Advocates from 1A

shared the fact that he has a 50-year-old brother who has autism.

This openness helped to ease any tension the Kawaharas felt about giving their speech. It also connected the two with the legislators.

Casey and Kelly both felt the meeting and the speech, which was entitled, "Even If Your Voice Shakes, Let Your Voice Be Heard," went well. They were also pleased to be able to share some of their problems accessing counseling and job training in Florence that are available in larger cities.

"There are excellent opportunities in Eugene and along the I-5 corridor, but I'm afraid to pay for that," Kelly said. "They took opportunities from areas like the coast.

"We used to have job coaches and job developers in Florence. These are two different positions that we used to have for supporting Casey and other young people. They helped them to get jobs and to contribute and learn, but now they are only available in Eugene."

Individuals with autism can exhibit a wide array of symptoms. This has led to a rethinking of the way these symptoms can be understood and treated.

"I think that it helps to have that broader definition, because a child can be developing differently at different times and with symptoms that may change over time," Kelly said.

When asked what she most wanted to share with the community about her experiences raising Casey, Kelly said,

"If you are the parent of a young child and you have even an inkling, don't stop. If you think that something is a little bit different with your child, don't ever stop asking for help," she said.

ROTARY STUDENTS OF THE QUARTER (MAPLETON)



t the April 11 Florence Rotary meeting, the Mapleton School District Students of Quarter were announced. Mapleton Middle School student Joseph Shepard (above left, center) was nominated by the teachers at the middle school. He is pictured with (from left) teacher Lucinda Longo, Rotary President Pat Riley, Shepard's step-mother, Julie, and father, Bill. Also, Mapleton High School student Tanner Wilson (above right, third from left) was nominated by teachers at MHS. He is pictured with (from left) teacher Will Crook, Rotary President Pat Riley, and Wilson's mother, Shantel.

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'Inspiration' May's Hang it All theme

The month of May is "Hang it All-2" month at Siuslaw Public Library. This year's theme is Inspiration.

This themed non-juried public art display is open to

part of this popular event. All entries must be handdelivered to the main Library's Bromley Room in

Florence on Monday, May 1, between the hours of 10 a.m.

between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. All media are welcome in this inspiring month-long eclectic public art display.

Two-dimensional items (paintings, photos, etc.) must