

Check it out...



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A Monthly Publication of the Portland Library January 2024

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 will be closed Monday January 15th in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Wednesday Movie @ 1pm
January 10th
Barbie



Resume Workshop

Wednesday January 10th @6pm
in the Mary Flood Room

Need to spruce up your resume for the new year? Come to this presentation to learn how to update your resume so it can look its best and land at the top of the pile! 4 lucky individuals, picked from attendees, will get to meet separately with Jeff Thierfeld for one-on-one resume critiques after the initial workshop. Registration Required!



Thursday January 18th @6pm
in the Mary Flood Room

Get the Buzz on the Bees Mark Gostkiewicz from TRi Gable Lea Farms in Colchester will presenting info on starting a hive for the Spring, the types of hives, bee suppliers, etc. as well as more buzz on the bees, one of our favorite insects. **Registration Requested!**

Artist Reception: Saturday January 6th
1-2:45pm

The Artist Reception for Carol Ingram is sponsored by the Friends of the Portland Library. Carol's art will be on display throughout the month of January. **Carol Ingram: Art that is Felt**

All Ages Winter Writing Challenge:

Our Community Challenge for Portland writers is this ... Get everyone, young and old, writing this year! Cumulatively if we all write at least 50,000 words we will meet our goal and one lucky writer will get to pick a book to add to our collection! Decide on your personal word count goal for the month of January and register yourself using our online form (or stop in to the library to pick up a tracking form), then share how far you've gotten with your writing word count with us all month long!

Thursday January 25

@6pm in the Mary Flood Room

Writers' Café: Join us at this drop-in writing café! We'll provide warm beverages, you bring whatever you need to write to help us "sprint" to the finish line in our community writing challenge! The first hour will be quiet writing time. (6-7pm) Feel free to use the final 30 minutes to chat about your project!

Jan 1st - 31st 2024
Winter Challenge
A Library Writing Sprint



Saturday January 13th: 10-12
Read & Recycle
Get organized for the New Year!
Bring in your gently used books, DVDs, CDs and puzzles!

Youth Services News and Events

Winter Reading Challenge: Reading is Fun Any Way You Slice It Tuesday, January 2—Friday, March 1

Portland Library's Winter Reading Challenge is back!
This year's theme is based on one of our favorite foods: PIZZA!

Visit the library on or after January 2 and get a pizza tray to hang on our bulletin board. Each time you check out materials in January and February (up to once per day), we'll give you a slice to color and we'll add it to your pizza. Once you've added eight slices and have a full pizza, you will have completed the challenge and will win a small prize.



SAVE THE DATES FOR THESE SPECIAL EVENTS!

Saturday, February 3: Take Your Child to the Library Day

Friday, February 9: Family Fort Night

Tuesday, February 20: Snow Day at the Library

Saturday, February 24: Jigsaw Puzzle Competition for Kids and Adults



Winter 2024 Storytimes

Registration is now open and can be done by calling the library at 860-342-6770 or registering through our library calendar at www.portlandlibraryct.org.



Preschool Storytime

Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m.

January 9, 16, 23, 30, February 6, 13, 27 (no program February 20)

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.

January 10, 17, 24, 31, February 7, 14, 21, 28

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



Family Craft Night: Pizza Pan Wreaths

Wednesday,
January 17
at 6:30 p.m.

In keeping with our Winter Reading theme of pizza, we're going to use a pizza pan as a base for a festive winter wreath.

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 opens on January 2.



Let's Explore Italy Thursdays at 3:30 p.m. Grades 3-5 January 18, February 1, 15, 29

Our winter reading theme this year is pizza so let's take the opportunity to explore the birthplace of pizza...Italy! We'll "paint" the Sistine Chapel like Michelangelo, make mini pizzas, make "exploding" volcanoes and draw our own Mona Lisas.

Registration is required and opens
on January 2.

Teen Events



Dessert Pizzas (Monday, January 22 at 3:30 p.m.): Join us as we put a sweet twist on this classic dinner food. We'll have chocolate, fruit, whipped cream, and more.

Teen Lock-In (Friday, January 26 from 6:00—9:00 p.m.): Join us for our semiannual after-hours events just for teens! We'll have crafts, games, and plenty of other activities.

Registration is required for both events and begins on Tuesday, January 2.

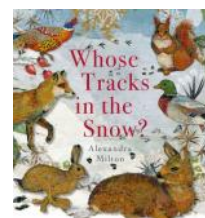
Turtle Power Teamwork Thursdays at 3:30 p.m. Grades K-2 January 11, 25, February 8, 22



The Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles know that a hero's biggest superpower is teamwork. Get inspired by Raphael, Leonardo, Donatello, and Michelangelo as we work together to complete challenges and earn a new colored bandana each week.

Registration is required and opens on January 2.

**Coming Soon: Look for our new StoryWalk
at Riverfront Park title in January!!**
Featuring: *Whose Tracks in the Snow?* by Alexandra Milton

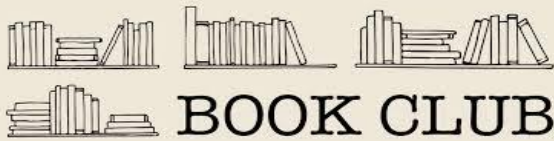


Portland Library
www.portlandlibraryct.org



Instagram
@portlandlibraryct

More News...



January Book Club Picks!

1st Thursday Night Book Club

Thursday January 4th 6:30pm

Lunatics

By Dave Barry

One of them is a bestselling Pulitzer Prize-winning humorist. The other is a winner of the Thurber Prize for American Humor. Together, they form the League of Comic Justice, a writing team of pure comic genius, and they will have you laughing like idiots. Philip Horkman is a happy man—the owner of a pet store called The Wine Shop, and on Sundays a referee for kids' soccer. Jeffrey Peckerman is the sole sane person in a world filled with goddamned jerks and morons, and he's having a really bad day. The two of them are about to collide in a swiftly escalating series of events that will send them running for their lives, pursued by the police, soldiers, terrorists, subversives, bears, and a man dressed as Chuck E. Cheese.

T.A.B. Talk about Books

Tuesday January 9th 1pm

The Last Story of Mina Lee

by Nancy Jooyoun Kim

Margot Lee's mother, Mina, isn't returning her calls. It's a mystery to twenty-six-year-old Margot, until she visits her childhood apartment in Koreatown, LA, and finds that her mother has suspiciously died. The discovery sends Margot digging through the past, unraveling the tenuous invisible strings that held together her single mother's life as a Korean War orphan and an undocumented immigrant, only to realize how little she truly knew about her mother.

Mystery Lovers Book Club

Tuesday January 16th 1pm

Motherless Brooklyn

by Jonathan Lethem

Lionel Essrog is an orphan whose Tourette impulses drive him to bark, count, and rip apart our language in startling and original ways. Together with three veterans of the St. Vincent's Home for Boys, he works for small-time mobster Frank Minna's limo service cum detective agency. Life without Frank Minna, the charismatic King of Brooklyn, would be unimaginable, so who cares if the tasks he sets them are, well, not exactly legal. But when Frank is fatally stabbed, one of Lionel's colleagues lands in jail, the other two vie for his position, and the victim's widow skips town. Lionel's world is suddenly topsy-turvy, and this outcast who has trouble even conversing attempts to untangle the threads of the case while trying to keep the words straight in his head.

Thank You

Donations: Book:

Henry Strom

Endowment:

Muriel Barlow



Donate nonperishable food and new hats, mittens and scarfs 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 January 8th at 7:00 p.m.

Library Board of Directors:

Thursday January 18th at 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

January Book Displays at the Library:

Science Fiction & Fantasy,
Graphic Novels,
Local Portland authors,
CD Audio Books
and our favorite Staff Picks!

