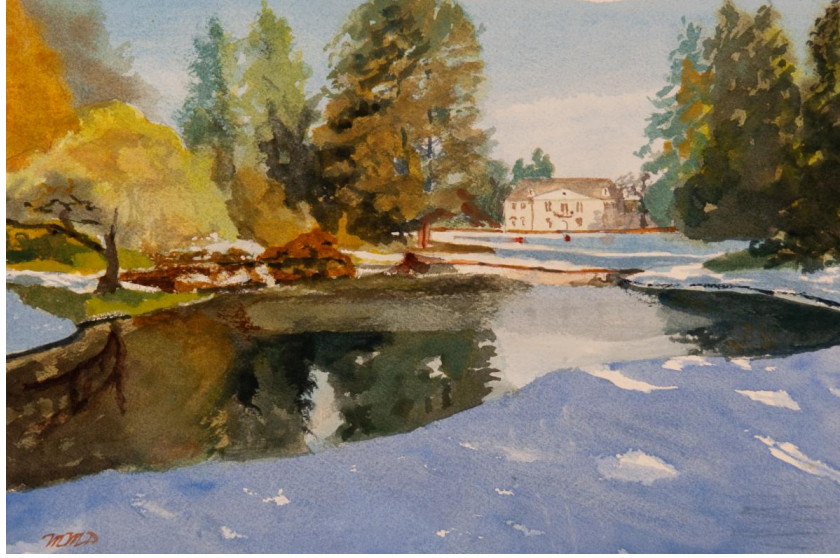




Art in the Library!

The light from art, in this case, "Northwest Glow," depicting the vibrancy of Northwest landscapes, particularly on Bainbridge should entice you inside for our November artist's exhibition opening reception November 7, 5-7PM in the library meeting room.

Millard (Mick) Davidson landed on Bainbridge Island fifty years ago this coming January and transitioned from his architectural practice into a fine arts career in the mid-90s. He concentrated primarily on oil until diagnosed with metastatic lung cancer in the fall of 2019. Now he paints exclusively in water-based mediums to avoid using toxic solvents. Subject matter includes landscape, particularly vestiges of former Island life that still exist, portraits, and still life. Though primarily a representational painter, he studies abstract painting as well, as he believes all good representational painting rests upon a strong abstract design foundation. He and his wife, Linda, returned to Bainbridge Island ten years ago from 17 years in Arizona and Alamos, Mexico where he was inspired by the richness of the Mexican and southwestern cultures and the dignity of their human spirit. His painting is split equally between plein aire and studio work, the latter usually based on smaller plein aire pieces. He also does commission work including portraiture of people, children, and pets.



"I draw and paint, simply because it nourishes my spirit. It allows me to focus outside myself to learn more about the world and myself while attempting to clarify my impression of the visual relationships that excite me. I always end at a place of gratitude for what I am able to experience.

Since we seem to be overexposed to discord and the mundane, I aim for visual poetry, choosing to seek out what is harmonious in my vision. Each time as I view my subject while setting up my easel, I wonder, "What if this impression was to pass unnoticed?"



You can view this exhibit all of November during regular library hours (unless a program is happening). A portion of sales is donated to the library.

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

~ Linda Meier, art coordinator

We're Going Solar!



The Bainbridge Public Library (BPL) is a non-profit organization that owns, operates, and maintains the library building and grounds. The BPL Board leadership recognized an opportunity to leverage the unique design of the library building and its large roof surface to reduce the carbon footprint of the library while maintaining its historic beauty. The BPL Board has approved the installation of solar panels on the library roof with the following objectives: reducing energy costs, creating a solar energy educational component, and demonstrating prudent stewardship of this cherished community resource.

After an extensive search and vetting process, a vendor has been selected. The decision was based on design, system components, cost, and payback timeline. The project timeline has a target completion date of no later than December 2025. This timeline is critical to be eligible to realize government rebate incentives and to lock in materials prices. BPL will be seeking funding from PSE, federal rebates, Rotary, and individual donors to fund the project. We are pleased to share that 100% of the Library Board and CoFun Committee have contributed to a \$25,000 matching gift which we now invite you to help meet. The total cost of the project is \$175,000. We are pursuing a combination of individual donations and grant funding to bring it to life. *To donate to this important community project [click here](#).*



Facilities Report

On the Solar Front

- A big, Big BIG! Thank You to all who have generously responded to our Solar Fundraising Campaign! With YOUR help, we're nearing our fundraising goal!
- Our building permit application has been submitted to the city and is being reviewed.
- We hope to begin installation within the next several weeks.
- Installation may take about a week.
- For safety and expedience, we expect the library to be closed for all or part of the installation. Stay tuned for updates.

Autumn in the Gardens

With the recent rains, we know we've really moved into our "not summer season." Although many trees have already change colors and dropped their leaves, there is still plenty of "eye candy" to be discovered in our gardens, as I discovered the other day, despite the rain. Here are some photos to entice you to explore the gardens.





We look forward to seeing you and your family at the library!



One Call for All. Look for your Red Envelope later this month and remember us when you give! Bainbridge Public Library proudly participates in One Call for All!

<https://onecallforall.org/bainbridge-public-library/>

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

A Quote for Book Lovers

"Perhaps no place in any community is so totally democratic as the town library. The only entrance requirement is interest."

~ Lady Bird Johnson (1912-2007)



For many of us, the story of a World War II veteran— whether a parent, a grandparent, an uncle, or an aunt—is a significant and moving chapter in our family history. But the search for details can often be frustrating and discouraging. We know they served, we know the importance of their contribution, but finding the records that bring their story to life can feel like searching for a needle in a historical haystack.

The biggest roadblock is the catastrophic fire at the National Personnel Records Center in St. Louis, MO, in 1973, which destroyed millions of Official Military Personnel Files. By necessity, genealogists have learned to search for other ways to reconstruct their ancestor's records. Some other sources include Draft Registrations, Morning Reports, Submarine War Patrol Reports, and Missing Air Crew Reports.

On **Friday, November 21st at 10:00**, Michael L. Strauss will be presenting, via Zoom, **World War II Military Research and Records**. This lecture focuses on sources and strategies to reconstruct those records most affected by the fire.

Michael L. Strauss is a professional genealogist and a military historian. He has a B.A. in history with a concentration on the Civil War and an M.A. in military history. He has lectured extensively and authored multiple

publications.

You are invited to join us! No membership necessary. Go to the BIGS website to register and receive the Zoom link: bigenealogy.org/events



Michael L. Strauss

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.

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, email legacy@bainbridgepubliclibrary.org or visit the BPL website, bainbridgepubliclibrary.org, and click on A Lasting Legacy under the Support BPL tab to download a Donor Intention Form. We would be pleased to thank you and to 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. The nameplates below the mural will recognize honorees in whose name's 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 or leave a contact number at 206-866-1250 (message line).

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

Featuring Local Authors - George Shannon



It feels as though I have always been wrapped in stories and books. My parents read to me, and I in turn read to younger brothers. Books and family stories filled our home, and going to the library was as common as going to the market. I began writing stories when they were given as assignments in elementary school, but I came to enjoy the writing so much I began writing extra ones. Then I wrote even when there was no assignment at all. My dream of making books was so vivid I submitted my first “formal” children’s manuscript to a publisher when I was sixteen. Eleven more years of school, work, reading, writing, and luck finally brought about **Lizard’s Song**, my first children’s book to be accepted.

Looking back, it seems especially appropriate that **Lizard’s Song** was my first book. Even though I had been writing for years, I always felt everyone else’s life held better ideas for stories than mine did. I thought there was nothing about me that was interesting enough to make a good story. But I finally learned what Lizard teaches Bear. My best stories come when I tell or sing about what makes my home. What I love. What I fear. Things that have happened to me, and things I hope will happen. Things I like about me. Things I dislike about me. Things I’m starting to understand. Things that still confuse me. And, always, the books and art and friends that make me feel at home. So even though I am not a lizard, squirrel, or dancing frog, when you read my books, you’ll find little bits of what my heart calls home tucked inside the stories.

My years as a children’s librarian and, later, a professional storyteller

continue to influence my writing, whether it is a collection of folktales like **Stories to Solve** or original stories like **Dance Away** and **Tippy-Toe Chick, Go!** I want my stories to sound as if they are being told out loud with the rhythm of the words providing as much emotion as the words themselves. I also write many things few people ever see. Sometimes I begin a story but, as with a puzzle, can't find the missing piece. So, I file it away to grow into another story at another time. I am also constantly writing letters and postcards to friends, and daily filling pages in my journal with anything that sparks my mind—all possible "missing pieces" for writing-puzzles yet to come.

One of my favorite proverbs is "less is more," though that may seem odd for someone six feet four inches tall, with feet that need a size thirteen shoe. But I truly believe it. Distilled art forms like haiku and sculpture by artists like Isamu Noguchi and William Edmondson have always been my favorites. I believe books for young readers fall beautifully into this area as well. The challenge of sharing a story in as few words as possible and with a vital theme inside a "light-hearted" plot is one I sense I'll always enjoy as surely as I do reading.

Have You Seen This Library?



For decades, the 80-foot Epos — called Bokbåten in Norway, which is Swedish for "the book boat" — operated as a floating library, biannually visiting around 250 small communities tucked on isles and inlets along the west coast of Norway.

Many of those isolated hamlets are most easily accessible by boat rather than car, so in 1959, a group of librarians secured government funding to launch a waterborne library service with a special emphasis on children's literature. Two preexisting boats were initially employed before the Epos was built specifically for the purpose in 1963.

Large enough to accommodate around 6,000 books, the boat also hosted readings, children's plays, and other cultural events onboard. It traversed Norway's fjords on 64-day tours during the fall and winter months, welcoming up to 150 children at a time and unloading books for each community to keep until the boat made its way back the next time around. In the summer, the Epos was repurposed as a tourist vessel. But in 2020, it looked like it might be the end for the Epos. After nearly 60 years in action,

the popular boat had its funding cut by the regional government, which effectively ended the floating library program.

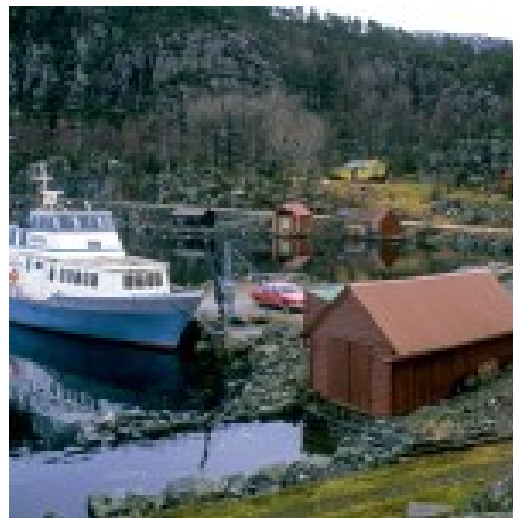
"The book boat is a floating house of culture, irreplaceable for thousands of children in typical remote communities that lack a good library offering," Norwegian librarian and author Stig Holmås wrote on Facebook at the time, per the outlet. "It has large numbers of visits and lendings and it's a superb advertisement for Norway," he went on, adding: "What a shame!"

Luckily, 28 local municipalities banded together in support of the beloved institution, helping organize 88 cultural events for the boat between August and November 2021. Then, in February 2022, the [Fritt Ord Foundation](#), a private Norwegian nonprofit "that seeks to promote freedom of expression, public debate, art and culture," granted the Epos nearly \$300,000 (or 3 million Kroner) to keep the program afloat. Its operations were then entrusted to the bipartisan group Tekstallianse. Later that year, journalist Maria Pile Svåsand was hired as manager for the Epos, running the ins-and-outs of its programming. Her appointment to the position brings the boat's journey full circle: Svåsand's grandfather originally built the Epos so many years ago.

"This is a dream job," [Svåsand told Tekstallianse](#). "Books, villages, and boats. It doesn't get any better!"

"My grandfather built the boat for book shipping in 1963, and my parents ran the boat throughout my childhood," she added. "I know how much it means to many people, and it is enormously great to have the opportunity to be part of shaping a cultural offer that I have unwavering faith in and that I think we need, together with skilled and committed people along the way."

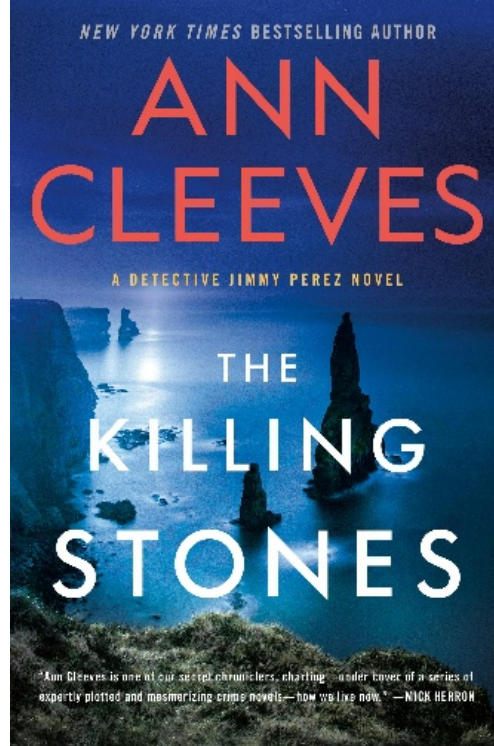
The Epos is now a traveling bookstore, the [New York Times](#) recently reported in an interactive multimedia piece, and it continues to hold literary events, carrying on the tradition of inviting authors, actors, musicians, and clowns to come aboard and perform live readings for children.



Thanks to Linda Maier for finding this unique floating library!

If you visit Libraries, Museums, or Bookstores on your travels, please email photos of them for inclusion in this newsletter to [Susan Braun](#).

Books Worth Sharing



The Killing Stones
By Ann Cleeves

Detective Jimmy Perez has settled into his new home in Orkney, with his partner Willow Reeve and their growing family. When his oldest and closest friend goes missing, Jimmy rushes in to help, only to find his friend murdered with an artifact on an archeological site. He must solve Archie's murder, but he's so close to the case that his objectivity is clouded. How can he objectively suspect his closest friends? Rumors abound, and the theft of historical research for professional gain seems to be at the heart of the case, but is it? This latest in author Cleeves' hugely entertaining series is an eagerly awaited addition to the life of Jimmy Perez.

~ 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



Friends of the Library book sales will be on:

Sunday, November 2; Thursday, November 13, 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!

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

Find us on 



Bainbridge Public Library | PO Box 11815 1280 N Madison | Bainbridge Island, WA 98110
US

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