

The Connection

FRIENDS OF THE SOUTH COASTAL LIBRARY

Friends working together to build a stronger library and community.

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FOSCL

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President's Message | Norbert Kraich

**We're trapped in our cages (our own) while the covid storm rages.
Politicians dither and we can't go hither (nor yon),
The children are stunted the rest of us blunted;
Our leaders don't know who we are, how did we stray off the path this far...**

I could go on and on – but I won't – and I know what you're saying...THANK GOD FOR SMALL FAVORS.

Life has taken a few wrong turns over the past six months and things that we used to take for granted are not that easy:

- It's hard to go to the grocery store without looking and sounding like Darth Vader,
- Visiting your doctor is like watching an episode of Gray's Anatomy,
- Getting a hair appointment rivals winning the lottery,
- Watching sports on TV presents all the emotions of Understanding Trigonometry for Dummies or watching a film on Learning Contact Bridge,
- Going to the Post Office – Bank – Auto Mechanic, you name it, feels like checking into a motel in a crime ridden neighborhood or visiting a pawn shop in the inner city, or going to a liquor store in Watts, sure wish I bought stock in plexiglass,
- A spontaneous 'road trip' is taking hazardous waste to the landfill.

But a few things continue (somewhat) unchanged. Our beloved South Coastal Library (SCL) is still serving the community. You can order and then pick any book you want in the entire Sussex County system. The friendly library staff are also readily available to help guide you in your pursuit of reading materials. The staff is even offering 'Personal Librarian Service'. Just call the library and ask. They will help you browse and even make suggestions based on your interests. And numerous library programs are available, from iPad Users Group to Virtual Zumba to Learn to Cook with Chef Charles.

The SCL offers a virtual cornucopia of outstanding events for this Fall. Go online (www.southcoastal.lib.de.us) or the next time you stop by SCL to pick up your reserved books also pick up the latest Activities Brochure offering a plethora of fun virtual programs. And while you are there you might consider taking advantage of the early Fall weather by sitting in the revitalized outdoor 'reading garden' and relaxing while you peruse your latest tome or browse the free wi-fi in a lovely surrounding.

Regardless of the chaotic and disruptive year, our all-volunteer Friends group is continuing to support the South Coastal Library as it has been doing since forming in 1988. As you are aware, we have had to cancel our two major fund raisers this year, the Beach & Bay Cottage Tour and the Annual FOSCL Book Sale. But we are an optimistic group. We are busily planning for the re-emergence of both outstanding community events for 2021. Event committees are hard at work making certain that we present both fantastic events bigger and better than ever for 2021! FOSCL will continue to provide on-going financial help beyond the funding provided by Sussex County to enhance library services and programs to make certain that the South Coastal Library is the best community resource possible for our patrons. Thanks to all our contributors, volunteers, sponsors, and library staff to make this so. And 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. We will get through this situation and emerge with greater purpose.

All The Best,
Norbert

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.



Director's Report | Susanne Keefe

I like to start off the director's report with a quote.

After looking through multiple sites, at lengthy and encouraging

quotes, I found this one on a site for children. Dory's attitude is perfect for the (still) strange times in which we find ourselves. Now, if only I could get her song out of my head...

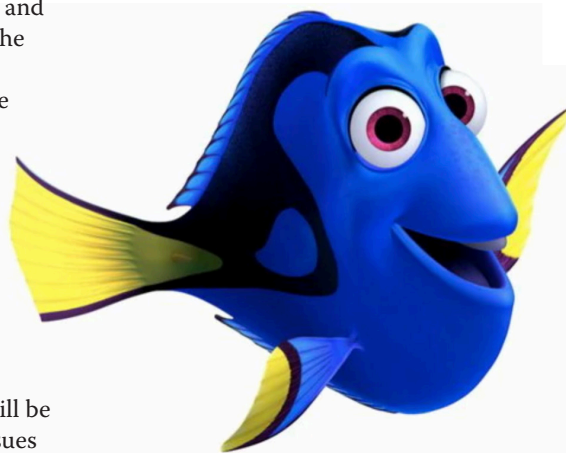
Here at the library, we are doing our best to get services out to the community. We are not yet open to the public, but we do offer the following:

- Free wifi, now boosted with a stronger signal. Remember that we have the garden area with spaced-apart tables, chairs, and benches if working in your car in the parking lot is just flat-out uncomfortable.
- Lobby-side pick-up of library materials. You place items on hold through the catalog at <https://dlc.lib.de.us> and you are contacted when the materials are ready to pick up. Call us and make an appointment to pick them up at 302-539-5231. We have served over 5,000 people this summer in this manner—it's great when something works so well!

- Don't have a computer or Internet? Or don't know what you want to read? Just give us a call or fill out the Personal Librarian Service request on our website at <https://southcoastal.lib.de.us/> and we'll do some "personal shopping" for you, creating customized assortments of items that you can pick up at the library. (We enjoy doing this—it's "old time" librarian work!)
- We have displays of new materials in the windows and lobby areas—if you see a book you want, let us know and we'll get it ready for you.
- We're still doing classes and events—they're just online. Check our website for current listings and registration. If you need the extra help, just call and we'll help you register and take the online classes.
- AND—drum roll, please—we are starting an electronic newsletter that patrons can receive in their email. It will have all the current events taking place, a "browse" section so you can see the new books and audio/visual (A/V) arriving, what services the library is providing, COVID operation updates, and FAQs! Eventually, the newsletter link will be on our website, but until tech issues

allow it to be posted there, you can send your email address to southcoastal.library@lib.de.us and make sure you put in the email that you would like to subscribe to our newsletter. Think of it as our much-anticipated program brochure that came out every season--only now it's delivered safely and straight to you—no waiting!

So—just keep swimming and keep your little fishy chin up! We're already able to "see" you in the lobby and hope that sometime soon we'll be able to see you at the circulation desk—masked and socially distant, but still able to see you.



The Beach & Bay Cottage Tour | Kathy Green

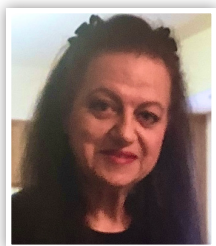
Looking forward to 2021

We are looking forward to the 2021 Beach and Bay Cottage Tour.
The Tour dates are Wednesday, July 28 and Thursday, July 29.

The Beach and Bay Cottage Tour committee is in the planning process for next year's Tour.
Please check our website for updates and volunteer opportunities.



We hope to see you on the Tour!



Connection Conversations | Helen N. Pastis

I would like to share with you two poems.
The first is by Emily Dickenson.

"Hope" is the thing with feathers
That perches in the soul
And sings the tune without words
And never stops at all,

And sweetest in the gale is heard;
And sore must be the storm
That could abash the little bird
That kept so many warm.

I've heard it in the chilliest land
And on the strangest sea,
Yet never, in extremity,
It asked a crumb of me.

The second is by Maya Angelou.

I've learned that people
will forget what you said,
people will forget what
you did but people will
never forget how you
made them feel...

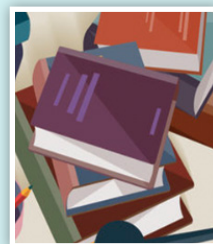
In these crazy and very scary times, when we feel scared and the future is very uncertain, these two poems remind me of how precious our library is in that it offers us hope as a beautiful bird alighting into our lives and reminds us how to feel a sense of community and well-being as we're all isolated in our social distancing.

Stay safe. Stay well.



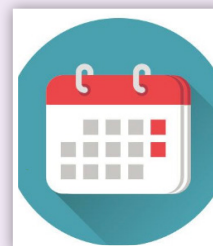
The FOSCL Website

Visit our website, foscl.com, for the latest news and interesting information. At the website, you will find some of Chef Charles recipes and interviews with Dr. William Gudelunas and Chef Charles.



Book Sale PAMELA RICHMAN

We all missed having the annual summer book sale at the South Coastal Library this past August. Depending on the status of COVID-19, we are planning to have the summer 2021 book sale on Thursday, August 12 through Saturday, August 14, 2021. The library is currently not accepting donations and will announce when we are able to do so.



2020-21 Upcoming Events

January 2021
Publication of The Connection
Winter Edition



Check Out What's Happening!

NATIONAL NEWS

Washington, DC - The Institute of Museum and Library Services is now accepting nominations for the **2021 National Medal for Museum and Library Service**, the nation's highest honor awarded to libraries and museums for service to their communities.

"This year has presented many challenges for our country, and museums and libraries have found new and unique ways to support and provide services to their communities," said IMLS Director Crosby Kemper. "As we acknowledge the enormous impact libraries and museums of all types and sizes have on their communities and the leadership they have shown, we are proud to re-institute the National Medals to recognize those institutions that show imagination and exceptional outreach, support, and collaboration with their communities and partner organizations."

Anyone - an employee, a board member, a volunteer, a member of the public, or a government official - is invited to nominate an institution. Museums and libraries of most disciplines and types are **eligible**. Regardless of who nominates the library or museum, in order to be considered, the institution must complete the **online nomination form** by 11:59 pm ET on Monday, November 2, 2020.

The **National Medals program** recognizes outstanding libraries and museums of all types and sizes that deeply impact their communities by:

- fostering a lifelong passion for learning for all people, nourishing curiosity and imagination from early childhood through adulthood, for people of all abilities and needs.
- providing access to information through advancing digital capacity, focusing on digital inclusion and access to digital and informational resources, including e-books and materials to help address workforce development and public health.
- transforming the lives of community members by being trusted community spaces for convening, connection, and

conversation; enlightenment and shared thoughts and opinions; and preserving natural and cultural heritage and community memory.

- continuing to engage their communities during the unprecedented covid-19 virus pandemic and enhanced focus on diversity, equity, and inclusion, through providing information, programming, and services virtually, or taking innovative and imaginative steps toward continuing services and reopening their physical spaces."

"Nominations Now Open for IMLS (Institute of Museum and Library Services) National Medal for Museum and Library Service"

Submissions Accepted through November 2, 2020 Sourced from imlsnews@imls.gov

**Please check the American Library Association Website, www.ala.org, for ongoing information related to library advocacy issues during this critical period.

STATEWIDE NEWS

Delaware Division of Libraries Funding

State Standards Funding for the state fortunately remained the same in this year's budget as the previous year. It is unsure what next year's budget will look like given the economic fallout from the Covid pandemic.

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library Expanding Throughout the State

Governor Carney and his wife Tracey in partnership

with Delaware Libraries have expanded

Dolly Parton's Imagination

Library throughout the state of Delaware to benefit all children under the age of five. Parents enroll their children in this program through Delaware libraries and each child under five will receive one book a month until the child's 5th birthday at no cost. Young children will build reading skills, a love of literature, and their own personal library.

GET YOUR LIBRARY CARD

In conjunction with this and because of the times Delawareans are experiencing, Delaware's Division of Public Libraries is launching its latest initiative promoting library awareness, usage, and the goal of putting a library card in the hands of all Delawareans so they might avail themselves of the vital services libraries provide. Delaware libraries have been and continue to provide online and curbside services, phone services, parking lot WiFi connectivity, programming online, take away craft kits, grab bag books, online story times, Census information, and more. Through out of the box thinking, libraries in Delaware continue to work to meet the needs of the citizens of Delaware. In the next couple of months, there will be a new Fall crop springing up throughout Delaware encouraging everyone young and old to get a library card. Signs may appear on lawns, near schools, playgrounds, community centers, churches, and businesses. So, keep eyes peeled!

