

**AGENDA**

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

**Wednesday, March 6, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.  
Library Conference Room**

**Call to order**

- Approval of the Regular Meeting Minutes of 2/7/24
- Review and approval of the February 2024 invoices
- Public Comments
- City Council Liaison's report
- Library Director's report
- Old Business
  - 1. Discussion and possible action regarding the 2024 closed dates
- New Business
  - 1. Discussion of library strategic planning

## **MEETING MINUTES**

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

**Wednesday, February 7, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.**  
**Library Conference Room**

### **Attendees:**

Present – Burkart, Conwell, Cronin, Frey, Fuller, Hopp, Jones, Spencer

Absent - None

**Call to order:** Hopp called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm.

**Approval of the Regular Meeting Minutes of 1/3/2024:** Spencer requested amendment of minutes document to reflect that they are minutes not an agenda. Moved by Spencer seconded by Jones. Motion carried 7-0.

**Review and approval of the January 2024 invoices:** Moved by Conwell seconded by Spencer. Motion carried 7-0.

**Public Comments:** None.

**City Council Liaison's report:** All households in Verona have or will receive notice of any change to their polling location. No February primary in the City of Verona, Spring General Election is 4/2/2024, polls open from 7 am to 8 pm.

The 2024 Recreation Spring & Summer Program Guide is out and a link to view program offerings and get signed up can be found on the City of Verona website.

[https://www.canva.com/design/DAFztJmgcBE/QAUm8lvUDb\\_7dBkDQmu4lQ/view?utm\\_content=DAFztJmgcBE&utm\\_campaign=designshare&utm\\_medium=link&utm\\_source=viewer](https://www.canva.com/design/DAFztJmgcBE/QAUm8lvUDb_7dBkDQmu4lQ/view?utm_content=DAFztJmgcBE&utm_campaign=designshare&utm_medium=link&utm_source=viewer)

**Library Director's report:** Carpet project will start April 29<sup>th</sup>. The Board will need to review and approve new closed dates at the March meeting. The goal is to stick to a two-week timeline with finish by May 10<sup>th</sup>. Community room will be split and have a small browsing section. Other items will also be available near the windows, but many resources will be archived until the carpet project is completed.

Adult program coordinator position is posted internally, hoping to hire someone in March.

Currently there is one practicum student at VPL.

Holds and library cards issued totals in Director's report need to be reviewed for accuracy and updated as needed.

Verona is the busiest library by circulation.

### **Old Business**

None

### **New Business**

1. Discussion and possible action regarding the Administrative Assistant job description

The position description was reviewed by the board and the recommended changes to reflect new duties for this position were approved.

Moved by Spencer, Seconded by Fuller - White. Motion carried 7-0.

2. Discussion and possible action regarding the 2023 DPI State of Wisconsin Library Annual Report

This report is required every year and is submitted to DPI. Basic usage, collection and programming metrics are recorded, as well as total revenue and expenditures. The report was signed by the Library Board President.

Moved by Cronin Seconded by Jones Motion carried 7-0.

**Adjournment:** Moved by Conwell Seconded Spencer by Motion carried 7-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm.

March note taker: Regina Fuller-White

Library Board approved:

**Board of Trustees:**

Christopher Hopp, President

Rikki Conwell, Vice President

Kyle Jones, Secretary

Andrea Frey, School District Representative (Glacier Edge Elementary School Librarian)

Kate Cronin, Alder

Karen Spencer

Regina Fuller - White

VERONA PUBLIC LIBRARY  
DIRECTOR'S REPORT  
February 2024

***I. Collection Development***

A patron recently donated a large collection of Verona Press back issues. Mark identified some gaps in our collection and dropped off the first batch of past issues to the Grimm Bindery to be bound and added to the Local History Collection.

Number of items added and deleted in January 2024:

Item Type	Added	Deleted
Books	830	1679
Audio	6	9
Software	5	5
Video/DVD	32	42
Other (kits, etc.)	13	2
Magazines	102	303
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>988</b>	<b>2040</b>
<b>YTD</b>	<b>988</b>	<b>2040</b>

***II. Circulation***  
**Circulation**

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
January	48,218	47,722	46,024	29,669	49,255
February		46,003	42,218	28,925	46,500
March		52,026	49,314	36,647	29,964
April		46,674	47,514	31,448	2,021
May		44,226	42,775	32,633	8,861
June		59,454	52,827	52,142	18,507
July		58,102	52,448	52,220	29,609
August		58,081	55,184	51,007	31,025
September		45,429	45,066	42,894	31,115
October		47,785	42,440	43,527	34,075
November		44,975	43,939	43,507	28,171
December		43,655	42,000	39,089	28,194
Total	48,218	594,132	561,749	483,708	337,297

### New Library Cards

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
January	171	188	119	27	184
February		137	149	36	161
March		176	155	24	74
April		152	129	36	9
May		142	140	71	18
June		290	344	179	33
July		218	239	160	58
August		212	206	129	57
September		141	141	105	51
October		170	150	99	50
November		119	144	64	18
December		128	122	87	31
Total	171	1,423	2,038	1,017	744

### Holds

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
January	15,085	14,929	15,139	18,260	14,651
February		13,005	11,617	17,130	12,246
March		13,586	12,878	18,193	7,277
April		12,658	12,098	15,698	5,645
May		13,483	11,820	14,236	10,869
June		13,854	11,984	13,328	13,616
July		14,445	11,735	11,621	15,910
August		13,607	13,389	13,510	15,672
September		13,587	12,506	13,252	16,166
October		12,645	11,924	13,304	16,502
November		12,971	12,888	12,679	16,108
December		11,054	10,313	11,069	14,567
Total	15,085	119,516	148,291	172,280	159,229

### III. Reference

#### Reference Statistics, January 26 – February 22

Computer Lab Use: 750

Test Proctoring: 3 exams

Outer Library Loans: 40 requests

Personal Archiving Lab Sessions: 9

## Library Visits

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
January	16,183	16,114	10,780	0	18,887
February		15,945	11,193	0	18,969
March		18,160	13,628	0	0
April		18,062	16,488	2,889	0
May		16,049	12,366	5,015	0
June		22,204	16,624	11,757	2,850
July		20,232	17,057	13,407	6,765
August		22,619	18,830	13,267	*
September		14,958	13,890	10,746	*
October		17,011	14,009	10,346	*
November		16,152	15,729	9,371	0
December		16,190	13,552	10,562	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>16,183</b>	<b>213,696</b>	<b>174,146</b>	<b>87,360</b>	<b>47,471</b>

## Reference Questions

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
January	1,929	1,640	1,061	821	3,152
February		1,638	1,653	924	1,632
March		1,830	1,758	1,347	1,974
April		1,896	1,226	948	24
May		2,031	1,117	1,085	116
June		2,487	2,183	2,200	846
July		2,058	1,691	2,365	2,431
August		2,331	2,075	1,847	2,039
September		1,837	1,341	1,543	2,521
October		1,840	1,566	581	2,045
November		1,836	1,628	458	1,060
December		1,835	1,356	721	1,092
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,929</b>	<b>23,259</b>	<b>18,655</b>	<b>14,840</b>	<b>18,932</b>

## Meeting Room Use

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
January	560	474	164	-	616
February		487	206	-	565
March		524	272	-	286
April		506	305	-	-
May		509	328	-	-
June		422	314	-	-
July		423	316	-	-
August		538	411	-	-
September		172	327	-	-
October		512	398	-	-
November		528	453	-	-
December		495	396	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>560</b>	<b>5,590</b>	<b>5,912</b>	<b>2,021</b>	<b>3,487</b>

#### ***IV. Personnel and Staff Development***

Maureen Hilquist will be starting as our new Reference/Adult Program Coordinator on March 4.

Theresa is hiring for two open Library Page I positions.

Jennifer Gessler resigned her position as Library Page I, her last day will be March 10.

Stacey and Theresa attended a webinar on February 29 on Identity, Burnout, and Vocational Awe.

Ronda held a Circulation Team meeting on February 20. Discussion topics included changes to refund and extending holds procedures and hold shelf maintenance.

Theresa had a Library Page meeting on February 22. The main topic of the meeting was organization methods. Extra shifts will be available during the carpet project in May.

Tonja attended the webinar “Building Authentic Relationships with Underserved Communities”.

Tonja attended the Southwest Regional Equity Team Meeting via Zoom on February 20.

Mark attended the SCLS ribbon cutting ceremony for their new headquarters on February 22.

#### ***V. Equipment and Physical Facilities***

Two new RFID reader pads were installed in the staff circulation room this month.

The worn out whiteboard in Study Room 3 has been replaced with a new whiteboard with slightly smaller dimensions. The new board still doubles as a screen for the projector in that room.

We purchased some additional shelving for the teen fiction collection which should be installed shortly.

The new dates for carpet installation in the children’s area are April 29 – May 10.

#### ***VI. Administration and Internal Operations***

Nothing to report.

#### ***VII. Marketing and Public Relations***

Abby created 51 event graphics (website, Facebook, TV) along with related event bookmarks/flyers/signs.

Tonja created a display promoting the state parks pass giveaway the library started on February 5.

Jenny created a book display for Black History Month. Circulation staff created a game themed display titled *Let’s Play*.

Mark, Jess, Amy T. and Katie contributed staff reviews for the Verona Press.

This month the new library marketing “spotlight” featured:

- Marissa's participation on the selection committee for the 2024 Charlotte Zolotow Award (email newsletter & social media).
- Marissa and Jess created an Instagram reel highlighting the Adult Language Kit collection. [instagram.com/veronalibrary](https://www.instagram.com/veronalibrary)
- Abby created a statistical graphic highlighting the library's 2023 annual report statistics. The graphic was shared on the library events TV, website, email newsletter, and social media.



#### ***VIII. System and Interagency Cooperation***

The library received about 300 COVID-19 tests from the PHMDC surplus this month to distribute to the public. One patron shared that he was very happy & thankful that we were giving out the COVID-19 tests. He and his wife weren't feeling well and because they had picked up a free test from the library they were able to test right away. They found out they were positive and were able to get to the doctor for treatment quickly.

Theresa's first meeting for the South Central Library System ILS evaluation work group is March 6.

The Southern Wisconsin Bird Alliance has asked if the library would like to participate in the spring Bird Collision Corps Program.

#### ***IX. Fundraising***

Nothing to report

#### ***X. Events, Programs and Exhibits***

##### **Kid's Events and Programs:**

##### **1000 Books before Kindergarten**

7 kids were registered this month, bringing the total number of registrants to 2579.

##### **Winter Story Times, January 8 – March 15**

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



## **Winter Library Challenge**

December 22, 2023 – February 22, 2024

Gift card winners were called on February 23, and were each given a tote bag handmade by RSVP volunteers along with their gift card. The gift card with the most entries received was Kismet Books.

Participants:

Children: 130

Teen: 23

Adult: 125

**Total: 278**

## **Child Development Story Time: Hibernation**

Friday, January 26, 9:30 - 10:00 am

Join a member of CI Pediatric Therapy Centers' staff for an interactive story time of books, songs, movement, crafts and fun! Activities will be geared towards 2-5 year olds, but all ages are welcome! No registration. *We have moved these back to the community room for scheduling reasons, but it worked out well for the size of the crowd too.*

Attendees: 72

## **Gabby's Dollhouse Story Time**

Tuesday, January 30, 10:30 - 11:00 am

Enjoy stories, songs, and activities about Gabby's Dollhouse! 20 - 25 minutes. Geared for ages 2 - 5. No registration required.

Attendees: 47

## **Paw Patrol Story Time**

Wednesday, January 31, 6:30 - 7:00 pm

Join us for stories and songs with a Paw Patrol theme designed for ages 2-5. No registration. *Survey feedback indicated that families were hoping for more evening and weekend programs for kids. While our past (pre-COVID) regular evening story times had fairly low attendance, we decided to try a character-themed story time on an evening and advertise it as a special event, factors that seemed to work well.*

Attendees: 138

## **Minecraft Club**

Thursday, February 1, 4:00 - 5:00 pm

Ages 6 - 11. Have fun playing Minecraft and interacting with peers. Build in Minecraft based on a new challenge each session! Minecraft Club does not include instructions on how to play or a shared server.

Attendees: 23

## **Young and the Restless**

Friday, February 2, 9:30 - 11:00 am

Get your wiggles out! Young and the Restless open indoor play time is an opportunity for kids to be active, develop motor skills, and make new friends. Ages 0-5 and their caregivers. No registration.

Attendees: 71

## **Read to a Dog**

Saturday, February 3, 1:30 - 3:00 pm and Tuesday, February 6, 4:00 - 5:30 pm

Grab your favorite book and read to a furry friend. Independent readers can sign up for a 15 minute spot to read to a registered therapy animal. Families may share a time slot. Ages 5 and up.

Attendees: 19 and 11

**Pokémon Club**

Thursday, February 8, 4:00 - 5:00 pm

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. Ages 6-11. No registration.

Attendees: 47

**Young and the Restless**

Friday, February 9, 9:30 - 11:00 am

Get your wiggles out! Young and the Restless open indoor play time is an opportunity for kids to be active, develop motor skills, and make new friends. Ages 0-5 and their caregivers. No registration.

Attendees: 66

**Lunar New Year Celebration**

Saturday, February 10, 9:30 - 11:30 am

Let's celebrate Lunar New Year and the Year of the Dragon! Come join the fun at this family-friendly event as students and staff from Verona Area International School (VAIS) share stories, crafts, and activities throughout the library. Story time will be at 10 am in the community room, with a repeat performance at 11 am. We hope to see you there in your favorite red attire! No registration. *VAIS does the majority of planning and running of this event, with one extra library staff member mainly facilitating the set-up and equipment. Spreading the stations to even more locations and repeating the story time made this event run especially smoothly this year.*

Attendees: 480

**Favorite Books and Bites: The Wild Robot**

Monday, February 12, 4:00 - 5:00 pm

Discuss the Wild Robot series, plus enjoy activities and snacks related to the books. Ages 8 - 11. Pick up a copy of the first book of the series at the children's desk to read in advance, or if you're already a fan, just sign up and join us.

Attendees: 13

**Music and Movement Story Time**

Tuesday, February 13, 10:30 am

Join us for singing, dancing, instruments, and stories in this active story time for children and their caregivers. Ages 1-5.

Attendees: 45

**Family Craft: Pop-Up Cards**

Tuesday, February 13, 5:00 - 6:00 pm

For ages 5-11. Drop by the library and create fun pop-up cards! They make great as Valentines or Thank You cards. Take as much time as you need. No registration required. Program will end at 6:00 pm, or until supplies run out. If your child needs help folding or using scissors then please plan to attend with them.

Attendees: 21

**Read to a Dog**

Saturday, February 17, 10:00 - 11:30 am

Grab your favorite book and read to a furry friend. Independent readers can sign up for a 15 minute spot to read to a registered therapy animal. Families may share a time slot. Ages 5 and up.

Attendees: 16

**Graphic Novel Book Club**

Monday, February 19, 4:00 - 4:45 pm

For ages 8 - 11. Registration begins 1/22. Discuss the graphic novel Everyday Hero Machine Boy by Irma Kniivila and Tri Vuong, plus enjoy activities and snacks related to the book. Books will be available for checkout approximately one month before the discussion. Stop by the youth services desk to request one.

Attendees: 8

**Early Reader Book Club**

Tuesday, February 20, 4:00 - 4:30 pm

For children ages 5-7. Library staff will read aloud longer books, lead a discussion about them, and we'll do a fun activity together. No pre-reading required.

Attendees: 13

**Read to a Dog**

Wednesday, February 21, 4:00 - 5:30 pm

Grab your favorite book and read to a furry friend. Independent readers can sign up for a 15 minute spot to read to a registered therapy animal. Families may share a time slot. Ages 5 and up.

Attendees: 11

**Child Development Story Time: Kindness**

Friday, February 23, 9:30 - 10:00 am

Join a member of CI Pediatric Therapy Centers' staff for an interactive story time of books, songs, movement, crafts and fun! Activities will be geared towards 2-5 year olds, but all ages are welcome! No registration.

Attendees: 32

**Favorite Friends**

Saturday, February 24, 10:00 - 11:30 am

Meet some of your favorite book characters - Pete the Cat, Cookie Mouse, and Elephant and Piggie! Kids can visit characters throughout the library, plus do character-themed crafts and enjoy snacks. All ages. No registration.

Attendees: 400

**Toddler Art and Play**

Tuesday, February 27, 9:30 - 10:30 am

Join us at the library for messy process art and sensory play! Wear clothes that can get messy and drop in for some fun toddler activities. Ages 1-3.

Attendees: 83

**Upcoming Kids' Events****Young and the Restless**

Friday, March 1, 9:30 - 11:00 am

Get your wiggles out! Young and the Restless open indoor play time is an opportunity for kids to be active, develop motor skills, and make new friends. Geared to ages 1 - 4 and their caregivers. No registration.

**Read to a Dog**

Saturday, March 2, 1:30 - 3:00 pm and Tuesday, March 5, 4:00 - 5:30 pm

Ages 5 and up. Grab your favorite book and read to a furry friend. Independent readers can sign up for a 15-minute spot to read to a registered therapy animal. Families may share a time slot.

**Music and Movement Story Time**

Tuesday, March 5, 10:30 - 11:00 am

Join us for singing, dancing, instruments, and stories in this active story time for children and their caregivers. Ages 1-5.

**Bluey Story Time**

Wednesday, March 6, 6:15 - 6:45 pm

Join us for Bluey-themed stories and songs! Designed for ages 2-5. No registration. *We shifted the evening story time start 15 minutes earlier as an experiment.*

**Minecraft Club**

Thursday, March 7, 4:00 - 5:00 pm

Ages 6 - 11. Have fun playing Minecraft and interacting with peers. Build in Minecraft based on a new challenge each session! Minecraft Club does not include instructions on how to play or a shared server.

**Family Story Time**

Saturday, March 9, 9:30 - 10:0 am

Join us for a Family Story Time, once a month, with books, songs, and rhymes. For ages 0 - 5. No registration. *A new offering, also in response to survey feedback.*

**Tween Craft: Percy Jackson Camp Necklaces**

Tuesday, March 12, 6:00 - 7:00 pm

Celebrate the Percy Jackson book series by Rick Riordan and create your own camp necklace. In the books, a Camp Necklace is given to each camper at the end of each summer at Camp Half-Blood. Create your own beads to match the ones in the books or design your own. Take as little or as much time as you want from 6:00-7:00 pm. For ages 8-11. Registration required.

**Pokémon Club**

Thursday, March 14, 4:00 - 5:00 pm

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. Ages 6-11. No registration.

**Young and the Restless**

Friday, March 15, 9:30 - 11:00 am

Get your wiggles out! Young and the Restless open indoor play time is an opportunity for kids to be active, develop motor skills, and make new friends. Geared to ages 1 - 4 and their caregivers. No registration.

**Read to a Dog**

Saturday, March 16, 10:00 - 11:30 am and March 20, 4:00 - 5:30 pm

Ages 5 and up. Grab your favorite book and read to a furry friend. Independent readers can sign up for a 15-minute spot to read to a registered therapy animal. Families may share a time slot.

**Favorite Books and Bites: Spy School**

Monday, March 18, 4:00 - 5:00 pm

Discuss the Spy School series, plus enjoy activities and snacks related to the books. Ages 8 - 11. Pick up a copy of the first book of the series at the children's desk to read in advance, or if you're already a fan, just sign up and join us.

**Toddler Art and Play**

Tuesday, March 19, 9:30 - 10:30 am

Join us at the library for messy process art and sensory play! Wear clothes that can get messy and drop in for some fun toddler activities. Ages 1-3.

**Early Reader Book Club**

Tuesday, March 19, 4:00 - 4:30 pm

For children ages 5-7. Library staff will read aloud longer books, lead a discussion about them, and we'll do a fun activity together. No pre-reading required.

**Graphic Novel Book Club**

Monday, March 25, 4:00 - 4:45 pm

For ages 8 - 11. Registration begins 1/22. Discuss the graphic novel Everyday Hero Machine Boy by Irma Kniivila and Tri Vuong, plus enjoy activities and snacks related to the book. Books will be available for checkout approximately one month before the discussion. Stop by the youth services desk to request one.

**Seed Bombs**

Tuesday, March 26, 5:00 - 6:00 pm

For ages 5-11. Drop by the library and create your own seed bombs with native wildflower seeds! Instructions and materials will be provided to make your own seed bombs to help our pollinators thrive! Take as much time as you need between 5:00-6:00 pm. If your child needs help reading a recipe or measuring ingredients then please plan to attend with them. No registration required.

**Super Awesome Yo-Yo Day**

Wednesday, March 27, 10:30 - 11:15 am

World-famous for his yo-yo tricks and comedy, Mark Hayward will present exciting yo-yo stunts and high-energy fun. Yo-yos will be for sale after the performance. Geared to ages 5 and up.

**Child Development Story Time: Eric Carle**

Thursday, March 28, 9:30 - 10:15 am

Join a member of CI Pediatric Therapy Centers' staff for an interactive story time of books, songs, movement, crafts and fun! Activities will be geared towards 2-5 year olds, but all ages are welcome! No registration.

**Teen Events:****New College Planning Strategies and ACT/SAT Test Updates (Webinar)**

Wednesday, February 7, 7:00 - 8:00 pm

Guest speaker, Erin Doyle, from Nuturing Wisdom, provided information about updated admission stats, costs of tuition trends, maximizing financial aid and scholarships, how to consider test-optional schools, and when to start the college planning process.

Attendees: 4

### **Teen Chocolate Tasting**

Tuesday, February 13, 4:00 - 5:00 pm

Teens dipped a variety of treats into a chocolate fountain! They also sampled chocolate bars and biscuits with creative and unusual flavors.

*Comments: "They thought about us! People always forget about us." "We almost missed this. This is the best day ever!" "The coffee flavor is disgusting." "Dipped strawberries are my favorite." "The coffee one is the best!" "Who planned this? Thank you to whoever planned this." "Does this happen every year?!"*

Attendees: 40

### **Upcoming Teen Events:**

#### **VAHS Craft Time**

Tuesday, February 27 and Wednesday February 28

Students signed up for library time at Verona Area High School will have the opportunity to cover canvas pouches with jewels and Sharpie inks.

#### **Teen Time for All Abilities**

Sunday, March 3, 3:00 - 4:30 pm

This event is for teens and young adults with additional needs or learning disabilities, accompanied by caregivers and siblings. Noise cancelling headphones and fidgets will be available. Explore a station-based drop-in program with a social skills framework. Make new friends while trying a craft, STEM activity or game, coloring, and Keva Planks!

#### **Crafty Tuesday**

Tuesday, March 5, 4:00 pm

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

#### **ACT Practice for Sophomores**

Tuesday, March 12, 9:30 - 1:00 pm

Sophomores, sign up now for a free ACT diagnostic test! While the juniors are taking their ACT, get a head start for your own test. The library is partnering with Galin Education to offer a realistic ACT experience. The test will take approximately 3.5 hours. Bring a calculator!

#### **Cross Stitch into Spring**

Tuesday, March 19, 7:00 - 8:00 pm

Celebrate the beginning of spring with a simple cross stitch! We'll have botanical and floral patterns for inspiration, but experimentation and individuality will be encouraged. No experience necessary. We'll go over the very basics and then switch to open working time.

#### **DIY Stamping**

Thursday, March 28, 4:00 - 5:00 pm

Make your own stamps, and decorate a canvas bag and paper with your new designs! Explore patterns and colors. Try sharing designs with fellow participants.

### **Adult Classes & Events:**

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

Mondays 6:00 - 7:30 pm & Tuesdays 6:00 - 8:00 pm, January 22 – April 30

February 5, attendees: 15

February 6, attendees: 3

February 12, attendees: 12

February 13, attendees: 4

**Library Yarns Craft Group**

First and Third Tuesdays, 11:30 - 1:00 pm & Wednesdays, 4:30 - 6:00 pm

Fiber art enthusiasts gathered to learn new techniques, exchange ideas, or find inspiration for their next project.

January 31, attendees: 12

February 14, attendees: 5

**Library Yarns Colorwork Hat Knit Along**

Wednesdays, February 21, March 6, 27, April 3, 4:30 - 6:00 pm

Would you like to learn how to knit in two (or more) colors, or maybe just practice your colorwork knitting in the company of others? Join us at our new library Knit Along where we'll be learning the basic techniques of stranded colorwork (holding the yarn, achieving proper tension, reading a chart, and more) while knitting a great new winter hat.

February 21, attendees: 13

**Blood Pressure Screening with Fitch-Rona EMS**

Thursday, February 8, 10:00 - 11:00 am

Drop in between 10:00-11:00 am and Fitch-Rona EMS will check your blood pressure free of charge.

Attendees: 1

**Valentine's Mocktails with Hodge Podge**

Thursday, February 8, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Join the friendly folks from Hodge Podge as they lead you through creating deliciously flavored and aesthetically eye-catching mocktails! They'll discuss variations on the mocktails, their flavor profiles, and where to find fresh ingredients. Be the star of your next social gathering, or whip up your favorites at home for yourself! Registration required. Class size limited to 25 participants.

Attendees: 21

**Senior Case Management Outreach**

Second Monday of each month. Drop in between 2:00 - 3:00 pm

A case manager from the Verona Senior Center will answer questions and provide resources for older adults and their caregivers. Information on Medicare/Medicaid, nutrition, housing, assistance in the home, and resources in Verona and Dane County will be available.

Attendees: 2

**Visiting Wisconsin State Parks with Ross Mori**

Thursday, February 15, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

For years, Ross and Carol Mori had a goal of visiting all Wisconsin State Parks. In 2021, Ross had the idea of finishing a long-term goal of hiking in all State Parks. Instead, of just visiting the remaining ones on the list, they decided to visit all of them in one calendar year. Ross's presentation will cover all of the great state parks in Wisconsin, along with some county parks and state parks in bordering states.

Attendees: 28

**Women's Self Defense Intro**

Tuesday, February 20, 6:00 - 7:30 pm

Interested in learning self defense but not sure where to start? Join us and learn what effective self defense looks like and how to choose a program that's right for you.

Attendees: 13

### **Stop the Bleed Training**

Thursday, February 22, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Stop the Bleed is a class designed for individuals with little or no medical training who may be called upon as immediate responders. Fitch-Rona EMS will teach you how to provide initial care and bleeding control to a victim of traumatic injury prior to the arrival of skilled help or in an austere environment. Registration required. Class size limited to 10 participants.

Attendees: 8

### **Simple Bookmaking**

Wednesday, February 28, 6:30 - 8:00 pm

Explore the limitless possibilities of the Book Arts with three deceptively straightforward book constructions: the Slit Book, the Flip-Flap Tab Book, and the Slot Strip Book. Learn to make simple handmade books without using glue or adhesive. Participants will walk away with the skills needed to make keepsake books. All supplies provided. Class size is limited to 16 participants.

Attendees: 13

### **Upcoming Adult Classes & Events**

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

Mondays 6:00 - 7:30 pm, Beginner, Beginner, January 22 - April 29

Tuesdays 6:00 - 8:00 pm, Intermediate, Intermediate, January 23 - April 30

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.

#### **Library Yarns Craft Group**

Wednesdays, March 13, 27, 4:30 - 6:00 pm

Meet up with other fiber art enthusiasts, learn new techniques, exchange ideas, or find inspiration for your next project. All skill levels welcome.

#### **Library Yarns Colorwork Hat Knit Along**

Wednesdays, March 6, 27, April 3, 4:30 - 6:00 pm

Would you like to learn how to knit in two (or more) colors, or maybe just practice your colorwork knitting in the company of others? Join us at our new library Knit Along where we'll be learning the basic techniques of stranded colorwork (holding the yarn, achieving proper tension, reading a chart, and more) while knitting a great new winter hat.

#### **Senior Case Management Outreach**

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A case manager from the Verona Senior Center will answer questions and provide resources for older adults and their caregivers. Information on Medicare/Medicaid, nutrition, housing, assistance in the home, and resources in Verona and Dane County will be available.

#### **Meet Your New PAL! Using the Personal Archiving Lab at Verona Public Library**

Thursday, February 29, 6:00 - 7:00 pm

Did you know the library has equipment to digitize and preserve your old photos, recordings, and documents? Stop by between 6:00 and 7:00 pm, to see what equipment is available, the basics of digitizing some of the most popular formats, and to learn how to make a reservation to use the PAL to digitize your own memorabilia.



### **Know Your Blood Type**

Wednesday, March 6, 3:00 - 6:00 pm

Knowing your blood type is important in case you need to donate to help a family member, friend, or a person in the hospital. Finding out your blood type can be accomplished in minutes by taking 3 drops of blood from a finger prick and mixing with anti-series reagent to determine blood type and RH factor.

### **Deciding What's True in a Polarized Society**

Thursday, March 7, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Join us for a Badger Talk by Professor Michael Wagner, School of Journalism and Mass Communication at UW-Madison, Michael Wagner. Professor Wagner will review research on fake news, fact-checking, selective exposure to like-minded media outlets and describes the implications for democracy.

### **Cooking with Chef Laura-A St. Patrick's Day Special**

Thursday, March 14, 5:30 - 7:00 pm

Join Chef Laura Eyler for this informative and delicious class as she shows participants how to create some Irish themed cuisine just in time for St. Patrick's Day! Laura Eyler holds a degree in Culinary Arts and has been cooking professionally for over 25 years. As the owner of Thyme Savor Cuisine, Laura works as a personal chef and enjoys teaching cooking classes throughout the local area.

### **Learn Hands Only CPR**

Thursday, March 21, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Did you know that 70% of out-of-hospital cardiac arrests happen in homes? Statistically speaking, if you are called on to give CPR, you'll most likely be trying to save the life of someone you love. Fitch-Rona EMS paramedics will teach you how to do hands-only CPR and use an automated external defibrillator.

### **Eclipses and the Search for Other Earths**

Thursday, March 28, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Join NASA Solar System Ambassador, Jaime Cordova, in discussing the upcoming April 8, 2024 eclipse across America. We'll talk about the science behind eclipses, how to safely view them, and how we use a technique similar to an eclipse to search for other worlds.

### **Exhibits**

#### **Verona Area School District Art Exhibit**

March 1 - 22, 2024

Artwork by students from the Verona Area School District, grades K-12, will be on display.

### **Outreach Events**

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

Total daycare story time presentations this month: 10

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

Thursday, January 25, 6:00 - 7:00 pm

The group discussed *Hamnet* by Maggie O'Farrell.

Attendees: 16

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

Wednesday, February 14, 10:00 - 11:00 am

The group discussed *Memphis* by Tara M. Stringfellow.

Attendees: 17

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

Monday, February 19, 4:15 - 4:45 pm

Crafts and stories at the afterschool program at NC and VAIS.

Attendees: 27

**Prairie Oaks Book Group**

Thursday, February 22, 1:30 - 2:30 pm

The group read *The Spectacular* by Fiona Davis.

Attendees: 6

**Sugar Creek Love to Read Night**

Thursday, February 22, 5:30 - 7:00 pm

The library will have card applications and library information at Sugar Creek's literacy night for families.

Attendees: 51

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

Thursday, February 22, 6:00 - 7:00 pm

The group will be discussing *Once Upon a River* by Diane Setterfield.

Attendees: 13

**Four Winds Book Group**

Tuesday, February 27, 10:00 - 11:00 am

The residents will meet to discuss *Sold on a Monday* by Kristina McMorris.

Attendees: 6

**Noel Manor Book Group**

Wednesday, February 28, 10:30 - 11:30 am

The group will be reading *Good Night, Irene* by Luis Alberto Urrea.

Attendees: 5

**Story Time at Reach Dane Headstart Family Night**

Wednesday, February 28, 6:00 - 6:30 pm

Marissa will be doing a story time for the families at one of the Reach Dane Head Start classes.

Attendees: 8

**Upcoming Outreach Events****Senior Center Book Group**

Wednesday, March 13, 10:00 - 11:00 am

The group will be reading *The Nature of Fragile Things* by Susan Meissner.

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

Monday, March 18, 4:15 - 4:45 pm

Crafts and stories at the afterschool program at NC and VAIS.

**Prairie Oaks Book Group**

Thursday, March 28, 1:30 - 2:30 pm

The group will be reading *The Lager Queen of Minnesota* by J. Ryan Stradal.

## 2024 Library Hours of Operation and Planned Closures

### Regular library hours, except where noted below:

Monday – Thursday: 9:00 am to 9:00 pm

Friday: 9:00 am to 6:00 pm

Saturday: 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Sunday: 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm

The following dates are the planned closures of the library. Additional unplanned emergency closings may be necessary due to weather or other unforeseen situations.

**Sunday, December 31:** Closed for New Year's holiday

**Monday, January 1, 2024:** Closed for New Year's holiday

**Monday, January 15:** Closed for Martin Luther King Jr. Day

**Sunday, March 31:** Closed

**~~Monday, April 29~~~~Thursday, April 11~~:** Closed for staff in-service/re-carpeting

**~~Tuesday, April 30~~~~Friday, April 12~~:** Closed 9:00 – noon for ~~Closed for staff in-service/re-~~  
carpeting

**Sunday, May 26:** Closed for Memorial Day holiday

**Monday, May 27:** Closed for Memorial Day holiday

**Thursday, July 4:** Closed for July 4 holiday

**Sunday, September 1:** Closed for Labor Day holiday

**Monday, September 2:** Closed for Labor Day holiday

**Friday, November 1:** Closed 9:00 – noon for staff in-service

**Wednesday, November 27:** Closed early at 6:00 pm

**Thursday, November 28:** Closed for Thanksgiving Day holiday

**Friday, November 29:** Closed for Thanksgiving Day holiday

**Tuesday, December 24:** Closed for Christmas holiday

**Wednesday, December 25:** Closed for Christmas holiday

**Tuesday, December 31:** Closed early at 6:00 pm

**Wednesday, January 1, 2025:** Closed for New Year's holiday

Library board approved, November 1, 2023