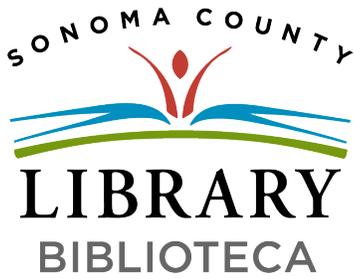


# Library News November 2023



“Libraries store the energy that fuels the imagination.”

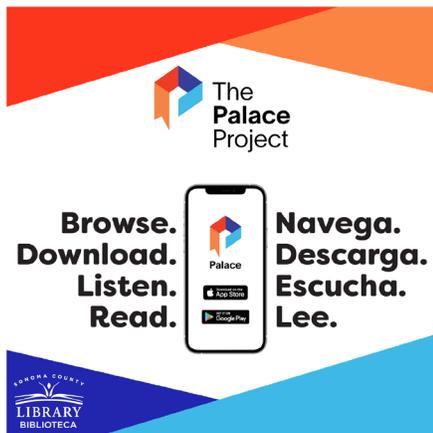
— Sidney Sheldon

Our mission is to bring information, ideas, and people together to build a stronger community

## Palace Project brings many resources together

In a well-known fantasy book series, the characters are impacted by “one ring to rule them all.” We don’t traipse around outside Mordor nowadays, but the library is always looking for ways to make your digital life easier. The Palace Project app, available to all library patrons, brings together eBooks and eAudiobooks from multiple sources, such as Libby and enki, into a single collection (to rule them all) for children, teens and adults.

Informed by librarians and supported by a multi-year, multi-million-dollar investment from the Knight Foundation, The Palace Project is an



easy-to-use platform for the management and delivery of eBooks, eAudiobooks and other eContent and puts libraries at the center of their communities’ digital experience.

The app works on both iOS (Apple) and Android (Google Play) devices.

Resources like the Palace Project are in direct response to the explosive growth in the use of digital resources, from reading to streaming, from gaming to research. We love books and we’ll never give them up, but we’re always keen to meet our communities where they need us, online or in person.

## EVENT A WILD SUCCESS

On November 9, 150-plus library lovers gathered at a breakfast in Rohnert Park. Billed as “Creating Opportunities Together,” the event focused on the future Roseland Regional Library, a project that will break ground next year.



Attendees heard from Library Director Erika Thibault (at left), as well as Judith Glenn from the Sonoma County Public Library Foundation, Santa

Rosa City Councilmembers Eddie Alvarez and Jeff Okrepkie, Los Cien leader Herman G. Hernandez, Library Commission Chair Deborah Doyle, State Senate Majority Leader Mike McGuire (below), and more.

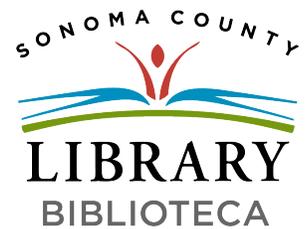
The message for attendees was that, while more funds are needed the project has momentum and will be a perfect model for a flexible, resilient, and modern library, able to serve the community for generations.

Oscar Chavez, acknowledged at the event for Community Foundation Sonoma County’s \$250,000 grant to the project, said: “It’s our hope that the Roseland Regional Library will

personify the essence of inclusivity and belonging, lifelong learning, and community that libraries create.”



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## NOTABLE IN NOVEMBER

In November, the library celebrates Native American & Indigenous Heritage Month, Veterans Day, the launch of our annual Send Our Seniors Mail program (see below), and, of course, Thanksgiving. Check out the events calendar at [sonomalibrary.org](http://sonomalibrary.org) for much more.

## Holiday Kindness

Do you have a little spare time? The Sonoma County Library's Send Our Seniors Mail program encourages kindness and support for elders in the community during the holiday season and beyond.

"Letter writing is a time-honored way of communicating. This program is a wonderful way for community members to connect to local seniors with a personal touch," said Sonoma County Library Director Erika Thibault.



## FROM THE COMMISSION CHAIR



**Library Commission Chair Deborah Doyle**

As the season of holidays, celebrations, remembrances of all kinds and the giving of thanks begins, I'd like to pause and thank our staff and volunteers for their dedication and commitment to communities and individuals throughout Sonoma County. The library's many programs and its education and outreach depend on branch staff as well as on administrative, marketing, finance, collections, technology, and fundraising, as well as drivers, security guards, students, volunteers, and so many more. Please join me in applauding their efforts to make all of our Sonoma County Library spaces safe, entertaining, educational and welcoming. Thank you, library staff and volunteers.

***Free people read freely!***

## OUR PATRONS SAY ...

**From our Net Promoter Score, a patron satisfaction survey:**

"The library is always a wonderful experience. Everyone is so helpful and kind. In this graceless age, the library and its employees are an oasis in a harsh world. Thank you."

*— Rincon Valley patron*

"Everyone at the library is knowledgeable and eager to help. It's a genuine pleasure to visit any of the branches."

*— Petaluma patron*

"My 23-year-old son just got his library card after he mentioned to me how expensive books had become for him."

*— Roseland patron*



## 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  
Eve Goldberg, County of Sonoma  
Thomas Haeuser, City of Sonoma  
Paul Heavenridge, City of Petaluma  
Sarah Laggos, City of Santa Rosa / County of Sonoma  
Barbara Mackenzie, City of Rohnert Park  
Cyan McMillan, City of Cotati  
Erika Thibault, Library Director