

AGENDA

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

**Wednesday, May 1, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.
Library Conference Room**

Call to order

- Approval of the Regular Meeting Minutes of 4/3/24
- Review and approval of the April 2024 invoices
- Public Comments
- City Council Liaison's report
- Library Director's report
- Old Business
 1. Preliminary discussion of the 2025 library budget
- New Business
- None

Library Board Meeting Minutes

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

Wednesday, April 3, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.
Library Conference Room

Attendees: Burkart, Hopp, Fuller, Cronin, Conwell, Jones, Frey, Spencer

Call to order: Hopp called the meeting to order at 6:36 PM

Approval of the Regular Meeting Minutes of 3/6/24 - Spencer moved, Jones 2nd. Motion carries

Review and approval of the March 2024 invoices - Conwell moved, Cronin 2nd. Motion carries

Public Comments

None

City Council Liaison's report:

- Spring election turnout was low, possibly due to extreme weather.
- This will be Kate Cronin's final meeting as the City Council liaison. New liaison TBD.

Library Director's report:

- Changes have been made to the library lighting to help reduce bird collisions. There will also be a trial of the decal deterrents on the small window next to the prow.
- Sorter quote increased slightly to \$105,000. New sorter will have additional bins, and it will be quieter, faster.

Old Business

1. Discussion of library strategic planning
 - Recap of library visits; consensus is community spaces seem to be well utilized.
 - Sponsorship seems to be an option some libraries have used to raise funds.

New Business

1. Discussion and possible action regarding the 2024 Adjacent County Reimbursement Requests - **moved by Spencer, Frey 2nd. Motion carries.**
2. Discussion and possible action regarding Donor Recognition Opportunities
 - Considering a more permanent donor recognition for children's area and play furniture.
 - Library director will research values for donor recognition for different items. Values currently remain the same as the initial library capital campaign.
 - Consider policy development for donor acceptance and naming.
3. Preliminary discussion of the 2025 library budget
 - Initial ideas shared. Brainstorming will continue.

Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn was made by Cronin, seconded by Jones. Adjournment approved. Meeting adjourned at 7:58pm.

VERONA PUBLIC LIBRARY

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

April 2024

I. Collection Management

Ronda has been working on weeding audiobooks and DVD's in preparation for the new carpet installation.

Number of items added and deleted in March 2024:

Item Type	Added	Deleted
Books	849	735
Audio	29	101
Software	7	1
Video/DVD	37	23
Other (kits, etc.)	7	2
Magazines	127	93
TOTAL	1056	955
YTD	3021	3631

II. Circulation

Circulation

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
January	48,218	47,722	46,024	29,669	49,255
February	47,599	46,003	42,218	28,925	46,500
March	50,433	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	146,250	594,132	561,749	483,708	337,297

New Library Cards

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
January	171	188	119	27	184
February	176	137	149	36	161
March	189	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	536	1,423	2,038	1,017	744

Holdings

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
January	15,085	14,929	15,139	18,260	14,651
February	13,421	13,005	11,617	17,130	12,246
March	13,282	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	41,788	119,516	148,291	172,280	159,229

III. Reference

Reference Statistics, March 22 – April 18

Computer Lab Use: 689

Test Proctoring: 4 exams

Outer Library Loans: 43 requests

Personal Archiving Lab Sessions: 9

Library Visits

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
January	16,183	16,114	10,780	0	18,887
February	17,795	15,945	11,193	0	18,969
March	19,457	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
Total	53,435	213,696	174,146	87,360	47,471

Reference Transactions

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
January	1,929	1,640	1,061	821	3,152
February	2,161	1,638	1,653	924	1,632
March	1,989	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
TOTAL	6,079	23,259	18,655	14,840	18,932

Meeting Room Use

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
January	560	474	164	-	616
February	698	487	206	-	565
March	575	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	-	-
TOTAL	1,833	5,590	5,912	2,021	3,487

IV. Personnel and Staff Development

The library will be having a half-day in-service on April 29, including a tour of the new Oregon Public Library.

Maureen Hilquist started her new role as Reference Librarian/Adult Program Coordinator on April 8.

Jenny Sessions was promoted to part-time Reference Librarian on April 8.

Vitoria Tiso accepted the Summer Youth Library Assistant position for 2024. Tori was a practicum student in youth services during the summer of 2023.

The library is accepting applications for a part-time Reference Library Assistant position through April 28.

Julie and Tonja attended the PLA Conference in Columbus, Ohio, April 3-5. Some session highlights were:

- Leading with Compassion, Reimagining Public Service with Flexibility
- Children’s Play Spaces in Libraries
- Story Times as Social Spaces
- Engaging Immigrants, and Issues in Library Operations.
- After the Audit: Sustainable Steps to Maintaining a Diverse Collection
- Empowering Libraries: Navigating the AI Era Across All Roles
- The Handbook of Black Librarianship: An Empowering Resource: Attendees were able to receive a free membership to the Black Caucus of the American Library Association (BCALA).

Stacey and Julie attended a webinar called “We Are Already Here: The Workplace Experiences of Neurodivergent Library Workers.”

Jess attended webinars called “Community Driven Science Adventure(s) at Your Library this Summer!” and “Re-thinking Registration.”

Tonja attended the Southwest Regional Equity Team Meeting via Zoom on April 16.

Mark listed to a podcast: *American Libraries-Decoding AI*.

V. Equipment and Physical Facilities

Two new boilers were installed this month with no disruption to the staff or public.

Carpet installation in the children’s, teen, and AV areas begins April 29 and should be completed by May 10. The Children’s area and Teen Central will be closed during part/all of those dates. Some children’s materials will be available for browsing in the center of the library and in the Community Room.

The outdoor lights near the large windows have been repositioned to reduce night time bird collisions.

VI. Administration and Internal Operations

Stacey has been preparing for the carpet project and planning the staff in-service this month.

VII. Marketing and Public Relations

Abby created 33 event graphics (website, Facebook, TV) along with related event bookmarks/flyers/signs.

Abby spotlighted the upcoming carpet replacement project in the Children's area with upcoming closure dates and collection availability. Abby also cleaned up the E-resource page of the library website with a more organized and streamlined look.

Jenny created a display titled, *Oh Wait. It's Spring Break* featuring travel guide and travel writing books and another highlighting genre-bending books. Circulation staff created displays focusing on basketball and another on birding.

Local author Christine Virnig has published a second children's non-fiction book with thanks to Mark and the library in the acknowledgements section.

Facebook: 5,086 followers, 37 posts/events

Instagram: 1,661 followers, 3 posts/reels/stories

Events email newsletter: 9,867 recipients

VIII. System and Interagency Cooperation

Tonja attended the Check Out APT zoom meeting on April 2. This meeting went over the logistics regarding the upcoming partnership between libraries and American Players Theater to offer a very limited number of free ticket vouchers to library patrons in mid-May and again in mid-June.

Theresa attended the April 10 ILS Lead Workgroup Meeting, this group of librarians from SCLS are evaluating ILS products (library catalog, circulation, cataloging, discovery layer).

IX. Fundraising

Nothing to report.

X. Events, Programs and Exhibits

Kid's Events and Programs:

1000 Books before Kindergarten

10 kids were registered this month, bringing the total number of registrants to 2605.

Read to a Dog

Saturday, March 23, 10:00 am – 12:00 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.

Attendees: 18

Graphic Novel Book Club

Monday, March 25, 4:00 – 4:45 pm

For ages 8 - 11. Discuss the graphic novel *Amulet vol. 1: The Stonekeeper* by Kazu Kibuishi, plus enjoy activities and snacks related to the book.

Attendees: 17

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.

Attendees: 60

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. Geared to ages 5 and up. *Mark is a veteran performer who puts on a great show.*

Attendees: 300

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.

Attendees: 93

Minecraft Club

Thursday, April 4, 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: 15

Space Story Time

Thursday, April 4, 6:30 – 7:00 pm

Join us for a story time about space with a special guest, real-life Rocket Scientist. This story time will feature stories and songs about space designed for ages 4-7. There will be a 10-minute Q&A at the end where kids can ask our special guest scientist questions. No registration. *Our guest rocket scientist had a great rapport with the kids, who asked lots of questions.*

Attendees: 28

Baby Playtime

Friday, April 5, 10:00 am and 1:00 pm

Meet new friends at Baby Playtime! We will provide toys and books for babies to play with and space for caregivers to socialize. For ages 0 to 18 months.

Attendees: 18, 14

Solar Science Hour

Saturday, April 6, 10:00 – 11:00 am

Geared toward families with children ages 5-11. We're excited about the upcoming solar eclipse and want to give your family a chance to celebrate solar science. Drop by the library for simple science-themed activities and crafts. Design a sun catcher, make a sun clock, and try a science sorting game.

Attendees: 66

Read to a Dog

Saturday, April 6, 1:30 – 3:00 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.

Attendees: 16

Cookie Mouse Story Time

Tuesday, April 9, 10:00 – 10:30 am

Enjoy stories, songs, and activities about If You Give a Mouse a Cookie and other books by Laura Numeroff! Designed for ages 2-5. No registration.

Attendees: 77

Early Reader Book Club

Tuesday, April 9, 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: 1

Pokémon Club

Thursday, April 11, 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: 45

Favorite Books and Bites: The Last Kids on Earth

Monday, April 15, 4:00 – 5:00 pm

Discuss the Last Kids on Earth 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: 11

Music and Movement Story Time

Tuesday, April 16, 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.

Attendees: 65

Poetry Palooza

Thursday, April 18, 4:15 – 5:15 pm

For ages 8-11. Explore different types of poetry and write your own poems! Examples and materials will be provided for blackout poetry, found poetry, and more.

Attendees: 1

Baby Playtime

Friday, April 19, 10:00 am and 1:00 pm

Meet new friends at Baby Playtime! We will provide toys and books for babies to play with and space for caregivers to socialize. For ages 0 to 18 months.

Attendees: 14, 9

Family Story Time

Saturday, April 20, 9:30 – 10:00 am

Join us for a family story time, once a month, with books, songs, and rhymes. For ages 0 - 5. No registration.

Attendees: 44

Toddler Art and Play

Tuesday, April 23, 9:30 – 10:00 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: 69

Swiftie Story Time

Wednesday, April 24, 6:30 – 7:00 pm

Calling all young Swifties and Taylor Tots! Join us as we "shake it off" to Taylor Swift stories and songs! Geared toward ages 3-8. "There will be no registration. There will just be reputation."

Attendees: 82

Upcoming Kids' Events

Lego Party

Thursday, April 25, 4:15 – 5:15 pm

For ages 5-11. Join fellow Lego fanatics for a Lego celebration with building challenges and snacks. Lego bricks will be provided for use during the event.

Read to a Dog

Saturday, April 27, 10:00 am – 12:00 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.

Free Comic Book Day

Saturday, May 4, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

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

Read to a Dog

Thursday, May 15, 4:00 – 5:30 pm and Saturday, May 18, 10:00 am – 12:00 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. Please come early (especially if you're picking out a book to read), as time slots are short. Check-in at the Children's Desk.

Favorite Books and Bites: The Land of Stories

Monday, May 20, 4:00 – 5:00 pm

Discuss *The Land of Stories* series, plus enjoy activities and snacks related to the books. Ages 8 - 11. The first book of the series is available at the children's desk.

Family Story Time

Saturday, May 25, 9:30 – 10:00am

Join us for a Family Story Time, once a month, with books, songs, and rhymes. For ages 0 - 5.

Read to a Dog

Saturday, May 25, 1:30 – 3:00 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.

Teen Events:

DIY Stamping

Thursday, March 28, 4:00 – 5:00 pm

Teens made their own stamps out of potatoes and other veggies & decorated a canvas bag with their new designs.

Attendees: 2

VAHS Makerspace

Students at Verona Area High School covered canvas pouches with jewels and Sharpie inks. *Comments: From sparkly clouds and bejeweled names, to celebrating beloved boy bands, teens expressed their interests through gems!*

Tuesday April 2, Attendees: 11

Wednesday April 3, Attendees: 10

Teen Time for All Abilities

Sunday, April 14, 3:00 – 4:30 pm

This event was for teens and young adults with additional needs or learning disabilities, accompanied by caregivers and siblings. *Comments: Participants practiced conversation while building wooden plank structures. They also explored science via a milk/food coloring/soap experiment!*

Attendees: 2

Shadow Boxes

Wednesday, April 17, 7:00 – 8:00 pm

Teens created a glowing shadow box! They used string lights, a wood frame, paper, and glue to form a bright scene. *Comments: The teens gained confidence as they figured out how to structure a three dimensional scene with cut layers of paper, while still allowing light to enhance their filmy silhouettes.*

Attendees: 5

BRMS Make'n'munch

Thursday, April 18, 11:00 – 1:15 pm

Students at Badger Ridge Middle School created potato stamps and decorated canvas bags during their lunch period. *Comments: Students were excited to hear that Make'n'munch would be happening again in May.*

Attendees: 23

Upcoming Teen Events:

Teen Gaming

Tuesday, April 23, 4:00 – 5:00 pm

Snack on pizza and more! Face off on the Nintendo Switch or SNES, try a board game, or bring your own device.

BRMS Escape Rooms

Wednesday, May 1, 8:45 – 12:45 pm

Students at Badger Ridge Middle School will get an introduction to Verona Public Library services and collections via an Escape Room game where they will solve clues and open locks.

VAHS Makerspace

Tuesday, May 14 and Wednesday, May 15

Students signed up for library time at Verona Area High School will have the opportunity to design their own buttons.

Japanese Marbling

Wednesday, May 15, 4:30 – 5:30 pm

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

BRMS Make'n'munch

Thursday, May 16, 11:00 – 1:15 pm

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

Time for All Abilities

Sunday, April 14, 3:00 – 4:30 pm

This event is for neurodivergent 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!

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

March 25, attendees: 9

April 8, attendees: 12

March 26, attendees: 6

April 9, attendees: 6

April 1, attendees: 13

April 15, attendees: 10

April 2, attendees: 5

April 16, attendees: 5

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.

March 27, attendees: 16

April 10, attendees: 15

Library Yarns Colorwork Hat Knit Along

Wednesdays, March 6, 20, 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 while knitting a great new winter hat.

April 3, attendees: 10

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.

Attendees: 45

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. Contact a case manager at the Verona Senior Center at 608-845-7471 with questions.

Attendees: 0

Candidate Forum for Voter Awareness

Monday, April 8, 6:15 - 8:00 pm

Representative Mike Bare as they discuss legislative updates and their positions on important issues. Become an informed voter! Co-sponsored by Verona Votes.

Attendees: 17

Meet Bestselling Author Robert Kurson

Tuesday, April 9, 11:00 – 11:45 am

Meet Robert Kurson, bestselling author of tales of real-life adventures, like *Rocket Men* and *Shadow Divers*, for book sale and signing.

Attendees: 15

Verona Aspiring Writers Group

Thursday, April 11, 7:00 - 8:00 pm

This group is to offer constructive feedback 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! The first meeting will be for introduction and planning purposes; after this we will meet regularly and share our creations with one another for input.

Attendees: 11

A Taste of Mystery Bookclub

Monday, April 15, 10:00 – 11:00 am

In this book club for mystery enthusiasts, we read the first book in a series by a variety of mystery authors and then discuss over coffee, fruit and pastries. Books will be available for checkout both at the meetings and behind the circulation desk during the month they are featured. Our first book will be *The Dry* by Jane Harper and copies are available now!

Attendees: 7

DIY Card Making Class

Thursday, April 18, 6:00 – 7:30 pm

Let someone know you are thinking of them with a handmade card. Stampin' UP! demonstrator Jamie Statz-Paynter, will provide all materials and instructions you need to leave with three personalized professional-quality cards of your own.

Attendees: 18

Accessing Library Resources

Wednesday, April 24, 2024, 10:00 - 11:00 am

Want to learn how to place books on hold, access Libby or use our library databases? This informative presentation will cover all three topics, with time allotted for Q & A.

Attendees: 1

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.

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.

A Taste of Mystery Bookclub

Third Monday of each month. 10:00 - 11:00 am

In this book club for mystery enthusiasts, we read the first book in a series by a variety of mystery authors and then discuss over coffee, fruit and pastries. Books will be available for checkout both at the meetings and behind the circulation desk during the month they are featured.

Adult Crafternoon

Friday, April 26, 4:00 - 5:45 pm

Come in and craft with us! We will be making cross-stitch bookmarks - no experience is necessary. Registration required. Class size is limited to 20 participants.

Verona Aspiring Writers Group

Thursday, May 2 & Monday, May 13, 7:00 - 8:00 pm

This group is to offer constructive feedback 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! The first meeting will be for introduction and planning purposes; after this we will meet regularly and share our creations with one another for input. Limit 15 participants.

Long Term Care Options for Seniors

Wednesday, May 15, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Please join us to learn more about the Wisconsin Board on Aging and Long-Term Care (BOALTC). The purpose of this agency is to help seniors understand their options regarding aging, long-term care, Medicare, and prescription drug coverage. The presenters will give an overview of the services this agency provides. <https://longtermcare.wi.gov/>

Being in the Moment & Diminishing Anxiety

Thursday, May 16, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Join Joey Donovan Guido, author of the book, *GUTS: Getting Under The Surface to Prevent Burnout, Reduce Stress & Boost Resilience*, and host of the GUTS podcast, as he facilitates a thought-provoking conversation that focuses on improving mental health by digging into the connection between mindfulness, meditation, self-care and relationships.

Movie Screening of *Cyrano*

Saturday, May 18, 1:00 - 3:00 pm

Come and enjoy a movie at the library! This month we will watch *Cyrano* (the 2021 version), the classic and entertaining tale of brains vs looks and what makes people fall in love. Popcorn provided!

Wisconsin's Gangster Past

Tuesday, May 21, 7:00 - 8:00 pm

Join us as author and speaker Chad Lewis recounts the many Wisconsin connections to gangster history, including hideouts, murder, mayhem and even vacations. Zoot suits optional.

Helping Our Pets to Live Longer, Healthier Lives

Wednesday, May 22, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Join Dr. Miranda Braithwaite, owner of SagePet Mobile Veterinary Care as she explains how to keep our pets happy and healthy as they age.

Livestream: Poetry and the Natural World with U.S. Poet Laureate Ada Limón

Thursday, May 23, 6:30 - 8:00 pm

WATCH PARTY! Hosted by Wisconsin Farmers Union and the Verona Public Library.

Poetry and the Natural World is a special event with readings by United States Poet Laureate Ada Limón. This event focuses on the connections between nature, the changing environment, and poetry. Through Limón's work, the Academy will bring people together to explore these themes and the intersection of the letters and sciences.

Adult Crafternoon

Friday, May 24, 4:00 - 5:15 pm

Adults need arts and crafts time too! This month we will be making beaded friendship bracelets.

Afro-Colombian Music Showcase with Angela Puerta

Tuesday, May 28, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Join Angela Puerta and her vibrant 4-piece Latin band for a fun and educational musical experience. Learn about Afro-Colombian rhythms like Cumbia, Bambuco, and Vallenato, and develop a profound appreciation for cultural diversity. She encourages the audience to dance and sing in both English and Spanish, creating an interactive and lively atmosphere. The Verona Public Library is a proud participant in the Latine Music & Dance Festival. Sponsored by Beyond the Page, National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Madison Community Foundation.

Author Visit – Peggy Joque Williams

Wednesday, May 29, 7:00 - 8:00 pm

Meet the (Wisconsin-based) author of the new historical fiction book *Courting the Sun*, and listen to her discuss this well-researched and captivating tale. Books will be available for sale and signing! Sponsored by the Friends of the Verona Public Library.

Psychedelics and Mental Health

Thursday, May 30, 7:00 - 8:00 pm

Dr. Wenthur's lab at UW-Madison is working on new approaches to improve mental healthcare and mental wellness through better understanding of how psychedelics and other psychoactive drugs can be used alongside therapy. This approach has the potential to address the staggeringly high rates of depression, anxiety, overdose, and suicide that exist in Wisconsin and across the globe, and has the potential to change how we manage access to mental healthcare and address widespread health disparities.

Exhibits

Orchard Ridge Nursery School displayed kids' art above the magazines in the children's area for a week in April.

Outreach Events

Outreach story times:

Total daycare story time presentations this month: 7

Tuesday, March 26, 10:00 – 11:00 am

The residents discussed *The House of Wolves* by James Patterson and Mike Lupica.

Attendees: 4

Noel Manor Book Group

Wednesday, March 27, 10:30 – 11:30 am

The group read *The Watchman* by Robert Crais.

Attendees: 7

Prairie Oaks Book Group

Thursday, March 28, 1:30 – 2:30 pm

The group met to discuss *The Lager Queen of Minnesota* by J. Ryan Stradal.

Attendees: 7

Books 'n Booze at Stone Porch Alehouse

Thursday, March 28, 6:00 – 7:00 pm

The group discussed *Crying in H Mart* by Michelle Zauner.

Attendees: 17

Verona Eggstravaganza

Saturday, March 30, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

The library provided a bunny craft and library information at the Chamber of Commerce's annual egg hunt for the community. *Comments: "You're from the library? We love the library!"*

Attendees: 211

Senior Center Book Group

Wednesday, April 10, 10:00 – 11:00 am

The group discussed *Saturday Night at the Lakeside Supper Club* by J. Ryan Stradal.

Attendees: 18

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

Monday, April 15, 4:15 – 4:45 pm

Crafts and stories at the afterschool program at NC and VAIS. *Comments: "We love library days!"*

Attendees: 22

Literacy Night at Glacier Edge

Thursday, April 18, 4:30 – 6:00 pm

The library provided a literacy activity and fun giveaways for students at Glacier Edge.

Attendees: 42

Four Winds Book Group

Tuesday, April 23, 10:00 – 11:00 am

The residents will meet to discuss *The Lost Apothecary* by Sarah Penner.

Attendees: 6

Upcoming Outreach Events**Noel Manor Book Group**

Wednesday, April 24, 10:30 – 11:30 am

The group will be reading *The Book of Lost Friends* by Lisa Wingate.

Prairie Oaks Book Group

Thursday, April 25, 1:30 – 2:30 pm

The group will be reading *Our Last Days in Barcelona* by Chanel Cleeton

Books 'n Booze at Stone Porch Alehouse

Thursday, April 25, 6:00 – 7:00 pm

The group will be discussing *Long Way Down* by Jason Reynolds.

Senior Center Book Group

Wednesday, May 8, 10:00 – 11:00 am

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

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

Monday, May 20, 4:15 – 4:45 pm

Crafts and stories at the afterschool program for elementary school students at New Century and Verona Area International School.