

Check it out...



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A Monthly Publication of the Portland Library January 2022



Library Closings for January holidays:

The Library is closing Thursday December 30th at 1:00p.m. The Library will be closed Friday December 31st through Sunday January 2nd.

The Library is closed Monday January 17th for Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. holiday!

Rapid Reads are back! Two week loans on extra copies of popular books, no holds and no renewals. See what is waiting for you at the library! Fines do occur with these items so return on time.

Friends' Read & Recycle

Saturday January 15th 10:00-12 noon
Donate your gently used books, dvds, cd and puzzles! Get organized in the new year!

Tech Talk:

Friday January 14th at 10:00 a.m.
Kevin Armstrong, presenter.
Location: **Library**, Mary Flood Room in collaboration with the Library & the Senior Center.

Got a new tech device for the holidays? Questions about Zoom? Confused about something on your tablet or computer? Kevin explains all!
Registration Requested!

Portland Library hours:

Monday — Thursday 10:00 am -7:00 pm

Friday 10:00 am -5:00 pm

Saturday 10:00am—3:00 pm

Curbside Pickup available by prior arrangement

Tuesday February 1st at 6:30p.m.

Virtual Zoom program

Decoding the Mysteries of Cats -Stephen Quandt, Feline Behaviorist – On Zoom

Does your cat companion bite your ankles or seem to enjoy chaos?

Feline Behaviorist, Stephen Quandt, recently the Feline Behavior Coordinator for the Animal Care Centers of NYC (nycacc.org) presents a sixty minute (including Q&A), Zoom program that explains cat behavior from the perspective of the evolutionary and adaptive forces that help shape their lives. **Registration Requested!**



To join remote meetings; access it through Zoom: the ID is 8603426777 and the Passcode is Portland

Tuesday January 18th at 5:30 p.m.

Meet your state rep & senator!

State Representative Christie Carpino & State Senator Norman Needleman will meet with their constituents in the Mary Flood Room.

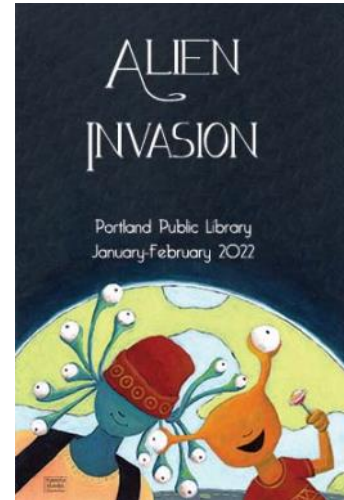
Indoor Board Games. Fun games to be borrowed for 3 weeks.

The Board Games and the ever popular Yard Games (which can be used indoors too) were purchased through a grant from the Peach Pit Foundation and the Community Foundation of Middlesex County. Thank you!

Youth Services News and Events

Winter Reading Challenge: Alien Invasion!

Portland Library's Winter Reading Challenge is back! This year, we've partnered with Portland artist Pamela Hanks (www.pamelahanks.com) to design a program that's out of this world!



Pamela Hanks



Pamela.hanks

Visit the library on or after January 2 and get an alien to send on a journey through the solar system. Each time you check out materials in January and February (up to once per day), we'll move your alien through the Milky Way galaxy until it has visited all eight planets.

Once you've visited each planet in the solar system, you will have completed the challenge and will win a small prize. In addition, you'll receive one of 14 "collector cards" that feature different alien scenes.

In addition to creating the artwork for our collector cards and aliens, Pamela has created three mystery scenes that take place at the Portland Library. To discover what the aliens are up to, you'll have to work together as a community to complete the scenes. Each time you visit the library, we'll give you a square to color marked with color value clues. Use the labeled markers at the library to match the color values and help unlock another piece of the picture!

Online Storytimes

Weekly storytimes will remain online for the winter session. Join us on Zoom to sing some songs, practice some counting rhymes, and listen to some great stories. A take-home craft will be available each week for anyone who wants to come pick one up. **Registration is required and can be done through our website calendar or by calling the library at 860-342-6770. We will send out a Zoom link each week in advance of the program.**

Preschool Storytime

Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m.

January 18, 25, February 1, 8, 15, 22

Storytime for Toddlers and Tots:

Mother Goose on the Loose

Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m.

January 19, 26, February 2, 9, 16, 23

Minecraft Mania

Thursday, January 13

from 3:30-5:00 p.m.

Grades K-5

Take your Minecraft skills to the next level with this STEM challenge! When you join our custom-designed Minecraft server, you and your teammates will have to work together to solve a problem using creativity and teamwork. Are you up to the challenge? If you need a Minecraft account, we also have up to 10 accounts that you can use, free of charge, courtesy of Innovative Gaming!

This is a private 90-minute Zoom program that will be run and monitored by Minecraft Mania and Ms. Jenn. ONLY our registrants will have access to the Minecraft worlds in use, making it safe and private.

Registration is required and space is limited.

Youth Services News and Events

Explore the Marvel Universe

Thursdays at 3:45 p.m.
January 27, February 3, 10

The aliens have landed at the Portland Library. They have so many questions, but there is one they want answered the most. What is this Marvel Universe and how do we get there? Kids in grades K-5 can join us for this three-week online program that celebrates all things Marvel including trivia, crafts and more. All materials will be supplied and available for pickup before each program. A Zoom link will be sent in advance of the event.

Registration is required and space is limited.



Family Craft Night: Personalized Snowman Family Wednesday, January 19 at 6:30 p.m.

Create a personalized family picture during this fun family craft night. This activity has steps that are appropriate for all ages, but a parent or guardian must be with children to help with supervision. Supplies may be picked up in advance of the program and a **Zoom link for instruction will be sent within 24 hours of the event.**

Registration is required and space is limited.



Teen Programs

Teen Advisory Guild (TAG) Monday, January 10 at 3:30 p.m.

Interested in making a difference at your library and in your community? Join us on at our monthly Teen Advisory Guild (TAG) meetings as we brainstorm ideas for new programs, talk about books that we love, and enjoy some snacks and laughs with friends. You will earn community service hours for each meeting you attend. **Registration is required.** This meeting will be in our large meeting room in the library.

Food Explorers: Four-Fold Quesadillas

Thursday, January 20 at 3:30 p.m.

Food Explorers is back for some more cooking fun, but this time, we'll be cooking IN PERSON! Get your creativity flowing by combining flavors in the popular Tik Tok recipe Four Fold Quesadilla. These can be made sweet or savory so don't be afraid to try new ideas. Then, test your knowledge of the cost of food with a game of Price is Right! This snack will be nut free, but may contain dairy products.

Masks will be required when not eating and prep stations will be socially distanced. Each person will make their own portion. **Registration is required and space is limited.**

Teen Paint Party!

Saturday, February 5 at 12:00 p.m.

Help us celebrate Take Your Child to the Library Day by attending our Paint Party! Instructor Pamela Hanks created the artwork for our alien-themed Winter Reading program and she'll show you how to paint an alien of your own. Grades 5-up. **Registration is required and space is limited.**



**Portland
Library**

**Instagram
@portlandlibraryct**



www.portlandlibraryct.org

More News...

In Person Book Clubs

January 6th at 6:00p.m.
First Thursday Night Book Club: Welcome back evening group!

New

***Imagine Me Gone* by Adam Haslett**

It concerns a couple, Margaret and John, who marry despite John's crippling depression, and is narrated by the couple and their three children. The novel was short-listed for the National Book Award and the 2017 Pulitzer Prize.

Tuesday January 4th at 1:00p.m.

T.A.B. (Talk about Books)

The Sun Also Rises

by Ernest Hemingway

A poignant look at the disillusionment and angst of the post-World War I generation, the novel introduces two of Hemingway's most unforgettable characters: Jake Barnes and Lady Brett Ashley. The story follows the flamboyant Brett and the hapless Jake as they journey from the wild nightlife of 1920s Paris to the brutal bullfighting rings of Spain with a motley group of expatriates. It is an age of moral bankruptcy, spiritual dissolution, unrealized love, and vanishing illusions.

Tuesday January 18th at 1:00p.m.

Mystery Lover's Book Club

The Thursday Murder Club

by Richard Osman

In a peaceful retirement village, four unlikely friends meet weekly in the Jigsaw Room to discuss unsolved crimes; together they call themselves the Thursday Murder Club.

When a local developer is found dead with a mysterious photograph left next to the body, the Thursday Murder Club suddenly find themselves in the middle of their first live case.

Portland Forum

Regularly scheduled events include book discussions and planned presentations in support of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, in partnership with the Portland Social Justice Coalition. Call or visit the webpage for updated information.

Copies of all these books are available at the Library.

Thank You

Donations: Books

Mary Coffield

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Library Meetings:

Friends of the Library

Monday January 10th at 7:00 p.m.

Library Board of Directors:

Thursday January 20th at 7:00 p.m.

To Reach the Library

20 Freestone Avenue

Portland, CT 06480

860-342-6770

www.portlandlibraryct.org

Library Director

Janet Nocek

jnocek@portlandct.org

Website: portlandlibraryct.org

Three Kings' Day is January 6th, 12 days after Christmas. "El Dia de los Reyes" marks the glorification of baby Jesus by the Three Wise Men or Three Kings.



Displays at the Library for January:

Comfort Foods & Soups, Martin Luther King Jr. tribute, Science Fiction and Fantasy and our patron-favorite staff picks!

Masks requirements:

Masks are required for library visits given the number of unvaccinated children visiting the library. Your safety remains our top priority and we will be revisiting policies as the situation changes. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.