Art in the Library!

Heading straight into fall...less light, more time inside and our October artist, Carol Burns will host a First Friday, **October 7** opening for her exhibit titled "Places I've Loved" from 5-7PM in the library meeting room.

Here is what Carol says about her art:

I enjoy on-site painting, capturing scenes that give me joy. From the foliage in Bainbridge, the banks of the Willamette in Oregon, the Finger Lakes of New York, to the Lower Eastern Shore of Maryland, the variety of my surroundings' beauty often becomes my subject matter.

When the weather does not permit, I'm in my studio on Bainbridge creating composites of experiences from recent travels or painting still lifes from the fruits and flowers of the area.

Art for me is a never-ending adventure, a combination of experimentation and exploration both of the external world and of my internal world. While involved in a painting, I find myself deep inside spaces that are otherwise never visited. As I experiment at my easel, this inner vision is what I try to bring to the work.
You can view this exhibit all of October 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

Bainbridge Public Library proudly participates in One Call for All. Look for your Red Envelope later this month and remember us when you give! https://onecallforall.org/bainbridge-public-library/

You can also give online at www.onecallforall.org.

What's Up with Facilities?

Welcome the Newest Addition to the Library Gardens
In early September, thanks to a generous donation, we purchased and installed this stunning cedar bench in the Haiku Garden. The bench was created from a single cedar log by the Bainbridge Island native and well-known sawyer and wood worker, David Coates. It provides an excellent vantage point from which to watch and listen to the meditative qualities of the spectacular water feature in the garden. Now that it is in place, there will be some minor finish work done to complete the installation. We invite you to come by to enjoy this simple yet elegant addition to the Library’s grounds.

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.

"Across the Pond: Seattle, Past, Present and in the Works"

Library U, a program of the Bainbridge Public Library, has a new 4-part series starting in October. "Across the Pond: Seattle, Past, Present and in the Works" begins on Sunday, Oct. 2nd and runs through Sunday, Oct. 23rd.
The topics include Seattle Waterfront Old & New: The Pike Place Market and the Waterfront Park, Secrets of Seattle Geology, Bertha Comes to Town: The Construction of the Highway 99 Tunnel, and Downtown Seattle today: Problems and Progress.

The presentations will be held in the library’s large meeting room from 2 pm to 3:30 pm. You can find more information about these programs and presenters at the BPL website bainbridgepubliclibrary.org. If you wish to be added to the Library U mailing list email BainbridgeLibraryU@gmail.com.

Showcasing Our Local Authors!
Steph Jagger

My mother was, and still is, a woman of very few words. Her love is best described by her presence, by sensing and feeling her warmth. Its clearest translation occurs when I’m standing silently at her side tuning into a rhythm of sorts—following burgeoning knowing to burgeoning knowing.

This was the first language I learned. It is my mother tongue. I believe it is a language we all share. Muffled sounds, flutterings and flashes, a steady heartbeat felt in our bones, nourishment moving with fluidity through a shared bloodstream. I might even go so far as to say that this way of communicating - information that floods or senses before we have a chance to think, before we are even able to think – is at the very core of our senses.

I spent much of my life forgetting this language. And it is not lost on me that it was my mother’s actual forgetting, her Alzheimer’s, that brought me back to this language, this way of being in the world. The timing of this coincided with my move to Bainbridge Island. Looking back, I see that this was not a coincidence.

I was in the early stages of losing my mother when my husband and I began considering a move. I felt a pull to be closer to her (she lives in Vancouver, Canada) and knew I wanted to live somewhere that could hold me through the loss, somewhere that felt more abundantly nourishing, more alive to me than the desert of Southern California (where we had spent the past seven years).
As soon as my feet hit the gravel trails on my first visit to this Bainbridge, I knew it was home. I felt it had all the ingredients to hold me through an ongoing and impending loss. What I didn’t know was that it also held all of the ingredients for my flourishing, hundreds of trails and thousands of trees that would help me remember, relearn and return to a way of life that was wordless and at the very same time, teeming with language. It was, and still is, is a lexicon of my own aliveness.

I wrote my second book, Everything Left to Remember, by rooting into this place we all call home, and I know the pages inside of it are not my last.

Yours from a patch of cedars on the north end of the island,
Steph Jagger

Steph Jagger is the author of two books. Her first, Unbound: A Story of Snow & Self-Discovery was published in 2017. Her second, a mother-daughter story called Everything Left to Remember came out in April of 2022.

Outside of being an author, Steph a sought-after mentor and coach whose offerings guide people toward a deeper understanding of themselves and their stories.

All of her work, including speaking and facilitating, lies at the intersection loss, the nature of deep remembrance, and the personal journey of re-creation.

Find more at www.stephjagger.com or @stephjagger on Instagram.

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?
The Anaconda Copper Mining Company lumber department’s library car served as an early bookmobile for loggers in camps throughout Missoula County from 1921 to the late 1950s. After serving as a dormitory and storage shed at the Lubrecht Experimental Forest, it was brought to Fort Missoula in 2005. Today it houses an exhibit about the Lumberman’s Library.

The concept for a library car for loggers was certainly not a high priority for the General Manager of the Anaconda Copper Mining Company, Kenneth Ross, when approached by Missoula County librarian, Ruth Worden, in 1919. At first the Library sent a shipment of books to the camp to be overseen by the logging camp clerk and a shipment to the store clerk to bring out to the sawmills. Soon more books were needed, so Ross set up a small room in a local hotel where a young bookkeeper kept track of the books. A year later, Ross was handed a report that stated nearly 4,000 books had been borrowed and read over the past year and that books were in constant demand at both the camps as well as the small hotel library. Believing that relations between the workers had improved because of this new offering of education, Ross set forth to create a better plan.

Soon known as the “Lumberman’s Library,” Ross had a library car constructed at 14 feet wide and 40 feet long, equipped with as many books, magazines and newspapers as possible. This library car switched from one camp to another every few weeks. It was under the charge of one librarian, who had living quarters in the car and traveled with it from camp to camp. Painted grey with a sign that read “Missoula County Free Library,” the Lumberman’s library was an instant success. In 1926, under the librarian James Dwyer, the library car saw over 5,000 visitors and 3,195 books were circulated. On average 300 to 350 books were in circulation at any given time from a collection that totaled over 1,400 titles. Many of the books were donated, while others were purchased by Miss Worden from a fund of about $400 provided by the lumbermen themselves.

Dwyer noted that the library car was busiest on Sundays when as many as 60 men would come through to check out books to bring with them out to the camps during the following week. The library was especially busy during the winter because it was equipped with bright light, a stove for heat and a long table with comfortable armchairs. Inside each book cover was a pocket and a card to keep track of who borrowed the book. The Lumberman’s Library use peaked in 1927 with over 9,000 visitors and nearly 8,000 books checked out. During the ensuing years patronage gradually decreased, likely because of the growing popularity of the radio and increased use of automobiles.

The Anaconda Copper Mining Company ceased railroad logging in 1949, but the library car continued its trips to logging camps until it was moved in the late 1950s to the Lubrecht Experimental Forest. The Lubrecht Forest is about
30 miles northeast of Missoula along the Blackfoot River and is part of the University of Montana School of Forestry. Here, mounted on a foundation, the library car became “Cabin 15” a bunkhouse used by the Anaconda Copper Mining Co. logging camps and later by students stationed at the Forest. In 1960 Hank Goetz, Director of Field Stations for the University of Montana School of Forestry, recognized the library car and knew its history. Even though the car was no longer on standard-gauge trucks, much of the interior was still the same, bookshelves on the walls, long table where students now sat. The car eventually became storage before it was brought to the Historical Museum at Fort Missoula. It has since been restored and preserved as likely the only Lumberman’s Library Car to ever have existed.

If you have a library that you would like to share email Susan Braun.

Books Worth Sharing!

**Dinner In One**  
*By Melissa Clark*

Full disclosure: I love to cook and have collected cookbooks for decades. I am also a huge fan of Melissa Clark’s contributions to the food section of the New York Times. Her recipes are fun, tasty, and most importantly reliable. Her latest collection of one-pan recipes is a treat for any cook who relishes the simplicity of minimal cleanup while providing an attractive and palate-pleasing meal. It is full of gorgeous photographs and includes a wide range of dishes from soups to pastas to meat and meatless dishes with a variety of international selections. The Creamy Goat Cheese Pasta is delicious! This is not only a practical addition to any cookbook collection but a lovely gift book.

~ Susan Braun
BPL is looking for volunteers to assist with social media and other fundraising and marketing activities. If you have skills in Facebook, Instagram, fundraising 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 Sunday, October 2, from 12-4; Thursday, October 13, from 12-4; and Sunday, October 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 susanqb01@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)
- 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

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