Celebrating 120 years with the community

The library’s 120th Anniversary Year logo, which emphasizes the “public” part of our mission, has been unveiled. Its structural design emphasizes our building’s columnar architecture and focuses on the library as a destination or place for the community. This month’s signature program, part of a series featuring music that spanned the decades, is the Revels-Bey Band on Friday, February 17, celebrating with music from the 1920s and ’30s. Look for a Teen Hunger Games Event (see back page) in March and a busy April schedule.

At two other milestones in our history, 1942 and 1992, we reached out to national leaders with the question, “Which books of the last 50 years do you believe have most profoundly affected the thoughts and actions of humankind?” This year, as we celebrate another milestone, we are calling on leaders from our community to share books or films that have had an impact in their lives.

Calling All Timekeepers: Were you a third grader who added a memento to our time capsule back in 1992? If so, we’d love to hear from you. Please send an email to kellyj@pwpl.org and tell us your story.

Music Council welcomes pianist Michael Brown

Michael Brown, hailed as a “vividly characterized and rhythmically free-spirited” pianist by The New York Times, will be welcomed by the Music Advisory Council on Sunday, February 26 at 3 p.m., performing selections from Debussy, Mendelssohn and others. This concert is in memory of Carolyn Mandel.

Mr. Brown is the First Prize Winner of the 2010 Concert Artists Guild Victor Elmaleh Competition. He has appeared in many major venues including Carnegie Hall, Avery Fisher Hall, the Metropolitan Museum of Art and Symphony Space. Mr. Brown has appeared as soloist with the Juilliard Orchestra at Alice Tully Hall and has participated in the Marlboro Music Festival.

This season, Mr. Brown will give recitals at Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, the Gilmore Festival’s Rising Stars Recital Series (Kalamazoo, MI), Market Square Concerts (Harrisburg, PA) and the Chamber Music Society of Little Rock. He will perform Beethoven’s Third Concerto with the New Haven Symphony, collaborate with the Linden String Quartet and tour with violinist Elena Urioste.

Michael Brown’s complete biography will be available in the program. Music Advisory Council concerts are funded by the Port Washington Library Foundation.

February holidays

The library will be open from 1 to 5 p.m. on Presidents’ Day, February 20.

LI Reads

Registration is now open for transportation to and from the LI Reads event on Sunday, April 22 at the Plainview-Old Bethpage Public Library. Our speaker is author Alyson Richman, who will discuss her new novel The Lost Wife. Pick up and return from Christopher Morley Park. Cost is $7.50; registration is required. Questions? Call Lee Fertitta at 883-4400, Ext. 135.

Text alerts enhanced

When you receive a courtesy text message on your cell phone, you can reply to that text message with the word “renew.” The system will attempt to renew all of your items and one of two messages is then returned to you: your items could not be renewed (if no items are eligible for renewal) or (x) of (y) items were renewed (if some or all items are eligible for renewal).

Please note: Some items not eligible for renewal are overdue items, items with holds waiting, or items already renewed up to their limit. See notice inside to find out how to “opt-in” to receive text messages.

FOL Book & Author Luncheon

Save the date for the Friends of the Library’s 43rd annual Book & Author Luncheon: Friday, May 11 at a new location: The North Hills Country Club. Check next month’s newsletter and pwpl.org/fol for information on authors and registration.

Pay fines online

You can now log on to your library account to pay library fines using a Visa or Mastercard credit card or a bank card with the Mastercard or Visa logo (no Discovery or American Express at this time). Minimum payment amount is $5.

Budget news

The library plans to remain under the 2 percent tax cap for 2012-2013 budget. You are invited to our first budget hearing on Wednesday, February 15 at 7:30 p.m. See other dates inside.
Friends of the Library announces exciting spring events

The Friends of the Library has a full and varied programming line-up planned for late winter and spring. Please join us for these events planned and funded by the FOL. All events except the Book & Author Luncheon are in the library’s Lapham Room.

• The FOL kicks off its 2012 programming with a return of the popular paperback book swap on Saturday, March 3 from 1 to 4 p.m. At this event, hundreds of patrons share thousands of gently used paperbacks. Children’s, teen and adult books are welcome, but please bring no more than 20, although you may take as many as you like.

• FOL University on Sunday, March 25 at 1:30 p.m. will feature Professor Orin Grossman of Fairfield University speaking on Leonard Bernstein and Aaron Copland. FOL U patrons will remember Professor Grossman’s standing-room only program on George Gershwin last fall.

• Noted authors Lucette Lagnado and Andre Aciman will discuss how the Egypt of their youth informs their work at the annual Ruth D. Bogen Memorial Lecture on Wednesday, April 18 at 7:30 p.m. Lagnado is an investigative reporter for the Wall Street Journal and award-winning memoirist of The Man in the White Sharkskin Suit and its newly published sequel, The Arrogant Years. Aciman is a Distinguished Professor of Comparative Literature at the CUNY Graduate Center. Among his works are the novel Call Me by Your Name, the memoir Out of Egypt, and the new Alibis: Essays on Elsewhere.

• The Friends’ 43rd annual Book & Author Luncheon will take place on Friday, May 11 at 11 a.m. at a new venue: the North Hills Country Club. Information on the authors and registration procedures will appear in upcoming newsletters and online at pwpl.org. Save the date!

The Friends annual fundraising appeal is under way now. Your support allows us to continue to underwrite library programs and services, as well as produce our own special events. Donate online at pwpl.org/fol or use donation envelopes available at the library.

Walkin’ the Line

Tom Cavanagh, as Johnny Cash, performs the Man in Black’s greatest hits accompanied by his band and the “Carter Sisters” on Sunday, February 12 at 3 p.m. Close your eyes and you’ll think you’re in Folsom Prison.

Elly Shodell receives Fulbright Grant

The library is happy to announce that one of our own, Elly Shodell, director of the Local History Center, has received a 2011/12 Fulbright Specialist grant in the field of Library Science.

The goal of the Fulbright program is to promote increased connections between educational and cultural institutions around the world. Under the auspices of the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, with the cooperation of the Institute of International Education, Shodell’s grant recognizes the importance of archives and historical preservation as a worldwide concern. She will spend a semester in Mozambique, Africa, providing training to archivists, records managers and graduate history and library students. She will also lead workshops at the National Archives in Maputo on disaster preparedness and oral history techniques and outcomes.

The Port Washington Public Library has long been a leader in special collections and archives preservation. Shodell “looks forward to sharing with other professionals and gaining new ideas and collaborations, particularly in the areas of technology and digitization.”

It seems fitting that in this, the 120th year of the Port Washington Public Library’s existence, a global dimension has been added to our vision for the future.
Community Synagogue celebrates 60 years

The Community Synagogue Celebrates its 60th Anniversary with an exhibition in the library’s Community Gallery. The exhibit depicts the early struggles to establish the congregation, and a collection of rare Judaica.

The founding families of the Community Synagogue struggled to establish a reform congregation and establish a permanent home in Port Washington. The twenty five families united to purchase “The Chimneys” on Middle Neck Road, which had been the residence of the Holmes family. In 1954, Jay Holmes put his mother’s house on the market and welcomed the congregation’s founding members as he thought his mother would be pleased to help them realize their plans and dreams.

A timeline display has been created by artist and graphic designer Aaron Morgan, who is a member of The Community Synagogue and the library’s Art Advisory Council. This unique historical display covers the events occurring in each of the 60 years of synagogue life, in the United States and in Israel.

Historical papers and documents pertaining to the early years of the congregation are displayed as part of the exhibit. In other display cases, priceless Judaica artifacts, several dating from the Iron and Brass Age, from the Nathaniel Hess Collection will be shown.

The exhibit also contains items of Judaica used in the Synagogue sanctuary and home observance.

Friday, February 17 at 7:30 p.m.
The Revels-Bey Group
Celebrating the library’s 120th Anniversary with music of the 1920s and 30s — Napoleon Revels-Bey, drums; Radan Schwartz, organ; Annette St. John, vocals; Ayodele Maaheru, guitar/vocals.

Port artist exhibits in Main Gallery

Artists are forever pushing the boundaries of materials and processes to create new images. Port artist Seth Ehrlich has opened the doors to a process of creating sculptures that uses cast paper pulp. He says that one of his motivations for doing so is to limit his carbon footprint, and hopes others will follow in his quest for eco-friendly artwork.

Mr. Ehrlich’s paper sculptures will be on exhibit in the Main Gallery through February 28. The Art Advisory Council hosts a reception on February 4, from 2 to 4 p.m., which includes a demonstration by the artist at 3 p.m. While this is Ehrlich’s first art show, he has spent a lifetime as a woodworker and potter, both of which have informed and influenced these latest creations. Making new and innovative products and processes gained him national attention when his folding acoustic guitar was the centerfold in Popular Science, and was featured in Acoustic Guitar and Men’s Journal magazines and other international publications.

“To my knowledge, nobody is doing paper casting to make the kinds of forms that I am exploring. Much of the process that I am using is a result of my years as a potter. I was tired of being such an energy glutton, firing each of my pieces to 2000 degrees two times and using some toxic chemicals for glazing. I thought it would be interesting to adapt some of the same skills to casting paper. I wanted to push the limits of this technique to see what paper can do.”

Each piece is first sculpted from clay and then a mold is cast around it. The clay is reused over and over again. The mold is sealed and the actual casting is formed in it. This is different from paper-mache because there are no binders. After two days of drying time, the paper sculpture is separated from the mold and coated in eco-friendly, non-polluting sealants which are strong and can be cleaned. The finished pieces, including abstract and figurative designs, are finished with a variety of paints, dyes, metallic powders, concrete and glitter.

Several of the pieces play with the idea of illusions, using paper to look strong, heavy and solid. One is a casting of a man-hole cover, another is a Japanese garden with paper that appears to be raked sand and several others appear to be stone, rusted metal and concrete.

Important Budget Dates

Budget Meetings:
February 15, March 21, March 28 at 7:30 p.m.

Library Budget Vote:
Tuesday, April 3 from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Welcome to the page for Children’s Services. Be sure to look here for upcoming exhibits, programs and articles relating to Children’s Services and the Parenting Information Center. Parents: Please comply with the age guidelines for these programs and be prepared to show proof of local residency.

Vacation Week Programs

The following programs are sponsored by the Children’s Advisory Council, which is funded by donations to the Port Washington Library Foundation. Free tickets are required and will be available beginning February 13.

Songs & Stories, Cartoons & Comedy Tuesday, February 21 at 2:30 p.m.
Join award-winning storyteller and songwriter Keith Munslow and be prepared to giggle! Keith’s hilarious school age stories are set to funky piano playing, soulful singing, and lightning fast drawing. For children in grades K and up with an adult.

Talking Drums Thursday, February 23 at 2:30 p.m.
Artist Kobla Mensa Dente will lead you on a journey of musical exploration with his African instruments and songs. You’ll learn how various traditional African instruments are played and be able to count, spell and jump to the beat of the African drum! Ages 4 and up with an adult.

Kindergarten Through Sixth Grade

To register and/or inquire about availability for the following programs, please call Children's Services at 883-4400, Ext. 150.

After School Story Time – Wednesdays at 4 p.m.
For children in kindergarten through second grade without an adult. Registration began in January – call for availability. Does not meet February 22.

Tweens’ Night Out: Make ‘em Laugh Friday, February 10 from 7 to 8:30 p.m.
Students in grades 5 and 6 are invited for a night of improvisation, jokes and storytelling. Find out what tickles your funny bone and how you can stand out as a stand-up comedian. Bring jokes if you have them or pick new ones we supply. Led by Elise May, director of PWPL’s Pre-Teen Scene production of “Let’s Do a Show!” Registration in progress.

Book Bunch – Thursday, February 16 at 4 p.m.

Page Turners – Tuesday, February 28 at 7:15 p.m.

Early Childhood

To register and/or inquire about availability for the following programs, please call Children’s Services at 883-4400, Ext. 150.

Mother Goose Rhyme Time For children ages birth to 17 months with an adult – siblings welcome. Three Thursdays, February 2, 9, 16 at 11:30 a.m. Registration not required.

Preschool Story Time Fridays at 10:30 a.m. or 1:30 p.m.
For children ages 3½ to 5 without an adult. Registration not required. Does not meet February 24.

Story Time with Miss Lucy and Mr. Mike Monday, February 6 at 10:30 a.m.
For children ages 2½ to 5 with an adult. Registration not required.

Toddler Story Time – Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m.
For children ages 2½ to 3½ with an adult. Registration not required. Does not meet February 21.

Valentine’s Day Craft Monday February 13 at 12 noon or 1 p.m.
A seasonal craft, stories and songs. Ages 2½ to 5 with an adult. Registration begins February 6.

Pajama Story Time Wednesday, February 22 at 7 p.m.
Come in pajamas and listen to bedtime stories. For children ages 2 to 5 with an adult. Family members welcome. Registration not required.

Hands On Music – Monday, February 27 Music, stories and songs. Birth to 17 months with an adult at 11 a.m. Ages 18 months to 5 years with an adult at 12 noon or 1 p.m. Registration begins February 13.

Parent Child Workshop Wednesdays, February 29, March 7, 14, 21 & 28 from 11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.
Spend time with your child and meet new people in an educational and creative environment. For children ages 18 to 29 months with an adult – siblings welcome. Registration begins February 13 — families must be Port Washington residents; priority given to first time registrants.

March Madness – Harlem Hoopsters Friday, March 2 at 4 p.m.
Celebrate March Madness and be prepared to be astounded and amazed with the Harlem Hoopsters, professional freestyle basketball athletes. These players tour regularly to NBA and College Half Times and have starred in Nike® and And 1® commercials, as well as video games and motion pictures. With their freestyle moves, fancy dribbling and footwork routines incorporating music and choreography, the Harlem Hoopsters demonstrate the Art of Basketball! For children in grades K and up with an adult. Free tickets are required and will be available beginning February 21. Sponsored by the Children’s Advisory Council, which is funded by donations to the Port Washington Library Foundation.
Musician biographies

This month we welcome authors Paul Devlin and David Evanier, who will discuss their new biographies of Papa Jo Jones and Tony Bennett, respectively. The circulating book collection in Media Services offers dozens of biographies and autobiographies of jazz, pop and blues artists, including these:

Louis Armstrong: *Pops* by Terry Teachout
Josephine Baker: *Jazz Cleopatra* by Phyllis Rose
Count Basie: *Good Morning Blues* by Count Basie
Rosemary Clooney: *Girl Singer* by Rosemary Clooney
John Coltrane: *Coltrane* by Ben Ratliff
Sammy Davis, Jr.: *In Black and White* by Wil Haygood
Miles Davis: *The Definitive Biography* by Ian Carr
Ella Fitzgerald: *Ella Fitzgerald* by Stuart Nicholson
Judy Garland: *Beyond the Rainbow* by Sheridan Morley and Ruth Leon
George Gershwin: *His Life and Work* by Howard Pollack
Dizzy Gillespie: *To Be or Not to Bop* by Dizzy Gillespie
Billie Holiday: *Wishing on the Moon* by Donald Clarke
Lena Horne: *Stormy Weather* by James Gavin
Harry James: *Trumpet Blues* by Peter J. Levinson
Robert Johnson: *Escaping the Delta* by Elijah Wald

Charles Mingus: *Beneath the Underdog* by Charles Mingus
Thelonious Monk: *Monk* by Laurent De Wilde
Jelly Roll Morton: *Jelly's Blues* by Howard Reich and William Gaines
Bud Powell: *Dance of the Infidels* by Francis Paudras
Nelson Riddle: *September in the Rain* by Peter J. Levinson
Richard Rodgers by William G. Hyland
Artie Shaw: *Three Chords for Beauty's Sake* by Tom Nolan
Nina Simone: *Princess Noire* by Nadine Cohodas
Frank Sinatra: *Frank: The Voice* by James Kaplan
Ethel Waters: *Heat Wave* by Donald Bogle

Gail Storm plays Carole King

On February 10 at 7:30 p.m., multi-talented singer and pianist Gail Storm will perform Carole King's Tapestry album, which held Billboard's No. 1 spot for 15 consecutive weeks, remained on the charts for nearly six years, and sold 10 million copies in the United States, and 25 million worldwide. Happy 70th Birthday, Carole King!

The Naval War of 1812 in the Gulf of Maine

On Thursday, February 16 at 7:30 p.m., Dr. Josh Smith will talk about his most recent book *The Fog of War: The Naval War of 1812 in the Gulf of Maine*. Smith is a professor of history at the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy in Kings Point and head of the Department of Humanities.

Most Americans have at best a vague understanding of the war of 1812; it gets lost in the shadow of the earlier Revolution and the later Civil War. But as Professor Smith will explain, the naval engagements along the coast of Maine during the War of 1812 were of considerable importance. When we think of sea power, we naturally think first of Lord Nelson at Trafalgar and the Allied Victory at Sea in World War II, but the less dramatic exercise of sea power in smaller wars has also been important and deserves our attention as well.

This program is sponsored by the Nautical Advisory Council, with funding from the Port Washington Library Foundation.

Sign up for text message alerts

SMS ALERTS provide you with mobile text messages as a supplement to e-mailed notices. Once you opt in through your online library account, you will receive texts for courtesy notices, overdue notices and pick-up notices. Texts are simply alerts — not complete or detailed notifications. If you choose to receive SMS alerts, you will continue to be notified by phone or e-mail as well, and you may opt out at any time.

If you need assistance, library staff members are here to help.

Romance writers visit on February 14

Our Topical Tuesday program this month celebrates Valentine's Day with romance... writers.

We invite you to join panelists Michele Lang, author of *Lady Lazarus* and the recently released *Dark Victory*, Pamela Burford, award-winning author of fourteen romantic suspense and contemporary romance novels; and Maggie Van Well, author of the humorous contemporary romance *The Chase Is On*.

These talented writers will discuss the writing process, how they hook the reader, why they love to write romance and the business of publishing. Refreshments will be served. The program, which is sponsored by the Friends of the Library, begins at 7:30 p.m.
What’s new in TeenSpace for grades 7 through 12?

Chocolate Cake Pops
Saturday, February 11
at 2:30 p.m.
Teen bakers are invited to learn how to make irresistible mini treats of bite-sized bits of cake on sticks that are hand-dipped in decadent chocolate frosting and decorated with Valentine sprinkles. Registration in progress in TeenSpace. Program fee $5.

Coming Soon!
Teen Hunger Games Event
Saturday, March 24
at 2:30 p.m.
You’ve read the books; now celebrate the Hunger Games film release with us. Activities include Wii Archery, survival skills challenge, cornucopia snacks, and chances to win prizes. Tribute registration begins on March 1 in TeenSpace. FREE. The Reaping begins at 2:30 p.m. “May the odds be ever in your favor.” In celebration of the library’s 120th Anniversary.

Reality Rules
It’s real and it rocks! Non-fiction has become the preferred genre for many teen readers. Amazing facts and true stories are all waiting for you in TeenSpace. Curious about the mysteries of Civil War submarines? Want to know more about the Salem Witch Trials? Check out our Non-Boring Non-Fiction collection where you’re bound to find something to peak your interest. Here are a few recommended titles from our newest collection:

The Dark Game: True Spy Stories by Paul B. Janeczko describes the contributions and techniques of American spies over the course of the past two centuries. [NonFic] YA 327.73 J

Sugar Changed the World: A Story of Magic, Spice, Slavery, Freedom, and Science by Marc Aronson and Marina Budhos traces the history of sugar from its origins in New Guinea around 7000 B.C. to its use in the 21st century to produce ethanol. [NonFic] YA 664.109 A

Flesh & Blood So Cheap: The Triangle Fire and its Legacy by Albert Marrin. On March 25, 1911, the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory in New York City burst into flames. One hundred and forty-six people perished, mostly women. [NonFic] YA 974.7104 M

Why a Curveball Curves: The Incredible Science of Sports edited by Frank Vizard; foreword by Robert Lipsyte. Delve into the science behind sports, including such issues as how to hit a home run and the difficulty of making a three-point shot in basketball. [NonFic] YA 796.015 W