

That's what "Friends" are for . . .

## Time for a change at Library?

Using the Empire library should now be easier for parents with babies. Changing stations have been installed in both men's and women's restrooms.

This is just the first of several projects proposed by the recently formed Friends of the Empire Library (FOEL), according to FOEL Vice President, Nathan Cary.

Publicizing the library's StoryTime program, is another priority for FOEL.

## Check out the candy!



Check this out! Stop by the Empire library and guess how much candy is in this gallon jar and you could win it all! It will be displayed over the holidays and in January. The winner will be announced in early February.

Reading to young children is the best way to develop a love of reading and to cultivate their desire to read.

StoryTime is a weekly activity, with staff specially trained to both present the stories in an interesting way and to get children participating in ways that keep them listening and focused during the story.

### Monthly Art Show

Another way of engaging children is the monthly art program at the Empire Elementary School, coordinated by the school PTA.

Winners are recognized at a monthly reception at the library before winning projects are put on display. Last month's winning projects are pictured on page two.

## FOEL's Starn is "Making A Difference!"

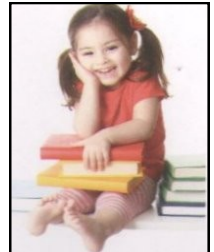
FOEL board member and treasurer, Roz Starn, has been honored as someone who is "Making A Difference" in schools by the Stanislaus County Office of Education and the California Association of School Administrators.

She was among 27 outstanding school staff members recently recognized from across Stanislaus County.

Her name has been put forward for state recognition in the *California School Employee of the Year* program, coordinated by the California

## StoryTime

*StoryTime is a free activity at 10:30 every Friday. Bring your*



*children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews – even the neighbor kids. You will do them a great favor!*

## A/R books list available

A listing of all A/R books with tests available on both Sipherd and Empire Elementary school's computers is available at the library.

In addition, internet access should soon be available for information about books and tests for those Empire USD schools now using the Accelerated Reader program online.

Dept of Education, along with five others from among the 27 Stanislaus County finalists.

Roz is a librarian at Crossroads school and a founding member of FOEL, and we're so glad we've got her!

### FOEL Bookmarks

Published in the interest of strengthened community / library relations by Friends of the Empire Library.  
PO Box 822, Empire, CA 95319

Online: < [http://www.stanislauslibrary.org/about\\_friends\\_empire.shtml](http://www.stanislauslibrary.org/about_friends_empire.shtml) >

For more information contact us at  
209 / 578-3577 / [jwsterling@comcast.net](mailto:jwsterling@comcast.net)

**Young Empire artists vie for honors in joint PTA-FOEL contest**



Winning second grade projects are on display at the library in January, with a reception for winners and their families on January 28th. Pictured here are winners of the first grade competition displayed during December.

**Looking for a Program?**

Speakers and programs with local messages are sometimes hard to find.

However, Friends of the Empire Library has a message about our community and education – of both children and adults.

We'd be happy to talk with your service club, church, fraternal organization – you name it, we've got a program with an on-target message.

Contact Jim Sterling for details at 578-3577 or at [jwsterling@comcast.net](mailto:jwsterling@comcast.net).

**Book Review**

**Marley goes to School**

By John Grogan

Grown-ups – and many kids, too – loved and cried over John Grogan's Marley and Me, a wonderful book for dog-lovers of all ages.



Here comes Marley, again, in a delightful – and beautifully illustrated – children's book, *Marley Goes to School*. It's the first day and Cassie is all set to go. So is her dog, Marley!

Although he's told to "stay," Marley digs a tunnel out of the backyard and sniffs his way to school. As he roams the halls looking for Cassie, he finds trouble instead. From wolfing down hot dogs in the cafeteria to setting free a bunch of mice in science class, Marley won't stop until he locates his best friend. This lovable and rowdy dog may not be much of an academic, but he's full of school spirit!

Packed with action and hilarious Marley bad-boy antics, this follow-up to the best selling *Bad Dog, Marley!* and *A Very Marley Christmas* will leave readers howling for more!

**Friends of the Empire Library**

**Support OUR library**

The Friends of the Empire Library is an organization dedicated to making our library more useful to more people. A friend is someone like YOU . . . willing to support our library. You may use the application form below.

**What does Friends of the Empire Library do?**

Many things! In addition to the vital role of being community advocates for the library, other ways in which friends can serve include:

- assisting in the library
- increasing story times
- organizing and supporting new programs and events
- increasing Spanish language services
- expanding hours and equipment (including computers)
- providing some of the help that schools have been forced to cut due to the economy
- delivering materials to home-bound residents
- presenting programs to area schools that boost reading

**Why should I join?**

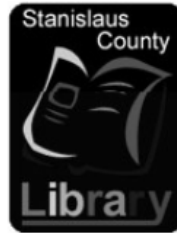
Your membership dues will provide for continuing and expanding these programs. You will receive a newsletter with advance notice of upcoming events and current activities.

**How do I join?**

Tear off the membership form below, enclose your annual dues, and mail it in now. Make out your check to *Friends of the Empire Library*.

**What do I have to do after I become a member?**

Your participation in activities is on a voluntary basis. You may be asked to participate in Friends' activities to help the library in various ways. Please indicate your area of interest on the membership form.



**Mission Statement**

The mission of the Friends of the Empire Library is to advocate for, publicize, and support the library and its programs for the benefit of the community and to support the library's efforts to foster the love of reading and the desire to open the door to knowledge.

Empire Library  
18 South Abbie  
Empire CA 95319

209 524-5505

Martha Perales, Mgr

**Friends of the Empire Library Membership Application**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City / Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership Category**

<input type="checkbox"/> Student Membership	\$ 1.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual Membership	\$2.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Family Membership	\$8.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Club/Organization/Business Membership	\$20.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining Membership ("sponsor")	\$100.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Life Membership (Individual)	\$150.00

**Return to:**  
Friends of the Empire Library  
PO Box 822  
Empire CA 95319 - 0822

**I'm interested in helping with:**

<input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter	<input type="checkbox"/> Webpage
<input type="checkbox"/> Programs	<input type="checkbox"/> Membership
<input type="checkbox"/> Fund raising	<input type="checkbox"/> other _____