



FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

MORGAN HILL, CALIFORNIA

www.friendsmhlibrary.org

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



Winter 2025

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A Winter Concert
performed by: **Four Shillings Short**

CELTIC, FOLK & WORLD MUSIC

Tue, Feb 25
6:30 - 7:30pm
Morgan Hill Library

scclد

Notes from the President

Vicky Reader, vevreader@gmail.com



Many thanks to all who supported our joyful and well-attended 50th Anniversary Celebration last October. We also appreciate those who responded with donations for our 50th Anniversary appeal. The celebration was filled with activities engaging young children to seniors and all ages of patrons in between.

While it took us a few years to get to pre-pandemic income levels after the library reopened, 2024 got us closer to where our sales were back in 2019. Next week our Community Librarian Heather and I will be at the Rotary meeting as the Friends applied for and received a Community Grant from them. We were awarded some funds to complement the City Office of Emergency Services programs at the library by providing some emergency kit items. The Morgan Hill Rotary continues to be a strong supporter of our library, so if you are a Rotarian or know one, please pass along our thanks.

We are working with Heather as usual to ensure the book sales income, donations, and any grant funds are put to good use at the library to benefit our community as a whole. We all are proud to be Friends of our Library which remains such a welcoming place to be!



County Librarian Jennifer Weeks, Friends President Vicky Reader, Mayor Mark Turner, Friend volunteer and former Mayor Steve Tate, and Community Librarian, Heather Geddes, after presenting Friends with City Proclamation.

Library News

Heather Geddes, Community Librarian hgeddes@sccl.org

Ready Together Emergency Preparedness at the Library –

Unsure where to begin when it comes to emergency preparedness? The library is here to help with a series of programs and tabling events this Spring to educate our patrons on planning for emergencies, as well as providing basic supplies to build Emergency Kits.

In Person Programs include these topics on the following Mondays at 5 pm:

- 2/24 - Emergency Food Supply; Work, School & Community; Communications Planning
- 3/17 - Getting Involved, Being Informed, and Power
- 4/28 - Emergency Supplies and First Aid

If you aren't able to attend a program, drop by or visit the Ready Together Information Booth at the library. We will be sharing more Emergency Preparedness resources on Fridays from 10:15 am to 1 pm on March 7th and May 2nd.

Coming Soon! Storybook SCCLD - Have you ever wondered what the Santa Clara County Library children's spaces would look like if they were transformed into an enchanted children's storybook? You're about to find out!

We are creating new spaces at the library to foster a passion for books and reading while combining play and early literacy experiences. Our new space will include themed interactives for little hands to practice motor skills, reading nooks for quiet play, a toddler slide for active play and an interactive learning area for babies.

Construction for this project will begin in March with a grand opening in mid-April! To keep patrons safe during construction, the children's room will be closed to the public during installation. Access to children's materials will be made available in other parts of the library, and all children's programming will continue.

Our new space will encourage children to use their imagination where our enchanted play spaces come to life. By meeting children in their imaginative worlds, we will provide space where big body play and quiet play work in tandem around early literacy.



Wonderful Volunteers!

Volunteer Coordinator

Karen MacDonald

karenmacdmhca@gmail.com

Happy New Year to all our wonderful volunteers! New members who have joined forces with our experienced sorters and cashiers are much-appreciated. We are better able to process donated materials and former library books with more sorters. Also, we are gradually filling open shifts in the Bookstore. Subs who check the volunteer calendar on our website are invaluable when their schedule allows them to fill what would otherwise mean the Bookstore would be closed. Those who regularly volunteer at the Big Book Sales helped us add almost \$2,100 to our income on February 8th. Many volunteers who work behind the scenes also boost our ability to support the library.

Thank you to all Volunteers! Thank you to all Friends! Thank you to all patrons who come to our Bookstore and sales, and those who check out our special online books! Enjoy Friends Bookstore volunteer Bill Barnhart's sketch of our guest performer, Mark Gaetano, in December.



Membership Update

Donna Cotich, Membership, djcotich@yahoo.com

I admit that the Friends Bookstore is one of my favorite places. I share your delight when you find a book you like. I enjoy listening to giggling children looking at books. We have in common the love of reading, as well as the events provided by the library.

I support the library by joining the Friends, donating my time as a volunteer in the Bookstore and at sales and also by donating my handcrafted items to the Bookstore. Since we have a warm place in our heart for this special place, here's how you can help.

1. Frequent our Bookstore regularly for your reading material or gifts. You can also get a feel for what books we can accept as donations from your shelves.
2. Become a new Friend of the Library or renew your current membership for 2025.
3. Look into volunteering if you have a few free hours a week or can help with Big Book Sales in February, June, and October.
4. Consider making a monetary donation to the Friends, especially in honor of our 50 years of volunteer service as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit.

Memberships are easy. Where else can you join a "club" for \$10.00 per year. Plus, your membership card allows you to purchase one item per month in the Bookstore for 50% off its marked price. You also get the best selection through earlier access to our Big Book Sales an hour before non-members.

Visit us at http://www.friendsmhlibrary.org/help_the_friends.html. You can download an application, pay with PayPal, 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! See you in the Bookstore!



Treasurer Report

Sherrie Wren, treasurer@friendsmhlibrary.org

The FMHL 2024 Year End financial outlook is good with total assets of \$206,874. Our \$50 for 50 Years of Service donation campaign brought in \$5,797. Along with other donations, grants, and craft sales (\$1,761) the total donations and grants are \$11,116. Our hard-working CDs earned interest of \$4,745. Membership dues were \$1,964.

Our sales income (Bookstore cash and credit, Online sales, Big Book sales, and Bargain Books) was \$44,737. Our total 2024 income was \$62,563.

We took advantage of Black Friday savings to upgrade our Sort Room technology. We acquired a new All-In-One computer, a new printer, and a volunteer-donated laptop. This new equipment can double Sorter efficiency.

We are celebrating our ability to support the Morgan Hill Library with a \$24,272 gift (double our initial budgeted donation).

Our net income for 2024 of \$32,224 is made possible by our dedicated Volunteer Sorters, Cashiers, and Board of Directors. Happy New Year.



WERC visit



Chiquy and the Chiclets.
Zumba classes are sponsored by the Friends

