



Winter, 2026

THE BOOKWORM BULLETIN

News & Events from the Friends of the Morgan Hill Library

A Look Inside *This Issue*

- **Friends fund \$50,000** in Library patio improvements.
- **More volunteers mean more support and funding** — celebrating Friends who wear many hats.
- **Big Book Sale** news, programs, and upcoming events.
- **Membership perks**, renewals, and ways to get involved.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY
MORGAN HILL, CALIFORNIA

Winter Book Sale

Saturday, February 14
Library Program Room

Members Early Preview 9-10am

2026 Memberships Available

Sale Open to All 10am-3pm

Children's Books 25¢ Each
Other Books \$1 or Less
Special Sets Available

Unique Sewn Handicrafts
Fill Your Grocery Sized Bag
2-3 pm for \$5

santa clara county library district

**NEW
BOOK SALE
SCHEDULE**

Second Saturdays
• February • June
• October

Going forward



● ● ● Notes from Vicky

Vicky Reader, President
vevreader@gmail.com

Looking back at last year, Community Librarian Heather Geddes thanked the Friends again for supplementing our Library's budget.

She highlighted these specific areas where Friends made an impact:

- Children's Art and STEM programs
- Puppet Art Theater
- Happy Birds
- Dance and Cultural Programs
- Musical Performances
- Snacks at Teen Programs
- Adult Art and Crafts
- Summer Reading Prize Books

This year, our Library received a special FMHL donation of over \$50,000 for our 50th Anniversary in 2024, including \$5,000 received from donors.

Collaborating with Heather and Chris Ghione with the City, we have installed new patio tables, including an ADA-compliant one. Shade protection and a book-themed bronze bench will arrive by spring.

Board officers returning this year are Joy Safakish (Vice President), Sheila Dunwoodie (Secretary), and Sherrie Wren (Treasurer).

Shout Outs to Standouts!

Donna Cotich has actively contributed to the Friends organization through her work at the Bookstore, Big Book Sales, and as Membership Coordinator since 2019. During COVID, she made masks for Library staff. Since then, her variety of handmade items have boosted FMHL income by \$8,700. Her dedication has been invaluable.

Denise Schroeder is taking over the Membership role, having quickly proven to be an asset by covering Bookstore shifts, training cashiers, and assisting at Big Book Sales. She now is a Board member.

Roberta Henderson created our Friends e-commerce presence on Amazon and eBay and handles all the online activity from posting items to Post Office mailings. Since 2018, her efforts have generated over \$100,000 of income to be used toward Library needs.

**The entire Board values our dedicated members and volunteers,
our welcoming Library staff, and our patrons who generously support us.
It is a privilege for us to serve our community.**

**Thank you for being
an important part of it.** *V*

LIBRARY NEWS

by Heather Geddes, Community Librarian

Congratulations New Faces & New Roles!

Marissa Jacobo is now the Supervising Librarian for Adult & Teen Services, focusing on enhancing adult programming and outreach in the community. She has over twenty years of library experience, previously serving as the Supervising Librarian for Children's Services.

Tammy Kearin is the new Library Circulation Supervisor, overseeing Library Clerks and Pages responsible for Library Account and Material Services. She began her career with the SC County Library District in Campbell and has spent eight years in Morgan Hill as a Library Clerk and Senior Clerk. Last year, she received a County Employee Excellence Award and led an in-house professional conference, as well as planning for a new Automated Material Handling System.

Lobby Self Service Hours

The Morgan Hill Library now provides self-service access for patrons to browse new books, pick up holds, check out materials, read, and use WiFi in the lobby.

To register, visit during open hours to fill out a form and receive a demonstration on using Open Plus Access services.

Self-service available daily from 9:00am.

NEW



Tammy
with Taylor

Taylor is the new Children's Services Librarian leading the Lego Club and upcoming Storytimes programs.



Justin with Jocelyne

Justin, a full-time Library Clerk, works at the Accounts Desk and on Snack and Lunch at the Library programs.

John, the Senior Library Clerk, manages Library Pages and the Volunteer programs.

Jocelyne, the new Adult Services Librarian, oversees crafting and ESL programs.

Volunteer Coordinator

KAREN MACDONALD

karenmacdmhca@gmail.com

Volunteer Dispatch

Volunteer Spotlight

Joy Safakish, Vice President



In addition to serving as Vice President, Joy supports multiple areas of Friends operations, helping keep the Bookstore, Membership, and day-to-day volunteer efforts running smoothly.



Can you help? Email me.
karenmacdmhca@gmail.com

CLASSIFIEDS

BOOK STORE

Help Wanted at Bookstore

Have some time to spare? We're seeking friendly volunteers for Bookstore shifts, with cashier training provided.

Open Shifts:

- Sat: 1:00pm
- 1st Thu: 1:00pm-4:00pm
- 2nd Thu: 10:00am-1:00pm
- 5th Thu: 10:00am-1:00pm
and 1:00pm-4:00pm

The Friends Who Make it All Happen

The FMHL and our community are fortunate to have so many dedicated volunteers who make our organization so great. Most of our volunteers help the public in our Bookstore. Others work behind-the-scenes sorting, processing, and organizing materials donations from donors or from the library.

Some of the same volunteers, plus others, work at our Big Book Sales held in February, June, and October - before, during, and/or after the event. In fact, many volunteers hold multiple roles, including training others, helping with communication pieces, or serving on the board. There are so many busy Friends who keep us running smoothly.

Thanks to you all!

CLASSIFIEDS

eBay VOLUNTEER

Help Us Sell on eBay

One dedicated volunteer has handled our entire online sales process through Amazon and now we have a Friends presence on eBay. If you use that marketplace as a seller and have a possible interest in taking on this piece of our online sales, let me know.

CLASSIFIEDS

BIG BOOK SALES

UPDATE

Going forward, Big Book Sales will now be held on the **second Saturday of February, June, and October.**



Friday Setup Crew

Help set up for the Big Book Sale on Friday! Light lifting and book unloading. Trolleys provided. Your time matters!

Friday, Feb 13

- 12:15pm-2:30pm: Arrive early to set up tables and display genre signs.
- 1:00pm-2:30pm: Retrieve books from the shed, set them out in the Program Room, put up informational flyers, and tidy the area.

Sale Day Volunteers

Volunteers are needed for sale day to assist with setup, teardown, cashiering, arranging books, and general help.

Saturday, Feb 14

- 8:30am-noon: Cashier duties, tidy book boxes, stack empty boxes for storage.
- Noon-3:30pm: Same tasks, plus take leftover books to parking lot crates.

BOOK REVIEW

Joy Safakish, Vice President

SHOCKED EARTH

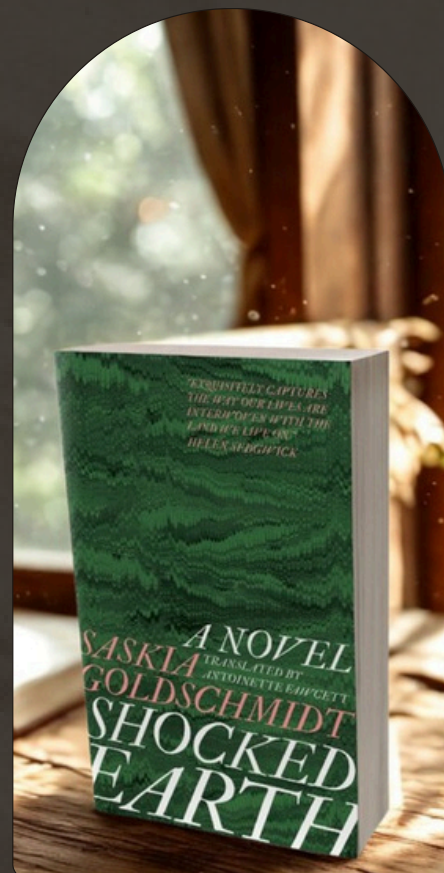
by Saskia Goldschmidt

A story from the Netherlands about a family in turmoil as they struggle to save their family farm. The setting is the providence of Groningen where gas extraction conducted by international oil companies is an actual historical event.

On their farm, earthquakes have damaged their home, have caused the deaths of livestock and their neighbors are experiencing similar events. Tensions rise between mother, Trijin, and her grown daughter, Femke. Femke envisions a farm based on sustainable growing practices while her mother wants to maintain the traditional ways.

Femke finds some relief in her first romantic relationship that builds her emotional maturity. As the characters gain insight into their plight, the community comes together to voice their dissent. Trijin contributes an energizing morale boost to these efforts while the state-owned gas company seeks to minimize the crisis.

Author Goldschmidt's depiction of the struggle against corporate tyranny with the underlying theme of conventional values versus progressive ideas is a compelling story.



Find BOOKS like this

at the Friends of the Library BOOKSTORE.

- Monday–Wednesday: 12:00pm–5:30pm
- Thursday and Friday: 10:00am–4:00pm
- Saturday: 10:00am–1:00pm

Hours may change based on volunteer availability.

Are you a teacher or know one?

Spread the word!

Teachers receive a 10% in-store discount on books to enhance their classrooms!

or shop ONLINE

amazon

<https://www.amazon.com/shops/MHLibraryFriends>

ebay

<https://www.ebay.com/usr/mhlibraryfriends>

TEACHERS
GET 10%
OFF

MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

By Donna Cotich

The Friends of
the Morgan Hill Library
is an all-volunteer
501(c)(3) non-profit.

CLICK
HERE

ONLINE
Membership
Renewal

PayPal or credit card accepted.

Welcome to the New Year, and thank you to our Friends of the Morgan Hill Library. **We're glad to see new members joining through the Bookstore and hope to see many of you at our Big Book Sale on Saturday, February 14.** Members enjoy Early Preview at 9:00am; the sale opens to all at 10:00am.

Calling all members who haven't yet renewed for 2026. Many annual and five-year memberships expired at the end of December. **You can renew at the Big Book Sale or online at Friends of the Morgan Hill Library — Help The Friends, where you can print a form or pay by debit, credit, or PayPal.** Not sure of your status? Ask a Bookstore cashier and they'll look it up for you.

Thank you to everyone who supports FMHL through monetary and book donations. **Every dollar raised in our Bookstore goes directly back to the Morgan Hill Library** to augment programs, supplies, and improvements that benefit the entire community.

You help make that impact possible by shopping in the Bookstore, enjoying your books, and donating them back when finished. Gently used book donations in good or better condition are always welcome, and gifting a membership or \$10 gift certificate from the Bookstore is another easy way to support the Friends.

Members and non-members alike are invited to explore our volunteer opportunities, listed on the membership form. If you're not yet a member, we hope you'll pick up a form at the Bookstore or at the Big Book Sale. We'd love to welcome you as a Friend of the Library.



Just \$10 to join

Individual Membership
\$10 one-year, \$50 five-years

Family Membership
\$20 one-year, \$100 five-years

*Visit our website for sponsor,
patron, corporate and lifetime-
tier membership info.*

**Membership fees directly
benefit the library.**

Tax ID#
26-1565575

Becoming a **FRIEND** has **BENEFITS**

- **Early access** to thrice yearly book sales.
- **Exclusive updates** on library programs.
- **Tax-deductible** membership fees.
- **Members-only** discount card.

For a little extra savings each month at our Bookstore.

**VISIT
US!**

**FRIENDS
Bookstore**
at MH Library

to get your **Membership Form**.

**MAIL A
FORM &
CHECK**

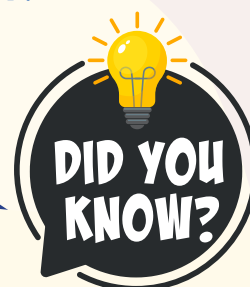
Payable to
FMHL

to **660 W Main Ave,
Morgan Hill, CA 95037.**

OR GO TO

friendsmhlibrary.org

to **find out more.**



Many of the books in our store are
like new, popular, and in great condition
yet most sell for just \$1 or \$2!

Our hardworking volunteers carefully curate
a high-quality collection
with your generous book donations.

TREASURER'S REPORT

January 21, 2026

At the 4th quarter closing on December 31, 2025, the value of our two CDs total \$112,726 and our other cash assets are \$128,759 making our total current assets \$241,635.

Our 2025 Books and Media, and Online income was \$52,156. Our two CDs earned \$2,400 in 2025.

Total donations and grants received are \$15,923. Donations include Crafts sales of \$1,894 thanks to Donna Cotich, our "crafty" member.

In 2024 our total income was \$62,563 and our net after expenses was \$32,224.

Our total 2025 income was \$72,300 and our net after expenses is \$34,771. This is an increase from 2024 of \$2,550.

\$21,000 have been donated by Friends to the SCCLD for spending on the Morgan Hill Library. The additional amount spent on local library programs brings the total to \$27,457.

We also made \$500 donations to both the Santa Clara County Library District (SCCLD) Foundation and the Silicon Valley Reads 2026 "Bridges to Belonging" program which continues through the end of March, including a recent author visit to our library.

We have paid a 50% deposit of \$6,400 on a bronze bench Friends is donating to the MH Library patio. It is being cast at Randolph Rose Collection in New York and should be completed and shipped by March 2026. Three new tables for the patio (one with an accessible opening) and a shade sail are also donated by the Friends.

A recent \$4,000 corporate match donor commented "My family loves this library and everything you all do there!"

We continue to fulfill our goal of supporting our wonderful Morgan Hill Library.

by Sherrie Wren, Treasurer
treasurer@friendsmhlibrary.org



FMHL contributed \$27,457 toward our Library's programs, services, and materials in 2025.

Our contributions toward district-wide programs and services benefit us as one of seven community libraries in the SC County Library District.

Special thanks to Joy Safakish,
Vice President of the Friends,
for coordinating this celebration and
capturing these moments on camera.



NATIONAL Friends OF Libraries WEEK
OCTOBER 19-25, 2025
AN INITIATIVE OF UNITED FOR LIBRARIES



Hello,
Happy National Friends of Libraries Week!
This is the 20th annual celebration of
this fun week celebrating your good work for
public libraries. Thank you for your leadership
that brings together the community to support
reading and libraries. Yet, even with all the boxes
and sales, the Friends are about much more
than books. You build positive relationships,
encourage collaboration, and strengthen social
connection, not to mention, make the world
brighter and greener! Thank you for all
that you do.

Gratefully,
Jennifer

Jennifer Weeks,
County Librarian

Best of Friends
October 18, 2025
Chocotella Morgan Hill

FRIEND



Grupo Folklórico

Los Laureles



Karen Chavez

The Dukes of Ukes

Program HIGHLIGHTS

In 2025, programs funded by the Friends filled the Morgan Hill Library with music, movement, storytelling, and shared experiences.

These moments highlight the diverse ways the Friends support programming that brings people together and celebrates learning, culture, and creativity.



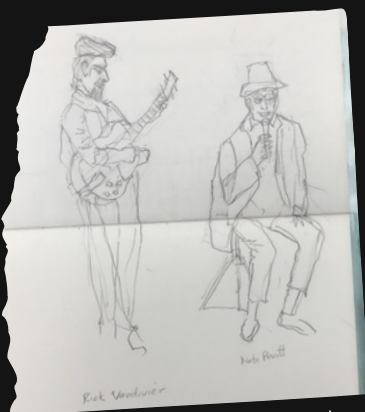
ROSE

A Mother's Story

performed by:



Kathy Esteves-Bates



Jazz Afternoon Sketch by: Friend and Bookstore volunteer Bill Barnhart

Jazz Afternoon Photos by: Friend Randy Moeller, who supports library programs and recently joined our Bookstore volunteer team.

Jazz Afternoon



Nate Pruitt



Rick Vandivier

Returning by popular demand



Four Shillings Short

Celtic, Folk & World Music

**Thank you for supporting your
Morgan Hill Library
and for being a Friend.**

We look forward to seeing you in
the next Bookworm Bulletin.