



# BENZONIA PUBLIC LIBRARY

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

Published by Friends of Benzonia Public Library.

VOLUME 19, ISSUE 9

**September 2023**

## Smithsonian Museum on Main Street Exhibit is coming to Benzonia Public Library!

*Discover Innovation & Inspiration In Rural Communities  
October 14 through November 25, 2023*

The Museum on Main Street “**Spark! Places of Innovation**” is a one-of-a-kind cultural project that has been sharing the Smithsonian’s resources with rural America since 1994.

### LOCAL PROGRAMMING AND EXHIBITS:

In addition to the Smithsonian exhibits, Spark! will be the springboard for diverse local programming in the humanities, sciences, and arts.

Visitors will be inspired to learn about how innovation has shaped their own communities and how they may be innovators themselves. This exhibit will be an opportunity for community members to come together and share their community’s innovations past, present, and future.

Benzonia Public Library is scheduling a variety of programs in partnership with various community organizations. Programs will be held throughout the community and at the Mills Community House.

### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

Volunteers are needed to serve as docents during the Benzie County stop on the Smithsonian Museum on Main Street tour! Our volunteer docents will be on hand to answer questions and guide guests through the exhibit. There may be some larger groups that would include students and seniors.

All volunteers will be trained and will have shifts no longer than 3.5 hours. You can volunteer for as little, or as many, shifts as you would like!

This is an excellent time to connect with the community! If you are interested in volunteering, please email [benzoniaconnect@gmail.com](mailto:benzoniaconnect@gmail.com) with Museum on Main Street as the subject. and we will be in touch!



### EXHIBIT HOURS AT

Benzonia Public Library  
Mills Community House  
891 Michigan Ave., Benzonia

**Oct. 14-Nov. 25, 2023**

<b>Thursday</b>	<b>3-6</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>12-6</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>12-6</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>1-4</b>

*Free Admission*

Presented by  
*Benzonia Public Library  
Mills Community House  
Smithsonian Museum on Main Street  
Michigan Humanities*



**Continued on page 3**

**Visit our website for additional information:**  
[benzonia.org/museum-on-main-street](http://benzonia.org/museum-on-main-street)

The Smithsonian Museum on Main Street is made possible by Michigan Humanities. For more information regarding Spark, Places of Innovation visit <https://www.michiganhumanities.org/smithsonian-museum-on-main-street/>.

This project is funded in part by Smithsonian, and Michigan Humanities, an affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

### BPL HOURS:

**10am-6pm Monday-Friday  
10am-2pm Saturday  
Closed Sunday**



**BPL will be Closed**

**Monday, September 4th**

Open regular hours the rest of the week.

# BENZONIA PUBLIC LIBRARY

## Castles, Cathedrals and the Crusades *By Maureen Esther, HistoryTeller*



**Wednesday, September 27, 2023**

**6:00-7:30 pm**

**Benzonia Public Library**

Mills Community House-Upper Level  
891 Michigan Ave., Benzonia, MI, 49616



Lecture covers the massive undertaking of building the castles and cathedrals in England and France during the Middle Ages (AD 900-AD 1200). Information will be given regarding workmanship and the influence of the Crusades on architecture.

Maureen, a HistoryTeller for 30 years, enjoys bringing her love of Art and History to the Benzonia Public Library.

**No charge for event, just come and enjoy.**

## Plant Diagnostic Clinic

**Tuesday, September 12, 11am-2 pm**

**Benzonia Public Library Porch**

891 Michigan Ave., Benzonia

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension



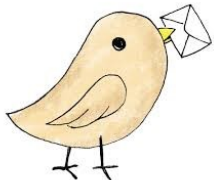
**Smart Gardening**

**Bring us your bugs, weeds, and plant diseases for identification and recommendations!**

MSUE will host a Plant Diagnostic Clinic at BPL on Tuesday September 12th. Staffed by MSUE employees & Extension Master Gardeners, the clinic will assist residents

with plant pests & diseases, lawn, bug or weed identification & recommendations.

Questions about clinic? call 231-256-9888 or email [waltonn2@msu.edu](mailto:waltonn2@msu.edu).



## Watch for the Friends of BPL Annual Letter of Appeal 2023 fundraising campaign

**Any and all contributions are Greatly Appreciated!!!**

The letter and donation envelopes are available at BPL. Current donors will receive letters via mail.

We'll also post the letter at [www.benzonialibrary.org/friends](http://www.benzonialibrary.org/friends). 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 Benzonia Public Library a vibrant part of our community.

If you'd like to be a member of the Friends of BPL, just check the box on the donation form.

If you would like to provide more "hands-on" help, please contact [www.benzonialibrary.org/friends](http://www.benzonialibrary.org/friends).

We would love your assistance!! We are looking for Board members to help guide the Friends in addition to help with various events and activities.

**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.**

# BENZONIA PUBLIC LIBRARY

## Repurposeful Librarians: Craft Supplies Needed

The Repurposeful Librarians will be providing maker/crafting opportunities for both adults and children as part of the Museum on Main Street programming. Our focus is to repurpose, recycle, and reuse as much as we can for our craft/maker workshops.

We are asking for your help to gather some of the supplies listed below. Please don't purchase items, we want to re-use things that are in good condition that you no longer need.

Items may be dropped off at BPL during regular business hours.

- Toilet paper tubes
- Plastic grocery bags
- Duct tape-assorted colors
- Plastic water bottles-clear
- Magazines-with colorful pictures
- Fabric: Christmas a& winter prints
- Greeting cards-used is ok as we'll just be using the pictures
- Shoe boxes-smaller (not boot boxes)
- Buttons

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### Please consider contributing to our display wall of Benzie County local innovators during the Smithsonian Museum on Main Street stop at the Mills Community House!

We would like to showcase our local community's ability for innovation, creative thought and problem solving. Whether a grand invention, or just something to make every day life easier, if you or someone you know have created it, we want to hear about it! Feature yourself, a loved one, or a past community innovator! We ask that you limit your submission to 2 single sided pages (8.5x11) including any write up and photos, giving as much, or as little, detail as you would like! Deadline for submissions is October 1, 2023. An information sheet is available at the library and a printable version online at [benzonialibrary.org/museum-on-main-street](http://benzonialibrary.org/museum-on-main-street).



After the exhibit we will compile all of the submissions into a community innovation book available at the library!

### LOCAL INNOVATOR DISPLAY 2 PAGE SAMPLE

#### GUIDELINES FOR SUBMISSION:

- ◆ About a local Benzie County Innovator
- ◆ Up to two (2) 8.5 x 11 inch pages
- ◆ Single sided
- ◆ Include any write up, photos, and details you want to people to know about your subject
- ◆ Include your name, date and relationship to the local innovator
- ◆ **Deadline for submission is October 1, 2023.**

#### R&V Orchards Cherry De-stemmer

The Cherry De-stemmer invented by Russell (Jack) W. Smeltzer and Lester (Bud) Vernon Smeltzer helped revolutionize the cherry processing industry. In the early 1960's the brothers started working on a machine to remove cherry stems during processing. They recognized a need for quickly removing cherry stems at the processing plants. With the advent of the cherry shakers being used in many orchards a way to remove the stems faster was necessary.



The brothers US Patent 3454067A was filed on Oct. 21, 1965 and patented July 8, 1969. Over the years Jack and Bud built and sold 170 de-stemmers worldwide. The de-stemmers were all built in their small shop located in Joyfield Township on 6 Mile Road, Frankfort MI. The shop was a gathering place for friends and neighbors who were often found visiting, drinking coffee, and helping work on the de-stemmers.

#### CHERRY DE-STEMMER

General Description: This machine is used to remove the stems from sweet and tart cherries. It consists of a hopper for the fruit, a rotating drum with a dull 1/8" radius blade which hits the stems and pulls them out. The stems are then blown away by a fan. The machine is built of heavy metal and is designed for long life.

For Additional Information or Demonstration Call

R&V ORCHARDS  
Frankfort, Michigan 49734  
RT. 1 - FRANKFORT, MICHIGAN



Russell (Jack) and Vernon (Bud) Smeltzer working on a cherry de-stemmer



Cherry de-stemmers waiting to be shipped

One of the original flyers used to advertise the cherry de-stemmers. This display was created by Michelle Leines, daughter of Lester (Bud) Vernon Smeltzer for the Local Innovator Display at the SPARK! Places of Innovation which is part of the traveling Smithsonian Museum on Main Street. Benzie County Public Library received a grant to have the traveling exhibit at the Mills Community House in Benzie County MI during October and November 2023.

#### R&V Orchards Cherry De-stemmer

Recollections of Russell W. Smeltzer history of the cherry de-stemmer. Notes taken and transcribed by Michelle E. Leines on 02/25/2012.

We got the first lick in. Several people had working shakers which meant lots of cherries to process. The plants couldn't get the stems off fast enough as it was difficult to hire enough workers. There was a rush to come up with a way to quickly remove stems without damaging the cherries. Two or three others were trying to come up with a cherry de-stemmer, but didn't have anything practical.



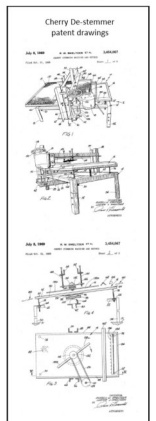
My brother Bud (Lester Vernon Smeltzer) and I had been trying to think of a way to make a de-stemmer. On a summer day about 1962 or 1963 while taking a nap after lunch I suddenly had an idea. My inspiration was based on a weed whacker (the old style cutter with a handle and a blade at the bottom). I picked several quarts of cherries and scattered them on the ground stems up. Using my old weed cutter I whacked the stems off nice and clean, it worked so well I suggested to Bud we make a machine to test, so we stopped our other work. A small prototype was set up for a quick test.

We knew we had a good idea, but had to wait until the cherry crop was harvested before we started to develop a real working design. We took our idea to a horticulture show in Grand Rapids and demonstrated by using maraschino cherries with stems. The idea was good and people were excited, however the size was a problem. The de-stemmer would have to be as big as a house to process the cherries quickly enough.

My other brother Lloyd suggested a conveyor type belt to move the cherries and speed up the process. Around 1964/1965 we ended up using a foot wide shaker belt design with a dull rotating blade that sat just above cherry height. The dull 1/8" radius blade would hit the stem & lock it down then pull it cleanly out (stem removal was almost 100%). Michigan State University borrowed our machine for a special demo using special slow motion photography showing thousands of photos per minute. Since we had our design done we went to the bank and got pre-approved for a \$20,000 loan to build the de-stemmers, but we never had to use that loan. We did demos at different horticulture shows (one of them was even out west) but we didn't take orders until we had 60 machines built and ready for delivery. We ended up sending over 100 de-stemmers all over the world (one even went to Iran) before we finally sold the patent. Those de-stemmers could process about 10 tons of cherries per hour and could be stacked several high to save space.

We got paid for every machine, although we were worried for awhile about one that went to Italy. Luckily a government agency helped them to pay. The grandma of another buyer found out we hadn't been paid and made sure the money was sent. The machines worked good with few repairs except for one up north. They were always calling for parts and Bud would tell them OK but you'll have to meet us half way to get the part as it was such a long drive.

Once we started building the de-stemmers we didn't focus too much on the orchards and leased many of them out. Our little shop got a reputation "If you can't get it done, go see the Smeltzer Boys".



This display was created by Michelle Leines, daughter of Lester (Bud) Vernon Smeltzer for the Local Innovator Display at the SPARK! Places of Innovation which is part of the traveling Smithsonian Museum on Main Street. Benzie County Public Library received a grant to have the traveling exhibit at the Mills Community House in Benzie County MI during October and November 2023.

# BENZONIA PUBLIC LIBRARY

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

### YA

*All That's Left To Say*, Emery Lord  
*Clementine and Danny Save the World*, Livia Blackburne  
*Forgive Me Not*, Jennifer Baker  
*I Am Not Alone*, Francisco X. Stork  
*Stars In Their Eyes*, Jessica Walton

### YA—NON-FIC

*Accountable: the true story of a racist social media account and the teenagers whose lives it changed*, Dashka Slater

### ADULT—FIC

*After That Night*, Karin Slaughter  
*The Air Raid Book Club*, Annie Lyons  
*The Bee Sting*, Paul Murray  
*The Breakaway*, Jennifer Weiner  
*The Brightest Star*, Gail Tsukiyama  
*Canary Girls*, Jennifer Chiaverini  
*The Centre*, Ayesha Manazir Siddiqi  
*Chameleon*, Remi Adeleke  
*The Collector*, Daniel Silva  
*The Connellys of County Down*, Tracey Lange  
*Cutting Teeth*, Chandler Baker  
*Dead Mountain*, Douglas J. Preston  
*Drowning: the rescue of Flight 1421*, T. J. Newman  
*Family Lore*, Elizabeth Acevedo  
*The Glass Chateau*, Stephen P. Kiernan  
*Gone Tonight*, Sarah Pekkanen  
*Good Bad Girl*, Alice Feeney  
*The House of Lincoln*, Nancy Horan  
*The Housekeepers*, Alex Hay  
*The Invisible Hour*, Alice Hoffman  
*Just Another Missing Person*, Gillian McAllister  
*Mobility*, Lydia Kiesling  
*Lion & Lamb*, James Patterson

*Little Monsters*, Adrienne Brodeur  
*My Husband*, Maud Ventura  
*None Of This Is True*, Lisa Jewell  
*Out of Nowhere*, Sandra Brown  
*The Paris Daughter*, Kristin Harmel  
*Prom Mom*, Laura Lippman  
*The Raging Storm*, Ann Cleeves  
*Tom Lake*, Ann Patchett

Remember to check out the wonderful selection of items at [www.benzonialibrary.org](http://www.benzonialibrary.org)

Library Catalog



### ADULT—NON-FIC

*The Last Ride of the Pony Express: my 2,000-mile horseback journey into the old west*, Will Grant  
*Women Waging War in the American Revolution*

### AUDIO

*The Air Raid Book Club*, Annie Lyons  
*An Honest Man*, Michael Koryta  
*Flags on the Bayou*, James Lee Burke  
*Gone Tonight*, Sarah Pekkanen  
*The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store*, James McBride  
*Hello Beautiful*, Ann Napolitano  
*Lessons in Chemistry*, Bonnie Garmus  
*The Librarianist*, Patrick deWitt  
*The Little Italian Hotel*, Phaedra Patrick  
*Tom Lake*, Ann Patchett

### DVD

*Asteroid City*  
*Blackberry*  
*Dungeons and Dragons: Honor Among Thieves*  
*Guardians of the Galaxy*, #3

### DVD SERIES

*1923: a Yellowstone origin story, Season 1*  
*Abbott Elementary, Season 1*

## Youth: What's New For You!

### JUVENILE

*An Old-Fashioned Girl*, Louisa May Alcott  
*Eight Cousins*, Louisa May Alcott  
*The International House of Dereliction*, Jacqueline Davies  
*Jack and Jill*, Louisa May Alcott  
*The Lost Library*, Rebecca Stead  
*Rose in Bloom*, Louisa May Alcott  
*Stuntboy, In-Between Time*, Jason Reynolds  
*Under the Lilacs*, Louisa May Alcott

### GRAPHIC NOVELS

*CatStronauts*, #1-6, Drew Brockington  
*The Fifth Quarter*, Mike Dawson  
*Four Eyes*, #1, Rex Ogle  
*Geronimo Stilton: Last Ride at Luna Park*, #4, Geronimo Stilton  
*Ghost Book*, Remy Lai  
*Grace Needs Space*, Benjamin A. Wilgus

### J NON-FICTION

*Your Freedom, Your Power: a kid's guide to the First Amendment*, Allison Matulli

### EARLY READER

*Barbie: The Pretty Pearl Mermaid*, Level #2, Jennifer Liberts  
*Bippi: It's time to Play!*, Level #1,  
*Marley's Big Adventure*, Level #2, John Gorgan  
*Pete the Cat's Family Road Trip*, Level #1, Kim Dean  
*Race for the Ring*, Level #1, Delphine Finnegan  
*The Scariest Kitten In the World*, Kate Messner  
*See the Ghost: three stories about things you cannot see*, David LaRochele  
*Sometimes I Kaploom*, Rachel Vail

### PICTURE BOOKS

*The Fantastic Bureau of Imagination*, Brad Montague  
*If the River Runs Free*, Andrea Debink  
*In the Night Garden*, Carin Berger  
*Manlo & the Unicorn*, Jackie Azua Kramer



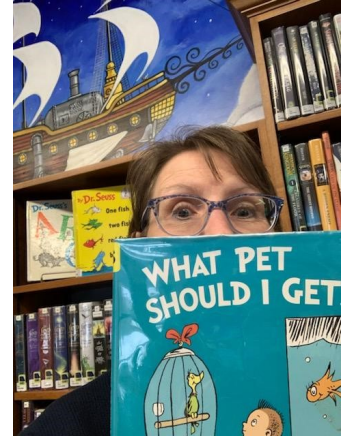
# BENZONIA PUBLIC LIBRARY

## Pre-School Story Time with Miss Anne

Fridays at 10:30 am

**Beginning September 15th**

Benzonia Public Library  
Children's Room  
891 Michigan Ave., Benzonia



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## Welcome back to Story Time at BPL! EXCITING NEWS!

Exciting news, we will have more stools this year for kids and parents to sit on plus a new felt board is also being constructed so you can play with felt characters anytime.

## Join Us for Fun Stories & Activities

Participants will receive a Story Time bag with information and other goodies.  
***A time to socialize, make new friends, and hear great stories.***

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## What do Pete the Cat, Apples, and Mr. Potato Head have in common?

They are all part of the September Fun at Story Time!

In addition to the great stories and activities you will be creating passports to use throughout the year as you learn about different countries!



# BENZONIA PUBLIC LIBRARY

891 Michigan Ave (US-31), P.O. Box 445,  
Benzonia, MI 49616  
[www.benzonialibrary.org](http://www.benzonialibrary.org)  
[benzoniaconnect@gmail.com](mailto:benzoniaconnect@gmail.com)  
231-882-4111

## Board of Trustees

Paula Lake, President  
Jane Sullivan, VP  
Diana Heller, Treasurer  
Megan Barnard, Secretary  
Audrey Pittinos, Trustee  
Jennifer Ryan, Trustee

Benzonia Public Library Board of Trustees meetings are at 4 pm the 3rd Wednesday of each month in the library building. Meetings are open to the public.

## FRIENDS OF BENZONIA PUBLIC LIBRARY

Roger Dewey, President / Flint Watt, Vice President  
Michelle Leines, Treasurer / Kathy Johnson, Secretary  
Ruth Catton, Director / Jimmy McLaren, Director / Nicole St. Laurent, Director

Meetings are held the 1st Thursday every other month in the library building.  
**Next meeting will be at October 5, 2023 at 4:30pm. Everyone welcome.**



Providing the little and not so little extras for the Library!

## Library of Things at BPL

The Library of Things service supports lifelong learning and creativity. Adult cardholders can borrow practical hands-on items to learn new skills, explore areas of interest, or help with everyday tasks.

The loan period is one week for all Things. Things have an option to renew for an additional week, if no one else has a hold. Visit [www.benzonialibrary.org](http://www.benzonialibrary.org) to see items in our catalog. Visit often to watch this collection grow!



## Corner Book Shoppe @ BPL

Offering for sale a great selection of quality used books & jigsaw puzzles.



**Purchases may be made in BPL during regular library hours.**

Proceeds benefit BPL.

The Friends of BPL accept donations of Jigsaw puzzles (with all the pieces) & Books in excellent Condition.

Donation criteria available at BPL & [benzonialibrary.org/donating-books-and-puzzles](http://benzonialibrary.org/donating-books-and-puzzles)

Up to 2 bags may be dropped off at the library during regular business hours.

Borrow ebooks, audiobooks & magazines

Libby.  
The library reading app



## Up North Digital Collection using the Libby App

Includes eBooks, audiobooks, and eMagazines on your personal device or computer. Visit [benzonialibrary.org](http://benzonialibrary.org) and click on the Digital Collection icon.

**Funded by Friends of BPL.**

**Receive BPL Newsletters & Activity Updates via email.**

Sign up at [benzonialibrary.org](http://benzonialibrary.org)  
When you join our mailing list the Friends of BPL will send newsletters plus activity updates.

**JOIN OUR MAILING LIST!**



## 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](http://benzonialibrary.org) and click on