

AGENDA

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

**Wednesday, July 12, 2023 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 6/7/23
- Review and approval of the June 2023 invoices
- Public Comments
- City Council Liaison's report
- Library Director's report
- Old Business
 1. Discussion of the 2024 library budget
- New Business
 1. Discussion and possible action regarding 2024 planned closures
 2. Discussion and possible action regarding the Program, Event, and Exhibit policy
 3. Discussion of proposed changes to Dane County Standards for Public Libraries

VPL Board Meeting Minutes
Library Board of Trustees-Verona Public Library
500 Silent Street Verona, WI 53593
Wednesday, June 7, 2023, 6:30 p.m.

Present: Burkart, Hopp, Voss, Jones, Spencer, Cronin, Conwell

Absent: Fuller

Call to order:

Hopp called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Conwell seconded by Jones to approve the amended Regular Meeting Minutes of 5/3/23. Motion carried.

Review and Approval of Invoices:

A motion was made by Conwell, seconded by Jones to approve the May 2023 invoices. Motion carried.

Public Comments:

None

City Council Liaison Report:

Cronin reported that the new City Administrator Jaimie Aulik started on June 1 and recruitment is under way to fill the Public Works Director position. Cronin also passed along information on the city rain barrel rebate program.

Library Director's Report:

Burkart reported that the SCLS network move has been rescheduled to June 28-July 1. The library will not have wifi or public computing available during those dates. The spring bird collision study by Audubon Society volunteers has wrapped up, the board suggested reaching out to local businesses who have bird deterrents installed for more information. Burkart also shared the results of the 7-9pm visits survey which showed that visits have been increasing over the last six months during those hours. An update on the director goals was included in the report and the board and director will focus on strategic goals/planning over the next several months.

Old Business:

- *Preliminary discussion of the 2024 Library budget*
The board briefly discussed 2024 budget ideas and will discuss further at future board meetings.

New Business:

- *Discussion and possible action regarding the Meeting Room Use Policy*
A motion was made by Voss, seconded by Spencer, to approve the revisions to the Meeting Room Use Policy. Motion carried.
- *Discussion and possible action regarding the Study Room Use Policy*
A motion was made by Conwell, seconded by Jones, to approve the revisions to the Study Room Use Policy as amended. Motion carried.
- *Discussion and possible action regarding library fundraising*

The board discussed the library 5K fundraiser and concluded that due to declining participation and sponsorship and increasing costs, the library will not hold the 5K event next year and instead focus on the end of year giving mailing as a means of raising money for the endowment fund.

- *Discussion and possible action regarding the annual Agreement to Participate in SCLS Technology Services*

A motion was made by Voss, seconded by Spencer, to approve the Agreement to Participate in SCLS Technology Services.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Spencer, seconded by Conwell to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 8:07pm. Next meeting will be held on July 12 at 6:30pm.

Library board approved:

VERONA PUBLIC LIBRARY
DIRECTOR'S REPORT
June 2023

I. Collection Development

Number of items added and deleted in May 2023.

Item Type	Added	Deleted
Books	1038	1873
Audio	17	58
Software	14	21
Video/DVD	73	99
Other (kits, etc.)	7	4
Magazines	147	483
TOTAL	1296	2538
YTD	5665	7192

II. Circulation

Circulation

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
January	47,722	46,024	29,669	49,255	44,153
February	46,003	42,218	28,925	46,500	44,487
March	52,026	49,314	36,647	29,964	49,074
April	46,674	47,514	31,448	2,021	46,215
May	44,226	42,775	32,633	8,861	43,274
June	59,454	52,827	52,142	18,507	55,425
July		52,448	52,220	29,609	59,493
August		55,184	51,007	31,025	53,415
September		45,066	42,894	31,115	44,582
October		42,440	43,527	34,075	46,108
November		43,939	43,507	28,171	44,084
December		42,000	39,089	28,194	42,479
Total	296,105	561,749	483,708	337,297	572,789

New Library Cards

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
January	188	119	27	184	121
February	137	149	36	161	109
March	176	155	24	74	133
April	152	129	36	9	118
May	142	140	71	18	96
June	290	344	179	33	225
July		239	160	58	164
August		206	129	57	167
September		141	105	51	150
October		150	99	50	110
November		144	64	18	108
December		122	87	31	83
Total	653	2038	1017	744	1584

Holdings

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
January	14,929	15,139	18,260	14,651	13,725
February	13,005	11,617	17,130	12,246	12,081
March	13,586	12,878	18,193	7,277	12,569
April	12,658	12,098	15,698	5,645	11,811
May	13,483	11,820	14,236	10,869	11,636
June	13,854	11,984	13,328	13,616	12,378
July		11,735	11,621	15,910	12,447
August		13,389	13,510	15,672	12,577
September		12,506	13,252	16,166	12,001
October		11,924	13,304	16,502	11,919
November		12,888	12,679	16,108	12,016
December		10,313	11,069	14,567	9,859
Total	54,178	148,291	172,280	159,229	135,160

III. Reference

Statistics, May 26 – July 7:

Computer Use: 709

Test Proctoring: 7 exams

Outer Library Loans: 39 requests

Personal Archiving Lab Sessions: 0

Library Visits

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
January	16,114	10,780	0	18,887	17,062
February	15,945	11,193	0	18,969	16,673
March	18,160	13,628	0	0	19,993
April	18,062	16,488	2,889	0	20,038
May	16,049	12,366	5,015	0	19,355
June	24,827	16,624	11,757	2,850	23,672
July		17,057	13,407	6,765	23,853
August		18,830	13,267	*	22,506
September		13,890	10,746	*	18,496
October		14,009	10,346	*	19,540
November		15,729	9,371	0	18,531
December		13,552	10,562	0	16,780
Total	109,157	174,146	87,360	47,471	236,499

Reference Questions

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
January	1,640	1,061	821	3,152	2,218
February	2,034	1,653	924	1,632	2,117
March	1,821	1,758	1,347	1,974	1,937
April	2,235	1,226	948	24	2,454
May	2,031	1,117	1,085	116	2,660
June	2,655	2,183	2,200	846	3,642
July		1,691	2,365	2,431	2,662
August		2,075	1,847	2,039	3,721
September		1,341	1,543	2,521	2,359
October		1,566	581	2,045	3,213
November		1,628	458	1,060	2,321
December		1,356	721	1,092	1,978
TOTAL	12,416	18,655	14,840	18,932	31,282

Meeting Room Use

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
January	474	164	-	616	568
February	607	206	-	565	531
March	468	272	-	286	596
April	626	305	-	-	671
May	470	328	-	-	631
June		314	-	-	547
July		316	-	-	542
August		411	-	-	524
September		327	-	-	542
October		398	-	-	706
November		453	-	-	601
December		396	-	-	529
TOTAL	2,645	5,912	2,021	3,487	9,007

IV. Personnel and Staff Development

Ronda held a circulation team meeting on June 13. Ronda and her team discussed the collections process, SCLS network outage, and hold shelf maintenance.

V. Equipment and Physical Facilities

SCLS moved their servers to the new headquarters building June 28 – July 1 resulting in a planned network outage. All services have been restored except phone call notification of items on hold, which only affects about 5% of our library cardholders.

VI. Administration and Internal Operations

Stacey and the management team worked on revised drafts of the Program and Event Policy for library board review.

Stacey is has been working with vendors to get quotes for potential 2024 budget items.

VII. Marketing and Public Relations

This month Abby created online and print promotional materials for 100 library events.

Jenny created displays featuring berry-related books, for read-a-likes of popular books, and internet themed books. Tonja created a display to promote the Adult Summer Reading program.

Kris, Katie, Jenny, Amy T, Julie and Tonja contributed short reviews to the Verona Press for a monthly staff recommendations write-up.

Tonja wrote a column for the Verona Press promoting the Personal Archiving Lab.

VIII. System and Interagency Cooperation

Abby and Marissa are currently serving on the board of UW Madison’s Cooperative Children’s Book Center.

IX. Fundraising

Nothing to report

X. Events, Programs and Exhibits

Kid’s Events and Programs:

1000 Books before Kindergarten

13 kids were registered this month, bringing the total number of registrants to 2471.

Summer Library Program

Summer library program registration began June 1. For kids ages 0 – 11, tracking of books or minutes read is returning to a paper log this year. Beanstack will still be utilized for the activity challenge, where kids do activities that earn tickets for a chance to win grand prizes.

Summer Library Program registration to date: Ages 0 - 4: 295 Ages 5 – 11: 1115	Beanstack registration (grand prize drawings) to date: Ages 0 - 5: 287 Ages 5 – 11: 580
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Music Together Madtown

Tuesday, June 6, 9:30 am

Join Music Together Madtown for a demo class for kids! Geared toward ages 0-5 with parents or caregivers.

Attendees: 28

Summer Reading Kick-Off

Saturday, June 10, 10:00 – 12:00 pm

Celebrate the beginning of summer at this all-ages event! Activities will include music, cotton candy, giraffe bounce house, face painting, scavenger hunt and crafts! *It was fun to return to a kick-off event. Attendees seemed to have a great time and some seem surprised that everything was free.*

Attendees: 500

Crafternoon: Puzzle Piece Art

Monday, June 12, 2:00 – 3:00 pm

Drop in and get creative with different art projects each week. Ages 4-10. No registration. *A name change and return to Monday afternoons seem to have improved attendance compared to last year.*

Attendees: 109

Music and Movement Story Time

Tuesday, May 9, 9:30 – 10:00 am

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

Attendance: 83

Minecraft Club

Thursday, June 13, 3:00 – 4:00 pm

Build in Minecraft based on a new theme each session! Ages 6-11.

Attendance: 34

Tween Craft: Donuts and Painting

Wednesday, June 14, 2:00 – 3:00 pm

Paint donuts, while eating donuts! Learn some basic painting techniques & enjoy a sweet treat. Ages 8-11.

Attendance: 28

Pokémon Club

Thursday, June 15, 3:30 – 4:30 pm

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

Attendance: 93

Read to a Dog

Saturday, June 17, 1:30 – 3:00 pm

Grab your favorite book and read to a furry friend. Independent readers can sign up for a 15 minute spot to read to a registered therapy animal. Families may share a time slot. Please come early (especially if you're picking out a book to read), as time slots are short. Check in at the Children's Desk. Ages 5 and up.

Attendance: 13

Toddler Art and Play

Tuesday, June 20, 9:30 – 10:30 am

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

Attendance: 84

Kids' Science Lab

Tuesday, June 20, 1:30 – 2:30 pm

Join us at the library for messy science experiments! Wear clothes that can get messy and drop in for some fun activities. No registration. Ages 5-7.

Attendance: 81

Stuart Stotts

Wednesday, June 21, 1:30 – 2:15 pm

Stuart Stotts is a singer, storyteller and author who has performed for schools, families and community events since 1987, traveling the state and the world with shows that include lots of interaction, movement, laughter, and a focus on encouraging reading. Come prepared to sing, listen, and celebrate libraries. For all ages. No registration. Sponsored by the Friends of the Verona Public Library.

Attendance: 80

Graphic Novel Book Club

Wednesday, June 21, 3:30 – 4:30 pm

Discuss the graphic novel *I Survived the Sinking of the Titanic, 1912* in person, plus enjoy activities and snacks related to the book. Books will be available for checkout approximately one month prior to the discussion. Stop by the youth services desk to request one. Space is limited and registration is required. Refreshments provided. For ages 8-11.

Attendees: 12

Bubble Party

Thursday, June 22, 3:30 – 4:30 pm

Bubble machines, music, treats, and outside fun! Come on over to the library to enjoy the sunshine and the bubbles on our lawn behind the library. No registration. Ages 0-5. *This had higher-than-expected attendance; we'll consider more PreK programming (outside of story time) if possible for future summers, including more bubble parties.*

Attendance: 194

Crafternoon: 4th of July

Monday, June 26, 2:00 – 3:00 pm

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

Attendees: 103

Read It and Eat: Falling Short

Monday, June 26, 4:00 – 5:00 pm

Discuss the novel *Falling Short* by Ernesto Cisneros, plus enjoy activities and snacks related to the book. Ages 8-11. Books will be available for check out approximately one month prior to the discussion. Stop by the youth services desk to request one. Registration begins May 29. Refreshments will be provided.

Attendees: 11

Tween STEM: Binary Bracelets

Tuesday, June 27, 3:30 – 4:15 pm

Translate your initials into binary code and then use those numbers to create a string bracelet unique to you! Space is limited and registration is required. Ages 8-11.

Attendees: 20

TWEEN Snacks: Candy Sushi

Wednesday, June 28, 2:00 – 3:00 pm

Rice Krispie treats and candy come together to make yummy sweet sushi. You'll learn to make candy sushi while enjoying some Japanese cartoons. Please list any allergies when registering. Ages 8-11.

Attendees: 28

Early Reader Book Club

Thursday, June 29, 3:30 – 4:00 pm

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

Attendees: 15

Upcoming Kids' Events**Summer Story Times**

June 12 – July 28

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: Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10:30 am (weather permitting)

Tween Dungeons & Dragons

Wednesday, July 5, 1:00 – 3:00 pm

Play a Dungeons & Dragons adventure with other gaming and fantasy fans. The entire adventure will be completed during this event. Characters and dice will be provided. No previous experience necessary!

Ages 8-11. Registration required.

Wild Rumpus Circus

Thursday, July 6, 1:30 – 2:30 pm

World Famous clown Alfredo Tortellini is the horn-juggling host for a lively and engaging performance. Combine hilarious clowning with aerial artistry, fantastic stilt characters and rapid-fire juggling, and watch the Wild Rumpus ensue. Since 2002, the Wild Rumpus Circus has engaged youth through adults in hands-on, experience-based learning through its camps, classes, residencies and workshops, and has delighted audiences on four continents by speaking the universal language of laughter. For all ages. No registration. Sponsored by the Friends of the Verona Public Library.

Crafternoon: Kindness Crafts

Monday, July 10, 2:00 – 3:00 pm

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

Music & Movement Story Time

Tuesday, July 11, 9:30 – 10:00 am

Join us for singing, dancing, instruments, and stories in this active story time for children and their caregivers. Ages 1-5. No registration.

Minecraft Club

Thursday, July 11, 3:00 – 4:00 pm

Build in Minecraft based on a new theme each session! Ages 6-11.

Tween Craft: Bath Bombs

Wednesday, July 12, 2:00 – 3:00 pm

The only explosions here will be the joy when you give your loved one a homemade bath bomb. Choose from different scents and colors to mold your bomb to your liking. Space is limited and registration is required. Ages 8-11.

Pokémon Club

Thursday, July 13, 3:30 – 4:30 pm

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

Read to a Dog

Saturday, July 15, 1:30 – 3:00 pm

Grab your favorite book and read to a furry friend. Independent readers can sign up for a 15 minute spot to read to a registered therapy animal. Families may share a time slot. Please come early (especially if you're picking out a book to read), as time slots are short. Check in at the Children's Desk. Ages 5 and up.

Read It and Eat: Barakah Beats

Monday, July 17, 4:00 – 5:00 pm

Discuss the novel *Barakah Beats* by Maleeha Siddiqui, plus enjoy activities and snacks related to the book. Ages 8 - 11. Books will be available for check out approximately one month prior to the discussion. Stop by the youth services desk to request one.

Toddler Art and Play

Tuesday, July 18, 9:30 – 10:30 am

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

Kids' Science Lab

Tuesday, July 18, 1:30 – 2:30 pm

Join us at the library for messy science experiments! Wear clothes that can get messy and drop in for some fun activities. No registration. Ages 5-7.

Graphic Novel Book Club

Wednesday, July 19, 3:30 – 4:30 pm

Discuss the graphic novel *The Dragonet Prophecy* in person, plus enjoy activities and snacks related to the book. Books will be available for checkout approximately one month prior to the discussion. Stop by the youth services desk to request one. Space is limited and registration is required. Refreshments will be provided. For ages 8-11.

Early Reader Book Club

Thursday, July 20, 3:30 – 4:00 pm

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

Crafternoon: Superhero Crafts

Monday, July 24, 2:00 – 3:00 pm

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

Tween STEM: Tiny Terrariums

Tuesday, July 25, 3:30 – 4:15 pm

Brighten your space with this tiny terrarium and learn cool facts about ecosystems. Make your terrarium whimsical, mystical, creepy, or natural. The vibe is up to you. For ages 8-11.

Tween Snacks: Fruit Pizza

Wednesday, July 26, 2:00 – 3:00 pm

Design your own delicious fruit pizza with a sugar cookie crust and cream cheese frosting. Please list any allergies when registering. Ages 8-11.

Kindermusik

Wednesday, August 2, 10:00 – 10:30 am

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

Tween Dungeons & Dragons

Wednesday, August 2, 1:00 – 3:00 pm

Play a Dungeons & Dragons adventure with other gaming and fantasy fans. The entire adventure will be completed during this event. Characters and dice will be provided. No previous experience necessary! Ages 8-11. Registration required.

Sloth Experience

Thursday, August 3, 10:00 & 11:30 am

Learn all about sloths, plus meet a baby Linnaeus's two-toed sloth named Stella! Presented by Animal Quest from Illinois. All ages. No registration. This event is sponsored by the Friends of the Verona Public Library.

Teen Events:**Teen Summer Library Program**

Teen registrants so far: 218

Completed activities: 2,300

Teen SRP Volunteer Training

Tuesday, May 30, 6:00 – 6:30 pm & Wednesday, June 7, 4:00 – 4:30 pm

Attendees: 25, 29

Teens ate pizza and learned how to volunteer at the Children's summer reading check-in desk.

Summer Programming School Visits

Monday, June 5

Badger Ridge Middle School

Attendees: 217

Wednesday, June 7

Savanah Oaks Middle School

Attendees: 190

Crafty Tuesday

Tuesday, June 13, 4:00 pm

Teens created shrinky dinks with Sharpies.

Attendees: 16

Teen Craft: Donuts & Painting

Wednesday, June 14, 3:30 – 4:30 pm

Teens sketched and completed paintings of donuts – while eating said donuts!

Attendees: 29

Teen Outdoor Movie

Friday, June 16, 8:45 – 10:45 pm

Teens watched *How to Train Your Dragon* on a big screen in our parking lot theater!

Attendees: 13

Lawn Games & Frozen Treats

Tuesday, June 20, 3:30 – 4:30 pm

Teens played lawn games behind the library with other teens, while enjoying frozen treats.

Attendees: 8

CSI: Verona

Wednesday, June 21, 3:00 – 4:30 pm

Teens solved a murder at the library! They cycled through different stations (lifting finger prints, handwriting analysis, chromatography, “weapons” testing, powder analysis, microscopic evidence, and a bloody crime scene) to come up with hypothesis as groups and figure out what happened.

Attendees: 30

Teen Gaming

Thursday, June 22, 3:30 – 4:30 pm

Teens played video games together while enjoying some snacks.

Attendees: 10

Teen Snacks: Candy Sushi

Wednesday, June 28, 3:30 – 4:30 pm

Teens watched some Japanese animations while creating candy sushi with a rice krispie base and fun candy choices!

Attendees: 24

Teen Escape Room

Wednesday, July 5, 3:00 – 5:00 pm

Teens worked together to solve clues, crack locks, and escape a zombie themed apocalypse – using critical thinking skills!

Attendees: 21

Upcoming Teen Events:

Teen D&D

Thursday, July 6, 4:00 – 6:00 pm

Play a Dungeons & Dragons one-shot adventure with other teens. Pre-generated characters and dice will be provided. No previous experience necessary!

Crafty Tuesday

Tuesdays, July 11, July 25, August 8, August 22, 4:00 pm

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

Teen Craft: Spa Day

Wednesday, July 12, 3:30 – 4:30 pm

Create homemade bath fizzes with different scents and colors! Mix together other DIY spa treatments and treat yourself!

Teen Outdoor Movie

Friday, July 14, 8:45 – 10:45 pm

Snack on some popcorn while you watch *Clue* 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.

Lawn Games & Frozen Treats

Tuesday, July 27, August 17, 3:30 – 4:30 pm

Play lawn games behind the library with other teens, weather permitting. Enjoy a cool treat and face off in cornhole, ladder toss, Spikeball, giant Jenga, etc. Don't forget your sunscreen!

Teen Snacks: Fruit Pizza

Wednesday, July 26, 3:30 – 4:30 pm

With a sugar cookie crust, cream cheese frosting, and a fruit design of your making, you can't go wrong with this sweet treat!

Teen Gaming

Thursday, July 13, August 10, 3:30 – 4:30 pm

Drop-in VR. You come first, you play first. While you wait for the Oculus Meta Quest 2, play on the SNES or Switch!

Adult Classes & Events:

Distance Learning English Classes for Adults

Mondays 6:00 - 7:30 pm & Tuesdays 6:00 - 8:00 pm, June 5 – August 15

Beginner Class

June 5, attendees: 9

June 12, attendees: 5

June 26, attendees: 6

Intermediate Class

June 6, attendees: 7

June 13, attendees: 5

June 20, attendees: 6

June 27, attendees: 9

Library Yarns Craft Group

Tuesdays, 11:30 – 1:00 pm & Wednesdays, 4:30 – 6:00 pm

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

June 6, attendees: 4

June 7, attendees: 11

June 14, attendees: 9

June 20, attendees: 5

June 21, attendees: 9

June 28, attendees: 11

Library Knit Along: Lace Cowl

Wednesday May 31, 4:30 - 6:00 pm

Knitters joined to knit a simple lace cowl.

Attendees: 7

Common Sense Self-Defense Class

Thursday, June 1, 6:30 – 7:30 pm

Jeff Christensen, owner and chief instructor at Karate America Verona, taught simple, non-strenuous defense techniques for beginners, and how to plan for when and where to use them.

Attendees: 18

Senior Case Management Outreach

Monday, June 12, Drop in between 2:00 – 3:00 pm

A case manager from the Verona Senior Center was available to answer questions and provide resources for older adults and their caregivers.

Attendees: 3

Beginner Macramé Feather Workshop

Monday, June 19, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Anne Cops, from Meraki Handmade Collective, taught how to make a beautiful macramé feather. Everyone made two feathers to take home.

Attendees: 12

How to Keep Your Brain Healthy & Lower Your Risk of Dementia

Thursday, June 29, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Drake Deno, Case Manager at the Verona Senior Center, discussed as memory disorders grow more common, tips and tricks to lower your risk for dementia.

Attendees: 10

Upcoming Adult Classes & Events

Adult Summer Reading Program 2023

June 1 – August 31

Visit veronapubliclibrary.beanstack.org and/or get the Beanstack Tracker app to create an account starting June 1. Then register to participate. Log every hour of reading you do (up to 20 hours total) and enter to win a \$50 gift card to a Verona business. All reading counts, including audio books. Open to adults 18 years and older. The Summer Reading Program is funded by the Friends of the Verona Public Library.

Distance Learning English Classes for Adults

Mondays 6:00 – 7:30 pm, Beginner, Beginner, June 5 - August 15,

Tuesdays 6:00 – 8:00 pm, Intermediate, Intermediate, June 6 - August 15,

This free group English class is offered mostly online using Zoom. You will practice speaking, listening, reading, writing and new vocabulary in English. Students will receive free English textbooks, at their level, in the mail. Presented in partnership with Literacy Network.

Library Yarns Craft Group

Second and Fourth Wednesdays, drop-in between 4:30 - 6:00 pm

If you enjoy knitting, crochet, embroidery, or another needlecraft, please join us at a twice-monthly, 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.

Natural Dye Demo: Bundle Dyeing with Botanicals

Wednesday, July 5, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Join Erica, of Down to Earth Goods, and learn how to use botanicals including food waste, floral waste, and other natural extracts to dye fabric. This technique, called Bundle Dyeing, uses only natural materials and steam to imprint the color from the botanicals onto the fabric. After learning about the magic of natural dye there will be a prize drawing to give away a 15" x 60" botanicals bundle dyed cotton gauze scarf.

Senior Case Management Outreach

Monday, July 10, Drop in between 2:00 – 3:00 pm

A case manager from the Verona Senior Center will answer questions and provide resources for older adults and their caregivers. Information on Medicare/Medicaid, nutrition, housing, assistance in the home, and resources in Verona and Dane County will be available. Contact Julie Larson at the Verona Senior Center at 608-845-7471 with questions.

Streambank Stabilization

Thursday, July 13, 6:30 – 7:30 pm

Luke Melotik from AECOM (Verona's City Engineering Consultant) will cover bank stabilization practices and how they can have a positive impact on ecosystems and the environment. Local, state-wide, and national efforts to protect streambank resources will be highlighted and discussed, as well as ways individuals can contribute to improvements.

Sippin through the Summer with a Mocktail

Wednesday, July 19, 6:30 – 7:30 pm

Join Kevin and Katie, from Hodge Podge, as they lead you through creating delicious mocktails that bring cool refreshment to the summer heat. They will discuss variations on the mocktails, flavor profiles, and where to find fresh ingredients. Be the star of your next summer gathering, or finish off a beautiful summer day at home with your favorite! Registration required. Class size limited to 25.

Ukulele Sing-Along

Tuesday, July 25, 6:30 – 7:30 pm

Performers from the Mad City Ukes will play familiar songs for all ages and invite you to sing along. Lyric sheets will be provided.

Meet Verona Police K9 Sergeant Kile and K9 Drea

Wednesday, July 26, 7:00 – 8:00 pm

Verona Police K9 Drea and her handler K9 Sergeant Matt Kile will demonstrate how they work together as partners. Registration required. Limited to 75 attendees.

Fraud Watch Basics

Monday, July 31, 6:30 – 7:30 pm

Have you ever been approached with a fraudulent offer or been a victim of identity theft? The AARP Fraud Watch Network is working to empower you in the fight, with proven resources and tools to help you spot and avoid identity theft and fraud. By taking a few practical steps, you have the power to fight back against fraud.

Exhibits

No exhibits are scheduled over the summer.

Outreach Events

Outreach story times:

Total daycare story time presentations: 23

Books ‘n Booze at 5th Quarter Bar & Grill

Thursdays, May 25 and June 22, 6:00 – 7:00 pm

The group discussed *The Final Revival of Opal & Nev* by Dawnie Walton and *The Bright Hour* by Nina Riggs.

Attendees: 10, 14

Country View Reading Celebration

Tuesday, May 30, 8:30 – 9:30 am

Amy and Marissa went to Country View and made 15 library cards, handed out bookmarks, and distributed summer reading information at this family literacy event.

Attendees: 28

Nakoma Kids Club Summer Reading Kickoff Party

Tuesday, May 30, 3:30 – 4:30 pm

An ocean-themed kickoff for the students at Nakoma Heights to sign up for library cards, register for the summer reading program, and meet a shark costume character.

Attendees: 21

Core Knowledge First Grade Field Trip

Thursday, June 1, 9:00 – 10:00 am

First graders from Core Knowledge came to the library for a read aloud, craft project, and buddy read.

Attendees: 55

Knit in Public Day at the Sow’s Ear

Saturday, June 10, 10:00 – 1:00 pm

Erin and Dain hosted a library table for Knit in Public Day at the Sow’s Ear.

Attendees: 10

Nakoma Kids Club Summer Reading Program

Tuesdays, June 13 and 27, 3:00 – 4:00 pm

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

Attendees: 12, 27

Senior Center Book Group

Wednesday, June 14, 10:00 – 11:00 am

The group discussed *This Time Tomorrow* by Emma Straub.

Attendees: 20

Four Winds Book Group

Tuesday, June 20, 10:00 – 11:00 am

The residents met to discuss *A Fatal Grace* by Louise Penny.

Attendees: 4

Verona Downtown Farmers Market

Wednesday, June 21, 3:00 – 5:30 pm

Marissa and Vikki had a table at the farmers market where they made three library cards and signed families up for the summer reading program.

Attendees: 42

Prairie Oaks Book Group

Thursday, June 22, 1:00 – 2:00 pm

The group read *The Book Woman's Daughter* by Kim Michele Richardson.

Attendees: 5

Harriet Park Book Checkout

Tuesday, June 27, 11:30 – 12:15 pm

An air quality alert prevented the book bike from going out, but Marissa and Vikki brought books for kids to checkout at the Harriet Park Playground Program.

Attendees: 23

Noel Manor Book Group

Friday, June 30, 11:00 – 12:00 pm

Vikki led the Noel Manor Book Group for the first time; the group read *The Personal Librarian* by Marie Benedict.

Attendees: 4

Upcoming Outreach Events

Nakoma Kids Club Summer Reading Program

Tuesdays, July 11 and 25, 3:00 – 4:00 pm

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

Senior Center Book Group

Wednesday, July 12, 10:00 – 11:00 am

The group will be reading *Flight of Dreams* by Ariel Lawhon.

Four Winds Book Group

Tuesday, July 18, 10:00 – 11:00 am

The residents will meet to discuss *Desert Star* by Michael Connelly.

Prairie Oaks Book Group

Thursday, July 27, 1:00 – 2:00 pm

The group will be reading *Camino Island* by John Grisham.

Books 'n Booze at 5th Quarter Bar & Grill

Thursday, July 27, 6:00 – 7:00 pm

The group will be discussing *Sea of Tranquility* by Emily St. John Mandel.

Upcoming Outreach Events**Nakoma Kids Club Summer Reading Program**

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

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Upcoming Book Bike Events

Veterans Park, July 11, 11:30 – 12:15 pm

Senior Center, July 12, 11:00 – 12:00 pm

Tollefson Park, July 19, 11:30 – 12:15 pm

Cathedral Point Park, July 20, 11:30 – 12:15 pm

Program, Display, and Exhibit Policy

Verona Public Library

I. Introduction

- a. The Verona Public Library, in accordance with its mission, offers programs, displays, and exhibits to meet the educational, informational, recreational, and cultural needs of our diverse community. This policy works to support the library's goals to:
 1. Promote lifelong learning
 2. Support cultural diversity
 3. Provide opportunities for community gathering
- b. This policy is to provide library staff with guidelines to assist them in the development of library programs, displays, and exhibits. It is also intended to inform the public about the principles and criteria by which programs are selected.
- c. Selection and planning of library programs, displays, and exhibits are the responsibility of the professional staff of the Verona Public Library. Other staff members and the public may make recommendations for consideration.
- d. The director retains the authority to reject or approve any programs, displays, or exhibits.

II. Displays

- a. Library displays are planned and implemented by library staff to highlight topics and areas of the library collection.
- b. Library materials from other SCLS libraries will not typically be used for displays.
- c. Library materials on display are available to be checked-out.

III. Exhibits

- a. Exhibitors must complete and sign an exhibit contract releasing the library from liability from loss or damage to exhibited items.
- b. Price lists and artist contact information can be made available to the public on request at the service desk. The library will not handle the sale of art works on exhibit.

IV. Library Programs

- a. Library programs are based on the interests and needs of the community and are subject to staff, budget, and space availability.
- b. The Library may partner with other agencies, organizations, businesses, and individuals provided the programs are compatible with the Library's mission.
- c. Library sponsorship of a program does not constitute an endorsement of the content of the program. Beliefs and opinions expressed during library programs by speakers, presenters, performers, or participants do not necessarily represent the viewpoint of the Verona Public Library.
- d. Library programs must be informational and non-commercial in nature.
- e. Presenters may provide promotional materials. Presenters may not actively solicit participants' contact information but may have an optional sign-in sheet for participants.
- f. All library programs must be open to the public at no charge, unless they are a fundraiser for the Library or Friends of the Library. Only library-sponsored or co-sponsored programs may involve monetary solicitation, sale of items, or fundraising activities.
- g. Presenters may be allowed to sell items that are directly related to the event such as books or music recordings with advance permission from the staff member planning the event or the library director.

- h. Attendance at programs may be drop-in, or in cases of limited space or resources, may require registration. Registration will be made available on a first-come, first-served basis. In cases of drop-in programs, attendance may be limited when safety or the success of a program requires it.
- i. Programs may be designed with certain age-limit parameters. Exceptions may be made at the discretion of the presenter or organizer.
- j. Some programs are designed for children to attend independently, however parents or caregivers of children under the age of 8 must remain in the building. Responsibility for supervising children at library programs lies with parents or caregivers.
- k. Program attendees must comply with all library policies.
- l. Any group wishing to attend a library program is asked to contact the library to confirm there will be space for a large group.
- m. Participants consent to be photographed and/or filmed and give permission for those images to be used for library promotion. Participants who do not wish to be photographed should notify library staff.
- n. To request sign language interpretation or other accommodation, please contact the library at least two weeks before the event.

V. Reconsideration Requests

- a. The Verona Public Library recognizes that some programs, displays, and exhibits may be deemed inappropriate or offensive by some patrons. Topics will not be excluded solely on the grounds that they may be controversial.
- b. The Library Board believes that censorship is purely an individual matter and declares that while anyone is free to reject for themselves programs, displays, or exhibits that they do not approve of, they cannot exercise this right of censorship to other persons to attend or view. The Verona Public Library adheres to and supports the Library Bill of Rights, Freedom to View Statement, and the Freedom to Read Statement. (See Appendix.)
- c. Please contact the Library Director with questions, comments, or concerns about library programs, displays, or exhibits. Any formal complaints should be directed to the Library Director in writing. After consideration, the Library Director will determine if the item in questions should be removed from display status or a program or exhibit cancelled.
- d. Patrons may appeal the decision of the Library Director to the Verona Public Library Board of Trustees. An appeal must be made in writing to the Library Director. Discussion of the appeal will be scheduled on the agenda of the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Library Board of Trustees. Their decision will be final.

Appendix:

Library Bill of Rights, Freedom to Read Statement, Freedom to View Statement

Library Board approved February 6, 2019

Program, ~~Event~~Display, and Exhibit Policy
Verona Public Library

I. Introduction

- a. The Verona Public Library, in accordance with its mission, offers programs, displays, and eventsexhibits to meet the educational, informational, recreational, and cultural needs of our diverse community. This policy works to support the library's goals to:
 1. Promote lifelong learning
 2. Support cultural diversity
 3. Provide opportunities for community gathering
- ~~b. The library seeks to include a variety of programming options representing a diversity of genres, formats, ideas, and expressions with a multitude of viewpoints and cultural perspectives that reflect the diversity in our community.~~
- ~~e.b.~~ This policy is to provide library staff with guidelines to assist them in the development of library programs, eventsdisplays, and exhibits. It is also intended to inform the public about the principles and criteria by which programs are selected.

~~II. Planning and Implementation~~

- ~~a.c.~~ Selection and planning of library programs, displays, and exhibits isare the responsibility of the professional staff of the Verona Public Library. Other staff members and the public may ~~recommend programs and exhibits for consideration. The director may delegate the authority to interpret the policy in day-to-day decisions to professional staff members. The director retains the authority to reject or approve any program or exhibit.~~ make recommendations for consideration.
- ~~d. Selection~~ The director retains the authority to reject or approve any programs, displays, or exhibits.

II. Displays

- a. Library displays are planned and planning of implemented by library programsstaff to highlight topics and exhibitsareas of the library collection.
- b. Library materials from other SCLS libraries will ~~be~~not typically be used for displays.
- c. Library materials on display are available to be checked-out.

III. Exhibits

- a. Exhibitors must complete and sign an exhibit contract releasing the library from liability from loss or damage to exhibited items.
- b. Price lists and artist contact information can be made available to the public on request at the service desk. The library will not handle the sale of art works on exhibit.

IV. Library Programs

- ~~b.a.~~ Library programs are based on the interests and needs of the community and isare subject to staff, budget, and space availability.
- ~~e.b.~~ The Library may partner with other agencies, organizations, businesses, and individuals provided the programs ~~and exhibits~~ are compatible with the Library's mission ~~and vision~~.
- ~~d.c.~~ Library sponsorship of a program ~~or exhibit~~ does not constitute an endorsement of the content of the program ~~or exhibit~~. Beliefs and opinions expressed during library programs

by speakers, presenters, performers, or participants do not necessarily represent the viewpoint of the Verona Public Library.

- d. Library programs must be informational and non-commercial in nature. ~~While organizations, businesses, and individuals may offer their expertise on topics of interest at no charge, they may not actively promote themselves during a program. Information about the organization may be made available by request or on a table for participants.~~
- e. Presenters may provide promotional materials. Presenters may not actively solicit participants' contact information but may ~~leave~~have an optional sign-in sheet ~~at a table for participants.~~
- f. All library programs must be open to the public at no charge, unless they are a fundraiser for the Library or Friends of the Library. ~~Performers, presenters, and exhibitors~~Only library-sponsored or co-sponsored programs may involve monetary solicitation, sale of items, or fundraising activities.
- f.g. Presenters may be allowed to sell items that are directly related to the event such as books or music recordings with advance permission from the staff member planning the event or the library director.
- g. ~~All library programs must be open to the public at no charge, unless they are a fundraiser for the Library or Friends of the Library. Only library sponsored or co-sponsored programs, events, or exhibits may involve monetary solicitation, sale of items, or fundraising activities.~~
- h. ~~The Verona Public Library recognizes that at any given time some programs, events, or exhibits may be deemed inappropriate or offensive by patrons. Selection of programs and events are based on the principles stated in this policy. Library programs, events, and exhibits will not exclude topics solely on the grounds that they may be controversial.~~
- i. ~~The Library Board believes that censorship is purely an individual matter and declares that while anyone is free to reject for themselves programs, events, or exhibits that they do not approve of, he/she cannot exercise this right of censorship to other persons to attend or view. The Verona Public Library adheres to and supports the Library Bill of Rights, Freedom to View Statement, and the Freedom to Read Statement. (See Appendix.)~~

III. Attendance

- a.h. Attendance at programs may be drop-in, or in ~~the case~~cases of limited space or resources, may require registration. Registration will be made available on a first-come, first-served basis. In cases of drop-in programs, attendance may be limited when safety or the success of a program requires it.
- b.i. Programs may be designed with certain age-limit parameters. Exceptions may be made at the discretion of the presenter or organizer.
- c.j. ~~While some~~Some programs ~~may be~~are designed for children ~~under the age of 8~~ to attend independently, however parents ~~and~~or caregivers of children under the age of 8 must remain in the building. Responsibility for supervising ~~children's attendance~~children at library programs, events, and exhibits lies with parents or ~~legal guardians~~caregivers.
- d.k. Program attendees must comply with all library policies.
- e.l. Any group wishing to attend a library program is asked to contact the library to confirm there will be space for a large group.

f.m. Participants consent to be photographed and/or filmed and give permission for those images to be used for library promotion. Participants who do not wish to be photographed should notify library staff.

g.n. To request sign language interpretation or other accommodation, please contact the library at least two weeks before the event.

V. Reconsideration Requests

- a. The Verona Public Library recognizes that some programs, displays, and exhibits may be deemed inappropriate or offensive by some patrons. Topics will not be excluded solely on the grounds that they may be controversial.
- b. The Library Board believes that censorship is purely an individual matter and declares that while anyone is free to reject for themselves programs, displays, or exhibits that they do not approve of, they cannot exercise this right of censorship to other persons to attend or view. The Verona Public Library adheres to and supports the Library Bill of Rights, Freedom to View Statement, and the Freedom to Read Statement. (See Appendix.)
- c. Please contact the Library Director with questions, comments, or concerns about library programs, events, or exhibits. Any formal complaints should be directed to the Library Director in writing. After consideration, the Library Director will determine if the item in questions should be removed from display status or a program or exhibit cancelled.
- d. Patrons may appeal the decision of the Library Director to the Verona Public Library Board of Trustees. An appeal must be made in writing to the Library Director. Discussion of the appeal will be scheduled on the agenda of the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Library Board of Trustees. Their decision will be final.

IV. Appendix:

Library Bill of Rights

Freedom to Read Statement

Freedom to View Statement

Library Board approved February 6, 2019

Library Bill of Rights

The American Library Association affirms that all libraries are forums for information and ideas, and that the following basic policies should guide their services.

- I. Books and other library resources should be provided for the interest, information, and enlightenment of all people of the community the library serves. Materials should not be excluded because of the origin, background, or views of those contributing to their creation.
- II. Libraries should provide materials and information presenting all points of view on current and historical issues. Materials should not be proscribed or removed because of partisan or doctrinal disapproval.
- III. Libraries should challenge censorship in the fulfillment of their responsibility to provide information and enlightenment.
- IV. Libraries should cooperate with all persons and groups concerned with resisting abridgment of free expression and free access to ideas.
- V. A person's right to use a library should not be denied or abridged because of origin, age, background, or views.
- VI. Libraries which make exhibit spaces and meeting rooms available to the public they serve should make such facilities available on an equitable basis, regardless of the beliefs or affiliations of individuals or groups requesting their use.

Adopted June 18, 1948.

Amended February 2, 1961; June 28, 1967; and January 23, 1980,
inclusion of "age" reaffirmed January 23, 1996,
by the ALA Council.

THE FREEDOM TO READ

The freedom to read is essential to our democracy. It is continuously under attack. Private groups and public authorities in various parts of the country are working to remove or limit access to reading materials, to censor content in schools, to label “controversial” views, to distribute lists of “objectionable” books or authors, and to purge libraries. These actions apparently rise from a view that our national tradition of free expression is no longer valid; that censorship and suppression are needed to counter threats to safety or national security, as well as to avoid the subversion of politics and the corruption of morals. We, as individuals devoted to reading and as librarians and publishers responsible for disseminating ideas, wish to assert the public interest in the preservation of the freedom to read.

Most attempts at suppression rest on a denial of the fundamental premise of democracy: that the ordinary individual, by exercising critical judgment, will select the good and reject the bad. We trust Americans to recognize propaganda and misinformation, and to make their own decisions about what they read and believe. We do not believe they are prepared to sacrifice their heritage of a free press in order to be “protected” against what others think may be bad for them. We believe they still favor free enterprise in ideas and expression.

These efforts at suppression are related to a larger pattern of pressures being brought against education, the press, art and images, films, broadcast media, and the Internet. The problem is not only one of actual censorship. The shadow of fear cast by these pressures leads, we suspect, to an even larger voluntary curtailment of expression by those who seek to avoid controversy or unwelcome scrutiny by government officials.

Such pressure toward conformity is perhaps natural to a time of accelerated change. And yet suppression is never more dangerous than in such a time of social tension. Freedom has given the United States the elasticity to endure strain. Freedom keeps open the path of novel and creative solutions, and enables change to come by choice. Every silencing of a heresy, every enforcement of an orthodoxy, diminishes the toughness and resilience of our society and leaves it the less able to deal with controversy and difference.

Now as always in our history, reading is among our greatest freedoms. The freedom to read and write is almost the only means for making generally available ideas or manners of expression that can initially command only a small audience. The written word is the natural medium for the new idea and the untried voice from which come the original contributions to social growth. It is essential to the extended discussion that serious thought requires, and to the accumulation of knowledge and ideas into organized collections.

We believe that free communication is essential to the preservation of a free society and a creative culture. We believe that these pressures toward conformity present the danger of limiting the range and variety of inquiry and expression on which our democracy and our culture depend. We believe that every American community must jealously guard the freedom to publish and to circulate, in order to preserve its own freedom to read. We believe that publishers and librarians have a profound responsibility to give validity to that freedom to read by making it possible for the readers to choose freely from a variety of offerings. The freedom to read is guaranteed by the Constitution. Those with faith in free people will stand firm on these constitutional guarantees of essential rights and will exercise the responsibilities that accompany these rights.

We therefore affirm these propositions:

1. *It is in the public interest for publishers and librarians to make available the widest diversity of views and expressions, including those that are unorthodox, unpopular, or considered dangerous by the majority.*

Creative thought is by definition new, and what is new is different. The bearer of every new thought is a rebel until that idea is refined and tested. Totalitarian systems attempt to maintain themselves in power by the ruthless suppression of any concept that challenges the established orthodoxy. The power of a democratic system to adapt to change is vastly strengthened by the freedom of its citizens to choose widely from among conflicting opinions offered freely to them. To stifle every nonconformist idea at birth would mark the end of the democratic process. Furthermore, only through the constant activity of weighing and selecting can the democratic mind attain the strength demanded by times like these. We need to know not only what we believe but why we believe it.

2. *Publishers, librarians, and booksellers do not need to endorse every idea or presentation they make available. It would conflict with the public interest for them to establish their own political, moral, or aesthetic views as a standard for determining what should be published or circulated.*

Publishers and librarians serve the educational process by helping to make available knowledge and ideas required for the growth of the mind and the increase of learning. They do not foster education by imposing as mentors the patterns of their own thought. The people should have the freedom to read and consider a broader range of ideas than those that may be held by any single librarian or publisher or government or church. It is wrong that what one can read should be confined to what another thinks proper.

3. *It is contrary to the public interest for publishers or librarians to bar access to writings on the basis of the personal history or political affiliations of the author.*

No art or literature can flourish if it is to be measured by the political views or private lives of its creators. No society of free people can flourish that draws up lists of writers to whom it will not listen, whatever they may have to say.

4. *There is no place in our society for efforts to coerce the taste of others, to confine adults to the reading matter deemed suitable for adolescents, or to inhibit the efforts of writers to achieve artistic expression.*

To some, much of modern expression is shocking. But is not much of life itself shocking? We cut off literature at the source if we prevent writers from dealing with the stuff of life. Parents and teachers have a responsibility to prepare the young to meet the diversity of experiences in life to which they will be exposed, as they have a responsibility to help them learn to think critically for themselves. These are affirmative responsibilities, not to be discharged simply by preventing them from reading works for which they are not yet prepared. In these matters values differ, and values cannot be legislated; nor can machinery be devised that will suit the demands of one group without limiting the freedom of others.

5. *It is not in the public interest to force a reader to accept the prejudgment of a label characterizing any expression or its author as subversive or dangerous.*

The ideal of labeling presupposes the existence of individuals or groups with wisdom to determine by authority what is good or bad for others. It presupposes that individuals must be directed in making up their minds about the ideas they examine. But Americans do not need others to do their thinking for them.

6. *It is the responsibility of publishers and librarians, as guardians of the people's freedom to read, to contest encroachments upon that freedom by individuals or groups seeking to impose their own standards or tastes upon the community at large; and by the government whenever it seeks to reduce or deny public access to public information.*

It is inevitable in the give and take of the democratic process that the political, the moral, or the aesthetic concepts of an individual or group will occasionally collide with those of another individual or group. In a free society individuals are free to determine for themselves what they wish to read, and each group is free to determine what it will recommend to its freely associated members. But no group has the right to take the law into its own hands, and to impose its own concept of politics or morality upon other members of a democratic society. Freedom is no freedom if it is accorded only to the accepted and the inoffensive. Further, democratic societies are more safe, free, and creative when the free flow of public information is not restricted by governmental prerogative or self-censorship.

7. *It is the responsibility of publishers and librarians to give full meaning to the freedom to read by providing books that enrich the quality and diversity of thought and expression. By the exercise of this affirmative responsibility, they can demonstrate that the answer to a "bad" book is a good one, the answer to a "bad" idea is a good one.*

The freedom to read is of little consequence when the reader cannot obtain matter fit for that reader's purpose. What is needed is not only the absence of restraint, but the positive provision of opportunity for the people to read the best that has been thought and said. Books are the major channel by which the intellectual inheritance is handed down, and the principal means of its testing and growth. The defense of the freedom to read requires of all publishers and librarians the utmost of their faculties, and deserves of all Americans the fullest of their support.

We state these propositions neither lightly nor as easy generalizations. We here stake out a lofty claim for the value of the written word. We do so because we believe that it is possessed of enormous variety and usefulness, worthy of cherishing and keeping free. We realize that the application of these propositions may mean the dissemination of ideas and manners of expression that are repugnant to many persons. We do not state these propositions in the comfortable belief that what people read is unimportant. We believe rather that what people read is deeply important; that ideas can be dangerous; but that the suppression of ideas is fatal to a democratic society. Freedom itself is a dangerous way of life, but it is ours.

This statement was originally issued in May of 1953 by the Westchester Conference of the American Library Association and the American Book Publishers Council, which in 1970 consolidated with the American Educational Publishers Institute to become the Association of American Publishers.

Adopted June 25, 1953; revised January 28, 1972, January 16, 1991, July 12, 2000, June 30, 2004, by the ALA Council and the AAP Freedom to Read Committee.

A Joint Statement by:

American Library Association
Association of American Publishers

Subsequently endorsed by:

American Booksellers Foundation for Free Expression
The Association of American University Presses, Inc.
The Children's Book Council
Freedom to Read Foundation
National Association of College Stores
National Coalition Against Censorship
National Council of Teachers of English
The Thomas Jefferson Center for the Protection of Free Expression

Freedom to View Statement

The FREEDOM TO VIEW, along with the freedom to speak, to hear, and to read, is protected by the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States. In a free society, there is no place for censorship of any medium of expression. Therefore these principles are affirmed:

1. To provide the broadest access to film, video, and other audiovisual materials because they are a means for the communication of ideas. Liberty of circulation is essential to insure the constitutional guarantees of freedom of expression.
2. To protect the confidentiality of all individuals and institutions using film, video, and other audiovisual materials.
3. To provide film, video, and other audiovisual materials which represent a diversity of views and expression. Selection of a work does not constitute or imply agreement with or approval of the content.
4. To provide a diversity of viewpoints without the constraint of labeling or prejudging film, video, or other audiovisual materials on the basis of the moral, religious, or political beliefs of the producer or filmmaker or on the basis of controversial content.
5. To contest vigorously, by all lawful means, every encroachment upon the public's freedom to view.

This statement was originally drafted by the Freedom to View Committee of the American Film and Video Association (formerly the Educational Film Library Association) and was adopted by the AFVA Board of Directors in February 1979. This statement was updated and approved by the AFVA Board of Directors in 1989.