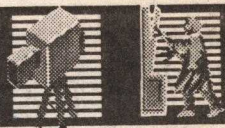


# ENTERTAINMENT CALENDAR



## Book bash

3-12-93

### Writers and readers converge on literary fair

By JULIA CHIAPELLA  
Sentinel staff writer

**B**OOK LOVERS will want to be sure to catch the hoopla starting at 5:30 p.m. today when the Friends of the Santa Cruz Public Libraries open the First Annual Santa Cruz Book Fair at the Santa Cruz Civic Auditorium with a preview sale and champagne reception.

Literary types will have a chance to mingle with local authors and publishers as well as purchase used books from the Friends when the sale continues Saturday from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

For Barbara Morris, a board member of the Friends instrumental in getting the Book Fair started, bringing local publishers together with the library system is a marriage rivaling bread and butter.

"We consider the library system very much a part of the literary community," Morris said. "It's a very important chance for the two parts to get together."

Three years ago Morris and her husband Hal, the former owners of Plaza Books who now operate Western Tanager Press, traveled to the first Bay Area Book Festival in San Francisco.

"I was overwhelmed by the diversity and participation from Santa Cruz County. That stayed with me. At the back of my mind that's always been there and I felt it was something we could do here in Santa Cruz."

With the wealth of talent in the local literary community, Morris felt a book fair built along the lines of the Bay Area's festival would be a natural for Santa Cruz.

Last January Morris presented her idea for a Book Fair to the Book Me for Lunch Club, a group of local publishers that meets on a monthly basis. As it turned out, the group had been looking for a focus to its meetings and the proposed Book Fair provided the perfect opportunity.

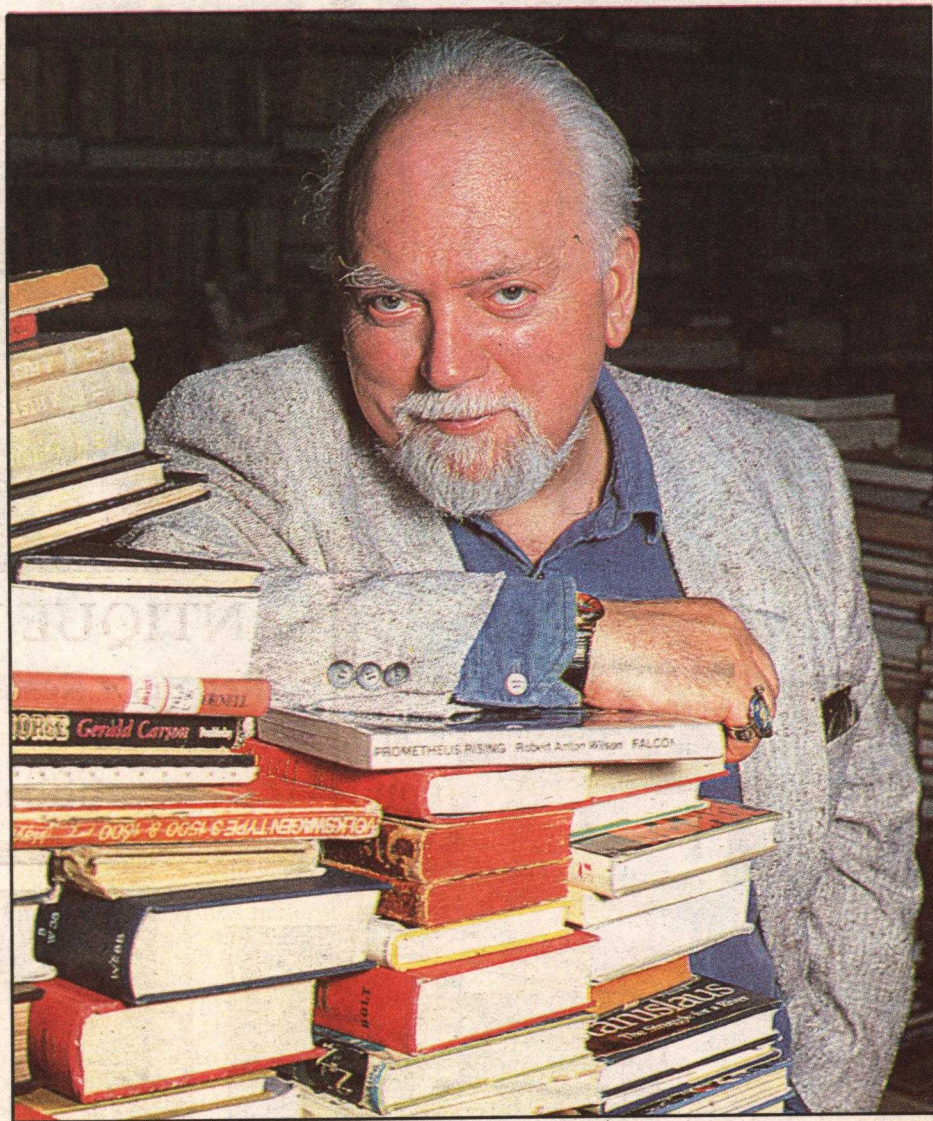
Since the Friends of the Libraries had already booked the Civic for the weekend of March 12 and 13 for its annual Book Sale, the group "batted back and forth for a little bit about there only being six weeks and could we possibly pull it together in six weeks," Morris recalled.

"We finally said 'let's just do it.'"

With the help of Steve Turner of the Santa Cruz Writers' Union and Eric Schoeck of Capitola Book Cafe, local publishers and authors were approached to participate. The result is a wide variety of work representative of the county's eclectic nature.

From Papier-Mache Press' popular "When I Am An Old Woman I Shall Wear Purple" to ETR Associates plethora of health education materials, the Book Fair will offer something for everyone.

Local writers participating in the event



Author Robert Anton Wilson will be at the Santa Cruz Book Fair.

include poet Bill Everson, mystery writer Lia Matera, and playwright and sociologist Phil Slater, just to name a few. Authors will be reading on the hour from their works.

Tonight's reception is open to members of the Friends of the Libraries only but memberships will be available at the door. Everson and science fiction writer Robert Anton Wilson will read and harpist Jennifer Cass of the Santa Cruz County Symphony will supply appropriate background music for flipping the pages of well-read books through word-hungry fingers.

The Fair will continue Saturday with artists' workshops for children at 11 a.m. sponsored by SPECTRA and storytelling by Rosemarie Milazzo at 2 p.m.

If Barbara Morris has her way, the Book Fair will only get bigger. A lifelong lover

### Preview

- **WHAT:** Santa Cruz Book Fair
- **WHERE:** Civic Auditorium, 307 Church St., Santa Cruz
- **WHEN:** 5:30 tonight, reception for members of Friends of the Santa Cruz Public Libraries; 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Saturday
- **TICKETS:** Free Saturday
- **INFORMATION:** 429-3495

of the printed word, Morris is happy about the prospects.

"Santa Cruz is an incredible book community. All we have to do is look at the number of bookstores that have survived to know that."