

# The Connection

## FRIENDS OF THE SOUTH COASTAL LIBRARY

Friends working together to build a stronger library and community.

Vol. 28 | No. 4 | Fall 2021

### FOSCL

P.O. Box 1617  
Bethany Beach, DE 19930-1617  
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www.foscl.com

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To Be Determined

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*The Friends of the South Coastal Library Connection is produced by Board Members. To submit an article or ask a question about Friends' activities please write us.*

## President's Message | Norbert Kraich



We made it through Labor Day. Summer is behind us. Fall is upon us.

Covid is (mostly - hopefully) in the rearview mirror (although the Delta variant and its friends may have something else to say about that). The South Coastal Library is back open!

### *All good news.*

And you know what else is good news? The fact that we live in a wonderful, caring, sharing community, and for the most part, a world filled with good folks.

**Why do I say that? Let me give you a few examples:** Elise Lindsey and Michael Loftus of South Bethany own the business, "Tickled Pink," in downtown Bethany Beach (100 Garfield Parkway, #10). This is their first year in business. They have owned other businesses before but not on the retail side. They decided when they opened this Spring that they would make a concerted effort to support local charities and non-profit organizations. They have been making monthly donations, representing a percentage of their monthly proceeds, to selected

groups. This month they selected the Friends of the South Coastal Library (FOSCL) as the designated organization. On September 2, I went to the store along with Dick Oliver, FOSCL's Secretary, to receive a donation check from them. It was a substantial amount, \$740, and a wonderful and extremely generous gesture. Thank you, Elise and Mike; we greatly appreciate your generosity.

While I was at Tickled Pink, Elise and Mike handed me another fifteen dollars. Five of it was from a young customer of their store, Zoe C., a nine-year-old visitor from New Jersey. Zoe saw the oversize check on the wall made out to FOSCL and inquired about it. When told by Elise and Mike about their charitable program and what FOSCL does for our library, little Zoe said she wanted to help, opened her purse, and pulled out the crumpled, 5-dollar bill and said, "I want to contribute too!" Heartwarming. The other ten dollars came from a lady from Harrisburg, PA. Dorothy A., who saw the check, inquired, was told what FOSCL does and presented Elise with a ten-dollar bill as a contribution. Terrific!

Despite what you often see on TV and read in the newspapers, it's moments like these that bolster your faith in humanity. There are good, kind,

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Dick Oliver, FOSCL Secretary; Michael Loftus & Elise Lindsey, owners "Tickled Pink;" Norbert Kraich, FOSCL President.

## Donor Highlight: Tickled Pink

"Tickled Pink" opened in downtown Bethany Beach in the Spring of 2021. The owners of the business, Elise Lindsey and Michael Loftus (wife and husband) of South Bethany, decided that as part of being a good community neighbor they wanted to help local, non-profit charities and organizations by making monthly donations to these groups. The donations would be a percentage of "Tickled Pink's" proceeds. For the month of September, they chose the FOSCL. On September 2, Elise and Michael presented FOSCL with a check for \$740. In accepting the check, FOSCL President, Norbert Kraich, said that "FOSCL is thrilled by the generosity of Elise and Michael towards our organization. This very substantial donation will help us immensely in our continuing efforts to serve the local community with our funding of a myriad of South Coastal Library programs that we offer for all our library patrons...we thank Tickled Pink from the bottom of our hearts for what they have done for us."



caring folks all around us. I'm reminded of that every morning as I take my daily walk around town. It's rare that I don't elicit a "good morning," or "how are you?" from folks that I encounter. Folks are generally kind and caring. We should all feel very good about that and try to ignore the other stuff.

We have a bunch of wonderful, caring folks on the Board of Directors of FOSCL as well and, due to board term-limits, we are about to say goodbye to a few of them.

Ron Weber joined the FOSCL Board in 2013 and immediately stepped into the role of the organization's Treasurer. Ron, a retired Social Security Administration District Manager in Lancaster, PA for 36 years and a full-time, Ocean View resident since 2009, has very ably guided the FOSCL fiscal responsibilities over the past eight years. Ron brought us into the modern age via QuickBooks and keeps our finances in fantastic shape. We are really going to miss his professional expertise.

Linda Maxwell of Bethany Beach joined our Board in 2012 and has served as Board Vice President for the last six years.

A retired, pre-school, special education teacher in the Indian River school district for 22 years, Linda has been instrumental in making certain that our FOSCL School Partnership Program continues to flourish. Our goal for the program is to introduce elementary school children and their parents to the joys and the merits of our outstanding, community library. We do this by funding interesting, educational and, best of all, fun programs for the children. Linda and the School Partnership Committee members have made certain that this program reaches its goals. Thank you, Linda, for making this valuable program so special.

Another member of the Board and an extremely valuable member of the School Partnership Program Committee, Linda Lewis of Millsboro, is leaving the Board and will be greatly missed. Linda, a retired executive director with Accenture in Wilmington, has re-located from South Bethany to Millsboro and finds commuting for Board and committee meetings from Millsboro to the South Coastal Library, especially in the summer, quite difficult. Linda has been instrumental in promoting the School Partnership Program and

getting the FOSCL Board involved with the Lord Baltimore Elementary School administration, as we rolled out the program. We will greatly miss her invaluable expertise and advise.

These incredible folks and all the volunteer members of our Board are the heart and soul of FOSCL's success. Those of you who have read my messages in the past know that I am continually writing about and praising our terrific volunteer corp. We are always looking for additional good, caring folks to help us out in our endeavors. You can help FOSCL by volunteering for any of our activities. There are lots of opportunities. To help, please contact us through our website at [www.foscl.com](http://www.foscl.com) or leave your name and contact information at the South Coastal Library check-out desk. One of our FOSCL Board members will be sure to contact you to explore your volunteer interests.

Thanks to all our loyal, library supporters for all you do to keep South Coastal Library the jewel and the outstanding community resource that it is.

*All The Best,*  
Norbert



## NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Congratulations are in order to the four new members elected to the FOSCL Board of Directors. Their terms begin October 1, 2021. Stay tuned for the winter issue of *The Connection* for a photo and more information about them.

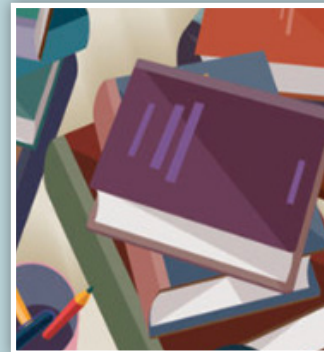
The new members are, the following:

- Constance M. Dierman, Bethany Beach
- Steven Embrey, Bethany Beach
- Cindy Hutson, Ocean View
- Lisa Saxton, South Bethany

Elected for a second, three-year term on the FOSCL Board:

- Barb Calkins
- Lawrence Mayer
- Helen N. Pastis

Thanks to all for their service on the FOSCL Board and to the South Coastal Library. For those interested in getting more involved, drop us an email at: [info@foscl.com](mailto:info@foscl.com)



## Book Sale 2022

For the Book Sale in 2022, more information will be forthcoming.



## 2021 Upcoming Events

In October  
Fall Issue of  
*The Connection*  
Next issue comes out in 2022!



# Summer winds down and fall begins



As summer winds down and fall starts—eventually—we're looking forward to dryer weather so our book pages stop sticking together. There's nothing like reading in "clumps" when it's 75% humidity.

What will our future hold? Unfortunately, the 8-Ball in the Teen Centre is just not very forthcoming. While public hours may possibly be expanded, we are still being very cautious in our arrangements of events and classes.

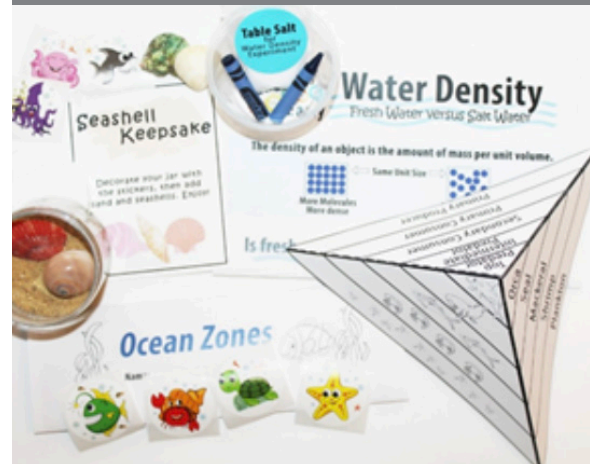
As of now, library events and classes will be virtual, hybrid, or as small, socially-distant, outside ones. All arrangements are subject to change, depending on COVID safety protocols. Please visit <https://southcoastal.lib.de.us> to keep current on events and offerings, including registration. And our thanks to all those who participated in the Summer Reading Challenge—you made our library reading program one of the most-joined in the county this summer!

Here's a taste of what is coming your way this fall—keep an eye out for registration openings as they appear. Go to <https://southcoastal.lib.de.us/> and click on Full Calendar of events in the "What's Happening" column for details and registration. Our thanks to FOSCL and all its members for all the funding they pour into programs for the community!

- ✿ **Grab & Go kits** will continue to be available until we can return to full public participation in programming.
- ✿ **Zumba returns this fall**—as a hybrid class. Join in-person or by Zoom starting September 7.
- ✿ **Backyard Birding**—Zoom webinar discussed how to entice your feathered friends for dinner before the snow sets in.
- ✿ **Arthritis Friendly Yoga classes**—multiple days and times, limit of 10 people per class. Starts September 2 and runs for multiple weeks. See registration for details and requirements.
- ✿ **19th Century Baltimore: A City of Immigrants**—Over 600,000 immigrants arrived at the end of the 19th century to make new lives - Zoom presentation discussed a fascinating history lesson.

There are so many classes and events for this fall. Check out the site or stop by and pick up a brochure. We will be glad to help you register. Look for some of your "old favorites" too - dance, crafts and art classes, Armchair Traveler series, book talks and more.

## Always their favorite part of the story...



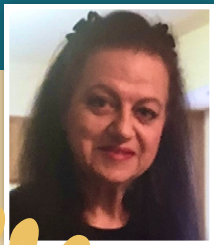
## STEM at South Coastal Library

By evolving their collections and offerings, libraries adapt to meet the needs of the diverse communities they serve. In recent years, libraries have been including more materials and programs focusing on science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). At South Coastal Library, we have been doing our part by collaborating with local STEM programmers to bring these much-needed STEM activities to the Quiet Resorts.

This summer, the Library partnered with the local, non-profit organization, Engineer Early, to provide our younger patrons with a free and accessible STEM program. Each month, patrons were able to sign up for a STEM kit that they could pick up at the Library and complete at home. Each kit centered on a different theme each month and designed to be completed by children of all ages. Much like our other programs, a library card was not required to get a kit, so it was accessible to all.

Over the course of the summer, the Library was able to provide STEM kits to 90 children. This program proved to be so successful that the Library intends to continue its collaboration with Engineer Early and continue providing STEM kits through December!

To learn more about STEM programs at the Library, please visit our website. To learn more about Engineer Early, visit their website at [www.engineerearly.org](http://www.engineerearly.org). To see when the next 'Grab and Go' STEM kits will be available, look for the Engineer Early listings in events calendar at <https://delawarelibraries.libcal.com/calendar/southcoastal>.



### *Interview with Rosemary Hardiman*

Recently, I had the pleasure to interview Rosemary Brady Hardiman, the Mayor of Bethany Beach, a member of the Beach and Bay Cottage Tour Committee, former member of the Friends of the South Coastal Library Board, the Sussex County Library Advisory Board and County representative on the Delaware Council on Libraries. We talked for one afternoon, and we could have talked for many hours more. Here's a summary of some of the topics we touched upon. I've tried to capture her words as much as possible.

Rosemary Brady Hardiman: Mayor, Bethany Beach



#### **On How Life Evolves**

Rosemary is originally from Brooklyn, New York, and grew up in Massapequa Park, Long Island. She majored in Communications—radio, television and print media—at St. John's University in New York. After working for a while as a reporter and editor of a newsletter for financial institutions, she was recruited to serve as Secretary of the Board of a Federal financial regulatory agency. She later went on to law school and a legal career in private practice with her husband Jerry. Rosemary tells college students who are anxious about picking the right degree that what they major in is not necessarily the career they wind up working in. And that's okay. Life evolves. Rosemary is the perfect example. More about that later.

#### **On How She Met Jerry**

It's kind of a "meant-to-be" story. When they were working for different Federal agencies, they lived near each other, within three blocks, in Washington, DC. But they didn't meet until both had to go to Oak Ridge, Tennessee for a Senior Executive development course. The meeting and first conversation involved Rosemary buying a pitcher of beer for Jerry and a mutual friend one hot afternoon. Rosemary was just thirsty, but Jerry saw the gesture as a sign of character and a generous and compassionate nature. That was it for him and he said he found the one he wanted to marry. There's more to the story, of course, since Rosemary and Jerry recently celebrated their 40th

Anniversary. Rosemary can fill you in on the funny details when you get a chance to talk with her.

#### **On Family Leadership Lessons**

Rosemary is the oldest of ten siblings. She grew up helping her mother with the younger ones and was often "left in charge" from an early age, which she loved, when her parents went out. I asked Rosemary if that's where she first developed her leadership skills. She said that actually the most valuable leadership lessons came when she was executor of her parents' estate. Division of property can often tear families apart, but not in this case. The key was development of a plan that everyone participated in and agreed to beforehand. I won't cover all the details here, but suffice it to say that the plan included fun distribution of some items and procedures for the fair consideration of everyone's interests and preferences. The ten brothers and sisters grew closer together and shared wonderful memories as they went through the process. In fulfilling her legal responsibilities as executor, Rosemary carried out her parents' wishes, which included keeping peace in the family.

#### **On Becoming Mayor of Bethany Beach**

Rosemary and Jerry have been property owners in Bethany Beach since 1994. When they retired in 2004, they moved to Bethany as full-time residents and became involved as volunteers in various community activities. Among other activities, Rosemary volunteered to

serve on the Town's Communications Committee, as well as the Recycling Committee. In 2014, she was elected by the Town Council from among three candidates to fill the unexpired term of a member who had resigned. (Under the Town Charter, Council members are normally elected by property owners and resident voters and the mayor, vice-mayor and secretary-treasurer are elected by the Council members from among their number. When there is a vacancy on the Council between elections, the Council elects a replacement to finish the unexpired term of the vacancy.) Rosemary has been reelected by voters in three subsequent elections and has served as Mayor since 2020. Rosemary sees her role as a servant in the sense that she, and the other Council members serve the Town and the people. As far as being Mayor is concerned, Rosemary says that everyone on the 7-member Council is equal; everyone is important; and everyone has a say and a vote. For the Mayor, it's often a matter of planning, framing issues, identifying options, seeking Council consensus and coordinating decisions and with the Town Manager. Plus, the added enjoyment of finding out what the people think and fact-finding research.

#### **On Dealing With the Unprecedented Challenges of Covid-19**

From the time Governor Carney declared a State of Emergency in Delaware in March 2020 because of the pandemic, until the Declaration was terminated in July 2021, the Council and Town

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Manager were intensely focused on keeping everyone in the Bethany Beach community healthy and safe. There was a great deal of uncertainty, confusion and public fear in the beginning and during the emergency. Readers will remember the initial lack of testing services and vaccines, the confusing and sometimes contradictory information from the White House, CDC officials and others, and all the restrictions that were imposed.

The Town government was better prepared to cope than many communities having started planning before the Governor's declaration based on news from other countries and with preliminary research of the uncertainty and risk, including a 2019 book "Three Seconds to Midnight" that predicted the outbreak of a pandemic and outlined the need for preparation. However, there was no detailed playbook for dealing with COVID, such as those for hurricanes and other emergencies.

The Council and Town Manager had to deal with constant, sometimes daily, changing of circumstances to inform and protect the citizens of Bethany Beach. Here are some of the challenges encountered:

- An increased population with a large influx of people coming from other states seeking safety and to take advantage of work-from-home and virtual education opportunities. (The Town was able to track the population increase from water usage data and reports of overcrowding.);
- Shortage of Town staff to meet demands, especially in the police and public works departments during summer;
- Implementing new and changing directives and guidance from the Governor and Federal and State agencies that included: the initial stay-at-home orders, quarantine requirements, closing then partially and fully reopening the beach; social distancing and mask-wearing requirements and occupancy limits and other restrictions on businesses;
- Serious financial concerns of restaurants and other businesses; and
- The vital need to keep citizens informed about what was going on.

The Council and Town Manager used what authority and capability they had to meet those challenges. One measure that was particularly effective in limiting overcrowding on the narrower beach while trying to help businesses was to adjust and balance parking arrangements for those purposes. Establishing 15-minute parking for carry out restaurant and eatery orders was also helpful. To keep citizens informed the Town expanded website postings to include not only changes and developments, but references to other sources of information that could be helpful.

For her part, Rosemary also spent a great deal of time personally checking on complaints and conditions in Town; talking to residents and business owners as well as the Chamber of Commerce about their concerns and needs; determining what other communities were doing; representing the Town in conference calls and virtual meetings with the Governor and State and local officials; and researching applicable legal references and other sources of information. One source Rosemary mentioned was a study on "grief leadership" which was helpful in recognizing and addressing COVID-related issues.

The Town Manager and Council evaluated and adjusted measures on an ongoing basis as conditions changed. In preparation for this past summer and while the State of Emergency was still in effect, they talked with residents and business owners to determine measures that were helpful and those that weren't and adjusted accordingly. Going forward, they will evaluate lessons learned, ongoing threats from any virus variants, and any other changes brought about by COVID. Thankfully, it can be said that the measures the Town took during the pandemic were helpful in protecting the public and Town staff, and prevented a COVID-19 outbreak in Bethany Beach.

As Rosemary tells students, whatever you study or learn over the years is never entirely lost. As Mayor, Rosemary drew upon her family experience, education and professional background and experience as a reporter, editor, executive and attorney, as well as valuable secretarial skills acquired along the way. She is intent on continuing to do so serving the Town and our broader community. And that includes continuing to support and serve our invaluable South Coastal Library.

## Past Interviews

**Interviews Appearing  
in Previous Editions  
of *The Connection*,  
Editor's Connection  
Conversation Column**

### WINTER 2020

Dr. William Gudelunas

### SPRING 2020

Chef Charles Oppman

### WINTER 2021

Barbara Nicholson

### SPRING 2021

Our Beloved Library Patrons

### SUMMER 2021

Kathy Green

### FALL 2021

Rosemary Hardiman





# SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM NEWS

In-person learning ... virtual learning... hybrid learning... whatever the 2021-2022 school year brings, the FOSCL School Partnership Committee is ready! Working with the staff of Lord Baltimore Elementary School, the Committee has finalized plans to bring children's author, Jerry Pallotta, in October to the school via a virtual presentation.



Who would win if a Rhino squared off against a Hippo? Alligator vs. Python? Killer Whale vs. Great White Shark? Tyrannosaurus Rex vs. Velociraptor? Wolverine vs. Tasmanian Devil? In his series "Who Would Win?" Mr. Pallotta explores animal behavior, but with a twist!

The School Partnership Committee has already donated several sets of the series "Who Would Win?" to the school, for the students and teachers to enjoy! Hopefully, additional presentations with various authors can be scheduled, but for NOW, the School Partnership Committee is ready to welcome Mr. Pallotta, AND welcome our students safely back to school!

## The School Partnership Committee is ready!

## Contact & Hour Info Updates!

**NEW Library Phone Number:**  
302-858-5518

### South Coastal Library Hours:

- Mondays & Tuesdays: 10am to 6pm
- Wednesdays & Thursdays: 10am to 7pm
- Fridays: 10am to 5pm
- Saturdays: 10am to 3pm
- Sundays: Closed

## OUTGOING FOSCL Board of Directors

- Linda Lewis
- Linda Maxwell
- Esther Samios
- Ron Weber



Esther Samios, Ron Weber, Linda Lewis, and Linda Maxwell

With Ron Weber's departure and completion of his two-year term on the Board, Anthony Parisi, Jr. will be replacing Ron as Treasurer.

## INCOMING FOSCL Board of Directors

- Constance M. Dierman
- Steven Embrey
- Cindy Hutson
- Lisa Saxton



Cindy Hutson and Lisa Saxton with Barb Calkins: Nominating Committee, Chair

NOT SHOWN:  
C. Dierman and S. Embrey

## Hello from:

**Rachel T. Lynch:**  
Director, Sussex County  
Department of Libraries;  
**Susanne Keefe:**  
Director, South Coastal  
Library; and  
**Norbert Kraich:**  
President, FOSCL





# From Sunday, July 18 through Saturday, July 31, attendees tuned in from locations throughout the world to enjoy the 29th Annual Beach & Bay Cottage Tour.



For the first time, viewers from 24 states, as well as South America, Africa, and Australia visited 10 beautiful homes in the Bethany Beach area from the comfort of their own homes. Although the Tour was virtual this year, it was well supported. From the feedback we received, the 10 beautiful homes provided plenty of ideas and noteworthy stories. Each home was an amazing testament to the owners and their families, and we are so grateful they chose to share their homes with us.

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In addition, the art and restaurant raffles were very productive. The winners are listed below. Final figures are not complete, but thanks to all of those who "attended" the Tour as well as those listed below, the Tour should raise a good sum to enable the FOSCL to support programs for the South Coastal Library. Thanks go to the efforts of the Beach & Bay Cottage (B&BC) Tour Committee again led by Chair, Kathy Green.

*There are so many people to thank for their part in making the Tour a success:*

#### **Our Wonderful Homeowners:**

The ten gracious homeowners who so generously opened their lovely homes to our virtual Tour attendees: the Bay View Park Home; Diane & Bill Gay; Kiera & Rand Blazer; Claire & Frank Howard; Cindy & Danny Anastasi; JoAnn McInnis & Eric Seleznow; Joyce Branda & Stanley

Reed; Monika King & Daryl DeKarski; the Sea Del House; and the Seabreak House.

#### **Our Great Sponsors:**

**Presenting Sponsor:** Leslie Kopp of The Leslie Kopp Group

**House Sponsors:** [PLATINUM] Bruce Mears, Designer/Builder; Creative Concepts; Friend of the Cottage Tour; and Sea Studio Architects  
[GOLD] Bruce Mears, Designer/Builder; and David Quillin Architecture

**Tote Bag Sponsors:** The Anne Powell Group; G & E/Hockers; PNC Bank; Sea Colony Recreation Association; Scott & Shuman PA; and the Town of Bethany Beach

**Raffle Sponsor:** Shirley Price

**Video Hosting Sponsor:** Pohanka Automotive Group

#### **Our Advertisers:**

The many advertisers who support the Tour program booklet; they are such an important part of our fundraising effort. Please patronize them and thank them for supporting the B&BC Tour. These are our advertisers in alphabetical order: Annie Powell, Keller Williams Realty; Jane Kerr Baxter, Keller Williams; Beachwood, Inc.; Denise Beam, Agent, State Farm; Beebe Healthcare; Bethany Beach Beverage Co.; Bethany Florist; Bruce

Mears, Designer/Builder; Captain Jack's Pirate Golf; Barbara Carlson, Realtor, Keller Williams; Carolina Street Garden & Home; Gregory C. Carson D.M.D.; Christine's Consignments; Coastal Printing, A Division of Curry Printing; Coastal Point; Coastal Style; County Bank; Creative Concepts of Bethany, Inc.; D. B.'s Fries; Delaware Beach Life; DiFebo's Restaurant & Market; Denney Lighting & Design; Design Center of Rehoboth; Mark Dieste Design Build, LLC, First Shore Federal Savings and Loan; Friend of the Cottage Tour; G & E/Hocker's Supermarkets; Good Earth Market; Representative Ronald E. Gray; Hastings Associates LLC; Lois James DDS; Japanesque; Justin's Beach House; Leslie Kopp, Leslie Kopp Group; Law Office of Scott and Shuman; Long & Foster Real Estate, Inc.; Marnie Custom Homes; Miranda, Hardt & O'Leary Contracting LLC.; PNC Bank; Perfect Furnishings; Pohanka of Salisbury, Inc.; Shirley Price, Long & Foster; David D. Quillen, Architect; St. Martha's Episcopal Church; Sea Colony Recreational Association; SEA Studio Architects; Summer Hill Custom Homes; Tansey-Warner Realty; Topio Landscape Architecture; and Town of Bethany Beach.

#### **Our Raffle:**

🍁 The ten area restaurants that donated gift certificates for the restaurant raffle:



DiFebo's Bethany Beach; DiFebo's Rehoboth; DiFebo's Market; Good Earth Restaurant; Off the Hook; SoDel Restaurants; Sedona; The Cottage Café; The Parkway; and Touch of Italy

☼ The amazing artists who generously donated paintings for the art raffle: Aubré Duncan; Tara Funk Grim; Laura Hickman; Jeanne Mueller; Amanda Sokolski; and Cheryl Wisbrock.

#### **Congratulations to the winners of this Tour's Art & Restaurant Raffle:**

##### **ART RAFFLE WINNERS ARE:**

Kristen Bishop • *Aubré Duncan*  
Barbara King • *Tara Funk Grim*  
Sandy Powell • *Laura Hickman*  
Patricia Riedinger • *Jeanne Mueller*  
Sandy Powell • *Amanda Sokolski*  
Cindy Tippet • *Cheryl Wisbrock*

##### **RESTAURANT RAFFLE WINNERS ARE:**

Karen Taylor • *DiFebo's Bethany Beach*  
Sharon Palmer • *DiFebo's Rehoboth*  
Chris Weidman • *DiFebo's Market*  
Sherry Proctor • *Good Earth Restaurant*  
Pat Conley • *Off the Hook*  
Holly Eyster • *SoDel Restaurants*  
Lisa Ford • *Sedona*  
Colleen Wilson • *The Cottage Café*  
Sharon Palmer • *The Parkway*  
Brett Reardon • *Touch of Italy*

#### **The B&BC Tour Committee:**

☼ The 2021 B&BC Tour Committee who volunteered their time and who helped make this Tour possible. It's a Team effort!

☼ Those who worked with our generous sponsors.

☼ Those who solicited and visited our advertisers for the ads that help to underwrite the costs of the Tour.

☼ Those who secured the Raffle items.

☼ Those who handed out Tour bags at the community room at the library.

☼ Those who collected mail orders, processed ticket orders, and completed all the banking and accounting for the Tour.

☼ Those who answered the phone, fielded questions, and wrote thank you notes.

☼ A very special thank you to Charlie Kopay for building and maintaining our website through the Tour.

☼ Those who wrote and proofread the Tour booklet home descriptions and provided publicity for Facebook (Annual Beach and Bay Cottage Tour) as well as the local newspapers, the Tour brochure, and The Connection.

☼ Carrie Boyden, our graphic artist.

☼ Rob Waters of WFilms, our videographer.

☼ Our local newspaper, the Coastal Point, for providing us with great publicity for the Tour.

☼ The Town of Bethany Beach for promoting the Tour on its calendar and by getting our banners around Town during the month of July.

☼ The staff of the South Coastal Library for answering countless phone calls and questions.

☼ Last but certainly not least we wish to thank all of you who supported the 29th Annual Beach & Bay Cottage Tour by donating and/or purchasing tickets. We hope that you thoroughly enjoyed your visits to the homes, that you got some ideas and inspirations for your own homes, and that we can count on you to continue to support the South Coastal Library in Bethany Beach.

#### **Thank you for supporting the Friends of The South Coastal Library**

The B&BC Tour is truly a community affair to benefit our wonderful library, and we simply cannot undertake the Tour without the help of the whole community. Once again, everyone's hard work has paid off to benefit the programs and facilities at the South Coastal Library.

We always welcome new faces, so if you would like to get involved with planning the 30th Annual Tour, helping out by volunteering during the Tour days, or having your home on the Tour, please contact us at 302-537-5828 or [volunteer@beachandbaycottageatour.com](mailto:volunteer@beachandbaycottageatour.com).

#### **Your donation to the B&BC Tour helps the library and the larger community - your support helps in the following ways:**

☼ Funds events, classes, lectures, music, crafts and educational programs for all ages—nobody ever pays a fee!

☼ Buys Early Literacy computers for children.

☼ Gets 200 Book Page Review magazines per month for our readers—you get the latest titles and special reviews.

☼ Provides the library's subscription to Ancestry.com—free in-house genealogy access for all library users.

☼ Contributes over \$7,000 to the state-wide library e-book catalog for new e-books and e-audiobook titles/licenses.

☼ Finances the Junior Library Guild subscription, which provides monthly shipments of award-winning children's books.

☼ Pays for annual "McNaughton collection" of books - provides leased copies of the latest and greatest titles. When extra copies are no longer needed, they are traded for new titles.

☼ Funded the purchase of the children's Peek-A-Book kiosk and keeps it maintained. Children watch and listen to award-winning books, and multiple copies are ready for check out - they have to borrow the books to find out the ending.

☼ Provided the new KwikBoost charging station, so people can quickly charge phones, iPads, Kindles, Nooks and other portable devices.

☼ Bought a new Disc Repair machine, worth its weight (and it's heavy) in gold - can clean DVDs, audiobooks and music CDs and even repair many damaged discs, getting titles returned to circulation quickly and saving the library from having to replace 100 to 200 discs per month.

☼ Purchased the furniture for the patio at the northwest corner of the building.

☼ Partners with Lord Baltimore Elementary School to present educational programs for the children.

☼ And so much more!

## The dates of the 2022 Beach & Bay Cottage Tour are Wednesday, July 27 and Thursday, July 28.



# What Do Cats, T. S. Eliot, and the Broadway Theater Have in Common?

HELEN N. PASTIS

The Broadway musical play, *Cats*, is based on the whimsical and light poetry of T.S. Eliot from his poetry collection “Old Possum’s Book of Practical Cats.” *Cats* remains as one of the longest-running shows on Broadway. The musical also includes the well-known song “Memory” as sung by Grizabella. “Memory” is based on T. S. Eliot’s poem “Rhapsody on a Windy Night.”

The “Old Possum’s Book of Practical Cats” is a delightful collection of poems. T.S. Eliot wrote the poems in the 1930’s and included them, under his assumed name “Old Possum”, in letters to his godchildren. They were collected and published in 1939. Presented to the right is one of the poems from the book.

Jennyanydots, the principal character in the *Cats*, is a seemingly lazy Jellicle cat who sits around all day, but at night, she becomes very active as she rules the mice and cockroaches, forcing them to undertake helpful functions and creative projects to curb their naturally destructive habits.



## The Old Gumbie Cat

I have a Gumbie Cat in mind, her name is Jennyanydots;  
Her coat is of the tabby kind, with tiger stripes and leopard spots.  
All day she sits upon the stair or on the steps or on the mat;  
She sits and sits and sits and sits—and that’s what makes a Gumbie Cat!

But when the day’s hustle and bustle is done,  
Then the Gumbie Cat’s work is but hardly begun.  
And when all the family’s in bed and asleep,  
She tucks up her skirts to the basement to creep.  
She is deeply concerned with the ways of the mice—  
Their behaviour’s not good and their manners not nice;  
So when she has got them lined up on the matting,  
She teaches them music, crocheting and tatting.

I have a Gumbie Cat in mind, her name is Jennyanydots;  
Her equal would be hard to find, she likes the warm and sunny spots.  
All day she sits beside the hearth or on the bed or on my hat:  
She sits and sits and sits and sits—and that’s what makes a Gumbie Cat!

But when the day’s hustle and bustle is done,  
Then the Gumbie Cat’s work is but hardly begun.  
As she finds that the mice will not ever keep quiet,  
She is sure it is due to irregular diet;  
And believing that nothing is done without trying,  
She sets right to work with her baking and frying.  
She makes them a mouse—cake of bread and dried peas,  
And a beautiful fry of lean bacon and cheese.

I have a Gumbie Cat in mind, her name is Jennyanydots;  
The curtain-cord she likes to wind, and tie it into sailor-knots.  
She sits upon the window-sill, or anything that’s smooth and flat:  
She sits and sits and sits and sits—and that’s what makes a Gumbie Cat!

But when the day’s hustle and bustle is done,  
Then the Gumbie Cat’s work is but hardly begun.  
She thinks that the cockroaches just need employment  
To prevent them from idle and wanton destruction.  
So she’s formed, from that lot of disorderly louts,  
A troop of well-disciplined helpful boy-scouts,  
With a purpose in life and a good deed to do—  
And she’s even created a Beetles’ Tattoo.

So for Old Gumbie Cats let us now give three cheers—  
On whom well-ordered households depend, it appears.



T. S. Eliot was one of the major poets of the 20th century and a central figure in Modernist poetry, winning the Nobel Prize in 1948. His poems are complex and capture the feelings and attitudes of early 20th century. Some of his famous poems include "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock," "The Waste Land," and "Four Quartets."

The *Cats* song, "Memory," is based on "Rhapsody on a Windy Night." "Rhapsody on a Windy Night" depicts a desolate and depressing landscape of contemporary life that is enough to drive one mad. The poem begins with the speaker describing a wandering man walking through a dark street. It is midnight, and memories twist and blur. "Rhapsody" is an investigation into time, memory, and the mind.

## Rhapsody on a Windy Night

Twelve o'clock.  
Along the reaches of the street  
Held in a lunar synthesis,  
Whispering lunar incantations  
Dissolve the floors of memory  
And all its clear relations,  
Its divisions and precisions,  
Every street lamp that I pass  
Beats like a fatalistic drum,  
And through the spaces of the dark  
Midnight shakes the memory  
As a madman shakes a dead geranium.

Half-past one,  
The street lamp sputtered,  
The street lamp muttered,  
The street lamp said, "Regard that woman  
Who hesitates towards you in the light of the door  
Which opens on her like a grin.  
You see the border of her dress  
Is torn and stained with sand,  
And you see the corner of her eye  
Twists like a crooked pin."

The memory throws up high and dry  
A crowd of twisted things;  
A twisted branch upon the beach  
Eaten smooth, and polished  
As if the world gave up  
The secret of its skeleton,  
Stiff and white.  
A broken spring in a factory yard,  
Rust that clings to the form that the  
strength has left  
Hard and curled and ready to snap.

Half-past two,  
The street lamp said,  
"Remark the cat which flattens itself in the gutter,  
Slips out its tongue  
And devours a morsel of rancid butter."  
So the hand of a child, automatic,  
Slipped out and pocketed a toy that was  
running along the quay.  
I could see nothing behind that child's eye.  
I have seen eyes in the street  
Trying to peer through lighted shutters,  
And a crab one afternoon in a pool,  
An old crab with barnacles on his back,  
Gripped the end of a stick which I held him.

Half-past three,  
The lamp sputtered,  
The lamp muttered in the dark.

The lamp hummed:  
"Regard the moon,  
La lune ne garde aucune rancune,  
She winks a feeble eye,  
She smiles into corners.  
She smooths the hair of the grass.  
The moon has lost her memory.  
A washed-out smallpox cracks her face,  
Her hand twists a paper rose,  
That smells of dust and old Cologne,  
She is alone  
With all the old nocturnal smells  
That cross and cross across her brain."  
The reminiscence comes  
Of sunless dry geraniums

And dust in crevices,  
Smells of chestnuts in the streets,  
And female smells in shuttered rooms,  
And cigarettes in corridors  
And cocktail smells in bars.

The lamp said,  
"Four o'clock,  
Here is the number on the door.  
Memory!

You have the key,  
The little lamp spreads a ring on the stair,  
Mount.  
The bed is open; the tooth-brush hangs  
on the wall,  
Put your shoes at the door, sleep, prepare for life."

The last twist of the knife.



**If interested for more, you can check out from the library the book of poetry and the DVD on the play. Every cat lover already knows that cats are so complex and rule the world!**