



BENZONIA PUBLIC LIBRARY

NEWS
from the Top of the Hill

Anything you want?
Get This For Me!

Benzonia Public Library is one of the newest additions to MeLCat, the statewide catalog, interlibrary loan and materials-delivery service! MeLCat offers library patrons simple and convenient Web-based access to a single, collective catalog of participating libraries' holdings. It's a cost-effective way to give patrons in all corners of the state access to more resources than any single library can provide.

MeLCat allows Benzonia Public Library card holders to locate and request materials from a comprehensive catalog that includes the holdings of libraries around the state. Items are delivered here, to the patron's local library, usually within a few business days. The MeLCat Catalog may be accessed online from our library web site--www.benzonia.lib.mi.us. Follow the Michigan ELibrary link to get to the MeLCat page. Once you find a book or other material you want, follow the "Get This For Me!" link. Use your Benzonia

Public Library Card barcode number to identify yourself and place a request. **There is no charge for this service.** Benzonia Public Library serves all Benzie County residents. So, if you don't yet have a card or need a new one, please drop by.

Fran Holly was the first Benzonia Public Library patron to use this new service. Fran was interested in purchasing specific books. But, while checking prices online, realized her book budget couldn't accommodate the expense. She went to the library web site and followed the links. "It was super easy and very satisfying to find the books I wanted. I was excited!" Fran recommends using the interlibrary loan service to preview before purchase even if you have a larger book budget.

As of January 2007, there are 147 participating MeLCat libraries, including 96 public libraries, 33 academic libraries, 16 K-12 libraries and the Library of Michigan. The bibliographic database has nearly 6 million titles. New libraries and their holdings continue to be added three times a year.

MeLCat is part of the Michigan eLibrary (<http://mel.org>), Michigan's virtual library developed by the Library of Michigan with participation by Michigan libraries. MeL is designed to offer every library and resident of the

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Helping Hands

If we were to piece together a quilt that represents Christine Baker, it would include blocks representing her favorite things : The MillsCommunity House, gardening, a boy, a girl, Historic Greenmead, Crystal Lake’s north shore, the Altantic Ocean, and quilts!

Before moving to the area, Chris and her husband Herb lived in Livonia, Michigan where they raised a son, Jeffrey, and a daughter, Cindy. Livonia is also the home of Greenmead Historical Village featuring a collection of historic buildings from the 1850s and the Hill House Museum, which exhibits period furnishings and displays depicting Livonia’s earliest settlers. Chris led tours at Greenmead and ran the museum store during her volunteer days downstate.

Always with a smile, Chris Baker has been a volunteer in the library on Thursdays for the past ten years. She enjoys working in this historic building even when it involves her least favorite library task..putting away books in the non-fiction collection!

Chris loves gardening. Shade loving perennials are her passion and make the Baker home on Crystal Drive lovely and inviting. During the colder months, Chris enjoys quilting and has made many gifts for friends and family. She also enjoys visiting her children who now reside in Traverse City and Milford, Michigan.



Christine Baker

We are pleased to have Chris Baker helping us out when she is able. Soon, Chris will be heading south to St. Simons Island on the Georgia coast to enjoy a warmer climate until spring reaches northern Michigan. We are thinking of you, Chris, as we shovel snow and warm our cold noses.

Audio-Books for Families!

Do you miss the “good old days” when the family gathered around the glowing dial of the radio to listen to Fibber McGee and Molly and The Lone Ranger and The Great Guildersleeve? Even if you are too young to have enjoyed this past-time yourself I am sure you have heard talk of this form of entertainment and wished for a way to enjoy stories all together as a family in this modern world.

Why not try an audio-book that the whole family can listen to together? The Children’s Room is increasing its number of “family friendly” audio-books on CD. Some of the books are narrated by Full Cast Audio, which is a whole cast reading the book as the appropriate characters and narrator, very like a play. All the books are unabridged. These stories, like Hatchet by Gary Paulsen and Miracles on Maple Hill by Virginia Sorenson, have been enjoyed over the years by many, children and adult alike. Now they can be experienced in a whole new way that is surely a little like the “good old days”.



Library Hours:

Monday, Wednesday, Friday
11am - 5pm
Tuesday, Thursday
11am-7pm
Saturday 11am-3pm
882-4111

MELCAT (continued from pg 1)

state equitable and easy-to-use access to a core set of information resources. In addition to MeLCat, MeL includes:

MeL Databases – an array of subscription-only resources purchased by the Library of Michigan for exclusive use by Michigan residents, including millions of articles from thousands of magazines, newspapers and journals covering all subject areas and ages - business and legal, health, science and technology, information for K-12 students and educators; thousands of general-interest electronic books; and 100 practice tests for academic or career preparation. These databases, provided statewide to Michigan residents, give MeL users round-the-clock access to valuable information that is not available via a regular Internet search..

MeL Internet – a collection that brings together a wealth of librarian-evaluated and authoritative information resources focusing on Michigan's people, economy, culture, environment, health and government.

MeL Digital Collections – a growing selection of unique digitized resources including manuscripts, photographs, newspaper archives and other historical documents.

Funding for MeL is provided in part by the state of Michigan through the Library of Michigan. Additional project support comes from the federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) via the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). The Library of Michigan promotes, advocates and consistently works to achieve the highest level of library service to the State of Michigan, its government, its libraries and its residents.

The Library of Michigan is part of the Michigan Department of History, Arts and Libraries (HAL). Dedicated to enriching the quality of life for Michigan residents and strengthening the economy by providing access to information, preserving and promoting Michigan's heritage and fostering cultural creativity, the department also includes the Michigan Historical Center, the Mackinac Island State Park Commission, the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs and the Michigan Film Office. For more information, visit www.michigan.gov/hal. For assistance using MeL, please call Benzonia Public Library at 231-882-4111.

November 11, 2006

Dear Library Board,

Thank - you for the new books in non-fiction. It is nice to have so many other choices. One of my favorites is about hydroplanes.

Sincerely,
Fun for Dobson



**Don't spend all your time online!
READ!**

NOVEMBER 11, 2006

Dear Library Friends,

I Thank You for buying the new books for the children's room at the library. The books are cool. I liked The Spider's Secrets book.

Sincerely,
HEATHER DUNLAP

Benzonia Public Library Receives Library of Michigan Certification for Meeting 'Essential Level' of Quality Services

Last fall, the Library of Michigan awarded the Benzonia Public Library a certificate of completion for meeting the Essential Level requirements of the Quality Services Audit Checklist (QSAC). To earn certification, the Benzonia Public Library demonstrated its competence in seven categories of achievement including human resources; governance/administration; services; collection development; technology; facilities and equipment; and public relations/marketing.

The library began looking at specific checklist items in March of 2003. Some requirements were met long before the library began officially seeking the certification. Other measures were more challenging due to budgetary constraints.

The Library Board is most appreciative of the assistance they received from ATI Consulting and Infinite Communications in getting their web site up and running. Once the web site was launched, the certification requirements were complete. From www.benzonia.lib.mi.us, visitors are able to access their library accounts, renew items, and place holds on books. Library newsletters, published by the Friends of Benzonia Public Library, are available online also.

For more information about the Quality Services Audit Checklist, visit <http://www.michigan.gov/qsac>.

Updates from Friends of Benzonia Public Library

Thanks to donations of good used books from the public, we are able to fund special purchases for the library. This month we paid for the 2007 edition of **World Book Encyclopedia**. We also paid for the **Native American Peoples** series (18 volumes, reading level 4th grade and up). With full color photos, this series includes history, traditions, "Today," special projects, and even some words in the Native American languages. We hope these will be well-used additions to the children's collection.

The library has also been spending the \$1000 we donated last year for children's nonfiction books. **Slinky, Scaly Snakes** will be fun to booktalk to children in the schools in May as we get ready for the Summer Reading program. Take a look at some of the other new books about horses, trucks, drawing dinosaurs, and much more!

The Friends maintain an ongoing book sale near the elevator. The 2007 big annual book sale will be the weekend after the 4th of July – July 6 and 7. Put it on your calendar now!

Come to Tuesday Book Chat!

11 a.m. in the Catton Room at the Library



Talk about books you have read.
Listen to ideas for books to read.

Jan 23rd, Feb 27th, Mar 27th Apr 24th

Support Your Library by Joining the Friends.

Please make checks payable to

Friends of Benzonia Public Library

P.O. Box 445

Benzonia, Michigan 49616

2007 Membership Dues

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

NAME _____ e-mail _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

PHONE _____ I WOULD LIKE TO BE AN ACTIVE MEMBER. PLEASE CALL ME. _____

All Membership Dues and Donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.