



BENZONIA PUBLIC LIBRARY

*Preserving yesterday, enriching today,
inspiring tomorrow in our community.*

Published by Friends of Benzonian Public Library.

VOLUME 17, ISSUE 1

January 2021



Letter From Amanda McLaren, Director 2020 A Year in Review



What a year it has been! When I sat down to write this reflection of the past year, I was overwhelmed, as I so often am, with gratitude for this community. It has been a challenging year, with many ups and downs, but one thing has stayed consistent...the staff and I have felt the love and support of our community and for that, we are so grateful.

The staff has worked very hard to provide the best service possible through this difficult time. It was our goal to not only provide a service, but to also stay connected and engaged with the community. Some of the highlights from the year include:

- ♦ Creating an opportunity for community members without library cards to sign up for a card online, allowing access to our online services throughout the closure
- ♦ Partnering with the local elementary school to get summer reading program bags in the hands of kids via the school bus
- ♦ A virtual Summer Reading Program open to all that included Puppet Shows, Reading Challenges and PRIZES!
- ♦ As soon as the situation allowed, we offered Curbside pick up, browsing by appointment, and computer center access
- ♦ Wrapping up year one of the Remembering Benzie Oral History Project, which included History in the Making interviews with local teachers and students regarding their experiences with quarantine
- ♦ Thanks to a collaborative effort with the Advocates for Benzie County, we were able to offer PoWER Book Bags, which included six books to add to the child's home library!
- ♦ LEGO-Rama at home building competition followed up with the addition of LEGO kits to check-out
- ♦ STEM Kits are now available for check out thanks to a collaborative effort between the Traverse Area District Library and Newton's Road and a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services
- ♦ The recruitment of interns for year two of the Remembering Benzie Oral History Project and the completion of six Veteran's interviews that have been sent to the Library of Congress Veteran's History Project!



BPL staff, we're here for you!

It seems that every challenge has led to a whole new level of commitment, appreciation, and love for what we do and who we do it for. All of us look forward to the day when things return to "normal". We genuinely miss our patrons and cannot wait to be reunited with each of you! Until that day, we hope that you stay safe, healthy and happy. We hope to all be together again, soon!! Here's to a great New Year and new beginnings!

Cheers!

Amanda McLaren, Director

CURBSIDE SERVICES

Monday, 11-2
Tuesday, 2-5
Wednesday, 4-7
Thursday, 2-5
Friday, 11-2

DIGITAL SERVICES

24-7

via OverDrive
Up North
Digital Collection

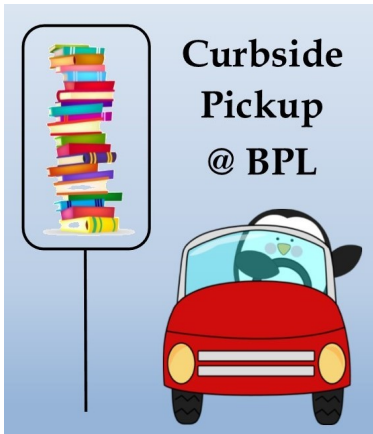
FREE Wi-Fi

24/7



BENZONIA PUBLIC LIBRARY

Curbside Service @ BPL



Curbside pick-up days & times:

Monday 11-2
Tuesday 2-5
Wednesday 4-7
Thursday 2-5
Friday 11-2

- Maximum reserves per library card are: 10 print items and 5 DVDs
- This service is for picking up items only. No other transactions will be handled curbside.
- All returned items (EXCEPT STEM Kits) should be placed in the outdoor drop box.
- Email benzonialibrary@gmail.com with questions regarding your account.
- Visit www.benzonialibrary.org/Curbside for additional information.

Providing safe & efficient curbside service to your vehicle.

Three easy ways to request items for Curbside Pick-up

ONLINE CATALOG REQUEST:

Visit www.benzonialibrary.org Select the Library Catalog icon and login using your library card number. Click the "help" icon in the top left corner for instructions and tips on browsing and placing reserves.



EMAIL REQUEST:

Email benzonialibraryconnect@gmail.com to request items. Include title and author name. Please indicate if you are requesting a DVD or Audio. Be sure to include your name and phone number in your email.

PHONE REQUEST:

Call 231-882-4111 and either speak with a staff member or leave a message. Be sure to leave your full name and phone number.

Once your request is received, a staff member will contact you to give instructions and schedule your pick-up date/time.

DTE FOUNDATION GRANT RECEIVED

The Friends of Benzonian Public Library are thrilled to have been selected to receive a DTE Foundation grant for **Technology Support at Benzonian Public Library**, in the amount of **\$1,000.**

A huge THANK YOU to the DTE Foundation for their generosity and support.

DTE Foundation

Good news for charities & donors!

Special tax deduction helps most people give to charity—even if they don't itemize

The tax package, signed into law on December 27, includes enhanced charitable tax breaks for 2021.

The tax deduction is for gifts of cash to charity. Joint filers who don't itemize deductions on their tax returns may be able to take an above-the-line deduction for up to \$600 in cash contributions to charity starting in 2021. That's up from \$300. The amount for individuals is \$300. It's basically an extension and enhancement of the new one-year tax break Congress put in for 2020 under the pandemic relief CARES Act. Gifts to donor-advised funds and private foundations do not count. Donations must be to a qualifying organization. Check with your tax preparer or www.irs.gov for details.



Yes, the Friends of Benzonian Public Library qualifies.

See page 6 for more about the Friends of BPL.

BENZONIA PUBLIC LIBRARY



REMEMBERING BENZIE: An Oral History Project January 2021 Update

Year Two of the Remembering Benzie Oral History Project is off to an amazing start! Student interns Leola Richard, Olivia Bailey, and Liam Jones are excited, energetic, enthusiastic and committed to doing an amazing job! They make a great team!

Last month the students wrapped up the Veteran's History project with six interviews sent to the Library of Congress to be included in their national archive! The interviews from this year will be added to the Remembering Benzie YouTube Page throughout the next couple months, and a copy of the interview has been sent to each Veteran.

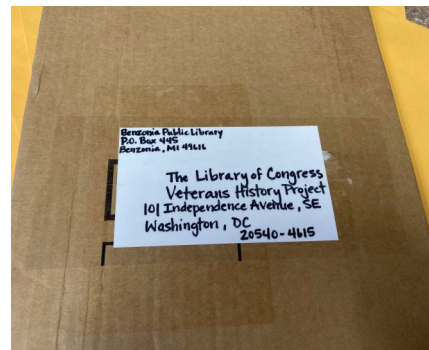
This month students will switch gears and go through in depth training for the next phase of the project: The Legacy Project. Students will interview local community members with deep ties to the county. Each student will interview a person recommended by the Benzie Area Historical Society, as well as a person of their choosing that fits in with the goals of the project.

The training session will be led by professionals from the University of Michigan School of Information and Michigan State University. During training students will learn how to write their own interview protocol, how to recruit and prepare for an interview, tips on shooting B roll, and how to properly conduct a virtual interview (just in case)! They will also have an opportunity to engage in a "practice" interview.

We are delighted to be working with this team of interns and looking forward to see what they produce throughout the project!



Student interns Leola Richard, Olivia Bailey and Liam Jones



Veteran's History Project videos being sent to the Library of Congress.

We thank you all for your continued support and excitement for this wonderful program!

Please subscribe to our [Remembering Benzie YouTube page](#) Remembering Benzie YouTube page to watch past interviews recorded by our interns last year and click on notification settings to be notified as new videos are posted.

Stay tuned for updates in future newsletters and at www.benzonialibrary.org

This project was made possible in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services LG-27-19-0151-19.





BENZONIA PUBLIC LIBRARY



Adult & Young Adult: What's New For You!

YA

Aftershocks, Marisa Reichardt
Garden Of Thorns And Light, Shylah Addante
Grown, Tiffany D. Jackson
The Key To Fear, Kristin Cast
The Missing Prince, John Flanagan
One Way Or Another, Kara J. McDowell
A Sky Beyond The Storm, Sabaa Tahir
To Sleep In A Sea Of Stars, Christopher Paolini
The Way Back, Gavriel Savit

ADULT—FIC

The Clutter Corpse, Simon Brett
The Cold Millions, Jess Walter
Daylight, David Baldacci
Deadly Cross, James Patterson
The Invisible Life Of Addie LaRue, Victoria Schwab
The Law Of Innocence, Michael Connelly
Lazarus, Lars Kepler
Miss Benson's Beetle, Rachel Joyce
Remember Me, Mario Escobar

Take It Back, Kia Abdullah
Three Women Disappear, James Patterson
To Tell You The Truth, Gilly Macmillan
White Ivy, Susie Yang

ADULT—NON-FIC

Chicago's Great Fire: The Destruction And Resurrection Of An Iconic American City, Carl S. Smith
Ten Lessons For A Post-pandemic World, Fareed Zakaria

DVD

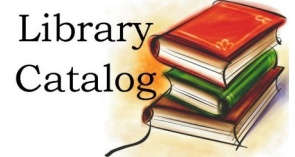
Tenet



DVD SERIES

Better Call Saul, Season 5

Remember to check out
the wonderful selection
of items in our
Library Catalog at
www.benzonialibrary.org



With our newsletters being published more frequently, the New Items list may seem shorter.
Don't worry, we are still adding LOTS of new items plus you get to see the details sooner!

Youth: What's New For You!

JUVENILE

Eva Evergreen: Semi-Magical Witch, Julie Abe
Diana And The Island Of No Return, Aisha Saeed
How To Be A Girl In The World, Caela Carter
The Ickabog, J. K. Rowling
Knock Three Times, Cressida Cowell
Never And Forever, Cressida Cowell
The One And Only Bob, Katherine Applegate
The One And Only Ivan, Katherine Applegate
The Smartest Kid In The Universe, Chris Grabenstein
Spindelfish And Stars, Christiane M. Andrews
Twice Magic, Cressida Cowell
When Life Gives You Mangos, Kereen Getten

GRAPHIC NOVELS:

Cat Kid Comic Club, Dav Pilkey
A Cat Story, Ursula Murray Husted
The Girl And The Galdurian, Tim Probert
Mouse Guard-The Black Axe, David Petersen
Mouse Guard-Fall 1152, David Petersen
Mouse Guard-Winter 1152, David Petersen
The Sewer Rat Stink, Geronimo Stilton
Superman Smashes The Klan, Gene Luen Yang



NON-FICTION:

Garfield Rolls On, Jim Davis

EARLY READER

Clark The Shark Gets A Pet,
Bruce Hale

PICTURE BOOKS

Brenda Is A Sheep, Morag Hood
Elevator Bird, Sarah Williamson
Gustavo The Shy Ghost, Flavia Z. Drago
I Talk Like A River, Jordan Scott
A Jedi You Will Be, Preeti Chhibbler
Kamala And Maya's Big Idea, Meena Harris
Once Upon A Winter Day, Liza Woodruff
Pete The Cat: Crayons Rock!, Kim Dean
A Time To Roar, Olivia A. Cole
The Truth About Dragons, Jaime Zollars

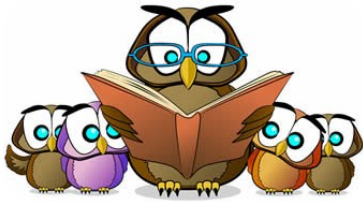


DVD

Mulan



BENZONIA PUBLIC LIBRARY



Another story, please!



Online Pre-School Story Time with Miss Désirée

Videos drop Fridays at 10:30 am

www.benzonialibrary.org/story-time-with-miss-desiree

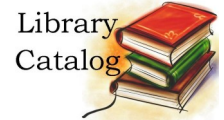
Story and Activity Videos! Craft Ideas!

- Weekly Video:** Enjoy an exciting story
- Monthly Video:** Participate in fun songs & activities
- Craft Activities:** Various online craft activities, videos, and kits.
- Programs:** Previous programs will be available on the [Benzonia Public Library YouTube Channel](#)



STEM Kits a hit at BPL

- ◆ Kits can be checked out for one (1) week with a one (1) week renewal possible.
- ◆ To view kit information and availability visit www.benzonialibrary.org/stem-kits and click on the Library Catalog icon. Type stem kit in the search box to see the list of kits.
- ◆ Click on the title you are interested in to see more information about the kit.
- ◆ **NOTE:** To place a reserve you must log into your BPL account. In the upper right corner enter your library card number and your password then click on Log in.
- ◆ To reserve items, you will need to click the title and then click Reserve this item
- ◆ **HINT:** Green highlighted items are available now, Red highlighted items are checked out.
- ◆ You will be called to schedule Curbside Pick up when your reserved items are available.



IMPORTANT: Kits must be returned via Curbside. DO NOT place in or on top of the drop box. During Curbside hours you may bring them to the front door or call when you arrive & we will come out to get them.

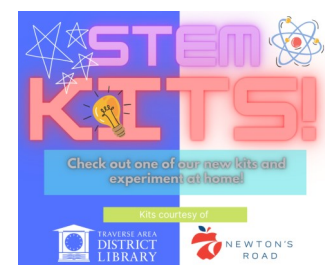
Contact us at benzoniaconnect@gmail.com or 231-882-4111 with questions.

**Kits ready for
check out**

Thanks to a collaborative effort between the Traverse Area District Library and Newton's Road, STEM kits are NOW AVAILABLE at Benzonia Public Library! The two organizations obtained a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services which will put STEM kits in all of the libraries in our region!

The STEM kits vary from hands-on tactile learning, to coding, to a digital microscope, and lots of fun stuff in between. These will be a great resource for homeschool, in person, or virtual students! Kits will be available for a one week checkout with renewal allowed.

Many thanks to Traverse Area District Library and Newton's Road.



This project was made possible in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

BENZONIA PUBLIC LIBRARY

891 Michigan Ave (US-31), P.O. Box 445,
Benzonia, MI 49616
www.benzonialibrary.org
231-882-4111

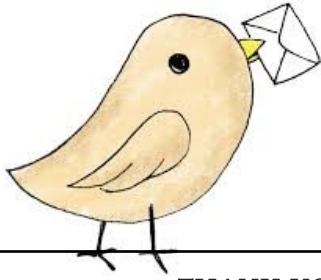
Board of Trustees

Roxane Miner, President
Paula Lake, VP
Helen Dewey, Treasurer

Diana Heller, Secretary
Audrey Pittinos, Trustee
Judy Caris, Trustee

Benzonia Public Library Board of Trustees are usually held at 4 pm the 2nd Wednesday of each month in the library building. Meetings are open to the public.

If meetings are shifted to online, information will be posted at www.benzonialibrary.org



Annual Letter of Appeal

Contributions are Greatly Appreciated!!!
Special \$300 tax deduction helps most people give to charity this year –even if they don't itemize!
Read more on page 2.

Working to ensure adequate funds for the Benzonia Public Library through advocacy, fund raising, and promotion.

THANK YOU to all the wonderful supporters who donate time, talent, and funds to help the Friends of BPL make a difference at the Benzonia Public Library.

The Letter of Appeal is available at BPL or visit www.benzonialibrary.org/annual-appeal-friends-of-bpl

Please take a few minutes to read how the Friends, with the help of generous supporters, provide many of the little and not so little extras that make BPL a vibrant part of our community.

Up North Digital Collection- powered by OverDrive.



Includes eBooks, audiobooks, and videos on your personal device 24-7. Visit benzonialibrary.org and click on the OverDrive image.

Funded by Friends of BPL.

New Account: Sign-up Online at BPL Don't have an account at BPL?

Apply online for a card that allows borrowing privileges at the library. You'll have access to BPL materials. Benzie County residents and landowners will also have access to e-books and other electronic resources as soon as the account is activated.



Visit benzonia.biblionix.com/catalog & select SIGN UP on the far the far right of the page. Fill out the online application and upload a copy of your driver's license. Read more about new account requirements & policies at www.benzonialibrary.org/services.

Transparent Language Online



The Mid-Michigan Library League (BPL is a proud member!) is providing free access to this wonderful language learning resource. Visit benzonialibrary.org and click on the OverDrive image.

JOIN OUR MAILING LIST!

Receive BPL Newsletters & Activity Updates via email.

Sign up at www.benzonialibrary.org

When you join our mailing list the Friends of BPL will send newsletters plus activity updates.

