

## City council, mayor election deadline Aug. 16

City of Florence and City Recorder Kelli Weese invite eligible citizens to run for mayor and two positions on the Florence City Council during the November election cycle.

Positions held by Mayor Joe Henry and councilors Joshua Greene and Ron Preisler will be up for re-election. All three plan to run for their current positions again.

Any qualified elector who is registered to vote in the City of Florence and has resided in the city since Nov. 8, 2015, is eligible to run for the two four-year councilor positions and the mayor's two-year position.

The city council is the governing body of the city. It is responsible for passing laws, fees, policies and the annual budget. It also develops the overall vision for the city.

The mayor has no additional executive functions aside from his or her position on the council. However, the mayor facilitates the council and presides over deliberations, determines order of business, appoints positions to boards and committees and performs ceremonial functions.

Weese encourages qualified citizens to run for an office. She is available by appointment to meet with people to give more information and to go over requirements.

To apply, complete a filing packet by Tuesday, Aug. 16.

Packets are available online at [www.ci.florence.or.us](http://www.ci.florence.or.us) and at Florence City Hall, 250 Highway 101.

For more information on the electoral process, contact Weese at 541-997-3437 or at [kelli.weese@ci.florence.or.us](mailto:kelli.weese@ci.florence.or.us).

## River Gallery featuring Durma, Schwartz art

The River Gallery will be featuring two local artists during the Second Saturday Gallery Tour on Aug. 13, from 3 to 5 p.m.

Kitty Durma is a local jewelry artist who divides her time between Portland and Florence.

She creates her fascinating pieces in her home studios. Her jewelry reflects her love for working with metal and wire. Her ability to repurpose vintage findings in her designs results in a blend of the past and present.

Durma's work takes you on adventures to distant places and times, especially France. Thoughts and feeling are interwoven into her designs through words and phrases echoed from the past and whispered into the present.

Michael Schwartz creates beautiful pit-fired ceramics.

After his pieces are leather



COURTESY PHOTOS

Artwork from Michael Schwartz (left) and Kitty Durma is on display at The River Gallery.

hard, he kiln-fires them to 1,800 degrees F. He covers some areas with copper or steel mesh and various other interesting items. He then buries the pots in a sawdust pit, sets it ablaze and leaves them to smolder overnight, as was (and still is) done by Indians in the American

Southwest.

The result is due to the interaction of fire and some on salts and metals. No glaze has been used. Each piece is a one-of-kind work of art with blacks, grays, greens and reds.

The River Gallery features the work of more than 20 local artists and carries a wide

selection of hand-blown Oregon glass floats.

The gallery, located in Old Town Florence, is on the corner of Bay and Laurel streets.

Stop by during the Second Saturday Gallery Tour between 3 and 5 p.m. to meet the artists and enjoy some champagne and chocolate.

## Susan Stevens art featured at Silver Lining

The Gallery Above the Silver Lining Boutique, 2217 Highway 101, will feature artist Susan Stevens from Washington during August with her one-of-a-kind creations of art.

"Stevens has taken her artwork to levels never seen in this gallery," said Silver Lining owner Kimberly Fleenor. "Her mosaic tables and frames for her delightful paintings are totally unique and beyond imagination."

Her frames are actually an integral part of her creations

filled with wonderful, light-filled compositions of oils and acrylics.

The subject matters are from coastal scenes to electric storms over the ocean, from palm trees to majestic mountains, from flowers to fanciful fairies.

Stevens' champagne and hors d'oeuvres reception will be Saturday, Aug. 13, during the Second Saturday Gallery Tour, from 3 to 5 p.m.

Everyone is welcome and encouraged to participate.

Stevens will attend and dis-

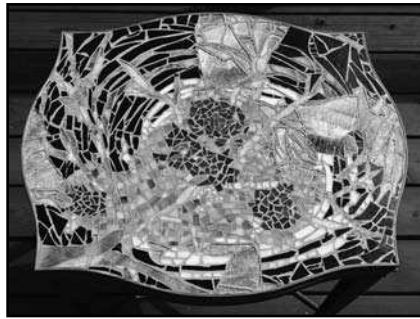
cuss her styles and works and will answer any questions.

Stevens currently lives in Kingston, Wash., where she and her husband live a busy home life with five children.

"There is never a dull moment," said Stevens, who volunteers at the local elementary school as an art docent. "I love teaching art to the children."

Stevens said the Oregon coast, in itself, is a magnificent piece of art.

"The scenery here is like no other place in the world," she said. "I thrive out in nature where I am consistently in awe of her beauty."



COURTESY PHOTOS

Stained glass art by featured artist Susan Stevens



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If you have the patience to take the time to get to know me and let me get to know you at my pace, I will be your most loyal and constant friend. I love going on walks, or relaxing around the house - as long as you are with me I am happy. I am very smart and respond well to verbal commands, and want nothing more than to please my person. If you would like to meet me, or find out more about me, please call the shelter.

If you would like to meet Karma any of her friends, please visit us at:

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