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

2007 Accomplishments
The Friends of the Library can be justly proud of all that has been accomplished in 2007. We celebrated the grand opening of the new Morgan Hill Library in July with a huge party attended by 4500 people. The Beyond Books Campaign had raised more than $225,000, including the Friends donation of $50,000, for art and equipment for the new building. As part of fundraising activities, we organized the first Silicon Valley Puzzle Day in February. We put on a Champagne Preview Reception for our major donors to show off the new library the week before it opened. And we have established our own bookstore in the library in part of our ongoing efforts to provide funds for programs and equipment for our great new library. As a result of our increased visibility in the community, membership in the Friends has grown to 140.

Thanks to FMHL Volunteers
I want to express my appreciation to all those who helped make 2007 such a great year. Special thanks go to the FMHL Board for their hard work and dedication. Vice President Yvonne Duckett was in charge of our very successful booth at the Taste of Morgan Hill and designed the flyers that promoted speakers forums and book sales. Teresa Stephenson, in addition to her duties as Secretary, maintained the database of our growing membership. Bud O’Hare stepped in to take on the important job of Treasurer when no one else volunteered. Katie Scanlon has handled the Beyond Books Campaign contributions and acknowledgements. Emily Shem-Tov produced our attractive quarterly newsletters and also created and organized Puzzle Day. Karen MacDonald’s position as Book Sale Coordinator multiplied with the opening of the new bookstore that required many more volunteer hours to operate. Vicky Reader served as program chair and headed the nominating committee, and Beverley Williams was in charge of our popular Preview Night book sales.

Other Friends played major roles this year, too, including Zoe Gustlin, who chaired the art selection committee; Susan Brazleton, who was in charge of the Grand Opening; and Andrew Poth, who does an excellent job managing the Friends website. Others volunteered their time to serve on the Beyond Books Campaign steering committee, help with Puzzle Day and the Taste of Morgan Hill, and work as book sorters and book store cashiers. And, of course, Rosanne Macek, our community librarian, was with us every step of the way.

I am grateful to you all for making my three years as President of the Friends of the Morgan Hill Library such a rewarding experience.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Wed, Nov. 14th, 7 pm
Friends of the Library Quarterly Meeting, Program Room

Sat, Dec. 1st, 2 pm
Speaker’s Forum: Mildred Armstrong Kalish, author of Little Heathens: Hard Times and High Spirits on an Iowa Farm During the Great Depression, Program Room

Friday, Dec. 7th, 7-8:30 pm
Members-Only Preview Night for the Big Quarterly Book Sale and $5/Bag Sale.

Sat, Dec. 8th, 10-4 pm
Big Quarterly Book Sale and $5/Bag Sale, Program Room

Inside This Issue

President’s Message  1
Secretary’s Minutes  2
Financial Report  2
Library Commission Update  2
Librarian’s Report  3
Author Event  4
Slate of 2008 Officers  4
Other Friends News  4
Speakers Forum Flyer  5
Bookstore News  6

Please join us on Wednesday, November 14, 7 pm in the Program Room for the quarterly meeting of the Friends. Important agenda items include election of 2008 officers and approval of the 2008 budget. Sarah Flowers, deputy county librarian and former Morgan Hill community librarian, will be our guest speaker and will share information on how books are selected for inclusion in the county library collection. There will also be special treats to celebrate the end of our great year. All members of the Friends are encouraged to attend and participate.
**Report from Recent Meeting of the Friends of the Library**
*Teresa Stephenson, Secretary*

- The meeting was held on August 28, 2007 with 13 people attending.
- Minutes of the April meeting were approved.
- Treasurer Bud O’Hare reported total assets of $111,506, including Beyond Books Campaign funds. A quick analysis of book store sales from opening day through August shows an average of $128.82 per day.
- The Grand Opening of the library was terrific. The attendance estimates were 1500-2000 at the ribbon cutting and 4500 in the door between noon and 6 PM. Photos are on both the library and Friends websites.
- The library staff is trying to extend the hours by having the lobby open on Tuesdays from 10AM to 1PM. The Joint Powers Authority has discussed proposing a tax to provide money for extra hours. Many cities have been funding the extra hours themselves, so there is no incentive for a new proposition.
- Karen MacDonald reported that volunteers are needed to staff the bookstore, especially on Saturdays. She is looking into signing up teens who need community service hours.
- A preliminary slate of officers for 2008 was presented. A treasurer is still needed. This position requires some finance background and knowledge of QuickBooks. Katie Scanlon has volunteered to assist as needed.
- Taste of Morgan Hill, September 29 and 30. Yvonne Duckett is coordinating the volunteers for this. She has a sign up sheet available.
- A new category of membership was proposed and approved – a 5 year membership for individuals ($50) and families ($100).
- Our next Silicon Valley Puzzle Day will be held on Sunday, February 3rd, which is the day after one in Connecticut hosted by Will Shortz. It will be held at the library.
- Upcoming Speakers Forums: December 1st: Mildred Kalish, author of *Little Heathens: Hard Times and High Spirits on an Iowa Farm During the Great Depression*. This will be in our new program room!

**Report from the Treasurer**
*Bud O’Hare, Treasurer*

Our financial position remains very strong as of September 30, 2007. After nine months of operation this fiscal year, we show a total bank balance of $119,014, including Beyond Books Campaign funds. Most of that balance will be spent on additional art and furnishings for the library. Our combined income to date is $248,039, offset by expenses of $124,525 yielding a net profit of $109,689. Included in the profit is the $50,000 contributed by the Friends to the Beyond Books Campaign.

**Library, Culture & Arts Commission Update**
*Emily Shem-Tov, LCAC Commissioner*

The Library, Culture and Arts Commission is a seven-member body appointed by the Morgan Hill City Council to advise on the adequacy of library services, serve as a liaison between the City and the Santa Clara County Library, consult with private community groups supportive of library programs, and serve as liaison between such groups and the City. Commission meetings are open to the public and the group meets in the Library’s Program room the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7pm (there will be a special workshop session on 11/13, and then regular meetings will resume 12/14).

The Commission is currently working on drafting public art policies to present to the City Council and looking at other ways to encourage arts and culture in our town. The commission also hopes to develop some creative options for providing the funding needed to extend the library’s hours to cover Sunday and/or Monday hours. At the September meeting, the group was presented with some rough estimates for the amount of funding that would be necessary and the commission will continue to review various options and make recommendations to the city about ways to proceed.
**Librarian’s Report, November 2007**  
*Rosanne Macek, Community Librarian*

The community continues to delight in our new library. Here is what one happy resident had to say, which is typical of what we hear every day:

> “Wow, worth the wait! The new library is beautiful. There’s so much more room. I love the mural in the children’s room and all the little windows. Also, finally, no waiting for Internet computers!”

Comparing current use of the library with last year, the number of items checked out has increased by 33%, the number of new library cards has increased by 33%, and the number of residents visiting the library is up by 30%. An average of 1,246 people a day visited the Morgan Hill Library during the month of September.

There are a lot of exciting things going on in our new library. One of the new services we are offering is “lobby only” service on Tuesday mornings from 10am to 1pm just prior to when the library opens. You can pick up a hold, check out items from lobby displays, and read about community events posted on the bulletin board.

In addition to our popular Wednesday evening and Thursday morning storytimes, the library has added a Saturday morning storytime for families at 10am. Baby storytime is also offered periodically.

We are continuing our monthly book discussion group. This month we are reading *Before You Know Kindness* by Christopher A. Bohjalian. All the books purchased for the book group throughout the year are funded by the Friends.

We recently were bombarded with teen visitors to the library for our Guitar Hero tournament. This is a popular Playstation game that is all the rage with the kids. The equipment for this program, as well as the $10 Booksmart gift certificate given to the winner, was all funded by the Friends.

The library continues to offer a wide variety of events and programs, at least one every day we are open. In addition to the above programs funded by the Friends, we have had author panels, mystery movies, craft projects, AAUW foreign policy discussions, weekly knitting group, SAT workshops, and a hugely popular program on health and wellness offered in conjunction with the Tech Museum. The calendar of events is on our website at: [www.santaclaracountylib.org/morganhill/](http://www.santaclaracountylib.org/morganhill/)

Read any good books lately? I love historical fiction, and got hooked on *The Other Boleyn Girl* by Philippa Gregory. Rich in historical detail, this book is told from the perspective of Anne Boleyn’s younger sister, who was King Henry’s mistress before he married Anne. I listened to this talking book during my commute and didn’t want to get out of my car when I got home after work! It’s also coming out as a movie next February.

*The Girlfriend Project* by Robin Friedman is a new teen book that I enjoyed. It’s the story of a high-school senior whose next-door neighbor sets up a website to help him get dates but in the process, he discovers he really likes her instead. It’s a very sweet story.

On a more serious note, I also just read *Nickel and Dimed: on (not) getting by in America* by Barbara Ehrenreich. In this sobering book, the author goes “undercover” to discover what it’s like to live the life of a low-wage earner. My son read this for one of his high-school classes, so we had some interesting discussions about it.
Author to Appear at Speakers Forum
Saturday, December 1, 2 pm, Library Program Room

Mildred Armstrong Kalish, author of *Little Heathens: Hard Times and High Spirits on an Iowa Farm During the Great Depression*, will read from her book, tell how she came to write it, and share memories of a time when life was simpler, though more difficult in many ways. Millie is a delightful 85 year-old retired English professor and a charming storyteller.

Kalish’s book has received rave reviews from the *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Christian Science Monitor* and *San Jose Mercury News*, plus others. It is available for purchase at BookSmart and at the event. For more information about the book, go to [www.little-heathens.com](http://www.little-heathens.com).

Friends of the Library Week

National Friends of the Library Week, October 21-27, was recognized by a City Council proclamation presented to FMHL President Carol O’Hare, by a letter to the editor from librarian Rosanne Macek, and in Lisa Pampuch’s column in the Morgan Hill Times. We are pleased to have all the hard work of the Friends acknowledged.

Philanthropy Day Honoree

Friends president Carol O’Hare will be among those honored by the Morgan Hill Community Foundation at its Philanthropy Day luncheon at Coyote Creek on November 13. Local non-profit organizations have each been encouraged to select an individual or business that has contributed to its success to receive this award.

Gift of Reading Book Drive

Friends are encouraged to support the San Jose Mercury News holiday Gift of Reading book drive, the program that supports literacy in our community by providing free books to underserved children and by helping teachers build classroom libraries for the children they teach. You can help a child improve reading skills and develop a love of books by donating new (or like new), unwrapped books. BookSmart, a designated drop-off site, offers a 10% discount on books purchased for the program. (BookSmart is located at 80 E. 2nd St.) Books for all ages are needed, especially pre-school and books in Spanish and Vietnamese. The book drive ends **Sunday, December 3**.

Election of 2008 Officers

Vicky Reader, Nominating Committee Chair

President Carol O’Hare is stepping down after three successful years at the helm, with this past year culminating in the excitement of finally celebrating our new library. The entire community has benefited from Carol’s tireless and driven leadership of the Friends. We owe Carol many thanks for all her contributions and are relieved, quite frankly, that the bylaws include the past president on the board. Other current officers have agreed to continue in their position for another year, and we are pleased that Lisa Pampuch has stepped up as a nominee for next year’s lead role. For those of you who do not know Lisa, she was an important part of the Beyond Books steering committee and the Puzzle Day coordinating committee.

The proposed slate is:

- President: Lisa Pampuch
- Vice President: Yvonne Duckett
- Secretary: Teresa Stephenson
- Treasurer: Open

Nominations also may be made from the floor, especially for Treasurer. Due to the challenge of identifying a suitable candidate for this role, incumbent Bud O’Hare will continue as needed with the objective of sharing responsibilities should an interested candidate be unable to take on the full duties.
Morgan Hill Library
Program Room
660 West Main Avenue

Mildred Armstrong Kalish

Author of
Little Heathens
Hard Times
and
High Spirits
on an
Iowa Farm
During the
Great Depression

Saturday, December 1
2 pm

"This unpretentious yet deeply intelligent memoir of growing up on a central Iowa farm in the throes of the Great Depression radiates the joy of a vanished way of life. In prose that never yields to mawkish sentimentality, Kalish details the roles of family, religion, thrift, and education in her upbringing." —Booklist

"It is a very good book, indeed. In fact, it's averyveryverygoodbook." —New York Times Book Review

Books available for purchase at
and at the event

Millie is a charming 85 year-old retired English professor and a delightful storyteller. For details about her and her book, visit www.little-heathens.com.

For more information, contact Carol O’Hare, 782-9029.
Friends Bookstore, Quarterly Sales and Free Books

The Friends of the Library Bookstore, located off the lobby of the library, is now open five days a week and is seeing a steady stream of customers who come in to browse and buy. To continue the current hours (and maybe even expand them), more volunteers are desperately needed. If you can help out, whether working a three-hour shift once a week or once a month, or even just as a substitute, please contact Karen MacDonald, 779-3995, karenmacdonald@charter.net, to volunteer.

The next Big Quarterly Book Sale will take place on Saturday, December 8, 10 am to 4 pm. It will actually be two sales—regular price and $5/bag—held in the divided Program Room. Members-Only Preview Night will take place on Friday, December 7, 7-8:30 pm.

At the end of the day on Saturday, teachers and non-profit groups will be invited to take all remaining $5/bag books free of charge, but must first contact Carol O'Hare, 782-9029, cbohare@garlic.com.

2007 Tote Bags Available

There are only TWO more 2007 special edition Friends of the Library tote bags left. These attractive, dark green bags may be purchased at the bookstore for $10.