a table for a book giveaway and craft at the Chamber of Commerce's annual egg hunt for the community. *Comments: The rainy and chilly weather impacted attendance, but many participants loved getting a free book!*

Attendees: 144

#### **YMCA After School Program at New Century/Verona Area International School**

Monday, April 6, 2:45–3:15 pm

Crafts and stories at the afterschool program at New Century/Verona Area International School.

Attendees: 28

#### **Senior Center Book Group**

Wednesday, April 8, 10:00–11:00 am

The group discussed *How to Solve Your Own Murder* by Kristin Perrin.

Attendees: 21

#### **YMCA After School Program at Country View**

Thursday, April 9, 2:40–3:10 pm

Crafts and stories at the afterschool program at Country View.

Attendees: 18

#### **Country View Kindergarten Field Trip**

Friday, April 10, 9:00–10:00 am

The kindergarten classes from Country View visited the library for a read aloud and tour of the building.

Attendees: 56

### **Story Time at The Sow's Ear**

Tuesday, April 14, 10:00–10:30 am

Join us for story time at The Sow's Ear! Enjoy a story time, craft project, and other activities for children and their caregivers. Geared toward ages 2-5, siblings welcome.

Attendees: 12

### **YMCA After School Program at Sugar Creek**

Tuesday, April 21, 3:00–3:30 pm

Crafts and stories at the afterschool program at Sugar Creek.

Attendees: 16

### **YMCA After School Program at Glacier Edge**

Tuesday, April 21, 3:15–4:00 pm

Crafts and stories at the afterschool program at Glacier Edge.

Attendees: 19

### **Senior Center Field Trip**

Wednesday, April 22, 10:00–11:00 am

Members of the Verona Senior Center visited the library to learn about the services the library offers and go on a tour of the building. *Comments: The participants had a lot of questions about how the library works, and several said it was their first time at this library. Many said they learned a lot after the program wrapped up.*

Attendees: 19

### **Noel Manor Book Group**

Wednesday, April 22, 10:30–11:30 am

The group discussed *Still Life* by Louise Penny.

Attendees: 6

### **Prairie Oaks Book Group**

Thursday, April 23, 1:30–2:30 pm

The group read *The Long Flight Home* by Alan Hlad.

Attendees: 3

## **Upcoming Outreach Events**

**Books and Booze at Stone Porch Alehouse**

Thursday, April 23, 6:00–7:00 pm

The group will be discussing *The Serviceberry* by Robin Wall Kimmerer.

**Four Winds Book Group**

Tuesday, April 28, 10:00–11:00 am

The residents will meet to discuss *Framed* by John Grisham and Jim McCloskey.

**Literacy Night at Glacier Edge**

Thursday, April 30, 5:00–7:00 pm

The library will provide a literacy activity and library information for students at Glacier Edge.

**YMCA After School Program at New Century/Verona Area International School**

Monday, May 4, 2:45–3:15 pm

Crafts and stories at the afterschool program at New Century/Verona Area International School.

**Always There Fair**

Saturday, May 9, 9:00 am–12:00 pm

The library will have a table with information and a craft project at this event at Badger Ridge Middle School, presented by the GSAs from schools around the district.

**Story Time at The Sow's Ear**

Tuesday, May 12, 10:00–10:30 am

Join us for story time at The Sow's Ear! Enjoy a story time, craft project, and other activities for children and their caregivers. Geared toward ages 2-5, siblings welcome.

**YMCA After School Program at Sugar Creek**

Tuesday, May 12, 3:00–3:30 pm

Crafts and stories at the afterschool program at Sugar Creek.

**Senior Center Book Group**

Wednesday, May 13, 10:00–11:00 am

The group will be reading *The Reading List* by Sara Nisha Adams.

**YMCA After School Program at Country View**

Thursday, May 14, 2:40–3:10 pm

Crafts and stories at the afterschool program at Country View.

**Bilingual Community Resource Fair at Verona Area High School**

Monday, May 18, 10:30 am–1:30 pm

The library will have a table at the high school to promote library resources and teen volunteer opportunities.

**YMCA After School Program at Glacier Edge**

Tuesday, May 19, 3:15–4:00 pm

Crafts and stories at the afterschool program at Glacier Edge.

**YMCA After School Program at Core Knowledge Charter School**

Tuesday, May 19, 3:45–4:15 pm

Crafts and stories at the afterschool program at Core Knowledge Charter School.

**Noel Manor Book Group**

Wednesday, May 27, 10:30–11:30 am

The group will be discussing *The Cold Millions* by Jess Walter.

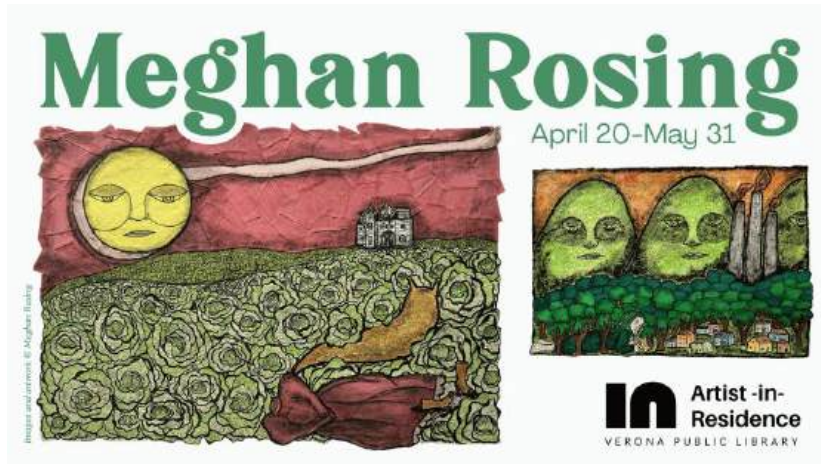
**Prairie Oaks Book Group**

Thursday, June 4, 1:30–2:30 pm

The group will be reading *The Mystery Guest* by Nita Prose.

## SPRING ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE

April 20 – May 31



### **Artist-in-Residence Studio Times**

*All Studio Times are 12:00 – 4:00 pm*

April 24, 25, and 30

May 2, 4, 9, 15, 16, 23, 30 and 31

### **Workshops**

#### **Memory and Narrative Art Workshop**

Thursday, April 30, 6:30 – 8:00 pm

This workshop, being run by Meghan Rosing, our Spring Artist-in-Residence, will offer writing exercises that will prompt parties to draw on their own memories and childhood images to generate ideas and create their own narrative collage.

#### **Scraps Workshop**

Saturday, May 16, 10:30 am – 12:00 pm

This open-ended art project guided by Meghan Rosing, our Spring Artist-in-Residence, will introduce her fabric and paper collage approach to making art. Participants will create colorful pictures by cutting, ripping and gluing down scraps of paper and fabric to create vibrant pictures. There will be simple templates available, as well as materials for making an original art creation.

#### **Pennsylvania Pastoral: Discussing Childhood Memory and Place**

Tuesday, May 19, 6:30 – 8:00 pm

This conversational presentation and Q&A will share details about the inspirations behind Meghan's work as well as details for her process, with plenty of visual examples.