



Mills Community House

*Community is our
middle name.*

DEC. 2017

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Hours: By
appointment only.



WELCOME TO THE MILLS COMMUNITY HOUSE!

For generations, "the Mills" has hosted lectures, plays, concerts, craft fairs, charity benefit breakfasts, reunions, meetings, weddings, crafting groups, and family parties. Initially part of the Benzonia Academy, the Mills was also the family home of Pulitzer Prize winning author Bruce Catton, and we have sponsored the annual Catton Essay Contest for local schools for years.

We are proud to be able to make this affordable and handicapped-accessible venue available to diverse organizations and individuals in our community.

The Mills board strives to ensure this historic structure continues to be a vibrant part of our community for generations to come.



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Yes, We Are a Non-profit!

The Mills Community House is a 501c3 non-profit and receives no taxpayer funding; operating costs are supported by a small endowment fund, modest rental fees, and annual contributions (tax-deductible) from residents (both year 'round and seasonal).

Please consider making a donation in support of the Mills Community House.

How Can You Help?

Repairs, restorations, and increases in operating costs for this 108-year-old building are our continuing challenge. Please join us, as the loyal supporters you have been, in continuing to make this historic venue available to the entire community. After all, "Community" is our middle name.

We cannot function without your support, and we thank you for your generosity.

Mills Community House Association Board of Directors,
Donna Brown, Ruth Catton, Roger Dewey,
Carol Dye, Jimmy McLaren, Duane Nugent,
Lynn Stephens, and Steve Stephens

**Donations can either be mailed to
Mills Community House, PO Box 421, Benzonia, MI 49616**

Or if you prefer to pay with a credit card via PayPal
Click on the DONATE button located on our website.

Donate



MILLS COMMUNITY HOUSE

Community is our middle name.

Improvements, Repairs, and Upgrades

Over the past four years you've probably noticed the significant repairs and upgrades to the Mills, in concert with upgrades undertaken by the Library. Most recently we bricked up two staff room Library windows and a Library door that opened only onto air.

In addition, a new metal fire escape was built to replace the wooden fire stairs from the upper level.



Under the auspices of a master gardener on our board, the gardens and grounds have been extensively reworked and improved. We replaced a failed 1991 commercial stove in the kitchen with two new, smaller stoves that will be easier for our patrons to use.

Recently, we also had to replace our failed elevator motor. In October, the overtaxed roof gutter system was replaced with one of the proper capacity, which should keep rainwater spillover from infiltrating into the lower level.

In addition, generous donors enhanced the kitchen with a new commercial refrigerator and an upright freezer. Another donor purchased a new computer for our extremely outdated model.



Over the coming winter, we hope to replace the underperforming air conditioning units in the upper level.

The new electronic message sign that was installed over last winter and spring has greatly increased awareness of, and attendance at, both Mills and Library programs.



DID YOU KNOW?

Members of the Mills Board of Directors, plus the WebMaster are volunteers who generously donate their time to ensure the Mills continues to be an asset to the community.

MILLS COMMUNITY HOUSE

Book Your Event Now

Picture your next event at the Mills

Two locations in the Mills Community House are available for rent: the Meeting Space on the lower level and Mills Hall on the upper level. The middle floor is leased by the Benzonia Public Library and is not available to rent. All areas are handicapped accessible with an elevator serving all three floors. **Contact Michelle at millscommhouse@gmail.com or 231-882-0591.**

The Mills Community House has been available for community use for over 100 years and continues to be a gathering place for a variety of organizations and events. Picture your next party, birthday, graduation, shower, wedding, anniversary, concert, fund raiser, business or club meeting, rummage sale, dance, reunion, or other special event in our lovely historic venue.

The facility is centrally located in Benzonia on US-31N and near the intersection of M-115W. A large parking lot adjoins the building, with additional parking available nearby. Next to the grounds is a public park with playground, tennis courts, and softball diamonds that are converted to an ice rink in the winter.



Mills Hall-Upper Level
Lovely venue for your wedding, anniversary, family gathering or fundraiser.



Concert



Weddings



Mills Meeting Space-Lower Level

Perfect for birthdays, showers, graduations, meetings, fundraisers, and family gatherings.



Vendor Event



Kids party



Your Name In Lights



Graduation



Birthday

Reader Board
What a fun way to announce your event!

MILLS COMMUNITY HOUSE HOME OF Benzonia Public Library

Bringing Our Community Together

Benzonia Public Library has leased the middle level of the Mills since 1925. The Mills graciously provides extra space for programs that exceed the Library's capacity, and sometimes hosts hordes of excited children. The Library brought additional life to the building with their Summer Reading activities, puzzle sale, book sales, Ice Cream Social, Costume Making Lab, and craft classes.

They have also hosted "behavior incentive days" for students from Crystal Lake Elementary as well as "Maker Space" events (in collaboration with the University of Michigan) within the spacious confines of the Mills.



Summer Reading



Summer Reading



Kids Fun Day



Costume Making Lab



Jigsaw Puzzle Sale



Holiday Party



Craft Sales



Book Sale



Craft Classes



Ice Cream Social