



# WONDER NEWS

ANN (ANA) MORRIS, BILINGUAL CHILDREN'S AUTHOR & TRANSLATOR

WWW.AUTHORANNMORRIS.COM

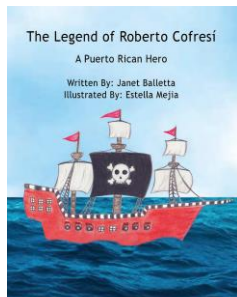
JULY 2016

## WELCOME!

Welcome to Wonder News! I'm glad to share what I think and do with you! People are welcome to contact me to give me feedback and ideas, and to request to be added to my email list. I will add no one without a request. Feel free to message me through my website.

## Translations

This has been an amazing month for growth in translation! I worked with Janet Balletta to translate her "The Legend of Roberto Cofresi-A Puerto Rican Hero" to Spanish. Janet was wonderful. We Skyped, we emailed...Communication between author and translator are prime. Both author and translator want to maintain a certain level of reading and vocabulary plus fluidity. The translator is also sensitive about mechanics that vary from language to language. We each consulted professionals in the language and in translation. Did you know that as popular as "pirate talk" is in English, it does not exist in Spanish? We both had some challenges finding acceptable ways to express her English story in Spanish without sounding trite in Spanish. I value each learning experience. The translation has now gone to press, and we are both relieved and happy!



## INTERVIEWS

July was full of new experiences. I wrote a guest blog for Kristina Stanley, who has a mystery blog. I tailored mine to children's books at her request and was pleased to have it featured in her blog. You may read the blog entry at <https://kristinastanley.com/2016/07/11/mystery-mondays-ann-morris-on-using-mystery-in-childrens-books/>.

I had also been previously asked to participate in a study by Irene Gunilla Montesinos from the Universidad de Sevilla. She had several people complete an amplified survey in Spanish about raising bilingual children. As my first husband is from Spain and I was a Spanish teacher, I had some ideas to offer that were included in her thesis. What an honor!

Another unexpected opportunity was a Skype interview with Alina Mironova from the University of Nottingham, UK. Passport Nottingham, as one of their many wonderful projects, has volunteer tutors for refugees. The fees that would have been collected are applied to that tutor program. I couldn't volunteer tutor services, but she said an interview would be very valuable for their program. I was glad to participate!

The interview on the importance of knowing other languages is at: <http://passportnottingham.co.uk/blog-post/509/>.

What an international month! I love new challenges and talking to new people!





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## Four Seasons Arts Fest at Polk City, Iowa

This festival is held yearly in Polk City and lasts for two days (for vendors). There was a wide variety of artists of many genres, including several authors. We were blessed with decent weather this year, more space, and the atmosphere was very festive.



Another photo I'm proud to share is that of my hometown Geography teacher, Richard Lindaman. In the late 1960s (when he was 15...) and communism was the evil of the day, he asked us one day when we were studying Russia, "What do you think Russian kids are like?" One could hear a series of mumbles and sneers, since it was a small town and no one had traveled outside of the USA. He awoke us that day with the reality that Russian kids, like us, had peer pressure, parental disagreements, liked to be with their friends, had to go to school, and any number of things that we could relate to. He showed us what we had in common. That influenced my international perspective

for the rest of my life. With gratitude, I presented him with a copy of *Everything Is Different* and *Todo es distinto*. That book's lesson is based on what I learned from him. Thank you, Mr. Lindaman!

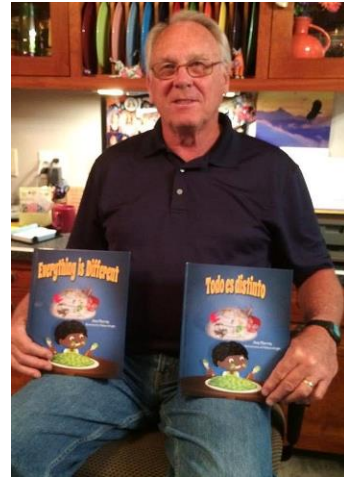
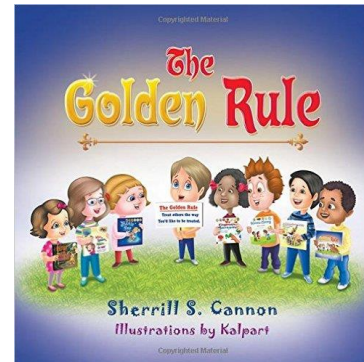


Photo credit: Joan Lindaman

## Picture Book Review of Month



★ ★ ★ ★ ★ to Sherrill S Cannon for *The Golden Rule*! This is a charming rhyming book about the well-known Golden Rule that tells us to treat others as we would like them to treat us. It begins with two children looking for a golden rule(r), not quite sure what they are seeking. Gradually, they recognize the



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message. Examples of the Golden Rule dealing with generosity, compassion, bullying, inclusion, and paying it forward are given with adorable illustrations!

### Tips for a Perfect Press Release

I listened to a webinar on press releases twice this past week and would like to share some tips with you. The webinar was **facilitated by Judith Briles** (from LinkedIn) and **presented by Joan Stewart**.

1. Write for consumers and readers FIRST now...
2. Convince them to DO something. Have a call to action!
3. Old, traditional press release standards are out the window.
4. Include links to multimedia.
5. Don't tell the whole story. Give FAQ's and other teasers from your media kit.
6. Short is OK. Today's readers use the Internet.
7. Use specific key words (location, industry, genres) to make it easier for your release to be found on the Internet.

### 9 Key Elements

1. Evoke emotion, solution to a problem.
2. Help readers "know" the author.
3. Explain target audience—Wave a red flag!
4. Describe the book is about.
5. Plant seeds that can make \$\$\$
  - a. Available for last—minute interviews
  - b. Info on bulk orders
  - c. Speaking and consulting information at:
  - d. 5 Star reviews: Use real people's reviews.
6. Help readers take the next step (CTA) or contribute to a cause.
7. Include price, ISBN, where book is available.
8. INCLUDE CONTACT INFORMATION!
9. Make sure the release is searchable!

### Where Are My Books?

My books are available in several locations locally as well as online.

My website will get you a signed book:

[www.authorannmorris.com](http://www.authorannmorris.com)

Facebook Author page:

<https://www.facebook.com/AnnMorrisChildrensAuthorLanguageConsulting/>

The books are on Amazon:

<http://www.amazon.com/-/e/B00C8G2V8S>

Barnes & Noble: [www.barnesandnoble.com/](http://www.barnesandnoble.com/)

Books-a-Million (BAM):

[www.booksamillion.com/](http://www.booksamillion.com/)

Mascot Books: [www.mascotbooks.com](http://www.mascotbooks.com)

They are also on consignment at several local stores.

PLEASE! Ask, if you are looking for my books. I have learned that some stores locate them with other children's books while other stores place them with Iowa Authors and the Spanish versions in the Foreign Language section:



Beaverdale Books



Inspired Grounds



Chocolate Storybook



Grouds for Celebration



LearningPost



Book World Fort Dodge



Des Moines Botanical Center



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