



SPRING 2020

OFF THE SHELF

FRIENDS OF THE MILFORD LIBRARY
NEWSLETTER

A NOTE FROM PAM

We are living in uncertain times; but it is wonderful to see the caring support being provided by our Milford community. We are all in this together.

As a reminder, all FOML in-person volunteer, committee activities and programs are on hold. Tasks that can be performed remotely, for example via phone or email, can continue. We'll be notified when the library is scheduled to re-open and when we can resume our activities.

In April, our Friday with Friends and High School Book Awards Ceremony will be cancelled. In the future, we will re-schedule the High School Book Awards to a date to be determined.

Membership renewals are on hold as well and memberships will be automatically extended. Once we resume our activities, new renewal notices will be sent.

This issue contains some helpful hints for you regarding library on-line resources, our Little Libraries, and advocacy efforts.

And finally, below is some advice from the CDC on coping with COVID-19 stress:

- Take breaks from watching, reading, or listening to news stories, including social media. Hearing about the pandemic repeatedly can be upsetting.
- Take care of your body. Take deep breaths, stretch, or meditate. Try to eat healthy, well-balanced meals, exercise regularly, and get plenty of sleep.
- Make time to unwind. Try to do some other activities you enjoy. Read a book!
- Connect with others via phone or online. Talk with people you trust about your concerns and how you are feeling.

I sincerely hope all our Friends and families are staying safe and healthy.

All the Best,
Pam Pilla
President

ANNUAL MEETING RECAP



The Friends of the Milford Library held their Annual Meeting and Thank You Party at the library Sunday, January 26. Friends, library staff, and local supporters, were greeted at the door by students from Foran High School's Key Club. Guests gathered on the upper floor of the library to enjoy a wine and cheese reception before reflecting on their accomplishments in 2019.

Awards were issued to several deserving volunteers including Judy Kennedy and Cheryl Cappiali for their conception of the Friends' first jewelry sale "Baubles, Bangles and Bling Bazaar" and Paula Goncalves for her dedication on the decorations for this year's Party in the Stacks fundraiser. The Little Libraries committee and the City Perks volunteers were also recognized for their service to the group.

The Community Supporter award went to Greg and Liz Davies of The Crushed Grape (254 Melba St, Milford, CT). Greg and Liz have been long time supporters of the Friends group, donating the bar and helping obtain sponsorships for fundraising events and functions.

ANNUAL MEETING RECAP (CONT'D)



Officer elections were held shortly after the awards. All positions were unanimously agreed upon by the group and are as follows: Kathy Goldbach Treasurer, Paula Goncalves Assistant Treasurer, Arlene Painter Secretary and Ashley Volkens Vice President of Public Relations. Pam Pilla, President, and Margaret Downey, Vice President of Membership, will continue their terms on the board. The Vice President of Special Events position remains vacant.

Outgoing officers, Karuna Kasbawala and Louise Uchaczyk were both thanked for sharing their time and talents while on the board. A book will be donated to the library in each of their names.



Contact us: milfordlib.friends@gmail.com
57 New Haven Avenue, Milford, CT 06460

MEET YOUR 2020 BOARD



Pam Pilla
President

How long have you been a friend? 3 years

Where you are from? Grew up on Long Island, but have been a resident of Milford over 35 years

What is your favorite book? The genres I tend to gravitate towards are mysteries, non-fiction, and historical fiction.

Why are you a friend? I joined the Friends when I retired to meet people and because I found the Friends to be a very welcoming group. I support the library because I love the community aspect of it and see how the services offered benefit the citizens of Milford.



Ashley Volkens
VP, Public Relations

How long have you been a friend? 2 years

Where you are from? Milford, CT

What is your favorite book? Any American Girl book!

Favorite author? Marc Brown (Arthur Book Series)

Why are you a friend? I feel at home at the Milford Library and want to share that feeling with as many people as I can. I believe libraries are necessary - the stronger your library, the stronger your community.



Margaret Downey
VP, Membership

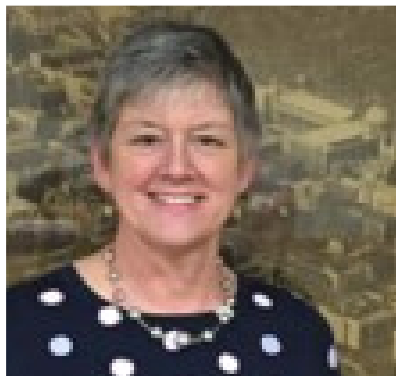
How long have you been a friend? 3 years

Where you are from? Milford, CT

What is your favorite book? All the Harry Potter Books

Why are you a friend? I initially became a Friend to help my mom with her library projects and the Party in the Stacks and found that I enjoyed being involved and helping FOML support the library.

MEET YOUR 2020 BOARD



Arlene Painter
Secretary

How long have you been a friend? 5 years

Where are you from? I grew up in West Haven, lived in Rocky Hill for almost 30 years and moved to Milford in 2013

Favorite book: The Outsiders, by S.E. Hinton

Favorite authors: Fiona Davis, Elin Hilderbrand, Lisa Scottoline, Viola Shipman, Nora Roberts

Why are you a friend? I became a Friend because I needed something to do in my retirement, and I have always loved reading and being in libraries!



Kathy Goldbach
Treasurer

How long have you been a friend? 6+ years

Where you are from? Milford, CT

What is your favorite book? All The Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doerr

Who is your favorite author? Louise Penny

Why are you a friend? I share FOML's mission to support the library staff in providing quality library services and opportunities for Milford's citizens



Paula Goncalves
Assistant Treasurer

How Long have you been a friend? 3 Years

Where are you from? Born and raised in Bridgeport, lived in Storrs for 4 years, Arizona for 1 year and Milford for about 35 yrs now.

Favorite book: Childhood Favorites include 'Magnificent Obsession' by Lloyd C. Douglas and 'Tale of Two Cities' by Dickens.

Why the library? I wanted to volunteer at the library to show my support. I've always been a reader and I love the peace and quiet of a library. I often think I should have been a librarian.

VIRTUAL / DIGITAL

Even though the Library is currently closed to the public, the wonderful hardworking library staff are working to quickly move services online, and increase our online resources.

If you should need any library assistance, new cards, or card extensions, library staff will respond to any messages as soon they are able!

Phone: 203-783-3290

Email: milford.public.library@biblio.org

Facebook: @MilfordPublicLibraryCT

Website: milfordlibrary.org

EBOOKS, EAUDIOBOOKS, & EMAGAZINES

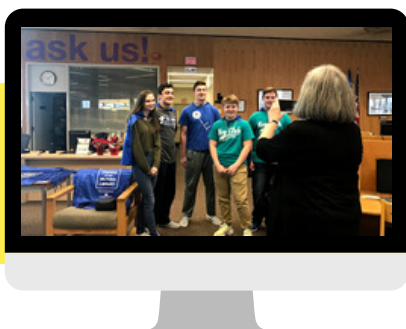
The Library subscribes to two e-content vendors, Overdrive & rbDigital. Both offer eBooks and eAudiobooks. RB Digital also offers emagazines, which do not need to be returned and can be kept on your device until you delete the file. These two services are available to Milford Public Library cardholders.



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FRIDAY W/ NANCY!



Nancy Abbey & Cheryl Cappiali

Nancy Abbey, Assistant Director of the Milford Public Library, gave her insightful perspective, discussing recently released books as well as previewing some upcoming releases for February's Friday with Friends.

The Book of Longings

Sue Monk Kidd

An extraordinary story set in the first century about a woman who finds her voice and her destiny, from the celebrated number one New York Times bestselling author of *The Secret Life of Bees* and *The Invention of Wings*.

My Dark Vanessa

Kate Elizabeth Russell

Perhaps the most anticipated first novel of the year, Russell's riveting, timeline-shifting saga of the relationship between a high-school student and her teacher... is sure to spark conversation (and debate).

The Splendid and the Vile

Erik Larsen

The Splendid and the Vile takes readers out of today's political dysfunction and back to a time of true leadership, when, in the face of unrelenting horror, Churchill's eloquence, courage, and perseverance bound a country, and a family, together.

LITTLE LIBRARIES

Although we are not restocking our Little Libraries while the library is closed, feel free to "Leave a Book, Take a Book". The Little Library shelf at the Train Station will remain closed until the station is open again. This is the sixth consecutive year of our Little Libraries.

Firehouse Art Gallery

81 Naugatuck Avenue
(Walnut Beach)

Milford YMCA

631 Orange Avenue
Located off the parking lot, near the ball fields.

Gulf Beach (Seasonal)

OPEN DATE: TBD



Little Library Committee: Linda Sheehan, Judy Salemme, Peggy Bolger, Lois Barr, Marilyn May, Rhea Spiegel

Contact us: milfordlib.friends@gmail.com
57 New Haven Avenue, Milford, CT 06460

LIBRARY ADVOCATE

SHARE **YOUR** STORY

GET TALKING. GET CALLING. GET WRITING. GET SHARING.

Our March Friday with Friends, featured Library Director Chris Angeli explaining the importance and impact of being a year round advocate for the library. Your story makes a difference - whether you're a parent sharing the joy their child experienced at story time or the friendships they formed, using library computers for job searching, saving dollars as a new retiree by checking out books, learning something new at a program, or how the library staff helped you. *"I love the Milford Public Library because...."*



RECOGNITION



Congratulations, Chris Angeli, City Library Director, for being awarded the Milford Chamber of Commerce's "Cultural Contribution Award"