

**AGENDA**

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

**Wednesday, April 2, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.  
Library Conference Room**

**Call to order**

- Approval of the Regular Meeting Minutes of 3/5/25
- Review and approval of the March 2025 invoices
- Public Comments
- City Council Liaison's report
- Library Director's report
- Old Business
  1. Discussion of Library Strategic Plan
- New Business
  1. Discussion and possible action regarding the 2025 Adjacent County Reimbursement Requests
  2. Discussion regarding IMLS funding
  3. Discussion and possible action regarding the Space Needs Assessment RFP

## **Library Board Meeting Notes**

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

**608-845-7180**

**Wednesday, March 5, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.  
Library Conference Room**

**Attendees:** Burkart, Hopp, Braithwaite, Conwell, Jones, Franke, Spencer (Frey absent)

**Call to order:** Hopp called the meeting to order at 6:31 PM

**Approval of the Regular Meeting Minutes of 2/5/2025** - Braithwaite moved, 2nd by Jones. Motion carries.

**Review and approval of the February 2025 invoices** - Conwell moved, 2nd by Franke. Motion carries.

### **Public Comments**

None

### **City Council Liaison's report:**

- Ann Freiwald, new Deputy City Administrator, has started.

### **Library Director's report:**

- New shades installed in the community room.
- Met with the Artist-in-Residence finalist; will be announced soon.
- Request for Proposals has been made public. Applications are due April 10, 2025.

### **Old Business**

1. Discussion and possible action regarding the library strategic plan
  - Thank you Stacey, Abby, and the library team for all the work on this.
  - Consider an annual report to supplement the Strategic Plan in future years.
  - *Jones moved to approve adoption of the 2025 Strategic Plan with suggested edits, 2nd by Franke. Motion carries.*
2. Discussion and possible action regarding the Circulation Policy - *Braithwaite moved, 2nd by Spencer. Motion carries.*

### **New Business**

- None

### **Adjournment:**

A motion to adjourn was made by Spencer, 2nd by Franke. Adjournment approved at 7:42 PM.

# Director's Report

## Verona Public Library

### March 2025

#### Circulation

Items Circulated	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
January	49,310	48,218	47,722	46,024	29,669
February	44,262	47,599	46,003	42,218	28,925
March		50,433	52,026	49,314	36,647
April		45,552	46,674	47,514	31,448
May		43,352	44,226	42,775	32,633
June		57,330	59,454	52,827	52,142
July		60,127	58,102	52,448	52,220
August		55,179	58,081	55,184	51,007
September		46,523	45,429	45,066	42,894
October		47,097	47,785	42,440	43,527
November		46,203	44,975	43,939	43,507
December		44,005	43,655	42,000	39,089
<b>Total</b>	<b>93,572</b>	<b>591,618</b>	<b>594,132</b>	<b>561,749</b>	<b>483,708</b>

New Library Cards	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
January	212	171	188	119	27
February	106	176	137	149	36
March		189	176	155	24
April		150	152	129	36
May		124	142	140	71
June		262	290	344	179
July		217	218	239	160
August		195	212	206	129
September		136	141	141	105
October		187	170	150	99
November		148	119	144	64
December		117	128	122	87
<b>Total</b>	<b>318</b>	<b>2,072</b>	<b>1,423</b>	<b>2,038</b>	<b>1,017</b>

<b>Holds</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
January	15,371	15,085	14,929	15,139	18,260
February	12,054	13,421	13,005	11,617	17,130
March		13,282	13,586	12,878	18,193
April		12,906	12,658	12,098	15,698
May		12,364	13,483	11,820	14,236
June		13,958	13,854	11,984	13,328
July		14,280	14,445	11,735	11,621
August		12,759	13,607	13,389	13,510
September		13,527	13,587	12,506	13,252
October		12,639	12,645	11,924	13,304
November		13,020	12,971	12,888	12,679
December		11,760	11,054	10,313	11,069
<b>Total</b>	<b>27,425</b>	<b>159,001</b>	<b>119,516</b>	<b>148,291</b>	<b>172,280</b>

## Reference

### Reference Statistics

Computer Lab Use: 662

Test Proctoring: 4 exams

Outer Library Loans: 29 requests

Personal Archiving Lab Sessions: 14

<b>Library Visits</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
January	18,476	16,183	16,114	10,780	0
February	17,627	18,492	15,945	11,193	0
March		19,457	18,160	13,628	0
April		17,727	18,062	16,488	2,889
May		17,169	16,049	12,366	5,015
June		23,528	22,204	16,624	11,757
July		23,261	20,232	17,057	13,407
August		22,187	22,619	18,830	13,267
September		17,053	14,958	13,890	10,746
October		19,832	17,011	14,009	10,346
November		16,116	16,152	15,729	9,371
December		15,805	16,190	13,552	10,562
<b>Total</b>	<b>36,103</b>	<b>226,810</b>	<b>213,696</b>	<b>174,146</b>	<b>87,360</b>

Reference questions	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
January	1,338	1,929	1,640	1,061	821
February	1,260	2,161	1,638	1,653	924
March		1,989	1,830	1,758	1,347
April		2,004	1,896	1,226	948
May		1,995	2,031	1,117	1,085
June		2,638	2,487	2,183	2,200
July		2,144	2,058	1,691	2,365
August		2,242	2,331	2,075	1,847
September		1,490	1,837	1,341	1,543
October		1,804	1,840	1,566	581
November		1,340	1,836	1,628	458
December		1,431	1,835	1,356	721
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,598</b>	<b>23,394</b>	<b>23,259</b>	<b>18,655</b>	<b>14,840</b>

Meeting Room Use	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
January	647	560	474	164	-
February	636	674	487	206	-
March		575	524	272	-
April		569	506	305	-
May		551	509	328	-
June		519	422	314	-
July		490	423	316	-
August		499	538	411	-
September		521	172	327	-
October		676	512	398	-
November		634	528	453	-
December		591	495	396	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,283</b>	<b>6,941</b>	<b>5,590</b>	<b>5,912</b>	<b>2,021</b>

## Collection Management

Number of items added and deleted in February 2025:

Item Type	Added	Deleted
Books	863	502
Audio	1	1
Software	2	0
Video/DVD	4	1
Other (kits, etc.)	11	1
Magazines	128	39
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1009</b>	<b>544</b>
<b>YTD</b>	<b>1768</b>	<b>2225</b>

Ronda weeded the paperback collection in preparation for the new study pods coming in next month.

Ronda started weeding the AV collections and has completed the audiobook collection.

Theresa and Ronda ordered and replaced the in-library use only Chromebooks. A patron used one of the new Chromebooks and said that it was great, easy to use, and fast.

The library has added a new e-resource, Publishers Marketplace. Users have access to industry news, book reviews and sales information, and information about agents and publishing companies.

Inventory continues, and is progressing quickly. Theresa requested the barcode scanner kit from SCLS, and we've been able to have multiple people working on inventory at a time.

Jenny completed the inventory of the Board Game collection, with approximately 50% of games being in good condition, 30% of games needing repair, and the remaining games were removed from the collection due to condition or were lost.

## Personnel and Staff Development

Theresa had a Page meeting on March 14. Paying close attention to spine labels, shifting while shelving, and sorter room organization were the main topics.

Mark attended the Ryan Dowd webinar, *Mental Illness Short Course: High Risk and Low-Risk Situations*.

Stacey and Tonja attended the Ryan Dowd webinar, *Handling Problem Interactions with Law Enforcement-A Conversation with Sheriff Ron Hain*.

## Equipment and Physical Facilities

New blinds were installed in the Community Room in early March.

The installation of new AV equipment in the Community Room has been completed. Staff is looking forward to using the new video recording capabilities for library programs.

## Administration and Internal Operations

Stacey and Abby developed a strategic plan highlights brochure.

Stacey gave several tours to interested firms of the library as part of the Space Needs Assessment RFP process this month.

## Marketing and Public Relations

This month Abby created 39 event graphics (website, Facebook, TV) with accompanying bookmarks, flyers, and signs.

Features highlighted on social media, e-newsletter, and website this month: Virtual Author Talk series and Top Requested Fiction and Non-fiction books during the last 6 months.

March Events e-Newsletter 1: 8,939 recipients

March Events e-Newsletter 2: 8,916, recipients

Maureen and Julia created a display celebrating Black History Month and another highlighting Irish authors. Julia created a display with *Wisconsin Eats* themed titles. Circulation staff created a display featuring cats and another celebrating Women's History Month.

## Library System and Interagency Cooperation

Stacey and Theresa attended the All-Directors meeting at SCLS Headquarters on March 20. Theresa helped present the ILS Evaluation Lead Workgroup recommendations to the library directors, who will vote on the next steps at the May meeting.

Jenny hosted a webinar through UW-Madison's iSchool on Tuesday, March 11 titled, *HOW Many Pieces? Board Game Collection Management*. The Verona Public Library has about 230 board games for check out, the largest collection in SCLS. Jenny gave an overview of how we handle accession, check-in, repair, and weeding, as well as what game-related resources are available for librarians in Wisconsin and around the country. The webinar had 130 participants with an additional 23 watching the recording.

Jenny was also invited by the Wisconsin Department of Instruction to attend the Field Day Lab 10-Year Anniversary Celebration at the Memorial Union on March 4. The Field Day Lab has been "a pioneering effort in educational outreach, leveraging the power of video games to enhance learning experiences."

Mark attended the WISCAT User Group meeting on March 11. Mark reports that per capita, Wisconsin ranks first in the nation for ILL requests.

Tonja met with Bex Fabrizio from the Literacy Network for a mid-session check-in for the Spring 2025 Community English classes. Students are focusing in on health, nutrition, and the US system for everyday measurements. The Literacy Network has also translated a Know your Rights hand-out from the Immigrant Defense Project into 14 languages for the Community English students.

Tonja attended the SCLS Southwest Regional Equity Team meeting via Zoom on March 18.

The library is again participating in the DCLS collaboration with the American Players Theater, *Check Out APT 2025*. The program supplies vouchers to Dane County libraries for distribution to patrons. Each voucher is for 2 complimentary tickets to any Hill show. Vouchers will be available by APT's official start date of April 28.

## Fundraising

Nothing to report

## Exhibits

### VASD Student Art Display

March 1 - March 23

On display in the main area of the library all month: come to enjoy and admire the talent and creativity of Verona's young artists!

### 2025 Artist-in-Residence Program featuring artist Dawn Wians

Spring: April 28 - June 6

Fall: October 10 - November 24

## Library Events and Programs

### Kids' Events

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

17 kids were registered this month, bringing the total number of registrants to 2761.

#### **Winter Story Times, January 13 – March 7**

Baby Story Time: 16 story times, attendees: 397, average: 22

Toddler Story Time: 15 story times, attendees: 608, average: 41

Preschool Story Time: 15 story times, attendees: 486, average: 32

Sensory Story Time: 11 story times (1/2 – 3/20), attendees: 320, average: 29

Everybody Story Time: 8 story times, attendees: 287, average: 36

**Total: 65 story times, 2,098 attendees**

#### **Young and the Restless**

Friday, February 21, 9:30 - 10:30 am

Ages 1-4. 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. Drop in any time; no registration.

Attendees: 67

#### **Favorite Friends**

Saturday, February 22, 10:00 - 11:30 am

All ages. No registration. Meet some of your favorite book characters - Frog and Toad, Llama Llama, and an Ice Princess! Kids can visit characters throughout the library, plus do character-themed crafts and enjoy snacks. *This year we hired an outside business to provide the Ice Princess; she was great and it was nice to have one station taken care of without needing our staff. This event continues to be very fun and popular.*

Attendees: 485

#### **Toddler Art and Play**

Tuesday, February 25, 9:30 am

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: 58

#### **Tween Craft: Collage Creations**

Thursday, February 27, 4:00 pm

Ages 8-11. Registration required. Create collage art on small notebooks, mini treasure chests, or paper. Materials including scrapbook paper and assorted pictures will be provided.

Attendees: 10

#### **Read to a Dog**

Saturday, March 1, 1:30 - 3:00 pm

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

Attendees: 16



**Music & Movement Story Time**

Tuesday, March 4, 10:30 – 11:00 am

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

Attendees: 84

**Minecraft Club**

Thursday, March 6, 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: 29

**Young and the Restless**

Friday, March 7, 9:30 - 10:30 am

Ages 1-4. 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. Drop in any time; no registration.

Attendees: 66

**Parent/Child Book Club: The Apartment House on Poppy Hill**

Tuesday, March 11, 5:30 - 6:30 pm

Ages 8-11. Registration required. In January, Parent/Child Book Club will discuss the novel *The Apartment House on Poppy Hill* by Nina LaCour.

Attendees: 8

**Read to a Dog**

Wednesday, March 12, 4:00 - 5:30 pm

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

Attendees: 8

**Dino-S'mores Story Time**

Wednesday, March 12, 6:30 - 7:00 pm

Ages 2-6. Join us for dinosaur-themed stories and songs! After story time, enjoy some "walking s'mores!" Designed for ages 2-6. No registration.

Attendees: 52

**Pokémon Club**

Thursday, March 13, 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: 41

**Read to a Dog**

Friday, March 14, 4:00 - 5:30 pm and Saturday, March 15, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

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

Attendees: 8, 15

### **Favorite Books & Bites: A Series of Unfortunate Events**

Monday, March 17, 4:00 pm

Ages 8 - 11. Discuss the A Series of Unfortunate Events series, plus enjoy activities and snacks related to the books. Pick up a copy of the first book of the series, *The Bad Beginning* by Lemony Snicket at the children's desk to read in advance, or if you're already a fan, just sign up and join us.

Attendees: 5

### **Toddler Art and Play**

Tuesday, March 18, 9:30 - 10:30 am

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: 63

### **Tween Craft: Zines**

Thursday, March 20, 4:00 - 5:00 pm

Ages 8-11. Registration required. Get creative and make a zine about a topic you care about! Zines are independent, self-published, DIY publications. They can be about anything and often include drawings, collage, and writing. Materials will be provided, so bring your imagination and start creating!

Attendees: 3

## **Upcoming Kids' Events**

### **Spring Story Time, March 31 – May 9**

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

### **Minecraft Club**

Thursday, April 3, 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.

### **Our Food Grows**

Saturday, April 5, 10:00 - 11:00 am

Ages 3-5. Meet local author Sarah White and local illustrator Tessa Gibbs! Hear their new picture book *Our Food Grows*, then enjoy different activity stations like collage making, a planting activity, and more! Geared to ages 3 -5, but all ages are welcome.

### **Read to a Dog**

Saturday, April 5, 1:30 - 3:00 pm

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

### **Child Development Story Time: Wild Animals**

Tuesday, April 8, 10:30 - 11:00 am

Ages 2-5. 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.

**Parent/Child Book Club: Pax**

Tuesday, April 8, 5:30 - 6:30 pm

Ages 8-11. Registration required. In April, Parent/Child Book Club will discuss the novel *Pax* by Sara Pennypacker.

**Read to a Dog**

Wednesday, April 9, 4:00 - 5:30 pm

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

**Flamingo Story Time**

Wednesday, April 9, 6:30 - 7:00 pm

Ages 2-6. Join us for flamingo-themed stories and songs! Designed for ages 2-6. No registration.

**Pokémon Club**

Thursday, April 10, 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.

**Read to a Dog**

Friday, April 11, 4:00 - 5:30 pm

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

**Family Story Time**

Saturday, April 12, 9:30 - 10:00 am

Ages 0 - 5. Join us for Family Story Time, once a month, with books, songs, and rhymes. No registration.

**Music & Movement Story Time**

Tuesday, April 15, 10:30 - 11:00 am

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

**Drop-In Family Crafts**

Tuesday, April 15, 4:00 - 5:00 pm

Ages 6-11. Families can drop in at the library between 4:00-5:00 PM to get crafty together! Staff will provide a variety of supplies and a few project ideas. Stop by for a few minutes or stay the entire hour, it's up to you! Recommended for families with children age 6-11.

**We Love Worms**

Thursday, April 17, 4:00 - 5:00 pm

Ages 8-11. Registration required. Worms are awesome! Learn more about them by creating a mini, take-home wormery -- a place where worms can grow, make more worms, and recycle food waste into fertilizer! Celebrate Earth Day by trying out a sustainable way of composting while learning about the habits of worms. This project will be a temporary wormery but will help you gain knowledge about the process if you're interested in trying worm composting at home!

**Read to a Dog**

Saturday, April 19, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

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

**Favorite Books & Bites: Misfits**

Monday, April 21, 4:00 - 5:00 pm

Ages 8 - 11. Registration required. Discuss the Misfits series, plus enjoy activities and snacks related to the books. Pick up a copy of the first book of the series, *A Royal Conundrum* by Lisa Yee 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, April 22, 9:30 - 10:30 am

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.

**Riddle Challenge**

Thursday, April 24, 4:00 - 5:00 pm

Ages 8-11. Registration required. Test your skills with tricky riddles designed to stump you! You'll also get the chance to write your own riddles and rhymes. Will you accept the challenge?

**Teen Events****BRMS Make'n'munch**

Thursday, February 27, 11:00 - 1:15 pm

Students at Badger Ridge Middle School who have signed up for library during lunch can enjoy some crafting time. *Comments: Students created their own magnets out of clear gems, recycled books and scrapbook paper. Many made some as gifts for others!*

Attendees: 22

**Watercolor Lanterns**

Thursday February 27, 7:00 – 8:00 pm

Create a colorful paper lantern with watercolor inks! *Comments: Teens chose from large, medium, and small paper lanterns, creating colorful globes by brushing on watercolors. Two older teens were so excited with their finished projects and said they had the best time ever!*

Attendees: 8

**Crafty Tuesday**

Tuesday, March 4, 4:00 pm

Stop by Teen Central for DIY projects. Create throughout the month, as supplies last. *Comments: Teens designed their own stickers on vinyl with paint pens and Sharpies. Groups of teens will often do this as a social activity together after school.*

Attendees: 9 (still ongoing)

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

Tuesday, March 4, 7:00 - 8:00 pm

Join Heidi King from College Inside Track in this free webinar. 2025 introduces significant changes to the ACT/SAT, and college admissions continue to get more selective. Learn about the revamped ACT and

SATs and how test-optional can be evaluated. We'll introduce new strategies to give your student the best opportunity to be admitted and maximize scholarships!

Attendees: 6

### **VAHS Makerspace**

Wednesday, March 5, 12:35 - 1:05 pm

Students signed up for library time at Verona Area High School will have the opportunity to design, create, and socialize. *Comments: Teens formed galaxies in tiny jars using water, paint, cotton, glitter and their imagination!*

Attendees: 21

### **Eat Your Words**

Monday, March 10, 5:30 - 7:00pm

Enjoy breakfast-for-dinner! Create pancake art and play storytelling games in a relaxed group setting. Eat your words – without judgement – in this writing workshop for teens! *Comments: Teens made colorful pancakes, wrote stories which they were excited to share with one another, and created simple comics as a group!*

Attendees: 8

### **ACT Practice for Sophomores**

Tuesday, March 11, 9:30 - 1:00pm

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!

Attendees: 19

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

Thursday, March 13, 11:00 - 1:15 pm

Students at Badger Ridge Middle School who have signed up for library during lunch can enjoy some crafting time. *Comments: Students created a tiny gallery of canvases on little easels, from miniature sunsets, to colorful patterns and spring flowers!*

Attendees: 23

## **Upcoming Teen Events:**

### **Teen Gaming & Pizza**

Thursday, March 27 & April 24, 4:00- 5:30 pm

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

### **Crafty Tuesday**

Tuesday, April 8, 4:00 pm

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

### **Eat Your Words**

Monday, April 14, 5:30 – 7:00pm

Enjoy breakfast-for-dinner! Create pancake art and play storytelling games in a relaxed group setting. Eat your words – without judgement – in this writing workshop for teens!

**VAHS Makerspace**

Wednesday, April 16, 12:35 - 1:05 pm

Students signed up for library time at Verona Area High School will have the opportunity to design, create, and socialize.

**BRMS Make'n'munch**

Thursday, April 17, 11:00 - 1:15 pm

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

**National Park Art**

Monday, April 21, 6:30 - 8:00 pm

Celebrate our National Parks with Saguaro-inspired art! Fill an embroidery hoop with colorful cacti made of recycled fabrics, and then embellish with stitches and fabric paints.

**Cupcakes & Queer Eye**

Monday, April 28, 7:00 - 8:00 pm

Decorate cupcakes, make happy rocks, and create friendship bracelets while watching Queer Eye with other teens!

**Adult Events****Distance Learning English Classes for Adults**

Mondays 6:00 - 7:30 pm, Level: Beginner, January 27 – May 3, 2025

Tuesdays 6:00 - 8:00 pm, Level: Intermediate, January 21 – May 3, 2025

This free group English class will be offered mostly online using Zoom. The last class will take place in-person at Verona Public Library on Tuesday, May 3. You will practice speaking, listening, reading, writing and new vocabulary in English. This class is presented in partnership with Literacy Network.

February 24, attendees: 14

March 11, attendees: 3

February 25, attendees: 3

March 17, attendees: 11

March 4, attendees: 3

March 9, attendees: 9

March 10, attendees: 11

**Drop-in Tech Help**

Tuesdays, 9:00 - 11:00 am

Struggling with your phone, tablet or laptop? Drop by the library 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.

February 25, attendees: 1

March 4, attendees: 4

March 11, attendees: 1

March 18, attendees: 3

**Library Yarns Craft Group**

Wednesdays, 4:30 - 6:00 pm

If you enjoy knitting, crochet, 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.

All skill levels welcome. Registration not required. As outdoor conditions permit, we'll meet in back of library near picnic tables, otherwise please find us in the library's Conference Room.

February 26, attendees: 15

March 12, attendees: 13

March 19, attendees: 8

### **Library Yarns: Knit Along Cabled Pillow Cover**

Wednesday, January 29, February 5 and 19, March 5, 4:30 - 6:00 pm

Join Library Yarns for a cable pillow cover knit along with traditional Aran cables. We welcome veteran cable knitters and new learners alike to share and learn new techniques among our Verona-area knitting community. Over four sessions, we will learn cable-knitting basics, including how to knit cables, how to read charts, and basic cable troubleshooting. This program is appropriate for knitters comfortable with casting on, knitting in stockinette, and basic increases and decreases.

March 5, attendees: 13

### **Verona Aspiring Writers Group**

Monday, January 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? *Comments: several people from the group have formed a smaller group to write together for an hour before group meetings. It appears a close community has evolved.*

March 3, attendees: 12

March 17, attendees: 11

### **Adult Crafternoon-Resin Bookmarks**

Friday, February 21, 4:00 - 5:00 pm

Back by popular demand! Come create with us as we make beautiful and functional resin bookmarks. Each participant will make three.

Attendees: 19

### **Books and Banter**

Friday, February 28, 9:30 - 10:30 am

Need ideas for your next great read? Want to know what *not* to read? Come try this new spin on a book club where members share information about books they have recently read. Learn what to run out and grab, what to skip on your next trip to the library, and spend some time chatting with fellow reading enthusiasts. Light refreshments will be served.

Attendees: 6

### **Verona Spotlight on the Arts: Sound Bath Meditation**

Saturday, March 1, 2:00 - 3:45 pm

As part of the citywide Spotlight on the Arts, Reiki Master and teacher Shelby Kottemann is offering this introduction to sound baths. A sound bath is a relaxing experience where soothing and harmonious vibrations are created by a variety of tones with crystal singing bowls and chimes. Lie comfortably on a mat while the sounds promote stress relief, mental clarity, and a sense of calm. Drop in and enjoy!

Attendees: 24

**Ireland: A Colorful Tour of the Emerald Isle**

Thursday, March 6, 6:00 - 7:30 pm

Enjoy this vicarious trip to Ireland through a fun and informative pictorial presentation. *When in Roam's* Joe Fahey will be here to discuss some of the key points of Irish culture, both past and present, with a few fun stops along the way.

**Attendees: 53**

**VPL Cookbook Club – Green and White Food!**

Tuesday, March 11, 6:30 - 8:00 pm

This month we will challenge ourselves to make food that is green, white or green and white. Think salads, cakes, Jello recipes, vegetable dishes etc. It will be fun to see what recipes people find!

**Attendees: 11**

**Badger Talk: Mike Leckrone, Former UW Band Director**

Thursday, March 13, 6:00 - 7:30 pm

We invite you to a Badger Talk by local legend Mike Leckrone, former director of bands at the University of Wisconsin for an astonishing fifty years. A brilliant showman, he became known for aerial stunts and sequined outfits. He created the Fifth Quarter celebration that follows all home football games, removed barriers for women to march in the band, and established regular appearances at Camp Randall by special-needs high school musicians. Come and listen as he discusses his new book, *Moments of Happiness: A Wisconsin Band Story*. *Note: Maureen shared that the audience loved the program so much, they gave Mike Leckrone a standing ovation.*

**Attendees: 84**

**The Trinity Irish Dancers**

Saturday, March 15, 11:00 - 11:30 am

Get ready for a high-energy showcase that will leave you breathless! For nearly four decades, this celebrated institution with roots in Chicago, Milwaukee and Madison has broken competitive records and dazzled audiences worldwide. In this performance, you'll witness the incredible talent of Trinity students, some as young as 3.5 years old, as they bring traditional Irish steps and vibrant choreography to life on stage

**Attendees: 230**

**A Taste for Mystery Book Club**

Monday, March 17, 10:00 - 11:00 am

This month we will read and discuss *Sandrine's Case*, by Thomas Cook.

**Attendees: 7**

**Hands-Only CPR**

Tuesday, March 18, 6:00 - 7:00 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.

**Attendees: 17**



### **Filipino Cooking Class**

Wednesday, March 19, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Bess Miller from Mount Horeb's popular Halo Halo Food Cart will show us how to make a selection of Asian inspired comfort food! On the menu will be Beef Sinigang, a tamarind-based soup perfect for cold weather, and Lumpia, which are Filipino egg rolls. Afterwards, enjoy the wonderful food you have watched Bess prepare!

Attendees: 29

### **Upcoming Adult Events**

#### **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.

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

January 21 – May 3

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.

#### **Verona Aspiring Writers Group, Session 2**

Monday, March 31, April 14 and 28, 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!

#### **White Jasmine Cooking Class: Fish Tacos**

Thursday, March 27, 6:30 - 8:00 pm

Join Huma Siddiqui-Seitz, cookbook author and founder of *White Jasmine*, for a cooking demonstration featuring fish tacos, pineapple salsa, and toppings. White Jasmine is a local company that offers unique spices, cheeses, cooking classes and the TV show *White Jasmine Everyday Cooking*. Enjoy a tasting of the food prepared.

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

Thursday, April 3, 10:00 - 11:00 am

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

**DIY Card Making Class: Cards for All Occasions**

Thursday, April 3, 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Jamie Statz-Paynter from *Stampin' Up* will be here to walk us through the creation of beautiful cards for various occasions. All supplies provided!

**Spring Home Maintenance: What You Need to Know**

Wednesday, April 9, 6:00 - 7:30 pm

Once the snow has melted and spring has sprung, it's spring home maintenance time! At this class, experts from Project Home Wisconsin will discuss the things you need to check on, each year, in order to keep your home safe and functioning optimally. Staying on top of these maintenance tasks will help you avoid problems and costly repairs down the road. Bring your questions!

**Effecting Positive Change in the Community with Authors Tom Mosgaller & Mike Breininger**

Thursday, April 10, 7:00 - 8:00 pm

We can't always do much to control what is happening on a national or global level, but we sure as heck can make our communities better places. Long-time Wisconsin community builders, Tom Mosgaller and Mike Breininger, have authored a new book, *Pulling Together: A Handbook for Community Change*. Their shared vision for stronger communities transcends ideological divides and emphasizes the power of trust and relationship. Come and learn how to effect change that makes where you live a better place.

**Senior Case Management Outreach (Drop-In)**

Monday, April 14, 10:00 - 11:00 am

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. Stop in to talk and enjoy coffee and donuts. Contact a case manager at the Verona Senior Center at 608-845-7471 with questions.

**VPL Cookbook Club – Literary Recipes**

Tuesday, April 15, 6:30 - 8:00 pm

This month we will make recipes found in literature! Any recipe found in a book that is not a cookbook is fair game!

**Food & Stories on the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Great Gatsby**

Saturday, April 19, 1:30 - 2:30 pm

A culinary journey into the decadence and sophistication of the Jazz Age celebrating the 100th anniversary of F. Scott Fitzgerald's literary classic, *The Great Gatsby*! With the Jazz Age as a backdrop, author Veronica Hinke will take us through the dishes and drinks that graced the tables of Jay Gatsby's lavish parties. Presenter Veronica Hinke is a culinary and lifestyles journalist and instructor specializing in early late 19th Century and early 20th Century drinking, dining and entertainment. She is author of *The Last Night on The Titanic: Unsinkable Drinking, Dining & Style*; *Titanic: The Official Cookbook*; *Harry Potter Afternoon Tea Magic*; and *The Great Gatsby Cooking and Entertaining*.

**A Taste for Mystery Book Club**

Monday, April 21, 10:00 - 11:00 am

This month we will read and discuss *None of This is True* by Lisa Jewell.

**A Birthday Party for William Shakespeare**

Monday, April 21, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Join us as we celebrate (a few days early) the 460th birthday of William Shakespeare! Enjoy cake, punch and sonnets as we take turns reading a selection of favorites to the group.

**City of Verona Comprehensive Plan Open House**

Tuesday, April 22, 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Come for information and input as the City of Verona continues its Comprehensive Plan for the future! More info available at <https://www.veronawi.gov/>

**Metalsmithing Workshop**

Wednesday, April 23, 5:30 - 7:30 pm

Have you ever wondered how your favorite piece of jewelry was made? Have you ever watched a metalsmith transform a piece of flat, ordinary metal into a beautiful object? If so, you will really enjoy this, "hands on" workshop! Members of the Wisconsin Metalsmiths will be on hand demonstrating their techniques and skills, and will teach you how to produce your own wearable items or useful objects of art. Try your hand at transforming sheets of metal into something special, using hammers, pliers, stamps, torches, and more. Each participant will complete a lovely forged pendant and either a cuff bracelet or a bookmark. No previous metalsmithing skills are necessary. Limit 15 people.

**Learn to Play Dungeons & Dragons for Adult Part 1**

Tuesday, April 29, 6:30 - 8:30 pm

Dungeons and Dragons is a cooperative tabletop role playing game in which players can have creative and immersive adventures. Come and learn the basics from experienced players, and find out why this such a popular pastime. If interest is high, we can start our own adult D&D club! Light refreshments will be served. Part 2 will take place on Tuesday, May 6 at 6:30

## 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. **There were 915 total views of archived programs in February.**

### **The Power of Reset with Dan Heath**

Wednesday, March 12, 1:00 - 2:00 pm

Bestselling author Dan Heath talks with us about his newest book, *Reset: How to Change What's Not Working*. **Live Views: 6**

### **How Women's Liberation Transformed America with Clara Bingham**

Thursday, March 20, 1:00 - 2:00 pm

Award-winning journalist and author, Clara Bingham, as she chats with us about her new book, *The Movement: How Women's Liberation Transformed America, 1963-1973*. **Live Views: 2**

### **Upcoming Events:**

#### **Jennifer Weiner**

Wednesday, March 26, 6:00 - 7:00 pm

You're invited to a glimmering virtual conversation with *New York Times* bestselling author Jennifer Weiner as we chat about the signature emotional depth of her books that have been inspiring readers toward self-discovery for decades. We'll discuss her *New York Times* bestselling novels, *Good In Bed*, *In Her Shoes*, *Big Summer*, *The Breakaway* and about her forthcoming novel, *The Griffin Sister's Greatest Hits*.

#### **Author Talk: Jodi Picoult**

Wednesday, April 2, 6:00-7:00 pm

Highly acclaimed *New York Times* bestselling author Jodi Picoult chats about her newest novel, *By Any Other Name*. Told in intertwining narratives, *By Any Other Name* is a sweeping tale of ambition, courage, and desire that asks what price each woman is willing to pay to see their work live on—even if it means they will be forgotten.

#### **Smithsonian Talk: The Stories, Science, and History of Trees**

Tuesday, April 8, 1:00 - 2:00 pm

Join us as Smithsonian Horticulturalist Matthew Fleming, guides us through the secret world of trees as is revealed in the beautiful and absorbing guide to the giants of the plant world—*The Tree Book: The Stories, Science, and History of Trees*.

#### **Author Talk: Gregg Hurwitz**

Thursday, April 24, 6:00 - 7:00 pm

Gregg Hurwitz is the *New York Times* bestselling author of 24 thrillers including the Orphan X series. *Orphan X* introduces the world to the Nowhere Man. Now ten books in, fans cannot get enough of the *Orphan X* world and Hurwitz can't wait to tell us all about it.

## Outreach

### Outreach story times:

Total daycare story time presentations: 13

#### Guidepost Montessori Field Trip

Monday, February 24, 10:00 - 11:00 am

Students from Guidepost Montessori walked to the library for story time, a tour, and time to check out books.

Attendees: 15

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

Monday, February 24 and Monday, March 17, 4:15 - 4:45 pm

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

*Comments: The students loved February's activities, with one student declaring the book shared with the group her "new favorite book ever."*

Attendees: 24, 19

#### Four Winds Book Group

Tuesday, February 25, 10:00 - 11:00 am

The residents met to discuss *Dewey* by Vicki Myron. *Comments: The residents loved Dewey, stating it was "delightful." One member even loaned her copy to a staff member at the facility to read, too.*

Attendees: 6

#### Prairie Oaks Book Group

Thursday, February 27, 1:30 - 2:30 pm

The group met to discuss *Camino Ghosts* by John Grisham.

Attendees: 4

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

Thursday, February 27, 6:00 - 7:00 pm

The group discussed *The Night Watchman* by Louise Erdrich. *Comments: A new attendee said that it took her a year to be brave enough to attend, but she's glad she finally did.*

Attendees: 15

#### Noel Manor Book Group

Wednesday, March 5, 10:30 - 11:30 am

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

Attendees: 7

#### Conference Night at Badger Ridge Middle School

Monday, March 10, 3:00 - 7:00 pm

The library had a table at Badger Ridge to sign families up for library cards and pass out library information and stickers. One student signed up for a library card.

Attendees: 21

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

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

Join us for 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: 30

**Senior Center Book Group**

Wednesday, March 12, 10:00 - 11:00 am

The group discussed *Other Birds* by Sarah Addison Allen.

Attendees: 17

**YMCA After School Program at Country View**

Thursday, March 13, 2:40 - 3:10 pm

Crafts and stories at the afterschool program at Country View.

Attendees: 15

**Conference Night at Stoner Prairie Elementary School**

Tuesday, March 18, 3:00 - 7:00 pm

The library had a table with bilingual books and books in other languages to check out and library card applications. Three people signed up for library cards.

Attendees: 56

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

Thursday, March 20, 3:15 - 3:45 pm

Crafts and stories at the afterschool program at Glacier Edge.

Attendees: 19

**Upcoming Outreach Events****Four Winds Book Group**

Tuesday, March 25, 10:00 - 11:00 am

The residents will meet to discuss *The Spy Coast* by Tess Gerritsen.

**Noel Manor Book Group**

Wednesday, March 26, 10:30 - 11:30 am

The group will be discussing *This Tender Land* by William Kent Krueger.

**Prairie Oaks Book Group**

Thursday, March 27, 1:30 - 2:30 pm

The group will be reading *Mother-Daughter Murder Night* by Nina Simon.

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

Thursday, March 27, 6:00 - 7:00 pm

The group will be discussing *The Plot* by Jean Hanff Korelitz.

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

Tuesday, April 8, 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.

**Senior Center Book Group**

Wednesday, April 9, 10:00 - 11:00 am

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

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

Thursday, April 10, 2:40 - 3:10 pm

Crafts and stories at the afterschool program at Country View.

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

Tuesday, April 15, 3:15 - 3:45 pm

Crafts and stories at the afterschool program at Glacier Edge.

**Verona Eggstravaganza**

Saturday, April 19, 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

The library will have a craft table at the Chamber of Commerce's annual egg hunt for the community.

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

Monday, April 21, 4:15 - 4:45 pm

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

## **LIBRARY MISSION**

The Verona Public Library enriches lives and builds community by providing opportunities to discover, connect, learn, and enjoy.

## **CORE VALUES**

Service  
Innovation  
Teamwork  
Discovery  
Trust

Since the library was constructed in 2006 Verona's population has increased by

**66%**

& is projected to increase

**82%**

**in the next 15 years**

The Verona Public Library is excited to share some highlights of our strategic plan.

We encourage you to check out all the details and information in the full plan by visiting [veronapubliclibrary.org/strategic-plan](http://veronapubliclibrary.org/strategic-plan) or by scanning the QR code below.



## **QUESTIONS/COMMENTS?**

Stacey Burkart, Library Director  
[sburkart@veronapubliclibrary.org](mailto:sburkart@veronapubliclibrary.org)  
[veronapubliclibrary.org](http://veronapubliclibrary.org)  
[facebook.com/veronapubliclibrary](https://facebook.com/veronapubliclibrary)

# VERONA PUBLIC LIBRARY STRATEGIC PLAN HIGHLIGHTS





“

*The Verona Public Library is an amazing community resource! I often brag about our community library. Thank you for everything you provide!*

”

-comment from member of the public,  
Library Services Survey, Oct 2023

## STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

As the population of Verona continues to grow rapidly, the library is looking ahead and making plans to best serve our community in the future.

### BUILDING & SPACE NEEDS

Library officials will evaluate the current library space to accommodate the projected growth of the Verona community over the next 20 years.

### PROGRAMMING FOR ALL AGES

Library staff will continue to provide a diverse offering of programs for all ages, focusing on educational and enriching events that foster connection and build community, with special attention on providing services to the growing population of young families in Verona.

### COLLECTIONS THAT REFLECT OUR COMMUNITY

The library will continue to add to and build our collection of digital resources. Library collections will continue to build within the limits of our physical space.

### COMMUNICATION & OUTREACH

Library staff will use marketing strategies to promote library services to new community members. Library staff will promote library services to new and existing community members through library outreach.





## South Central Library System

1650 Pankratz Street • Madison, WI 53704

608/246-5612 • FAX 608/246-7958 • TDD 608/246-7974

**Date:** March 5, 2025  
**To** Library Board & Director, **Verona (VER)**  
**From** Tracie Miller, South Central Library System  
**RE:** 2025 Adjacent County Reimbursement Requests

The South Central Library System, with your permission, will request adjacent county reimbursements on behalf of your library per Wisconsin State Statute 43.12(2). Based upon information reported on your library's 2024 Wisconsin Public Library Annual Report, your library is eligible to request the estimated reimbursement from the following counties. **Do not use these estimates for budgeting purposes.**

Adjacent County	Amount Eligible to Request – payable in 2026 (70% minimum reimbursement level)	Do you want SCLS to bill this county for this amount?	
Columbia	\$2,167.00	Yes	No
Dodge	\$3.24	Yes	No
Green	\$15,230.93	Yes	No
Iowa	\$1,715.79	Yes	No
Jefferson	\$103.99	Yes	No
Rock	\$198.23	Yes	No
Sauk	\$1,078.87	Yes	No

- Please indicate **above** whether your library would like us to “bill” the adjacent county—**CIRCLE YES OR NO IN THE TABLE ABOVE**
- Please sign and date below—both Library Board President and Library Director.

When authorized by this completed form, SCLS will “bill” the adjacent county (a confirmation e-mail will be sent to your library director with the final reimbursement amounts). July 1, 2025, is the deadline for counties to be billed; counties are then required to pay your library no later than March 1, 2026. We will request that the reimbursement check be sent directly to your library and made payable to your library. In order for us to submit the reimbursement requests in a timely manner, **please return this completed form by email to [traciemiller@scls.info](mailto:traciemiller@scls.info) no later than April 30, 2025.**

Please contact me via e-mail ([traciemiller@scls.info](mailto:traciemiller@scls.info)) or phone (608-246-5612) if you have questions.

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The **Verona (VER)** Board of Trustees and the Library Director authorize SCLS to submit the adjacent county reimbursement requests listed above:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Library Board President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Library Director

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date