Museum Notes

for the week of November 8 – 14, 2026

by Kristen Parrott, curator

November is Native American Heritage month, and we are happy to be partnering with the public library in Viroqua on two small displays for this special month. Check out the display window just inside the library's front door, and the other display window over near the children's department, to see photos and objects from the museum that help tell the story of Wisconsin's Native people.

A "Holiday Traditions Open House" will be held at the historic Sherry-Butt House museum on two Sundays in November. The house is located at 795 N. Main St. in Viroqua, next to the county fairgrounds. Come experience the magic of an old-fashioned holiday on Sunday, November 22, and Sunday, November 29, from 1 to 4PM. Admission is $5, and free for children under age 9.

The house was built in 1870 for the Butt family, and the second owners, the Sherry family, moved in in the 1940's. Today it is owned and operated by the Vernon County Historical Society. Enjoy light refreshments, activities, and a tour through the many rooms of this gracious old home.

The Vernon County Museum and History Center is on its fall hours of Monday through Friday, 11AM to 4PM, through the end of November. The exception is the week of Thanksgiving, when will be closed on Thursday, November 26, and Friday, November 27, but open on Saturday, November 28, from 10AM to 2PM, for Small Business Saturday. Be sure to visit our gift shop that Saturday to browse our many new, used, vintage, and antique books for sale, plus ornaments, postcards, magnets, and more.

Of course the whole history center will be open that Saturday, if you'd like to tour the exhibits or do some research. We have received many research requests recently, on a variety of topics including Civil War soldier Francis Wallar, the Revels family of Cheyenne Valley, and the Kickapoo Valley and Northern Railroad. Stop by to explore the museum, work on your own research, and do some shopping!