

# Check it out...



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## A Monthly Publication of the Portland Library April 2023

**Friday April 7 — Good Friday State Holiday**  
The Library will be open Saturday April 8th!

*Tuesday April 18th at 6pm  
in the Mary Flood Room*

### **Historical Buttons: the Connecticut Connection** Lynn Keller, presenter

Lynn Keller will discuss and display historical brass buttons, known as Golden Age buttons, which were produced in the Waterbury area in the early to mid 1800's. She will provide an overview of production methods, the many companies who manufactured these buttons, and the button designs. Brass button manufacturing was the foundation of the industry which led to Waterbury being called the "Brass City".

**Registration Requested!**

### **Check out the Seed Library to borrow some seeds to grow in your Spring garden!**

Sow, Grow, Save, Share -  
Portland Seed Library



*April 22 is Earth Day!*

### **Celebrate National Library Week: There's More to the Story** April 23rd-April 29th

Libraries are full of stories in a variety of formats from picture books to large print, audiobooks to ebooks, and more. But there's so much more to the story. The library also has museum passes, games, yard games and seeds. Library programming brings communities together for entertainment, education, and connection through book clubs, storytimes, movie nights, crafting classes, and lectures.

### 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



### Movie:

*A Man called Otto*

April 12th at 1:00p.m.

### Retiring Soon?

Check these events out!

**Both are in the Mary Flood Room**

**Thursday April 20th at 6pm**  
**Medicare 101: the A, B,C &D of  
Healthcare**

**Wednesday May 3rd at 6pm**  
**Social Security Strategies**

**Registration Requested!**

### **TOWN MEETING ON GENERAL FUND OPERATING BUDGET**

**Monday May 1, 2023** – 1st Monday in May, 7:00pm  
hearing and amendments at PMS Cafeteria  
**Monday May 8, 2023** – 1st budget referendum, 6 AM to 8 PM  
at the Middle School 93 High Street

### **Artist Reception for Richard Raicik** **Saturday April 15th 1:00-3:00p.m.**

Richard is a self-taught watercolorist whose style is both interpretative and loose. He focuses on landscapes, seascapes, barns and occasional still life. He credits much of his success to artist Robert Norieka, an inspiration and a supportive friend.

Come meet the artist at this reception sponsored by the Friends of the Portland Library.

# Youth Services News and Events



## Spring Storytimes

Registration for spring storytimes opens on **March 1** and can be done through our website calendar at [www.portlandlibraryct.org](http://www.portlandlibraryct.org) or by calling the library at 860-342-6770.

### Preschool Storytime

**Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m., April 4, 18, 25, May 2, 9, 16, 23 (no program April 11)**

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., April 5, 19, 26, May 3, 10, 17, 24 (no program April 12)**

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.

### Drop-In Playdates

**Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. through May 25**

Children ages 0-5 and their caregivers are invited to join us on Thursday mornings for an hour of socialization and open play with our story room toys.

No registration is required for this program.

## April Vacation Activities

**Talent Show:** Do you have a special skill that you want to show off? Kids in grades K-12 are invited to join us for a community talent show! Auditions will be held on Monday, April 10 from 5:00-7:30 p.m. or by appointment. Acts should be 3 minutes or less. **The show will be open to the public and held from 6:00-7:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 13.**



### Toddler and Preschool Drive-In (Tuesday, April 11 at 10:15 a.m.):

Toddlers and preschoolers are invited to join us for a "drive-in" movie! Each child will be given a cardboard box to decorate and turn into their "car." We'll then show a 30-minute cartoon that kids watch from their cars. For children ages 2.5-5 years and their caregiver.

**Registration is required.**



### British Invasion (Wednesday, April 12 at 1:00 p.m. grades K-5):

Explore everything British, from TV shows and music to snacks, books, phrases and more from across the pond!

**Registration is required.**



## April is National Poetry Month!

**Stop in the children's department and pick up a variety of titles to share with your child this month!**



# Youth Services News and Events

## Family Craft Night: Im“peck”able Birdhouses Wednesday, April 26 at 6:30 p.m.

In the spirit of Earth Day, you are invited to come build an architectural feast for your feathered friends. This activity has steps that are appropriate for all ages, but a parent or guardian must be with children to help with supervision. **Registration is required and space is limited.**



## Ancient Egyptian Adventure Grades K-5

Thursdays at 3:30 p.m.  
April 20, 27, May 4, 11

Travel back in time with us as we decode secret messages written in hieroglyphics, learn about mummies and make some of our own, and take part in a forensic investigation to see whether King Tut was murdered.

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



## April Teen Events

**Monday, April 3 at 3:30 p.m.: Teen Advisory Group Meeting**—Come share your thoughts with us on what you would like to see the library offer in terms of programs, materials and more while enjoying some snacks and laughs with friends. You will earn community service hours for each meeting you attend. **Registration is required.**

**Monday, April 17 at 3:30 p.m.: Spring Egg Hunt.**—Join us on the Town Green (weather pending) for some egg-themed Minute to Win It games and a competitive teen egg hunt.  
**Grades 6-up only.**

**LGBTQ+ Social and Support Groups:**  
The Portland Library, in conjunction with Portland Youth and Family Services and QPlus, and supported by and Health Care Advocates International (HCAI), will be hosting social and support groups for LGBTQ+ youth beginning in March. Teens are invited to social meetups at the library on the first Wednesday of the month at 6pm. Support groups will meet on the third Wednesday of the month, with a parent and caregiver support group running concurrently in another room at the library. For more information, contact Jenn Renk at 860-342-6770.



## NUTMEG VOTING begins this year on April 1st!

Finish up those titles because **YOUR OPINION MATTERS!** This is the only book award in the state where KIDS pick the winner. Let your favorite authors know how much you like their work by voting on your favorites!

Stop into the library to vote on the 2023 Nutmeg Nominees by April 30th.

Nominees have been divided into four categories: Elementary (Grades 2-3), Intermediate (Grades 4-6), Middle School (Grades 7-8), and High School (Grades 9-12). Visit the Portland Library website for a complete list of nominees.

Winners will be announced on May 15th and next year's nominees will be announced on May 1st.



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



**Instagram**  
**@portlandlibraryct**

# More News...

## In Person Book Clubs

Thursday April 6th @ 6:30p.m.  
FTNBC (**F**irst **T**hursday **N**ight **B**ook **C**lub)

***The Thursday Murder Club***  
by **Richard Osman**

In a peaceful retirement village, four unlikely friends meet weekly in the Jigsaw Room to discuss unsolved crimes; together they call themselves the Thursday Murder Club.

When a local developer is found dead with a mysterious photograph left next to the body, the Thursday Murder Club suddenly find themselves in the middle of their first live case.

Tuesday April 4th @ 1:00p.m.  
**Talk about Books (T. A. B.)**

***Hamnet*** by **Maggie O'Farrell**

Agnes is a wild creature who walks her family's land with a falcon on her glove and is known throughout the countryside for her unusual gifts as a healer, understanding plants and potions better than she does people. Once she settles with her husband on Henley Street in Stratford-upon-Avon she becomes a fiercely protective mother and a steadfast, centrifugal force in the life of her young husband, whose career on the London stage is taking off when his beloved young son succumbs to sudden fever. A luminous portrait of a marriage, a shattering evocation of a family ravaged by grief and loss, and a tender and unforgettable re-imagining of a boy whose life has been all but forgotten.

Tuesday April 18th @ 1:00p.m.

**Mystery Lovers' Book Club**

***Under the Harrow*** by **Flynn Berry**

When Nora takes the train from London to visit her sister in the countryside, she expects to find her waiting at the station, or at home cooking dinner. But when she walks into Rachel's familiar house, what she finds is entirely different: her sister has been the victim of a brutal murder.

Stunned and adrift, Nora finds she can't return to her former life. An unsolved assault in the past has shaken her faith in the police, and she can't trust them to find her sister's killer. Haunted by the murder and the secrets that surround it, Nora is under the harrow: deeply distressed and in danger. As Nora's fear turns to obsession, she becomes as unrecognizable as the sister her investigation.

# Thank You

**Donations:**

**Book:**

*Carolyn Freeman*

*Nancy Sawyer*

*Margot Chapman: Spanish books for children*

**Library Meetings:**

**Friends of the Library**

Monday April 3 at 7:00 p.m.

**Library Board of Directors:**

Thursday April 20 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**

Janet Nocek

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

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

**Save the Date:**

**Saturday June 24th 10am-12pm**

**Friends' Read & Recycle**

**Donate gently used books, CDs, DVDs and puzzles!**



**April Book Displays at the Library:**

Poetry,  
Baseball,  
Historical Fiction,  
All Things Spring  
and our favorite Staff Picks!

**Copies of these Book Club books are available!**