



# Accents

Volume XLV No. 4 July-August, 2019

**Looking Forward to Seeing You at  
The Next FOCCL General Meeting  
On Saturday, July 20  
Program for July: Books We've Enjoyed**

Don't forget to join your fellow members for the Friends of the Cape Coral Library General Membership Meeting on Saturday, July 20. The morning will begin at 9:30 AM with some coffee, juice, and light snacks. The business portion of the meeting will start at 10:00 AM, followed by one of our most popular programs about books we've recently read and would recommend. Each person in attendance may talk about a couple of books, or more if time permits. Those who are shy may just sit back and enjoy listening to others review their recent reads. The FOCCL Membership Meetings, which take place in the large meeting room of the Cape Coral Library at 921 SW 39<sup>th</sup> Terrace, are free and open to the public. We hope to see you there!

**Mark Your Calendar for FOCCL  
Sept. 21 Meeting at the Library**

As usual, the General Membership Meeting for Sept. will be held at the Cape Coral Library in the large meeting room. The program presenter will be Janel Trull, Executive Director of the Cape Coral Historical Museum. Her presentation (with slides) will focus on the early years of Cape Coral from approximately 1958 to 1968.

Mark Your Calendar		
Sat., July 6, 2019	9:30 AM	Board Meeting
Sat., July 20, 2019	9:30 AM	General Meeting
Sat., Sept. 7, 2019	9:30 AM	Board Meeting
Sat., Sept. 21, 2019	9:30 AM	General Meeting
Sat., Nov. 9, 2019	9:30 AM	Board Meeting
Thurs., Nov. 14, 2019	11:00 AM to 5:30 PM	Fall Book Sale Preview Members Only
Fri., Nov. 15, 2019	9:00 AM to 4:30 PM	Fall Book Sale Open to the Public
Sat., Nov. 16, 2019	9:00 AM to 3:30 PM	Fall Book Sale Open to the Public
Sat., Nov. 23, 2019	9:30 AM	General Meeting
Sat., Jan. 4, 2020	9:30 AM	Board Meeting
Sat., Jan. 25, 2020	9:30 AM	General Meeting
Sat., Mar. 7, 2020	10:00 AM to 4:00 PM	SWFL Reading Festival (Fort Myers Library Campus)

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 Friends of the Cape Coral Library  
<https://www.facebook.com/Friends-of-the-Cape-Coral-Library-234683873261967/>

**TO LEAVE MESSAGE ON OUR HOTLINE**  
 CALL 239-349-2572  
 (Can also call to schedule a book donation pick-up.)

**OUR WEBSITE ADDRESS:** [www.capefriends.org](http://www.capefriends.org)

**OUR MAILING ADDRESS:**  
 Friends of the Cape Coral Library  
 P.O. Box 152471  
 Cape Coral, FL 33915

**Welcome**

**New Members**  
 Rick Clements  
 Lorelee Hamel

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Dawn Lavacque

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Celeste Yost

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Monica Rahman—Alternate

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*Document Historian:* Judy Lindhorst

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*Membership:* Dawn Lavacque

*Publicity Chair:* Monica Rahman

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*Sunshine:* Mary Achilles

*First Dibs:* Mary Achilles

*Fundraising:* Dawn Lavacque

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**Friends of the Cape Coral Library**

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**Email: [accents@capefriends.org](mailto:accents@capefriends.org)**

## President's Letter

Hello all.

I just had the most amazing experience. Bob and I went to the Library, *DROPPED* off a donation and I checked out 2 books. I don't think I have ever checked out a book using the automatic checkout reader and of course, I had to update my Library Card first because it had expired. So now I have a new plastic, scannable card to attach to my key chain and we did NOT come home with a car load of books to sort for the Cape Coral Sale. It was an amazing experience. And one I hope a lot of you experience every week.

Our libraries are wonderful, active places and all free. Thanks to the Lee County taxpayers but also **The Friends** groups who donate their Time and Talents to raising money to enhance all patrons experience. The Summer Reading programs are in full swing – check out the picture of the loaded carts of books donated by the Friends, every child goes home with a book.



Bob and I will be on vacation so I will miss out July meeting but hope many of you can attend. It is our annual “What Are You Reading” informal sharing and

a great way to hear about some new authors. I was introduced to the Maisie Dobbs series by Jacqueline Winspear at one of these meetings and she has become a beloved author of mine to collect. (One of the reasons I don't check out books is we moved down several thousand when we retired... and we haven't quite caught up yet).

So, I hope everyone is enjoying their summer, “up north”, in the garden or hibernating in Florida.

Happy reading,

Paula Novander

## Awards Ceremony was Held on May 1 For “Coloring the Earth” Children’s Environmental Art Contest



Delicious Cake With Bee Theme

The Friends of the Cape Coral Library and the Cape Coral Public Library held the awards ceremony for the 14th Annual Children’s Environmental Art Contest “Coloring the Earth” on Wednesday, May 1. The theme this year was about saving the bees, mainly from bee-killing pesticides and habitat loss. Beekeeper Keith Councill, vice chair of Florida Farm Bureau Apiary Committee, delivered a fascinating interactive presentation about ways to protect our precious bee population, showed some beekeeping tools of the trade and even brought a box of live bees! Students, parents and guests enjoyed refreshments, including a special bee-themed



Young Attendee Tried On a Bee-keeper’s Hat

cake, at the awards event. Coloring the Earth Chairperson Alessia Leathers also announced the theme for next year’s art contest, which will be “Save our Monarch Butterflies!”

Art contest judges were three recognized local artists Honey Costa, Tony Fenner and Jan Palmer; beekeeper Keith Councill; Sara Jarvis, journalist representing The News-Press; and Monica Rahman, past president of the Friends of the Cape Coral Library which has sponsored the contest since 2006. With a total of 420 entries from all over Lee County, the jury had the difficult task of selecting the winners from the many wonderful pieces of art that had been submitted.

**The Winners:  
Judges’ Choice:**

Ava Whitehead (6) Gulf Elementary

**Category 7-8 years old**

- 1st place: Aashritha Adelli (8) Heights Elementary
- 2nd place: Penelope Shaker (7) Bayshore Elementary
- 3rd place: Lucas Rivera (8) St. Francis Xavier School
- Honorable Mentions: Jackson Breen (8) St. Francis Xavier School; and Nora Sieg (7) Homeschool

**Category 9-10 years old**

- 1st place: Harper Thaw (9) Gulf Elementary
- 2nd place: Olivia Rectenwald (10) Canterbury School
- 3rd place: Gianna Perry (10) St. Francis Xavier School
- Honorable Mentions: Madeline Paraboschi (10) Heights Elementary; and Chase Meagher (10) Canterbury School



Coloring the Earth 2019 Art Contest Winners



Guests Enjoyed the Presentation About Bees

**Category 11-12 years old**

- 1st place: Yanissah-Lym Fabre (11) Canterbury School
- 2nd place: Trinity Sullivan (11) Bayshore School
- 3rd place: Isabella Hobt (11) Canterbury School
- Honorable Mentions: Ellie Miller (11) Canterbury School; and Gavin Brady (12) Canterbury School



Darcy H. and Dawn L. Volunteered at Coloring the Earth Awards.

Photos from FOCCL Volunteer Appreciation Event on May 11



Raffle Ticket Winners.

Raffle Prizes Included Signed Books, a Book Bag, and Gift Certificates



Carlene B.



Bonita O.



Babu M.



Karen M.



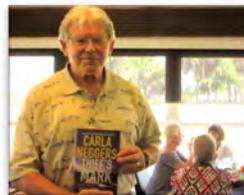
Lynne V.



Nancy T.



Wanda F.



Terry B.



Joan S.

## FOCCL Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon was Held on May 11 at Cape Royal Golf Club

As the old saying goes, “A good time was had by all...” at the Cape Royal Caloosa Club restaurant. Members who had volunteered since last May for Friends of the Cape Coral Library book sales, events, committees and board enjoyed a delicious lunch and a drawing for raffle prizes that had been personally donated by some of the Friends (Joanne Eddy, Monica Rahman, Mary Achilles and Phillis Carbone). A huge thank you to Joanne Eddy, our Social Events Committee Chairperson, who did an absolutely incredible job organizing the event! Also thanks to Mary Ann Ferrarese, who had recommended this nice venue, and to Celeste Yost for sharing her photos with us. Please see the photo below of Joanne with the luncheon guests plus more photographs on the “Mix of Pix” page in this newsletter.



Social Events Chair Joanne Eddy (Foreground) Organized Event

## Summer Reading Program Continues at Cape Coral Library

The theme for Lee County Library System’s Summer Reading Program this year is, *A Universe of Stories*. Children and Teens who attend receive a free book-while supplies last. The Friends of the Cape Coral Library is a generous sponsor of the activities, which continue through the month of July. These include kids events such as Outer Space Science for K-5, Bats of the World for K-5, Out of This World Aliens, and A Universe of Magic: Harry Potter Celebration. Teen programs sponsored by the Friends include Galaxy Crafts and Virtual Reality, Space Fandom Day, and Harry Potter Extravaganza. To see dates, times and registration information, visit [www.leelibrary.net](http://www.leelibrary.net), click on “Programs and Events,” then the link “See What’s Happening...” and select “Cape Coral Library” to view the calendar for that month. Or pick up a monthly flyer in the Youth Services area of the library.



Thank you to the Cape Coral Kiwanis Foundation for their generous donation, which the Friends of the Cape Coral Library included in their budget towards sponsorship of the Summer Reading Program activities.

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## State of America’s Libraries 2019 Report Affirms Libraries = Strong Communities

American Library Association released its State of America’s Libraries 2019 report, an annual summary of library trends that outlines statistics and issues affecting all types of libraries. Never have our nation’s libraries played such a pivotal role in strengthening communities through education and lifelong learning.

Libraries are the microcosm of the larger society. They play an important and unique role in the communities that they serve and provide an inclusive environment where all are treated with respect and dignity.

No longer just places for books, our public libraries serve as a lifeline for some of our nation’s most vulnerable communities. From community-wide issues as illiteracy, homelessness and community silos, our nation’s public libraries are acting as catalysts in fostering community-wide solutions that strengthen communities.

The report found that library workers are on the frontlines addressing community challenges. Many serve as first responders who take on roles outside of traditional library service that support patrons’ needs and community development. Functioning at various times as career counselor, social worker, teacher and technology instructor, library staff give special care to adopt programs and services that support our most vulnerable and curious.

--Excerpt from ALA Newsletter, April 2019

## Spring 2019 Book Sale Fundraiser Broke Records



Spring 2019 Book Sale. So Many Books—Just Before Sale Opens

**Recap of Spring Sale:** The recent Friends of the Cape Coral Library Spring 2019 Book Sale Fundraiser held in April was a huge success and broke some records. During the three days of the sale, we had 1443 people come to the event, a number that easily beat the previous attendance figures since we've been keeping count. We grossed \$11,320- another record! Thank you to Book Sale Chairperson Bonita Olesen, her husband Steve, and our team of 50 FOCCL member volunteers who worked their tails off. And let's not forget the volunteers who pick up, sort and process book donations throughout the year so that we are able to offer over 10,000 quality items at each sale. Thanks to all!

**About our Book Sales:** For those who may be new to our organization, the Friends of the Cape Coral Library is a 501(c)3 non-profit that raises funds to support library programs and to pay for items not covered by the county budget. The book sales are our largest fundraisers and are held each April and November in the large meeting room of the library, which is located at 921 SW 39<sup>th</sup> Terrace.

**How to Donate Books for the Sales:** Books, CD's and DVD's are accepted all year round. Small quantities can be dropped off at the Cape Coral Library circulation desk. Please mention that they are donations for the Friends book sale. For large donations (Request a receipt, since they're tax deductible.) you can have books picked up at your

## Welcome Kayleigh Lenartz to Cape Coral Library Staff

Advancing from volunteer to page, Kaleigh Lenartz has joined the Cape Coral-Lee County Public library after receiving her B.A. in English Literature in 2018 from the University of Central Florida and is currently pursuing her MLIS from Florida State University. Once she has completed her degree in Library Science, Kaleigh looks forward to pursuing a career as a Reference Librarian with the Lee County Library System. Kaleigh currently lives in Cape Coral with her nine year old German Shepherd Allee, her ten month old Golden Retriever Hooper, and five rats. In her free time she enjoys reading fantasy novels, bingeing the Lord of the Rings extended edition movie collection, cooking, and listening to classic rock on full blast.



Happy Shoppers at Spring 2019 Book Sale.  
Cashiers Marlene & Nora are in Foreground

home by calling the Friends' hotline at (239) 349-2572 and leaving a message.

**Our Next Book Sale:** The Fall 2019 Book Sale will start with the Members Only Preview on Thurs., Nov. 14 and will open at a new, earlier time at 11:00 AM. (Non-members can join at the door for only \$15 per family.) This year's Fall Book Sale will then be open to the public on Fri., Nov. 15 and Sat. Nov. 16. Look for further updates in future issues of this newsletter.

**IRMA BACKELANT CHALLENGES VIEWERS IN  
CAPE CORAL LIBRARY ART EXHIBIT: "FACE TO FACE"  
JULY 2 THROUGH AUGUST 29  
By Helen Barnett**

Artist-photographer Irma Backelant has never made an image she can't transform into something more than the obvious. An exhibition of those images, often described as ethereal and mysterious, is titled "Face to Face." The exhibit, with an emphasis on "the face," will begin July 2 in the art gallery of the Cape Coral Library located at 921 SW 39<sup>th</sup> Terrace and will continue through August 29.

A confirmed abstractionist, Backelant considers herself a digital artist more than a straightforward photographer. She explains: "When I see an object, I make a good photographic image and then I create a new one through my eclectic imagination and digital editing. I do so by following my curiosity and sense of the aesthetic to move the photo beyond the realm of reality to an altered reality, a different or enhanced perception." She further states that she is intrigued by the human face and all it encompasses. "A face tells a story be it of a race, a culture, a feeling or age. And then I try to have my rendering of it tell the story I see and hopefully to nudge the observer to see in my art their own interpretation- their own story if you will. That is the open endedness of abstraction."



The end result of her adventure is a juxtaposition of elements of the original photograph to a painterly rendering that expresses her eclectic imagination. Using the original photo or, as she says, her "blank canvas" she uses what she calls filters -- colors, scenes, that create a scrim or a landscape-- that dramatize the final work.

"What I love about abstract art," she notes, "is that I can see it one way, and the audience can see something different." Her enhancements involve a lot of trial and error but afford "total freedom since there are not the restrictions of accurate representations." Backelant says that she does not draw or paint in the traditional sense, although of late has discovered combining free pouring acrylics with digital photography for what she labels as her "now perfect medium."



This approach may have evolved from a life of many demanding jobs in vastly different fields. She's a native of Detroit, Michigan where she earned a nursing degree, specializing as a surgical nurse. She furthered her studies at the University of Colorado with a BA double-majoring in psychology and mass media communications. Her careers included working as a pharmaceutical sales representative, managing a physician practice, and opening her own business that brokered physician practices. She then became a freelance journalist and produced her own radio show in Sarasota, Florida.



Irma Backelant's art was displayed in several prestigious Denver metro galleries and invitation only exhibits, including one at the Women's Chamber of Commerce in Denver's Lodo. A generous spirit, she donated much of her work to a women's abuse shelter when relocating to Florida. Now residing in a home in Cape Coral, where she has transformed a previous backyard jungle into a mini tropical paradise, her recent artwork has been exhibited in several galleries here in Southwest Florida

In addition to her photographic images, this adventurous alchemist will exhibit resin sculptures of faces, two and three dimensional portraits, masks, and one especially eerie death mask similar to those physicians wore during the Black Plague. Her artwork on display at the Cape Coral Library will also include jewelry fashioned from stones, metal, copper coil, and serendipitous pieces into wearable art. To contact Backelant about purchasing her work: 303-501-0491, [digvartist@gmail.com](mailto:digvartist@gmail.com) or Facebook *irmabackelant*.

Changing exhibitions are sponsored by the Friends of Cape Coral Library and are designed to afford local artists the opportunity to share their work in a public forum without fees or commissions. Library visitors of all ages benefit from this visual cultural experience. The Cape Coral Library is located at 921 SW 39<sup>th</sup> Terrace, and the exhibitions may be viewed during regular library business hours. For information contact Monica Rahman, Art Gallery Chairperson, at 239-258-2991 or [monica4608@comcast.net](mailto:monica4608@comcast.net)



P.O. Box 152471  
Cape Coral, FL 33915

Use this form to join or **renew** your membership or **change** your address or other contact information.

\_\_\_ New Member \_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_ Change

Annual Membership \$ 15.00  
(Includes Family)

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Accents

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\_\_\_\_\_



***Meet new friends and be involved in making the Cape Coral Library an interesting and informative place.***

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