



FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

MORGAN HILL, CALIFORNIA

www.friendsmhlibrary.org

50th Anniversary

1974-2024

Spring 2024

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From Spain to Mexico



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BY ALBERT MARQUÉS &
FRANK FLORES



SATURDAY | APR 6th | 12-1PM
at the Morgan Hill Library

Notes from the President

Vicky Reader vevreader@gmail.com



Did you notice our new Friends logo? Yes, 2024 marks the 50th year of the Friends of the Morgan Hill Library! Stay tuned for more about our anniversary celebration scheduled for Saturday, October 26th, during National Friends of the Library week.

The Friends support our library beyond County budget allocations. Community Librarian Heather Geddes appreciates being able to offer additional programs and services tailored to local patrons. The Friends also provide volunteer service. In 2023, volunteer Friends logged 2,931 hours at the library, equivalent to more than 1-1/2 staff working fulltime. Other dedicated Friends volunteer outside the library, including handling online sales and crafting items for sale by the Friends.

Special thanks due to the Rotary once again! Their \$1,000 grant award we submitted through the SC County Library District Foundation helps fund a permanent StoryWalk installation in Morgan Hill.

We rely on your help, too. Stop in and continue to visit our library Bookstore. Become a regular patron at our Big Book Sales, periodic special sales and sponsored programs. Check out our online storefront. Help us get the word out about our good books at lowest prices. Support us through membership and donations of books and other accepted materials in such good condition that customers want to take them home.

Looking back to 2006-2007, we Friends led the Beyond Books Campaign for the newly built library. The community raised \$230,000. Since then, we have not held or needed any fundraising campaigns. In this our 50th Anniversary year, we do now ask that you please consider a donation to the Friends of the Morgan Hill Library (FMHL) as we kick off the "\$50 for 50 Years of FMHL Service" appeal. We hope you think of the Friends and make a donation, starting during April's National Volunteer month. We Friends are grateful for your support to be able to fund needs related to facility enhancements in process at our now 17 year old "new" library.

Many thanks to all for your support of the Friends!



Friends of the Morgan Hill Library program, Ragtime to Swing, with Mark Gaetano, December, 2023.

Happy Spring, Friends Members! Our library had a very busy 2023, and I wanted to share a few interesting statistics with you from the past year.



Highlights and Interesting Facts of 2023

- Items Borrowed: 671,059
- Items in our Collection: 187,074
- Visitors: 176,050
- Hours Open: 2,743
- New Library Card Holders: 3781
- Items circulated per hour: 248
- Busiest Month of the Year: October

Learning Opportunities at the Library

Visit our website at sccl.org to learn about the many free online learning opportunities we have available. My three favorites are:



1. LinkedIn Learning – Access thousands of webinars in business, management, software, technology and creative skills.
2. Rosetta Stone – Start immersion language learning for 30 languages with core lessons that help build reading, writing, speaking and listening skills using interactive lessons, quizzes and challenges.
3. Headspace – Equip yourself to take care of your mind with 1,000+ hours of themed meditation sessions on everything from stress and sleep to focus and anxiety. This proven app which can reduce stress in just 10 minutes a day.

If you would like help accessing any of these library resources, please contact me at hgeddes@sccl.org or ask any of our librarians at the Information Desk who are eager to help. Happy learning!

New South County Outreach Specialist

Please join me in welcoming Amparo Méndez, our Community Outreach Specialist. In this new position, Amparo helps connect patrons and community members to resources and community agencies. She provides patrons with referrals to social service programs, housing opportunities, education programs, food and health resources. She has been working with us for three months giving warm, welcoming and personalized services to patrons navigating complicated situations.

Volunteers And Membership!

Karen MacDonald Volunteers and Big Book Sales karenmacdmhca@gmail.com

Donna Cotich Membership djcotich@yahoo.com

A huge thank you to those who came last month to volunteer or to find treasures at the first of our three Big Book Sales each year. We had a line out to the curb of Friends and Friends-to-be at our 9 a.m. "Friends only" early opening for the best selection. If you have never been to this sale before...why not? It's fun, and the prices are a steal.

At last month's sale we welcomed over 20 new Friends. We love when new folks find their way to us, but we also want to see Friends who have not renewed yet for the year. Download a membership application and join online at http://www.friendsmhlibrary.org/help_the_friends.html or stop by the Bookstore to sign up or renew your membership. Remember, the earlier you renew, the more you can utilize your discount cards! Think of the nominal annual cost of a Friends membership, \$10 per person or \$20 per family, with 50% off one item each month in the Bookstore, plus the early access to our thrice yearly sales before the library even opens. Flash your membership card and in you go.

We help the library financially with your support, so please come visit us in the Bookstore where we have great reads, movies, music, puzzles, crafts and, of course, friendly volunteers. Join us at our Big Book Sales with our even lower prices. Let Karen or Vicky know if you have *any* interest in volunteering in a role that interests you and fits your availability. We also accept materials which our patrons want, so please give us only materials which fit our guidelines and are in the condition you would give to a friend.

FMHL is a non-profit, all volunteer organization. Individual and family memberships and any cash donations are tax-deductible for the calendar year in which they are made. See you at the library at our Bookstore, at our April 6th program, or at our next Big Sale on June 1st!



Friends of the Library Big Book Sale on February 24, 2024.
Over \$2,500 was earned, including memberships, crafts, "keep the change donations".

2023 Report from the Treasurer

Sherrie Wren twowrens10@gmail.com

The December 31, 2023 year-end assets and liabilities of the Friends of the Morgan Hill Library in the Operating account, Online Sales account and two CDs are \$174,650.

Bookstore sales totaled \$23,749, an increase of \$4,054 from 2022. Online sales were \$10,879. Bargain Books earned \$614. Big Book Sales and Special Book Sales brought in \$3,702.

Donations and Grants received were \$8,753. This includes a \$1,529 donation from craft sales in the Bookstore and a \$500 Rotary Grant for graded reading materials. Corporate Match Donations and Grants were \$3,203 and other donations were \$3,521.

Our two new CDs earned \$2,810 in interest. Membership dues totaled \$2,649.

With a net income of \$29,569 at the end of 2023, we are celebrating our ability to support our Morgan Hill Library within the Santa Clara County Library District with a donation of \$20,445.

Friends of the Library Calendar Save the Date!!!

April – **National Volunteer Month,**

“\$50 for 50 Years of FMHL Service” donation request

Saturday, April 6 – **Ibiza Vibe,**

Live music in the Morgan Hill Library Program Room

Saturday, June 1 – **Friends Big Book Sale,** Member Preview 9 am,

General Public 10 am, Bag Sale 2 to 3 pm

June – **Friends Speaker Forum** with Jiang (Sarah) Pu, PhD; Author and

Founder/Principal Consultant of NextGen Education, date TBS

June 1 to July 31 – **Summer Reading Program,**

“Adventure Begins at Your Library”;

adults who sign up receive a \$3 coupon to our Bookstore,
children receive a book courtesy of the Friends