



BENZONIA PUBLIC LIBRARY

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

Published by Friends of Benzonia Public Library.

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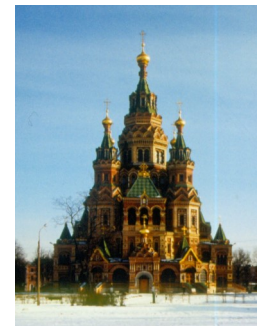
Travelogue: St. Petersburg, Russia

By Maureen Esther, Historyteller

Wednesday, January 10th

4:00-5:30 pm

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



For two weeks in 2001, Maureen lived in St. Petersburg with a Russian family. Her lecture gives you a window into a Russian life that most people never see. This perspective will inspire you with the grandeur and simple beauty of this incredible city.

Come experience this once-in-a-lifetime glimpse into the power that is St. Petersburg, Russia.

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

No charge for event, just come and enjoy.

BPL HOURS:

10am-6pm Monday-Friday

10am-2pm Saturday

Closed Sunday



CLOSED AS FOLLOWS:

Monday, Jan. 1

Tuesday, Jan 2

Open regular hours the
rest of the week.

Happy New Year!



ICE Skate Lending at BPL

We're ready when the ice is!

To reserve skates for Pick-up: Visit Library Catalog at www.benzonialibrary.org or call 231-882-4111.

Plan ahead due to limited sizes.

Who can borrow skates? Adults, 18 years of age or older, may borrow skates for themselves and for minor children. Adult must have a BPL Library card in good standing & must complete a liability waiver for each skater in order to borrow ice skates.

How Much Does It Cost? Free! There is no charge to borrow the ice skates.

How Long Can I Use the Skates? Each skate-lending period is 48 hours (Friday & Saturday checkouts will be due Monday). Due to the size of this item, skates must be returned directly to a staff member in the library.

What If I Return the Skates Late? The success of this program depends on community members returning the skates on time; however, we know that life happens. If returned after the 48-hour rental period, a \$1.00 per day overdue fee will be assessed.

Where Can I Use the Skates? The Village of Benzonia public skating rink is located next to the library. It can be accessed from the library parking lot or Traverse Avenue (off of US-31). You may also use these skates on private rinks.

What Size Skate Should I Use? These BAUER hockey skates are unisex. A suggested sizing chart can be found on our Ice Skating Page at www.benzonialibrary.org/ice-skate-lending. Sizing is a preference and therefore charts do not guarantee fit. An assortment of skates is available for older children, teens, women, and men. A few are also offered in wide sizes. Skates are available on a first come, first served basis.

THANK YOU DR.LISA! The BPL skate lending program is made possible thanks to a generous donation by Dr. Lisa Musgrave, DDS.

Additional information at www.benzonialibrary.org/ice-skate-lending



BENZONIA PUBLIC LIBRARY

Letter From Amanda McLaren, Director 2023 A Year in Review

What a year! It has been a year of transition and growth at the library. We are so grateful to our patrons and community members that offer us so much support, love, gratitude and smiles. We have found ourselves inspired, excited, eager to continue moving forward and ready for what is yet to come! As we look back on the previous year we do so with a great deal of delight and we hope that you do, too.

2023 Highlights:

- ◆ Preschool Storytime with Miss Anne was very popular running January-May and September-December. Fridays at 10:30am Miss Anne joins the kiddos for story time fun, activities and crafts.
- ◆ Miss Addy joined our story time team in September. We are so happy she is sharing her enthusiasm and talent to assist Miss Anne with the weekly Story Time programs.
- ◆ HistoryTeller Maureen Esther presented programs on Queen Elizabeth I, History of Olde Ireland, Titanic Remembered, First Emperor of China , and Castles, Cathedrals and Crusades.
- ◆ HotSpots continued to be extremely popular thanks to a grant from the Federal Emergency Connectivity Fund.
- ◆ Ice Skate lending were a hit despite the warmer than usual weather.
- ◆ Plant Diagnostic Clinics with MSU Extension and Master Gardener volunteers ran May through September, offering wonderful advice on plant pests and diseases, lawn, bug or weed identification and recommendations.
- ◆ The summer reading program “All Together Now” was a big hit with puppet shows, crafts, activities, baby bingo, and more!
- ◆ Making Teas, Tinctures and Oils with Bevin Cohen held in August was a popular program. We hope to bring Bevin back in the future!
- ◆ Summer and Holiday book, puzzle and craft sales by the Friends of BPL raised funds for the Library! Crafts sold at these events are created by our Repurposeful Librarians and ALL proceeds benefit the library! We are grateful to be surrounded by such talent!
- ◆ A wonderful new play kitchen in the Children's Room has been a very welcome addition for our little friends. This was made possible by a grant from the Mid-Michigan Library League and extra funds provided by the Friends of BPL
- ◆ A light table with accessories was added to the Children's Room thanks to the Friends of BPL!
- ◆ STEM kits have continued to be very popular
- ◆ The Holiday Party included carols, stories, the BPL Puppets, refreshments, crafts, and gift making. It was a wonderful time of togetherness and fun.
- ◆ October—November were dedicated to the Smithsonian Museum on Main Street Exhibit. Thanks to a grant from Michigan Humanities, BPL was able to bring the Smithsonian to Benzonia! The exhibition had a total of 622 visitors and featured an amazing exhibit from the Smithsonian, an inspiring wrap-around exhibit that included 28 local organizations and businesses, a local innovator board and videos highlighting a few of our partners. In addition to the exhibition BPL and several partner organizations hosted programs! There were a total of 18 programs with 391 attendees! It was an honor to be a part of Museum on Main Street and we thank our partners, as well as all others that work hard daily, to make Benzie County such an inspiring place to live.



BPL staff, we're here for you!

Many thanks to the patrons, staff, Friends, volunteers and library board.
You are the beating hearts of the library and your love and dedication is a gift to all of us.
Thank you for all you do! Here's to a great year past and an exciting future.

BENZONIA PUBLIC LIBRARY

Best Wishes to Michelle Leines

After many years at Benzonía Public Library, Assistant Director Michelle Leines will be leaving us. While we wish Michelle the best in this next chapter of her life, we do so with a great deal of sadness. For 13 years Michelle has been a regular fixture. She has been a patient guide, a crafty crafter, a problem solver, mind reader, fixer, extraordinary friend and so much more. She is always willing to go the extra mile for anyone and does it with a smile. She works hard and leads by example and we will miss her kind, loving spirit and her steady nature.



In addition to her wonderful work as assistant librarian, Michelle is a dedicated Friend of the Library and volunteer. Michelle has spent endless hours helping make Benzonía Public Library what it is today and it won't be the same without her.

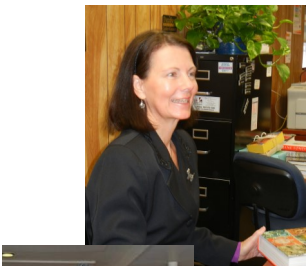
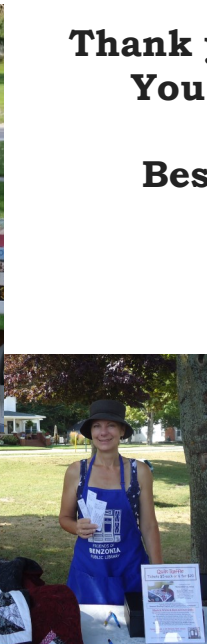
Michelle will remain at the library for another month or two to help us make the transition and then will be heading off to her new adventure. If you see her, please give her a happy send off with lots of well wishes and thanks.

I asked Michelle to share some parting words with all of you, and this is what she had to say...

It's so hard to say goodbye!!! BPL has been such a huge part of my life for so many years and I'm proud to have been part of such an awesome team, both staff and Friends of BPL. I've made amazing friends, had so many wonderful experiences, gained new skills, and created incredible memories.

I'm looking forward to future adventures including living close to and spending lots of time with family including numerous grandchildren.

**Thank you for everything, Michelle.
You will be missed more than
you will ever know.
Best wishes and lots of love!**



BENZONIA PUBLIC LIBRARY

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

YA

The Godhead Complex, James Dashner

ADULT—FIC

Calico, Lee Goldberg
A Different Kind of Gone, Catherine Ryan Hyde
The Frozen River, Ariel Lawhon
Penelope in Retrograde, Brooke Abrams
Robert B. Parker's Broken Trust, Mike Lupica
Unnatural Death, Patricia Daniels Cornwell
The Watchmaker's Hand, Jeffery Deaver
Welcome Home, Stranger, Kate Christensen

ADULT—NON-FIC

The Lost Tomb: and other real-life stories of bones, burials, ad murder, Douglas J. Preston
Oath and Honor: a memoir and a warning, Liz Cheney

ADULT—LARGE PRINT

The Oceans and the Stars, Mark Helprin
The Traitor Among Us, Anne Perry
What We Kept To Ourselves, Nancy Jooyoun Kim

AUDIO

The Little Liar, Mitch Albom

DVD

A Haunting In Venice

Remember to check out the wonderful selection of items at www.benzonialibrary.org



HotSpots at BPL:

We are excited the Friends of Benzonian Public Library have agreed to fund HotSpots for another year! While this is great news, it is important to note that the HotSpot program has changed.

The new HotSpots, powered by Mobile Beacon will be active by next week. Mobile Beacon states it offers the nation's largest 5G network and lightning-fast 4G network exclusively to community organizations, schools, libraries, and non-profits across the country. Visit their coverage page for details www.mobilebeacon.org/coverage

At BPL we believe this program will offer excellent coverage to most of our users. As with all HotSpot providers there may be areas that are not covered and BPL is subject to these limitations.

Want to support BPL? We welcome all contributions!

Please consider a donation to BPL and/or the Friends of BPL.

Donation envelopes are available at BPL.

Thank You for your generosity.



Benzonia Public Library

Donation Options include:

- **Checks:** Payable to Benzonian Public Library.
 - Drop off at the Library or mail to:
Benzonia Public Library,
PO Box 445, Benzonian, MI 49616
- **Online Endowment Fund:** [Make a secure online gift to the Benzonian Public Library Endowment Fund by clicking this link.](#)

Read more about the BPL Endowment Fund at www.benzonialibrary.org/endowment-fund

Donations with no designation or restrictions will be utilized where most needed. You may choose to restrict your donation for specific ongoing programs or projects.

Benzonia Public Library Tax ID (EIN): 38-2493013.

Charitable contributions to governmental units are tax deductible under Section 170(c)(1) of the IRS Code if made for a public purpose and no goods or services are provided in conjunction with the gift.

Friends of Benzonian Public Library

Donation Options include:

- **Checks:** Payable to Friends of BPL or Friends of Benzonian Public Library
 - Drop off at the Library or mail to:
Friends of Benzonian Public Library,
PO Box 445, Benzonian, MI 49616
- **Online:** Visit www.benzonialibrary.org and click on the **DONATE** button to pay with a credit card or PayPal.

Visit www.benzonialibrary.org/friends and read how the Friends, with the help of generous supporters, provide many of the little and not so little extras that make Benzonian Public Library a vibrant part of our community. Donations with no designation or restrictions will be utilized where most needed. You may choose to restrict your donation for specific ongoing programs or projects.

Friends of BPL are a 501(c)(3) organization, Tax ID (EIN): 56-2542168. Contributions are tax deductible to the limit of the law when no goods or services are provided in conjunction with the gift.

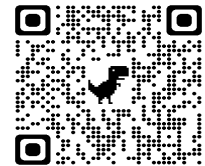
BENZONIA PUBLIC LIBRARY

Pre-School Story Time with Miss Anne

Fridays at 10:30am
Benzonia Public Library
Children's Room



Want to be informed of changes and receive Story Time information?
Sign up at www.benzonialibrary.org/story-time-at-bpl



Join Us for Fun Stories and Activities

Participants will receive a Story Time bag information and other goodies.

Time to socialize, make new friends, and hear great stories.

If Benzie Central Schools are closed due to weather, Story Time will be cancelled.

Want to be informed of changes and receive Story Time information?
Sign up at www.benzonialibrary.org/story-time-at-bpl

Benzonia Public Library

891 Michigan Ave., Benzonia, MI * 231-882-4111 *
benzoniaconnect@gmail.com * www.benzonialibrary.org



Youth: What's New For You!

JUVENILE

Juniper's Christmas, Eoin Colfer
The Swifts: A Dictionary of Scoundrels, Beth Lincoln

GRAPHIC NOVELS

Cat Kid Comic Club: Influencers, #5, Dav Pilkey
PAWS: Gabby Gets It Together, #1, Nathan Fairbairn
PAWS: Mindy Makes Some Space, #2, Nathan Fairbairn
PAWS: Pria Puts Herself First, #3, Nathan Fairbairn
Things In the Basement, Ben Hatke
The Witches, Penelope Bagieu

J NON-FICTION

The Junior Birder's Handbook: a kid's guide to birdwatching, Danielle Belleny
Minecraft Mobsplitter's Encyclopedia: the ultimate guide to The Mobs of Minecraft, Tom Stone
The Young Witches Guide to Living Magically: potions, lotions, rituals, and spells for kids, Nikki Van De Car

EARLY READER

Elena Rosa, Level #1, Juana Medina
Fox Has a Problem, Corey Tabor

EARLY READER SERIES

The Case Of the Strange Splash, Henry Winkler
Forever Friends, Susan Lubner
I Am a Dinosaur, Jarod Rosello

PICTURE BOOKS

Hot Dog, Doug Salati
Lila Greer, Teacher Of the Year, Andrea Beaty
My Dog and I, Luca Tortolini
There Was a Party For Langston, Jason Reynolds
A Way To the Stars, David Almond

BOARD BOOKS

Dragon's First Taco, Adam Rubin
My Big Wimmelbook: My Busy Day, Caryad

JDVD

Paw Patrol: The Mighty Movie
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem



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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 / Kathy Johnson, Secretary
Michelle Leines, Treasurer / Nicole St. Laurent, Asst. Treasurer
Ruth Catton, Director / Jimmy McLaren, Director



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

Meetings are usually held the 1st Thursday every other month in the library building.
Next meeting if our Annual Meeting: February 8, 2024 at 4:30pm. Everyone welcome.

Corner Book Shoppe at 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, in excellent condition, Jigsaw puzzles (with all the pieces) & Books .

Donation criteria available at BPL & benzoniaconnect@gmail.com



For information about ACTIVITIES and EVENTS happening at the Mills visit their website at

www.millscommhouse.org

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.

Visit www.benzonialibrary.org to see items in our catalog



LIBRARY OF THINGS



BENZONIA PUBLIC LIBRARY

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 benzoniaconnect@gmail.com and click on the Digital Collection icon.

Funded by Friends of BPL.

Receive BPL Newsletters & Activity Updates via email.

Sign up at benzoniaconnect@gmail.com
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 benzoniaconnect@gmail.com and click on the Transparent Language image.