

Check It Out....



ADULT BOOK DISCUSSION

Join the adult book discussion held at the Portland Library on **Thursday, March 3rd at 7:00 p.m.** The discussion will be held in the Van Beynum Room of the Library. The featured title for March will be *Bel Canto* by Ann Patchett. "With the omniscience of magic realism, Ann Patchett flits in and out of the hearts and psyches of hostage and terrorist alike, and in doing so reveals a profound, shared humanity. Her voice is suitably lyrical, melodic, full of warmth and compassion." -Editorial Review, Amazon.com's Best of 2001. Copies of the book for the discussion are available for loan at the Library. No registration is necessary; all are invited to attend the discussion.

MOVIES IN THE AFTERNOON

Portland Library will show a series of feature films on the *BIG* screen on selected Wednesday afternoons at 1 PM in the Mary Flood Room. Doors open 30 minutes before showtime. Enjoy light refreshments and beverages. Viewers may bring a lunch. These events are Free! This program is supported by the Friends of the Portland Library and donations to the Library's Memorial Fund. Events will take place on **March 23 and March 30**. For film title, length and rating please ask at the Library's Information Desk. This month, enjoy the acting of Tom Hanks, Kate Winslet, and Johnny Depp.



LIBRARY HOURS

The Portland Library will be closed on **Friday, March 25th** in observance of the Good Friday holiday. The Library will re-open on **Monday, March 28th at 10:00 a.m.** The Library's regular hours are:
Monday-Thursday 10:00-9:00
Friday-Saturday 10:00 5:00
Closed on Sunday



First Selectwoman: Susan Bransfield
 Library Board Chair: Cathy Probolus
 President / Friends of the Library
 Library Director: Janet Nocek
 Contact us with questions and comments at:

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

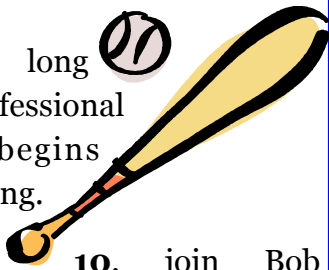
SCHOOL ART EXHIBIT

The Portland Library presents the art work of students from Valley View, Gildersleeve, Brownstone Intermediate and the Portland Middle and High Schools throughout the month of March. A reception for the students and their families will be held on **Wednesday March 2, from 4:30-6:30 p.m.** in the Mary Flood Room at the Library. Light refreshments will be provided by the Friends of the Portland Library. The exhibit will run from March 2 to March 24th. The display case in the main lobby of the Library will also hold an exhibit of the student's work. The public is welcome to attend.



SPRING TRAINING!

It won't be long before professional baseball begins Spring Training.



On **March 10**, join Bob Fralick for an entertaining discussion about his experiences in such professional baseball organizations as the Red Sox and the Yankees. (to name a few...) Come and share a bit of sports history in honor of this yearly event. **The program will take place at 7:00 p.m. in the Mary Flood Room.**

IDENTITY THEFT

Identity theft: it is real. What can you do about preventing it, or dealing with it if you are a victim? Get the answers to these and other questions at a presentation by Thomas Nash, CCP, on March 16 at 2 PM in the Mary Flood Room.

Tom is the security officer for Naugatuck Savings Bank. Prior to this he was employed as a supervisor of corporate fraud investigation for People's Bank, as an assistant vice president of loss prevention and fraud control for Citibank, as an Internet fraud prevention consultant for Cybersource Corp., as an operations planning manager for the former First Security Services Corp., and was vice president and director of security for the former Society for Savings Bank in Hartford. He also served nine years with the Hartford Police Department.

YOUR INVOLVEMENT IS IMPORTANT . . . Throughout the month, your Board of Selectmen will be undertaking examination and finalization of the budget that the First Selectwoman will present to them on March 2nd. Consider attending the public meetings at which budget workshops will take place: Department heads, including the Library Director, will be presenting their budgets to the Board on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, **March 22, 23, 29, and 30**. The Library's workshop is scheduled to take place on April 6th. The final workshops take place in April and the resulting budget will then be published. On May 2, a Town Meeting will take place, at which citizens have the right to lobby for amendments to the budget.

Mark your calendar: A budget referendum will take place at the library all day on **May 9**.

-Library Director, Janet Nocek



Kids stuff!

PRESCHOOL STORY TIME REGISTRATION

Phone in registration for the spring story time series is going on now. Please call the Library at 342-6770 to register. Spaces are limited.

Preschool story times are for children ages 2, 3 and 4 years old. Programs will begin during the first week of March and will continue for 8 weeks. Each program will include an age appropriate theme of stories, songs, finger plays, games, crafts, occasional movies, and more!

NEW! Teen Collection Additions

***Boston Jane: Wilderness Days* by Jennifer L. Holm**

Abandoned in Washington Territory by her faithless fiancé, Jane must make a new home for herself as the only pioneer woman in the primitive settlement of Shoalwater Bay.

***Life, Love, and the Pursuit of Free Throws* by Janette Rallison**

Cami, 14, only has one thing on her mind—to become the MVP of her basketball team, giving her the opportunity to run drills with Rebecca Lobo, former star of the WNBA. But no matter how hard she tries, her best friend is better.

***The Princess Present* by Meg Cabot**

Mia would give all the jewels in Genovia for the perfect present. This year, she's looking forward to the most perfect Christmas ever: her boyfriend, Michael, and her best friend, Lilly, are coming to Genovia, too. Alas, even a princess's plans can go awry.

***Public Enemy Number Two* by Anthony**

HorowitzThirteen-year-old Nick Diamond is in prison! Nick's only chance of clearing his name is to nail the Fence, the country's master criminal. To do that, he needs to break out and he's not so sure he'll make it to his fourteenth birthday!

***Sliding Into Home* by Dori Hillestad Butler**

After she moves with her parents from Minneapolis to a small town in Iowa, 13-year-old baseball fanatic, Joelle Cunningham, cannot believe that she's not permitted to play on her new middle-school's baseball team."

Descriptions taken from www.amazon.com

UPCOMING APRIL VACATION EVENT

With spring just weeks away, (7:33 a.m., March 20th to be exact) it is time to start thinking about cleaning out those closets and under the bed! Our **annual KID'S ONLY Tag Sale** will take place on **Tuesday, April 19th** in the afternoon. It is a great way for the kids to clear out some of the stuff that they have been collecting all year and Mom helps Mom control the clutter while teaching about money. The annual buyers know that this is a great sale for kids and moms alike. With tons of bargains and places to spend that \$1.00 the little ones earned setting the table, you don't want to miss this yearly event! Watch this place for registration date and times!



BEDTIME STORY TIME

Families with children ages 3-5 years old are invited to join popular story teller, **MRS. APPLESAUCE** for a family story time on Thursday, March 24th at 6:30 p.m.

Join Mrs. Applesauce (a.k.a Jacqui McMahon) for a fun-filled evening of stories, songs, and craft activities. No registration is required for this event! Please contact the Library for more information at 342-6770.



What Do I Read Next?

This wonderful readers' advisory tool, published by Thomson Gale, is available at <http://www.iconn.org>, Connecticut's virtual library. Researchers of all ages will enjoy the expertise of specialists, critics and librarians to find the best examples of internationally known fiction and nonfiction. Over 100,000 titles, more than 60,000 plot summaries, 562 awards titles, recommended reading lists, and authors' biographical information are available.

Genres include inspirational, mystery, romance, science fiction, fantasy, horror, western and historical novels, general fiction, classic fiction and nonfiction. The user-friendly software includes custom, in-depth search options by title, author, subject, genre, locale and more.

This unique readers' advisory tool allows you to:

- Identify new books to enjoy that meet a personalized reading profile
- Create customized reading lists by using the "Keeper List" function
- Conduct a "Find Similar" title search or view the list of similar titles supplied by genre experts
- Hyperlink between titles and recommended reading and award lists, and between series entries and the titles in the series

A monthly highlights page allows the user to see selections of award winners, upcoming titles, and titles that revolve around different subjects each month

Summary of product taken from Thomson Gale website.

If you desire a "lesson" on how to use this database, please inquire at the Information Desk or call 342-6770.

Top 10 Reasons to Use iCONN (www.iconn.org)

1. Access is FREE to all Connecticut residents
2. To be a smarter consumer
3. To help your children succeed at school and at college!
4. It's there when you need it - 24 hours a day!
5. Access it from home over the Internet or from Portland Library!
6. To save money!
7. To save space!
8. You already paid for it with your tax dollars!
9. To have an up-to-date resource for lifelong learning!
10. You can't afford not to!

