

# Check it out...



A Monthly Publication of the Portland Library February 2016

## Library Closed Monday, February 15, 2016 for Presidents' Day

### Thursday, February 18th, 2016 at 1:00 p.m. All You Ever Wanted to Know about Your iPhone!

Max Rowe, Library Connection, Inc., will demonstrate how to use an iPhone!

Topics include how to make a call, add contacts, text, email, take photos, connect to WiFi, use the App store, use FaceTime, and learn how data plans work.

**Reserve a spot for yourself at this free workshop!**

### Tuesday February 23, 2016

6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

#### Learn About Community Supported Agriculture (Farm Share) Programs

Learn how to get a wide variety of locally grown produce, meat, eggs and canned items for your family while supporting Connecticut farms.

With a Community Supported Agriculture program, the consumer purchases a seasonal share of the farms' products. There are more than 75 farms running CSA programs in Connecticut! Chris Bassette of Killam & Bassette Farmstead in South Glastonbury will lead the program. Refreshments will be served.

**Registration suggested!**



### Friday, March 11th, 2016 at 1:00 p.m.

#### The Art of Zentangle

Zentangle is drawing with simple patterns that are combined in unique ways to form beautiful images while engaging the mind and relaxing the body! No art experience required! Participants will be provided with all materials needed and additional materials may be purchased to take home for those interested. This free workshop will be led by Kelley Kelly, Certified Zentangle Teacher. She is a graduate of Smith College with a degree in music and who has studied Fine Art Photography in graduate school. **Registration required for this free adult program.**



## Lunch & Learn

Tuesday, February 9th, 2016 12:00-1:00 p.m.

#### *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet* by Jamie Ford

Henry Lee is a second generation teenage Chinese American in the 1940s; he meets Keiko Okabe, a young Japanese American student. Amid the chaos of blackouts, curfews, and FBI raids, Henry and Keiko forge a bond of friendship - and innocent love - that transcends the long-standing prejudices of their Old World ancestors. With themes that are still relevant today, this should be a meaningful discussion.

Books will be available for borrowing prior to the discussion. **Registration appreciated!**

### Save the date: Lunch & Learn Tuesday March 8th!

*The Children Act* by Ian McEwan

April 5<sup>th</sup>: *The Art Forger* by Barbara Shapiro



Monday, March 21st, 2016 at 6:30 p.m.

#### Organizing: A Plan of Attack for Any Space

Learn proven steps for tackling any of life's organizing challenges, the three main causes of clutter, the how to's for simplifying your space, and the process of working with a Professional Organizer. See before and after pictures! Sarah Soboleski, LCSW, is the owner of Classically Organized, a professional organizing business serving homeowners in central Connecticut. Connect with her at [www.ClassicallyOrganized.com](http://www.ClassicallyOrganized.com).

In addition, she is a licensed clinical social worker and specializes in working with persons struggling with mental illness and at-risk families. She is a member of The Connecticut Hoarding Working Group.

**Registration required for this free adult program.**

# Youth Services News and Events

## Upcoming Shows!

**February Break:  
Bending Gravity**  
Tuesday, February  
16 at 11:00 a.m.



Enjoy a one-of-a-kind breathtaking performance of object manipulation choreographed to music. Eric Girardi is a performance artist with over 20 skills including being a world-ranked yoyo player, a juggler of knives, a fire-eater, a stilt-walker and much more. Every show is unique!

**Registration is required.** All ages are welcome.



**Mr. Gym**  
Wednesday,  
February 24th at  
6:30 p.m.

Families with children of all ages are welcome to join us for a *music-based 'Gym Class' on the road* with Chris Keithan (aka Mr. Gym). Mr. Gym connects with his young audience not only through fun games and activities but through his music! He strives to motivate children to lead a more healthy, active lifestyle through his songs and lyrics, all while having a great time! Don't miss it!

**Registration is required.**

*Life-Size*

## CANDY LAND



Kids old and young are invited to travel through the Lollipop Woods, Peppermint Forest, and Gumdrop Mountains in a life-size Candy Land game that will take place at the Portland Library on Saturday, February 6, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Come help us celebrate Take Your Child to the Library Day by navigating through all of the candy worlds **in the Children's Department and using your knowledge of counting and colors to reach Candy Castle!** No registration is required for this free program.

## Passport to Reading!

January 4—February 29



Our Winter Reading Club theme for 2016 is **"Passport to Reading!"** Even if the cold weather keeps you stuck indoors, you can travel to faraway and exotic (and WARM!) places through the books that you read. Everyone who participates will be given a "passport" to fill in; the more times you visit the library, the more stickers you earn to fill in your passport book. Visit the library to see our display of books on faraway (and not-so-faraway) places and pick up a flyer for more information on the **Passport to Reading program.**

## WINTER STORYTIMES

Our Winter Story Times continue through the end of February. A full list of programs and age groups is available on our website at [www.portlandlibraryct.org](http://www.portlandlibraryct.org). Registration is open now and can be done by calling the library at 860-342-6770 or visiting our website.

# Youth Services News and Events



## Drop-In Arts and Crafts!

Grades preK-5, Thursdays at 3:30 p.m.  
February 4, 11, 18 and 25

Kids in grades preschool-grade 5 are invited to join us EVERY Thursday afternoon from 3:30-4:30 in February for drop-in crafting. Each week, we will have a few 'featured' crafts, as well as a general selection of supplies available for anyone who wants to go in their own direction. No registration is required!

## Reading Road Trip



### "Take a Road Trip Across the USA"

this winter, one region at a time.

Every book has a setting.

A place where the story happens.

Many books have settings that are in various places in the USA. For each book you read that takes place in the USA fill out a quick *Road Trip Challenge* ticket and enter to win one of our great raffle prizes! Check out our monthly displays of books from different regions and states.

The **Reading Road Trip** program began on Monday, January 4th. **Enjoy the ride!**

*Raffles will be drawn on February 29th.*

**Raffle #1 \$25.00 Gift Card to Amazon**

**Raffle #2 \$20.00 Gift Certificate to the Board Room in Middletown**

**Raffle #3 \$15.00 Gift Card to Starbucks**

## Teen Advisory Board

Portland Library's Teen Advisory Board (TAB) will have their next meeting on **Monday, February 8 at 3:30 p.m.** We will be planning our February game night and future library activities. New members are always needed. Contact a Youth Services staff member for more information or attend a monthly meeting.

## Teen Library Lock-in: Game Night!

Friday, February 26 from 7:00—9:00 p.m.

Teens in grades 6 and up! Don't miss your chance to play life-size editions of *Banana-grams*, *Jenga*, *Hungry, Hungry Hippos*, and anything else our Teen Advisory Board can dream up!

Space is limited; registration is recommended.



Portland Library  
Teens

## More News...

### Monthly Book Discussions



All are welcome to attend the adult book discussion held one Thursday each month at 6:30 p.m. Titles are available to borrow; no reservations are necessary.

**Thursday, February 4th at 6:30 p.m.**

***The Memory of Running* by Ron McLarty**

Smithson "Smithy" Ide is an overweight, friendless, chain-smoking, forty-three-year-old drunk. By all accounts, especially his own, he's a loser. Then, within one week, Smithy's beloved parents are killed in a car crash, and his long-lost sister, Bethany, has turned up in a morgue. Unmoored by the loss of his entire family, Smithy rolls down the driveway of his parents' house on his old Raleigh bicycle into an epic journey that will take him clear across the country as he relives old memories and encounters humanity at its best and worst.

**Thursday, March 3rd at 6:30 p.m.**

***The Secrets of Mary Bowser* by Lois Leveen**

All her life, Mary has been a slave to the wealthy Van Lew family of Richmond, Virginia until Bet, the willful Van Lew daughter decides to send Mary to Philadelphia to be educated. But with the nation edging towards war, Mary defies Virginia law to return home to care for her ailing father and to fight for emancipation. Posing as a slave in the Confederate White House in order to spy on President Jefferson Davis, Mary deceives even those who are closest to her to aid the Union command.



### Movies in the Afternoon

**Wednesday, February 10th, 2016 at 1:00 p.m.**

**Showing: *Big Stone Gap***

Starring: Ashley Judd, Patrick Wilson, Whoopi Goldberg, & John Benjamin Hickey; Universal; directed by Adriani Trigiani; PG-13, 2016, 103 minutes.

Ave Maria Mulligan, the town's self-proclaimed spinster, works in her family's pharmacy until one day she learns of a long-buried family secret that changes the course of her life forever.

### Movies in the Evening

**Monday, February 22nd, 2016 at 6:30 p.m.**

**Showing: *Bridge of Spies***

Starring: Tom Hanks, Mark Rylance, & Alan Alda; Dreamworks; directed by Steven Spielberg; PG-13, 2015, 141 minutes.

During the Cold War, an American lawyer is recruited to defend an arrested Soviet spy in court and then help the CIA facilitate an exchange of the spy for the Soviet captured American U2 spy plane pilot, Francis Gary Powers.

No reservations necessary! The Friends of Portland Library supports the Library's DVD.



Recent Donations:

### Book/Audio Donations:

Carolyn Freeman,  
Michele Grzejszczak

### Endowment Donations:

Luva Mead Hoar  
David & Joanna McElroy

### In memory of Yvonne Cozzi:

Lois Stabach



### Closings:

**Closed Monday,  
February 15**

### Library Hours:

Monday - Thursday 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.  
Friday & Saturday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

### Library Meetings:

**Friends of the Portland Library:**

Monday, February 8th at 7 p.m.

**Library Board of Directors:**

Thursday, February 18th at 7 p.m.

**To Reach the Library**

860-342-6770

[www.portlandlibraryct.org](http://www.portlandlibraryct.org)

**Library Director**

Janet Nocek

[jnocek@portlandct.org](mailto:jnocek@portlandct.org)

From our special displays in February, check out **DVDs and CDs!** Romance is in the air just in time for Valentine's Day! Borrow DVDs and CDs full of romance and love.



### Books on Display

In February, the Library will have a display of newly arrived materials, romance novels and books featuring chocolate. Black History Month materials will also be on display.

