

GILMORE TOWNSHIP ELECTION

On Tuesday, May 8, voters in Gilmore Township will have an opportunity to vote on a ballot proposal to join the Benzie Shores District Library. For 10 years Gilmore Township (including the village of Elberta) contracted with the district library for library services. If the proposal is approved, Gilmore Township will have board representation on the library board.

Currently, the contract provides for a maximum millage of 0.75. The proposal on the ballot will again have a millage cap of 0.75. However, the library board has agreed to keep the millage rate at 0.6 for the foreseeable future.

Voters may request an application to vote absentee about 30 days before the May 8 election. Check with the Gilmore Township office for information on how to vote by absentee ballot.

COST OF MILLAGE BASED ON VARIOUS PROPERTY VALUES

Compared to market value, properties that have been owned for several years usually have significantly lower taxable value and millage amounts than shown.

Market Value of Property	Maximum Taxable Value	Maximum Millage
\$150,000	\$75,000	\$45.00
\$100,000	\$50,000	\$30.00
\$75,000	\$37,500	\$22.50
\$50,000	\$25,000	\$15.00

THANK YOU KAY HOMMEL!



Kay Hommel, newsletter editor, retired

Kay Hommel, volunteer extraordinaire, edited the library newsletter for many years. The Newsletter began as a joint library and City of Frankfort project. Kay would gather information on all aspects of what was happening in various City departments. The library would contribute information about the events and materials at the library. Once the City decided not to fund the newsletter, the Friends of the Library began sponsoring the library newsletter, which has been published quarterly for about 15 years. It is mailed to every member of the Friends and is available through the library's website, www.benzieshoreslibrary.org.

Kay has edited and produced every library newsletter. Besides editing the newsletter, she has been the creative force behind many projects and organizations in Benzie County and that is certainly true of her contributions to the library. She was one of the founding members of the Reflections by the Bay committee and has produced a stellar newsletter year after year. It is always a joy to work with Kay. We wish her luck on her new project which is the Benzie Area Genealogical Society. Their next meeting is April 11 at 2pm at the Benzie Area Historical Museum.

BSDL MAKES CLASSROOM CONNECTIONS

For many, many years the Frankfort-Elberta first grades have been monthly visitors to the library. Miss Julie does puppet shows, stories and crafts with the students. Then they choose books to take back to the classroom. Other classes visit when they have library projects. Recently both the sixth grades and fourth grades visited the library. The students have all been delightful, curious, courteous and a joy to work with, in part, because they are all very appreciative. They are a credit to their parents, teachers and community.

The February Reflections by the Bay was a joint program with the school presented by Martin Lowenberg, a holocaust survivor. Lowenberg had visited Frankfort High School ten years ago and made such an impact on High School English teacher, Rebecca Hubbard that she worked tirelessly to bring him back to speak to another generation of FEAS students. Hubbard got the library involved as well as other FEAS teachers. Mrs. Harvey's high school art students made "hate hurts. love heals" ceramic tiles that were distributed at the program. Over 60 people attended the program, including students from as far as Interlochen Arts Academy.



February "Reflections by the Bay" speaker and holocaust survivor, Martin Lowenberg with FEAS Art Teacher, Kristine Harvey.

BSDL youth helped celebrate National Engineers Week in February. At our "Engineer for a Day" program, Mike Pasche, P.E. taught participants about the different types of engineering and showed local examples of engineering marvels around Frankfort. Our "Engineers for a Day" built bridges out of paper to hold pennies. Our champion, Alex Thayer, built a bridge out of two sheets of paper that held over 600 pennies! The Friends of the Library provided a Lego set and an erector set as prizes for this program.

The library continues to be a popular hang out after school for socializing, computer time, and on occasion, some homework.



Alex Thayer, winner of the "Engineer for a day" bridge contest.



Mike Pasche, P.E. uses a slinky to teach kids about longitudinal and transverse waves.



Students playing a version of hopscotch at an "After School Gaming" program.



A great place for homework.

SPRING BREAK BOOK BINGO

The library is hosting a "Book Bingo" program for all ages (kids and adults) beginning March 23rd through April 21st. Participants can pick up their bingo sheet at the library. Turn in finished Bingo sheets to the library for a prize. Anyone turning in a completed bingo sheet will also be entered to win the grand prize, a 4 GB Sansa Zip Clip mp3 player!



SPRING STORY HOURS

April 12th, 19th, & 26th
10 a.m.

We will celebrate the wonders of spring with stories, songs, puppet plays and rhymes.

2012 SUMMER READING PROGRAM



BSDL's independent Summer Reading Program for kids begins on Friday, June 8th with an absolute ending on Saturday, August 11th. Register for this popular annual program, read for 24 hours and return completed form (signed by parent at least one week later) to receive a coupon booklet full of wonderful prizes provided by Benzie County merchants!

Summer Story Hours will be Thursday mornings at 10 a.m., June 28th through August 9th. We love to have a good time with books during this lively hour at the library! In addition to puppet plays, a few great stories, some singing and movement—there are crafts to make and take.

There will never be a dull moment this summer at the library. Library fun for kids 5 days a week from June 25th through August 10th! Circle Time, Young Writers, Gaming, Story Hour and "Get Moving!" Visit the website for more information and be sure to like us on Facebook for updates on these and many other programs.

"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.

April 18th at 7:00 p.m.
"History of the College and Academy in Benzonnia" with Lou Yock, Director, Benzie Area Historical Museum

May 16th at 7:00 p.m.
"Coho Fever" with Dave Taghan of the Empire Historical Museum

June 20th at 7:00 p.m.
"Planned Giving and Elder Law" with James Modrall, Elder Care Law Attorney

July 18th at 7:00 p.m.
"Shipwrecks of Sleeping Bear" with Ross Richardson

Please check the events calendar on the BSDL website for the up-to-date happenings. There is always a lot going on at the library!



Gaming programs continue to be popular at BSDL. These kids are enjoying a game of Mario Kart on the library's big screen.

BOOKS, BOOKS, BOOKS!

By Cathy Carter, Director

A BAKER'S DOZEN?

Depending on how the books are counted, I read 13 on my vacation! Clearly it was a perfect holiday. Both Doug and I are so grateful to have access to the library's Up North Digital collection (Overdrive) for our e-Readers (and for the audiobooks, as well!). With the "advanced search" (on the left hand side of the Up North Digital Collection page, just below "Quick Search") it is so easy to find what is available for the format you need.

My first vacation book is always a romance...I find it too difficult to concentrate on books with complex storylines when I am in airports and on airplanes. Much better to read something irresistible and delicious. When you are traveling with a book that takes you to a different universe, delays and setbacks become a gift of time rather than a hassle. So, I am a great believer in not trying to conquer your lifelong "must read" list when you are in an airport or train station. Just read a well-written, really good story. Being immersed in a story is what can transport you from the humdrum of airport announcements and weather delays. Trust me, it will take all the worry out of travel. Hopefully, during a vacation or a time during your busy life there is not only time, but the space for great literature....I just don't think it is while you are in transit.

Before I went on my holiday, I had read *MISS WONDERFUL* by Loretta Chase. I decided that the rest of the Carsington series would be perfect for the transition from my busy life to vacation. *MR. IMPOSSIBLE*, *LORD PERFECT*, and *NOT QUITE A LADY* are all fun stories for people who enjoy a good Regency romance with some humor. In each of these books the most unlikely people end up together. Their differences make for some very funny scenes. Since these books were in a series, I wasn't sure if I should count them as 1 book or 3, but decided that since they were fairly long romances, I could count them individually.

My next genre was mystery. I read the new Charles Todd book, *THE CONFESSION*. The story was somewhat convoluted and the relationship between the family who had lived in the 'manor' and the local people seemed a bit ridiculous. Although this was not one of the strongest books by Todd, overall, both series written by the mother-son writing team are very good. *SWEETNESS AT THE BOTTOM OF THE PIE* by Alan Bradley is another historical mystery. A patron suggested that I read it. The story is set in England. When I started this book, I thought it was maybe set in the early 1900's but realized it was set in the 1950. Judging by my birth date, this book is definitely NOT historical. Sometimes books with a precocious child as a main character take a leap of disbelief. The main character in this mystery is an engaging 12 year old. Although the family relationships are a little bizarre, the book was fun and I think the rest of the series would be entertaining. The mystery I thoroughly enjoyed was *THE INVISIBLE ONES* by Stef Penney. Roy Lovell, the detective, is in very bad shape in the hospital when the story opens. The story unfolds as his memory and strength slowly return. Roy is part gypsy and was hired by another gypsy to find his daughter who had been missing for 7 years. The story was intriguing and the immersion in the modern gypsy culture was interesting. I also enjoyed Stef Penney's prize-winning first novel, *TENDERNESS OF WOLVES*, set in rural Canada.

My vacation science fiction book this year was, in fact, a fantasy book. I tend to prefer fantasy to most science fiction. (It should count as more than one book because it was so long!) *NAME OF THE WIND (KINGKILLER CHRONICLES, DAY 1)* by Patrick Rothfuss is a perfect book for this genre. ..exciting, compelling, with an absorbing main character. I am now listening to the second one in the trilogy, *WISE MAN'S FEAR (KINGKILLER CHRONICLES, DAY 2)* which begins immediately where the first book ended. A word of warning: you may want to start the series when you know that the third book is being published...it is quite hard to wait for this enthralling story to continue.

Besides taking walks, I thought I should maybe do some pilates or something while on holiday, so I read *BALLECORE(R)* by Molly Weeks. This book is extremely well-illustrated and the exercises are explained thoroughly. Since it is available on Overdrive you can download it to your e-Reader or computer.

I liked nearly all of the fiction books I chose. *ONE DAY* by David Nicholls, was the only book that was a little disappointing. Having said that, the book still had its moments of funny scenes and some very good writing. The premise was good: one decision can change everything in your life. However, the constant drunkenness of one of the characters was a bit tedious. One of the only books I have read where alcoholism is an integral factor in the plot was a very good book, *CLARINET POLKA* by Keith Maillard. It is the story of a young Polish American man in a small town. *THE BACK OF BEYOND* by C.J. Box is another book where drunkenness is central, and essential, to the plot. This is a stand alone mystery, not in the Joe Pike series. It is violent, but gripping. Cody Hoyt, who has a drinking problem, is a bad boy who became a police officer, but didn't leave his bad boy ways behind. Hopefully, this is the first in a new series. In *ONE DAY*, the excessive drinking was just tiresome.

The reviews of *JOY FOR BEGINNERS* by Erica Bauermeister sounded good to me, but I thought this novel might be schmaltzy. I was so wrong. The story starts with a celebratory dinner for a group of friends. One of them had a bad bout with cancer. She now has the opportunity for a physically challenging trip with her daughter and she is scared. She says she will make the trip if each of her friends accomplish a task she sets for them. The tasks she sets are all seemingly simple and straight forward, but for emotional reasons they are challenging for each friend. It is a beautiful book.

BOOKS, BOOKS, BOOKS, Cont.

LEFT NEGLECTED by Lisa Genova is the story of a woman who in the middle of an extremely hectic life had a terrible accident that causes a debilitating head injury. LEFT NEGLECTED is full of interesting medical information and awareness of life and life changes. The people involved are very privileged and the ending was too pat for me. Genova is the author of STILL, ALICE the story of a brilliant woman who develops early on-set Alzheimer's disease. Genova writes good books on difficult subjects.

THE LANGUAGE OF FLOWERS by Vanessa Diffenbaugh is an absolutely wonderful story about an 18 year old emancipated child who had been institutionalized most of her life. It is about survival, love, forgiveness and people just doing the best that they can.

Sometime ago, I read HANDLING SIN by Michael Malone. I never miss an opportunity to recommend that book. An older man gets a bad diagnosis, escapes from the hospital, disappears on an adventure and sends his adult son on a quest. I loved this book. On my holiday, I read another Malone book, FOUR CORNERS OF THE SKY which was good, but not as good as HANDLING SIN. In FOUR CORNERS OF THE SKY, the main character's father is a con artist, who deserts her. The book is full of adventure and great characters.

It was a lovely vacation full of good reads! With the exception of travel books, I didn't read any non-fiction on my trip. However, I did read both 1491 and 1493 by Charles Mann before I went. These are amazing books, well-written, informative and will completely change your understanding of history. A book I skimmed was PERSONAL MBA by Josh Kaufman. I highly recommend this book for anyone who owns or manages a business. The information and insights into running a business are helpful and it is available on Overdrive. If you've read Candice Millard's book, RIVER OF DOUBT, the story of Teddy Roosevelt's Amazonian journey, you know that she is a thorough researcher and absorbing author. In her new book, DESTINY OF THE REPUBLIC, the assassination of President Garfield is examined including the minutia of medical details. You come away from this book being very grateful that you live in a more medically enlightened era.

FROM THE FRIENDS

We have accomplished a great deal for the Library in the past year but there is always more to do and we need your support. The State of Michigan eliminated the tax credit for contributions to Community Foundations and our new remittance envelope which is enclosed reflects that change. We ask, if you haven't already renewed your Membership, that you take a moment now to do so using the envelope included in this newsletter. Your support is essential to what we do for the Library.

Thank you! Joe Hommel, President, Friends of the Library



In February, while Cathy was off on a glorious holiday, we witnessed a few fabulous sunrises of our own.

1940'S CENSUS

The 1940 Census will be released April 2. At first, it will only be on the government website <http://1940census.archives.gov/> as images of the actual census arranged by location only (by Enumeration District). Then it will be indexed, a process which will probably take 6 months or so. Some states will be available before others. Ancestry.com says "At midnight on April 2, 2012, the National Archives will hand off the 1940 census records to Ancestry.com. Then we will start working around the clock to get each census page online so you can browse it with our new image viewer. And Ancestry.com will also provide you with updates, advice and custom guidance throughout the process, allowing you to make your discoveries as quickly and easily as possible." The Ancestry.com records will also be only images (no name index) to begin. Just a reminder: Ancestry is available at the library from the library computer stations and wirelessly using the library's wireless access.

Currently, library users (and anyone from home) can download a blank 1940 census form from Ancestry.com to see what data was collected in 1940. And even then, you'll be combing through multiple images to find the right listing. Before the census is released, you can look up the Enumeration District. Go to <http://www.archives.gov/research/search/> and enter 1940 census maps *County State* (fill in your desired county and state). Then look through the many images for your city/town/borough. HOWEVER, you really have to know your town well to find the street on this ED map!

All of these links and more can be found on the library's website at www.benziesthorelibrary.org. We thank Helen Dewey for figuring this out for us!

BOOK SHARE GROUP

Do you like hearing about books? Are you interested in books that other people are reading? If so, the book share group which meets the second Monday of every month at 9 a.m. is for you. Everyone is welcome to share titles or just listen.

GREAT BOOKS GROUP

The Great Books Discussion Group meets every other Thursday at 3:30 p.m. at the library. The readings are from the Great Books Foundation anthologies and the Foundation format is followed. At every meeting an assigned reading is discussed. Stop in at the library to borrow a copy of the current anthology. Since each discussion is complete and each meeting has a new reading, it is easy to join the group even if you are unable to attend every discussion

eUsers GROUP

Due to the popularity of eReaders, the Benzie Shores Library staff is offering an eReader's Users Group as a way for patrons to share eReader tips and tricks. If you own an eReader or are thinking of purchasing one, please join our group as we discover the exciting world of eBooks. Next meetings will be May 3rd at 10 a.m. and May 7th at 7 p.m.

BENZIE SHORES DISTRICT LIBRARY

630 MAIN STREET
FRANKFORT, MI 49635-0631
(231) 352-4671
www.benzieshoreslibrary.org

Library Director: Cathy Carter
Assistant Director: Stacy Pasche
Children's Librarian: Julie Morris
Library Assistants: Cindy Collier
Hilary Turner

Hours:

Monday 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Tuesday 10:00 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Wednesday 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Thursday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Friday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Saturday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Benzie Shores District Library Shorelines
Computer Layout & Editor
BSDL Staff

TECH UPDATES: A WORK IN PROGRESS...ALWAYS

A library who's goals do not go beyond books is sure to suffer. We are constantly in the process of finding new technologies to creatively meet the needs of our patrons and staff. Some tech upgrades are visible, like a subscription to a new database like Ancestry.com. Some upgrades are not as visible, like our increased internet connection speed.

Upgrades planned for the near future include a new website with mobile features. Our downloadable collection (Overdrive) continues to grow in popularity. Nationwide usage of Overdrive increased by 600% in the last year. To help meet demand for eBooks, the library plans to purchase a few eReaders to be used for training purposes.

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