



Check It Out...

A Monthly Publication of the Portland Library

Edward Kalinowski, First Selectman

George A. Law, Library Board Chairman

20 Freestone Avenue, Portland, Ct. 06480 * (860) 342-6770 * Fax (860) 342-6778 * www.portland.lib.ct.us * December 2001

Community Information

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 donations may be used to pay overdue fines but not to pay for lost items. In determining how much food to donate, Library Director, Laurel Goodgion, asks donors to be guided by "the spirit of the season".

Donations will be accepted at the Library until the end of December. Only non-perishable food will be accepted. Items that can be used for holiday food baskets: stuffing mix, canned yams, cranberry sauce and juice are especially welcome. All donations will be given to the Portland Food Bank.



THE MITTEN TREE

Warm someone's hands and hearts by donating to our annual Mitten Tree. Each year our tree is decorated with beautiful scarves, mittens, gloves, socks, and slippersocks donated by library patrons. We will accept all items through Monday, December 17th. All gifts will be given to the Portland Food Bank for Christmas distribution. Once again, we are asking for your generosity. Thank you.

Adult Book Discussion Group



A book discussion on Barbara Kingsolver's *The Bean Trees* will be held at the Portland Library on Thursday, December 13th at 7 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

The Bean Trees is the story of a lovable, resourceful "instant mother". *The San Francisco Chronicle* book reviewer stated: "So wry and wise we wish it would never end...The chatty, down-home audacity of Barbara Kingsolver's remarkable first novel hooks us on the first page."

Copies of the book are available at the library for loan. For more information call the library at 342-6770. No registration is necessary.



HOLIDAY CLOSING!

The Library will be closed Monday, Dec. 24th and Tuesday, Dec. 25th for the Christmas holiday.

The Library will be closed Monday, Dec. 31st and Tuesday, Jan. 1st for the New Year's holiday.

We wish you and your family a joyous holiday season.

The Library's regular hours are:
Mon. - Thurs. 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Fri. and Sat. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.



For the Children

CHILDREN'S HOLIDAY TREATS



Holiday Time for Tots
Thursday, December 13th at 10:30 .

Preschool children ages two and up are invited to a holiday story time with Mrs. L. There will be songs, stories and a simple craft. Children must be accompanied by a caregiver. **Registration is required. Call 342-6770 to register.**



Cider and Crafts for Children
Tuesday, December 11th at 4 p.m.

Children in grades K and up are invited to enjoy some holiday cheer with Mrs. L. There will be songs, stories, a holiday craft and cider. The program will last at least an hour. **Registration is required. Call 342-6770 to register.**



Bedtime Stories
Thursday, December 20th at 6:30

Mrs. Applesauce will cast a holiday spell on little ones ages three and up. Come and enjoy her stories and a winter craft. No registration necessary.



NUTMEG AWARD

Nutmeg Award 2002 nominee books are here. Have you read them all? Children will be voting in January.

Multiple copies of the nominated books are available for loan. The Nutmeg Award is given each year to a recently published children's book voted by Connecticut 4th, 5th and 6th graders as their favorite book.

Holiday Happening

ANNUAL HOLIDAY SING-ALONG

Saturday, December 15th 2-4 p.m.
at the Portland Senior Center

Jeff Barnhart will once again delight fans of all ages with his spirited piano playing of familiar holiday songs. This is the 5th year that Jeff will present this very popular program.

No registration is required. Refreshments will be served.

Thank you to the Friends of the Portland Library for again sponsoring this very popular program.



NEW MATERIALS LIST

The Library is now publishing a monthly New Materials List thanks to the efforts of Library Volunteer Judy Tassistro. The list includes new videos, audio books as well as books.

Copies are on display in the New Book area or ask at the Information Desk for a copy.

Is the item you want checked out? Ask at the Information Desk to have it reserved for you or call 342-6770.



How Are We Doing?

Let us know what we can do to improve library services for you.

Fill out one of our comment forms or contact Library Director Laurel Goodgion at 342-6771 or email her at goodgion@portland.lib.ct.us