

Three Rivers Casino offers weekend lineup

Three Rivers Casino Resort is offering a weekend entertainment lineup Friday, Oct. 7, and Saturday, Oct. 8, at Blue Bills Sports Bar and Tap Room (located inside Three Rivers Casino Resort), 5647 Highway 126.

Scott William Perry will perform Oct. 7, from 9 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Perry is a rising country rock star on the West Coast.

Then, on Oct. 8, Al Rojas

will perform from 9 p.m. to 12:30 a.m.

Rojas, aka "DJ Owl," has been packing dance floors and setting the perfect tone for hundreds of events since 2006.

From Phoenix, Ariz., he is a wedding, club, private party and corporate experience DJ.

Music has always been a passion of his. He has a way of energizing the crowd to create an unforgettable experience.

Nichols featured artist at Backstreet Gallery

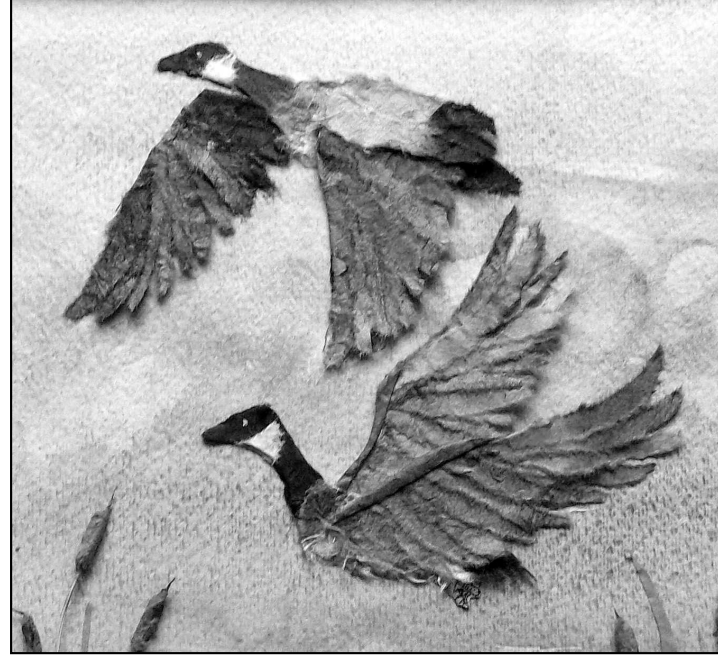
Multimedia artist Karen D. Nichols will celebrate her 10-year membership with Backstreet Gallery as the featured artist in October.

Her reception is Saturday, Oct. 8, from 3 to 5 p.m., during the Second Saturday Gallery Tour and the Wine Walk.

One of Nichols' favorite media is paper-painting collage, a sculptural relief art form that gives spirit and 3D shape to her many birds in flight, colorful florals and interesting people.

She also enjoys painting in watercolors, oils and acrylics.

Nichols is a member of the Watercolor Society of Oregon and a founding member of the Florence Regional Arts Alliance (FRAA), where you can also find her artwork, including her Pocket Poem books for an infusion of uplifting messages.



COURTESY PHOTOS

This and other mixed medium art by Karen D. Nichols is currently on display at Backstreet Gallery.

Her fifth book, "The Moral of the Story," has just been released. This new book is a collection of stories that may

elicit a tear or a belly laugh and a few emotions in between.

Her previous novels are all set in Florence, have a dog nosing its way into the story and range from mystery and adventures to inspirational stories.

Find her books at Backstreet Gallery, FRAA and on Amazon.com.

Nichols is also on the board for the Florence Festival of Books. She recently spoke at the Writer's Salon at the Florence Regional Arts Alliance and has taught classes in drawing, portraiture and writing.

Come enjoy a reception with food, fun, wine tasting as well as blues guitar music and singing by David Wiegan, executive director of Siuslaw Outreach Services.

Backstreet Gallery, 1421 Bay St., is open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.



We invite you to join us.

- Wednesday, 7 p.m. - Family Connections
- Sunday, 9:00 a.m. - Bible Study
- Sunday, 10:30 a.m. - Worship Service

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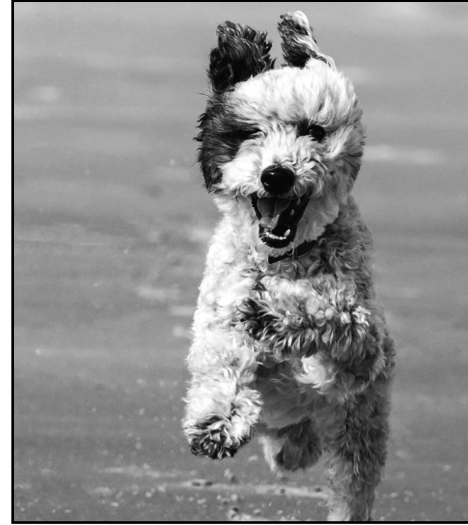
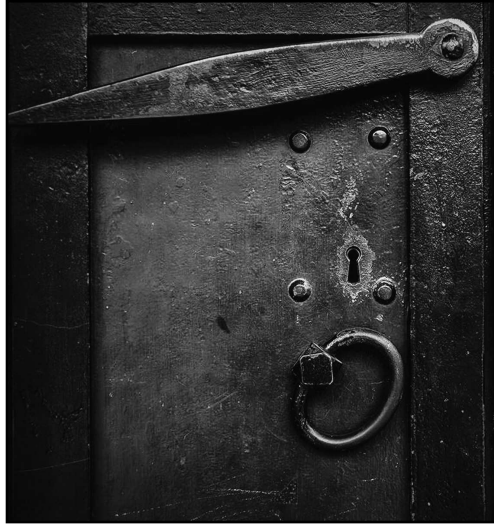
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Siuslaw Viewfinders announce photo winners



COURTESY PHOTO

Winning photographs by (from left) Bill Stone, Cathy Wasson and Jane Pittenger

The Siuslaw Viewfinders Camera Club was back from the summer break with lots of great photos to contribute to the three themes of summer.

The first theme was, appropriately enough, "Summer Fun."

First place went to Cathy Wasson with her picture of her dog, Spike, having a blast on the beach.

Second place was taken by Curt Peters, with a photo taken at the Newport Aquarium under the sea.

Third place was a great photo from Stephanie Ames of a bronc rider doing a face plant. The next theme was "Independence."

First place went to Jane Pittenger with a composite of Holman Overlook and some lovely fireworks.

Curt Peters took second in this category as well with a photo titled "Americana."

Rudy Gargioni's photo of a crow titled "Alone But Not Lonely" took third.

The last theme was "Hinges, Door knobs, Faucets" and pro-

duced some outstanding photographs, such as first place winner Bill Stone with his photo titled "Keyhole in Green Door: Jamestown, Calif."

Second place in this category went to Rudy Gargioni with "Out Back" and third place was captured by Jane Pittenger with "Birds with Faucet," a study of three birds trying to figure out a dripping faucet.

The theme for this month's Viewfinders photography challenge is "Floating," a photo subject that can be interpreted in a variety of ways.

Family Owned

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

Coast Insurance Services, Inc.

777 Maple Street, across from the Post Office in Florence, 541-997-3455

"We stick with what we know. Our tagline is, 'We're here for your protection,'" said Jean Murphey, who, along with her husband John, owns Coast Insurance Services, Inc.

For the Murpheys, protection involves personal lines insurance, such as home, auto, boat, recreational vehicle, motorcycle and side-by-side insurance. It also means health and life insurance products for individual care or groups.

On the commercial end, Coast Insurance offers small business insurance packages, workers compensation insurance and insurance for public entities.

"We cover, basically, all aspects of life," Jean said.

Jean is the commercial lines agent, runs operations in the office and has worked for Coast Insurance since 1994. She moved to the Florence area in 1989.

"John does outside sales, is the insurance agent to public entities and does our troubleshooting," she said.

John was born and raised in the area and started at Coast Insurance in 2000.

The Murpheys bought Coast Insurance in 2012.

"It's always been a family-owned, locally owned business," Jean said. "The history of it is that Bob Read opened the local agency in 1952. He and his wife Gini ran the agency until they sold it to David Jackson in 1992. David ran the agency until we purchased it."

John said, "We took over Jan. 1, 2013."

Besides John & Jean, Coast Insurance has five employees, one of which is John's daughter Heidi. Heidi is a part-time commercial lines agent. They also employ two part-time receptionists as well as two full-time personal lines agents.

A majority of Coast Insurance's clients live and work in the Florence and Mapleton areas, but clients stretch "from Waldport to

Reedsport," said Jean.

"We have customers in outlying areas, and a few stragglers all over the state of Oregon," John added.

Coast Insurance focuses on the coast because it means community. The business sponsored artist Brian Bloss's Dancing with Sea Lions public art sculpture, "Thalassa" as part of the Florence Events Center's 20th anniversary this year. The Murpheys, too, are heavily involved in community groups.

"John has all the credentials," Jean said. "He is on the board of directors for the Boys and Girls Club of Western Lane County and the Siuslaw Pioneer Museum. He's also on the City Planning Commission and on the budget committees for Siuslaw School District, Siuslaw Valley Fire and Rescue and Western Lane Ambulance District."

John is also the past president of the Florence Kiwanis Club, and Jean is the president elect.

"I'm going to be pretty involved in Kiwanis for the next couple years," Jean said.

She is one of the main organizers for the annual Fraudville lip-sync contest benefitting the Boys & Girls Club.

"Most of what I do is Fraudville," she said. "It's so fun."

For even more fun, John and Jean like to go motorcycling together.

"John got a motorcycle with a sidecar, so we go tootling around in that," Jean said. "We also have scooters, so we do 'Scooter Trash Tuesdays.'"

Coast Insurance Services, Inc., has served local business, families and the community for 64 years, and will continue to provide full line insurance services.



John & Jean Murphey



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I like other dogs pretty well, if you already have a dog we will have to meet first to make sure we will do well together. Because I'm new all the staff can tell you about me is that I am energetic and they think I am very sweet. I have been taken to a foster home, to meet me fill out an application and my fosters will be happy to bring me to the shelter. If you own a dog already they must come in to meet me when your application has been approved.



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