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**Join the "*Pop Up*" Book Discussion
in the Conference Room at The Harry Bennett Branch
at 5:30 pm**

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BONUS SUMMER PROGRAM



Betsy Lerner

The Jewish Historical Society of Fairfield County
is pleased to offer a bonus summer program with author Betsy Lerner.

A Woman Reconnects with her mother through her Bridge Club

An unforgettable memoir of a hard-won-but never-too-late-bond between mother and daughter.

**Thursday, August 4, 2016
at the Harry Bennett Branch
of The Ferguson Library
115 Vine Road, Stamford, CT**

**Light refreshments at 6:30 pm
Program begins at 7:00 pm**

This program is co-sponsored by The Ferguson Library

For more than 50 years, a group of Jewish women in New Haven gathered every Monday to eat lunch and play bridge.

As a young child, Lerner was fascinated with these ladies, who showed up with "their hair frosted, their nylons shimmery, carrying patent leader pocketbooks with clasps as round as marbles." But as a teenager, she thought these women were "square" because they "didn't work, didn't seem to get that Feminism was taking over the world" ... the Bridge Ladies were conventional, their sphere limited to family, synagogue and community. Their identities restricted to daughter, mother, and wife. What could be more tedious? More demeaning?

When Lerner moved back to New Haven to help her aging mother, she began to understand the Bridge Ladies by interviewing each of the women in turn, learning about their successes and failures, love interests, children, and ability to commit to one man for a lifetime.

During this process, she also found ways to ask her mother about her own childhood. In addition, the author decided to learn how to play bridge, a task she found more difficult than she'd imagined.

synopsis/review: Adapted from Kirkus Review