

AGENDA

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

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

Call to order

- Approval of the Regular Meeting Minutes of 7/10/24
- Review and approval of the July 2024 invoices
- Public Comments
- City Council Liaison's report
- Library Director's report
- Old Business
 1. Discussion of library strategic planning
 2. Discussion of the 2025 library budget
- New Business
 1. Discussion and possible action regarding the Inclement Weather Policy

MINUTES

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

**Wednesday, July 10, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.
Library Conference Room**

Attendees: Christopher Hopp, Stacey Burkart, Regina Fuller, Kyle Jones, Rikki Conwell, Karen Spencer, Brandon Braithwaite

Absent: Andrea Frey

Call to order

- Approval of the Regular Meeting Minutes of 6/5/24
Motion to approve by Braithwaite. Seconded by Conwell. Motion passes.

- Review and approval of the June 2024 invoices
Motion to approve by Spencer. Seconded by Jones. Motion passes.

- Public Comments
None.

- City Council Liaison's report
Initial hearing on Sugar Creek Commons Event Center. Question regarding paving Military Ridge State Trail. Believe design in 2025 and install in 2026.

- Library Director's report
Provided in packet.

- Old Business
 1. Discussion of library strategic planning
South Central Library System provides strategic planning consulting services. Will aim to begin when they are available this Fall with a goal of completion by end of 2024.

 2. Discussion of the 2025 library budget
Discussion regarding possible additional public hour offerings and how it would affect budget. Discussion of possible budget impacts due to property value reassessment.

- New Business
 1. Discussion and possible action regarding the Epidemic & Library Health Emergency Policy

Motion to approve with amended language by Conwell. Seconded by Fuller. Motion passes.

2. Discussion and possible action regarding the Library Assistant Outreach job description

Motion to approved by Spencer. Seconded by Fuller. Motion passes.

3. Discussion of the 2024 Library Director goals

Discussion of status of 2024 Director's Goals.

Adjournment at 8:30pm.

Director's Report

Verona Public Library

July 2024

Collection Management

Jenny has taken over managing the Board Game collection. She is in the process of adding around 25 new games. Jenny has also discovered that we have the largest board game collection in SCLS.

We have added a World Languages collection to the Adult area. We currently have 2 books in Chinese. Ronda worked the Verona Area International School to create spine labels and Theresa cataloged the new collection. Tonja has also added an Urdu language kit to the collection.

Tonja plans to attend the August library board meeting to give an overview of how library staff are using inClusive as a collection development tool.

Number of items added and deleted in July 2024:

Item Type	Added	Deleted
Books	839	764
Audio	22	7
Software	5	13
Video/DVD	14	6
Other (kits, etc.)	19	3
Magazines	134	17
TOTAL	1033	810
YTD	7031	9053

Circulation

Items Circulated	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
January	48,218	47,722	46,024	29,669	49,255
February	47,599	46,003	42,218	28,925	46,500
March	50,433	52,026	49,314	36,647	29,964
April	45,552	46,674	47,514	31,448	2,021
May	43,352	44,226	42,775	32,633	8,861
June	57,330	59,454	52,827	52,142	18,507
July	60,127	58,102	52,448	52,220	29,609
August		58,081	55,184	51,007	31,025
September		45,429	45,066	42,894	31,115
October		47,785	42,440	43,527	34,075
November		44,975	43,939	43,507	28,171
December		43,655	42,000	39,089	28,194
Total	352,611	594,132	561,749	483,708	337,297

New Library Cards	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
January	171	188	119	27	184
February	176	137	149	36	161
March	189	176	155	24	74
April	150	152	129	36	9
May	124	142	140	71	18
June	262	290	344	179	33
July	217	218	239	160	58
August		212	206	129	57
September		141	141	105	51
October		170	150	99	50
November		119	144	64	18
December		128	122	87	31
Total	1,289	1,423	2,038	1,017	744

Holds	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
January	15,085	14,929	15,139	18,260	14,651
February	13,421	13,005	11,617	17,130	12,246
March	13,282	13,586	12,878	18,193	7,277
April	12,906	12,658	12,098	15,698	5,645
May	12,364	13,483	11,820	14,236	10,869
June	13,958	13,854	11,984	13,328	13,616
July	14,280	14,445	11,735	11,621	15,910
August		13,607	13,389	13,510	15,672
September		13,587	12,506	13,252	16,166
October		12,645	11,924	13,304	16,502
November		12,971	12,888	12,679	16,108
December		11,054	10,313	11,069	14,567
Total	69,244	119,516	148,291	172,280	159,229

Reference

Library Visits	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
January	16,183	16,114	10,780	0	18,887
February	18,492	15,945	11,193	0	18,969
March	19,457	18,160	13,628	0	0
April	17,727	18,062	16,488	2,889	0
May	17,169	16,049	12,366	5,015	0
June	23,528	22,204	16,624	11,757	2,850
July	19,834	20,232	17,057	13,407	6,765
August		22,619	18,830	13,267	*
September		14,958	13,890	10,746	*
October		17,011	14,009	10,346	*
November		16,152	15,729	9,371	0
December		16,190	13,552	10,562	0
Total	132,390	213,696	174,146	87,360	47,471

Reference questions	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
January	1,929	1,640	1,061	821	3,152
February	2,161	1,638	1,653	924	1,632
March	1,989	1,830	1,758	1,347	1,974
April	2,004	1,896	1,226	948	24
May	1,995	2,031	1,117	1,085	116
June	2,638	2,487	2,183	2,200	846
July	2,144	2,058	1,691	2,365	2,431
August		2,331	2,075	1,847	2,039
September		1,837	1,341	1,543	2,521
October		1,840	1,566	581	2,045
November		1,836	1,628	458	1,060
December		1,835	1,356	721	1,092
TOTAL	12,807	23,259	18,655	14,840	18,932

Meeting Room Use	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
January	560	474	164	-	616
February	674	487	206	-	565
March	575	524	272	-	286
April	569	506	305	-	-
May	551	509	328	-	-
June	519	422	314	-	-
July	490	423	316	-	-
August		538	411	-	-
September		172	327	-	-
October		512	398	-	-
November		528	453	-	-
December		495	396	-	-
TOTAL	3,938	5,590	5,912	2,021	3,487

Reference Statistics, July 2024

Computer Lab Use: 790

Test Proctoring: 2 exams

Outer Library Loans: 30 requests

Personal Archiving Lab Sessions: 7

Personnel and Staff Development

Megan Wolpert has been hired as a Library Page I, her first day will be August 5.

Leah and Mia attended the 2024 *Play Make Learn Conference* at UW-Madison. Some conference highlights: exploring a historical tabletop game collection at Memorial Library while discussing who gets invited to the gaming table and who gets to create the narrative in gaming development; ideas for themed learning kits with recycled materials, which encourage exploration, physics concepts, creativity, and play; learning of new materials for crafting; creating community art projects to highlight societal wins and crises.

Mark attended the webinar, *Materials and Services to People with Print Disabilities*.

Tonja attended the Transparent Languages webinar, *What's New in Transparent Languages*.

Stacey and Tonja attended the Ryan Dowd hosted webinar, *Homelessness is a Housing Problem*.

Equipment and Physical Facilities

Stacey and Julie met with the Southern Wisconsin Bird Alliance this month to talk about options for reducing bird/window collisions. It would cost about \$650 to do a test of bird anti-collision dots on the window bank between the center of the library and the Quiet Reading Room.

Administration and Internal Operations

Stacey and the management team reviewed the Inclement Weather Policy and have changes to recommend to the board for review.

Work on the draft of the 2025 operating budget continued this month.

Marketing and Public Relations

Abby highlighted the children's summer program statistics and the top books checked out in July in the events newsletters this month.

Abby created:

- 68 Event graphics (website, Facebook, TV)
- 52 bookmarks/flyers/signs

Izzy created a displays featuring Childhood Favorites and Circus themed titles.

Circulation staff created a display celebrating the Olympic Games.

Library System and Interagency Cooperation

Ronda attended the Circulation Services Subcommittee on Tuesday, July 9, 2024. The following items were discussed: waving fines charges before 2010, local holds survey results, and adding an “overflow” status for items.

Theresa attended an ILS vendor demo follow-up webinar on July 23 for the acquisitions module of SirsiDynix.

The library partnered with the American Players Theater to offer the second wave of free vouchers to patrons on July 15.

Tonja met with Bex Fabrizio from the Literacy Network on July 16 for a mid-term check in on the virtual Community English Classes. Classes are still well attended and for the first time had a waiting list for registration. 100% of attendees are low income and 4 students are refugees or asylees.

Fundraising

The library received a generous donation in memory of Betty J. Karweick. The donated funds will be used to fund a multi-year virtual author series.

Exhibits

Dane County Public Health and DAMA (Dane Arts Mural Arts) Exhibit

August 19 - September 10

Dane County Public Health conducted an extensive survey in an attempt to identify public health priorities. These murals, created by DAMA, reflect those priorities in an informative and beautiful way.

Dogs: More than Pets

September 16 – October 27

Enter the incredible world of the most noble creature on earth, the dog. Immerse yourself in the science, history, DNA, folklore, legend, literature, and pop culture of dogs.

The exhibit has informational graphic panels, hands-on interactive activities, and the opportunity to meet live dogs and the humans that care for and work with them. The panels highlight topics including canine DNA and domestication, which types of animals are dogs, dogs in entertainment, farm dogs, dog's role in exploration and science, and more. The exhibit also includes several interactive areas and hands-on activities with open-ended questions that lend themselves to further discussion. These activities include flip panels and lighted question and answers. Brought to you by the Verona Public Library Endowment Fund.

Library Events and Programs

Kids' Events

1000 Books before Kindergarten

18 kids were registered this month, bringing the total number of registrants to 2668.

Summer Reading Program

Registration will end on August 1 and prize pickup ends on August 31. Participants of the kids' program are now able to pick up their coupons and free book if they've reached their goal of 50 days of reading. Many regular readers have reached this goal.

Read to a Dog

Friday, June 28, 4:00 – 5:30 pm and Saturday, June 29, 1:30 – 3:00 pm

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

Attendees: 10, 0 (*all no-shows; we have implemented a second email reminder for Saturday sign-ups in addition to the automated ones*)

Bubble Party

Saturday, June 29, 10:00 – 11:00 am

Bubble machines, music, ice pops, and outside fun! Families with children age 1-4 are invited to come on over and enjoy the sunshine and the bubbles on the lawn behind the library.

Attendees: 121

Wayne the Wizard

Tuesday, July 2, 10:30 am and 1:00 pm

Wayne the Wizard's magic and ventriloquist show will feature amazing magic, comedy ventriloquism and plenty of audience participation. No registration. Sponsored by the Friends of the Verona Public Library. *Wayne the Wizard's magic show was as old-school as expected. Younger kids especially seemed to enjoy his humor.*

Attendees: 141, 176

Crafternoon: Outer Space

Monday, July 8, 2:00 – 3:00 pm

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

Attendees: 115

Child Development Story Time

Tuesday, July 9, 9:30 am

Join us for a sensory adventure in storytelling! Tag along with a member of the Aspire Therapy team for an immersive story time featuring books, music, dancing, and hands-on sensory and fine motor activities. While our activities are tailored for kids aged 2-5, all children are welcome to join in the fun!

No registration required.

Attendees: 23

Science Lab: Dino Dig

Tuesday, July 9, 4:00 – 5:00 pm

Geared for ages 5-7. No registration required. Explore dinosaur themed activity stations! Dino Excavation, Fossil Imprints, Velociraptor Race, and Paleontology Play!

Attendees: 102

Tween Craft: Collage Treasure Tins

Wednesday, July 10, 2:00 – 3:00 pm

Tweens are invited to come and create a collage treasure tin that they can take home and use! Ages 8-11. Registration is required.

Attendees: 19

Minecraft Club

Thursday, July 11, 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: 31

Family Story Time

Saturday, July 13, 9:30 am

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

Attendees: 16

Raindrop Tour: Where does the stormwater go?

Saturday, July 13, 10:30 am

Kids can learn about the path of rainwater through the watershed to a pond, lake, river, bay, or ocean. They'll also learn about the sources and effects of water pollution, and practices that are used to keep pollutants out of the water. Activities will include a demonstration of the Enviroscope Model, doing a raindrop tour, and hearing a reading of the book "All the Way to the Ocean." Presented by Steve Lawton and Rick Eilertson from AECOM (Verona's City Engineering Consultant). Geared to ages 5 - 12.

Attendees: 21

Lunch Bunch

Monday, July 15, 12:00 – 12:30 pm

July's book will be *The Princess in Black* by Shannon and Dean Hale. Bring your lunch to the library and listen to a chapter book read aloud while you eat. A small snack will be provided. Geared for ages 5-9.

Attendees: 13

Read It & Eat: The Mystery of the Masked Medalist

Monday, July 15, 4:00 – 5:00 pm

Discuss the book *The Mystery of the Masked Medalist*, plus enjoy activities and snacks related to the book. Ages 8 - 11. Pick up a copy of the book at the children's desk to read in advance.

Attendees: 9

Toddler Art and Play

Tuesday, July 16, 10:00 – 11:00 am

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

Attendees: 110

STEAM Craft: Camp Library

Wednesday, July 17, 4:00 – 5:00 pm

Geared for ages 8-11. Registration required. Welcome to Camp Library where you can experience the nature of camp indoors! Decorate wooden medallions to put on a lanyard you design! Earn wooden medallions at different camp stations or create your own!

Attendees: 21

Pokémon Club

Thursday, July 18, 4:00 – 5:00 pm

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

Attendees: 52

Parent/Child Book Club: The Last Mapmaker

Thursday, July 18, 6:30 – 7:30 pm

Share the love of reading! This book club is for kids ages 8-11 and their parents/caregivers. We will discuss the novel *The Last Mapmaker* by Christina Soontornvat plus enjoy activities and snacks related to the book.

Attendees: 4

Read to a Dog

Friday, July 19, 4:00 – 5:30 pm and Saturday, July 20, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

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

Attendees: 12, 12

Crafternoon: Under the Sea

Monday, July 22, 2:00 – 3:00 pm

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

Attendees: 89

Fox and Branch

Tuesday, July 23, 10:30 am

For over two decades, Dave Fox and Will Branch have energized audiences in the U.S., Canada, the U.K., and Ireland. Their dynamic mix of old-time music, original songs, and family folk music has appealed to children and adults, giving everyone a chance to actively participate. Sponsored by Beyond the Page, National Endowment for the Humanities, and Madison Community Foundation.

One attendee, 2 years old, has been a fan since seeing Fox and Branch at Kids in the Rotunda. He brought along a plastic hammer and saw as props for one of the songs. He met Fox and Branch before the show and they asked which songs were his favorites so they could be sure to play them.

Attendees: 124

Early Reader Book Club

Tuesday, July 23, 4:30 – 5:00 pm

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

Attendees: 7

Tween Snacks: Will it Waffle?

Wednesday, July 24, 2:00 – 3:00 pm

Tweens are invited to answer the age-old question, what can you cook on a waffle iron? Try an assortment of yummy food items to see if they are #wafflelicious or #wafflefails. Ages 8-11. Registration is required. *Tweens tried waffling mac and cheese, mashed potatoes, cinnamon rolls, cookie dough and more. Not surprisingly, the sweet possibilities were the most popular.*

Attendees: 23

Olympics Story Time

Wednesday, July 24, 6:30 pm

Join us for books, songs, and activities all about the upcoming Olympics! Ages 2-6. No registration.

Attendees: 30

Summer Scares Book Club

Thursday, July 25, 5:00 – 5:45 pm

Scary isn't just for Halloween! We will discuss a scary book, plus enjoy activities and snacks related to the book. In July we will discuss *My Aunt is a Monster* by Reimena Yee. For ages 8 - 11.

Attendees: 6

Cardboard City

Saturday, July 27, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

For kids ages 5 and up, with their adults. Use special saws, screws and other cardboard building tools to construct a city for creative play! We'll be working together to create a temporary, shared space.

Attendees: 40

Read to a Dog

Saturday, July 27, 1:30 – 3:00 pm

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

Attendees: 1

Baby Olympics

Tuesday, July 30, 6:00 – 6:45 pm

Join us in celebration of the 2024 Summer Olympics in Paris! Babies and toddlers will do their own Olympic events like tunnel crawling and balance beam while watching real events on the big screen.

Geared to ages 0 - 2.

Attendees: 55

Graphic Novel Book Club

Wednesday, July 31, 5:00 – 5:45 pm

Discuss the graphic novel *Just Roll With It* by Veronica Agarwall and Lee Durfey-Lavoie, plus enjoy activities and snacks related to the book. Books will be available for checkout approximately one month before the discussion. For ages 8 - 11.

Attendees: 18

Upcoming Kids' Events**Summer Story Times**

June 10 – August 2

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 22)

Minecraft Club

Thursday, August 1, 4:00 – 5:00 pm

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

Family Story Time

Saturday, August 3, 9:30 – 10:00 am

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

Crafternoon: Nature

Monday, August 5, 2:00 – 3:00 pm

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

Child Development Story Time

Tuesday, August 6, 9:30 – 10:00 am

Join us for a sensory adventure in storytelling! Tag along with a member of the Aspire Therapy team for an immersive story time featuring books, music, dancing, and sensory and fine motor activities.

Tween Craft: Sew a Strange Creature

Tuesday, August 6, 2:00 – 3:00 pm

Be prepared to get creative and embrace mistakes as you sew, staple, or glue fabric into your very own huggable monstrosity. Learn some simple sewing techniques as you, Frankenstein-like, bring the creature of your dreams (or nightmares) to life! Ages 8-11. Registration is required.

Whale of a Tail

Wednesday, August 7, 11:00 am – 5:00 pm

Discover whales in a whole new way by encountering a life-size, 56-foot-long inflatable whale inside the library! Small groups will rotate through the inside of the whale to learn about these gentle giants from a Forest Whales educator. While waiting, families can experience other hands-on learning and activities, including the chance to touch museum-quality replicas like a narwhal tusk, humpback bones, and an orca skull. Geared to ages 5 to 105. Sponsored by the Friends of the Verona Public Library.

Pokémon Club

Thursday, August 8, 4:00 – 5:00 pm

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

Read to a Dog

Friday, August 9, 4:00 – 5:30 pm

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

Lunch Bunch

Monday, August 12, 12:00 – 12:30 pm

Bring your lunch to the library and listen to a chapter book read aloud while you eat. A small snack will be provided. Geared toward ages 5-9.

Early Reader Book Club

Tuesday, August 13, 4:30 – 5:00 pm

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

Tween Snacks: Takoyaki Party

Wednesday, August 14, 2:00 – 3:00 pm

For ages 8-11. Create takoyaki using a special cook plate. What is takoyaki? It's a ball-shaped Japanese snack made of batter, with a savory filling inside. We will try out traditional and not-so-traditional fillings!

Pete the Cat Story Time

Wednesday, August 14, 6:30 – 7:00 pm

Join us for Pete the Cat-themed stories and songs! Designed for ages 2-5. No registration.

Taylor Swift Dance Party

Friday, August 16, 2:00 – 2:45 pm

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! Ages 3-11.

Read It & It: The Mona Lisa Vanishes

Monday, August 19, 4:00 – 5:00 pm

Discuss the book *The Mona Lisa Vanishes*, plus enjoy activities and snacks related to the book. Ages 8 - 11. Pick up a copy of the book at the children's desk to read in advance.

Toddler Art and Play

Tuesday, August 20, 10:00 – 11:00 am

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

Graphic Novel Book Club

Wednesday, August 21, 5:00 – 5:45 pm

For ages 8 - 11. Registration begins 7/31. Discuss the graphic novel *Garlic & the Vampire* by Bree Paulsen, plus enjoy activities and snacks related to the book. Books will be available for checkout approximately one month before the discussion. Stop by the youth services desk to request one.

Summer Scares Book Club

Thursday, August 22, 5:00 – 5:45 pm

Scary isn't just for Halloween! We will discuss a scary book, plus enjoy activities and snacks related to the book. In August we will discuss *The Nest* by Kenneth Oppel. Copies will be available approximately one month before the discussion. Stop by the children's desk to pick one up. For ages 8 – 11.

Read to a Dog

Friday, August 23, 4 – 5:30 pm and Saturday, August 24, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

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

Frog and Toad Story Time

Monday, August 26, 6:30 – 7:00 pm

Join us for Frog and Toad-themed stories and songs! Designed for ages 2-5. No registration.

Music Together Madtown

Wednesday, August 28, 9:30 – 10:15 am

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

Read to a Dog

Saturday, August 31, 1:30 – 3:00 pm

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

Teen Events**Escape Room**

Tuesday, July 2, 3:00 – 3:45 pm & 4:00 – 4:45 pm

Solve puzzles, find clues, and crack locks to escape an adventure! *Comments: Teens used observation, math, mapping, cooperation, and problem-solving to escape an 80's time travel themed game. It's always fun to watch how teens take on different roles of leader, finder, solver, etc.*

Attendees: 19

Teen Craft: Mini Collage

Wednesday, July 10, 4:00 – 4:45 pm

Embellish a tin - collage style - in layers of scrapbook paper, recycled graphic novels and book pages.

Keep small treasures inside! *Comments: Teens made completely individualized tins, expressing the things they love through recycled pictures, words, and patterns. The creativity was stunning!*

Attendees: 8

Teen Outdoor Movie

Friday, July 12, 8:45 – 10:45 pm

Snack on some popcorn while you watch *Jumanji* on a big screen in our parking lot theater! *Comments: While we moved this inside due to mosquitoes, temperature, etc., teens had a good laugh at a 90s classic, while enjoying movie treats!*

Attendees: 6

Teen Graphics & Grub

Monday, July 15, 7:00 – 8:00 pm

Discuss a graphic novel while eating snacks and doing activities related to the book! We'll be reading *The Princess and the Grilled Cheese Sandwich* by Deya Muniz.

Comments: Teens brushed up their griddle skills by making their own grilled cheese sandwiches, and then they asked if they could reenact a scene from the book, and did so! When we discussed the book and talked about societal expectations, a teen shared her bullying experiences at school – and her friend said she would take band so they would have a class together this coming school year.

Attendees: 2

Teen Gaming & Pizza

Tuesday, July 16, 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. *Comments: Teens enjoyed fresh grilled cheese sandwiches (using up supplies!) and pizza. While gaming preceded as normal, I was really happy to see that two neurodiverse teens were enjoying a tabletop game and the Switch, while other kids were being inclusive and welcoming.*

Attendees: 8

Lawn Games & Frozen Treats

Wednesday, July 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! *Comments: Teens learned how to play Spikeball, fail but keep trying at badminton, and still succeed at eating many popsicles.*

Attendees: 2

Shadow Boxes

Tuesday, July 23, 3:30 – 5:00pm

Create a glowing shadow box! Using string lights, a wood frame, paper, and your imagination, form a small scene to brighten your night. *Comments: After basic structural directions, teens stylized their own unique light boxes. One kid got around a lack of purple vellum by layering blue and red, some other teens with learning differences were incredibly proud of their creations – and said so – and each teen explored the effects of transparency and layering with light and shadow.*

Attendees: 7

Teen Snack: Will it Waffle?

Wednesday, July 24, 4:00 – 5:00 pm

Will it be wafflelicious? A #wafflefail? Try different food batters and add-ins on waffle makers! *Comments: They explored other waffle-ing with mac & cheese, instant potatoes, Paninis, and cookie dough – while working on the basics of cooking prep and timing. They said they were not confident about surviving on only mini-waffle-iron cooking for one year, however.*

Attendees: 11

Upcoming Teen Events:

Crafty Tuesday

Tuesday, August 6, 4:00 pm

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

Teen Craft: Sew a Monstrosity

Tuesday, August 6, 4:00 – 5:00 pm

Create a small, Frankenstein's Monsteresque creature. Cute, hideous? No matter. Sew on with abandon.

Teen Outdoor Movie

Friday, August 9, 8:45 – 10:45 pm

Snack on some popcorn while you watch *Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark* 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, August 13, 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 Snack: Takoyaki

Wednesday, August 14, 4:00 – 5:00 pm

Form takoyaki using a special cook plate. What is takoyaki? It's a ball-shaped Japanese snack made of batter, with a filling inside. We'll explore traditional and not-so-traditional fillings!

Teen Gaming & Pizza

Thursday, August 15, 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 Graphics & Grub

Monday, August 19, 7:00 – 8:00 pm

Discuss a graphic novel while eating snacks and doing activities related to the book! We'll be reading *The Faint of Heart* by Kerilynn Wilson. Pick up a copy of the book at the children's desk to read in advance.

Adult Events

Distance Learning English Classes for Adults

Mondays 6:00 - 7:30 pm & Tuesdays 6:00 - 8:00 pm, May 28 – August 13, 2024

Beginner Class:

July 1, attendees: 8

July 8, attendees: 9

July 15, attendees: 11

July 22, attendees: 8

Intermediate Class:

July 2, attendees: 2

July 9, attendees: 2

July 16, attendees: 1

July 23, attendees: 0

Library Yarns Craft Group

First and Third Wednesdays, 4:30 - 6:00 pm

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

July 3, attendees: 8

July 10, attendees: 12

July 17, attendees: 8

July 24, attendees: 11

Summer Salad and Dessert with Chef Laura Eyer

Friday, June 28, 4:00 - 5:30 pm

Get your picnic baskets ready! Chef Laura Eyer of Thyme Savor Cuisine will demonstrate how to make a summer pasta salad and a delicious berry trifle, which the audience can then enjoy.

Attendees: 17

Senior Case Management Outreach

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

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

Attendees: 2

Wisconsin's Gangster Past

Thursday, July 11, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Join us for this rescheduled event as author and speaker Chad Lewis recounts the many Wisconsin connections to gangster history, including hideouts, murder, mayhem and even vacations.

Attendees: 24

A Taste of Mystery Bookclub

Monday, July 15, 10:00 - 11:00 am

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

Attendees: 7

Verona Aspiring Writers Group

Monday, July 15, 7:00 - 8:00 pm

This group is to offer constructive feedback to writers and aspiring writers of all genres. Want to get a blog started or grow one? Hoping to be published in a magazine? Trying to finish or fine tune the next great American novel? We welcome all! The first meeting will be for introduction and planning purposes; after this we will meet regularly and share our creations with one another for input.

Attendees: 8,

VPL Cookbook Club – Summer Salads

Tuesday, July 16, 6:30 - 8:00 pm

Join us as we explore cookbooks and recipes featuring summer salads! A selection of books will be on reserve at the circulation desk for you to check out, otherwise, feel free to use your own cookbook and let us know about it! Each participant will make a summer salad recipe and bring it to share and discuss.

Attendees: 13

Developing Resilience to Cancer: The Keys

Wednesday, July 17, 7:00 - 8:00 pm

Former hospice nurse Carey Weiss will talk about how to reduce the fear and anxiety surrounding cancer, how to improve the immune system even when it's compromised, and how to promote healthy habits to heal the mind, body and spirit.

Attendees: 6

Christmas Cookie Decorating in July!

Wednesday, July 24, 7:00 - 8:00 pm

Anna Castenada of Ellie Lou's Bakery will present tips and tricks for decorating beautiful and delicious frosted Christmas cookies so you'll have plenty of time to practice techniques before the festive season!

Attendees: 16

Adult Crafternoon – Tile Coasters

Friday, July 26, 4:00 - 5:00 pm

Come and craft with us! This month we will make beautiful decoupaged tile coasters.

Attendees: 17

Great Lakes Shipwrecks & Archaeology

Wednesday, July 31, 7:00 - 8:00 pm

Shipwrecks have long been a source of wonder and curiosity. Join Christopher Gillcrist, Director Emeritus of the National Museum of the Great Lakes as he discusses Lake Erie Shipwrecks through the lens of the archaeological process. Learn more about this sunken history while also becoming aware of what needs to be done to help protect it. This program is via Zoom, so feel free to either come to the library and watch or use the link we will send out one week prior to the event.

Attendees: 31

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

Mondays 6:00 - 7:30 pm, Beginner, Beginner, June 3 – August 13

Tuesdays 6:00 - 8:00 pm, Intermediate, Intermediate, May 28 – August 13

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

Senior Case Management Outreach

Second Monday of each month, drop in between 2:00 - 3:00 pm

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

A Taste of Mystery Bookclub

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

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

Performance by The Madison Flute Choir

Tuesday, August 6, 6:45 - 7:45 pm

Come and enjoy a performance by the talented Madison Flute Choir! This event will take place in the prow of the library.

Whale of a Tail

Wednesday, August 7, 11:00 am – 5:00 pm

Discover whales in a whole new way by encountering a life-size, 56-foot-long inflatable whale! Small groups will rotate through the inside of the whale to learn about these gentle giants from an educator. Families can experience other hands-on learning and activities, including museum-quality replicas like a narwhal tusk, humpback bones, and an orca skull. Sponsored by the Friends of the Verona Public Library.

Blood Pressure Screening with Fitch-Rona EMS

Thursday, August 8. 10:00 - 11:00 am

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

Feeding Wisconsin: Hunger and How to Fight It

Thursday, August 15, 7:00-8:00 pm

Outreach Program Director Jules Lee will talk about the mission of Feeding Wisconsin, the difference between a food bank and a food pantry, and, most importantly, how you can be involved in helping to fight hunger in our community through advocacy, donations and volunteering.

Adult Crafternoon: Meditation Boxes

Friday, August 16, 4:00 - 5:30 pm

Come and make meditation boxes! These small boxes will feature images that are soothing or otherwise important to you, and will contain some surprises related to promoting your meditative practice. Come and be crafty AND healthy! Registration required. Class size limited to 20 participants.

Taste of Mystery Book Club

Monday, August 19, 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! In August, we will be reading *The House at Riverton* by Kate Morton.

VPL Cookbook Club: Farmer's Market Recipes!

Tuesday, August 20, 6:30 - 8:00 pm

This month's theme is Farmer's Market Recipes (recipes using in season fruits and vegetables). Bring your best peach pie, zucchini casserole, ratatouille, blueberry muffins, corn fritters, rhubarb jam, etc. Registration required. Program size limited to 30 participants.

Pakistani Cooking Class with Huma Siddiqui-Seitz

Wednesday, August 21, 6:30 - 8:00pm

Join Huma Siddiqui-Seitz, author and founder of White Jasmine, for a cooking demonstration featuring Mediterranean cod and couscous salad. Enjoy a tasting of the food prepared. White Jasmine is a local company that offers unique spices, cheeses, cooking classes and the TV show *White Jasmine Cooking*.

The Joy of Reading and Why It Matters

Thursday, August 22, 7:00 - 8:00 pm

Join Trisha Day, a workshop and retreat facilitator who holds a degree in adult education for this discussion about why we read and what we gain from doing it, the difference between reading and reading deeply, the knowledge/wisdom continuum and much more!

Brain Games for Seniors

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

Doing puzzles helps to prevent cognitive decline and sharpen problem-solving skills, plus - they're a lot of fun! We will have word searches, crossword puzzles, sudoku and jigsaw puzzles available for your enjoyment, along with hot coffee and light refreshments. This program is geared toward senior citizens, but all puzzle-loving adults are welcome!

Death-Defying Acts: the History of the Circus

Tuesday, August 27, 7:00 - 8:00 pm

Barnum may be the biggest name, but he was only a small part of the story of the circus. William Pack takes you on a fantastical journey through the history of the Circus, from Phil Astley's creation of the modern circus in 1768 to Dan Rice, "the most famous man you've never heard of" to the incredible feud between Barnum and the Ringling Brothers. You'll hear stories of triumph, disaster, and the grand adventure of the travelling.

Everything You Know About ADHD is Wrong

Wednesday, August 28, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Diagnosed with ADHD at the age of 48, Nurse Practitioner Kelly Pickens has a unique understanding of this condition from the inside out. Come and hear from her as she discusses medication management, natural alternatives to psychiatric medications, and systems/routines related to diet, sleep and exercise that are helpful for those with ADHD.

Triumphing Over Disabilities: Wisconsin Authors Share Their Stories

Thursday, August 29, 7:00 - 8:00 pm

Come to listen and learn as Wisconsin authors Meetra Nahandiv & Cheryl Schiltz share their experiences of living with disabilities and how they challenged their physical limitations in order to live full and meaningful lives. Books will be available for sale and signing!

Outreach**Outreach story times:**

Total daycare story time presentations: 31

Books 'n Booze at Stone Porch Alehouse

Thursday, June 27, 6:00 – 7:00 pm

The group read *Of Women and Salt* by Gabriela Garcia.

Attendees: 9

Nakoma Summer Reading Kids Club

Tuesday, July 2 and Tuesday, July 16, 3:00 – 4:00 pm

Students checked out books, made several crafts, and played games. One student also signed up for a library card.

Attendees: 18, 22

Charter Senior Living Book Group

Tuesday, July 9, 2:30 – 3:30 pm

The residents read *The Storied Life of A.J. Fikry* by Gabrielle Zevin.

Attendees: 4

Senior Center Book Group

Wednesday, July 10, 10:00 – 11:00 am

The group discussed *The Stars Are Fire* by Anita Shreve.

Attendees: 17

Noel Manor Book Group

Wednesday, July 24, 10:30 – 11:30 am

The group will be reading *The Maid* by Nita Prose.

Attendees: 5

Prairie Oaks Book Group

Thursday, July 25, 1:30 – 2:30 pm

The group met to discuss *The Midnight Library* by Matt Haig. *Comments: "I read so much more ever since I joined book club." "Book club makes me read things I never would have chosen on my own."*

Attendees: 5

Book Bike Events

Veterans Park, July 11, 11:30 am – 12:15 pm, attendees: 31

Tollefson Park, July 18, 11:30 am – 12:15 pm, attendees: 15

Harriet Park, July 24, 11:30 am – 12:15 pm, attendees: 31 *Mara, the city's Communications Manager, attended the event to take photos and video.*

Upcoming Outreach Events**Books 'n Booze at Stone Porch Alehouse**

Thursday, July 25, 6:00 – 7:00 pm

The group will be discussing *The Nest* by Cynthia D'Aprix Sweeney.

Nakoma Summer Reading Kids Club

Tuesday, July 30, 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.

Charter Senior Living Book Group

Tuesday, August 6, 2:30 – 3:30 pm

The group will be reading *The Heirloom Garden* by Viola Shipman.

Senior Center Book Group

Wednesday, August 14, 10:00 – 11:00 am

The group will be reading *Anxious People* by Fredrik Backman.

Noel Manor Book Group

Wednesday, August 21, 10:30 – 11:30 am

The group will be reading *The Stranger in the Woods* by Michael Finkel.

Prairie Oaks Book Group

Thursday, August 22, 1:30 – 2:30 pm

The group will be reading *Educated* by Tara Westover.

Four Winds Book Group

Tuesday, August 27, 10:00 – 11:00 am

The residents will meet to discuss *The Whistler* by John Grisham; the July meeting was cancelled.

Upcoming Book Bike Events

Cathedral Point Park, August 1, 11:30 am – 12:15 pm

National Night Out, August 6, 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Farmers Market, August 7, 3:00 – 5:30 pm

Verona Public Library Inclement Weather Policy

I. Purpose of Policy

When the weather becomes hazardous to the health and safety of the public and/or library staff, the library will close or take safety precautions.

II. Library Closures:

The library may close when the weather threatens the safety of the public and library staff and would make travel to and from the library unsafe. The decision to close or postpone the opening of the library due to inclement weather is at the discretion of the Library Director or their chosen substitute. Staff will alert the public to closures on our website, through social media, and on the incoming phone message.

III. Library Safety Measures Due to Inclement Weather:

~~A. When the National Weather Service issues a **Severe Thunderstorm Warning** the library will notify patrons of the impending weather. Staff will post Severe Weather signs at the service desks that read: "The National Weather Service has issued a Severe Weather Watch/Warning. Take necessary precautions. Dangerous lightning, wind, hail, and possible tornadoes can develop. If a Tornado Warning is issued, the library will require you to take cover or leave the library immediately."~~

~~B. When the National Weather Service issues a **Tornado Watch** library staff will inform patrons of the possibility of a tornado developing by posting the Severe Weather signs at service desks.~~

~~C.A.~~ In the event of a **Tornado Warning**, the following announcement will be made: "The National Weather Service has issued a Tornado Warning. Please follow library staff to a safe area of the building."

Library staff will strongly encourage the public to take cover in the designated areas, but cannot require that patrons remain in the library. Staff and patrons will stay in designated safety areas until the Tornado Warning expires. Weather radio, flashlights, and water are located in the Storage Room main shelter area. If possible, staff should bring these items, as well as a personal cell phone, to the other designated areas.

~~D.B.~~ Designated safety areas for tornado events include:

- Storage Room located in the staff area
- Restrooms in main lobby
- Family Restroom in the Children's Department

Secondary safety areas include:

- Circulation Room (windowless interior room)
- Book Drop Room (windowless exterior room)
- Staff Restroom (windowless exterior room)

IV. Staff Compensation Related to Inclement Weather Situations:

If the library closes, or if an employee is unable to reach or remain at the library because of inclement weather, eligible staff may work from home with the approval of their supervisor under the guidelines of the City of Verona Telecommuting Policy and Procedure. ~~Staff may also~~ use available vacation leave, or personal days, ~~or comp time~~ in lieu of time missed on that day. -Employees may otherwise choose to make up missed hours caused by inclement weather during that week.

This policy replaces any previous policy regarding inclement weather or emergency closings.

Library Board Approved on August 6, 2008

Revised November 2, 2011

Reviewed November 7, 2012

Reviewed November 6, 2013

Revised April 5, 2017

Revised February 2, 2022