



Official Newsletter of FBL



## *Matt's Moment*

**WRITTEN BY MATT CHURCH, LIBRARY DIRECTOR**

After nearly a year of serving the public with curbside service, the library reopened to the public on June 7. We are delighted to have people back in the building for browsing, studying, and all the other things they enjoy doing in the building. Based on the number of items we've checked out so far, it's clear the library was missed! We've eased into reopening by starting with Grab & Go and then dropping time limits and bringing back some seating. At the beginning of July we expanded our hours and we will expand them again at the beginning of August.

During our year-long run with curbside, we added some additional services to better serve you. The library now has five WIFI hotspots available for loan. They check out for 10 days and will provide you with internet access on the go. We also started a subscription to Kanopy, a streaming movie service, Ancestry Library Edition for genealogical research, and Pronunciator, a language learning resource.

On behalf of all of us at the library, we'd like to thank you for your support over the last year. We're grateful to be serving this community and have appreciated your patience throughout the challenging year. We look forward to seeing you at the library soon!

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# Meet our New FBL Board Members

BY CHRISTY GLICK

See what has been keeping our new Board Members busy in recent months, and check out what they've been reading – you might find something to add to your list!

## Amanda Rohda, President

- Amanda's favorite pandemic pastime: Reading (I devoured books) and hiking (my family and I have hiked almost every state park in Oakland County).
- What Amanda is reading right now: *Bridgerton: The Duke and I* by Julia Quinn. I wanted to see how the TV series compared to the book. Surprisingly, I enjoyed the tv series more than the book.
- Something Amanda loves about BPL: No matter when I go, I always see someone I know.



## Rebekah Randle, Vice President

- Rebekah's favorite pandemic pastime: Zoom cooking with friends.
- What Rebekah is reading right now: *What We Don't Talk About When We Talk About Fat* by Aubrey Gordon.
- Something Rebekah loves about BPL: I'm excited to use the Michigan Activity Pass through BPL!



## Cath Matthews-Pennanen, Treasurer

- Cath's favorite pandemic pastime: I retired in June 2020 so I had lots of time on my hands. I did lots of reading and listening to books as well as catching up on all the TV series I missed over the past many years. Also got to spend lots more time with my granddaughter, Zoie.
- What Cath is reading right now: I am listening to *Great Circle* by Maggie Shipstead.
- Something Cath loves about BPL: I've loved the children's programming since I started taking my oldest son when he was a preschooler – he's now 36 and his 33-year-old brother and 26-year-old sister were also raised going to BPL kids' programs. They are all voracious readers!



## Kaitlyn Cramer, Secretary

- Kaitlyn's favorite pandemic pastime: I enjoyed cooking classes put on by several local restaurants! Mabel Gray's Chef James Rigato put on a couple that were so fun and delicious. They were probably the highlight of the year for me!
- What Kaitlyn is reading right now: I just finished *How Much of These Hills is Gold* by C. Pam Zhang and *Ariadne* by Jennifer Saint. Both were really great!
- Something Kaitlyn loves about BPL: It's right around the block from my home, which made pickup during the pandemic easy!



## Colleen Smith, Membership

- Colleen's favorite pandemic pastime: Taking long walks with my husband and dog Wally, as well as reading and watching movies (via the library's DVD collection).
- What Colleen is reading right now: I just read *The Giver of Stars* by Jojo Moyes and just started *The Nightingale* by Kristin Hannah.
- Something Colleen loves about BPL: I loving walking among the stacks and finding books to read....it's an adventure.





# Summer Reading 2021

The Berkley Summer Reading Programs kicked off on June 14th and will continue until August 7th. The theme this year is *Tails and Tales*! Lots of fun virtual programs and kits are planned this summer. A few of them are listed below! Check out the complete list and event details on the Library's website, Facebook page, and Instagram page!

**CELEBRATE HARRY  
POTTER'S BIRTHDAY  
JULY 31ST**  
(Teen and Kid)

**A.R.K. Animal  
Encounters**  
(Zoom)

**Adult Book Club**  
(Afternoon)  
*Dutch Girl: Audrey  
Hepburn and WWII* by  
Robert Matzen

**TEEN  
NO-SEW  
T-SHIRT TOTES**

## BACKLIST BEACH READS

If the hold list is too long for this summer's biggest new books, grab one of these older titles for a fun read that you can check out today!

***Isabel's Bed*** by Elinor Lipman

A light, funny, and breezily-written story of a recently dumped and unpublished writer in her 40s who takes a job as a live-in ghost writer for a tabloid sex-scandal celebrity to pen her memoir. She is not expecting a working relationship to blossom into a friendship that will change her life.

***To Night Owl from Dogfish*** by Holly Goldberg Sloan and Meg Wolitzer

A very cute epistolary middle grade novel that will appeal to adults who grew up loving the Parent Trap. When two opposite coast teen girls are sent to camp together because their single dads have fallen in love, neither girl wants her home life to change, and the two decide to work together to split their parents up.

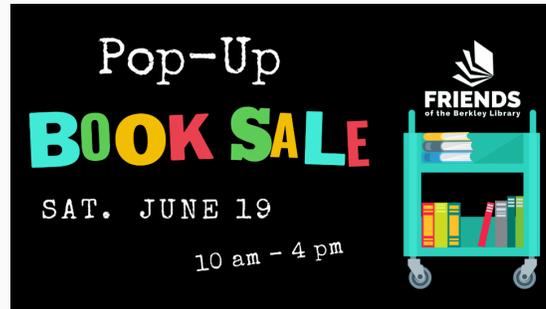
Compiled by Lindsay Payne

***The Sun is Also a Star*** by Nicola Yoon

While set against the more serious backdrop of an immigration story, this teen romance about a guy who believes he can make a girl fall in love with him in one day is still sweet, insightful, and touching.

***Meet me at the Museum*** by Anne Youngson

An epistolary friendship between an English farmer's wife and a Danish museum curator leads both characters to reexamine the way they are living their lives. This book is elegant and thought-provoking. If you ever wish you could find more stories about the perspectives of older characters, this might be the one.



Our first post-pandemic book sale was by all accounts a success! With a “pop-up” plan, the Friends set up tables and carts outside the library under the awning in just over one hour before shoppers were able to start browsing. Asking for a donation amount instead of pricing books specifically not only reduced the exchange of money between people, but made for very short lines at checkout. In addition, most people gave more than they would normally spend simply because they could decide the value of the books for themselves. That meant that the pricing fit all budgets and everyone got a deal, no matter how many books they took home - now that’s true value!

The sale raised over **\$2,000** in about nine hours. Not a bad day at all! And thank goodness for the awning because it rained most of the day and people just kept coming.

Heather Hames  
FBL Book Sale Chair

### **Friends of the Berkley Library**

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Facebook: Friends of the Berkley Public Library