

NEW SERVICES AND CHANGES AT THE LIBRARY

There is never a dull moment at the library! Last winter was the renovation, this winter we are implementing several new services and changes.

The Benzie Shores District Library will be receiving **two new computers** through the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) which is administered through the Library of Michigan and Michigan State University. The computers should be in the library by the end of January.

After our lovely **renovation** project last winter, we did not think that the word “renovation” would pass our lips again for many, many years. However, as part of the project we converted one storage closet into a quiet study area. That renovated area works so well that we have decided to convert the other closet into a **children’s computer area**. There will be one station for younger children that will access all preloaded educational games, but not internet. The other will be a laptop homework station. More information will be available in the next newsletter.

DVDs will be available at the library soon after the New Year. Titles will range from popular children and young adult titles, to National Geographic specials. This new service is a direct result of the library services survey and grant funding for children and young adult services.

There are many new additions to our permanent Playaways and CD collections. We now have Playaways for children. Playaways are mp3 players with a single book pre-loaded.

NEWSPAPER DIGITIZATION PROJECT UNDERWAY

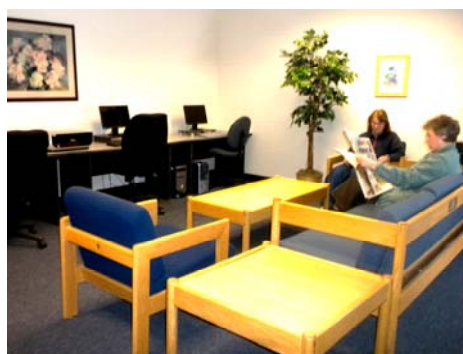
The Benzie Shores District Library is in the process of digitizing their local newspaper holdings. Decades worth of the **Benzie Record** and **Benzie County Record Patriot** will be digitized this winter and be made available on the library’s website. Many of the papers are in fragile condition and are currently inaccessible to the public. In addition to the poor quality of the papers, loose papers are difficult to use for research purposes. Digitizing them will allow researchers and genealogists to search our newspaper archive using keywords. For example, if you need information about a business that was in Frankfort in the 1950’s, you can do a keyword search of the name of the business, or the person who owned the business.

To make this project successful, we need your help! We are missing several volumes of newspapers from the 1920s through 1985. If you have old newspapers and are willing to loan them for digitization, please call the library at 352-4170.

Researchers should please note that our newspaper collection will be unavailable until the project is finished sometime this summer.



Benzie Shores District Library’s children’s area boat is now being enjoyed in its new home at the library in Marshall, Michigan.



The library’s old furniture is now being utilized by the patrons at BACN’s new headquarters.



Benzie Shores District Library’s sign that was torn apart by the “hurricane force winds” Frankfort experienced in the Fall of 2010.

DOWNLOAD DIGITAL CONTENT WITH OVERDRIVE

The library is pleased to announce that we now offer downloadable digital content (eBooks, audiobooks, etc.)! This new service is powered by OverDrive, a digital library service provider. Library card holders can check out and download digital media anytime, anywhere by visiting the library website, www.benziesthoreslibrary.org.

Users may browse the library's website, check out with a valid library card, and download to PC, Mac® and many mobile devices. Titles can be downloaded and enjoyed immediately or transferred to a variety of devices, including iPod®, Sony® Reader™, and many others.

The library will be offering orientation sessions for this new service to help our patrons get acquainted with the many features of OverDrive. The orientation will cover the different types of downloadable materials, and a tutorial on how to use the OverDrive website. If you're interested in attending a training session, please contact the library at 231-352-4671 or at bsdl@benziesthoreslibrary.org.

BSDL KID'S NEWS

It's winter! It's beautiful! Bundle up your little ones and come to the library to sing, rhyme, play and hear stories! **CIRCLE TIME will begin on Tuesday, January 18, 2011 at 10:00 a.m.** These thirty minute sessions are aimed at infants and toddlers, but younger preschoolers are welcome too.

BSDL Bingo! ~ Get your BINGO card, stickers, and begin reading! BINGO cards will be handed out to school children, and will also be available at the BSDL circulation desk **beginning on Saturday, January 29th at 10:00 a.m.** with the program **ending on Saturday, March 12th at 3:00 p.m.** This fun, independent reading program will encourage children to read multiple genres and expand their literary horizons.

2011 Summer Reading Program Theme: One World, Many Stories... this is sure to bring adventure and excitement for our wonderful young patrons. Stay tuned for more information in the spring newsletter.



Mrs. Morrow's First Grade Class enjoying an outing at the library. Obviously they were all enraptured with the puppet show!!



Notice the depth of the snow drifts on the library's deck. An early snowstorm left at least fourteen inches of the beautiful "white stuff."



"REFLECTIONS BY THE BAY"

The *Reflections* series, which is sponsored by the Friends of the Library, is offered every third **Wednesday** of the month (except December), is open to the public, and is free of charge. It is held at the Benzie Shores District Library. Refreshments are served following the program. Please come and join us.

PLEASE NOTE THAT PROGRAMS WILL NOW BE ON WEDNESDAY EVENINGS AT 7:00

January 19, 2011 7:00 p.m.

"Tai Chi and Pilates"
by Deb Cenneme

February 16, 2011 7:00 p.m.

"Michigan Legacy Art Park Director,
Crystal Mountain"
Renee Hintz

March 16, 2011 7:00 p.m.

"Poetry Reading"
by Fleda Brown

April 20, 2011 7:00 p.m.

(In Process)

Sleeping Bear Landmarks

May 18, 2011 7:00 p.m.

Denno's Museum
Diane Bolander



Chase Turner (Hilary's dog) is enjoying being the star of the September 1910 Reflections by the Bay program given by **Troy Packard**.

A NOTE TO THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

Having enjoyed almost a year in our renovated facility, I really appreciate that the Friends membership made a significant contribution to the project. **THANK YOU!** It is through your membership dues that the Friends are able to help the library with their needs. Without **YOU**, it would not happen.

Continued support of the Friends through your annual dues is vital and I thank you in advance for your support. Enclosed is a dues remittance envelope for your convenience. Joe Hommel, President

Several years ago, Cindy and I (Cathy) discovered this perfect January poem. Although we are still trying to figure out what it means, it seems to encompass the spirit of a cold January day.



THE SNOW MAN by Wallace Stevens (1879-1955)

*One must have a mind of winter
To regard the frost and the boughs
Of the pine-trees crusted with snow.*

*And have been cold a long time
To behold the junipers shagged with ice.
The spruces rough in the distant glitter*

*Of the January sun; and not to think
Of any misery in the sound of the wind,
In the sound of a few leaves,*

*Which is the sound of the land
Full of the same wind
That is flowing in the same bare place
For the listener, who listens in the snow,
And, nothing himself, beholds
Nothing that is not here and the nothing that is.*



For many of us winter means skiing, snowshoeing, ice fishing, comfort foods and time to catch up with projects that did not get done in the summer. However, the days are short and it is possible to get a little glum when there are so few days with sunshine. To offset the “mind of winter” we have several books on happiness that are available for you to read. They are not guaranteed to make the winter go faster, but they might make it flow with more happiness.

In *THE ART OF HAPPINESS* by the Dalai Lama he states that “the very purpose of our life is to seek happiness...the very motion of our life is towards happiness.” His suggestion of the way to find happiness is to understand its true sources, inner discipline, and spirituality.

Daniel Gilbert’s *STUMBLING ON HAPPINESS* is not a self help book but a scientific exploration of how and why our thoughts limit our capacity for happiness. His conclusion is that “there is no simple formula for finding happiness.”

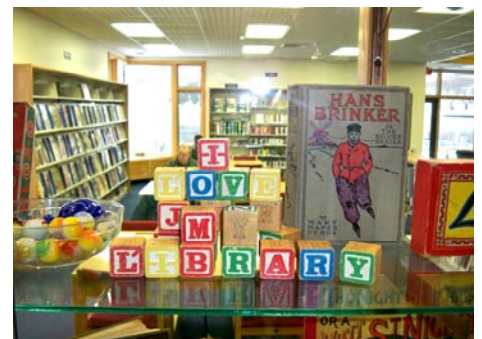
After searching the world over for the key to what makes a person happy, the conclusion of *THE GEOGRAPHY OF BLISS* by Eric Weiner is: “Money matters, but less than we think and not in the way that we think. Family is important. So are friends. Envy is toxic. So is excessive thinking. Beaches are optional. Trust is not. Neither is gratitude.”

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What a wonderful display of children’s books and antique toys greeted children of ALL ages at the entrance to the library

HANS BRINKER AND THE SILVER SKATES by Mary Mapes Dodge is a delightful book which has been enjoyed by children for generations.



The classic on happiness, of course, is Norman Vincent Peale's *THE POWER OF POSITIVE THINKING*. So the next time you are snowbound in a blizzard, this is the book for you.

On the other hand, there are authors who believe that happiness is overrated. *BRIGHTSIDED, HOW THE RELENTLESS PROMOTION OF POSITIVE THINKING HAS UNDERMINED AMERICA* by Barbara Ehrenreich has the premise that looking on the bright side allows us, as a culture, to ignore our social problems. She believes that it is better to think clearly than positively.

Josua Foa Dienstag argues in his book *PESSIMISM* that there is a strong philosophy and history of pessimistic thought that has been healthy for society and progress. Pessimism, essentially, lays the groundwork for possibility. So if you would like an interesting philosophical discussion to think about this winter, you might like to try this book.

SERENDIPITOUS READS



At the library we have lots of materials that help us find the right book for each patron. Besides the reference books, we also have access through MelCat to databases that help us track down the right book for the right person. However, as we have said in the past, some of the best books we have read, have been found totally by accident. Sometimes just wandering through the stacks and reading the flyleaf of a book is the greatest way to find the right book at the right time.

CATHY: One book that I found totally by accident and that remains on my "favorite book list" is *ANIMAL DREAMS* by Barbara Kingsolver. When we were in the original building, a young woman came rushing into the library and said that she was desperate to get a copy of *ANIMAL DREAMS*. She had been visiting a friend who owned the book. She started reading it, but her friend would not let her bring it home with her. I decided I better read that book and, I must say, it has been one that I have re-read at least 3 times. It is the story of two motherless sisters and the choices they make.

Nothing is worse than Friday at 5:00 when I realize that I don't have enough books for the weekend. I always have something to read, but what if I don't like what I chose? So, I was wandering through the stacks and saw the book *BROKEN FOR YOU* by Stephanie Kallos. This powerful and beautiful book is about the impact other people's decisions can have on an innocent person's life, and on the ability to grow and trust.

HILARY: A book came in through MeL for one of our patrons called *THIS IS WATER* by David Foster Wallace. It's actually a commencement address and very short, about compassion in every life; I love it.

STACY: One dreary winter day my children and I discovered a picture book called *SUNBREAD* on the shelves. It's the story of a baker who makes glowing sunbread that taunts the sun to come back out and bring color and warmth back to their town. The book is beautifully illustrated, but the true beauty of the book is the recipe for sunbread in the back of the book. A great book for all ages for a wintry snow day.

JULIE: *HANNAH COULTER* by Wendell Berry was given to me as a gift by my brother, Eric, who is a voracious and eclectic reader. This was my first experience with Wendell Berry's writing, and I finished it within several hours on a long car trip. I dug through my purse to find my highlighter as I found passages so poignant and beautiful.

CINDY: I nearly missed Jo-Ann Mapson's most recent book *SOLOMON'S OAK*, reminding me how much I enjoyed her previous writings with connected offbeat characters. This book contains a favorite quote "Maybe it was naïve, but Glory believed that there was hope for any kid that read fiction. A willingness to lose one's self in a story was the first step to learning compassion, to appreciating other cultures, to realizing what possibilities the world held for people who kept at life despite the odds."



TOP 100 CHILDREN'S NOVELS

If you're looking for things to do this winter why not spend some time reading with your child? At Benzie Shores District Library we have *all* of the 100 Top Children's Novels as picked by *children* for the "School Library Journal."

There are many classics such as *THE SECRET GARDEN* by Frances Hodgson Burnett and *THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS* by Kenneth Grahame. *THE WONDERFUL WIZARD OF OZ* by L. Frank Baum was written over 100 years ago and is actually the first in a series of wonderful and whimsical adventures. After Baum finished this first title, which was meant to be "it", he received numerous letters from children asking that he please write more!

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TOP 100 CHILDREN'S NOVELS Continued

We have current titles available as well. *PERCY JACKSON AND THE OLYMPIANS: THE LIGHTNING THIEF* by Rick Riordan is the first in a cleverly written series incorporating Greek mythology into everyday life for some unsuspecting kids. A favorite of ours is *THE PENDERWICKS: A SUMMER TALE OF FOUR SISTERS, TWO RABBITS AND A VERY INTERESTING BOY* by Jeanne Birdsall. This book made my daughter laugh out loud. It is written with sweetness and innocence and each character is completely and uniquely endearing.

Books about magic continue to be popular. *HALF MAGIC* by Edward Eager is about five children who find a magic wishing coin. The children soon discover that there's a catch...the wishes come true, but by half and they have to figure how to request their wishes so as not to cause mayhem. A quick and entertaining read suitable for younger readers on up! *THE LITTLE WHITE HORSE* by Elizabeth Goudge, written in 1946, was a childhood favorite of J. K. Rowling. *THE LITTLE WHITE HORSE* takes place on the estate of Moonacre in the village of Silverydew and, like Rowling's Harry Potter books, explores the ageless theme of good versus evil.

Of the 100 titles there really is something for everyone. The staff at Benzie Shores District Library is always happy to help find just the right book. Call the library at 231-352-4671 or check our website www.benzieshoreslibrary.org for our children's winter programs.

NEW BOOKS AT THE LIBRARY



New books are added to the library collection throughout the year. These include books in a variety of genres on a variety of topics. Our new non-fiction subjects cover everything from the *SEPTIC SYSTEM OWNER'S MANUAL* by Lloyd Kahn, to *PURE SEA GLASS* by Richard LaMotte, to *UNBROKEN: A WWII STORY OF SURVIVAL, RESILIENCE AND REDEMPTION* by Laura Hillenbrand.

In our new interior design, the biographies are very prominent and are therefore circulating more than ever. What better way to learn about life or other places and times than by reading a biography!

One of the most popular biographies we have is *INFIDEL* by Ayaan Hirsi Ali, the life story of a Somali-born woman who became a member of the Dutch parliament and whose inner struggles and political battles make for very suspenseful reading.

BEAUTIFUL: THE LIFE OF HEDY LAMARR by Stephen Shearer and *SARAH: THE LIFE OF SARAH BERNHARDT* by Robert Gottlieb are biographies of two stars who were show business legends and who were both imaginative, creative, complex, brilliant...and beautiful.

LIFE by Rolling Stone's band member, Keith Richards, is a rock and roll memoir that shows his era from the inside of the music business. *JUST KIDS* is by another rocker, Patti Smith, and is a beautifully written memoir of her relationship with photographer Robert Mapplethorpe.

GROWING UP LAUGHING: MY STORY AND THE STORY OF FUNNY by Marlo Thomas is a heartwarming memoir of Marlo, her father, Danny Thomas, and glimpses of other famous comedians. *TALK SHOW: CONFRONTATIONS, POINTED COMMENTARY, AND OFF-SCREEN SECRETS* by Dick Cavett is full of celebrity profiles from his heyday.

CLEOPATRA: A LIFE by Stacy Schiff is an amazing book about an absolutely riveting person to whom political intrigue and dynasty building were second nature. A more recent book about political intrigue and insight is Tony Blair's *A JOURNEY: MY POLITICAL LIFE*.

In the winter, it is always a joy to curl up with a new novel. Two new World War II stories are *A FIERCE RADIANCE* by Lauren Belfer, about a woman photojournalist, and *A COMEDY IN A MINOR KEY* by Hans Keilson, a lovely book about a young couple in Europe and the impact of their choice to hide a Jewish man from the Nazis. The most recent installments of several mystery and science fiction series are also available.

BOOK SHARE GROUP

The Book Share Group meets the **second Wednesday of each month at 9:00 a.m. at the library.**

The group meets for one hour to share titles of books they have read and enjoyed.

Join them and hear about books that have delighted someone else and may also introduce you to new authors.

GREAT BOOKS GROUP

The Great Books Discussion Group meets every other Thursday at 3:30 p.m. at the library. This month they will meet on January 6th and January 20th.

The readings are from the Great Books Foundation anthologies and the Foundation format is followed. At every meeting a different assigned reading is discussed.

Stop in at the library to find out what the group is reading, or just come and join them if you think you might be interested.

TAX TIME

Many federal and state tax forms and informational publications will be available January 2011 in the library entranceway. Since the IRS is no longer sending out paper income tax packages to individual and business taxpayers, the library can help provide access to tax products. 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.ustreas.gov> State: <http://www.michigan.gov/taxes>

This is too difficult for a mathematician. It takes a philosopher ~ Albert Einstein on filing tax returns.

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BENZIE SHORES DISTRICT LIBRARY

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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-3:00 pm

Internet website:

www.benzieshoreslibrary.org

Benzie Shores District Library Shorelines
Computer Layout & Editor
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