

Upcoming Events

- April 18**
Spring Book Sale
- May 2**
Art a la Carte
- July 18**
Robot naming contest for kids
- October 17**
Fall Book Sale
- October 24**
35th Anniversary of Friends of the Library

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Big Book Sale



Saturday
April 18, 2009

Members-Only Preview
9 AM – 10 AM

Open to the Public
10 AM – 4 PM

2 Rooms of Books –
Regular Price and \$5/bag

After 3 PM,
books half price
(super specials excluded) and \$2/bag

In addition to the usual variety of books (fiction, non-fiction, textbooks, children's), this sale includes a large number of books in the following categories:

-  Science fiction, both hardcover and paper, regular price and \$5/bag
-  Mystery, both hardcover and paper, regular price and \$5/bag
-  Religion, old and rare, including a 6-volume set of *A Commentary on the Holy Bible: Practical Remarks and Observations* by Matthew Henry, dating from the late 19th century. \$50. Old religion books in \$5/bag sale also.
-  Collection of 1950s Broadway plays that includes original cast lists and photos, \$2 each
-  Japanese language and other foreign language books in \$5/bag sale
-  Old and rare (some just old), including science, technology and fiction

And you never know what gems have been donated to the Friends! In this sale, there will be advertisements from the 1920s, mostly for granite enamelware and stoves, some framed and matted, plus a few Campbell soup ads and old postcards, even a 1938 photo of the Dionne quintuplets! All priced 10¢ to \$2. Plus, there are the usual autographed books and advanced reading copies, and for the first time, we're selling jigsaw puzzles, too.

National Library Week Celebrate April 12-18, 2009

Worlds connect @ your library®

National Library Week is an annual celebration of the contributions of our nation's libraries and librarians. All types of libraries - school, public, academic and special - participate.

In today's economy, libraries offer free resources to help people find jobs and learn new skills. Worlds connect @ your library, with people of all ages and backgrounds finding entertainment, self-help or their place in the community. With free resources like books, magazines, DVDs and computer and WiFi access, they can do better in school, tackle projects and learn new ways to improve their health. 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.

Message from the President

Carol O'Hare, 782-9029, cbohare@garlic.com

Welcome Peggy Tomasso. Perhaps you've wondered about the new face around the library, working at the Information desk or taking charge of other activities. And perhaps you've wondered why you haven't seen our community librarian, Rosanne Macek. Rosanne is on temporary assignment at the Cupertino Library for a few months where she is filling in for a librarian out on medical leave. Peggy has come from the Campbell Library to help out while Rosanne is gone. See the Librarian's Report for more information about Peggy, and please welcome her to Morgan Hill.

February Programs. The Friends sponsored two very successful programs in February: Silicon Valley Reads and Silicon Valley Puzzle Day. A standing room-only crowd of over 200 greeted Brian Copeland at the Community Playhouse for his presentation as part of the **Silicon Valley Reads**

program. Copeland is the author of *Not a Genuine Black Man: My Life as an Outsider*, which is based on his one-man play of the same name. Copeland kept the audience spellbound for more than an hour with stories about his life. The event was co-sponsored by BookSmart, AAUW-Morgan Hill and the Morgan Hill Times. (You can see Brian again on May 21 when he brings his show to Morgan Hill. Details can be found elsewhere in the newsletter.)

Our thanks to **Emily Shem-Tov** and **Lisa Pampuch** for coordinating the third annual **Silicon Valley Puzzle Day**. Workshops on Saturday and competition on Sunday drew substantially more participants than in 2008 and made money as well. Next year, this event will be presented by the Morgan Hill Library Foundation as a fundraising event. Lisa and Emily, who are establishing the foundation to promote long range goals for the library, will continue as Puzzle Day co-chairs, as well as serving on the board of the foundation.

March Board Meeting. The board made a number of financial decisions at its recent meeting. Responding to a request from the Puzzle Day co-chairs, the board approved transferring the proceeds from 2009 Puzzle Day (\$852) to the library foundation to provide start-up funds for the 2010 event. In addition, the donation from Adobe (\$625) that was earned by the many volunteer hours that Emily put in for 2008 Puzzle Day will be transferred to the foundation. The board also voted to donate \$250 to the Silicon Valley Reads program and \$2000 toward the next library parcel tax campaign. Funds were approved to add needed shelving to the Friends bookstore and sorting room. The next board meeting will take place in early June. Members are welcome to attend. (Check the website for date.)

Changes on the Board. **Teresa Stephenson**, who has served as secretary for several years, has decided to change board positions. She will now be membership coordinator and keep the data base. **Yvonne Duckett**, former vice president, is now back on the board as secretary. Although we're still in need of someone to take charge of publicity and programs, we're also looking for volunteers who are willing to help with some part of these jobs. Please contact volunteer coordinator, **Karen MacDonald**, 779-3995, to learn more.

In Honor of Earth Day, Think Green. You can reduce the use of paper, printing costs and postage when you choose to receive your newsletter electronically. You can either get it via email attachment or be notified when it is available online at the Friends website. Of course, we are happy to mail your newsletter via the postal service, but we're encouraging those who have no preference to choose email. Please notify Teresa, Stephensonjr@earthlink.net, if you would like to change how you get your newsletter.

The Friends of the Library will celebrate the **35th Anniversary** of its founding on Saturday, October 24, 2009. What kind of a party should we have? Are you willing organize the event or help with planning? Please contact me with your ideas and offers to volunteer.

Membership Report. We now have 133 members, including 26 who have joined recently. Thanks for being a Friend!



Librarian's Report

Peggy Tomasso, Acting Community Librarian

Well, I should probably start out by introducing myself and explaining why I am writing this article instead of Rosanne Macek. Starting on February 16, Rosanne went to the Cupertino Library as their Acting Community Librarian while their community librarian is out on an extended medical leave. I was sent here to support the Morgan Hill staff in Rosanne's absence. Normally, you would find me at the Campbell Library where I am the Adult Program Librarian. In my past I have been the bookmobile librarian, worked at San Jose Public Library as a children's and teen librarian, at Prescott Public Library in Arizona as Youth Services Manager and in Stanwood, Washington as a children's/reference librarian. I am a puppeteer with my own puppet stage and over 60 puppets (they are currently in semi-retirement). I am enjoying this lovely community and new library so much I may not want to leave!



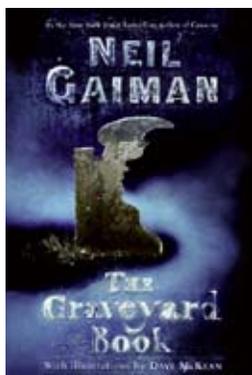
The Friends do a phenomenal job of funding many great programs for the library. In March there was a Magic Show with Tony Daniels

for children and their families with over 200 attending, and teens celebrated Teen Tech Week by playing Rock Band (with over 30 attendees).

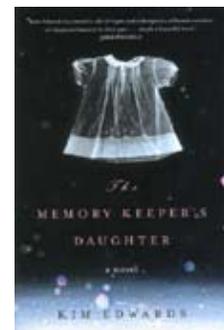
The Manga drawing contest had over 15 entries. The artwork is displayed on the group study room glass facing out into the teen area, and there are some fantastic artists in the Morgan Hill community! Come to the library and vote for your favorite. Also there was a movie release party for the blockbuster, "Twilight". All the performers, supplies and prizes for the children's and teen programs are funded by the Friends.



The teen graphic novel group discussed *Tail of the Moon* by Rinco Uedo on April 3. The adult book group discussed *Doomsday Book* by Connie Willis in March, and the *Memory Keepers Daughter* by Kim Edwards is next on April 30. Extra copies of the books for both our adult and teen book groups are purchased with Friends' funding.



Heard any good books lately? I really enjoyed listening to the 2009 Newberry Award winner *Graveyard Book* by Neil Gaiman for older children and teens. Mr. Gaiman reads the book and does a superb job. His voice reminded me of Alan Rickman, who plays Professor Snape in the *Harry Potter* movies. I also enjoyed listening to the 2 books by local author, Lisa Lutz, *The Spellman Files* and *Curse of the Spellmans*. These humorous titles set in San Francisco are like Janet Evanovich's *One for the Money* series where you get to know a host of zany characters that you grow to love. And the newest installment, *Revenge of the Spellmans*, has just come out, but is not available on audio yet.



DIGITALBookmobile Visits MH, 4/18

Did you know that you can download audiobooks, eBooks, and more for free from the library's web site? Come join us for a special event with the DIGITALBookmobile that will visit the Morgan Hill Library on **Saturday, April 18** from 10am-5pm. Readers of all ages are welcome to make use of instructional videos and interactive computer stations to learn new ways to enjoy digital books and more!



Notes from the Book Sales Coordinator

Leigh Donaldson, LeighDonaldson@Charter.net

News Flash! It takes a lot of Friends to run a bookstore! In the first 10 weeks of 2009, there were 108 Bookstore shifts and 28 sorting days that were filled by our fabulous volunteers. Thanks to everyone who volunteered for even one of those shifts. Our "Fabulous Friends" are making our bookselling operations a huge success.

Friends Bookstore sales continue to do very well. Comparing the first 10 weeks of 2009 to 2008, Bookstore gross sales were up 5% to \$5,181.75. In the same 2009 ten week period, the online Friends Amazon storefront added another \$2,337.45 (gross), totaling \$7,519.20. That is a 52% increase in book sale income over the same 10 weeks of 2008.

Starting to sell online in late 2008 has been very profitable. Thanks to unique donations and sorters' book selection assistance, online bookselling volunteer **Roberta Henderson** is able to offer excellent books at reasonable prices to online customers. She maintains the Friends Amazon storefront very professionally. She meticulously describes each book that is listed, promptly emails customers, and then packs, ships and tracks all sold items. At press time, there are over 400 titles listed, an eclectic mixture of everything from old Latin books and German comics to science and math textbooks. There are books on baseball cards, surveying and embalming, and even one on brain surgery. There are two bound years (1917 and 1919) of the New Republic magazine, one of which contains the first publication of a William Faulkner poem. Check out the variety of books and great deals that are available online:

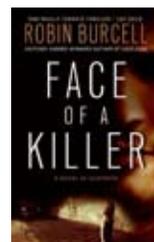
<http://www.amazon.com/shops/MHLibraryFriends>. Special thanks to Roberta!

Thanks also to everyone for donating books or shopping in our store and at our sales. Keep those donations coming. We love finding a good home for your treasures.

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.

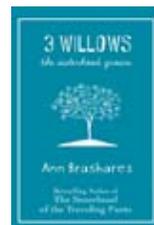
Teresa Stephenson: My pick this time is *Face of a Killer* by Robin Burcell. She is a trained FBI forensic artist and police detective who has (surprise!) written a mystery about a woman FBI agent and forensic artist. It involves a decades old mystery about the murder of the father of the agent, Sydney Fitzpatrick, and more current skullduggery. The characters were interesting and the story moved along. Burcell has a series about another woman detective that I have not read but plan to look into.



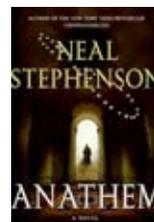
Lisa Pampuch: Published in 2007, *The Reluctant Fundamentalist* by Mohsin Hamid is a short but eye-opening novel with a unique structure: a one-sided conversation with a silent American at a tea house in Lahore, Pakistan. The novel provides readers with an outsider's view of America, pre- and post-9/11. For Americans, it's a rare and intriguing opportunity to see this country through the eyes of a Pakistani Muslim man educated at Princeton and employed as an analyst at a prestigious New York financial firm.



Katie Pampuch (who will be a freshman at Live Oak High School in the fall): If you liked Ann Brashares' *The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants* series, you'll like her newest book, *3 Willows*. This book includes some of the first series' setting details and characters, but also introduces new characters who are younger than the Traveling Pants characters. The characters in *3 Willows* are about to become high school freshmen. Like the Traveling Pants series, the characters have different summer adventures. I'm looking forward to reading the whole series.



Emily Shem-Tov: I've been listening to Neil Stephenson's *Anathem* on my commute. Taking place in a far-future Earth-like planet where scientists, philosophers and mathematicians live in a separate, cloistered society, it has lots to say about technology and the future. Although the length (900+ pages or 36 hours on CD) is daunting and the math and philosophy densely packed in, I was immediately and completely pulled into this alternative world created by one of my all-time favorite authors and would have gladly spent another 36 hours with those characters and ideas.



Volunteering for the Friends

Karen MacDonald, Volunteer Coordinator, 779-3995, karenmacdonald@charter.net

We are fortunate to continue to have a steady influx of new volunteers for the bookstore. Some are sorters who are trained “on the job”. New bookstore volunteers are in various stages of getting trained, mentored, and ready to work the bookstore on their own.

We are so grateful for all of you—new and experienced volunteers—who give your time to support our library. Some sort donations and stock the bookstore. Some work regular shifts in the store. (These regular volunteers make my job so much easier!) Another group of volunteers works as substitutes. They are a great help in filling in when needed.

In addition, we have Friends who have volunteered to do some other time-consuming but much-needed jobs. **Mark Grzan** has designed and updated our Big Book Sale flyers for April. Take a look—they are gorgeous. **Elizabeth Mandel** will help **Elaine Reimer** distribute book sale flyers around town. **Debbie Sierra** will keep Friends brochures stocked at the Chamber of Commerce office. **Yvonne Duckett** volunteered to update our membership form when needed. **Laura and Karen MacDonald** are organizing a publicity scrapbook for FMHL. **Donna Dicker** prepares the newsletters that are mailed by U.S. Postal Service. Thank you to all.

Volunteers are currently needed for a special project. **Art a la Carte**, an annual event for children, will take place on May 2 at 10am-2pm at the Community and Cultural Center. The Friends of the Library will have a booth where children can make bookmarks. Volunteers are needed for preparation, which includes buying materials (you will be reimbursed) and cutting out book marks with Ellison dies, and for staffing the booth (2 hour shifts). If you can do any of these activities, please contact me. It should be fun!

Again, thank you to all volunteers for whatever you do. Special projects or running the bookstore and book sales are big jobs. Your talents and time make all run smoothly.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions, concerns, or want to volunteer.



Brian Copeland Returns to Morgan Hill

Brian Copeland brings his highly acclaimed one-man play, “*Not a Genuine Black Man*” to the Morgan Hill Playhouse on **Thursday, May 21**, as a benefit for Community Solutions. The Friends sponsored Copeland’s recent appearance at the Playhouse where he spoke to an overflow crowd about his book of the same name. The book, a witty and touching memoir, was the 2009 selection for Silicon Valley Reads. Copeland is a well known stand-up comedian and popular KGO radio host.

The play is scheduled to start at 7:30 pm. Doors to the lobby of the Playhouse will open at 6:30 pm for a pre-show cocktail hour with light hors d’oeuvres, and seating begins at 7:00 pm. General admission tickets are \$35 and can be purchased at BookSmart.

This benefit presentation is being coordinated by BookSmart. Community Solutions, a comprehensive human services agency serving South Santa Clara County, will receive 25% of proceeds. For more information, contact BookSmart, 778-6467.



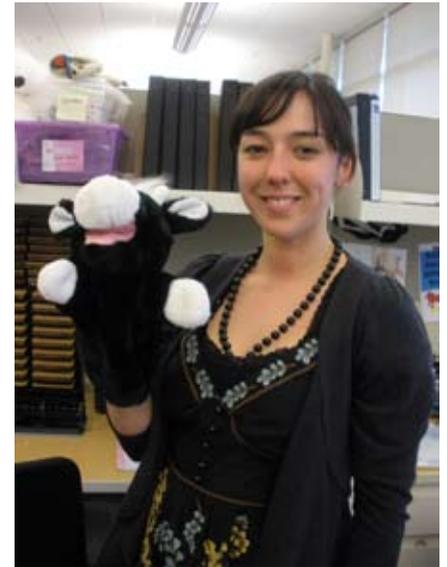
Friends’ President Carol O’Hare and Morgan Hill Community Librarian Rosanne Macek with Brian Copeland at the Silicon Valley Reads event.

Staff Profile: Tracy Casimiro

Tracy Casimiro recently joined the Morgan Hill Library family as a new children's librarian. We asked Tracy to tell us a little about herself:

Q. What were you doing before coming to the Morgan Hill Library?

A. I spent my childhood in Springfield, Massachusetts, which is where Dr. Seuss grew up! I love skiing and reading, so that's part of the reason that I went to college in Vermont and studied English Literature. Following that, I became a YA librarian in Palmer, Massachusetts. It was so much fun that I decided to get my degree in Library and Information Science at Queens College in New York. While I was there, I had the opportunity to intern at Democracy Now! and help archive some old jumbled tapes that desperately needed organization. Working in a newsroom was very exciting! I also worked as a research assistant for the National Center for Children in Poverty at Columbia University.



Q. What's been your favorite thing about being a librarian (so far)?

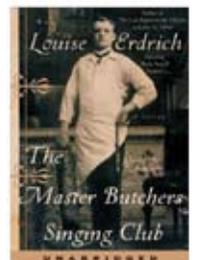
A. I really enjoy helping people find the answers to their questions or at least get closer to the answers! We're all getting smarter every day and I'm glad that I can be of assistance. I also love reading and watching movies, so it's great to hear what other people are looking for. It keeps me on my toes by giving me ideas about what I want to read or how to help the next person.

Q. What's your favorite thing about the Morgan Hill Library so far? How does it compare to others you have worked at?

A. The collection of children's books here is wonderful. The staff at Morgan Hill does such an impressive job of keeping them in shape and making sure that we have lots to choose from. This is certainly the biggest and busiest library that I have ever worked at.

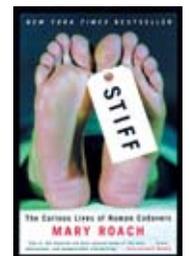
Q. What books are on your to-read pile that you are looking forward to?

A. The pile of books on my nightstand keeps getting bigger! I'm reading *Golden Gate Gardening* by Pam Pierce, because Spring is here and I need to get a move on with my veggies. I'm also reading *Graveyard Book* by Neil Gaiman and *Stiff* by Mary Roach. In the car, I'm listening to *The Master Butcher's Singing Club* by Louise Erdrich.



Q. What do you do for fun?

A. These days I love hiking through the redwoods and swimming in the river with my hound dog named Henry Lee. I also enjoy gardening, traveling to new places, and tap dancing!



Stop by and say hello to Tracy next time you're in the library!

National Library Workers Day, April 14th

On Tuesday, April 14, during National Library Week, schools, campuses and communities across the country will celebrate 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 and say thank you to some of the people who make our library so great!

Silicon Valley Puzzle Day

Lisa Pampuch and Emily Shem-Tov

The third annual Silicon Valley Puzzle Day, held at the library on February 7th-8th, was a tremendous success! This year the event expanded to two full days, with workshops and a dinner party on Saturday and the tournaments on Sunday.

A special thanks to all the fantastic organizing committee members who made the event possible -- Martin Cheek, Brian Conrey, Leigh Donaldson, Marilyn Librers, Rosanne Macek, Vicky Reader, Kathy Sullivan, and Julie Sullivan. Big cheers for all the volunteers who helped out at the event, including many members of the Friends. Thank you to Yvonne Duckett, Colleen Grzan, Florence Kwock, Carol O'Hare, Margaret McCann, Katie Scanlon, Deborah Sierra, Teresa Stephenson, Vidya Swaminathan, and anyone else who we have forgotten to mention! Thanks also to Sue Brazelton for capturing some wonderful photos of the event.

A shout-out as well to Tyler Hinman (now 5-time reigning American Crossword Tournament winner), Thomas Snyder, Byron Walden, Andrea Carla Michaels, Ganesh TS, Jim Summers, Mark Diehl, and Ann Sheffer -- all stars in the crossword and sudoku world who contributed their puzzle expertise to our event. We also want to acknowledge our fantastic sponsors and partners: the American Institute of Mathematics BookSmart, Fry's Electronics, the Morgan Hill Times, Morgan Hill Rotary Club, realtor Rebecca van Dahlen and Trizm Books.



Library, Culture and Arts Commission (LCAC) Update

Emily Shem-Tov, LCAC Commissioner

In light of the city's budget concerns, the Commission will be meeting bi-monthly starting with the May meeting. The Commission meets at the Library at 7pm on the second Tuesday of each month. Meetings are open to the public.

The Commission has drafted a workplan for the upcoming year which breaks the groups' tasks into the following categories: Liaison with City Departments and Other Commissions; Promotion and Outreach of Arts, Culture and Library; Temporary Art Exhibits; Permanent Public Art; Downtown Projects; Art ala Carte; Library Card and Technology Outreach; and Performing Arts Outreach.

One of the tasks the Commission has taken on this year is the annual Art a la Carte event, a day of hands-on art and crafts for children and their families that is being held on May 2. We're delighted that the Friends will be sponsoring one of the booths, and hope that you will all stop by. The theme this year is Animals around the World.

Because one of the other goals of the Commission is to find ways to help to promote the library's databases, eBooks, and other online resources to the community (as well as to support the library's efforts at encouraging library card sign-ups), we are particularly excited about the DIGITAL Bookmobile's visit upcoming on Saturday, April 18.

Wildlife . . . and All That Jazz!

Teresa Stephenson, longtime volunteer with both the Friends and the Wildlife Education & Rehabilitation Center (W.E.R.C.) announces a special concert of great jazz by The Sideways Trio (www.thesidewaystrio.com) to benefit the programs and services of W.E.R.C. The evening entertainment takes place on Saturday, April 25, 2009, at Advent Lutheran Church, 16870 Murphy Avenue, Morgan Hill. Donation is \$25 per person. Information on purchasing tickets can be found on W.E.R.C.'s website: www.werc-ca.org. Tickets may be also purchased at BookSmart, 80 East 2nd Street, Morgan Hill, at the Morgan Hill Chamber of Commerce, 90 East 2nd Street, Morgan Hill, or at the door.

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

Friends of the Library Bookstore Hours

Tuesday: 1pm - 7pm

Wednesday and Thursday: 10am - 7pm

Friday: 10am - 4pm

Saturday: 10am - 4:30pm

Emily Shem-Tov, Newsletter Editor

emily@chocolatespoon.com



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.

Matching Gifts of Time and/or Money

Vicky Reader, Vice President

In contrast to the “corporate greed” we hear about, many companies with a strong sense of social responsibility continue to benefit nonprofit organizations like the Friends. Some firms contribute to local communities by encouraging employee volunteerism and philanthropy, even offering Matching Gift programs to supplement employee donations of their personal time or money. Some offer these matching funds not only on behalf of their employees, but also include retirees and/or spouses. FMHL is grateful to those Friends who have taken the time to complete relatively pain-free forms with their employers to benefit our library with valuable matching gifts.

Did you know that there are Silicon Valley companies that generously contribute matching dollars for volunteer hours worked by employees/retirees/spouses? Whether you volunteer one-time or work a regular bookstore shift, your volunteer time might result in a cash donation to FMHL. Team projects, such as a few colleagues helping out at a Big Book Sale, can increase a company donation as firms typically base matching funds on a rate per hour per volunteer basis. The search engine on matchinggifts.com allows free queries to enter the name of an organization against a database of companies that match gifts to nonprofits, but best bet is to check directly with your human resources or community relations department to see if it offers a Matching Gift program. If it does, you can review any guidelines and obtain necessary forms. In these challenging economic times, the Friends and our library can use all the help it can get to leverage limited resources.

Donate Books

The Friends of the Morgan Hill Library are grateful to the community for its continuing support of our book sales. Good quality donations are always needed. Please donate the following: Books (all types, paperback and hardback); Textbooks (less than ten years old); Books on tapes or CDs (abridged or unabridged); Music CDs, DVDs and children’s videos; Jigsaw puzzles (with no missing pieces). Receipts for your tax-deductible book donations may be requested at the Friends Bookstore or at the Library’s Accounts desk.