

Bainbridge Public Library: It's a feast for the picking!



The seeds for a public library on Bainbridge Island were sown long before our family's arrival in the last century. Truly, this is the library that Bainbridge built. This is the library whose physical plant and grounds are sustained through the contributions of our community.

My appreciation for and my use of the Bainbridge Public Library have only increased during the pandemic. It's important to me that it continues to thrive for generations to come.

It is easy to leave a sustaining gift. On the beneficiaries' page of my IRA, I identified those organizations I want to support and the percent of the total I want each to receive. It is that simple. Upon my death, my heirs have clear instructions to notify those receiving organizations that a check will be coming in my name. Check it out! It takes less time than picking the berries for the pie.

Sustaining our Library is as easy as Blackberry Pie!

~ Julie Shryock

With each commitment to make a legacy gift, an inscribed leaf is added to the Legacy Tree located in the library garden. We would like to include you, so please notify us if you have made provisions in your estate plan to leave a legacy gift. But if you haven't yet made that move and would like more information, you can leave a message at 206-866-1250 or at legacy@bainbridgepubliclibrary.org. You can also visit the website, bainbridgepubliclibrary.org. Click on *A Lasting Legacy* under the *Support BPL* tab to download a Legacy Leaf Form.

It would give us enormous pleasure to thank and to honor you now.



Art in the Library!

Summer brings smiles and warmth to all of us Northwesterners and our August artist, Robin Martin offers her exhibit, "Joyous Expressions." Here is a description of Robin's work:

"Joyous Expressions"



I was born and educated in Cohasset, Massachusetts. The muse to create drawings and paintings has woven itself around my heart and throughout my life's journey. I attended the Art Institute Of Boston due to my passion of sketching and drawing. On my summer break, I fell in love with a Spaniard moved to Spain and absorbed an entirely different lifestyle, language, and culture. Returning to the states my husband and I settled in Kent, Washington and raised a family. One Christmas I received an easel and acrylic paints from my daughter, and I was again inspired to create. I began to slowly to recall all my former training with a deeper understanding due to my maturity. Presently, I have fully embraced this moment in my life to paint and express myself fully through painting. I am interested in exploring all subjects and painting techniques including acrylic, watercolors, and mixed media. I am privileged to travel between the states and Spain with my husband at my side, capturing beautiful scenery and small joyous

moments. In my studio, I then capture my vision, and am delighted to share those beautiful moments and locations on canvas.



You can view this exhibit all of July during regular library hours and on the website, www.bainbridgepubliclibrary.org. And as always, thank you for supporting your Bainbridge Public Library and local artists. (A portion of sales is donated back to the library.)

~ Linda Meier, art coordinator

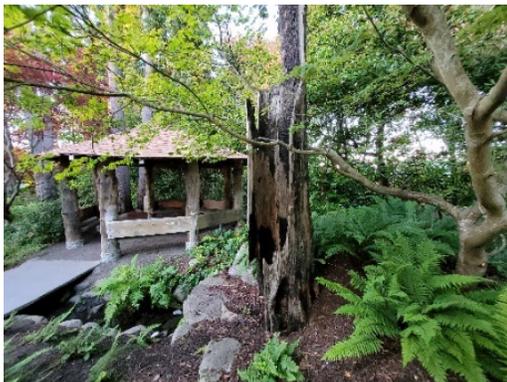
What's Up with Facilities?

Woo-hoo! Feels like summer to me! We hope you and your family are simply luxuriating in all the wonders of island life and the plethora of fantastic options in the breath-taking surroundings of the Pacific Northwest!

In this issue of the Newsletter, the Facilities Team is thrilled to provide pictures of the two most-recently completed projects in the grounds surrounding the library: the renovated gazebo and several new enclosures surrounding mechanical and operational components of the building. It may seem odd to be so enthusiastic about things some might consider mundane, but I can assure you, these projects were identified just prior to the pandemic. Consequently, they've been on-again; off-again; on hold; subject to supply-chain issues; and on and on and on. But Randy Ponce and his diligent, courteous, professional crew at Ponce Excavating, Construction and Consulting made the experience super easy for us. Thank you, Randy, and Jayme Ponce!

Our beloved Fern Garden Gazebo

Ready to host garden visitors for many, many more years!





Trash, Recycle, and Yard Waste Storage

Increased size and shape will facilitate easier, more efficient handling of what passes through the library on its way to its eventual destination.



New HVAC Enclosure and Propane Tank Screen (to enhance Legacy Tree Setting)

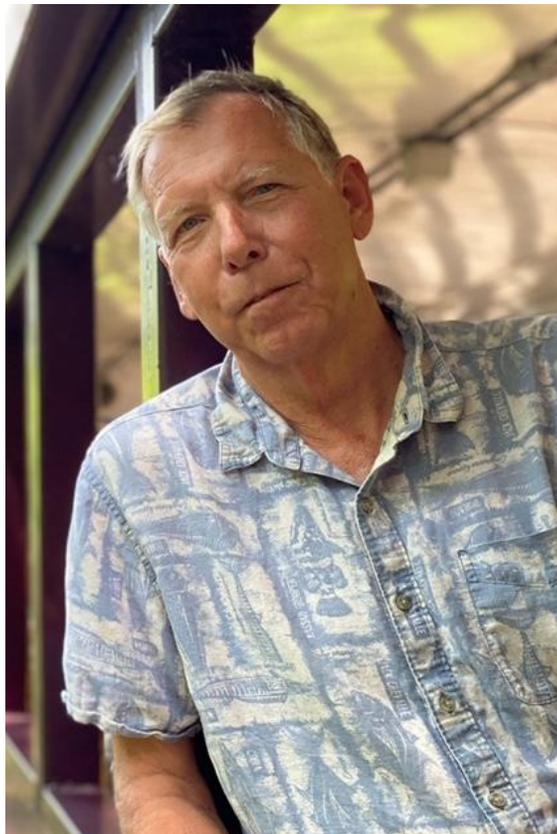


And we're not done yet! Still in the works for this year's projects:

- Repair and reseal the parking lots

PS - Care to learn more about 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! William Alexander



William Alexander explains how he first got into writing at the late age of fifty-three. "After buying a dilapidated house on three acres in New York's Hudson Valley, my wife and I recklessly built our dream vegetable garden, with twenty-two beds and an orchard. Not long after, our dream turned into a nightmare filled with masochistic groundhogs, apple-stealing squirrels, deer-feeding neighbors, and neighbor-feeding deer. It was driving us to distraction, but I thought, you know, this could be funny — if it were happening to someone else — so I started keeping notes."

Five years later those notes had evolved into the national bestseller *The \$64 Tomato: How One Man Nearly Lost His Sanity, Spent a Fortune, and Endured an Existential Crisis in the Quest for the Perfect Garden*. The book's decidedly unromantic view of gardening earned accolades from the *New York Times*, NPR, and other national media, and was selected for the National Book Festival, which each year honors seventy-five of the nation's leading writers at the White House.

That was followed by two critically acclaimed memoirs, *52 Loaves: A Half-Baked Adventure*, which chronicled Bill's religious-like quest to bake the perfect loaf of bread, and *Flirting with French*, about his fraught attempt to learn a foreign language in late middle age. "I've been lucky," he says, "in that I've been able to use writing as an excuse to pursue my passions — at my publisher's expense."

For his latest book, released in June, he has returned to his roots with *Ten Tomatoes That Changed the World*, which the *Wall Street Journal* praised as "a transcontinental treasure hunt" to discover how the once-despised tomato "made its way into America's hearts and onto Italy's spaghetti."

Bill and his wife, Anne, a retired physician, moved to Bainbridge last October to be closer to family in the region. You can learn more about Bill and his writing at WilliamAlexander.com. His books are available at Eagle Harbor Books, as well as from all the usual places.

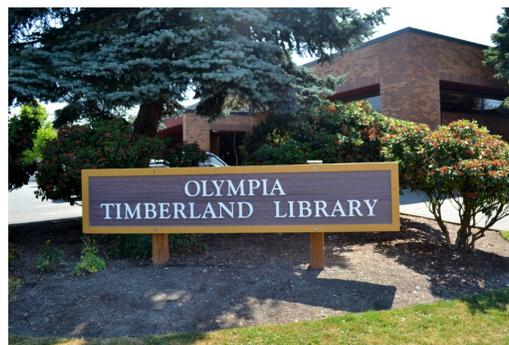


Bainbridge is home to many distinguished and hugely popular authors. In this column, we will profile a local author each month. Many will already be favorites, but we may just introduce you to a new author whose profile will send you right to the library to pick up a new read! Happy reading and thank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

~ *Susan Braun*

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

Have You Seen This Library?

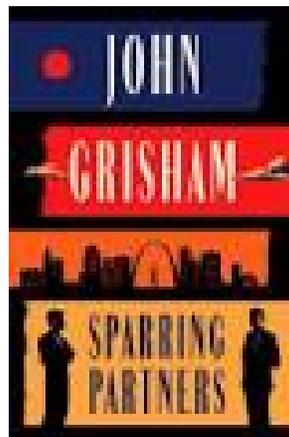


It is the public library in Olympia! After highlighting the libraries of NYC for

the past ten months, our focus will now shift coasts and highlight libraries of the Pacific Northwest. In December of 1896, the Women's Club of Olympia established a library service with "reading matter" donated by citizens. In March 1909, the city offered to take over the collection of some nine hundred volumes and maintain a public library. The Olympia library was housed in a Carnegie building at 7th and Franklin until 1978 when a new library was built and opened at 8th and Franklin. Olympia joined the Timberland library district in 1968. The library underwent extensive remodels in 2000 and 2008. In 2000, the building was recarpeted and painted; a meeting room was converted to additional space for the children's area; and new public computers, computer stations, a teen area and shelving for about 10,000 additional items were added. In 2008, the circulation and information desks were replaced, the building was recarpeted and painted in bright, warm colors, the lounge furniture was replaced, and the computer stations were refurbished. In November 2013, the City of Olympia installed thirty-three solar panels on the Olympia Library rooftop. After closing for two months during the winter of 2019, Olympia Timberland Library re-opened to the public in February 2020.

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

Books Worth Sharing!



The Violin Conspiracy **By Brendan Slocumb**

Ray McMillan is a prodigy. He has a gift and a dream to be a world-class violinist. But growing up Black in rural North Carolina his opportunities are limited. His mother wants him to get a job, he cannot afford lessons, and his training is limited to his public-school orchestra, loaner violins and his grandfather's beat-up fiddle. When he discovers that his family fiddle is actually a priceless Stradivarius, all his dreams suddenly seem within reach, and together, Ray and his violin take the world by storm. But on the eve of the renowned and cutthroat Tchaikovsky Competition—the Olympics of classical music—the violin is stolen, a ransom note for five million dollars left in its place. Ray feels his life and his dream evaporate. As the competition approaches, he must not only reclaim his precious violin, but prove to himself—and the world—that no matter the outcome, there has always been a genuinely great musician within him. Readers who loved the Queen's Gambit will find the mystery of Ray and his stolen Stradivarius every bit as compelling and rewarding. He is the ultimate underdog, and you will find yourself rooting for him as you turn every page!

~ Susan Braun



The CoFun Committee of BPL is looking for volunteers to assist with social media. If you have skills in Facebook and Instagram and would like to increase the library's impact in our community please contact Kevin Manion kpmanion@gmail.com or Brian McKenna brian.emckenna@comcast.net. Time commitment is flexible, and creativity is greatly appreciated!

Friends of the Library

Book Sale



The Friends of the Library is having a book sale Sunday August 28 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 send 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 Historical Museum](#)
- [Bainbridge Island Museum of Art](#)
- [Bainbridge Island Native Food Forest Field Guide](#)
- [Bainbridge Island Senior/Community Center](#)
- [Bainbridge Youth Services](#)
- [BARN \(Bainbridge Artisan Resource Network\)](#)
- [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](#)

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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