

# Check it out...



A Monthly Publication of the Portland Library

November 2005

## Children's Room Dedication

Have you visited the children's area in the Library lately? If you have, then you know what we are talking about, but if you haven't...WOW! Not only is Kathleen Steele's incredible fairy tale mural finished, but the whole department is being re-weeded, rearranged, realigned, re...everything! And it looks spectacular! A few of changes you will notice are:

- ◆ 'New books' have been put on display along the mural's slat wall and on top of all the bookcases.
- ◆ Alphabet and counting books have been pulled out and designated with their own section by the new books.
- ◆ Audio books have been pulled from the spinners and are now being housed in shelving across from the children's video collection.
- ◆ CD-Roms are now located in shelving across from the children's videos.
- ◆ Paperback picture books are now located in kid-friendly floor boxes purchased by the Friends of the Portland Library.
- ◆ Our tired old blocks have been replaced with new, textured foam blocks, and a new piece has been added to the 'city'. This is courtesy of the Friends of the Library.

Please join us on November 19th at 2:00 p.m. for the Children's Room Dedication Ceremony in memory of Arlene Dubanevich, an author and illustrator of many children's picture books and frequent presenter and volunteer at the Library. Her husband, Jay Seeley, will be honored for the generous donation that he made in his wife's memory. His stipulation that the money be used to improve children's services at the Library was the inspiration for this project.

Ms. Dubanevich's book, *Pigs in Hiding* was incorporated into the mural. Can you figure out how many pigs are hiding in the mural?

The public is invited and encouraged to attend this event. Light refreshments will be served.



## The Yo-Yo Show

Who would have thought you could make an entire show out of yo-yos? This husband and wife duo bring back that nostalgic toy, reminding you of old favorite tricks such as *Walk the Dog* and *Rock the Baby*, then amazing you with new and bizarre tricks, such as *Boingy-Boingy* and *Iron Whip*.

Yo-yos attached to bouncy balls, yo-yos with 10-foot strings, and multiple yo-yos looping while hula hooping and unicycling are just some of their finely tuned feats. Consummate skill and deft timing to swingin' music coupled with high energy and sarcastic humor make the Yo-Yo People a favorite with every age!

The Yo-Yo People will be performing at the Library on **Wednesday, November 16th at 3:00 p.m.**

Registration is required and will begin on **Tuesday, November 1st and is ongoing.** Please call the Library at 342-6770 to register!

All ages are welcome!

**Be sure to register early; this is a half-day for Portland schools!**

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**REMINDER: THE LIBRARY WILL BE OPEN FOR VOTING PURPOSES ONLY ON NOVEMBER 8TH.**

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The Portland Library will be close at 7:00 p.m. on **Monday, November 7th** and remain closed through **Tuesday, November 8th** for Election Day **Friday, November 11th** for Veteran's Day and will close at 5:00 p.m. on **Wednesday, November 23rd** and stay closed through **Friday, November 25th** for the Thanksgiving Day holiday. The Library will reopen at 10:00 a.m. on **Saturday, November 26th.**

# Children's Page!

## Baby Group Forming

December is a busy month for everyone, but come take a break and bring your babies and toddlers for a hand-clapping good time at **Baby Pandemonium**. Baby Pandemonium is a drop-in program on **December 9<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am** for children up to age 2 years with a caregiver.

No registration, no expectations, just an all-around, fun and chaotic time with books, songs, finger-plays and games.

**Baby Pandemonium** will continue throughout the winter months on Thursday mornings at 10:30 a.m.

**January 12, 19, 26**

**February 2, 9, 16**



## Book a Movie Series!

For families with children of all ages, this series will feature monthly book discussions and select 'snackactivities' and culminate in a viewing of the feature film adapted from the book.

A different title will be selected each month, with multiple copies of the books available for loan. Books will be made available four weeks prior to the showing of the film.

Families can read the book and then attend the event together. Older children may read the book themselves; while younger children can either have the book read to them or alternate chapters with an adult. Anyway you work it, this series is sure to ease the winter doldrums!

Event Schedule:

Monday, December 5th @ 6:00 p.m.

***The Polar Express* by Chris Van Allsburg**

Tuesday, January 10th @ 6:00 p.m.

***Holes* by Louis Sachar**

Tuesday, February 21st @ 1:00 p.m.

***Because of Winn-Dixie* by Kate DiCamillo**



## Merriness & Mistletoe!

Children, ages 2-5 years old, are invited to attend a special holiday story time with Ms. Lauren on either...

**Monday, December 19th at 6:30 p.m.** or **Tuesday, December 20th at 10:30 a.m.** We will be reading stories, singing carols, and making a holiday craft project to take home.

## Winter Treats

Children, in grades 1, and up are invited to join us on **Wednesday, December 21st at 4:00 p.m.** for a holiday event. We will be making beautiful 3-D, fan style snowflakes and fir trees and sharing in the spirit of the season with stories and song.

## Polar Express

Families with children of all ages are invited to join us for a showing of this popular holiday movie on the big screen on Monday, December 5th at 6:00 p.m! See the **Book a Movie** listing for complete details.

Phone in registration for all of the Library's holiday programs begins on **Monday, November 22nd!**



## ...for the Love of Chocolate!

The second event in this series for grades 3 and up will take place on

**Thursday, November 17th at 4:00 pm.**

For this event we will be reading and discussing ***Chocolate Fever*** by Robert Kimmel Smith. After the discussion, we will continue on our quest for anything CHOCOLATE as we design our own candy bars! There will be a pot full of chocolate on hand and an array of fabulous stir ins for us to create our own cocoa concoctions! Registration is required! Registration is going on now. Please call the Library at 342-6770 to register.

# Programs at the Library

## The Season for Giving - Food For Fines

Library patrons who have overdue fines can pay them off by making donations of food at the Library. Food may not be used to pay for lost items. In determining how much food to donate, we ask that donors be guided by "the spirit of the season". Donations will be accepted at the Library from December 1st to December 31st. Only non-perishable food will be accepted. Items that can that be used for holiday food baskets: stuffing mix, canned yams, cranberry sauce and juices are especially welcome. Monetary donations are also welcome. All donations will be given to the Portland Food Bank.

## Knifty Knitters



Whether you are an experienced knitter or a beginner, this group is for you. Come and join this eclectic group of crafts-women every **Saturday morning** from **10-Noon** and enjoy companionship as you knit, instruction if you are learning, and guidance if you are not sure how to proceed with your project. No registration is required!

## Book Group

Join your friends and neighbors at the next meeting of the Portland Library's book group. The next meeting will take place on Thursday, December 1st at 7:00 p.m. The group will be reading the epic Pulitzer Prize winning novel, *The Good Earth*, by Pearl S. Buck. Multiple copies are available for loan at the Library. No registration is required!

## Art Exhibit

The Portland Library presents the work of the French Connection, paintings by a Plein-Air Group. The French Connection was formed thirteen years ago by a group of artists who studied painting in France. Eager to continue painting together, they formed their group and have met once a month to paint "en plein-air", critique each other's work and share ideas. Some of the original members have moved on and new artists have been welcomed. Currently there are twelve members. There will be a reception for the artists on Saturday, November 12th from 2-4 p.m. Refreshments will be provided by the Friends of the Library. The public is most welcome.

The display cases in the main area of the Library will have a nautical display provided by Mike Giuliano.

## Veterans' Day Display Titles

### World War I

*Doughboy War: the American Expeditionary Force in World War I*, James A. Hallas ed. 940.4 DOU  
*The First World War* by John Keegan 940.3 KEE

### World War II

*Articles of War: A Collection of Poetry about World War II*, Leon Stokesbury ed. 811.54 ART  
*Band of Brothers* by Stephen Ambrose 940.54 AMB  
*Citizen Soldiers* by Stephen Ambrose 940.54 AMB  
*The Naked and the Dead* by Norman Mailer FIC MAI  
*Poets of World War II*, Harvey Shapiro ed. 811.52 POE  
*The World War II Memorial*, Douglas Brinkley ed. 940.54 WOR

### Korean War

*The Coldest War* by James Brady BIOG BRADY  
*No Bugles, No Drums* by Rudy Tomedi 951.904 TOM

### Vietnam War

*A Life in a Year: The American Infantryman in Vietnam* by James R. Ebert 959.704 EBE  
*The Things They Carried* by Tim O'Brien FIC O'BR  
*We Were Soldiers Once...And Young* by Harold G. Moore 959.704 MOO

### Gulf War

*Road to Baghdad* by Martin Stanton 956.7 STA  
*Jarhead* by Anthony Swofford 956.704 SWO

# End Notes!



## "Love Your Library" with Holiday Shopping

The Connecticut Library Association, Connecticut Library Consortium and the Connecticut State Library are pleased to announce a partnership with Barnes & Noble Booksellers to *Love Your Library* this Holiday Season.

Inspired by the NJ State Library's program, *Love Your Library* is a new program designed to benefit Connecticut's libraries by raising awareness and funds which will help underwrite the purchase of additional iCONN databases. iCONN is the "go to" spot for free & fast database access for libraries, schools, universities and all of Connecticut's citizens. Since its inception in 2001, iCONN users have conducted over 30 million searches of iCONN databases. *Love Your Library* will help support this core library resource.

*Love Your Library* days are scheduled for **December 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>** at all Barnes & Noble stores in Connecticut, as well as stores in Holyoke & Worcester MA, and in Warwick RI. During these days, Barnes & Noble will donate from 15% to 25% (depending on total sales figures) of every sale accompanied by a *Love Your Library* voucher! *Love Your Library* vouchers and promotional materials are being designed and will be distributed to all public libraries in the state.

**BARNES & NOBLE**  
BOOKSELLERS

**Love**  
your  
library  
Voucher

**Benefiting Connecticut Libraries**

[www.loveyourlibrary.com](http://www.loveyourlibrary.com)

Shop at all Connecticut B&N stores  
and select MA and RI stores.

**Date: Friday, December 2 and  
Saturday, December 3, 2005**

Present this voucher when making your purchase  
during Love Your Library days, and 15-25% of  
your sale will be donated to Connecticut's Libraries.

**For Office Use Only:**

Register #:

Transaction #:

Amount of sales before tax less purchase of  
Gift Cards, Membership Cards and café consumables:

\$

The following transactions are not included in  
Bookfair totals: The purchase of Gift Cards,  
Membership cards, and café consumables

**Educator's Discount cards may not  
be used in conjunction with this voucher.**

Invite your friends to *Love their Libraries* by asking them to do their Holiday shopping at Barnes & Noble stores over these two days. **For more information, copies of vouchers, and lists of participating stores, go to [www.loveyourlibrary.com](http://www.loveyourlibrary.com).** Vouchers will also be available at the Reference Desks.

### Read and Recycle

Don't forget the Friends of the Library's Read and Recycle collections on **Thursday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>**. Donations will be accepted from **3:00-6:00 p.m.** at the Brownstone Intermediate School.

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### Library Hours

Monday– Thursday  
10:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.  
Friday & Saturday  
10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.  
Closed on Sunday

### Contact Information

Questions or concerns about  
the library may be directed  
to  
Janet Nocek  
[jnocek@portlandct.org](mailto:jnocek@portlandct.org)

### Portland Library

20 Freestone Avenue  
Portland, CT 06480  
860-342-6770  
Fax: 860-342-6778  
[www.portlandlibraryct.org](http://www.portlandlibraryct.org)

### First Selectwoman:

Susan Bransfield  
**Library Board Chair:**  
Cathy Probolus  
**Library Director:**  
Janet Nocek