

Library Link

March 2026

FRIENDS OF THE NIPOMO LIBRARY MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Contact us at info@friendsofnipomolibrary.org

BOOK SALE

Saturday, March 14 • 10am-2pm

It's our first book sale of 2026... Stock up on fiction and nonfiction for readers of all ages—and don't forget the CDs, DVDs, and jigsaw puzzles (these go fast—arrive at 10am for best selection). Cookbooks, art books, picture books, history, biographies, romance, science fiction, the list goes on and on. Friends members receive tickets for 2 free books (join or renew while you're there).

Proceeds support library services and programs—so it's a win-win for everyone!

Manager's Message

From Margaret Kensinger-Klopfert
Library Branch Manager

Did you know that Nipomo Library offers passport acceptance services by appointment every Thursday and Saturday morning? Since March of 2024, Nipomo Library has processed over 300 passports for the Nipomo community and is still going strong. In celebration of our second anniversary as a passport acceptance facility, I thought we would share some of our passport wisdom.

Here are some FAQs about getting your passport at the Nipomo Library:

What do I need to get a passport?

You need to make an appointment, have the correct passport application form, new passport photos, your ID, verification of US citizenship, and checks or money orders for payment.

Continued on page 3



Story on page 2



Friends of the Nipomo Library

The Friends of the Nipomo Library Board's next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 11, 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.

www.friendsofnipomolibrary.org

Follow us on Facebook 



READY TO ROLL

The big van pulling up at The Oaks

senior living facility on this Thursday morning brings with it a vital connection for residents...to books, magazines, information, and camaraderie. It's the "Branch Out" mobile library you may have noticed in the Nipomo Library parking lot, one of three vans that provide books, resources, and internet access to underserved areas, schools, parks, and senior communities such as The Oaks at Nipomo.



Wendi and Kate wheel out the carts.

The outreach vans were purchased in 2022 with a grant from the California State Library; maintenance, collections, and staff are funded by the County of San Luis Obispo Public Libraries. The content that's loaded into the van on each outing depends on the population being served and changes for each visit. Before departure, librarians carefully curate the selection of books so that they appeal to the types of readers who will be perusing its mobile shelves and carts at that specific stop.

This South County van travels throughout the area, with regular stops in Nipomo at The Oaks and Lopez High School. In the past year it

has also traveled to Dorothea Lange Elementary for its back-to-school night and school carnival, Mesa Middle School, local preschools, and Nipomo Elementary School Career Day. In March it will travel to Kids' Day in the Park and the New Tech and Nipomo High School Career Days, in addition to the regular stops.

Librarians Wendi Wells and Kate Mitchell wheel out the carts and efficiently begin "setting up shop" in the facility's spacious media room. Wendi sets up a laptop, as well as a WiFi box and scanner, so new cards can be issued and the entire library catalog can be searched.

"We've been coming here for two years and have the system down," she explains. "We're getting to know everyone, what genres and authors they want. We fulfill requests and also bring the latest large-print fiction and nonfiction." There's a selection of *Prevention* magazines, too—always popular.

Of all her library duties, "it's my favorite thing to do," she adds.

First to arrive is Roger Sperling, formerly of Arroyo Grande, who has

read "everything John Grisham has written." Both he and his wife are avid



All set up and ready for business!

readers (she's in two book clubs), although the love of literature came to him as an adult, when he became interested in the life of another author named John—Steinbeck. He returns a book for his wife and is followed by a steady stream of residents who keep



Roger Sperling checks out the latest offerings.

Wendi and Kate busy; the latter takes one aside to show her how to download an audiobook on her phone. Kate has "really enjoyed getting to know the people here—it's truly

rewarding, not just getting books for them but listening to their stories."

Some residents were longtime patrons of the Nipomo Library who today relish having this link to literacy—thanks to Wendi, Kate, and the big blue van.

The library is currently looking for stops that could be open to the public in the South County. If you have an idea for a good place for the van to drop in regularly, please email nipomo@slolibrary.org.

Time for another silent auction

Shown here: just a sampling of the fabulous finds featured at the Friends' first silent auction of the year. You'll find it in our display window near the library service desk beginning March 4 and ending on the 31st.

Look for a bunch of bunnies and other springy items just in time for decorating and gifting. Fabulous handbags—Coach and Kate Spade! Lots of pottery and porcelain items...and don't forget all the jewelry we don't have room to show.

Our silent auction windows are a major way the Friends support the library—providing funds for programs and materials.



MANAGER'S MESSAGE

Continued from page 1

Is getting a passport easy?

Yes, this process is very simple, especially if you confirm what type of paperwork you need ahead of time. Just make an appointment by calling the Nipomo Library at 805-929-3994. The appointments are professional, simple, and take about 30 minutes per person.

Do we create the passports here at the Nipomo Library?

No, all applications and documentation are sent to a State Department facility once the appointment is completed. We don't keep any

copies of passport applications or documentation in the branch. We do make sure your applications are complete before we send them out.

How much does a passport cost? Can I pay for a passport with a credit card?

Passports cost \$130 for adults and \$100 for children, but they could have additional fees depending on whether you want a passport card or want the passport processed quickly. You can't pay with a credit

card because we mail your payment along with the application to the State Department, so this payment requires a check or money order. There is also a \$35 processing fee that is paid to the library for this service.

How long does it take to get a passport after I apply?

Regular passports take 4-6 weeks and expedited passports take 2-3 weeks.

For more information on getting a passport, check out the US State Department website:

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/passports.html>



March means the start of Nipomo Library's popular In-N-Out reading program for kids ages 4-12. If they read 5 books and fill out a reading log between March 7 and April 18, kids can earn a free hamburger or cheeseburger from In-N-Out.

Library staff will be hosting a booth at the annual Kids' Day in the Park on March 28 from 11am-2pm. Come by and say "hi"—and spin the wheel to get a prize!

What's Happening at your library

Visit sanluisobispo.librarycalendar.com



IN-N-OUT READING PROGRAM

for ages 4-12

March 7 - April 18

Read five books and fill out a reading log to earn a free burger from In-N-Out!

Stop in for details.

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., Mar. 7, 2-3pm

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

iAcompáñenos a construir con Legos!

KIDS' DAY AT THE LIBRARY

for K-6th

**Thurs., Mar. 12, 2-3pm &
3:45-4:45pm**

Monthly event with a different program or activity each month.

TEEN BOOK CLUB

for ages 12-15

Sat., Mar. 14, 3-4:30pm

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

Selection: Throne of Glass

By Sarah J. Maas

CHESS CLUB for all ages/levels

Fri., Mar. 20, 2-4:30pm

Learn to play, improve your game, meet other players! Game boards and instruction will be provided.



BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

for adults

Tues., Mar. 24, 10-11:30am

Selection: The Glass Hotel

By Emily St. John Mandel

KIDS' DAY AT THE PARK

Nipomo Community Park

Sat., Mar. 28, 11am-2pm

Library staff will be hosting a booth.

Come by and say "hi"—and spin the wheel to get a prize!

NOTE DATE CHANGE!

Coastal Dunes Branch of the California Writers Club (CWC)

Sat., Mar. 21, 10am-12:45pm

"Write It Like It's Due Tomorrow:

Fiction Lessons from the Newsroom"

with Chris McGuinness

Practical tools for making your writing sharper, stronger, and more focused

coastaldunescwc.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

WANTED: Book sale co-chair

Help the Friends raise funds for your library! Duties include 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 for a total of 30-45 hours per year. Interested? Contact Linda at keighleyshort@yahoo.com.

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

Hours:

Tuesday 10am-6pm

Wednesday 10am-6pm

Thursday 9am-5pm

Friday 1-5pm

Saturday 9am-5pm



WE ♥ READING!

Teen Book Club members "bedazzled" covers of some of their favorite books at the February meeting—held on Valentine's Day!