

# Library Link

April 2026

FRIENDS OF THE NIPOMO LIBRARY MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Contact us at [info@friendsofnipomolibrary.org](mailto:info@friendsofnipomolibrary.org)

## Drama club featured in April window

This month's Friends of the Nipomo Library window features the Nipomo Theatre Company, a joint department serving both Nipomo High School and Central Coast New Tech High School.

The production highlighted is "A Comedy of Errors," by William Shakespeare, which will be presented May 2 and 3 at 1pm at the NHS Quad, 525 N. Thompson Ave. This fast-paced farce is centered on two sets of identical twins separated at birth. Following many comic misunderstandings, the twins finally encounter each other, revealing the truth of their identities and reuniting their long-separated family.

The production is in the open air, so bring a chair. Advance tickets may be purchased online (\$10 for students/staff, \$12 general) or at the door for \$2 more; [click here](#) or scan the QR code at right:



## Manager's Message

From Margaret Kensinger-Klopfert  
Library Branch Manager

April means FUN at the Nipomo Library. Be sure to check our event calendar ([click here](#), scan the QR code, or turn to the back page of this newsletter!) for exciting activities from a puzzle exchange to a visit from wild animals, from a Dog Man party to our Teen Book Club.



April also means the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Cuesta College Book of the Year program. National Book Award finalist Susan Straight will be coming to the college's Miossi Theater, in partnership with the County of San Luis Obispo Public Library, to talk about her new novel, *Sacramento*, the 2026 Book of the Year, on Tuesday, April 28, at 5pm. A book signing will follow. For more details on this not-to-be-

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## Congratulations to our basket winner

The Friends wrapped up Membership Month with a drawing at our March board meeting for a beautiful gift basket filled with candy, a bottle of wine, books, and other treats. Congrats to the lucky winner—Rebecca Kellenberger!

Haven't joined (or renewed yet)? Membership runs on a calendar year. To download the form, [click here](#) or scan the code:

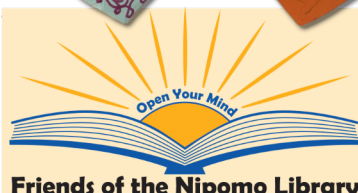


## There are SO MANY reasons to love the Nipomo Library!

Here are just a few that patrons shared on colorful paper hearts displayed in the lobby during the month of February.



The Friends of the Nipomo Library Board's next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 8, at 1:30pm. The meeting will be held in the Community Room at the library, 918 W. Tefft St., Nipomo. The public is always welcome.



Friends of the Nipomo Library

[www.friendsofnipomolibrary.org](http://www.friendsofnipomolibrary.org)

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17TH ANNUAL CUESTA COLLEGE  
BOOK OF THE YEAR

"an essential voice in American writing  
and in writing of the West"  
~The New York Times



AN EVENING WITH  
**Susan Straight**

TUESDAY, APRIL 28 | 5 - 7 PM

HAROLD J. MIOSSI CPAC, CUESTA COLLEGE  
GENERAL ADMISSION \$20 | STUDENTS FREE

Livestream available



<https://Tickets.Cuesta.edu>



County of SLO  
Public Libraries  
BIBLIOTECAS PÚBLICAS



*Check it out!*

**Another way Nipomo Library helps you GROW**

**As spring arrives—the perfect time for planting**—your Nipomo Library is offering a different kind of checkout: SEEDS. Through its "seed library," patrons can pick up free packets to plant at home and watch their gardens grow.

Stop by and "check out" up to 10 packets per family per season (please, only one packet of each variety—share the wealth!).

This is just one of many ways the Nipomo Library nurtures our community in unexpected ways. By sharing seeds, knowledge, and resources, it makes



more than gardens grow—it helps the whole of Nipomo thrive.

**MANAGER'S MESSAGE**

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missed event, see the flyer at left.

In preparation for the arrival of this award-winning author, the Nipomo Library is handing out free copies of the book on a first come/first served basis. We just ask that you pass along your free copy when you finish! Our book club also will be discussing it at the end of the April meeting.

*Sacramento* is about a group of nurses fighting through the first year of the pandemic at a hospital in Southern California and brilliantly highlights both the quiet heroism and extraordinary bravery of first responders.

The author of nine novels, Straight was born in Riverside, where she lives with her family.

Finally, April means saying "thanks" to all our Nipomo Friends of the Library and Nipomo Library volunteers. We really do appreciate everything you do. Our volunteers make a world of difference at the Nipomo Library.

Reminder: Kids need to turn in their In-N-Out reading program logs by April 18 to get their free burgers.

**Still needed:  
Book sale co-chair**

**Yes, we're still searching!** Won't you consider helping us out—just three times a year? Duties include setting sale dates; recruiting, scheduling, and overseeing volunteers for various aspects of sale (setup, takedown, staffing); setting out signs; staying at book sale entire day. Book sales are held three times a year; approximate time commitment each sale (including day of) is 10-15 hours. Contact Linda at [keighleyshort@yahoo.com](mailto:keighleyshort@yahoo.com).

# Remembering Eva May Betz

**"One in a million.... an amazing woman with an amazing life."** That's how those who knew her describe Friends of the Nipomo Library "pioneer" Eva May Betz, who passed away on Feb. 21 at the age of 99.



**Bill and Eva Betz**

Born in Montana, Eva spent her formative years in Los Angeles, where she eventually met and married her husband of 66 years, William (Bill) Betz. Upon Bill's retirement from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department in the late 1970s, the couple moved to Nipomo, which became their much-loved home for nearly five decades.

"When they retired, she blossomed," notes their daughter, Janet. It was at this point that Eva became a dedicated volunteer and with her husband was a founding member of the Friends. In its early days, the organization was focused on raising money for what would become the library in its present site on W. Tefft. Eva held various board positions through the years and dove headfirst into fundraising. The library was dedicated in 1996 and this year celebrates its 30th anniversary.

"Even well into her 80s she was helping at the book sales...lifting

up boxes, displaying books..." recalls longtime Friends member Linda Short. "She was passionate about the Nipomo Library."

The driving force behind Eva's devotion and community involvement was her love for children. "She was an avid reader and wanted to be part of something that would be important to young people," Janet continues. Libraries represent the "best of humanity" and are open to everyone, young or old, no matter their means or station in life. Eva rounded out her community advocacy as a member of the original group behind the rebuilding of the Dana Adobe and was also an elementary-school volunteer.

Through the years her work was recognized by many. Honors included the Nipomo Chamber's Citizen of the Year Award in 2003 and in 2013 The President's Call to Service Award, accompanied by a congratulatory letter from President Obama.

Eva was preceded in death by her husband, who passed away in 2014, and a daughter, Paula Betz, and is survived by her daughters, Janet Betz and Susan Tolson, as well as a granddaughter and great-grandson.

## Thanks for your many years of service!



**FONL board members** treated three long-timers who left our ranks to lunch recently: Nancy Brown, former secretary; Bill Palmer, who was treasurer; and Marie Kyle, who most recently managed intake and sorting of all book donations. It was fun catching up with everyone!



## 'Migrant Mother' plaque installed

**Arguably the most iconic photo** of the Great Depression, "Migrant Mother," by Dorothea Lange, was taken in 1936 right here in Nipomo.

A plaque to honor its subject, Florence Owens Thompson, was recently installed at the Nipomo Library to the left of the paved area as you're facing the entrance. It will remain there until it can be moved to a permanent home in Jim Miller Park on Tefft St.

The project was spearheaded by docent Terry Handy of the DANA Adobe Nipomo Amigos, the organization that served as the fiscal agent to raise the necessary funds. If you haven't yet, be sure to stop by to see this tribute to a nationally significant photo and the woman behind it.

## Another successful book sale

**The March day was warm**, but that didn't deter the many book- (and jigsaw puzzle- and digital media-) lovers from the Friends' first book sale of the year. The sale netted nearly \$1,200! Mark your calendars: **our next sale is July 11.**



# What's Happening at your library

Visit [sanluisobispo.librarycalendar.com](http://sanluisobispo.librarycalendar.com)



## READ TO A DOG / PROGRAMA DE LECTURA CON PERROS

for ages 4-up / edades de 4 y más

**Tuesdays, 3:30-4:30pm**

Kids are invited to practice reading with a gentle certified therapy dog.

All abilities welcome.

Juntate en la biblioteca de Nipomo para practicar tu lectura con nuestros perros de terapia.

## PRESCHOOL STORYTIME HORA DE CUENTOS

for ages 0-5

**Wednesdays, 10:30-11am**

Learning is fun at our lively Storytime!

Join us for books, songs, and a lot of wiggling. All children are welcome.

## LEGO CLUB

for ages 5-11

**Sat., April 4, 2-3pm**

Kids ages 5-11 are invited to engineer, build, and create with Legos. All bricks provided by the library.

¡Acompáñenos a construir con Legos!

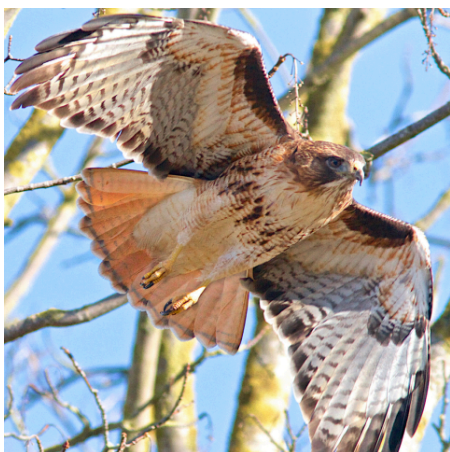
## PACIFIC WILDLIFE CARE

for all / para todos

**Tues., April 7, 2-3pm**

Meet and learn about animals that have been rescued from the wild.

Ven a conocer y aprender sobre animales rescatados.



## KIDS' DAY AT THE LIBRARY: DOG MAN PARTY

for K-5th

**Thurs., April 9, 2-3pm &  
3:45-4:45pm**

Kids are invited to celebrate all things Dog Man, a popular children's book series by Dav Pilkey.



## TEEN BOOK CLUB

for ages 12-15

**Sat., April 18, 3-4:30pm**

Come talk about books, build community, and participate in activities.

## CHESS CLUB

for all ages/levels

**Fri., April 17, 2-4:30pm**

Learn to play, improve your game, meet other players!



## PUZZLE EXCHANGE

for all ages

**Sat., April 25, 9-11am**

Donate your puzzles and bring home new ones to work on for free. Visit with other enthusiasts and swap puzzles. You don't need to bring one to take one.

## BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

for adults

**Tues., April 28, 10-11:30am**

Pachinko, by Min Jin Lee

Everyone's welcome to come discuss Book of the Year Sacramento afterward

**And don't forget the Evening with the Author (see flyer on page 2)**

## Coastal Dunes Branch of the California Writers Club (CWC)

**Sat., April 4, 10am-12:45pm**

National Poetry Month with SLO County Poet Laureate Caleb Nichols

[coastalduneswc.com](http://coastalduneswc.com)



## Friends of the Nipomo Library

### 2026 Board of Directors

Angela Braun, Co-President  
Jamie Hartshorn, Co-President  
Anna Zucker, Recording Secretary  
Jitu Thakkar, Treasurer  
Lynda Flynn  
Susan Galluzzo  
Merril Lynn Schalla  
Linda Short  
Judy Trecartin

## Library Details

The Nipomo Library is located at:  
918 W. Tefft St., Nipomo 93444

Branch Manager:

Margaret Kensinger-Klopfer  
Information: 805-929-3994

[www.slolibrary.org](http://www.slolibrary.org)

Hours:

Tuesday 10am-6pm  
Wednesday 10am-6pm  
Thursday 9am-5pm  
Friday 1-5pm  
Saturday 9am-5pm

