



Check it Out



A Monthly Publication of the Portland Library

Susan Bransfield, First Selectwoman

October 2004

Cathy Probolus, Library Board Chairwoman

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



"HOW TO BE AN AWARE CONSUMER"

Portland Library presents Cynthia Bercowetz, a consumer advocate for more than 35 years, for a lecture on how to be a more informed consumer. In addition to freelance consumer writing for the *Manchester Extra*, *Hartford Courant*, she wrote the popular *Get Help! Tell It to George* column for the *Manchester Journal Inquirer* for 21 years. She has hosted consumer radio shows and produces a weekly television show on public access in Bloomfield.

Her column has received many awards including a national award from the Major Appliance Consumer Action Panel for consumer education to the public. She also has received awards from the state Better Business Bureaus.

Mrs. Bercowetz book, *Don't Get Ripped Off! Get Help!*, is due to be published in October. **The program will take place at 1:00 on Tuesday, October 5**, at Portland Library's Mary Flood Room. Time for questions will follow the presentation which is free and open to the public. Please call 342-6770 or visit the Information Desk to register for the program.



COMPUTER WORKSHOP

The Portland Library presents a **Workshop on Using the Online Catalog** on Friday, October 29, 2004 at 10:30 am until 12:00. Learn how to find books and other items, construct a successful search, place holds on items, look at your account, renew items, and view the catalog's other features. Registration is required for this free program for adults. No prior computer experience is required. Sign up for a place by telephoning the Library at 342-6770 or stopping at the Information Desk.



HEALTH SEMINARS

Health will be the topic of some new daytime programs at the Portland Library during October and November.



- On **October 19**, an information session on Pharmacy Assistance and CONNPACE will be presented by Valerie Bozzi of Middlesex Hospital. Find out how you may qualify for assistance with your subscription medication. There will be time for questions and answers. If time allows, applications for CONNPACE may be processed. **The program will take place in the Mary Flood Room at 11 a.m.** Please call to register at the Library's Information Desk.
- On **October 21**, Dr. Mark Kimmel, the Medical Director of Middlesex Hospital's Cancer Center, will speak about cancer prevention and the services available at the Cancer Center. **The program will take place in the Mary Flood Room at 11 a.m.** Please call to register at the Library's Information Desk.
- On **November 4**, Dr. Robert Geist, an Orthopedist from Orthopedic Associates of Middletown, will speak about joint replacement surgery. **The program will take place in the Mary Flood Room at 12:30 p.m.** Please call to register at the Library's Information Desk.
- On **November 16**, Audiologist Nancy McMahon will speak about solutions to hearing impairment. More information will be posted at the Library and in the Rivereast News Bulletin.



Don't forget to **VOTE**, November 2





THE AMAZING "HUMAN TOY" !

Children in grades kindergarten and up are invited to a show featuring Garry Krinsky, the "human toy" on **Wednesday, November 17, at 2:30 p.m.** at the Portland Library.

It has been said that **GARRY KRINSKY** resembles a living cartoon with his animated movement and non-stop energy. Garry was an original member of the Boston Buffoons, co-founder of the Patchwork Players, and a member of The Wright Bros., a New England vaudeville troupe.

Commissioned and developed with the Museum of Science in Boston, Garry's performance explores among other things, the scientific principles of gravity, leverage, fulcrums and simple machines. Combining circus skills, mime, original music, and audience involvement, Garry and his audience investigate basic scientific information and delve into the imaginations of scientists who explore our world. During the program, Garry brings his science toys to life with motion, music, humor and insight. He turns audience members into stars as he playfully shares the stage, juggling, balancing and welcoming them into his colorful world.

Free tickets will be available on a first-come, first-serve basis **starting at 1:30 p.m. on the day of the show at the Portland Library.**

Mr. Krinsky's performance is made possible by the Friends of the Portland Library. For further information please call the library at 342-6770.



"The Magic of Jason Purdy"!

Looking for something to do with a free half-day?
Students going into grade five and up may sign up to see
"The Magic of Jason Purdy"
on Friday, November 19, at 2:30 p.m.
at the Portland Library.

Free tickets will be available on a first-come, first-serve basis **starting at 1:30 p.m. on the day of the show at the Portland Library.**

Jason is an internationally known magician and illusionist, with a stunning flair for the dramatic and a love of his art. He combines spectacular magic and illusions, witty comedy, and toe tapping music along with audience participation to create a *memorable, magical entertainment experience!*

Jason has been perfecting his art for over two decades. He has entertained audiences throughout the United States and as far away as Japan.

His show incorporates at least one classic illusion and slight of hand, as well as contemporary magic pieces. Whether Jason is performing his awe inspiring dove act or dematerializing his assistant, you never know what he is going to do next. Don't miss this opportunity to experience "The Magic of Jason Purdy"!

Mr. Purdy's performance is made possible by the Friends of the Portland Library. For further information please call the library at 342-6770

PRESCHOOL STORYTIME REGISTRATION

Registration for the fall Preschool Story Time series at the Portland Library is going on now. These story times are held weekly for 8 weeks for children ages 2, 3, and 4 years old. They feature age-appropriate stories, games, songs, movement activities and small crafts.

Story times begin the week of September 27th. For more information please contact the children's department at 342-6770 or stop by and pick up a brochure.



"CELEBRATE UNDERPANTS"

Mark your calendars and get ready to have some fun on **Monday, November 8th at 4:00 pm** with everyone's favorite superhero: **Captain Underpants!**

Children in grades 2 and up are invited to join Miss Lauren as we explore yet another wacky children's book series, *The Adventures of Captain Underpants* by Dav Pilkey. Participants must read at least 2 books from the series prior to this event; multiple copies of the books will be available for loan at the library. This program will include silly nicknames, trivia games, book discussions, cartoon drawing lessons and a superhero contest! Children may come dressed as their favorite character from the books and please, please bring a roll of toilet paper! Phone in registration will begin on **October 4th!** Please call the Library at 342-6770 to register.

CHILDREN'S BOOK DISCUSSION

Portland Library will begin registration on Monday, September 27th, for a book discussion on *Survival*, the second book of the *Island Trilogy*. The group will meet on **Thursday, October 7th at 7:00 p.m.** and is open to students in grade four and up. *Survival* is an exciting story about six young people who are stranded on a small Pacific island with a deadly secret. Come and join us around our campfire, as we talk about what we would have done in such a scary situation.



BEDTIME STORIES

There will be a bedtime story time with popular storyteller, Mrs. Applesauce on **Thursday, October 21st at 6:30 p.m.** Families with children ages 3-5 years old are welcome to attend. No registration is required.

New! CHILDREN'S VIDEO AND CD RECOMMENDATIONS!

Okay, I admit it, I too have turned into a 'Laurie' groupie! Her songs are a pleasant break from the typical kid-fare that make your brain feel a little mushy. She incorporates many world music influences into her upbeat, funny songs as well as descriptions of hand movements and her inspiration for writing them on the inserts! LOVE HER!

Here is what we own by Laurie Berkner:

Whaddaya Think of That— CD

Under A Shady Tree— CD

Victor Vito— CD (2 copies)

Laurie Berkner's Video Songbook—VIDEO

See you next month— Lauren Coleman

LIBRARY GOLF TOURNAMENT

Over 100 golfers participated in the Portland Library Seventh Annual Foliage Golf Classic at the Quarry Ridge Golf Club on Thursday, September 23rd. The tournament winners received green fees and carts or certificates for use at the club house. The winners:

B. Woods, Low Gross, Men

Judy Markiewicz, Low Gross, Women

Pat Mahon, Low Net, Men

Terry Larson, Low Net, Women

Theresa Mannello, Women's Longest Drive

Kurt Battey, Men's Longest Drive

Bob Sinagra, Men's Closest to the Pin

Ginny Cady, Women's Closest to the Pin

The Library and Golf Committee co-chairpersons George Law and Christine Kelley wish to express thanks to all sponsors and donors, volunteers and to the Friends of Portland Library for their support of the tourney.




ADULT BOOK DISCUSSION

Join the adult book discussion held at the Portland Library on **Thursday, October 7th at 7:00 p.m.** The discussion will be held in the Van Beynum Room of the Library. The featured title for October will be *The Girls' Guide To Hunting and Fishing* by Melissa Bank. 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.

NEWS FROM THE FRIENDS OF THE PORTLAND LIBRARY

10th Anniversary Gift Basket Raffle

There is not much time left to purchase raffle tickets for the beautiful baskets on display at the Library. The Friends of the Portland Library will be drawing the winning tickets on **Sunday, October 10th**, at the Portland Fair. You need not be present to win!

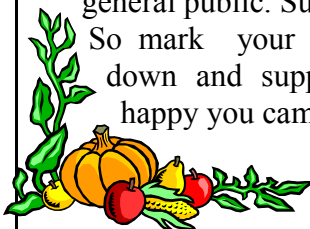
So buy a ticket. Take a chance. There is a basket for everyone this year: *Kid's Basket, Tea Basket, Holiday Basket, Bath, Body/Spa Basket, and Family Entertainment Basket*. Tickets are limited  so get in on the fun!

Gigantic Used Book & More Sale

The Friends are gearing up for their biggest used book sale ever! This year, volumes of fiction, non-fiction, poetry, and children's literature as well as, videos, puzzles and audiobooks will fill both the Library meeting rooms and the Senior Center! The sale will be held on **Friday, October 15th from 6-9 p.m.** for members of the Friends of the Portland Library only. But don't despair, watch your mailboxes during the coming weeks for your Friends newsletter and membership application. Fill out the membership application and either mail it in or bring it on the night of the sale, and you, too, can join us on this special night!

On Saturday, October 16th from 10-5 and Sunday, October 17th from 10-12, the sale will be open to the general public. Sunday is a \$1.00 a bag sale!

So mark your calendars early and come on down and support the Library; you will be happy you came!



ART EXHIBIT

The Portland Library presents an exhibition of the work of **Erin Eileen Loprinze**. The exhibition will run from October 2nd to October 22nd.

After a brain tumor and surgery in 1990 left her unable to use her dominant right hand, Ms. Loprinze did what she had to do...she learned to write and create beautiful watercolors with her left hand. An artist's reception will be held in the Mary Flood Room at the Library, on Saturday, October 2nd from 2:00 - 4:00 pm. The

Friends of the Portland Library will provide the refreshments. The public is welcome.



New! MUSEUM PASS RESERVATION SYSTEM

Beginning on October 1st patrons may reserve passes to local museums, aquariums and zoos. From the Library's website at www.portlandlibraryct.org/Museumpasses.htm, patrons may register for this service and reserve passes up to one month in advance of the visit.

Currently, the Library has passes to eighteen attractions. The passes will allow free admission to The American Clock and Watch Museum, Children's Museum of Southeastern Connecticut, The Connecticut Historical Society, Connecticut River Museum, Dinosaur State Park, Florence Griswold Museum, Lutz Children's Museum, New England Air Museum, New England Carousel Museum, Peabody Museum of Natural History, Roaring Brook Nature Center, Science Center of Connecticut, Wadsworth Atheneum, and The Zoo at Forest Park. In addition, the Library has passes which allows visitors entrance at discounted prices for the Maritime Aquarium and Imax, Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center, Mystic Aquarium, and Roger Williams Park and Zoo.

The museum pass is charged out to patrons for one day and must be returned by midnight of the day of use. If you have questions about this new service or need assistance, please contact the Library. Friends of the Portland Library has provided the memberships for the attractions in the program.



LIBRARY HOURS

The Portland Library will be closed on **Monday, October 11th** in honor of the Columbus Day holiday. The Library will re-open on **Tuesday, October 12th at 10:00 a.m.**

The Library's regular hours are:

Monday-Thursday 10:00-9:00
Friday and Saturday 10:00-5:00
Closed on Sunday



Please send your concerns, comments, or requests regarding library services to the

Library Director,
Janet Nocek

Phone: (860) 342-6770