We are collecting stories from the Stamford community about the pandemic. Do you have a story about how you and your family experienced this difficult time? We’d love to add it to our digital archives. If you are interested in participating, please contact Frank Skornia at fskornia@fergusonlibrary.org or you can submit your story online at http://www.fergusonlibraryarchive.org/contribution.

A Long Petal of the Sea
by Isabel Allende

Amnesty
by Aravind Adiga

Conjure Women
by Afia Atakora

The Resistors
by Gish Jen

Trouble Is What I Do
by Walter Mosley

The Body Politic
by Brian Platzer

Staff Recommends:
Books You May Have Missed During Quarantine

Focus on Ferguson

The Heart of the Community

From the President’s Desk

Welcome back! We are so pleased to open our doors so you can visit us in person.

During the time our facilities were closed, we had to reimagine our normal services and offer as many as we could virtually. Ferguson Library staff, with limited home equipment, began to offer virtual chat, tech classes, Zoom book discussions, fingerplays, storytimes, etc. It was great to see so many of you virtually or come across a friend’s name in the chat box of an author visit.

As we slowly reopened, we began to experiment with services such as mailing out books and curbside delivery. Now that we have reopened all of our facilities with new operating hours and new levels of service, we are still reimagining the Library service will continue to be a hybrid model - virtual and in-person. But what else will change? Please feel free to send me your thoughts via the Contact Us section of the website.

Alice Knapp, President

What You Need to Know About Using the Library

The Basics
• Everyone in the building is required to wear a mask.
• Library materials are quarantined for 3 days. When you return items, they will still be on your record for that period. Late fees will not apply.
• Fines are waived through the end of August.
• Please return your books to one of our book drops. Indoor book return is still available.
• Curbside pickup is still available by appointment.

Main Library Collection Changes
• Feature films and documentaries on DVD have been moved to the third floor.
• Television series on DVD, music CDs and graphic novels are now on the main level.
• Books on CD are still on the lower level. Print books previously in that location have been moved to the second floor.

Technology
• Public access computers are available at the Main Library for one hour on a first-come basis. Youth Services computers for 30 minutes.
• Mobile printing and online faxing are available.

Passport Services
• Passport services are available at the Main Library by appointment only.
Call 203 351-8289 for information.

Support the Library with a monthly gift. Donate at fergusonlibrary.org.

New Hours (see back)

There’s Still Time to Sign Up for Summer Reading

Our summer reading program continues through August 31 for children, teens and adults. Kids can earn points by reading or completing our Bingo Board Missions! We have reading activities and virtual programs for teens and adults too. Be sure to sign up at http://fergusonlibrary.readsquared.com.

Sunday Sponsorship

Many thanks to our generous Sunday Sponsors, who help keep the Main Library open on Sundays, one of our busiest days of the week.

Pitney Bowes generously underwrites Sunday hours over the summer. And the Batkin family of Stamford is supporting Sunday, August 16. If you are interested in helping us provide Sunday service, please contact Linda Avellar 203 351-8208 / linda@fergusonlibrary.org.

New Time for Passport Services

By appointment only. Call 203 351-8289.

DIGITAL LIBRARY

Udemy
Always wanted to take a class on beekeeping? Need to learn financial accounting? You can find just about any course you are looking for on Udemy, a global marketplace for teaching and learning, that connects millions of students to the skills they need to succeed. Udemy offers more than 4,000 online video courses in 75 plus categories. You can access it from the Library’s Research page, through A to Z databases. You’ll need a Ferguson Library card and a Google or Microsoft account.

DIGITAL LIBRARY

Connect to The Ferguson

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Share Your Quarantine Story

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Makerspace

Makerspace: Up-Cycled Rolled Paper Frame
Tuesday, August 11 at 2 p.m. via YouTube
Create a visually stunning frame with lots of texture and color.
Supplies needed: paper (old magazines, junk mail); small wooden frame (new or up-cycled); scissors; tape (or glue); a quilling tool or toothpick; hot glue/glue gun; magazines; junk mail; small wooden frame.

Death Cafe Stamford
Thursdays, August 6 & 20 from 2 to 3 p.m. via Zoom
Death Cafe, people gather to eat cake, drink tea and discuss death in a group-directed discussion. The objective is to increase awareness of death with a view to helping people make the most of their (finite) lives. With Sahara Farrugio, a licensed funeral director specializing in advanced planning. For Zoom meeting details, visit fergusonlibrary.org/event.

Woke Vote
Tuesday, August 18 at 6 p.m. via Zoom
A series of discussions about voting in America for people of color. For Zoom meeting details, visit fergusonlibrary.org/event.

Business & Career

TechXel Stamford
SAVE THE DATES

Stamford Accelerator Series Venture Expert Talks
Main Library, DiMattia Building
Third Floor Board Room
Register online at fergusonlibrary.org/event.

Face masks required. Space is limited to 12 persons for social distancing. No walk-ins.

September 10: Business Formation and Contracts:
Kelly O’Donnell, Pullman & Comley, LLC

September 17: Team Building:
Doug Campbell, The Success Coach

September 24: Sales:
Guy Sullivan, Silicon Parkway Ventures

October 1: Patents and Trademarks:
Wesley W. Whitmyer, Jr., Founder, Whitmyer IP Group

Stamford 1 Million Cups
Wednesday, August 5 from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m.

Two former presenters, Anand Ranganathan of Unscrambl and Doni DeCarlo of Safety Bags, will provide updates on their companies and share how they are adapting to the new normal as a result of the Coronavirus. For Zoom meeting details, visit fergusonlibrary.org/event.

Teen Book Discussion
Thursday, August 20 at 7 p.m. via Zoom
With Scott Reintgen.

Teen Book Discussion
Tuesday, August 18 at 4 p.m. via Zoom
Teen Book Discussion
Monday, August 17 at 4 p.m. via Zoom
Teen Book Discussion
Monday, August 10 at 4 p.m. via Zoom
Teen Book Discussion
Saturday, August 15 at 2 p.m. via Zoom
Teen Book Discussion
Saturday, August 8 at 2 p.m. via Zoom
Teen Book Discussion
Saturday, August 1 at 2 p.m. via Zoom
Teen Book Discussion
Thursday, August 6 at 4 p.m. via Zoom
Teen Book Discussion
Thursday, August 6 at 2 p.m. via Zoom
Teen Book Discussion
Thursday, August 6 at 1 p.m. via Zoom

In-Between Book Discussion
Tuesday, August 25 from 7 to 8 p.m. via Zoom
Stapled: Racial, Antiracism and You co-sponsored by Ibram X. Kendi.

Zoom-bio Mystery Hunt
Wednesday, August 12 at 2 p.m. via Zoom
Find out who the mystery host is and what you need to know about the difference in their DNA.

Financial Tips for the Young
Wednesday, August 12 at 2 p.m. via Zoom
Learn how to maximize your money and save for the future.

Free Library Membership to Teens: 8 Steps to Having Happy Financial Maturity
Thursday, August 13 at 4 p.m. via Zoom
Learn how to manage your money and plan for the future.

Teen Book Discussion
Thursday, August 6 at 4 p.m. via Zoom

Remote Book-A-Librarian
Reserved up to one hour with a librarian for information or technology assistance, including help with our virtual resources like ebooks, eaudiobooks and movie streaming. To make an appointment, visit https://fergusonlibrary.org/services/book-a-librarian/.