Sharpen Your Pencils: “Puzzle Day” Fundraiser for New Library, Saturday, February 24

The Friends of the Library Beyond Books fundraising campaign is planning what is thought to be the first West Coast combined crossword and sudoku tournament. It will be held on Saturday, February 24, to benefit the new Morgan Hill Library. Silicon Valley “Puzzle Day” will also be the kick-off for the community phase of the campaign to raise funds for art and furnishings for the new library that is scheduled to open this summer.

Puzzle Day will be held at Ann Sobrato High School, on Burnett Avenue in Morgan Hill, from 10 am to 4 pm. Prizes will be awarded in different categories and ability levels. The entry fee for the competition is $20 for adults and $10 for students 18 years and under (with a $2 discount for members of the Friends). There will also be free workshops and word and math games. Box lunches and puzzle-oriented gift items will be available for purchase.

The American Institute of Mathematics is a co-sponsor of Puzzle Day and will supply Fry’s gift certificates as prizes.

For more information or to volunteer to help with this fun event, visit www.svpuzzle.org or contact Puzzle Day coordinator, Emily Shem-Tov (info@svpuzzle.org, 221-9196).

Message from the President
Carol O’Hare, 782-9029, cbohare@garlic.com

I hope you will join us at the first general meeting of the Friends for the new year on Wednesday, January 24, at 7 pm in the meeting room of the library. For those who have not attended before, this is a good opportunity to learn what the Friends do and see how you might like to be involved with the organization. We always need more help with book sales. Volunteers are also needed for our Puzzle Day fundraiser and to plan for the grand opening of the new library this summer. We are all looking forward to a terrific 2007!

We welcome Emily Shem-Tov as the new editor of the Friends newsletter. Emily is also coordinating Silicon Valley Puzzle Day and serves on the city’s Library, Culture and Art Commission. We are grateful she has taken such an active role in supporting our library.

We are sad to report the sudden death of Pamela Ann Little, who was a regular book sale volunteer. Her parents, Murv and Judy Little, longtime members of the Friends, have directed memorial gifts in Pamela’s name be given to the Friends for the new library. Our sincere condolences to Judy and Murv.
Reports from Recent Meetings of the Friends of the Library

Teresa Stephenson, Secretary

The quarterly meeting was held on November 9, 2006 with 11 people attending.

**Elections:** Officers for 2007 were elected: Carol O’Hare, President; Yvonne Duckett, Vice President, Teresa Stephenson, Secretary. The Treasurer’s office is vacant (has been filled temporarily by Bud O’Hare). Emily Shem-Tov has accepted the position of Newsletter Editor.

**Finances:** A motion was passed to allow the acceptance of stocks, bonds and mutual funds as donations to the Friends. The Beyond Books Campaign (BBC) contributions currently total $92,868, including pledges. We received a $350 grant from the Rotary Club for our Speakers Forum.

**Book Sales:** Book sales thru June 2007 will be on the regular schedule; after the new library opens and we have dedicated bookstore space, we will revisit. Karen MacDonald and the Book Sale Volunteers will be honored at the Community Foundation Philanthropy Day luncheon at CordeValle on November 15.

After the business meeting, Gisela Steffe gave a presentation: *Women in Morgan Hill History* in honor of the Morgan Hill Centennial. This informative and interesting talk was enjoyed by all.

A special meeting was held on December 14, 2006 to discuss and approve the following 3 items: Art for the new library as presented by the BBC art selection committee; the designation of $45,000 from the Friends reserve funds to be used for art and furnishings for the new library; and all funds raised now and in the future by the BBC will be used for art and furnishings for the new library.

With 10 people attending, the proper motions were made and approved.

**Report from the Treasurer**

Charlie Cameron, Treasurer

As of December 31, 2006, our year’s total income, excluding the Beyond Books Campaign (BBC) income, was $34,659.19, about $8,500 over our year’s budget. Our total expenses were $18,633.38, almost $5,000 under budget. It’s nice that things went so well.

The BBC income received in 2006 was $62,554.91, including the $11,504.91 proceeds from An Afternoon in Tuscany. In addition there’s $500 due us from PayPal and $1,800 due in matching funds, plus, per vote of the members, we plan to transfer $45,000 of the Friends’ funds into the BBC later in 2007.

At year end we had $58,708.12 in the BBC CD, $14,410.17 in our checking accounts, a total of $44,546.89 in several other bank CD’s plus some mutual fund shares valued at $10,056.01.

Overall, I’d say we have had a very successful 2006.
MORGAN HILL READS ONE BOOK
presents TORTILLA CURTAIN by T.C. Boyle

THE TORTILLA CURTAIN

Video Interview with the author
by Sal Pizarro, San Jose Mercury News
Discussion with Catherine Barrera,
Professor of Latin American History

Saturday, February 3, 2007
10:30 am

Morgan Hill Playhouse
Monterey Avenue at Fifth Street

Free and open to the public.
Refreshments will be served.
For more information,
contact Cinda at BookSmart
(408) 778-6467

Boyle’s novel tells the story of two Southern California couples who live near each other, but whose experiences are worlds apart. The lives of wealthy Los Angeles liberals, Delaney and Kyra Mossbacher, and Mexican illegals, Candido and America Rincon, suddenly collide in what the publisher calls “a tragicomedy of error and misunderstanding.”

2007 Friends of the Library Speakers Forums

“An Inconvenient Truth”
Tuesday, February 6, 7 pm
The first of the 2007 Friends of the Library Speakers Forums will be a free community showing of Al Gore’s film, “An Inconvenient Truth” about global warming. The program will include a discussion on what we can do to combat climate change moderated by Mike Monroe, owner of Planet and People Fair Trade/Eco Store. The program will take place at the Centennial Recreation Center on Edmundson Avenue, Morgan Hill. Fair trade, shade-grown coffee will be served.

Author James D. Houston
Tuesday, May 1, 7 pm
James Houston has written many books, both fiction and non-fiction, and is co-author (along with his wife Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston) of Farewell to Manzanar. His latest novel, Bird of Another Heaven, is set in Hawaii. This program will take place at the Community Center, Monterey Road at Dunne Avenue.

“Caring for the Earth: A Buddhist Perspective on Climate Change”
Tuesday, June 5
American Buddhist monk, Ajahn Chandako, makes a return appearance to the Speakers Forum series to share his views on our responsibility for what happens to the planet. The program takes place at the Community Center.

Speakers Forums at the Community Center are supported in part by a grant from the Rotary Club of Morgan Hill.
Friends of the Morgan Hill Library

2007 BOOK SALES

January

Saturday  January 6  $5/bag sale  10 am-5pm
Wednesday January 17

February

Saturday  February 3  10am-5pm
Wednesday February 21  1pm-6pm

March

Friday  March 2  Members Preview Night  7-8:30pm
Saturday  March 3  10am-5pm
Wednesday  March 21  1pm-6pm

April

Saturday  April 7  $5/bag sale  10am-5pm
Wednesday  April 18  1pm-6pm

May

Saturday  May 5  10am-5pm
Wednesday  May 16  1pm-6pm

June

Friday  June 1  Members Preview Night  7-8:30pm
Saturday  June 2  Moving Sale  10am-5pm
Wednesday  June 20  Moving Sale  1pm-6pm

July and Beyond

Join us in the Friends of the Library bookstore in the new library.
(Schedule to be determined.)

The Friends of the Morgan Hill Library are grateful to the community for its continuing support of our book sales. Donations of good quality, used books are always welcome. These books are sold by the Friends and the proceeds benefit the Library in many ways. Receipts for your tax deductible book donations may be requested at the library checkout desk.
Happy New Year to everyone! It was another busy and successful year for the Morgan Hill Library. Here’s what happened in the last few months of 2006, and a look ahead to 2007.

**New Library Update.** Of course, the new library is on everyone’s minds. It’s very exciting to see the building take shape. The construction is 66% complete! Furniture has been selected and the public art plan has been approved. Right now, it looks like we will start to move in early June, if there are no delays, and open up in the new library about six weeks later.

Most of our attention will be focused towards the new library in 2007. There are still many details to be worked out. And, moving 150,000 items and 25 staff will be no easy task! We’ll all be glad to have the move behind us and happy to offer service in our beautiful new building.

**Library Programs.** Because of the Friends’ sponsorship, we were able to offer some fun children’s programs at the end of 2006. In addition to our weekly storytimes, we had storyteller Olga Loya join us for a Dia de los Muertos program in November, and we had two holiday puppet shows in December.

Our enthusiastic teen librarian, Nichole, has put together a book discussion group especially for teens, featuring graphic novels. The group will meet through March. We appreciate Friends’ funding for the books and special Japanese snacks for these programs.

Our adult book group will continue in 2007 with generous support from the Friends. Here are the books that will be discussed the first half of the year: *Long Day's Journey Into Night, Tortilla Curtain, March, Gilead, The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down*, and *Upstate*.

Be sure to check out our website to see what else is going on at the library: http://www.santaclaracountylib.org/morganhill/

**Read any good books lately?** I am just finishing listening to the audio book of *The Good Earth* by Pearl S. Buck. A patron recently asked me for a copy. I remembered how much I enjoyed it in school, so I decided to read it again, and found it equally enjoyable the second time around.

Because of our new teen book group, I decided to read a few graphic novels to see what all the fuss is about, and I’m hooked! I’m up to volume 4 of *Death Note* by Tsugumi Ohba, which is the first book that our new group discussed. Once I got over the initial awkwardness of reading right to left, I’m really enjoying this series about a high school student who finds a Death Note dropped to earth and decides to use it to eliminate evil in the world.

I also just finished *The Extreme Future: The Top Trends That Will Reshape the World for the Next 5, 10, and 20 Years* by James Canton. The author talks about the need to develop renewable energy, deal with global warming, prepare our workforce for future jobs in science and technology, work cooperatively with China, and he makes some very interesting predictions, especially about longevity medicine and the various ways we will be able to prolong human life. Fascinating book!

Lastly, a special congratulations to our very own Carol O’Hare, President of the Friends, for being selected as Woman of the Year by the Morgan Hill Chamber of Commerce. I can’t think of anyone more deserving of this honor! Carol contributes to our community in so many ways, and we especially appreciate everything she does to promote learning and literacy through the Friends of the Morgan Hill Library.
Fundraising for art and furnishings for the new library is going well. To date, we have received nearly $70,000, including two $10,000 donations from individuals! The Friends’ pledge of $45,000 brings the total to $115,000. Projected 2007 income and expenditures will be discussed at the next BBC meeting on January 18.

Last month, Zoe Gustlin, chair of the art selection committee, presented the plan for art for the new library to the City Council for approval. The plan included a bronze outdoor sculpture by Evelyn Davis, a hanging art piece to be placed above the circulation desk, and a painting by Jylijan Gustlin for the lobby. Still to be finalized are murals for the children’s and adult areas.

Letters have been mailed to all members of the Friends, current and past, asking for donations for the Beyond Books Campaign. Our thanks to all those who have responded with a contribution. If you would like to join them, send your check to the Beyond Books Campaign, Friends of the Library, 17575 Peak Ave. Morgan Hill, CA 95037. A donation of $100 gets you a Beyond Books tote bag as a thank you gift. Those who donate $1000 or more will be recognized on the donor wall in the lobby of the new library. For more information about the campaign, go to the Friends website, www.friendsmhlibrary.org.