# Check it out.



## A Monthly Publication of the Portland Library June 2024

**Portland Library hours:** 

Monday — Thursday 10:00 a.m. — 8:00 p.m. Friday 10:00 a.m. — 5:00 p.m. Saturday 10:00 a.m. — 3:00 p.m. Curbside Pickup available

Wednesday June 19th
Library closed in honor of Juneteenth!

Saturday June 15, 10 a.m. — 12 p.m. Friends' Read & Recycle Donate gently used books, CDs, DVDs and puzzles!

# Thursday June 13, 6:30 p.m.—8:00 p.m. Your Edible Landscape

Hunting for wild edible plants doesn't have to mean hiking in exotic locations far from home; many delicious and nutritious wild foods grow in your own backyard. Join Karen Monger, from The 3 Foragers, as she teaches about the fruits, nuts, flowers, and greens found right outside your back door. Registration Encouraged!

Wednesday Movie 1:00 p.m. June 12th *One Life* 



### Join Portland's One Seed,

One Community Project to learn how to grow nutritious food and save seeds. Stop by the library to get FREE green bean seeds and growing instructions for one of 3 "levels" of gardener: Solo Gardener, Grow a Row, and Grow a Bed. Seeds for our 2024 project provided through a generous donation from Fire Ring Farm of Portland.

Sign up for the 2024 Adult Summer Reading Program Receive a coupon for a free book (up to \$2.00 in value) from the Friends' Ongoing Book Sale & another coupon when you log 2000 pages.



On June 10th register for summer reading and start logging the pages you've read since June 1st!

For every 250 pages the Adult Summer Reading participants of Portland Library log as a group, the library will donate funding for two musical instrument rental scholarships for the 2024-2025 school year for two deserving students at Brownstone Intermediate School. This year our charity is again local and focused on doing good in the community.

# Take Great Photos with Your Smartphone Saturday June 1, 11:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

This class is for those truly interested in producing first-rate images with their smartphone cameras. **Registration Required!** 

### **Multi-Generational Drumming Circles**

Mondays June 17, July 15 & August 19 6:30 p.m. on the Waverly Town Green

Gather for a West African-inspired drum circle led by Mark Zarrillo, knowledgeable in West African music, culture and with 40 years drumming wisdom. Drums will be supplied.

The Art of Preserving Your Harvest

Wednesday July 10, 6:00 — 8:00 p.m.

**Zentangle Class** 

Thursday August 8, 6:00 — 8:00 p.m. Registration Required!

**Movies** 

Wednesdays July 10 & Aug 14, 1:00 p.m.

Monthly Writers' Café Saturday June 15, 12:30 p.m. — 2:00 p.m.

The first hour will be quiet, communal, writing time with the final 30 minutes set aside to chat about your project

## Youth Services News and Events



# 2024 Summer Reading Program for Families and Children: Adventure Begins at Your Library

# **How It Works**

Visit the library to pick up a reading log and start logging the minutes you read on or after June 17. Each day you read 20 minutes or more counts towards your summer reading goal. Earn bracelet charms each time you reach 5 days and additional prizes each time you read 15 days. Logging can be done through the ReadSquared portal on our library website, or you can pick up a lined journal or a coloring sheet to log your minutes if you prefer.

Registration for all programs begins on Monday, June 3, at 10:00 a.m.

## **Weekly Programs for Kids**

**Storytime Adventures.** Mondays at 10:30 a.m., June 24, July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29. Join us in our Mary Flood Room to enjoy stories, rhymes and songs. A craft project will be offered at the end of the program.

**Summer Adventure Club.** Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m., June 26, July 3, 10, 17, 24, 31. For students going into Grades K-2. Join us for six weeks of summer adventures in building, the great outdoors, cooking, circus activities, crafting and Olympic games.

League of Adventurers. Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m.; June 25, July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30. For students going into Grades 3-5. Join us for a new adventure each week, from traveling the Oregon trail, to participating in the Greek Olympics, to solving an ancient Egyptian mystery.

Thank you to the Friends of the Portland Library for sponsoring all of our Summer Programs for Children and Families.

# Youth Services News and Events



# One Seed One Community: Intergenerational Green Bean cooking class Friday, June 21 at 10:30 a.m. at the Waverly Senior Center

Buried in beans? Learn a simple green bean recipe from our friends at Fire Ring Farm at this fun community/ intergenerational program at the Waverly Senior Center Kitchen! Open to chefs ages 6 and up.

Please register all who will be present in the room because space is limited. Registration can be done through our website calendar or by calling the library at 860-342-6770.

# Wednesday Night Family Shows

Portland Library will host FREE family shows at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesdays throughout the summer! Shows will be held either indoors at the library or on the Town Green by the gazebo adjacent to the library parking lot; call 860-342-6770 or visit our website to register and get updated times and locations.

### June 26: The Poop Museum

Fast-paced and highly interactive, The Poop Museum is the perfect combination of fun, fascinating facts, so that kids (and parents) never forget what they learned.

#### July 10: Malik Comedy Magic

Malik's show focuses on adventures and exploration and is packed with visual magic, juggling, comedy and tons of audience participation.

#### **July 17: Flash Mob Circus!**

This program is part show, part tutorial. After a short demonstration, you can practice a variety of circus tricks on your own.

#### **July 24: Turtle Dance Music**

Turtle Dance Music's mission is to coax kids out of their shells through dancing, moving, singing, laughing, learning, and connecting with each other.

#### **July 31: Stuffed Animal Sleepover**

Leave your favorite stuffed animal at the library after a special storytime and then pick them up the next day to hear about their adventures!



# Teen Programs (going into grades 6-up)

The Gene-ius of Science Thursday, June 20 at 3:00 p.m.

Make a necklace from your own DNA pattern and learn about your tasting genotype through experiments in this program presented by the CT Science Center.

## Grillin', Chillin' and Killin': A Murder Mystery Cookout Thursday, July 11 at 3:00 p.m.

The neighbors of Sunny Lane are getting ready for their annual block party. You have received your invitation, and cannot wait to soak up some sun, play backyard party games and enjoy some delicious grilled food with your neighbors. But things are about to take a turn....

## Steampunk Art Thursday, July 18 at 3:00 p.m.

Channel your inner Industrial Revolution artist and create a steampunk hat that is perfect for wearing to your next cosplay event or just for fun.

# Library Lock-In Friday, July 26 from 7:00-10:00 p.m.

Teens are invited to visit the library after closing time for this after-hours program. Join us for games, crafts, and of course, food! This is one of our most popular events of the year, so sign up early!

Registration required! Space is limited!



Instagram @portlandlibraryct

# More News...



#### June Book Club Picks!

#### T.A.B. Talk about Books

Tuesday June 4, 1:00 p.m. A Walk in the Woods

by Bill Bryson

The Appalachian Trail trail stretches from Georgia to Maine and covers some of the most breathtaking terrain in America - majestic mountains, silent forests, sparking lakes. If you're going to take a hike, it's probably the place to go. And Bill Bryson is surely the most entertaing guide you'll find. He introduces us to the history and ecology of the trail and to some of the other hardy (or just foolhardy) folks he meets along the way - and a couple of bears. Already a classic, A Walk in the Woods will make you long for the great outdoors (or at least a comfortable chair to sit and read in).

## 1st Thursday Night Book Club Thursday June 6, 6:30 p.m.

Beartown

#### by Fredrik Backman

People say Beartown is finished. A tiny community nestled deep in the forest, it is slowly losing ground to the ever encroaching trees. But down by the lake stands an old ice rink, built generations ago by the working men who founded this town. And in that ice rink is the reason people in Beartown believe tomorrow will be better than today. Their junior ice hockey team is about to compete in the national semifinals, and they actually have a shot at winning. All the hopes and dreams of this place now rest on the shoulders of a handful of teenage boys. Beartown explores the hopes that bring a small community together, the secrets that tear it apart, and the courage it takes for an individual to go against the grain. In this story of a small forest town, Fredrik Backman has found the entire world.

## **Mystery Lovers Book Club**

Tuesday June 18, 1:00 p.m. Everyone in My Family Has Killed Someone by Benjamin Stevenson

Everyone in my family has killed someone. Some of us, the high achievers, have killed more than once. I'm not trying to be dramatic, but it is the truth. Some of us are good, others are bad, and some just unfortunate. I'm Ernest Cunningham. Call me Ern or Ernie. I wish I'd killed whoever decided our family reunion should be at a ski resort, but it's a little more complicated than that. Have I killed someone? Yes. I have. Who was it? Let's get started.



#### **Donations:**

Carolyn Freeman—book

### In memory of David Finkelstein:

Barbara & Robert Kearcher Olenka & Dan Castelli William & Evelyn Larson Colleen & Robert Maniscalco

Rita Richter

Rotary Club of Westerly Foundation

Paulette Gewirtz

Elizabeth & John Kauczka

Lori & Philip McDermott

Denise & Michael Goldstein

Louise Feldman

Wayne & Margot Chapman

Roger & Joyce Pulaski (Endowment-Leaf)

Michael & Janet Nocek

Fred & Michele Shiffer

Marie DeGraff

Maxine Simon, Eve/Brian Gooley



#### **Ongoing Food Drive**

Donate nonperishable food to be delivered to the Portland Food Bank! Fill the shopping cart with love and caring for your neighbors!

#### **Library Meetings:**

Friends of the Library

Monday June 3, 7:00 p.m. **Library Board of Directors:** 

Thursday June 20, 7:00 p.m.

#### To Reach the Library

20 Freestone Avenue Portland, CT 06480 860-342-6770 www.portlandlibraryct.org

#### **Library Director**

Jennifer Billingsley jbillingsley@portlandct.org Website: portlandlibraryct.org

# June Book Displays at the Library:

Pride month, Juneteenth, Staff Appreciation Picks purchased by FPL, and Grilling & Celebrations!

