



Party Time at BPL!

Old friends, new faces and lots of library lovers—that was the scene on April 23rd when the BPL Donor Party resumed its annual appearance. After three years of Covid enforced isolation, the library doors opened on a Sunday morning to thank donors for their continued support of our much-loved community treasure.

BPL board president, Kathy Bolles, welcomed the many generous donors who came out to enjoy brunch nibbles catered by Sweet Dahlia, special beverages, and a warm thank you from BPL board members and volunteers. As she reminded the audience, Bainbridge Public Library is supported through the generosity of our donors as it receives no tax dollars to build, operate or maintain the library building and grounds.

Kathy was happy to be able to welcome visiting members of the family of Edmund Stafford who donated the land in 1960 to build a library on our important corner. The family agreed that he'd be well pleased to see the vibrant and beautiful community gathering place that sprang from his generous gift.

Martha Bayley, a perennial highlight of past donor parties, was also on hand to give her talk, **Books Too Good to Miss**, to an appreciative crowd, a few of whom were delighted to win a special door prize package that also included a copy of one of her special picks!

Everyone went home with a heartfelt thank you party favor, Martha's reading list bookmark, and the 2023 BPL Community Report filled with highlights of 2022 library improvements, other library news of note and public recognition of our many generous donors.

We invite you to come visit the library to see what's new, interact with our amazing KRL library staff, and pick up a BPL Community Report. Perhaps you'll choose to become a donor too and join us at next year's special appreciation event. We'll look forward to welcoming you!



Art in the Library!

Celebrate the month of May and Cinco de Mayo with artist, Mark Johnson who will open his exhibit titled "Misconceived" on May 5, 5-7PM in the large meeting room of our Bainbridge Public Library.

"Andy's Etch A Sketch"



Mark and family moved to the Island almost 30 years ago and he and his wife, Wendy, have both recently retired. Art has mostly filled the void of no longer working. Mark spent his informative years in Seoul, Korea in the late 1960's. He is certain that experience influenced his perspective of the World and somehow his art. Mark will be on hand opening night, quite unable to explain his art. It is assemblages, painting, and sculpture, but is it folk. DADA or pop art?



"Toastmaster Censorship"

You can visit this exhibit through May during regular library hours and if you are brave and would like to see more of Mark's work visit www.conceptulmark.com.

A portion of sales are donated back to the library.

As always, thank you for supporting your Bainbridge Public Library and local artists.

~ Linda Meier, art coordinator

Thoughts from an Anonymous Legacy Circle Member

My childhood library has relocated five times as buildings wore out and library services expanded, requiring more space. All that costs money. On Bainbridge, Kitsap Regional Library uses tax money to pay for the staff, books, and other resources. But private donations from people like me and you pay for the building, the grounds, and their maintenance.

My body has to die someday, but libraries should never die. My legacy gift to the library will help keep the facility alive, maintained and renewed, so generations of kids can fall in love with learning, literacy, literature, language, and the pure pleasure of leisure reading.

You, too, can make a pledge to the future by making a gift to BPL as part of your estate plan and becoming a member of the Bainbridge Public Library Legacy Circle. Visit our website, bainbridgepubliclibrary.org, and click on A Lasting Legacy under the Support BPL tab to learn more about putting your leaf on the Library's Legacy Tree. You can leave a message at (206) 866-1250 or email us at legacy@bainbridgepubliclibrary.org to record your pledge.



Unraveling My Life Lines

A Poetry Presentation

by Sue Hylan
with
John Wilson & Kristin Henshaw



photo by Stephen Hylan

**Sunday, May 7th, 2023
2:30pm**

**Bainbridge Public Library
1270 Madison Ave
Bainbridge Island, WA 98110**

Free and open to the public

Sue Hylan, a poet, and photographer, finds images with her pen and lens in those unexpected, juxtaposed moments, most recently with her six grandchildren or in the past while cycling to the Bainbridge Island Park District office where she began her part-time job in 1986 as the Volunteer & Special Events Coordinator.

This position evolved to a full-time position as the Arts & Cultural Manager, organizing a variety of art & cultural classes, workshops as well as community events for 30 years. She is most grateful to Nancy Rekow & Bob McAllister, who, in 1985, welcomed her to the Thursday evening Bainbridge Island Writers Workshop where she began to find her muse.

In 2001, Sue self-published her first chapbook, *Double Exposure*, featuring 23 poems and 15 black & white photographs. Sue is also grateful to Nancy Rekow's Tuesday afternoon Women's Writing Workshop which she has attended since her retirement in September 2016. In 2020 Sue self-published *Lines from My Notebooks*, a collection of 34 poems both old and new.

These dynamic inspiring instructors as well as her many poet friends have truly supported Sue to Unravel her Life Lines onto these pages.

What's Up with Facilities?



Greetings, Library Lovers!

As we all can attest . . . Spring arrives in fits and spurts in the northwest, with intermittent sun, showers, clouds, and wind for an hour; then cycling back through the same or different sequence in the next hour!

One phenomenon that progresses steadily (albeit slowly) day after day is the increasing amount of daylight. Few things fill a gardener's heart with more joy than being able to spend more time in their gardens . . . planting, transplanting, weeding, pruning, and "tidying up" after the long winter months.

The other day as I walked through the grounds surrounding our library, I was SO thankful for the dedicated volunteers (known as the "Friday Tidies") who gather every Friday morning to don work gloves, wrestle weeding tools, pruners, shovels, and rakes as they maintain and develop the grounds and gardens the community enjoys so much. Next time you're near the library on a Friday morning, stop by and thank them for their selfless gift of time, expertise, and hands-on involvement. Our beloved library, and by extension, the whole community benefits from their tireless dedication. And if you'd like to join in the fun, bring your gloves and favorite hand tools. Larger tools like shovels, rakes and wheelbarrows are provided.

Some recent work in the gardens includes spreading fresh gravel on the paths in the fabulous fern garden, and a major clean-up of the area just to the east of the north parking lot.



Fresh gravel on the paths



In the library's north lot, looking at the (now visible) stop sign and exit onto High School Road

Stay tuned for announcements regarding the schedule of the elevator controls systems update. We anticipate some impact on normal operations. More to follow.

There are many ways to donate to Bainbridge Public Library. Please go to our website (<http://bainbridgepubliclibrary.com/>) to learn more!

PS - Care to join our team of volunteers on the Bainbridge Public Library's Facilities Committee? For information about what we do and how you might fit in, please contact me, Kip Bankart, at kipbankart@comcast.net or by phone 206-931-0693.

Showcasing Our Local Authors! Venera Di Bella Barles



Public Library: THE BEGINNING

In 1946 I was 14 years old, and I was going to be an author. It's easy I thought, all I need to do is go to the library and check out all the Buccaneer stories that Errol Flynn has made movies from. Why I could write a chapter a day! I earned some money mowing my neighbor's grass and now I was ready to buy a Royal typewriter. The typewriter arrived.

I went to the library and picked out the books. I ran home. I could feel it, I was minutes away from being the greatest writer ever! I put the books on my dining room table. I wrote the story first in my brown Spiral notebook and then in my new Royal.

My first sentence thrilled me it was in French! (Voilà le printemps arrive.) Perfect. Maybe I'll buy an AirStream and travel with the royalties I will make. I truly was clever. My first sentence was French! Pretty good.

But my fantasy bubble was about to burst. Some older students heard what I had done, and I became the biggest joke. I could not believe what their laughing did to me. Later someone explained to me, that I had plagiarized my story. I didn't know that was bad and now I have to learn how to write all by myself. It was 1995 and I was 63, a Wife, with no title, two beautiful daughters, lost a baby son and I had not become a fabulous writer.

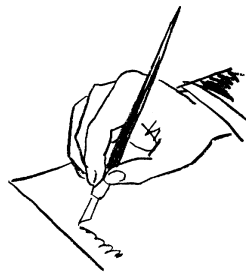
Eventually, I moved to the land of marvelous trees and waters and I started dreaming once again. A memoir! I'll tell the story of my life born of Italian immigrants. The theme of this book is love - how it is given, how it is taken away, how it is abused, and more.

FIRST BOOK - "MARRIAGE, KIDNEYS, AND OTHER DARK ORGANS, A MEMOIR"

SECOND BOOK - A Psychological Mystery "THEY WAS HOLDEN' HANDS"
Many Short stories and two drafts of nearly completed fictional books.

And guess what? - No one knows this little secret - but I am the Greatest
Writer in the World.

**Ciao e Pace,
Venera**



Bainbridge is home to many distinguished and hugely popular authors. In this column, we will profile a local author each month. Many will already be favorites, but we may just introduce you to a new author whose profile will send you right to the library to pick up a new read! Happy reading and thank you to Delight Willing for her assistance!

~ Susan Braun

Other local authors' profiles are on the [library's web page](#)

The poster features a black and white logo for 'island theatre' with a stylized wave below it, and 'Ten-Minute Play festival' in red script. To the right, on a yellow background, is the text '2023 Ten-Minute Play Festival Auditions!' in red. Below this is a black silhouette of a crow on a branch. Further right, the dates and locations are listed: 'SAT. May 13, 10-12 • Grange Hall 10340 Madison Ave NE, Bainbridge Island' and 'SUN. May 14, 10-12 • Bainbridge Pavillion (Theatre #3) 403 Madison Ave N, Bainbridge Island'. At the bottom right, it says 'Sign up: www.islandtheatre.org'.

Island Theatre will hold auditions for the 10th annual 2023 Ten-Minute Play Festival on Saturday, May 13th at the Grange, 10340 Madison Avenue, Bainbridge Island, and Sunday, May 14th at the Pavilion, 403 Madison Avenue N., Bainbridge Island. Auditions will go from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm both days. The ten short plays in the Festival include roles for actors from high school age to senior citizen. Auditions are open to all interested actors. Actors must register ahead of time at www.islandtheatre.org. Actors selected for roles must be available during Festival production week in mid to late August and for rehearsals ahead of time which will be arranged by each play's cast and director. Festival performances and production week rehearsals will be held on Bainbridge Island. No monologues are necessary for auditions. Actors should come prepared to read short scenes from Festival plays. Sides will be provided ahead of auditions. If it's impossible for an actor to attend auditions on May 13th or 14th, a video audition may be arranged. However, in-person auditions are strongly preferred. The Ten-Minute Play Festival is Island Theatre's showcase of Kitsap County playwrights, actors, and directors. The ten plays chosen for this year's Festival include dramas, comedies, and dramedies, and provide a wide range of roles.

The 2023 10th annual Ten-Minute Play Festival is made possible by a grant from the City of Bainbridge Island Cultural Fund and donations through One Call for All. Island Theatre provides high-quality theater in intimate settings for adults who like to think. In addition to the annual Ten-Minute Play

Festival, our regular schedule includes Island Theatre at the Library— staged dramatic play readings at the Bainbridge Public Library.
<http://www.IslandTheatre.org>

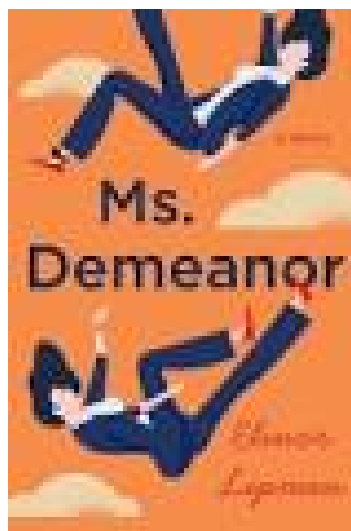
Have You Seen This Library?



Maybe...This is the National Library of the Principality of Liechtenstein. As the National Library, its legislative mandate is to collect all publications originating in Liechtenstein, authored by citizens of Liechtenstein, or dealing with Liechtenstein as a subject matter. To fulfil this mandate, the National Library has by now collected about 88,000 volumes in its archives for the protection of cultural assets. This collection makes up an essential part of Liechtenstein's national memory. The National Library has an excellent regional and international network and contributes to various bodies such as the Conference of European National Libraries (CENL). The history of the Landesbibliothek began shortly after the Second World War during a time of economic upswing and greater national (self-)awareness of Liechtenstein. The idea of a central location where everything is collected and documented that is written in and about Liechtenstein goes back to private initiatives, leading to the formation of the Liechtensteinische Landesbibliothek as a foundation under public law in 1961. Today, the Landesbibliothek administers more than 285,000 media, and it records about 50,000 visitors and 180,000 loans each year.

If you have a library that you would like to share email [Susan Braun](mailto:Susan.Braun).

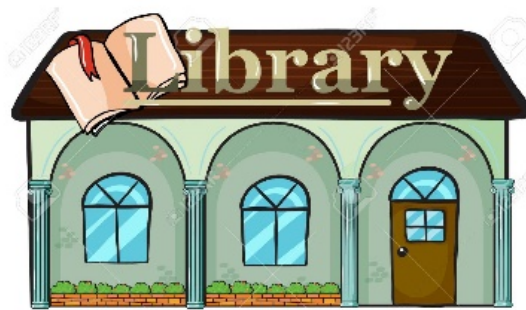
Books Worth Sharing!



Ms. Demeanor
By Elinor Lipman

Jane Morgan is a valued member of her NYC law firm, on the track to partner, until a snooping neighbor calls the cops when she observes Jane and a work friend having sex on the roof of her apartment building. A punishing judge sentenced her to six months of home confinement. Now jobless and trapped at home, she is dependent upon the kindness of her twin sister for food and support. When her doorman lets slip that Jane isn't the only resident wearing an ankle monitor, she strikes up a friendship with fellow white-collar felon Perry Salisbury, providing in-home catering and companionship. Suddenly, the police are at her door again! Her snooping neighbor has been found dead under suspicious circumstances and they want to pin the blame on Jane. How can she prove her innocence without leaving her apartment? Is love blooming with Perry? Elinor Lipman has hit this one out of the park! It is hilarious, endearing, and very clever.

~ Susan Braun



BPL is looking for volunteers to assist with social media and other fund raising and marketing activities. If you have skills in Facebook, Instagram, fund raising or other marketing areas and would like to increase the library's impact in our community please contact the library at ask@bainbridgepubliclibrary.org. Time commitment is flexible, and creativity is appreciated!

Friends of the Library

Book Sale



The Friends of the Library are having book sales Thursday, May 11, from 12-4; Sunday May 21, from 12-4; and Sunday, April 30, from 12-4.

To see future sale dates and times check our website at <https://www.bifriends.org> Books are plentiful, and the sale is a great way to support the library. If you have any questions, please sent us a message at books4all@bifriends.org.

Friends of the Library continue to welcome donations of books in clean, undamaged-saleable condition during open library hours. (Damaged books must be recycled at our expense) Small quantities can be left in bins behind the hold shelves on the main floor. Larger quantities should be left inside the Friends door adjacent to the Children's library downstairs. There is a hand truck available. For questions about donations please send us an email. Please do not leave books outside or in the library drop box or request help from the library staff.

Useful Community Links



As a community service for our newsletter readers, we are introducing a list of links to important local resources. We invite our readers to send us additional links to include in this list. If you have a link that you would like to suggest for inclusion, send it to susangb01@aol.com.

- [Bainbridge Community Foundation](#)
- [Bainbridge Island Genealogical Society](#)
- [Bainbridge Island Historical Museum](#)
- [Bainbridge Island Museum of Art](#)
- [Bainbridge Island Native Food Forest Field Guide](#)
- [Bainbridge Island Senior/Community Center](#)
- [Bainbridge Youth Services](#)
- [BARN \(Bainbridge Artisan Resource Network\)](#)
- [Bloedel Reserve](#)
- [Boys and Girls Club of Bainbridge Island](#)
- [Helpline House of Bainbridge Island](#)
- [Housing Resources Bainbridge Island](#)
- [Island Volunteer Caregivers](#)
- [PAWS of Bainbridge Island and North Kitsap](#)
- [Raising Resilience](#)

- [Sustainable Bainbridge](#)

But wait! There's more! Do you know about [Bainbridge Island Resource Directory \(BIRD\)](#)? It is another great source for valuable community resources!

Did You Know?

- **Bainbridge Public Library**, a separate nonprofit organization, owns, operates, and maintains the Library building and grounds through community donations and grants.
- **Kitsap Regional Library** provides the library staff, collection, classes, and a virtual library at KRL.org with funding from property tax revenues.
- **Together** we provide the quality library our community wants and has come to expect.

Be safe... Be well!



"A library is a cross between an emergency exit, a life-raft and a festival—a cathedral of the mind; hospital of the soul; theme park of the imagination." ~ Caitlin Moran

Find us on 



Bainbridge Public Library | PO Box 11815, 1280 N Madison, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110

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