

# Visit special art exhibit 'For Love of Animals'

FLORENCE — The month of February will include the second annual "For the Love of Animals" exhibit at the Florence Events Center (FEC).

This highly successful event is a chance as an artistic community to support the local Florence Area Humane Society (FAHS).

With paintings or photographs, artists share their talents and help get the word out about the importance of supporting shelter animals.

Beside each rod displaying the works of individual artists is a photo of an animal up for adoption at the FAHS.

During a special reception set for Feb. 12, all proceeds from the



COURTESY PHOTO

## Oil painting by Ron Hildenbrand

exhibit between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. will be donated to FAHS.

In addition, while at the reception, guests can buy raffle tickets to win a voucher for a portrait of their pet to be painted by well-known local artist John Leasure.

The drawing will be held at 2 p.m. Also, there will be a photo booth set up for pet photos, to be developed almost instantly.

Complimentary refreshments will be served for both pet owners and their pets, along with a bin for donations of pet food for the FAHS.

This exhibit is a win-win for all.

For more information, visit [www.eventcenter.org](http://www.eventcenter.org).

## Pacific Power grant helps support Coos Art Museum

COOS BAY — The Pacific Power Foundation has awarded a \$2,000 grant to Coos Art Museum to help support its 2016 exhibition season.

This grant by the Pacific Power Foundation will assist Coos Art Museum in producing 20 different art exhibitions in its six exhibition galleries throughout 2016. Among the shows to be featured is the current Print Arts Northwest which

features some of the best fine art print making of the Pacific Northwest.

Also scheduled is Expressions West: 2016, a painting competition for artists from 13 Western states, 23rd Annual Maritime Art Exhibition, and Vision annual high school art competition.

The museum will also feature 2016 Biennial Student Art Exhibit, a major exhibition of art by school children resid-

ing in Coos, Curry and western Douglas counties.

"Pacific Power Foundation is proud to help sponsor the programming at the Coos Art Museum, a dynamic and growing art institution on Oregon's Coast," said Diana Knous, Pacific Power Regional Business Manager. "The variety and range of these installations will enrich the lives of our community and Pacific Power is glad to

be part of it."

"Coos Art Museum is now celebrating its 50th anniversary year. It is support such as that provided by Pacific Power Foundation which keeps the Museum a vibrant and responsive organization promoting arts and culture throughout Oregon's South Coast," said Steven Brooks, Executive Director of the Coos Art Museum.

## FIND CREATIVE FLOW WITH FRAA'S NEW WRITERS ON THE RIVER GROUP

FLORENCE — The Florence Regional Arts Alliance (FRAA) welcomes writers of all levels to join "Writers on the River" for a new year of literary events.

The group's monthly creative writing workshops are designed for all genres and will take place Feb. 20 and March 19, at 120 Maple St. in Old Town.

Cost is \$20 for FRAA members or \$25

for nonmembers, payable at the door. Writers on the River also provides an ongoing group open to all writers seeking the time, space and support for their writing.

Class instructor Rourke is an award-winning writer, journalist, columnist and editor with more than 30 years' staff experience at daily newspapers, national mag-

azines and major publishers.

Educated at the City University of New York, Oxford University and the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism, she has served as a contractual book editor and jacket cover copywriter for Amazon and Random House, in both print and digital formats.

The former New Yorker now resides in

Florence, where she is writing a memoir about her adventures as an investigative reporter titled "And Forgive Us Our Press Passes."

Call Catherine Rourke at 541-708-2120 or email [CJR\\_editor@gmail.com](mailto:CJR_editor@gmail.com).

For more information about FRAA, call 541-999-0859 or visit [www.fraaoregon.org](http://www.fraaoregon.org).

## 'Stormy Weather' continues at Backstreet Gallery through February

FLORENCE — Backstreet Gallery invites everyone to enjoy "Stormy Weather" now through February, when gallery members will join together as they create their own "Stormy Weather" art

pieces for display.

Local singer-songwriter Stephen McVay will bring his soulful violin into Backstreet's New Year's mix, along with his fine guitar.

He'll set the moods with his own beautiful songs and their sweet harmonies, as well as those of others we know and love so well.

Greet the New Year with the reception

Saturday, Jan. 9, from 3 to 5 p.m.

Backstreet Gallery, 1421 Bay St., will be loaded with great food, unique art, live entertainment and the merriment in celebration of 2016.