October 15-21, 2023 is National Friends of the Library Week
NOTABLE IN OCTOBER
In October, the library celebrates LGBTQIA+ History Month, honoring the rich and diverse history of LGBTQIA+ communities. The annual Finding History Day takes place on October 21; our celebration of Latin American Roots continues; and National Friends of the Library Week is October 15-21.

Library honored
The Sonoma County Library has been honored by the North Bay Business Journal with a 2023 Diversity in Business Award. The library was singled out for hiring practices, bilingual staff and services, and an overall commitment to recognizing and supporting all members of our community.

All are welcome in our libraries, inclusive of ethnicity, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, country of origin, age, faith, ability, politics, or socio-economic status.

Free access to information and a commitment to social equity are deeply held values at Sonoma County Library.

FROM THE COMMISSION CHAIR
Banned Books Week was founded in 1982 by the American Library Association after a wave of censorship from the conservative Moral Majority.

In 2023, Banned Books Week was October 1-7. Stronger, more corrosive attempts to ban books are happening right now in 37 states involving legislatures, schools, public libraries and elections. According to a recent PEN report, attempts to remove books this year have increased by 16 percent over last year’s record total of 2,571 titles. Sadly, we are not immune in California and must be vigilant. We are proud that the Sonoma County Library has strong policies protecting your freedom to read.

Free people read freely!

OUR PATRONS SAY ...
From our Net Promoter Score, a patron satisfaction survey:

“I have referred people to the library many, many times! I love all the services that you have to offer and the ease of how many branches there are. I work right across the street from one and send coworkers there to pick up books all the time!”

— Central Santa Rosa patron

“Helpful librarians, plenty of computers, comfortable furniture”

— Sonoma Valley patron

“Me encanta visitar la biblioteca. Mi hija menor le gusta aire a menu-do y traer varios libros a casa y yo voy a practicar algunos pro-gramas que estoy aprendiendo en clases sobre computación.”

— Rohnert Park-Cotati 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