The Bainbridge Branch will be closed: June 12th reopening on June 26th

As reported in last month’s Facilities article, the Bainbridge Branch will be closing for some required maintenance and repair projects. We now have the dates:

The Bainbridge Branch will be closed: June 12th reopening on June 26th

We apologize for the inconvenience this causes you, our patrons and community friends, but please understand this work is needed and will be accomplished as rapidly as possible.

Again, here are the projects that will be addressed during the closure:

- Updating the elevator control systems
- Updating the smoke and fire detection panel
- Refreshing the main floor meeting room (Fresh paint; replace stained floor and ceiling tiles)
- Seal and re-line the parking lots (the parking lots will be closed to all vehicle, bicycle, and pedestrian traffic for several days during this project)
- Correct several lighting issues

For status and updates on the Closure, please visit either of the following links:

Our Bainbridge Public Library (BPL) website:
And this Bainbridge Branch page of the Kitsap Regional Library (KRL) website: Bainbridge Island | Kitsap Regional Library (krl.org)

As always, we appreciate your patience and cooperation.

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.

Art in the Library!
"Toastmaster Censorship"
You can visit Mark Johnson’s exhibit as it continues through the open hours of June and if you are brave and would like to see more of Mark’s work visit www.conceptulmark.com. A new exhibit will be on display in July.

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

~ Linda Meier, art coordinator

**Become a Legacy Circle Member**

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.

**Heartfelt Thanks to Garden Volunteers and Crew**

On May 5, Bainbridge Public Library hosted an Appreciation Lunch for the “Friday Tidies” and Fernando Ramirez’s crew from Olympic Landscaping who work together to make our gardens such a glorious and welcoming
Guided by our renowned Garden Leads, Ann Lovejoy, John van den Meerendonk and Ian Bentryn, our gardens are much loved and used. Our volunteers and garden crew spend countless hours each spring and summer to “tidy” our gardens, tending and planting the rich variety of flowering plants, ferns, and trees in our Haiku Garden, Annual and Perennial Garden, and Fern Garden, and then putting the gardens to bed in the fall. Our Fern Garden is a veritable “library” of ferns, with over 100 species; we hope to add some informational signs about this garden in the coming months.

The Friday Tidies would welcome anyone who wants to join them in tending the gardens on Friday mornings. Looking ahead this summer, we will be repainting the Gazebo near the entrance to the Children’s Library and reworking the section of garden to the north. And we will be letting the community know how they can show their support for the library gardens so that they can continue to be the visual feast we all love.

~Jim McKeever, BPL Board Member and Gardens Liaison
Bainbridge Public Library went “downtown” for two weeks in May at a “pop up” display at the Chamber of Commerce. Members who do not have a presence on Winslow Way have been invited to tell their story in the Chamber window. BPL was excited to participate in this newly created initiative and filled its display with information about the many ways BPL serves our community. The 2023 Community Reports, bookmarks, coloring pages and Friends of the Library book sale schedules were some of the things that visitors could take. We thank the Chamber for giving BPL this opportunity!

~ Carol Schuyler

Showcasing Our Local Authors!
Nora Nickum

In 2021, I tagged along on a boat to marvel at a dog who can sniff out whale scat from a mile away. I visited a lighthouse on San Juan Island to chat with an expert about the mystery of why whales breach out of the water. I hurried to Fort Ward, here on Bainbridge, when alerted by an Orca Network post that orcas were approaching. I stood on the banks of the Cedar River, near Seattle, and watched a Chinook salmon dig a place for her eggs. All these field trips, and more, were intended to make sure I’d have plenty of good stories to bring things to life for readers of my nonfiction book—but they also made the research and writing process incredibly fun! The final result,
Superpod: Saving the Endangered Orcas of the Pacific Northwest, came out this April from Chicago Review Press.

I’ve always loved writing, but I started focusing on writing children’s books about four years ago when my daughter was a toddler. My stories tend to feature ocean animals in some way. Sometimes they’re the main focus, like with this book about orcas. Sometimes they make a fun and brief appearance, like in my forthcoming picture book, This Book is Full of Holes (Peachtree, spring 2024) which includes whale blowholes and the breathing holes that seals make in Arctic ice but also terrestrial examples like wiffle ball holes and potholes.

The steady thread of marine inspiration comes from having grown up on Bainbridge Island, exploring tidepools and keeping an eye out for animals like seals and herons. It also comes from my current day job at the Seattle Aquarium, where I lead ocean policy work and have fun taking breaks from my desk to visit the wolf eels, sea otters, and octopus.

Superpod is particularly geared toward kids and teens but written hopefully to also appeal to adults looking for a fun read. You’ll meet individual orcas, like Grandmother Shachi and spunky Tofino, as well as scientists who are studying them using everything from underwater microphones to suction-cup tags. I hope you’ll check it out at the library or the bookstore and recommend it to any animal-loving kids you know. You can find more info on my website: www.noranickum.com.

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 Kansas City Public Library is a public system headquartered in the Central Library in Kansas City, Missouri. The system operates its Central Library and neighborhood branches located in Kansas City, Independence, and Sugar Creek. Founded on December 5, 1873, it is the oldest and third largest public library system in the Kansas City metropolitan area. Its special collections, housed in the Central Library's Missouri Valley Room, has a collection of Kansas City local history, including original and published materials, news articles, post cards, photographs, maps, and city directories dating from the community's earliest history. The Library's Ramos Collection includes books, pamphlets, journal articles, and other materials relating to African American history and culture. Thanks to Brian McKenna for this library suggestion!

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

Books Worth Sharing!

No Two Persons
By Erica Bauermeister

Alice has longed to be a writer. But she has kept her stories locked within her until her heart is broken and her novel rushes out. Her debut is a stunning success, and as it reaches readers it has profound impacts. As this novel-within-a-novel passes from an actor to a homeless student, to a grief-stricken widower, to a young man obsessed by water and others, it shows how books can affect us in wondrous ways. We’ve all been spellbound by that special book that has stayed with us and No Two Persons reminds us of that special moment. As its chapters unfold, this latest book by local author...
Bauermeister becomes an homage to the power of the novel to transport, transform and renew the reader.

~ 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, June 1, from 12-4; Sunday, June 11, from 12-4; and Thursday, June 29, 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
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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