From the President's Desk

We need your help in shaping the future of the library. Long range planning is one of my favorite activities as it makes me pause and listen to the community. We want to make sure that we understand the priorities, desires and needs of all segments of Stamford—even beyond traditional library uses. There may be new services we can add, or ways we can change what we already do that will make a difference to the community.

To do this, we are holding a series of Community Conversations. They will focus mostly on you. Your life, your perspectives, your experiences and needs. Your responses will help us shape our programs, services and spaces to ensure they matter to you and the rest of the community.

Within the next couple of weeks, you will receive an invitation to participate in a conversation. I hope you’ll say yes. We would love to hear from you as we move into the future.

—Alice Knapp, President

All library facilities will be closed Sunday, July 4 and Monday, July 5 for the Independence Day holiday.

Free Lunch for Kids at South End

The South End Branch is offering free lunches for kids again this summer. The Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) is a federally-funded, state-administered program that ensures that low-income children continue to receive nutritious meals when school is not in session.

Grab & Go lunches for kids up to age 18 will be distributed at the South End Branch, 34 Woodland Avenue, on Wednesdays from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. through August 25. Just drop by; no registration needed. The library is partnering with the Community Action Agency of Western Connecticut on this program.

The Big Read Coming in October

Toni Morrison's Beloved

The Ferguson Library has received a $12,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Arts to participate in a community-wide Big Read. We hope you’ll join us in reading or re-reading Toni Morrison’s classic novel, Beloved. More details to come on activities and programming. We have multiple copies of the book if you’d like to get a head start.

We are pleased to continue our process of safely returning to pre-pandemic levels of service, including restoring library hours. See the reverse for our new hours of operation.

Staff News

Congratulations to:

Denise Lyles, who has been named the new Supervisor of the Harry Bennett and Weed Memorial & Hollander branches. Denise is a familiar face at the Ferguson—she comes to her new position from the South End Branch.

Cheryl Harper, formerly the Business Office Supervisor, who is now Director of Administrative Services, and will oversee library operations and finances.

Kids' Summer Learning Club

Our Kids' Summer Learning Club, Tails and Tales, is in full swing. Register online at fergusonlibrary.org or on the REAdSquared app. Or come into any library location to sign up. Kids can earn points for every minute they read this summer and become a Summer Learning Finisher. Keeping kids learning over the school break is critical to their success. Let the library help!

DIGITAL LIBRARY: GALE LEGALFORMS

Need to draw up a basic real estate contract? Gale LegalForms can help. This database offers a wide selection of essential state-specific (and multi-state) legal forms that can be customized for common legal procedures. It includes forms for real estate contracts, wills, premarital agreements, bankruptcy, divorce, landlord tenant, and many others. You can find Gale LegalForms under Legal Forms Library on the Research & Learn page of our website, under A to Z Resources. You’ll need your Ferguson Library card for access.
Community Mindfulness Project Meditation
Tuesdays, July 6, 13, 20 & 27 at noon via Zoom
A brief discussion about meditation practice, a guided meditation, and a chance to share and reflect. Appropriate for people who are new to meditation and those who have long-standing practices. Please log on at least five minutes early. Zoom details are on our online calendar.

Person-to-Person Mobile Food Pantry
Tuesdays, July 13, 20 & 27 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at SE
For more information, call 203 724-9111.

CLICC Family Information Session: Children with Incarcerated Parents
Monday, July 19 from 7 to 8 p.m. via Zoom
Join Joy Haenlein, executive director of CLICC Inc., a non-profit literacy and mentoring program founded in Stamford, and Landon Osborn, LMSW, program manager, for a glimpse into what having an immediate family member spend at least one night in jail or prison is like. They will also provide information about CLICC mentoring for children ages 5–17 who have parents in prison. CLICC is a literacy and mentoring nonprofit that builds communication and relationships between incarcerated parents and their children. Founded in Stamford by the late Arthur White, CLICC now works with mothers and fathers in eight prisons in Connecticut and their children (ages 5–17) statewide. Co-sponsored by CLICC. RR.

Reach Customers Online with Google
Tuesday, July 20 from 12 to 1 p.m.
Learn how to list your products for free with Google My Business and Merchant Center. You’ll also learn one way to sell on your website, using an E-Commerce store built with Shopify. Plus, learn about more helpful tools to stand out online, such as Local Opportunity Finder and Grow My Store.

Learn the Basics of Google Ads
Tuesday, July 27 from 12 to 1 p.m.
Learn how to reach more customers and grow your business with Google Ads.

Co-sponsored by Stamford Partnership.
Technology

Live-streaming classes will resume soon but you can catch up on our technology classes by visiting our YouTube channel. Many classes are available, including Microsoft Office, an Intro to Web Building: HTML & CSS, and more.

Remote Book-A-Librarian

Reserve up to one hour with a librarian for information or technology assistance, including help with our virtual resources like e-books, e-audiobooks, and movie streaming. To make an appointment, visit https://fergusonlibrary.org/services/book-a-librarian/.

Friends Virtual Author Series: An Evening with Laurie Gelman, Author of Yoga Pant Nation

Wednesday, July 14 at 6 p.m. via Zoom

From the author of Class Mom and You’ve Been Volunteered comes Yoga Pant Nation, a new book on one mom’s challenges through parenting and life, keeping her on her toes and perpetually in yoga pants. RR.

Presented in Partnership with HarperCollins: Celebrating Libraries with Karin Slaughter and Jackie Cooper

Tuesday, July 27 at 7 p.m. via CrowdCast

Join Karin Slaughter in conversation with Jackie Cooper to celebrate libraries and discuss Karin’s latest book, False Witness. She is the founder of the Save the Libraries project, a nonprofit established to support libraries and library programming. Register at crowdcast.io/e/slaughterlibraryevent/register.

SAVE THE DATES

Friends Virtual Author Series: An Afternoon with Susan Ronald, Author of The Ambassador: Joseph P. Kennedy at the Court of St. James’s, 1938–1940

Thursday, August 5 at 2 p.m. via Zoom

Biographer Susan Ronald examines Joseph P. Kennedy’s deeply controversial tenure as Ambassador to Great Britain on the eve of World War II. Thorough and utterly readable. RR.

Stamford Pride Month

Meet Michael Koresky, Author of Films of Endearment: A Mother, a Son and the ’80s Films That Defined Us

Monday, August 9 at 6:30 p.m. ML, First Floor New Materials Room

Film critic Michael Koresky set out on a journey with his mother to discover more about their shared cinematic past. They rewatched ten films that she first introduced to him as a child, one from every year of the ’80s, each featuring women leads. Co-sponsored by Stamford Pride. RR.
Annual Appeal Raises $270,000

A big thank-you to everyone who supported our 2020–2021 Annual Appeal. With your help, we finished the campaign at the end of our fiscal year in June with $270,000. Your gifts help us remain relevant in this ever-changing world and provide the services our community depends on. Thank you for supporting the library!

Connect to The Ferguson

Missed one of our programs? Not to worry – catch up whenever you have a chance. We are recording most of our virtual programs. You can find them on our YouTube channel.

STAFF RECOMMENDS:

Beyond the Everyday: Recipes for delicious and inspired meals

- **Cook Real Hawai‘i**
  by Sheldon Simeon with Garrett Snyder
- **The Rise: Black Cooks and the Soul of American Food**
  by Marcus Samuelsson with Osayi Endolyn
- **The Tahini Table: Go Beyond Hummus with 100 Recipes for Every Meal**
  by Amy Zitelman with Andrew Schloss
- **The Chilean Kitchen: 75 Seasonal Recipes for Stews, Breads, Salads, Cocktails, Desserts, and More**
  by Pilar Hernandez and Eileen Smith
- **In Bibi’s Kitchen: The Recipes and Stories of Grandmothers From the Eight African Countries that touch the Indian Ocean**
  by Hawa Hassan with Julia Turshen
- **Chetna’s Healthy Indian Vegetarian: Everyday Veg and Vegan Feasts Effortlessly Good for You**
  by Chetna Makan

The CHILEAN KITCHEN

Go Beyond Hummus with 100 Recipes for Every Meal by Marcus Samuelsson with Osayi Endolyn

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Go Beyond Hummus with 100 Recipes for Every Meal by Marcus Samuelsson with Osayi Endolyn

THE TAHINI TABLE

Go Beyond Hummus with 100 Recipes for Every Meal by Amy Zitelman with Andrew Schloss

FRIENDS OF THE FERGUSON LIBRARY

Book Shop News

We’re featuring beach reads in the Book Shop this month. Stop in and browse our great selection of fiction titles—all you’ll need is a chair and blanket! Also, take a chance on a new author from our White Tag cart. Three books for just two dollars. All fiction, mystery, romance and science fiction hardcovers are three for two dollars as well. The perfect time to stock up on your summer reading!

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Grab and Go Meals
Wednesdays, July 7, 14, 21 & 28 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at SE
The South End Branch, in partnership with Community Action Agency of Western Connecticut (CAAWC), is offering free meals for kids this summer on Wednesdays through August 25. For kids up to age 18. Drop-in program. No registration needed.

Curbside pickup is still available by appointment.

Stamford students can use their school ID to access our many digital materials, even if they don’t have a Ferguson Library card. For access, enter 2111800+student ID number (no spaces). If you encounter any issues accessing our e-materials or databases, fill out the form at https://fergusonlibrary.org/linked-libraries-contact-us-form/.

All library facilities will be closed Sunday, July 4, and Monday, July 5 for the Independence Day holiday.

How to Contact and Follow Us
Main Library Borrowers Services: 203 351-8261
Main Library Adult Services/Reference Desk: 203 351-8231
Youth Services: 203 351-8242
Harry Bennett Branch: 203 351-8294
South End Branch: 203 351-8283
Weed Memorial & Hollander Branch: 203 351-8287

YS Website fergusonlibrary.org/services/kids for information for kids, teens, parents and educators. You’ll find information about our digital books, movies and music, Linked Libraries, digital resources, Wi-Fi for students in need, and more.

Online calendar at fergusonlibrary.org/events/ for updates and pop-up programs and subscribe to our newsletter/weekly emails at fergusonlibrary.org/newsletters.

Instagram @ferglibrary, @ferglibraryyouth, @harrybennettbranchys and @southendbranch_lib.

Facebook http://facebook.com/TheFergusonLibrary/.

YouTube https://www.youtube.com/c/TheFergusonLibrary.

Kids’ Summer Learning Club Tails and Tales
Summer Learning continues through Tuesday, August 31.
Register online at fergusonlibrary.org, or on the READsquared app from the Apple App Store or Google Play store.
Be sure to visit the library this summer to pick up your FREE library wallet with lanyard!

All programs are generously supported by the Friends of the Ferguson Library.
Children's Programs

Outdoor Family Storytime
Thursdays, July 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 from 10:30 to 11:15 a.m.
WMH Lawn
Bring a blanket and/or lawn chairs to this drop-in program on the lawn behind the Weed Memorial & Hollander Branch Library. For children up to age 4, with caregiver. Weather permitting.

Storytime at Commons Park
Harbor Point, Stamford
Mondays, July 12, 19 & 26 from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.
Stories for children and families. (Weather permitting)

Crafternoons @ Home
Thursday, July 1, 8 & 15 from 4 to 4:45 p.m. via Zoom
A picture book read-aloud and art project. Bring coloring supplies and have your imagination ready! Grades K to 5. Families, parents and caregivers are encouraged to join. RR.

Family Storytime
Mondays, July 12, 19 & 26 from 10:15 to 11 a.m. via Zoom
The whole family is welcome to join this storytime full of rhymes, picture books, flannel boards, music and movement. For children up to age 6. RR.

Teen Programs

Creative Writing Club
Wednesday, July 7 from 5 to 6 p.m. via Zoom
Bring your imagination, paper and something to write with. We’ll work on different writing prompts, then share our work. Grades 5 to 9. RR.

Teen Book Discussion
Wednesday, July 21 from 7 to 8 p.m. via Zoom
Pet by Akwaeke Emezi. How do you save the world from monsters if no one will admit they exist? Grades 6 to 12. RR.

Parent Program

CLICC Family Information Session: Children with Incarcerated Parents
Monday, July 19 from 7 to 8 p.m. via Zoom
Join Joy Haenlein, executive director of CLICC Inc., a non-profit literacy and mentoring program founded in Stamford, and Landon Osborn, LMSW, program manager, for a glimpse into what having an immediate family member spend at least one night in jail or prison is like. They will also provide information about CLICC mentoring for children ages 5-17 who have parents in prison. CLICC is a literacy and mentoring nonprofit that builds communication and relationships between incarcerated parents and their children. Founded in Stamford by the late Arthur White, CLICC now works with mothers and fathers in eight prisons in Connecticut and their children (ages 5-17) statewide. Co-sponsored by CLICC. RR.