

Check it out...



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A Monthly Publication of the Portland Library February 2022

Library Closings for February holidays:

Monday February 21st for Presidents Day holiday!

Wednesday February 23, 2022 at 7:00p.m. Zoom

Around the World in 80 Gardens

Dr. Richard Benfield, Professor

From the lush floral kingdoms of the Pacific to the arid gardens of Australia, Dr. Richard Benfield introduces 80 unique gardens of the world in this interactive presentation. Known for his expertise and sense of humor, Benfield takes attendees through the three-acre gardens in the Singapore Changi Airport and the tropical gardens of the Seychelles and the Canary Islands. The program culminates with the beautiful English country gardens of Benfield's home country.

Richard Benfield is Emeritus Professor of Geography at Central Connecticut State University in New Britain. **Registration requested.**

To join remote meetings; access it through the library website www.portlandlibraryct.org
Zoom: the ID is 8603426777
and the Passcode is Portland

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.

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!

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

Wifi printing available from your mobile device or from your devices at home.

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!**



Tuesday March 8th at 6:30p.m.

CT African American Heroines Zoom

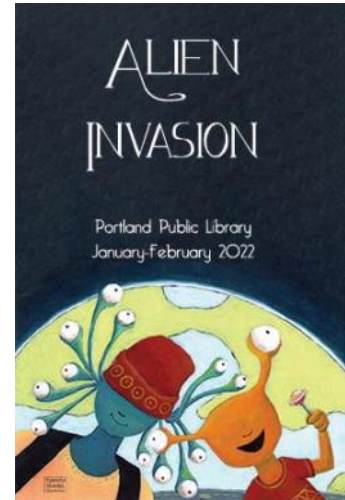
African Americans have played a major role in the development of our state, our nation and our world. African American women from CT are no exception! Join us for an interactive multi-media program by the Connecticut Women's Hall of Fame and learn about some of Connecticut's most remarkable African American heroines. You'll be inspired by their stories.

Registration Requested!

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.
February 1, 8, 15, 22

Storytime for Toddlers and Tots: Mother Goose on the Loose

Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m.
February 2, 9, 16, 23



Take Your Child to the Library Day Saturday, February 5

Visit the library between 10-3 on Saturday, February 5 for a special Take Your Child to the Library Day celebration. No registration is required for these free activities.

- Sign up for our Winter Reading challenge and color a square for our interactive artwork posted on the bulletin board. Each square gets us closer to revealing pictures that show what aliens are doing at the Portland Library.
- Find the aliens hidden throughout the children's department and win a prize!
- Make your own rocketship craft!

Youth Services News and Events

Explore the Marvel Universe

Thursdays at 3:45 p.m.

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: Paper Heart Flower Bouquets

Wednesday, February 9 at 6:30 p.m.

Make a special heart-shaped flower bouquet and decorated pot for yourself or a loved one this Valentine's Day. 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.**



**Portland
Library**

www.portlandlibraryct.org

Teen Programs

Teen Advisory Guild (TAG) Monday, February 14 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.

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.**



Terrific Twosday!

Tuesday, February 22

Stop in "two" to the library on Tuesday, 2/22/22, for a celebration of the number 2! Take part in a scavenger hunt to find the 22 "terrible twos" that have run away from our librarians and make a pencil topper for your #2 pencil. Registration is not required. We look forward "two" seeing you!

**Instagram
@portlandlibraryct**



More News...

Thank You

In Person Book Clubs

February 3rd at 6:00p.m.

First Thursday Night Book Club (in person & Zoom)

***These Ghosts are Family* by Maisie Card**

Stanford Solomon's shocking, thirty-year-old secret is about to change the lives of everyone around him. Stanford has done something no one could ever imagine. He is a man who faked his own death and stole the identity of his best friend. He is actually Abel Paisley.

And now, nearing the end of his life, Stanford is about to meet his firstborn daughter, Irene Paisley, a home health aide who has unwittingly shown up for her first day of work to tend to the father she thought was dead.

Tuesday February 1st at 1:00p.m.

T.A.B. (Talk about Books)

Mrs. Lincoln's Dressmaker

by Jennifer Chiaverini

In a life that spanned nearly a century and witnessed some of the most momentous events in American history, Elizabeth Hobbs Keckley was born a slave. A gifted seamstress, she earned her freedom by the skill of her needle, and won the friendship of First Lady Mary Todd Lincoln by her devotion, illuminating the extraordinary relationship the two women shared.

Tuesday February 15th at 1:00p.m.

Mystery Lover's Book Club

***Open Season* by C.J. Box**

Joe Pickett is the new game warden in Twelve Sleep, Wyoming, a town where nearly everyone hunts and the game warden—especially one like Joe who won't take bribes or look the other way—is far from popular. When he finds a local hunting outfitter dead, splayed out on the woodpile behind his state-owned home, he takes it personally. There had to be a reason that the outfitter, with whom he's had run-ins before, chose his backyard, his woodpile to die in. Even after the "outfitter murders," as they have been dubbed by the local press after the discovery of the two more bodies, are solved, Joe continues to investigate, uneasy with the easy explanation offered by the local police.

Copies of all these books are available at the Library.

Donations: Books

Carolyn Freeman

Henry Strom

William Sullivan

Endowment

Muriel Barlow

Helen & Laura Sutkowski

Library Closings:

**The Library is closed Monday
February 21st for Presidents' Day
holiday!**

Library Meetings:

Friends of the Library

Monday February 7th at 7:00 p.m.

Library Board of Directors:

Thursday February 17th 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

Masks requirements:

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



Displays at the Library for February:

Chocolates & Desserts,
Romance Fiction,
Black History items
and our patron-favorite
staff picks!

Portland Forum February 24th @7pm on Zoom

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.