

Check it out...



A Monthly Publication of the Portland Library March 2021



We would love to see you return with the spring breezes! Pending approval of the Board of Selectmen and continued improvement in the COVID transmission rate, we hope to safely allow brief visits to browse or use computers.

- Curbside services and reader's advisory continue- you can browse the on line catalog or call us and let us know what you like to read or watch! We deliver to your car outside our door.
- Homebound persons – call to request delivery of books and other items.
- Copier and fax: self serve or request a copy.

Portland Library Curbside Pickup Services

Monday—Thursday 10:00-6:00

Friday 10:00-4:45 Saturday 10:00-1:30

- Please place items on hold using our online catalog or call us at 860-342-6770.

We will contact you when your items are ready.

Please call 860-342-6770 to arrange a curbside pickup appointment.

Portland Forum March 25th at 7:00p.m.

honoring women during Women's history month. The lives of Ida B. Wells and Dorothy Pittman Hughes and their legacies will be the focus of the March 25 Zoom discussion. To Read ahead: April book discussion is *Red at the Bone* by Woodson. Tentative date is April 22.



Please know that
we are smiling
behind our masks!

Thursday March 4th at 7:00p.m.

In honor of Black History month in February: Beyond the Amistad: Black History (Zoom presentation)

This program from the Connecticut Historical Society will take you on a tour of items from our collection representing a spectrum of the Black experience in CT. You'll learn about a Harlem Renaissance writer, Ann Petry, who carefully preserved artifacts chronicling the black community of Saybrook. Browse through the photo album of a Hollywood actress who became a champion of labor rights for black entertainers. Marvel at the gorgeous costumes created by CT's West Indian community for their annual MAS celebration, and see artifacts documenting the Civil Rights movement in our state. Sponsored by

**Inner Circle Family Martial Arts LLC
and Be Stronger Personal Training LLC
Thank you!**

Tuesday March 16th at 6:30p.m.

Zoom Presentation

Powerful Voices: Connecticut Women Changing Democracy

Connecticut's history is filled with remarkable women who achieved extraordinary things! Join us for an interactive multi-media program by the Connecticut Women's Hall of Fame and learn about some of the state's powerful female voices for change in our democracy. Explore the inspirational stories of suffrage advocates like Alice Paul and Isabella Beecher Hooker, prominent female firsts like Ella Grasso and Denise Nappier and social activists like Helen Keller, Anne Stanback and Estelle Griswold. **March is Women's History month!**

Youth Services News and Events

WINTER READING CLUB

Paws for Reading—
Paws for a Cause!

Thanks to everyone who participated in our Winter Reading Club by completing rows on our Winter Reading BINGO card. The pets of Portland will be receiving a donation of cat and dog food thanks to your hard work! All items will be presented to the Portland Food Bank in early March. We hope you enjoyed this challenge as much as we did!



Preschool Science
Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m.
March 2, 16, 30

Join us via Zoom for a program that will introduce kids ages 3-5 to the wonders of science. We'll ask questions and make predictions as we explore color, chemical reactions and more. **Registration is required for each week of this program and space is limited.** Supplies can be picked up in advance; a Zoom link will be provided within 24 hours of the event.



Cooking with Food Explorers:
Learn to Make Granola Bars
Friday, March 12 at 3:30 p.m.

Celebrate National Nutrition Month with a special program for kids in grades K-5. We will learn to make our own granola bars! All ingredients will be provided to make basic granola bars with chocolate chips. You may opt to provide additional ingredients such as nuts and dried fruit.

Space is limited and registration is required.



Online Storytime
Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m.
March 9, 23

Let's get together to share stories, songs and other fun activities via Zoom. **Registration is required for each week of this program and space is limited.** A Zoom link will be provided within 24 hours of each program.

Youth Services News and Events

Family Craft Night: Button Rainbow Canvas Wednesday, March 10 at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom

"Wishing you a pot o' gold and all the joy your heart can hold." —Unknown

Brighten up the end of winter with this St. Patrick's Day-themed piece of artwork. This activity has steps that are appropriate for all ages, although adult supervision is required. Supplies can be picked up in advance; a Zoom link will be provided within 24 hours of the event.

Registration is required and space is limited.



Teen Event: Stress Relief Kits Monday, March 15 at 3:30 p.m.

Beat the winter blues with an afternoon of making stress balls and Guatemalan worry dolls while talking and laughing with friends.

Registration is required for this program and space is limited. Supplies can be picked up in advance; a Zoom link will be provided within 24 hours of the event.



NATURE CRAFTING THURSDAYS AT 3:30 P.M. GRADES K-5 MARCH 4, 11, 18, 25

Explore the great outdoors from the comfort of your home with this six-week program for kids in grades K-5. We'll be exploring the worlds of herbs, spices, seeds, nuts and other natural elements with crafts and other activities.

Registration is required and space is limited. Supplies can be picked up in advance; a Zoom link will be provided within 24 hours of the event.



**Portland
Library**

**Instagram
@portlandlibraryct**



More News...

Mystery Lover's Book Club **Tuesday March 16th at 1:00p.m.** ***Stranger Diaries* by Elly Griffiths** **(virtual meeting on Zoom)**

Clare Cassidy is no stranger to murder. A high school English teacher specializing in the Gothic writer R. M. Holland, she teaches a course on it every year. But when one of Clare's colleagues and closest friends is found dead, with a line from R. M. Holland's most famous story, *'The Stranger,'* left by her body,

Clare is horrified to see her life collide with the storylines of her favorite literature. To make matters worse, the police suspect the killer is someone Clare knows.

Copies of the book are available at the Library.



2020 Tax Forms

Federal Tax Forms

1040 & 1040SR forms and their instruction booklets are at the library. Request copies for curbside pickup.

CT Tax Forms

The state of Connecticut is not sending paper copies to the library this year. We have made copies of the forms at the library. To order a copy from the state see the phone numbers below:

DRS Assistance at Taxpayers' Fingertips The DRS website (<https://portal.ct.gov/DRS>) has the answer to many state tax questions during normal business hours: Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Phone (ask questions and request paper forms by mail): - 860-297-5962 (from anywhere) - 800-382-9463 (Connecticut calls outside the Greater Hartford calling area only)

Thank You

Donations: Books

Carolyn Freeman Book
Paula Brown Book In
memory of Karen L (Kirsche)
Miller

In memory of Donald Wilson:

Paul and Nancy Wilson
Michele Lopez
Sandra and Richard Handel Jr.

Library Meetings:

Friends of the Library

Monday March 1st at 7 p.m.

Library Board of Directors:

Thursday March 18th at 7 p.m.
via Zoom

To Reach the Library

20 Freestone Avenue

Portland, CT 06480

860-342-6770

www.portlandlibraryct.org

Library Director

Janet Nocek

jnocek@portlandct.org

Wednesday March 24, 2021 7:00p.m.

Zoom Presentation

Welcome Home To Native Plants

Presenter: Kathy Connolly

Portland River Valley Garden Club and the Portland Garden Club are sponsoring a joint gardening program to get your garden ready for Spring. All are welcome!

