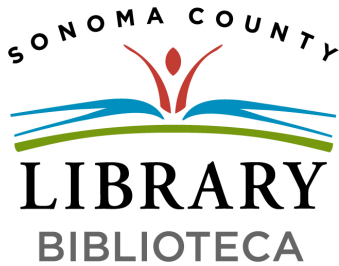


Library News July 2024



“When I got my library card, that was when my life began.”

— Rita Mae Brown

MEDIA ALERT PAGE 3

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

FROM THE DIRECTOR



**Sonoma County
Library Director
Erika Thibault**

Celebrating Human Diversity

In July, Sonoma County Library celebrates Disability Pride Month, a time dedicated to celebrating the diversity and achievements of people with disabilities.

This observance aims to promote visibility, acceptance, and understanding of the disability community while challenging stigmas and stereotypes that often

surround disability.

Central to Disability Pride Month is the celebration of disability as a natural part of human diversity. It encourages individuals to embrace their identities and reject the notion that disability equates to limitation or inferiority.

It emphasizes the strengths, talents, and contributions of people with disabilities across all aspects of society, from arts and culture to politics and sports. It encourages everyone to challenge ableism and work towards a world where all

individuals, regardless of ability, can live with dignity, respect, and equal opportunity.

By promoting pride, empowerment, and advocacy, Disability Pride Month aims to create lasting change and build a more inclusive future for generations to come.

Sonoma County Library is committed to diversity and inclusion, and we reaffirm this in our Reimagining Plan by expanding access to technology, connectivity, and information access.

We have recently established a new Disability Advocacy Team, comprised of library staff, whose role is to assist in determining the need for services, infrastructure, and resources to meet the diverse needs of all members of Sonoma County's disabled community. The team meets monthly and will collaborate on ideas for promoting services, outreach, programs, and collection needs of people with disabilities.

If you have suggestions for how to improve programs and services to the disabled community, please send them to info@sonomalibrary.org.

Thank you, Bonnie Smith!

Bonnie Smith, a Senior Library Associate at Forestville Community Library, retired June 15 after serving 41 years with Sonoma County Library. Smith began her career with the library at Guerneville Regional Library as an assistant shelving books. She worked for several years at Cloverdale Regional Library, then joined the Forestville branch in 1988. A small retirement party was held in Forestville, where she last worked, attended by west county staff and a few of Bonnie's fans from the community.



Library News July 2024

FROM THE COMMISSION CHAIR

NOTABLE IN JULY

In July, the library recognizes Disability Pride Month, Independence Day, and our annual Summer Reading Challenge. What are you reading this month?

Learn More About Your Library

Library staff and volunteers are on the road this year, sharing the message about the extraordinary value of free public libraries. If you would like someone from the library to speak to your group, club, or organization, contact us at libraryinfo@sonomalibrary.org. We love to talk about the library!



Library Commission Chair Deborah Doyle

Independence Day is one of the most important holidays in the U.S. This year, you may have celebrated the ratification of the Declaration of Independence with fireworks, barbecue or baseball games. You might have read up on the history of the celebration.

Let us all take a moment to contemplate the document's stirring self-evident truths that say we are created equal and endowed "with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

When celebrations filled Sonoma County on the 4th, we could hear the echoes of the Declaration in what we hold dear at the Sonoma County Library.

Free people read freely!

OUR PATRONS SAY ...

From library patrons:

"Great resource! Limited income senior so I can't buy all the books I'd like to read, but can conveniently borrow and return for others to enjoy!"

"I'm constantly trying to let our community know how many amazing programs the library has that that they don't know about!"

"Beautiful facility staffed with excellent people."

"It is a great calm place to focus on other things in life and get away from the real world, for a moment."

"I love using the library."

"You folks are great."

"I read every day and the Sonoma County Library keeps me supplied with great books. My library card is the most used card in my wallet."



CHANGE IS GOOD
The Petaluma Regional Library will close June 30 for a top-to-bottom remodel
The Petaluma Mini Library will open next door on July 8

UN BUEN CAMBIO
La Biblioteca Regional de Petaluma cerrará el 30 de junio para una remodelación integral
La Mini Biblioteca de Petaluma abrirá al lado el 8 de julio

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

MEDIA ALERT: Press inquiries communications@sonomalibrary.org

Access to Technology: Teens Can Use Sound Studios, Check Out Equipment



Festival, which runs through July 31. Previously, teens had to rely on an adult to check out equipment or reserve studio time, which limited access due to parents' and guardians' busy schedules, Hayes said.

Sonoma County Library has three fully equipped sound studios for patrons to reserve—two at Central Santa Rosa Library and one at Rincon Valley Regional Library. Patrons use the studios to record and edit audio tracks, including songs, podcasts, and oral histories.

Central Santa Rosa Library also has camera equipment available to check out, including SLR cameras, camera lens, camcorders, tripods, and even electric guitars. According to Hayes, patrons use the camera equipment to capture photos and videos for vacations, weddings, birding, art projects, school assignments, newborn babies, social media posts, and more.

Sonoma County Library has dropped the age which patrons can reserve a library sound studio or check out camera equipment from 18 years or older to 13 years or older.

Library Digital Literacy Specialist Bridget Hayes said the age requirement drop will open the studios and camera equipment rentals to a growing audience. "This will help teen voices be heard," Hayes said. "They have a lot to say, and we want to do all we can to encourage and promote their creativity."

The change will particularly benefit amateur filmmakers who want to participate in the Sonoma County Library's fourth annual Teen Film

The sound studios have been available to patrons since 2023. Camera equipment rental has been available since 2018. The library currently has more than 1,100 pieces of equipment available to check out in its camera collection.

To reserve camera equipment, library cardholders must complete an online users agreement, then schedule an appointment to pick up their desired gear. To reserve studio time, patrons must speak with a librarian in person or on the phone during normal business hours.

Information about the recording studios and camera equipment can be found on the library's website at sonomalibrary.org.

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Comment

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APRENDE Apoya
Participa
Disfruta Conoce
Imagina **ÚNETE**
Contribuye **GRATIS**
COMPARTE
Danos un Me Gusta **Comenta**