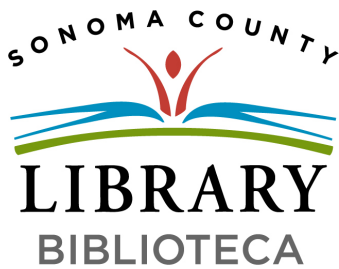


Library News November 2025



"Thank you for standing up for libraries, for open minds, for free and unfettered access to information. It matters so much for so many."

— Margaret Atwood

Sonoma County Library creates community through discovery, culture and connection

FROM THE DIRECTOR

Celebration, acknowledgment and gratitude



**Sonoma County
Library Director
Erika Thibault**

November is Native American Heritage Month, a time to recognize and celebrate the histories, cultures, and enduring contributions of Indigenous peoples across the United States.

Here in Sonoma County, we live and work on the ancestral lands of the Coast Miwok, Pomo, and Wappo peoples, whose presence continues to shape and enrich our communities today.

At Sonoma County Library, we honor Native voices and traditions through stories that educate, inspire, and connect. This month, visit your local branch or explore our online catalog to discover booklists featuring Indigenous authors—from classic works to contemporary voices in fiction, poetry, and memoir.

Our children's collections also highlight stories that celebrate Native families, languages, and ways

of life, helping young readers see the beauty and diversity of Indigenous cultures.

As we approach Thanksgiving, it's meaningful to reflect on the complex history surrounding the holiday. While Thanksgiving is often seen as a time of gratitude and gathering, for many Native communities it is also a day of remembrance and reflection. By learning about these perspectives, we can deepen our understanding of history and embrace more inclusive traditions.

We also invite you to share what you're grateful for by adding a note to our gratitude trees, featured at every library location throughout November.

Strategic Plan Update

Sonoma County Library is well into the development of our new strategic plan. In October, we held three staff listening sessions and nine stakeholder sessions with our Library Advisory Boards, Friends of the Library groups, and the Sonoma County Library Foundation. A community survey will launch soon to gather input from residents across the county—be on the lookout and share your voice!



Roseland Library Progress

The Roseland Regional Library project is on schedule! Architectural renderings are 75 percent complete (see the image at left for a concept of the children's area in the new library). The City of Santa Rosa project at the corner of Hearn and Dutton Avenues will include our new library and a new fire station; both will serve a wide area of southwest Santa Rosa and beyond. Construction is underway and we anticipate a March 2027 opening.

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OUR PATRONS SAY ...

From library patrons:

"Always find something special to read."

"Courteous and helpful staff. Clean and quiet space. A delight to visit."

"You're the greatest!"

"I love libraries and believe the more people who use them, the more public support they will receive."

"Wonderful staff, assistance and selections!"

"I love libraries. Was a public librarian for many years, and treasure how they can assist in countless ways to better pretty much everyone's lives."

"Great resources – inviting environment – art displays – friendly staff."

"From the day I joined 8 years ago I've so appreciated being able to order a book online and pick it up at my local library."

"I love our library. Staff is always friendly and engaging."

"Libraries are necessary institutions. The media services they provide go beyond the printed page."

"Helpful librarians."

"Always wonderful staff."

"It has so many valuable resources that people are not aware of."

"Extensive worthwhile resources within walking distance."

FROM THE COMMISSION CHAIR



Library Commission Chair Sarah Laggos

What better way to unwind than by settling in for a cozy evening with a favorite show or movie?

Your Sonoma County Library card gives you access to a rich selection of streaming platforms from Hoopla and Kanopy to other services listed on the library website under "Download & Stream."

As someone who doesn't mind a bit of "escape into the cheesiness," I'm especially excited that our digital offerings support getting into the holiday-mood early with festive fare.

Yes, I unabashedly admit I love those cheesy Hallmark Channel holiday movies for exactly that reason. And yes, my holiday décor is going up in mid-November, much to my family's chagrin.

Whether you're in the mood for something light and heartwarming, or a deeper dive into a documentary or indie film, the library's streaming resources have you covered.

So grab the cocoa, fluff the pillows, and treat yourself to some screen time that both relaxes and delights. The library is here to help you hit pause, unwind, and maybe even start the holiday-cheer early. Enjoy and thanks for making the library part of your leisure time.

Sarah Laggos
Chair, Sonoma County Library Commission



The Sonoma County Library Commission

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