

Check it out...



A Monthly Publication of the Portland Library

January

Featured Artist

Artist Bonnie LeMay will once again be displaying her work in the Mary Flood Room this month, until the 27th. The title of her show is *Inspirations* and it features a range of colors and a diversity of medium. Ms. LeMay, who has studied at the Lyme Academy of Fine Art, describes her exhibition as “a collection of past and present inspirations as well as future directions.” Join her on Saturday, January 6th from 2:00 to 4:00 for a reception in the Mary Flood Room.

During the month of January, the tall display case will feature tea sets and glass dolls from the collection of Emma Knauerhase. The flat display case will feature a lego display by Andrew Leet.

New Museum Pass

The Kidcity Children’s Museum in Middletown, CT is the Portland Library’s newest museum pass. The pass provides free admission to Kidcity for the children in a household, any related adults who accompany them, and one unrelated adult. The Museum offers a hands-on playspace where children ages one through eight come with parents and other significant adults to learn through play. The space has three floors of exhibits, including the new science-themed area, the Space Age Roadtrip, which opened in June 2006.

Hours of Kidcity operation:

Sunday, Monday & Tuesday 11:00 am – 5:00 pm
Wednesday – Saturday 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

Reserve the pass by contacting the Library or go online at www.portlandlibraryct.org. The Friends of the Portland Library provide the funding for the Kidcity pass as well as all the Library’s museums passes. For more information, contact the Library.

Literature for a Lifetime

Break up the winter doldrums with a *Literature for a Lifetime* program; save the date of January 30th for a special evening book discussion. Funded by a grant from the Connecticut Humanities Council, the Library will host a program facilitated by David Garnes, a former librarian who has taught at the University of Connecticut. The title to be discussed is *The Piano Tuner* by Daniel Mason. Visit Burma through the eyes of a 19-century London piano tuner when he is commissioned to work on a rare instrument by an eccentric British officer attempting to use music as the language of communication with the local inhabitants of this exotic locale. Multiple copies of the book will soon be available at the Library.

New Online Audio Books

Imagine listening to Dan Brown's best selling novel "The Da Vinci Code" while relaxing at home, driving in the car, or working in the office. Imagination just became reality for Portland Library residents who have 24/7 access to a digital collection of online audio books!

Audio books are delivered in the Windows® Media format and can be enjoyed on a PC or transferred to a supported portable MP3 player. Select titles can even be burned to CD to listen in the car or on any standard CD player. Digital titles are automatically returned at the end of the 14 day lending period so patrons never accrue late fees!

Other newly acquired titles are *Capital Crimes* by James Kellerman, *Cold Mountain* by Charles Frazier, *A Good Year* by Peter Mayle, *Messenger of Truth* by Jacqueline Winspear, *Next* by Michael Crichton, *S is for Silence* by Sue Grafton, and *Shopaholic & Sister* by Sophie Kinsella.

For more information, contact the Library or visit <http://www.portlandlibraryct.org>.

January News & Events for Children

Hands, Hands, Fingers, Thumbs!

We'll keep your hands, hands, fingers, thumbs busy, busy on Tuesday, **January 16 at 4:00 p.m.** with an introduction to beading. We will learn the basics of beading by making a simple project of either a beaded barrette or bracelet.

Supplies will be provided. This program is open to students in grades 4 and up. **Registration is required and begins on Tuesday, January 2.**

Nia Movement Classes

The children's department is **very** excited to present a series of free *Nia* movement classes with Certified Nia Instructor, **Kim Renee Thibodeau**. *Nia* is an expressive form of movement that integrates the best elements of the dance, martial, and healing arts.

Classes are structured for children 3-6 years old with their parent or caregiver. Participants should wear loose fitting clothes, and be ready for an uplifting, creative experience.

Classes are scheduled for **Friday mornings at 10:30 a.m. from January 26– February 16.** Registration is required and will begin on **Tuesday, January 2nd.** Please call the Library at 342-6770 for more information or to register.

Drop In Story Times Resume !

Say, Say, OH BABY! Children ages 0-17 months and a parent or caregiver.

Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m.
January 17-February 7

Hot Chocolate Kisses!

Children ages 18-36 months and a parent or caregiver.

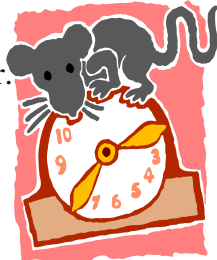
Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m.
January 16-February 6

Story Garden! Children ages 3-5 years old.

Thursdays at 2:00 p.m.
January 18-February 8

Family Story Time!

Families with children of all ages.
Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m.
January 23-February 6



Series Events

"Reading the Game"

Children in grades 2-4 are invited to join a new **SPORTS** themed reading, discussion & activity group. The first meeting will be held on **Monday, January 29th at 4:00 p.m.** Participants need to have read *Too Hot to Handle* by Matt Christopher prior to the meeting. Multiple copies are available for loan at the Library. We will be discussing the book, playing a mock baseball game, and making baseball switch plates for our rooms. Registration is required and will begin on **Tuesday, January 2nd.**

Ready to Read

This popular series for children in kindergarten and 1st grade will hold it's last meeting this month. We will be reading more advanced picture books, playing literacy-oriented games, and creating a craft or snack together.

Registration for the January event is going on now. This event will take place on, **Thursday, January 25th at 4:00 p.m. Theme: SNOW!**

This monthly program is designed to enhance the core components a child needs to learn to read in a fun and lively atmosphere.

Junie B. Jones and the

Mushy Gushy Valentine 's Day Party

It's a mushy gushy mystery!

Hurray! February 14- 'Valentine's Day', as Junie B. calls it-is just around the corner. Junie B. can't wait to see all the 'valentines' she'll get. But she never expected a big, mushy card from a secret admirer! Who is this secret mystery guy, anyway?

Children in grades 1 and up are invited to attend this very special Valentine's Day Party/ Book Group on **Monday, February 12th at 4:00 p.m.**

'Valentine' goodies galore!

Participants must read the book prior to the event. Multiple copies will be available for loan at the Library. **Registration will begin on January 16th.**



January News & Events for Children

February Vacation Events!

The Spoon Man

He's 'spooned' former U.S. President Gerald Ford, former Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, and even Mr. Rogers.

Now, he's here to 'spoon' you!

The Spoon Man, Jim Cruise, will descend upon Connecticut for three shows. Don't miss your chance to see him here at the Portland Library on **Thursday, February 22nd at 10:30 a.m.** Although he performs with only 2 ordinary household tablespoons and background music, ***The Spoon Man*** is sure to entertain and cause mass mayhem with his hilarious impressions, hillbilly band, and sing-along competition complete with audience leaps and general group 'spooning'. We assure you, you have never seen anything like this before! The Library will open for this Thursday performance only. (Library services will not be available until after the show.) **Free tickets will be available at the Library beginning January 29th.**



Vinnie 's Jump 'N Jive Presents:

What better way is there to heat up a cold winter night than with a little **SALSA**? Bring the **whole family** to the Library to learn some exciting and creative salsa dance moves.

Dr. Michael Clark, a regular performer in NYC, will teach this New York style salsa class, allowing us the opportunity to explore the rhythms, turns and style of this partnered dance.

No experience is required. Fun is guaranteed. This event will take place on **Tuesday, February 20th at 6:30 p.m.** No registration is required.

Vinnie's Jump & Jive is a non-profit community dance hall founded by The Community Health Center and located on Main Street in Middletown. They believe that the activity and creativity of dance is an important social outlet to help build, heal, and transform communities.

January 2007 Library Program Events

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Register for Beading Workshop; Reading, the Game and Nia. <i>Nutmeg Voting begins</i>	3	4 6:30 Book Discussion <i>Dandelion Wine</i> by Ray Bradbury	5	6 2:00 Art Reception
8	9	10 1:00 Adult Movies	11	12	13
15 Library Closed	16 10:30 Hot Chocolate Kisses 4:00 Beading Workshop Register Junie B. Jones	17 10:30 Say, Say Oh Baby	18 2:00 Story Garden	19	20
22	23 10:30 Hot Chocolate Kisses 6:30 Family Story Time	24 10:30 Say, Say Oh Baby 1:00 Adult Movies	25 2:00 Story Garden 4:00 Ready to Read	26 10:30 Nia	27
29 Get <i>Spoon Man</i> Tickets Register for Craft Workshop 4:00 Reading, the Game	30 10:30 Hot Chocolate Kisses 6:30 Family Story Time 7:00 Literature for a Life- time Event	31 10:30 Say, Say Oh Baby 1:00 Adult Movies			

More News...

The Library will be closed on Monday, January 15th, in observance of Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday. The Library will reopen on Tuesday morning at 10 am.

Popular New Mystery Titles

There are few things more enjoyable than curling up on a cold winter night with a good book. Here's a selection of some of the latest titles in our extremely popular new mystery area.

Still Life by Louise Penny - Inspector Armand Gamache of the Sûreté du Québec solves a crime of passion in a quiet village with his keen powers of observation.

Jar City by Arnaldur Indridason - a popular author from Iceland pens an unusual whodunit featuring Inspector Erlendur Sveinsson, a veteran detective with the Reykjavik police.

Mad Mouse by Chris Grabenstein - second in the series featuring the likeable New Jersey policeman and Army Veteran John Ceepak who lives by the code "I will not lie, cheat or steal nor tolerate those who do."

Too Darn Hot by Sandra Scoppettone—1943 Manhattan is recreated in full color from the food they ate, and the clothes they wore, to the way they spoke in this fast-paced mystery starring tough-talking, loveable private eye Faye Quick.

The Hard Way by Carol Lea Benjamin—this time private investigator Rachel Alexander goes undercover as a homeless woman along with her pit bull Dashiell in hopes of finding a ruthless killer.

The Old Wine Shades by Martha Grimes—Scotland Yard detective Richard Jury hears a compelling story from a stranger in a pub and sets out to solve the mystery.

The Highly Effective Detective by Richard Yancey—Meet Theodore "Teddy" Ruzak, the most unlikely private investigator in Tennessee as he somehow manages to solve his first case!

Out Cold by William G. Tapple—the trail leads to New Hampshire for Boston attorney Brady Coyne when he finds the body of a pregnant teenager in the snow-covered yard of his Beacon Hill home.

Adult Book Discussion Group

The adult monthly book discussion meets the first Thursday of each month at 6:30. Join us on January 4th to discuss *Dandelion Wine* by Ray Bradbury.

On February 1, the title is *The God of Small Things* by Arundhati Roy. Roy weaves an absorbing tale of how even the small things in life can suddenly loom large and complex as she explores 1960s India and class division. Multiple copies of this title will be available beginning at the January meeting. No registration is required and new members are welcome!

Film Shows

Movies in the Afternoon: Join us for film shows on selected Wednesdays in the Mary Flood Room. Up-coming movie dates:

January 10—*The Da Vinci Code*

January 24—*The Greatest Game Ever Played*

January 31—*World Trade Center*

Light refreshments will be served. More information is available by calling the Library or visiting our online Calendar of Events. These film shows are made possible through donations to the Library's Memorial Fund and to the all-volunteer group, Friends of Portland Library.

Library Hours

Monday– Wednesday
10:00 am–8:00 pm
Thursday 12 pm–8:00 pm
Friday 10:00 am–5:00 pm
Saturday 10:00 am–5:00 pm

Contact Information

Questions or concerns about the library may be directed to
Janet Nocek
jnocek@portlandct.org

Portland Library

20 Freestone Avenue
Portland, CT 06480
860-342-6770
Fax: 860-342-6778
www.portlandlibraryct.org

First Selectwoman:

Susan Bransfield

Library Director:

Janet Nocek

Library Board Co-Chairs:

Cathy Probolus
Andrew Bauer