From the President's Desk

This year was a year of growing friendships, maturing programs, saying good-bye to old colleagues and welcoming new ones. The Ferguson Library is rich in volunteers, donors, and a city that supports our efforts. We work closely with our many community partners to enhance services throughout Stamford. I am lucky to work with a dynamic group of talented librarians and a dedicated board of trustees and citizen advisers. With their leadership, we enter the New Year with a new mission: Provide free and equal access to information, ideas, books and technology to educate, engage, and enrich the Stamford community. We also have a new vision: Inspire lifelong learning and personal growth.

From all of us – Happy Holidays!

– Alice Knapp, President

Friends Cookbook Author Event Martin Philip and Jim Lahey

Bring your friends for a night out Wednesday, December 6 with Martin Philip, head baker at King Arthur Flour, and author of Breaking Bread: A Baker’s Journey Home in 75 Recipes, and Jim Lahey, author of The Sullivan Street Bakery Cookbook. Martin’s book is part memoir, part cookbook, and features photographs, beautiful hand-drawn illustrations and original recipes for bread, pies, coffee cake, jam and more. The Sullivan Street Bakery Cookbook by Jim Lahey presents a clear, illustrated guide to making no-knead sourdough bread and also provides recipes for many of the most beloved café dishes served at Sullivan Street Bakery. Wine and cheese reception starts at 6:30 p.m.; the program begins at 7. Register online. Tickets are $15 to benefit the Library.

Support for Sunday Hours

Many thanks to Judy Block for her generous support of Sunday hours at the Main Library. Her gift helps underwrite the cost providing service at the Main Library Sunday, December 10. Sundays are one of our busiest days of the week and we are grateful for her support. If you would like to support Sunday hours at the Library, please contact Linda Avellar at linda@fergusonlibrary.org.

HOLIDAY HOURS

The library will be closed Sunday, December 24 and Monday, December 25 for the Christmas holiday, and will close at 5 p.m. Sunday, December 31. All Library facilities will be closed New Year’s Day. Have a safe, happy holiday season.

Give to our 2017 Annual Appeal Support Your Public Library

Please remember The Ferguson Library in your year-end giving. Your donation of any amount helps us buy books and other materials and allows us to offer the programs you want, such as author visits, computer classes and children’s storytimes. You can give securely online at fergusonlibrary.org or any library location. We are grateful for your support!

Travel Requirements are Changing Get Your Passport at the Library

New Extended Hours!

The Passport Office at the Main Library and Harry Bennett Branch has extended hours to meet your travel needs. Starting in January, travelers will need a passport, passport card or driver’s license from a ‘Real ID’ compliant state for domestic flights.

New passport hours beginning December 1:
Main Library hours: Monday – Thursday 10 – 8; Friday & Saturday 10 – 4; Sunday 1 – 5.
Harry Bennett hours: Saturday 10 – 4.
No appointment is needed and we take photos too. Visit us online for more information or call 203 964-1000.

A Novel Affair April 18

Mark your calendars! A Novel Affair, the Library’s spring fundraiser, is April 18 from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Main Library. It’s a festive evening of entertainment and fun, with delicious food donated by local restaurants and caterers. We’re delighted this year to honor Sandy Goldstein for her community involvement and longstanding support of the Library. Tickets will go on sale in February. For sponsorship or donation information, contact Linda Avellar at 203 351-8208/linda@fergusonlibrary.org.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Poetry Contest

What do peace and justice mean to you? Students in grades 2 – 12 are invited to enter the Library’s Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Poetry Contest with a poem on the personal meaning of peace and justice. Entry forms are available at all library locations and on the Youth Events Page of our website. Entries are due January 13. Prizes will be awarded at the Stamford citywide MLK celebration Monday, January 15 at The Yerwood Center.

Please remember us in your planned giving.
For information, call Linda Avellar at 203 351-8208 or linda@fergusonlibrary.org.

Friends of The Ferguson Library

Friends members get an extra discount with the Book Shop’s special Member Days sale December 1 – 10. All Friends members get 20% off their purchase just in time for holiday shopping. We have a wonderful selection of books for children and adults. The price is right too – most titles are $5 or less. The shops at the Main Library and Harry Bennett Branch are open during library hours.

Books for Babies
Did you know that the Friends of The Ferguson Library provide a book to each baby born at Stamford Hospital? The program, Books for Babies, has become a national model since it began in 1986. This year, the Friends donated 1,675 books to our newest Stamford residents, along with information for their parents about the importance of reading to your baby.

Storytime Registration Begins January 2
Registration for storytime programs will begin Tuesday, January 2 at 10 a.m. at the Main Library and and Weed Memorial & Hollander Branch and Wednesday, January 3 at the Harry Bennett Branch. Registration is in person only the first day after that. You may call 203 964-1000. Not all storytimes require registration. Check our calendar or ask in the Youth Services Department for more information.

Volunteer Opportunities at the Ferguson Library

The Ferguson Library is rich in volunteers. We welcome your time and talent to help in the library. Please visit us online for more information.

THE FERGUSON LIBRARY
phone 203 964-1000 • fax 203 357-9098
www.fergusonlibrary.org • e-mail: comments@fergusonlibrary.org
DECEMBER 2017

The Heart of the Community

Focus on Ferguson

A Novel Affair

This year, the Friends donated 1,675 books to our newest Stamford residents, along with information for their parents about the importance of reading to your baby.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!
ADULT PROGRAMS

ML Main Library, DiMattia Building
HB Harry Bennett Branch
SE South End Branch
WMH Weed Memorial & Hollander Branch
RR Registration Required

Adult Book Discussions

Weed Memorial & Hollander Branch Monday, December 4 at 11:30 a.m.
The Rent Collector by Cannon Wright

The New Yorker Discussion Group Wednesday, December 6 from 1 to 3 p.m. at HB
Copies of the magazine will be made available prior to each discussion. Refreshments served.

Harry Bennett Branch Monday, December 11 at 7 p.m.
The Gift of Rain by Tan Twan Eng

South End Branch Monday, December 18 at 7 p.m.
The Thunder Beneath Us by Nicole Blades

French Book Discussion Thursday, December 28 at 6:30 p.m.
ML, Fourth Floor
Si te fleur de nos abandonnment by Patrick Delperdange

Affordable Care Act Enrollment
Main Library, DiMattia Building
Second Floor Study Room
Open enrollment for 2019 individual & family health plans through Dec. 22. Representatives from Access Health CT enroll members in the health insurance marketplace.

Tuesday – 10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Wednesdays – 10:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Thursdays – 10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Fridays – 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Saturdays – 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Happy Holidays, from The Ferguson Library Staff

All our programs are generously supported by the Friends of the Ferguson Library.

Films
ML, Third Floor Auditorium (unless otherwise noted)

Second Saturday Cinema Saturday, December 9 at 2 p.m.
The Big Sick. A Pakistani-American man falls for a white grad student, and hides their romance from his family, but when she develops a mysterious illness, he is forced to bond with her parents. With Kumail Nanjiani, Zoe Kazan, Holly Hunter, Ray Romano, Anupam Kher. Directed by Michael Showalter. Rated R. 2017. USA. 119 minutes.

Thursday Night Talking Pictures/Classic Theater Thursday, December 14 at 6 p.m.
ML, Third Floor Board Room 12 Angry Men. A juror tries to persuade 11 other jury members to rethink their verdict in a murder trial in this Best Picture nominee. With Henry Fonda, Lee J. Cobb, E.G. Marshall, Ed Begley, Jack Warden. Directed by Sidney Lumet. Not rated. 1957. USA. 95 minutes. Registration required. Call 203 351-8258 or email cauccella@fergusonlibrary.org to reserve a copy of the DVD. Pick up at lower level desk, watch the film and come ready to discuss.

Third Thursday @ One Thursday, December 21 at 1 p.m.

ELL Programs
Let’s Talk: Conversation Groups for English Language Learners (ELL) Practice your English at these free drop-in conversation groups.
WMH – Tuesdays, December 5, 12 & 19 from 12:30 to 2 p.m.
ML – Tuesdays, December 5, 12 & 19 from 6:30 to 8 p.m.
SE – Thursdays, December 7, 14 & 21 from 6 to 7:30 p.m.

Basic Literacy Skills for Adult English Language Learners (ELL) (Registration is closed. Course ending.) Mondays, December 4 & 11 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.
ML, Third Floor Technology Center 12-week course. Supported by the American Library Association and Dollar General Literacy Foundation.

Advanced Writing Course for English Language Learners (ELL) (Registration is closed. Course ending.) Wednesdays, December 6 & 13 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. ML, Third Floor Board Room 12-week course. Supported by the American Library Association and Dollar General Literacy Foundation.

Old Folks Saturday, December 2, at 3:30 p.m. at WMH. Join Dr. Eu for an afternoon of toe-tappin’, finger snapin’, acoustic delights.

The Literary Hour of La Tertulia/La hora literaria de La Tertulia Sundays, December 3 & 17 from 1 to 3 p.m. ML, Third Floor Board Room A conversation in Spanish with a focus on Latin American authors. In SPANISH.

Knit & Needles Mondays, December 4 & 18 from 1 to 4 p.m. at HB Work on your project in a social setting.

Mindfulness and Meditation Tuesdays, December 5, 12 & 19 from 2 to 3 p.m. ML, Third Floor Auditorium Meditate with a group. Led by the Community Mindfulness Project.

Stamford 1 Million Cups Wednesday, December 6 at 6:30 p.m. ML, First Floor Lobby Presenters: Karim Babay of HealthSapiens and Barbara Werner of Musical Pairing. 1 Million Cups is a free, national program designed to educate, engage, and connect entrepreneurs. Presentations held on the first Wednesday of the month. Register online at fergusonlibrary.org/event.

Well Water Quality Information Wednesday, December 6 from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at HB
Does your house source water from a well? Do you have questions about well water testing? The Stamford Health Department will be on site to provide information.

Career Moves: Networking Workshop Wednesday, December 6 from 2 to 4 p.m. ML, Third Floor Technology Center Learn multiple avenues for effective networking. Register at fergusonlibrary.org/event.

Copying Strategies for the Holidays Wednesday, December 6 at 7 p.m. at HB
Nurse Care Manager, Sheila O’Brien, RN, BSN, CMC, MaryAnn Ciambrillo, RN and owner and operator of Alzheimer’s and Dementia Care, and elder care attorney Denise Mustili discuss coping strategies for the holidays. Refreshments.

World Affairs Forum: Is a New Cold War Unavoidable? The Trajectory of U.S.-Russia Relations Wednesday, December 13 at 5:45 p.m. ML, Third Floor Auditorium With Dr. Nikolai Gvosdev, Professor of National Security Affairs, U.S. Naval War College. Free for forum members, faculty and students. All others, $20. To reserve a seat, call 203 356-0340.

Hands-On Google Marketing Workshop: Google AdWords (Postponed from an earlier date) Wednesday, December 13 from 6 to 8 p.m. at HB
Learn how to set up your online advertising now that you have identified keywords. It is recommended that you attended Google Keyword Planning for SEO. Presenter: Bob Zukowski. Register online at fergusonlibrary.org/event. Co-sponsored by T&M Bank.

Kwanzaa Café: A Pre-Kwanzaa Celebration Thursday, December 21 at 6:30 p.m. at SE Join us for an evening of relaxation and jazz with Alfred Thomas, Jr. and his mellow jazz quintet.

Computer Programs
ML, Third Floor Technology Center (unless otherwise indicated)

Introduction to Computers Basic Computing Wednesday, December 6 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. No experience required. Call to register.
Introduction to Internet Basic Internet and Email Thursday, December 7 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Introduction to Video Editing Saturday, December 9 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Coversing the basics of non-linear video editing using freely available software. Learn to cut and merge video files and apply visual and audio effects.Register online.

Basic Microsoft Word Thursday, December 14 from 2 to 3:30 p.m.
Learn basic features of Microsoft Word. Mouse and keyboard skills required. Register online.

Basic Microsoft Excel Saturday, December 16 from 2 to 3:30 p.m.
Learn how to name worksheets, enter data and write formulas. Must be familiar with Windows. Register online.

Makerspace
ML, Third Floor Technology Center (unless otherwise indicated)

Online registration at fergusonlibrary.org/event.

Folded Book Candle Saturday, December 9 at 2 p.m.
See how easy and quickly you can make stunning candles from old/recycled paperback books. Lighten up your holidays! All ages welcome. Call 203 351-8221 or stop in to register.

Friends Author Series Special Cookbook Event Featuring Martin Philip and Jim Lahey
Wednesday, December 6 at 6:30 p.m.
ML, Third Floor Auditorium

Bring your friends and come for an evening of food, wine and conversation with Martin Philip, the author of Breaking Bread: A Baker’s Journey Home in 75 Recipes, and Jim Lahey, the author of The Silver Spoon Galaxy Cookbook. Tickets are $15 and include a wine and appetizer reception. Proceeds to benefit the Library. Reception at 6:30 p.m. Program at 7 p.m. Book sale and signing. Register online at fergusonlibrary.org/event.

An Evening with Andrea Raynor, Author of The Alphabet of Grief: Words and Times of Sorrow
Monday, December 11 at 6:30 p.m. at HB
Andrea Raynor, a graduate of Harvard Divinity School and a United Methodist minister, has been a hospice chaplain and spiritual counselor for more than 20 years. Book sale and signing.

Meet Alisyn Camerota
CNN New Day Co-Anchor and Author of Amends Wakes Up Tuesday, December 12 at 6:30 p.m.
ML, Third Floor Auditorium

CNN anchor Alisyn Camerota, honored for her accomplishments in the field of journalism and her contributions to the Italian-American community, will read from her book and talk about what’s like to be a woman in today’s ever-changing world of broadcast news. Book sale and signing. Call available now at the Friends Book Shops at the Main Library and Harry Bennett Branch. Register online at fergusonlibrary.org/event. Co-sponsored by National Organization for Italian American Women and the Women’s Business Development Council.

Author Events

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Children’s Storytimes

5 p.m. and up. Saturdays (except Dec. 23 & 30), 3 to 4:30 p.m. M L, Lower Level Makerspace

Registration for winter storytimes starts Tues.-Wed., January 2 at the Main Library and Weed Memorial & Hollander Branch and Wednesday, January 3 at the Harry Bennett Branch. Registrations accepted in person only on the first day. After that, you can register in person or by phone. Call 203 964-1000 for information. Registration limited to one program per child/teen session at each branch.

No storytime programs are held when Stamford schools are closed or delayed.

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Children’s Programs

Teen Programs

TV Bingo

Monday, December 4 from 4 to 5 p.m. at HB

Match the show with its title in this rousing game of TV Bingo. The top three winners will receive a gift card. Grades 6 – 12. RR

Register online at fergusonlibrary.org/event.

Teen Critics

Wednesday, December 13 at 4 p.m. at HB

View classic cartoons and join an informal discussion group. Grades 6 and up.

Vision Board

Saturday, December 16 from 2 to 4 p.m. at ML

ML, Third Floor Auditorium

What really inspires you? Create a Vision Board to let the world know. Grades 6 to 12. RR

Drop-In Storytime

Tuesday, December 5 at 10:15 a.m. at WMH

Stamps, songs, fingerplays, and rhymes for walking babies. Ages 18 months to 3 years with an adult caregiver.

Drop-In Baby Time

Tuesday, December 2 at 10:30 a.m.

Pre-K with books and music.

Budding Bookworms

Ages 18 months to 4 years with an adult. Books, songs and movement.

SE – Tuesdays, December 5, 12 & 19 at 10 a.m.

Focus on Ferguson – Ages 3 – 5 years old.

FULL at ML

FULL at HB

FULL at W M H

FULL at SE

FULL at RR

ML – Fridays at 11:15 a.m.

HB – Fridays at 3:30 p.m.

HB – Saturdays at 11:15 a.m.

HB – Saturday, December 9 at noon

ML – Saturday, December 2 at 10:30 a.m.

ML – Saturday, December 9 from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Saturday, December 9 from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Ready to Skylar

Saturday, December 9 at 11 a.m.

ML, Lower Level Program Room

Practice reading with Skylar, a certified therapy dog. RR

Bookends Book Group

Monday, December 11 at 4 p.m. at HB

Book group for 1st and 2nd graders. Snacks.

Bookends Book Club

Thursday, December 14 at 4:30 p.m. at SE

Reading with Cariya Buehner. Read aloud and discuss. Ages 6 to 12.

Picture Us Reading Book Club

Thursday, December 14 at 4:30 p.m. at SE

Snowmen at Night by Caralyn Buehner. Read aloud and discuss. Ages 6 to 12.

Spooky Academy

Saturday, December 16 at 1 p.m. at WMH

Do you have what it takes to be a secret agent? Learn spy strategies and put your skills to the test. Ages 6 to 11. RR

The Nutcracker Story Hour and Dance Demonstration

Sunday, December 17 at 2 p.m.

ML, Third Floor Auditorium

Enjoy the classic holiday story of The Nutcracker and a dance demonstration by students of The Ballet School of Stamford. Ages 5 and up. Co-sponsored by The Ballet School of Stamford at Chelsea Piers.

Kids’ Book Discussion

Monday, December 17 at 4 p.m.

ML, Lower Level Program Room

Under the Egg by Laura Marx Fitzgerald. Her grandmother’s dying words lead 13-year-old Theodore to a hidden painting she fears may be stolen, but it is her search for answers that brings her real treasure. A 2018 Nutmeg Nominee. Refreshments and gift books. Grades 3 and up. RR

Pajama Storytime

Saturday, December 16 at 2 p.m.

ML, Third Floor Auditorium

Bring the family for a cozy story time. Pajamas and stuffed animals recommended. Children 5 and under and their families. RR

Vacation Week Film

Tuesday, December 26 at 2 p.m.

ML, Third Floor Auditorium

The LEGO Ninjago Movie. LEGO Master Builders (and secret warriors) fight to save Ninjago City in this big-screen adventure. Rated PG. 101 minutes. Ages 6 and up.

Holiday Movie Matinee

Wednesday, December 27 at 2 p.m. at SE

Despicable Me 2.

With Steve Carell, Kristen Wiig, Trey Parker, Miranda Cosgrove, Dana Gaier.

Rated PG. 2017. USA.

90 minutes. All ages.

ArtsKids Interactive Arts Education Workshops: DANCE

Saturday, December 9 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at EFL.

The Palace Theatre, 61 Atlantic Street, Stamford

Hip Hop Jazz Funk with teaching artist Dina Giordano

Grades 2 to 4. Registration required.

Call 203 351-8242.

Picture Us Reading Book Club

Thursday, December 21 at 4:30 p.m. at SE

Snowmen at Night by Caralyn Buehner. Read aloud and discuss. Ages 6 to 12.

Homework Café

Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 4 to 5:15 p.m. through December 21 at SE

Homework help, arts & crafts, computer research, educational games, and pleasure reading. Ages 6 to 12.

M.A.C./H.O.O.M.

Homework Café

M A K E S P A C E O P E N H O U S E

ML, Lower Level Makerspace

Tuesdays (except Dec. 26), 5 to 7 p.m.

Fridays, 4 to 6 p.m.

Saturdays (except Dec. 23 & 30), 3 to 5 p.m.

Learn, play and discover with cutting edge technology in our M.A.C./H.O.O.M. Ages 8 and up.

Visit the Youth Services page on our website for homework help and resources.

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