

Upcoming Events

Saturday, April 5, 3:30-5pm
 Bookstore/sale Volunteer Party,
 Program Room

Thurs, April 10th, 7pm
 Friends of the Library Quarterly
 Meeting, Program Room

Fri, June 13th, 7-8:30pm
 Members-Only Preview Night
 for the Big Quarterly Book Sale

Sat, June 14th, 10am-4pm
 Big Quarterly Book Sale

Inside This Issue

Volunteer Party 1
National Library Week 1
President's Message 2
Secretary's Minutes 2
Librarian's Report 3
Intro to Meditation 3
Books Among Friends 4
Bookstore Report 4
Cheers 4
Puzzle Day Fun 5
Library Commission Update 5
SV Reads 5
Author Visit 5
Proposed Bylaw Changes 6
Library Advocacy 6
Graphic Novels 6
Staff Profile 7
Volunteer Needs 8

Friends of the Library Bookstore & Book Sale Volunteer Party (for current and future volunteers)

**Saturday, April 5, 2008
 3:30-5:00 pm**

**Library Program Room
 Refreshments & Door prizes**



It's a great opportunity to meet other Friends volunteers, to brainstorm ideas about ways to improve our book store, to refresh our training on book store processes and procedures, and most important, to have some fun.

We hope you can attend. We truly appreciate your efforts. They've helped us expand and enhance the programs offered at the Morgan Hill Library, and we simply can't do it without you.

RSVPs (helpful but not necessary) to
 Leigh Donaldson leighdonaldson@charter.net or 779-1002
 If you can't attend but have suggestions to offer, please contact Leigh!

Celebrate National Library Week, 4/13-19

First sponsored in 1958, National Library Week is a national observance sponsored by the American Library Association (ALA) and libraries across the country each April. It is a time to celebrate the contributions of our nation's libraries and librarians and to promote library use and support. All types of libraries — school, public, academic, and special — participate.

At their April 16th meeting, the Morgan Hill City Council will be recognizing the week officially, and Community Librarian Rosanne Macek will be on hand to accept the proclamation and say a few words about the library. The library is also planning a promotion to encourage patrons to use our new automated returns system and will be offering tours of the back room so they can see how it works.

On Tuesday, April 15 during National Library Week, schools, campuses and communities across the country will celebrate the second National Library Workers Day and the valuable contributions of our librarians and library support staff. Libraries are part of the American dream -- places for opportunity, education, lifelong learning and free and equal access to a world of resources no matter your age, income or background -- but

that dream would not exist if it were not for the people who work in libraries. So stop by the library that day and give an extra big thank you to all the amazing library staff.



Message from the President

Lisa Pampuch, lisapampuch@iname.com

It's been another busy month for library lovers in Morgan Hill. Hopefully this review of some of our activities -- and the upcoming National Library Week -- will inspire you to spend some time volunteering for FMHL



The second annual Silicon Valley Puzzle Day was a huge success! We doubled our tournament participation numbers from last year -- we had 94 participants in the sudoku and crossword puzzle tournaments. We estimate that we attracted a total of 300 people. Our winner (the same man, Eric Maddy, for both tournaments) flew in just for Puzzle Day from southern California. We had participants from all over California and from out of state.

The library is too small a venue if we double again, so Emily Shem-Tov and I are working to find ways to deal with that. Stay tuned -- we'll keep you posted as plans develop. Announcements will also be posted on the Puzzle Day web site, svpuzzle.org.

We're also reviewing feedback forms from the event to address as many of the comments and suggestions as possible. We're pleased to note the huge number of positive comments, complimenting us on a well-run, fun event. Thanks to everyone who worked so hard to make Puzzle Day such a wonderful event. We couldn't do it without you.

The Friends of the Morgan Hill Library has joined the Friends of Library USA. The low annual dues (\$40 for a group our size) give us access to lots of useful information and a listserv so that we can communicate easily with other Friends groups.

Emily Shem-Tov and I are also deep into another project. We're surveying other Friends of Libraries groups to discover ways that they use to attract members and to turn them in active volunteers. So far, more than 80 Friends groups have responded to our online survey. We'll prepare a report for the Friends as soon as we've closed the survey and analyzed the data.

Report from Recent Meeting of the Friends of the Library

Teresa Stephenson, Secretary

- * The meeting was held on January 16, 2008, with 12 people attending, President Lisa Pampuch presiding.
- * Minutes of the November meeting were approved. Treasurer Bud O'Hare reported there is \$55,000 left from the Beyond Books Campaign for library furnishings and art.
- * Rosanne Macek reported on half year statistics for the library: circulation is up 30%, new library cards increased by 81%, attendance is up by 24%, circulation/hour is up 35%. Use of self checkout went from 28% in the old library to 54% in the new library. Two events at the library have been funded by the Friends: Baby Storytime and the supplies for Heart-a-rama.
- * Karen MacDonald reported that volunteers are still needed to staff the bookstore on some Saturday hours and Tuesdays from 4-7. The online calendar is working. We need to have the calendar included in the library emergency plan -- a paper copy once a month.
- * Preparations for Puzzle Day were discussed. We have a grant from the Rotary; AAUW helping with marketing. It will open at 11, end at 5. Puzzle categories for adults and children this time. Prizes -- gift certificates from Fry's and Book Smart, savings bonds from American Institute of Mathematics.
- * A change in the By-laws was discussed. Preliminary approval to change wording from "association" to "corporation" was received.
- * There was a discussion about collecting the Friends files in one place. Rosanne has some of the older files. Looking for someone to do as a special project.
- * The purchase of tables was discussed. Eight will cost \$1611 plus \$150 for shipping for a total of \$1761. A motion to allocate no more than \$2000 for tables was made and passed.
- * Vicky Reader will coordinate the Speakers Forum. We are looking for individuals and topics. Suggestions welcome.
- * Need a volunteer to coordinate quarterly book sales and preview night.
- * The next meeting will be April 10, 2008 at 7 PM.



Librarian's Report, April 2008

Rosanne Macek, Community Librarian

The community loves its new library! Here is a note I just received from a happy patron, which is typical of the comments we frequently hear:

"All I can say is THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU for the services you provide at the Morgan Hill Library. My kids and I...love every minute that we are there. I also brought my teen son there to get some assistance with vocational research and the information desk was very helpful. We also love the Tumblebooks for kids. Thanks again for such a great library and staff."



That joy in our new library is also reflected in how much it is being used. For the first six months in our new building, circulation is up 30%, new library cards are up 81%, visitors are up 24%, and reference questions answered are up 18%.

There's a lot happening for all ages. Here are some of the programs we've held recently, thanks to funding from the Friends. Your support has enabled us to purchase the books, craft supplies, and equipment to make the follow programs a success:

For Teens: 6-week graphic novel discussion series, Karaoke, and make your own plushy craft program.

For Children: Storytimes and Valentine's Day crafts.

For Adults: Book discussion group featuring *Water for Elephants*, and a six-week series on learning to play bridge.

Just a few of our upcoming programs include a teen poetry contest in April, an introduction to meditation program in May (see separate box), and all our summer reading programs start in June. All details will be on our website as we get closer to the programs.

We are also looking forward to celebrating **National Library Week** beginning April 14. There will be a proclamation at the City Council meeting that week, and we will be offering behind-the-scenes tours for patrons interested in seeing how our new materials sorting system works.

Read any good books lately? A particularly timely book for me (having just turned 50!) was *Leap! What Will We Do With the Rest of Our Lives?* by Sara Davidson. The author and other baby boomers reflect on getting older and continuing to make a positive contribution to the world. I also enjoyed *Natural Born Charmer* by Susan Elizabeth Phillips. This was an audio book that was recommended by the library's NextReads service (<http://www.santaclaracountylib.org/whattoread/>). It's the latest installment in Phillips' romance series starring the Chicago Stars football players, and is charming, hilarious, and just plain fun.



Introduction to Meditation, May 22

With Ajahn Chandako, an American Buddhist monk, **Thursday, May 22, 6:30-8:30 pm, at the library**

Learn techniques for:

- Training in awareness of the present moment
- Focusing concentration
- Reducing stress and anxiety
- Understanding and reducing negative reactions to life
- Developing loving kindness and compassion

Ajahn Chandako has been an ordained Buddhist monk for 18 years. He has trained with many of the greatest meditation masters in Thailand and frequently leads meditation workshops and retreats. He is now abbot of Vimutti Buddhist Monastery near Auckland, New Zealand, and also spends time at his hermitage in the Santa Cruz Mountains near Boulder Creek.



Books Among Friends

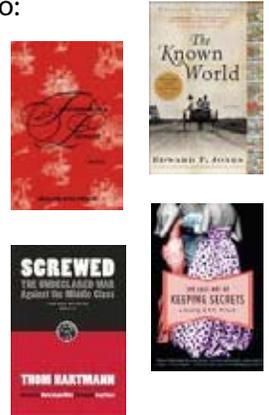
Once again we asked some of the board members of the Friends about books they've read over this past year that they would recommend to others. Here are a few of the responses. If you have a book you'd like to recommend, please send an email to emily@chocolatespoon.com for inclusion in the next issue of the newsletter.

Lisa Pampuch: Memoirs are all the rage right now. *Foreskin's Lament* by Shalom Auslander is a loss-of-faith story, a moving, poignant, and often hilarious memoir. Auslander, who was raised as an Orthodox Jew in upstate New York, relates the difficulties he experienced in leaving the faith into which he was born. Anyone who has ever questioned or left the faith in which they were raised — no matter the faith — will be able to relate to this wonderful book with an unusual title. If you're interested, Auslander reads an excerpt of the book in this video: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eNqrL6Iboks>. It gives you an excellent idea of the book's topic and tone of voice.

Carol O'Hare: *The Known World* by Edward P. Jones, winner of 2004 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction, is based on the little-known fact that free blacks actually owned slaves in the pre-Civil War South. The historical setting, the multitude of fascinating characters, the stories within stories and the construction of the narrative all make this a book well worth reading.

Teresa Stephenson: My book for this time is *Screwed: The Undeclared War against the Middle Class* by Thom Hartmann. He discusses how a strong middle class is necessary for democracy and documents how the policies of the last 25 years have steadily eroded it. I would recommend it to anyone who is concerned about the country and wants to help change its direction.

Emily Shem-Tov: Two of my favorites recently have been *The Lost Art of Keeping Secrets*, by Eva Rice, which will transport you to society life in 1950s England, and *People of the Book*, by Geraldine Brooks, which will sweep you along in a great retelling of some pretty awful events in history through the story of the survival of one beautiful ancient book.



Friends of the Library Bookstore Report

The Friends Bookstore in the new library has been a great success in many ways. It has earned significant amounts of money for the library, brought in additional book donations, raised visibility of our organization and helped increase membership. Thanks to all our volunteers who sort books on a weekly basis, stock the shelves, and staff the store five days a week.

Treasurer Bud O'Hare has been tracking bookstore income by day and week since the library and store opened last July. By the end of the year, sales averaged \$440 per week and \$16 per hour, with a total income for the year of \$9,684. For the first 11 weeks of this year, the store weekly average has increased to \$530. (We also increased hours from 27 to 30.) We now average \$18 per hour, ranging from \$13 to \$24, depending on the day. We're very pleased with how well the store is doing.

Our quarterly book sales are also exceeding expectations. In December, Preview Night and Saturday sales earned \$1845. Our most recent sales in March brought in \$2075. We're looking forward to a record setting year!



Pictured here, the Friends Bookstore was open during Silicon Valley Puzzle Day, and, in addition to books, sold handmade crossword puzzle necklaces. Photo by Susan Brazelton.

Morgan Hill Times Cheers Us!

In the February 12th issue of the Morgan Hill Times, the paper's editorial gave "cheers" to Puzzle Day. They wrote, "The organizers from the Friends of the Morgan Hill Library put on a high-caliber event that drew crossword and sudoku puzzle gurus. As a result, organizers doubled the number of puzzle competitors over the inaugural event, including folks from hundreds of miles away. Puzzle Day looks like it could develop into a way to draw lots of visitors to our community and a signature event for the library and its supporters."

Puzzle Day Fun!



Custom Sudoku puzzles for the adult and youth rounds were handcrafted by Thomas Snyder, the reigning world Sudoku champion. New York Times crossword puzzles were provided by Will Shortz and youth puzzles were written by local puzzle constructor Mark Diehl.

Photos by Susan Brazelton. Additional photos at www.flickr.com/groups/puzzleday/

Over 300 people attended the successful Second Annual Silicon Valley Puzzle Day, organized by the Friends and held at the library on February 3rd. Attendees participated in crossword and Sudoku tournaments and in a packed day of workshops on puzzle topics. Thank you to everyone who volunteered and help make it such a fun day! Planning is already under way for next year's event!



In the final round, three finalists had to complete the puzzle in front of a room of spectators.

Silicon Valley Reads Event



Bo Caldwell, author of the 2008 Silicon Valley Reads selection, *The Distant Land of My Father*, spoke to a packed room at the library on Thursday, February 28. The standing-room only

event was co-sponsored by the Friends of the Morgan Hill Library, BookSmart, the American Association of University Women (Morgan Hill branch), and the City of Morgan Hill. Special thanks to Carol O'Hare for her work organizing such a tremendously successful event!

Our local event joined more than 50 other events throughout the month of February throughout the area. Each year, people who live, work or learn in Silicon Valley are invited to participate in the annual Silicon Valley Reads Month. Presented by the Santa Clara County Office of Education, the Santa Clara County Library and the San Jose Public Library Foundation, Silicon Valley Reads is designed to promote reading and literacy, broaden the exposure to and appreciation of good literature, and build community.

LCAC Update

Emily Shem-Tov, LCAC Commissioner

The Library, Culture and Arts Commission (LCAC) has been inviting guest speakers from local organizations to address the group at each meeting. At the February 12th LCAC meeting, Theresa Kiernan, [now former] Director of the Morgan Hill Downtown Association (MHDA), gave an overview of the scope and current activities of the MHDA. She provided information on several upcoming events such as the "Chalk It Up" sidewalk art event on April 19th, the Mushroom Art project (a partnership between MHDA and Valley del Sur Art Guild), and the street fairs scheduled for the summer months. She explained that art plays an important role in downtown events and greatly enhances the downtown. At the March 11th meeting, South Valley Civic Theater President Carol Harris addressed the group, talking about the theater and about the Gilroy Arts Alliance. The LCAC hopes to encourage a similar group for artists and art groups here in Morgan Hill.

At the February meeting, an ad-hoc subcommittee was formed to advise the commission on the issue of library hours, and in particular to investigate a public survey to determine community preferences in terms of which additional hours would be the most desired.

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 is time set aside at the start of each meeting for comments from the public regarding items not already on the agenda if there are issues you would like to raise there.

Bestselling Author to Appear in Morgan Hill

Beth Lisick, author of the new book, *Helping Me Help Myself: One skeptic, ten self-help gurus, and a year on the brink of the comfort zone*, will appear at BookSmart on **Saturday, April 12, at 1 pm**. Her previous book, *Everyone Into the Pool*, was a New York Times bestseller. Lisick is a hilarious writer and performance artist who brings her caustic wit and insights to bear on the self-help movement. BookSmart is located at 80 East 2nd Street. For more information, contact 778-6467.



Proposed Bylaw Changes

As we discussed at our last meeting, because the Friends of the Morgan Hill Library has incorporated, our attorney has recommended the following changes to our bylaws. This serves as the official 10-day written notification of such changes as required by our bylaws. Please review these changes; we'll be voting on them at our **April 10** meeting, which will be held at 7 p.m. in the program room of the Morgan Hill Library.



Current

Article I: The name of this public benefit association shall be Friends of the Morgan Hill Library (FMHL).

Article II: The purpose of this public benefit association shall be to maintain an organization of persons interested in books and libraries...

Article III: Any property, monies or other items of value belonging to this association or hereafter acquired is and shall be irrevocably dedicated to the herein described purposes, and no individual shall be entitled at any time, including dissolution, to receive any benefit from the property or accounts of the organization

Article IX: All meetings shall be conducted according to the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised, except when in conflict with the bylaws of this association or with the laws of the State of California.

Proposed

Article I: The name of this public benefit **corporation** shall be Friends of the Morgan Hill Library (FMHL).

Article II: The purpose of this public benefit **corporation** shall be to maintain an organization of persons interested in books and libraries...

Article III: Any property, monies or other items of value belonging to this **corporation** or hereafter acquired is and shall be irrevocably dedicated to the herein described purposes, and no individual shall be entitled at any time, including dissolution, to receive any benefit from the property or accounts of the organization

Article IX: All meetings shall be conducted according to the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised, except when in conflict with the bylaws of this **corporation** or with the laws of the State of California.

Be a Library Advocate!

The California Library Association Legislative Day is on **April 16, 2008** in Sacramento. Sponsored by the California Library Association (CLA), the California School Library Association (CSLA), and the California Association of Library Trustees and Commissioners (CALTAC), Library Legislative Day is an opportunity for library staff and supporters to meet with state Legislators and/or their staffs in their Capitol offices.



If you are interested in attending, please contact Cynthia Garcia (408-293-2326, cynthia.garcia@lib.sccgov.org). You can register directly at <http://www.cla-net.org> or the Library can register you.

Participants will brief Legislators on issues affecting public and school libraries, tell them how libraries are making a difference in the lives of their constituents, and learn more about the current situation in Sacramento.

Graphic Novels

When you walk in the library right next to the teen new books are the graphic novels and they are so popular with teens. Librarian Nichole King (profiled on p. 7) writes that, "There isn't a day that goes by where I don't have a teen asking for the next book in the *Naruto* series. These are one of my favorite genre's to read and right now one of my favorite series is about to end. *Emma* by Kaoru Mori is set in Victorian England and is really a great love story." Volume 7 is the last title in the series. Check it out!

Meet the Library Staff: Nichole King

Nichole King is Morgan Hill's fantastic Teen Services Librarian. She was recently picked by the library to be their employee of the year and has been organizing great events, activities and discussion groups for teens at the library. In addition to all her work at the Morgan Hill Library, Nichole is very active in the American Library Association (ALA)'s Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA) group, serving on the Selected Audiobooks Committee (which means she gets to listen to all the very best YA books first! Last year they listened to over 400 hours of audiobooks searching for the best of the best for teens and we came up with a list of 21 titles that can be found on the YALSA website.). She is a published scrapbooking author, and two of the books she contributed to are in the library. She graduated from SJSU with an Masters in Library and Information Science (MLIS) in May 2005 and started working at Morgan Hill Library in October 2005. She likes to collect small Japanese figures that adorn her desk at work, and she is a huge San Jose Sharks fan. Nichole graciously agreed to answer a couple of questions for Bookends readers:



Q: What's your favorite thing about the new library?

A: The teen space of course! In the old library the teen space was small and cluttered, lacked seating and in general wasn't a comfortable space. I love that the new library clearly has a spot for teens that is warm and inviting. I also love the teen new books area, I really got prime real estate. My favorite thing to see is adults browsing the new teen area. Teen literature has come a long way since Sweet Valley High.

Q: Can you suggest a couple of great YA books that you would recommend to adults?

A: I can't say enough good things about the *Twilight* Series by Stephenie Meyer. It mixes romance, vampires and werewolves into a crazy story filled with action and adventure. It really does have it all. Any of the Printz award winners and nominees, and also the National Book Award winners and nominees. This year the winner of the NBA was *The Absolute Diary of a Part-Time Indian* by Sherman Alexie, which is a very funny and real portrayal of the author's life growing up on a reservation. He is part of a huge trend right now, adult authors writing books for teens. Some of my favorite authors also include Marcus Zusak (*I Am the Messenger*, *The Book Thief*), Gabrielle Zevin (*Elsewhere*, *Memoirs of a Teenage Amnesiac*), James Patterson (The Maximum Ride Series) and Deb Calletti (*Queen of Everything*, *Nature of Jade*).

Q: What's your favorite program that you have done at the library or that you doing in the future?

A: I love the guitar hero program, not just because it's fun and the teens go crazy, but because it has really become a family event. The last two programs we have had brought over 100 people to the program room. While only about 20 or so teens actually participate in the tournament, the rest just watch in complete awe at how incredible these teens are at the game! I constantly get requests to do this program, and I have to thank the Friends for buying the Playstation 2, Guitar Hero I and II, and the guitar controller.

I'm starting to get excited about the Teen Summer Reading program this year. Especially since last years was so much shorter due to the move. This year instead of going with the statewide theme, we turned it into an art contest for teens. So, every poster or bookmark that you see around the library for teen summer reading was actually designed by a teenager in the county. Our overall theme is Free2be creative, and since I consider myself pretty crafty we are going to do a scrapbooking program and a mutilate your t-shirt program. I can't wait to see what they come up with. At the end of the summer, if they have read at least five books, they get to choose a popular paperback that is purchased with the Friends funds. The summer is truly a crazy time at the library, but also the most rewarding!

Q: What books are on your night stand/to-read pile that you are looking forward to?

A: So many books have now come out with sequels, or trilogies and beyond! Right now I am reading *City of Ashes* by Cassandra Clare, the sequel to *City of Bones*. It's a great story for teens/adults who liked the *Twilight* series. I also have book 4 in the *Maximum Ride* series by James Patterson waiting for me.

Morgan Hill Library
660 West Main Avenue
Morgan Hill, CA 95037-4128

Phone: 408-779-3196

www.santaclaracountylib.org/morganhill

Library Hours:

Sunday and Monday: Closed

Tuesday: 1pm - 9pm

Wednesday & Thursday: 10am - 9pm

Friday & Saturday: 10am - 6pm

Friends of the Morgan Hill Library

www.friendsmhlibrary.org

Contact Editor Emily Shem-Tov with
newsletter comments -
emily@chocolatespoon.com



**If you are
not already a
member for
2008, please
renew now.**



The purpose of the Friends of the Library is to support the services of our community library. The Friends raise thousands of dollars each year for the library, mainly through used book sales. These funds are used to purchase materials and furnishings and to provide programs that the library could not otherwise afford.

Volunteers Needed!

We need committed library lovers to handle the following duties:

- **Quarterly Book Sales Coordinator** – Handles setup, sales, and breakdown of the quarterly book sales held in the program room of the library. Each quarterly book sale is held on a Saturday, and is preceded by a members-only preview the night before. Systems are in place, we need someone to step in and take responsibility for running an already well-oiled machine.
- **Book Sale Helpers** - Karen MacDonald continues to do double duty, scheduling all bookstore volunteers and quarterly book sale workers. She will be out of town in June (and the rest of the summer) and so would like to line up volunteers ahead of time for the next quarterly sale, June 13 (Preview Night), 7-8:30 pm and Saturday, June 14, 10 am to 4 pm. Since there will be both \$5 per bag and regular sales, 4 volunteers are needed for each shift. To sign up, please contact Karen at 779-3995, karenmacdonald@charter.net. There is also on-going book sale coordination help needed. To learn more about what is involved and how you can help, contact Karen.
- **Online Book Sales Coordinator** – We're missing a great fundraising opportunity because we don't sell books online. Many Friends groups do sell online, especially their rare or valuable books. Do you have the tech savvy to sell books online? Would you help FMHL establish an online sales process? Online sales has the potential to be a huge boost to FMHL's bottom line.
- **Membership Renewal** – Every year, some FMHL members forget to renew their memberships. We need someone to personally contact these folks and ask them to take a moment to renew. This volunteer opening should take a minimal amount of time and only happens about this time each year.

And for all you who currently volunteer for FMHL, thank you so much for your time, energy, and commitment. It truly makes a difference for our library and our community. Contact Lisa Pampuch (lispampuch@iname.com) for more information.