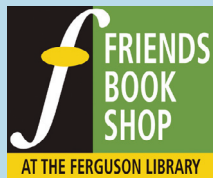


Friends of The Ferguson Library



Book Shop News

Don't forget to browse in the Book Shop any time for winter reading. If you'd like to call first, we're happy to check and see whether we have the title you're looking for.



Missed a gift for that special someone? The Friends Book Shop is selling exquisite model ships that were donated by a sailing enthusiast. Stop by the display in the Main Library or call 203 351-8278 for more information.

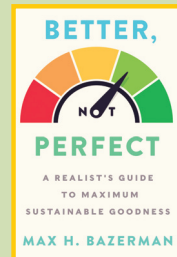
Literary Competition is Open

Calling all young writers! Entries are now being accepted for the 36th annual Stamford Literary Competition. The contest is open to Stamford students in grades 3 – 12. Entry forms are available at the Main Library and branches, through the Stamford schools, and on the Friends program page of the Library's website, fergusonlibrary.org/friends-of-the-ferguson/.

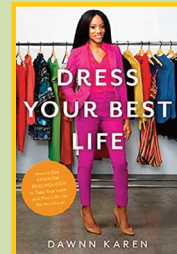
Missed one of our programs? Not to worry – catch up whenever you have a chance. We are recording most of our virtual programs, including the recent CrimeCONN Express series. You can find them on our YouTube channel. Be sure to subscribe.

Staff Recommends:

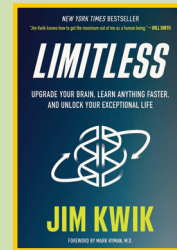
Living Your Best Life



Better, Not Perfect:
A Realist's Guide to Maximum Sustainable Goodness
by Max H. Bazerman



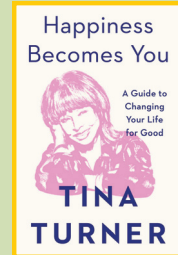
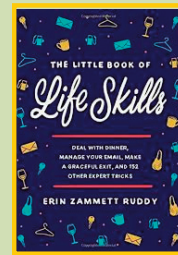
The Little Book of Life Skills:
Deal With Dinner, Manage Your Email, Make a Graceful Exit, and 152 Other Expert Tricks
by Erin Zammett Ruddy



Dress Your Best Life:
How to Use Fashion Psychology to Take Your Look – and Your Life – to the Next Level
by Dawnn Karen

Happiness Becomes You:
A Guide to Changing Your Life for Good
by Tina Turner

Limitless: Upgrade Your Brain, Learn Anything Faster, and Unlock Your Exceptional Life
by Jim Kwik



Connect to The Ferguson



Focus on Ferguson

The Heart of the Community

THE NEWSLETTER OF STAMFORD'S PUBLIC LIBRARY • JANUARY 2021

From the President's Desk



Like many of us, I'm happy to leave 2020 behind and am looking forward with hope to 2021. For many years, I have written in January about how the Library can help with your New Year's resolutions, but as we end 2020, it struck me that we have spent this year learning new skills, trying new exercise routines, cooking new dishes, and attending virtual meet-ups. There is much we have learned this year that we will take into 2021. You and your

friends and neighbors have flocked to the Library's virtual programs, especially our Author Talks. While I'm looking forward to in-person events again, I know there will continue to be a virtual component to many of our programs, making it easier for you to watch from home or on your schedule. We have found that you enjoyed computer workshops and we were able to accommodate a bigger audience than any in-person workshop could have allowed. Last spring, within hours of losing our physical buildings, we added virtual chat (in real time). Now that we are open, we still offer this service, making it easier for you to get assistance when you need it. These examples are just a sampling of how library services are changing in ways to make them more convenient and accessible for you.

Alice Knapp, President

There's Still Time to Give to Library's Annual Appeal

If you've already made a donation to the Library's Annual Appeal, **Thank You!** If not, there is still time to help. Your donation of any amount helps keep books and vital services like technology training, English language learning and children's early literacy programs free and available to all. Thank you for supporting your public library. Donate at Fergusonlibrary.org.

A Novel Affair is April 15

A Novel Affair, the Library's spring fundraiser, is April 15! At this point, we are planning a virtual event, and will celebrate our delayed 10th anniversary as we come together to support Stamford's public library. We're delighted to honor Tom Cassone for his long-standing service to the Library and the Stamford community.



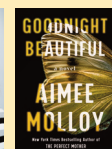
Many thanks to our sponsors to date: **Morrison:** Friends of The Ferguson Library; SL Green Realty Corp. **Lahiri:** Melvina Callion; First County Bank; **Baldwin:** Judith Block; Jane Carlin & Benjamin Gifford; Carmody Torrance Sandak & Hennessey; Garden Homes Management; Stamford Health; **Steinbeck:** David & Andrea Cohen; Leo P. Gallagher & Son Funeral Home; Konica Minolta; Debbie & Robert Neiman; UConn Stamford; United Services of America/AffinEco; Andrew & Robyn Whittingham; **Alvarez:** The Ashforth Company/A.P. Construction; Sam and Emily Gordon; Stephen Perry & Susan Toliver.

If you would like to join us as a sponsor, please contact Linda Avellar at 203 351-8208/ linda@fergusonlibrary.org. Attendance is free and open to all. We welcome donations. Look for registration information soon.

HOLIDAY HOURS

The Library will be closed New Year's Day, Friday, January 1. All library facilities will be open regular hours Monday, January 18, Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Friends Author Series



The Friends have two exciting authors coming up this winter. On Thursday, January 14 at 6 p.m., *New York Times* Bestselling Author Aimee Malloy will talk about her new book, *Goodnight Beautiful*, a psychological thriller that has already been optioned for a movie adaption by the team behind *The Girl on the Train*.



And on February 16 at 6 p.m., Alka Joshi will talk about her riveting debut novel, *The Henna Artist*, a story set in 1950s India about a young woman struggling to shape her own destiny. Register for both events at Fergusonlibrary.org/events. Once you register, you will receive the Zoom information.

Flags for Hope and Change

Check out the beautiful community art installation in the Children's Room. These flags of hope and change were handmade by members of the Stamford community in support of racial justice. A special thank you to Stamford Downtown Special Services District, Stamford Undoing Racism and Women on Watch.



Very first library card!



DIGITAL LIBRARY

SimplyE

SimplyE brings you a wide selection of e-books and e-audio through the Connecticut State Library. Just download the SimplyE app and search for Ferguson Library. You'll be able to check out titles from our large collection of fiction, nonfiction, young adult and children's books right to your device. You just need your Ferguson Library card.



THE FERGUSON LIBRARY

phone 203 964-1000 • fax 203 357-9098

fergusonlibrary.org • email: comments@fergusonlibrary.org

JANUARY 2021

Linda Avellar, *Editor*
Barbara Aronica-Buck, *Designer*
Barbara Thomas, *Communication Asst.*
Peggy Devlin, *Editorial Asst.*

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Main Library, DiMattia Building
One Public Library Plaza, Stamford, CT 06904
203 964-1000
Monday through Wednesday 11 – 6
Thursday 11 – 8
Friday & Saturday 11 – 5
Sunday 1 – 5

Harry Bennett Branch
115 Vine Road 06905, 203 351-8291
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 12 – 5
Wednesday 12 – 7
Saturday 1 – 5

South End Branch
34 Woodland Avenue 06902, 203 351-8280
Monday through Thursday 10 – 5:30
Saturday 10 – 2

Weed Memorial & Hollander Branch
1143 Hope Street 06907, 203 351-8285
Monday & Thursday 10 – 3
Tuesday 12 – 7
Saturday 12 – 5

Bookmobile
Check our online calendar at
fergusonlibrary.org/event/.

The Friends Book Shops at The Ferguson Library

Main Library Book Shop
Monday through Thursday 11 – 6
Friday & Saturday 11 – 5
Sunday 1 – 5pm

Harry Bennett Branch Book Shop
Monday through Friday 12 – 5
Saturday 1 – 5

The Passport Office
By appointment and limited walk-in.
Call 203 351-8298 for information.

Main Library Passport Office
Monday through Wednesday 11 – 5
Thursday 11 – 8
Friday 11 – 5
Saturday 11 – 4

Harry Bennett Passport Office
Saturday 1 – 4

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



RR Registration Required
Register online at fergusonlibrary.org/event/. Zoom details will be sent to all registrants in advance of the program.



Please check our online calendar at fergusonlibrary.org/event/ for updates and pop-up programs and subscribe to our newsletter/weekly emails at <https://fergusonlibrary.org/news/#toggle-id-1>.



Follow us on Instagram @ferglibrari, @ferglibrariyouth, @harrybennettbranchys and @southendbranch_lib.



Follow us on Facebook at <https://facebook.com/TheFergusonLibrary/>.



Check out the Library's YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/c/TheFergusonLibrary>.

ZOOM Book Discussions

Book discussions are presented live on Zoom. Registration is not required. Zoom meeting details for each discussion are on our online calendar at fergusonlibrary.org/event/. Book discussions are open to all, whether or not you have participated in that discussion group before.

Weed Memorial & Hollander Branch

Monday, January 4 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
An American Marriage by Tayari Jones

Harry Bennett Branch

Monday, January 11 from 7 to 8 p.m.
Snow Flower and the Secret Fan by Lisa See

South End Branch African and African American Authors Book Discussion

Monday, January 25 at 7 p.m.
God Loves Haiti by Dimitry Elias Léger

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 streaming movies. To make an appointment, visit <https://fergusonlibrary.org/services/book-a-librarian/>.

Community Mindfulness Project Meditation

Tuesdays, January 5, 12, 19 & 26 at Noon via Zoom

A brief discussion about meditation practice, a guided meditation, then 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 5 minutes early at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84840527453> to join the Zoom meeting.

Create Your Own Vision Board for 2021

Thursday, January 7 from 7 to 8 p.m. via Zoom

Let's gather virtually to set our intentions for 2021. We will create vision boards for the upcoming year in hopes of manifesting a brighter 2021. Materials can be picked up at your selected library location starting January 2, or you can use materials from home. If you use your own materials, you will need a large piece of construction paper or card stock, glue, scissors, and magazines or newspapers that you don't mind cutting up. **RR.**

Ask the Educators:

Peggy Bud and Tamara Jacobson
The 5 Cs of Communication: How to Make Your Point and Build a Partnership
Monday, January 11 at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom

Tips for parents to effectively communicate with teachers and other school officials. Parents will learn:

- The 5 Cs of Effective Communication
- Key Attributes of Effective Communication
- The Importance of Listening

RR. Co-sponsored by Fairfield County (CT) Chapter, The Links, Incorporated.

Healthy Housekeeping for 2021

Wednesday, January 13 at 6 p.m. via Zoom Webinar

Join us for this presentation on healthy housekeeping and COVID-19. Learn cleaning tips for personal and home safety, best cleaning methods (including for high-touch areas and electronics) and routines that benefit children and adults. Presenter: Mary Ellen Welch, Healthy Homes Extension Educator, University of Connecticut. **RR.**

Conversations About Art: Carel Fabritius and His Teacher, Rembrandt

Thursday, January 14 from 2 to 3:30 p.m. via Zoom

Helene E. March Rheingold, docent at the Neuberger Museum of Art, instructor at Learning in Retirement and an arts enrichment facilitator at the Stamford Public Schools, will lead the discussion. **RR.**

From Soul Food to Soulful Eating

Thursday, January 14 at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom
Jump start your health for a better life. View the popular documentary *Soul Food Junkies* and then join us for a panel discussion offering practical advice and resources to make healthy food and lifestyle changes. Panelists: Pete Novajosky, Farm Manager of Fairgate Farm; Lellieth Latchman, Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (RDN) and Certified Diabetes Care & Education Specialist (CDCES). (Watch *Soul Food Junkies* by using our Kanopy streaming service or check out an Express DVD copy.) **RR.** Co-sponsored by Fairfield County (CT) Chapter, The Links, Incorporated.

Coyotes & Coexistence

Wednesday, January 20 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. via Zoom

Join the Wolf Conservation Center (WCC) for a special program about our local cousin to the wolf – the Eastern Coyote. Coyotes are one of the most successful carnivores in North America because of their ability to thrive in the face of human-caused changes to the environment. A WCC wildlife outreach specialist will discuss coyote behavior and ecology in suburban landscapes where people and coyotes coexist. Learn more about their biology and behavior and ways to reduce problems from occurring between people, pets and coyotes. **RR.**

How to Get Organized and Stay that Way

Tuesday, January 26 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. via Zoom

Join professional organizer Ronni Eisenberg as she shares tips on how to get organized in the new year and stay that way in 2021 and beyond. **RR.**

Business & Career

TechXel Stamford

Fairfield County's First Enterprise Accelerator

Venture Expert Talks

Thursdays from 5 to 6:15 p.m. via Zoom

RR for each session.

January 14: Team Building

Douglas Campbell, The Success Coach

January 21: Business Formation and Contracts

Kelly O'Donnell, Esq., Pullman & Comley, LLC

January 28: Sales/Acquire Leads, Close Sales and Retain Customers

Guy Sullivan, Founder, Silicon Parkway Ventures

Stamford One Million Cups

Wednesday, January 6 at 9 a.m. via Zoom

2020 was a year of challenges, but 2021 could be the year of opportunity. Join us at our first virtual Town Hall to discuss New Year's resolutions for your business. **RR.**

Death Cafe Stamford

Thursday, January 28 from 2 to 3 p.m. via Zoom

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/. Note: Death Cafe is a discussion group, not grief support or counseling.

I-Develop Community Conversations

Thursday, January 28 from 6 to 7 p.m. via Zoom

I-Develop is a framework for thinking about neighborhoods and how they contribute to our quality of life. The goal of the program is to support community engagement and democratic discourse in Stamford, CT. **RR.**

Technology



Catch up on Ferguson Library technology classes by visiting our YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/c/thefergusonlibrary>. There are lots of classes available, including Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, Microsoft PowerPoint, an Intro to Web Building: HTML & CSS, and more.

MS Office 365 Workshops with Microsoft Online Technology

Thursdays from 12 to 1 p.m.

Join us for free, 60-minute hands-on, interactive online workshops taught by Microsoft instructors. **RR** for each workshop. Workshop links will be provided to registrants in advance of the program.

January 7: Get Started with MS Word

Learn the many new features of Word and improve your productivity at home and at work. Also learn how to create professional documents using Word to make your life more constructive.

January 14: Get Started with Excel

Learn the many features of Excel to simplify your tasks and increase productivity in both your home and work life. Also learn how to analyze and organize data effectively and visually with the latest version of Excel.

January 21: Get Started with MS PowerPoint

Explore navigation, slide creation, and best practices to elevate your PowerPoint experience. Engaging, powerful and eye-catching presentations have never been easier.

English Language Learners

Let's Talk: Conversation Groups for English Language Learners Winter Session via Zoom

Registration not required. New students welcome. For meeting information, visit <https://fergusonlibrary.org/lets-talk-events/>.

Tuesdays, January 5, 12, 19 & 26

New students: 11 a.m.

Basic: 12:30 p.m.

Low intermediate: 3 p.m.

Advanced: 6 p.m.

Wednesdays, January 6, 13, 20 & 27

Virtual vocabulary games: 2:30 p.m.

Beginner: 4 p.m.

High intermediate: 5:30 p.m.

Ferguson Library's Professional Speakers Group Presents Lunch & Learn Effective Communication Series: Individual Communication Skills

Wednesdays, January 20, 27 & February 3 at Noon via Zoom

Targets skills needed to effectively communicate YOUR message across all platforms. **RR** for each session.

January 20: How to Create a Bio that Opens Doors and Closes Sales

With Helena Escalante

January 27: Upping Your Professional Image Virtually

With Peggy Bud, interviewed by Heather Hansen-O'Neill

February 3: LinkedIn Personal Branding and You

With Sandra Long, in Conversation with Mary Abbazia

FRIENDS VIRTUAL AUTHOR SERIES: Registration is OPEN!

An Evening with Bestselling Author Aimee Molloy

Thursday, January 14 at 6 p.m. via Zoom Webinar

Goodnight Beautiful, Aimee Molloy's tantalizing follow-up to *The Perfect Mother*, is another story of deceit and psychological suspense. Molloy's first novel, *The Perfect Mother*, debuted at #5 on the *New York Times* bestseller list the week it went on sale. **RR.**

An Evening with Alka Joshi

Tuesday, February 16 at 6 p.m. via Zoom Webinar

A touching tribute to the life her mother didn't have the opportunity to lead, Alka Joshi's debut novel, *The Henna Artist* is set in post-Raj 1950s Jaipur, about a young woman struggling to shape her own destiny in a world pivoting between the traditional and the modern. **RR.**



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



THE FERGUSON LIBRARY

YOUTH SERVICES JANUARY 2021

All library facilities are open. Masks required to enter a library building. To read our Reopening Guidelines, visit <https://fergusonlibrary.org/reopening-guidelines/>.

We are quarantining books for 3 days. When you return items, they will still be on your record for that period, but we will check them in using the date they were returned. We are not charging late fees at this time.

Main Library

Monday through Wednesday 11 – 6
Thursday 11 – 8
Friday and Saturday 11 – 5
Sunday 1 – 5

Harry Bennett Branch

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday
and Friday 12 – 5
Wednesday 12 – 7
Saturday 1 – 5

Weed Memorial & Hollander Branch

Monday and Thursday
10 – 3
Tuesday 12 – 7
Saturday 12 – 5

South End Branch

Monday through Thursday
10 – 5:30
Saturday 10 – 2



How to Contact Us



Phone Service

Need help? Call us during our hours of operation.

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

Weed Memorial & Hollander Branch: 203 351-8287

South End Branch: 203 351-8283

Virtual Chat

Chat online with a librarian Monday 9 – 7; Tuesday & Wednesday 9 – 6; Thursday 9 – 8; Friday 9 – 5; Saturday 9:30 – 5; Sunday 1 – 5 at <https://fergusonlibrary.org/virtual-chat/>.

HOLIDAY HOURS

The Library will be closed New Year's Day, Friday, January 1. All library facilities will be open regular hours Monday, January 18, Martin Luther King Jr. Day.



The Youth Services Digital Library

Visit <https://fergusonlibrary.org/remote-resources-for-youth/> for information about our digital books, movies and music, Linked Libraries, digital resources, Wi-Fi service for students in need, and more. Check out these as well:



The Library's YouTube channel

<https://www.youtube.com/c/TheFergusonLibrary>



Instagram [@ferglibrary](https://www.instagram.com/ferglibrary), [@ferglibraryyouth](https://www.instagram.com/ferglibraryyouth),

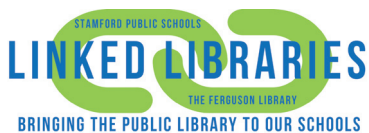
[@harrybennettbranchys](https://www.instagram.com/harrybennettbranchys) and [@southendbranch_lib](https://www.instagram.com/southendbranch_lib).



Facebook and Facebook Live <https://facebook.com/TheFergusonLibrary/>.



Curbside Pickup by Appointment Only



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/>.

Please check our online calendar at fergusonlibrary.org/event/ for updates and pop-up programs and subscribe to our newsletter/weekly emails at <http://fergusonlibrary.org/news/#toggle-id-1>.



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

THE FERGUSON LIBRARY YOUTH SERVICES JANUARY 2021

RR Registration Required. Register online at fergusonlibrary.org/event/. Zoom details will be sent to all registrants in advance of the program.

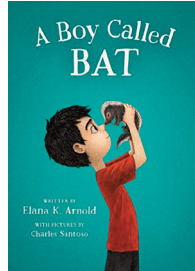
Library Pen Pals




Kids, we miss you! Even though we might not see you in the Library every day, we'd love to hear what you've been doing while staying safe at home-what you've been reading, what games you've been playing, new hobbies, etc. To encourage a connection with the Library along with building literacy and writing skills, kids in grades K to 5 can now be pen pals with the Youth Services staff. Write to us and we'll write back! Make sure to include your return address and please send letters to:


The Ferguson Library
Youth Services Department
One Public Library Plaza
Stamford, CT 06904

We can't wait to hear from you!

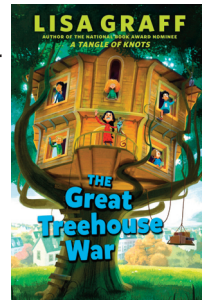


Book Bunch Club Discussion and Activity 
Wednesday, January 13 at 4 p.m.

Read *A Boy Called Bat* by Elana K. Arnold and then join us via Zoom to discuss and do a fun activity. Grades 2 to 3. **RR.**

Kids' Book Discussion 
Tuesday, January 19 from 7 to 7:50 p.m.

The Great Treehouse War by Lisa Graff. After Winnie's life falls apart due to her parents' divorce, she decides the only solution is to move into a treehouse between her parents' houses and stay there until they will listen to her. When her friends move in, there are demands from ten children and ten sets of parents all determined to bring this arrangement to an end! Grades 4 to 6. **RR.**



Crafternoons @ Home 
Thursday, January 21 at 4 p.m.


Join us for a picture book read-aloud and an art project. Be sure to have coloring supplies and your imagination ready. Registration opens January 7. Grades K to 5. **RR.**



Children's Programs


Sing & Stomp 
Tuesdays, January 5, 12, 19 & 26 from 10:15 to 10:45 a.m.

A song and dance party! For 18 months to 3½ years with adult. **RR.**

Budding Bookworms via South End Branch Instagram 
Tuesdays, January 5, 12, 19 & 26 at 10:30 a.m.

Storytime for ages 18 months to 4 years. New content every week. Watch on the South End Instagram at the scheduled time.

Teen Programs


Creative Writing Club 
Wednesday, January 6 from 5 to 6 p.m.

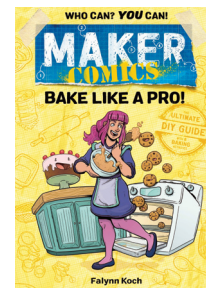
Bring your imagination, paper, and something to write with. We'll work on different writing prompts, then share our work. Grades 5 to 9. **RR.**



T-MAD 
Friday, January 8 from 4 to 5 p.m.

Meet with other teens to talk about books and learn what's going on at the Library. Grades 6 to 12. **RR.**

The Art and Science of Chocolate Chip Cookies 
Wednesday, January 20 from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.



Register for the program and come to the Main Library to pick up an information sheet and a copy of *Bake Like a Pro* by Falynn Koch. Then, read about chocolate chip cookies, gather your baking ingredients, warm up your oven and then join the Zoom meeting. Grades 5 to 8. **RR.**

What Should I Read Next? for Tweens 
Tuesday, January 26 from 7 to 7:45 p.m.

Talk about your favorite books and get recommendations for new titles. Grades 5 to 9. **RR.**