



## Local authors at the 2019 Festival of Books

**F**lorence boasts a number of writers, many of whom are published authors. This year, several are participating in the ninth annual Florence Festival of Books (FFOB) along with their books. And that's not all! There are two Florence-based publishers who will be there, as well as the Siuslaw School District Writers. These kids show that you can be an author at any age.

### AUTHORS

• **Connie Strome Bradley** spent 50 years in hospital nursing and administration, and she has been recognized as Florence First Citizen for community involvement. Her books include "Snowball, the Nanny Goose of Sutton Lake," "Lulu, the Dancing Snail," and "Madge and Bill, Barn Owlets," all illustrated by Carol Unser. Bradley is a co-founder of FFOB.

• **Judy Fleagle**, the other co-founder of FFOB and former editor and staff writer at Oregon Coast and Northwest Travel magazines, has written "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." Her latest book, "The Oregon Coast Guide to the Unexpected," came out December 2018.

• **Carol Gunderson** at 93 is the Gramma Moses of local writers. "The Morning Porch" captures her thoughts as she overlooks Siltcoos Lake, and "Gramma's Guided Tour of the World's Greatest Library" explains the Bible for kids.

• **Ned Hickson**, International Book Award Finalist and award-winning humor columnist, shares his favorite columns in "Humor at the Speed of Life." And his "Pearls of Writing Wisdom" gives insights for writers from his years as a journalist and editor.

• **Jack Karasch's** publications include short stories, poetry, journalism and novels. A world traveler and scuba diver, he has lived in New York, California, Taiwan and South Korea. Currently, he lives on a lake in coastal Oregon.

• **Tracy L. Markley** is a fitness specialist with 25 years in the industry and the author of "The Stroke of an Artist," "Tipping Toward Balance," "Stroke Recovery"

and "Your Brain" — plus her latest, "The Power of Your Spine." Tracy is on the MedFit Education Foundation's Education Advisory Board.

• **Sherrie McCorkle** says that unforgiveness is destructive in the lives of people. "Hidden Unforgiveness" provides a biblically-based list and discussion of reasons why learning to forgive one another is vital to people's spiritual, emotional, psychological and physical well-being.

• **Karen D. Nichols'** latest book, "A Name By Any Other," involves identity theft and is set on the Oregon coast. Like all her books, it contains a dog story, a love story and an intriguing ending. She has also written "Thornton House," "Unexpected Gift," "Second Chance Heart," "Triumph Over Fear," "The Moral of the Story," "Roots of an Oak" and "Here, There, Gone." This author is also an accomplished artist in more than one medium.

• **Carolyn Nordahl** has lived in Florence most of her life and made a career of working for the Siuslaw News. In retirement, she enjoys watercolor painting. Her

book, "Gramma's Window Shade," was written as a tribute to grandma Johanna and mother Mildred. It's the story of her childhood and includes favorite family recipes as well as her own watercolor illustrations.

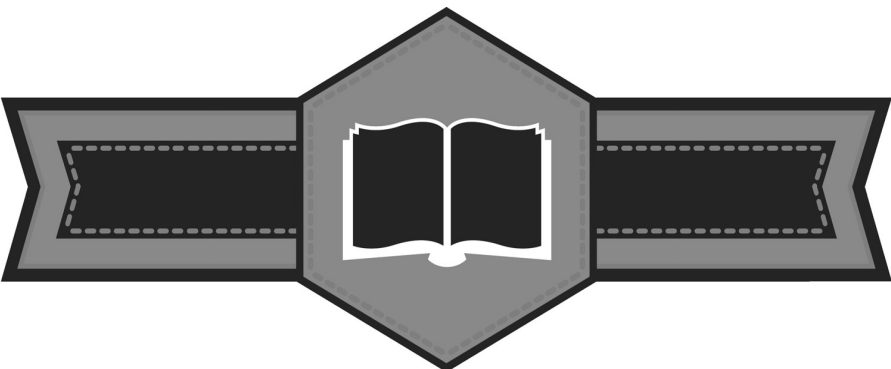
• **Richard Nordahl** has lived in the Northwest since early childhood. During his retirement, he enjoys fishing, enjoying the out-of-doors, and writing. His books are related to his dreams — "A Man's Dream and a Hero Dog," "The Alien" and "Trapper Fred and the Indian Girl." After putting the dreams on paper, they were at rest.

• **Dr. H. Ritchie's** book, "The Kids in Far Left Field," is about how teachers and administrators bully students. Her teaching career began as a substitute in a variety of school districts. Then as a teacher, she taught in high income and rural schools as well as schools for incarcerated students. She later worked for a state department of education. She has also been an adolescent counselor and learned firsthand of the problems some students face at the hands of their peers and teachers.

See local groups & more on Page 6

# Festival of Books 2019

## Siuslaw News, September 21, 2019



## Local groups & publishers

### WRITERS GROUP

• **Siuslaw School District Writers** involves student and adult writers and illustrators under the guidance of Kassy Keppol to produce published books. These student books are sold so that students can have a book signing experience. And the money raised is used for publication of the next book. Many students from first grade through high school have participated in the making of the books.

### PUBLISHERS

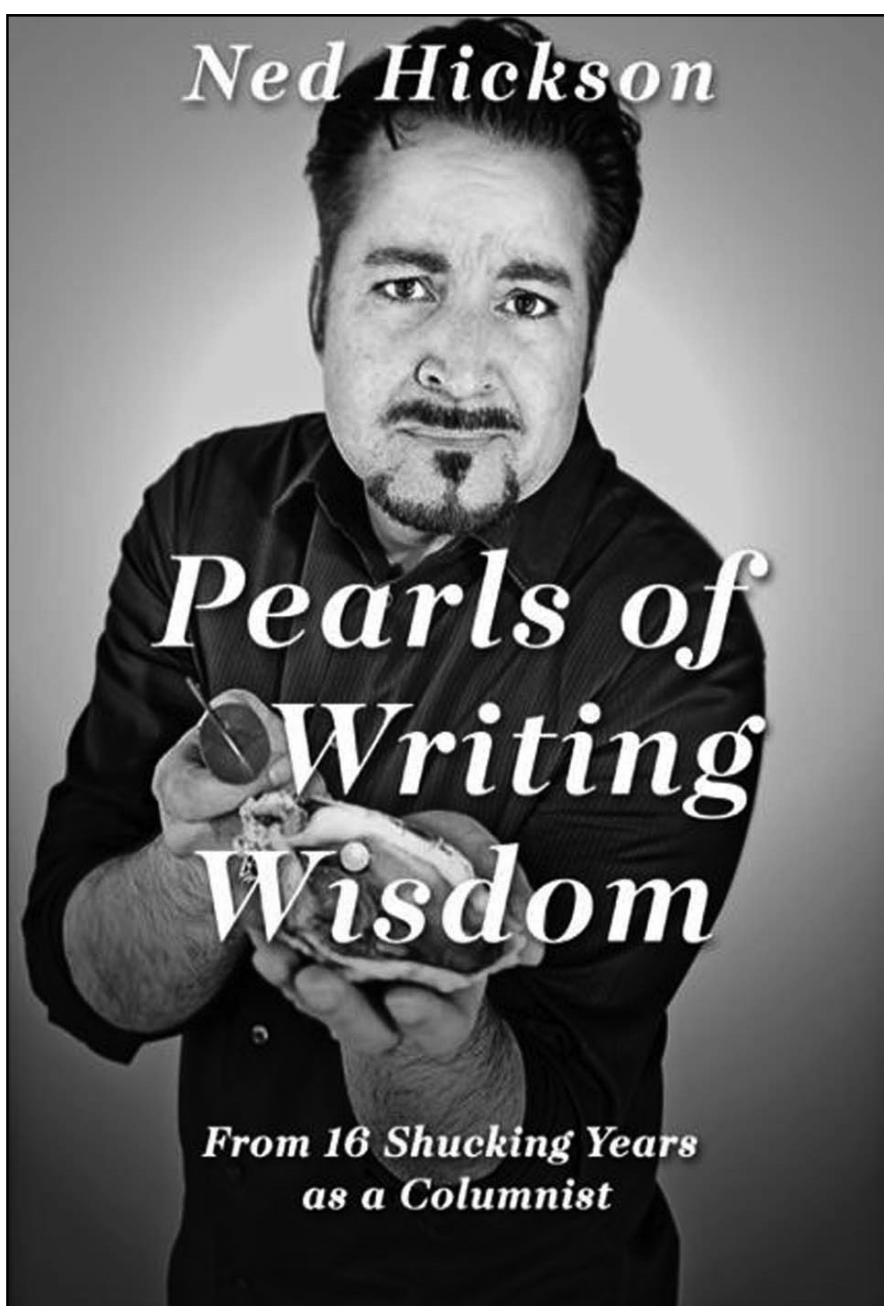
• **Port Hole Publishing's** Ellen Gunderson Traylor is the bestselling author of 20 books, and owns Port Hole Publishing as well as a bookstore in Gardiner. She has published the books of dozens of authors. Her own titles have sold about a million

copies in English, with many foreign translations. She has also taught writing for publication at colleges and conferences.

• **Watchtower, Bible & Tract Society** are part of a publishing organization that prints Bibles and other books as well as two Bible-based magazines, "The Watchtower" and "Awake."

All of these authors will have their books for sale and publishers will have books they have published on display. Any books purchased can be signed and personalized. And, who knows, some of these Festival of Books' participants may be your friends or even your next-door neighbors.

— *Judy Fleagle*  
Co-founder and Co-chair  
Florence Festival of Books

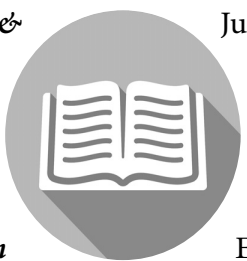


Meet the author at the  
Florence Festival of Books!

"This book is full of helpful hints on how to get started writing. Both humorous and instructive, it could inspire you to finally write that book that's been in the depths of your brain for too long. Plus, it's just a good read..."

## 2019 FLORENCE FESTIVAL OF BOOKS PLANNING COMMITTEE

Judy Fleagle, *co-chair & co-founder*  
Meg Spencer, *co-chair*  
Bonnie MacDuffee, *treasurer*  
Aleia Bailey, *FEC liaison*



Julie Jarvis  
Merrilee Mager  
Kevin Mittge  
Karen D. Nichols  
Victoria Sharbowski  
Maire Testa  
Ellen Traylor