

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

MORGAN HILL, CALIFORNIA

www.friendsmhlibrary.org

Late Fall
2019

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

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Friends of the Morgan Hill Library Speakers Forum

Present: **Author Elias Castillo**

During **Native American Heritage Month**, the Friends of the Morgan Hill Library are partnering with BookSmart on a library visit by **journalist and author Elias Castillo**, who was featured in the "Stories of the Past" film shown at the MH Historical Society's Founders Dinner.

Castillo's eye-opening book, *A Cross of Thorns*, is about the Mission Period's impact on California Coastal Indians. Elias Castillo's remarkable book starts with a concise history of Spain's brutal conquest/colonization of the Americas, followed by a detailed, well-researched, documented account of the chain of Franciscan missions in California and their effect on small Indian tribes ("tribelets").

Elias Castillo is a three-time Pulitzer Prize nominee and the winner of thirteen journalism awards. Born in Mexicali, Baja California, Castillo holds two degrees from San Jose State University and is a former reporter for the San Jose Mercury News and the Associated Press.

Filmmaker and journalist Robin Shepherd will join Castillo.

Saturday, November 23, 2019 3 pm
Morgan Hill Library, Program

Notes from the President

Teresa Stephenson, tcstephenson@garlic.com

I would like to wish everyone a happy holiday and invite you to get in the spirit of the season by attending our annual members' meeting, and stay for our holiday concert featuring *Resounding Achord*.

Save the date: December 10. The meeting starts at 6 PM, followed by the concert at 7 pm.

It has been a busy year for the Friends thanks to all the members who volunteer to make the bookstore and book sales successful. We are equally grateful to the library and the community. Together we make our library a wonderful place to be and an asset to Morgan Hill. FMHL recently celebrated our 45th anniversary and we look forward to all that the following years have to offer.

Next year will be an exciting time as the expanded children's area will be completed, as well as development plans for expanding the bookstore.

Although I will be stepping down as President, you'll still see me around. I'll continue working on other projects in addition to sorting and filling in at the bookstore. It has been my great privilege to lead the Friends for the last several years. I know I leave it in good hands.

I wish all of you a happy and prosperous New Year!

See you at the library...

Teresa Stephenson

Friends of the Morgan Hill Library History

Friends of the Morgan Hill Library recently celebrated 45 years of existence!

From a 2007 Friends newsletter, "The Friends of the Library Beyond Books fundraising campaign has finished its work, with \$176, 439 in contributions, pledges and proceeds from fundraising events. To this amount, the Friends has added \$50,000, for a grand total of \$226,439."

The Beyond Books Campaign raised funds for art and furnishings for the new library.

Karen MacDonald Honored as “Best of Friends”

On October 24th, Ladera Grill served as the venue for the Friends of the Morgan Hill Library’s presentation of 2019’s Best of Friends award. The recipient of this year’s award went to long time member, Karen MacDonald. The celebration date also corresponded with the founding date of the FMHL organization, established 45 years ago in 1974.

Karen joined the Friends in 1988 and throughout her early years served as secretary/treasurer, president, and book sale chair. For the past decade Karen’s acted as volunteer coordinator for the quarterly book sales as well as the Friends bookstore. In addition, Karen lends a hand in the sorting room, orders supplies, arranges the monthly lunch bunch gathering, and pretty much whatever else needs to be done. Karen was presented with a beautifully engraved box as a small token of our appreciation for all she’s done and continues to do.

Thank you Karen!!



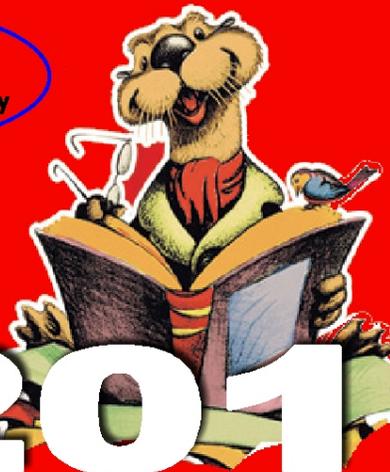


A Book for Every Child!

Gift of Reading Morgan Hill



Donate by
12/14/19



2019 DONATE TODAY!

Please give the gift that lasts and never needs batteries! donate new or like-new children's books for ages 0- 14. You can purchase and donate via the web at mybooksmart.com (look for the Kid's Indie Next List for a selection of age-appropriate books). Or, better yet, you can donate in person at the store and receive a **20% discount** for any new books purchased for Booksmart's Gift of Reading "book barrel"!

Donation Barrel Located at BookSmart

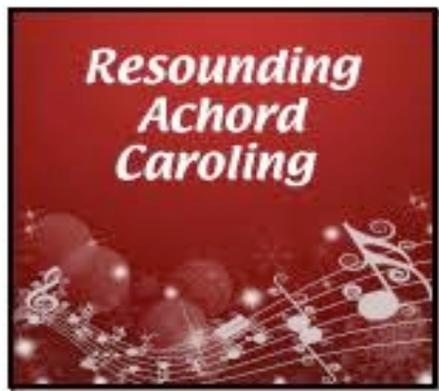
Sponsored by: BookSmart Community Advantage - Edward Boss Prado Foundation - Friends of the Morgan Hill Library, Sonrisa Stables, Morgan Hill Life, and AAUW-Morgan Hill.

Donate a NEW or "LIKE NEW" children's book today and we'll make sure it goes to an under-served child in our community for the holidays. Any children's book purchased at BookSmart for the donation barrel will get a 20% discount. Cash donations also welcome. Program administered by BookSmart Community Advantage.

Friends Speakers Forum Presents:

Resounding Achord

The Friends of the Morgan Hill Library warmly welcomes the talented octet from Resounding Achord on Tuesday, December 10, at 7 pm. We hope Friends attending the Annual Membership meeting at 6 pm will stay to enjoy the festive one-hour choral experience of the four-part harmony caroling. If you are unable to attend the Friends meeting, come for the music - a true holiday treat for all!



The Friends of the Library invite you to enjoy festive holiday music in four-part harmony. Selections include traditional carols and some new arrangements of holiday classics.

Tuesday, December 10, 2019

7pm-8pm

Morgan Hill Library

660 West Main Avenue

408.779.3196



Membership Update

Joy Safakish, Membership, safakishj@yahoo.com

Be a Friend to Your Library - Join FMHL!

FMHL invites you to join us in another year of supporting your Library. FMHL membership dues, the proceeds from our bookstore, on-line sales and the profits from quarterly book sales all go to the Morgan Hill Library to supplement their annual budget. The memberships available are: Annual level (\$10-individual, \$20-family, \$50-Sponsor, \$100-Patron), a 5-Year membership, a Business Level and a Lifetime Membership. All memberships and donations are tax deductible.

Membership perks include a discount card (50% off any one item in the Friend's Bookstore, once a month, all year), and early admittance-before the general public, to our quarterly book sales. On our website, http://www.friendsmhl.org/help_the_friends.html, you can pay with PayPal or download an application form and mail it to us. You can also stop by the Friend's Bookstore and to become a Friend or renew your membership.



Why should I join a non-profit organization like FMHL?
It just makes good cents!



Winter Book Sale

Saturday, February 8th

10 am to 3 pm

All books \$1 or less

**Fiction, non-fiction, hardcover, paper
Children's books, 10¢ each**

**DVDs \$1 (not included in Bag Sale)
2-3 pm bag sale - \$5 per bag**

**Members Only Preview: 9 – 10 am (before sale opens to
the public)**

Companies Offer Matching Volunteer Donations

By Rod Skinner

Most people know that many companies will match employee cash donations to non-profit organizations. Far fewer people know about a similar benefit called Matching Volunteer Grants. This is a benefit program where a company matches volunteer time with cash donations to the non-profit. I was not aware that I was eligible and my volunteer hours expired unclaimed for the last 40 years.

I would like to encourage you to see if you are eligible for a Matching Volunteer Grant program and then submit hours to be matched. I would also like you to know that many of these eligible volunteers are friends and family members who may also be unaware. Knowing about these benefits enables you to help them and the volunteer organizations they love. These grant programs are all very different, but distill down to eligibility and payment rules.

Eligible hours usually expire at the end of a calendar year or in some cases 12 months after the volunteer time.

In general, there are four groups of people that I have seen be eligible:

1. Full-time employees,
2. Part-time employees,
3. Retired employees and
4. One company, (AMD), extended the program to spouses.

The volunteer hour payout algorithms are unique to each company. The payout maximum is generally between \$500 and \$5,000 per year. They tend to match volunteer hours at a rate of \$10 to \$25 per hour and require a minimum of 10 to 20 hours in order to claim.

How do you determine who is eligible? One way is to check your company website for donation and volunteer benefits. The second way I tend to use is to search the Internet for, "Volunteer Grant company-name". If you need help, let me know. One website link, that you can type in the company name is: <https://doublethedonation.com/matching-gifts/intel-corporation>

If you are eligible and unaware, you will be happy to know your volunteer contributions are matched with extra cash. If you are not eligible, you can still teach your family, friends and volunteer organizations by making sure they know about this overlooked source of funding.

It has amazed me to find how many eligible volunteers are simply unaware.

Wonderful Volunteers!

Karen MacDonald
Volunteer coordinator

Thank you to our seventy volunteers who helped raise funds for the Morgan Hill Library throughout the year. The Big Book Sales, held three times a year, are staffed by about 20 volunteers each time. About 68 volunteer hours are logged per sale, making the sales successful. We earn around \$1,800 each sale. We also clear out all the extra, donated books that don't sell. Our October sale produced two tons of donated books!!! All our sorters and the people who set up before and clean up after the sales have to handle these books. That's a lot of heavy lifting! No need to hit the gym on days when we set up or clean up. In addition to the volunteers who help 3 times a year, we are thankful to the volunteers who work the bookstore shifts on a regular basis, or as substitutes. They interact with the public to help them find what they are looking for and keep the store neat and tidy. The volunteers who work behind the scene are our sorters. They come in every week to sort through all the donations and get them in some semblance of order. The books might be put out on the book shelves in the store, be saved for the next big book sale, go to the Bargain Book area, or be donated to Better World Books if we can't use them. There is even more that goes on behind the scene -some sorters use the computer to look up non-fiction, interesting fiction, or old and rare items to see if they have any extra value that might send them off to our on-line book seller. Our on-line book seller then double checks pricing, advertizes them on Amazon, communicates with buyers, packs the books up, and mails them to the buyer. Our on-line seller is amazing and we are so lucky to have her. She spends many hours every week to benefit FMHL. That's a lot of work that gets done in the name of Friends of the Morgan Hill Library.

Other events where volunteer participation is greatly appreciated are Morgan Hill Historical Society's Holiday Boutique, Art-a-la-Carte, and smaller "overstock" book sales held at the library. These events provide good P.R. for the Friends.

Thank you to everyone who works in whatever way feels comfortable for you. Money earned from your efforts provides best-seller books; children's programs; teen and adult programs; Silicon Valley Reads; and Friends Programs -which are cultural, educational, musical, and/or informational for community members of all ages.

Community members who use the Morgan Hill library may not know it, but they benefit greatly from FMHL volunteers' efforts.

We think our volunteers are the best!!



"Everybody can be great. Because anybody can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and your verb agree to serve.... You don't have to know the second theory of thermodynamics in physics to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love."
~Martin Luther King, Jr.

THE LUNCH BUNCH!

Volunteers enjoy a meal and conversation at their monthly Lunch Bunch which meets on the 2nd Monday of every month. All members are welcome!

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY 2020 SLATE OF OFFICERS



President: *Vicky Reader*, is a longtime volunteer with the Friend's, having held the positions of president, secretary, newsletter editor, and membership chair. Currently, she organizes speakers' forums and serves on the board of the Santa Clara County Library District Foundation, in addition to working a regular shift in the bookstore.



Vice President: *Ric Smith* has been vice president for four years. In addition to helping set up for book sales, managing the storage shed, and working in the bookstore, he ensures that all tax forms get properly filed.



Treasurer: *Sherrie Wren* In addition to her year long Friend's volunteer work in the bookstore, Sherrie is also a volunteer with the Santa Clara County Master Gardeners and has served as treasurer for the Morgan Hill Community Garden. Other interests include watercolor painting and birding.



Secretary: *Kim Ewertz*, is a long time volunteer working as a cashier in the bookstore and the editor of the newsletter. She is a writer for the local newspapers and is working on a book.

Friends of the Library Calendar

Sat, Nov 23, Author Elias Castillo 3 p.m.

Tues, Dec 10 Friends Annual Meeting at 6 p.m., followed by Resounding Achord
- Music, 7 p.m.

Sat, Dec 14, Gift of Reading deadline. Donate new or like-new books for underserved children.
Get 20% discount at BookSmart.

Mon, Jan 27, Friends Board Meeting – all Friends are welcome – 7 p.m. @ Morgan Hill Library

Sat, Feb 8, Big Winter Book Sale – 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. @ Morgan Hill Library

Library News

Heather Geddes

Happy December Friends members and volunteers! It has been a very busy autumn at the Morgan Hill Library. We are 7 weeks into the construction of our library addition and the project is quickly moving along, the majority of the groundwork has been completed and we will begin working on the foundation in December. The Friends board is also working on a plan for creating a new workspace and renovated store, which will be developed in the first half of 2020.



I'd also like to invite you to attend one of December's holiday programs at the library:

Resounding Achord Caroling- Tuesday 12/10 at 7pm. Presented by the Friends

Holiday Jazz Night – Monday 12/16 at 7pm.

Holiday Craftapalooza – Wednesday 12/18 at 4pm. Crafting for the whole family!

The North Pole Review – A puppet show presented by Fratello Marionettes

Thursday 12/19 10:30 am & Saturday 12/21 at 10:15am.

Happy Holidays and Happy New Year! Thank you for all of the support you provide to the library and our community, wishing each of you the very best in the New Year.

Did you know?

There is a critical need for enriching early learning experiences to address the opportunity gap in Morgan Hill. The library is partnering with the YMCA to offer a free Early Learning Readiness program every Tuesday and Thursday morning. This program engages with children and caregivers in activities and lessons that foster development and school readiness. The 2019/2020 program began in October but is still accepting new applications.