December holidays
The library will be closed Monday and Tuesday, December 24 and 25, and Monday and Tuesday December 31 and January 1.

Klezmer music
Originally, klezmer (plural klezmorim) referred to musical instruments, and was later extended to refer to musicians themselves. It was not until the mid-to-late 20th century that the word was used to identify a musical genre. Early recordings and writings often refer to the style as “Yiddish” music, although it is sometimes called Freilech music. Whatever the definition, it is music for the whole family to enjoy. Temple Beth Israel’s 12-member All Star Klezmer Band performs for your listening and dancing pleasure on Sunday, December 2 at 2 p.m.

Meditate for wellbeing
A relaxation workshop to benefit mind, body and spirit will be held Tuesday, December 11 at 8 p.m. Details in the Calendar of Events.

Fax machine
There is now a fax machine for public use in the Reference Room. Domestic faxes are $1.50 for the first page and $1 for each additional page; international faxes are $4.95 for the first page and $3.45 for each additional page. Payment must be by credit card, debit card or check card. Questions? Call the Reference Room at 883-4400, Ext. 111.

Sandwiched In
Our Friday afternoon lunchtime series continues to stimulate and educate. Join us this month on December 7, 14, 21 and 28 as we explore opera, art, extraterrestrial life and literature. As always, refreshments are provided by the Friends of the Library.

Vacation week fun for kids
Be sure to check out the Library Kids page for vacation week specials. Of course you’ll also find registration information for our regularly scheduled workshops, storytimes and the Parent Child Workshop.

Music Council welcomes Formosa Quartet on Sunday, December 9
The members of the Formosa Quartet — Jasmine Lin, Joseph Lin, Che-Yen Chen and Jacob Braun — have established themselves as leading solo, chamber, and orchestral musicians. With degrees from Juilliard, the New England Conservatory, the Cleveland Institute, Curtis, Harvard, and Yale, they have performed in major venues around the United States, Asia, Europe and South America. The quartet will perform selections from Mendelssohn, Shih-hui Chen, Hugo Wolf and Mozart on Sunday, December 9 at 3 p.m.

Folk Tales
Unique collection on exhibit in the Main Gallery

The items collected by Adam and Flora Hanft represent a range of folk art that crosses centuries, countries and intentions.

“We've called the exhibit Folk Tales,” they say, “because one of the not inconsiderable pleasures of this line of collecting work is that the best (or at least the most revealing, and hence resonant) items have a story to tell, their own kind of double helix. Look long enough, imagine wide enough, and a narrative emerges.

“These stories make us respond to folk art all the more. Each item carries its history on its shoulder, unrespected and hurled into the warp and woof of everyday life, this stuff had a function — whether for play, or as a commercial blandishment.”

Folk Tales will be on exhibit in the Main Gallery December 1 through January 30. (at right Flora Hanft and friend)
Energy conservation and organic products

Library goes “green”

The Port Washington Public Library is responding to energy cost challenges faced by all Long Island and New York businesses with the installation of several energy-reducing control systems. Funds for these projects were obtained by Library Director Nancy Curtin through New York State Library Construction Aide grants and a rebate from the Long Island Power Authority.

The installation of a full state-of-the-art building automation system optimizes heating and cooling based on outdoor temperatures, building characteristics and the library’s variable schedule. The system also uses a concept known as “free cooling,” which allows it to automatically use outdoor air when the air is cool enough and dry enough to avoid energy intensive mechanical cooling. This not only saves energy, it reduces wear and tear on mechanical devices, thereby extending their life.

Electricity costs have been reduced with the installation of occupancy sensors for lighting in appropriate areas. The library continues to move ahead with other energy conservation projects such as humidity controls, and is currently exploring solar energy. Green cleaning products are being used, and an organic landscaping program will be launched in the spring.

The Port Washington Public Library is proud to have control systems in place that are among the most sophisticated being used in Long Island libraries. The steps taken so far bring the PWPL closer to its goal of being an environmentally-friendly “green building.”

Great books for giving 2007

This article was “commissioned” as a list for holiday giving, but Kate Monsour came up with such an appealing array of titles that you’ll want to hold on to it for your own future reading pleasure. After all, why should your friends and family have all the fun?

For the Kids:

The Invention of Hugo Cabret by Brian Selznick. A artful blending of narrative, illustration and cinematic technique. Orphan, clock keeper and thief, Hugo lives in the walls of a busy Paris train station, which survival depends on anonymity. When his world suddenly interlocks with a bookish girl and a bitter old man, Hugo’s undercover life, and his most precious secret, are put in jeopardy.

The Zookeeper’s Wife: A War Story by Diane Ackerman. The remarkable story of Jan Zabinski, director of the Warsaw Zoo, and his wife Antonina, who sheltered 300 Jews in their villa and in animal cages and sheds during World War II. Using Antonina’s diaries and her own research, Ackerman takes us into the Warsaw ghetto.

Run by Ann Patchett. Set in the hours before and after a fateful car accident, Run illustrates the humanity that connects disparate lives, weaving several stories into one surprising narrative.

Biographies:

Tony Bennett in the Studio: A Life of Art & Music by Tony Bennett. In this beautiful book, richly illustrated with his own artwork, Tony Bennett reflects on his career, and the inspiration that continues to infuse both his music and his art.

Einstein: His Life and Universe by Walter Isaacson. Using his newly released personal letters, Isaacson explores how an imaginative, impertinent patent clerk became the mind reader of the creator of the cosmos, the locksmith of the mysteries of the atom and the universe.

Schulz and Peanuts: A Biography by David Michaelis. With Peanuts, Charles Schulz’s humorous strip was anchored in the collective experience and the hardships of his generation. Michaelis masterfully weaves Schulz’s story with the cartoons, revealing that so much more of his life was part of the strip than we ever knew.

Save the date!

Mark your calendar now and plan to join us on Sunday, January 27. The library launches an exciting Family Health Hunt designed to put deductive reasoning to the test and make you feel like detectives uncovering the clues to lifelong health! Grab a magnifying glass and you’re on your way.

Family Health Hurt

Discover the Clues of Good Health

Mark your calendar now and plan to join us on Sunday, January 27. The library launches an exciting Family Health Hunt designed to put deductive reasoning to the test and make you feel like detectives uncovering the clues to lifelong health! Grab a magnifying glass and you’re on your way.

Great books for giving 2007

This article was “commissioned” as a list for holiday giving, but Kate Monsour came up with such an appealing array of titles that you’ll want to hold on to it for your own future reading pleasure. After all, why should your friends and family have all the fun?

For the Kids:

The Invention of Hugo Cabret by Brian Selznick. An artful blending of narrative, illustration and cinematic technique. Orphan, clock keeper and thief, Hugo lives in the walls of a busy Paris train station, where survival depends on anonymity. When his world suddenly interlocks with a bookish girl and a bitter old man, Hugo’s undercover life, and his most precious secret, are put in jeopardy.

The Daring Book for Girls by Jenni Interred with Their Bones by Jenni-
Introducing Port’s Main Street Online!

Port Washington’s Main Street is more than a location. It evokes memories of schools, businesses, transportation, parades, parks, celebrations and community events. It is associated with traditions that have their roots in the founding of our town.

Through a special online project of the Long Island Library Resources Council, our library’s Local History Center has created a digital storehouse featuring Main Street as it appears in postcards, photographs, maps, documents and unique historical ephemera. By visiting our website — www.pwpl.org — you can access a wealth of digitized images and text 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

“This is a milestone in the history of our library,” says Elly Shodell, director of the Local History Center. “We are able to provide access to these materials for people who might not be able to visit the library in person.”

Showcasing the library’s local history collections and archives, Main Street Online!, with its 100+ images (and growing), is the first stage of a planned multi-subject Port Washington Public Library Local History Project.

Past and present Main Street businesses and businesspeople, cultural institutions, churches, landmarks and other buildings, and local events and participants are represented. Highlights include the building of the Long Island Rail Road station, the installation of Main Street’s trolley tracks, views of the Town Dock, Pride in Port parades, tree-planting, and other landmarks and civic activities. All were vital to the development of the community and help to tell Port’s story.

Aerial views of Main Street, such as those showing the Main Street School and the library are also on display. There are handwritten postcards reflecting Port’s past as a seaside resort, as well as a visual walk back in time to the days when Louie’s was still serving customers on a barge in Manhasset Bay. Take a look at the legacy of the past while gaining perspective on the future by visiting Main Street Online!

Major funding is provided by the Port Washington Library Foundation, with additional support from the library’s Nautical Advisory Committee.

What does this mean?

The County Executive is considering the concept of a single county-wide library system, similar to those in Manhattan, Brooklyn and Queens. He has been quoted as saying that a county library system with one board of trustees appointed by the County would be more accountable, transparent and efficient than the system currently in effect, which includes 54 independently funded and run public libraries.

Although Mr. Suozzi has said that if such a plan were to be implemented no buildings would be closed, no services reduced, and no staff eliminated except by attrition, it is not yet clear how this would be accomplished, or how net savings to the taxpayer would result.

Consolidation of libraries?

How does it work now?

While the 54 independent public libraries in Nassau County are locally controlled, they already share services in an effort to reduce costs. Here are examples:

- County residents may borrow materials from any library in Nassau County with their home library card, and may return books and some other materials at any library in the county.

- Library materials are displayed on a shared automated catalog that allows a patron to see the holdings of all libraries in the county and place reserves or renew items. This can also be done remotely from home or elsewhere 24/7.

- Public libraries cooperatively purchase research databases and other types of online databases such as Live Homework Help and downloadable audiobooks and videos.

If you have questions or concerns, here is some contact information:

Port Washington Public Library
Director Nancy Curtin, curtinn@pwpl.org

County Legislator Wayne Wink, w wink@nassaucounty.ny.gov

State Senator Craig Johnson, Johnson@senate.state.ny.us

Assemblyperson Michelle Schimel, schmilm@assembly.state.ny.us

Got skills?

Do you have a special skill or expertise that you would like to share with children? Are you a professional artist, pastry chef or scientist? Children’s Services is looking for adult volunteers who would like to present a fun and interesting workshop for children in grades 3 and 6. Please call the Children’s Room at 883-4400, Ext. 150 and ask for Rachel Fox or Joni Simon.

Coming in January

The Brillaner Duo brings its music for clarinet and piano to the library on Sunday, January 13 at 3 p.m. Pianist Adam Neiman joins us on Sunday, January 20 at 3 p.m. Both concerts are sponsored by the Music Advisory Council.

www.pwpl.org
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.

Got skills?
Do you have a special skill or expertise that you would like to share with children? Are you a professional artist, pastry chef or scientist? Children’s Services is looking for adult volunteers who would like to present a fun and interesting workshop for children in grades 5 and 6. Please call the Children’s Room at 883-4400, Ext. 150 and ask for Rachel Fox or Joni Simon.

Twilight Tuesdays

| Bilingual Story Time — Tuesday, December 11 at 7 p.m. |
| Takes place the second Tuesday of every month. Join local resident Mayra Cruz-Vazquez and children’s librarian Rachel Fox for stories and fingerplays in English and Spanish from 7 to 7:30 p.m. For children ages 2½ to 6 accompanied by an adult. Family members welcome. No registration required. |
| Pajama Story Time — Tuesday, December 18 at 7 p.m. |
| Takes place the third Tuesday of every month. Come in pajamas and listen to bedtime stories with children’s librarian Lucy Salerno from 7 to 7:30 p.m. For children ages 2½ to 5 accompanied by an adult. Family members welcome. No registration required. |

Preschool Workshops

| All Aboard the Music Train — Monday, December 17 at 12 noon or 1 p.m. |
| Join musician Dara Linthwaite for a fun afternoon filled with music, stories and songs all about trains. For children ages 2½ to 5 accompanied by an adult. Registration begins Monday, December 3 at 9:15 a.m. in the Children’s Room or by calling 883-4400, Ext. 150. |
| Winter Fun — Monday, January 7 at 1 or 2 p.m. |
| Enjoy a seasonal craft, stories and fingerplays with presenter Jeanne Hall. Registration begins Monday, December 17 in the Children’s Room or by calling 883-4400, Ext. 150. |

School-Age Workshops

| Tweens’ Night Out — Friday, December 7 from 8 to 10 p.m. |
| Students in grades 5 and 6 are invited for an evening get together at the library! The night’s activity includes a workshop with Children’s Advisory Council member Elise Tepper who will show participants fun and innovative ways to wrap gifts. Afterwards, there will be some time to socialize. Light refreshments will be provided. Registration begins Saturday, December 1 in the Children’s Room or by calling 883-4400, Ext. 150. Participants are asked to bring a gift ready to gift wrap or an empty box to practice with. |
| Matter of Fact — Friday, January, 11 from 4 to 5 p.m. |
| Mad Science of Long Island presents a fun workshop for children in grades 1 to 4. Investigate the ingredients of the universe; build marshmallow molecules; play Alchemist by turning a nickel into gold (well, almost)!…and use a secret formula to make silly putty. Registration begins Friday, December 28 at 9:15 in the Children’s Room or by calling 883-4400, Ext. 150. |

Parent Child Workshop

| January 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 from 11:15 to 12:30 p.m. |
| Spend time with your child and meet new people in an educational and creative environment. Each week a different resource professional is on hand to discuss speech and hearing, physical fitness, nutrition and behavior. For children ages 18 to 29 months and a parent or caregiver — siblings welcome. In-person registration begins Monday, December 17 at 8:15 a.m. in the Children’s Room. Birth certificates are required as proof of age; families must be Port Washington residents; priority given to first time registrants. Co-sponsored by the Port Washington Public Library Family Place. |

Monthly Display

A collection of fun and artistic calendars through the years will be on display throughout the month.

Vacation Week Specials

| American Footsteps Thursday, December 27 at 2:30 p.m. |
| Join us for a toe-tapping performance of country music and dance presented by the Foot and Fiddle Dance Company. Costumed performers reveal the story of dance in rural America with a dazzling blend of Irish step dance, tap, clogging and square dance. Everyone is invited to try out the rhythmic clapping and body-slapping pattern called “hambone” and sing along with the performers. For children in grades K to 6 accompanied by an adult. Tickets required and will be available in the Children’s Room beginning Monday, December 10 at 9:15 a.m. |
| Treasure Tin Friday, December 28 |
| Learn how to decoupage with Shirley Ruby and decorate a metal canister that you can fill with your favorite candy, collections or treasures. Workshop I for children in grades K to 2 accompanied by an adult from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Workshop II for children in grades 3 to 6 from 4:45 to 5:45 p.m. Registration begins Monday, December 10 at 9:15 a.m. in the Children’s Room or by calling 883-4400, Ext. 150. Workshop fee: $3. |
Native American storytelling

Join us on Thursday, December 20 at 7:30 p.m. for a special SoundSwap event—an evening of Native American storytelling featuring the words and drums of John Two Crows and Stanley Standing One. Together they tell Native American stories, which teach, entertain and inspire people young and old. The stories are an insight into the cultures of the first peoples of Turtle Island (North America).

The duo will perform an interactive program of stories, songs and drumming. “Drumming is the rhythmic pulse of life,” says John. It is the heartbeat of humans, animals and plants. Together with Native American storytelling, the experience can connect us to all forces of nature.”

Two Crow gathers his stories from various published authors and storytellers, and many are geared toward arousing interest in Native American culture and the history of the entity they call “our Mother, the Earth.” Stanley’s rhythmic patterns beautifully compliment Two Crow’s stories, and the evening will include a drum circle where the audience will be invited to participate.

Career assistance at the library

The library’s free career counseling program is up and running. Our career coach Diane Reynolds meets privately with those seeking assistance in job placement, career options, skills assessment, resume and cover letter preparation, and interviewing techniques. For further information or to schedule an appointment, please call the Reference Room at 883-4400, Ext. 111.

Diane teaches Career Development in the Graduate School of Human Services at the College of New Rochelle. She received her M.S. Degree in Counseling from Hofstra University.

Need homework help?

Use Your Port Washington Public Library Card to Connect With a Live Tutor!

If you’re a student in grades 4 to 12, log on to our website at www.pwpl.org between 3 and 9 p.m. daily and click on the homework help section. You’ll be connected to a live tutor who can help with homework questions.

This service is made possible by the Friends of the Library

More Golden Age television programs

This month, Bob Waldman presents TV Land Мосughs: The 1950s, a salute to the producers who brought forth a golden age of television. Here are just some of the wonderful ’50s television programs and specials in our circulating DVD and VHS collections:

The Abbot and Costello Show (1952-53) (all 52 episodes) • The Adolescent; The Returning (1954/55) with Ida Lupino and Dick Powell • The Adventures of Fu Manchu (1955-57) • America’s First Great Lady; Britain’s Most Baffling Murder (1955) with Gloria Talbott • Gail Davis as Annie Oakley (1955-56) • Around the World with Orson Welles (1955) • Backstage; The Squeeze (1955/55) with Charles Boyer and Dick Powell • The Bob Cavanaugh Show (1952) • Love That Bob (1952-59) • The Bomb; Go Ahead and Jump (1956/54) with David Niven and Dick Powell • The Boy Nobody Wanted; The Mayor of L Two (1957/55) with Peter Graves • Cinderella (1957) starring Julie Andrews • Classic Television: Your Favorites from the 1950s (includes NBC Comedy Hour, The Alan Young Show, I’ve Got a Secret, Caesar’s Hour, Texaco Star Theater, The $64,000 Question, This Is Your Life, Mama, Stage Show, The George Burns and Gracie Allen Show, Topper, You Bet Your Life, The Jack Benny Show, I Married Joan, Space Patrol, Suspense and Ranch Roundup)

The animated Clutch Cargo (1959) • Colleen Blevin; Volume I (1956-57) (sci-fi cartoons) • The Comedian (1957) with Mickey Rooney • The Dean Martin and Jerry Lewis Collection; The Colgate Comedy Hour (1951) • Beverly Garland in Decoy (1957) • Steve Holland is Flash Gordon (1953-54) • The Frightened Witness; Dan Marshall’s Brat (1957/55) with Dan Duryea and Patty McCormack • The George Burns and Gracie Allen Show (1959-51) • The Golden Junkman; Grandpa Changes the World (1956) with Lon Chaney Jr. and Thomas Mitchell • Great Actors of the Twentieth Century; Volume 2 (1955-58) starring Boris Karloff, Vincent Price and Lon Chaney Jr. • The Gun; Brief Affair (1954) with Dick Powell and Joanne Dru • The Honeymooners (1955-56) (39 classic shows plus “lost” episodes) • The House Always Wins; Tisita (1935) with Dick Powell and David Niven • I Love Lucy (1951-58) (all nine seasons) • The Invisible Man (1957) • Edgar Buchanan as Judge Roy Bean (1955-56) • Betty White in Life with Elizabeth (1953) • Martin & Lewis Collection; Volume 2 (1950-55) • Mary Martin, Ethel Merman: Their Legendary Appearances on The Ford 50th Anniversary Show, June 15, 1953 • Medic (1954-56) with Richard Boone • Ann Baker in Meet Corliss Archer (1954-55) • Wally Cox as Mister Peepers (1952-53) • Gale Storm as My Little Margie (1952-56) • John Newland’s One Step Beyond (1959-61) • Raymond Burr as Perry Mason (1957-58) • Craig Stevens in Peter Gunn (1958-59) • Rawhide (1958-60) with Clint Eastwood • Chuck Connors as The Rifleman (1958-63) • The Sid Caesar Collection • Steve Allen’s Golden Age of Comedy (1955-61) • Tales of Tomorrow (1951-53) (a selection of sci-fi stories) • Thin Line; Dark Stranger (1954/55) with David Niven, Edmond O’Brien and Joanna Woodward • Rod Serling’s Twilight Zone (1959-63) • Boris Karloff hosts The Veil (1958) • The Whizzer; A Place Full of Strangers (1954/55) with Gloria Talbott and Dick Powell • Groucho Marx hosts You Bet Your Life (1950-58)

Songs my father taught me

Take a sentimental journey with local vocalist Laura Leigh Carroll on Sunday, December 16 at 2 p.m. and enjoy the enduring standards of the Great American Songbook. Ms. Carroll’s unique style and powerful vocals will be accompanied by pianist Kim Oler, with Barbara Merjan on drums and Keith Carroll on bass.

Ms. Carroll is the daughter of the late Bob Carroll, well known Port Washington singer and actor.
What’s new in TeenSpace?

Homework Help Databases
The Thompson Gale Database Collection offers great resources for students. The Student Resource Center-Bronze provides easy access to award-winning content based on national curriculum standards. All core curriculum areas are included — history, literature, science, social studies, and more. It also has a selection of reference material, close to 700 full-text periodicals and newspapers, primary sources, creative works, multimedia, and video and audio clips.

The Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center, another database in the Collection, provides information on today’s popular social issues and features viewpoint articles, topic overviews, full-text magazine, academic journal and newspaper articles, primary source documents, statistics, images, podcasts and links to Websites.

Social Networking on the Internet: A Workshop for Parents and Other Adults
Free registration begins December 13 for a program on January 10 at 7 p.m. The Internet provides ways to meet new people, stay in touch with long-distance relatives and friends, and socialize in the online environment.

Learn how to use social network sites such as MySpace and Friendster, instant messaging programs and social bookmarking sites. Learn how to blog and find the blogs you are interested in, post pictures and videos online and help your kids use social networking websites safely. Bring questions.

New Books in TeenSpace
Our new books offer a wide variety of topics to choose from. Some recommended titles include:

In Search of Mockingbird by Loretta Ellsworth. On the eve of her 16th birthday, Erin receives her long-dead mother’s diary, which reveals that she too revered Harper Lee’s To Kill a Mockingbird and wanted to be a writer. Erin impulsively decides to take a bus from St. Paul, Minnesota to Monroeville, Alabama, to visit the reclusive author. (YA FIC Ellsworth)

Miss Spitfire: Reaching Helen Keller by Sarah Miller. At age 21 and partially-blind, Annie Sullivan travels from Massachusetts to Alabama to teach 6-year-old Helen Keller, deaf and blind since age 2. (YA FIC Miller)

Rubber Houses by Ellen Yeomans. A novel in verse that relates 17-year-old Keri’s experiences as her younger brother is diagnosed with and dies of cancer. (YA FIC Yeomans)

Evil Genius by Catherine Jinks. Child prodigy Cadel Piggot, an antisocial computer hacker, discovers his true identity when he enrolls as a first-year student at an advanced crime academy. (YA FIC Jinks)

Zen and the Art of Faking It by Jordan Sonnenblick. When 13-year-old San Lee moves to a new school for the umteenth time, he looks for a way to stand out. Knowledge of Zen Buddhism, gained in his previous school, provides the answer. (YA FIC Sonnenblick)

Freak by Marcella Fleischman Pixley. Twelve-year-old Miriam, poetic, smart, and quirky, is considered a freak by the popular girls at school. She eventually explodes in response to their bullying, revealing an inner strength she didn’t know she had. (YA FIC Pixley)

Wicked Lovely by Melissa Marr. Seventeen-year-old Aislinn, who has the ability to see faeries, is drawn against her will into a centuries-old battle between the Summer King and the Winter Queen. The survival of her life, love, and summer all hang in the balance. (YA FIC Marr)

Published by the
PORT WASHINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
One Library Drive
Port Washington, NY 11050-2794
Phone: 516/883-4400
Library Fax: 516/944-6855
Administration Fax: 516/883-7927
E-mail: library-news@pwpl.org
Web Site: http://www.pwpl.org

LIBRARY TRUSTEES: Julie Geller, President,
Lee Aitken, Myron Blumenfeld, Patricia Bridges,
Joseph Burden, Thomas Donoghue, John O’Connell

LIBRARY DIRECTOR: Nancy Curtin

EDITOR: Jackie Kelly

CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE:
Lori Gerbasi, Jonathan Guildroy, Jessica Ley,
Kate Monsour, Janet Schneider, Joni Simon,
Tony Traguardo

LIBRARY HOURS
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m.

Look for Calendar of Events Inside