

Remembering Benzie



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REMEMBERING BENZIE: An Oral History Project Winter 2020 Update

The Remembering Benzie Project interns have been hard at work the past few months. In early November, the interns finished their Veterans History Project videos. Eight fabulous videos went to the Library of Congress archives. These consisted of over 7 hours of veterans sharing their stories and experiences. The interns were so excited to complete their videos!

The interns also participated in their second workshop with the UofM School of Information in preparation for their second project during Christmas Magic. The interns learned more about interview protocols, follow-up questioning, and how to get families comfortable in front of the camera.

As part of Benzie County's Christmas Magic Program the interns used the Story Corp model to record family interviews of holiday memories during the Holiday Party at the Benzonia Public Library. The interns recorded memories for 32 participants in 9 families. Interns made their own interview questions, set-up their own staging, and conducted their own interviews. These videos will be edited and included in their final Remembering Benzie Project.

Press coverage for the Remembering Benzie Project has been outstanding. The interns were interviewed by the Benzie Record Patriot. The program was also featured on TV 9&10's "The Four". The news crew visited the Benzonia Public Library and taped segments of the interns interviewing a veteran and also included interviews with the interns and the Director, Amanda McLaren. The article and segment can be found on the Remembering Benzie page at www.benzonialibrary.org.

The interns will be using the holiday break to continue working on their interviewing skills by taping several interviews of their choice. In January they will participate in another workshop with the UofM School of information. Then begins the next Remembering Project: The Legacies Project, which will consist of interviews with local community members including agricultural people, artisans, and others that make this community so great.

Please watch for the group's updates in newsletters, the Benzonia Public Library website, and their YouTube channel. Please email them at rememberingbenzie@gmail.com for any questions.



AuSable, Reeve, Finn & Melia



Melia, Finn, Reeve, AuSable &



Reeve testing video equipment



TV 9&10 news taping segment with
Melia, Finn & AuSable