

# Check it out...



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**A Monthly Publication of the Portland Library September 2023**

**Portland Library hours:**

**Monday — Thursday 10:00 am –8:00 pm**

**Friday 10:00 am -5:00 pm**

**Saturday 10:00am—3:00 pm**

**Curbside Pickup available**

The Library is closed Saturday September 2nd through Monday September 4th for the Labor Day weekend!

**Wednesday September 20th @6:30pm**  
**The 90th Anniversary of the Civilian Conservation Corps: Its History & Work in CT**

Author and historian Marty Podskoch will give a presentation on the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) which began on March 31, 1933 under President Roosevelt's "New Deal" to relieve the poverty and unemployment of the Depression. Registration Requested!

**Tuesday September 26th @6:30pm**  
**British Invasion & Its Impact on American Music**

This presentation features the finest period in Rock & Roll history from the birth of the British Invasion through the response of the American bands. The impact English music, especially the Beatles, had on American Rock & Roll. Marty Gitlin, Historian & presenter.

**Registration Requested!**

**Saturday September 30th 10am-12pm**  
**Friends' Read & Recycle**  
**Donate gently used books, CDs, DVDs and puzzles!**

**Monday September 18th 6:30p.m.**  
**Portland's Committee on Solidarity Book Discussion:**  
*Uncomfortable Conversations with a Black Man*  
by Emmanuel Acho  
**Registration encouraged! Copies available!**

Thank you to all of our enthusiastic and well-read patrons who raised \$450 for 2 Brownstone Music Scholarships!

**Adult 2023 Summer Reading by the #s:**

55 participants logged

500 entries and read

130,292 pages!



Also 122 patrons attended  
8 Library programs!

**Wednesday Movie @ 1pm**  
**September 13th**

*Are You There God?*

*It's Me Margaret!*



**Thursday September 28th @6pm**  
**Medicare Basics: Learn the A, B, C and D of Medicare if you are considering retirement or wanting to make a change to your existing policy.**  
**Registration Requested!**

A collaboration of artists will exhibit their work in the Mary Flood Room of the Portland Library from Sept 9 through Oct 18. The artists represent employees of the Portland Library, members of the Portland Library Board and members of the Executive Board of the Friends of the Library. The exhibition will be curated by Lucinda Patrick.

The exhibit has been assembled to illustrate the many aspects of creative expression. Among the works displayed will be paintings, needlework, baskets, books and photographs. The show will open with a reception September 9 in the Mary Flood Room from 1:00 to 3:00 PM. Please join us to celebrate the art we all produce.

# Youth Services News and Events



## 2023 Summer Reading Wrapup

Thank you to everyone who participated in Portland Library's 2023 Summer Reading Challenge by reading, attending programs, completing our extra challenges to earn badges or volunteering to help run our programs or staff our volunteer desk.

An extra big THANK YOU goes out to the Friends of the Portland Library for funding the beautiful window artwork, prizes, programs and all aspects of this summer's program. We hope you had as much fun as we did!

*362 kids and teens registered for summer reading  
7,716 days read  
792 missions completed  
35 programs offered for kids and teens  
1,182 people attended our kids and teen programs  
169 entries into our teen raffles*

We're looking forward to next year!

## Congrats to our Teen Summer Raffle Winners!

**\$25 Amazon Gift Card:**

Sadie C.

**\$25 Target Gift Card:**

Sophia C.

**\$25 Bass Pro Shops Gift Card:**

Jude E.

**\$25 Starbucks Gift Card:**

Cora C.

**\$25 Dairy Queen Gift Card:**

Orson F.

**\$25 Roblox Gift Card:**

Kavya M.



## Fall Storytimes

**Registration is required and can be done by calling the library at 860-342-6770 or registering through our library calendar at [www.portlandlibraryct.org](http://www.portlandlibraryct.org).**

### Preschool Storytime

**Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m.**

**September 12, 19, 26,  
October 3, 10, 17, 24, 31**

Join us in our Wagner Room for stories, songs, and rhymes that encourage literacy and social skills and help get your preschooler prepared for kindergarten. We will offer a craft related to the weekly theme at the end of the program that can be done at the library or brought home.

### Storytime for Toddlers and Tots: Mother Goose on the Loose

**Wednesdays at 10:15 a.m. or 11:15 a.m.**

**September 13, 20, 27,  
October 4, 11, 18, 25, November 1**

Mother Goose on the Loose, a fun-filled interactive session for our youngest patrons, uses rhymes, a story, songs, puppets, scarves, and more to stimulate the learning process of babies and toddlers. Two sessions will be offered each Wednesday to keep group sizes small and interactions personalized.

# Youth Services News and Events



## Save the Date: Pumpkin Painting for the Portland Fair Wednesday, October 4 from 5-7 p.m.

Paint a pumpkin and we will bring it to the Portland Fair and enter it for you! Kids of all ages are invited to participate, but only those age 5 and up are eligible for fair entries. Pumpkins and paint will be supplied. A parent or guardian must be with children to help with supervision.

This event will be held outdoors in the grassy area across the parking lot from the library. In case of inclement weather, take home kits containing a pumpkin, paint and a brush will be provided.

**Registration is required and space is limited.**

## Mindfulness for Kids Thursdays at 3:30 p.m. September 14, 21, 28 Grades K-5

Kids in kindergarten through grade five can join in to explore what it means to be mindful. Let's take some time to slow down and appreciate the little things around us. We'll play with scented doughs, paint to music, work on some yoga moves, make sensory bottles, learn the art of hot chocolate breathing and more.

**Registration is required.**



## Upcoming Teen Programs

**Monday, September 18 at 3:30 p.m.: Mushroom Stuffies:** Come craft a small mushroom pillow with us. No previous sewing skills required.



**Monday, October 30 at 3:30 p.m. Gingerbread Haunted Houses:** We're putting a spooky Halloween spin on this traditional craft.

**Tuesday, November 7 from 4-6 p.m.: Paint Your Pet:** Local artist Nancy Roman will walk us through creating watercolor portraits of our favorite four-legged friends. Bring a 5x7 photo of your pet to the program. Limited to ages 13+.



**Registration is required for all events and space is limited.**



## September is Library Card Sign-up Month

Did you know that there's no minimum age to get a library card? It's true. Everyone is eligible to obtain a library card -- adults, teens, toddlers, and even babies! Children under 18 may be issued cards if accompanied by a parent or guardian with a photo ID and proof of current address.

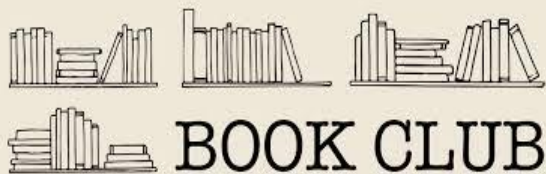


**Portland Library**  
[www.portlandlibraryct.org](http://www.portlandlibraryct.org)



**Instagram**  
[@portlandlibraryct](https://www.instagram.com/portlandlibraryct)

# More News...



## September Book Club Picks!

### 1st Thursday Night Book Club

Thursday September 7th 6:30pm

*The Midnight Library*

By Matt Haig

Somewhere out beyond the edge of the universe there is a library that contains an infinite number of books, each one the story of another reality. One tells the story of your life as it is, along with another book for the other life you could have lived if you had made a different choice at any point in your life. Nora Seed finds herself faced with this decision. Faced with the possibility of changing her life for a new one, she must search within herself as she travels through the Midnight Library to decide what is truly fulfilling in life, and what makes it worth living in the first place.

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

Tuesday September 12th 1pm

*The Lincoln Highway*

by Amor Towles

In June, 1954, eighteen-year-old Emmett Watson is driven home to Nebraska by the warden of the juvenile work farm where he has just served fifteen months for involuntary manslaughter. His mother long gone, his father recently deceased, and the family farm foreclosed upon by the bank, Emmett's intention is to pick up his eight-year-old brother, Billy, and head to California where they can start their lives anew. But when the warden drives away, Emmett discovers that two friends from the work farm have hidden themselves in the trunk of the warden's car. Together, they have hatched an altogether different plan for Emmett's future.

### Mystery Lovers Book Club

Tuesday September 19th 1pm

*A Curious Beginning*

by Deanna Raybourn

After burying her spinster aunt, orphaned Veronica Speedwell is free to resume her world travels in pursuit of scientific inquiry—and the occasional romantic dalliance.

Veronica intends to embark upon the journey of a lifetime. But fate has other plans when Veronica thwarts her own attempted abduction with the help of an enigmatic German baron, who offers her sanctuary in the care of his friend Stoker, a reclusive and bad-tempered natural historian. But before the baron can reveal what he knows of the plot against her, he is found murdered—leaving Veronica and Stoker on the run.

**Copies are available at the library!**

# Thank You

**Donations:**

**Book:**

*Paula Brown in memory of  
Karen L. (Kirshe) Miller*

## Library Meetings:

**Friends of the Library**

No September meeting

**Library Board of Directors:**

Thursday September 21st at 7:00 p.m.

**To Reach the Library**

20 Freestone Avenue

Portland, CT 06480

860-342-6770

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

**Library Director**

Jennifer Billingsley

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

## Thank you Amy!

Amy Giveans, our Administrative Assistant for 13 years, has moved to the Assessor's office in a full time capacity. Amy has been such an asset to the library and kept us organized and humming along. She will be sorely missed by all of us at the library.

## Welcome Kim!

Kim Bradley is our new part time Library Administrative Assistant. We are so glad to have her as a part of our library team.

## September Book Displays

**at the Library:**

Historical Fiction,  
National Hispanic  
Heritage Month books,  
Banned Books  
and our favorite Staff  
Picks!

