

# BACKSTREET FEATURES AUTHORS, ARTISTS IN FEBRUARY

Backstreet Gallery features four outstanding authors next month. There will be a reception in their honor on Feb. 11, from 3-5 p.m. at the gallery.

"Dogs, Crows and the Corn Chip Dance," by Kathryn Damon-Dawson, Darby McCann and Riley McCann, is a children's book which teaches backwards-counting through rhyme.

The text is whimsical, engaging and fast-paced. Watercolor illustrations are by Damon-Dawson, who incorpo-

rated digital images and drawings of dogs, crows and cars gathered by granddaughters Riley and Darby.

The book was conceived one afternoon while they traveled by car from Beaverton to Florence. Damon-Dawson wanted her granddaughters to understand how, with diligence and effort, an idea can be taken to completion.

Judy Fleagle worked as editor and staff writer for Oregon Coast and Northwest Travel magazines for 21 years. Prior to

that, she taught first and second grades in California for 22 years. In 2009, she retired to write her first book.

In 2011, she co-founded the Florence Festival of Books.

Fleagle's books include "Crossings: McCullough's Coastal Bridges," "The Crossings Guide to Oregon's Coastal Spans," "Around Florence" and "Devil Cat and Other Colorful Animals I Have Known."

A fifth book is in the works that will be another guide to the

Oregon Coast and available late in 2017.

Pattie Brooks Anderson is first a painter and printmaker, but most recently she has become an author of books for children, she says, "from eight to eighty."

She has always loved illustrations in children's stories and her work is evidence of that inclination. Though she has always loved writing, she has found her paintings are the inspiration for the stories she writes.

She said she hopes to use her children's books as a message to children of all ages to respect the earth and all its creatures and the importance of our role as human beings in preserving our environment.

Karen Nichols, an artist, is also author of five books. All her novels are set in Florence. Her books: "Triumph Over Fear: An inspirational novel of wilderness survival;" "Second Chance Heart: How often does one witness a miracle?;" "The Unexpected Gift: A novel of

Inspiration" — a Marine returns from Afghanistan to reclaim purpose and trust through love and redemption; "Thornton House" — mysterious love transcends time and opens death's door.

The latest, "The Moral of the Story," is a collection of short stories from the poignant to the hilarious.

Join the authors on Saturday, Feb. 11, for a book signing at Backstreet Galleries and they will tell you about their many adventures.

## THIS WEEK ON THE COAST

### A WEEKLY LISTING OF COMMUNITY EVENTS IN THE FLORENCE AREA

SUBMIT ALL EVENTS INFORMATION VIA EMAIL TO [PRESSRELEASES@THESIUSLAWNEWS.COM](mailto:PRESSRELEASES@THESIUSLAWNEWS.COM)

#### Saturday, Jan. 21

##### ADA GRANGE BINGO

Ada Grange is having a bingo fundraiser. The public is invited to come for dinner and play bingo with proceeds benefitting the Siuslaw High School bowling teams.

The kitchen opens at 5 p.m. and will serve tacos along with its regular menu. Bingo starts at 6 p.m.

Ada Grange is located 10 miles out Canary Road.

For more information, call 541-997-2380.

##### WLT ANNUAL MEETING

West Lane Translator, a not-for-profit organization providing free television and radio re-transmission to the Florence area, will hold its annual meeting, including election of officers, beginning at 6 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Siuslaw Public Library.

WLT is also license holder for local non-commercial community radio, KXCR, 90.7 FM.

WLT's website is [westlanetv.org](http://westlanetv.org).

#### Wednesday, Jan. 25

##### REPUBLICAN PIZZA MEETING

The chairman and secretary of the Lane County Republican Party will be the guest speakers for the first meeting of the new year.

Input will be sought on next steps for the club to secure positive outcomes.

The meeting will be from 6 to 7:30 p.m. in the Bromley Room of the Siuslaw Public Library.

There will be pizza and drinks.

For more information, call Sherry Harvey at 509-540-4880, or get the latest meeting location and times by calling 541-590-5435.

#### Thursday, Jan. 26

##### SHOREWOOD OPEN HOUSE

Shorewood Senior Living, 1451 Spruce St., will celebrate its Grand Open House from 3 to 6 p.m.

A special public ribbon-cutting ceremony will begin at 3:15 p.m., followed by hors d'oeuvres, refreshments and tours of the newly remodeled facility.

#### Saturday, Jan. 28

##### WRITERS BOOT CAMP

The annual Creative Writing

Boot Camp for all writing levels and genres will be held at the FRAA Art Center, 120 Maple St., from 10 a.m. to noon.

Cost is \$20 for FRAA members or \$25 for nonmembers, payable at the door.

To reserve a spot, call 541-708-2120 or email [CJReditor@gmail.com](mailto:CJReditor@gmail.com).

##### TOASTMASTERS TO DISCUSS WELLNESS

The Siuslaw Tale Spinners Toastmasters club will host a wellness panel with local experts on Saturday, Jan. 28, from 10 a.m. to noon in the Bromley Room at the Siuslaw Public Library in Florence.

Topics will include palliative care, acupuncture, yoga, nutrition and fitness.

This event is free and open to the public.

For more information, contact Irma Geller at 541-999-0912.

##### NEW BUSINESS GRAND OPENING

Northwest Reflections memory care services, 5292 Harvard Ave., will host a grand opening and ribbon-cutting ceremony on Saturday,

Jan. 28, beginning at noon.

The ribbon-cutting will be held by the Florence Area Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors.

A raffle and refreshments will be provided included. Come see the newest memory care facility in town.

#### Upcoming events

##### RHODY CLUB TO MEET

Mike Bones will give a presentation titled "Rhododendrons Year Around" on Feb. 21. This will be an informative talk on selecting the plant that best fits your needs.

Topics will range from plant size (6 inches to 90 feet), color, fragrance of the flowers and foliage, timing of blooming, color of the leaves, shape of the leaves and colorful new growth.

The meeting starts at 6.30 p.m. for refreshments, followed by the program at 7 p.m.

The public is invited to come to the Presbyterian Church of the Siuslaw, 3996 Highway 101.

For more information, call 541-997-3082 or visit [www.siuslawars.org](http://www.siuslawars.org).

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