

AGENDA

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

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

Call to order

- Annual Library Board Officer elections are held to elect a President, Vice-President, and Secretary
- Approval of the Regular Meeting Minutes of 6/4/25
- Review and approval of the June 2025 invoices
- Public Comments
- City Council Liaison's report
- Library Director's report
- Old Business
 1. Discussion of the 2026 library budget
- New Business
 1. Discussion and update on the Library Space Needs Assessment

VPL Board Meeting Minutes
Library Board of Trustees-Verona Public Library
500 Silent Street Verona, WI 53593
Wednesday, June 4th, 2025, 6:30 p.m.

Present:

- Burkart, Frey, Hopp, Jones, Spencer, Franke

Absent:

- Conwell

Call to order:

- Hopp called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

Approval of Minutes:

- A motion was made by Jones, seconded by Spencer, to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of 04/30/2025. Motion carried.
- Frey motioned, seconded by Franke, to approve the May 2025 invoices. Motion carried.

Public Comments:

- None.

City Council Liaison Report:

- No current liaison assigned to board.

Library Director's Report:

- Upcoming energy audit of building. Possibly looking at grant funding for solar panels.
- Library has asked to be considered for EV parking.

Old Business:

1. Preliminary discussion of the 2026 library budget

New Business:

1. Introductions from board and JSD/OPN for space planning project
 - 1.1. Presentation from OPN
2. Board discussion of presentation and visioning planning

Adjournment:

- A motion was made by Spencer, seconded by Frey, to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 pm. The next meeting will be held on July 2nd, at 6:30 pm.

Director's Report

Verona Public Library

June 2025

Circulation

Ronda held a Circulation team meeting on June 10th, and the following topics were discussed: PIN on Patron card applications, not doing major updates to the Circ. Procedures due to new system, and Adult Summer Reading program.

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	52,126	50,433	52,026	49,314	36,647
April	47,280	45,552	46,674	47,514	31,448
May	46,806	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
Total	239,784	591,618	594,132	561,749	483,708

New Library Cards	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
January	212	171	188	119	27
February	106	176	137	149	36
March	212	189	176	155	24
April	119	150	152	129	36
May	108	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
Total	757	2,072	2,073	2,038	1,017

Holds Filled	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
January	15,371	15,085	14,929	15,139	18,260
February	12,054	13,421	13,005	11,617	17,130
March	14,062	13,282	13,586	12,878	18,193
April	13,308	12,906	12,658	12,098	15,698
May	13,417	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
Total	68,212	159,001	159,824	148,291	172,280

Reference

Reference Statistics May 2025

Computer Lab Use: 739

Test Proctoring: 1 exam

Outer Library Loans: 39 requests

Personal Archiving Lab Sessions: 6

Library Visits	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
January	18,476	16,183	16,114	10,780	0
February	17,627	18,492	15,945	11,193	0
March	20,406	19,457	18,160	13,628	0
April	20,127	17,727	18,062	16,488	2,889
May	18,158	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
Total	94,794	226,810	213,696	174,146	87,360

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	1,489	1,989	1,830	1,758	1,347
April	1,747	2,004	1,896	1,226	948
May	1,223	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
Total	7057	23,394	23,259	18,655	14,840

Meeting Room Use	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
January	647	560	474	164	-
February	636	674	487	206	-
March	661	575	524	272	-
April	675	569	506	305	-
May	606	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	-
Total	3,225	6,859	5,590	3,890	0

Collection Management

Number of items added and deleted in June 2025:

Item Type	Added	Deleted
Books	1119	1126
Audio	3	5
Software	12	0
Video/DVD	23	4
Other (kits, etc.)	5	1
Magazines	125	204
TOTAL	1287	1340
YTD	5279	5808

Personnel and Staff Development

Dain Frisby-Dart resigned her Library Assistant position effective July 10.

Molly Jensen has accepted the Library Assistant position and will start July 8.

Mark attended several webinars: *Mastering iPage for Adult Selectors* through Ingram and two Ryan Dowd webinars, *Backup: How Coworkers Should Provide Backup During Conflict* and another on *Legislative Advocacy*.

Jenny also attended the Ryan Dowd webinar on coworker backup.

Equipment and Physical Facilities

Stacey met with a Focus on Energy advisor and got an energy use assessment that included three recommendations to reduce our energy use.

A Lyngsoe sorter technician came out on May 27 and did routine maintenance on the sorter. Ronda and Theresa observed him and got some tips on how to keep dust down.

TDS upgraded the library phone lines from DSL to fiber.

Administration and Internal Operations

Stacey worked on the 2026 capital budget request, which included replacing the rest of the florescent lights in the library with LED's and potentially getting a backup generator for the building.

OPN Architects began work on the space needs assessment and conducted a field verification.

Marketing and Public Relations

This month Abby created 42 event graphics (website, Facebook, TV) with accompanying bookmarks, flyers, and signs.

May Events Newsletter 1: 8,860 recipients; In the spotlight: Verona Reads! Vote for Your Pick
May Events Newsletter 2: 8,850, recipients; In the spotlight: Artist in Residence

Julia created a display featuring short books and another spotlighting the Color Our World summer reading program. Circulation staff created a display to celebrate Pride month.

Library System and Interagency Cooperation

Leah worked with VASD librarians to present information about the Teen Summer Challenge.

Tonja attended the Southwest Regional Equity Team meeting via zoon on May 27.

The library is participating in the statewide Speak Up for Libraries campaign. Starting June 2, there will be postcards at the reference desk and addresses for federal representatives. Patrons can fill out the postcard with testimony on why libraries are important to them and drop-off at the reference desk. At the end of July, we'll send them to SCLS to get bundled with other postcards from around the state to be sent to appropriate legislators. 20 filled out postcards were sent back to SCLS on June 19.

Fundraising

The library purchased a donor management software product that will be very helpful in tracking past and future donations.

Exhibits

2025 Verona Reads!

Verona Reads! is a community-wide reading project where the entire community comes together to read and discuss the same book. An author visit from *Northwoods* author Amy Pease, book discussions, and other fun events will take place during the month of August! Starting June 26th at 4pm, stop by the library for free books (while supplies last) and find out more about *Verona Reads!*

Library Events and Programs

Kids' Events

1000 Books before Kindergarten

14 kids were registered this month, bringing the total number of registrants to 2789.

Read to a Dog

Friday, May 23, 4:00 – 5:30 pm

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

Attendees: 7

Family Story Time

Saturday, May 24, 9:30 – 10:00 am

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

Attendees: 27

Summer Reading Program registration began on June 1. As of June 24, approximately 1800 kids have signed up for the program, which is comparable to last year.

Minecraft Club

Thursday, June 5, 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: 36

Read to a Dog

Saturday, June 7, 1:30 – 3:00 pm

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

Attendees: 10

Parent/Child Book Club: We Are Big Time

Tuesday, June 10, 5:30 – 6:30 pm

Ages 8-11. Registration required. In June, Parent/Child Book Club will discuss the graphic novel

We Are Big Time by Hena Khan.

Attendees: 10

Read to a Dog

Wednesday, June 11, 4:00 – 5:30 pm and Thursday, June 12, 11:30 am – 1:00 pm

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

Attendees: 11, 14

Pokémon Club

Thursday, June 12, 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: 34

Summer Reading Kick-off

Saturday, June 14, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Celebrate the beginning of summer at this all-ages event! Enjoy a bounce house, cotton candy, face painting, a scavenger hunt, crafts and more! Adults: come and pick up a fun piece of "swag" from the adult reading challenge table, and learn how to participate in this summer-long program! Sponsored by the Friends of the Verona Public Library. *This year's kick-off went pretty smoothly, even though the cotton candy machine was more messy this year. The face painters were great and our "color your world" drawing activity with recorded music in the community room created a calm space for patrons.*

Attendees: 600

Crafternoon: Color Art

Monday, June 16, 2:00 – 3:00 pm

Ages 4-10. No registration. Drop in and get creative with different art projects each week.

Attendees: 111

Music & Movement Story Time

Tuesday, June 17, 10:00 – 10:30 am

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

Attendees: 135

Bubble Play Time

Tuesday, June 17, 10:30 – 11:00 am

Ages 0-5. Stop by the library between 10:30 – 11 am after Music & Movement Story Time and enjoy our outdoor space behind the library with your little one and socialize with other caregivers. We will have our bubble machines set up to provide bubble fun. *We're purchasing*

better bubble machines and bubbles after this first event, but it went fine nonetheless.

Attendees: 100

Story Time Mending

Wednesdays and Thursdays, June 18 – July 3, 9:30 – 11:00 am

Does your child have a favorite toy with a dangling arm or missing eye? Has their beloved baby quilt sprouted a hole or a torn binding? Does your child insist on wearing that sweatshirt with the loose pocket? Local resident Nancy will offer free mending services during story time on Wednesdays and Thursdays. No zipper replacements please. Bring the item along and Nancy will try to fix it on the spot, or let you know if she needs extra time or supplies.

Attendees: 1

Tween Craft: Bead Animals

Wednesday, June 18, 2:00 – 3:00 pm

Ages 8-11. Registration required. Make pony bead animals! Keep your pet on a keychain as an easy accessory for any bag! *This multi-step craft had the potential to frustrate tweens, but they were all great about being patient and following the directions.*

Attendees: 29

Upcoming In-Library Kids' Events

Summer Story Time

June 16 – August 1

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

Outdoor Story Time: Thursdays at 10:30 am through August 21

Taylor Swift Dance Party

Monday, June 23, 2:00 – 2:45 pm

Ages 5-11. Are you ready for it? Come shake it off with fellow Swifties as we dance and sing through the eras. Bring your besties and come party in style!

Read It and Eat: Da Vinci's Cat

Monday, June 23, 4:00 – 5:00 pm

Ages 8-11. Discuss the book *Da Vinci's Cat*, plus enjoy activities and snacks related to the book.

Toddler Art and Play

Tuesday, June 24, 10:00 – 11:00 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.

Tween Snack: Bento

Tuesday, June 24, 2:00 – 3:00 pm

Ages 8-11. Registration required. Practice your chopping skills! Create a Japanese-style bento boxed lunch with rice and sides. Make it fun with shape cutouts and molds. Let's play with our food!

Big Balloon Show

Wednesday, June 25, 1:30 pm and 6:00 pm

All ages. No registration. Prepare to be amazed and entertained by this one-of-a-kind show featuring magic, all-ages comedy, interactive storytelling and of course, Smarty Pants' award-winning, larger-than-life balloon props. Sponsored by the Friends of the Verona Public Library.

We Love Scary Stories

Thursday, June 26, 4:00 – 5:00 pm

Ages 8-11. Registration requested. Join us at the Verona Public Library for a celebration of scary stories. Staff will read scary stories aloud and show participants how to make a spooky craft. Sign up...if you dare!

Science Station: Birds

Friday, June 27, 2:00 – 3:00 pm

For ages 6-11. Registration suggested. Join us for hands-on science experiments and crafts about birds! Learn how a bird's beak is adapted to their diet, compare different species' wingspans, ask a real Falconer (a person who trains birds of prey) questions about birds, and more! This program is geared to kids age 6-11. Registration is not required, but is suggested to help staff set up for the event.

Read to a Dog

Saturday, June 28, 1:30 - 3:00 pm

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

Crafternoon: Collage Art

Monday, June 30, 2:00 – 3:00 pm

Ages 4-10. No registration. Drop in and get creative with different art projects each week.

Music & Movement Story Time

Tuesday, July 1, 10:00 – 10:30 am

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

Bubble Play Time

Tuesday, July 1, 10:30 – 11:00 am

Ages 0-5. Stop by the library between 10:30 – 11 am after Music & Movement Story Time and

enjoy our outdoor space behind the library with your little one and socialize with other caregivers. We will have our bubble machines set up to provide bubble fun.

Minecraft Club

Thursday, July 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.

Lunch Bunch

Monday, July 7, 12:15 – 12:45 pm

Ages 5-9. Bring your lunch to the library and listen to a chapter book read aloud while you eat.

Shake, Rattle, and Roll with Mister Jim

Tuesday, July 8, 10:30 – 11:15 am

All ages. No registration. Join Mister Jim for a fun and lively concert full of playful movement, joy filled songs and lots of laughs along the way. Sponsored by the Friends of the Verona Public Library.

Parent/Child Book Club: The Sherlock Society

Tuesday, July 8, 5:30 – 6:30 pm

Ages 8-11. Registration required. In July, Parent/Child Book Club will discuss the novel *The Sherlock Society* by James Ponti.

Tween Craft: Bath Bombs

Wednesday, July 9, 2:00 – 3:00 pm

Ages 8-11. Registration required. The only explosions here will be the joy when you create your own homemade bath bomb. Choose from different scents and colors to mold your bomb to your liking.

Read to a Dog

Wednesday, July 9, 4:00 – 5:30 pm

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

Blue Heeler Story Time

Wednesday, July 9, 6:30 – 7:00 pm

Ages 2-6. You know who we're talking about, for real life! Join us for blue dog-themed stories and songs. No registration.

Pokémon Club

Thursday, July 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.

Dragonfly Walk

Friday, July 11, 3:00 – 4:00 pm

For age 6-11. Registration required. Join us at the Verona Library to learn about dragonflies. We will start out in our community room where we will learn about dragonflies from an Upper Sugar River Watershed volunteer. Then we'll walk over to the Silent Street pond and use our new knowledge to spot and identify dragonflies. We will be crossing a road during the walk, and interested caregivers are welcome to accompany their children.

Read to a Dog

Saturday, July 12, 1:30 – 3:00 pm

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

Crafternoon: Recycled Art

Monday, July 14, 2:00 – 3:00 pm

Ages 4-10. No registration. Drop in and get creative with different art projects each week.

The Queen of Hearts & the Colorful Garden

Tuesday, July 15, 10:30 – 11:15 am

All ages. No registration. The Queen of Hearts is enlisting the help of Jelly the Jester to transform her plain grass lawn into habitat for bees, butterflies and birds! Corcoran Puppets presents an old-fashioned puppet show featuring needle felted puppets sure to charm audiences of all ages. Sponsored by the Friends of the Verona Public Library.

Science Stations: Dinosaurs

Tuesday, July 15, 2:00 – 3:00 pm

For ages 6-11. Registration suggested. Join us for hands-on science experiments and crafts about dinosaurs! This program is geared to kids age 6-11. Registration is not required, but is suggested to help staff set up for the event.

Wicked Sing-Along

Thursday, July 17, 6:00 – 8:45 pm

All ages. No registration. Warm up your pipes and join us for a Wicked sing-along screening, complete with onscreen lyrics.

Read to a Dog

Saturday, July 19, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

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

Lunch Bunch

Monday, July 21, 12:15 – 12:45 pm

Ages 5-9. Bring your lunch to the library and listen to a chapter book read aloud while you eat.

Graphic Novel Party: InvestiGators

Monday, July 21, 3:00 – 4:00 pm

Ages 6-11. Registration suggested. Join us at the library for a celebration of the graphic novel series *Investigators*! The goofy graphic novel series that follows the super spy alligator duo the *InvestiGators* as they travel through the sewers and fight the forces of evil. We will have activity stations with crafts, snacks, and trivia. Please register so staff can prepare enough supplies.

Toddler Art and Play

Tuesday, July 22, 10:00 – 11:00 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.

Tween Snack: Waffles and Parfaits

Wednesday, July 23, 2:00 – 3:00 pm

Ages 8-11. Registration required. Create an epic yogurt parfait bar with all kinds of toppings. And make your own mini-waffles too! Let's play with our food!

Famous Painting Remix

Thursday, July 24, 4:00 – 5:00 pm

Ages 8-11. Registration requested. Add your own flair to a famous painting using art supplies provided by the library. Bring your creativity and silliness, and the library will provide printouts of paintings, drawing tools, stickers, and more to help you remix the art to create something new.

Crafternoon: Abstract Art

Monday, July 28, 2:00 – 3:00 pm

Ages 4-10. No registration. Drop in and get creative with different art projects each week.

Read It and Eat: Doodleville

Monday, June 23, 4:00 – 5:00 pm

Ages 8-11. Discuss the book *Doodleville*, plus enjoy activities and snacks related to the book.

Silly Friends Story Time

Tuesday, June 24, 10:00 – 10:30 am

Ages 2-6. Join us for silly stories and songs about friends! Designed for ages 2-6. No registration.

ThunderHEADS Robotics

Tuesday, June 24, 4:00 – 4:45 pm

Geared to ages 5 - 13. Please register. THUNDERHeads from BadgerBots is excited to demo their First Tech Challenge game robot! Entered in an international robotics competition against 7000 teams, 14 students from the area worked together to design, build and program a robot to play a new game. The team will demonstrate their robot's capabilities, discuss the design process, show how robotics develop STEM and teamwork skills and more!

Eric Carle Story Time

Thursday, July 31, 6:30 – 7:00 pm

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

Teen Events

Crafty Tuesday

Tuesday, May 6, 4:00 pm

Stop by Teen Central for DIY projects. Create throughout the week, as supplies last. *Comments: Teens relaxed with paint-by-sticker projects!*

Attendees: 10

Japanese Marbling

Tuesday, May 27, 7 – 8:00 pm

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

Comments: Some teens loved thinking about the science behind this project and the importance of surface tension. All of them made successful, colorful prints!

Attendees: 4

BRMS Library Introduction & Teen Summer Challenge Lockbox Activity

Thursday, May 29, 1:15 – 3:30 pm

Friday, May 30, 1:15 – 3:30 pm

Students at Badger Ridge Middle School received an introduction to Verona Public Library services and collections (as well as summer promotion) via a game where they solved clues and opened locks. *Comments: Students broke into teams and found color-coded clues hidden throughout the library. Their excitement became palpable as each group opened a lock and got closer to solving the mystery!*

Attendees: 62, 60

BRMS Summer Reading Promotion Visit

Friday, June 6, 1:30 – 3:30 pm

Comments: Using Quadball equipment (3 different large, standing hoops), teens had three chances to shoot an arrow through a hoop. Some teens spent their entire summer fair doing this activity multiple times! They also had a chance to look at Teen Summer Challenge information and take a flyer.

Attendees: 86

Eat Your Words

Monday, June 9, 5:30 – 7:00 pm

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 and wrote stories based on simple word prompts, which they encouraged one another to share.

Attendees: 6

Teen Craft: Bracelets and Beads

Wednesday, June 18, 4:00 – 5:00 pm

Spend a relaxing hour making beaded bracelets, mini bead animals, and other wearable creations! *Comments: One teen enjoyed the relaxing atmosphere and found attempting various crafts to be enjoyable, especially on such a rainy day!*

Attendees: 4

Upcoming Teen Events:

Teen Snack: Bento

Tuesday, June 24, 4:00 – 5:00 pm

Chop and eat! Create a Japanese-style bento boxed lunch with rice and sides. Make it fun with shape cutouts and molds!

Teen Gaming & Pizza

Wednesday, June 25, 3:30 – 4:30 pm

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

Teen Outdoor Movie

Friday, June 27, 8:45 – 10:45 pm

Snack on some popcorn and other movie treats while you watch *Uglies* on a big screen in our parking lot theater! Bring a camp chair (we'll have some available), and dress for the weather. If it rains, we'll move the event indoors.

Quadball

Tuesday, July 1, 3:45 – 4:45 pm

Play Quadball, weather permitting! No experience necessary. *Meet behind the library.*

Quadball is a mixed-gender sport inspired by Quidditch from the Harry Potter books. It combines parts of ultimate, dodgeball, and tag, played on a field with hoops on each side.

Teams try to score by passing a ball through the hoops, while defending their own hoops from the opposition.

Escape Room

Wednesday, July 2, 3:00 – 3:45 pm and 4:00 – 4:45 pm

Solve puzzles, find clues, and crack locks to escape an adventure!

Eat Your Words

Monday, July 7, 5:30 – 7:00 pm

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!

Teen Craft: Melted Crayon

Wednesday, July 9, 4:00 – 5:00 pm

Arrange Crayons on canvas and create a melted masterpiece!

Pixel Art

Tuesday, July 15, 4:00 – 5:00 pm

Turn your favorite video game style into a pixelated masterpiece! Choose from sample ideas or make your own plan. Fill in building blocks with color and end up with fun, low-res art!

Teen Gaming & Pizza

Thursday, July 17, 3:30 – 4:30 pm

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

Teen Outdoor Movie

Friday, July 18, 8:45 – 10:45 pm

Snack on some popcorn while you watch *Wendell and Wild* on a big screen in our parking lot theater! Bring a camp chair (we'll have some available), and dress for the weather. If it rains, we'll move the event indoors.

Quadball

Tuesday, July 22, 3:45 – 4:45 pm

Teen Snack: Waffles & Parfaits

Wednesday, July 23, 4:00 – 5:00 pm

Cook up your own mini-waffles and dish up an irresistible yogurt parfait with layers of delicious toppings.

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

Mondays 6:00 – 7:30 pm, Level: Beginner, June 2 – May 16, 2025

Tuesdays 6:00 – 8:00 pm, Level: Intermediate, May 27 – May 16, 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.

May 27, attendees: 15

June 2, attendees: 12

June 3, attendees: 3

June 9, attendees: 10

June 10, attendees: 2

June 16, attendees: 11

June 17, attendees: 2

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.

May 27, attendees: 0

June 3, attendees: 0

June 10, attendees: 0

June 17, attendees: 1

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. As outdoor conditions permit, we'll meet in back of library near the picnic tables, otherwise please find us in the library's Conference Room.

May 28, attendees: 14

June 4, attendees: 14

June 11, attendees: 11

June 18, attendees: 10

Free for All: The Public Library Documentary Screening

Wednesday, May 28, 6:00 – 7:00 pm

Free for All: The Public Library tells the story of the quiet revolutionaries who made a simple idea happen. From the pioneering women behind the “Free Library Movement” to today's librarians who serve the public despite working in a contentious age of closures and book bans. Meet those who created a civic institution where everything is free & the doors are open to all.

Attendees: 5

Artist in Residence: Artist's Workshop - Color & Value

Thursday, May 29, 3:30 – 5:30 pm

In the third of this workshop series (attend them all or any one of them), our Artist-in-Residence, Dawn Wians, will guide participants in the creation of hand-bound journals, curated from colorful images drawn onto a gelatin plate.

Attendees: 16

Memory Café

Tuesday, June 3, 3:30 – 5:00 pm

A "memory café" is a social gathering designed for individuals experiencing early dementia and memory loss, along with their caregivers or loved ones. Come to connect, socialize, and build support networks in a comfortable and welcoming environment centered around conversation over coffee, with the primary goal of providing a safe space to interact without feeling embarrassed or misunderstood.

Attendees: 2

AI for Newbies

Tuesday, June 3, 6:30 – 8:00 pm

Want to know more about AI and the hype surrounding it? This talk will break down AI's capabilities and limitations, feature demonstrations of AI in action, and show you how to start using it today.

Attendees: 24

Swap it Like it's Hot: Summer Wardrobe Refresh Edition

Wednesday, June 4, 6:30 – 8:00 pm

Looking for a sustainable, no cost way to refresh your warm weather wardrobe? Come and take part in our summer clothing swap!

Attendees: 19

Blood Pressure Screening with Fitch-Rona EMS

Thursday, June 5, 10:00 – 11:00 am

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

Attendees: 1

Group Support for Caregivers

Thursday, June 5, 6:30 – 7:30 pm

If you've ever taken care of a chronically ill spouse or elderly parent, grandparent, etc., you know how stressful and exhausting it can be. This program focuses on helping caregivers improve their mental, physical and emotional health by digging into mindfulness, meditation,

self-care and relationships — including the relationship they have with themselves, and the people they care for. The group setting allows participants to learn from, and also support, each other in a safe space that's free of judgement.

Attendees: 3

VPL Cookbook Club: Tea Party

Tuesday, June 9, 6:30 – 8:00 pm

This month we will fully commit to the delicacies, both sweet and savory, served at tea parties. To go with our treats, there will be hot and iced tea. Hope you can join us!

Attendees: 15

Putting AI to Work for You

Tuesday, June 10, 6:30 – 7:30 pm

Learn about some of the practical and creative ways that AI can be used, including finding recipes that use what you have in your fridge, making weekend and vacation itineraries tailored to interests and budget, creating customized workouts, and more.

Attendees: 31

Lessons Learned from Flying with Author Diane Ballweg

Wednesday, June 11, 6:00 – 7:00 pm

Author, business leader and philanthropist Diane Ballweg will talk about some of her experiences as a pilot, the life lessons those experiences have taught, and how flying changed her perspective (literally and figuratively) on life. *Into the Wind, Above the Clouds, Love at First Flight* is Ballweg's beautiful new book - come listen and learn at this special event!

Attendees: 22

Puppy Yoga

Thursday, June 12, 6:30 – 7:30 pm

Come Zen out with adoptable puppies from Wisconsin Bound Dog Rescue! Please bring a mat and be ready to give pets!

Attendees: 22

Coffee with the Classics

Friday, June 13, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Rewatch a favorite classic movie as you enjoy coffee and donuts in the cool of the library's community room! This month's feature: *National Velvet*.

Attendees: 7

Spice Club

Sunday, June 15, 12:00 – 9:00 pm

Interested in learning more about spices? This club will feature a different spice each month.

Participants will be given a sample of the featured spice, a brief history of its use, and a recipe that incorporates it. Spices can be picked up from the service desk of the library beginning June 15th. This month's spice is TAMARIND.

Participants: 26

A Taste for Mystery Book Club

Monday, June 16, 10:00 – 11:00 am

By popular demand, this month instead of reading a book we will watch and discuss the movie *Gone Girl*, comparing it in particular to March's book, *Sandrine's Case*. There will be candy, popcorn and lemonade to enjoy during the movie.

Attendees: 5

Verona Aspiring Writers Group

Monday, June 16, 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!

Attendees: 13

Musical Performance: Les Cordes en Blue

Wednesday, June 18, 6:30 – 7:30 pm

Consisting of a violin, an upright bass and an acoustic guitar, *Les Cordes en Blue* will entertain with jazz standards as well as French swing. Come and enjoy the syncopated stylings of this talented musical trio!

Attendees: 46

Verona Adult Art Club

Thursday, June 19, 6:00 – 8:00 pm

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

Attendees: 19

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

May 27 – August 16

Mondays 6:00 – 7:30 pm, Beginner

Tuesdays 6:00 – 8:00 pm, Intermediate

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

Drop-In Tech Help

Tuesdays, 9:00 – 11:00 am

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

Memory Café

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

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

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.

Novel Outlining 101 with Author Sally Collins

Tuesday, June 24, 6:00 – 7:30 pm

"Writing a novel is like driving a car at night. You can see only as far as your headlights, but you can make the whole trip that way," said E.L. Doctorow. But a map helps, maybe some moonlight... Let's make the journey smoother with Novel Outlining 101. Basic and technical - we'll examine the arc of scenes and stories, the importance of getting to know your characters, and various methods to (loosely) plan and plot. We'll also take a peek at how famous authors outlined their novels to remind ourselves not many (if any) can sit and write a brilliant novel

from start to finish. Wisconsin author Sally Collins (*Muddled Cherries*) will lead this fun and interesting workshop, which all are welcome to attend!

Verona Reads! Book Giveaway

Thursday, June 26, 4:00 – 6:00 pm

Stop by the library to pick up a free copy and find out more about Verona Reads! Free books will be available starting June 26 at 4pm while supplies last. Verona Reads! is a community-wide reading project where the entire community comes together to read and discuss the same book. An author visit from *Northwoods* author Amy Pease, book discussions, and other fun events will take place during the month of August. More info at veronapubliclibrary.org/verona-reads

2025 Verona Reads! book selections:

Young Readers: *Skunk and Badger* by Amy Timberlake

Middle Readers: *One Came Home* by Amy Timberlake

Adult Readers: *Northwoods* by Amy Pease

Fill 'er Up: The Glory Days of Wisconsin Gas Stations

Thursday, July 10, 6:30 – 7:30 pm

Step back to a time when a visit to a Wisconsin gas station meant service with a smile, a wash of the windshield, and the cheerful question, "Fill 'er up?" Author Jim Draeger will tell the story of the gas station's place in automobile culture and its evolution in tandem with American history. Enjoy this nostalgic look at 60 of Wisconsin's historic (and still standing) stations and consider their place in the 21st century and beyond.

Senior Case Management Outreach (Drop-in)

Monday, July 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.

A Musical Performance by the Silver Morning Duo

Monday, July 14, 6:30 – 7:30 pm

Back by popular demand! Come pass the early part of a summer evening listening to the beautiful stylings of this flute and guitar duo. This time, there will be a vocalist as well. Please register so we can set out enough chairs for everyone.

VPL Cookbook Club: Picnic Foods

Tuesday, July 15, 6:30 – 8:00 pm

This month we will make picnic foods - think salads, wraps, fruit dishes, hand pies and more!

Chad Lewis: Weird Lake Superior Stories

Wednesday, July 16, 6:30 – 7:30 pm

Come and enjoy as paranormal researcher and author Chad Lewis tells stories from his newest book: *Supernatural Lake Superior*.

Coffee with the Classics

Friday, July 18, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Enjoy popcorn, candy and iced coffee as we take in a classic of the cinema.

This month we will watch *12 Angry Men*.

Adult Crafternoon: Mini Book Jewelry

Friday, July 18, 3:30 – 5:00 pm

Make mini books, and then make them into jewelry to keep or gift!

Civil War Songs and Stories

Wednesday, July 23, 6:30 – 7:30 pm

Come to listen and learn as songs from both sides of the Civil War are sung and stories about their origins told. Sing along is encouraged!

Achieving and Maintaining a Healthy Weight

Tuesday, July 29, 6:30 – 7:30 pm

Struggling to lose weight? Dena Person, MS, RDN will offer useful advice on healthy eating, meal planning, perimenopausal diet optimization and more. Learn how to modify your eating habits to achieve and maintain a healthy weight without a drastic lifestyle change.

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 751 total views of programs in May.**

Extinctopedia: A Discovery of What We Have Lost, What is at Risk, and What to Do About It with Smithsonian Scientists

Wednesday, June 4, 1:00 – 2:00 pm

Total Views: 15

Author Talk: Lisa Jewell

Tuesday, June 10, 1:00 – 2:00 pm

Total Views: 42

Upcoming Events:

Author Talk: Katherine Applegate

Tuesday, June 24, 3:00 – 4:00 pm

Katherine Applegate is the Newbery Medal-winning and #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of numerous books for young readers. Join us as she talks to viewers about her enthusiastically heartwarming novel in verse, *Odder*.

Drawing Your World With Raúl The Third (PK-2nd Grade)

Tuesday, June 8, 1:00 – 1:30 pm in Spanish and 3:00 – 3:30 in English

Join author and illustrator Raúl The Third as he discusses his book *¡Vamos! Let's Go Read!*.

Discerning the Truth with Marie Lu (9th-12th Grade)

Thursday, July 17, 3:00 – 4:00 pm

Marie Lu is the #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of the Legend trilogy and The Young Elites trilogy.

Outreach

Outreach story times:

Total daycare story time presentations: 11

School visits:

Youth services and outreach staff presented our summer reading information and events to elementary-age students during the three weeks before school ended.

Total SRP presentations: 51

Total attendees: 2095

Books 'n Booze at Stone Porch Alehouse

Thursday, May 22, 6:00 – 7:00 pm

The group discussed *The Cemetery of Untold Stories* by Julia Alvarez.

Attendees: 13

Noel Manor Book Group

Wednesday, May 28, and Wednesday, June 18, 10:30 – 11:30 am

The group discussed *Miss Morgan's Book Brigade* by Janet Skeslien Charles and *Running with Sherman* by Christopher McDougall.

Attendees: 6, 5

Four Winds Book Group

Tuesday, June 3, 10:00 – 11:00 am

The residents met to discuss *The Waiting* by Michael Connelly.

Attendees: 9

Nakoma Kids Club Summer Reading Kickoff Party

Tuesday, June 3, 3:00 – 4:00 pm

A dinosaur-themed kickoff for the students at Nakoma Heights to sign up for library cards, register for the summer reading program, and participate in crafts and activities.

Attendees: 25

Core Knowledge First Grade Field Trip

Thursday, June 5, 9:30 – 10:30 am

First graders from Core Knowledge walked over to the library for a read aloud, craft project, and buddy read. *Both students and chaperones loved the sprout house craft project and Who Ate Steve?, the book read aloud.*

Attendees: 57

Bilingual Community Resource Fair at Verona Area High School

Friday, June 6, 8:00 am – 12:00 pm

The library had a table at the high school to promote library resources and teen volunteer opportunities. *Comments: Many teens took a promotional flyer about volunteering or signing up for the teen summer reading program, and several commented on how much they loved the summer reading program when they were younger.*

Attendees: 52

Country View Reading Celebration

Friday, June 6, 8:30 – 9:30 am

The library signed families up for the summer reading program as part of Country View's annual reading celebration.

Attendees: 35

Story Time at The Sow's Ear

Tuesday, June 10, 10:00 – 10:30 am

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

Attendees: 37

Senior Center Book Group

Wednesday, June 11, 10:00 – 11:00 am

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

Attendees: 18

Nakoma Summer Reading Kids Club

Tuesday, June 17, 1:00 – 2:00 pm

Students checked out books, made a rainbow cloud craft, and played games.

Attendees: 16

Upcoming Outreach Events

Make Music Verona Day

Saturday, June 21, 10:00 – 10:30 am

Amy and Marissa will be presenting a music and movement story time for Make Music Verona at Century School Park.

Four Winds Book Group

Tuesday, June 24, 10:00 – 11:00 am

The residents will meet to discuss *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus.

Prairie Oaks Book Group

Thursday, June 26, 1:30 – 2:30 pm

The group will be reading *Dewey* by Vicki Myron.

Books 'n Booze at Stone Porch Alehouse

Thursday, June 26, 6:00 – 7:00 pm

The group will be discussing *Symphony of Secrets* by Brendan Slocumb.

Nakoma Summer Reading Kids Club

Tuesday, July 1 and Tuesday, July 15, 1:00 – 2:00 pm

Books for checkout, library card applications, crafts, and activities for Glacier Edge students and their families at the Nakoma Heights Apartments.

Story Time at The Sow's Ear

Tuesday, July 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, July 9, 10:00 – 11:00 am

The group will be reading *Remarkably Bright Creatures* by Shelby Van Pelt.

Noel Manor Book Group

Wednesday, July 23, 10:30 – 11:30 am

The group will be discussing *The Mysterious Affair at Styles* by Agatha Christie.

Upcoming Book Bike Events

Harriet Park, July 10, 11:30 am – 12:15 pm

Cathedral Point Park, July 11, 11:30 am – 12:15 pm

Tollefson Park, July 17, 11:30 am – 12:15 pm