

Benzie Shores District Library Shorelines

Published by the Friends of the Library

Winter 2010

LIBRARY RENOVATION UPDATE

"May you live in interesting times," says a Chinese proverb. With the renovation project we are experiencing more interesting times than could be anticipated!

A cozy, fun floor plan has been developed for the temporary library. Due to load restrictions we are unable to take as many books as we had originally hoped, but we will have a core collection with enough variety to keep everyone happy. Through MeLCat interlibrary loan, we can order books for our patrons that we do not have available in our temporary library.

Our library staff has been very busy planning for the move. About 20% of our collection and nearly all of the computers will go to the **temporary library at 421 Main Street** (formerly David's Harborside). The rest of the collection, furnishings and shelving will be stored at the Rineer building (formerly Incoe) until the renovation is complete.

There was excellent response to the invitation for bids for the "construction." Mill work and contracts were awarded on January 8th. More information regarding the renovation and the contractors will be available in the next newsletter.

Benzie Shores District Library has been very, very fortunate to have **Kirk Davidson** as the library's representative and project manager. Kirk is in charge of all aspects of the project and thanks to his extraordinary skill, plans could not be going better. However, Kirk never realized that keeping the library staff calm would be part of his job description!

Furnishings are a bit of a dilemma because we want to keep the integrity of the design, but we also want to be fiscally responsible. Decisions, decisions, decisions.

The **move will take place January 15th through the 23rd**. We will have **regular library hours beginning Monday, January 25th**. There will be an **Open House, Monday, January 25th from 3-6 p.m.** Everyone is welcome to visit and use our temporary library (which we are calling the Harborside Library).

Everyone is looking forward to seeing the exciting changes come about in our newly renovated library.

Cathy Carter, Library Director

FUNDRAISING

The Benzie Shores District Library Renovation Fund Raising Committee wants to thank those who so generously helped us achieve the first step in our capital campaign of \$25,000, by December 31, 2009.

Now we are looking ahead to the next challenge in 2010 of raising \$75,000, which will complete the funding for the renovation project, **Going from Good to Great!**

Library services are needed now more than ever as families strive to find jobs, educational opportunities, health care information, support for family finances, and also good books by great authors. We know that the quality of life is greatly enhanced by living in a community where books, periodicals, newspapers and internet resources are available at the local library.

Isn't it time for you to make a donation that will help the Benzie Shores District Library move closer to the 2010 goal?

Pat Laarman, Fund Raising Chairman



PHOTO:
Volunteer,
Meg Hubbard
helping to pack books for the library's temporary move. Shown are just some of the many boxes that have been packed by staff and volunteers!



RENOVATION PLANS

If you have not had an opportunity to see the renovation plans on display at the library, or attend any of the meetings, following is information regarding some of the construction plans:

During the time we are in our temporary location, work will begin at BSDL. The carpet (16 years old) will be removed and many troughs will be put into the cement floors to accommodate wiring. This will enable electricity to be available at the work tables and laptop areas without cords being draped all over the library. After the electrical work is completed, the new carpet will be installed. Next the new shelving will arrive and the old shelving will be moved from storage and be integrated with the new. There will be some surprises! The adult collection will be where the current children's area is and the children's area will be moved to where the current fiction and non-fiction shelving are (the southwest corner).

Tables with power outlets will be in the open space. The library currently has "family" seating for eight. In the new design we are adding a total of thirty new seats, but only six will be "family" style and they will have laptop arms.

At this time we are unable to purchase all of the furnishings we were hoping to purchase, but the library will be lovely and much more user friendly and accessible. The additional lighting and spacious book shelving will greatly enhance everyone's library experience!

TEMPORARY LIBRARY AND FLOOR PLAN

Library services will be offered from the former David's Harborside store at 421 Main Street. As you can see from the enclosed floor plan, we will have adequate computer access, wireless access and a core collection. Since the space is limited, we will have a fraction of our books, but while we are there we will continue to purchase new books and to get books for our patrons on InterLibrary Loan. We will be taking all of our magazines. Hopefully, the collection we take with us will have something for everyone!



CIRCULATION DRIVE LONG-TERM CHECKOUT

To keep the winter months full of good reads for our patrons and to help the library reduce the number of books we have to move, we are offering a long-term winter check-out. **ANY TIME PRIOR TO JANUARY 15, ANYONE WITH A BSDL CARD CAN CHECK OUT A STACK OF BOOKS AND KEEP THEM UNTIL MAY 1, 2010.** We will offer the 10 book check out the end of March too.

PHOTO: Taking full advantage of BSDL's Circulation Drive long-term checkout is **Steve Elrich**. Our very happy Library Director, **Cathy Carter** looks on gleefully as she computes a few less books that need to be packed up.

A THANK YOU TO SPECIAL FRIENDS

BSDL is very thankful to the **owners of Momentum** for allowing us to use their building at **421 Main Street** as a temporary Library. It will be very nice, and also convenient, to be downtown. When we asked them what the rent would be, they said that they wouldn't think of charging the library rent.

The library is also grateful to **Richard Rineer** for the use of the **Rineer Building** as a storage facility. Mr. Rineer also offered to allow us to use his facility as a temporary library. **Mr. Rineer, Randy Dye** and **Anna and Mike Hubbard** have gone out of their way to be helpful and to accommodate the library's needs. Mr. Rineer also declined to charge the library for storage.

Ted Curran attended a library information event on September 1st and offered to help with our fundraising efforts. Ted is a genius at fundraising. We truly would have been lost without him. Ted has the ideas and system for a fundraising outreach. The library cannot thank him enough for his gift of time and expertise.

Mike Pasche has spent a great deal of time working as a volunteer to the Friends of the library. Mike has been working on-line to sell some of our outdated and unnecessary equipment.

The generosity of our library supporters continues to be astonishing and humbling. Our fundraising committee is led by **Pat Laarman**, and **Ted Curran** is the point man and resident expert on fundraising. **Stacy Pasche** is doing a wonderful job as the fundraising tracker. We are lucky to have such a team. Over the course of the fall, we have written grants, which for the most part are still pending. We will report on them in the next newsletter.

THREE CHEERS FOR THE GENEROSITY OF THESE LIBRARY SUPPORTERS!!

FUN FOR CHILDREN AT THE LIBRARY

Autumn 2009 was a busy time for children at the library. Once a month, the first grade classes at Frankfort Elementary ventured to BSDL via sidewalk or school bus to fill a crate of books, hear some stories and have a puppet show. **Story Hours** were held on Thursday mornings, in October and November, for preschoolers.

A new **Time for Toddlers** was held once a month from October through December. What a delight to have some of BSDL's tiniest patrons gathering to sing and rhyme and experience the thrill of books at their library! Nothing compares with the joy and enthusiasm of little people!

In late November and early December, approximately fifteen students (K-3rd grade) came to the library once a week to participate in "**Reading Adventures**"—an after school enrichment program. Some of these children have signed up for this particular library program for several years in a row—and we are so happy to see them growing in their appreciation for books and reading.

With the library relocating during the renovation, we are welcoming teachers to take collections of BSDL books to their classrooms for extended use during this time. Families and individuals are also welcome to do this and use library books in their homes for several months. Come to the library before January 15th, and fill up a book bag!

Time for Toddlers may resume shortly after our move to the temporary site. For information, please watch for flyers or a display in the window of the temporary library. We look forward to seeing you there!

Julie Morris, Library Assistant



Julie Morris's programs are very popular at the library and entertain both children and adults. Just look at all the expressions on the faces!



FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY MEMBERSHIP DUES

Although everyone has been very generous with their contributions to the building fund, it is time to renew your membership in the Friends of the Library. Your membership in the Friends is very important in many ways. Currently, it will enable the Friends to help support the library's renovation and with other related expenses.

Enclosed is an envelope to renew your membership for 2010. The Friends and BSDL thank you for your continued support.

REFLECTIONS BY THE BAY

There will be no Reflections by the Bay programs from January through April. The temporary library simply has no space for program seating. However, the Reflections by the Bay committee and chairperson, **Nancy Griffin**, have the program line-up completed for May through November, 2010. Unfortunately the third Tuesday of every month conflicts with the Frankfort City Council meetings. When the library does the next Library Services Survey, there will be an opportunity for input regarding the day of the week for the Reflection's program.

THANK YOU TO OUR VERY SPECIAL STAFF

A renovation project could never be confused with a walk in the park!! I would like to thank our amazing staff for working far, far beyond the call of duty, for taking on new responsibilities, for packing books, and for their sweet smiles, good humor, and hard work throughout the planning and implementation phases of this project. I seem to be glued at a computer or in a meeting at all times, so it is a great relief and joy to me to know that **Cindy, Julie, Hilary** and **Stacy** are so capable, and also helping patrons while I am essentially unavailable.

Cathy Carter

NOTICE: For information on library items that will be for sale, contact **Stacy Pasche** at the library, at 352-4671 or by email: bsdspasche@gmail.com

What's New in the Library

By Cathy Carter



WHAT THE LIBRARY STAFF READ OVER THE HOLIDAYS

Amazingly enough, in spite of the renovation project, we have all had a bit of time to read. Of course, being book people, we would find a way to read in the middle of an earthquake (somewhat like redoing a library).

Over the holidays **Stacy** read *South of Broad* by Pat Conroy. Her husband, **Mike**, read *Look at the Birdie*, the unpublished short fiction of Kurt Vonnegut. They both read *Under the Banner of Heaven* by Jon Krakauer. Stacy set a goal to read a Dickens classic every Christmas break...however, there is always next year to meet that goal! The *China Study* by T. Colin Campbell was a life-changing book for Stacy, as it was for the rest of the staff who read it.

Hilary read the *Lost Symbol* by Dan Brown, which is a typical Dan Brown page turner, and the new Peter Mayle book, *Vintage Caper*. **Tom**, her husband, read *Horse Soldiers* by Doug Stanton. According to Tom, it is a really, really good book.

Julie read *The Living Great Lakes* by Jerry Dennis, which she greatly enjoyed, and has now started *The Emigrants*, the first in a quartet about the Swedish emigration to America in the mid 1800's. *Susan Sargent's the Comfort of Color* is one of her favorite library books, and Julie checks it out over and over to be inspired! **Mike** has been revisiting Shakespeare, and just finished *King Lear* and *Hamlet* over the holidays. He is also studying *Stocking Up* to help plan for what to plant and eventually preserve!

Cindy listened to *Elegance of the Hedgehog* by Muriel Barbery and read *Benny & Shrimp* by Katarina Mazetti. To continue to keep up with her very special grandson, Cindy keeps a copy handy of *What to Expect: the Toddler Years* by Arlene Eisenberg. **Cindy and Cathy** both read *Knight of Pleasure* by Margaret Mallory, a wonderful historical romance. **Dan** read *Shop Class as Soulcraft* by Matthew Crawford. This non-fiction title describes the satisfaction and necessity people feel when they work with their hands and are connected to their work.

Honestly, **Cathy** did a few things besides read over the holidays, but you wouldn't know it. She read the new YA title, *Season of Gifts* by Richard Peck that has the Grandma from *A Long Way from Chicago* and *A Year Down Yonder* as the main character. These books bring a lot of joy to the reader...and some laughing out loud passages. She also read William Trevor's *Love and Summer*, and *Olive Kitteridge* by Elizabeth Strout. Both are wonderful books, well written, layered, and thought provoking. Trevor's writing is completely original and his choice of words is perfect. *Olive Kitteridge* is composed of vignettes from the life of the main character. It is somewhat like the writing style in *Spooner*, in which the stories are almost short stories but all connected through the presence of the main character. Cathy also listened to a couple of Jim Butcher books...her new addiction. They are fun and edgy. **Doug** read *Breaking out of Beginning Spanish* by Joseph Keenan, which may not seem riveting to many of us, but whether you are a student of languages, or just interested in language in general, there are actually chapters in this book that are insightful, original, and fun. In the chapter, "Twilight Zone," the subjunctive is discussed. The author says, "Anything that has happened, is happening, or may happen on the borders of our consciousness gets handled by the subjunctive.. Without the subjunctive, Garcia Marquez would read like Hemingway. The subjunctive is more than a verb mode; it is a complete separate reality." Fun stuff. Doug is also reading the *Anatomy of Exercise* by Pat Manocchia. Because Doug likes intense work outs, this book is great, as it shows exactly which muscle group every exercise impacts, and eliminates exercises that waste precious time.

LIBRARY BOARD MEMBER'S HOLIDAY READS

Library Board Members were also busy reading over the holidays and took time to email the library about books they were reading. **Jon Armstrong**: "I think Barbara Kingsolver's novel, *Prodigal Summer* is the best of the books I've read in the last couple of months. To me it was about the relationship of all living things to each other. Mankind is the only one that can destroy the balance in the entire system. While the setting of the book is near the Appalachian Trail, it could easily have been written about our area."

Jon Hawley: "Jacqueline Winspear's *Among the Mad* (I'm on vacation!). This is the latest Maisie Dobbs mystery novel, set in post-World War I England. **Peggy** and I have both enjoyed the entire series."

Jennie Schmitt: "Books that I have read recently are, *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo*, and *The Girl with the Pearl Earring*, which were both very good."

Ginny Freeman read the *Commoner* by John Schwartz, which is about Japan and found interesting because she had lived there. She also read *Winter Solstice* by Rosamunde Pilcher (a very good story), and *Sex Life of Cannibals* by Maarten Troost, which is the story of an American living on a Pacific island and is humorous.

Jim Ryan was reading *Let the Great World Spin* by Colum McCann. "It's a collection of short accounts of different people's perspectives and activities during the time the wire walker walked between the two World Trade Center towers. The stories and perspectives are all very different and very engaging, from a group of mothers who have recently lost sons in war to a "tagger" who is in the subway looking for graffiti opportunities on the tunnel walls beneath the WTC. Very eclectic and interesting."

Pat Laarman: *The Big Oyster* by Mark Kurlansky. "It is the remarkable story of New York and how the abundant oyster played a dominant role in the city's life as a staple food for all classes and a celebrated export. For years I have wondered how oysters became a traditional dish on the holiday tables in the Midwest. Now I know!"

Continued on Page 5.

What's New in the Library

By Cathy Carter (continued)

Jim MacKenzie read *Ride with Me, Mariah Montana* by Ivan Doig, the last book in the trilogy about the Two Medicine region of Montana. "Doig traces the family McCaskill in the trilogy, from early Montana statehood to the 1989 centennial. The author describes all the best and not-so-best characteristics and behaviors of family members and other folks of the far west during that period. These books reflect both the good imagination of the author and a love for the land of Montana where he was raised. A good read."

NEW BOOKS

Here are a few new titles to help get you through the winter! The following are three new books that deal with current issues. As with all of her books, Barbara Ehrenreich, in *Bright-sided*, tilts our perceptions a bit to give us a new way of looking at current issues. We are constantly commanded by others to "Be Positive." In this book, Ehrenreich explores the damage being positive, at the expense of being realistic, does to our society. *Just Like Us: the True Story of Four Mexican Girls Coming of Age* by Helen Thorpe, is a true story of four friends, two of whom are U.S. residents and two who are illegal aliens, and the repercussions this has in their lives. *Healing of America* by T. R. Reid explores health care systems around the world trying to figure out what works and what doesn't from our own health care system and from those around the world.

If you have had enough of issues, browsing through a history book on a cold winter day is always a remedy for the blues. In *Historic Photos of Lake Michigan* by Lynda Twardowski, there are many photos that make the past come alive. Another Michigan book, one that will make you long for spring, is *Michigan Rivers Less Paddled* by Doc Fletcher. Since canoeing is such thirsty work, he includes not only the towns along the way, but also the taverns.

New fiction titles of interest include *The Lacuna* by Barbara Kingsolver (a new Kingsolver is always a treat), *Wolf Hall* by Hilary Mantel (Mann Booker prize winner and an absolute must for historical fiction buffs). Two short story collections by the best in the field are *Farmer's Daughter* by Jim Harrison, and *Too Much Happiness* by Alice Munro. There are new series additions in science fiction and mysteries. A recently discovered and terrific mystery writer is Rennie Airth. Be sure to read his books in order.

RANDOM BOOKS

We talk about books all day long! Isn't that the most wonderful thing you ever heard? Here is a random sampling of what people asked for and read in January: Readers are interested in nutrition, diet and fitness books. Some of our favorite suggestions are *Eat to Live* by Joel Fuhrman; *Picture Perfect Weight Loss* by Howard Shapiro; and *Body for Life* by Bill Phillips.

Going South? Good books on CD for the trip...*Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* by Mark Twain; *A Town Like Alice* by Nevil Shute; and *I, Claudius* by Robert Graves (violent).

Snow sports: *Essential Guide to Skiing, 201 Things Every Skier Must Know* by Ron Lemaster; *No-Fail Snowboarding* by Danny Martin; *Snowmobiling, the Sledder's Complete Handbook* by David Hallam; *Essential Snowshoer, a Step-by-step Guide* by Marianne Zwosta; and *Ice Skating* by Karin Kunzle-Watson.

Financial Planning...how to start the new year fiscally responsible: *Women and Money* by Suze Orman; and *Making the Most of Your Money* by Jane Bryant Quinn (old, but a solid guide to money management).



COMPUTERS AND TECHNOLOGY

ELECTRONIC READERS

We are not certain what the impact of Kindles, Sony Readers and other electronic readers will have on libraries. Although we are convinced that books are important and have an aesthetic appeal that cannot be replaced by an electronic reader, some of us wish Santa had left one in our stocking! We have talked about what we would each put on our reader...maybe a childhood favorite such as the *Complete Works of Lewis Carroll*; a Spanish dictionary; classics such as the *Way We Live Now* (the bigger the classic, the better...that way we wouldn't have to haul them around); the *Bible*; Barbara Kingsolver's *Lacuna*; *Better Homes and Garden Cookbook*; *Immortality* by Milan Kundera; *Alchemist* by Paulo Coelho; *Old Man and the Sea* by Ernest Hemingway; and *Zorba the Greek* by Nikos Kazantzakis...as you can see, we have a wide range of taste in books.

MeL Databases.

With the budget cuts in Michigan, we were afraid that the people of Michigan were in danger of losing access to the MeL Databases. Thank goodness the databases are still available to all Michigan residents from home, school, work or their library, and for everyone through the library computers or laptops connected through the library's wireless internet access. How wonderful is that?

As we often say, there is access to practice tests, databases to help students, genealogy, business, Chilton's car and truck repair manuals, job hunting, even access to the turf grass library at MSU. However, one of the most important areas for patrons is the health and wellness databases. There are several including those for health care professions and those for people who need health and medical information that is legitimate. There is information on alternative medicine that is very helpful

Of course, one of our favorite MeL databases is on books and reading, helping us all to figure out what to read next.

BOOK SHARE GROUP

The Book Share Group will continue to meet during the renovation (at BSDL's temporary location) on the **second Monday of every month at 9:00 a.m.**

Please join us for suggestions of books that the group read and enjoyed.

Some recent titles that the Book Share Group members have read are *Love and Summer* by William Trevor, and *Girl who Played with Fire* by Stieg Larsson.

GREAT BOOKS DISCUSSION GROUP

The Great Books Discussion Group will meet the following **Thursdays**, at **3:30 p.m.:** **January 28, February 11, and February 25** (at BSDL's temporary location).

The readings for each discussion are from *Great Conversations I*. The anthologies and page numbers are available at the library. Copies of the discussion book are available to borrow or purchase.

**TAX SEASON 2010**

Intoxication: Euphoria at getting a refund from the IRS, which lasts until you realize it was your money to start with.

~Author unknown, from a *Washington Post* word contest~

Many federal and state tax forms and informational publications are available now in the library entranceway and after January 25th in our temporary location at 421 Main Street. Copies can be made or printed from online tax sites using BSDL's public access computers for 15 cents a page. The public workstations may also be used for filing tax returns electronically. Please let a staff member know if you think you need more than 30 minutes to file. Library staff cannot give tax advice, but can assist with locating and printing forms.

Find tax information and print out forms from these links:

Federal: <http://www.irs.gov>

State: <http://www.michigan.gov/taxes>

**Benzie Shores
District Library
Board**

President: **Jon Armstrong**
Vice-President: **Jennie Schmitt**
Secretary: **Virginia Freeman**
Treasurer: **James Ryan**
Trustees: **Jonathan Hawley**
Patricia Laarman
Jim Mackenzie

**Friends of the Library
Board**

President: **Joseph P. Hommel**
Vice-President: **Mary Lou Wichert**
Treasurer: **Gloria S. Boyd**
Secretary: **Margaret Strong**
Trustees: **Geraldine Hyams**
Margaret T. Griffen
James Mackenzie
Janet Robb

**BENZIE SHORES
DISTRICT LIBRARY**

630 MAIN STREET
P.O. Box 631

FRANKFORT, MI 49635-0631
(231) 352-4671

Library Director: **Cathy Carter**
Library Assistants: **Cindy Collier**
Julie Morris
Hilary Turner
Stacy Pasche

Hours:

Monday & Wednesday

10:00 am-8:00 pm

Tuesday, Thursday & Friday

10:00 am-5:00 pm

Saturday

10:00 am-5:00 pm

Website:

www.benzieshoreslibrary.org

*Benzie Shores District Library Shorelines
Computer Layout & Editor*

Kay E. Hommel