

July 2023 Newsletter

Art in the Library!



Continue celebrating the Fourth of July and summer with the *Wednesday Art Group: Creativity Through Friendship*, First Friday, July 7, 5-7PM in the library meeting room.



Susan Wiersema, "A Moment in Four Four Time"

Here is what they are about:

"It all started at a kitchen table in 2017. Pam Harrison asked me for some private lessons in colored pencils, and a few art lessons became an every Wednesday getting together to work on our art. Pam had artist friends she invited to join us, Joyce and Janice, and the little kitchen table became a gathering of artists with different skills, styles, and ideas. 2020 came with the Covid and lockdown. The kitchen table needed to become virtual. First, WAG became virtual through the Winslow Art Center via Zoom. Thanks to The Winslow Art Center, we added a few more members, but it came to a point where we needed to become independent. Today, we are still meeting over Zoom, for our members live in Arizona, Oregon, and California. We have been sharing our artwork by creating postcards and mailing them to each other. Single-handedly we are keeping USPS still in business. We also have a weekly word prompt. A word or phrase is chosen as an inspirational starting point to keep us working on a piece of artwork during the week. Some are busy, but it is a great starting point if one of us has a case of artist's block. Today, we are a group of ten artists of diverse backgrounds, styles, and artistic levels. I hope you enjoy this sampling of our artwork, and if you are an artist with artistic friends, think about getting together to share ideas and skills while traveling along your artist journey. Your mental well-being and art skills will thank you."



Pam Harrison, "Wetlands"

Susan Wiersema, Lead Artist

The Artists:

Marlene Dorfman
Jo Ann Falker
Joyce Gauss
Pam Harrison
Valerie Kellum
Melinda McLaughlin

Chewelah Nett
Janice Runyan
Rose West
Cindy Whelan

You can view this exhibit during the month of July during regular library hours and on the library website, www.bainbridgepubliclibrary.org. A portion of sales is donated back to the library.

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

~ Linda Meier, art coordinator

Facilities Has Been Very Busy

Greetings, Library Lovers!

In our last “What’s Up With Facilities” report, we identified the projects and tasks we would address during the two-week closure. As a reminder

- Updating the elevator control systems
- Updating the smoke and fire detection panel
- Refreshing the main floor meeting room (Fresh paint; upgrade the art display system)
- Seal and re-line the parking lot

In addition to that list, we added:

- Paint the Fern Garden Gazebo
- Trouble shoot and repair the accent lighting in the Fiction area that illuminates the stylized canoes artwork hanging from the ceiling
- Patch and paint several high-traffic areas that are subject to bumping and chipping
- Improve numerous workstation conditions to make assisting patrons easier and more efficient for KRL staff members

The good news is, WE DID IT! With the close attention and direction of the KRL Facilities Team, the many complex projects we wanted to get done were completed successfully. Special thanks to KRL I.T. and Facilities Director Mike Rose and his team of talented and hard-working staff.

Many people have asked about the elevator control system update: What is it? What does it do? And why do we have to update it?

Let me be clear . . . I am no elevator engineer . . . I get in an elevator; I press a button for the floor I want; doors close; movement up or down is sensed then stops; doors open; I get out. That’s what I expect to happen. I do not spend much time, if any, thinking about how that all comes about. It just does, and it’s all good.

The library’s elevator was installed as part of the 1997 major library expansion project. That makes the elevator about 26 years old. Just as we’ve undergone whopping-big changes in our lives, our phones, our doorbells, our computers, our cars . . . you name it. Examples of the presence of the digital revolution surrounds us every minute of every day.

That migration to digital sensors, switches, memory, and instructions, etc. is what’s just taken place with our elevator. Thyssen Krupp, the maker of our elevator notified the tens of thousands of owners of elevators like ours all over the world that the time was coming when it would no longer manufacture the control system parts used in elevators such as ours. They offered a means of migrating to the newer digital technology. After careful consideration, the BPL Board, in 2022, opted to sign up for the migration. We

knew our library could not facilitate our entire patron base if the elevator were to fail to function; nor would the library staff be able to efficiently run the library without an elevator. (Neither using the stairs, nor wheeling carts loaded with books outside on sidewalks to get upstairs or down during our soggy winter weather would be feasible.) We felt the better plan would be to shut down for a relatively short period of time of our choosing to get the update done rather than to have no elevator for 6 – 9 months (or more!) waiting for parts and personnel to perform the update.

So, thank you for your patience! And welcome back to “The Library that Bainbridge built!”

Here are some pictures of the work that was done while we were closed.

Painted Gazebo



Installed Art Hanging System Throughout the Meeting Room



Installed New Digital Fire Panel to Monitor Smoke and Fire (Interfaces with new digital controls in elevator)



New Sealed and Re-lined Surface in Parking Lot



New Elevator Controls



Again, we can't say it enough . . . thank you to our donors who help make it possible to keep our library the vibrant, comfortable, up-to-date facility we all love, and to all our patrons for their support and patience. And now, here we go into summer! Woo-hoo!

~ Kip Bankart

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.

Become a Legacy Circle Member

You 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.



Showcasing Our Local Authors! Jeanette Franks



In her latest book, *Dementia: the Demon we Dread*, Bainbridge author Jeannette Franks nags you about diet and exercise, UD (universal design), social support, and life and death with purpose and meaning—all in just 139

pages!

According to Dr. Franks, "I saw many of my boomer cohort making foolish decisions, and some brilliant ones as well. After almost four decades as a gerontologist, I condensed a career of teaching and learning about aging, the elderly, and long-term care into seven dense chapters." The results are *Intentional Aging: 7 Practical Actions to Live Well and Minimize the Risk of Dementia*.

Before, during, and after her academic career, Jeannette has always been an environmental activist. Twenty years ago, she founded Bainbridge Island "Weed Warriors" to remove non-native invasive weeds and promote the healthy growth of native plants and forests. New research indicates that a healthy forest can do much to mitigate climate catastrophe.

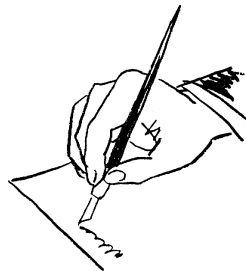
She also is a docent at IslandWood and says, "What can be more important than the education of children about science and nature? Indeed, it is our most important tool for the future." Jeannette has also done more than a dozen volunteer Sierra Club Service trips in the U.S. and ten volunteer service trips with Earthwatch, doing research on flora and fauna, as well as helping to excavate a 2000-year-old Roman villa in Tuscany.

Her Ph.D. research compared residents of nursing homes with those of assisted living communities and involved interviewing hundreds of residents in dozens of long-term care facilities. The results convinced her that, generally speaking, no one wants to live in a nursing home. Franks is resolved to give older people the tools that they need to maximize choice, independence, and autonomy in old age.

She was recruited by Sasquatch Press to write her first book, *Washington Retirement Options: The Statewide Guide to Independent and Assisted Living Communities*. The publisher and his mom were looking for a good place for her to move and felt a guide was needed for everyone. Franks visited fifty-two towns statewide, some with only one retirement community, others with up to 20. Again, her conclusion was that for many people, finding a 'forever' home to buy or rent was the ideal. While some find retirement communities to be what they want, many people prefer to live more independently (and economically).

The second book, *To Move or Stay Put*, emphasized finding your best fit. No home is perfect, there are always tradeoffs, but accessibility and a walkable community are key. This last book, *Intentional Aging*, emphasizes much more than housing and is useful on multiple levels. Dr. Franks emphasizes, "Ask for it at your local library, or independent bookstore."

Her most recent book emphasizes the importance of meaning and purpose in our lives at all times, but especially the last decades.



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!

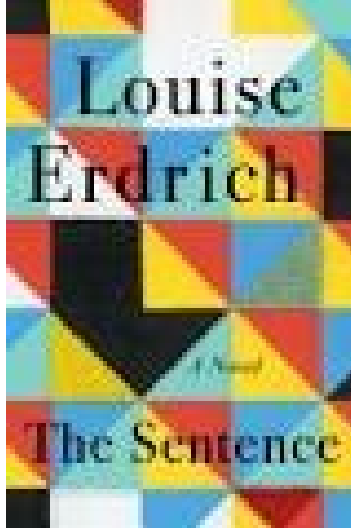
Have You Seen This Library?



It is the Lunenburg Academy building in Lunenburg, Nova Scotia. Known as "the Castle on the Hill," this iconic landmark in Old Town Lunenburg UNESCO World Heritage Site, was designed by New Brunswick architect H.H. Mott in 1893 in a time of transition from one-room schoolhouses to public educational buildings. Designated a National Historic Site, the Lunenburg Academy operated as a public school for grades primary to nine from 1895 until 2012, and remains the only surviving, intact 19th century academy building in Nova Scotia and one of very few in Canada. It houses the Lunenburg Public Library, the Lunenburg Academy of Music Performance, the South Shore Genealogical Society, and the Atlantic Canada Language Academy.

If you have a library that you would like to highlight in our newsletter email [Susan Braun](#).

Books Worth Sharing



The Sentence
By Louise Erdrich

Set in the Minneapolis bookstore owned by author Erdrich, the story takes place from November 2019 to November 2020. After years of incarceration during which she survived by reading "with murderous attention," Tookie has been hired as a bookseller. No sooner has she begun to adjust to a "normal life," then pandemic strikes and Minneapolis is overtaken by murder, grief, isolation, anger, protest, and the real possibility that her dream job will vanish. Moreover, the store is now haunted by the spirit of its most annoying customer who simply will not leave. Can Tookie solve the mystery of Flora's haunting? Can a small indie bookstore help to heal the hearts of a city in pain? In this thoughtful homage to the power of books to heal readers and change lives, Erdrich asks what we owe to the living, the dead, to the reader and the book.

~ 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, July 13, from 12-4; Sunday, July 23, 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

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