Backstreet's annual art challenge underway

The Summer Box Social offers anyone and everyone the opportunity to take Backstreet Galler's annual art challenge. The finished pieces will be exhibited at the gallery during July in the Summer Box Social: American Spirit as we celebrate Independence Day.

Here's the catch: the boxes are round.

Entrants will be given a choice of sizes or choose more than one. The entrance fee of $10 incudes one box. However, for $5 each, extra boxes are available and can be used to create a single artwork or an additional piece.

So sharpen your right-side brain images. Boxes, entry forms and rules are offered at the gallery, 1421 Bay St.

Toastmasters treasurer receives award

Vickie Kennedy recently received the Competent Leadership Award from Siuslaw Tale Spinners, the Florence club of Toastmasters International.

Kennedy joined Toastmasters in 2015 and has quickly worked her way into the fabric of the organization. She is currently serving as treasure for the Siuslaw Tale Spinners.

When Kennedy first learned of Toastmasters, she said she thought it was for professional speakers only but soon discovered it was for anyone.

After attending her first meeting, "I was intrigued by the possibilities," said Kennedy, who then joined.

The Tale Spinners are hosting an open house today, April 30, from 1 to 3 p.m., in the Bromley Room of the Siuslaw Public Library.

The public is invited to attend.

COURTESY PHOTO

Vickie Kennedy with her leadership award

Community Chorus to host patriotic concert

Beginning at 2 p.m. on Sunday, May 1, the Community Chorus of Florence will be presenting its spring concert in shades of red, white and blue.

Directed by Jennifer Meier, the chorus will bring to the audience a selection of inspiring patriotic songs such as "God Bless America," "Battle Hymn of the Republic" and "America the Beautiful."

The concert will begin with a rendition of "The Star Bangled Banner."

Special guests, the Flotones will provide several selections, along with the Encore Dancers tapping to "Yankee Doodle Dandy."

The Siuslaw High School Chamber Choir will perform several songs and the CROW kids will perform some tunes from their recent production of "Shrek the Musical, Jr."

Interspersed with these songs will be a medley of tunes by Irving Berlin, who wrote many Broadway musical and Hollywood songs during his 60-years of productivity.

Adult tickets are $10 and children under 18 will be admitted free.

Tickets can be purchased at the Florence Events Center or by calling 541-997-1994.

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