

FRIENDS OF THE ST. HELENA PUBLIC LIBRARY

NOVEMBER 2009

Visit us at: www.shpl.org

Send email to: st.helenafriends@gmail.com

Harvest Festival 2009 A Great Success!

We packed a lot of books, we schlepped a lot of books, we arranged a lot of books ... and we found new homes for a lot of books! Over 150 "gently-used" books left our booth at the October 17th St. Helena Hometown Harvest Festival (seen below) and found new life with just the right people. It was a very long day, but we all had a good time talking to folks who were interested in the redesign or who just wanted to say how much they love their library. The final count was approximately \$240 in donations for the books, as well as two new family memberships and three new individual memberships. Definitely worth the great effort!



President's Corner

New Faces & Many Thank You's

The St. Helena Friends has new members on its Board and among our membership. Welcome new Board members Marie Hungler and Gayle Willett, and thanks for your willingness to serve. Also, a big thank you to our new newsletter editor Sue Michul, who has hit the ground running. The following deserve kudos for their help in making our booth at the Harvest Festival a great success: Library staff Kathleen, Jennifer and Kat, and Friends: June Harman, Dolores Torrigino, Lynda Burton, Sue Michul, Marilyn Coy and Jennifer Lamb.

Welcome to our new members who joined during the Harvest Festival. If you signed up to "GO GREEN," it may be a few months before our email version is up and running. In the meantime, you will receive paper copies of the newsletter as well as the library's monthly calendar by snail mail.

In the meantime we can all "GO GREEN" by purchasing a reusable Friends of the Library tote bag for \$3 at the front desk of the library.

— Kelly

Library Remodel News

At the October 27th City Council meeting, the St. Helena Public Library received approval to hire a general contractor to begin work on remodeling the library's interior. This is the latest step on a journey that began in August 2006 when the library's Board of Trustees passed a resolution approving \$17,705 from the Friends of the St. Helena Library's Reserve Fund to pay for redesign project consultant fees. Those fees paved the way for the entire project. The interior remodel, which should begin before the end of the year, will improve our library in a number of ways, including:

- Moving the public Internet computer area to a location that is easily accessible and manageable
- Combining the Information and Circulation desks for greater efficiency and staff support
- Providing a location for two self-checkout machines
- Increasing the size of the book-drop room to facilitate checking in and sorting books
- Increasing the number of staff workstation locations in the staff workroom.
- Bringing newspaper microfilm out into the public to allow more self-service
- Consolidating popular items, including DVDs, new books and magazines, into more visible locations in the library
- Expanding the Friends of the Library book-sale space.

The redesign will also include new lighting, interior and exterior paint, and new carpeting. A reading nook is also planned in the corner alcove adjacent to the Wine Library, a project to be funded by the Friends.

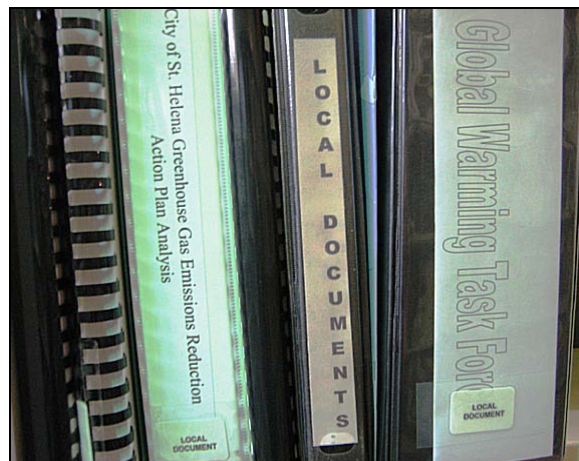
The library should remain open throughout the process, although there may be some temporary changes to the hours of operation. Details will be available within a few weeks.

Staff and I are excited about this opportunity to improve our facility and make it more enjoyable and user-friendly. We'd like to thank the Friends again for their initial financial support of the redesign project, which resulted in original plans and paying an architectural firm to help create specifications for programming space and the planned reading nook. Please bear with the mess and chaos that construction brings; the outcome should be worth the inconvenience. And expect a grand celebration when the project is completed!

— Jennifer Baker, Library Director

Where is it?

Do you know where in the St. Helena Library you would find the items shown below?



Book Sale Is Always Open For Business

Looking for a great gift idea? Come into the "always-open" Friends bookstore in the St. Helena Library and browse around. You'll be surprised at the many quality books that are available every day of the week. Hardback and paperback fiction can be found on shelves below the art gallery, while nonfiction gems are on display in the community room. Books about cooking, history, art, and gardening are just some of the many categories you'll find. Hardbacks are just \$1.00 and paperbacks of any size are still only 50¢. Please pay at the circulation desk.

You make a living by what you get, but you make a life by what you give. -- Winston Churchill