

Backstreet Gallery welcomes Caroline P. Estill

FLORENCE — Backstreet Gallery, 1421 Bay St., welcomes oil painter Caroline P. Estill as a new member.

Recently back from a museum viewing trip to England and Paris, the experience has influenced her work.

The rich colors, the soft impressionistic strokes and the luminous light bathing her subjects create a peaceful essence about her paintings. Her art takes the viewer from the serene garden to the restless sea, across tranquil landscapes and back home to appealing still lifes.

Estill initially studied painting techniques at art schools in Tennessee and in Denver, Colo. For several decades, she has studied many artists connected with the International Impressionist Movement.

Among several of her favorite international artists are Joaquin Sorolla, Anders Zorn and Peder Kreyer.

Estill was a corporate artist in Houston, Texas. Later she taught



An oil painting by Caroline P. Estill is part of Backstreet Gallery's "Stormy Weather" art theme on display.

painting is a suburb of Houston, then took a 24-year break to raise her two daughters before moving with her family to Florence in 2003.

From 2007 to 2011, Estill served on the board of the Siuslaw School District.

She is happily married to "Dr. Bob," a mathematician teaching at LCC. Her daughters are completing their education at Oregon State University and the University of Utah at Salt Lake City.

Join Estill and the other Backstreet artists as they illustrate the theme of "Stormy Weather."

Backstreet Gallery is open daily 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and is on the Second Saturday Gallery Tour.

Coastal Celtic Society to host annual Burns Night Feb. 6

COOS BAY — Rabbie Robert Burns, Scotland's greatly loved national poet and bard, is celebrated around the world.

Celebrations of his birthday, called Burns Nights, happen all over the world, including some unlikely places such as Tanzania, Delhi, St. Petersburg, Russia, Beijing, Belgium and Iraq.

The Coastal Celtic Society has present-

ed its Burns Night for 14 straight years, although the first Burns Night in the Coos Bay-North Bend area occurred 102 years ago.

This year's event will take place Saturday, Feb. 6, at the Mill Casino Hotel, 3201 Tremont Ave., in North Bend, starting at 5 p.m.

Tickets are \$35 per person and are

available by calling the Mill Casino Hotel Gift Shop, 800-953-4800, ext. 9

Proceeds from the event support the Coastal Celtic Society, a nonprofit charity promoting Celtic Culture through music, dance, education and the arts.

The Celebration is rich with traditional ceremony including: The piping in of the Haggis, accompanied by kilted swords-

men honor guard, Burns' Ode to the Haggis and his Selkirk Grace Address to the Immortal Memory of Robert Burns, as well as his traditional Toast to the Lasses and Reply to the Laddies. Scottish Attire suggested but not required.

For more information, call Robert More at 541-266-8989 or email to the-mores@msn.com.

Fifth-grade students' Cigar Box Guitars on display at museum

COOS BAY — Cigar Box Guitars will be featured as part of "Musical Instruments @ CAM," an exhibition of instruments and instrument building, being held at Coos Art Museum through Feb. 13.

The Cigar Box Guitars represent a sampling of the 130 guitars built by the 2014-2015 fifth-grade class at Sunset Middle School.

The guitars, part of the museum's Studio-to-School program, were built

over the course of three months under the direction of Sunset teacher Nick Krissie, who won a STEM Champion Award for his work on this project.

Studio-to-School is funded by a grant from the Oregon Community Foundation and represents a partnership which includes Sunset School and Coos Art Museum.

Many other community members and businesses donated materials or volunteered time to this project.

During the construction of the guitars the students developed skills in science, technology, engineering, and math.

Students also learned about the rich history of this instrument in American music.

At the culmination of this project, students had the opportunity to work with international cigar box guitar expert Justin Johnson, who spent a week with the students and taught them basic music theory, rhythm and 12-bar blues.

The students also had the opportunity to perform in concert with Justin at the Egyptian Theatre in May.

The museum offers a wide range of arts activities including exhibitions, art classes and lectures.

Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesday through Friday, and 1 to 4 p.m. on Saturday.

Museum admission is \$5 general, \$2 for students, veterans and seniors, and free to museum members.

DEADLINE FOR COAST CENTRAL SUBMISSIONS IS THE 15TH OF EACH MONTH.