

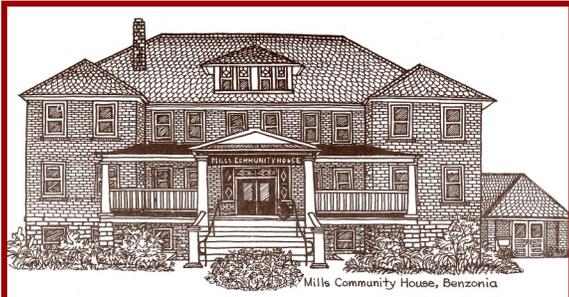


# BENZONIA PUBLIC LIBRARY

News from the Top of the Hill



## “Murder in the Keys”: Sleuths Needed



Mills Community House, Benzonia

**Saturday, November 12th, 2 P.M.**  
**Tickets: \$20.00**

Friends of Benzonia Public Library will be presenting a fund-raiser Murder Mystery Event on Saturday November 12 at 2 p.m. (The library will close at 2 p.m. - an hour early - that Saturday.)

This year's interactive library mystery is "Murder in the Keys." When the corpse of Ernie Hammyweight, the legendary writer and adventurer, is found during a party in his honor at the Key West Public Library, it's up to the audience to solve the murder.

The 10 suspects will be played by members of the Benzie County

community. The suspects are unusual characters, but on the surface they mostly seem harmless. During the Event, they will interact with the audience and drop clues which the audience uses to vote on whodunit."

The program is improvisational and very interactive; it is *not* a play performed on stage in front of a quiet audience.

Was it Officer Sunny Bright, a bicycle policewoman with the Key West Police Department, who is an easygoing and friendly soul? Perhaps it was Raslyn C. Ritters, better known as "Gator Gal," who stars in her own wildlife show on cable television. Then there is Bea R. Ghest, a sweet, old-fashioned lady, who owns and operates Ghest House, the coziest bed and breakfast in the Keys. And don't forget the guys -- is it Leif Z. Beech, a happy-go-lucky beach bum, who is often found strolling along Key West's sandy coastline with his metal detector

in one hand and a cold beer in the other?

Tickets will be available starting Wednesday October 19 by calling 231-383-5204 (Helen Dewey). Tickets must be purchased in advance and will NOT be available at the door. The requested donation is \$20 per person attending. Space is limited so that everyone gets to chat with the suspects. The audience will be divided into teams, so sign up with friends if you want to be on the same team.

When you have paid for your tickets, you will be given a sheet with brief suspect biographies. This can be emailed to you, or you can pick one up at the library.



According to the author, Ted Kavich, "The mystery is solvable...if the audience members pay close attention, ask intelligent questions, and use process of elimination to find out whodunit." And, it's fun even if you don't crack the case!

## Learning Express

Many patrons use the library to look for work and to access online classes. Few are aware there are free and useful tools available at [www.mel.org](http://www.mel.org). The Library of Michigan provides Michigan residents with access to Learning Express materials including tutorials to brush up on common computer software tools, skills test prep for a variety of fields (professional as well as entry level), and an extensive section dedicated to jobs and career development. A Saturday workshop will be held at the library later this fall for those seeking hands-on training. Learning Express and its Job & Career Accelerator™ may be accessed by entering a library card number or a Michigan ID/License number.

For more information, contact  
Barbara McBride at [benzonia-library@att.net](mailto:benzonia-library@att.net)



**LIBRARY HOURS:**  
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**Monday & Wednesday**  
11am-7pm

**Tuesday, Thursday & Friday**  
11am-5pm

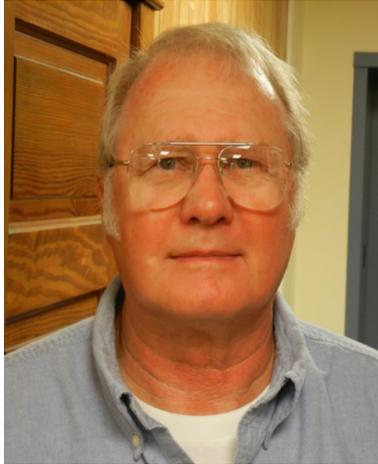
**Saturday**  
11am-3pm

## HELPING HANDS

If you thought that volunteering at the library was easy, non-strenuous labor, you should have a conversation with Ed Baker. Always willing to pitch in, Ed heard from his wife, Jan, that the library needed some muscle and he volunteered his time.

Every week, Ed takes care of the library's recycling. "Easy enough," you may say. But Ed does so much more than that! You see, whenever library tasks arise that require a willing soul, a strong back and the ability to accept directions from a group of women, Ed is there. Ed has listened to us all! Marjorie Porter got him to load four old computer monitors into a Ford Fiesta with room to spare. Mary Peters and Ann Osborn thought they could wash the library windows without Ed. Fortunately, he was there to offer assistance when needed. Helen Dewey regularly calls on Ed to move books and puzzles from our storage site to the sale site. Whatever event the Friends are planning, Ed helps by relocating tables and chairs, carrying boxes, or cleaning up. Much less Advil has been consumed since Ed began helping out at the library!

Ed has a long history of helping out. In fact, Ed spent 35 years with the Kent County Sheriff's department and was teased about his knack for spotting motorists in distress. During his years on road patrol, Ed would regularly spot cars with flat tires and he would stop to assist. These stops needed to be phoned in and the Sergeant would give Ed a hard time about it. "Where do you find all these flat tires?" the Sergeant would quip. One day, Ed spotted another motorist in need of an assist. As usual, he phoned in the license number and his intent to help change a flat. This time the Sergeant took no-



tice. The license number was his! Ed was helping the Sergeants wife fix a flat! No more razzing for Ed!

Ed's career in law enforcement included serving with IBO (Crime scene search), underwater recovery, and marine, motorcycle and snowmobile patrol. Ed was a Range instructor, teaching others to use pistols and shotguns. He worked in jails and as a dispatcher. After retiring, Ed worked one summer with the Benzie County Marine Patrol and two years with Homeland Security. He also

spent twelve years in the State of Wyoming in Mule Deer and Antelope Guiding. Ed's wide range of experience has shown others that he can handle any task put before him.

These days, when Ed is not helping out, he is likely to be outdoors. Hunting and fishing are his favorite pastimes. On a friend's boat out of Ludington, Ed once hooked a 28 pound salmon. He's a successful hunter regardless of the weapon. This year, during bow hunting season, Ed will be trying out a new cross bow. Ed likes to fill up the freezer with fish and venison to last through the year. He and Jan have learned to collect cooking liquids to use with the venison. Each recipe may be unique, but the results are great. "Venison is not fatty and needs to stay covered in liquid to prevent it from getting dry," Ed advises. Wow! He can cook too!

Jan and Ed have been married about 25 years and, between them, have 6 children, 14 grandchildren, and one great grandchild. From California and Washington, to Virginia, and Michigan, the family has spread. Still, both Jan and Ed do so much to support the Benzonia Public Library.

### Yearbook Collection

Is your old high school yearbook gathering dust? The Benzonia Public Library currently has a small collection of yearbooks from Benzonia and Benzie Central High Schools. With your help they hope to expand their collection. If you would like to donate a yearbook, please call the library at 882-4111 to see if it is one needed in their collection. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Thank You to the generous donors,  
the many volunteers who gave their time  
and the attendees who supported the  
Strawberry Social and the Used Book Sale.  
Your support made these events a success.

**Thank You!!!**



# YOUTH SERVICES

## Congratulations to Dancia Strang!

Danica Strang is the winner of the Summer Reading Program day pass to Crystal Mountain's Water's Edge Park.

Thank you to each of the businesses that offered coupons, printing and publicity, and to the Friends of Benzonia Public Library for their support and funding of the program.



## Upcoming Programs

They're baackk!!! Book Clubs that is.

Book Girls! for seventh/eighth grades resumes their 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month at 1pm schedule.

Read it Again Club for fourth/fifth grades and the Quick Reads Club for second/third grades meet the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday at 1pm.

All clubs meet in the Children's Room.

Teens will celebrate Teen Read Week Saturday, October 15<sup>th</sup> at 1pm in the Reference Room. This year's theme is **Picture It @ Your Library**. Picture the possibilities.

Banned Books Week is September 24<sup>th</sup> – October 1<sup>st</sup>. Check out items by Laura Ingalls Wilder, J.K. Rowling, Judy Blume, many other children's authors. Be sure to ask "Who decides what I get to read?"

**Reach high, for stars lie hidden in your soul.  
Dream deep, for every dream precedes the goal.**

-Ralph Vaull Starr

**"There is more treasure in books than in all the pirate's loot on Treasure Island."**  
— Walt Disney

## Free Tutorials and Tests

Homework season has returned. Free tutorials and practice tests for fourth grade through college prep. are available online at [www.mel.org](http://www.mel.org). Click on the Test and Tutorials button on the left side of the screen to enter the Learning Express area. You will need to enter your library card number or a MI license (or ID). Math, reading, social studies, grammar, ACT and GED prep are some of the subjects covered. Free tutorials on software including Microsoft PowerPoint, Access, Publisher, Adobe Photoshop and Dreamweaver are also available in the Learning Express section of [www.mel.org](http://www.mel.org). Book reports and science projects sometimes get put off until Sunday when the library is closed. Students can find reliable resources through [www.mel.org](http://www.mel.org) and clicking on the Kids (or Teens) button on the lower left side of the screen under the MeL Subject Gateways Heading. What does MeL stand for? Michigan electronic Library and it is part of the Library of Michigan.



WE'RE ON THE WEB  
[www.benzonia.lib.mi.us](http://www.benzonia.lib.mi.us)



**BENZONIA PUBLIC  
LIBRARY**

P.O. Box 445  
891 Michigan Avenue  
Benzonia, MI 49616

Phone: 231-882-4111

**News from the Top of the Hill**

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

At the Annual Meeting held on September 15th, the Friends of Benzonia Public Library elected their slate of officers and terms.

President :	Mary Peters	2012/2013
Vice President :	Jan Baker	2011/2012
Secretary :	Ann Osborn	2011/2012
Treasurer :	Michelle Leines	2012/2013

The Friends meet the third Monday of each month at 10AM in the Library. Please join us!

It is time to renew your Friends Membership for the upcoming year (2012). Please complete the membership form and drop it off or mail it in.



**Support Your Library by joining the Friends**

Please make checks payable to:

**Friends of Benzonia Public Library**

**Friends of Benzonia Public Library  
2011 Membership Dues**

Individual	\$5.00	_____	Business/Professional	\$35.00	_____
Family	\$10.00	_____	Contributing	\$50.00 or more	_____
Patron	\$25.00	_____			

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address (Street or PO): \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

I WOULD LIKE TO BE AN ACTIVE MEMBER, PLEASE CALL \_\_\_\_\_

All membership Dues and donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

