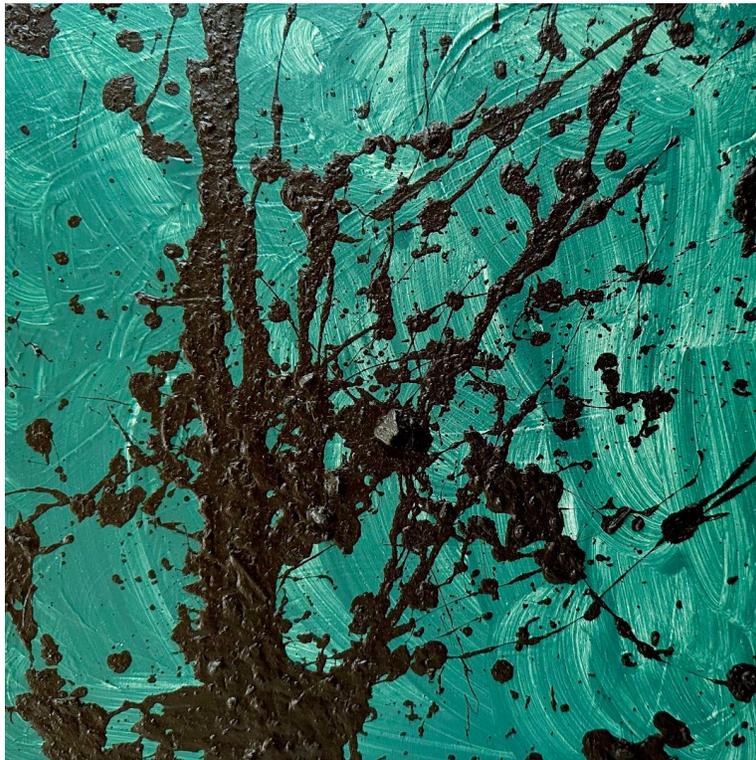


May 2024 Newsletter

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## Art in the Library!



Welcome to the beautiful month of May, which brings flowers to our gardens and more art to feast your eyes. Our May artist, Jared Bartlett, offers his exhibit titled "Teaway Banks" with an opening reception for First Friday, May 3, 5-7PM in the library meeting room.

Here is Jared's artist statement:

"Jared Bartlett, painter: In 2023 Jared relocated from an apartment in Westlake, Seattle to a log cabin on a peaceful piece of land on the bank of the Teaway river.

Inspired by the landscape and the stones of marble, serpentine, zebra marble, and Picasso-stone found on the riverbanks, Jared painted a series of abstract works in plain air using acrylic paint and the materials provided by

nature. This includes brushes made of pine needles, leaves of Lambs Ear, driftwood, birch bark, and wood-ash.

The work contains the energy, texture, and wild striations of the land and flora that contribute to the vibrancy of nature on the bank of Teanaway."



You can view this exhibit during regular library hours (unless a program is happening) all month. A portion of sales are donated to the library. [www.bainbridgepubliclibrary.org](http://www.bainbridgepubliclibrary.org).

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

~ Linda Meier, art coordinator

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## Facilities Report



The Library Gardens are blooming! We removed two trees that overshadowed the Children's Library and have replaced them with two young Japanese

maples (of different varieties) that will grow into lovely 15-foot-tall trees with - at the proper time of year - beautiful red/scarlet leaves. New ferns are being added to the Fern Garden, and we are moving towards the addition of educational signage about this extraordinary display garden.

Looking ahead, in the coming months, we will replace and improve the lighting in the Haiku Garden and add lights to illuminate the haiku poetry plaques.

And we are very pleased with the donations we have received to the Garden Fund, another way for library supporters to show their love of our beautiful gardens.

The 'Friday Tidies', along with Olympic Landscaping, are in the midst of tidying up the gardens and putting in new plantings so the spring and summer months in the gardens will be verdant and colorful. Please let us know if you have an urge to join in on this work!

~Jim McKeever



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## Showcasing Our Local Authors - Jim Fox



## I Meet Myself Every Morning

"How do I know what I think," impatiently replied to a Little Old Lady, "until I've heard what I've said!" William Makepeace Thackeray roughly estimated that "there are a thousand thoughts within a man that he does not know until he takes up a pen to write."

I take up my pen first thing every morning to write in my journal. Over four decades I've unearthed plenty more than a thousand thoughts, though very few Big Ones. Most days I merely give myself good advice on how to best deal with what appears to be my personal reality.

In these daily written reflections I follow the example of Montaigne, who on a ceiling beam in his chateau tower inscribed a mission statement for anyone who keeps a journal: *Que sais je*, "what do I know? Montaigne set out to know his true self, unalloyed by the tastes and ideas of others, realizing that "habituation closes the eyes of our judgment."

Marcus Aurelius, the ever-thoughtful Stoic Roman emperor, wrote regular "letters to himself" in his journals, even when he was on the battlefield. "The best revenge," he advised the writer, "is not to be like your enemy." Perhaps to calm himself when things in the Empire weren't going so well, he reminded the emperor that "things cannot touch the mind; they are external and inert; anxieties can only come from your internal judgment."

In his journals Henry David Thoreau, though writing only for himself, penned copious commentaries on how the world could be a better place, and how individuals could behave better. "We have become tools of our tools," he lamented in the mid-19th Century, and asserted that "a man is rich in proportion to the number of things he can let alone." Thoreau's daily journal jottings, apparently directed at everyone else, actually steadily clarified and refined his personal philosophy.

"Don't waste time," Thoreau sternly admonished himself in a journal entry, modestly adding "You may be damaging eternity." Neither writing in my journal nor now crafting essays just for the fun of it count for me as "wasting time." And I am serenely confident eternity will happen as planned, without my unwitting amendment.

*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*

Go to [bainbridgepubliclibrary.org](http://bainbridgepubliclibrary.org) for more info on local authors.

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## With Each Leaf, a Promise and an Inspiration



Just as tree roots embed themselves in our garden, sustaining life, nurturing growth--the leaves on our Legacy Tree hold out the promise that Bainbridge Public Library will endure into the future. Each leaf represents the pledge of a gift to the BPL from an estate. Each leaf signifies a love of community and the belief that libraries matter. Blossoming together, all these leaves reflect individual's values, inspire others and will keep our library home strong--with open doors to all.

**Please notify us if you have made provisions in your estate plan to leave a legacy gift. If you would like more information about making a legacy gift leave a message at 206-866-1250 or at [legacy@bainbridgepubliclibrary.org](mailto:legacy@bainbridgepubliclibrary.org). Or visit the BPL website, [bainbridgepubliclibrary.org](http://bainbridgepubliclibrary.org) and click on A Lasting Legacy under the Support BPL tab to download a Donor Intention Form. We'd be pleased to thank and honor you now!**

## Bainbridge Public Library Garden Fund Honoring Special People



Created by Island artist Dick Strom and erected by volunteers from BPL's Facilities and Garden Committee, the metalwork mural is located near the Legacy Tree on the south side of the library building. Nameplates below the mural will recognize honorees in whose names gifts were made to the fund. The minimum donation for a nameplate is \$500.

For information about making contributions to the BPL Garden Fund, visit our website at [bainbridgepubliclibrary.org](http://bainbridgepubliclibrary.org) or leave a contact number at 206-866-1250 (message line).

**Thank you for your continued support of our community's library home.**

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## Have You Seen This Library?



It is the Saint Michaels Branch of Talbot County Library, Maryland. Beginning in a store on historic Talbot Street, the branch library expanded to its current location on Fremont Street in 1988. It is now amid a fundraising effort to expand its current location to better serve its expanding population.

If you have photos of Libraries *or* Museums you would like to share, please email [Susan Braun](mailto:Susan.Braun).

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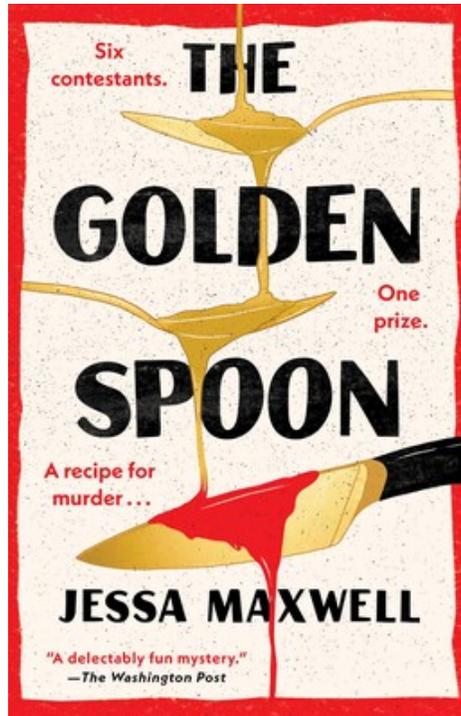
## Own a Bit of Bainbridge Public Library History!



The year was 1997. A two-year project of a major remodel of the library was nearly complete. But something still wasn't quite right. Under the new design, the backs of the computer monitors were facing the public. Younger folks may not remember a time when computer monitors protruded but such was the case, and the BPL Board of Directors determined a fix needed to be found. Island artist Michelle Van Slyke came up with the perfect design and was commissioned to create 10 of the simple but stunning and effective "Reading Hands."

Now that the computer monitors are flat, no camouflage is needed! With the artist's blessing, the "Reading Hands" metal sculptures are available at the Friends of the Library book sales, beginning in May. The purchase price is \$100, with all proceeds benefiting the Bainbridge Public Library. (Reminder:

## Books Worth Sharing



### **The Golden Spoon** *By Jessa Maxwell*

Celebrated baker Betsy Martin has hosted her popular show “Bake Week” from the grounds of Grafton, her Vermont family estate, for the past decade. This year, change is in the air: The network has foisted a new co-host on her, and Betsy had less input than ever before when selecting which six contestants would compete for the show’s coveted Golden Spoon award. Still, “America’s Grandmother,” as Betsy’s known among her fans, chooses to push ahead with the new season. When the competition gets underway, things start to go haywire. The contestants believe someone is sabotaging their bakes—and when a dead body is discovered, everyone in the baking tent becomes a murder suspect. “The Great British Baking Show” meets Knives Out in in this delicious homage to Mary Berry, Paul Hollywood and their fabulous team of contestants that got us through the pandemic lockdown.

~ Susan Braun

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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](mailto:ask@bainbridgepubliclibrary.org). Time commitment is flexible, and creativity is appreciated!

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## Friends of the Library

# Book Sale



Friends of the Library book sales will be on:

**Thursday, May 9, from 12-4 Sunday, May 19, from 12-4, Thursday May 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 send us a message at [books4all@bifriends.org](mailto: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.

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## 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](mailto: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!

## A Special Partnership

- **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.



*"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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