

# Check it out...



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## A Monthly Publication of the Portland Library July 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 July 3rd at 5:00 p.m.  
& Thursday July 4th**

The library will be closed for the  
Fourth of July,  
Independence Day!

### **Master the Art of Preserving Your Harvest** **Wednesday July 10, 6:00 — 7:30 p.m.**

Learn Pickling, Canning, Freezing & Drying  
Techniques.

In this live demonstration, Mark Gostkiewicz from Tri Gable Lea Farm will show us how to preserve our harvest, especially all those green beans that are growing in Portland. Registration Encouraged!

**Wednesday Movie 1:00 p.m.**  
**July 10th**  
*Arthur the King*



**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.



**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.

### **Multi-Generational Drumming Circles** **Mondays 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.

### **Zentangle Class**

**Thursday August 8, 6:00 — 8:00 p.m.**

Come try Zentangle, an easy-to-learn, relaxing, and fun way to create beautiful drawings, with certified Zentangle instructor Kothy Hafersat.

**Registration Required!**

### **Movies**

**Wednesday Aug 14, 1:00 p.m.**

### **Monthly Writers' Café**

**Saturday July 20, 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*



# **ADVENTURE**

## **Begins at your Library**



### 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. **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.

- ◇ **Complete the library's Scavenger Hunt!**
- ◇ **Guess which national park our Smokey the Bear is visiting based on the clues and tell us "Where In the USA is Smokey the Bear?"**
- ◇ **Pick up your own "Flat Smokey" from the library and take a picture of an adventure he has this summer!**
- ◇ **... and more!**

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

## **Wednesday Night Family Shows**

Portland Library will host FREE family shows at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesdays throughout the summer! The following shows will be held on the Town Green if weather permits, so feel free to join us. In case of inclement weather, this activity will move to an indoor location and only those on the registration list will be allowed due to room capacities.

**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.

# Youth Services News and Events

## Sensory Kits and Programs at the Portland Library

The Portland Library is excited to announce the addition of circulating kits and programs geared towards Autistic patrons and also all library users who may struggle with being overwhelmed by sensory input. Nine kits (3 adult, 6 child) are available to be checked out or for use inside of the library; each contains a weighted lap pad, a pair of noise-cancelling headphones, a pair of sunglasses, a visual communication chart, and a selection of fidget toys.



These kits and programs were made possible in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act, administered by Connecticut State Library, and also through the generous support of the Friends of the Portland Library. For more information, call the Portland Library at 860-342-6770.

### Caregiver Community of Practice:

**Thursdays, July 11 and August 1 at 10:30 a.m.**

This summer, we welcome parents and caregivers to join their peers for two facilitated conversations about caring for neurodivergent children. We welcome all caregivers to join, whether your child has an official Autism diagnosis or you've merely been wondering about their sensory responses. We will simultaneously offer a session for your children, ages 2-6, to participate in structured activities. July 11 will feature a low-sensory indoor environment with soft lighting and a climb in rocketship. August 1 will feature outdoor, high sensory activities including chalk, bubbles and water painting. Registration is required and space is limited.

### Turtle Dance Music

**Wednesday, July 24 at 6:30 p.m.**

Turtle Dance Music helps kids come out of their shells through dancing, moving, singing, laughing, learning, and connecting with each other through the magic of music. This show is accessible to those on the autism spectrum and those with sensory and developmental issues. This program will be held on the Town Green. In case of inclement weather, this activity will move to an indoor location and only those on the registration list will be allowed due to room capacities.

## August Activities

**Chalk the Walks (Tuesday, August 13 at 10:30 a.m.):** Come decorate the library sidewalks with images and messages of kindness! Chalk and popsicles will be supplied. Registration is not required for this drop-in event.

**Parachutes and Picnic (Tuesday, August 20 at 10:30 a.m.):** Come enjoy some parachute play with Ms. Jenn and Ms. Patty on the Town Green. Bring a blanket and a picnic or snack to enjoy after our playtime. This event is weather-dependent and no registration is required.

**School Supply BINGO (Thursday, August 22 at 10:30 a.m.):** Join us for a fun morning of BINGO at the library and win some school supplies! Registration is required and space is limited.

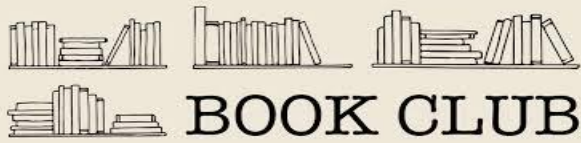


**Portland Library**  
[www.portlandlibraryct.org](http://www.portlandlibraryct.org)



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

# More News...



## In Person Book Clubs are on hiatus in July & August!

### Things to do instead:

- Join the Adult Summer Reading Program at the library and earn prizes for doing what you love to do— Read!
- Listen to audio books on CD in the car and on road trips
- Get the Libby App & the Hoopla App and borrow online eBooks & audio books

### Book Club Favorites!

Turton, Stuart	MYS Turton
<i>The 7 ½ Deaths of Evelyn Hardcastle</i>	
Stevenson, Benjamin	MYS Stevenson
<i>Everyone in my family has killed someone</i>	
Gramont , Nina de	FIC Gramont
<i>The Christie Affair</i>	
O'Farrell, Maggie	FIC OFarrell
<i>Hamnet</i>	
Patchett, Ann	FIC Patchet
<i>Commonwealth</i>	
Osman, Richard	MYS Osman
<i>The Thursday Murder Club</i>	
Reid, Taylor Jenkins	FIC Reid
<i>The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo</i>	
Prescott, Lara	FIC Prescott
<i>The Secrets We Kept</i>	
Clark, Julie	FIC Clark
<i>The Last Flight</i>	
Pavone, Chris	FIC Pavone
<i>Two Nights in Lisbon</i>	
Brown, Karma	FIC Brown
<i>Recipe for a Perfect Wife</i>	

# Thank You

### Donations:

#### Book:

Carolyn Freeman  
Nancy Sawyer



### 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 August 26, 7:00 p.m.

#### Library Board of Directors:

Thursday July 18, 7:00 p.m.

### To Reach the Library

20 Freestone Avenue

Portland, CT 06480

860-342-6770

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

### Library Director

Jennifer Billingsley

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



### July Book Displays at the Library:

Summer Fiction, Book Club favorites and Grilling & Celebrations!

