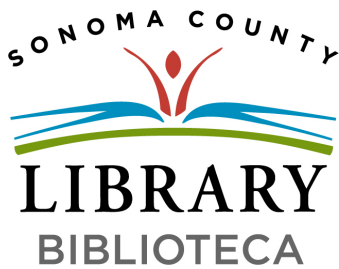


Library News June 2025



"In the great tradition of Paris Is Burning, bring out your library cards! Because reading is what? Fundamental!"

RuPaul

Sonoma County Library creates community through discovery, culture and connection

FROM THE DIRECTOR



**Sonoma County
Library Director
Erika Thibault**

I have important updates from the State Capitol, the State Library, and locally.

Despite much advocacy from the California Library Association and library supporters statewide, Governor Newsom's May budget revision does not restore full funding for the Lunch at the Library program.

Sonoma County Library will continue to provide Summer Lunch at seven locations, and

we have recently hired teen interns to assist with this popular summer initiative, but budget cuts in fiscal year 2024-2025 mean that we will not be able to provide the same number of outreach activities to external summer lunch sites that we did last year.

Please continue to contact your state representatives to advocate for the restoration of all of the funds, which is roughly \$2.5 million dollars statewide and makes a positive impact on communities.

In other news, a federal court recently granted a restraining order to block the Trump Administration's dismantling of the Institute for Museum and Library Services. The restraining order was issued days before a mass layoff of IMLS employees was set to take effect.

Despite this halt, funds that the State Library receives through the IMLS have not been received, and these funds help defray some of Sonoma County Library's cost for book deliveries through LINK+ as well as our New York Times digital subscription. For now, we have access to the New York Times until at least June 30 until we can negotiate a new contract. Stay tuned for more information!

In June we celebrate Pride at Sonoma County Library, with programs, book lists, and displays. I am pleased to announce that Melanie McCallum, Branch Manager at the Guerneville Regional Library, was part of a group that received a gold resolution from the Board of Supervisors and the Sonoma County Commission on Human Rights for work on behalf of the LGBTQIA+ community in Guerneville and countywide. Please congratulate Mel and her team for all of their efforts to make the library a welcoming and inclusive place for all!



**Celebrate
PRIDE
with the Library**

**Celebra
EL ORGULLO
LGBTQIA+
con la biblioteca**

Library News June 2025

OUR PATRONS SAY ...

From library patrons:

"Having free, unlimited access to millions of books, audiobooks, magazines, CDs, and more is rare nowadays."

"I so appreciate the community centered activities and the enthusiasm of the children which gives me hope. What's not to like?"

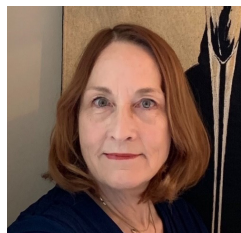
"Every employee is helpful, knowledgeable, and really seems to care that the books you want to read, they get them to you."

"I love the library. It means so much to my family."

"Lots of options in terms of books, people are helpful and have a very pleasant demeanor, sense of humor. Catalog is very easy to use."

"If I go into my favorite branch, they're always welcoming and ready to provide information. No question is stupid and you're never an imposition."

FROM THE COMMISSION CHAIR



Library Commission Chair Deborah Doyle

June seems to be "busting out all over" with great enthusiasm here in Sonoma County, with Pride Month, graduations, proms, parades, music and dance everywhere.

Sonoma County Library's all-ages Summer Reading Challenge began June 1.

Please read as much of whatever you like and log your minutes to earn books and win prizes. Don't forget other summer library events: magic, juggling, cooking, crafts, gaming, movies and more.

Nationally, a district court halted the dismantling of the Institute of Museum & Library Services. Keep calling and writing state and national legislators; your voices are critical.

Deborah Doyle
Chair, Sonoma County Library Commission
Free people read freely!

Hear this! June is Audiobook Appreciation Month

Started by the American Publishers Association, Audiobook Appreciation Month takes place during June every year. You can listen to great titles while driving, gardening, painting, cooking, doing housework, walking the dog, or even while doing absolutely nothing.

Find loads of great audiobooks at the library in the format of your choice: eAudiobooks, pre-loaded audiobooks, kids' read-along talking books, kids' Spanish language eAudio, and books on compact disc. See where the stories take you!



The Sonoma County Library Commission

Deborah Doyle, Town of Windsor, Commission Chair
Brooke Greene, City of Cloverdale, Commission Vice-Chair
David Cahill, City of Santa Rosa
Andy Elkind, City of Healdsburg
Fred Engbarth, City of Sebastopol
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Sarah Laggos, City of Santa Rosa / County of Sonoma
Barbara Mackenzie, City of Rohnert Park
Tina Poles, City of Cotati
Kimberly Taylor, City of Sonoma
Erika Thibault, Library Director