



MAY NEWSLETTER



Official newsletter of Meriden Public Library, May 2023

**TEMPORARY LOCATION:
MERIDEN MALL
470 LEWIS AVENUE
LOCATED NEXT TO TJ MAXX**

RENOVATION UPDATE!

We will be tentatively closing our Meriden Mall location on June 2nd and are planning to reopen our newly renovated Meriden Library on July 14th. Stay tuned for celebration events and programs!

NEWS FROM THE FRIENDS

SEE PAGES 2 - 3



HOLIDAY - LIBRARY CLOSED:

Monday, May 29th (Memorial Day)



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Adult Programs: **Pages 4 - 9**

Children's Library/Teens: **Page 10**



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NEWS FROM THE FRIENDS



Thank you to all who worked so hard to make our "I Love My Library" Dinner a success. We also thank all those who attended and supported the event!

Meanwhile, we continue our march back to Miller Street. The bookstore renovations have been completed. We are awaiting the installation of shelving in our sorting room and then we can move books back from storage. We are looking forward to serving you again soon!

We are working with the library staff and the Library Board of Trustees to plan events for our reopening. Tentatively, we are planning a weekend full of events in mid-July. Stay tuned...

What are we doing with the funds we have raised?

We have dedicated nearly \$200,000 to the Building Project to be used however it is needed. This includes totally remodeling the staff break room. In addition, we are purchasing furniture for the director's office and the Children's Department Librarian's office. As mentioned earlier, the bookstore has been renovated (painted and a new checkout counter). We are working with the director to secure a new flagpole, and will be involved in the courtyard renovation. Other plans are still pending.

Fundraising

We continue to fundraise for the library renovation/expansion and continue to need your help. Donation forms are available in the Library at the Mall. You can also donate by going to our webpage, <https://www.meridenlibrary.org/about/friends-of-the-library>, scrolling down to **Thank You to Our "Friends,"** and clicking on the **Helping the Library Friends** drop-down button directly below it.

Library Donors

We are very thankful to all those who have donated to this effort, and wish to acknowledge those who have made a donation since our last update:

Dennis K. Foley, in memory of Jennifer L. Stark

Robert Perelman, in memory of Lucy Mickiewicz

Richard B. Towne

Sally Kamerbeek

Pablo E. Cardona Serrano

Rich and Barbara Zaniewski, in memory of Jennifer L. Stark

Ball Headz, Inc.



TIME IS RUNNING OUT!

Would you, your business, organization, or family estate like to dedicate a room in the newly renovated Meriden Public Library?

The Friends of the Meriden Public Library has several naming opportunities still available at various donor levels. Please contact Frank Ridley (fridley@cox.net) for more information.



Put your name on a piece of Meriden's posterity!



[/meridenlibrary](https://www.facebook.com/meridenlibrary)



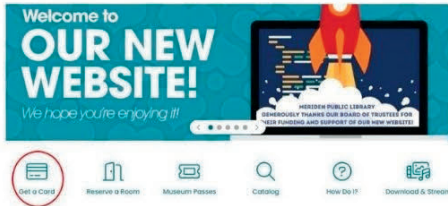
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MERIDEN RESIDENTS, GET A LIBRARY CARD TODAY!

1. Scan this QR code and follow the steps:
2. **OR** go to **meridenlibrary.org**.
3. Click on the "Get a Card" icon directly below the slideshow



OR click on the "Get a Card" tab at the top of the page:



4. Follow the instructions to apply for a card via our online form.
5. Bring the necessary items to the Visitor Services desk to verify your name and Meriden address. Enjoy your new card!

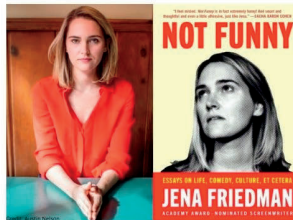
May Virtual Author Talks



Britt Hawthorne
Raising Antiracist Children: A Practical Parenting Guide
(a NYT bestseller)

- Nationally recognized antiracist & anti-bias educator, speaker, & advocate

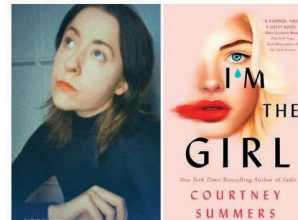
Wednesday, May 3rd
at 1 pm ET



Jena Friedman
Not Funny: Essays on Life, Comedy, Culture, Et Cetera

- Comedian, filmmaker, and creator of two TV programs
- Academy Award nominee for Best Adapted Screenplay (*Borat Subsequent Moviefilm*)

Wednesday, May 10th
at 8 pm ET



Courtney Summers
I'm the Girl ("spiritual successor" to *Sadie*)

- *New York Times* bestselling Young Adult author
- Recipient of numerous book awards and honors

Saturday, May 20th
at 2 pm ET



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Featured May Programs



To register for events, go to: <https://www.meridenlibrary.org/events/month>

Tomie dePaola Stamp Celebration

The U.S. Postal Service will issue forever stamps honoring children's writer and illustrator (and Meriden native) Tomie dePaola on May 5. The stamp shows the beloved character known as "Strega Nona." Stay tuned for news of a local celebration!



How to Start Your Own Garden, with Eric Larson, UCONN Master Gardener

Starting your own garden can be daunting. Eric is coordinator for the UCONN Master Gardener Program for New Haven County. On May 6th, Eric will provide patrons with all the information they need to grow their own garden. Free seeds will be distributed.

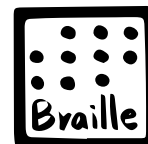
Saturday, May 6th
10:30-11:30 am



Low Vision Directory Distribution (UR Community Cares)

Michelle Puzzo of UR Community Cares will be here to distribute their directory of low vision resources. She will also answer questions about the agency and issues faced by persons with vision impairments.

Tuesday, May 9th
2-4 pm



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Featured May Programs

Continued



To register for events, go to: <https://www.meridenlibrary.org/events/month>

How to Pay for College

Advanced College Funding Solutions, LLC will hold a free seminar on funding for college-bound students. The company helps families navigate the college admissions and financial aid planning process so their children can attend the college of their choice, regardless of cost. They will provide free consultation to all participants.

Company website: <https://adcollegefunding.com/>

Tuesday, May 9th
6:15-7:30 pm



Workforce Alliance Services Desk

- Darlena Young of Workforce Alliance (WA)
- will set up an information desk at the
- library. WA offers assistance in all aspects
- of the job search process. It sponsors
- virtual hiring events, lists available
- positions, and helps its clients apply to
- jobs. WA has numerous business partners
- who use the organization to fill their
- positions.

Wednesday, May 10th: 12-2 pm
Monday, May 22nd: 1-3 pm



Come to Your Senses - Aromatherapy 101

This presentation highlights the history and health benefits of essential oils and healing botanicals, and includes a fun trivia quiz. Patrons will craft fabric aromatherapy dream pillows, create a healing foot salt soak, and have the option of making deconstructed soaps using dried botanicals and essential oils. Relaxing music and herbal teas (aromatherapy in a cup!) add to this calming, creative experience! Kim Larkin is a NAHA certified aromatherapist.

This program is for teens and adults.

Registration is required.

The program capacity is 15, and waitlisted patrons will be called if space opens up.



Saturday, May 13th
2-3:30 pm



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Featured May Programs

Continued



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Health Care Job Fair

Local health care agencies will gather at the Meriden Library in the Mall on May 20th from 11 am to 2 pm looking for nurses, CNAs, and other health care workers.

Come with your resume and meet potential employers! This is an excellent opportunity for those of you who are new graduates.



Saturday, May 20th
11 am-2 pm



Modern Calligraphy

- Learn the basics of modern calligraphy with Debby Reelitz!
- We will do a series of exercises to develop skills necessary for using a fine marker.
- We will cover lower case, capitals, dancing letters, and decorative techniques.

- All materials provided.

- Participants limited to 20, so register early!

Saturday, May 20th
1:30-3 pm



Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month Trivia

Join us May 30th for an Asian American & Pacific Islander Heritage Month Trivia game.

This is a great chance to recognize and celebrate the contributions and influence of Asian Americans and Pacific Islander Americans on U.S. history and culture.

How well do you know this heritage history? Participate in this fun trivia game at MPL!

Enter for a chance to win prizes!

Tuesday, May 30th
6:30-7:30 pm



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Twice-a-Month Tuesday Craft Night #1: Coffee Filter Butterflies

We will use markers to add color to coffee filters. Then, using water, the colors will mix and we will create beautiful butterflies. A great family craft!

Tuesday, May 2nd
6-7 pm

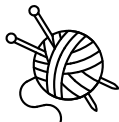


Knit & Crochet Club

Join your fellow crafters and bring your knitting and crochet project to work on at the library!

Meets every 1st & 3rd Wednesday

Wednesday, May 3rd & 17th
10 am-12 pm



Spanish Conversation Hour

It's time to dust off that high school Spanish! Join us for a fun, relaxing conversation hour and practice your Spanish.

Meets Wednesdays through May 17th.

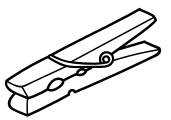
Wednesday, May 3rd, 10th, & 17th
4-5 pm

Gracias

Twice-a-Month Tuesday Craft Night #2: Clothespin Butterflies

We will use clothespins and paint to make your very own happy, beautiful butterfly! It's easy and fun.

Tuesday, May 23rd
6-7 pm



What's Next? Book Club

We will discuss "Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet," by Jamie Ford, a historical romance about a Japanese American woman and a Chinese American man during WWII.

Wednesday, May 10th
6:30-7:30 pm



BookTok Book Club

Join us for BookTok Book Club to discuss books that have trended on social media platforms.

May Book: "The Atlas Six," by Olivie Blake.

If our physical copy is checked out, you can order a copy from a library in our LION consortium. The eBook version is available on the Libby app.

Tuesday, May 16th
6:30-7:30 pm



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Castle Craig Adult Learning Center (CCALC) May Events



Meriden Mall, 470 Lewis Avenue, Meriden, CT 06451
(Program space next to Boscov's)
All classes meet from 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

Monday, May 1st

"Climate Crisis: What We Must Do to Save the Earth"

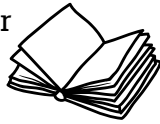
Presenter: Dick Boynton, former rocket scientist



Wednesday, May 3rd

"Book Discussion III: 'The Personal Librarian,' by Marie Benedict & Victoria Christopher Murray"

Presenter: Steve Volpini



Thursday, May 4th

"Public Health: What Goes into a Health Inspection"

Presenters: Lea Crown, Director, & Jennifer Henaire, Sanitarian, Meriden Dept. of Health and Human Services



Monday, May 8th

"Death in the Baltic: The WW2 Sinking of the Wilhelm Gustloff"

Presenter: Cathryn Prince, author & freelance journalist



Wednesday, May 10th

"A Mirror on Meriden"

Presenter: William Glick, former executive of the Meriden Gravure Company



Thursday, May 11th

"The Three Stooges"

Presenter: John Colaresi, cinema buff & aficionado



Monday, May 15th

"Three Unique National Parks in Florida, and Other Florida Sights"

Presenters: Barbara & Jack Brooks, travelers



Wednesday, May 17th

"The Life & Times of Thomas Edison"

Presenter: Leon Di Martino, adult education instructor



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Tomie dePaola Children's Library

To register for a program, call the Children's Desk at
(203) 630-6347, or sign up online!



FAMILY STORYTIME

Mondays & Fridays at 10:30 am

Wednesdays at 6:30 pm



For ages 5 and under

Join us each week for stories, songs, and crafts.

Running through the week of May 22nd

SPACESHIP HARMONY: A MUSICAL JOURNEY THROUGH THE UNIVERSE WITH MICHELE URBAN

Thursday, May 11th, 10:30 am



Blast off for faster-than-the-speed-of-light fun with stellar songs, galactically cool games, and epic rhythm instruments!

Brought to you by Michele Urban at My Music Room.

ARTISTS IN BLOOM: ART SHOWCASE FROM STUDENTS AND STAFF AT CARRIAGE HOUSE DAYCARE

Tuesday, May 16th, 5:30-8:00 pm



Creativity and community! Please join us to honor our young "Picassos", "van Goghs", "O'Keeffes," and more from Carriage House Daycare located in Meriden.

Tomie dePaola Celebration

Come celebrate Meriden native and acclaimed children's book author Tomie dePaola as his beloved character Strega Nona makes her U.S. postage stamp debut!

FAMILY STORYTIME: CELEBRATING TOMIE DEPAOLA

**Friday, May 5th,
10:30 am**

For ages 5 and under

Come and enjoy this special Family Story Time featuring Tomie's stories

DROP IN CRAFT: MAKE A MAGIC PASTA POT

**Saturday, May 6th,
all day while supplies last**

For all ages

Create your very own magic pasta pot with overflowing spaghetti.



TEEN EVENTS

For ages 12-18



HOW TO PAY FOR COLLEGE

Tuesday, May 9th, 6:15 pm

Advanced College Funding Solutions will hold a seminar on finding funding for college-bound students. All participants will get a free individual consultation.



NEWSPAPER FLOWER BOUQUETS

Tuesday, May 2nd, 6-7 pm

Join us for our May teen craft! We will be making flower bouquets out of newspapers and magazines



TRADING CARD GAME CLUB

Tuesday, May 23rd, 6-7:30 pm

Bring your cards and friends and challenge each other to a card duel.



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Friends of the Meriden Public Library

Membership / Renewal Application

NAME (please print): _____

Additional Names (list others in household covered by this membership):

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP code: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

E-mail: _____ Cell Phone: _____

() \$100.00 (or more) - CORPORATE () \$100.00 (or more) - BENEFACTOR

() \$40.00 - PATRON () \$10.00 - BASIC

() I WISH TO MAKE A DONATION TO THE WORLD WAR II HOLOCAUST FUND:
AMOUNT: _____

() I WISH TO MAKE A DONATION TO THE LIBRARY BUILDING FUND:
AMOUNT: _____

() I WISH TO MAKE AN ADDITIONAL DONATION:
AMOUNT: _____

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Indicate areas of interest - Check as many areas as you desire

___ Library Advocacy	___ Book Sorting	___ Internet Sales	___ Newsletter
___ Membership	___ Bookstore	___ Any Area Where Needed	___ Publicity

Please make checks payable to: Friends of the Library (FOTL)

Return to: Friends of the Meriden Public Library, 470 Lewis Avenue, Meriden, CT 06451

In order to maximize the effect of your membership funds, we will not be providing membership cards; your cancelled check will be your proof of membership.

Thank you!



A New Day is coming.

The Meriden Public Library is changing!



You can enter a whole new world of information.

The Meriden Public Library will be undergoing a complete remodel in order to bring it into the 21st century.

You new library will contain a multitude of new resources that will help you better navigate your life.

The Meriden Public Library is your complete information source.

Meriden Public Library Building Fund

All donations of \$1000 or more will be notated on a special plaque which will hang in the Library

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Yes I wish to assist in the Library Renovation and make the following gift.

☐ \$100 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$1000 ☐ Other

Tax deductible donations may be mailed to:
Please Note Building Fund in the Memo Section

The Friends of the Meriden Public Library
105 Miller Street • Meriden, CT 06450

The Friends of the Meriden Public Library is a 501c3 organization