Would you believe that summer reading programs started in the 1890s? The programs began as a way to encourage school children to read during the summer and to develop a lifelong habit of reading. Today, summer reading programs have the same focus and they are FUN. Additionally, participating in these programs helps children in the following ways:

- Maintain and strengthen their reading skills.
- Discover an interest in the library, books and ideas.
- Develop the habit of reading.
- Learn about the joy of books and reading through library activities.

The theme of this summer’s countywide summer reading program is DREAM BIG—READ! All Benzie County libraries participate in the program which is sponsored by businesses from around the county. The business owners have been extremely supportive of summer reading over the years. Frankfort Tackle Box owner Christine Murphy was so passionate about the Summer Reading Program that she attended classroom booktalks given by Helen Dewey, program coordinator.

Program registration began Friday, June 8. The last day to register is Saturday, August 4th. The goal of the program is to read for 24 hours in periods of 15 minutes or longer. Every child who registers is given a reading log which needs to be completed by Saturday August 11 (the absolute deadline). The child brings the reading log into the library and is rewarded with a coupon book of prizes from local businesses.

For the second summer in a row, we are happy to provide children’s programs 5 days a week beginning June 18. (See page 4 for the program schedule or visit www.benzieshoreslibrary.org.)

On May 8, the voters of Gilmore Township voted to have Gilmore Township, including the Village of Elberta joined the Benzie Shores District Library. Hooray! The library staff, board and Friends welcome the people of Gilmore Township to the district library. We would like to thank the Gilmore citizens who voted to support the library generously and with good will. The library staff, board and Friends will do our best to meet the library service needs of all of our patrons. Please let us know if there is anything we can do to improve service.
Elizabeth Barrett Browning penned this first sentence of her famous poem during her courtship with Robert Browning in 1845. She answered her question with her second sentence: “Let me count the ways.” And she did count the ways in the poem with one of the most beautiful expressions about love that was ever put to paper.

Fast forward 150 years to the Benzie Shores District Library and let’s ask a similar question: “How can I love (and support) my library?” Well, let’s count the ways of giving to the library.

Ways to love (and support) your library

• **Volunteer:** By volunteering at the library, you will help deliver the quality services that the library offers to its patrons. Shelving books, “reading” shelves, or sorting book sale books allows the library to stretch its budget dollar with volunteer service.

• **Join the Friends:** By joining the Friends of BSDL you become a supporter of our many endeavors. The membership fees support the Newsletter, provide for many of the fine periodical subscriptions, programming, and numerous other activities of the Friends group.

• **Donate:** Providing a donation to the library’s endowment will ensure the ongoing viability of the library to future generations. Alternatively, you may wish to give a cash gift to commemorate a special event in your life like an anniversary, graduation, or birth. A memorial gift to celebrate the life of a loved one will commemorate that life for many years to come.

• **Contribute Books:** Donations of books to the library provide the resource for the annual August book sale put on by the Friends. This major fundraiser of the Friends brings much needed funds to the library that allows for the purchase of “extras.”

• **Bestow:** A Planned Gift through a bequest made in your will is a way of giving without current cost to the donor. The gift may be designated for the endowment or be unrestricted, and it can be changed at any future date should circumstances require.

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**Please join us for**

**Reflections by the Bay “Planned Giving and Elder Law”**

**Wednesday, June 27**

7:00 p.m.

Attorney James Modrall, III has an extensive background in practicing Elder Law. Please join us for this very informative program.

This program and many others are provided by the Friends of the Benzie Shores District Library.
EBOOKS & OVERDRIVE

Our downloadable eBook and audiobook service is provided by a company called Overdrive. In October of 2010, the library joined with 29 other regional libraries to create a shared digital collection through Overdrive called the “Up North Digital Collection.”

Total UpNorth circulation for April 2012 was 6,611 or 220 downloads per day. 85% of items downloaded were eBooks.

In April alone, the consortium added 334 new titles for a total collection size of 5,470 downloadable titles! If you have not yet used this popular service and have questions about how to get started, please contact the library at 352-4671.

Ancestry.com now has the 1940s census images available.

POPULAR PLAYAWAYS™

The library is always looking to find new and exciting ways to get kids enthused about the library. This past school year our local gradeschoolers discovered our Playaway™ collection. Playaways are pre-loaded portable media players. An entire book fits into a small player that is no bigger than a cassette tape. They are convenient and easy to use.

The popularity of these devices does not stop with the kids. Adult patrons are loving them as well. To meet demand, we are adding more Playaways to our collection. If you have never listened to an audiobook before, Playaways are a great way to try out this format. Their size makes them ideal for listening to books while doing tasks around the house. We recently had a patron declare that the Playaway was the greatest thing because she could work in the garden and listen to a book at the same time—her two favorite things!
Benzie Shores District Library
2012 Summer Reading Program
Children’s programs 5 days a week

Stop in the library between June 8th and August 4th to register for the Summer Reading Program. Return your reading log on or before August 11th at 3 p.m. And receive a coupon booklet full of freebies and deals around Benzie County!

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<td>CIRCLE TIME</td>
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<td>GAMEZONE</td>
<td>STORY HOUR</td>
<td>LEGO™ CLUB</td>
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Rhymes and play for infants and toddlers with Miss Char.
Young writers (age 8 to 8th grade) are welcome to come for an hour of creative writing. Bring your imagination and be ready to have fun with words.
Board games and puzzles to share with friends. Bring your DS or other portable gaming system and share tips and tricks with friends. Don’t have a DS? The library has one to share.
Stories, songs, crafts and puppet shows! All of this with our own Miss Julie!
Got bricks? We do. But we need your imagination. Come discover the fascinating world of Lego with us.

Suggested age: 6 mo. to 2 yrs.
Suggested age: 8 to 14 yrs.
Suggested age: 7 and up.
Suggested age: 2 and up.
Suggested age: 5 and up.

Programs begin June 18th and end August 10th
(last day to register August 4th)

SUMMER “REFLECTIONS BY THE BAY”

The Reflections series, which is sponsored by the Friends of the Library, is open to the public and is free of charge.

Join us for this popular series of lectures.

June 27th at 7:00 p.m.
“Planned Giving and Elder Law”
With James Modrall, III

July 18th at 7:00 p.m.
“Shipwrecks of Sleeping Bear Point”
With Ross Richardson

August 14th at 7:00 p.m.
“Preserving Historic Sleeping Bear”
BOOKS, BOOKS, BOOKS

As always there are many new fiction and non-fiction titles available from the library and digitally through the library’s website (click eBooks on the homepage). New genre books and additions to series are frequently added. Besides choices of what to read, format is also a choice: eBooks, printed books, audiobooks....

There are plenty of ways to find a good book to read. At the library, there are 3 shelves of “Librarians’ Choice” books and a laptop that is set to two websites. One site, Kent District Library’s “What’s Next”, helps you find titles in series order. The other, “Books and Authors” through MeL, helps you find good books of interest.

Another way to find a good book is to read with a theme in mind...

Books with Themes

“Books I read that made me want to visit a place.”

Occasionally, we put an easel in the foyer asking about what people have read for a variety of reasons. For instance, we had “the best book I read this year.” Recently, we had the easel topic: “Books I read that made me want to visit a place.” What fun it was to see the books that inspired readers to visit certain places! It is so nice to read a good book that transports us to a new and interesting place. Here are a few, of many, titles that were written on the easel:

A TOWN LIKE ALICE by Nevil Shute (Alice Springs, Australia)
ANNE OF GREEN GABLES by Lucy Maud Montgomery (Prince Edward Island)
UNDER THE TUSCAN SUN by Frances Mayes (Italy)
SECRET OF THE ANDES by Ann Nolan Clark (Andes)
A MOVEABLE FEAST by Ernest Hemingway (Paris)

Right now, the easel has the question, “Books to read before going off to college.”

“Hit by Lightning”

So many events that happen in a moment have the profound impact of changing a person’s life forever. One event that is certainly life-changing is being hit by lightning. Believe it or not, there are books that have a lightning strike (or strikes) as a pivotal part of the story:

ICE QUEEN by Alice Hoffman. Alice Hoffman’s books are always compelling and well-written. In this book, two events shape the main character’s life. A wish comes true and she is struck by lightning. The lightning strike leads her to connections with other lightning strike survivors. The characters are off-beat and off-balance and the story is beautiful.

ALL THE PRETTY HORSES by Cormac McCarthy. There is no shortage of tragedies in Cormac McCarthy’s books! In this story, a lightning strike happens to a relative of one character, Blevins. The fear that strike instilled in him has a profound impact on the decisions he makes and the course of the story.

Remarkable Creatures by Tracy Chevalier. As a tiny baby, Mary is struck by lightning which defines her and sets her apart from her community. As a teenager she meets a woman who finds and explains fossils. Mary becomes an expert and uncanny at finding fossils for the intellectual giants of her time.

HANDBOOK FOR LIGHTNING STRIKE SURVIVORS by Michele Young-Stone. Unlike the other three books mentioned, which were written by prolific authors, this is a first novel. It is poignant and the characters and their stories are believable. In this story a young girl is struck by lightning but her parents do not believe her. Another character suffers emotional trauma when his mother is killed by lightning while standing next to him.

While these two themes are a bit esoteric, you could try fiction in an area which holds an interest for you. As one example, there are several fiction books with baseball as a theme. They are not sports stories per se, but the stories all have baseball as the basis for the plot. The NATURAL by Bernard Malamud, BROTHERS K by David Duncan, ART OF FIELDING by Chad Harbach and LAST DAYS OF SUMMER by Steve Kluger, which, by the way, is a perfect summer read.
**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.

**CHANGES IN WIRELESS POLICY**

This past April, the library installed new software that now requires wireless computer users to agree to the library’s acceptable use policy before they are able to access the Internet. This method of access is similar to other wi-fi hotspots, such as hotels and restaurants. This also helps to protect the library from anyone who would use our connection inappropriately. Examples of wi-fi abuse are downloading illegal content, or using more than a reasonable amount of bandwidth (like trying to stream multiple movies/music at once).

The wireless is still accessible 24/7 (it works in the parking lot when we are closed) and we still do not require a password. As always, if you have trouble connecting to our wireless, please ask at the Circulation desk for help.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

The annual Friends of the Library book sale is

Saturday, August 18th 9 a.m. To 4 p.m.

Volunteers are needed to sort books prior to the sale and for general help the weekend of the sale. If you are able to help with this event, please contact the library at 352-4671.

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**Benzie Shores District Library**

630 MAIN STREET

FRANKFORT, MI 49635

(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 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.