

Siuslaw News editor, syndicated columnist, author to speak at library

Siuslaw Public Library continues its celebration of National Arts and Humanities Month by welcoming author, syndicated humor columnist and Siuslaw News editor Ned Hickson to the main branch of the library in Florence on Wednesday, Oct. 12, beginning at 1 p.m. in the Bromley Room.

Hickson will discuss his two books, including his latest, a book of tips and insights for writers.

Hickson's first book, "Humor at the Speed of Life," is a testimony to the value he places on keeping a sense of



SIUSLAW NEWS PHOTO

Ned Hickson

humor in daily life. Published by Port Hole Publishing in

2013, his book contains a collection of his most popular columns during his 16 years as a columnist.

His latest book, "Pearls of Writing Wisdom: From 16 Shucking Years as a Columnist," also from Port Hole Publishing, is a writer's survival guide based on his 16 years as a columnist, journalist and writer, offering tips, insights and inspiration for writers.

Ned Hickson is an award-winning syndicated humor columnist and was recently appointed to the position of edi-

tor-in-chief at Siuslaw News. He has received the "Best Local Column Award" from both the Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association and the Society of Professional Journalists and is a member of the National Society of Newspaper Columnists.

His weekly column appears in dozens of newspapers in the U.S. and Canada as a syndicated feature for News Media Corporation.

Hickson says he is "a firm believer in the value of humor in daily life, and its role in keeping perspective in an

increasingly fast-paced and stressful world... especially during seasons of 'Dancing With the Stars.'"

He was a corporate chef for 10 years and has been a volunteer firefighter since 2011. Both are topics that have made their way into his columns, along with interesting and unusual daily life experiences, as well as important social issues, such as glow-in-the-dark mice and injuries caused by overheated pickles in fast food.

Not only will Hickson read selections from his books, he will discuss the real-life inspi-

rations behind them. He'll also discuss some of his insights on writing, publishing and staying both inspired and motivated as a writer.

A question and answer session will follow the reading and discussion.

Join fellow Hickson fans for this fun opportunity to hear him share, in his trademark humorous manner, his expert insight into the writing process and daily life.

This program is free and open to the public.

For more information, call 541-997-3132.

Arts from 1B

and drawing, fiber arts, beading, fabric arts and ceramics. Visitors through the door will receive a charm commemorating this exciting community event.

In addition, an award-winning felt will also be participating and the ever-popular button-making table by Library Director Meg Spencer will return for the second year.

The art demonstrations begin at 10 a.m., at the main branch of the Siuslaw Public Library in Florence.

Alternating groups of artists demonstrate their talents for two hours each through the day at 10 a.m., 12:15 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. These demonstrations will allow participants to observe more than 20 artists and crafters working in a variety of mediums.

Fans of the performing arts will be treated to a preview of the "Pirates of Penzance" by the Last Resort Players at 1 p.m. in the library.

Anyone who has longed to turn a blank canvas into a masterpiece or anyone interested in learning what inspires the many talented local artists may want to attend one or more demonstrations by artists who will be sharing their wide-ranging talent in oils, watercolors and a multitude of other mediums throughout the day.

Consider stopping by to see artists create an altered journal, draw a zentangle image, or make magic out of fabric.

Or, if you have been thinking about beading, try the beading demonstration. Fiber artists and admirers will want to spend time in the library's lobby between 10 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. to see the Fiber Arts Guild display weaving, spinning, felting and all things fiber. This event is the perfect opportunity for adults and children alike to watch the creative process, to speak with the artists as they work and to find inspiration and encouragement.

While at the library, check out one or more of the dozens of art or craft books in the library collection.

Attendees of the third annual demARTS will receive a commemorative charm, have a chance throughout the day to win prizes, and also have the opportunity to create a word tile from a list of pre-selected words which will be applied to the tiles and then fired.

Once fired, they will be assembled in an artful display in the library. Other hands-on opportunities include button-making, greeting card creation, coloring and painting.

Other events coming in October at the Library will include a book reading with celebrated local author, syndicated columnist and new Siuslaw News editor Ned Hickson on Wednesday, Oct. 12 at 1 p.m.; a display of miniatures from the Central Coast Miniature Club of Florence on Oct. 15 and 16; a workshop and performance by Portland Story Theater on Oct. 22; and a demonstration of felting with award-winning fiber artist Kathy Elfers on Oct. 29.

Then, Saturday evening, the

Florence Events Center's (FEC) Dancing with Sea Lions project comes to a finale with a dinner and auction for the remaining sea lion art pieces. Incorporating public art, a fundraising opportunity and the FEC's 20th anniversary, Dancing with Sea Lions installed 20 hand-decorated fiberglass sea lions along the central Oregon coast from Newport to Winchester Bay, with a long dance leading to Florence.

The sea lions' return to the FEC this Saturday marks their Migration Gala and auction, after which the sea lions will go to their permanent homes.

The opening bid for each of the remaining 7-8 sea lions will

be \$1,996, with KCST Radio's Bob Sneddon leading the live auction. The evening will include live music, food and a silent auction, as well as a mortgage burning at 6:45 p.m.

Twenty-one artists painted, sculpted, tiled and designed the full-size sculptures and one tiny statuette. Each unique sea lion included a date for every year the FEC has been in existence.

The final auction of the sea lions will raise funds for the Friends of the FEC to build additional areas back stage, upgrade equipment for the theater and provide future grants for area community groups.

The event begins at 6 p.m.

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Include your photo and profile for only \$70! You will receive a 2x3 ad that includes your personal story and a photo.

Women in Business will run on October 15 - Deadline: October 13
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