



FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

MORGAN HILL, CALIFORNIA

www.friendsmhllibrary.org

Spring 2013

The Bookworm Bulletin
Events of the Friends of the Morgan Hill Library

Inside

Special Message
from Steve Tate

4

Book Reviews

Jan Sanders Offers
Recommendations

6

Mike Cox to be
Honored by
Leadership MH
July 27, 2013

8



2035 Art Contest for Children and Teens

The library will host a juried art contest themed around the city's 2035 general plan update. Children and teens are invited to enter an original piece of art that depicts what would make Morgan Hill an awesome city in 2035. Commissioners from the Library, Culture, and Arts Commission and the Friends will judge the entries.

There will be a grand prize of \$235 and (3) 1st place prizes of \$35 for each of the grade levels. Prizes will be awarded for artists entering K-2nd, 3rd-6th, and 7th-12th grades. Grand prize and 1st place winners will have their artwork shown at the Community Center. All artwork will also be shown at the library. Artists can elect to put their work up for sale and half of the proceeds will benefit the Friends!



Volunteers Count

Thank you to all our 60 active volunteers who put in so many hours to work as sorters, bookstore book sellers and at special events. In the first four months of 2013 our volunteers have donated 1,266 hours of time at the library.

Bookstore volunteers work approximately 185 hours each month selling books to customers. Sorters work three mornings a week to organize, categorize, and tidy our sort room. They also stock the bookstore and Bargain Books.

Our big book sales bring out another set of volunteers. Some help set up, hefting boxes of books from storage to the Program Room and organizing the tables. At the end of the sale, they take leftover books to the Goodwill bins and put away tables. Other volunteers work as cashiers during the sale, help customers and keep things tidy.

And not to forget our online book seller Roberta, who does a terrific job of handling Amazon sales. She selects and lists books, communicates with buyers and packages books for shipping. She does this every day, providing top level service to buyers.

We sometimes participate in one-day special events. One of these occurred in April when FMHL and the library had a booth at Art a la Carte at the Morgan Hill Community & Cultural Center that offered free art activities to children. Several members worked with 2-10 year olds to create mini-books based on the theme "Letters, Words, Books as Art". In addition to the art project, our volunteers passed out information to the children and parents about Friends of the Library and the library parcel tax campaign that will be coming up soon.

More volunteers? Thank you to the FMHL Board members who keep things running smoothly, to Yvonne who puts together our newsletter, and to Andrew, who manages our website.

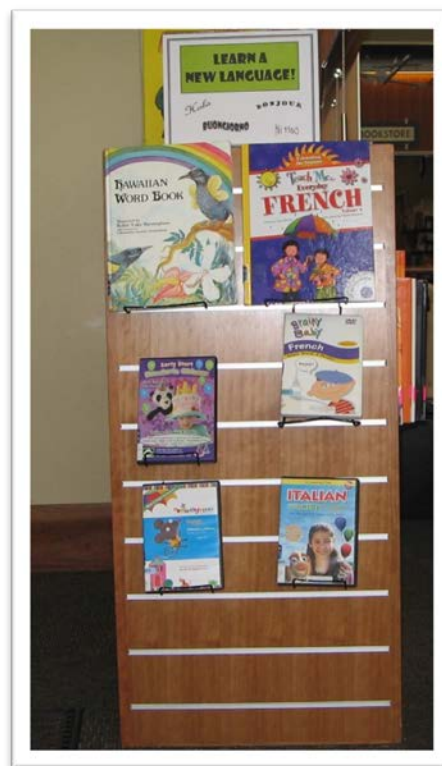
All of our volunteers make this organization a strong, vibrant community asset. You are the best!

2

Karen MacDonald, volunteer coordinator



Nancy Casey and Martin Yan of "Yan Can Cook" when he appeared at the Morgan Hill Library on February 14.



Pictured above is the shelving unit the Friends bought for the entrance to the children's area.

Report from the Community Librarian

Peggy's Pages

*Notes from
the Librarian*

Peggy Tomasso
ptomasso@scecl.org

School is almost over and summer is nearly here. The library is looking forward to a summer filled with great books and activities for the whole family. The Friends are providing a free book for every child and teen who signs up for the summer reading club.

Adults who sign up will get a \$3 coupon to the Friends' Bookstore. This year the library is offering a Google Nexus 7 Tablet as the grand prize for a drawing for teens and adults who participate and read five books over the summer.

Along with the summer reading club, there will also be many special programs. Here is a sampling of some of the wonderful programs for children and teens that will be sponsored by the Friends:

For teens:

- 6/18 Iron Chef cooking class with the Culinary Dude
- 7/9 Temporary Tattoo party
- 7/23 Henna Tattoo program.
- 7/30 Cupcake War with the Culinary Dude

For children:

- 6/15 Animals from Around the World
- 6/26 Corny Crow Show with Steve Chaney
- 7/13 Rock Steady Juggling 'Eco-tainment'
- 7/17 Access to Oddities Magic Show
- 7/24 The Bubble Lady is back



Cinco de Mayo
Puppet show sponsored
by the Friends

The Friends have supported many great programs in the past few months, including Valentine card craft, Zumba!, do it yourself nail art, bookmaking for kids, kids pizza cooking class and sushi making for adults. The candy jewelry event had over 50 teens participating!

Getting to Know Our Library Staff Members



The library has had a lot of staff changes in the past few months. We had to say goodbye to Tracy Snow, our children's librarian extraordinaire, but we get to welcome Tamara Palmer from the Woodland/Los Altos Library, who has been doing an innovative story time program called Shake, Rattle, and Roll.

We also welcome two new faces at the accounts desk, Lynn Quan and Diana Alday. You will get to meet the library's new staff in upcoming editions of the newsletter.

Special Message from Morgan Hill Mayor, Steve Tate

Extension of Library Special Tax

It seems like only a couple of years since we won the campaign to extend the special library tax assessment, but it has actually been eight, and it will expire two years from now. Our needs have not changed. We still need the extra income provided by the tax to maintain (and some day extend) hours, to keep the collection comprehensive and robust, and to retain all of our fabulous staff.

So we are launching a campaign to keep exactly the same tax rates that have been in place for almost 20 years (\$33.66 per parcel, all of which stays local in our community). There will be a mail ballot that will go out at the end of July and be due August 28. The Library District's Joint Powers Authority will be giving final approval for the ballot measure at our May 28 (special) meeting. Preliminary polling showed 76% in favor of extension (66 2/3 needed for passage). This time, we are asking that it not expire for 20 years.

The strategy behind doing it this August is to take advantage of voter support evidenced by recent successes of local tax measures, while not waiting to be on the same ballot with many other potential tax measures. The result is that we are very much in hurry-up mode with a very tight timeline to get everything lined up properly and within deadlines.

We need community support to assure successful passage. Please spread the word among your friends that, like you, love and support our fantastic, award-winning library. Funding and endorsements are critical. Both can be made through the campaign website: <http://saveourlibraries2013.org> where you can also learn much more about the measure. If you would prefer, you can email endorsements to me at stevetate@charter.net, simply say "I endorse the extension of the SCC Library District tax."

Contributions can also be mailed to:
Save Our Libraries
PO Box 1522
Cupertino CA 95015

Thank you so much for your ongoing support of our great library and for your efforts in support of keeping it as terrific as it is by helping to pass this extension!

Steve Tate
Morgan Hill Mayor & SCC Library District JPA Member



Get Ready for Summer Book Sale



Saturday,
June 1, 2013
10 am to 3 pm

All books \$1 or less
\$4 per bag 2-3 pm

Fiction, non-fiction, hardcover, paper
Children's books and small paperbacks 10 cents each

Members Only Preview

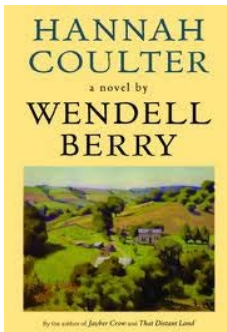
Saturday, June 1, 9 - 10 am

(before sale opens to the public, memberships available at the door)

Save the date: October 12, 2013 next book sale

If you haven't read an Elizabeth Berg novel, and you like human interest, life's lessons type stories, then pick one up! Joy School by Elizabeth Berg will tug at your heartstrings. 13 year-old Katie just moved to a Missouri town with her stern father following her mother's death. She doesn't fit in at school and makes friends with a misfit, a shoplifter, and a 23 year-old gas station attendant. Joy School is a memorable tale of trying to fit in, and of first love. Berg conveys the way each unpromising element of Katie's life ultimately offers her more than she had anticipated. While at times the book makes you chuckle, there are also heartbreaking moments – this story will tug at your heart and waken childhood memories –which may or may not be a good thing!

Best Kept Secret by Amy Hatvany is haunting, hopeful, and beautifully written. This novel probes the darker side of motherhood and family secrets. Cadence didn't sit down one night and decide that downing two bottles of wine was a brilliant idea. Her drinking snuck up on her. Best Kept Secret takes an honest look at the slippery slope of addiction and the strength it takes to recover. It is also a testament to the power of a mother's love. Her son Charlie is taken from her and the separation tears at her soul. She has to get him back... I could not put this book down and am still thinking about it. It is a story that resonates with women and mothers.



A wonderful read that nudges you to ponder about life, Hannah Coulter is a novel by Wendell Berry. Port Williams is a small close-knit farming community in Kentucky. Hannah shares her life with us through her memories. Twice-widowed, alone, and in her late seventies, Hannah recalls childhood, young love and loss, raising children, and other changes in her life. Her story contemplates the deterioration of community, with wise, thoughtful, and often fiery opinions about the way things were, are, and might have been. It will get you thinking about life – and changes in our society.

If you like suspense and thrillers, this is your book - Tripwire by Lee Child. Jack Reacher is retired from the military police, but has a hard time settling down. He owns nothing –no car, house, credit card, clothes (except what is on his back) and likes it that way. Easy to travel. He is in Key West, Florida when a private investigator shows up asking about him. The PI is murdered and his identity leads to New York. Reacher is compelled to find out why the PI was looking for him. He is surprised when the reasons turn out to be personal, dangerous, and very twisted. A page-turner with a finale that will make you sit up and gasp. Lee Child has written a series of Jack Reacher adventures, which often involve the military or government. If you liked the television show 24, you will like the Jack Reacher novels.

The perfect husband is not so perfect. Jim Beckett was everything Tess dreamed of, but two years after she married the decorated cop and bore him a daughter, she finds out the truth—he's a cold blooded murderer. She helps to put him behind bars, and he promises to kill her. Lisa Gardner's novel The Perfect Husband is a story about revenge, betrayal, and survival. When Jim Beckett breaks out of prison, Tess must find a way to survive. She seeks help, but Beckett knows law enforcement and infiltrates all the safety nets protecting Tess and her daughter, Samantha. With the help of a burned-out ex-marine, Tess learns to fight back. This page-turner has a very creepy villain and nerve-shattering suspense.

President's Message

We are happy to report that bookstore and online sales are keeping pace with our budget projections. The Board was apprised of the upcoming plans for a parcel tax vote this summer; check out the article by Mayor Steve Tate in this newsletter for more about it. We hope that the Friends' membership will do all that they can to help educate the public about the importance of continuing the current level of support for the library (by voting YES on the measure that will renew the parcel tax). For more information about this, please check out the website: <http://saveourlibraries2013.org/Home.html>

The Friends and the library staff collaborated on providing a booth at the April 27 Art a la Carte, a free event for children at the community center. We distributed 50 free children's books and helped as many children make their own books by coloring and assembling a 4-page packet. The volunteers might have had as much fun as the kids, watching their pleasure in creating a personalized keepsake.

The Summer Book Sale will be held on June 1, from 10 to 3, with exclusive early entry for members at 9 am. We are always so grateful to those who volunteer to help set up and run this sale, and hope to see lots of our Friends' membership attending the sale.

Again this summer, the Friends will offer gift coupons to our bookstore for the adult summer reading program. We are glad to be able to encourage reading at all ages by supporting this library program.

Thank you all for supporting our library; if you would like to know how you might do more, feel free to contact me at vjchambliss@gmail.com. I am in awe of those who tirelessly volunteer to keep our various activities running, I salute you all!

Valerie Chambliss, President FMHL

FMHL Budget and Library Requests



In the first four months of 2013, FMHL sold over \$17,000 in books and media online, in the bookstore, and at the Big Sale held in February.

We were able to purchase slat-wall end panels, a bookshelf, and a headset microphone for the library, plus a DVD rack for the bookstore. In addition, we supported programs such as Chamber Music, Operation Freedom Paws and Zumba classes.

We also made deposits on summer programs, including cooking classes, Read Across America, Dinosaur Rock, and Monterey Zoological. Of course, we also paid for many books for all age level readers. Many thanks to our volunteers, members, and customers!!

Marti Jurick, Treasurer



Friends of the Morgan Hill Library

660 W Main Ave.
Morgan Hill, CA 95038

www.friendsmhllibrary.org

The Bookworm Bulletin

Spring 2013



Leadership Morgan Hill honors **Mike Cox** with its 2013 Leadership Excellence Award on Saturday, July 27. The event will be held at Guglielmo Winery at 5 pm, with dinner, silent auction, tributes, music and dancing. Tickets (\$95) may be purchased online, www.leadershipmorganhill.org. Click on TICKETS in the upper right corner.

Mike and Mary Cox are long time library supporters. In addition to being major donors, they hosted a fundraising event for the new library at their home. For more information contact Carol O'Hare, 408-782-9029, cbohare@garlic.com.