

## Mainly Piano House concert to benefit OCHS

Pianist and composer Dan Chadburn, along with singer and songwriter Tom Nichols, will be making their third appearance at Kathy Parsons' "Mainly Piano House Concert Series" as a benefit for the Oregon Coast Humane Society (OCHS) on Saturday, July 30, at 7 p.m.

The duo's concerts are relaxed and informal. These accomplished and talented musicians, composers and songwriters delight audiences with piano and acoustical guitar original music.

For a sample of their style of music, visit the websites at [www.themusicoftomnicholls.com/index](http://www.themusicoftomnicholls.com/index) and [www.dan.chadburn.com/music](http://www.dan.chadburn.com/music).

Seating is limited and reservations are required by emailing Kathy Parsons at [KathyPiano@gmail.com](mailto:KathyPiano@gmail.com) or calling 541-999-9720.

Address and directions will be given after reservations are made.

The suggested donation of \$15 will be collected at the door and donated to OCHS in Florence.

## Arizona artist awarded BE The Whale scholarship

Siuslaw Middle School students have joined forces with Florence artist and The River Gallery owner Jan Jagoe to promote her endangered species project, which awards \$1,000 scholarships to high school art students nationwide.

The Siuslaw School District will now receive 10 percent of the funding received by the BE The Whale project, to be divided among the elementary school, middle school and high school. The funds will be distributed to classroom teachers and staff to buy much needed school supplies and equipment.

In addition to the 10 percent of the Go Fund Me account going to Siuslaw School District, a portion of all proceeds will be donated to various endangered species projects across the country.

Donations to help support this program can also be made at Oregon Pacific Bank, 1335 Highway 101, P.O. Box 22,000, Florence, OR 97439.



COURTESY PHOTO

"BE The Whale" art scholarship recipient Zoey Zhao of Arizona (left) with Florence resident and artist Jan Jagoe

Checks should be addressed to the "BE The Whale" donation fund. The project will continue as additional funding becomes available.

The BE The Whale project tar-

gets all types of endangered species, with a different animal chosen to represent each state.

Zoey Zhao from Empire High School in Tucson, Ariz., received a scholarship in May, for her col-

ored pencil drawing of a baby Ocelot.

Brooks Jones, from Herriman High School in Salt Lake City, Utah, received a scholarship in December 2015 for her pen and ink drawing of a Southwestern Willow Flycatcher.

Jordan Merz from Bonners Ferry High School in Bonners Ferry, Idaho, received a scholarship in May 2015, for her graphite and charcoal drawing of a Woodland Caribou. Paris Meyers, from Crescent Valley High School in Albany, Ore., received a scholarship in December 2014 for her watercolor of a humpback whale.

High school students from Nevada will submit artwork during the fall semester of 2016. The endangered animal chosen for the fall semester will be announced in September 2016.

Pictures of the winning artwork are at [BeTheWhale.com](http://BeTheWhale.com) and at The River Gallery in Old Town Florence.

**Toni's Canine Castle**

Let us cater to your pets!  
Daily • Weekly • Monthly  
and "play dates"

Open 7am - 7 pm Monday - Saturday • Sunday 8am - 6pm  
24-Hour Caregiver on Site - Licensed and Insured  
4370 Hwy. 101 North • In the Florence RV Complex (next to Bi-Mart)  
541-590-2466 - Shot Records Required

**Best for HEARING**

Family Helping Families Hear Better

Emmanuel Beaulieu, B.A., BC-SIS  
Board Certified in Hearing Instrument Sciences  
[www.bestforhearing.com](http://www.bestforhearing.com)

2285 Highway 101 • Florence, OR 97439  
(541) 997-8866

### Club from 1A

is that on rainy days we don't have a place where the kids can run around and burn off energy," Trent said. "Our plan is to

expand our basketball court area by another 1,000 square feet by next week and then to cover it. That will provide our rainy day shelter."

He plans to fund the covered basketball area project through

a combination of grant money and private donations.

"On behalf of the board, I want to say thank you to our community that has been phenomenal in their support and encouragement," Trent said. "When I look back a year ago, it took a lot of faith for many of the people to stand behind us given where we were at the time."

In December 2014, the board was facing near insurmountable debt and was forced to close the Teen Center. In January 2015, the board created a five-phase strategic action plan.

"When we started this plan we had about \$120,000 in past due payables and we had been advised that our best course of action would be to just declare bankruptcy and call it a day," Trent said.

The board met with representatives of Boys and Girls Club of America and received some startling news.

"They said that if this club ever closed, they would never put another club back in this community," Trent said.

"We got several of our most business savvy donors together and explained the situation. One of the messages that we heard consistently from that group of advisers was, 'You have to reopen the Teen Center,'" he said.

The club reopened the Teen Center in September 2015 with nine members and ended the school year with more than 40.

The state of Oregon and Siuslaw High School have graduation rates well below the national average.

In a recent survey of local Boys and Girls Club members, 100 percent of Teen Center members said they plan to graduate from high school on time.

"Our goal is to make sure we are doing everything we can to help Siuslaw School District and the families in our community improve our graduation rates," Trent said.

"As soon as Superintendent Andy Grzeskowiak has a chance to catch his breath from the transition, the conversation that we will have with him will be, 'What does the Boys and Girls Club need to do to help you be successful?'" he added.

Through its elementary, Teen Center and sports programs, Boys and Girls Club of Western Lane County reaches approximately 600 Florence-area youth.

Administrative offices are located at the Teen Center, 1601 15th St. For more information, call 541-902-0304.

DISTRACTED DRIVING | IT CAN WAIT

# Texting While Driving

Since text messaging is a relatively new issue in the world of driving laws, the ramifications of doing so are not yet universal.

Texting while driving is banned for all drivers in 45 states and the District of Columbia, according to the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety. Additionally, novice drivers are banned from the activity in Missouri, Oklahoma and Texas.

Some drivers are still legally allowed to text while driving according to their state law, under specific circumstances.

In Texas, for example, drivers in school crossing zones and on public school property during the time reduced speed limit applies are banned from texting while driving. Drivers over 18 not in these areas, however, are allowed to text while driving. But many localities within Texas have enacted their own bans on using cell phones to text while driving.

You can see how this non-uniform approach could be confusing.

Check out the IIHS color-coded map on the organization's website ([www.iihs.org](http://www.iihs.org)) to find out where your state stands. Contact your local Secretary of State to find out how any related laws impact your city or county.



© FOTOLIA

### A DANGEROUS ACTIVITY

Even though we can't all

seem to agree on the legality of texting while driving, we all should pay attention to the statistics.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and its "Stop

the Texts, Stop the Wrecks" advertising campaign:

- You are three times more likely to crash your vehicle if you text while driving;
- 49 percent of adults say they have been passengers in

a car when the driver was sending or reading text messages on their cell phone;

- 68 percent of teens and young adults disagreed that it is easy to text while driving and still pay attention to the

road; and

- 78 percent of teens and young adults say they have read a text message while driving, while 71 percent say they have composed and sent one.

THIS MESSAGE SPONSORED BY:



777 Maple St. Ste. 1, Florence, OR 97439  
P. 541.997.3455



Nationwide®  
is on your side

### Awards from 1A

"Constantly living your life 'age-appropriately' can be like Kryptonite," Hickson wrote in "Turning 49."

"Keeping a lighthearted perspective on the world and maintaining a sense of wonderment about its possibilities — whether plausible or fanciful — helps avoid that downward spiral into living life in an uninspired rut."

Siuslaw News also won third place for Best Page One Design.

Editor Ryan Cronk submitted the issues of May 23, Oct. 10 and Dec. 2, 2015, for consideration. Cover stories included Vern DiPietro's images of a pod of orcas on the Siuslaw River, ALICE safety training at Mapleton School District, the Dancing with Sea Lions project and Florence's annual Holiday Festival and Tree Lighting.

Jenna Bartlett, general manager for the Siuslaw News, said, "I think you can see that 2015 was a great year for the paper. We continue to provide top news content to our community."