Upcoming Events

Fri, Sept 12th, 7-8:30pm
Members-Only Preview Night for the Big Quarterly Book Sale

Sat, Sept 13th, 10am-4pm
Big Quarterly Book Sale

Wed, Sept 17th, 7pm
Friends of the Library Quarterly Meeting, Program Room

Sat, Sept 20th, 1pm
Storyteller and writer Tim Myers, Program Room

Sat & Sun, Feb 7-8
3rd Annual Silicon Valley Puzzle Day

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Morgan Hill Library Turns One!
First Birthday Party a Huge Success

The Morgan Hill Library celebrated its 1st birthday on July 19th with stories, cupcakes, puppets, robots, Guitar Heroes, bookplates, and more.
**Message from the President**
Lisa Pampuch, lisapampuch@iname.com

The Friends of the Morgan Hill Library have — as usual — a lot on our plates. We’re a busy, exciting group. Here are a few highlights:

- **Library birthday party** – We had a wonderful event and appreciate very much the volunteer effort from so many Friends members. The unveiling of the robot sculptures was the highlight of the day and the artwork was very well received. Also ready in time for the party were several quotes across the walls in the adult section. In addition, a member of State Senator Abel Maldonado’s staff presented a Senate proclamation acknowledging the library’s one-year anniversary. Rosanne Macek estimates that approximately 600 of the library’s 1500 visitors that day came specifically for the birthday party. In addition to celebrating a year of using our beautiful new library, we also raised $460 for the library with our bookplate fundraiser.

- **Downtown street festival** – Emily Shem-Tov and I spent a few hours on a recent Saturday staffing a FMHL booth at the downtown street fair. We talked to lots of people about the good work that FMHL does, about how to donate books, and about the many services the library offers. It was a great way to raise FMHL’s visibility in the community.

- **Silicon Valley Puzzle Day** – Planning is under way in earnest. See the note on page 5 for more details.

- **Board retreat** – The FMHL board will have a retreat on Sunday, September 7, to set goals for the organization.

- **Taste of Morgan Hill** – FMHL will have a booth with the library at the upcoming Taste of Morgan Hill on September 27 and 28. Volunteers are always needed. If you can help staff the booth, please contact Yvonne Duckett at 408-612-2342 or yduckett@yahoo.com.

- **Bilingual library staff person** – The FMHL board voted to approve funding for a part-time, temporary bilingual staff person at the Morgan Hill Library. This person will help the library provide services to Morgan Hill’s significant Spanish-speaking population.

Thanks, as always, for your support of the Friends of the Morgan Hill Library. With your help, we do a lot to make our local library better for the entire community.

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**Report from Recent Meeting of the Friends of the Library**
Teresa Stephenson, Secretary

- The meeting was held on April 10, 2008 with 9 people attending, President Lisa Pampuch presiding.
- Treasurer Bud O’Hare reported there is $50,000 left from the Beyond Books Campaign for library furnishings and art. Bookstore income averaged $530 per week for the quarter and the quarterly book sale garnered $2450.
- Rosanne Macek reported that National Library Week will be April 15-18. The City Council will present a proclamation on the 16th. The library will offer behind the scenes tours. Library usage is up 1/3 from last year. Programs included story time, book discussions, Guitar Hero tournament; library was open during the hike up El Toro.
- Lisa Pampuch reported that a survey of Friends groups is in process. Puzzle Day attendance doubled – can’t double at the library, may have to change the date to May but Rosanne thinks the library can accommodate it. We need to look into finding storage space for the FMHL files that are scattered among various people. Need more research to come up with total square footage required.
- By-law changes were formally accepted and approved. Changed ‘association’ to ‘public benefit corporation’.
- Three picnic tables for the library plaza were purchased with BBC funds. Ideas for additional art for the Library were presented by Carol O’Hare including a quote wall for the Adult area and 2 companion pieces of sculpture by Paul Loughridge, made of found objects for the Children’s area. A motion to proceed in general was made and passed and will be discussed at the board meeting.
- Deborah Sierra has volunteered to be the Volunteer Coordinator, Bev Jensen and Virginia Janovitch will coordinate the quarterly book sale for September.
Librarian's Report, September 2008
Rosanne Macek, Community Librarian

Happy Birthday to us!! It's hard to believe our new library is one year old already. And the community really loves its new library. During our first year of operation, the number of items checked out was up 31% from last year, the number of visitors was up 37%, the number of new library cards was up 60%, reference questions were up 29%, and storytime attendance was up 40%.

You all have been such a big part of making our first year a huge success. The Beyond Books campaign funded all our beautiful artwork and continues to support important enhancements to the building including new video shelving, outdoor tables, displayers throughout the building, and more.

All the hard work by those of you who work in our bookstore is also really making a difference. Bookstore income pays for important enhancements to the collection such as our hugely-popular bestseller collection and for our many programs such as book discussion groups, summer reading programs, and children's programs such as puppet shows. These programs are very popular with hundreds in attendance.

Speaking of the summer reading programs, we have had another busy summer, all made possible by your generosity. All the participants in our adult program received library bags and certificates to the Friends bookstore. Our teen participants attended many fun programs such as crafts, manga discussion groups, and Guitar Hero. Teen finishers receive a free book and will be entered into a drawing for an iPod Shuffle. Our children’s programs drew enormous crowds for our magician, animal shows, puppets, and musicians. And each finisher will receive a free book. It was really a phenomenal summer.

Read any good books lately? Since I’ve been out of school for the summer, I’ve had time to read so many good books, so it was hard to choose just a few to mention here. Probably the one that affected me the mostly deeply was Beautiful Boy: A Father’s Journey Through His Son’s Meth Addiction by David Sheff. This is the riveting and harrowing story of a father trying to help his son Nic as he descends into the depths of addiction and goes through multiple rehabs and relapses. Nic also wrote a book from his perspective called Tweak, and I am anxiously awaiting my copy from the hold list.

I also enjoyed Breaking Dawn by Stephenie Meyer, book four of the teen vampire love story. This series has been hugely popular with teens and adults, and a movie is in the works. Lastly, another recent favorite book was Laughing Without an Accent: Adventures of an Iranian American, at Home and Abroad by Firoozeh Dumas. This is the wonderful follow-up to her first book Funny in Farsi. I had the pleasure of meeting the author at the recent American Library Association conference. Some of you may remember hearing the author speak at our old library several years ago and we are trying to get her to visit again.

Thank you for all your support of the new library, and happy reading!
Books Among Friends

Once again we asked some of the members of the Friends about books they've read recently that they would recommend. 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: In my extremely limited spare time, I've been reading light, fun reads that are easy to put down when I'm interrupted and easy to pick back up when a few unused minutes float by. I recommend these:

- *Playing for Pizza* by John Grisham - Surprise: There's not a lawyer to be found in this tale of a washed-up NFL quarterback who can only get a job playing football in Italy. Escape to Parma and follow Rick Dockery as he finally grows up far away from the big lights of pro football in America.
- *Fearless Fourteen* by Janet Evanovich - I love the “girl detective” mysteries by Evanovich (hers are numbered) and Sue Grafton (her titles are alpha oriented), and Evanovich's latest installment is my favorite in her series. This book is populated by a host of quirky, lovable characters who are involved in one way or another as Stephanie Plum tries to find a kidnapped bail skip.
- *The Good Husband of Zebra Drive* by Alexander McCall Smith - This is another mystery series with a female lead, but you simply cannot call Precious Ramotswe a “girl” -- and she's the brainchild of a male, unlike my other "girl detective" series. The mystery plays second fiddle in this book and the relationship between Mma Ramotswe and her assistant takes center stage.

Vicky Reader: As a longtime fan of unabridged audio books for commuting and road trips, I highly recommend the pre-loaded, digital Playaway books located near the circulation desk. Despite the popularity of *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini, I have not read or seen the film adaptation yet, so it has been a special treat this week to "read" this novel as narrated by the author himself. I suggest checking out the Playaway titles for portable reading and storytelling.

Teresa Stephenson: *Screwed : The Undeclared War Against the Middle Class - and What We Can Do About It* by Thom Hartmann. It explains how the policies of the last 25 years have worked to undermine the middle class. If you care about what sort of country we will leave for our children and grandchildren, then this should be a must read.

Bud O'Hare: I recommend *Move to Strike* by Pamela and Mary O'Shaughnessy for a good summer read. It is a better than average mystery set in Lake Tahoe and other areas of California and Nevada. One of the authors was a former trial lawyer and the other was a writer and editor. I think they make a good combination for this type of book and have a knack for including a whole variety of interesting characters.

Emily Shem-Tov: I'll admit to having dropped everything to read the final installment of Stephanie Meyer's *Twilight* series, *Breaking Dawn*, when it was released in August (even managing to stay up for the midnight book release party and then polishing it off the next day.) I also recently listened to the audio version of *Unaccustomed Earth* by Jhumpa Lahiri for my bookclub at work. Each of the eight stories in the set featured Bengali parents and their American-raised children and were richly told and moving.

Financial Report

Bud O’Hare, Co-Treasurer

Our financial position continues to be strong through July year to date. We have a bank balance of $24,025 in operating funds in addition to the $73,167 left in the New Library BBC fund for art and furnishings. Our total income to date is $27,684 due to the very strong sales generated by our book store which is averaging over $500 per week in addition to our traditional quarterly sales.

News Bites

* Hayden Lloyde, a long time member of the Friends, passed away in August. We send our condolences to his wife Jean.

* Congratulations to Teresa Stephenson, who received the Golden Mushroom Award from the Chamber of Commerce in August. She was honored for her extensive work with W.E.R.C. (Wildlife Education and Rehabilitation Center). Teresa is also an active volunteer with the Friends. She serves as secretary, manages the database and works in the bookstore once a week.
**Puzzle Day 2009 is Coming! Volunteers needed**

Planning is under way in earnest for the Third Annual Silicon Valley Puzzle Day. The organizing committee for the 2009 event met earlier in August to begin making committee assignments. This year, we are expanding to a two-day event, with workshops being held on Saturday, February 7, and the tournament happening on Sunday, February 8.

We still need volunteers to chair the following committees:

- Sponsors
- Workshops
- Marketplace
- Special Event

Please contact Lisa (lisapampuch@iname.com) or Emily (emily@chocolatespoon.com) if you can help. We have a wiki for volunteers that will help us communicate about tasks completed and still undone. In addition, event updates will be posted to our public web site, http://www.svpuzzleday.org.

Our next Puzzle Day planning meeting is set for Tuesday, September 2, at 7 pm in the library’s program room.

**SVR 2009: “Not a Genuine Black Man”**

The 2009 selection for the Silicon Valley Reads program is *Not a Genuine Black Man* by Brian Copeland.

It’s a funny and poignant memoir (and a one-man show) of Bay Area broadcast personality Copeland about growing up in the 1970s as one of the first African-American families in San Leandro. The book/show reveals a little-known chapter of Bay Area history; in 1971, San Leandro was named one of the most racist suburbs in America. Congressional hearings were held. The next year, the then eight-year-old Brian Copeland and his African-American family moved to San Leandro. In a monologue that’s both funny and poignant, Brian explores how surroundings make us who we are.

The Friends will be sponsoring events in Morgan Hill as part of the county-wide program. More information at http://www.siliconvalleyreads.org/
Nominate Your Favorite Librarian!

Our librarians make a difference in the lives of people in our community every day. Now is your chance to shine the spotlight on a librarian who has positively impacted your life and the lives of others in our community.

The Carnegie/New York Times I Love My Librarian Award encourages library users to recognize the accomplishments of exceptional librarians. The awards program will demonstrate how librarians are improving the lives of the people in their communities. The award is administered by the American Library Association with support from the Carnegie Corporation and The New York Times.

Up to 10 librarians will receive $5,000 and will be honored at a reception in New York hosted by The New York Times. Public librarian nominations must be received by October 1, 2008. Public librarian nominees must have a master’s degree from a program accredited by the American Library Association in library and information studies.

Find nomination forms, information on the award, and more at http://www.ilovelibraries.org/ilovemylibrarian
Notes from the Book Sales Committee
Leigh Donaldson, Karen MacDonald, Carol O’Hare

It is hard to believe that the Friends of the Library Bookstore has been open more than a year already! Thanks to everyone who has helped to make it a popular place for our library patrons. Having our own store has been challenging, but profitable! Our book donations, open hours and active volunteers have all increased; and so has our income. Friends book sale activities have grossed over $35,000 in its first year!

Book donations continue to pour in at a phenomenal rate. The volunteers that sort, price and stock the books into the bookstore now work 3 busy mornings a week just to keep up, and keep the bookstore shelves well stocked.

In the old library, Friends Book Sales were held only twice a month. Our new library Friends Bookstore is open 5 days a week for almost 40 hours each week. We also hold two-day “Big” book sales quarterly. Don’t miss the next Big Sale September 12th & 13th. There will be thousands of books that are on sale for the first time, as well as a large section of books and videos that are only $5/bag.

There are currently over 60 volunteers that sort, stock or sell for the Friends. The book selling arm of this organization could not happen without the time & efforts of all our volunteers. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! If you are not yet a book sale volunteer and are interested in becoming one, contact Karen MacDonald, 779-3995, karenmacdonald@charter.net or Carol O’Hare, 782-9029, cbohare@garlic.com, for more information.

Announcing the Friends Lunch Bunch

Want to get to know other Friends better? Starting this September, all members of the Friends of the Morgan Hill Library are invited to a monthly “Friends Lunch Bunch” at Erik’s Deli (Vineyard Town Center) starting at 11:30AM. It will continue the second Monday of each month. If you are available and want great excuse to go out to lunch, just show up and have lunch with other Friends! (No need to RSVP)

Mark your 2008 calendars with these dates: 9/8, 10/13, 11/10, and 12/8.
Contact Leigh Donaldson for more information: LDDonaldson@Charter.net

Library, Culture and Arts Commission (LCAC) Update
Emily Shem-Tov, LCAC Chair

After many years of volunteer service on the Library Commission, Chuck Dillman has moved out of town to pursue a job opportunity in Monroeville, PA (near Pittsburgh) and has left the Commission. We thank Chuck for his contributions and wish him the best of luck in his new pursuits.

The Commission is investigating options for long-term funding strategies for the library, arts and culture in town, including the establishment of foundations. The Commission invited Morgan Hill Community Foundation president Dave Reisenauer to its August meeting and is interested in opening up a conversation with the Foundation regarding how the two groups can work together in the future. The Commission is also working on organizing a city-wide arts and culture forum where local groups and interested individuals can come together to discuss the needs of the local arts community. The Commission also submitted drafts of policies and procedures to the Public Safety and Community Services Committee of the City Council and is working on making suggested changes before resubmitting.

LCAC meetings are open to the public and are held the second Tuesday of each month at 7pm at the Library.
Meet the Library Staff: Margaret Rose, Senior Clerk

Margaret Rose is a Senior Clerk in the Morgan Hill Library and has worked at our library for 20 years. Margaret took a few moments to introduce herself to us here.

Something that you may not know about Margaret is that she is a member of the Jane Austen Society of North America (JASNA). She enjoys going to the local group meetings in San Francisco and also the JASNA General Meeting held in October of each year. This year, the national meeting will be held in Chicago. About 650 members attend, and most (including Margaret) dress up in Regency clothes. There are wonderful workshops to learn to make Regency hats, to learn more about Jane Austen and to meet various authors. According to Margaret, it is truly a celebration of Jane Austen and her 6 novels. So if you are an Austen fan as well, ask Margaret about the conference next time you see her at the library.

Q: What’s your favorite thing about the new library?
A: I truly love our new library building. I grew up in Morgan Hill so I care a lot about our town and its accomplishments. I have so many favorite things at the Morgan Hill Library: the art work throughout, the automated check-in system and the magazine/new book area.

Q: Any great books that you’ve read that you would recommend? What books are on your night stand/to-read pile that you are looking forward to?
A: I have some books, I can recommend. The Mitford series by Jan Karon -- I am reading through them now. It’s a wonderful place to visit. Tracy Chevailer’s books, historical fiction with art at the center of the story. Nancy Moser is an author that never disappoints -- every book is different and wonderful. Diana Setterfield -- The Thirteenth Tale -- everyone should try this book.

Books on the night stand now include: Queen of Fashion--What Marie Antoinette Wore to the Revolution by Caroline Weber.

I also want to read all the off-shoots from Jane Austen novels, including:
* The Lost Memoirs of Jane Austen by Syrie James
* Just Jane: a novel of Jane Austen’s life by Nancy Moser
* The Confessions of Fitzwilliam Darcy by Mary Street
* Mr. Darcy’s Decision: A Sequel to Jane Austen’s Pride and Prejudice by Juliette Shapiro

National Friends of Libraries Week is October 19-25, 2008

This is the perfect time to encourage your friends and neighbors to join the Friends! Membership brochures are available at the library or point them to our web site, http://friendsmhlibrary.org/
September is Library Card Sign-Up Month

Libraries all over the country designate September as Library Card Sign-up Month — a time to remind parents and kids that a library card is the most important school supply of all.

Studies show that children who are read to in the home and who use the library perform better in school and are more likely to continue to use the library as a source of lifetime learning.

There are so many things that you can do with your Santa Clara County Library card! You probably know that you can check out books, CDs, DVDs and more at the library with your card, but did you know that you can also:

- Log into the library’s website and renew your books?
- Put books on hold on through the online catalog and have them waiting for you at the library when they be come available?
- Download audiobooks and listen to them on your computer or portable MP3 device?
- Access magazines, journals, newspapers, encyclopedias, music, dictionaries, websites, databases, e-books, e-video, and more, online 24-7?
- Get free online homework help and skills building from Brain Fuse, daily 1pm - 10pm?

Know someone who doesn’t have a library card yet? Let them know that anyone who visits the Morgan Hill Library can get a library card, that may be used at any Santa Clara County Library. Applicants must appear in person. There is no minimum age limit and no parental signature is required. Library cards are issued free of charge.

To get a card, they will need a valid form of identification showing their name and picture and proof of their current mailing address. If they do not have proof of their identity and/or mailing address, a limited use card will be issued. A limited use card may be used to access online databases, use the computers in the library, and borrow up to two library materials at any one time.

Banned Books Week 2008

September 27-October 4

Celebrating the Freedom to Read is observed during the last week of September each year. Observed since 1982, this annual ALA event reminds Americans not to take this precious democratic freedom for granted. This year, 2008, marks BBW’s 27th anniversary (September 27 through October 4).

Although they were the targets of attempted bannings, most of the books featured during BBW were not banned, thanks to the efforts of librarians to maintain them in their collections. Imagine how many more books might be challenged—and possibly banned or restricted—if librarians, teachers, and booksellers across the country did not use Banned Books Week each year to teach the importance of our First Amendment rights and the power of literature, and to draw attention to the danger that exists when restraints are imposed on the availability of information in a free society.

The American Library Association (ALA) Office for Intellectual Freedom received a total of 420 challenges in 2007. A challenge is defined as a formal, written complaint, filed with a library or school requesting that materials be removed because of content or appropriateness. According to Judith F. Krug, director of the Office for Intellectual Freedom, the number of challenges reflects only incidents reported, and for each reported, four or five remain unreported.

Look for displays at the library during the week featuring books that have been banned or challenged in various communities around the country.

The “10 Most Challenged Books of 2007” reflect a range of themes, and consist of the following titles:

1) And Tango Makes Three, by Justin Richardson/Peter Parnell
2) The Chocolate War, by Robert Cormier
3) Olive’s Ocean, by Kevin Henkes
4) The Golden Compass, by Philip Pullman
5) The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, by Mark Twain
6) The Color Purple, by Alice Walker
7) TTYL, by Lauren Myracle
8) I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings, by Maya Angelou
9) It’s Perfectly Normal, by Robie Harris
10) The Perks of Being A Wallflower, by Stephen Chbosky

For more information, and the reasons behind the challenges for these books, visit http://www.ala.org/ala/oif/bannedbooksweek/bannedbooksweek.cfm
Big Booksale Coming!

The Friends of the MH Library are having a quarterly book sale on Saturday, September 13, 2008 from 10am-4pm.

These quarterly book sales help to fund many events, materials and art for our library.

We need our members to tell their friends about this book sale. We have recently generated a huge inventory thanks to a large donation from the Mercury News. The books are brand new and current titles.

Also members are invited to a “members only” preview night Friday, September 12, 2008 from 7-8:30 pm.

Come and stock up on some great books to read!