



August 2023 Newsletter



As you know, the proposal to reduce the size of the library was rejected at the City Council meeting on July 19, 2023. The Moorpark Friends of the Library, the Moorpark Women's Club, and many other citizens attended the meeting, expressing their insistence that the library be built at the approved size of 17,500 sq. ft.

Residents of Moorpark love our city—for its open spaces, good schools, safe environment, its history, literally rooted in the soil of its farming community past, being neither too big nor too small, and its vision of a High Street that reflects that history. But none so important as its love of literacy and social health for all its citizens. So, it seemed strange that a question was raised about the possibility of fundraising toward support of the new library. Strange because the organization to do just that and more has existed since 1981, when the Moorpark Friends of the Library became a federally approved [501(c)(3)] nonprofit organization. Even before that, there were "friends" of the library, beginning in 1910, when the Moorpark Women's Fortnightly Club established the first high school and library (see a complete description of all this and a description of our mission on our website at mfotl.com).

Every stage of the library's evolution towards something bigger and better for its residents has been initiated or strongly supported by these two organizations. In 2007, a Joint Funding Committee was formed, creating a dynamic plan to involve the Friends of the Library, the Moorpark Women's Club, the Moorpark Library Board, and other organizations in spearheading not just small fundraising efforts but also seeking corporate funding and major sponsorships. That had to be disbanded when a new library was no longer envisioned in the near future.

In 2019, when forecasts for the opening of the new library began to be proposed and predicted for successive new dates, an Ad Hoc Committee was formed from representatives of the Friends of the Library, the Moorpark Women's Club, and the City Library Board, using principles of the previous JFC plan, plus its own concepts to once again reach out beyond the fundraising efforts of the Friends of the Library alone. Again, it was disbanded because an Ad Hoc Committee has a life limited to immediate application, and the predicted opening of the new library was pushed out again and again.

We, the Board of Directors of the Moorpark Friends of the Library, will continue our work of providing funds to enhance programs at our current library and adding to our nearly \$70,000 dedicated solely to the new library. When there is more tangible evidence of the actual building, a new Ad Hoc Committee or something similar to the JFC can be revived.

We are thankful that so many people made their voices heard last week. We are thankful for the continued support in membership and donations, attendance and participation in our fundraising efforts, and volunteer assistance from our general members. We hope for even more participation and response to the call for volunteers at events.

Gratefully yours,
Rosalie Barili
President, Moorpark Friends of the Library

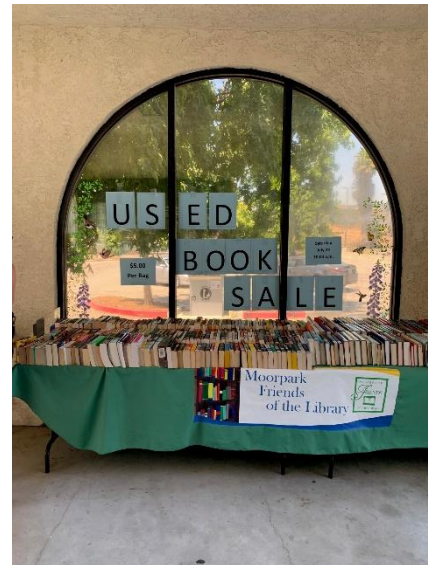


Porch Sale Recap!

Do we love our weather forecasters, or not? Expecting sizzling weather, we brought our planned big book sale inside to the porch to protect our workers and patrons, and what do you know, there were cool breezes and moderate temperatures. In any case, the sale was a success, especially with children's books! If those are what you look for, we suggest that our MFOTL members arrive early (remember, you get special early access). We also want to especially thank Bruce Thomas, who so very generously donated enough money to cover the price for 38 Boys and Girls Club children filling their bags with books.

Believe it or not, we must remind you to mark your calendars for Country Days, October 7, when we'll be on High Street with some great bargains in children's and adults' books. We don't mind stashing your bags until you're ready to leave, so you can shop early and not have to lug bags of books around, as you enjoy the other delights of Country Days.

~Rosalie Barili



Opening Day of the Summer Reading Program



Friends of the Library – Here's one of the great events you made possible with your membership and donations!

The best-ever opening day for our library brought 600 people to the lot south of the library, and a lot of excited kids clambering over fire department and police vehicles, maintenance and construction equipment, Army vehicles, and waste management trucks. Some of the adults probably wished they could try on some uniforms and special equipment, as the young visitors did. The outdoor event spanned four hours, as did events inside the library, with many special crafts and other fun activities.

One of the highlights was the awarding of certificates by Mayor Enegren to winners of the bookmark contest. All winners were excited to be honored for their beautiful artwork, this year including adult contestants. And many of our visitors enjoyed Kona Ice, who donated 20% of their sales to the Moorpark Friends of the Library, netting us \$137.

A success by any measure!

~Rosalie Barili

Annual Membership Appreciation & General Meeting

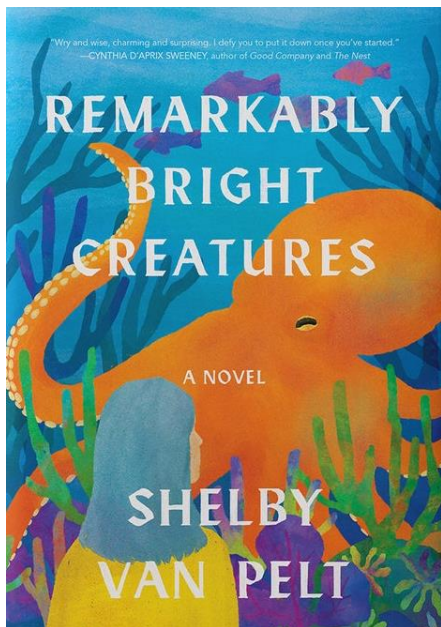
We were thrilled to welcome over 30 members and guests on June 23 to our membership event, "Jazz After Hours at the Library." All in attendance had a great time taking in the wonderful music provided by the MHS Jazz Quartet. Everyone also seemed to thoroughly enjoy the array of delicious homemade refreshments prepared by MFOTL board members.

Later, recent MHS graduate Maya Godard presented an exciting new feature now being offered at the library, the Musical Instrument Lending Program. This was the end result of her Girl Scout Gold Award project. Maya shared that the program has succeeded far beyond her expectations, in both the number of donated instruments and funding for repairs and other potential needs.

President Rosalie Barili concluded the evening with a report on the numerous MFOTL accomplishments of the past year as well as sharing some of the goals the board has established to advance the Friends of the Library. Thank you all who were in attendance and we cannot wait until next year's celebration to honor all of the MFOTL members!

~Lou Langkusch

What Are You Reading?



Remarkably Bright Creatures by Shelby Van Pelt (2022)

After Tova's husband dies, she began working at the Sowell Bay Aquarium, mopping floors, and tidying up. Keeping busy has always helped her cope, which she's been doing since her 18-year-old son Erik, mysteriously vanished on a boat in Puget Sound over 30 years ago. Tova becomes acquainted with curmudgeonly Marcellus, a giant Pacific octopus living at the aquarium. Marcellus deduces what happened the night Tova's son disappeared and now Marcellus must use every trick to unearth the truth for her before it's too late.

Chosen by the City of Thousand Oaks as their One Book, One City selection, this book is well written, and the characters are delightful. I want to meet them, especially Marcellus. I'll never look at an octopus the same way again.

~Teri Glazier

Letters from Santa (Yes, really)

Just a little note to cool you down and let you know that the ever-thinking-ahead Santa committee is already beginning to organize that special December treat! Our little ones have loved getting their special letters, treats, and a chance to have Santa himself visit their house. Save the date: Saturday, December 16, 2023, just in case your family is the winner!

~Rosalie Barili

The Community Speaks



On July 14, 2023, Moorpark residents learned that the Moorpark City Council's Agenda for July 19, 2023, contained a proposal to reduce the size of the new library from 17,500 to 14,500 sq. ft. This action would thus reduce its capability to satisfy minimum requirements for adequate book collections, meeting space, and other needs determined by previous assessments for a city of this size at this moment, to say nothing of the effect of certain growth of the city in the near future.



Members of the Moorpark Friends of the Library (more than 43 years of recorded history of physical and financial contributions), the Moorpark Women's Club (first founders of the library in 1910), the Moorpark City Library Board (representing official oversight of the library), and other concerned residents responded with their presence and vocal presentations at the meeting.

After some further discussion by the Council, the proposal to reduce the size of the library was rejected, and a formal vote of four yes votes and one no vote affirmed the decision of the Council to approve the size of the library at 17,500 sq. ft.

We are grateful. Now let's move on speedily and effectively to make it happen.

~Rosalie Barili

THANK  YOU



Another Pathway to Donate Without Cost to You!

If/when you use Microsoft Edge as your search engine, you receive “points,” which can be used to donate funds to the nonprofit organization of your choice. Naturally, we would encourage that to be MFOTL!

1. Open Microsoft Edge, and click on the icon in upper right corner (it will show a number before it)
2. Then click on the box “MICROSOFT REWARDS”
3. Click on Give with Bing Points
4. Click on Manage Giving
5. Click on Explore Nonprofits
6. Fill in the Form: Moorpark Friends of the Library > Education > United States > Search
7. When our description appears, click Select.



~Rosalie Barili

August/September Library Events!

All Ages Programs:

Snuggly Saturday – Saturday, August 26, All Day

LEGO Robotics – Saturday, September 16, 11 am – 12 pm

Children Programs:

Sunshine Storytime – Wednesdays, 10:30 am – 11:15 am

Storytime in the Parks – Thursdays, 6:30 pm – 7:15 pm

August 3 – Miller Park

August 10 – Community Center Park

August 17 – Community Center Park

Reading Buddies – Tuesdays, 4 pm – 5 pm

Future Einsteins (Grade 1-5) – Saturday, September 9, 11 am – 11:45 am



Teen Programs:

Comic Book Club – Mondays, 4:30 pm – 5:30 pm

Adult Programs:

Triple P (Positive Parenting Seminars) – September 12, 19 & 26, 6 pm – 7:30 pm

September 12 – The Power of Positive Parenting

September 19 – Raising Confident, Competent Children

September 26 – Raising Resilient Children

Book Club for Adults – August 14, September 11, 6:30 pm

August 14 – *Miss Cecily's Recipes for Exceptional Ladies* by Vicky Zimmerman

September 11 – *Where the Crawdads Sing* by Delia Owens

Read It & Eat It (Mexican) – Saturday, September 9, 2 pm – 3:30 pm

Genre Book Club – August 24, September 28, 6 pm

August 24 – *The Butcher and the Wren* by Alaina Urquhart (thriller)

September 28 – *A Discovery of Witches* by Deborah Harkness (fantasy/romance)

Moorpark Friends of the Library Membership

We appreciate you, our Friends, for all your kind support!

Benefactor (\$500+ donation)

Rosalie Barili ~ Linda Goble ~ Nicki Partain ~ Joe Tedder

Premier (\$100+ donation)

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