

Library Hours

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday
10:00AM – 8:00PM
Thursday
12:00PM – 8:00PM
Friday and Saturday
10:00AM – 5:00PM

Holiday Closings

Election Day

Tuesday, November 4

Veterans Day

Tuesday, November 11

Thanksgiving

(Wednesday, November 26 close at 5:00PM)

Thursday, November 27

Friday, November 28

Christmas

(Wednesday, December 24 open 10:00AM – 12:00PM)

Thursday, December 25

Friday, December 26

New Year's Day

(Wednesday, December 31 open 10:00AM – 12:00PM)

Thursday, January 1



FRIENDS OF THE PORTLAND LIBRARY

Volume 19, Number 2

Fall 2008

A Letter from the President

Dear Friends:

Autumn is always a busy time of year for the Friends of the Portland Library. Hopefully, you were able to attend the Brownstone Festival in September and our Fall Book Sale in October. As you will read elsewhere in this newsletter, both of these events were very successful. In addition, the preparation and distribution of this town-wide newsletter is a major undertaking for our small Executive Board.

Now it is time to launch our 2009 membership drive. Your contributions to the Friends help to provide those items that make Portland Library such a very special place. Both the Library's DVD collection and the popular Museum Pass Program are funded entirely by the generosity of our 425 members. But these programs are expensive to run. In 2008, the Friends will contribute \$10,000 to the Library for the purchase of DVDs. Portland Library's Mystic Seaport pass alone costs \$500 per year. The Friends also fund Portland Library's artist receptions, purchase reference materials, equipment and furnishings for the Library, and sponsor many of the Library's special events and programs for children and families.

Please help us keep Portland Library a vibrant and vital resource and learning center for residents of all ages by donating generously to the Friends. Included with this newsletter is a membership form. Please take the time to fill it out and return the form. Your membership donation is tax deductible in accordance with federal and state law. Benefits of membership include access to opening night of our Fall Book Sale and coupons that can be used at our various book sales and to offset library fines. If you have been a member in the past, it is important that you continue your membership. If you are new to town or have not previously been a member, please seriously consider joining us this year. If you also would like to help the Friends in other ways, please check off the appropriate place on the membership form and return it to us.

You are always welcome to join us at our Board meetings, which are usually held on the first Monday of the month at 7pm at the Portland Library. Please call the Library to confirm the meeting date for a particular month.

Thank you and have a safe and happy holiday season.

Sincerely,
Stephanie Tatro

To Reach the Library

General Information and
Reference: (860) 342-6770
Fax: (860) 342-6778
Website:
www.portlandlibraryct.org

Books for Babies

It's never too early for children to learn the joy of books! The Friends want to give every new Portland baby a free "Books for Babies" kit. Each kit contains

- o *Shake, Rattle and Read* Board Book (various titles)
- o Books for Babies bib
- o Baby's First Library Card
- o *The ABCs for Developing Your Child's Mind* brochure
- o *Raising a Reader, Raising a Writer* brochure
- o *Babies Love Books: a Guide for Grown-ups* brochure
- o Bookmark with Reading Tips

To receive a free "Books for Babies" kit, please call Alison Harris at 342-0635.

Friends Participate in Brownstone Festival

On Saturday September 13th, the Friends of the Portland Library held a bake sale and a book sale as part of Portland's annual Brownstone Festival. The weather cooperated this year and many Portland residents enjoyed the Friends booth as well as the rest of the Festival.

Thanks to the following Friends who provided the wonderful treats for our bake sale:

Maria Eiler
Edna Liberty
Mary Maclivain
Karen Reinhart
Eleanor Robinson
Denise Schneider
Rosella Stevenson
Peggy Tierney
Regina Woltmann

We really appreciate your support!

Resident
Portland, CT 06480

Friends of the Portland Library
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(860) 342-6770



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SPECIAL EVENTS: Please Mark your Calendar

Storyteller: Diane Postoian - Wednesday, November 19th at 3:00 p.m.

Diane will be bringing her humorous storytelling performance to the Portland Library on Wednesday, November 19th at 3:00 p.m. This performance is for children in K through 5th grade. Registration is required and will begin on October 19th. Please call the Library to reserve your spot or complete the on-line registration process at www.portlandlibraryct.org/calendarofevents.

Diane Postoian has made children her business for the last 25 years. As a teacher, comedian, storyteller, actress, and child right's advocate, Diane has made a difference in the lives of countless children. In 2006, Diane received an Honorary Doctorate in Fine Arts for her life-long work in education and theatre.

This event is being sponsored by the Friends of the Portland library.

Ready to Read:

This popular program series is for children in kindergarten to 2nd grade who have made the transition into reading! A fun and lively monthly program, Ready to Read, is designed to enhance the core components a child needs to learn to read and to strengthen the child's understanding of what they are reading.

- Thursday, November 20th from 4:00-5:00 pm
Theme: Mmmm Pie!
- Thursday, December 18th from 4:00-5:00 p.m.
Theme: Holiday Happenings!

Registration Required

MERRINESS & MISTLETOE: - Wednesday, December 10th at 10:30 a.m.

Children ages 2-5 years old and a parent or caregiver are invited to join us for a special holiday event. Make a gift for someone special, learn about different holiday traditions, listen to stories, and spread some holiday cheer! Registration is required.

COZY UP TO A GOOD BOOK: Winter Read-In! - Thursday, December 11th from 3:00-4:30 p.m.

Children in grades 3 to 6 are invited to join us for an afternoon of, what else? READING! The hot cocoa and snack bar will be up and running, serving up delights from 3:30-4:30 p.m. Hourly challenges to individuals and to the group with prizes will keep things interesting while you and your friends cozy up with good books all afternoon long! The reading material is on us! Registration is required.

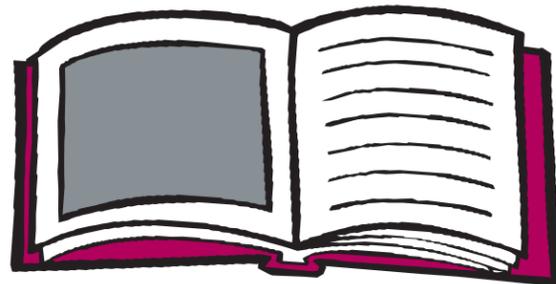
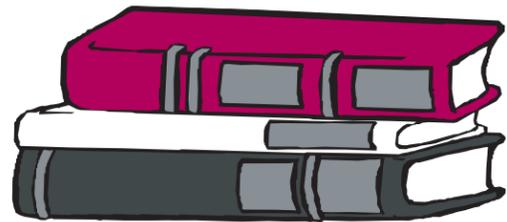
The Teen Advisory Board will continue to meet on the third Monday of the month at 3:00 p.m. through December. This active group of Portland teens continues to put its stamp on Portland Library services by advising Youth Service's staff on teen issues and making suggestions for new materials and programs. The group recently helped to spruce up the Library for the fall by painting beautiful murals in the Library's entranceway. Be on the look out for their first ever, teen-run event. Details will be available at the Library.

New members are always welcome at TAB meetings. Interested students must be in grades 6 or higher to attend. Please contact the Youth Services Department at the Library for more information.

LIBRARY YOUTH SERVICES HAPPENINGS...

The Library's Youth Services Department would like to thank the Friends of the Portland Library for its continued support! October's Halloween Spooktacular with Dan Bowan was an unequivocal success with all 80 spots taken up weeks before the show. Without the Friends, the Library would not be able to provide the quality, free, family entertainment that Portland's residents need. THANK YOU!

For more information visit www.portlandlibraryct.org.



Another Successful Annual Book Sale for the Friends

Books, Books and more Books! The Friends held another very successful Annual Book Sale during the weekend of October 17-19, 2008. The Annual Book Sale, which is our largest fundraising event (other than our Membership Drive), raised approximately \$2800 this year.

All the books, puzzles, videos, DVDs and CDs sold at the event were collected throughout the year thanks to generous donations from the public. This year, the Friends received so many donations that the truck used to transport them from the storage facilities at BIS to the Library and the Senior Center was heaving under the weight of the full boxes. Our small but eager group of volunteers worked in earnest Thursday afternoon to get the sites ready. Under the direction of Phyllis Greene and Bob Casati, veteran book sale organizers, the books flew quickly from the truck on to the tables. When the doors opened on Friday evening, a line of anxious buyers was patiently waiting to search the tables to select their favorite authors, or discover a rare edition, or settle in with a classic. Sales were brisk throughout the weekend, and the Friends donated all remaining books and tapes to the United Way and a local orphanage.

The Friends would not be able to run a successful Annual Book Sale without the help of a veritable army of volunteers. This year's volunteers included students from PMS, PHS and Xavier High School, representatives of Boy Scout Troop #2, Girl Scout Troop, St. Mary's CCD program and Portland's Teen Advisory Council, Youth Action Council, Public Works Department and Library. In addition, we need to thank Portland Fire Department Company #1 for the use of their sturdy tables, Tri-Town and Country Market for the donated bags and Portland Library, Senior Center and BIS for the use of their facilities. Finally, we would like to thank the many Friends' members who spent countless hours organizing, planning and executing the event.

The Friends are already making plans for next year's Annual Book Sale. We eagerly await your donations and will be holding our next collection on December 7th. The "Read and Recycle" events are held on the 1st Thursday of each month (except November) at BIS from 3-6 pm. Thank you so much for all of your support and we look forward to seeing you all at our next Annual Book Sale in October 2009!

The Portland Library extends sincere thanks for donations received to the Endowment and Memorial funds, as are the many gifts of materials to support our book and audio collections.

Museum Pass Program

High gas prices got you down? Why not plan a day trip to a local museum or attraction? With Portland Library's Museum Pass Program, you can visit many of these local treasures for free or at significantly reduced admission. Here is a list of available passes:

Free Admission:

Connecticut River Museum
Florence Griswold Museum
KidCity: A Hands-on Children's Museum
Lutz Children's Museum
Mystic Seaport
New Britain Museum of American Art
Roaring Brook Nature Center
Wadsworth Athenaeum

Reduced Admission Passes:

Children's Museum (formerly Science Center of Connecticut)
Maritime Aquarium and Imax Theater
Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center
Mystic Aquarium
New England Air Museum
Peabody Museum of Natural History
Roger Williams Park and Zoo

All passes are funded by the Friends of the Portland Library. Passes can be reserved online at www.portlandlibraryct.org, by phone (342-6670) or by visiting Portland Library.

Artist Receptions

The Friends of the Portland Library hosts a series of Artist Receptions at the Library. Initiated by Jackie McMahon over ten years ago, area artists have the opportunity to display their work in the Mary Flood Room for one month. The receptions are usually held on the first Saturday of that month. The public has the opportunity to view the artwork on display, meet the artist, and enjoy refreshments provided by members of the Friends of the Portland Library. The artwork is available for sale.

Linda Cunningham has organized these receptions for the past 8 years. This will be the last year of her involvement. The Executive Board of the Friends would like to thank her and Caroline Flaim for their hard work. The Board also wishes to thank all the volunteer members of the Friends who bake and work as hostesses for these receptions.

The dates for the remaining reception in 2008 and a partial schedule for 2009 schedule follow. Please check in the Rivereast for additional information on the featured artists and reception times.

January 10, 2009 – artist to be determined
March, 2009 – Student Art Month (date to be determined)
April, 2009 – Student Art Month (date to be determined)
May 2, 2009 – Katherine Sandals
June 6, 2009 – Brownstone Arts